

of those *persons* who have it, and of things which have been in contact with them. When the cause is an *extra-somatic* infection, depending for its production, multiplication, and transportation, on local and atmospheric conditions, not personal—then those conditions may be met preventively; and the very rare carrying power of *fomites* may be reduced to nullity, by sanitary precautions. Against contagion, we would have only quarantine; a most “lame and impotent” defence. Against infection, we have the amply sufficient measures of sanitary police and management.

“Contagion, as a theory, would explain only a minority of the facts concerning cholera, and is not required to explain them. Infection will explain all.”

On the question of Prevention the author is determinately adverse to strict Quarantine enactments. He says:—

“*Quarantine* is now urged by some, and appears to be even contemplated by the Government as a part of its duty. Is it available? Will it do any good? I say, *no*. Theoretically, if the views advocated in the preceding pages are correct, it falls to the ground of course. But we have more than that to say against it. It *never has succeeded*; and *never can*. Let us look at the facts.

“I take the following from Dr. Brigham’s work on cholera, published in 1832:

“In Russia, immense lines of troops were formed for arresting its progress; St. Petersburg was entirely surrounded by *cordons sanitaires*; but all these regulations, enforced by a powerful despotic government, were unable to prevent the approach and the spread of the cholera throughout the Russian Empire. The efforts of Austria were equally unavailing; for in a short time the disease passed her triple cordons and invaded the country from Poland. Prussia employed sixty thousand of her best troops to enforce her rigorous restrictions, and travellers bear testimony to their severity. And what (says the American Journal of Medical Sciences, May, 1832) have been the results? An immense expenditure of money, the suspension of commerce, a stop put to industry, multitudes deprived of the means of acquiring subsistence, and whole families plunged into misery and rendered favorable subjects for the disease; but *no stop to its extension*; on the contrary, its progress was rendered more fatal. As an instance of this, Breslaw may serve as an illustration and warning to other cities. A quarantine of twenty days, with difficulties almost insurmountable which it entailed, was established at the borders of the province, and maintained with a rigor which might serve as a model to other nations. But, in the midst of