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ORIGINAL COMMUNICATIONS.

ART. XX.—*Report on Malignant Cholera amongst the Troops in Canada, in the summer of 1854, made to Dr. ANDREW SMITH, Director-General Army and Ordnance Medical Departments. By W. HENRY, M.D., Inspector General of Hospitals.*

It would, perhaps, have been desirable, that the London College of Physicians, when appointing a committee of their body, two years ago, to collect facts and report on cholera, should have instructed them to consult whether another name ought not to be given to the disease. Every medical man knows that its present appellation is a gross misnomer. The Romans, copying the Greeks, as they servilely did in therapeutics and other things, adopted the word, and we have borrowed it from them; all three attaching to it the idea that redundant bile is the cause of the disease. We know not only is the secretion of bile suspended, but that also what had been collected in the gall bladder cannot pass into the duodenum; all the ducts being paralyzed. The thickening of the blood is the prominent and proximate cause of death; and consequently some term denoting this should be devised, and ought to supersede the present inappropriate name. The Greek term for blood has already been incorporated into not a few medical words, generally recognized, and furnished them with an euphonious termination; and to designate the fatal malady in which that fluid is so vitally changed, there appears to be no good reason why it should not assist in forming another; *Paxemia*, for instance.

Cholera arrived in Quebec, with the emigrants, about the middle of last June. This is, I believe, the sixth time that it has crossed the Atlantic in their train, and ascended the St. Lawrence, since 1832, notwithstanding the quarantine arrangements to prevent it. This alone appears to afford *prima facie* evidence of one, or perhaps the whole of