

The first section considers the communicable diseases under the classes of the epizootic, the non-epizootic, and other communicable diseases; the parasitic diseases, occupational diseases: diseases of alimentation, such as deficient, excess, injurious, diseased and contaminated foods. The communicable diseases are described under the headings of geographical distribution, etiology, description, symptoms, differential diagnosis, method of transmission, prevention of origin and spread. The facts in all cases are tersely and clearly stated, from the latest and most reliable sources. The portions of the work dealing with occupational diseases and diseases of alimentation contain a great deal of very useful information. The remarks on their prevention are particularly important.

The section of the work on general sanitation is both exhaustive and accurate. It passes under review meteorology, climate, air, soil, water, food, beverages, clothing, exercises, bathing, sewage, infection, disinfection, quarantine, isolation, vaccination, school hygiene, disposal of dead, offensive trades, smoke prevention. With regard to the smoke nuisance the statement is made that the causes are want of proper construction and adjustment between fire places and boilers, the deficiency of draught and improper construction of the flues leading to a chimney, inadequate height and capacity, and the carelessness of stoking and management in those entrusted with the charge of the fireplaces and boilers. These evils can be corrected by the admission of sufficient air for complete combustion the intimate contact of the air with the fuel, and the mixture of air and fuel must be kept for a sufficient time at an incandescent temperature.

In the chapters on sanitary engineering and building there is much valuable information on the construction of houses, public buildings, and hospitals, the remarks on the disposal of sewage being of special interest. The question of vital statistics is taken up in a very thorough and instructive manner. The marriage, birth, and death-rates are given. In the case of the death-rate, a lot of facts are placed before the reader on the percentage occurring at the different ages, in the different occupations, and from the different diseases. The diseases most frequently encountered in the various trades, occupations, and professions are tabulated. The work closes with a careful summary of sanitary administration and law.

After a thorough perusal of the volume, we have no hesitation in recommending it, as one of the most valuable works on the subject of Public Health and Preventive Medicine extant with which we are acquainted.

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