

rheumatism, pneumonia, gout, asthma, and nervous prostration are often caused by sewer-gas, this opinion being formed on cases which have come under his treatment." In all such cases defective drainage was found to exist in the dwelling, and when remedied, or the patients were removed, a cure immediately followed. "Sewer-gas poison," he says, "seems to seek out the patient's weak spot, and often brings discredit upon the physician, whose inability to relieve his patient is due to his failure to appreciate its unlimited powers of mischief."

THE CANADA LANCET for March says, "with the advent of spring and summer the invasion of cholera may be looked upon as one of the probabilities, and therefore the authorities should set about precautions as actively as possible for its prevention. There may be still some doubting Thomases who cannot believe that sanitary measures are of any avail to protect the people from these so-called visitations of Providence. We trust, however, that the authorities will not be influenced by any such foolish notions, but will put into vigorous action all the sanitary resources of the country."

THE CHOLERA AND ITS PREVENTION is still attracting a great deal of attention in medical and other journals on both sides of the Atlantic, and we feel justified in giving, as we do, a good deal of space still to the subject, though so much has already been given. The United States consul at Genoa, in a communication to the Home Government, says, "since the outbreak of cholera at Toulon and Marseilles a continual purification of streets, alleys, private and public houses, has been kept up, the most powerful disinfectants being used for the purpose. The rules were rigid in regard to household cleanliness, and the use of disinfectants in whitewash, and if the owner of an establishment of any size heeded not the orders of those in authority the work would still be performed, and at the expense of the proprietor. The Sunday excesses among the laboring classes proved a powerful feeder of the epidemic. Let a city or town have

officials who energetically and fearlessly fight everything which has a tendency to prey upon public health, granted the people abuse not nature; let substantial food be one's daily portion; to these things add a frame of mind prepared to face calmly and bravely whatever trials and vicissitudes may cross one's path, and you have an armor that will, I am positive, in nine hundred and ninety-nine cases in a thousand baffle the type of cholera which has lately raged in Genoa."

THE DISCOVERY OF THE CHOLERA BACILLUS cannot fail to lead to more successful means of preventing the disease, though it may be said by some who are not very far seeing, as it has been said regarding the discovery of the tubercle bacillus, that it has not led to practical results. If the comma bacillus is the cause of the cholera, it is safe to predict that if we get rid of the bacillus we shall also get rid of the cholera. When everything relating to its life history has been learned—how and where it thrives best, how it is propagated, how it travels from place to place, and from organ to organ, then it may not be difficult to destroy it, and the practical part will come in.

THE BATTLE OF THE BACILLI, as a late London, Eng., medical journal has it, "is waxing warm all along the line, and at the present moment it must be confessed that the tide of victory is turning towards Professor Koch. It has become very evident to the impartial observer that, as the search after micro-organisms goes on, the existence of more than one comma-shaped parasite must be admitted. Many good observers have been familiar with them for a long time past as occurring in the intestines, or even in the upper regions of the alimentary canal. Several trustworthy experiments have been lately recorded, however, which go far to prove that although indistinguishable in form from one another, these various bacilli are endowed with very distinct properties, and this is most remarkably exhibited when they are cultivated in various media." Koch is becoming more than ever convinced that the comma bacillus is the true cholera bacillus.