Baltimore Price Current.

CORRECTED WEEKLY.

Articles.	Per.	Prices			
BREAD, ship, per	cwt.	$ 3	a	3	25
navy,	—	4	50	4	75
pilot,	—	6	25	6	50
BEEF, northern mess,	bbl.	13	50	14	
cargo, No. 1,	—	12	50		
——, No. 2,	—	10	50	11	
BACON,	lb.		12		13
BUTTER, for exportation,	—		15		20
COFFEE, Batavia,	—		30		
Bourbon,	—		31		
St. Dom. best gr.	—		31		32
W. India com.	—		29		
COTTON, W. India island,	—		25		35
Louisiana,	—		none		
Georgia, upland,	—		25		26
Sea-Island,	—		none		
CHOCOLATE,	—		22		33
CANDLES, mould,	—		21		22
dipt,	—		17		18
spermaceti,	—		56		
CHEESE, American,	—		12		15
English, best,	—		40	scarce	
DUCK, Russia,	blt.	17		22	
Holland,	—	24		27	
Ravens,	—	14	50	15	
Russia Sheeting,	piece	21		23	
FISH, cod, dry,	qut.	4	50	5	
salmon,	bbl.	13		14	
herrings,	—	5	25	5	50
mackerel,	—	8	50	9	
shad,	—	7		7	50
FLAXSEED, rough,	bush.	1			
cleansed,	csk.	13			
*FLOUR, superfine,	bbl.	7			
fine,	—	6	50		
middlings,	—	6			
rye,	—	4	50	5	
GRAIN, Indiancorn,	bush.		50		
wheat, Virginia,	—	1		1	25
do. Maryland,	—	1	25	1	40
Rye,	—		75		
Barley,	—		80	1	
Clover seed,	—	8			
Oats,	—		37		
HOPS,	lb.				10
HOG'S LARD,	—		17		20
LEATHER, sole,	—		20		22
§LUMBER,	per 100 ft.				
oak, timb. & scant	—	2		2	25
boards, all sizes,	—	2		2	25
pine scantling, do	—	1	12	1	30
boards, 4-4	—	2	25		
do 5-4	—	2		2	67
white do. com. 4-4	—	2	25		
do. clear, 4-4	—	2	50	3	50
shingles, cyp. 18 inch	M.	2	50	3	50
juniper, 24 do.	—	6	50	7	50
do. com.	—	4		5	
staves, w.o. pipe	—	55			
do. hhd.	—	26		28	
hhd. heading,	—	30			
barrel,	—	16		18	
red oak, hhd.	—	20		22	
hoops,	—	22		23	
MEAL, corn, kiln-dried,	bbl.	4	50	5	
PORK, northern mess,	—	23			
2d qual.	—	18		19	
3d ditto,	—	17	50		
Baltimore packed,	—	18		19	
southern, 2d,	—	16		none	
——, 3d,	—	15		none	
PLAISTER PARIS, Fr.	ton			none	
N. Scotia, cargo pr.	—	10			
PORTER, London,	doz.	3			
American,	—	1	25		
RICE,	per 100	5			
SOAP, American, white,	lb.		10		12
do. brown,	—		9		10
Castile,	—		17		
SALTPETRE, rough,	—		18		
refined,	—			none	
SASSAFRAS,	ton	12		14	
SPIRITS, Brandy, F 4th p	gal.	1	6	1	8
Cognac, 4th p.	—	1	12	1	15
Barcelona, 1st p.	—		75		80
do. 4th p.	—		80		85
Gin, Hol'd, 1st p.	—	1	10		
do. do. 2d p.	—	1	15	scarce	
do. American,	—		67		70
Rum, Jam. 4th p.	—		95	1	
St. Croix, 3 & 4	—		85		86
Antigua, 3 & 4	—		87		90
Windward Island 2d	—		70	scarce	
Windward Island 3d	—		75		
Windward Island 4th	—		80		
American,	—		55		56
Whiskey,	—		47		50
SUGARS, Havana, white,	cwt.	16			
do. brown,	—	12			
clayed, white,	—	13		14	50
do. brown,	—	12		13	50
muscov. 1st qual.	—	12		13	
do. 2d	—	10		11	50
India, 1st qual.	—	12	50	13	
loaf,	lb.		22	dull	
†SALT, St. Ubes,	bush.		70	75	
Lisbon,	—		70		
Cadiz,	—		60		
Liverpool, blown,	—		65		
Turks-Island,	—		90	dull	
Isle of May,	—			none	
SHOT, of all sizes,	cwt.	13	50		
TOBACCO, Maryland, 100	lb.				
fine yellow, ‡ 1st	—	9		12	
Upper Patuxent 1st	—	6	50	7	50
Lower Patuxent, 1st	—	5	50	6	50
Potomac, 1st,	—	4	50	5	50
East shore, 1st	—	4		5	
Virginia, fat,	—	6	50	7	
middling,	—	4	50	5	50
Rappahannock,	—	3		4	
Georgia,	—	6	50	7	
TALLOW, American,	lb.		14		
WAX, bees,	—		40	scarce	
WINES, Madeira, L. P.	gal.	2	75	3	
do. L. M.	—	1	35	2	
do. N. Y. M	—	1	25	1	37
Lisbon,	—	1	5	1	15
Sherry,	—	1	15		
St. Lucar,	—			none	
Tenerifie,	—		75		90
Claret,	doz.	4		6	
do. new,	csk.	30			35
Malaga,	gal.		90		
Port,	—	1	40		

