tissue may occur, and the condition of local sepsis is sometimes allowed to continue because it is not recognized that a vaccination must be given treatment accorded to a similar lesion from any other source. There is, therefore, practical proof that the infections of the skin in vaccination are clinically and bacteriologically of little importance; but it will be readily allowed that without due precaution some one of these bacterial birds of passage may in the thousandth case prove to be a very virulent bacterium; and as in fabled history should the Snark turn out to be a Boojum, the most serious results may occur.

The removal of the bacteria of the skin is, on the plain surface, a matter of soap, water and friction; for the sweat glands and hair follicles this is inadequate, and it is probable that the best results will be obtained by the use of absolute alcohol, which can replace the air in the cavities more readily than any other fluid, ether included. From its ability to mix with water, it will more readily make its way in all the interstices which are already moist with water previously applied, or with the water of the tissues.

The bacteriology of the glycerinated lymphs in general may be briefly stated as follows :--They are probably not of necessity sterile at the time of scaling; in any tube a few weeks old, the pathogenic germs are found to have died out; non-pathogenic germs may be present.

In 1898, specimens of glycerinated lymph were sent out by Professor. Copeland and examined by Drs. Adami and Yates. Some were sterile; the only bacterial forms found at all were B. mesentericus and Sarcina,—both normally inhabitants of the air and the soil.

Within the last three weeks I have examined bacteriologically samples of the glycerinated lymphs manufactured by three leading firms; all proved sterile.

The points were examined in the same way, and of the samples used, (again three of the most prominent were selected), but one proved to be sterile. The other ones showed each a growth of a single bacillus, which was in each case, one of those frequently found in air. For obvious reasons the names of the manufacturers of these points are not stated; from so little proof, an injustice would probably be done to one, and an inflated value given to another.

These observations do not prove, but merely point towards their conclusions; viz., that glycerinated lymphs are bacteriologically the purer, (though not necessarily sterile), but that the points if they carry germs, are likely to carry only those that may light upon the wound from the air, which as causes of infection are generally of little moment.

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