

from monkey to monkey, and in one case it has been carried through fifteen generations. Having shown that the Rhesus monkey is susceptible to Brill's disease, Anderson and Goldberger next attempted to study the relationship between this disease and Mexican typhus. In a most striking series of perfectly controlled experiments they demonstrated that monkeys, which had recovered from an inoculation with blood of Brill's disease, were immune to subsequent infection with Mexican typhus, and vice versa, monkeys which had recovered from Mexican typhus were immune to Brill's disease. They conclude that "the disease described by Brill is identical with the typhus fever of Mexico, and inasmuch as the New York strain is undoubtedly of European origin, we may also conclude that the typhus of Europe and the tabardillo of Mexico are identical."

Later, Brill reviews the work of these two men and considers their conclusions too far-reaching. He argues that while Anderson and Goldberger have shown that Brill's disease and typhus fever are related, they have not proved their identity. In support of this contention reference is made to recent work at the Pasteur Institute by Metchnikoff and Besredka, showing that chimpanzees immunized against paratyphoid are immune to typhoid. Everyone knows that whereas these two diseases are closely related clinically and etiologically, they are not identical. Furthermore, the well-known reaction of immunity against variola by inoculation of vaccinia virus is evidence that the production of immunity to one disease by another is not proof of their identity. Brill's opinion then is that the disease described by him is very closely related to typhus fever, but that proof of their identity is still lacking.

The mode of transmission of the disease was studied by Anderson and Goldberger in connection with their similar investigations of typhus fever. They showed that both body lice and head lice are capable of transmitting the infection, but their work does not prove that this is the only possible method.

Whether the disease be mild typhus fever or a new clinical entity similar to typhus remains to be demonstrated. But its close relationship to typhus makes it imperative for the medical profession to be on the lookout for the disease and for Boards of Health to demand that it be reported.