

Dr. J. H. Kellogg read a report on "Sanitary Protection Associations in Cities and Villages." He presented strong arguments for a sanitary association in every city and village in the State, which shall coöperate with the local boards of health, wherever possible, and secure action when they are inefficient.

SANITARY CONVENTIONS.—Drs. Hitchcock and Lyster, of the special committee, reported details of a plan for a sanitary convention on Jan. 7th, and 8th, at Detroit, and one at Grand Rapids during the month of February, 1880.

The following articles have been added to the exhibit in the office of the board, namely, an Ely sewer stench trap for use on street-corners, manufactured by A. Ely, 110 West Avenue, Rochester, N.Y.; a Parmenter's air-moistener, and a furnace air-moistener, manufactured by J. W. Parmenter, 15 Murray St., New York; and a sample of a new disinfectant called Little's soluble phenyle, for sale by T. W. Lawford, 10 S. Holliday St., Baltimore.

Dr. Lyster, special committee on proposed examinations by this board in sanitary science, reported a plan. Dr. Baker proposed some slight modifications, and the plan was adopted. It contemplates the examination and granting of certificates to such persons as sustain an examination showing them qualified to act as health officers. The first examination will be held in July next.

Books and Pamphlets.

THE PATHOLOGY AND TREATMENT OF VENEREAL DISEASES.—By Freeman J. Bumstead and W. Taylor. Fourth edition. Revised and enlarged. Philadelphia: Henry C. Lea. Toronto: Willing & Williamson.

We have perused this new edition of the most exhaustive work on the subject in our language, with great satisfaction, and feel desirous of presenting our subscribers with as extended an analysis of its valuable contents as our space will permit. The preface informs us that the reader will find rather a new work than an old one revised. Entirely new chapters have been written to include the contributions to our knowledge of venereal extension to tissues, which but a few years ago were supposed to be exempt from the ravages of the disease, *e.g.*, brain and nervous system. Containing 131 pages more than the last edition, with

a reduced size of type, the volume is estimated to contain about one-half more reading matter than its predecessor. An introductory chapter presents us with a comprehensive review of the history of venereal diseases, referring to the 15th chapter of Leviticus for evidence of the existence of gonorrhœa from the earliest times; to Hippocrates, Herodotus and Celsus for a description of it among the Greeks and Romans. An ulcer of the genitals identical with that now known as chancroid is described by nearly all the Greek, Latin and Arabian writers on medicine—but the opinions of some authors, especially Cazenave, that these were instances of primary syphilis and not chancroids, are inadmissible, as there is no clear record of the general symptoms of syphilis prior to the year 1494, when it first made its appearance in Italy among the soldiers of Charles VIII., King of France, who at the head of a large army took possession of the kingdom of Naples. Mutual recriminations occurred between the natives and the invaders respecting the origin of the malady, the French calling it the "Malade Naples," and the Italians ascribing its origin to the French, calling it the "French disease." Professor J. Jones, in an article in the *Medical and Surgical Journal* of New Orleans, June, 1878, endeavours to demonstrate its existence among the aborigines of this country from skeletons found in ancient burial places in Georgia, Tennessee, Mississippi and Louisiana the bones being thoroughly diseased, enlarged and thickened, medullary cavity completely obliterated, and surfaces eroded—not confined to tibial shafts, but unmistakable traces of periostitis, osteitis, caries, sclerosis and exostosis of bones of cranium, face, fibula, ulna, clavicle and sternum. Dr. Bumstead concludes the subject of the origin of syphilis in the words of Voltaire: "La verole est comme les beaux arts, on ignore quel en a été l'inventeur."

Part I. is devoted to gonorrhœa and its complications in males and females.

Part II. Chancroid—peculiarities dependent on seat, complicated with phagedæna,—with syphilis,—simple and virulent bubo.

Part III. Syphilis—nature of—initial lesions of—special indications—induration of ganglia—state of the blood, cachexia—influence on constitution, on diseases in general. Secondary and tertiary affections, of nervous system, of muscles, bones,