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BY AUTHORITY.

LAWS OF THE UNITED STATES,
Passed at the First Session of the 22d Congress

[Public No. 53.]

AN ACT establishing land districts in the Territory of Arkansas.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled, That there shall be four land districts in the Territory of Arkansas, to be called as follows, viz: the Arkansas land district, the White River land district, the Red River land district, and the Fayetteville land district; and each of the aforesaid land districts shall be bounded as follows, to wit: the Arkansas land district shall include all the country embraced within the following boundaries: beginning on the west bank of the Mississippi river, at the mouth of the St. Francis river, and running thence due west with the base line to the northeast corner of range six, township one north, and south of said base line; thence, due north with the dividing line between ranges five and six, to the northeast corner of township seven, north of said base line; thence, due west with the dividing line between townships seven and eight, to the northwest corner of range seventeen; and thence due south with the dividing line between ranges seventeen and eighteen, to the Mississippi river. The White river district shall include all the country south of Missouri, which is not included in the Arkansas land district above described, and east of the dividing line between ranges seventeen and eighteen, as extended from the northwest corner of the said Arkansas land district, to the State of Missouri. The Red river land district shall include all the country in Arkansas lying west of the Arkansas land district, and south of the base line. The Fayetteville land district shall include the residue of the Territory of Arkansas, being all the country lying north of the Red river district, and west of the Arkansas and White river districts.

Sec. 2. *And be it further enacted,* That the land office for the Arkansas land district shall be at Little Rock; the land office for the White river district shall be at Batesville; the land office for the Red river district shall be at the town of Washington; and the land office for the Fayetteville district shall be at Fayetteville.

Sec. 3. *And be it further enacted,* That it shall be the duty of the Secretary of the Treasury, as soon as the same can be done, to cause the proper plats of the surveys to be deposited in the proper land offices.

Sec. 4. *And be it further enacted,* That for each of the said districts created by this act, a Register and Receiver of public moneys shall be appointed, who shall give security in the same manner, and whose duties and authorities shall, in every respect, be the same, in relation to the lands which shall be disposed of at their offices, as are by law provided in relation to the Registers and Receivers of public moneys in the several offices established for the sale of the public lands.

A. STEVENSON,
Speaker of the House of Representatives.
J. C. CALHOUN,
Vice President of the United States, and President of the Senate.

Approved, June 25, 1832.
ANDREW JACKSON.

[Public No. 54.]

AN ACT to increase the number of Surgeons and Assistant Surgeons in the Army of the United States.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled, That the President be, and he is hereby, authorized, by and with the advice and consent of the Senate, to appoint four additional Surgeons and ten additional Surgeons' Mates, in the army of the United States.

Approved, June 24, 1832.

[Public No. 55.]

AN ACT further to extend the pension heretofore granted to the widows of persons killed, or who died in the naval service.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled, That in all cases where provision had been made by law, for the five years' half pay to widows and children of officers, seamen, and marines, who were killed in battle, or who died in the naval service of the United States: and, also, in all cases where provision has been made for extending the term for five years, in addition to any term of five years, the said provision shall be, and is hereby, further extended for an additional term of five years so far as respects widows only; to commence at the end of the current or last expired term of five years in each case, respectively; which pension shall be paid out of the fund heretofore provided by law. And the pension herein continued shall cease for the causes mentioned in the laws granting the same, respectively.

Sec. 2. *And be it further enacted,* That the provisions of this act shall be extended to the widows of all those who may have died by reason of wounds received during the war.

Approved, June 28, 1832.

[Public No. 56.]

AN ACT making provisions for the sale and disposition of the public grounds in the cities of St. Augustine and Pensacola, and to reserve certain lots and buildings for public purposes, and to provide for their repair and preservation.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled, That the President of the United States be, and he is hereby, required to cause to be selected such of the lots and buildings in the city of St. Augustine and of Pensacola, as may in his opinion be needed for public purposes; which, when so selected, shall be kept for the use of the United States; and when the selection shall have been made of such lots or buildings, it shall be the duty of the Secretary of the Treasury to cause to be surveyed all the public and private lots and commons in and about the said cities: one copy of which survey shall be lodged in the land offices in which the respective places are situated, and the other copy delivered to the city authorities, to be there kept and preserved as other records pertaining to the corporations of said cities.

