

New York City Board of Health

A HISTORY

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OF THE
Proceedings of the Board of Health,
OF THE CITY OF NEW-YORK,

IN THE

SUMMER AND FALL OF 1822;

TOGETHER WITH,

AN ACCOUNT

OF THE

RISE AND PROGRESS

OF THE

YELLOW FEVER,

WHICH APPEARED DURING THAT SEASON,

AND THE

SEVERAL DOCUMENTS

IN RELATION TO IT,

WHICH WERE LAID BEFORE THE BOARD.

PUBLISHED BY ORDER OF THE BOARD OF HEALTH.

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NEW-YORK;

P. & H. VAN PELT, PRINTERS,

No. 37 NASSAU-STREET.

1823.

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Note to page 123.

Since the address of the eleventh of November was written, it has been ascertained that the United States Brig Enterprise, arrived at the quarantine on the eighth of July, and not on the seventh as stated in the address. It has also been ascertained, that on the fourteenth of June, she had touched at the Havana, and was three days off the Moro Castle.

INTRODUCTION.



FROM the year 1805 to 1819, a period of fourteen years, this city was exempt from the prevalence of Yellow Fever. During this period the progress of improvement, and consequently the increase of population and wealth, were unprecedentedly great.

Previous to 1805, a large portion of the city, now comprising the eighth and tenth wards, was vacant and unproductive, except such parts as were occupied as gardens for the raising of vegetables for the use of the citizens; and there are many houses now standing in the upper parts of the city, that were erected as places of retreat, in the event of pestilence, for the temporary residence of the families of the proprietors. These buildings were then considered as country houses, being in a great measure insulated, and at a distance from the settled parts of the city, but are now in a neighbourhood of dense and compact population.

Why this city should have been exempted from this dreadful calamity for fourteen years in succession, is a question that we shall not attempt to answer; but it has been remarked as a well authenticated fact, (as we believe,) that in no instance has the Yellow Fever prevailed here, except in those years, when it had first made its appearance at some one of the West India Islands, or at some port to the south and west of us.

In the year 1819 the disorder was prevalent in several of the West India Islands, and the fears of the Board of Health began to be excited that year, early in July, by the arrival at quarantine of several vessels that had lost some of their men by Yellow Fever. The French ship *La Fle-*

rentine arrived at the quarantine establishment from Saint Pierres, Martinique, where the Yellow Fever prevailed at the time of her departure, and where she had lost one of her crew. This vessel was put under quarantine for thirty days, and during that time, she underwent all the ordinary purifications, such as white-washing, fumigation, &c. &c. and on the the twenty-fourth day of August, the Health Officer reported her to the Board of Health as clean, safe, and free from infection, who directed her to be anchored in the stream three hundred yards from the wharves of the city. Notwithstanding this vessel had undergone all the usual means for purifying vessels for thirty days, she nevertheless had two of her crew taken down with Yellow Fever on the third or fourth of September, when she was again ordered to quarantine, where she laid a few days and then went to sea; but having met with adverse weather, she returned on the twenty-fifth of September, having lost her captain by Yellow Fever during the time she was out.

The brig Eliza, arrived at the quarantine on the thirteenth of August, in six days from Charleston, with one sick person on board, who died on the day of her arrival. She also performed a quarantine of thirty days, during which time wind-sails were kept in her hatchways, her hold and fore-castle were three times white-washed, her limbers were taken out and cleaned, and she was otherwise purified, when on the sixteenth of September, she was allowed to come to the stream, three hundred yards from the wharves; yet, after all this cleansing, her captain died of Yellow Fever on the sixth of October, and on the seventh, one of her crew sickened with the same disease.

Doctor De Witt, the Health Officer, contracted the disease while in the performance of his duty in examining infected vessels at the quarantine establishment, and died on the eleventh of September, being the fifth person out of seven, who lost their lives while in the performance of the duties of this hazardous office. About this period, the Yellow Fever made its appearance in the city, and several cases occurred in the vicinity of Old-slip, and began to ex-

tend to Pearl, Water and Front-streets. Immediate measures were adopted to clear the sickly district of its inhabitants, and to fence up the avenues which led to the seat of infection. These measures, together with the lateness of the season in which the disorder made its appearance, were the probable cause that fewer cases occurred, than at any former period when the city had been visited by a similar malady. The whole number of cases was supposed to be about one hundred, and the deaths sixty; but there were only sixty-three cases reported to the Board of Health, and forty-three deaths. The last case reported was on the thirteenth of October, and on the nineteenth of that month, the Board of Health invited the citizens who had removed, to return to their homes.

In eighteen hundred and twenty, a disorder of a suspicious character made its appearance in Bancker-street. The first case which occurred was on the twenty-first of August, and was reported to the Board of Health as a case of malignant fever. There were twenty-eight cases during the prevalence of this disease, reported to the Board, all of which were visited by Dr. Hosack, the then Resident Physician, and declared to be Bilious Fever. A large portion of the persons who sickened with this disease were blacks, and it would have been by no means surprising, had the mortality among them been much greater than it was, or that a malignant disease should have visited that part of the city periodically, during the hot months; for the inhabitants of that section of the city, with a few exceptions, are crowded together, often ten or twenty in a single room or cellar, and are at the same time, the most wretched and dissipated persons imaginable.

The Physicians who attended and reported the cases of sickness alluded to, persisted in the opinion that the disease was malignant, if not Yellow Fever, and they published a history of the disorder, with a view of substantiating the doctrine, that the Yellow Fever may originate in this city, particularly in a season of extraordinary heat, and in situations similarly situated to that of Bancker-street.

The difference of opinion among medical men, on the subject of importation, domestic origin, and the contagiousness of the Yellow Fever, has been the cause of serious evils to the city, and has so far prevented the advance of knowledge, as to the true nature and proper treatment of the disease, as to make it appear that the faculty in this city are as deficient in this important particular, as they were twenty years ago.

The fears excited by these reports of the existence of *Malignant or Yellow Fever*, were soon dissipated by the fact, that the fever whatever might have been its type, was confined to Bancker-street and its immediate vicinity, and its attacks were principally on the black population of that part of the city, together with a few white persons of the most abandoned character and dissipated habits.

In the latter part of July eighteen hundred and twenty-one, information was received by the Board of Health, that the Yellow Fever had appeared in Baltimore, and the necessary measures were accordingly adopted by quarantining the vessels from that port, and such other restrictions as were deemed proper, for the purpose of preventing its introduction into this city.

On the third day of September a storm of uncommon violence occurred in this city and its neighbourhood, the rain fell in torrents, which together with the great rise of the tide inundated all the low grounds and cellars on the east and north rivers. Measures were immediately adopted by the Board of Health, to have the water carried off, and the cellars ventilated and cleansed, in order that no injurious effects might be experienced by the inhabitants, or the health of the city impaired by this event. The effects of this storm on the surrounding country were very destructive, both on the land and on the water. At the quarantine establishment (Staten Island) a number of vessels were driven on shore and stranded, and it became necessary to permit some of them to come up to the ship yards in the city, in order that they might repair damages, although their full term of quarantine had not expired.

About this period, several cases of Yellow Fever occurred in the city, and created some alarm in the minds of the inhabitants. On the eighth of September, there were two cases reported to the Board, one at two hundred and seventy-nine Front-street, and one at eighty Wall-street. The first case was that of James Van Allen, second mate of the ship Hebe. This ship had arrived from New-Orleans on the fourth of July, with the loss of three of her passengers by sickness, one on the seventh, and two on the fourteenth of June. Two of them were reported to the Health Officer, as having died of Consumption, and one of Diarrhœa. Mr. Van Allen had entered on board of this vessel two or three weeks before he sickened. He had been for several days engaged in the hold of the ship, stowing her cargo, and was so engaged until the third of September, the day on which he was taken ill. The second case was Seth Wait, who arrived in the Lucy Ann, from Havanna, on the twentieth of August. The vessel was put under quarantine for thirty days, but owing to the damage she had received in the late gale, she was permitted to come up to the city to repair, and arrived at the Ship Yards, near Corlear's Hook, on the seventh of September. Wait complained of being sick while the vessel was coming up, and on her arrival, took board at eighty Wall-street. Both of these persons were sent to the Marine Hospital, where they died.

