

it. As these animals are known to be disseminators of the *B. pestis* their extermination is a preventive measure of great value. It will be necessary also to guard against the invasion of infection by other channels such as infected clothing, or unsuspected cases of plague:—*Med. Times Hosp. Gazette*.

### A NEW LIGHT ON PERNICIOUS ANEMIA.

*The Medical Press* is very enthusiastic over what it considers a great discovery made by Dr. W. Hunter. This is that pernicious anemia is a septic affection, the poison being derived from the suppuration about the teeth or in the mouth and its dependencies. The poison passes into the stomach where it sets up a special form of gastritis, finally resulting in peripheral neuritis and blood disturbances.

This calls for better habits of oral hygiene and antiseptic mouth washes:—*Dict and Hyg. Gaz.*

### THE NECESSITY OF DRINKING SUFFICIENT WATER.

Dr. W. T. Moffet, (*Illinois Medical Journal*, February; *Woman's Medical Journal*, March), quoting Fowler, who says that the kidneys act as regulators of the water supply of the blood, taking from it any excess, and when there is an insufficiency, demanding only enough to dissolve the solid constituents of the urine and to facilitate their discharge from the body, asserts that it is too often a fact that this regulating functions of the kidneys is rendered void by the continued failure to imbibe sufficient water to satisfy the needs of the tissues and fluids of the body. He thinks that many cases of renal inadequacy and self-intoxication, with all the symptoms which may depend upon these conditions, are largely due to a deficient use of pure cold water. With the free use of water elimination will often take care of itself. Drinking cold water increases arterial tension, reduces bodily temperature, increases peristalsis and biliary secretion, and aids digestion. There is a large class of chronic troubles that are associated with constipation, renal insufficiency, and inactive skin. On inquiry it will be found that a large percentage of these cases drink water sparingly, many not at all. All the tissues suffer, toxins accumulate and the whole organism is poisoned—the patient has self-intoxication. Dr. Moffet has known obstinate cases of constipation and eczema to be cured by the free use of water. Most of these patients appear to entertain a distaste for water.—*New York Medical Journal*.

### ON THE STERILIZATION OF MILK ; ITS ADVANTAGES AND LIMITATIONS.

A. D. Blackader (*New York Med. Jour.*, Feb. 2, 1901) says that it must be admitted that commercial cow's milk is never absolutely sterile, though varying greatly as to the number and character of the micro-organisms. If obtained under good hygienic conditions, filtered, aerated,