

commencement: collapse, my contents were more also that, had or improperly would have run low hours; in the half of them which is ge-

his disease. cases where the he premonitory ve cases of deeci- ere in a state of as, who suggest- well as from a conceive it my both the old and test, I am fully is not only the most successful e of Cholera; and on is, that if this tried, the mort- inished. When revents or arrests and even where ter period of the rked; and I may most malignant pse under the su- doubt not, would

hundred persons nement of the e been nearly one ve been more or influence of the ese assumed the having the majo- the printed docu- of the first cases, the common way, the others, howe- ne use of the saline revents, and out of thus treated, we cholera, and two of y state also, that one most malig- rkenwell, where ete collapse before old; his pulse at had the Cholera. This man, like mediately put under iest effects, and I valescence.

t Servant,  
J. WAKEFIELD

y individuals who r former opinions, a period when the metropolis. These London is not a vil- was then decreas- &c., where it first was only beginning where the prison is st important fact

which the said individuals forget to notice, namely, that almost every one of those patients, either in or out of the prison, died, who were treated in the same quarter and at the same time with the remedies recommended by the Central Board of Health; whilst the fact is equally certain, that almost every one of those cases recovered which was treated, either by myself or others, with the non-purgative alkaline salts.

There were other individuals, even lately, who had so little respect for their own reputation as to say that Cholera ever existed in London; and those are equally in error who believe, at present, that this disease has ceased to exist merely because the Board of Health may not think proper to publish an account of the cases; but the truth is, that in many parts of London, the cases, at this moment, are as numerous, and just as virulent, or perhaps even more so, than those that occurred at an earlier period.

In the first irruption of Cholera which occurred in the prison of Cold-Bath Fields, the disease was confined entirely to the males. It commenced in the beginning of April, and the last case was dismissed cured on the 30th of the same month. From this period up to the 31 of June, there were no new cases; but on that day it broke out a second time. In this instance it commenced amongst the females, and soon spread almost all over the whole establishment, and is now at this moment much more virulent, and I am sorry to add, more fatal, than it has ever been at any former period. In the first case that occurred, the woman was attacked on the night of the 31, and died on the 5th. Her sister, who attended her, was next taken ill, but recovered under the saline treatment.

Soon after the commencement of this second irruption, I called at the prison, and there were then four cases. These were under the saline treatment, and as they were all doing well, I did not return.—On the 21st of June, however, I received a note from Mr. Wakefield, requesting me to meet him at the prison as soon as possible. When I went there, I found about twenty patients with Cholera, and out of this number five were actually dying. There was one obvious cause for this, which I do not feel myself at liberty to point out,—suffice it to say, that it originated from either a mistake or neglect on the part of the nurses who administered the medicines.

A saline fluid, similar to that which had been used at Leith, was injected in two cases, into the veins; but the one died almost immediately, and the other, though he rallied for a time, yet he also ultimately died.\*

From the commencement of this second irruption there have been, in all, about eighty-one cases: many of these have been of the most malignant description.† Out of this number there have been thirteen deaths, and the other sixty-eight have either recovered or are now apparently nearly out of danger; but new cases are brought into the infirmary almost every hour. They are all of them, however, now under the most energetic treatment, and I sincerely trust that the mortality of the disease will be arrested in its progress.

When the Cholera was first raging in the prison at Cold-Bath Fields, the disease broke out about the

\* Should I have occasion to try this experiment again, I shall certainly add a portion of the chlorate of potass to the other ingredients. The muriate of soda answers very well for a time, but it is too apt to run off by the bowels; and then the blood is swamped by the large quantity of water.

† The most awfully virulent cases which I have ever seen, occurred in some individuals who had been employed to scour the blankets, &c. from the different wards,

same time amongst a colony of itinerant Italians, who resided in the neighborhood. The first cases were put under the care of a physician, who had charge of a Cholera hospital in that part of London. These patients were first bled, and then most scientifically treated with opium and brandy: but the result was such, that the other Italians who were taken ill about the same time, refused to be treated by the Cholera physician; and fortunately for themselves sent for Mr. Whitmore, an intelligent practitioner, who lives in that neighborhood. This gentleman had seen the effects of the saline treatment in the prison, and afterward trusted entirely to this, in every decided case of Cholera which he attended. Since then he has had in his own private practice about thirty Cholera patients, chiefly amongst the Italians, and out of this number he has lost only two cases, and saved about twenty-eight; and this surely is no common occurrence, particularly amongst the poorer classes, where we do not always see them early, and where we are not certain either that the medicines which we prescribe are properly administered, or that they are not occasionally used at the same time with other improper agents which counteract the beneficial effects of the alkaline salts.

The first case which Mr. Whitmore lost, was that of a woman whose husband had just died from Cholera and this patient had not used the saline powders which he had ordered. The second unsuccessful case, was that of another woman in the same place, who was attended by Mr. Whitmore and another physician. In this case effervescing mixtures were given, made with *muriatic acid* and carbonate of soda; but this experiment did not succeed, and the woman died after a short illness.

The following case is one of those which occurred in Mr. Whitmore's private practice. It has already been published in the Medical Gazette, but as there are some facts in it which may not be without interest, I shall insert it here.

#### CHOLERA WITH ABORTION, BLACK DISCHARGE FROM THE UTERUS BECOMING FLORID UNDER THE SALINE TREATMENT.

To the Editor of the London Medical Gazette.

SIR,—I am induced thus publicly to communicate a recent case of Cholera successfully treated by the *saline practice*, and under circumstances which may, perhaps, render its recital not altogether uninteresting to the profession.

May 12th.—I was consulted in the afternoon, by Mrs. L., æt. 42, the mother of twelve healthy children, the eldest twenty-three and the youngest three years old. Supposes herself about three months advanced in utero gestation; complains of diarrhoea of two or three days' standing, with great prostration, and cramps in her lower extremities. Pulse infrequent, and feeble.

Ordered R Mist. Cretæ, f.4 oz.; Tinct. Opii, minimis xl. capiat statim partem statim et repetatur post singulas dejectiones.

In the evening her daughter came to say her mo-

