

as to his perfect fitness for the work, or as to the thorough faithfulness of his performance. Even his drawings are acknowledged to be *veræ effigies* of the things seen. In short, Dr. Klein's facts are universally accepted as truths.

All things considered, this accord is marvellous. The unanimity is so wonderful that it is to be feared it cannot last. When, indeed, it is borne in mind that the fundamental doctrines of certain schools must be hopelessly upset by the confirmation of Dr. Klein's observations, it is incomprehensible how those attached to these schools should have remained quiescent for so long. Is it possible that the speakers who took a particular line in the discussion on the germ theory should have failed to perceive the full significance of this fungus described by Dr. Klein? Have they not yet realized the fact that, if it be established as the specific cause of typhoid, their views, of necessity, fall to the ground? Let it be determined that a specific vegetable organism is the efficient agent, and it follows that the etiological views of Dr. Murchison will be destroyed as utterly as will those of Dr. Budd, and that the argument of Dr. Bastian will be as untenable as will that of Dr. Beale. In fine, all schools in which it is taught that the cause of typhoid is, or may be, other than a living reproductive vegetable germ, must inevitably perish. But the end of inquiry is truth. It is doubtless this consideration which has brought all sections of etiologists to receive Dr. Klein's paper with such philosophical serenity.

It may be fairly assumed that Dr. Klein has demonstrated the existence of low vegetable forms in the tissues, vessels, glands, follicles, lymphatics, and other parts of the organs implicated in typhoid fever. This being granted, the following questions suggest themselves:—1. Are these vegetable forms accidental or incidental? 2. If incidental, is the vegetation the cause of the disintegration? 3. Are these organisms infective agents or "carriers of infection"? Or will they induce typhoid when transplanted into the healthy human body? 4. What is the precise nature of these low vegetable organisms? 5. What is their habitat, or the soil on which these parasites last occur before their reception by man?

1. *Are these vegetable forms accidental or incidental?* This question Dr. Klein has answered—whether conclusively or not, I will leave. Of course, there is the obvious objection that his observations are too few in number for safe generalisation. Whatever weight this consideration may have with some inquirers, I would observe that any doubt I might have had upon the point is overcome by evidence extrinsic to Dr.