Sec. 2. *And be it further enacted,* That the lots, buildings, and commons, not so set apart or needed for public purposes, shall at such time, and in such proportions or sizes, as may be deemed most advisable and conducive to the interest of the United States and the said cities, be sold at public auction as other public lands, and the money arising from the sales paid into the Treasury of the United States: *Provided,* That nothing herein shall be so construed as to authorize the sale of any lot or parts of lots, or other grounds which have been by the laws of Spain or the United States vested in the corporations of said towns, or which have been set apart for churches or burying grounds by the laws aforesaid, or by any ordinance of the corporate authorities of the said cities.

Sec. 3. *And be it further enacted,* That the title to the lot of ground in St. Augustine, known as the Old or Burnt Hospital lot, with all its appurtenances, be, and the same is hereby, vested in the mayor of St. Augustine, and his successor for ever, in trust, for the purpose of erecting thereon, by the local authorities of St. Augustine, buildings necessary for the education of free white children of both sexes.

Sec. 4. *And be it further enacted,* That the President shall cause the buildings which may be selected for public purposes under this act, to be refitted and repaired fit for use, and the better to preserve them from ruin and dilapidation, for which purpose, the sum of five thousand dollars is hereby appropriated, out of any money in the Treasury not otherwise appropriated.

Sec. 5. *And be it further enacted,* That the President of the United States is hereby authorized to dispose of such part of the military reservation in the city of Detroit, and upon the river Rouge, in the Territory of Michigan, as in his opinion may not be wanted for the public service, and to vest the proceeds in the purchase or erection of a Store House and Wharf in the said city of Detroit, and in the erection of an Arsenal in the vicinity thereof, either upon the public lands, or upon a site to be procured for that purpose.

Approved, June 28, 1832.

[Resolution, No. 4.]

Resolution transferring certain duties, relating to Pensions, from the Treasury to the War Department.

Resolved by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled, That all the duties which devolve upon the Secretary of the Treasury by virtue of an act, approved the seventh of June, one thousand eight hundred and thirty-two, entitled "An act supplementary to the act for the relief of certain surviving officers and soldiers of the army of the revolution," be and the same are hereby, transferred to the Secretary of War.

Approved, June 28, 1832.

Communicated for the American.

Baltimore, Feb. 24th, 1832.

To the Mayor and Board of Health—

In compliance with your desire to be informed on the subject of Cholera Morbus, which has been devastating a considerable portion of Europe for some time past; and which continues to approach nearer to this continent, in its course westward and northerly, I avail myself of the opportunity thus afforded of communicating, for the use of our city authorities, a few of the more important facts which have come to my knowledge, during my travels in Europe, and since my return home.

Prior to the literary assembly at Hamburg in 1830, cholera had extended over a considerable portion of the Southern parts of Russia, and although there was no one present, so far as I knew, who had actually treated the disease, yet there were publications at this time on the subject; and, some of the Medical men, at the convention, several of whom were conversant with the disease. About this time Doctors Gerson and Julius of Hamburg, published, in their Journal, a General Russian Report, in which were developed such facts as led me, at this early period of the disease, to come to the conclusion, that the Cholera is not contagious. A detail of these facts would occupy too much space for this communication.

From the period alluded to, my medical friends in Germany have continued to keep me informed on this subject. These publications from Germany, together with some elaborate, and able reports collected in Edinburgh, and published in the Medical Journal, conducted by the distinguished Professor Duncan, have enabled me to advocate the opinion of the non-contagious nature of the disease, from time to time, in the Medical Journal, which I have been conducting in this city for the last two years.

Within the last few days, I have received an interesting publication made at Hamburg, by my friend and correspondent Doct. Fricke, of Hamburg; and, also the Edinburg Medical and Surgical Journal for October last. As these publications may be viewed as a sort of digest of what has been ascertained to be the character of Cholera, I deem it sufficient on the present occasion, to notice some of the more important facts connected with the history and character of the disease; and briefly to notice the very interesting letter of Doctor Chervin of France, to Doctor Pascalis of New York.

Doctor Fricke has forwarded a pamphlet entitled, "A narrative respecting the outbreaking of the Asiatic Cholera at Hamburg, by J. C. G. Fricke, M. D."

