Thomson (J)

A

PHILOSOPHICAL THEORY

OF

AN "EMPIRIC," PROVED PRACTICALLY:

COMPARED WITH DOUBTFUL SCIENCE AND KNOWN QUACKERY, AS PRACTICED BY THE REGULAR PHYSICANS DURING THE PREVALENCE OF THE CHOLERA IN THIS CITY.

TO WHICH IS ADDED,
The Opinions of the Committees appointed by the Assembly of this State, in 1828, '29, and '30, to examine the Author's Practice.

ALSO,
The Opinions of several Regular Physicians in relation to the Thomsonian System, and the effects of the Author's Cholera Medicine throughout the U. States.

BY JOHN THOMSON.

"What shall we think of so large a class of our citizens who have already glutted the market by their numbers, who, hanging like a cloud of deadly locusts far around the horizon, presage a pending storm? They settle like a deadly *incubus* on the community, and in their struggle, imploring legislative charity, their cry seems to be, 'save, or we perish.' I have been more than forty years engaged in the regular practice of medicine. I was a surgeon during the last war, in the army of the U. S. I was one of the founders of the western Medical Society of Penn.: also, a member of the Medical Society of the state of Ohio. My practice has been extensive; my experience and opportunity for observation has seldom been exceeded; but I venture to pledge myself upon all I hold sacred and valuable in the profession, that in my estimation the discoveries made by your honored father, (Samuel Thomson), have a decided preference, and stand unrivalled by all that bears the stamp of ancient or modern skill."

DR. HEARSEY, *Columbus, Ohio.*

ALBANY:
PRINTED FOR THE AUTHOR.
1833

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Samuel Thomson has cured and relieved many, where other physicians could not, without being a regular diplomatized physician. I am indeed so disgusted with learned quackery, that I take some interest in honest, humane and strong-minded *Empiricism;* for it has done more for our art in all ages, and in all countries, than all the universities since the time of Charlemagne. Where, for goodness' sake, did Hippocrates study earth, air and water, man and his kindred vegetable? In a word, he read diligently and sagaciously the *great book of Nature,* instead of the little books of man, as Thomson has.

DOCT. BENJAMIN WATERHOUSE.

When I first knew the value of this *beautiful and excellent system of practice,* I thought it a pity that there should be any restriction on it, and that Congress should purchase the right and make it public. But observation, reflection and experience soon convinced me that the medical faculty, aided by others, would soon prevent the people from being materially benefitted by it, as they are generally too idle to practice successfully in this way, and its benefits would be lost to the world.

HORTON HOWARD, M. D. *Ohio.*

I am now nearly 60 years of age. In the early part of my life I practised medicine, having been regularly educated in that profession when young. For the last 20 years I have been principally engaged in horticulture, having given up the practice under a conviction of the impropriety of administering *poison* instead of *medicine.* The principles which you have laid down in your pamphlet as theory, appear to me to be the most rational and consistent thing that has ever reached my knowledge in relation to the healing art. I have an ardent desire to be as useful as possible to my fellow men, and therefore solicit your aid and teaching. I have the most certain evidence that the time is *coming,* and now *is,* when God will utterly supplant, root out and destroy from the face of the earth, all Doctorcraft; and I firmly believe that the new system of vegetable medicine will yet prove a battle-axe that will hew down all opposition, both in America and Europe.

CALVIN MORRILL,
Union Village, Ohio.

TO THE PUBLIC.

Having had much experience in the cholera, and much persecution from the physicians the past season, and as my pecuniary affairs and bodily health have both suffered, I think it a claim I have on community, to be heard in my defence. The success which has attended my practice will appear by examining the following pages of this book, together with its appropriate proof. From the first commencement to the termination of the cholera, an immense quantity of my medicine was used to the satisfaction of the public in general; but the medical staff, it seems, thought I was infringing to much upon their business, and as telling the truth would be to my advantage, they set themselves to work, and published one of the most deliberate, false and barefacefl reports* that ever disgraced any set of men, that

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*The following reply to said report, appeared in the Daily Advertiser, of August 18th, 1832.

Messrs. Editors—Having just returned from the country, where I have been to recruit myself after over fatigue in the cholera, and judge of my surprise to learn that the medical staff had made a flaming report against me the very next day after I left here, so as to take the greatest possible advantage of my absence. They report that up at Nott's furnace and vicinity our medicine has committed much mischief. I have been through the centre where my medicines are said to have done so much injury, and every person, to a man, that I saw, or could hear of, gave our medicines the greatest possible credit, for the benefit the inhabitants had received. I found that two gentlemen (if they deserve the name) had been up to Mr. Lossing and to W. Morgan and several other persons near Nott's furnace, and tried to make them declare that our medicine had been a nuisance, but as it proved, it had not been so great a nuisance as those who tried to make it such.

They then fabricated an article or caused it to be done, and published it in the Argus without hardly a semblance of truth to base it upon. These persons' endeavors have been backed by the Doctors. And Dr. Townsend has reported in a number of places in this city, that Mr. Dutcher had taken our medicines, prior to his death, when at the time he knew it to be false.

I have honorably called upon the medical board to appoint a committee to examine my practice, fairly and squarely, in the City Hall; but malignant persecution, and their baseness prompted them to do that which is more congenial to

pretends to have any claim to truth or honesty. In that report, dated 3d of August, they stated that my medicine was given as a *preventive*, which at that time they pretended was very wrong, and that the disease could not be prevented, but that the first stages must be attended to, and in almost every instance it was under their practice curable. On the 23d they made another report, saying that the cholera was a disease to be *prevented* and not cured. But instead of curing almost every case as what they stated in their report they could, they, by their experiments, and other means of death, made out to lose over one third of all reported, or 417 out of 1147. Of their subsequent treatment and boasted know-

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their feelings, that is to stab in the back the very moment I left the city, and was not here to defend myself. If there is a single honorable man in the medical board that will take the trouble to go to Nott's furnance, where it is said my medicine has done so much injury, and is not satisfied from the best information he can get there that the report of the medical staff is a base and black attempt to destroy me, then I will say there is no confidence to be put in the statements of the most respectable people there. A mass of testimony I can obtain if necessary. More anon.

JOHN THOMSON.

Finding that there was a strong disposition with the Doctors to destroy the good effects of my practice, and I could get no investigation upon the subject, I then published the following note, dated August 9th, 1832.

Messrs. Editors—If I should attempt to publish all the certificates which are heaped upon me by the goodness of my friends, I am afraid you would have but little room for other matter. But as "I have no character to lose," as the medical staff say, I am under the necessity of receiving my good name from public opinion expressed in this manner. I have lost but *three* persons, to my knowledge, where I have had the first attendance in this city, and I believe that near three thousand persons have taken our medicines since the 3d of July. I will deposit in one of the banks $500 against $100, to be placed there by the medical board, to know which system of practice has been the most successful in curing the cholera since it first made its appearance in Albany. The above money shall be awarded to the party whose practice has been the most successful, by a disinterested committee, whose minds shall be unprejudiced and shall be guided solely by the testimony of persons cured by either of our prescriptions or medicines.

JOHN THOMSON.

ledge of the complaint, the above narration is a very fair specimen.

From the first, that one who could try the most hazardous experiments, and put his patient's life in the greatest jeopardy, was to appearance, the best fellow. Some would give their patients *ice* to eat, because one who took it providentillay escaped death in New-York; another must have two poor distressed beings set apart as objects for him to try his experiments upon; another injected his patient's veins full of salt water, by which treatment 17 out of 18 died, and as they were soon killed off, it made room for others daily to have similiar experiments tried on them. Some would bleed when the person was almost frozen to death; others would not admit of their patients having food or drink, so that the patients must starve to death, if the disease did not kill them; during which time the physicians were constantly at war with each other, so that council in many instances was impossible, but would all join against me as a common enemy. Out of five hospitals one enjoyed a superior blessing above all the others, by having a physician who had been to Montreal, and of course he knew a great deal more, even if he did not cure his patients, or lift a finger while there (which was the fact) to assist the sick. A superior blessing attended his efforts, as most of our inhabitants well know, as nearly every person who was carried to this much favored place, I have been informed, was brought out dead; one man who was carried there drunk, as I have been told, when he became a little sober fought his way out. And the very appropriate name of "slaughter houses" were given to all the hospitals.

Facts as revolting as the above, that would fill a volume might be mentioned, if necessary. Yet it was received as skill by many. May I never be blessed to that degree, to have my skill shown as prominently in some points of view, as that of some of our city physicians, during the cholera. It appeared to me, and so I frequently heard it remarked, as the opinion of others, that the physicians of this city would rather that all its inhabitants should die under their care, than that I should have the name of being successful, or even have a chance to effect cures upon any. A respectable master carpenter had two men taken down with the cholera, he came to me and obtained two bottles of my cholera medicine, and cured both; the next day, while coming to have his bottles replenished, he met with a very *knowing* young physician, whom he informed what he had done, and what benefit his men had received. This knight of the pill box, then said any man must be a d——d fool that will use such medicine. Anoth-

er person was conversing with a doctor, and among other things said, that the success of Thomson's medicine appeared to be very great, and that the people were much pleased with it. Says the doctor "I believe the d—l is in the inhabitants." Now if a man must be a fool or be possessed of a devil, if he takes a medicine that will cure him, what kind an evil spirit must their patients have been troubled with, to be induced to take the poisons that were stuffed down them, as well as to suffer upon themselves the deadly experiments that were so freely and fatally tried last summer?

Again, Mr. Tallman in Washington-street, as a philanthropist, kept my medicine in his house for the benefit of his neighbors, and during the cholera he cured *twenty-eight* persons of the disease, fifteen of whom after the spasms had commenced; and Mr. C. A. Waldron, City Marshall, threatened to prosecute him, and send him to jail if he did it any more.

Two men who do not deserve the name of gentlemen, went to the upper end of Washington-st. and insisted very hard that Mr. Lossing should say that my medicine had been a detriment to the public. Mr. L. said, gentlemen I do not wish you to misunderstand me, I say I believe his medicine has been a public benefit in this part of the city, as out of a great number of instances that he had known of the medicine being used, all had been benefitted. In one family, in Washington-street, as I was informed by a Mr. Cobb, four were attacked with the cholera, three of whom died that were attended by the regular physicians, and the fourth the only one that lived, took my medicine. But these learned gentry had transposed the circumstances, and made them to say Thomson killed three, and the other physicians saved the only one. Well, said one of these limbs of the law, I had as lives use a *razor* to cut my throat, or to take a doze of poison, as to take any of Thomson's medicine, I would inform this gentleman that with the greatest pleasure I would consent to let him have his choice, that in the course of human events, his place might be filled by an honest man.

Some of the physicians who fought us with all their might during the cholera, now begin to lavish upon us their compliments. One says, Thomson's medicine is one of the best of remedies for the cholera, but he should have used cathartics. Another, that Thomson has done a great deal of good, and has undoubtedly saved many lives. One physician came to my house and said that he was glad that the public appeared so well satisfied with my medicine and treatment of the cholera, he said he had seen my communications in the papers, and for his part, he was much pleased with them, and said

the physicians were literally murdering the people, and that he was well pleased at the decided stand I had taken against them, and after he had boasted much of his learning and great cures, and not a little of piety, he left, and a few days after he was called to visit a family west of the Capitol, and there stated that Thomson's medicine was injurious, and said many things different from what he had said before, and his hypocritical hide *Lay* turned the other side out, in order to accommodate all parties. Several physicians said they could make Thomson's medicine and would furnish it to all such as wished it. Yes, they were willing to poison the people with my quackery, if they could only get their pay for it.—And yet these are the guardians of the public health.

Many other similar specimens of their *Mercurial* compliments have been lavished upon me; but at present, I am independent of any of them, and do not wish any of their favors, nor do I crave any of their compliments. I gave out medicine during the prevalence of the cholera to about 5000 people, and I now offer $500 per head for the proof of all over three that myself or my present student have lost during the cholera, where we have had the first attendance.

I tried hard to have my practice investigated, in the City Hall, in public, by the board of health, but no, it would not do. Dr. Staats said he would like to examine it, but it must be done in private, so if there were good in it, they could keep it secret, but if bad, they would then proclaim it from *Dan* to *Beersheba*.

The Temperance Recorder has taken a very active part against me. Some half a dozen of its tools went throughout the city to find how many had died of the cholera, and the result of their labors, was that out of 336 only *seven* temperate persons had died and that 22 had died that had taken Thomson's medicine, my name being mentioned in full. I should not have objected to this abuse, if other physicians' names had been mentioned with the number they had lost.—I only notice this circumstance, to show the mean and dirty persecuting spirit of the *pious conductors* of that paper. I will here propose a question to the conductors of that paper, which is, if out of the 5000 who took my medicine during the cholera, 500, or one in ten, were troubled with the premonitory symptoms, and that I lost but three, or admitting I lost the 22 you have recorded against me, or even 50 or 100, which shows the best success, to loose one in 10, 50 or even 100, or one third of all that were attacked with the disease, as was the case with the regular practitioners?

One great *temperance* man, who makes himself very officious in every situation where his name can be put con-

picuous in the public papers for his donations, appeared to be prying into every body's business, but his own, to the great annoyance of those who suffered his intrusions. It was of no consequence to him how many died, if a regular physician attended them; but if a Botanic physician attended and cured all his patients, persecution to the last extremity appeared to be the order of the day.

These pages are respectfully submitted to an enlightened public, to whose decision, the subscriber is willing to bow, as he craves no indulgence but what his merits entitle him to; nor does he claim any skill from the *imaginary virtue* of a *diploma* as many do, who have not obtained with it common sense, if we may judge of them from their practice.—All he asks, is, to have as fair and as an impartial investigation of his practice, as was given to it in 1828, '29 and '30 by committees appointed by the Assembly of the State of New York, for that purpose.

JOHN THOMSON.

Albany, January 1833.

[From the Albany Daily Advertiser.]

