

sprinkled with water containing carbolic acid or chloride of lime in solution. A gallon of water, in which a pound of lime is diffused, or a quarter of a pint of carbolic acid, will, by evaporation from the sheet, produce a condition of atmosphere which will help to dwarf any particles of diseased matter. Such things may accidentally escape from the room by the door into the passages leading to the rest of the house. The floor of the room which is occupied by the patient should be carefully examined, and be freely beeswaxed, so that all crevices between the boards may be closed; it should then be frequently sprinkled with some of the solution, and cloths dipped in the same hung about the room.

The bed and body linen which have been used by the patients should not be taken from the room until they have been dipped into a solution of carbolic acid of similar strength to that just recommended. They should remain in the water at least an hour, and afterwards should be boiled in abundance of water. At the same time, it is better not to preserve any article (especially in bad cases) which is of slight consequence; pieces of rags should be used instead of pocket-handkerchiefs; old rags and woollen cloths retain the infection very readily, and it is better to burn up such things after use than to preserve them. In support of this view I may mention the following circumstances, the facts of which were communicated to me by the medical man in attendance. The island of Mull is on the west coast of Scotland, very bleak, and with an exceedingly scattered population. Small-pox made its appearance at some shanties or mud huts at a long distance from any other place, but when it was also present upon the mainland. The huts were deserted by the inhabitants, they became dilapidated, the roofs fell in, and the ruined walls were exposed to the elements for some time. The property changed hands, and three years afterwards the new owner sent a gang of men to clear away the ruins for the purpose of building some decent cottages at that place. The men employed on the work fell ill with small-pox. The same medical man being called from Oban to attend them, recollected the former cases at the same spot, and he came to the conclusion that some old rags which had been turned out from the ruins had contained the foci of disease, and had infected the new comers. Dr. McGillivray, the medical attendant on the cases, informed me that he was not aware of any other cases of small-pox at that time in that part of Scotland.

These facts teach us several important lessons. Persons in attendance on the sick should not wear woollen garments or any material which cannot be washed or easily exposed to a degree of heat sufficient for the destruction of adhering particles of mischief. Cotton dresses should always be worn in the sick room by the attendants. They should also wash their hands immediately after attending upon a sick person. It is also better for them to use carbolic soap instead of ordinary soap. For similar reasons it is of the greatest importance that the sick room should not be frequented by any persons who are not in immediate attendance upon the