Our author informs us in his preface, that the unprejudiced and cool observer had reason to believe, for several months prior to its appearance, that the cholera would visit Hamburg, since the prevailing diseases, and other circumstances, for some time presented appearances indicating that disease; and from these circumstances it was to be presumed, that the cholera would visit Hamburg, as it had other cities after such premonitary signs, and that, therefore, it was not likely that any thing in the form of cordons or quarantine, would prevent its occurrence in that city; and in another part of his publication he tells us that there had been a gradual increase of mortality, for some years previous to the appearance of cholera in Hamburg.

In answer to the momentous question, how and in what manner cholera made its appearance, he answers—that this question is in part answered, by the fact of the existence of those promonitory signs already noticed, and that it is only necessary further, to give a candid and true account of the occurrences, in their details, to show that it was not by contagious contact, or any other mode of introducing contagion, that the disease spread.—To point out those details is the design of the publication which he offers.

Doctor Fricke has appended to his pamphlet a ground plot of the city of Hamburg, and gives the location of three hundred and eight cases of cholera, in the month of October, 1831; by which it appears that the disease, within that month, existed in nearly one hundred different streets, courts or walks; a fact altogether irreconcilable to the belief that the disease could have spread to such an extent by contagion, in so short a time, notwithstanding that two hospitals were immediately opened, and patients sent there as soon as they were known to be affected with cholera; nor did hospital attendants or physicians suffer from the disease.

The three hundred and eight cases mentioned, include 217 men, 78 women, and 13 children. What contagious disease is it we may ask that passes over women and children and affects the men? It is in vain that we might say, the men are most exposed, for, admit this, and it follows, that if the men were first infected they must of necessity infect those around them.

The first case of this disease occurred on the 5th of October, and the last day noted there were six deaths, and still but few women, and still fewer children suffered. Of those who fell victims to this disease, there were 60 labourers, fourteen beggars, six ferrymen, five house servants, two coal measurers, four grain carriers, two coal carriers, eight coopers, three hirelings, four tailors, twenty three seamen, eight soldiers, six locksmiths, six shoemakers, four joiners, six tapsters, two carpenters, three sugar refiners, six laboring women, four hired girls, one bawd, three fish women, nine washerwomen, four tavern girls, and others of different occupations not noticed.

By this list which is corroborated by all of the Russian reports, it appears that the disease has been confined pretty much to the working classes of people and most of these either intemperate or subject to low living—A fact this which cannot be reconcileable to the known laws of contagion—we daily see small pox extending alike to the rich and the poor; the beggar and the king! and why not if contagious?

Of the cases of deaths reported there were persons under ten years, thirteen; from 10 to 20, thirteen persons; twenty to thirty, 49 persons; thirty to forty, 73 persons; forty to fifty, 85 persons; fifty to sixty, 50 persons; over sixty, forty-five. We have already noticed the fact of this disease affecting chiefly male adults.

We are informed by our author that about twenty dissections were made, by the physicians of Hamburg, and that there were present at one of these dissections twenty physicians, 19 at another, and fourteen at a third; and all this with impunity. Many of these dissections are exceedingly interesting to the physician, but do not require any further notice here.

The Medical and Surgical Journal conducted by Doct. Duncan of that city, for October 1831, contains an interesting paper from Doctor Gibbs, first surgeon of the naval hospital, at St. Petersburg. This writer tells us, that "the aged and infirm, and those of broken constitutions, especially the ill-fed, and habitual drunkards are the victims." He tells us that the "heat has been great," and "the trees are much blighted; and it is *remarkable that since that period that almost all have complained of a tendency to diarrhea, in some profuse.* Nearly all of the cases of cholera may be traced to eating flatulent, and crude vegetables, as cucumbers, melons, radishes, &c. of which the Russians are so fond; the use of ardent spirits, and afterwards drinking iced water, or quass, their common beverage, well iced, and this too during a state of perspiration."

Dr. Gibbs continues to say that "many bodies have been opened—the medical men, and those concerned about the sick, have not been affected, and of this I know many instances in private houses; and I have every reason with other medical men of my acquaintance, to conclude that it is an epidemic not contagious." He tells us of a man in the hospital, affected with a sore leg, who was overtaken with cholera, and died of the disease, and, yet, no one in the hospital was affected by him, nor was the man exposed to the contagion. "I should add, that not only those concerned about the sick, as parents, nurses, and so forth, are not affected, *but no more danger arises from opening the bodies of those dead of cholera (as we have it) than under ordinary circumstances.*" We are told "the disease generally increases for a month or six weeks," and seems to decline for want of predisposing causes, such as the poor and unwholesome living of the lower orders of the Russian people.—This is never the case with small pox.

