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perils ; and the disease may have even disappeared for a season, and at different periods from that early date sprung up again among their posterity, who appear still to inherit the original taint.

From the facts stated, it does not appear what has been the total number of cases from the year 1817 until the present time, although nineteen "confirmed" cases were found at the time of their visit ; a proportion not exceeding, perhaps, that of any other disease, acute or chronic, which has appeared in this district during an equal period, reckoning from the average duration of the cases recorded in the Report ; and it might, perhaps, be also ascertained that the deaths from any one of them, were not less numerous than those from Leprosy, which, as far as we are informed, amount to twelve.

Having thus taken a brief review of the principal data furnished by the Report, and on which the Commissioners found their opinion as to the contagious character of the disease, which alone could warrant recourse to the seclusion of the affected and the adoption of Lazaretto regulations and restrictions ; it may not be deemed unprofitable or uninteresting, in a question which so deeply involves the comfort and safety of a large portion of society, to quote some modern authorities of the highest weight in the medical profession, in support of the opposite doctrine, or non-contagious nature of this loathsome disease, which is universally acknowledged to be incurable.

In an article in the "Dictionnaire de Medicine et Chirurgie pratiques", by Bouillaud, vol. 5, p. 425, he says, "La contagion a été admise par certains auteurs dans une foule des cas ou elle n'existe reelment pas. Quel est le medecin observateur qui ajoute foi maintenant à tout ce qui a été débité, par exemple, sur la contagion de la Lepre, &c." And again, vol. 5, p. 435, when speaking of isolating the sick and of sanitary cordons, he expresses himself thus : "Les attaques dont cette mesure sanitaire à été l'objet dans ces derniers temps, paraissent bien fondés, et le moment n'est peut-être pas éloigné, ou elle sera complètement abandonné." To this effect also, in an article in the same work, vol. 14, p. 19, by Ch. Londe, when speaking of the instructions relating to Quarantine, he says, "La Lepre arrive, dans les Instructions, én quatrieme ligne ; mais parmi les gens qui ont bien observe cette maladie, aucun aujourd'hui ne croit plus à sa propriété contagieuse ; les dispositions atroces, prises contre les lepreux, sont tombees en desuetude, et ces malades sont admis parmi les autres dans nos hôpitaux, sans que jamais on se soit aperçu de la transmission de leur affection."

In a paper in the Cyclopedia of Practical Medicine, on "Contagion," by Dr. Joseph Brown, we find the following remark :—"There are two

