

TINEA FAVOSA.*

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Although, so far as I am aware, this disease is not considered by the immigration authorities of Canada sufficient cause of exclusion or quarantine, yet the recent action of the United States government with regard to it, combined with the ever-increasing importance of this city as a port of entry for transatlantic passengers, has invested the subject of favus with interest, not only to the profession, but to the public generally. I do not think it is necessary to enter upon any argument as to the wisdom of our Republican neighbors in their efforts to exclude this disease. The only cause for astonishment is that similar steps had not been taken years ago. To any one at all familiar with the population of the lower quarters of the great American cities, especially New York, their habits of life, their origin, and their continual and enormous accession of numbers from the down-trodden, ignorant, debased and servile classes of Europe, the expediency of the action will at once commend itself. Nor is this action to be characterized as a selfish one. Indeed, in its nature, it is the very reverse. Although individual cases of hardship do occur in consequence, it is the very best method that could be taken to benefit these people themselves. Human and charitable organizations, without number, are constantly endeavoring, and with a considerable degree of success, to educate, elevate, and above all, to invigorate this population. Considering no task too severe, no expenditure too great, depressed by no discouragements, the splendid charities of our American cousins only ask that the personally diseased and those liable to injuriously affect their neighbors be eliminated from that continual stream of immigration, which for four centuries has set toward the confines of the New World. To bring this matter a little nearer home, I think it would be well if our own authorities followed the example of the Great Republic in this matter, as they have in many other innovations for the betterment of mankind. I am aware that there are other places more appropriate to discuss this phase of the subject than within these walls. Here, we are supposed to be rigidly

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