

# CANADA

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## ORIGINAL COMMUNICATIONS.

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*An Essay on the Contagion, Infection, Portability, and Communicability of the Asiatic Cholera in its relations to Quarantine; with a brief History of its Origin and Course in Canada, from 1832.*  
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On the 6th of July, 1849, John Wilson, the celebrated Scottish vocalist, who had before charmed the citizens by his chaste and classical rendering of the songs of the Border, arrived in Quebec from New York where cholera was prevalent, with the intention of giving a farewell concert, before returning to "Bonnie Scotland." On the 9th of July, the walls of the city were placarded over with huge posters, headed, "Wilson's last night." Little did his friends imagine how truly ominous were these words. At the moment that the *élite* of the city was gathering to attend his farewell performance, the doors of the concert hall were closed against them, and a notice on one of the entrances announced the fact that all that was mortal of John Wilson the vocalist, had passed away.

On the morning of the 8th July he went out on a fishing excursion to one of the beautiful lakes north of Quebec, but was soon compelled to return to town with diarrhœa. He sent for a physician, took to his bed, and died at one o'clock, a.m., on the 9th of July of well-marked Asiatic Cholera.

The circumstances connected with this case form a brief episode of themselves on the infectious character of Asiatic Cholera.