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DISSEMINATION OF ZYMOTIC DISEASE AMONGST THE PUBLIC BY TRADESPEOPLE*

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The subject of this paper will, doubtless, be regarded as one of an alarming character by the public at large, as highly objectionable by tradespeople, as very important by medical men in general, and as one of the highest interest and concern by medical officers of health.

The necessity of preventing trades from being so conducted as to be injurious to public and private interests is admitted on all hands. We have not only Acts of Parliament which regulate the employment of dangerous substances used in trades—such, for example, as the Petroleum Act, the Pharmacy Act, the Acts relating to explosive compounds, as gunpowder and nitro-glycerine—but we have Acts which, although imperfect in their nature, regulate to some degree factories, coal-mines, bakehouses, workshops, &c. The employment of labor in such trades as lucifer-

* Read before the Public Medicine Section at the Annual Meeting of the British Medical Association in Sheffield, August, 1876.