

**ANTI-TOXINE FOR DIPHTHERIA.**

The Ontario Board of Health Will Purchase a Quantity of Serum for the Hospitals of Toronto.

It is announced that the Provincial Board of Health will purchase as soon as possible a quantity of anti-diphtheric serum from the Pasteur Institute in Paris for distribution amongst the isolation hospitals in Toronto. As far as we know, the Pasteur Institute will not be able to supply this new virus for a couple of months yet, and Drs. Cassidy, Covernton and Bryce are to be commended for looking so far ahead that they will be able to give some of the first demonstrations of its application outside of Paris in Toronto. They are to be commended for two reasons. This new diphtheria cure, from the public point of view, is certainly the most interesting discovery that has been made by medical science, and the experiments so far made with it seem to have established its success at least as well as the protection of vaccination against smallpox.

In regard to such matters, public boards owe a duty to the people, and in all the series of dangerous diseases there is no enemy whose attacks are more indiscriminate and unsparring than diphtheria. True enough, as Dr. Cassidy stated at the meeting of the Provincial Board of Health, the official returns in recent years have shown diphtheria in Canada to be

**ON THE DECREASE.**

This is, favorable testimony to our advance in the science of sanitation. But the advance is slow, and, in a sense, uncertain. Men of wealth, who spend small fortunes on the drainage and sanitary appointment of their premises, have their children taken off by diphtheria, and they are unable to trace its source. The manholes in all city streets are the objects of general suspicion, and there are a hundred and one other possible lairs of the bacteria. Cleanliness single-handed has a long uphill battle to fight against the varied conditions of our modern life, both in the city and in the ways of communication in the country.

It is, therefore, the most natural thing in the world that the reported efficiency of the application of the serum of blood in cases of diphtheria should call forth universal interest. The local authorities have told us very little so far of the nature and application of this new preventive, but a paper read some two weeks ago before the congress of naturalists at Vienna contains a great deal of information to the point in these respects.

The paper in question was read by Prof. Behring, the discoverer of the new diphtheria cure. He was able, we read, to promise far-reaching efficaciousness by the injection of serum as the cure of many virulent diseases. Already diphtheria and tetanus have

**ABSOLUTELY YIELDED**

to this treatment, and he does not doubt that pulmonary diseases, cholera, typhoid, and, perhaps, consumption, will be conquered in time by its application. The application of the serum of blood, he said, was discovered by him through his close observation of Dr. Koch's attempts at killing the bacteria in the living organism.

It appeared to Prof. Behring to be more important to fight against the changes used in the organism by the bacteria. He began to make experiments in 1890, and succeeded in protecting guinea pigs against the infection of diphtheria. The experiments were then made with children, and, where the injections could be made in the first forty-eight hours of the illness, the mortality was reduced to 5 per cent. of what it had been. In later stages of the disease the mortality was brought down to 10 per cent. The diaries of the hospitals of Berlin show that of 72 diphtheria patients who were treated without serum 25 died, whilst only two fatal cases resulted out of 78 treated with serum in the first stages of the illness.

The application appears to correspond with vaccination, but it is said the virus may be supplied in the form of powders. So far, however, the best method of application has not been made a matter of certainty. If the virus can be put up in powders, and if its efficiency in that form can be established, it would enable parents to apply the preventive in the earliest stages of the attack.

**TRIFLES THAT MAKE HISTORY.**

The Fate of America Once Hung on a Game of Chess.

It is a Spanish tradition that the fate of Columbus once hung on a game of chess. For years the schemer had haunted the Spanish court, trying to interest some one in his cause, but at last, despairing, he determined to leave and go to France. The night before his intended departure he sought an audience of the queen to communicate his intention and to take his leave. The queen asked him to wait while she made one more effort to interest the king, and left the room for that purpose. She found Ferdinand engaged in a game of chess, and disturbing him by her entrance, and thus causing him to lose a piece, he let fly a volley of oaths at seamen generally and at Columbus in particular, and then informed Isabella that the result of her petition would depend on the result of the game. It grew worse, and things looked blue for the discoverer of America, but Isabella, overlooking the board, whispered to his majesty a suggestion as to a move that could be made: the king adopted the suggestion, and America was saved.

It is a queer story, but no stranger than the one told in Rome at the time the divorce of Henry VIII. was under discussion that the negotiations were broken off by the Earl of Wiltshire's dog. This unmannerly cur had followed his master into the court, and when the pontiff, at the close of the audience, put out his foot to be kissed by the earl the dog bit it and so angered the pope and horrified the court that the negotiations were suspended.

The story may be true or false, but in either case is an excellent demonstration of the value of the trifle, when the trifle occurs in the life of an exalted personage and gives point to the remark made by Paschal along the same line, that if the nose of Cleopatra had been an inch longer or shorter the course of the world's history might have been materially changed.

**TAKING A FRIEND'S ADVICE.**

Mr. Thomas Adams Tells the Happy Result that Followed.

He Was Suffering From a Severe Attack of Rheumatism—Would Have Given Anything to Secure Relief—How a Cure Was Brought About.

From the Brantford Courier.