It is not a little curious that Dr. Gibbs, after affording us the foregoing information, shall nevertheless tell us that, "quarantine, I think, should be maintained; and we can do no harm by acting as if the disease were really contagious." We shall not stop to comment upon this opinion, that quarantine and cordons can do no harm; the review of the work which we are now about to notice, affords a more correct view of this matter; as will presently appear.

We have, in the journal of Doctor Duncan, the following work noticed under the head of *Critical Analysis:*—A treatise on cholera by Geo. Bell Hamilton. On the same disease by Bisset Hawkins—and papers relating to cholera now prevailing in the North of Europe, printed by authority of the Lords of his Majesty's most honorable Privy Council.

It is not our intention to go into an examination of the merits of these works; we merely notice them with a view of giving consistency to our quotations, from the Edinburgh Journal. After adverting to its progress throughout a large portion of Russia, its spread over Poland, its approach to Vienna, and to several places on the Baltic, we are told by the reviewer, that "in spite of *quarantine regulations,* and sanatory lines of troops, it has in about 12 months, after its appearance at Astrachan, so pervaded the European dominions of Russia, that the government, about the *beginning of August, withdrew entirely all quarantine restrictions.* This is a fact altogether at war with the supposition that any good can arise from restrictions in other countries, if the arbitary cordons of Russsia could not make them in the slightest degree useful, in that country.

"Mr. Bell," says the review, "is an uncompromising contagionist—we are not surprised at this. There undoubtedly appears no reason to suspect that the disease acquired a contagious character in the East Indies." Mr. Bell appears to me to be a practical writer of great experience in the spasmodic cholera of India. If it be acknowledged that "it is not contagious in the East," how shall it acquire that character in Europe?

It being my desire to conclude this communication, with the sensible and judicious conclusions of the Edinburgh Reviewer, I shall pass from the Edinburgh journal, till I have made some brief extracts from the letter of Doct. Chervin, to Doct. Pascalis of New York, after which I shall copy those conclusions.

Doctor Chervin adverts to the fact of there having been several zealous contagionists in the Academy of Medicine, which was employed to act on this business, by the French Government; to which circumstance we may add that, "when this duty was performed, the proofs of non-contagion were much less numerous than they are at present. The observations made by the Freuch physicians sent by our Government to Poland, and Russia, were not yet promulgated."

The following is extracted from the reports of doctor Antommarchi, Surgeon General of the Military Hospitals in Poland:—"I have had occasion to see and recognize myself this disease, (Cholera,) to study it in all its forms, and to satisfy myself that it was not contagious. The numerous reports which have been transmitted to me daily, by a very great number of physicians, assistants, attendants, &c. &c. sufficiently confirm my assertion."

"Experiments made upon men and animals prove this fact most conclusively. In fact several physicians, among others, have inoculated with the blood, the mucus of the intestines, the matter ejected from the arm and mouth." In fine, as a last example that this disease is not contagious in any case, the ordinary physicians, the assistants, the nurses, *persons who even have slept in the same bed with the choleric patients, as well as the other sick who have been placed pell mell, with them, not one has contracted the disease!*"

Dr. Chervin goes on to give the experience of other highly respectable physicians, who, after ample opportunity for observation, have come to the conclusion that the cholera is not contagious; and we are told by Doctor Le Fevre, that many places around St. Petersburg where no cordons were established escaped, while in others, strictly guarded, the disease readily found its way.

"You will find," says Doctor Chervin, "in the number of the French Lancet sent you, extracts from some letters from another medical commission of Russia, which prove that the commissioners are not at all favorable to the opinion of contagion, and *that they oppose with all their force the pretended senatary measures which grow out of this opinion. These measures have in no instance prevented the cholera, and have,* moreover done incalculable injury in Russia, Prussia, Austria, and in every place in which they have been adopted; they have also been almost entirely abandoned in these different countries, on account of their inutility and danger." Doctor Chervin very judiciously remarks with many others, that our attention should be directed to the avoidance of the existing causes of the disease, all of which may be sumed up in a few words—live temperately in respect to every thing connected with our bodily or mental operations.

