

THE AMERICAN PUBLIC HEALTH ASSOCIATION MEETING.

SEVENTEENTH ANNUAL CONVENTION, HELD IN BROOKLYN, N. Y., OCT. 22, 23, 24, 25, 1890.

THE seventeenth annual convention of the American Public Health Association, held last month in Brooklyn, was regarded as one of the most successful meetings of the association. Many hundreds were present, and Canada was well represented, from but few States in the Union was there a larger number of members present than from Ontario. Among those present were the chairman of the Provincial Board of Health, Dr. Rae, of Oshawa, and several of the members of the Board, Dr. Coventry, of Windsor and Dr. Playter, of Ottawa. Montreal was well represented, by Dr. Luchapelle, Prest. Provincial Bd. of Health, and ex-Ald. Henry R. Gray.

The President, Prof. Hosmer A. Johnson, M. D., of Chicago, presided at most of the sessions; Dr. Montizambert, of Quebec, Vice-President, presiding at the others. Many valuable papers were read and discussed, and the whole time—four days—was almost wholly devoted to hard work, with three sessions a day. The Brooklyn people through the local committees treated the delegates in a most liberal manner, conferring upon them almost the "Freedom of the city." A large number of valuable papers were read and discussed. In this issue we give lengthy extracts from one, relating to practical Sanitary Cooking, by Mr. Atkinson of Boston, a healthy, happy, jolly appearing middle aged man, and in future issues we propose to give synopses of and extracts from others, unless more valuable matter chance to be obtainable.

During the first session there was given a paper on

THE OVERSHADOWING OF OUR HOMES, by Dr. W. Thornton Parker. The author said that a soil loaded with roots and shaded from the sun is unfit to live upon. Free drainage, abundant sunlight and pure air in free circulation must be obtained by *thinning out* shade trees. An intermingling of shade and sunshine, not too much of either.

CLOTHING IN ITS RELATION TO HYGIENE

was the subject of the next paper, by Dr. James F. Hibberd, of Richmond, Ind., whose years of practical experience are worth centuries of theories. He says that we do not dress properly, so that the functions of the skin may be normally carried on. Many people dress too warmly and it would be much better were the clothing so arranged as to allow free circulation of air and proper ventilation of the exhalations of the skin, without too great loss of heat in cold weather. Children were injured by too much clothing. A feeling of coolness, though not of absolute coldness, on the skin acts as a tonic and was beneficial. A combination of diet and exercise may well be wisely substituted for the heavy and burdensome wraps.

CAUSES AND PREVENTION OF INFANT MORTALITY

was the subject which occupied the afternoon session of Tuesday. Two papers were read: The first by Dr. Gerome Walker, of Brooklyn, and the other, upon the dwellings of the poor, by Mr. A. E. White, C. E., also of that city. Many members took part in the discussion which was highly profitable. It was stated that in Cleveland, the infantile mortality among the Irish is comparatively low. "This is attributed to the fact that the children are nearly always out of doors, where they have plenty of air." Both Dr. Smith and Dr. Janes of New York made the statement that infant mortality is less in the tenement houses of New York than among the better classes in that city, seemingly from the fact that tenement-house babies are nearly always in the open air, while at the same time they are not pampered, fed and confined to overheated rooms as are the off spring of the wealthy.

THE LEVER THAT IS TO RAISE

the death-stone of ignorance from the lives of our little ones, according to the opinion of all who spoke on this most im-