Remarks on the Cholera in Montreal. An account of its rise and progress, and philosolphical reasons for its raging this season more than others, WITH NOTES. *By John Thomson, of Albany, Botanic Physician.*

Many speculative opinions have been entered into by medical men relative to the proximate cause, the medical treatment, and the fatality which has attended the Asiatic or spasmodic cholera in Montreal. I, the subscriber, being of the opinion that its origin might be dated from a variety of local causes combined, and that it was not contagious, and having a desire to see the patients in the various stages of the disease, to watch the variety of symptoms, to learn the state of the city relative to cleanliness, and also whether its elevation was sufficient for morbid, liquid matter to run off without delay into the river. I wished to learn the state of the atmosphere in and adjacent to the city, whether good or bad, and in either case, to what cause it was to be attributed. Also the general surface of the adjacent country—wheth er level, or level and measurably sunken and marshy to any great distance about the city, and if large quantities of water must lie stagnant and poison the air in large bodies, or whether the elevation of the country was sufficient to have it find, by a rapid movement, an equilibrium in the St. Lawrence. I also wished to know whether the country was interspersed with hills and dales sufficient for vacuums or rarified and heavy spaces of air to be set in rapid motion from natural causes to form equilibriums and consequently healthy and fresh breezes of air, which is the main-spring to the health of man in hot weather, in all countries, and in all naturally hot climates. To satisfy myself in many of my queries, I believed it necessary to procure a letter* of ad-

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* Board of Health, city of Albany, }
Albany, June 18th, 1832. }

Horatio Gates, Esq.—The bearer, Dr. John Thomson, of this city, is desirous of proceeding to Canada, in order to attend the cases of cholera now existing in your city. I beg leave to commend him to your favorable consideration, and ask the favor that your will give him an introduction to your Board of health, and such other authorities in your city, as may be thought advisable.

Respectfully yours,
JOHN TOWNSEND,
Mayor of Albany.

dress from the mayor to some important personage in Montreal. His honor consented to forward my views, and gave me a line of address to Horatio Gates, Esq. The next morning I started for my place of destination, and arrived there on the 21st June. I found that the climate in the latitude of Canada is subject to sudden and violent changes from hot to cold weather, or vice versa, and for near fifty years the cold weather has not been known to hold to so late a period as at this season. For, comparatively speaking, one day was of a winter and the next of a summer temperature; and the difference between the two days might have been 25 or 30 degrees. Such a trememdous shock or change but few even of the native inhabitants, saying nothing of the poor emigrants who came from a more temperate and genial climate, were able to stand. The emigrants being generally very poor, they crowded themselves into small and unhealthy tenements, some of which were not more than about 16 feet in width, and about 25 to 30 feet in length, one story in height, and from six to six and a half feet between joints. This size would make two houses, into which would be crowded two or three families, and as is generally the case, each family wonderfully blest with children, who would count up fast. One half of the filth about such houses may be credited to the children, the remainder to the parents, who set the example of uncleanliness.

These houses are generally built for profit; the spot selected is the most filthy and narrow streets in the city, for house lots in such places are the cheapest. The inclination towards the river in many places is so small that when water, which has been used for culinary or other purposes, was thrown into the streets, it would in many instances evaporate so near that the effluvia would return to its old habitation to assist in generating disease; or if the weather was not hot enough to evaporate the water, it would lie in puddles until the rays of the sun should rear the hydra's head, that it might begin the work of death. The season being so backward and the weather remaining so cold that the inconvenience of nuisances was not perceptible, all animal and vegetable matter was consequently thrown into the streets, and there left to be disposed of as the elements could agree.

I found that to a considerable extent north and south the face of the country was unfavorable to the health of the city, as the surface is very even and low as far as the eye can see. Laprarie, on the opposite side of the river, is still more unfavorable in point of locality in relation to disease, as it is the most level country I ever saw; the eye may traverse over a number of miles in every direction before it will find

relief by the intervention of any considerable swell. Some twenty or thirty miles down the St. Lawrence may be seen a mountain; one may likewise be seen at the extreme west side of the Island, on which Montreal is located, and if the healthfulness of the climate was equal to the beauty of the country, its rival could hardly be found.

Laprarie suffered much more severely, as I was informed, according to the number of inhabitants, than Montreal.—These low lands must contain an immense quantity of stagnant water which cannot run off with facility, and the exhalations of which would be sufficient to fill the air with poison for a great number of miles around.* The air, in

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* Those who have watched the progress of the cholera, must have observed that the cities located upon the borders of any large rivers, for instance the Mississippi, Ohio and St. Lawrence, have experienced a greater share of the fatality that attended the cholera, than the cities upon the sea board.

The immense quantity of nuisance that remained concealed in the swamps, marshes and stagnant pools, and the unusual quantity of vegetable and animal substance that was destroyed in consequence of the extreme severity of the winter; the poison of which lay dormant until about the middle of June, when the heat of the weather increased so rapidly and the change became so great that the hydra's head was unveiled to the destruction of thousands, the putrefaction of whom also contributed to the propagation of this dreadful disease.

The immense quantity of malignant poison that was forced from its abode, in the shape of effluvia, completely inundated the country, in a very few hours, with a putridity that in ordinary seasons would have escaped by a more gradual and increased warmth, which would have continued and operated for weeks and perhaps months, and of course the violence of its effect would have been materially mitigated.—The winter having passed and the cold having prolonged its stay to so unusual a length of time, our vital warmth could not keep pace by absorption with the sudden and rapid increase of the heat upon the surface. The vital warmth not being enabled to keep up its proper balance with the rapid increase of the heat upon the surface, connected with the inhaling of the putrid effluvia with which the air has been filled, the patient begins to feel a sensible debility through his system; a heaviness in the head; a slight relax; a sticky moisture upon the hands and feet, in consequence of their surface being colder than the atmosphere which con-

consequence of having no hills or dales over which it might waft itself to seek an equilibrium in rarified spaces, has to

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denses upon them: after which spasms set in; sickness at the stomach and vomiting commences, and unless immediate relief is given, death closes the scene, with the patient.

When a breeze of wind from the ocean mingles its salt air with a land breeze, the miasma or putrid air is measurably destroyed by reducing the quantity of putridity in a given space or quantity of air.

Upon this hypothesis, I have calculated the number of deaths upon each thousand of inhabitants in the respective places, from Philadelphia to Quebec. It will be observed that the latitude of Buffalo and Albany are nearly the same, while Montreal is 225 and Quebec 400 miles further north. In England and Ireland the salutary influence of the salt air has strikingly manifested its genial influence, in mitigating the severity of the cholera, when compared with Paris and other places upon the continent of Europe.

From Williams' Register I take the census of 1830.

	Inhab.	*Deaths.*	*No. deaths per thou'd.*	
Philadelphia,	157,811	746	4	do.
New-York,	202,589	2587	12 1-2	"
Poughkeepsie,	5029	102	20	"
Albany,	24,209	417	17	"
Utica,	8,323	177	21	"
Rochester,	9,269	135	14 1-2	"
Buffalo,	6,321	144	22 2-3	"
U. C. York,	2,500	172	69	"
Kingston,	3,000	91	30	"
L. C.* Montreal,	30,000	1847	61 1-2	"
Quebec,	24,000	2020	84	"
England and Scotland,	16,260,381	9057	5 1-2	10,000
Ireland,	7,734,365	4280	5 1-2	10,000
London,	1,500,000	1223	1	1227
Edinburgh,	150,000	72	1	2083
Glasgow,	203,000	295	1 1-2	1000
Paisley,	60,000	504	1	294
France, Paris,	800,000	25000	31	1000

Miasma in a great degree being generated in low marshy grounds, of course the poison is more dense and malignant; as is rises and becomes less dense, the cholera dies away in a slight relax, as was the case the past season, on the

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* Quebec lies 320 and Montreal 500 miles from the sea, and of course the salutary effects of the salt air are not felt in those places.

remain a stagnant body in the city and over a considerable part of the country; and, as is common in such cases, the

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Green Mountains, Catskill Mountains, or the Highlands of Scotland, Russia, &c.

When we take into consideration that the east, north-east, and south-east winds are generally cold and chilly, and are not adapted to the advancement of vegetation, but that they blight and destroy it, and are not calculated to hasten the decay of putrid substances, we must naturally suppose that the poison must have been locked within the parent body, until the sultry south, south-west and west winds prevailed, and by their expansive properties burst the bands that bound the monster, and he went forth and rapidly commenced his work of desolation.

It is a well known fact that the suffering and destruction, which have resulted from the cholera in our Atlantic cities from Maine to Florida, have been light when compared with the effects in the cities on the borders of our inland rivers, viz: the Mississippi, Ohio and St. Lawrence.

What have the inhabitants of Eastport, Portland, Portsmouth, Boston, New-York, and in fact all the cities between this and Mexico, suffered by the cholera in comparison with Quebec, Montreal, Cincinnati, Louisville, St. Louis and New Orleans?

In my humble opinion the preparation for the cholera commenced in the setting in of the winter of 1831. For until near the 1st of December the weather continued so unusually mild that the foliage of many species of young fruit and other trees remained nearly as fresh and perfect as in summer, in consequence of the sap not having adapted itself to its winter habit. Many species of vegetation were in the same state, and even in many instances as late as about the 20th of November, fresh and green plants might have been observed shooting up from the ground. Of course the whole system of nature was totally unprepared for the great and sudden change. In this state winter commenced. In trees the sap was checked between the *cam* and *wood* in the body on its return to the root, which raised and destroyed that peculiar tenacity that attaches the bark to the wood, and the

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Note to 12th page.—The number of deaths in the city of New-York were taken to August 29, in Albany to Sep. 2, Montreal and Quebec up to August 31, from Hoffman's Cholera Recorder. In England and Scotland the account was taken to August 3d., and Ireland to July 3d., these accounts, together with the remainder, were taken from the public prints. According to M. Loder the cholera ceased in Russia the 15th Nov. 1830.

foul air, not being often displaced or changed for better, the inhabitants were under the necessity of breathing over their filth for a number of days before they could be relieved.—

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tree was in consequence partly or entirely destroyed in proportion to the severity of the check.

Biennial and Perennial plants were many of them killed by striving to shoot forth at this unnatural season of the year, in consequence of destroying the quantity of sap that was in the stalk above ground which left the root so destitute, that it fell an easy prey to the frost.

Fruit suffered greatly or in proportion as the sap or blood of its dependance was destroyed; for when the sap had been slightly checked, on one side of the tree, in the same proportion the fruit would be imperfect and knotty. Apples were effected by being knotty and the pulp dry to an unusual degree this season. Plums were injured in a greater proportion to the quantity raised than apples; one side might be seen filled out and would look healthy, while the other would be drawn as with a ligature, and the skin tenaciously attaching itself to the pit or stone in consequence of a deficiency of sap to supply it. Potatoes have been unusually small and watery, in consequence of the earth not having got sufficiently clear of its great chill.

All species of insects were overtaken and myriads chilled and destroyed, before they had time to make good their retreat to their winter quarters, and their eggs destroyed in embryo.

Any observing person might have taken notice in any of the markets that the flies were unusually scarce; this was frequently remarked by the butchers during the past summer.

In the latitude of Montreal and Quebec the severity of the winter must have been much greater than here, and the transition from winter to summer very rapid, as spring and autumn are scarcely known. The length of the season for growing crops must of course be short, on account of the high latitude; consequently the heat must be very great to bring the crops to perfection in the short space of time that appears to be adapted to that purpose; therefore Indian corn and other productions peculiar to the climate must necessarily be small in proportion to the length of the maturing seasons. The weather may be of a winter temperature one day, and a summer temperature the next. This great and sudden change together with the consequent effect produced upon vegetable and animal matter that was destroyed during the prevalence of the long and severe winter not only

Under such circumstances, no wonder if meat would putrefy even on the highest steeple in Montreal. For should a cur-

affected the inhabitants, but the fowls of the air and the beasts of the field.

We will here advance a hypothetical calculation to give an idea of the principle which we wish to convey. We will suppose for instance, that at Albany the mercury should be raised up by the gradual heat of one day from 50 to 60 degrees, and the further you go north the change is more sudden and violent, insomuch, that at Montreal the same day the mercury, in consequence of the weather being colder, stands at 40, and raises from 40 to 70 degrees, and at Quebec from 30 to 80 degrees, consequently at Quebec* the greatest change will be felt in the body, by reason of the vital warmth not having increased by absorption in proportion as it has increased upon the surface; the change being so great, and the consequent power of the rays of the sun, the animal and vegetable matter together with the swamps, marshes and stagnant pools inundate the air with their deadly poison, which, according to the above hypothesis is three times as great at Quebec as at Montreal, or six times as much as at Albany, and the people in the same proportion would be diseased.

The inhabitants feel very weak and languid, from which state they would soon recover in ordinary seasons; but at this season, the uncommon putridity with which the air is charged takes advantage of the bad state of the body, and introduces itself into every part of the system, and from the lungs the blood is diseased, and the stomach becomes vitiated; we can neither eat, drink or breath, but we take a share of the infection, which is conveyed to every part of the body, poisoning and destroying the fountains of health.

The system soon becomes so much clogged that nature has recourse to her own expedients to throw it off through the nat-

*We copy the following from the Albany Argus of Jan. 29, 1833.

"*Great Change in the Weather.*—On the morning of Saturday the 19th inst. at Quebec, the thermometer stood at 31 degrees below Zero. Farenheit, on the following morning it was at 40 above the freezing point, and continued mild on Monday, the 21st, the latest dates."—Freezing is 32 degrees above Zero, and 31 below, added to 40 degrees above freezing, making a change of a 103 degrees.

In Albany, on the 19th, at 6 o'clock A. M. the mercury stood at 6 degrees below Zero, and on the 20th, the same hour, 26 degrees above Zero, making a change in 24 hours, of 32 degrees, and showing the astonishing difference in favor of Quebec, of 71 degrees.

