

albuminuria. 3. The urine of perfectly healthy people rarely shows albumen after food, while those who suffer from albuminuria and oxaluria are very liable to show it. 4. Privation, scanty food and clothing, with insanitary surroundings, increase the liability to albuminuria. 5. Cold bathing does increase the liability to albuminuria, though more notably so in the case of dyspeptics. 6. Severe exercise increases this liability in a very moderate degree. 7. In the large majority of cases albuminuria is not associated with kidney disease. 8. In the matter of life insurance, albuminuria should be looked upon as a symptom only, and acceptance or rejection of the risk should depend on the gravity of the cause. 9. The existence of any such condition as physiological albuminuria is extremely improbable."

The doctor will be supported, we think, by the majority of the profession in protesting against "physiological albuminuria." The term is unscientific, and the idea does not accord with what we have been taught to consider physiological processes, notwithstanding the eminent authorities mentioned above.

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VACCINATION AGAINST CHOLERA.

Dr. Gamaleia, of Odessa, has been experimenting for a considerable time on the action of the cholera bacillus upon animals. Lately at a meeting of the Paris Académie de Médecine, M. Pasteur read a communication from him (*Br. Med. Jour.*), in which he states that he has discovered a method of vaccination, which will be to cholera what Jenner's vaccination is to small-pox, namely, preventive of the disease. He found that, contrary to Koch's idea, the cholera germ is inoculable in the lower animals, and that its virulence becomes very greatly intensified by conveying it to pigeons after it has passed through the guinea-pig. "After passing through several pigeons, the microbe acquired such virulence that one or two drops of the blood of an inoculated bird sufficed to kill healthy birds in from eight to twelve hours, whilst an even smaller dose proved fatal to guinea-pigs. If the virus obtained after passing through pigeons is cultivated in nutrient broth and is afterwards exposed to a temperature of 120° C. for twenty minutes, it will be found that there is left in the sterilized culture a toxic substance which produces

characteristic phenomena in animals. If 4 cubic centimetres of the sterilized broth be injected into a guinea-pig, the animal's temperature gradually falls, and death takes place in from twenty to twenty-four hours. Pigeons die in the same way, but require a larger quantity, namely, 12 cubic centimetres injected in one dose. On the other hand, if the same quantity of the sterilized fluid is injected, but in two or more doses given at intervals of a day or two, they do not die, but are found to have become refractory to cholera to such an extent that even half a cubic centimetre of the most intense virus (the blood of an inoculated pigeon) is not fatal to them. Guinea-pigs are still more easily vaccinated by injecting the sterilized broth in doses of 2 cubic centimetres once or twice repeated. Dr. Gamaleia has found this *chemical* vaccine of unfailing efficiency and perfectly innocuous. He admits that he derived the idea of it from a paper of M. Pasteur's on chemical vaccine of rabies, and from Dr. Roux's experiments on septicæmia." Dr. Gamaleia shows his full trust in the efficacy of thus preventing the attack of cholera, by offering to test it on himself, and afterwards going to regions where cholera prevails in order to show whether his discovery will be in man, all he thinks it will be. M. Pasteur's laboratory is to be placed at the Dr.'s disposal, for the purpose of carrying on his experiments.

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SIR MORELL MACKENZIE AND THE GERMAN SURGEONS.

It is a pity that so great a man as Sir Morell Mackenzie should have stirred up so unseemly a controversy as the one going on between him and the German surgeons. His fame was surely established on a sufficiently firm basis to enable him to pass over in silence their ungracious, unprofessional and sometimes contemptible remarks. Not only is this generally recognized as true, but it is believed that his hands have been tied by persons of high estate, who, for reasons not entirely understood, have controlled Sir Morell's actions, and have said when he should speak if not indeed what he should say, or rather what he should *not* say. And knowing all this, as well as that no amount of reasoning could convince the prejudiced Germans that he was right and their own countrymen were wrong, would it not have