

the appointment of "*Inspectors of Nuisances*"—able and intelligent men.

Doubts may very legitimately exist, however, as to the propriety of a medical organization for systematic "house to house" visitation to ascertain whether cholera is present. This necessarily entails much outlay, whilst it is well known that the intrusion, daily, of a doctor into every house, inquiring in doleful tones if any one has diarrhœa, or cholera, or feels unwell in any way, at once engenders fear and apprehension; depression of spirits follows, and the panic becomes general, than which there is no more immediately predisposing cause of cholera. This, added to the unhealthiness of the locality, constitutes the whole into a magazine which one spark of the poison ignites, and then the disease is established in the neighborhood. "Nothing predisposes an individual more to the influence of cholera, or tends more to increase the malignancy of an attack than FEAR. It is therefore of the greatest importance that the *public mind* should be relieved from all unnecessary apprehension with regard to the true nature of this disease." "The moment you make your inquiries you sound the alarm." You disturb "that calm and composed state of mind which does more than is generally supposed in the preventing the onset of the disease." All epidemics are aggravated more or less by mental disturbance, whether in the shape of an "active panic or low despondency." "Moral influences exercise no little control over the cholera." Another reason why these day visits seem a work of supererogation, to say the least, is that cholera makes its attack most often after night-fall. "In the majority of cases the attack was noticed to take place between midnight and 4, a. m." And it frequently happens that the premonitory symptoms are so slight as not to attract attention, and thus in a moment, and unexpectedly, the disease bursts forth, and speedily destroys its victim. Whilst diarrhœa generally precedes the more decided symptoms, still it can scarcely be said to be an "es-