Is it strange under such circumstances, that malignant disease should be prevalent and fatal at Quebec?

rent of heavy cool air waft itself from the nearest mountain, to seek an equilibrium in the valley below, the atmosphere was so hot that it was immediately rarified and carried up to a lighter sphere of action. The only current and the freshest air that was discoverable to me in the middle or at almost any other time of day, was that which appeared to be floating down on the bosom of the St. Lawrence, which may have been the cause of a less number of deaths occurring on the quay or docks than in the centre of the city. On which account I presume the emigrant's hospital was built in an open space on the bank of the river, the building running parallel with the river, with doors on the gable ends, which occupied almost entirely the whole width of the end. When these doors were open, I felt that there was a fresh breeze of air from up the river, and no other did I feel while there.

The weather having continued cold, and the temperature ranging from, say 55 to 60, the thermometer, all at once, as if by magic, on the 13th or 14th of June, rose up of a sudden to 80 or 85 degrees. So great and sudden was this change, that the vital warmth could not keep pace by absorption with the air around the body; a person would feel as if he was before a hot oven or was scorching alive. The vital warmth was not sufficiently absorbed; the outward heat was raised nearly equal to the vital warmth, and the patient felt as if before a heated furnace, and experienced great difficulty in breathing. He sought a cool place or he

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ural channel by relax, and if that proves insufficient, and the disease continues to gain upon the means that she has set to work, she then has recourse to vomiting, and as the heat of the body is exhausting its whole means in rarifying the morbid matter that is thrown off from the body by puking and purging, there is no heat to spare, to carry on perspiration, and as the heat returns from the extremities to the seat of action, the moisture returns with it, and passes off by relax, having the appearance of rice-water discharges, and in consequence of the absence of heat from the surface, and of perspiration in the flesh, the flesh contracts, and the skin wrinkles to accommodate itself to the flesh, which is left very cold, and the atmosphere condenses upon it. This last principle may be strikingly demonstrated by setting two tumbles upon a table in a warm day, one filled with hot and the other with cold water, the latter will sweat profusely, while the other will remain dry; the flesh and muscles loosing the warmth or expansive properties begin to contract or cramp, and without nature receives immediate assistance, the spark o life will be soon extinguished, and the patient will be dead.

fanned himself to obtain more congenial air, reduce the outward warmth and obtain a small surplus for the vitals.

Should the patient in this state drink cold water, the small surplus of vital warmth will be found insufficient to overpower the chill and rarify the water and throw it off by perspiration; and the chill is sufficient to put out the last spark of vital energy and kill the subject.

The reader has doubtless often heard elderly ladies make the remark when the heat was oppressive, "*how cool and comfortable I feel after drinking this warm tea.*" The vital energy has obtained from the hot tea, the surplus of warmth which is necessary to perform the respiration with ease.

Many of the more weakly as soon as the temperature upon the surface had raised equal to the vital warmth, and an equilibrium was formed, their breath would be immediately stopped; of course the subject would be dead, which was caused by the exhalation of the surplus of vital warmth which was necessary to rarify the air from which they received the oxygen or the main spring to the circulation of the blood, and consequently life to the body. Numbers fell dead about meridian, or when the temperature was at its greatest height. The heat would conquer some; the heat and filth in the streets combined, would bring others down, and the more athletic would require the two last, combined, with the more deadly effluvia or stench that arose from the evaporation of the liquid contents of the stomach of some one of the family. The most weakly would be killed at first by the heat or cold water. The next subjects were those who had stood the heat of the first day, and by respiration or absorption of the putrid air about them, would be taken with a relax; an uneasy sensation commencing at the lower extremity of the bowels; at first no sense of pain is felt, but a dizziness in the head is perceptible, and sometimes no fear entertained, unless they look in a glass; the sight of the eye first convinces the mind that their dependences, the flesh and blood, are going to rapid decay. The eyes are sunk, the cheeks and lips pale, the cheek bones are very prominent, and a pressure is felt at the chest, and the nervous system is very much irritated from the sight of the eye.* The mind is then active

*Upon a number of such cases I have proved my theory of the disease to an occular demonstration, by experiments with the thermometer, in the presence of a number of inhabitants of this city, as the certificates below will show.

The course pursued, was to observe the point at which the mercury stood in the room, then I would draw out the plate from the case, and at the same time have the person re-

for the defence of the hody, both external and internal. By taking a draught of cold water in this state, it makes its way immediately to its friend the relax, and their mutual strength combined, immediately create pain in the bowels;

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cline upon a sofa, upon the back, and take the bulb into the mouth, against which, they would steadily eject the breath from the lungs, and in about five minutes the mercury would raise up and become stationary at the point or standard warmth of the body, which would be from about the 10th of July to the 1st of September, in the room when it was tried; from two to twelve degrees above the surrounding atmosphere, in proportion as the persons enjoyed different degrees of health.

Mr. Benjamin True, dye cutter, No. 7 Beaver-street, near its junction with South Market-st., came to me in July, in much distress, his countenance was pale and ghastly, his cheek bones were prominent, his eyes were sunk back in the sockets, and he was attended with a great oppression at the lungs, and difficulty of breathing, and a cold sticky sweat upon the surface. He had been run down to this state in about ten hours, and his symptoms in every respect, were those of an approaching cholera of the worst kind. I informed him that before I gave him medicine, I wished to try, by experiment with the thermometer, the height of the animal warmth of the body, to which he readily assented.—The mercury in the room stood 88 degrees above Zero, and he only succeeded to raise it up to 92 degrees, showing the small difference of four degrees surplus above the surrounding air. I then gave him a glass of the cholera medicine, and in about thirty minutes, it had wrought so much of a change as to raise the veins in his hands, his cheeks and lips become florid, and he felt quite smart. I then tried the thermometer again, and it gradually raised up to 99 degrees, showing a difference in the change or gain of 7 degrees, by taking the medicine, or 11 degrees surplus above the surrounding air, instead of 4 degrees as at first. He had no trouble after the first day, as his certificate will show.

My course was to restore the heat of the body back to its heathy standard, as in the case of True and others, in order that the perspiration might return to the surface, and the heat to the extremities, by which means the sweat would pass off from the body, through the pores instead of a relax, which would stop, and the cramp would cease by the return of warmth to the muscles. After which any gentle course that would clear the body of the morbid matter that had accumulated during the indisposition, would leave the system

nature struggles to throw them off by the relax, and in that effort she exhausts measurably her warmth or means of de-

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in a healthy state, with the exception of the consequent debility, occasioned by the disease which would soon be gone.

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Albany, Jan. 14th, 1833.

The above experiment was tried upon me in the presence of several other persons, and what is there stated I do declare to be correct; and I was much astonished at the immediate relief which I obtained, and was more so, when I saw the change of 7 degress in the temperature of my system by the mercury. I had no more trouble after the first day.

B. C. TRUE.

ALBANY, January 14th, 1833.

I was present and witnessed the experiment upon Mr. True, and from ocular demonstration know it to be correct. I also had a similar experiment tried upon me, when I was nearly in the same state, as Mr. T., and with the same success.

DAVID BENSON,
No. 42 Howard-street.

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ALBANY, January 14th, 1833.

We saw similar experiments tried at the office of Doctor Thomson, Beaver-st., Albany, and with similar results as above.

R. E. WARD,
Of the firm of Many & Ward. 84 Beaver-st.
JAMES HUNTER,
At present a Reporter of the Assembly and late associate Editor of the Albany Daily Advertiser.

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ALBANY, January 14th, 1833.

I have seen the above mentioned experiments satisfactorily tried repeatedly, with the same success as above, and they appeared to me to be both philosophical and conclusive.

J. W. DOLBEAR,
No. 67 Beaver-street.

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During the summer past, the above experiments I frequently tried upon well people, when the mercury stood from 86 to 88 in the room which fronted to the south, and was only warmed by the sun, and the mercury would raise up to 100. On the 17th of January, 1833, the same experiment I again tried, upon a number of well people, to see what difference the cold weather could have produced in the temperature of the system. The mercury stood at 70 in the room, which was heated by a soap stone box stove, and the

fence. The first enemy, like the Asp, takes hold gently and fatally, and his grasp is not easily loosened. The effort of

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temperature immediately raised up to from 92 to 94, showing an average difference in the vital warmth of about 7 degrees between the summer and winter habit of the body. Or as the cold increased upon the surface, the vital warmth was reduced from about 100, to accommodate itself to its proper balance with the surrounding air. This experiment gave a difference of between 24 and 25 degrees between the temperature of the air in the room, and that of the lungs, so far as the warmth of the breath could give it; or a difference of 11 1-2 or 12 degrees between a healthy state now, and that of last summer, in favor of cold weather. For those who enjoyed a good state of health last summer, could not show a difference only of about 12 degrees above the surrounding air, and that difference would be reduced in proportion as the person become diseased.

I am aware that in several instances the cholera has broke out and raged with great violence on board of vessels at sea, and has proved very fatal in two instances. In these, the only two instances that I recollect to have seen accounts of, the vessels experienced very bad weather, and made but little progress in their voyages. One of the vessels was from England, with a great number of passengers; after having been at sea a number of days, she was obliged to put back on account of the cholera and bad weather. Any person who has been at sea in rough or boisterous weather, knows that the hatches are kept on and covered over tight with a tarpawling, and are also closely barred down to prevent the water from getting into the hold of the ship. What would be the consequence to have about three hundred passengers, as was the case on board the English ship, cooped up in the steerage and forecastle, breathing the putrefaction and confined air from one another? And again, if they had been for a number of days at sea, as was the fact, and the winds fair and weather good, would they have put back, when they could, under such circumstances, have ventilated the ship? And after they had returned to the port and had purified the ship, how came they to venture to sea again, if the sea air, by being impregnated with this species of poison, was the cause of the first great fatality that attended them? Again, how does it happen, which is a remarkable fact, that the captains and crew's generally escape this pestilence so miraculously, when their fellow passengers are falling, like leaves in autumn around them? Is it not to be attributed to their being almost constantly upon deck, attending to their respective du-

nature being repulsed, the enemy works his way towards the stomach, and when within about four inches a faint streak is felt to dart from the diseased spot to the stomach; it continues to increase; at last, nature is attacked as it were in her own citadel, and vomiting commences. A powerful and final effort must now be made, which will decide the fate of one of the parties. To do which, the warmth (or pickets as it were) are called in to defend the main fort. The absence of the heat at the extremeties, causes the feet and legs to become very cold, which contracts the flesh and wrinkles the skin, on which the atmosphere condenses, and the skin appears as if it had been soaked in cold water. The absence of warmth from the muscles, which goes into the flesh, from which the blood conveys it to the vitals, is the cause of cramps in the limbs, by the sinews contracting from loss of heat; and as soon as the warmth is exhausted in rarifying the frequent respirations, the patient is dead. The tracing this case through must suffice for all. Although there are other symtoms which are produced from the same causes, in proportion as the person's constitution varies in point of strength.

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ties, consequently receiving the greatest possible benefit from the fresh sea air? Has there been a single instance where the cholera has prevailed with the crews of vessels at sea, when there were no passengers on board? Again, has the proportion, when the crew have been attacked, and the vessel freighted with passengers, been equal to that of the passengers? And has it proved as fatal to them under any circumstances? I believe it has not.

The brig Amelia sailed from New-York about the 20th of October last, for New Orleans, and on the 9th of November put into Charleston, S. C. and there had been on board at that time fifty cases and ten deaths by cholera. If the Amelia had been favored with good winds and weather, would not twenty days have been a sufficient length of time to have carried her into New Orleans, instead of making about 600 miles of her voyage? Under such circumstances, that is, in good weather, could not the passengers (108 in number) have had a better chance to have taken the fresh air, and to promenade the deck, without being in the way of the ship's company in navigating the vessel? Under all these considerations, can we believe that the salt air is as liable to be impregnated with that peculiar nuisance that produces the cholera, as the vapors that are exhaled from lakes, marshes, and all species of vegetable and animal decompositions? I think not.

Many of the poor emigrants, while laboring under these powerful evacuations, had not the conveniences that were necessary in their trying state, and as they lay in bed would vomit upon the floor; this morbid matter would run away and settle in the corner or in the lowest part of the room, and, in many instances it was left for time and the sun to evaporate. Should they undertake to wipe or file it up, it made it much worse, for the file was used to spread it over a greater surface of the floor without any addition of pure water, in order that it might be made to dry up quick, which added ten fold fury to the first bad air in the room, all of which would rise up, and the low ceilings (six or six and a half feet) over head, would confine this venom within the sphere of every person's head that came into the room.—This new supply of poison was sufficient to take down almost every one who came within its baneful range.

Opium and brandy was used when the contest was so severe that nature was under the necessity of calling in her recources of warmth from the extremities, and this would, as it were, give nature a blow upon the head until the enemy had completed the destruction of the bowels; and in about twelve hours or less the patient was dead.

Where the disease was very rapid, opium would stupify the body and stop the evacuations of morbid matter in the system, in consequence of which the rapid reduction of vital warmth by rarefaction was checked, and life preserved for a few hours, but eventually it was more sure death to the patient. For nature, before the opium was given, had full command through the body, and struggling hard by puking and purging to throw off the difficulty; and as soon as the opium was received, the strength of the body was more concentrated at the stomach, the seat of life, to defend that; and in a short time the action of the bowels was destroyed and the stomach surrendered soon after, and the debt of nature was paid. I fully agree with a certain physician, that "opium may be regarded as the sheet anchor in the cholera," but I believe it the sheet anchor of death instead of life. The reason why no smell was perceptible or mortification visible during any of their *post mortem* examinations, was that the disease and opium killed off the patient so quick that no chance was given to mortify.*

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*The greatest quantity of oxygen or pure and wholesome air is produced by the inhalations and exhalations of the atmosphere by vegetation, and which may be literally called the breath of animated nature, as it is refreshing to the smell and reviving to the senses. What is better calculated to

The "unknown doctor," or the eccentric Stephen Ayres, managed his patients quite differently. While the stomach

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cheer the drooping spirits of the sick or melancholy, than for them to go out and view the face of nature in the spring, when vegetation is shooting forth in all its grandeur?