* *Store prices.*

§ *Board measurement.*

† *Cargo prices.*

‡ *Second qualities of fine & coloury are 2 dolls. less; Potomac & Eastern-shore 1 dollar less.*

AVERAGE PRICE OF STOCKS—*this week.*

8 per cents,	103a103
6 do.	94½
3 do.	58½a59
Navy 6 per cents,	98 1-2
Louisiana, do.	none at market
U. S. Bank Stock,	132
Maryland do.	375
Baltimore do.	350
Union Bank of Maryland do.	60 1-4
Alexandria Bank do.	(nominal) par
Farmer's Bank do.	no demand
Columbia do.	par
Potomac do.	85
Baltimore Insurance Shares,	300
Maryland do.	400
Marine do.	no sales
Chesapeake do.	100
Union do.	200
Water Stock,	21

LETTER

From Dr. Miller, health-physician for the port of New-York, to the governor of that state.

[CONCLUDED.]

The second mistake concerning this malignant disease, which has been impressed on the minds of many of our citizens is that of its *importation from abroad, and chiefly from the West-Indies.* This opinion is rejected for the following reasons:

1. The non-contagiousness of the disease must entirely destroy the belief of its introduction from abroad. It is impossible to conceive that it can be conveyed across the ocean, and propagated in the cities of the United States, unless it possess the power of successively reproducing itself by communication of contagion from one person to another.

2. If the alledged importation were possible in any case, it might happen at any season of the year. In this active sea-port, shipping from the West-Indies are very frequently arriving at all seasons; and it is known that yellow fever may be found in those islands at any period of the year when they are visited by strangers; yet the pretended importation is always confined to that period of the summer and autumn, when local and domestic causes, sufficient to produce the disease, are known to exist.

