

effects of many of the so-called chemical preparations, presumably prepared with the nicest precision as supplemental ingesta, intended for the correction of certain qualitatively defective conditions of the blood and tissues ; and unless the inherent residual vis resistentiæ naturalis vouchsafes recovery, no man has yet attained the means of compelling such an issue artificially."

Experiments have shown that mice under the influence of chloral contract infections more readily than mice not under the influence ; the chloral probably depressing or embarrassing the action of the phagocytes.

The millionth part of a drop of blood from a rabbit affected with anthrax may communicate this malignant disease to a healthy rabbit. Possibly a much smaller quantity than the millionth part of a drop, say the four millionth part, would not communicate the disease to the animal when it is in a natural vigorous physical condition. But who can measure the infinitesimal quantity of chloral for example or other drug, which having been first given to the healthy animal, might so depress the phagocytes in its blood as to enable the bacilli of the disease, in that four millionth part of a drop of the infected blood, to come off the conquerors, establish their colonies and the disease, and destroy the life of the rabbit ? Or who could weigh the mere trace of some of the depressing or soothing drug remedies commonly given in infectious pneumonia, or in the earlier or sthenic stage of some of the infectious fevers, which might possibly so interfere with the formation or action of the natural germicides in the body of the patient as to lessen the chances of recovery, or possibly to favour auto-infection ?

Nor must we, moreover, meddle too far with benign nature even with our more natural remedies. No physician dare interfere with compensating hypertrophy of the heart in valvular disease. So in certain cases of epilepsy. In the words of Dr. Lyman, Professor of the Principles and Practice of Medicine, Rush Medical College, Chicago, in a recent address delivered before the Michigan State Medical Society, on the " Limitations of Therapeutics" :—" Though the paroxysms of the disease may