

used, thus avoiding all danger of contagion. As an improvement on the linen napkin used in hotels and restaurants, presumably freshly laundered, but often merely dampened and mangled, these paper napkins would be welcome. There is a possibility, however remote that disease may be acquired, by the use, in rotation, of linen and other articles.

RUSKIN dislikes bicycles. He says: "I not only object, but am quite prepared to spend all my best 'bad language' in reprobation of bi-tri-and-4-5-6 or 7-cycles, and every other contrivance and invention for superseding human feet on God's ground. To walk, to run, to leap and to dance are virtues of the human body, and neither to stride on stilts, wriggle on wheels, or dangle on ropes, and nothing in the training of the human mind with the body will ever supersede the appointed God's ways of slow walking and hard working."

EXAMPLES of abortive treatment, by germicidal remedies, of scarlet fever and diphtheria, by the administration of the biniodide of mercury, are given by Dr. Illingsworth in the *London Medical Press*. "Those germs which have found an entrance to the circulation, and whose presence there is indicated by the scarlatinal rash and enlarged cervical and submaxillary glands, are rapidly followed and destroyed, with the grand result of rapid restoration to health and the prevention of those fearful sequelæ to which multitudes have fallen victims."

A VILE HABIT which one sees indulged in on street cars by people who certainly ought to know better, as an exchange strongly puts it, is that of putting coins in the mouth. "It is quite common among women, who under such circumstances never seem to have quite hands enough, and so they press their mouths into service to do what is not only a vulgar thing, but absolutely filthy." The coin may carry infectious disease.

THE fly season is upon us again. Do not be too severe on the flies. They doubtless do some good if they are a torment and sometimes convey contagion. Their particular office appears to be "the consumption of those dead minute animals whose decaying myriads would otherwise poison

the air." It was a remark of Linnaeus that three flies would consume a dead horse sooner than a lion could. He, of course, included the families of the three flies.

LIEBERT reports (*Deut. Med. Woch.*, in *New York Medical Times*) three cases of epilepsy, which all showed a remarkable aura: one beginning with a cramp or involuntary motions of the tongue, all three of which were promptly and permanently cured by the extraction of a decayed tooth, which, in every instance, had been the source of irritation.

BISHOP FOSTER, considering, on the one hand, the destitution that prevails, both at home, and especially in some of the countries where missionary effort is put forth so vigorously, and, on the other, the intimate dependance of man's intellectual and spiritual development upon his physical condition, urges that we may hope for the best culture of the christian graces in the hearts of men only in proportion as adequate nourishment of their bodies is provided for.

THE Calcutta Health Society is doing good work in drawing public attention to insanitary conditions (*Brit. Med. Journal*-April 23rd, 1887.) In a little publication issued by the Society it is pointed out that, during the last six years, cholera alone had claimed 24,000 victims in the city and its suburbs, and that this result is directly traceable to the filthy condition of certain plague-spots, to defects in the drainage system, to the want of proper control over the milk supply, and to the deficiency of the water-supply. Attention is drawn to the enormous infant-mortality, which is mainly due to the ignorant and superstitious practices of the native lying-in room. A meeting was lately held under the auspices of the Society, when the Lieutenant-Governor, who presided, urged the Municipality to spare no pains to remove the causes when rendered Calcutta the home of cholera and a standing menace to the health of the world.

As Chicago is proposing to construct a canal to avert its sewage toward the Mississippi, the *Sanitary Era*, in referring to the report of a commission upon it, says:—"Its upshot is the decided recommendation of an artificial water way to connect