

effects of the milk of slop-fed cows on children was afforded Dr. C. S. Merrill, of Albany, (*Albany Med. Annals*), in the case of his own two-year-old child. While travelling in Germany with his family in the summer of 1884, they stopped at a hotel in Neuhausen. The day after their arrival at this hotel his child, who was previously well, was taken with a diarrhoea. The doctor, after having been assured by the landlord that the milk supply was from his own cows, kept at grass upon the premises, restricted the child's diet to milk alone; but, finding him growing rapidly worse, he made a private investigation of the source of the milk supply, and found the cattle confined in a barn, and learned from the cow-feeder that they got nothing save the refuse matter from the table of the hotel, mostly stale fruit. He immediately left that hotel, the other sanitary conditions of which were good, and his child speedily recovered, notwithstanding he continued with a milk diet.

3rd. Many dairymen are aware that the treatment which cows receive affects the milk and they treat their cows with much kindness and gentleness, drive them quietly in order not to excite or heat them, and house them well to prevent their getting chilled. On the other hand, many dairymen do not know the extent of the effects of treatment, and so act accordingly, and abuse their cows to the detriment of the milk.

4th. Besides milk becoming sour, mouldy, &c., after having been kept, it has recently been discovered that, in certain circumstances, a poisonous substance, called tyrotoxin, sometimes found in cheese, is developed in it. The substance and its formation is not yet

well understood, but cases of severe sickness from its effects have been reported, and from new milk.

5th. Milk has a wonderful power of attracting and taking in all sorts of odors—smells—noxious and otherwise, to which it is exposed, in the atmosphere, as most people know. In a recent number of the *Scientific American* we find the following: "Take a wide bowl or soup plate to the cow stable when you go to milk; pour into it a pint of fresh milk, set it on the floor or at the height of a milk stool, so as to expose it fully to the air of the stable, behind and close to the cows. If the day is close and heavy and the milk is cold, and the stable not cleaned out and aired, the result will be surprising. Take it into the house, or anywhere away from the stable, and try to drink it." There appears to be no doubt whatever that milk will absorb infections—specific disease germs. Many outbreaks of epidemics of typhoid fever, scarlet fever, diphtheria and the like have been traced to milk infected in this way.

6th. Adulteration of milk, especially with water, sometimes very foul water, is very common, as everybody knows. Unfortunately this is the only sort of milk contamination with which the Federal Government, through the Commissioner of Inland Revenue, can deal and use means for preventing. Dominion analysts are making every effort to prevent this vile practice of frequently robbing the young and innocent infants of their rightful nutriment. The provinces, whose duty it is, should provide for a complete system of milk supply inspection, from the physical condition of the cow to the last retail vendor of the milk.