

was won at the point of the bayonet. His panacea of vaccination by attenuated virus drew forth the opposition and derision of many opponents. One of these, M. Rousignol, veterinary surgeon of Melun, half in sport and half in earnest, published in his journal in 1881:—

"Will you have some microbe? There is some everywhere. Microbiolatriy is the fashion, it reigns undisturbed; it is a doctrine which must not even be discussed, especially when its Pontiff, the learned M. Pasteur, has pronounced the sacramental words, 'I have spoken.' The microbe alone is and shall be the characteristic of a disease; that is understood and settled; henceforth the germ theory must have the precedence of pure clinics; the microbe alone is true, and Pasteur is its prophet."

Melun Agricultural Society made a challenge to Pasteur to come to them and prove his theory. He accepted the glove thrown down. The society would supply the experimenter with sixty sheep. Twenty-five of them would be vaccinated with attenuated anthrax virus; twenty-five not. In ten or twelve days the twenty-five would again be vaccinated with the weakened virus. In two or three weeks the whole fifty—vaccinated and unvaccinated, would be inoculated with some very virulent anthrax culture. Most of the unvaccinated sheep Pasteur prophesied would die. If those who thus died were buried in an enclosure and next year twenty fresh sheep were put to graze in a pasture of this enclosure a number of them would die of anthrax.

It was a daring trial for Pasteur. Some of his experiments might fail; but as was said of Napoleon, so it could be spoken of him, "he liked hazardous games, with a character of grandeur and audacity."

The trial was to be begun on the 5th of May, and a crowd of people was present at Melun. His opponents were confident of his failure. The animals were vaccinated as agreed. Pasteur then gave an eloquent lecture on the whole subject. The second vaccination was duly made. On May 31st the inoculation with the dangerous virus took place.

The time expired on the 5th of June. On that day the party again assembled at Melun.

Twenty-three unvaccinated sheep were dead; the two others were dying. The twenty-five vaccinated sheep were in perfect health.

Did truth ever have a more complete vindication?

"No success," says his biographer, speaking of this, "has ever been greater than his."

#### Hostile Medicine.

Pasteur was a pure scientist and not a physician. When in 1873 he was elected a member of the Academy of Medicine, it was only by a majority of one vote. The medical profession, like all professions, has always in it unprogressive and narrow men. There were men in this Academy, who a few days before, had declared that the study of physiology can be of no practical use in medicine. In this society, Villemin, in 1885, a modest experimenter, ventured to say that tuberculosis is a disease which reproduces itself. He was regarded as an Esculapean anarchist. A famous surgeon of the Academy spoke in contempt of "laboratory surgery, which has destroyed many animals, and saved very few human beings." The same medical obscurantist spoke in contempt, what has really turned out to be a prophecy: "Typhoid fever, bacterization Hospital miasma, bacterization."

From one half of the Academy Pasteur's reception was decidedly cold; but with the ardor of his earnest and truthful nature he proceeded on a systematic plan of missionary work, and a few years brought about a large acceptance of his principles. The Journal of Medicine said: "He is not a medi-