

the agent—if the two be inseparable—it would seem a tolerably fair conclusion that if you can destroy or preclude the one, you will infallibly get rid of the other. This is admittedly rule of thumb, but it may serve perhaps until the occult powers that employ these ancillary microzymes and micrococci shall be revealed. I submit that (subject to the point reserved) it is shown by Dr. Klein that the vegetable forms he found caused the disintegration of the tissues.

3. *Are these organisms infective agents, or "carriers of infection" ? Or will they induce typhoid when transplanted into the healthy human body ?* The experiments made by Dr. Klein in this direction were of a negative character. He failed to induce typhoid in certain animals by the introduction of the fungus into their systems. The experiments which have been made on man himself by means of the stools of patients, which are shown by Dr. Klein to contain the fungus, are, however, sufficiently numerous to enable us to correct the negative result with animals. I apprehend that the facts connected with water pollution leave very little room for doubt that the poison in the water is particulate, insoluble, indiffusible, living, and reproductive. The inference that it is identical with the fungus in the bowel-tissues of the typhoid patient, or that the two are *ejusdem generis*, is easily reached.

4. *What is the precise nature of these low vegetable organisms ?* Without intending to be ungracious, I confess to some disappointment at finding that Dr. Klein had done so little on this head. He tells us "that we have to do here with a fungus which possesses mycelium threads of very unequal joints"; "that in some parts of these threads, probably the terminal parts, their contents split into macrogonidia," "or microgonidia"; "that the gonidia become discharged, the thread having been broken"; and that these gonidia end in micrococci, etc. He adds that this vegetation corresponds closely with the *Crenothrix polyspora* found by Cohn in some well-water at Breslau, famous for typhoid. The interesting question as to the identity of these two forms must here be set aside. With regard to that found by Dr. Klein, it is to be regretted this observer had not time to learn something more of the life-history of the plant. This break in the continuity of his investigation reduces the value of his paper incalculably. It occurs to me, as a possibility, that as Professor Cohn seemingly did not cultivate the *Crenothrix*, so Dr. Klein may have thought it unproductive to endeavour to develop the fungus he discovered into higher forms. If this be so, I venture to suggest he was in error; for in order to substantiate the claim of the fungus