The Edingburgh reviewer, adverting to the report of the "London Board," offers the following interesting conclusion. "The last part of the Report of the London Board to which we shall advert, is the concluding sentence, where, after stating the preliminary measures to be adopted in any district of the country in which the disease may appear, it is added, that in the event of so great a calamity falling upon this country as the introduction of this disease, rules and regulations upon an extensive scale, suited to the rigid system of quarantine which such an event would demand will be immediately circulated by the Lords of his majesty's most honorable Privy Council, who will, on the earliest information of the existence of the disease, send down a medicial practitioner, who has been acquainted with the disease as it occurred in the Indies.

"On this remark we have one or two remarks to make. The London Board, if the above intimation means any thing at all, appears to contemplate the rigorous enforcement of quarantine by sanitary cordons whenever the disease appears in Britain. In reference to this proposition, we beg leave to suggest the following queries, which we shall be happy to find satisfactorily answered. In the first place, what substantial benefit has been derived from the rigorous quarantine and sanatory cordons established on the continent?—Have they appeared to moderate, *for it is plain they have not prevented the progress of the Epidemic in any single instance?* Have they attained any object worth the immense expense and most serious interruption of trade, commerce, and general intercourse which they necessarily involve? Secondly, granting the system of quarantine and cordons has proved beneficial on the Continent of Europe, what chance is there of such a system being faithfully and effectually enforced in this land of liberty. If the command of her almost unlimited military force has proved insufficient in despotic Russian, and in Austria, and Prussia, whose Governments are scarcely less strong handed, is it possible to institute an internal quarantine of the slightest value, in a country where the whole disposable troops amount to a few thousand, and the police, even if its authority were sufficient (which assuredly it is not,) is barely extensive enough for the ordinary purposes of municipal Government.

I have been led to believe that the foregoing facts and observations go to prove satisfactorily, first, that Cholera, as it now prevails in Europe, is not a contagious disease and cannot therefore be carried from one place to another. Like several other Epidemics it may be said to walk in profound darkness.

Secondly, if it be contagious, nothing in the form of quarantine or cordons can be adopted, in this country, with any reasonable hope of keeping off the disease, since the utmost vigilance in this respect, for nearly three years in Europe, has never been known to retard the disease in the slightest degree.

Such being my sentiments upon this truly interesting subject, it only remains to submit for your consideration, whether it will be proper in compliance with popular excitement, and in compliance with the regulations of some of our sister cities, that vessels and cargoes shall be subjected to quarantine, as strictly and effectually as though you were contagonists.—Should you deem it necessary from prudential motives to enforce quarantine restrictions, I am confident they will be faithfully carried into effect, till the public may have had full opportunity of being satisfied, that no advantage can result from striving, against that for which no human foresight, nor human power, can make any provision. For myself, I am far from wishing to throw any obstacles in the way of public opinion, but I have long since been taught to believe, that "to strive to support an error is to strive to become more ignorant." I shall not fail to give that share of attention to this momentous subject, which its importance demands.

With much respect, and consideration, I remain

HORATIO G. JAMESON, M. D.
Consulting Physician.

Wm. Steuart, Esq. Mayor,
Thos Sheppard,
Jacob Deems,
Peter Foy, Esqrs.

From the Baltimore American.

Having confidently expressed my belief in the contagiousness of Spasmodic Cholera, and believing that such an opinion will soon become more general than it now is, I am anxious to dispossess the public mind of the idea that on that account, the disease is to be regarded as at all more formidable, or terrific, than if regarded as walking altogether in darkness. The following propositions quoted from R. Orton, Esq. Surgeon to H. B. M.'s thirty-fourth regiment, will express perspicuously the opinions of the contagionists, so often misunderstood or misrepresented. Mr. Orton's work has been pronounced, even by non contagionists, to be the most complete and satisfactory which has yet been furnished on this wide spreading pestilence. He spent many years in India, and witnessed its progress from one region to another. At first he ardently opposed the doctrine to contagion, but at length was compelled by accumulating facts to abandon his ground.

