

News and Notes.

BOTANY.

BACTERIA OF WHOOPING-COUGH. — Dr. Karl Burger of Bonn claims to have discovered the bacterium of Whooping-Cough.

The *Sanitary Journal* for June says: "A child fed on one cow's milk recently died of tuberculosis, and the cow died a few months later of tubercular disease."

The disease producing *micrococci*, *bacteria*, and *bacilli*, are microscopic plants belonging to the great and varied class of *Algae*.

THE *Bacillus tuberculosis*, the organism producing tubercular consumption was exhibited under one of the most powerful microscopes at the Pictou Academy *Conversazione* on July 11th.

The *Illustrite Zeitung* states that the recommendations of the German cholera commission are being put in force at Hyderabad, especially with reference to the water supply; the reform being hastened by the Nizam having an attack of cholera.

The German Government has awarded 135,000 marks to Dr. Koch for his services on the International Cholera Commission.

HYDROPHOBIA. — Pasteur and his collaborators claim to have found an infallible protection against Hydrophobia in man or any animal. It is based on the inoculation of the hydrophobia poison after it has been modified by a process of cultivation in certain animals. This is analogous to the inoculation of the young heifer with smallpox, which is thus changed into vaccine disease, which in turn protects man against the original disease.

Ranunculus bulbosus Linn has been found in great abundance in the meadows about Shelburne by Mr. Jas. Rossborough. This is the first station for it reported in Nova Scotia, although over twelve years ago Prof. Lawson, of Dalhousie College, directed some of his botanical students to look for it. It is common in the Eastern United States, and has been reported from localities near Barrie, London, and Hamilton, in Ontario.

Mr. Rossborough also makes another addition to the Nova Scotia flora in *Cytisus scoparius*, which he finds in the same locality.

Tetrapogon pratensis still maintains its hold in the churchyard grounds of Prince Street church, Pictou, notwithstanding the energetic attempts made to eradicate and prevent its spreading.

The Oxygen Gas treatment for Asiatic cholera at Toulon has not fulfilled the expectations created by the reported success of its first trials.

A giant puff-ball (*Lycoperdon giganteum*) was found in Herkimer County, New York, in 1877, by Professor K. E. Call. It was irregularly oval in outline, and much flattened, instead of approaching the spherical form, as is common in the large puff-balls. Its largest diameter was five feet four inches, its smallest, four feet six inches, while its height was but nine and a half inches.

Near Harrodsburg, Ky., U. S. A., May 20th, eighteen boys, after playing a game of base ball, started in search of wild parsnips, but got hold of the deadly Hemlock instead. The boys ate freely and were taken violently ill. Two of them died almost immediately. Five of them are not expected to live, and the others are suffering severely." The Oregon Hemlock is an umbelliferous plant, and is found throughout Canada.

The *Live Stock Journal* says: "When at Hanover Mr. Jenkins visited the new cattle market and slaughter-houses, where he found that every carcass was submitted to a microscopic examination by experts before being allowed to be sold. In one month, out of 637 head of cattle thus inspected, sixteen, or 2.5 per cent, proved to be more or less affected with tuberculosis or consumption, and were instantly condemned, the disease being held to be communicable to human beings through meat taken as food." How many of such cattle are used in Canada? That there are