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AN ENDEMIC OF TYPHUS FEVER IN MONTREAL.

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(Read before the Medico-Chirurgical Society of Montreal.)

As typhus is not a fever of this country, and we have never had it in Montreal except when imported, which has not happened for years, I think these cases are worth reporting. I at first thought that we had discovered an instance of the spontaneous generation of the fever. The conditions in which it prevailed were certainly most favorable for its propagation, if they were not sufficient to produce it *de novo*, the possibility of which is maintained by many able men. I call it an endemic of typhus fever, because its existence seemed to depend on special conditions in a special locality. When these conditions were improved, the fever ceased to spread, and when the cases were removed elsewhere it did not spread by contagion.

J. S., æt. 20, was admitted into hospital on the 29th of January, with symptoms of fever. He had been out of work for some time; had been exposed a good deal to cold, and suffered from want of food. He had been taking refuge at night in the Protestant House of Refuge. Had not been feeling well for two or three days, and on this morning felt chilly and then feverish, with pain in the head and back, and inability to eat.