

the trenches. Truly much has been done. There is yet much to do. It is the duty of every man to help in every way he can.

Nor must we forget that many American physicians and surgeons have rendered able and faithful service. Amongst these may be mentioned Dr. George W. Crile and Colonel Gorgas, as well as Carrel. A true sanitarian, a true scientist, and a true physician, Dr. Gorgas may be looked upon to clean up Serbia and stay the ravages of typhus. The hope of the world will at least go with him.

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### VINEGAR AS AN ANTISEPTIC

M. Loir and M. Legangneux in an interesting paper lay stress on the important part played by fresh vegetables in the dissemination of typhoid fever, and have made a study of the value of vinegar as a destroyer of the typhoid bacillus. It has long been known that Eberth's bacillus is susceptible to acidity. In wine it rapidly disappears. Dr. Gaillard has shown that the addition of every kind of alcoholic drink to water results in an almost immediate diminution of the number of contained microbes. All the pathogenic varieties are destroyed by an admixture of equal parts. The typhoid bacillus is more sensitive to white than to red wine, the former being usually more acid. The authors have made numerous experiments to determine the degree of acidity required to destroy Eberth's bacillus in water. They find that 20 grammes of vinegar to a litre of water kills the typhoid bacillus in an hour and five minutes. From this a practical inference may be drawn concerning salads. After washing the salad as usual, detaching each leaf, it should be put into water acidulated with 10 grammes of vinegar to the litre and remain immersed in this liquid for about an hour and a quarter. All vegetables ordinarily eaten uncooked may be subjected without any inconvenience to the same process.—*The Lancet*.