

DISINFECTION.

Disinfection. In view of the great importance of disinfection as a sanitary measure, a few simple but effective rules are recommended, viz:— All articles of clothing may be disinfected by placing them in boiling water and continuing the boiling for some time. Wollens may be either fumigated or steeped for a short time in either of the following solutions previous to being washed.

Solution 1.—Add eight ounces of sulphate of zinc and three ounces of carbolic acid to three gallons of water, stir briskly until they become incorporated.

Solution 2.—Add two ounces of chlorinated lime to one gallon of water and stir. Pieces of muslin wetted with either solution should be suspended constantly and kept moist in the sick room and adjoining passages. These solutions should be used for disinfecting the vessels and utensils used about the patient, and for mixing with the discharges.

Fumigation of furniture and rooms.

The following is the method for fumigating the furniture of the sick room as well as the room itself applicable to cases where the disease has terminated. Close all the openings and upon a braizer or some convenient receptacle containing burning coals throw a few ounces of crushed brimstone. The room must be vacated and should remain closed from eight to twelve hours. The windows may then be opened from outside the house, and some time should elapse before any person is allowed to enter therein. After this the room should be thoroughly cleansed by scrubbing the floor and walls if painted or removing the paper if papered, the ceilings, etc., whitewashed.

The following solution is recommended for the disinfection of water closets, privies, drains, stacks or collections of garbage, etc.

Mix eight pounds of dry copperas and a pint of fluid carbolic acid in five gallons of water, and stir the mixture briskly. A pint of this should be thrown into every sink and water closet night and morning. The proportion to be used for masses of garbage or decomposing matter should be one pint of fluid to a cubic foot of the mass. Quicklime may be used also for this purpose.

The people should not lose sight of the important fact that fresh air, pure water, and sunlight, constant ventilation and cleanliness, are the natural and most rational means afforded us for protection from Zymotic or infectious diseases, and TIME and LABOR should not be regarded as lost, nor expense incurred as being wasted, when they are used to obtain this end.

Committee.

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