

never be completely closed. The babe ought not to be rocked.

12. There should not be undue haste in teaching the infant to walk; it should be allowed to creep on the floor and help itself up; walking carts and baskets should be discontinued.

13. The least indisposition on the part of the infant (colic, diarrhea, vomiting,

cough) should be at once attended to.

14. As pregnancy has the effect to render the milk less nutritious, in case of pregnancy, every nursing woman should cease to suckle her infant.

15. It is a good plan to vaccinate infants during the first three months after birth, or during the first weeks, if an epidemic of small-pox is prevailing.

MISCELLANEOUS ITEMS.

WATER EXAMINATION.—Perey F. Frankland has succeeded in applying Koch's method of cultivation on solid media to the detection and quantitative estimation of the micro-organisms in potable waters. He drops a measured volume of the water under examination upon a sterile gelatine film on a glass plate, protected from aerial contamination by a glass shade and a moat of solution of mercuric chloride. He finds that the risks of aerial contamination during the transfer of the water to the film are very small, at all events, in the devitalised air of a chemical laboratory. The natural process of filtration and subsidence having acknowledged efficiency in producing waters devoid of life. Dr. Frankland has investigated the action of certain artificial processes, namely: 1, filtration through various media; 2, agitation with solid particles, followed by subsidence, and 3, chemical precipitation. One of the most interesting facts, brought out by the experiments with filtering agents is that a substance may remove living organisms entirely from the water, without sensibly affecting the quantity of dissolved organic matter it contains. The removal of micro-organisms from water by filtration through such substances as spongy iron, animal and vegetable charcoal, and coke, can only be effected by very slow filtration. The removal of organisms from water by agitation with finely divided solids, followed by subsidence, though very often perfect, is only transient, and is most marked after the liquor has become clear. Clark's process (softening of water by lime) is known to be capable, when carefully applied, of removing 99 per cent. of micro-organisms from water. The want of a co-operation of biological and chemical science in the matter of water-examination has been long felt by chemists, and Dr. P. F.

Frankland's work is an advance in the right direction. The method employed seems to be trustworthy and practicable to all chemists, and we hope that its adoption will lead to additions to our knowledge of natural waters, and will prove of value to mankind.—*Brit. Med. Jour.*

RESEARCHES ON THE MALARIAL INFECTION.—1. In the blood of every person suffering from malarial fever we find enclosed in the red blood-corpuscles peculiar microbes, consisting of homogeneous protoplasmic particles, endowed with a very lively amoeboid movement. These microbes allow of a distinct coloration, and occur only in this affection; they were termed by the authors "plasmodies or hæmoplasmodies of malaria." 2. In the interior of these microbes we often find a red or black pigment (melanin), which, however, is no integral portion of theirs, but is obtained from transformation of hæmoglobin, which the parasites have abstracted from the red blood-corpuscles. 3. If this production of pigment has taken place, we have malaria with melanæmia, if not, malaria without melanæmia. This refers also to the grave cases of a pernicious or fatal nature. 4. The parasites propagate themselves by the process of fissure. 5. Intravenous injection of malarial blood produces malaria in a previously healthy person. 6. The plasmodies increase in number with the progress of the malarial infection, and decrease with the regression of the symptoms under cinchonization.—**PROF. MARCHIAFARA AND DR. CELLI,** in *Deut. Med. Zeit.*, Jan., 1886.

TO DISINFECT INFECTED DWELLINGS.
--The following method of thoroughly