3. If yellow fever could be introduced from abroad, it is impossible to explain its non-appearance in our sea ports for a long series of years, when no means were used to secure its exclusion. For more than fifty years preceding 1795, no importation of the disease into this city was suspected; and it is indeed uncertain whether, before that year, the opinion of its importation at any period of the 18th century, had attracted attention. The advocates of importation generally assert, that periods of war in the West-Indies are most apt to occasion its introduction into this country. Yet we hear nothing of its being brought to this port during the war of 1756, or that of the American revolution. In the former of these wars, the mortality attending the successful expeditions against Martinique, Guadaloupe and the Havana, was almost incredible. Only a very small part of the victorious troops were alive 3 months after their conquests. Equally fatal were the malignant fevers of the West-Indies in the war of the American revolution. Dr. Hunter informs us that of 5000 troops who took possession of St. Lucie, scarcely a man of the original number remained at the end of one year; although the sword of the enemy had destroyed an inconsiderable amount. The mortality continued as great in the subsequent years. From the 1st of May, 1780, to the 1st of May, 1781, the number of dead was equal to the average strength of the garrison during the year. Of the troops sent from Jamaica upon the expedition against Fort St. Juan, scarcely a man ever returned. During this period the intercourse between the West-Indies and this port, must have been extremely frequent. Dr. Blane states, that in the course of the war of our revolution, nearly 18,000 sick were landed at New-York from the British fleets; that 11 sail of the line arrived here early in September, 1780, from the West-Indies; that 26 sail of the line arrived here at the same season in 1782; and that from each of these fleets a great number of sick, afflicted with malignant fevers, were sent to the hospitals at this place. It is also known that a similar fleet arrived here in the beginning of the autumn of the year 1781. During all this period, notwithstanding the ravages of yellow fever in the West-Indies, and the conveyance of so many sick to this port, we hear nothing of the importation of that disease. And yet, at that time, no quarantine regulations existed.

The contingencies by which yellow fever may be imported, through the medium of commercial shipping or of naval and military expeditions, if such importation were possible, must very frequently occur in a seaport like this, where such extensive communication has been so long maintained with the W. Indies. A more frequent introduction of the disease, therefore, according to the doctrine of importation as now held, must have been inevitable. But as this did not take place for such a length of time and under circumstances so likely to produce it, we are warranted in the conclusion that importation is impossible.

On the contrary, the history of diseases in all ages and countries demonstrates, that pestilential epidemics are subject to frequent revolutions as to the periods and places of their prevalence and the degrees of their malignity. It is therefore much more easy to account for changes in our dieases, as they locally or periodically occur, than for any great variety or revolution in the circumstances, or contingencies, which determine their importation from abroad.

4. No importation of this disease so as to become epidemic, was ever known in any port of Great-Britain, Ireland or France.—The vast amount of shipping, as was observed before, which arrive at those ports from the West-Indies is well known; and that they often arrive in a very sickly condition is equally known. The filth and impure air of those ports are admitted on all hands and the effects of them are experienced in the destructive fevers of a different description which frequently prevail; and yet for want of the atmospheric heat, and other local circumstances requisite to the generation of yellow-fever, they are happily strangers to its epidemic prevalence.

5. The appearance of yellow fever in many of the interior parts of the country, inaccessible to foreign contagion, confirms the opinion of its domestic origin, while it entirely invalidates that of its importation.—There is not a state in the union which has not afforded evidence of the production of the disease, in situations where importation is impracticable. In the course of the late season, a malignant fever, in all essential points the same as our yellow fever, prevailed in many parts of this state, and caused more mortality, in proportion to the population of the district, than took place in this city. There can be no reasonable doubt that the disease called the Lake Fever, in the interior of this state, possesses all the essential attributes of the yellow fever.

6. A comparison of the summer and autumn of the year 1804 with the corresponding seasons in 805, will go far to shew the dependance of our malignant epidemics on the condition of the atmosphere, and of course to overthrow the doctrine of importation. The summer of 1804, was mild and cool beyond former example, on all the Atlantic coast of the United States lying to the northward of the Carolinas. In South-Carolina and Georgia, the heat was unusually great. All the Atlantic cities north of the Carolinas, without exception, entirely escaped the epidemic; whereas at Charleston and in some parts of Georgia, it prevailed with great mortality. On the contrary, the late summer was remarkable for the duration as well as the intensity of heat along the whole of our coast. And the consequence was, not only that nearly all the Atlantic cities were visited with pestilence; but what was still more surprising, that in several of them it made its appearance within 48 hours or nearly, of the same time; an occurrence which cannot be explained on the contingency of importation, and is only to be satisfactorily accounted for from the state of the atmosphere.