But on the other hand, when these fields of vegetable life become destroyed by being attacked in a defenceless state, as in November 1831, nature then appears shrouded in mourning. The substance lays dormant until spring; when the warm weather instead of coming on gradual as is common, sets in all at once, and for a number of days the sun is rapidly exhaling into the air this morbid poison before vegetation has a chance to come forth sufficiently to nutralize or mitigate by its respirations its deadly effects upon mankind. Thus the air is filled with a nitrous vapour that destroys nearly all the *oxygen* and *electricity*, by which means the air becomes highly poisonous, and is very destructive to both man and beast. Thus vegetation even in death has a direct tendency to call all flesh to itself or to the earth, from its natural tendency in consequence of its *nitre* to decomposition. Disease is the most *prevalent* and *fatal* where the *air* is the most impregnated with *nitre*. Nitre is found in the greatest abundance where putrid animal and vegetable substances are decaying in the largest bodies. And the greatest quantity of animal and vegetable decomposition is produced by the most sudden and violent changes in the weather from heat to cold, and from cold to heat. Such changes are peculiar to both high and low latitudes, as in Canada, or in the West Indies.

It has been asked why the cholera should commence at the north and travel to the south? To which I reply, that the heat gradually increases as the sun passes from the line northward, until in the high latitudes, the north winds, or the great chill which is over the face of the country, resists the heat for a number of days and perhaps weeks, but the cold eventually gives away and summer with all its vigor sets in, and continues until the sun gets so far on its way to the south, and his influence so much weakened at the north, that the cold overpowers the warmth, when winter, in its turn, sets in with all the severity peculiar to high latitudes, to the great destruction of all live animal and vegetable matter that is caught *unprepared* for the great change.

The substance thus destroyed, acts as *fuel* to supply the *fire* of disease, by its exhalations of poison under a high temperature of heat, the next summer. The inhabitants who reside within the range of this effluvia, will be subject to vio-

and bowels was in a great state of excitement, he threw into the stomach a compound of equal parts of charcoal, lard and maple sugar, which allayed the irritation of the stomach, and backened and eventually completely destroyed the effects which these poisonous evacuations had upon the coats of the stomach and bowels, and left nature to work off the disease. His medicines had the same effect towards backening and killing the disease, as the opium and brandy had in killing the body. My course was to raise the vital energy by art, by throwing into the stomach pure vegetable stimulants, (no part of which had ever undergone a chemical process) that would give immediate vital strength, and upon this strength assist nature by other powerful assistants (not enemies) to throw off the difficulty, which would generally be done in from thirty minutes to two hours; then, with ordinary nursing, the patient would recover almost as rapidly as he was cut down.

After the patients, who came under my observation, had been relieved of their distress, where the evacuations had

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lent attacks of disease, which if improperly treated, will kill them off rapidly, but if judiciously managed, by clearing the system and assisting nature a little, the patients will recover speedily.

The sun on its return south, rapidly raises the temperature of the climate, and in the United States, in July, August and September, the heat is at its highest standard of warmth for the year, and the amount of disease will be in proportion to the quantity of dead substance to be disposed of, which will be measurably regulated by the setting in of the preceding fall, the severity of the winter, and commencement of spring and summer, whether by a gradual and increased temperature of warmth, or sudden and violent as in the past season.

Nitrous vapor is found in the greatest abundance in all kinds of rich soils, such as low lands, swamps, marshy grounds, meadows, and on the banks of rivers, &c. And like water, its seeks an equilibrium by passing off both in water and vapor, and becomes a dense mass of morbid poison collected from a whole territory and settles into the valleys and on the bosom of large rivers The Mississippi and Ohio, which by the great number of their tributary streams, may be regarded as great thoroughfares for centering and conveying of this poisonous water and gas from a great extent of territory to the ocean. This is the reason why the inhabitants suffered on the banks of these rivers so severely. On high lands, this gas was so thin that its effects, the past summer, was only observedby a slight relax. And on the sea shore it was neutralized by the salt air.

been profuse, the *evidence* of which generally lay upon the floor, I ordered two quarts of good lime to be slacked in a bucket of water and left to settle, then ordered the room cleared out and the floor filed over with clear water. After it had become dry, I directed it to be constantly wet with the lime-water, and every other part of the house, under the jurisdiction of the family, likewise in front of the house in the street and yards, &c. I dropped down the windows, where it could be done, at the top, a few inches, when I wet the floor with lime-water; for as that freshens the air and it becomes pure and bracing, it settles in the room and the light or bad air would escape out at the top of the windows.—When the house was clear of the bad air, then shut up the windows at the top and doors, and keep out as much as possible the filthy air.

Many other observations I made while in Canada, which are useful to myself, but probably will be of no more service to the public than the singular epistle which I now lay before them, for which I crave the indulgence of an enlightened public as a boon to which I think my youth entitles me. JOHN THOMSON.

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Letter from Horatio Gates of Montreal, to John Townsend, Mayor of Albany, in relation to Thomson's Cholera medicine.

MONTREAL, June 23, 1832.

Hon. John Townsend—Sir, yours by the hand of Dr. John Thomson, (by whom this goes) was duly received, and I have to inform you that he has been very industrious while here in searching out cases of the cholera, most of which, however, were of a bad type, and had been too long neglected: he has prescribed to a number free of expense such medicines as he brought with him, which I understand he makes, and from the testimony of two or three individuals of respectable standing who accompanied Dr. Thomson, and saw him administer his medicine, together with my own personal observation, having conversed with two who are convalescent, and who described the relief obtained from Dr. Thomson's prescriptions as almost immediate and complete. I cannot but think good may result by his practice wherever that terrible disease, the Cholera, prevails; yet as I have no knowledge of the science of medicine, my opinion must only be taken for what it is worth. I am very happy to tell you that the disease is falling off fast in this city in virulence—occasional bad cases are yet to be seen: it appears to be spreading in the country. Yours, HORATIO GATES.

The following letters from Physicians, are sent me as a further evidence of the utility of my cholera medicines.

JOHN THOMSON.

COLUMBUS, Ohio, 31st Dec. 1832.

Dr. John Thomson, respected sir; a desire to spread the knowledge and consequent blessings of the Thomsonian system and remedies in general, and a wish to add my feeble testimony, to the now known efficacy of your remedies and treatment of the CHOLERA in *particular*, induces me to address you at this time. Having lately returned from a tour from this to the state of Alabama, I had a good opportunity of getting correct information both by my own experience, and from information from others, of the success of your preparation for, and treatment of, the cholera. I was in Cincinnati and Louisville at the time this formidable disease was raging with its greatest violence in those places, and speak without fear of refutation, when I say, that the Thomsonian medicines have gained that confidence in the minds of all those who have any knowledge of them, that can *never* be destroyed either by legal enactments or the malice and persecution of physicians. And indeed, I found wherever I went, either in stage or steam boat, that the Thomsonian remedies *alone* were depended upon. The name of the disease has carried so much terror with it, as to cause thousands and *tens* of thousands to declare their conviction, in spite of the slanders and prejudices from the medical faculty, that the *steam system* would be their dependence in case of cholera.

We have prepared the syrup agreeably to your directions, and sold much of it to the people; and as far as my knowledge extends, it has answered the desired effect as a preventive, except in *one* instance, and even in that solitary instance, the medicine gained much credit, for it was evident, that continued and excessive fatigue and exposure to cold and rain, overcome the action in the body, *faster* than the medicine could raise it; however, a few days rest, together with one course of medicine, restored the patient, after the disease had progressed to the cramping of the legs, &c. I have not a shadow of doubt, but thousands of lives have been saved by your syrup, taken as a preventive, for surely if it had no other effect, it has prevented the use of those truly awful and deadly preventives recommended by the *learned* faculty—*two hundred grains of opium and a gill of brandy*, for instance!!

In my travels I could but observe the difference between those who were ignorant, and those who possessed a knowledge of the Thomsonian system. While the former were flying as they vainly hoped, from the fell destroyer, as from the

approach of a merciless enemy, the latter remained as calm as an inland lake, when not a breath of air passes over its surface. The former were continually rushing into the jaws of the devouring monster both through fear and the effects of the *deadly* drugs, which they wished to act as a preventive, while the latter continued their usual avocations, interrupted only by witnessing the awful havoc around them, and their exertions to relieve the sufferings of others.

We have it from unquestionable authority, that the prevalence of the cholera at St. Louis, has been the means of establishing the system in that place, beyond the power of falsehood to move.

The proceedings of the *convention* will be published in an extra No. of the Recorder, and distributed in a few days.—It was an interesting and satisfactory meeting, and we think will be the means of disseminating much useful information.

HIRAM PLATT.

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Dec. 31st. 1832.

Dear Sir—Dr. Platt being in the office, I saw a letter he had written, observing a vacant page, I thought I would place my pen to paper—for at the mouth of two or three witnesses shall every word be established But sir, we are not circumscribed to such narrow bounds; we have thousands of witnesses to vouch for the superior efficacy of the Thomsonian remedies. I had the honor to PRESIDE over the deliberations of the CONVENTION. It was truly an august and venerable body—communications poured in from the Atlantic to the Mississippi, and from the mouth of the St. Lawrence to the shores of Mobile. The progress and triumph of the system, if possible, confirmed a faith that before was steadfast and unmoveable. As the senior editor of the Thomsonian Recorder, and Secretary of General Correspondence for the Thomsonian Botanical Society of the United States, I have every possible facility in obtaining information. The high character of your cholera syrup has been admirably sustained from the British Colonies in North America, to where the pure language of our republicanism begins to die away in the confused jargon of the Mexican dynasty. Its excellency and efficacy had been confirmed by a cloud of witnesses. I would recite you to a volume of communications, containing testimony paramount to all opposition, and defies the tongue of slander to succeed by falsehood and contradiction.

I have been more than forty years engaged in the regular practice of medicine. I was a surgeon during the last war in the army of the United States. I was by an election, sur-

surgeon *(extraordinary)* to the Petersburgh Volunteers and Major Stodard's two companies of Artillery. I was one of the founders of the Western Medical Society of Pennsylvania, and also am a member of the Medical Society of the State of Ohio. My practice has been extensive—my experience and opportunity for observation has seldom been exceeded: but I venture to pledge myself upon all I hold sacred and valuable in the profession, that in my estimation the discoveries made by your honored father, have a decided preference and stand unrivalled by all that bears the stamp of ancient or modern skill. Dr. Roberson's lecture to the convention was truly excellent: his native genius, his classical education, and being regularly bred to the profession, added to his natural turn for eloquence, enabled him to bear down heavily on that ill-natured opposition that is so constantly spitting a malignant poison round the country. Old Dr. Platt, a senior member of the Ohio Historical and Philosophical Society, attended the convention, and is a warm and decided friend of the botanic cause. The number of literary friends are continually on the increase.

T. HERSEY.

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BALTIMORE, Jan. 5, 1833.

Respected Sir—

In consequence of my having been absent and in Ohio, attending the Thomsonian convention, your letter has not been answered.

In regard to the information that you wish for respecting the cholera preventive and curative, made and used according to your directions, were I to undertake to give a fair and faithful account of all the good it has done here in this state and the District of Columbia, and other places where I am knowing it to have been used, (Gosport, Va.) I should fail for the want of room and words to express myself. When your report appeared in the Boston Investigator, it was through myself that it was copied into several of our daily papers; therefore the knowledge of making the medicine became generally known, and it was as generally made and used as it was known. Those who were not acquainted with the system, bought the No. 6 and cayenne and made it themselves. In some instances, I believe, the faculty made it in that way. One person, who had a large number of hands to work in a brick yard, informed me that it was worth fifteen or twenty dollars a day to him: when any of his hands were attacked with the premonitory symptoms, by taking the cholera medicine they were able to keep to their work without loss of time. Draymen and cartmen carried it with

them constantly, and done a great deal of good by giving it at the onset of the disease. A colored woman who had lived with me formerly, told me that she had cured two of her acquaintance after the doctors had given them up to die—she got her medicine of me. An apprentice boy of mine cured his father, who was about 80 years of age, and was very violently attacked with puking and purging—his certificate I have. I mention these cases to show that the medicine was equally successful in the hands of all that gave it; and I have not the least hesitation in saying, without the fear of contradiction, that thousands have felt the salutary effects of the medicine in this place, and there is a steady demand for it now for cholics and other slight complaints.

If it were necessary, sufficient testimony can be produced to convince the skeptical and incredulous, that the cholera medicine has not, nor cannot, be overrated, as the most useful medicine in relieving and curing that most dreadful malady, the cholera.

Whether I have answered your enquiry according to your expectation, I do not know. If I can render you any service by procuring testimony, I will do it with pleasure.

Respectfully yours,

WARD SEARS.

Dr. JOHN THOMSON.

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Extract of a letter, dated

CINCINNATI, Jan. 8, 1833.

As respects our success, it is as follows:—We attended *ninety-six* cases of confirmed cholera, and over *one hundred** of the premonitory or forming stage, in October last: out in this number, *eighteen* died. We cured thirteen that were in a collapse state before we saw them. In fact, I have come to the firm conclusion, that the Thomsonian remedies are the best that can be used for the *Asiatic Cholera*, and that the disease is easily managed in its first stages.

Josiah Clark, of this place, was cured of the hydraphobia, in June, 1831, after the paroxysms were well established and acknowledged to be such by four regular physicians; two of whom are professors in the Medical College of Ohio, viz. Moarhead and Cobb, who said that nothing could be done to save him.

Signed, ROBERT TALBOTT.

* Lost one in eleven.

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The extract of a *Report* from *Baltimore*, says, that out of one hundred and twenty-two attended by the Thomsonians, they lost seventeen. Lost *one* in seven.

In Albany, 1147 cases were reported by the physicians, and 417 deaths. Lost over one in three.

THOMSON'S CHOLERA PREVENTIVE, AND ITS EFFECTS.

