

closet near the lamp. Control threads—characteristic growths. Test threads—no growth after forty-eight hours' incubation.

Experiment 2.—Dishes placed one foot above lamp. Control threads—characteristic growth. Test threads—no growth after forty-eight hours' incubation.

Experiment 3.—Dishes placed two feet above lamp. Control threads—characteristic growth. Test threads—no growth after forty-eight hours' incubation.

Experiment 4.—Dishes placed three feet above lamp. Control threads—characteristic growth. Test threads—no growth after forty-eight hours' incubation.

Experiment 5.—Dishes placed four feet above lamp. Control threads—characteristic growth. Test threads—no growth after forty-eight hours' incubation.

It is evident, therefore, that twelve hours' exposure to the action of this lamp, in a closet of 15.8 cubic feet capacity, is sufficient for effective surface disinfection, the most resistant pathogenic bacteria being destroyed. Truly yours,

THOS. B. CARPENTER.

EXPERIMENTS, SERIES No. 3.

These were conducted in some instances by myself, at other times by various of my *confreres* in Buffalo, the object being to determine if methods usually in vogue for the care of our scaling instruments were adequate.

Recently the promulgation of the locally pathogenic origin of pyorrhea has made this inquiry doubly pertinent.

Test tubes corked with sterile cotton containing sterile beef tea were taken about to different offices, where at the dentist's operating case they were opened after having been burned over in Bunsen flame, both plug and mouth of tube thus doubly treated.

When opened, instruments, as indicated by subjoined reports, were carefully projected into the tubes and their points immersed in culture-media, when they were as carefully withdrawn and the tube at once re-plugged. The tubes so treated were then submitted to Dr. Carpenter for incubation and subsequent observation and report.

It would be manifestly wrong to mention the names of the gentlemen who submitted their instruments to this examination. I may, however, be permitted to say that I purposely avoided tests being made upon instruments of any practitioner where I harbored doubt about the most cleanly practices in the care of them.