Two more cases of Yellow Fever were reported to the Board of Health on the twenty-seventh of September; the first, Thomas C. Hawley residing at fifty-eight Oak-street, but doing business at eleven, west side of James-slip; and the second, David Collis, residing at thirty-six Bancker-street, but worked as a blacksmith, at two hundred and thirteen Water-street, adjoining in the rear, the place where Hawley did business. They both died on the fourth or fifth day of their illness.

Shortly after the gale which was the cause of so much damage to the vessels at quarantine, accounts were received from the Health Officer, that several cases of Yellow Fe-

ver had occurred among the men employed in and about the stranded vessels; two or three persons sickened on board of the *Lucy Ann* after her return to the quarantine ground, and subsequently several others who were at work in repairing the public dock. A number of the inhabitants of the vicinity were also attacked with the disorder, although they resided several hundred yards from any of the stranded vessels. The Rev. Mr. Hardenburgh, who was on a visit to the Island, contracted the disease, of which he sickened and died at the village of Greenwich, the place of his residence. The disorder continued its ravages on the Island, among those who were exposed to the infection, until the middle of October, when it ceased, the number of persons who took the disease was about forty, of whom twenty died.

On the eighth of October, there was a case of Yellow Fever reported to the Board of Health, at sixty-eight Eldridge-street, this was Henry S. W. Lee, a clerk in the store forty-eight Water-street, he died on the same day he was reported, There were also several suspicious cases that occurred in Stone-street, but the Resident Physician declared them the ordinary Bilious Fever of the climate, although several Physicians persisted in the opinion, that they were cases of Yellow Fever.

We have thus far endeavoured to give a brief account of the occurrences of each year since eighteen hundred and five, in which indications of the Yellow Fever were perceptible, and shall now proceed to give a detailed account of the proceedings of the Board of Health, both previous and subsequent to the appearance of the epidemic which prevailed in eighteen hundred and twenty-two.

STEPHEN ALLEN,
 RICHARD RIKER,
 GEORGE ZABRISKIE,
 JACOB B. TAYLOR,
 HENRY I. WYCKOFF.]

*Committee of the
 Board of Health.*

History of the proceedings of the Board of Health of the City of New-York, during the Summer and Fall of 1822.

THE Board of Health commenced their session for eighteen hundred and twenty-two, on the tenth day of June, when the following persons were chosen officers for the ensuing year, viz.

STEPHEN ALLEN, *President*,
WILLIAM PAULDING, jr. *Treasurer*,
JACOB MORTON, *Secretary*.

The members composing the Board, agreeably to an ordinance of the Common Council who possess the authority to appoint were as follows :

STEPHEN ALLEN, *Mayor*.
RICHARD RIKER, *Recorder*.
HENRY I. WYCKOFF, *Alderman*.
ELAM WILLIAMS, *do.*
JAMES FAIRLIE, *do.*
WILLIAM PAULDING, jr. *do.*
ROBERT MC QUEEN, *do.*
ASA MANN, *do.*
GERARD DEPEYSTER, *do.*
JACOB B. TAYLOR, *do.*
HENRY MEAD, *do.*
NICHOLAS I. QUACKENBOS, *Resident Phisician*.
JACOB DYCKMAN, *Health Commissioner*.
JOSEHH BAYLEY, *Health Officer*.

The following address prepared for the purpose, was presented to the Board, and directed to be published.

Address of the Board of Health of the City of New-York, to their fellow citizens.

The Board of Health beg leave to call the attention of their fellow citizens, to the means provided by law, for

guarding against the introduction and spread of infectious and pestilential diseases in this city. These means have been amply tested by the occurrences of the last year, and although the observance of them, is attended with much inconvenience to the pursuits of mercantile men, it must nevertheless be admitted, that a strict and persevering adherence to our system of quarantine, under the blessing of divine providence, has not only preserved our citizens from disease and death, and the awful consequences of pestilence stalking abroad, but has established this important fact, that nothing short of an exclusion from the city of all vessels coming from unhealthy ports, will preserve to us the blessings of health and the means of enjoying it.

It is of the utmost importance also, that local causes of disease, wherever they may exist, should be promptly removed. Cleanliness, both in the persons and dwellings of our citizens, is essential to the preservation of health; and the Board, therefore, earnestly call upon them, as they value this inestimable blessing, to observe and practice a requisite so necessary; and if any thing calculated to contaminate the atmosphere, or offend the senses, shall exist in their neighbourhood, that immediate information may be given to the proper authorities, in order to its prompt removal.

The various duties of the Board of Health are arduous and important, but they will not shrink from the performance of them; and they sincerely hope, that their fellow citizens will not only submit with cheerfulness to the several requirements of the law, but that they will assist with zeal and perseverance, in enforcing the observance of its provisions, upon all who shall attempt to disobey or evade them.

The several laws and regulations, enacted by the competent authority, for the security of the public health, constitute a code of external and internal measures, well calculated to guard against foreign and domestic causes of disease, and are comprised in the following brief summary.

[Here followed a summary of the provisions of the Health Law, and the Law for the correction of nuisances, which it is unnecessary here to detail.]

The foregoing is the substance of the Laws enacted by the State and City authorities on this important subject, and from long and practical experience, the Board are decidedly of the opinion, that a due observance of their provisions, will be the means, under the protection of Almighty God, to avert from our beloved city the dreadful scourge of malignant and pestilential disease, and they are therefore determined to enforce their observance upon all offenders, with the utmost firmness and rigour. But the Board are at the same time perfectly sensible, that the strict observance of Laws, be they ever so salutary, must in a great measure depend on the good sense of the community for their ultimate effect, and they must therefore rely (and they do it with confidence) upon the co-operation of their fellow-citizens, whom they earnestly request, whenever any violation shall come to their knowledge, to lodge the necessary information with the Board of Health, or the Health Commissioners, at their office City Hall, where constant attendance will be given at the usual hours, for that purpose.

By order of the Board of Health.

STEPHEN ALLEN, *President.*

J. MORTON, *Secretary.*



ON the adjournment of the Board in the fall of eighteen hundred and twenty one, the assistants, Doctor Hicks and Captain Mills, were instructed to commence an examination of every lot of ground and premises on the east side of the city, and to report all privies, sunken lots and cellars containing stagnant water or in a state of nuisance, to the City Inspector, in order that ordinances might be passed for their correction, and at a meeting of the Board, on the fifteenth of June, the following report was presented on that subject.

JUNE 10th 1822.

The Hon. the Board of Health.

GENTLEMEN,

Your assistants beg leave to report, that according to instructions they did strictly examine all that part of the city which lies south and east of Whitehall, Pearl, Broad, Nassau, Chatham, Division and Pike-streets, from November to April, and reported besides verbal orders, eight hundred and fifty six cases of nuisances, which were all ordained by the Hon. the Board of Corporation, these were all re-inspected in April and May, and found to be corrected.

Your assistants would further beg leave to report, that this arduous duty was performed without giving the least offence, or commencing one solitary suit at law.

Your assistants further beg leave to report, that since the first of June they have examined several complaints of nuisances and gave orders for their correction, that they have with attention examined most parts of the city, and are happy to state they never saw it so clean (at this season) before.

They also beg leave to observe, that they are now constantly employed in watching the wharves, as a number of Merchants are of full impression, they have a right to land their Cotton on the same; your assistants would wish the instruction of the Hon. Board respecting the same, all which is duly submitted by

Your very humble servants,

B. HICKS,
GEO. MILLS.

At a meeting of the Board on the twenty-fourth of June, the President presented the following communication.

THE Mayor, together with a committee of the Board of Health, visited Bancker-street one day last week, and found it in as good order generally as could be expected. There

were but three persons sick in the street, and they are now convalescent.

