

with rheumatism, which recurs in prolonged and painful attacks, he keeps on bravely, and has recently issued a monograph "*On the Origin and Development of the Bacillus Tuberculosis*" (the Clark and Longley Co., Chicago). It will be remembered—such things *always* are—that shortly after Koch's memorable discovery, Schmidt fell into the error of mistaking fat-crystals for the bacilli. This was hard luck, and a scientific *faux pas* at which many microscopists were inclined to scoff. From his recent researches Dr. Schmidt arrives at conclusions which run counter to our present ideas, and which will not be acceptable to the experts who have studied this question. He holds that the bacillus is a *bacterium*, which is, however, a minor matter, and that it develops in the nuclei of the cells; and suggests, as an explanation of its presence, that it may be formed from the protoplasm of animal cells, the vital activity of which is on the wane or is undergoing involution. In other words, he returns to the theory of heterogenesis, and thinks it possible that "the normal arrangements of the molecules of the protoplasm of the nucleus of an animal cell may, under certain conditions of the organism, be altered in such a manner as to correspond with that of the molecules of vegetable protoplasm." This seems rank heresy in these days of staining fluids and cultures.

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What has become of the opponents of the germ theory? They seem to have been buried under the avalanche of bacterial literature which is pouring from the press. They are very quiet in England, even Dr. Bastian has not said anything since the debate at the International Congress in London; in Germany??; in France, Jaccoud and Peter occasionally enter protests, but Cornil and Lancereaux have carried the profession with them, and the younger generation of workers, to a man, have stained fingers. The truth is, that the current has been too strong and the majority find it easier to float with than swim against it. In this country there is a remnant, and Dr. Morris Longstreth has recently published a long article from the old standpoint entitled "Against the Germ Theory" (*Therapeutic Gazette*, Nov. 1886). He, like Schmidt, favors heterogenesis. It gives one rather a shock, but this may result from undue saturation with other views.

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Antifebrin is a new remedy, introduced from Kussmaul's clinic at Strasburg, which seems to possess the virtue indicated by its name. It is the product of the action of acetic acid on aniline at a high temperature. The reports of its use are so