

July 29th.—Pulse, 78; temperature, 100° F. One motion daily.

July 30th.—Complained of abdominal pain during night, and this morning a copious motion, apparently composed of blood alone, was passed. At present he is sweating profusely; abdomen distended with flatus, but not tender. Pulse, 88; temperature, 99½° F. Has taken two pills of lead and opium, and is to have one every three hours.

July 31st.—Has passed a good deal of flatus; no motion. Pulse, 96; temperature 101° F. Tongue red and glazed.

August 1st.—Two motions of pretty firm consistency; no blood. Asks for solid food, but only milk allowed. Pulse, 80; temperature, 99½° F.

August 3rd.—Three motions since last note; bread with milk allowed. Tongue not so glazed. Pulse, 80; temperature, 99½° F.

August 8th.—Convalescent.

E. W—— worked till the 1st of July, when he accompanied the firemen to Port Hope, where he was taken with headache and pain in the back. On his return to the city on the 2nd, he went to a farm a few miles distant and remained there till the 7th or 8th, when he came home and took to his bed. Before leaving for Port Hope he had been feeling "out of sorts," and had remarked to his mother that he "was going to have a sickness." His dwelling, a one and a half storied rough-cast house, situated on the corner of King William and Mary streets, has an underground cellar but poorly ventilated by two small windows. The cellar is flooded in the spring and fall, and can be used only during the dry seasons of summer and winter. The streets are not drained, but the house is built over an old drain which is now closed at both ends, though not filled up in its length. The house, as well as the Appleton Sewing Machine Factory at which he worked, is supplied with the city water, and he is quite certain that while in Hamilton he never drank other than this water. At the farm and probably at Port Hope he drank well water. The milk used was from their own cows. He had not visited any sick person.

In all likelihood this case was caused by the emanations from the old unused drain, for no other probable cause can be found,—the water used up to the 1st, when he became ill, was the city water which comes direct from Lake Ontario, and the milk was uncontaminated, for no case occurred

among the members of three other families who then used it; nor was he, so far as known, exposed to contagion,—and in corroboration of this view, viz., of the poisonous emanation, it is to be remarked that he alone of the family of three, slept in the room down stairs immediately over the cellar.

So far as can be found, this case arose *de novo*, for no other cases had occurred previously in the neighbourhood (strict inquiries were made), and this was the first case reported to the Fever Committee of the Hamilton Medical and Surgical Society for the summer of 1873.

E. W——'s motions, not disinfected, were thrown into the common privy in the yard.

CASE II.—Aug. 22nd, 1873.—Rebecca B——, æt. 16. Has been feeling sick for eight or ten days, but only confined to bed for three; has had chills and sweats, with severe headache, of which she chiefly complains. (She is a niece of Edward W., and went to her grandfather's house on the 17th of July to assist her grandmother in nursing and to do the washing and cooking. She remained with them till the 14th of August, when she accompanied a lady as her servant to Hespeler, and on that night was seized with severe headache and pain in the back, and on the following day returned to Hamilton and went to her father's house).

Anorexia marked; thirst great; bowels confined; perspired freely last night; tongue moist. Pulse, 96; temperature, 104½° F. No tenderness in R. iliac fossa, and no spots. Milk ordered, and 15 minims of dilute hydrochloric acid in water every three hours.

August 23rd.—Slept pretty well; headache not so severe; no motion. Pulse, 92; respirations, 16; temperature, 104° F. Tip and edges of tongue red, centre coated with white fur. To get a dessert-spoonful of castor oil.

August 24th.—Five motions, the last is watery, with ochery coloured flakey masses in it. Little sleep. Headache continues. Pulse, 90; respirations, 20; temperature, 103½° F. 15 grains of hydrate of chloral ordered at bed-time. The motions which were thrown into the privy in the yard, are in future to be carried at once and buried at some distance from the house.

August 25th.—Slept well; headache relieved; no motion. Pulse, 86; respirations, 24; temperature, 103½° F.