

from having been placed in infected air, from which it has absorbed the poison, or from milk-pails having been washed, or the milk adulterated, with water containing the infection.

Great care should therefore be taken as to the source of the household milk supply.

The most certain and most deadly manner in which the poison of enteric fever is conveyed is by contaminated drinking water. The most certain way of preventing this contamination of water is by immediately destroying the poison contained in the discharges as soon as they are passed by the patient.

Disinfectants should be placed in the chamber utensil before use; and immediately after being used more disinfectant should be added. Above all things, the use of disinfectants should be frequent and copious.

The patient ought also to expectorate into a vessel containing some disinfectant.

All sheets, towels, handkerchiefs, etc., which have been used by the patient should be thoroughly disinfected, and afterwards carefully washed.

In all cases of infectious disease, it may be as well that the patient use rags or pieces of old linen, etc. (in lieu of pocket-handkerchiefs), which may afterwards be burned.

When the bed or body linen is soiled, the soiled spots should be sprinkled with some disinfectant powder.

A small sheet of gutta-percha, mackintosh cloth or other waterproof sheeting, placed below the upper blanket under the patient's body, effectually protects the bed from discharges, and is especially useful in this disease.

After the performance of any duty about a patient, the attendants should wash their hands freely in disinfected water.

The discharges should never (if it can possibly be avoided) be placed in a privy or water closet, but should, after complete disinfection, be buried deeply in the ground, at a distance from any drain, well, or watercourse. On no account should they be thrown on to any ashpit or dunghill, nor into any cesspool.

IV. OTHER INFECTIOUS DISEASES.—It is quite unnecessary to prescribe special rules for the prevention of the spread of typhus fever, measles, diphtheria, whooping cough, etc. The

general directions given are sufficient guides as to what is necessary in cases of those diseases. Many recommendations might be made regarding them, but these belong more to the duties of the medical attendant than to the Medical Officer of Health, and therefore are omitted here.

DIRECTIONS FOR DISINFECTING ROOMS.—Rooms which have been occupied by a person suffering from infectious disease should, on the termination of illness, be at once disinfected. To effect this thoroughly, all crevices round windows and doors and the fireplace should be closed by pasting pieces of paper over them. Lamps of sulphur (brimstone), one pound for every thousand cubic feet of space, should then be put into a metal dish, placed by means of tongs over a bucket of water. This being set fire to, the doors should be closed, and the room should be allowed to remain without interference for three or four hours. After this time the windows should be thrown open, and when the fumes have disappeared, all the woodwork and walls should be thoroughly washed with soft soap and water, to which carbolic acid has been added (one pint of the common liquid to three or four gallons of water), and the paper from the walls stripped off. In whitewashed rooms the walls should be scraped, and then washed with hot lime, to which carbolic acid has been added. The windows should then be kept open for thirty-six or forty-eight hours.

DIRECTIONS FOR DISINFECTING CLOTHING.—The best mode of effecting this is by the agency of great heat, and when this is possible no other plan need be tried. Unless, however, there are places built on purpose, this agency is hardly procurable. Failing this, boiling clothes in water to which some disinfectant has been added should be employed. Carbolic acid, one part of pure, or two parts of commercial acid to one hundred parts of water, is sufficient.

Woollen clothing cannot be treated in this manner, but must be exposed for some time to the fumes of sulphur, and afterwards freely exposed to the action of the sun and wind. Other methods of disinfecting linen and other washing materials may be used.

One gallon of water containing two ounces of