A nuisance of some magnitude exists in Collect-street, the removal of which cannot be completely effected, except by the extending of the sewer up to Franklin-street. The committee recommend for the present, that the assistants be directed to cause the gutter to be cleared and the filth removed, from the mouth of the sewer, as far up Franklin-street.

Whereupon, it was ordered, that the proper officer be directed to correct the aforesaid nuisance.

The following Report was received from the Assistants to the Board.

24th JUNE, 1822.

The Hon. the President of the Board of Health,

THE ASSISTANTS beg leave to report, that they have attentively examined the different stores containing Cotton and Provisions. That a number of reports have been sent in during the past week, but they have great reason to believe that a great quantity yet remains unreported.

They also report the melting houses in Elizabeth-street, owned by the Tallow Chandler's Company, and the one owned by Mr. Hull, on the corner of Elizabeth and Hester-streets, they have been several times complained of by the inhabitants, and are very offensive.

Bancker-street is in better order than it has been for several years. No sickness at present. The complaint against No. 68, was not correct, as it has but four occupants, but your Assistants believe it to be a house of great resort of the worst characters, it is kept by a Mrs. Anderson.

The city in general healthy. Your Assistants beg leave further to observe, that the Oystermen are in the habit of bringing large quantities of Oysters in the city, and more

particularly on the Sabbath day—would wish instruction on that point.

B. HICKS,
G. MILLS.

Ordered, That measures be adopted to correct the evils complained of in the foregoing report.

JULY 8, 1822.

The following Report was received from the Assistants to the Board.

JULY 8, 1822.

THE Assistants of the Honorable Board, beg leave to report that they have examined all the lower parts of the city, and ordered such cellars as had water in to be cleansed—they have met with several obstructions in the landing of Cotton and Provisions, which they ordered on board or to be taken back to Brooklyn,—a quantity of damaged Wool now lies on Pier fourteen,—also a quantity of damaged Moss on south side of Old-Slip. Collect-street has been cleansed, but the Contractors removed the manure and left the sand. The nuisance around the market is occasioned by the offal, bones, heads, feet, &c.

Bancker-street has been strictly examined this day, and the following persons found sick :

Susanah Jackson, at No. 77, with Fever, free black.

Elizabeth Johnson, at No. 132, do. do.

George Smith, Intermittent Fever, white.

The cellar at the corner of Bancker-street and Nelson's-Alley has a great number of tenants, and has some water in—cellar not tenantable.

B. HICKS.
G. MILLS.

Ordered, That the damaged Wool and Moss be forthwith removed out of the city, and that the necessary measures be enforced for clearing the cellar corner of Bancker-street and Nelson's Alley, of its inmates.

The following Preamble and Resolutions were presented by the President, and ordered to be published.

BOARD OF HEALTH, JULY 8, 1822.

IT having been stated that an opinion is entertained that the Law applied for by the Board of Health, to authorise the landing of Cotton on the wharves of this city, for the purpose of weighing and repairing, had been enacted into a Law, therefore Resolved, that the Clerk give notice through the medium of the public papers that the said Law was not acted on by the Legislature, and therefore, it is unlawful to bring any Cotton into the city south of Spring-street, on the North River, and Walnut-street, on the East River; but that sound Cotton and sound Hides may be brought by water only, to be immediately taken on board of some vessel at the wharves, for exportation or transportation out of the said city; and that all Cotton, Hides, &c. that may be landed or brought into the city, contrary to the aforesaid provision, will be subject to seizure, for the benefit of the Marine Hospital.

By the Board of Health.

J. MORTON, *Secretary.*

THE U. S. Brig Enterprise arrived at quarantine on the eight day of July, from a cruise, via Charleston. Twenty four days previous to her arrival, she had been three days off the Moro Castle, Havanna, and she remained eight days at Charleston. Lieut. Coxe was taken ill with Yellow Fever the day after her arrival at Charleston, and died on the first of July. Ten persons were sick of Yellow Fever on her arrival here. On the ninth of July there were thirteen cases of Yellow Fever, received from the Enterprise into the Marine Hospital.

On the tenth Midshipman Platt and Corporal Cooper died, and Doctor Tilly's life was despaired of. On the eleventh, the number of cases had increased to twenty, and it was concluded to bring all the men on shore, and to have the

Brig thoroughly white-washed and cleansed, and her hold daily fumigated with nitrous oxide gas.

On the thirteenth, there were two new cases; and the Health officer was fearful, if the men were kept on shore, that cases would daily occur, it being impossible to prevent the use of liquor among them, from which much disorder ensued. They had broken through the enclosure, and could not be prevented from proceeding to the city while on their drunken frolic.

On the fourteenth, the men on shore were ordered on board of the Brig. Doctor Tilly and two men died this day, and one new case of fever occurred. On the fifteenth, another of the crew belonging to the Enterprise died. On the seventeenth, another death occurred, but there had been no new case since the fourteenth. On the twenty-third, there were four new cases of Yellow Fever received from the Brig, which was the first since the return of the men to the vessel, and a pretty conclusive proof, of the difficulty of disinfecting a sickly vessel.

On the twenty-sixth, two additional cases were received from on board the Brig, and it was concluded that the only chance of arresting the progress of the disease, was to return the men again to the shore; and in order to prevent abuses, a guard of six marines was ordered from the navy yard, with directions to permit none of the crew of the Enterprise to depart from the assigned limits.

On the twenty-ninth, the Health Officer stated to the Board, that three new cases were received, and that one fourth of the men who were sent on board the vessel, after enjoying a pure atmosphere for a few days, had taken the disease; and that too, after she had been thoroughly cleansed and white-washed; and that none of them had sickened until six or seven days after they were sent on board. Two men died on the twenty-eighth, one of them the gunner, and both had black vomit.

On the twenty-ninth, there was one new case of Yellow Fever, and on the thirtieth, two deaths occurred with the usual fatal symptoms.

On the second of August one man died, which was the last death from that vessel.

STATED meetings of the Board of Health, were held every second week, on the same days on which the Common Council met, but the President was authorised to call extra meetings, whenever in his opinion it might be deemed necessary. The present law authorises much important business to be transacted by the Health Commissioners, independent of the Board of Health, and it was, therefore, only on extraordinary occurrences, that an extra meeting was called.

Early in July, reports were circulated that several cases of Bilious Fever existed in the city; and on the seventeenth of that month, Doctor Daniel D. Walters, called on the Mayor, and stated that he had under his care patients, residing at the foot of Rector-street, who were labouring under fever of a very suspicious character. This information was communicated to the Resident Physician forthwith, with a request that he would visit the persons afflicted; he did visit them, and reported to the Mayor, that the disorder was unequivocally the ordinary Bilious Fever of the climate; at the same time the assistants were directed to examine that part of the city, and to correct without delay any nuisance which might be detected in the neighbourhood, and they were further directed to ascertain the character of the vessels lying at the wharves in the vicinity of Rector-street, and to report them to the Mayor.

At a special meeting of the Board, on the twenty-second day of July, the following Report was received from the Assistants.

JULY 22, 1822.

Hon. S. Allen, President of the Hon. Board of Health.

SIR,

YOUR assistants beg leave to report, that they have examined the lower part of the city and found the same in good

order. Bancker-street remains in the same state of good health. Several vessels from the wharves on the North River, near Rector-street, have gone to sea or removed, the only vessel from any dangerous port now near Rector-street is the Schooner Nile, from Matanzas, she has been lately cleansed and graved, and now ready to take in her cargo; your assistants report a cistpool in the alley adjoining eleven Rector-street, in a bad state, the property of Mr. A. H. Lawrence.

B. HICKS,
G. MILLS.

Whereupon it was ordered "that the cistpool reported by the assistants as a nuisance, be and hereby is directed to be filled up with good and wholesome earth, and that the lots, the waste water of which are emptied in the said cistpool, be so regulated and filled, as to cast the water into the street."

The assistants also reported the following list of vessels that had recently laid at the wharves, in the vicinity of Rector-street.

