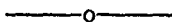


of man. Every animal that had not certain marks or habits that constituted it of the species of ruminating and cloven-hoofed combined, was excluded from the class of clean and wholesome. The rigid rules enforced on the subject of cleanliness, embracing the *removal* of all *filth* from their camps; the *covering with earth* of all *fetid matter*; the great attention to ablutions; the stringent regulations as to contact with diseased or unclean persons, or with dead bodies—while they excluded persons for times long or short from the congregation in its religious aspect, secured likewise the wise precaution of separating such persons from the community while in absolute contact with what was unhealthy and unclean; and, added to all this, the wisest legislation on the all important matter of the alliance of the sexes, prohibited unions of too close consanguinity, and established the highest order of moral obligations. We may fairly assert, therefore, that the subject of hygiene stands foremost in moral obligations to man, individually and in community, and boasts of the most ancient and divinely ordered rules to secure its observance and establish its blessings. If we consider the reality of the fact that the divine law stooped down and took hold of man by the ordinary infirmities of flesh, and dealt with special regard to the lowest element of which he was moulded, we shall not easily overrate the sacredness attached by the Creator to the human body, which He constituted the dwelling of the Spirit, nor shall we wonder at the superintending care that could say “the very hairs of your head are all numbered,” “and in his book were all your members written when as yet there were none of them.”



WHEN it was proposed to publish this Magazine of Hygiene and Public Health, these two thoughts naturally suggested themselves: First, was the subject one which could fairly demand that attention and study which it claimed; and, secondly, was there not a special class of gentlemen invited to subscribe who should devote their serious consideration to acquiring some knowledge of it (I mean the Ministry)? To the first there was this plain answer, that what the necessity of the day was peremptorily calling for information upon, and for measures to secure, had even on this