

poison of cholera is developed or propagated by defective drainage and uncleanness of localities, appears to be unquestionable; and that individuals are rendered more liable to its attack by neglect of personal sanitary measures of whatever kind, be it of personal cleanliness, scanty or unwholesome food, intemperance or loose living, is to our mind conclusive. With regard to the medium of communicating the cholera poison, this is a question which is far from being satisfactorily settled. One theory is that water is the medium of communication, hence the theorists assert that the disease invariably follows the course of navigation; but unfortunately for them, it generally goes up stream. Cholera in 1832 appeared in Quebec early in the month of June, and almost simultaneously—we believe it was a few hours after—it broke out in the Barracks in Montreal. No personal communication had occurred between the two cities. In 1834 it appeared in Quebec, Montreal, and Toronto on the same day; and on the Upper Ottawa a case is mentioned of a party of raftsmen bringing their timber to market, who had not held communication with any civilized community for months, but who were attacked with a violent purging and vomiting, and three of their number died in a few hours. This last circumstance we have heard from several men connected with the lumber trade, and can be authenticated. A somewhat similar case is on record. In November, 1848, two vessels left the port of Havre bound for America, one the Swanton, on the passage to New Orleans; the other, the ship New York, bound for the port of that name. While in mid-ocean the cholera broke out on board of each vessel, and proved fatal in from twenty to thirty individuals in each ship. The port of Havre at the time the vessels left, was entirely free from the disease, nor had any of the crew or passengers been in the vicinity of the disease before embarkation. These circumstances would almost point to the atmosphere being the medium of communication of the cholera poison; certain local conditions, as low marshy or ill-drained land being favourable to the development of the disease.

General sanitary precautions should be adopted by communities, and the cleaning of streets is a necessity which should be rigidly enforced. All house refuse should be removed without delay; vegetable or animal matter should not be allowed to remain in heaps until a sufficient quantity accumulates to form a load, but should be removed each morning. A proper system of scavenger carts ought to be introduced. All marshy lots—and there are many in the lower parts of this city—should be efficiently drained, as there can be no doubt that the moist atmosphere, which is found near such situations, is highly favourable if not to the development, at least to the propagation of cholera. These are a few suggestions, which we trust will