

one by Dr. Smith, Health Officer of the port of New York; and one by Dr. Sternberg U.S.A. Dr. Raymond's report related more particularly to municipal hygiene as exemplified in Brooklyn, N.Y. Dr. Smith's was on "Quarantine and Maritime Sanitary Regulations," in which he showed the failure of the regulations now in force to prevent the introduction of contagious diseases into the country. Dr. Sternberg's related to Disinfectants and the comparative value of those in common use. These reports led to discussions more or less interesting.

Dr. Reeves, of West Virginia, offered a resolution to form an International Committee of nine, or more members, appointed by the leading maritime nations, whose duty shall be to supervise the medical and sanitary interests of passengers on the high seas, and to decide upon the qualifications of medical officers intrusted with their care, to be referred to the Secretary of State. This resolution was adopted.

The Conference, by appointment, called at the White House, and were introduced by Secretary Freylinghuysen to President Arthur. The President assured the Conference of his deep interest in the matter which had called them together, and expressed his intention of doing what he could to accomplish any purpose the Conference might decide was for the interests of the country.

Dr. Billings, Surgeon-General, invited the members of the Conference to see the Army Medical Museum, where he had on exhibition specimens of cholera bacillus recently received from Dr. Koch.

While at Washington the Canadian delegates were kindly invited by Dr. Sternberg to visit and inspect his work of investigation now proceeding at the Johns Hopkins University at Baltimore; also by Dr. Raymond, of Brooklyn, and Dr. Smith, Quarantine Officer at the port of New York; consequently one day was spent at Baltimore by Drs. Covernton, Montizambert, and Canniff. Dr. Sternberg is not only a man of science, but as well one of hospitality, which was much appreciated. The Johns Hopkins University has already acquired considerable distinction as a scientific institution, and bids fair to be almost unequalled in the world. It

consists of a series of buildings, each being devoted to a particular branch of study and investigation. Shortly after nine we met Dr. Sternberg in the Biological Department. He has been engaged for some time in a series of experiments to ascertain the relative vitality of different forms of bacteria. Being the author of a work on Micro-Organisms, the second edition of which will shortly appear, he is amply qualified for the work he has in hand. Dr. Sternberg kindly exhibited to his visitors the several steps taken in his investigations. He took a piece of common glass tubing and proceeded by means of a spirit lamp and blast pipe to form a receptacle in which can be preserved air-tight the various preparations with which he is experimenting. Instead of the tubes sealed, such as used by Pasteur and other Europeans engaged in similar work, he forms a glass bulb with a stem or pipe, which by means of heat he draws out to a fine point, and which by the same means he can easily seal up. Into this bulb he draws also by means of heat exhausting the air a quantity of fluid, perhaps water, which he has distilled himself, or some culture. He readily transfers from one glass to another as many drops as may be desired by breaking off the points with forceps and placing one pin-point within the other. In this way he can, and does with great dexterity, add to culture fluid any material he desires, and thus rapidly seals the stem. Dr. Sternberg is not only studying the vitality and general characteristics of the bacteria of infectious diseases, but is as well testing the potency of various disinfectants or germicides. He has also in view, after efficiency, the cheapest and safest agent which may be employed generally, the object being to provide a disinfectant for the public which will be at once rare, safe and cheap, so that it may come into general use. His investigations, however, are not yet completed; but certain very valuable conclusions have been arrived at. These are of practical importance. Dr. Sternberg will have his report ready by next April. But he very kindly gave his Canadian visitors the benefit of his discoveries for their personal use.

In the afternoon the Johns Hopkins Hospital