7. The occurrence of similar diseases in other parts of the world, under similar circumstances, where contagion introduced from abroad cannot possibly be suspected, is also adverse to the doctrine of importation. In making the circuit of the globe on the parallels of latitude nearly or exactly corresponding with ours, we pass over countries which from the earliest records of history, have been frequently visited with the ravages of this scourge. Spain and Italy afford striking examples. The city of Rome in particular, though its elevated situation is generally salubrious, is annoyed by a marshy spot at the feet of two of its hills, along the margin of the Tiber, which has been sickly and pestilential from the origin of the city. While the streets on the hills, like Broadway and other high grounds in this city, enjoy a salubrious air, the spot of marsh just mentioned, together with a small extent of *made ground*, (for the madness of *made ground* has existed at Rome as well as at New-York) corresponding with our marshy districts and vastly more extended space of made ground, along the margin of the East River, has produced, from time immemorial, malignant and mortal epidemics. And the medical historian of these facts (the celebrated Baglivi) expresses his astonishment that so small a distance, as that intervening between the elevated and depressed portions of ground, should make such a difference in the qualities of the air. As the Tiber is not navigable for sea-vessels, the importation of their pestilential epidemics at Rome was never suggested.

8. The inefficacy of all the various modifications of quarantine hitherto devised in this country, confirms our disbelief of importation. In this port, as well as in Philadelphia a rigid system of quarantine has been in operation for many years; and there is no doubt of its having been vigilantly and faithfully executed. Indeed the experience of quarantine in the United States speaks little in its favor; for though, during the last ten years, it has been scrupulously enforced in several ports, we have heard ten times more of imported contagion and of its ravages, during that short period, than for an hundred years before, when no quarantine was in existence.

9. The entire want of all proof, and even of the least probability of the introduction from abroad of the germ of our late epidemic, gives the last blow to the doctrine of importation. The facts on this subject have been so clearly and minutely detailed by the health officer that it would be superfluous to repeat them here.

The source of mistake on the subject of importation, consists in not distinguishing *a febrile poison generated by heat and filth in a vessel* from *contagion taken up in a foreign port*, and successively communicated from one person to another. The construction of vessels disposes them to the collection and retention of filth and renders cleansing and ventilation extremely difficult. The quality of cargoes and provisions the inattention of seamen to cleanliness, the crowded manner in which they often live, the unsuspected and inaccessible situations in which corrupting substances may lie concealed, render shipping, independently of the hazards of the element in in which they move the most dangerous of all human habitations. It is no wonder, therefore, that they should become unhealthy, when they pass into warm latitudes, or lie in our harbour in the hot season. In no situation is a malignant fever more apt to originate than in a ship. A vessel that never left our port, or that has remained in it for years, may become foul and thereby generate and emit a deadly exhalation. Whether malignant fever arise from filth ashore or on shipboard, the principles and process, by which the evil is produced, are still the same. On what ground can a disease be said to be *imported*, which has no other relation to a foreign country, than that of being generated in a vessel which has visited that country? The foreign country, the outward and homeward voyage are circumstances of no moment in determining the origin and character of the disease; for this we must consider the filth, the moisture and heat, which concurring to a certain degree, are destructive to man at all times, in all situations and under every condition. And a fever originating under such circumstances can no more be pronounced *imported*, than a fracture of limb happening at sea can be called an *imported fracture*.

It has been supposed by some, who regard only one aspect of the subject, that the doctrine of importation alone can explain the more frequent recurrence of malignant epidemics for the last ten years. But the difficulty still returns; and it remains to explain, why importation has become so much more frequent and easy of late than formely. If it be thought impracticable to throw light on that perculiar constitution of the air which determines the prevalence of yellow fever at one time more then another; it is equilly impracticable to ascertain the qualities of the air which produce malignant distempers of the throat, the dysentery, and other mortal epidemics, (which are undoubtedly of domestic origin), for a season or for a term of years, and then allow them to disappear.

