METHODS OF DISINFECTION RECOM-MENDED BY THE MICHIGAN STATE BOARD OF HEALTH.

In diphtheria the discharges from the throat, nose, and mouth are extremely liable to communicate the disease, and should be received in vessels containing a strong solution of copperas (sulphate of iron), or on soft rags or pieces of cloth, which should immediately be burned.

In typhoid fever and other dangerous communicable diseases the discharges from the kidneys and bowels are dangerous, and should therefore in all cases be received upon papers or old cloths and promptly burned, or be received in vessels and thoroughly disinfected as follows : Disinfect each discharge from the bowels by thoroughly mixing with it at least one ounce of chlorinated lime in powder, or one quart of "Standard Solution No. 1,"* recommended by the American Public Health Association's committee. In country districts, villages, and small cities, where the privy is not far distant from a well, discharges should not be thrown into a privy-vault, but after being disinfected, they should be carried a greater distance from any source of drinking water and then covered with earth. Rags, closet-paper, or other similar material used about the patient, should be immediately burned. Privies, water-closets, cess-pools, gutters, drains, sewers, etc., should be frequently and liberally treated with copperas solution. Sulphate of iron (copperas) dissolved in water in the proportion of one and a half pounds of the sulphate to one gallon of water, is a good solution for chamber-vessels, water-closets, etc. When much is wanted it may be prepared by hanging a basket containing about sixty pounds of copperas in a barrel of water.

Nurses and attendants should be required to keep themselves and their patients as clean as possible; their own hands should frequently be washed and disinfected by chlorinated soda. Soiled clothing, towels, bed-linen, etc., on removal from the patient, should soon be placed in a pail or a tub of boiling-hot zinc solution, made in proportions as follows: Water, one gallon; sulphate of zinc, four ounces; common salt, two ounces. Soiled clothing should, in all cases be disinfected before sending away to a laundry, either by boiling for at least half an hour (it may well be boiled in a zinc solution), or by soaking in a strong solution of chlorinated soda.

Cotton, linen, flannels, blankets, etc., should be treated with the boiling hot zinc solution, introducing them piece by piece, securing thorough wetting and boiling for at least half an hour. Heavy woolen clothing, silks, furs, stuffed bedcovers, beds, and other articles which cannot be treated with

the zinc solution, should be hung in the room during fumigation, pockets being turned inside-out and the whole garment being thoroughly exposed. Afterward they should be hung in the open air, beaten and shaken. Carpets are best fumigated on the flour, but should afterward be removed to the open air and thoroughly beaten. Pillows, beds, stuffed mattresses, upholstered furniture, etc., after being disinfected on the outside, may be cut open and their contents again exposed to fumes of burning sulphnr. In no case should the thorough disinfection of clothing, bedding, etc., be omitted. Infected clothing and bedding have been known to communicate diphtheriamonths after their infection.The body of a person who has died from scarlet fever, diphtheria, smallpox, or typhoid fever, should be wrapped in a cloth wet with a strong solution of chlorinated soda, or with "Standard Solution No. 1," or with zinc solution. The zinc solution should be made in proportions of one half pound of chloride of zinc to one gallon of water, or :---Water one gallon; sulphate of zinc, eight ounces; common salt, four ounces.

TEMPORARY SHELTER DURING DISINFECTION.

Disinfection of a room always necessitates vacating it, and sometimes makes it impossible to remain in adjoining rooms, therefore in some cases it seems essential to have hospital, tent, or other temporary shelter for the inmates of infected houses, where bathing, disinfection, and washing can be done while such houses are being disinfected and put in order. On this subject local boards of health should be consulted, and should be prepared to act.

DISINFECTION OF ROOMS ..

After a death or recovery from a dangerous communicable disease the room in which there has been a case of such disease whether fatal or not. should, with all its contents, be thoroughly disinfected by strong fumes of burning sulphur. Rooms to be disinfected by sulphurous fumes must be vacated by persons, but the contents should all remain for disinfection. For a room ten feet square at least three pounds of sulphur should be used ; for larger rooms proportionately increased quanti ties, at the rate of three pounds for each one thousand cubic feet of air-space. Hang up and spread out as much as possible all blankets and other articles to be disinfected ; turn pockets in clothing inside out, and otherwise facilitate the access of the sulphurous fumes to all infected places. Close the room tight, place the sulphur in iron pots or pans which will not leak, supported on bricks over a sheet of zinc or in a tub containing water, so that in case melted sulphur should leak out of the pot the floor may not be be burned; set the sulphur on fire by hot coals or with aid of a spoonful of alcohol lighted by a match; be careful not to breathe the fumes of the burning sulphur, and `

^{*}Dissolve cloride of lime of the best quality in soft water in the proportion of four ounces to the gallon.