Date.	Name of Vessel.	Wharf.	Where From.	Term of time.
June 18,	Ship Chase,	No. 3 N. River,	St. Croix,	4 Days.
June 20,	Brig Patriot,	No. 3 do.	Curacoa,	4 do.
June 20,	Schooner Edgar,	Edgar's Bason,	Augustura,	4 do.
June 25,	Schooner Florida,	bet. Carlisle and Rector-sts.	Havannah & Florida Cape,	4 do.
June 25,	Ship Shamrock,	No. 7 N. River,	Matanzas,	4 Days.
June 25,	Ship Gen. Carrington	No. 11 N. River,	New-Orleans,	4 do.
July 6,	Brig Fanny,	No. 3 N. River,	Curacoa,	4 do.
July 15,	Ship Elias Burgher,	No. 3 N. River,	St. Croix,	4 do.
July 17,	Schooner Nile,	No. 7 N. River,	P. Prince,	10 do.

THE cases of sickness in the vicinity of Rector-street, having increased in number, during the recess of the Board of Health, it was deemed indispensable that the subject should be speedily brought before them, in order that measures might be adopted to stop the progress of the disease, and that the citizens might be apprised of the extent of its ravages, and their own danger.

A special meeting was accordingly convened on the thirty-first day of July, when the following Report was laid before the Board.

BOARD OF HEALTH, JULY 31, 1822.

The following statement of facts made to the Board by the President, was ordered to be published.

On the seventeenth of July eighteen hundred and twenty-two, Dr. Walters informed the President of the Board of Health, that there were three of his patients, children of Martin Reeder, at twenty-six Rector-street, labouring under a severe attack of Fever—that he did not report them as Yellow Fever cases, but requested that the Resident Physician might visit them.

On the eighteenth July, the Resident Physician reported, that he had visited the children of Mr. Reeder; that Caroline, aged nine years, had sickened on the tenth of July; Amanda, aged eleven years, also sickened on the same day; and John, aged fifteen years, sickened on the sixteenth, and that their disorder was Bilious Fever. Caroline died the same day; John died on the twenty-second, and Amanda recovered.

The Resident Physician also reported, that he was informed that Andrew Thomas, a clerk in a grocery store at the corner of Washington and Rector-streets, immediately opposite to Mr. Reeder's, was taken sick on the twelfth of July, and carried to the New-York Hospital, where he died on the sixteenth of the same month.

On the twentieth, the Resident Physician visited Miss Rose, at the corner of Greenwich and Rector-streets, and reported that she was seven years of age, had sickened on the sixteenth of July, and had Bilious Fever. This child died on the twenty-fourth inst.

On the twenty-first, the Resident Physician visited John Whaley, a baker, twenty-six years of age, residing at the corner of Cliff and Ferry-streets; he sickened on the twentieth with Bilious Fever, and on the twenty-sixth was convalescent.

On the twenty-fifth, the Resident Physician visited Mr. Butler and his apprentice, residing in Rector-street, between Greenwich and Lumber-streets, and reported them convalescent.

On the twenty-sixth he visited Euphemia Dobson, aged thirty-eight years, at ten Beaver-street, she sickened on the twenty-fourth, and removed from the house of Mrs. Rose, at the corner of Greenwich and Rector-streets, where she had assisted in nursing the child that died on the twenty-fourth. He also visited Mrs. Edwards, aged forty-six years, sister to Mrs. Rose and a resident in the same house: she sickened on the morning of the twenty-fifth, with Bilious Fever. Also Leonard W. Archer, aged twenty-three years, nephew to Mrs. Rose, and residing in the same house: he sickened on the morning of the twenty-fifth, and has Bilious Fever. The Resident Physician was also informed that a Mrs. Waters, aged fifty-eight years, had likewise sickened at the house of Mrs. Rose, on the evening of the twenty-fourth, but was afterwards removed to Brooklyn. She had been indisposed for the last three months, and died on the evening of the twenty-ninth, with very malignant symptoms. This person was not seen by the Resident Physician.

On the twenty-ninth, the Resident Physician reported that he had visited another child of Mr. Reeder's, who was sick with the same disorder as those reported before; that he had also visited Susan Buck, aged eleven years, residing at twenty-four Rector-street, opposite the house of Mr. Reeder; that she sickened on Friday with Bilious Fever.

On the thirtieth, he visited Mrs. Jones, at one hundred and fifteen Washington-street, who sickened on the twenty-seventh, and has Bilious Fever—He also visited John Hamilton, a cartman, whose stand was in the vicinity of Rector-street; he resides at twenty Howard-street, and sickened on the twenty-seventh, with Bilious Fever.

On the thirty-first, Dr. John Neilson, reported to the Board of Health, two cases of Yellow Fever, viz. Leonard W. Archer, and Mrs. Edwards, both at the house of Mrs. Rose, corner of Greenwich and Rector-streets. On the Monday

previous, Dr. Neilson had appeared before the Board, and declared these two cases to be Bilious Fever. The Resident Physician visited these patients again this day, and reports them as Bilious Fever. There have no cases of fever occurred in that vicinity, within the knowledge of the Board of Health, for the last four days.

By order of the Board of Health,

STEPHEN ALLEN, *President.*

The following proposition was also submitted to the Board by the President.

The Board of Health to their fellow citizens.

BOARD OF HEALTH, JULY 31, 1822.

There has been reported to the Board of Health by Doctor John Neilson, two cases of Yellow Fever, viz. Leonard W. Archer and Mrs. Edwards, both at the house of Mrs. Rose, corner of Greenwich and Rector-streets.

In consequence of the foregoing report, and the fatal termination of several cases of fever, in that immediate neighbourhood, the Board of Health have determined, to fence up the avenues leading to the seat of the disease, and at the same time to advise, that all persons residing, or doing business in Rector-street, between Lumber and Washington-streets, or its vicinity, to remove therefrom immediately; and it is hereby directed, that no vessel shall be brought to lay at any of the wharves, included within the fence when erected, and that those which are now there, be forthwith removed.

By order of the Board.

STEPHEN ALLEN, *President.*

This measure, however, was postponed for the present, and laid on the table.

It was resolved that the Board should hereafter meet daily, at the Mayor's Office, City-Hall.

AUGUST 3, 1822.

A report was received from the assistants, that an old Brewery, at the corner of Washington and Harrison-streets, was in a state of nuisance; also, a water closet at the corner of Broad and Bridge-streets. This report was referred to the City Inspector.

AUGUST 5, 1822.

The following Report was presented by the Resident Physician.

BOARD OF HEALTH, AUG. 5, 1822.

A REPORT from the Resident Physician, of August fourth, 1822, five o'clock P. M. was received as follows: The Resident Physician reports Mrs. Naphthali Phillips, sick with Yellow Fever, at the corner of Broadway and Chamber-street. The family of Mr. Phillips resided at ninety-eight Greenwich-street, the fourth door north of Rector-street, from whence they removed on Tuesday the thirtieth ult. to the corner of Broadway and Chamber-street. Mrs. Phillips sickened on Thursday the first inst. and died on Monday morning the fifth inst.

By order of the Board,

J. MORTON, *Clerk.*

The following Address was presented by the President, and directed to be published.

A number of cases of Fever having occurred in Rector-street, and its immediate vicinity, and it being the opinion of the Board, that the atmosphere of that section of the city is unfavorable to the health of its inhabitants and others who may resort to it, they hereby advise and recommend, that all persons residing or doing business in Rector-street, between Lumber and Washington-streets, or its vicinity, remove therefrom forthwith, and that they and all others abstain from resorting to the aforesaid district; and it is further recommend-

ed, that the citizens generally cause lime to be thrown in their privies, and also in the gutters in front of their respective houses, and use every means in their power to remove from their premises every cause of nuisance and infection, and to keep their cellars and yards dry and clean.

By order of the Board of Health.

STEPHEN ALLEN, *President.*

The Committee to whom the subject had been referred, reported, that they had rented of Mr. John Gelston, a house at Kip's Bay, for the accommodation of such poor persons as the Board may deem it necessary to remove from the city.

Whereupon the following Resolution, proposed by Alderman Fairlie, was adopted.

