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TYPHOID FEVER.

The highly important and interesting question involving the causation of typhoid fever, notwithstanding the observations and investigations of eminent health officers in England and of the Massachusetts Board of Health, remains still without a satisfactory answer. In one sense it appears to be, as it were, enough to know that it is what has been called a filth disease; and to get rid of the filth is to get rid of the fever; that is, if we take care, at the same time, to include and get rid of the foul gases arising from the filth. Nevertheless, the inquiry is of an urgent character, and its satisfactory solution will confer a great benefit upon modern life.

In another part of this JOURNAL mention is made of a severe outbreak of typhoid near Genoa which appears to have had its origin in the lymph used for vaccinating a number of young ladies at school. In the *Sanitary Record*, Jan. 29, 1876, the following account of an outbreak is given by Dr. Mackintosh, Medical Officer of Health, Chesterfield, Eng., the Dr. observing he can give many more of a like description:

"About ten weeks ago, in a little hamlet in my district—with a population of 200, elevation above sea level 600 feet, on the millstone grit—ten cases of typhoid fever occurred in one week, where no fever has been, to my own knowledge, for the last three years. I made every investigation at the time, endeavouring to trace the outbreak to some source of contagion, but failed. It happened, however, during the convalescent stage of those cases that recovered, that while water was being drawn from one of the wells in the place, a turnip almost devoid of its leaves came up in the bucket, consequently the well was thoroughly examined, and no less than twenty of these roots were found in it, the leaves having