

prevalence of cholera in that city, he engaged two nurses expressly for cholera cases, a man and a woman, to whom he paid four dollars a day each. They both took the disease and died of it.

I could go on citing cases similar to the foregoing to any extent, but as the report of the cholera commissioners, above referred to, gives a number of well-marked cases in support of the doctrine of contagion, I will allow them here to speak for themselves. They ask these two questions:—

1st. Is Asiatic cholera epidemic?

2nd. Is Asiatic cholera contagious?

To the first interrogatory they give a qualified negative supported by striking facts and sound reasoning.

To the query, is cholera a contagious disease, they say that they have authorities in support of the contagious principle of Asiatic cholera as high as those cited in favour of an epidemic influence, resulting from a close and searching enquiry into the character of the disease.

In alluding to the importation of cholera by ships, they say: "We find in Doctors Baby and Gulls' valuable report, the fact that, in those ports in which the epidemics of cholera first appeared, the outbreak of the disease in so large a proportion of the instances followed immediately upon the entrance of ships thus infected, that even did this fact stand alone, it could not, without much hesitation, be regarded as the result of mere coincidence. Further, it is a remarkable fact that the "Carriicks" arrived at the Quarantine Station of Quebec, in 1832, just five days before the disease appeared in that city; and again that, in 1848, the outbreak of cholera in the Quarantine Station of New York, and that at New Orleans, should have followed immediately on the arrival of infected ships. The hypothesis of accidental coincidence is indeed the less admissible in the latter cases, since the disease appeared some months sooner than it might have been expected according to its usual rate of travelling, or according to the much longer time that elapsed between its appearance in England in 1831, and its outbreak in Canada in 1832.

A further fact corroborating the belief that the outbreak of cholera in the several ports of England and America was not independent of the arrival of ships coming from infected countries, or having infected persons on board, is, that in several instances, namely, in London, in Belfast, and in New York, a nearer connexion can be traced between the persons brought by the infected vessels and the residents first attacked.

At New York the facts are of a more striking character. Nothing like cholera existed at Staten Island at the time of the arrival of the packet ship "New York." When her passengers were removed to the public