

DR. JOHN SHRADY, an eminent physician of New York, in a recent paper, was not willing to admit the truth of the microbic theory of rheumatism, and thought the drift of modern opinion concerning the aetiology of the disease was in the direction of an irritant seeking the most convenient way of escape.

DIPHTHERIA (N. Y. Med. Rec.) is, perhaps, the disease which we most dread, and the therapeutics of which still flounder about in a sea of uncertainty. We have as yet no specific for it. We shall ward off its ravages by prevention rather than by cure.

THE doctors of Berlin have their coachmen wear white hats, so that a doctor's carriage is always readily distinguishable, and the public are enabled to give precedence as well as summon medical aid in urgent cases. A corporation ordinance gives them right of way.

BOVININE is being highly recommended by medical practitioners. Dr. G. H. Price, in the New England Medical Monthly, says of it: — "There are certain cases where this blood renewer (for such it is, pure and simple), can have its place taken by nothing else. It is not a medicine *per se*; it is a food, even more, it is, as Prof. Waugh, of Philadelphia, asserts, "one step beyond a food; it has received the finishing touches and has become the *vital fluid itself*."

DYERS Improve 1 food for Infants is being highly recommended by the profession. It is prepared according to recommendations from leading physicians of Montreal, and the manufacturers, Messrs. Dyer & Co., are a firm of high standing, and the public may rely upon the accurate preparation of the food. The cereal used in its preparation is the best of pearl barley flour, with milk. Dr. Blackader, professor of diseases of children, Medical department McGill University, says: "Barley is the blandest and most nutritious of the cereals, contains the largest amount of the phosphates, and has neither a constipating nor relaxing action on the intestinal canal."

NOTES ON CURRENT LITERATURE.

THE ILLUSTRATED NEWS OF THE WORLD (Am. reprint of *Illustrated London News*—World Building, New York, only \$4 a year) has recently given an unusual variety of illustration and reading matter. A notable double page, well executed picture is, "Canadian N. W. Farming: Reaping the Harvest of Manitoba," a highly interesting pastoral scene. We find many illustrations of Japanese and Russian scenes, and a very large number of portraits of men of

note, including a full page one of John Ruskin. Among the more attractive full page pictures are: "The Children's Breakfast"; "In Friendship Knit"; "Gone Away"; "Wa'll I have Ears"; and "Expectations." The number for Dec. 5, just received, before date, is a charming one with tinted illustrations and two adorable full page pictures—"Three Good Friends" and "A Woman of Nazareth."

FOR a Christmas greeting or Souvenir to send to friends abroad Canadians could make no more fitting choice than the Christmas Number of THE DOMINION ILLUSTRATED, which promises to be out in ample time and the most beautiful and interesting purely Canadian publication ever issued. The supplements, illustrations, stories, poems and sketches are to be all Canadian, and will cheer the heart of many a one who cannot come to Canada for Christmas, but who will gladly welcome such a Christmas greeting.

THE king of the U. S. Weeklies, "The Graphic," Chicago, keeps up its high and rapidly earned reputation. The New York Tribune says: "The first issue of the Exposition Graphic, a quarterly edition of the Graphic, Chicago, is a magnificently illustrated Worlds Fair Number. No publication that we know of has given such an idea of what the World's Fair will be like. Besides the pictures, . . . remarkably good, and sketch of the fair, there is a history of foreign expositions."

IN THE Christmas Century, a most admirable number of the magazine, Prof. Du Bois, of Yale, in an article on "Science and Immortality" says: "Mastery of self can be attained only in a world where temptation and sin are possible, where voluntary disobedience is the outcome of ignorant transgression. These are necessary to the end; not merely allowed, but designed. The purpose of such a world is plain to read. It is not the production of automatons who may pass a few years of blissful irresponsible ease and then cease to be. Such an end is worse than futile. But the development of a conscious, indefeasible personality, . . . of a spiritual energy in accord with eternal purpose, capable of co-operation and fit tool for higher things—this is an end which alone satisfies reason, science, revelation, faith and hope. This alone is commensurate with the whole mighty process."