

Progress of Medical Science.

MEDICINE.

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Vaccination and Small-pox.

Dr. Redolfo Livi, in *Brit. Med. Jour.* for April 29th, 1899, gives the statistics of the Italian army, as regards vaccination and small-pox, since 1867. There have been 3,095,571 vaccinations. These statistics prove clearly that small-pox was much more fatal among those not vaccinated than among those who had been successfully vaccinated. On a basis of 10,000 there was an average of 280 cases of small-pox and 55 deaths where there had been no vaccination; but where vaccination had been recent and successful, in the army, there were about five cases and no deaths in the same number. The conclusion is clear that small-pox attacks a very much larger and causes a much higher death-rate among the non-vaccinated than among the vaccinated. When it does attack a properly vaccinated person the disease is much less severe. There is no ground for scientific opposition to vaccination.

Rheumatoid Arthritis and Gout.

Wm. Ewart, in *International Med. Jour.* for April, 1899, discusses the relationship between these diseases. He concludes there are wide differences in clinical history, pathology and treatment. When they do come into contact is where a person with gout becomes afflicted with rheumatoid arthritis, or *vice versa*. In pure rheumatoid arthritis low living with alkalies and colchicum would be poison to them. The treatment of the joints by dry heated air is very helpful. The internal use of abundance of water and attention to the bowels aid the elimination of toxins and waste products. Every effort should be made to raise the health and strength of the patient. Tonics are indicated, and arsenic seems to be of marked value. The diet should be easily digested, varied and nourishing. Stimulants are indicated, especially good red wine, in all cases where there is anemia.

Oyster Fever.

Dr. John W. Moore, in *The Practitioner* for March, 1899, has an article upon this subject. His observations are very