Resolved, That the Superintendent of the Alms-house, cause the house hired by this Board near Kip's Bay, for the reception of such sick persons as it may be necessary to remove from the city into the same, to be put in such order and supplied and furnished in such a manner as he may deem proper for the accommodation of the sick, and that Physicians from the Alms-house attend the sick who may be sent to the said house, and that he also provide nurses, for the same.

A resolution was also adopted, instructing the Mayor to request of his Excellency the Governor the use of the buildings at Fort Richmond, Staten Island.

The following Report was received from the City Inspector on the subject referred to him by the Board.

The City Inspector respectfully reports to the Board of Health, that he examined the Distillery, corner of Harrison and Washington-streets: in the yard are two vats or reservoirs filled with offensive swill or vegetable matter; there are also other vats within the building of a similar description, and a deep and extensive excavation or cellar emitting noisome exhalations: the building itself is in a

ruinous state, threatening to crush the passing inhabitants by its fall. The City Inspector is informed that an application will, this day, be made to the Grand Jury, who, no doubt will indict the premises as a dangerous nuisance, in the meantime, he has prepared an ordinance to cover the vats with timber, on which is to be placed a quantity of charcoal as a temporary expedient, until the building shall be removed and the warm weather shall have passed by.

He has also seen the water closet corner of Bridge and Broad-streets, and will present an ordinance, this evening to the Corporation, directing it to be securely closed on the fourth and third stories, also to alter the reservoir in the cellar so as freely to conduct the water into the lateral pipe, this arrangement, together with the cleansing and white-washing of the cellar, will, it is presumed abate the nuisance.

Respectfully submitted,

GEORGE CUMING, *City Inspector.*

August 5, 1822.

The Assistants to the Board made the following Report.

AUGUST 3, 4, and 5. 1822.

The Honorable President of the Board of Health.

The Assistants of the Board beg leave to report, that they examined the brig Commerce, which they declare in an offensive state, the situation in which she lies, dangerous.

They also report the Ink factory in New-street—it is not so offensive at present, as other factories of the same kind, but from its central situation, ought to be removed.

They also inspected the factory of Spermaceti Oil and Candles, in the same street, and declare the same in a good state.

They also inspected the Beef and Fish stores in the vicinity of Coenties-slip, and found them in good order, except the cellar under Mr. Snow's Pot Ash works, twelve South-street, which they ordered cleansed and limed.

They also visited the neighbourhood of Rector-street, every day, and have not been able to discover any new case of Fever.

B. HICKS,
G. MILLS.

Orders were accordingly issued for correcting the several matters complained of in the foregoing report.

AUGUST 6, 1822.

The President read the following Correspondence with the Health Officer.

MAYOR'S OFFICE, AUG. 3, 1822.

Dr. Joseph Bayley,

DEAR SIR,

YOU have no doubt seen by the public papers, that there have occurred in Rector-street, and its vicinity, a number of Fever cases, and several deaths. The Resident Physician, who is our legal adviser on this subject, has uniformly pronounced these cases *Bilious Fever*, and they have been so stated to the public by the Board of Health; but there are other Physicians of repute, who have differed with him, and have declared them to be *Yellow Fever* cases. Every means have been taken to ascertain whether any local cause exists in that neighbourhood for the fatality alluded to, but nothing satisfactory has been discovered. The only apparent nuisance existing there, was a cistpool, in which the wash of three lots, or yards, was emptied, and that has some time since, been corrected.

Those, however, who pronounce the disorder *Yellow Fever*, believe they have discovered a cause in the permission given to the schooner Nile from Matanzas, the ship Shamrock from the same place, and the schooner Florida from Cape Florida and Saint Mary's, to come to the wharves near the foot of Rector-street. The first of these vessels however came there after the occurrence of the sickness, and the

other two were reported clean by the Inspector previous to their hauling to the wharves.

I incline much to the opinion, that no vessels from the West Indies, &c. ought to be permitted to come to our wharves between May and November, and I should be pleased if you and the commissioners would confer on this subject, and hereafter refuse permission to all vessels from suspected ports, to come to the wharves of the city south of Spring and Walnut-streets, or some other line that may be deemed more suitable.

I am, with much respect,
Your obedient servant,
STEPHEN ALLEN.

QUARANTINE GROUND, STATEN ISLAND, AUG. 5, 1822.

DEAR SIR,

I have been so busily engaged yesterday, in visiting vessels, that it has been out my power to reply to your letter of the third instant. But if the fever which has prevailed in and near Rector-street is from a foreign source, it cannot in my opinion, be ascribed to any of the vessels mentioned.— A more probable cause may be found in the cargoes of infected vessels, which have been taken to that neighbourhood. I will immediately collect the facts and communicate them to you, in a day or two.

In haste—as the boat is about leaving here,

I remain your much obliged and
very humble servant,

JOSEPH BAYLEY.

QUARANTINE GROUND, STATEN-ISLAND, AUG.

DEAR SIR,

I coincide with you in the opinion contained in your letter of the third inst. that no vessel arriving here from a port suspected to be sickly, ought to be permitted to come to any wharf of our city, south of Spring-street, on the north river, or Walnut-street on the east, between the twentieth of May and the tenth of October; and that all such vessels which

have arrived before the former period, remaining at any wharf south of said line, should be ordered on that day to the above mentioned limits. As I do not remember that the Yellow Fever has ever prevailed in our city before the first of June, or commenced after the beginning of October, there does not appear to be any urgent necessity to subject the merchants to the expences and losses, always attending quarantine restrictions, other than those now exacted by the health law for the rest of the year.

The Health Officer is entrusted with the great power of directing where the cargoes of infected vessels shall be conveyed, by the sixth section of the health law; if he was to exercise it to the extent, he might deem necessary for the public health, he would not only very much embarrass, but might probably ruin the merchant, by placing the cargoes for twenty or thirty days, in the stores here for purification. I have for some time considered this measure necessary, and it has caused me much anxiety, but as those cargoes have hitherto been carried up in lighters, without any evil being ascribed to them, I have directed only such as are damaged or such as are supposed most likely to retain infection, to be landed here. Some plan could probably be devised to have those cargoes purified, that would prove equally as safe for the health of the city, and not as oppressive to the merchants as landing them here, where he cannot dispose of them, as no persons are admitted into the public stores, to examine them. You mention that as yet no local cause has been discovered, which will satisfactorily explain the origin of the fever, which has occurred in and near Rector-street; and that those who consider the disease to be Yellow Fever, ascribe it to a foreign cause. I am of opinion that none of those vessels, mentioned in your letter will be judged infected, when the condition is candidly examined, for they had no sickness of any kind on board, or were in any port which was sickly while they remained in them. If the cause is a foreign one, may it not with more probability be found in the one thousand eight hundred and eighty-six boxes of Havanna Sugars, brought in the Brigs Spanish Soldier,

Ambuscade and Abeona, and the ship *Eliza Jane*, all of which were landed in the neighbourhood of Rector-street, between the twenty-eighth of June and the tenth of July, they were taken immediately from those vessels, during the extreme warm weather in decked lighters, and about an hour after those lighters were at the wharves of the city. It may be well to observe, that Havanna Sugars have also been landed in the same manner in other parts of the city, but there has not been one fourth of the quantity, in the same space of time landed at any place, and there may be other circumstances unknown to me, that might cause the difference, viz: why those places have not been infected in the same manner as Rector-street. The Ship *Shamrock*, sailed from Havanna in ballast to Matanzas, May ninth, and arrived here from that port in twelve days, June eleventh, remained at quarantine four days, her crew consisted of eleven persons, and ten passengers came in her; not one person was sick from the time that she sailed from Wiscasset, until she left here, what occurred after that time I am ignorant of; both ports were healthy while she was in them, as will appear from the following examination, which I have made of all the vessels which arrived here from Havanna in May last, amounting to twelve vessels, navigated by one hundred and twenty-three persons, having on board fifty-eight passengers, all of whom were in health during the whole voyage, except one boy belonging to the Brig *Mary Ann*, who had Diarrhoea, and it will further appear, that the city of Havanna, was healthy in May, by the enclosed certificate from the U. S. commercial agent. Eleven vessels also arrived here in May and June, from Matanzas, navigated by one hundred and two persons, with thirty-six passengers, all of whom were in health the whole voyage, except a seaman of the Brig *Prize* who died of Consumption in the Hospital, at Matanzas, March thirty-first; such ample proof of the health of those two ports, together with the uniform health of the crew and passengers of the Ship *Shamrock*, must exempt that vessel from the charge of giving disease in Rector-street.

