

Apparently they are rapidly destroyed in the blood and disappear ; possibly they are excreted through the various glands. Ogsten states that in septicæmia (blood poisoning) in man, the micrococci are present in the blood and are excreted in a living state by the kidneys, being so found in the urine. This is confirmed by von Eiselsberg. The rapidity with which some organisms disappear from the blood as Cheyne says is very remarkable. "It is a matter of minutes, or certainly of an hour or two." This disappearance "must be due to an active destructive action of the constituents of blood" on the organisms ; "mere unsuitability of soil is not sufficient to account for the rapidity of the phenomenon." The mere arrest of the organisms in the circulation, although an important factor, is not usually enough to lead to the production of the disease. Inject a considerable number of pyogenic cocci into the circulation of a rabbit, kill it within 24 hours, and it will be found that masses of organisms are present in the capillaries of the lungs and other organs of the body; but allow such an animal to live for forty-eight or seventy-two hours, and it will be found that the organisms have disappeared from the various organs, with the exception of the kidneys. Experiments show that when the vitality of a part has been lowered by cutting off the blood supply for even a short time, organisms grow in that part much more readily and luxuriantly. In fact all goes to show clearly, as we have repeatedly said, that whatever lowers the vitality favours the development of the infections or disease. So long as the body is healthy and vigorous there seems to be little danger from most of the infections.

OBSERVATIONS AND ANNOTATIONS.

MR. COLBY, the Wall street banker, the *Annals of Hygiene* relates, all though over seventy years of age, looks like a man in his prime. He walks every day from Murray Hill to Wall street and back, a practice forty years old, and three evenings a week he spends in active exercise in a gymnasium. In summer he swims daily in the Harlem river, and dives like a boy. We should like to know something about his dietary.

A MAN is reported to have died from glanders in St. Petersburg who had never kept nor came in contact with a horse, but whose face, while he was crossing the street, had been bespattered with foam from a passing cab horse ; the symptoms of the disease appearing soon after.

FROM many experiments on dogs, Dr. Jaroshevsky, (*Med. Oboz.*) concludes that strychnine is a powerful prophylactic against alcoholism.

ALBUMINURIA, with fatal destruction of the kidneys, is another of the many evil effects of sewer gas poisoning. Dr. Geo. Johnson, F.R.S., Prof. and Consulting physician King's College Hospital, reports (*Brit. Med. J.*) a number of cases of kidney disease which clearly seemed to have been caused by exposure to sewer gas. He hopes "the cases may serve to direct more general attention to this frequent, though often unsuspected, source of renal disease."