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CIRCUMSPECTIVE REVIEW OF HYGIENE.

Medicine may be defined as a science which has for its aim the promotion of health and the cure of disease. Egyptian medicine may fairly be classed in the first place. We read in the Bible that when Jacob died "Joseph commanded his servants the physicians to embalm him, and the physicians embalmed Israel, and forty days were fulfilled for him." The body, it would appear, required this number of days to complete the process. Moses having delivered the law against drinking wine, in Leviticus, 10th chapter, 9th verse, proceeds to deliver a series of Hygienic ordinances. In chap. XI. he treats of unclean (indigestible) meats, or those calculated in hot countries to be promoters of cutaneous, scrofulous, and scorbutic disorders. In chapt. XII, XIII, and XIV., he treats of unclean persons, garments, and dwellings. In Chap. XVIII. he treats of unclean matrimonial connexions, the prohibited degrees specified from the 7th to the 17th verse inclusive. In the 25th verse, by a strong figure of speech he represents the results of indiscriminate marriages, and other abominations. In the 19th chapter 19th verse, he would appear to have reference to the avoiding of costly and fashionable garments, as ministering to luxury and effeminacy. On this subject Chaucer, in the "Parson's Tale," thus delivers