After my Cholera medicine had proved its efficacy to be superior to any thing known for the prevention and cure of the cholera, to which hundreds in this city are ready to attest, and my over fatigue had set me bleeding at the lungs, and worn me nearly out. I repaired to the country for a respite. The very next day, the columns of the papers were graced with a flaming report, directed at me and the medicine I used, from which the following is an extract :—

"About the upper end of Washington-street.* where the ravages of the disease have been more severe than in any other part of the city, we find that in a majority of instances where cholera had proved fatal, the individuals had been stimulating themselves with heating drugs, furnished by empirics as preventives of the disease. These drugs are injurious in two ways : they stimulate a system already labouring under an inflammatory disease, causing it to assume a malignant form—and by giving false confidence, they prevent the use of timely aid from persons qualified to prescribe appropriate remedies." [A more base and barefaced libel than the above, was perhaps never published. J. T.]

On my return to the city, Mr. John Lossing and John I. Tallman, two gentlemen of respectability, accompanied me to the upper end of Washington-street, and the following certificates are a small part of the results of our investigation :—

The following is the statement given by Mr. Harvey, foreman of Mr. Nott's furnace. Harvey objected to sign his name to it, as he had two doctors attending in his family.

John Marshal was taken at Nott's furnace ; he dwindled for some hours ; they sent for Dr. Ruby—the man died just as Ruby arrived at the house. Mr. Jevons and Frith were taken prior to Marshal ; Jevons had a doctor, Frith had none ; both died within 12 hours ; had used none of Thomson's medicine. A Welchman was taken ; he was removed to the hospital, and died next day : he took none of Thomson's medicine. I have used Dr. Thomson's medicine, as well as my family, and have been benefited. All the persons who are connected with our furnace that have taken Thomson's medicine, are well pleased with it. I do not know of

* At and near Nott's Furnace.

any person who has received injury from Thomson's medicine in this vicinity.

The above statement of Mr. Harvey was acknowledged in our presence.

JOHN LOSSING,
J. I. TALLMAN.

—

Mr. Wardell was taken with the cholera ; he drank freely of brandy—said to have drunk one quart in a short time ; did not take any of Thomson's medicine. Mr. Burr taken with the cholera ; he injudiciously took two bottles of Thomson's medicine with brandy. Both died. This information I obtained myself.

August 7th. JOHN THOMSON.

—

My Daughter had been laboring under a bad relax for several days ; she was at last attacked with violent puking and purging, cramps in the small of the back, her extremities were very cold, and she was one of the most distressed creatures I ever saw. I gave her Dr. Thomson's medicine, and she found immediate relief, and is now restored to good health. She had this attack about two weeks since. To the extent of my knowledge, I believe that Dr. Thomson's medicine has been a public benefit.

WM. MORGAN, 197 Washington-st.

—

I have taken Thomson's medicine, and have received benefit ; my complaint was relax, numbness in the extremities, &c. THOS. WATKINS.

—

Nott's Furnace, Aug. 7.

I was taken with cholera—the symptoms were cramp in the stomach and limbs, sickness, and a severe relax—the extremities cold, and turned blue, and great prostration of strength—and had lost the use of my limbs : my case was considered a severe one of the cholera. I took Doct. Thomson's medicines, and found complete relief in about 8 hours.

W. C. HALSE.

—

I was attacked with the prevailing complaint, also my wife, Mr. Summers, (at Nott's furnace,) and my son. We have been as severely handled, I believe, as many other persons that have died under the regular physicians. We found immediate relief from Thomson's medicine, which has been sure to relieve us whenever we have had occasion for it, and I believe it one of the most valuable medicines now in use for the cholera. Dr. Wing said if I did not stop

the use of Thomson's medicine, he would not attend to me; I told him I had rather part with him than with Thomson's medicines, he accordingly left me.

Wm. PHILLIPS, near Nott's furnace.

—

I work in Nott's furnace—my wife was taken about ten days since with the cholera—she was taken with cramps, puking, and purging—she was very weak—I sent for Thomson's medicine, which relieved her immediately—she is now well.

HENRY VAN DUZEN.

—

ALBANY, Aug. 7, 1832.

On the 3d inst. I was violently attacked with the cholera; my limbs were much cramped, attended with relax and vomiting; I thought in the state I was in, I could not have lived 12 hours; I immediately used Dr. Thomson's medicine, which relieved me directly; and I am satisfied that I owe my life to the use of that medicine—and should certainly take it again should I have another attack.

THOS. JORDON, 103 Washington-st.

—

ALBANY, July 7.

I have used Dr. Thomson's medicine for some time past, and have invariably found good to result from its use. My apprentice used the medicine, and also found much benefit.

JAMES FOSTER, 148 Washington-st.

—

ALBANY, Aug. 8.

I was attacked with cholera about three weeks since—my symptoms were sickness and cramp in the stomach, attended with the most violent relax I ever had; it seemed as if the whole flesh of my body was turning to water. I sent for Dr. Thomson's medicine at 2 o'clock at night, and it relieved my distress and stopped my relax immediately, and I now enjoy good health.

MARY FLEMINGS,
138 Washington-st.

—

August 7.—About the middle of July I was taken with the cholera—my symptoms were sickness and vomiting, a violent relax, heavy chills through the body, cramps in the stomach, coldness of the feet and hands. My distress was so great that I thought I should have died. About 2 o'clock in the morning, I sent out for Dr. Thomson's medicine, which relieved me in about two hours, and to this timely relief I think I owe my life, which is the opinion of my friends. I

am now well, and shall certainly use this medicine again if I have another attack.

ABIGAIL BROWN, 136 Washington-st.

—

I was attacked with a violent pain in the head, a great prostration of strength, and a severe relax; it had been upon me for about three days, by which time I was so feeble that I could hardly move about. I had recourse to Dr. Thomson's medicine, which relieved me entirely in about 6 hours. I am knowing to four persons being cured of the cholera, who were severely attacked in my vicinity.

WM. WRIGHT, 312 State st. continued.

—

I was attacked with dizziness in the head, cramp in the limbs, and very sick at the stomach, attended with a ringing in the head. I took Dr. Thomson's medicine, which relieved me immediately.

LEVI M'KEEN, 174 Washington-st.

—

I have had several attacks of the premonitory symptoms of cholera: my wife was also violently seized with sickness at the stomach, dizziness in the head, cold chills, cold feet and hands, and a great prostration of strength. My boy was also taken with vomiting and purging, cramp in the stomach or bowels, and great debility; and Dr. Thomson's medicine restored us all to good health, and I will not do without this medicine at the present time, if I can obtain it.

B. J. VANBENTHUYSEN, 174 Washington-st.

—

Two of my children were attacked with relax; also, two of my workmen were attacked with the prevailing disease, and Dr. Thomson's medicine, I believe, has restored them all to good health.

JOHN WILSON,
Globe Maker, Washington st.

—

We have used Dr. Thomson's medicine, with much advantage; three of our men have also been benefited.

TYLER & DILLON.

—

Alderman De Graff's Store, near Nott's Furnace,
August 7th.

Joseph Rundio was taken with the cholera: two physicians were employed—they attended him until they considered him beyond the reach of medicine, and gave him up to die. He was both speechless and helpless, and at the request of one of the doctors, the coffin was brought for Rundio, and set under the window of the room where the sick man lay.

Whilst in this state Thomson's medicine was given to him, which revived him so much that he was able to help himself and walk; and just at this time his friends came to carry him to Port Schuyler, and insisted that he should be removed to that place. He was put in a common two horse lumber wagon, against the advice and entreaties of his friends here, who said it would kill him in his present weak state; but his determination was to go. He rode to Port Schuyler in a carriage which would have been uncomfortable for a well man, and the next day died. It was the opinion of all his friends here, that he would have got well if he had not been so rash as to leave the city, and had observed common prudence. I nursed him during his sickness, and the above statement is as near as I can remember.

LEANDER MURRAY.

I was p e ent, and knew the above to be true.

W. C. HALSE.

I concur in the above.

WM. PHILLIPS.

believe the above to be correct.

WM. MORGAN.

—

Our son, George Pincott, residing near Nott's furnace, was taken with the cholera—Dr. Wing attended him—he died the third day. He made no use of Dr. Thomson's medicine during his sickness. Since his death, Dr. Thomson's medicine has been used in our family.

THOMAS PINCOTT.

The above cases were reported by the Doctors, to have been killed by my medicine. JOHN THOMSON.

—

I was as severely attacked with the spasmodic cholera, with violent cramps in the stomach and bowels, vomiting and relax, as any person I have seen; Dr. Thomson's medicine cured me in a short time. I believe I have seen and heard reports from more than twenty persons who have been cured of the cholera by Thomson's medicine; and from the number of speedy cures which I have seen, I have no reason to doubt the other reports.

MATTHEW VAN DER ROOF,

Aug. 8th. Lydius-st. continued.

—

ALBANY, Aug. 8, 1832.

When Dr. Thomson first returned from Montreal, and I was satisfied that he had found a remedy for the cholera, I resolved to keep it on hand for the benefit of my family.—Several of my neighbors being attacked, and knowing that I

had Thomson's medicine, at once sent to me for it. I visited the sick as a neighbor and friend, and gave medicine as long as it lasted, and I have received no pay except sufficient to pay the expense of the medicine, believing it an act of philanthropy to assist in relieving the sufferings of my fellow beings. Up to this date, I have given medicine to *twenty-eight* persons, all of which have been restored to good health. *Fifteen* of the above twenty-eight, were judged by all who saw them to be the worst species of cholera. Their symptoms were puking and purging, with cramp in the stomach, bowels and limbs, cold extremities, with cold perspiration; in some instances, prostration of strength, difficulty of breathing, &c. &c. J. I. TALLMAN, 90 Washington-st.

—

ALBANY, July 17, 1832.

This may certify, that I was attacked with the spasmodic cholera, and applied to Dr. B. P. Staats, who called and gave me opium and calomel, which made me much worse. Doct. Thomson was then sent for; his medicines relieved me almost instantaneously, and I continued comfortable, until Doctor Staats came, and with his own hand put medicine in my mouth, contrary to the positive orders of my wife; and at the same time said Thomson's medicine should never poison him; and said that it was well that he had vomited up some of Thomson's medicine. The medicine which he gave set me into the most violent distress, which continued until I again sent for Doct. Thomson, whose medicine again relieved me the second time. I have now regained my health, and do believe that I owe my life to the use of Thomson's medicine.

I firmly believe, as well as every other person that was present, that if I had taken another of Dr. Staats' pills, it would have terminated my existence.

EZRA WOOSTER.

The above statement in relation to my husband, is substantially correct. ANN WOOSTER.

I hereby certify, that I saw Doct. B. P. Staats give my brother, E. Wooster, one pill with his own hand, which I verily believe caused the great distress which he underwent, and that Dr. Thomson's medicine was the means, through the blessing of God, of saving his life.

DAVID WOOSTER, South Pearl-street.

—

From the Rev. John Wait.

ALBANY, Dec. 3d, 1832.

This may certify, that I have used in a number of cases of cholera, Thomson's cholera medicine, and have known it to have been used in near twenty other cases, all of which

found immediate relief, and were rapidly restored to health. And from what experience I have had with it, and from what knowledge I have derived from others, I believe it one of the most valuable remedies that has ever been discovered or used for said complaint; and as such, with the fullest confidence, I recommend it to the public. For dysentery or common relax, it is, I believe, a sure cure, so far as my knowledge goes. And furthermore it was stated to me by one of the first physicians of this city, who is also a member of the medical staff, that Thomson's medicine was good if used according to his (Thomson's) directions.

JOHN WAIT.

—

SCHENECTADY, Feb. 4, 1833.

This may certify, that during the prevalence of the cholera in this city the past season, I obtained near two hundred bottles of Dr. Thomson's cholera medicine, and it has been used by near one hundred people with complete success; to a great many who were taken with the premonitory symptoms, or relax, the medicine gave immediate relief. I was troubled with the same complaint, also my family, and was relieved several times by the above mentioned medicine. To conclude, I believe it the best medicine for cholera or any kind of bowel complaint or relax that can be used, and as such recommend it to the public.

JEREMIAH REED,
Agent to Rail Road Company.

—

From Elder Jesse Thomson.

This may certify, that I have made a free use of Doct. John Thomson's cholera medicine, both in Ballston, Saratoga Co. N. Y. and at Philadelphia, Penn. in a variety of instances, and consider it a most valuable preparation as a preventive, and combined with other appropriate Thomsonian medicines, a curative for cholera and all other bowel complaints. JESSE THOMSON.

Ballston, Feb. 23, 1833.

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NEW-BELTIMORE, Oct. 26, 1832.

This may certify, that I have used several gallons of Doct. Thomson's cholera medicine: that about thirty persons in my vicinity have taken it, and it has had the most happy effect of any remedy that has ever been used in my vicinity, for cholera or any kind of bowel complaint. I do not know of any person who has used it, that does not highly approve of it. HIRAM SEELY.

☞Abundance of similar testimony might be added to the foregoing, if necessary. JOHN THOMSON.

CERTIFICATES.

The following are the certificates referred to in Messrs. Hammond and Buckman's report. The persons having been examined by Legislative authority, give the certificates greater weight in the public estimation, than they could receive from any other source.

No. 1.

ALBANY, October 28, 1825.

This may certify that I have been afflicted with ulcers in my left side, dispepsia and dropsy, and a complication of distressing complaints too numerous to mention. Four years I had gradually declined, often seeking relief from medical assistants, and as often obliged to hear the painful reiteration that my diseases were incurable. At length my whole system became so disorganised that I could neither eat, drink, sleep, nor enjoy in any degree the comforts of this life. Having, therefore, given up all hopes of recovery, and daily expecting to bid adieu to all the earth holds dear, Dr. John Thomson came to this city, and having had some previous knowledge of his botanical profession, to him I made speedy application, hoping that he might produce something that would give a temporary relief. Accordingly, on the 20th day of October, he commenced his attendance, and in the short space of ten days I was reduced, in size, ten inches, could lie down on my left side and rest quietly, which I had not been able to do in two years before. I have continued to improve in health ever since, so far that I enjoy my food and repose in a very good degree, believing the dropsy to be totally eradicated, dyspepsia cured, the ulcers healed, and the cause principally removed. It is true that I am not as strong, and cannot endure fatigue or hardship as I could before I was sick, but whenever I take cold, or from any other cause begin to feel any pain or disquietude in my side or stomach, the medicine which I have heretofore made use of is sure to prove efficacious. I therefore feel a disposition to recommend Dr. Thomson's medicine and practice to all, believing it from my own experience, to be good and salutary in removing all kinds of diseases with which the human family is afflicted. SARAH SCOVEL,

No. 126 State-street.