A brief statement in respect to the recovery of Mr. Thomas Adams, of St. George, will no doubt be of considerable interest to suffering humanity in general and particularly to those who may profit somewhat by the experience hereinafter set forth. Mr. Adams is a stone mason by trade and resides about a mile east of the Patten Mills and is well known and respected in the neighborhood. In order to gain all the information possible concerning the circumstances of the cure, a representative of the Courier proceeded thither to investigate the case. Mr. Adams was found at work in his mill. He is a man of about thirty-five, healthy and vigorous, a man whom one would not suspect of having had any ailment. When interviewed he cheerfully made the following statement:—"About three years ago when at work at my trade I contracted, through over-exposure, a severe attack of muscular rheumatism, which confined me to the house for three weeks, during which time I suffered the most excruciating pain, being hardly able to move. I was so bad that I could not lie down, had to just let myself fall into bed. When attempting to rise I had to turn over upon my face and crawl up, there being only one position from which it was possible to rise. I would have given anything at this time in order to secure relief. My first thought was to call in a regular practitioner, so I procured one of the best physicians in the neighborhood, but he did not seem to get control of the malady. After treating me for some time he left of his own accord saying he could do nothing for me. About this time a friend of mine persuaded me to try Dr. Williams' Pink Pills. Finally, I decided to give them a trial. I soon experienced a decided improvement and was mending rapidly, the terrible pain left me and I had considerable relief and was able to get around with the use of a crutch. After the further use of the Pink Pills I was so far recovered as to be able to resume work and since that time have been free from the complaint. I do not now feel any of the soreness and stiffness of the joints, I can get right up in the morning and go off to work without any feeling of uneasiness whatever. I have every confidence in Pink Pills and heartily recommend them. I believe them a good thing to take at any time to get the blood into good condition and if I felt any illness coming on I would, instead of calling a doctor, send at once for a box of Pink Pills."

When strong tributes as these can be had to the wonderful merits of Pink Pills, it is little wonder that their sales reach such enormous proportions, and that they are the favorite remedy with all classes. Dr. Williams' Pink Pills contain the elements necessary to give new life and richness to the blood and restore shattered nerves. They are an unfailing specific for locomotor ataxia, partial paralysis, St. Vitus' dance, sciatica, neuralgia, rheumatism, nervous headache, the after effects of la grippe, palpitation of the heart nervous prostration, all diseases depending upon vitiated humors in the blood, such as scrofula, chronic erysipelas, etc. They are also a specific for troubles peculiar to females, such as suppressions, irregularities and all forms of weakness. In men they effect a radical cure in all troubles arising from mental worry, overwork, or excesses of any nature.

Dr. Williams' Pink Pills are manufactured by the Dr. Williams' Medicine Company, Brockville, Ont., and Schenectady, N. Y., and sold in boxes (never in loose form) by the dozen or hundred, and the public are cautioned against numerous imitations sold in this shape, at 50c. a box, or six boxes for \$2.50, and may be had of all druggists, or direct by mail from Dr. Williams' Medicine Company at either address.

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Miss Hannah W'jatt Toronto, Ont.

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said she was past all help and wanted me to send her to the 'Home for Incurables.' But I said as long as I could hold my hand up she should not go. We then began

**Hood's Sarsaparilla Cures** to give her Hood's Sarsaparilla. She is getting strong, walks around, is out doors every day, has no trouble with her throat and no cough, and her heart seems to be all right again. She has a first class appetite. We regard her cure as nothing short of a miracle." W. WYATT, 89 Marion Street, Parkdale, Toronto, Ontario.

Hood's Pills are purely vegetable and strictly harmless. Sold by all druggists, 25c.

**FROM LONDON TO HONG KONG.**

A Great Saving of Time in Sending Troop from Great Britain to China Through Canada.

The forwarding of British sailors and marines to Chinese waters by way of Canada directs the attention of the public here and in England once again to the desirability of increasing the efficiency of the Canadian Pacific railway by the establishment of a better service on the Atlantic. The men who are coming out from England will reach their Chinese destination very much sooner via Canada, even with the slow passage of the Atlantic, than they could by the other route. Their acceleration over the Canadian Pacific railway with doubtless make up for any delays on the sea, and it will be interesting to calculate how many more days might be saved if the Imperial means of communication from England to the Orient were only satisfactorily established. Heretofore experiments have been made that had practically, perhaps, as much value from the official standpoint. But on this occasion it is not an experiment that is being tried. The lives of British subjects are in danger in China, and it has been found necessary to send out reinforcements to Admiral Fremantle with the greatest haste. The people of England are anxious, and on this account the service of Canada to the Empire will come before them in the most forcible manner. When the commercial aspects of proposed schemes only are under discussion the public interest is not, and cannot be, so directly arrested as upon an occasion of popular alarm and the necessity of protecting kith and kin. This makes all the difference.

Canadians will look to the railway to give a good account of its efficiency in the transportation of these reinforcements for China across the Continent. In any event their quick arrival on the scene of duty would win applause, but at the present time it will also help to interest and convince thousands who have not given the subject sufficient attention of the necessity for providing a quick, clear and Imperial course of British access to the Far East.

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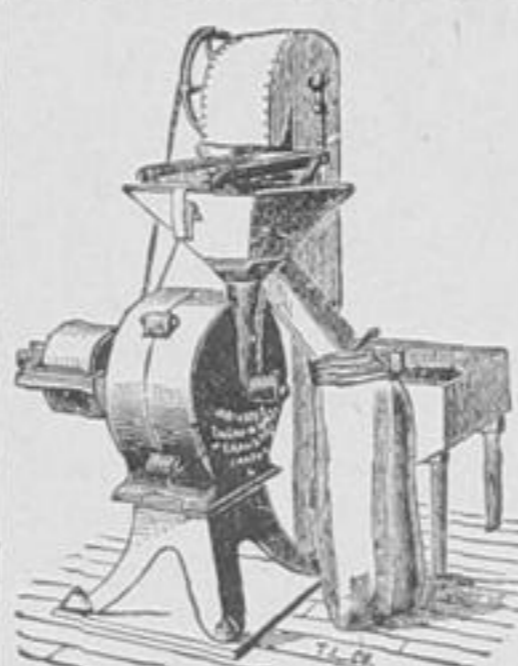
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