

ments, is both useless and dangerous. For a time the whole organism is overthrown, and temporary seclusion is imperative for proper readjustment. Grief cannot be ignored, neither can it be cheered up. It must be accepted and allowed to wear itself away. Readjustment comes slowly. Sorrow, grief, and all great misfortunes should be regarded as conditions similar to acute infectious diseases, which they resemble in result; and, later, as convalescence from such diseases. Seclusion, rest, sleep, appropriate food, fresh air, sunshine, interests that tax neither mind nor body, these are requirements in this case of illness.—*Charlotte Medical Journal*.

THE MICRO-ORGANISM OF MEASLES.—Joseph Czajkowski (*Centralbl. für Bakt. und Parasit.*), again contributes a further addition to our knowledge of the bacillus which he previously described as existing in the blood in measles. The bacilli in the blood vary in length from one-half micromillimeter to the diameter of a red blood-corpuse, and in cultures grow into long threads. They stain well with all the aniline dyes, and in the longer forms a part of the protoplasm often remains unstained. They lose their stain by Gram's method. They grow best in bouillon or sterile serous fluid from the abdominal cavity, in which a whitish, fairly heavy sediment is formed, which in older cultures becomes yellowish-gray. The cultures have no characteristic odor. Rabbits were always immune to the bacteria. Mice died from septicæmia three or four days after inoculation with small quantities of the culture, the bacilli being obtained again in pure cultures from the liver and spleen.

The author believes the bacillus described by him to be the specific cause of measles.—*Medicine*.

THE BIBLE AS A CARRIER OF INFECTION.—An amusing incident is reported in the *Lancet* as occurring recently in a Sussex Police Court. The Rector of Graffham and East Lavington, the Rev. Rowley Lascelles, was concerned as witness in a trespass case which was heard recently before the Petworth magistrates, Major Sir Walter G. Barttelot, Bart., being in the chair. Mr. Lascelles asked to be sworn in the Scotch fashion, whereupon the following colloquy ensued:

The Chairman.—I should like to know, Mr. Lascelles, why you, a clergyman of the Church of England, object to kiss the Book?

The Rev. R. Lascelles.—I have a strong objection to kissing the Book in these days of infectious diseases. I should be happy to kiss it if I may turn it inside out.

This was done, and Mr. Lascelles having been sworn in the usual fashion, the chairman went out of his way to remark in an undertone: "He is afraid of catching an infectious disease from

the Bible." A later witness when he was sworn, piously remarked: "Although I am only a lay man, I am not afraid of catching infectious diseases from the word of God." The *Lancet* suggests that if certain combinations of words and letters are a safeguard against contagion, we would better drop isolation and return to the use of phylacteries. The pious gentlemen who thought the parson showed a want of faith, would probably have been themselves unwilling to kiss a French novel in an equally filthy condition, but the idea of contagion being carried by a Bible! How preposterous!—*Boston Med. and Surg. Jour.*

SUBSTITUTION.—Dr. C. F. Tucker, of Syracuse, N. Y., January 9th, 1896, writes: Some time ago when I was doing a country practice at Jordan, Onondago County N. Y., I wrote Messrs. Battle & Co. that I could not get the uniform results from bromidia that I had previously. They sent me a 4 oz. sample and that was all right, and I still have on hand a little of that particular sample.

The party who had dispensed my prescriptions, after I had expressed my opinion very strongly confessed that he had purchased a considerable quantity of a mixture at less price, said to contain exactly the same ingredients, and had been dispensing that when bromidia was prescribed.

After that I had no more trouble, and I can truthfully say that you can find it in my emergency case, office, and in my regular "grip" always, and I have never seen anything but perfect satisfaction attending its use, and I have given it to patients of all ages and about every condition.

I have used it in the last stages of pulmonary tuberculosis, and in severe cases of chronic bronchitis, in delirium tremens, etc., and I always use it when I want a certain hypnotic.

I have used it in doses from two minims up to two and three drachms. It is one of the mixtures of so-called treacherous chloral that never, thus far, caused alarm. I have been familiar with bromidia since away back in the 80's, when I was a clerk in a drug store, and since I have been practising, I still regard it as a reliable old friend, and so it has proved on many occasions.

THE Youth's Companion of Feb. 13th publishes an unusually valuable article for young men, by the Lord Chief Justice of England, on "The Bar as a profession." Sound advice, taken from a long and varied experience, and wise encouragement are given to young and prospective lawyers. It is as readable as a story, yet will bear careful study. Each issue of *The Companion* contains one or more articles of exceptional value, written by the ablest men and women of the age.