

cesophageal bougie (Size No. 7) was passed, and detected an obstruction just below the cricoid cartilage of about one-half inch in extent, and another larger obstruction about five or six inches farther down. Dysphagia was less for a few days after this, but gradually returned. The bougie was again passed about three weeks later, and on its withdrawal about a wine-glassful of bloody purulent matter was regurgitated. This same result followed the third introduction of the bougie. Auscultation over the back proved nothing definite beyond a gurgling sound during the act of swallowing fluids, and also some crepitation. Emaciation was not so extreme, and he was able to swallow fluids and semi-fluids to the end. There was no treatment other than tonics. He died rather suddenly, about two months after entering the hospital, and about eight months after the first symptoms were observed.

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The Milwaukee Meeting of the American Public Health Association.

The 15th annual meeting of this Association took place on the 20th of November, in Milwaukee, and was, as its several predecessors have been, an undoubted success. Though not characterized by the lavish attention bestowed upon the Association during its visit to Toronto in 1886, yet there was done a large amount of practical work, under the presidency of Dr. C. N. Hewitt, M.D., Secretary of the State Board of Minnesota. Amongst the Canadian delegates present were, Dr. F. Montizambert, of the St. Lawrence Quarantine; E. F. Lachapelle, M.D., Chairman Quebec Provincial Board of Health; Dr. W. Canniff, Medical Health Officer of Toronto, and P. H. Bryce, M.D., Secretary of the Ontario Provincial Board of Health.

The work of the first session began with the report presented by Chas. Smart, M.D., Surgeon U. S. Army, on "Pollution of the Water Supply." The conclusions of the committee indicated the necessity for increased care in the protection of drinking water from polluting causes, and for a wider study of the methods for determining those pollutions which are of a deleterious character. In the discussion which followed, Prof. Vaughan, of Ann Arbor, spoke at some length on the advances in water analysis due to biological methods; but pointed out how the determination

of the number of microbes in a given water without a study and determination of their pathogenic or non-pathogenic characters must be unsatisfactory. He illustrated the point by reference to his experiments on bacteriological water analysis. The report, on motion, was ordered to be printed at once for distribution to State Boards.

The evening session was of a popular character, and after an address of welcome to the city by the Hon. Mr. Johnston, the President read a powerful and exhaustive address on the work of the Association, addressing himself especially to the work of executive officers, whether municipal, state, or federal. The regular work of the Association was resumed on Wednesday, when Dr. J. Rauch, Secretary State Board of Illinois, read a paper on "Useless Defences against Yellow Fever." Thereupon several southern members took up the discussion. The prevailing idea of Dr. Rauch's paper was to the effect that should the season be somewhat advanced and temperature moderately low, a line is soon reached, as travel from the southern states takes place, which technically may be called the danger-line, north of which infected persons, though sickening themselves, are not likely to pass to communicate the disease to others. While this line cannot be called a constant, yet with ordinary safe-guards in the matters of isolation and sanitation, there is really no cause for such panics as from time to time occurred during the past summer even so far north as southern Illinois. Others claimed that the panic, by causing people to flee, was a means of eradicating the disease. Other speakers at a subsequent session presented papers and engaged in the discussion, which with the importance of the subject and the temperament of southern members, became at times most animated. Dr. Cochrane, of Alabama, who had practical experience with the disease during the past summer, presented a most admirable summary of the history and known facts of the disease, and adopted the position of Dr. Rauch, viz., the necessity for the spread of an accurate knowledge of the disease and the means of its prevention, thereby putting away both the cause and the necessity for panic by the adoption of scientific measures for its suppression. Regarding the nature of the disease itself, he said: "This disease is caused by a transportable and transmissible poison quite as specific as prussic acid, for