It has been said that the belief of the yellow fever originating in this country would be destructive to its commerce and prosperity. But if the appeal must be made to interest rather than truth, let us contrast the effects of the two opinions, as they may influence our intercourse with foreign nations. By truly describing the disease and exhibiting the proofs of its local origin and non contageousness, we convince foreign nations that it is a misfortune limited to ourselves, that it cannot endanger their safety and that it only claims their sympathy and regrets. By asserting the importation and contageousness of it, the evil immediately swells to an indefinite and incalculable extent, and we arm all nations with the fear of its being, in turn, exported to them. After the experience already gained, neither they nor we can cherish any rational hope of hereafter excluding it by regulations of quarantine. Our intercourse with the West-Indies, and with all other tropical countries will be daily extended, and if importation were possible, the chances of it will be every year progressively multiplied. On the ground of importation, unless trade be totally forsaken, our situation is hopeless,

In rejecting the doctrine of importation, the benefits of quarantine are by no means intended to be undervalued. The generation of pestilential disease in foul vessels is undeniable; they are certainly a very frequent source of sickness; and all person concerned in shipping are interested in a careful examination of them. There ought to be some mode of ascertaining whether a vessel may be safely approached by people in business, or whether she may be likely to diffuse pestilential vapours among all who come within their reach. Quarantine is also one of the most humane regulations in favour of seamen, who are confessedly a very useful and necessary class of the community. It interposes between them and the carelessness or cruelty of their commander and makes it his interest to preserve their lives and health. And while it might be organized so as to answer all those purposes efficaciously, it might also be properly stripped of its useless and burthensome appendages.

If the facts and reasonings which I have adduced to prove the non-contagiousness and non-importation of yellow fever, be well founded, it results that our epidemics are local, domestic, and as incapable of exportation to foreign nations as the bilious fever of the country. It is to be lamented that the reverse of this opinion has made so deep an impression in Europe; and that the governments of that quarter of the world have suffered themselves so lightly and hastily to embrace doctrines and legislate on principles contradicted by all former experience. It is no more than 300 years since they became acquainted with America. And although the first discoverers of the new world as well as most succeeding adventures, have largely shared the effects of the baneful climate of the West-Indies; it is only of late that apprehensions have been entertained of importing into Europe the malignant fevers of those islands. The shattered remains of fleets and armies had often returned home to Great-Britain and France, in the most sickly state, after encountering all the horrors of yellow fever, without once communicating that disease. But what transmutation can yellow fever undergo in the United States, which renders it exportable to Europe from us, but not directly from the West-Indies?

It affords some apology indeed for Europe, that the information concerning this subject, upon which they have acted, was derived from our own country. The acts of our state legislatures, the proceedings of our municipal bodies and boards of health, the proclamations of our magistrates, and a variety of other public documents, have all a tendency to impress the same opinion.—We have held up to foreign nations an indigenous and local disease, growing up from the infelicities of particular situations or from neglects of police, and entirely incommunicable from one person to another, as highly contagious, capable of exportation to distant countries, and consequently alarming to the safety of the whole commercial & civilized world. We cannot transplant the disease from our city to the neighboring villages of Greenwich, Brooklyn or Newark, & yet it is believed we can convey it 3000 miles across the pure air of the Atlantic. Whole hospitals of patients laboring under the most malignant forms of the disease, with all the foul apparel, bedding, &c. polluted with the excrementitious discharges and other filth of the sick, the dying and the dead, cannot emit an atom of contagion; and yet we dread the infectiousness of a sailor's jacket or handkerchief, or even of the cordage and timbers of a vessel. Under the influence of this phantom of contagion, we have instructed the Europeans to enact laws and regulations, sanctioned by the highest penalties, which retard and oppress our commerce, and subject our shipping in their ports to the most grievous detention. To crown the whole of this misery and humiliation, they have lately, by extension of quarantine, placed the people of the U. States on the same footing with the degraded and detestable inhabitants of Barbary, Egypt, Syria, the Archipelago, Constantinople, and other parts of the Turkish dominions. And all this has been done in defiance of clear and luminous facts and in the face of long, reiterated and ample experience.

By discarding the bugbear of contagion, the nature of yellow fever will be more truly understood, the means of personal safety more generally known; and the measures necessary to improve the salubrity of the city more vigorously pursued. The public will no longer witness that desertion and misery of the sick which have too often disgraced society in every epidemic. The bosom of humanity will no longer be wrung with the suffering of our fellow-creatures, driven while under the pressure of this calamity, from every place of shelter, deprived of comfort, and abandoned to their fate, from the false impression of danger in affording them assistance. By telling the community the truth, we shall lessen apprehension and distress, we shall extend the means of relief, and restore the ties of kindred and of nature.

