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Observations upon the Filterability of Bacteria, including a Filterable Organism Obtained from Cases of Influenza

By Professor Arthur Isaac Kendall

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There is a heterogenous group of formidable diseases of man and animals, including some of the most rapidly spreading infections, whose inciting agents have thus far eluded cultivation upon artificial media. There can be little doubt that the incitants of this group are living entities and their cultivation outside the body should, judging from past experi-

ence in bacteriology and preventive medicine, be helpful, not only in solving important problems of their life history, but also in approaching the solution of prophylactic and curative measures. A few of these "viruses" are said to have been kept alive for periods of time in presence of large amounts of blood, or pieces of tissue from recently killed animals, but by common consent, this limited, restricted development is not regarded as equivalent to cultivation in the usual bacteriological sense.

1 The James A. Patten Lecture in Bacteriology, Northwestern University Medical School, Chicago, Illinois, July 22, 1931.