

# THE CANADIAN PRACTITIONER

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## Original Communications.

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### BACTERIOLOGY OF CHOLERA AND METHODS OF DISINFECTION.

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As I understand it, I am expected to say something to you about the etiology of cholera, and about its disinfection. Of course, it is not necessary to describe the "comma bacillus" of Koch; you are all familiar with it. I may say, however, that at the present time bacteriologists over all the world are pretty thoroughly convinced that this is the special etiological agent in cholera. Koch at first met with many opponents, who claimed to have found micro-organisms under different circumstances which were identical, but these claims were not proven. The comma bacillus found in the mouth by Lewis proved not to be in any way identical, and numerous observers have made cultures from the salivary secretions of man, but no one has ever cultivated from the mouth of man a spirillum which liquefies albumen like that of Koch. In reference to comma bacilli in the intestines and their presence in other diseases, numerous bacteriological studies which have been made of the fæces of persons in health and persons with various diseases have utterly failed to demonstrate the presence of