The above statement, in regard to my wife's case, is correct. JONAH SCOVEL.

No. 2.

ALBANY, March 17, 1829.

This may certify, that I was attacked with bleeding at the

ungs, and a cough, in October, 1826, both of which continued until the present winter, when my system was so generally debilitated that I was unable to do any kind of labor.—The least trifling exercise would start my lungs a bleeding, insomuch that I have frequently spit a pint of blood before it could be stopped. At this crisis I had no earthly prospect but that I must share the fate of my father, mother, two brothers, and one sister, who had fallen victims to the same complaint, which terminated in a consumption. Through the medium of one of our public journals, I heard of Thomson and Coffin, botanic physicians, of Albany, to whom I made immediate application, and commenced taking their medicines the 17th February, and at this date (17th March,) I consider myself a well man. My lungs, to all appearance, are as strong as they ever were, and what appears to me more astonishing is, that this complaint, under which I have been laboring for 32 months, and which was considered by the doctors and my friends incurable, should be removed in the short space of less than 20 days, and leave me in the quiet enjoyment of perfect health. Reference to John B. Van Benthuysen, 25 Division-street, Albany, with whom I boarded.

JOHN COCHRAN.

Note—In about eighteen months after said Cochran was cured, he, by over exertion in the harvest field, as I am informed, received an injury which produced a severe cough, which put a period to his life in a month or two. J. T.

The truth of the following certificate has been called in question many times. It was written by Judge Dimmick, from the verbal testimony of Mr. Gladding. Judge D. was a member of the committee appointed by the Assembly of 1828, to examine my practice; therefore, we cannot call in question the correctness of the certificate, unless we accuse Judge D. of corruption in his legislative capacity.

JOHN THOMSON.

☞ One hundred dollars reward is offered to any person who will prove the following certificate incorrect. J. T.

No. 3.

ALBANY, March 12, 1828.

This may certify that I was three years ago taken with a severe pain in my stomach and throwing up my food, and general derangement of the organic system. I employed many doctors, among whom were Doctors Fay, Danforth, Edson, Phelps, Craig, Dubois, Burnham and Paige, all in the state of Vermont, where I then resided. They attended me

through the summer and winter, in all about one year. I was then reduced so much that I could not set up but a few minutes at a time, and given over to die by them all, excepting Dr. Dubois; but his medicine did me no good. My brother, in this city, heard of my situation, and came for me, that I might be placed under the care of the most distinguished doctor of this city. I was so weak and reduced, that I was brought all the way in my brother's arms. Doct. McN. attended me about five weeks. He said my whole system was disordered and that there was no action in my stomach and bowels, and that my liver was very much decayed. At the expiration of that time he told me I never should get well—accordingly left me to die. I was so much reduced, that my *back bone** was plainly and distinctly felt by placing a hand on my bowels. I, by accident, heard of Dr. Thomson, as having effected great cures, and was anxious to have him called in; with much reluctance on the part of my brother, he was called in accordingly, and administered to me. And such was the effect of his medicine, which I declare in the most unequivocal terms, that in five, and certainly not to exceed ten minutes, I felt quite comfortable and easy. I continued its use, and in one week's time I walked out without help, which I had not before done in six months. In six weeks I walked about a mile: and in three months I enjoyed better health than I had done in three years. Dr. McN. then declared that Dr. Thomson had done more than he could do, and that no apothecary medicine could have any good effect upon me. I am now in good health, and am ready to state the above facts under any circumstances.

STEPHEN GLADDING.

We certify that we are well acquainted with the above facts, set forth by our brother, Stephen Gladding, and that they are true.

H. HULET,
MARIA HULET,
No. 50 Liberty-st.

The truth of the above certificate may also be ascertained by calling upon William Gladding, No. 12 Beaver-street, a brother with whom Stephen boarded when sick.

ALBANY, September 1st, 1825.

This may certify that I have been complaining with the gravel for nearly six years, and I was in very great distress for the principal part of that time. In addition to this dis-

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*This circumstance, of being able to feel the back bone through the bowels, has been very much doubted, but it can be proved by several of his brothers and sisters, residing in this city. J. T.

tressing complaint, I had the liver complaint and dyspepsia very bad.

The first mentioned disease continued to grow worse (notwithstanding I had the attendance, at intervals, of eleven regular physicians, who were eminent in their profession) insomuch that I was confined to my bed nineteen months, and for seven months was obliged to submit to the most painful instrumental operations. The distress I underwent at times is more easily imagined than described. My limbs were so contracted from the tortures of my complaints, that I had not walked a step in nine months; and as I was placed in bed, so I had to remain until I was removed by my attendants, (being perfectly helpless) from one side to the other. I had entirely lost the use of my system below the pit of the stomach—my head and hands I could use. My physicians had given me over to die, and indeed it was the general opinion that I could not live long, when I heard of Dr. Thomson, and at the request of my friends he came to see me, and administered his medicine; since which I have undergone but one instrumental operation. I continued to improve in health so much, that when Dr. Thomson discontinued his attendance, I was able to earn my living by my own industry, and capable of going about town, which I altogether ascribe to the beneficial effects of his useful medicine.

LAURA CROSS.

The truth of the certificate given by Miss Cross, may be confirmed by calling on Deacon John Boardman, No. 93 State-street, N. Rice, corner of Montgomery and Quackenbush-street, or, H. Meacham, Esq. North Pearl-street, who are members of the same church with Miss Cross.

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ALBANY, June 13, 1831.

We the subscribers, being patients at the house of Dr. Thomson, having seen the certificates said to have been given by Stephen Gladding and Laura Cross, setting forth that extraordinary cures had been performed upon them by Dr. Thomson, and as we have heard much doubt expressed in relation to there being such persons, or that such cures were ever performed, made us solicitous to see them, if possible — Accordingly, Mr. Gladding and Miss Cross have called upon us this day, at the request of Dr. Thomson, and personally confirmed their respective certificates, which were read to them in presence of us, and to our entire satisfaction.

RODNEY BUEL, Easton, Wash. co.
ALANSON FRAZER, Alexander, Gen. co.
ASA BURROWS, Moreau, Saratoga co.
EVERETT HAM, Pine Plains, Dutchess co.

ELIZA WHITE, Southampton, Suffolk co.
ELIZA BAIRD, Charleston, Montgomery co.
MARGARET HAM, Pine Plains, Dutchess.

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No. 5.

ALBANY, November 4, 1825.

This may certify, that one of our children was taken sick, and we employed one of the first physicians in this city; but notwithstanding his unwearied exertions to relieve the child, it died in one week after. The second was taken ill. Its complaint seemed to baffle the skill of the physician—it lingered some time and died likewise. The third, and last, being taken more violently than either of the former, we thought best to try some other remedies. We accordingly sent for Dr. Thomson, who came and relieved the child immediately, which was more than we expected, or could expect from the violence of the disease, and the effect of the apothecary's remedies had on our other children. The child has had several serious attacks of disease since, which Dr. Thomson's medicine has proved equally efficacious in removing. Accordingly, we think the system superior to all others which we have had recourse to, and as such lend our names to vindicate its utility.

NATH'L WHITE,
ELIZABETH WHTE,
No. 16. Hamilton-street.

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No. 6.

This may certify that my health had been very poor for about six years prior to May last. In the spring of 1826, I had a severe attack of the influenza, which left me with a distressing pain in my breast, the severity of which was such, at times, as to prevent me from laboring for several months together, at last I was attacked with a severe cough, which reduced my strength and flesh so much that I was induced to try Dr. Thomson's medicine, which I commenced to take on the 12th of May last, and in one week I was as clear of the cough and pain as ever I was in my life, nor have I experienced any symptoms of said complaints returning, and at this date consider my health better than it has been before for more than six years. The numerous remedies which I had applied, together with the advice and attendance of several physicians had no good effect upon me.

DANIEL B. WALLS.

Albany, Dec. 28, 1829 No. 59, Church-st.

No. 7.

ALBANY, November 17, 1825.

This may certify that my little daughter received an injury in her back when two years of age; and notwithstanding she was attended by two of our most skilful physicians, she continued to grow worse. She lost the use of her limbs, her health was very bad, her pain and distress were so great as almost to deprive her of any rest. In this situation, they pronounced her incurable. We then applied to Dr. Thomson; he attended, and in one month's time, her pain was entirely removed, and her health was completely restored.

I likewise became possessed of a family right, and have administered the Medicines on various occasions, and have invariably found them to have the desired effect. I am much pleased with the system of practice and can cheerfully recommend them to my fellow-citizens, as being the most safe and salutary remedies I have ever applied, and in vindication of which I hereby place my signature.

ALEX'R. McHARG.
No. 479 South Market-street.

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No. 12.

ALBANY, Dec. 19th, 1825.

This may certify that my wife had been troubled with a pain in her left breast for four years. During that time she had the attendance of three of our city physicians to no advantage. She at last gave up all hopes of recovery from their prescriptions. Soon after this Dr. Thomson came to this city; she applied to him, and his medicine had so good an effect that the pain was removed in a very short time.—She now enjoys her health better than she has for five years. The medicine having had so beneficial an effect on her, I was induced to purchase a family right. From what I have seen of the effects of the medicine, in various cases, I am led to believe it the best that can be used in a family. What renders the medicines more safe in the hands of the people at large is, that all deleterious vegetables and minerals are excluded from it.

NOAH LOUGEE,
No. 46 State-street.

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No. 13.

ALBANY, Oct. 25, 1825.

This may certify that I had been afflicted with the liver complaint and consumption, and was attended by two of the first physicians in this city, the most eminent of whom, told me, that if the calomel which he was then given did not benefit me, I could not live over the month of March. This

was in December, 1824. I continued to grow so much worse, that I was confined the greater part of the time to my bed for two months; and it was the general opinion, that I was in a deep consumption, and that I could not continue but a short time. About this time Dr. Thomson was recommended to me, and was employed. The medicine which he administered gave me immediate relief, and I have enjoyed good health for the last six months.

The above is a correct statement as far as my recollection serves me.

ELIZABETH RUSSEL,
No. 133 Washington-st.

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No. 15.

ALBANY, Oct. 24, 1825.

This may certify, that my daughter took a violent cold in March, 1824, which had such an effect on her as to to produce a high degree of derangement. She was in a distressed situation for seven months, during which time we had the advice and attendance of two of the first physicians in this city, but to no advantage. I began to despair of her ever being any better. It was the public opinion that she soon would have the consumption. At this time Dr. Thomson was recommended as having relieved some who had been in a similar situation. I accordingly sent for him, and in twelve days he relieved her entirely, and I feel perfectly safe in recommending his system of practice to all, who may be thus afflicted. Various other violent attacks of disease with which she has been afflicted, have been immediately removed by this invaluable system of practice.

LUCY HANNA,
No. 5 Montgomery-street.

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No. 21.

ALBANY, Nov. 1st, 1825.

This may certify that I had been complaining with the dyspepsia for three years, and had the attendance and prescriptions of various physicians, but to no effect. I at last applied to Dr. Thomson, from whom I have received more relief than from any other source, and think I should recommend his medicine to my afflicted friends, who may be so unfortunate as to be afflicted with this distressing complaint.

CAROLINE ALLEN,
No. 601 South Market-street.

The above is a daughter of mine, and the account given by her, I believe to be correct.

HORACE ALLEN.

NEW CERTIFICATES.

Copy of a certificate from Col. S. T. SMITH,
Dated Albany Jan. 23rd, 1831.

I have been seriously afflicted with the *inflammatory rheumatism* for eighteen months past, and part of the time perfectly helpless. I have had the attendance of several Doctors, who have attended me for several months together without receiving the least benefit. I at last by accident heard of Dr. Thomson of Albany, as having performed cures upon persons who were afflicted with this calamity; to Albany I repaired, and have now been under his care six days, or from the 18th inst. and at this time I feel myself well, or better than I have felt before, since I was first taken. And can say that I feel well rewarded for the trouble I have taken to come to Albany, it being from Candor, Tioga county, N. Y. a distance of 255 miles.

STEPHEN T. SMITH.

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ALBANY, March 10th, 1831.

On the 4th day of July 1829, I was violently attacked with the *billious cholic*, which continued for several hours before I found any relief, and either the disease or the medicine, or both, had so bad an effect upon me that I have not been able to do any kind of labor of consequence since. The worst part of my difficulty was, that when I attempted to eat any hearty food I was thrown into spasms and have continued to have violent fits at intervals since. Ever since I was taken with the cholic, eating, or deviating a little from my regular course of diet or exercise, would bring on the fits which would cause a determination of blood to the head and chest, and at the same time my feet and hands would be cold in consequence of the stagnation of the blood. I continued to grow worse, and at last heard of Dr. Thomson of Albany, to whom I made application, (a distance of 46 miles) on the 26th of February, and at this date (March 10,) consider myself a well man. My strength is not entirely restored, but is fast improving. I return home to-morrow.

SAMUEL H. ATWOOD,
Of Salem, Washington co.

—

ALBANY, May 9th 1831.

