

approach of epidemics, and we are certain medical men cannot impress its absolute necessity too strongly upon the attention of their patients. At page 3 we find: "The character of pestilence which gave it its great power and terror—that it walketh in darkness—is its character no longer. Its veil has fallen, and with it its strength. A clear and steady light now marks its course from its commencement to its end, and that light places in equally broad and strong relief its antagonist and conqueror—CLEANLINESS." He then starts out upon the broad assertion, "that epidemics resemble each other in being all fevers," and proceeds to prove it by reference not only to epidemics of recent date, but refers to those which have appeared as far back as the fourteenth century. The usual cause of epidemics is traced, especially that of cholera, and the assertion made that, "invariably previous to the approach of any epidemic disease, a general transformation of ordinary diseases into the characteristic type of the approaching pestilence" is noticed. This is an assertion we do not remember to have noticed before, and we strongly doubt its correctness. The predisposing causes are entered upon, and the conditions of the atmosphere during the prevalence of epidemics noticed. The first portion closes with a very critical review of the beneficial effects of civilization upon epidemics. The latter portion of the work embraces a very able report upon quarantine, written some years ago by Dr. Smith, who claims that it is unnecessary, seeing that it only hinders commercial traffic, without any good result. He argues strongly for the epidemic condition of the atmosphere, which, he says, may exist over thousands of square miles, and yet only affect particular localities. This is a question still undecided, still open to discussion, and a good deal of information concerning it may be derived from this work, which we can commend to our readers.

---

*Infantile Paralysis and its attendant deformities.* By CHARLES LAFAYETTE TAYLOR, M.D. Resident Surgeon, New York Orthopaedic Dispensary. Philadelphia: J. B. Lippincott & Co., 1867. Montreal: Dawson Bros.

This is a small volume of about one hundred and twenty pages, describing a form of infantile paralysis which the author asserts is met with about the time the first molar teeth make their appearance. It nearly always comes on suddenly; seldom being any premonitory symptoms—but what these premonitory symptoms are when they do occur, we are not told. In fact the entire symptoms of the disease as given are simply: the baby goes asleep well and wakens up paralysed, the peculiarity of it being an unvarying want of irritability. Fortunately, we are told, there is an un-