The Schooner Florida, Capt. Charles Johnson, sailed from New-York, Nov. twenty-six, to St. Mary's, he was once at Havanna, in February, for one day, but he has been engaged in wrecking all the time between Florida Reef and St. Mary's, and when he arrived here, his crew were in perfect health, and no person that belonged to her, during the voyage had been sick; he had very little cargo, consisting of old junk, old copper, iron and snuff, all of which had been taken out of the water at Florida reef. The only reason why he came here, was to repair his vessel, for she leaked so much that she kept them constantly employed to keep her free; this vessel arrived June twenty-first, and was discharged from quarantine June twenty-fifth.

The Schooner Nile, as you observe did not haul to the wharf until the seventeenth of July, seven days after the fever began, but she was a healthy vessel, and the port she came from was said to be healthy; she was kept nine days at quarantine, discharged all her cargo here, and was well cleansed.

From the foregoing statement of facts, you will be able to form an opinion, which of the above sources, has most probably given rise to the fever, (should no others be brought forward,) if it is to be attributed to a foreign one.

With great respect, I remain

Your very humble servant,

JOSEPH BAYLEY.

AUGUST 7, 1822.

The President proposed the following preamble and ordinance, which was adopted by the Board, and ordered to be published.

BOARD OF HEALTH, NEW-YORK, AUGUST 7, 1822.

THE Board of Health having expressed an opinion that the atmosphere in Rector-street and its vicinity, was injurious to the health of its inhabitants, and others resorting to that part of the city; and believing that the preservation of

the public health, and the opinion of their fellow citizens, call for the measure, they have ordered that the several avenues leading to the infected district be forthwith fenced up. *And it is further ordered,* That all vessels at the wharves, within this district, be removed to such place as the President of the Board and the Health Commissioner shall direct; and that no vessel be permitted to come to, or lay at any of said wharves, until the further order of the Board, under the penalties of the law, in such case made and provided. It is also ordained, that the following be the limits of the District to be enclosed, viz. Rector-street, at intersection of Lumber-street, and at intersection of Greenwich-streets; Washington-street, between Piers three and four, including Pier four; Greenwich-street, from intersection of Carlisle-street, and Washington-street, from intersection of Carlisle-street.

By order of the Board of Health.

J. MORTON, *Secretary.*

The following Letter, addressed to the Governor, together with the answer, was read.

MAYOR'S OFFICE, NEW-YORK, AUG. 1, 1822.

His Excellency De Witt Clinton, Governor of the State of New-York,

SIR,

The inhabitants of this city appear to be much alarmed at the occurrence of several cases of Bilious Fever in Rector-street and its immediate vicinity; and the Board of Health, fearing that the disorder may assume a more unfavourable aspect, have instructed me, to request of you, the use of the buildings at Fort Richmond, Staten Island, for the purpose of an Hospital, should they be required as such, or for the use of such of our citizens who may be unable to provide a place of refuge for themselves, should it become necessary to remove them.

Will you be so good as to favour me with an answer to this request, by return of mail, if convenient.

I am, sir, your most
Obedient servant,
STEPHEN ALLEN,
President of the Board of Health.

ALBANY, AUGUST 3, 1822.

SIR,

I received your letter of the first instant this afternoon, on my return from a journey to the north.

I have no hesitation in complying with the application of the Board of Health, and they have full permission to use the buildings and grounds belonging to the State at the Narrows, on Staten Island, for any purposes that they may consider important to avert the dangers or mitigate the evils of malignant disease, subject only to the necessary restrictions for the preservation of the public property, and for the accommodation of the agent who is charged with its safe keeping.

While I deeply regret the alarm which appears to prevail on this subject, I assure you that it will afford me the highest satisfaction to aid the municipal authorities of New-York in all proper measures for the preservation of the public health.

I have the honor to be
Your most obedient servant,
DE WITT CLINTON.

The Mayor of New-York.

The following Report was received from Dr. Hicks, one of the Assistants to the Board.

AUGUST 7, 1822.

The Honorable the President of the Board of Health.

The Assistants beg leave to report that they have discovered no new case in the infected district, since last report.

B. Hicks visited Mrs. Wilmert, removed to sixteen Fletcher-street, from Rector-street, Dr. Neilson's patient—also Patrick Price, eleven Roosevelt-street, a passenger from on board the Empress, Captain Sutton, from Charleston, Intermittent Fever, sent to the New-York Hospital—also Christopher Blockberger, tin worker, at fifty-seven Rutgers-street, Bilious Fever, Dr. Helme's patient.

Also Henry Millspard, corner of Houston and Sullivan-streets, a labourer who worked in the stores at the foot of Rector-street, in Washington, and assisted in unloading a number of lighters, laden with sugar, Dr. Blatchly's patient, who calls his disease Bilious Fever, (suspicious)—he also visited several persons in Thompson-street, labouring under typhus.

B. HICKS.

A letter was received from Dr. Burden, requesting on behalf of the Board of Health of Philadelphia, information respecting the prevailing sickness, and the President was requested to prepare an answer accordingly.

AUGUST 8, 1822.

The following Letter from Dr. Burden was again read, together with the letter in answer prepared by the President.

MANSION HOUSE, NEW-YORK, AUG. 7, 1822.

To the President and Members of the Board of Health of the City of New-York.

GENTLEMEN,

BEING authorised by the Board of Health of Philadelphia to ascertain the nature and extent of the disease now existing in your city, I respectfully request information on the following points.

1. What is the nature of the disease of Rector-street; how many cases have occurred since its appearance; and what the number of deaths?

2. Have any cases of the same disease been reported, in any other part of the city, if so, can they be traced to Rector-street?

3. What is the opinion of the Board as to its origin?

4. What measures have been adopted to arrest the progress of the disease?

The Board of Health of Philadelphia are anxious to ascertain the real state of the case, that such measures may be taken as may prevent the introduction of disease to their city, with the least possible inconvenience or injury to New-York; it is therefore hoped, that you will communicate all the information you possess connected with the disease.

I have the honor to be,

Respectfully, yours,

J. R. BURDEN.

AUGUST 8. 1822.

J. R. Burden, M. D.

SIR,

BEFORE answering your several queries on the subject of the fever at Rector-street, it may be proper to observe, that it has always been held as a cardinal point with the Board of Health of this city, to give the public, at all times, the earliest and most authentic information in their possession, of the state of the public health; and it might therefore be sufficient, as a general answer to your inquiries, to refer you to the Official Reports of the Board made on the thirty-first day of July, and the sixth day of August, in the present year; but as something more appears to be required of us, we will endeavour to answer your queries severally, in the order they are stated. And first, as to the nature of the disease, it may not be improper to observe, that the Board of Health of this city are not composed of medical men, but of persons in the ordinary walks of life, and they do not therefore pretend to determine the nature of diseases. How should they undertake to decide when medical men differ so

widely on this subject? They only know that an unusual number of persons have sickened in a very limited space, and they therefore believe, that the atmosphere in that vicinity is unhealthy to its inhabitants, and believing this, it became their duty to apprise their fellow citizens of the fact, and to adopt the usual measures to prevent its deleterious effects. The number of cases that have originated in Rector-street and its vicinity, which have come to the knowledge of the Board of Health, are seventeen, and the number of deaths are eight: of these seventeen cases, only three have been reported to the Board as Yellow Fever, viz. two by Doctor Neilson, and one by Doctor Quackenbos, the Resident Physician, of which, two died, and one recovered. It may be proper to mention however, that the Physician who attended the children of Mr. Reeder, has stated it as his private opinion, that their disorder was Yellow Fever, although he has uniformly declined reporting them as such to the Board; and that the Physician who attended Mrs. Waters, has also stated to the same effect. Fourteen of these cases have been repeatedly visited by the Resident Physician, and except in one instance have been declared by him to be cases of Bilious, and not Yellow Fever. The law constituting the Board of Health, has provided that there shall be at least three medical men belonging to it, viz. the Health Officer, the Health Commissioner, and the Resident Physician; the last of which has always been considered the only legal medical adviser of the Board, and his expressed opinion is, that sixteen cases out of the seventeen were the ordinary Bilious Fever of our climate, and not the Yellow Fever. You have all the facts, however, and may draw your own conclusions.