In the year 1817, I was taken with violent fits, attended with great distress in the head and stomach, together with a cough, raising blood, agues, &c which lasted me until the present season. I applied to seven of the first physicians in Washington county, where I reside, who attended me separately for a great length of time to no advantage. My fath-

er at last applied to the County Medical Society while it was in session, in order to obtain the best medical advice possible, and the treatment of my first physicians was confirmed by the society. I was at last given up as incurable. In the month of March last, my brother, who had been also afflicted for twenty months, and was unable to labor during his sickness, and had been abandoned as incurable, came to Albany, and was restored to health in 12 days by Dr. Thomson, so that he could labor, which induced me to repair to Albany and commence taking medicine of Dr. T. on the 4th of this month and at this date I feel better in every respect than I have done before in fourteen years, or as well as I recollect to have felt in my life. I think I can with confidence say that I once more enjoy the blessings of health.

ABIATHER ATWOOD,
Of Salem, Washington co.

ALBANY, May 21st, 1831.

My son John Cathcart has been of a weakly constitution for a number of years; he has had violent attacks of the inflammatory rheumatism for the last fifteen years, but found no relief from the various remedies which have been applied by the physicians. In November last he was with me in Albany, when he had another attack, and he was so bad that he could not help himself for a number of days, he lost the use of his limbs entirely. I at last called on Dr. Thomson, he came to see my son, and concluded to take him to his house; he was so feeble that he was taken from my vessel by a cartman in his arms who set him upon a chair, and in the same manner was taken from the cart. Dr. Thomson made a cure upon him in three days, and at this date, he is better in health than he has been before in seventeen years; or enjoys perfect health.

ZIMRI CATHCART,
Sloop Betsy, of Nantucket.

ALBANY, June 27th, 1831.

This may certify, that I was taken with a cough and raising of blood in 1829, my complaints were consumptive, and it was the general opinion that I must run down and die with that complaint. The physician whom I employed could afford me no relief. In this feeble state I was induced to go to Albany to see Doctor Thomson, where I staid thirteen days, and was placed in a better state of health than I have enjoyed in near two years, my cough and raising blood are entirely cured and am now able to attend to my daily avocations on my farm.

JOHN ALTHOUSE.

MARLBOROUGH, Ulster co. Nov. 13th, 1830.

This may certify that my health has been poor for five years. About two years since, I was attacked with the Typhus fever, which reduced me very low, a cough set in, and to all appearance I had the consumption, which was the opinion of my physician. I continued to decline until September 1829, when I was recommended to apply to Doctor Thomson of Albany; to which place I repaired and was under his care two weeks, when my cough was entirely removed; the pain in my side cured; and at this time enjoy my health better than I have before in five years. I now do my own house work without any inconvenience whatever.

SUSAN VAN VOLKENBURG.

The statement as given by my daughter above is correct.

SUSAN TODD.

ALBANY, March 24th 1831.

In the month of July last, I went down the Delaware river, to Philadelphia, with lumber, and on the 28th of the same month, I injured myself so seriously from the heat of the weather or hard labor, that it nearly cost me my life the same night. I was attacked with a numbness through my whole system, attended with an extreme dryness of the glands, of my tongue and throat, and almost entire prostration of my strength, insomuch, that I have not done any labor since.— The debility of my stomach and bowels was so great, soon after, that the dyspepsia set in, and for three months, I was sorely afflicted with this appendage, which rendered my situation more distressing, in consequence of the extremely sharp acid that was accumulating continually in my stomach, and which was so caustic, as nearly to take the skin from off my throat. The power of vision was also so seriously affected, that for three months I was unable to read.

I had the advice and attendance of three of the first physicians in Delaware county, to no advantage. They told me that medicine would do me no good. I was induced, as the last resort to apply to Dr. Thomson, of Albany, where I repaired on the 16th of this month, and commenced taking his medicine, and at this date, the dyspeptic affections and sourness are entirely removed, the power of vision is again wholly restored, so that I can read as well as ever I could, the numbness has subsided, my appetite is good, and all that appears necessary to make me a well man, is my strength, which is fast improving. IRA PARKS, of Delhi.

TO DYSPEPTICS.

THOMSON'S

CELEBRATED STOMACH RESTORATIVE,

OR

VEGETABLE ANTI-DYSPEPTIC WINE BITTERS

☞So rapid has been the sale of the *Anti-Dyspeptic Bitters*, that 42 barrels have been made during the two past years.

Copy of a certificate from the Rev. JOHN C. GREEN, late pastor of the first Methodist Church.

Dated Albany, May 18, 1831.

I hereby certify, that I have made considerable use of Dr. Thomson's *vegetable Anti-Dyspeptic Wine Bitters.* By actual experiment I can recommend them as a most valuable remedy in the case for which they are designed. I believe them perfectly harmless, and in all ordinary cases of dyspepsia, I have no doubt but they will produce the happiest effect. JOHN C. GREEN.

ALBANY, July 22, 1831.

I have been troubled with a *sour stomach* for upwards of twenty years past, so bad that from tho use of all kinds of high seasoned food I experienced distress. From the variety of remedies which I have used, I have found no relief until last season, I obtained some of Dr. Thomson's *Anti-Dyspetic Wine Bitters*, from the use of which I have obtained more than I have ever before found since I was first taken.

Whenever I wish to *breakfast*, *dine* or *sup*, upon any dish which is *high seasoned* with *spices*, *suets*, &c. by taking half a glass of these Bitters I am sure to escape all distress or trouble. From the use of the Bitters the system experiences a genial warmth and vigor. JUSTUS WRIGHT.

ALBANY, August 18th, 1831.

This may certify, that I was taken with the Dyspepsia about two years since, and that I employed two physicians who attended me at intervals for the principal part of the time. I was at last reduced to such a degree that I could not sit up but very little in the course of the day. I was so low that I could not take nourishment or drink of any kind, but what set me into distress much worse to be borne than the hunger, that was to have been relieved by it.—While in this state, my physician was willing that I should

try other remedies, and in consequence of having seen an advertisement of Thomson's Anti-Dyspetic Wine Bitters, which were for sale in Albany, I was induced to send for a bottle to make the experiment with, as I could not live but a very short time in the state I was in.

After I had taken the bitters about one week, I could eat and drink with much less distress than I had done before in six months, and my flesh and strength increased to such a degree that at this date I have been able to ride 40 miles a day, on my way from Harpersfield, Delaware co. to Albany, and am now quite comfortable.

JULIA HOTCHKISS.

The case of my wife as certified by her above, is correct, and I believe the bitters were the means of saving her life, and nothing less. ROSWELL HOTCHKISS.

—

ALBANY, Nov. 14, 1830.

This is to certify, that I am acquainted with Thomson's *Vegetable Anti-Dyspeptic Wine Bitters*. by my own experience, that their effect on me has been most excellent; that I know one man, who was undoubtedly, and by the confession of a regular Physician, one of seven regular Physicians who had pronounced that he could not possibly live, raised from the brink of the grave by these bitters alone, under the Divine blessing, and that I have never seen any persons that have tried them, who say a word against them, but several, who, after trying them, give them unqualified approbation.

HENRY BALDWIN, jun. Green co.

—

ALBANY, May 4th, 1829.

This certifies that I have made use of Doctor Thomson's *Anti-Dyspeptic Wine Bitters*. for several years past, and have found them superior to all other remedies which I have applied, for removing *Dyspeptic Affections*, and restoring the *stomach* and *bowels* to their natural tone and action. For particulars respecting their effect on the system, see the directions on the bottles, which account by experience I know to be correct.

SAMUEL H. DRAKE, American Hotel.

—

ALBANY, Nov. 8th, 1830.

This may certify that I had been afflicted for about seventeen years with the *Dyspepsia or Indigestion*, and have been under the necessity of dieting for most part of the time until this summer. I obtained in September last, a bot-

NEW CERTIFICATES.

Copy of a certificate from Col. S. T. SMITH,
Dated Albany Jan. 23rd, 1831.

I have been seriously afflicted with the *inflammatory rheumatism* for eighteen months past, and part of the time perfectly helpless. I have had the attendance of several Doctors, who have attended me for several months together without receiving the least benefit. I at last by accident heard of Dr. Thomson of Albany, as having performed cures upon persons who were afflicted with this calamity; to Albany I repaired, and have now been under his care six days, or from the 18th inst. and at this time I feel myself well, or better than I have felt before, since I was first taken. And can say that I feel well rewarded for the trouble I have taken to come to Albany, it being from Candor, Tioga county, N. Y. a distance of 255 miles.

STEPHEN T. SMITH.

ALBANY, March 10th, 1831.

On the 4th day of July 1829, I was violently attacked with the *billious cholic*, which continued for several hours before I found any relief, and either the disease or the medicine, or both, had so bad an effect upon me that I have not been able to do any kind of labor of consequence since. The worst part of my difficulty was, that when I attempted to eat any hearty food I was thrown into spasms and have continued to have violent fits at intervals since. Ever since I was taken with the cholic, eating, or deviating a little from my regular course of diet or exercise, would bring on the fits which would cause a determination of blood to the head and chest, and at the same time my feet and hands would be cold in consequence of the stagnation of the blood. I continued to grow worse, and at last heard of Dr. Thomson of Albany, to whom I made application, (a distance of 46 miles) on the 26th of February, and at this date (March 10,) consider myself a well man. My strength is not entirely restored, but is fast improving. I return home to-morrow.

SAMUEL H. ATWOOD,
Of Salem, Washington co.

ALBANY, May 9th 1831.

In the year 1817, I was taken with violent fits, attended with great distress in the head and stomach, together with a cough, raising blood, agues, &c. which lasted me until the present season. I applied to seven of the first physicians in Washington county, where I reside, who attended me sep-

arately for a great length of time to no advantage. My father at last applied to the County Medical Society while it was in session, in order to obtain the best medical advice possible, and the treatment of my first physicians was confirmed by the society. I was at last given up as incurable. In the month of March last, my brother, who had been also afflicted for twenty months, and was unable to labor during his sickness, and had been abandoned as incurable, came to Albany, and was restored to health in 12 days by Dr. Thomson, so that he could labor, which induced me to repair to Albany and commence taking medicine of Dr. T. on the 4th of this month and at this date I feel better in every respect than I have done before in fourteen years, or as well as I recollect to have felt in my life. I think I can with confidence say that I once more enjoy the blessings of health.

ABIATHER ATWOOD,
Of Salem, Washington co.

ALBANY, May 21st, 1831.

My son John Cathcart has been of a weakly constitution for a number of years; he has had violent attacks of the inflammatory rheumatism for the last fifteen years, but found no relief from the various remedies which have been applied by the physicians. In November last he was with me in Albany, when he had another attack, and he was so bad that he could not help himself for a number of days, he had lost the use of his limbs entirely. I at last called on Dr. Thomson, he came to see my son, and concluded to take him to his house; he was so feeble that he was taken from my vessel by a cartman in his arms who set him upon a chair, and in the same manner was taken from the cart. Dr. Thomson made a cure upon him in three days, and at this date, he is better in health than he has been before in seventeen years; or enjoys perfect health.

ZIMRI CATHCART,
Sloop Betsy, of Nantucket.

ALBANY, June 27th, 1831.

This may certify, that I was taken with a cough and raising of blood in 1829, my complaints were consumptive, and it was the general opinion that I must run down and die with that complaint. The physician whom I employed could afford me no relief. In this feeble state I was induced to go to Albany to see Doctor Thomson, where I staid thirteen days, and was placed in a better state of health than I have enjoyed in near two years, my cough and raising blood are entirely cured and am now able to attend to my daily avocations on my farm.

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SUSAN VAN VOLKENBURG.

The statement as given by my daughter above is correct.

SUSAN TODD.

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In the month of July last, I went down the Delaware river, to Philadelphia, with lumber, and on the 28th of the same month, I injured myself so seriously from the heat of the weather or hard labor, that it nearly cost me my life the same night. I was attacked with a numbness through my whole system, attended with an extreme dryness of the glands, of my tongue and throat, and almost entire prostration of my strength, insomuch, that I have not done any labor since.—The debility of my stomach and bowels was so great, soon after, that the dyspepsia set in, and for three months, I was sorely afflicted with this appendage, which rendered my situation more distressing, in consequence of the extremely sharp acid that was accumulating continually in my stomach, and which was so caustic, as nearly to take the skin from off my throat. The power of vision was also so seriously affected, that for three months I was unable to read.

I had the advice and attendance of three of the first physicians in Delaware county, to no advantage. They told me that medicine would do me no good. I was induced, as the last resort to apply to Dr. Thomson, of Albany, where I repaired on the 16th of this month, and commenced taking his medicine, and at this date, the dyspeptic affections and sourness are entirely removed, the power of vision is again wholly restored, so that I can read as well as ever I could, the numbness has subsided, my appetite is good, and all that appears necessary to make me a well man, is my strength, which is fast improving. IRA PARKS, of Delhi.

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Whenever I wish to *breakfast*, *dine* or *sup*, upon any dish which is *high seasoned* with *spices*, *suets*, &c. by taking half a glass of these Bitters I am sure to escape all distress or trouble. From the use of the Bitters the system experiences a genial warmth and vigor. JUSTUS WRIGHT.

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which were for sale in Albany, I was induced to send for a bottle to make the experiment with, as I could not live but a very short time in the state I was in.

After I had taken the bitters about one week, I could eat and drink with much less distress than I had done before in six months, and my flesh and strength increased to such a degree that at this date I have been able to ride 40 miles a day, on my way from Harpersfield, Delaware co. to Albany, and am now quite comfortable.

Albany, August 1831. JULIA HOTCHKISS.

The case of my wife as certified by her above, is correct, and I believe the bitters were the onl means of saving her life. ROSWELL HOTCHKISS.

—

ALBANY, Nov. 14, 1830.

This is to certify, that I am acquainted with Thomson's *Vegetable Anti-Dyspeptic Wine Bitters*. by my own experience; that their effect on me has been most excellent; that I know one man, who was undoubtedly, and by the confession of a regular Physician, one of seven regular Physicians who had pronounced that he could not possibly live, raised from the brink of the grave by these bitters alone, under the Divine blessing, and that I have never seen any persons that have tried them, who say a word against them; but several, who, after trying them, give them unqualified approbation. HENRY BALDWIN, jun. Green co.

—

ALBANY, May 4th, 1829.

