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THE CAUSES OF TYPHOID FEVER AND THEIR
BEARING UPON SANITARY REGULATIONS.

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The causation of typhoid fever is one of those subjects upon which there has been as extensive and varied an expression of opinion among prominent members of the profession during the past few years, as upon any other in the entire range of medical science. This is only natural. A disease that has become so prevalent amongst us, and that has contributed so largely towards swelling the mortality list everywhere throughout the entire civilized world, must of necessity attract the attention of the keenest and closest observers.

But there seems to be as great a conflict of opinion among medical men upon this subject, as there is variety and extent of observation. No two opinions seem to harmonize. We find men, for instance, of the celebrity of Dr. W. Budd, declaring most positively that typhoid fever is propagated, like scarlet fever, small pox, measles, &c., by contagion and by contagion alone. With equal confidence Dr. Murchison asserts that the disease frequently arises from bad drainage, independently of communication with typhoid cases in any shape. He