

should be suppressed ; besides, there is to my mind great danger from typhoid and cholera, provided cases occur in the district for which this creek is the surface drain. The extent to which dilution of the water of this small creek takes place is probably very great. But if I understand the matter, the probability of and the possibility of the germs of typhoid entering our water supply is very great. The latest deliverance of sanitary authorities tend in this direction. If the Lausen case in Switzerland, the Solothurn cases, the Plymouth case, are properly reported, (and I have never heard the question raised) then this Brewery creek is a standing menace to Ottawa. In itself it is a very small thing, as I think that for eleven months in the year it would pass through a 6-inch pipe. Besides the privypits directly connected with it, there is the soakage from the outbuildings for a computed population of 2,000 people. To my mind it is practically harmless so long as no disease such as typhoid fever or cholera occurs along this stream. It may be the cause of our fever, for fever cases are now known to have existed in that locality during the end of summer and the autumn.

Here I am confronted with the paragraph in one of our dailies, to the effect that Drs. Cousens and Baptie were in Hull to-day, enquiring about the fever there, and found there was none. Now Hull is supplied with the same water as Ottawa, therefore it cannot be the water that is at fault. To this I reply that the water is not the same. Hull has nothing equivalent to our brewery creek. Then I have asked M. Sylva, the Mayor of Gatineau Point Village, "Have you any fever at the Point?" No. Where do the people get their water? Out of the river, in front of their houses. (Gatineau Point is a village on the Quebec side, about a mile below Ottawa). Would it not be reasonable to think that the sewers of the city would contaminate the water so that fever would affect the inhabitants of the city? Yes, but it is yet to be proved that these people drink Ottawa River water at all. True they live on the shore of the Ottawa, etc., but is it not likely that the Gatineau River keeps along the Quebec shore, and it is Gatineau water these people use, not Ottawa River water?

Where are we to look for the source of disease to malaria far or near, milk, drains, or water? On the whole the latter is the more probable source.

TREATMENT OF TYPHOID FEVER.

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IT is very doubtful whether there is at present any drug that will abort this disease, or any known specific for this fever. As the characteristic anatomical lesions are in the solitary and agminated glands of the bowels, and the mesenteric glands in direct relation with them, the keeping up of a condition in the intestinal canal, which favors the continual development of the *materies morbi*, tends to perpetuate the disease. On the other hand if, in the initial management of typhoid, we endeavor to free the intestinal canal from such contents as afford a suitable culture medium, we may arrest the self-perpetuating tendency of this disease. It seems rational then to commence our treatment with the administration of a cathartic. If the case is seen early in the first week, five to seven grains of calomel, with ten grains of sodium bicarbonate may be given at night, and repeated once or even twice, at intervals of forty-eight hours ; but if not seen until the second week, a single dose only. Diarrhœa must not be regarded as a contra-indication, as it usually becomes less troublesome after this treatment.

To still further accomplish our object two other important features require our earliest attention. These are absolute rest and proper diet. In referring to the morbid contents of the bowels in typhoid, Dr. Pepper says, "This condition is much affected by diet, and by agents which influence the lesions of the intestinal glands. It is well to repeat that, from the earliest moment we must insist on absolute rest. Much harm is done by postponing for two or three days the necessary confinement to bed : so should an absolute restriction of diet be imposed at once. It seems that the intestinal canal is kept in the best condition when from the earliest hour the diet has consisted exclusively of milk, light gruels or broths, and pure water. Milk may seem to disagree, but it will then usually be found that it has been given in too large amounts, or at too short intervals, or that to enable it to be digested it must be diluted or peptonized. For patients with typhoid fever must be fed, not on theory, but according to the observed effects of the food given. Tympany and diarrhœa are often the result of excessive or improper feeding, although more commonly they may be caused by the enfeebled state