

Microscopical Society, and Dr. Belfield, of the Cook County Hospital, it is stated that eight out of every hundred hogs examined were trichinous, and that trichinous pigs usually show no signs of being unhealthy. For the detection of trichine in pork the only certain means consist in its examination under a good microscope. In reply to the question, "Since eight per cent. of our hogs are trichinous, why are cases of trichinosis so rare?" it is said that "in most instances the meat is previously subjected to thorough cooking, whereby the worms are killed; and that in consequence of the close resemblance of the symptoms of trichinosis to those induced by other causes, notably typhoid fever, it is probable that in some instances it has been mistaken for other complaints." And again, in the conclusion of their report, the necessity for the thorough cooking of pork as a preparation for the table is emphasized. This caution is hardly needed by any one who has given even a little attention to the nature and habits of the parasitic worms referred to, or of the tape-worms (*Tæniadæ*); but it does seem necessary frequently to repeat it for the benefit of persons under the delusion that partially or wholly raw meat is more wholesome than that which has been carefully and properly cooked.

THE water supply is a question that demands the serious consideration of all good citizens. It is indeed a great and a world-wide question; one that is agitating the public mind of the most civilized nations of the day, —Great Britain, Canada, the United States, and Germany. There are, of course, many natural causes leading to the impurity of water. Instances of naturally impure water-supplies occur in the cases of those towns which are situated above saline or alkaline deposits. Leamington, in England, may be taken as an example. The corporation at the depth of three hundred and forty-six feet found the water to contain such a quantity of salt as to be totally unfit for ordinary use. On the advice of Professor Ramsay, Director-General of the Geological Survey, they sought for spring water at the foot of a hill a mile

distant, and obtained the large supply of two million gallons per day of pure healthful water. At Rugby, after 1000 feet, nothing but salt water could be obtained. But in addition to natural causes there are others attributable to man. The rate at which towns and cities multiply in number and increase in population, the rapid growth of industries, as well as certain habits and tendencies of modern society, all combine together to produce a deterioration of the waters of wells, rivers, and, in some instances, even lakes. Dr. Holt, Sanitary Inspector of the Fourth District of New Orleans, in his report for the year 1878—a year never to be forgotten in the history of that city, the mortality being 10,318, and of these 4,046 having died of yellow fever,—shows clearly that the well-water there is in a filthy condition. He says, "specimens of subsoil water taken from different depths, as low as ninety-five feet, and from different parts of the city, have been carefully analysed by Prof. Joseph Jones, and have yielded a large percentage of urea and organic matters the products of animal excretion, fully fifty-three grains to every gallon." Hear also what Prof. Joseph Jones says concerning the same waters:—"these waters are suitable neither for drinking, nor for washing, nor for cooking. In fact they are as bad as, if not worse than, the drainings of grave-yards." Another illustration is afforded by the village of Geneva, on the shore of Seneca Lake, N. Y. It has heretofore been regarded as delightfully healthy, and peculiarly free from epidemics; but during the past winter it was visited by a terrible pestilence in the form of diphtheria. Prof. Breneman, of Cornell University, investigated the matter and found the water supplied to a portion of the village to be of good quality, but that to the larger portion of the inhabitants was very impure, yielding a quantity of albuminoid ammonia and nitrates, with nine, twelve, fourteen, and as high as twenty-one grains of Chlorine to the gallon. He examined water from eighteen sources, and condemned thirteen of them. Although the epidemic was not confined to the localities supplied with the bad water, yet it prevailed