

*Variola and Vaccine identical*.—From the much laboured and candid researches of Thiele and Ceeley, it appears without doubt, that the virus of vaccine and variola are identical. A large number of cows, carefully inoculated with small pox virus, had pustules, resembling in every respect vaccine lymph—which being again transferred to the human species, produced the vaccine pustule.—*Deutsche Zeitschrift f. Staats arznei kunde.*

## The Medical Chronicle.

LICET OMNIBUS, LICET NOBIS DIGNITATEM ARTIS MEDICÆ TUERI.

### DIARRHŒA BEFORE CHOLERA.

We have had upon our shelf for some time a pamphlet which should have been earlier noticed. The pressure of other duties has hitherto diverted our attention from it, but we now proceed to make the *amende honorable*. The publication referred to is written by Dr. MacLoughlin, an Honorary Member of the Royal Irish Academy, &c., and is intitled, "A Result of an Inquiry into the invariable existence of a premonitory Diarrhœa in Cholera." This subject was specially brought under the notice of the Registrar-General in a series of communications. Dr. M. has been unsparing in his exertions to determine the occurrence or not of diarrhœa anterior to cholera, and after a laborious investigation, has been led to the popular belief that diarrhœa invariably precedes cholera. The chief inducement prompting Dr. M. to the task he imposed upon himself, was the circumstance that the Registrar-General reported several cases of cholera as having taken place without the customary antecedent. Unsatisfied with the *ipse dixit* of even so high an authority. Dr. M. inquired for himself. He visited the house in which the death had occurred, and closely scrutinized the history of the case. In return he was repaid for his trouble by ascertaining that the case either had been wrongly reported, and that diarrhœa had pre-existed, or had not been one of cholera at all. We enter into these particulars from the insight they give us of the mode in which the official reports is prepared, and the general dependence that may be placed upon their veracity. As to the relationship between cholera and diarrhœa, we have to observe that our experience agrees with Dr. M.'s. In every case of the pestilence that has come under our notice, diarrhœa has been a forerunner; occasionally, however, the interval between its