

THE GAZETTE.

FRIDAY EVENING, DECEMBER 23.

A NEW MEDICAL HORROR.—The City of Elgin, some forty miles west of Chicago, is greatly excited by the appearance of a strange disease in that vicinity. The first case known, which terminated fatally on Friday last, was as follows: On Friday, the 17th inst., Mrs. C. W. Daniels, a lady twenty-two years of age, who was married two years ago and gave birth to a child eleven months since, was prostrated by what seemed at first to be premonitory symptoms of typhoid fever. She had not been very well for some time previous, but nothing serious was anticipated until Sunday, when she was compelled to take to her bed and place herself under medical treatment. She complained of pains in her bones and soreness in her flesh. Nothing very unusual, however, was observed until Sunday morning, when the milk from her breast attracted attention by its dark color, it looking like the staining of an ink bottle. Submitting the milk to a microscopic examination it was found to contain an immense number of animalcules different in size and shape from any human parasite of which the attending physician had ever seen or heard. They seemed to be somewhat hexagonal in form—longer one way than the other. They did not seem to have any head, but were evidently alive, judging from the way in which they moved about. Their size was estimated by the physician as varying from the one hundred thousandth to the five hundred thousandth of an inch in diameter.

The power of the microscope used varied from 150 to 800 diameters, the former power being required to make the insects visible.—They were not trichinae, as the doctor was well acquainted with the form of that parasite, and this new kind was much smaller and of an entirely different shape. Authorities were searched, but none of them gave one by which they could be identified, and the doctor and those with whom he consulted were compelled to believe that they had discovered a new species of human parasite.

In the meantime the patient grew worse.—She suffered terribly and complained of soreness all over her body. Nothing was done to relieve her. She could not bear a bath and could hardly bear to be touched. She lingered in agony until the afternoon at 7 o'clock, when she died. There was some reason at first to believe that the parasites were the product of some disease of the breast and were confined to that locality. The doctor determined to test the matter, and anticipating her death, he was prepared to do so. Five minutes after life was extinct and while the body was still warm, he made an incision in the calf of the leg, and, drawing the line, examined the moisture which covered it. He found three of the parasites, one of which was alive. They were similar in all respects to those found in the fluid taken from the breast. He then dissected the tibial arteries and the muscle of the leg, including a small portion of surrounding flesh.—The muscle presented a granular appearance, as if covered with grains of sand. The grains the doctor assumes were parasites. These investigations were conducted by Dr. Clark, assisted by Dr. Tyrell, and neither of them nor any of the faculty who have been asked their opinion are able to explain the presence of what they regard as a practical phenomena.

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DISOLUTION OF COPARTNERSHIP. The firm hitherto existing under the name of A. H. NOTT & CO. was by mutual consent, dissolved on the first day of May, 1870.

THE UNDERSIGNED having qualified before the Corporation Court as Administrator of the estate of the late THOMAS A. WATERS, hereby gives notice to all persons who are indebted to the estate that they will be required to make payment, and to all persons having claims against the estate to present their bills for payment.

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