

cases, he does not consider that there can be the slightest doubt it is an infectious disease, and that the inflamed lung is simply a local symptom.\*

Dr. H. Schmid reports† an epidemic which occurred in a small village (Zang) of 549 inhabitants, in which 19 individuals were attacked with croupous pneumonia. The first one took ill on the 5th of April, 1882; the second on May 11th, and between that date and the 11th of July, 18 others contracted the disease, when it quite disappeared. Amongst the lot were six cases in one house and in the same family. The cases are so interesting that I will mention a few of the more important circumstances related by Dr. Schmid. The family was one of the poorest in the village, and all slept in a room over the cow-stall. The family consisted of the man and his wife and six children. Of these eight, as I have just stated, six took ill. The first, a child 18 months old, died on the 24th May; on the 27th, a child, 5 years old, commenced to improve on the tenth day; on the 13th June, a boy aged 11 years sickened, and after four days commenced to improve; on the 15th, a child aged 9 years contracted the disease; on the 19th of June the father and a child aged 3 years took ill. The three last mentioned were ill only four days. In all these cases, as well as in the others, there was cough, pain in side, high temperature, rapid breathing, besides other physical signs of pneumonia more or less marked.

As I have stated in the earlier part of this paper, Dr. Bell and I have each of us had four cases, which can be accounted for, only on assuming the contagious nature of this disease. A short report of the cases occurring in my practice is as follows:

On the 4th May, 1879, I was called to see Mrs. M., who expected her confinement in the middle of the month. Her friends thought possibly labor was setting in. On my visit I found her with rapid pulse (124) and high temperature ( $104.2^{\circ}$ ), frequent respirations and slight cough, complaining of headache,

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\* Vierteljahrs f. Gericht. Med. u. Öffentliches Sanitats. July, 1883. Seite 117.

† Berlin Med. Wochen., 1883, s. 346.