

a judgment than any other of his professional brethren. The Egyptian epidemic, continues the *Times and Gazette*, "is local only in the sense that, having been imported from some country (perhaps from India) where it is endemic, it has found a state of things consequent on a recent campaign, unusually favorable to its development—we mean land and water polluted by unburied corpses of man and beast together with want, and other evils consecutive on war. There may have been no extraordinary epidemic of late depopulating the plains and cities of Hindostan, but cholera is never absent from India; and the pilgrimages, which far exceed in their magnitude and horror anything that ever was witnessed at Mecca, are invariably attended by an amount of cholera which in any other country would be deemed an epidemic. These pilgrimages are confined to no part of the land or season of the year; they are everywhere in constant operation, until scenes and consequence that would excite consternation elsewhere, cease by familiarity to be even noticed. It is thus only that we can account for the fact that many Indian surgeons question the propagation of cholera by human intercourse, and are inclined to seek the cause of its outbreaks on an unusual scale in aerial, terrene, or other meteorological conditions. The fact is, that they do not enjoy the advantages we in Europe possess of tracing its progress under conditions analogous to those of an experiment admitting of exact scientific observation, but are in the same position that we are in with regard to measles, which we believe to be always propagated by infection, but the source of which we too often cannot trace. Cholera is contagious in the same sense as is enteric fever; *i.e.*, the poison—bacterial, possibly—resides in the evacuations, and is occasionally inhaled, but more often imbibed through contaminated water. In India we have every condition requisite for its perpetual maintenance—a high temperature; a soil saturated with organic, and especially fæcal matter, and a water-supply almost invariably of the foulest kind; a hundred million persons daily defæcating on the open ground, and often by preference in temporarily dry water-courses; heavy rainfalls from time to time sweeping the excreta into rivers, into which the carcasses of men and animals are thrown by thousands, the water of these or of tanks used for bathing constituting the drink of the whole population. Improved water-supplies, such as that now at Bombay, would do much to limit the ravages of cholera in the great cities, and among the European residents; but many generations must elapse before, if ever, the habits of the Hindoo population