

Cases are met with not unfrequently, and it is only a few days ago that the termination of one of those cases took place. The animal—a Jersey cow—had been ailing for quite a time, and was examined by a leading veterinary surgeon, who diagnosed the case as one of tubercle." The animal was isolated, quarantined, and kept under observation. After death, an examination took place, which verified the diagnosis in every particular. The case was reported to the Department of Agriculture. The veterinary surgeon tells me, said Dr. Inches, that such cases are not rare, and that the milk of such animals is used, and no doubt their flesh often eaten. His last remark to me was, "that the medical profession will waken up some day to the importance of such cases of infectious disease, and insist upon measures to prevent its propagation."

Now, from the foregoing facts and from others so well known that I have not alluded to them, the whole question may be summed up, and the conclusions which may be reasonably drawn therefrom are, briefly, as follows:

1. That, as it has been long known that glanders and hydrophobia may be communicated from animals to man, and it has been clearly demonstrated that tuberculosis may be communicated from animal to animal, from man to man, and from man to animals; that the bacillus of tubercle found in all tuberculous matter is, in animals, so far as can be ascertained by the microscope, by their action in different culture media and their other biological characteristics, identical in every respect with the bacillus in the tuberculous matter in man; that many of the more highly organized parasites, such as tapeworm, trichina, and other forms, are common alike to both man and animals; that there are no known differences, physiological or chemical, between the constituents and structure of the various parts of the human body and those of the domestic animals, such as would lead to the conclusion that any parasitic organism which finds suitable conditions for its development in the latter would not find equally suitable conditions in the former; that it appears that where cows are not to be found, tuberculosis is not common, or is quite unknown, and that many observers and investigators in both Europe and America declare, that wherever the disease is prevalent amongst cows, it is proportionately prevalent amongst the

human population; and finally, that many cases of tuberculosis in human beings are upon record, in which tuberculous milk had been consumed as food, and as no other cause could be assigned, there was the strongest presumptive evidence that the milk was the source of the disease: it would, therefore, for these reasons, appear to be in a high degree unreasonable for us to refuse to receive as a fact the extreme probability, at least, that this disease may be, and not infrequently is, conveyed to the human body by the meat, milk and butter of tuberculous cows.

2. That although cases of tuberculous disease in cows are not known to be very common in Canada, it must be remembered that, from the attention of the public not having been specially drawn to the subject, the disease has not been suspected or looked for; that there is abundant evidence that the disease is prevalent in many parts of the adjoining States, many entire herds there having been destroyed by it, while one of the inspectors of the largest meat market in London, Eng., in evidence before Dr. Carpenter, has declared that sometimes as much as 80 per cent. of the meat examined there was tuberculous; that a report of the Experimental Farm at Guelph, Ontario, states that "the extent to which this disease exists amongst the better breeds of cattle in this country is alarming"; that the chief veterinary surgeon of the Dominion, Mr. McEachren, states that the disease is on the increase among cattle in Canada, as elsewhere, while other veterinary surgeons say it is not rare amongst us, and at least one entire herd in Nova Scotia has been destroyed by it; that the insidious nature of the disease causes it to be overlooked, and makes it difficult to arouse the public to its occurrence and danger; that according to the best authorities, cows may be tuberculous in a marked degree and yet continue to thrive and give abundance of milk, containing the tubercle bacilli, and yet the disease not be suspected by the owner or attendant; that as cows are not allowed to die naturally, but are slaughtered for the market, and doubtless in some cases tuberculous cows are thus disposed of before the disease has attained noticeable development, and that even in the known early symptoms of the disease—in individual cases—such animals would as a rule be sold by the owners to the butcher to prevent loss; and, finally, that in Canada there is no