

ledge to repeat that a child should be vaccinated at three to six months after birth, that the vaccination should be repeated at puberty and at maturity, and that the vaccination also should be done after every exposure to a case of smallpox. Under these precautions, which require neither time nor expense, smallpox would soon entirely cease to be. Unvaccinated individuals are always sources of possible danger in a community, as was shown in this epidemic. It is interesting to note that all opposition to vaccination disappears at once in the presence of an epidemic, and that the disease itself, after vaccination, rapidly disappears. All the contributions to the welfare of mankind made in the whole realms of law and theology do not compare with this single contribution of medicine, but here, as everywhere, good people must be punished from time to time for ignorance and indifference to impress the fact.

The following letter and answer are self-explanatory, and may add interest to the present outbreak of the disease. It will become apparent from my response that I did not attach much significance to the induration of the papule, except, perhaps, in separation of smallpox from measles:

TOLEDO, O., November 5, 1888.

JAS. T. WHITTAKER, M. D., 32 Garfield Place,
Cincinnati, O.

Dear Doctor:—The State of Ohio is now infested with a mild form of variola in which the question of diagnosis has become especially important. Writers accessible to me lack the desired definiteness. Your study has been especial, and experience extensive. I beg permission to trespass on your time with four questions:

1. Does the shot-like papule always appear in a case of variola?
2. Does the same present in varioloid?
3. Does this shot-like object present in any other skin disease?
4. Does the appearance of the vesicles on the palms and soles occur in any other disease than variola and varioloid?

We certainly need some more definite facts as to the diagnosis of these diseases, and I hope you will find time to aid me.

Very truly yours,

J. T. WOODS,
Health Officer.

CINCINNATI, November 5, 1888.

DEAR DR. WOODS:

In answer to your questions, I would say:

1. The shot-like papule is quite characteristic of variola, but it by no means always appears in every case of variola.
2. It appears in varioloid as well as in variola, because cases of varioloid begin, as a rule, just as do cases of variola, and the mild character is imprinted later in the course of the disease.
3. The same condition may appear in other skin diseases, sometimes in so common an affection as prurigo, and there are nodules in erythema nodosum and sometimes in certain forms of herpes.
4. The appearance of vesicles on the palms and soles is more frequent in variola, but is by no means exclusive to this disease, as they sometimes appear also in other affections notably in syphilis.

I would quite agree to the effect that it is sometimes difficult to diagnosticate the disease at the start, but there is nothing like it in its later course.

Yours respectfully,

J. T. WHITTAKER, M. D.

HERBERT SPENCER ON EDUCATION. In September, 1873, Mr. Spencer gave to the thinking world the first edition of his very profound and valuable work on "Education."

This volume ought to be in every public library. It ought to be in the hands of all the reading and thinking parents in the United States. It may contain some errors. But it contains hundreds of truths.

Mr. Spencer commends: "That education which prepares for direct self-preservation; that which prepares for indirect self-preservation; that which prepares for parenthood; that which prepares for citizenship; that which prepares for the miscellaneous requirements."

THE CONSERVATIVE would have colleges and schools teach more of that which is useful, than of that which is merely ornamental. The self-reliance and self denial which are absolutely essential to human success should be inculcated everywhere by parents and teachers.

THE GOVERNMENTAL CORN PROPAGANDA.

For some years the United States department of agriculture maintained agents in Europe whose official duty was to make Scandinavians, Germans, Frenchmen and Englishmen yearn for and eat corn bread. But as bread on the other side of the Atlantic is generally consumed cold, instead of hot, and as cold corn bread, even in the United States, is not considered an appetizing diet the expenditure of government funds upon the corn bread propaganda was not remunerative. It is not the business of the government of the United States to vend or act as advance agent for those who wish to vend corn commodities, or any other food products, either in Europe or elsewhere. Nor is it a function of government to develop a taste for foods in the old world which are novel and untried among its peoples.

The proposed appropriation and expenditure of a large sum of money from the national treasury for the alleged purpose of making corn bread, hoecakes, pancakes and hasty pudding at the coming Paris exposition are merely a subterfuge for securing funds out of which jaunts to Europe and a sojourn at Paris for personal and political favorites may be legally paid for.

The products of American corn in edible form are steadily seeking and finding European markets. Already private enterprise has placed corn flour, starch, grits and meals at London and other trans-Atlantic trade centers. For years Nebraska City manufactories have been regularly represented by special agents in England and other countries. And the trade is satisfactorily growing. Demand makes a market for corn goods. Demand must be evolved from a desire for those goods. That desire must be born

of a satisfactory experience of those goods and that experience in London was brought about by the pluck and push of the Nebraska City Cereal Mills and the Argo Manufacturing Company. Government was not solicited to aid either concern. Independent and industrious manufacturers neither expect nor ask government to help them in their affairs.

There is no more reason for government to become a peddler in Europe of corn bread than there is for American ambassadors to advertise and hawk popcorn in the streets of London, Paris, Vienna, Rome and Berlin.

American pluck and far-sighted enterprise will hunt for and find markets all over the world unless impeded by restrictive legislation.

Sending a lot of lazy and impecunious gentlemen of fine families to Europe at public expense to advertise Johnny cake and cornmeal mush is an expensive farce and a fraud upon every American taxpayer. When the individual sagacity and energy of the Western manufacturer and merchant fail there is no chance for government agents to win and where personal pluck wins there is no need of public aid.

PRACTICAL LEGISLATION.

The coming session of the legislature of the state of Nebraska can be made of great beneficence to the commonwealth. If it shall do nothing but repeal the bad laws and eradicate unnecessary offices it will have conferred a very great blessing upon a tax-paying people. But it can do much more and it is hoped, by all good citizens, that it will do much more by giving the state a revenue system which shall make taxation equitable and just.

CONSERVATIVE CITIZENS.

There are many, very many, conservative citizens of the United States who do not, and can not, endorse the principles and policies as now advocated and expounded by either the republican or the democratic party.

These citizens are generally men of good name and high character and are animated by a genuine love of country. They wish for universal liberty, regulated by law. They desire a government based upon merit and intelligence, to be administered with efficiency and economy. They are tired of government on the spoils system.

They demand a return to that frugality, honesty and conscientious discharge of duties on the part of all their servants in either elective or appointive offices, which characterized the Jeffersonian age of the republic.

These voters, numbering tens of thousands of the best and most sincerely patriotic citizens, are inexorably antagonistic to many dominant methods in