"Proposition I. The disease is contagious, that is it is conveyed either mediately or immediately, from person to person.

II. There is reason to believe that the virus which propagates the disease is of a very subtile or volatile nature, and is readily conveyed by the atmosphere; whence it arises that THERE IS LITTLE IF ANY INCREASE OF DANGER FROM THE MOST INTIMATE COMMUNICATION WITH THE SICK during the prevalence of the disease, above that which attends the common intercourse.

III. The latent period of the disease, or that which classes between application of contagion and the appearance of symptoms is usually very short, *and even sometimes imperceptible,* but on some occasions it has been more protracted.

In regard to the doctrine of contagion in general, Mr. Orton remarks "that the idea of that influence very seldom entered the mind of the European practitioner in India, prior to the rise of this epidemic. The opinion had never before been broached, either there or in Europe, for its nervous nature seemed to preclude the possibility of such a quality, as much as in epilepsy or hysteria. It was therefore not without astonishment that many of the profession in India heard that the Medical Board of Bombay, in 1818, held the disease to be contagious. My feeble voice in common with the great majority, was raised in opposition to the —— as it appeared —— monstrous dogma; but the march of time and events have wrought in my mind the same revolution that they have in so many others.—The opinion of the contagious nature of the disease has been gradually gaining ground even in India, and seems to be the general one of Europe, *magna est veritas et prævalebit.*"

The facts which wrought this revolution in the mind of the distinguished author were the following: The disease held its fearful march along the great highways of communication. The Bengal report states that a detachment of the army, having the disease among them, marched through a perfectly healthy country, and after six days gained a camp in health.—"On the arrival of the party it decidedly broke out and prevailed some time in camp, before it reached the inhabitants of the place. *The whole medical staff of the force expressed their conviction that it had actually been conveyed to them by the party.*" It is related by Mr. Jameson, another intelligent writer, that "a Sepoy died of the pestilence. *Five* of the corps who had shown no signs of illness were employed to carry the body to the grave. They were all seized with the disorder during the ensuing night and all died."

"Previous to the disease at Iaulna, in July, 1818, the troops at that station heard of an infected party being on the march toward them from Nagpour, and apprehended receiving the disease from them. Just so it happened. Four or five days after the arrival of the party the disease broke out among the camp followers at the station, the two first cases appearing at the same house, and others in its neighborhood, and afterwards it spread from thence, as from a focus, through the place."

The collector of revenues, a high civil officer, is thus quoted by Orton. "Cholera first made its appearance in the neighborhood of Gooty, where the 2d battalion, 1st regiment N. I. which had suffered severely from the disease, halted for some time; it subsequently appeared in nearly every village on the route of the 15th regiment, which was also severely attacked as it passed till the disease disappeared. Doubts may be entertained of the contagious nature of this disease, but it appears to me quite certain that the infection has been communicated or created here by the two regiments before noticed; the disease was unknown here until they arrived; it broke out where the first diseased corps halted for some days, and at nearly every village where the other stopped; it has been unknown in any other part of the district; and although it was unknown both in the 15th N. I. and the villages through which it passed, until they arrived in this district, it no sooner broke out among that body of men on march, than it communicated itself to the fixed residents who were before exempt from it."

"In various instances, it is reported that the villages on a road here begun to suffer immediately after the passage of an infected body of troops.

"In the Medical Repository for May 1826, Mr. Montgomery traces the rise of the disease in a body of people with uncommon distinctness. "A convict was sent from a village where cholera prevailed, to Chanda, eighty miles off. Two hours after his arrival he was attacked and shortly died. Three of the four persons who carried him to the grave, and one who attended him were the next sufferers, and shortly the disease become general."

One of the most conclusive facts to be adduced is the introduction of the pestilence into the Mauritius, which is three thousand miles across the ocean from India, the nearest point at which the disease was prevailing at the time of its occurring in the former place. A frigate arrived having the disease on board, and immediately it spread throughout the island. How ridiculous to assert that this was mere fortuitous coincidence, especially as neighboring islands, equally exposed to any atmospherical agent, were not visited with it till communication was had with the Mauritius.

Observe also the mode of its introduction into St. Pertersburg. The quarantine regulations of that city seemed to be successful till at length a case was brought into the city, when it spread on every side, with great rapidity, it is true, as in Montreal after a similar introduction of a single case, but this rapid diffusion is perfectly consistent with the proposition stated above.

