

modern book on Bacteriology or on Pathology, than in any attempt of mine. And my purpose is to indicate not to teach. It will also be apparent that I am mainly confining myself to the historical side of this question. However, of modern teachings of Immunity, those that are of greatest importance will be considered also, but as briefly as possible.

Immunity may be defined, as that series of properties possessed by an organism, by virtue of which it is capable of withstanding deleterious actions and harmful influences. Immunity against the infective diseases has been defined by Metschnikoff, as the group of phenomena, by virtue of which an organism is able to resist the attack of the micro-organisms that produce these diseases. But, besides infective disorders, there are other complaints—minor and major—in which the disorder set up is caused by some mechanical or some chemical agencies, respectively. To counteract these various kinds of injurious actions, the body is endowed with certain properties, each of which meets the respective noxious influences in analogous ways.

The following is a summary in tabular form, of the construction of this paper:

Immunity	{	I.—CONGENITAL :	
			Physical.
			Chemical.
			Vital.
			General.
			Local.
			Racial.
			Absolute.
			Relative.
		{	II.—ARTIFICIAL : —————(Technical Methods.)
	Active.		} Preventive Medicine
	Passive.		
	III.—.....(Non-technical Methods.)		

By physical immunity is understood a knowledge, primarily, of the functions of the various systems—nervous, circulatory, etc. The simplest illustration is the fact that there are valves in the veins. Perhaps the value of this fact is not half realised until we meet with the uncomfortable affliction of varicose veins—when the valves, having been put out of order, do not inhibit the blood from stagnating back in the veins. Similarly, the existence of elastic fibres in the arteries acts as a natural immunity against over-distension and final rupture of these