It is surely time to investigate this subject with the deepest attention, and to adopt some adequate system of relief. The warning voice of history and experience loudly calls us to make every exertion to deliver our city from nuisances which threaten to entail the miseries of an annual succession of malignant epidemics. We live in the latitude of pestilence, and our climate now perhaps, is only beginning to display its tendency to produce this terrible scourge. The impurities which time, and a police, rather moulded in conformity to the usages of more northern countries than to the exigencies of our own, have been long accumulating, are now annually exposed to the heats of a burning summer, and send forth exhalations of the highest virulence. The examples of similar calamities in many parts of the old continent ought long since to have taught us lessons of wisdom. In the city of Rome, time and fatal experience pointed out the necessity of erecting extensive and costly public works, in order to deliver the inhabitants from the horrors of pestilence; and the air was, at several periods in alternate succession, observed to become pestilentious or salubrious, as these public works were suffered to fall into decay, or were repaired and renewed.

The different opinions of the origin of yellow fever offers us only the alternative of a more rigid quarantine, or of more vigorous internal measures. Every step of increasing restriction in our system of quarantine has only served to shew more clearly the domestic origin of the disease. If an entire prohibition of the West India trade, or a prohibition during the summer and autumn, should be imposed by law, the effect would soon be to banish every doubt from the mind of the public. How far the advantage of unanimous conviction could be supposed to countervail the burthen of such restrictions for a short period of years I shall not undertake to decide.

But whatever opinion may be embraced, the present moment is certainly not the time for the indulgence of apathy or inactivity. If the legislature, in their wisdom, should still think that this disease is introduced from abroad, they are bound by the strongest obligations to extend the powers of quarantine by additional restrictions. The conveniences of trade are not to be put in competition with the ravages of yellow fever. If it be necessary to resign the freedom of commerce or to incur the miseries of pestilence, let the former be freely abandoned.

It is likewise my duty, before I conclude, to suggest whatever it may be deemed advisable to do towards the removal of existing nuisances and the improvement of the salubrity of the city. This task has been in some degree anticipated in my letter to governor Clinton, after the epidemic of 803. Unfortunately, some of the requisite measures will demand great expence, and must bring to a test the liberality, enterprize and public spirit of the city and state. Among the improvements of the most urgent and immediate necessity, I consider the following, to wit: *Water*, obtained from a distant source, of pure quality, and in quantity sufficient to allow a constant, plentiful and increasing expenditure; *Sewers*, of such number, capacity and construction as completely to drain all the low and marshy districts, to carry away all filth, and to be constantly washed by a brisk current of water; a new arrangement and construction of wharves, docks, &c. so as to face the margin of the two rivers with a stone quay, impervious to water; a prohibition to make a single additional foot of artificial ground on either of the rivers; a different arrangement of privies, which are every day becoming more and more an alarming nuisance, and will soon underlay with filth, a large portion of the city; a better plan of paving, more particularly as respects the construction of gutters, &c.; the draining of all stagnant waters in the town and neighborhood; the filling up, levelling and paving all low and depressed lots and places of whatever description; and a prohibition hereafter to inter dead bodies in any part of the city. Many other objects, which would require much minuteness of detail likewise demand attention; and will acquire great additional importance from the rapid progress of building and population.

I have the honor to be,
With great respect,
Your Excellency's most obedient
And humble servant,
EDWARD MILLER.
Resident Physician

Frederick Hammer

Has imported per the barque Unternehmung and ship North America,

Platillas
Bretagnes
Dowlas
Creas a la Morlaix
Checks
Shirting Linen
And a general assortment of other German GOODS.

} Entitled to drawback.

February 26. d

A Bargain.

FOR SALE,

A Brick HOUSE and LOT, fronting on Fell's-street, Fell's-Point. The stand is equal to any other in that part of the city, for any kind of business; has a fine prospect of the river and bay, and will be sold on accommodating terms on application to the subscriber, on the premises. JOHN HAWKINS,
No. 36, Fell's-street, Fell's-Point.

February 21. 2aw4w