ulcerations, septicaemia, pyaemia, etc., are caused by these inoculations. But as these dire results are mentioned by only one writer, and are explicitly denied by other unprejudiced witnesses, they seem hardly worthy of credence. It furthermore seems certain that no one has contracted cholera by being inoculated according to Ferran's method.

When we come to consider the statistics as returned by the French and German officials who have been sent to Spain to investigate Dr. Ferran's experiments, we find numerous obstacles in the way of arriving at a satisfactory conclusion. In the first place, there is no accurate census report on which to base the calculations; in the second place, the number of inoculations actually performed is not exactly known by any one except Dr. Ferran, and it is chiefly from him that our information comes as to the relative number of deaths and inoculations; and, in the third place, the total number of deaths is not known with any certainty. Yet the figures are of some interest, as showing what those who have had the best opportunity to investigate the matter think of the efficacy of anti-cholera inoculation as practised in the villages of Alcira (*a*), Alberique (*b*), and Algemesi (*c*). They read as follows:[1] —

	Official population.	Probable population.	Non-inoculated.				Inoculated.			Re-inoculated.		
			Minim'm.	Maxim'm	Attacks.	Deaths.	Number.	Attacks.	Deaths.	Number.	Attacks.	Deaths.
a	16000	23000	5500	12500	374	169	10500	37	7	3011	35	6
b	5000	.....	4000	.....	192	173	938	10	2	....	3	..
c	7856	10500	6600	9300	484	208	1202	21	5	623	1	1

It was in these three towns that Dr. Ferran carried on his experiments most extensively, and, if it could be proved that these statistics were accurate, a very strong point would certainly be made in favor of anti-cholera inoculation; for it would be almost inconceivable that chance should give results very far from the truth, where so large a number of individual cases are concerned. But when we consider the *a priori* improbability that a disease which by its first attack confers no immunity against a second attack can be guarded against by any form of inoculation, and when we consider the alleged nature of the process by which this wonderful result is said to have been reached, and the character of the man who says he has reached this result, the inference seems very clear that there is something wrong with the statistics: in other words, it seems more reasonable to suppose that Messrs. Brouardel, Charrin, Albarran, and others have been mistaken or deceived in regard to the facts, than that anti-cholera vaccination as practised by Dr. Ferran is a success. F. S. BUNKER.

[1] *Bulletin acad. med.*, xiv. 902-933.

THOMAS BLAND.

THIS well-known naturalist, after an illness of some two years' duration, died August 20, 1885, in Brooklyn, N.Y.

He was born in Newark, Nottinghamshire, England, October 4, 1809. His father was a physician, and his mother related to Shepard, the naturalist. He was educated at the Charter house school, London, and had Thackeray for a classmate. Subsequently he studied and practised law. He went to Barbadoes, West Indies, in 1842, and later to Jamaica; visited England in 1850, and in the same year accepted the superintendency of a gold mine at Marmato, New Grenada. While a resident of Jamaica it was visited in 1849 by Prof. C. B. Adams of Amherst, and, stimulated by his friendship and enthusiasm, Bland began those investigations of the land-shells for which he afterward became so distinguished. In 1852 he came to New York, which, for most of his subsequent life, became his home. Mr. Bland was of a studious and rather grave demeanor, but notably courteous, and always ready to assist young students or others interested in his favorite pursuit. In spite of his extreme modesty, Mr. Bland was several times called to posts of honor and responsibility. By those privileged to know him, he was held in high esteem, which was not lessened by his bearing under tribulation and poverty during his later years.

Mr. Bland was the author of more than seventy papers treating of the Mollusca, especially of the United States and the Antillean region. His work was not confined to description of species, but comprised valuable contributions to their anatomy, classification, geographical distribution, and the philosophy of their development. No American student has shown a more philosophic grasp of the subject; and his discussion of the geographical distribution of the land-shells of the West Indies, published in 1861, gave him a wide reputation. He several times returned to this subject in later years, and always with marked success. Since 1869 Mr. Bland was associated with Mr. W. G. Binney in several important works, especially the 'Land and fresh-water shells of North America,' issued by the Smithsonian institution. Mr. Bland was a fellow of the Geological society, and an active member for many years of the New York lyceum of natural history. A convenient bibliography of his papers and contributions to malacology was prepared by Mr. Arthur F. Gray in 1884.