

when lymph is employed, the indentation is superficial, and the other test marks frequently wanting.

Having thus stated the difference observable in the two forms of vaccination, we now proceed to give the reasons for our preference for the dry crust.

1. In vaccination with the crust, particularly if done by scarification, failures are infrequent, indeed exceptional; whereas with lymph they are exceedingly common as any one who has read the English medical journals for the past five years cannot have failed to discover.

2. Lymph virus deteriorates more readily and is not so easily kept as the crust. Dry lymph, when used from tubes or points, almost invariably fails. There can be no doubt about the deterioration of lymph. Dr. Short, the Superintendent of the Madras Presidency, in an article in the "Madras Journal of Medical Science," says that this fact is evidenced by the more rapid course of the vesicles and the occurrence of extensive local irritation.

3. Lymph taken from the arm at an early stage of the vaccine disease, before fever has set in or constitutional symptoms have fully manifested themselves, does not contain those morbid elements necessary to protect the system from variola; whereas in the dry crust these elements are found in an active and concentrated form. If this view be correct, it affords an explanation of the European system of vaccination. In England they take lymph from the arm before the areola commences to form, indeed frequently as early as the fourth or fifth day. Doctor De Hovel, in a communication to the "Lancet," says the earlier the period the better: and in the instructions published by the Lords of Her Majesty's Privy Council for the guidance of the profession, we find the following clauses: "7. Take lymph on the day week after vaccination, at the stage when the vesicles are fully formed and plump, but when there is no perceptible commencement of areola." Clause "8. Consider that your lymph ought to be changed, if your cases, at the usual time of inspection on the day week after vaccination, have not, as a rule, their vesicles entirely free from areola." Here then the old-fashioned, much-prized areola test, to which Jenner himself attached so much importance, is not only ignored but condemned, and a vesicle selected concerning the character of which there can be no certainty. In Paris, the employment of lymph furnished by M. Lanoix, during the late epidemic, proved almost an absolute failure, and even pure animal lymph was unsuccessful in twelve of thir-