

dying of rabies. The autopsy and bacteriological examination revealed no other cause of death. The inoculation experiments were exhaustive, and all the rabbits died with symptoms which could not be distinguished from those observed in rabies. At the same time a series of inoculations was made upon rabbits and calves with virus obtained from the cord of a dog known to be affected with rabies, and the results in the two series were observed to be identical. Dr. Moore gives notes of several similar outbreaks, and concludes by saying :

“Until the specific cause of rabies is demonstrated, we are able to recognize the virus in the brain substance of the affected animals only by its ability to reproduce the disease when properly inoculated into other animals. As shown in the inoculation experiments, the filtrate (through a bougie of a Pasteur filter) of a suspension of the brain substance of a rabid animal would not produce the disease, while the injection of the suspension was followed by characteristic symptoms and fatal results. This fact, which confirms the results of other investigators, indicates that the specific cause is not a soluble substance. The extensive bacteriological investigations made by several European workers indicate that the virus of rabies is not bacterial in its nature, and the presence of other microscopic organisms have likewise not been demonstrated. The results of this series of investigations indicate that rabies, or a closely related disease, sometimes occurs among cattle kept under certain conditions without the intervention of rabid dogs or other animals.”

Parallel with these cases is an account in the “British Medical Journal,” 2nd May, 1896, of eight cows being bitten by a dog declared to have been rabid. They have shown no symptoms after seven months, yet two calves born during that time died of a disease which the Brown Institute declares was rabies. The incident tends to confirm the news that rabies may exist independently of infection by rabid dogs, since it is hardly conceivable that foetal infection was a factor.

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