Second. There have been several cases of sickness reported to the Board in different parts of the city, principally by the neighbours of the sick, and two or three by the attending Physician, none of which have been traced to Rector-street: one of them had rheumatism, one typhus, one an affection of the brain, and two or three bilious cases; in addition to these, there were six out of the seventeen cases

mentioned above, who had been removed from Rector-street, four of whom died ; one at the New-York Hospital, one at Brooklyn, one in Howard-street, and one at the corner of Chamber-street and Broadway, and two recovered.

Third. The Board can form no opinion as to its origin. No nuisance of any moment has been discovered in the district, but on the contrary its situation has always been deemed one of the most healthy. There have been several vessels from the West Indies and southern ports at the wharves and piers, but they were such as required a detention at quarantine of four days only, and previous to their hauling there, had been examined by the Inspector, cleansed, and reported free from infection. There had also been landed there the cargoes from several vessels at quarantine, from the Havanna, consisting principally of sugar in boxes, &c.

Fourth. The measures which have been adopted are, first, to correct every appearance of nuisance in the neighbourhood ; second, to advise the citizens to remove with their families out of the infected district ; and, third, to fence up the avenues leading to it ; and such further measures will be adopted as the exigency of the case may appear to require.

If our bills of mortality are any criterion to judge by, the city may be said to enjoy its usual degree of health at least ; indeed, in every part of the city, if we except the infected district, and even there no case exists at present, an unusual degree of health is enjoyed. The last case of the disease, within the knowledge of the Board, was on the first instant, and they are in hopes, that the measures they have adopted, by the assistance of Divine Providence, will be the means of arresting its progress, and finally eradicate it from our city.

I am, with much respect,

Your obedient servant,

STEPHEN ALLEN.

AUG. 3, 1822.

The following Report was received from the Assistants.

The Honourable President of the Board of Health.

THE Assistants beg leave to report, that they examined the whole of the infected district, and could not discover any person sick of fever; there is no vessel within the limited district, except one or two sloops filling in the new dock with stone. On the outside of the limits is Brig Clarissa, Pier one, Brig Levant, Pier twelve. The report of a nuisance in the rear of six, Albany-street, is two privies, one wants three feet of being full, and the other about two feet; the yards are clean.

Your Assistants examined several streets in the lower part of the city, and found the gutters in some places in a state of nuisance—ordered them cleansed and limed.

B. HICKS,
G. MILLS.

AUGUST 9, 1822.

The following Report was received from the Resident Physician.

THE Resident Physician reports Mr. ——— Mills-paugh, sick with Yellow Fever at the corner of Sullivan and Houston-streets. This case appears to be mild—he sickened on the evening of the fifth instant, and had been employed as a labourer in a store at the corner of Washington and Carlisle-streets. The Resident Physician also reports Miss Roberts, sick with Yellow Fever at thirty-four Lumber-street, directly in the rear of the Trinity Church. She is attended by Doctor Boyd, from whom the following statements were obtained this morning in relation to others. Dr. Boyd was called to see Miss Machett, who sickened with fever on the morning of the seventh instant, at the corner of Lumber and Rector-streets. She went yesterday to Newark.

Dr. Boyd was also called to see Miss Keyler, who sickened with fever on the night of the seventh instant in Rector, next to

the corner of Greenwich-street towards Lumber-street. She went yesterday to Harlem. Dr. Boyd was called this morning to see Miss Myers, who sickened last night with fever in Lumber-street, third door south of Rector-street. She is about to leave the city. Dr. Boyd states that all these persons are attacked in a similiar manner, which leaves no doubt their disease is Yellow Fever. From the above facts, it appears evident that the cause or causes, which at first were only sufficient to produce bilious fever, have now become concentrated, and as the disease is now progressing towards Broadway, I suggest and recommend the propriety of enlarging the present enclosed limits, so as to include Grace and Trinity Churches, thereby preventing any collection of persons in those places.

(Signed)

NICH'S J. QUACKENBOS.

A report was also received from Dr. Cyrus Perkins, of the 9th of August, of a case of Bilious or Yellow Fever, at thirty-six Lumber-street (Mr. Ward,) in the rear of Trinity Church.

A report was also received from Drs. Hosack and Francis, dated the ninth instant, of Mrs. Van Winkle, ill of Yellow Fever, at thirty-five Warren-street. She was removed from the vicinity of Rector-street, on the afternoon of Tuesday last. The symptoms to-day indicate a favourable result.

A report was also received from Dr. Conger, of the ninth instant, of James Turner, at a hundred and forty-five Orange-street, sick of the Malignant Fever. He is a labouring man, and had been at work on board of the lighters, at the foot of Rector-street.

Agreeably to the suggestion of the Resident Physician, it was resolved, that Rector-street be fenced up at the intersection of Broadway, and Lumber-street at the intersection of Thames-street.

*A Letter from the Health Officer to the Health Commissioner,
was read as follows ;*

QUARANTINE GROUND, AUG. 12, 1822.

Dr. J. Dyckman, Health Commissioner,

DEAR SIR,

YOU ask my opinion on the subject of keeping all suspicious vessels, altogether from the wharves during the hot months, by which I understand that all vessels from the West Indies, are embraced under this head, which in my opinion, is much more extensive than can possibly be requisite, for many vessels arrive here from ports even from the Island of Cuba, where there are only a few scattered houses, in some places not to exceed six or eight, where they enjoy uninterrupted health throughout the year, while the Havanna, St. Jago de Cuba and Matanzas, may justly be considered suspicious during the great part of the year. Our Health law, makes a distinction between vessels from healthy and unhealthy, or even suspicious ports, and requires the latter to be detained here thirty days, and then reported to the Board for their final decision, no vessel strictly of this character, ought to go to the compact part of our city, and it would be a prudent measure, to order all *four days* vessels to airy parts of the city, and oblige them to be at the end of the wharves, after they had been reported by the Inspector of Shipping. The Islands of St. Thomas, St. Martins, St. Croix, Curracoa, Porto Rico, St. Eustatia and Bermuda, are generally and at this time very healthy. Aux Cayes, Jaquemel and Port au Platt, in the Island of St. Domingo, Trinidad de Cuba, Xibara, Baga, St. Juan De los Remedios in the Island of Cuba, are also very healthy. New Orleans continued healthy at the last dates, and we have had no serious case of Fever from there this season, except one now here from the Phebe Ann, a Bilious Remittent. A great evil in my opinion, is the transportation of cargoes from infected vessels to the city, without their being placed for some days in a situation where they would be ventilated, some articles could be scrubbed

with water, such as hogsheads of Rum and Molasses, after which, they might safely go to the city immediately from the vessel, but this precaution will, and has been lately attended to; but such a process could not be practised with Sugar in hogsheads, barrels and boxes, nor with Coffee, Cocoa, &c. as you required my answer to your letter for to-morrow's boat, I have been brief, hasty, &c. in my remarks.

With sincere esteem,
and regard yours,

JOSEPH BAYLEY.

P. S. Please to inform his Hon. the Mayor, that his request shall be attended to as far as practicable, but any sick remaining at Fort Richmond, would be badly attended to from here, it would be much better to have them sent here, or we might send for them, as soon as information is given to us. In eighteen hundred and nineteen, three medical gentlemen were employed besides the Health officer, now there is but one. We cannot spare a nurse for we need one ourselves, Dr. Cutter promised to send one.

