

Winthrop and ex-Secretary McCullough, 82; Hannibal Hamlin, 81; Senator Morrill, Senator Payne and P. T. Barnum (now deceased), 80, . . . There is a host of celebrities verging on eighty: ex-Chancellor Bismark, Justice Bradley, George Ticknor Curtis, ex-Senators Thurman and Trumbull, General N. P. Banks, Gen. Jubal A. Earley and Senator Dawes." Nearly all these venerable antiques are still in public life.

THE N. Y. Sun says the great inventor Edison, according to a friend of his, is a vegetarian, eschewing flesh, fowl, and fish. He enjoys fruit of all kinds, grains of every variety and likewise vegetables, especially those that ripen in the sunshine. He is very careful about his diet, holding that it has a powerful influence upon the mind and its action as well as upon the health and vigor of the body. He has studied the matter under the beams of the solar orb, under the flash of electricity, under the laws of science, and in the light of reason. It seems that he is unaware of anything like self-denial in the practice of vegetarianism, and that he finds plenty of delicious, invigorating exhilarating esculents outside the animal kingdom.

ACCORDING to the physiologists (in *Laws of Life*) meat contains only 35 per cent. of nutrition, while wheat contains over 80 per cent., peas 93 per cent., rice 88 per cent, beans 87 per cent. and oat-meal 74 per cent. A pound of meat affords about a quarter of a pound of nourishment, and costs at least twelve cents. For the same amount of money (our pounds of peas or beans could be bought which will furnish two pounds of nourishment."

THE LAST Supplement to the British Medical Journal (Ap. 4, inst.) points out that in examining water for typhoid bacillus the sediment should always be used. There was an outbreak of typhoid fever amongst the boys of a school, following a similar outbreak in neighboring houses. There was found to be a dangerous proximity of the spring from which the water was derived to the closets in the schoolyard. Examining the water by the ordinary gelatine plate method, the author was unable to find any traces of the Eberth Gaffky bacillus; but on allowing the water to stand and making cultivations from the sediment, there appeared, among others, characteristic colonies, the bacillus of which, in staining and microscopic appearance, could not be distinguished from those of the typhoid bacillus.

RELATIVE to Colonization, Sir W. Moore, K. C. I. E., read a paper recently before the Epidemiological Society of London, in which he maintained that, great as was the power of accommodation possessed by individuals, each race was especially fitted for certain climatic conditions, which tended sooner or later to eliminate the unfit. He believed that an

infusion of native blood was essential to the permanent existence in one climate of immigrants from another and very diverse one, adducing the example of the Portugese in India and of the mixed Spanish in Central and South America. He would go so far as to say that the so-called "Aryan" population of northern India was, though Aryan in language, largely composed of non-Aryans absorbed by the invaders. Families of pure Aryan descent were to be found only among the Rajputs and a few aristocratic houses, probably not exceeding 10,000 persons in the whole of India.

ON THE Koch remedy, in referring to lengthy reports on it from Germany, the N. Y. Medical Journal of the 4th inst. says, "It must certainly be admitted that the showing is hardly in accord with the fond expectations with which the announcement of the treatment was greeted by the great majority of those who assumed to speak for the medical profession a few months ago. The lesson, however, is a wholesome one, and the authors of the reports, countrymen and admirers of Koch's are entitled to great credit for the candor and freedom from prejudice with which they have recorded their experience.

IT IS PROPOSED now to provide great London with water by impounding the water of several streams in a mountainous and very sparsely populated district in rain-blessed Mid-Wales. It is claimed that the water thus obtainable is pure, uncoloured, singularly free from risks of contamination, and not hard. The scheme involves the construction of various necessary dams and imbankments for collection, the building of an aqueduct—partly of masonry and partly consisting of a fourfold line of 6 feet steel pipes—starting at 516 feet above ordnance datum, and having a total length of 162½ miles; and the construction of five service reservoirs on the high ground to the north of London, whence the water would have a sufficient fall to furnish a constant supply to the whole metropolis, except the elevated localities of Hamstead, Highgate and Sydenham, without pumping. Provision is to be made for ultimately securing a daily supply of 300,000,000 gallons per day. The total cost of obtaining a first supply of 210,000,000 gallons per day, as against the present daily consumption of 168,000,000 gallons is estimated at £15,250,000; the interest on which it is estimated would be less than the present annual outlay.

THE "Florence Nightengale Sick Bed Appliance" is a new and valuable invention to which we desire to draw attention. We observe that it receives very high encomiums from leading members of the profession who have had experience with it in some of the institutions for the sick. We believe it is superior to all other such appliances. A description of it is on an advertising page of this JOURNAL.