This certifies that I have made use of Doctor Thomson's *Anti-Dyspeptic Wine Bitters*. for several years past, and have found them superior to all other remedies which I have applied for removing *Dyspeptic Affections*, and restoring the *stomach* and *bowels* to their natural tone and action. For particulars respecting their effect on the system, see the directions on the bottles, which account of the effect by experience I know to be correct.

SAMUEL H. DRAKE, American Hotel.

—

ALBANY, Nov. 8th, 1830.

This may certify that I had been afflicted for about seventeen years with the *Dyspepsia or Indigestion*, and have been under the necessity of dieting for most part of the time until this summer. I obtained in September last, a bottle of *Anti-Dyspeptic Bitters* from Doctor Thomson, which restored me to a better state of health than I have enjoyed before since 1813. Since I took the bitters I find no inconvenience from my food, and they have had decidedly the best

operation on me of any remedy which I have ever used.

A. S. GROAT, Steam-Boat Agent.

Before I took the bitters I was frequently so weak as to be under the necessity of laying down two or three times a day. At this time my strength is restored so much, that I am not subject to the inconveniences of laying down in business hours. A. S. GROAT.

—

ALBANY, May 14th, 1831.

This may certify, that I have been afflicted with the *chronic rheumatism* in my back for several years past, and have employed several physicians in Rensselaer county, where I reside, to no advantage, and for three summers past I have been so seriously afflicted with *indigestion* and a *looseness* of the *bowels* or relax, as to be unable to do any labor of consequence. I at last applied to Dr. J. Thomson of Albany, who gave me a bottle of his *Anti-Dyspeptic Wine Bitters*, and two phials of his *rhematic linament*. The bitters completely restored my digestive organs and bowels in about two weeks to their natural tone and action, and the linament by the time it was used up according to Dr. T's directions, I was better of the rheumatism than I had been before in six years, and am able to labor once more. The whole expense of the medicine did not cost me over $2,50.

ZEBULON SHERMAN, of Nassau.

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This may certify, that my wife was six years ago attacked seriously with the inflammatory rheumatism, she employed several physicians whose remedies had no effect towards removing the complaint; we at last applied to Dr. Thomson who furnished her some of his Anti-Dyspeptic Wine Bitters and a few phials of rheumatic linament, which relieved her entirely in a few days. She has been subject to the attacks since, and the same remedies have ever been successful in removing the same. HARVEY PARSONS,

Alany, June 1831. No. 204 North Market-street.

—

This may certify, that I was taken with a pain in my breast, and a bad cough in the fall of 1828, the cough continued to grow worse, notwithstanding I had the attendance of two as good physicians as we had in the town where I resided, (Sand-Lake) and for four months I was unable to do any kind of labor, and I was confined to the house for some length of time. My distress was so great as to deprive me of my rest for the greatest part of the time. In the summer of 1829, I called upon Dr. Thomson of Albany, who gave me two bottles of his Anti-Dyspeptic Wine Bitters, and two boxes of

emetic pills, together with a phial of cough drops, which restored me to good health in about four weeks.

WILLIAM RING,
Albany, July 1831. Grandson of John C. Near.

—

This may certify that I have been of a feeble constitution from my infancy, and for the last fifteen years have been seriously afflicted with a cough, and pain in the breast, attended with swelling of the feet and legs; in addition to the above complaints I was seriously afflicted with the dyspepsia for about ten years, and for four years past, I have not been able to do any kind of labor. I have had the attendance and counsel of a number of the first Doctors in the section of the country where I reside, to no advantage.

In June 1829, I made application to Dr. Thomson, of Albany, and commenced taking his medicines, and continued the use of them at intervals, for three months, when I was restored to a better state of health than I had enjoyed for many years before; the cough, pain in the breast, dyspeptic affections, and swelling of the limbs, are all removed, and I once more enjoy health.

HENRY W. PECKHAM,
Albany May 1831. Kinderhook Village, (Col. co.)

—

The following certificate is from Dr. Wells a regular physician, and a member of the Society of Shakers.

This may certify, that I have made use of Dr. Thomson's Wine Bitters in my practice in the United Society of Shakers, in Watervliet, Albany co. N. Y. for about eighteen months past, and do believe them to be the greatest corrector of the stomach and bowels which I have ever applied.

I can recommend them in all cases of dyspeptic affections, as being the best tonic which I have used, in the course of my practice, for seven years past.

Albany, Oct. 1830. LUTHER WELLS.

THE OPINIONS OF THE HONORABLE THE COMMITTEES OF THE LEGISLATURE UPON THE AUTHOR'S PRACTICE IN ALBANY.

We pretend to no knowledge of the virtues of this much talked of system of medicine. The opinions of Messrs. Dimmick, Edgerton and Metcalf, are very favora-

ble, and the high respectability of their characters entitles them to an attentive perusal.—*Daily Advertiser.*

ALBANY, April 20, 1828.

DOCT. JOHN THOMSON,

SIR—In answer to your request as to my opinion upon the merits of your system of practice, I cheerfully say, that I believe it will eventually take the preference of all other systems of medical practice. My prejudices, habits, and education, all were opposed to your system; but after the careful and laborious examination I have given it, I am satisfied that you will succeed, and in the Judgment of the candid and liberal part of the community, share their protection and confidence. I hope you may continue to do well, and persevere in your efforts to benefit the human family, and to add to the stock of *practical* knowledge, that the reward of honest industry may await you.

I am very respectfully yours,
BELA EDGERTON.
Member of Assembly, and Chairman.

Albany, April 11th, 1828.

I certify that I was a member of the committee of the Assembly, to whom was referred sundry petitions, praying for the repeal of certain provisions of the Revised Statutes, regulating the practice of physic and surgery, so as to allow of what is called the Thomsonian practice. And that it appears by the petitions and other papers presented and referred to the committee, as well as from the testimony of several persons, residents of the city of Albany, who attended the committee personally, that the practice of Doctor Thomson had in many instances proved highly beneficial; and there was no evidence submitted to the committee to show that his practice had proved deleterious in any case. A. METCALF.

SIR—In compliance with your request, and with a wish to do justice to the public in relation to the effects of what is called the "Thomsonian system of practice" on the community, I feel myself justified in saying that having been one of the committee of five, appointed by the Assembly of the State of New York, to inquire into and report to that house on the subject, I have made particular examination so far as I could find time and opportunity, during three or four weeks in the city of Albany. But my enquiries have not only extended to the examination of various individuals, from different parts of this state

where that system is in use, but I have also examined about twenty-five families,or the heads thereof, in the city of Albany, where considerable use seems to have been made of this method of curing diseases. I am sensible, that from education, from habits of thinking, and from my intimate connexion with regular physicians, I approached that examination with strong prejudices against every species of *quackery* and *empiricism.* But of *this species of quackery*, I had no knowledge before I first read Dr. Thomson's certificate of great cures, with all that indifference which men generally do, when they expect imposition or deception is about to be played off upon them. On examination, however, of all, or nearly all the cases certified, as having taken place in the city of Albany, within a few months, in the latter part of the year 1824, and the fore part of the year 1825, I found them fully supported by statements made by the respective families, or heads thereof. I also found many *particulars* of those cases stated, which, in my opinion, add much to the importance and striking features of them, which do not appear in the short statements made of them in these certificates. I also endeavoured to find out, if possible, by inquiry of various individuals, as well of the enemies of the system as of the friends, and those who were indifferent on the subject, what cases, if any existed, of injurious effects arising from its use; and although I found some three or four in which dark surmises and suspicions seemed to have been set afloat in the community, in every case which I was able to trace, I did trace, by examination of the friends of the persons thus supposed to have been injured by, or fallen victims of such practice; and could find no reason to believe or suspect that any injury had been done to the patient, but more or less relief thereby gained. It is also due to Dr. Thomson to say, that in every case wherein suspicions have been indulged, it appeared that the patient had been pronounced by the regular physicians incurable; and that such opinion had been given, in nearly all the cases, amounting to some forty or fifty, of which I heard detailed the particulars; and in some of which, to use the language attributed to the regular physicians, "it was as imposible to restore them to health as it was to create a new world." After such an examination, and maturely reflecting thereon, I think it neither rash nor indiscreet to say, that judging from the effects of his practice in the city of Albany, however much regular physicians may, as I am sure they will, carp at the expression, and speaking after the manner of men, or if you please,

according to human reasoning, it has snatched ten *from* the grave, where it has hastened one *to* it.

What may be its *particular* effects in other parts of the state, or when not administered by Dr. Thomson himself, I am unable to state. The persons thus examined appeared respectable, intelligent, and candid, and generally expressed their great opposition to, and want of confidence in Dr. Thomson's practice, before they had tried it, and were induced to make the trial in consequence of the *desperate* nature of their cases, and with a belief or hope that no injury could be done thereby. With your theory or principles I had little to do; the *effects* of your practice was the principal thing sought for by me, as by your fruits I was resolved to judge you; and however much may be the obloquy which the declaration of a favorable opinion of your practice may call forth from the learned, not only against *quacks*, but the *supporters* of quacks, I freely take upon myself the responsibility of subscribing to the above.

Your obedient servant,

April 1828.] A. DIMMICK, Member of Assembly.

P. S. Most of the individuals thus examined, had family rights, upon which they placed a very high value; and one gentleman whose respectability and candor are very high in public estimation, declared he would not be deprived of the knowledge for 1000 dollars. I also examined two gentlemen from Nantucket, who spoke most distinctly of the respectability and credibility of the persons whose signatures appear attached to Dr. T's certificates of his practice in that place.

JUDGES ELDRIDGE & SOPER'S OPINIONS.

SIR—While we were members of the Legislative body in 1829, numerous petitions were received in favor of the Tomsonian system of the practice of medicine; but from the unfavorable accounts which we had seen in the public prints together with the force of education, we were induced to believe it a system of quackery. Having never seen any patients, who had been attended by Dr. Thompson himself, and being favored with an invitation, we resolved to embrace the opportunity, and accompanied him one afternoon, when we saw and heard detailed accounts of twenty-five or thirty who had been restored to health from the last stages of disease, after apparently all other remedies had failed. If the statements which we heard were facts, which we have no reason to doubt, as the people appear to be respectable and candid, we should think this system bids fair to become of inestimable value to man-

kind; and therefore has our best wishes for its prosperity and success. Respectfully, yours, &c.

J. B. ELDRIDGE,
A. D. SOPER.

April 29, 1829.

To Dr John Thomson, 102 North Pearl-street.

THE CHOLERA REPORT.

During the setting of the legislature last winter, the petition of 125 inhabitants of this city, was handed to Judge Finch and Col. Keeler, of the county of Orange, and Judge Woodworth, of the county of Genesee, all of whom were members of the Assembly, praying that they would act as a disinterested committee to examine the effects of my practice in this city during the prevalence of the cholera in the summer of 1832. They agreeable to request, and as an act courtesy to the petitioners, commenced the investigation.—They visited many families in almost every part of the city, where the disease had been the most fatal, also conversed with several *Regular Physicians*, upon the subject of my practice; *E. C. Delevan, R. H. Walworth* and *J. T. Norton* were consulted, concerning what they knew of the good or bad effects of my practice, as by their reports, many of the people believed that much injury had been done by it.—All the information which they could obtain from either, or all the above named persons, was, that a Mrs. Keys, whose husband resided on the corner of Hudson and Eagle-streets, had died during the cholera, and that she had taken some of our medicine, which Mr. Keys said, he could not tell whether it did his wife any good or not, but that of four physicians that called to see his wife, two said that Thomson's medicine was as good as any thing she could take. After a laborious investigation of several weeks, they came to the conclusion that there had been more of my medicine used during the cholera than any other in the city, and that it had been the most successful. And as near as they could learn, near 6000 bottles of medicine had been disposed of, and they could not find out by his opponents, that but one person had died that had taken it. I offered a reward of $500 per head for proof for each one over three that had died during the cholera, where I or my present student had the first attendance. Judge Woodworth left the city some time before the adjournment, which was the reason why I did not get a report. The correctness of the above may be learned by dropping a line to either of the committee, if the above statements are doubted. JOHN THOMSON.

JOHN THOMSON,

BOTANIC PHYSICIAN,

NO. 67 BEAVER-STREET.

Would most respectfully inform his friends and the public that in consequence of the great number of invalids who apply to him after having been *abandoned* by *regular physicians*, as incurable, he has taken that spacious dwelling No. 67 Beaver street, expressly for their accommodation, where his time is principally occupied in endeavoring to alleviate their sufferings. His course of treatment is confined to *Chronic Complaints* principally, and the success which has attended his practice, has been, to him, of the most gratifying kind. His medicines are selected from the *Vegetable Kingdom*, and he will *warrant* them *destitute of deleterious* or *poisonous properties*. He will also *warrant* that his patients shall receive *no injury*, and that in *one week*, they will know whether they can be benefited by his practice or not, if they come to his house and be directly under his care, as he can do more for them there in one week, than in six weeks any where else, having had his house fitted up expressly for the purpose. The Hon. the Assembly, appointed committees in 1828-29 and 30 to examine his practice, and passed a law in his favor, in April 1830, much to the displeasure of the *regulars*.

☞Those who come from the country, will please remember the number, as serious impositions have been practiced upon enquirers; or the most correct information can be obtained by enquiring for *the Clinton Furnace*, in Beaver-st., which information can be given by almost any person in the city, and the subscribers' residence will be found directly opposite.☜

The subscriber has on hand one of Doctor Brown's first rate improved MEDICAL ELECTRICAL MACHINES for the benefit of such as may wish to apply *electricity* to remove disease or to create an active circulation of the blood. The MEDICATED VAPOUR BATHS furnished to invalids at a moment's warning.

I hereby inform my enemies of the same profession with me, that I do not know of any better system of practice to restore the sick to health, than that laid down by my father, in his book.

A supply of *Anti-Dyspeptic Wine Bitters* constantly on hand; also for sale a variety of vegetable family medicines.

JOHN THOMSON.

N. B. All letters on business, must be post paid.

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