Let it be carefully observed, that the facts stated are of an affirmative character, and that all the *negative* testimony on earth cannot overthrow them. They have been seen by credible witnesses and the oaths of all the world besides cannot gainsay them.

Many, very many of the most distinguished authors who have written upon Cholera express the strongest conviction of its contagious character. I have before me the works of Orton, of Hawkins, of Neale, of Kennedy, of Sir G. Blane, all replete with facts of the most conclusive character, far too numerous to be here quoted.

On the introduction of Cholera into America the physicians of this country were almost universally pertinacious in the belief that the disease was not contagious, being perhaps rendered so by the success with which the doctrine of non contagion of yellow fever has been established in this country. Many, however, have already seen the necessity of adopting new opinions, and I am sanguine that a revolution in sentiment must take place. It appears by recent reports that every physician in Montreal has contracted the disease. Dr. Bronson, an intelligent physician deputed by the City of Albany to visit Montreal and Quebec, declares his conviction from facts witnessed by himself, that the disease is contagious. Science and common sense cannot remain long diametrically opposed to each other.

It is matter of astonishment to me that any one should doubt the propriety of publicly uttering the truth, whatever it may be, in relation to this pestilence. Truth was never hostile to the best interests of man. Where would be the future confidence of the public in the profession should they at length discover that for apparent present expediency physicians have practised upon them pious frauds. But are there no evils which might result from the creation of an erroneous confidence in the *non contagiousness* of cholera? On which ever side the error lies, its tendency is mischievous. Let truth pour her light upon the monster, however, hideous it may cause him to appear; then may we direct our weapons with effect.

N. R. SMITH.

P. S. It appears that not an individual in either of the convents in Quebec has been affected with cholera. The strict seclusion enjoined by their religion, can be the only cause of their exemption. The simple and meagre diet on which their inmates subsist, would rather predispose them to its reception.

Drs. DeKay and Rhinelander assert in yesterday's paper that most of the physicians of Montreal believe the disease to be propagated by an epidemic constitution of the atmosphere—not by contagion. The fact on which they ground this belief is that the disease occurred in several places in the city in 12 hours after the introduction of the contagion from Quebec. This however is perfectly consistent with our 2d proposition. Precisely the same facts occurred in St. Petersburgh and in many other places. Can we believe that there are other instances of mere fortituous coincidence? Is it not more rational to infer that this disease, so peculiar in other respects, is propagated by a *peculiarly diffusible* contagion?

The Philadelphia Chronicle, in publishing an account of the Celebration of the 4th of July, complains of the conduct of the Blacks in that city. As the Philadelphians, have the remedy in their own hands and do not use it, the inference may be indulged that those who have the power of correcting the evil are willing to submit to it. The following are the Chronicle's remarks:—

"We are sorry that there was more noise and disorder about the streets, in the afternoon and evening, than we have ever before noticed; the blacks and the blackguard boys being apparently left to behave as they pleased.

The lower sort of negroes were perfectly lawless; and in Sixth street below Spruce, through a great part of the day, were as insolent as if in the high street of Timbuctoo.—These people have been growing worse and worse since the Southampton insurrection; and we are much mistaken if it is not found necessary, at no distant period to reduce them into something like good order, by stronger measures than have ever yet been tried in this section of our country. They think nothing of taking the wall of a lady, in the rudest manner, in any of the streets; and those in which they muster principally, are often scarcely safe.

Before nine last evening, in Sixth just below Spruce street, a decent looking white man was seen running from a gang of blacks. Near the corner they knocked him down; and half a dozen were apparently about to trample on him, but were deterred by the interference of a citizen who happened to be passing. In less than a minute, however, this gentleman received two violent blows from fellows behind him; the gang, at this time, being not less than thirty. Another gentleman, who came up, was attacked by a fellow, who attempted to gouge him, but was knocked down. Half a dozen respectable men having now collected, the blacks took to their heels, and made their escape. They were chased; but secured themselves in the alleys below."—*Balt. Chronicle.*

☞ *For the Ladies.* Half the quantity of Tea boiled in soft water, is as strong as that of double the quantity boiled in hard water.—The same will apply to Coffee, or any other vegetable substance.

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