

the one already cited. They are the most remarkable that ever were published, and ought to be reprinted every ten years, until the whole medical profession has fully assimilated the knowledge they afford. The account about to be given is from a citizen of Perth Amboy, and statements of Dr. C. McKnight Smith, to Dr. John H. Griscom of New York, in 1852, published in the transactions of the New York Academy of Medicine and afterwards included in a letter from Dr. Griscom to a select committee of the U. S. Senate, on the causes of the sickness and mortality in emigrant ships, and published in their report in 1854. It is as follows :

"In August, 1837, a number of ships with emigrant passengers, arrived at Perth Amboy from Liverpool and other ports, on some of which ship fever prevailed. There was no hospital or other accommodation in the town, and an arrangement was made to land the sick, and place them in an open wood about a mile and a-half from the town. Rough shanties, floored with boards, and covered with sails, were erected, and thirty-six patients were taken from on board ship, with boats, and carried in wagons to the encampment. Of the thirty-six, twelve were insensible, in the last stage of fever, and not expected to live twenty-four hours.

"The day after the landing there was a heavy rain, and the sick were found next morning wet, and their bedding—such as it was—drenched with the rain. The number at the encampment was increased by new patients to eighty-two.

"On board the ship which was cleansed after landing the passengers, four of the crew were taken with typhus, and two of them died. Some of the nurses at the encampment were taken sick, but recovered. All the eighty-two passengers recovered."

Dr. Smith, who attended them, says: "The medical treatment was exceedingly simple, consisting, in the main, of an occasional laxative or enema, vegetable acid and bitters; wine was liberally administered, together with the free use of cold water, buttermilk and animal broths. The four sailors who sickened after the arrival of the vessel were removed to the room of an ordinary dwelling-house; the medical treatment in their case was precisely similar, yet two of them died. My opinion is, that had the eighty-two treated at the encampment been placed in a common hospital, many of them would also have fallen victims." Thus far, Dr. Smith. The main object of my paper is to show that the administration of poisonous doses of carbonic acid gas forms a very prominent part