

causes, and these objects have ever been, and will ever be, compassed by clinical and pathological research. It is idle to depreciate the value of this central and essential element of sanitary science by bringing into prominence its secondary and collateral elements. Sanitation has always been, and must ever be, the offspring of medicine, and the two great branches of the healing art—prevention and cure—must ever be intimately associated, inasmuch as they spring from the same stem.

DOES CHOLERA ATTACK HORSES?

DR. CUNNINGHAM, in the "notes" appended to his "Report on the Cholera Epidemic of 1872," records the following singular circumstance which occurred in Lucknow:—

"As I have already mentioned, one man of the 1-17th was attacked with cholera in the musketry camp on the 26th November. The same day, after a long interval, there were four cases from different parts of the city, and next day a European in the civil lines was seized. On the night of the 24th, a horse in A. Battery, F. Brigade, died rapidly of purging; on the 25th, 15 more were seized with similar symptoms. Of these I saw several, and one or two of them presented a most miserable appearance—thin, weak, with staring coats and tucked-up abdomens; it was hard to believe that they had been fine, strong, well-conditioned animals only two days previously."

Why was this curious outbreak not submitted to as exhaustive an investigation as circumstances permitted at the time? It is precisely from exceptional and striking instances of this kind, when carefully studied, that additions to our knowledge may be expected. As the paragraph now stands, it is valueless for any purpose whatever. It raises our curiosity, and leaves us in a state of ignorance or wonder. Were the symptoms due to poison or disease; and if the latter, what disease? That is the first question; but we are left in tantalising doubt; and the further questions regarding the analogies of the disease and its etiology are, of course, shrouded in still deeper doubt.

THE LIABILITY OF YOUNG CHILDREN TO CHOLERA.

THE same report contains another tantalising bit of information:—

"One remarkable fact, however, regarding the ages of the children who were attacked with cholera may be mentioned, as it has perhaps a practical bearing which is not now apparent. Of 118 children who died from the disease, only one was under four months of age. During the first two years of age, deaths from cholera were comparatively rare. The disease was most fatal among those of from two to three years."

This is one of those curious facts revealed by statistics, and illustrates at once the use and uselessness of figures—their use in raising questions which can only be solved by particular investigation, and their uselessness in furnishing a solution of such questions. The first question is,—are the figures true? We may assume that they are. The next,—is the experience a constant or accidental one? This can only be answered by future observation. The next,—if the fact is a true and constant one, what is the cause of exemption of children under two years of age? This must be answered by a study of the particulars in which they differ from adults, and of the particulars of cases which constitute an exception to the rule. Conjecture would point to food or water; but conjecture in such cases is eminently unsafe, and nothing short of detailed evidence and cautious induction can be accepted. For these we look to medical officers, and we commend the interesting point to their best attention.

CHOLERA.

CHOLERA still lingers in some parts of Behar, Assam, and Chota Nagpore; but the disease appears to be at its minimum in Central, Eastern, and Western Bengal. Orissa is also exempt, the only indication of the existence of the disease in that province being a few sporadic cases at Juggutsingapore, in Cuttack. In Assam, the disease appears to be limited to Mungledye, in Durrung. Cases continue to occur in some villages of Beerbhoom, Rajshahye, Bhaugulpore, and Sonthal Pergunnahs; and scattered cases are reported from the districts of Patna, Tirhoot, Chumparun, Shahabad, Hazarebaugh, and Maunbhoom.

In the North-Western Provinces, reports of deaths from cholera continue to be submitted by the police in the districts of Allahabad, Mirzapore, Benares, Jounpore, Goruckpore, Cawnpore, Futtehpore, and Banda; but the number of deaths so reported are very few. The disease is evidently sporadic and limited. A sowar of the 18th B.C. was attacked at Allahabad on the 21st September.

A few cases have been occurring at Agra. On the 18th September, a sepoy of the 36th Native Infantry was attacked. The case terminated fatally; sporadic cases were occurring in the city about the same time. Brigadier-General Ryves, commanding at Agra, was attacked with choleraic diarrhoea on the 19th, and died of cholera on the 30th.

A camp follower of the 18th Native Infantry was attacked on the 5th October, and a sepoy of the same regiment on the 6th. The disease seems to have disappeared with this case.

Cholera has prevailed in some districts of the province of Oudh for months, but we are unable to state either the localities affected, or the extent of prevalence. An outbreak took place in the old jail at Roy Bareilly in July and August. Thirty-two cases and 13 deaths occurred between the 27th July and 13th August. In the Punjab, there have been sharp outbreaks in the towns of Mazaffra and Ferozepur, in the Goorgaon district, and cases of fatal vomiting and purging, which have been reported as cholera, have occurred in the town of Faridabad, Nizamooddeen, and Meetapore, near Delhi. A curious group of cases has occurred at Jubbulpore, in the Central Provinces. Mr. Willmot, Director of Public Instruction, returned on the 13th of August from spending three days at Allahabad with Mr. Justice Jardine, whose death from cholera at Mirzapore we noticed in our last issue. He was seized with cholera on the 14th, and died on the 15th. Mr. Rogers, Inspector of Schools, occupied rooms in Lawrie and Staten's Hotel, which is separated from the house which Mr. Willmot had occupied by one of the main roads of the station. Mr. Rogers had been much with Mr. Willmot during his fatal illness, and a box of office records, with which the latter had been occupied up to the day of his death, was transferred to the office of the former. After Mr. Willmot's death, Mr. Rogers proceeded on an inspection tour to Saugor, and it was ascertained that cholera did not exist at that station, nor on any of the routes travelled by him. He returned to Jubbulpore about the 1st of September, and felt out of sorts since then and up to the date of his manifesting unmistakable symptoms of cholera, the 12th of September. He died on the 15th. Mr. Bromstadt, Assistant Manager of the Hotel, occupied a room immediately below that of Mr. Rogers, and communicating with it by a common stairs. He was attacked on the 13th and died on the 14th.