

The adulteration of foods is a practice so common that unless the public co-operate and aid the Government through the Commissioner in their efforts to suppress the evil it will be very difficult and a long process to suppress it. The law now in reference to the practice is very good, and if properly exercised and carried out cannot fail to mitigate the evil very materially in a little time; while persistent watchfulness will then keep it in check. In another part of this number is an interesting and suggestive article on "Dangers in Food and Drink." The dangers are probably greater in the United States than in Canada, but the only way to prevent them becoming as great here is by vigilance on the part of consumers. Self-interest should secure this.

Striptors vaccine, it is alleged, has been sold, croton-oil having been used instead of the genuine lymph to coat the quills. Many persons therefore who suppose themselves protected from small-pox have simply been "vaccinated" with an irritant. It seems hardly possible, says the *N. Y. Medical Journal*, that such a fraud could have been perpetrated, and the offenders not brought to justice.

No case of hydrophobia has ever been known to occur in New Zealand, and this is said to be due to the fact that no infected dog has ever been allowed to be imported into the colony. All dogs arriving at New Zealand ports are subject to a three weeks' quarantine.

It ought not to be so difficult a matter to banish hydrophobia, says the *N. Y. Medical Times*, if the dog who slobbers, hangs his jaws, barks unnaturally, or becomes snappish, is so quarantined that he can do no injury. Cauterization is useless, because it is too late, but sucking the wound *immediately and thoroughly* is the best means to be employed.

Progress in surgery is as marked as in any other science or art. A Dr. Duncan, of Edinburgh, Scotland, has made it a practice in several operations of amputation of the extremities to collect the blood from the portion of the limb removed, by expression, and inject the blood so collected into the chief vein of the stump before closing the wound. In cases where there had been very severe bleeding before the patient could be

attended to, this method proved very beneficial. The blood was mixed with a solution of phosphate of soda, to prevent coagulation, and kept at the temperature of the body until injected. Amputation of the thigh under the method of local anæsthesia with cocaine has, it is said, been successfully accomplished.

The foot-and-mouth disease has recently formed the subject of important investigations by Dr. Nosatti, an able Italian scientist and veterinarian. His researches have led him to the following conclusions: (1) That epizootic apthia is not a disease susceptible of developing itself spontaneously. (2) It is not an indigenous, but an exotic disease. (3) Its nature is eminently contagious. (4) Its virulent element is represented by microbes, discovered first by Rivolta. (5) The virus can be cultivated when placed in appropriate media, and by reducing its virulency by successive cultures it may become a safe and proper agent of inoculation.

In the Kalahari, where extremely poisonous snakes abound, the nude natives are often bitten by them, and although not knowing anything about *similia similibus* they cure themselves by inoculating with other virus. There is not a native nor a hunter that does not carry either the dried body of a deadly poisonous reptile, the sacs of the puff adder, yellow cobra, or capella. As soon as possible after being bitten they make slight incisions close to where the poison fangs entered, into which they sprinkle some of the dried and powdered virus. The first effect is to induce sleepiness, the swelling soon goes down, and in a day or two they are as well as ever.

The *Sanitarian* for February well sustains its high character for valuable papers on various sanitary subjects. There is one called "Random Notes for Promoting the Hygiene of the Dwelling;" another on "Yellow-Fever Prevention;" and a third on "Impure Air and Unhealthy Occupations as Predisposing to Consumption." In one on the causes of acquired immunity from infectious diseases by James Law, F.R.C.V.S., is the following: "This consideration serves to fortify the doctrine that the immunity from a contagious disease, acquired by a first attack, is due to a habit or acquired power of endurance or resistance, on the part of the living cells or nuclei of the animal body."