

plete bacteriology, showing a majority of colon and proteus types of summer diarrhoea and even streptococcus. The work is a good one. Now with the convergence of all these different methods of investigation, the bacteriological, hygiene, etc., one should acquire facts which will lead us surely to alter for the better the present condition of affairs.

DR. STARKEY: The fact of high winds is a very important one with reference to the ventilation of areas. It has been noted over and over again, that if you take these areas in which disease is prevalent, you will find that on a still warm day the dust hangs around there, and you get large numbers of bacteria from any culture media you may use; on windy days on the other hand these get blown away and there is no chance for them to settle down on food. The blind alleys prevent the winds from thoroughly ventilating these areas. I think that the feeding of infants amongst the poorer classes and their proper care would bring surprising results; it has already done much good. Time did not permit of my going into the bacteriology of this subject, but already here we have a good many facts before us. I think the death rate is a good criterion. The fact that the disease may be prevalent in another district and the cases recover hardly applies to the epidemic diarrhoeas noted, as it is so acute that there is not much time for infection from a distance.

McGill Undergraduates Medical Society.

JOHN MARCA LANCISI—1654-1720.

BY

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John Marca Lancisi was a noted Italian physician and surgeon. He was born at Rome on the twenty-sixth of March, 1654, and died on January the twenty-first, 1720. After completing his earlier education in classics, he took a course in philosophy at the Roman College. For some time he devoted himself to the study of divinity, but later he gave this up for a medical career which was more in accordance with his tastes. He gave his attention especially to anatomy, chemistry, and botany, and he also studied geometry, which he thought might be of use to him.

In 1672, at the age of eighteen, he was made a doctor of philosophy and physic. To prepare himself for the practice of his profession he entered the Sancto Spirito Hospital at Rome, and spent three years in practical work. In 1675 he was appointed physician in ordinary to the Hospital of the Holy Ghost in Soffa, where he made many im-