EDITORIAL.

use, and the sore had not been properly cared for after the physician last saw the patient, and the child's home was in the second story of a building of which the first story was a stable. The child had often been in bed with the parents.

"Communication with the physician who had performed the vaccination elicited the statement that among the many other cases vaccinated with virus obtained from the same source, another case of tetanus appeared, also in a child." The father of this child also was a stableman.

In each case the technique of the vaccination was faultless, but the after care was insufficient, and that opportunity existed for the conveyance of the tetanus bacillus from stable to child was very evident. Commenting upon these cases, and comparing them with those occurring in the epidemic in Canden, it was noted that the shield was used in nearly all the cases in which tetanus developed. It was pointed out that in every instance the tetanus appeared at a very late date-from the twentieth to the twenty eighth day after the vaccination, and, moreover, every case was fatal. Now tetanus may be long in making itself manifest after the infection, but it is the rule that the longer its appearance is delayed, the milder is the attack. Usually symptoms developed within from a few hours to two weeks after the introduction of the virus. It would therefore seem altogether unlikely that the tetanus germ could have been introduced at the time of vaccination, in the cases referred to, and consequently the vaccine is not to be held responsible for the symptoms of tetanus.

Dr. Willson remarks:

"In conclusion, I would say that after diligent search I can find no case on record that presents even probable evidence of the introduction of the tetanus infection with the bovine, or, in fact, any other virus of modern times. No amount of such assurance can undo the harm that has already been done to a vitally valuable prophylactic measure by the carelessness of the watch that has been kept over the vaccine sore. But we can slowly eradicate the evil influence of the recent weeks by an entirely new scrupulousness that will in time overthrow the opposition that is rampant to day. If by calling attention to this most dreaded of all the complications of traumatic and operative medicine, both the physician and patient are awakened to the fact that a danger of the entrance of tetanus organisms is ever present, and as long as there is on the surface of the body the most