

Next to our medical schools, the universities and colleges for general culture should lead the educational advance in sanitation. In England already the universities of Oxford, Cambridge and London are active. Much is expected of the new university of Victoria. Cambridge not having the legal right to grant a diploma, gives a certificate testifying to competent knowledge of what is required for the duties of a medical officer of health. The examination precedent requires:

First—A knowledge of the principles of physics and chemistry, methods of analysis, the use of the microscope in ascertaining the condition of air and water, reference to ventilation, water supply, drainage, construction of dwellings, disposal of sewage and refuse.

Second—A knowledge of the laws relating to public health, sanitary statistics, origin, propagation, pathology and prevention of epidemic and infective diseases, effects of over-crowding, vitiated air, impure water and bad or insufficient food, unhealthy occupations and the diseases to which they give rise, water supply and drainage in reference to health, nuisances and distribution of diseases.

This attention to sanitation in colleges, universities and professional schools should assure among our people of culture, in whatever profession or occupation, a fair measure of sanitary knowledge as had the learned classes in Judea and Egypt. But all this will be comparatively in vain without instrumentalities for the universal dissemination of its facts, precepts, and benefits. Here especially does education enter into the most cordial relations with sanitation. Education alone has the men and

women and instrumentalities by which this work of informing the people can be successfully and adequately prosecuted.

Dr. H. B. Baker, of Lansing, Mich., Sec. State Board of Health, read the following on

THE RELATIONS OF SCHOOLS TO DIPHThERIA AND SIMILAR DISEASES.

A disease which in one year (1859) caused in England over 10,000 deaths, in another year (1873) over 1000 in New York city, for each of two successive years in Massachusetts over 2000 deaths, which for the eight weeks ending with November 13 just passed, caused an average of forty deaths per week in the city of Brooklyn alone, and which, when once introduced into a city or State does its work year after year with varying but with certain effect—a disease which for the last twenty-three years has been gradually extending itself over the whole Northern belt of our country, and which declines only to rise again in periods of four to ten years—is a disease whose ravages are no less terrible than those of yellow fever, and which demands the attention not only of local but of State and national boards of health.

Perhaps the first question which the title of this paper will suggest to some minds may be whether diphtheria has any necessary or common relation to the schools. Bearing in mind the numerous cases on record where diphtheria has undoubtedly been conveyed from person to person, some may be ready to assume that there must be danger of spreading diphtheria if children affected with the disease attend the public schools; yet very little attention seems to have been given to this subject, and compara-