

both received from the assistant-tailor some clothes to be repaired. Both became infected with the fever, and communicated it to others.

CASE VI. *Scarlet Fever in a Village Grocery Business and Post-office.*—A child of a village grocer, who was the postmaster of the district, became infected with scarlet fever, the poison of which was conveyed into the house from a distance. On ascertaining that the house was a small one, and that the mother and father passed from the bedside of the sick child into the shop to serve customers, and fearing, moreover, that the poison of the disease might be circulated through the agency of the post-office, I recommended the temporary closure of the business. My advice was disregarded, and no power existed of compelling compliance. The disease, of course, spread throughout the village.

CASE VII. *Whooping-cough in a Village Beer-shop.*—Whooping-cough of a fatal character being very prevalent in one part of my extensive district, destroying in about four months forty-children, attempts were made to prevent the spread of the disease from any cases imported into other parts of the district. A case was conveyed into a beer-shop, and infected all the children of the publican. This beer-shop was daily frequented by many of the fathers and mothers of the village, or their children. I myself saw children entering it, having been sent with jugs for beer by their parents. I recommended the publican to temporarily close his house of public call, pointing out the danger to the whole village which a refusal would involve. He quite acknowledged the risk to his customers, but assured me that he could not afford to temporarily close his business. This assurance would have been received by me *cum grano salis*, had I not good reason for knowing that he spoke the truth. I asked the legal adviser of the sanitary authority whether some compensation could be granted him by the authority, if the publican agreed to close his house, but found that the auditor would not sanction an outlay of this kind, as the law does not provide for such an expenditure of public money. The disease, as was only to be expected, spread amongst the customers and occasioned three or four deaths.

The absence of any power to afford compensation has re-