

but not a single inhabitant of the town fell a victim. In St. Giles no fewer than eighty genuine cases of algide cholera appeared in as many distinct houses, and would naturally have acted as so many foci of infection, but, being instantly isolated, were not followed by others. On three occasions only, if we remember rightly, were the patients, being in more easy circumstances than the others, left to the care of their relatives ; and in each of these the disease spread to other persons in the house, and in one to the laundrywomen who washed the soiled linen."—(*Med. Times and Gaz.*).

The best authorities are very generally agreed that during a cholera epidemic in a city the most common and great carrier of the contagion is an infected water supply. In the words of the *Philadelphia Medical Times*, "The Broad Street pump during the invasion of 1854 in London has become almost classical, since the conclusive demonstration of Dr. Snow, as the local source of many cases of the disease ; and Frankland and others have shown that the mortality from cholera in London during the last two epidemics was connected directly with the amount of contamination of the water. It is generally directed, therefore, that when cholera is epidemic all drinking-water should be boiled previous to use ; and careful attention to this would doubtless reduce the number of patients. But attention to the drinking-water is not enough ; *all* water employed for household purposes should be raised to the boiling temperature, in order to render the disease-germs innocuous before it is used. As pointed out by Lebert, it is just as important that the water used for washing dishes should be germ-free as that which is used for cooking or drinking. We consider it of especial importance that dairy-men and dealers should conscientiously refrain from diluting milk with water which has not been previously boiled, even though every other precaution be taken to insure its purity." We fear this last suggestion will not be commonly carried out.

#### INDIVIDUAL PREVENTIVE MEASURES.

Every individual may lessen the tendency in his or her own body, remove any "predisposition" to the disease, by strict personal hygienic measures. Such as absolute cleanliness of body by daily attention to the condition of the skin ; and by keeping the digestive organs in a healthy condition by the use of a judicious diet of plain, wholesome, pure or *sound* foods, partaken of slowly and in moderation. Iced drinks and iced foods should be avoided or used very sparingly. Use only water or other drinks that have been thoroughly