N. B. The request alluded to was, that such medical aid as should be necessary, might be furnished from the Marine Hospital, to those whom the Board of Health sent to Fort Richmond.

The following letter of inquiry from the Board of Health at Boston was received,

HEALTH COMMISSIONER'S OFFICE, CITY OF BOSTON,

AUG. 5, 1822.

WHEREAS it appears to this Board, from publications in the newspapers, that a *Malignant Fever* prevails in the city of New-York, but the precise character of the Fever, the extent of its prevalency or degree of malignity, does not appear, and this Board being desirous to ascertain those facts, before they adopt any measures that may interrupt or embarrass the intercourse, or commercial traffic between the two cities. *Therefore ordered,* That the Secretary of this Board forthwith communicate to the Board of Health

of the city of New-York, an attested copy of this order, with a request that the Honourable Board of Health of the city of New-York, would furnish this Board with information as to the *character, degree and extent* of the Malignant Fever, now stated to be prevalent in their city, that this Board, may be enabled to adopt all such measures for the safety of the city, as will be proper, without interrupting that intercourse between the two cities, so essential to the prosperity and happiness of both, further than necessity requires.

(Attest.)

JOHN WINSLOW, *Secretary.*

CITY OF BOSTON, AUGUST 6, 1822.

GENTLEMEN,

Agreeable to the directions of the Board of Commissioners of Health, I have the honour to furnish you the preceding order, copied from their records and passed on the day of the date thereof, and respectfully request that you will have the goodness to afford the desired information.

Your obedient humble servant,

JOHN WINSLOW, *Secretary.*

To the Honourable Board of Health, city of New-York.

The President stated that he had prepared an answer to the above letter as follows.

NEW-YORK, AUGUST 8, 1822.

John Winslow, Esq.

SIR,

IT will afford the Board of Health of this city sincere pleasure, should they be enabled to communicate to the Health Commissioners of the city of Boston, such facts as will enable them to arrive at "the precise character, extent of prevalency, or degree of malignity," of the fever which prevailed in Rector-street and its vicinity.

It has been a settled practice with this Board, at all times, to communicate to the public, the earliest information of the existence of malignant disease; and they therefore, doubt, whether any further light can be shed on the subject of in-

quiry, than what will appear from a reference to their Official Reports of the thirty-first day of July, and the sixth day of August of the present year, which was ordered to be published in all the newspapers printed in this city. It may not be improper, to apprise the Health Commissioners of the city of Boston, that the Board give no sanction to the remarks of the Editors of newspapers, on the subject of the public health, or to the detailed accounts of their proceedings; and they therefore hope, that nothing which may appear in the public papers, may be viewed as official, except it be signed by their President, or Secretary, or both, as the case may be.

The first knowledge communicated to the Board of Health of this city, that suspicion was attached to the fever in Rector-street, was on the seventeenth of July last; on which day, a Physician reported, that he had three patients sick in one house in Rector-street, with fever, and requested that they might be visited by the Resident Physician. They were accordingly visited on the same day, and on the following, reported to the Board of Health as cases of Bilious Fever. Since that period to the present time, there has been reported, or otherwise brought to the notice of the Board, *seventeen cases*, including the three first mentioned; all of whom sickened, or had resided in Rector-street, or its immediate vicinity. Eight of these persons died—two in eight days—two in seven days—two in six days, and two in five days (varying a few hours) after their first illness; and nine of them recovered. Of these seventeen cases, only *three* were reported to the Board as *Yellow Fever*, viz: two by Doctor Neilson, and one by the Resident Physician; two of the number died, and one recovered. In order, however, that the Health Commissioners of Boston, may be possessed of all the facts within our knowledge, it may be proper to observe, that the Physician who attended the first three cases, has stated it as his private opinion, that their disorder was Yellow Fever; and the same in effect has been stated by the Physician who attended another case from the infected district, but who was subsequently removed to Brook-

lyn, opposite this city. Fourteen of the seventeen cases, have been repeatedly visited by the Resident Physician, (who is legally the medical adviser of the Board of Health) and except in one instance, he declares them to be the ordinary Bilious Fever of our climate, and not the Yellow Fever. The last case of the disorder that has occurred, so far as the knowledge of the Board extends, and they have no doubt of the fact, was on the first instant; since which, no case has been reported to them from any part of the city; and they are in hopes therefore, that the means they have adopted, in cutting off all communication with that particular district, and recommending a general removal of its inhabitants, will put a stop to the further progress of disease, and avert from our city the evils of pestilence, and its concomitant effects.

You will perceive by the foregoing statement of facts, that there is a considerable diversity of opinion among medical men, as to "the precise character" of the disease; but there can be no difficulty in arriving at a just conclusion as to "the extent of its prevalency," or "the degree of its malignity," for the whole number of its subjects, to this day, is but *seventeen*; and the disease originated, or can be traced, to a district of less than two hundred yards in extent; and its malignity may be justly measured by the fact, that eight of its victims died in the short space of between five and eight days from the time of their first illness, while nine of those who were affected recovered.

It appears only necessary to add, that no new case has occurred in the infected district, or in any other part of the city for the last eight days; and that generally, we enjoy a more than usual degree of health, as a reference to our weekly bills of mortality will testify.

By order of the Board of Health,

STEPHEN ALLEN, *President.*

AUGUST 9, 1822.

P. S. Since writing the above, the following reports have been received, which establishes the character of the disease beyond controversey. It will be observed, however, that

all the cases as yet reported, have occurred in the vicinity of Rector-street; and as measures will be adopted to remove the remaining inhabitants from the infected districts, we are still in hopes that a stop will be put to its ravages.

FRIDAY, AUGUST 9, 1822.

The Resident Physician reports Mr. Millspaugh sick with Yellow Fever, at the corner of Sullivan and Houston-streets; his case appears to be mild; he sickened on the evening of the fifth instant, and had been employed as a labourer, in a store at the corner of Washington and Carlisle-streets.

The Resident Physician also reports, Miss Roberts sick with Yellow Fever, at No. Lumber-street, directly in the rear of Trinity Church; she is attended by Doctor Boyd, from whom the following statement was obtained in relation to others. Doctor Boyd was called to see Miss Machett, who sickened with fever on the morning of the seventh instant, at the corner of Lumber and Rector-streets; she went yesterday to Newark.

Doctor Boyd was also called to see Mrs. Keyler, who sickened on the night of the seventh instant with fever, in Rector-street, next to the corner of Greenwich-street, towards Lumber-street; she went yesterday to Harlaem.

Doctor Boyd was called this morning to see Miss Myers, who sickened last night with fever, in Lumber-street, third house south of Rector-street; she is about to leave the city. Doctor Boyd states, that all those persons were attacked in a similar manner, which leaves no doubt but their disease is Yellow Fever.

From the above facts it appears evident, that the cause, or causes, which at first were only sufficient to produce Bilious Fever, have now become so concentrated as to create Yellow Fever.

Doctor John W. Francis, and Doctor David Hosack, reported Mrs. Van Winkle as sick with Yellow Fever; she removed from the vicinity of Rector-street.

Doctor Perkins reported Mrs. Ward as a case of Malignant Fever, at thirty-six Lumber-street, near Rector-street. And Doctor Conger reported James Turner, sick with Malignant Fever; he had worked on board of lighters, at the foot of Rector-street.

The foregoing Reports are ordered to be published; and the Health Commissioners of Boston, may rely upon the correctness of the information which may from time to time be officially published by this Board, and that nothing will be hid or extenuated, but the whole truth, so far as our knowledge extends, will be faithfully given.

By order of the Board,

STEPHEN ALLEN,

President of Board of Health.

Which was approved and directed to be forwarded to the Board of Health of the City of Boston.

The number of cases and deaths which had been reported to the Board, up to this date, were as follows. By the Report made by the President on the thirty-first of July, there were sixteen cases and five deaths. By a Report from the Resident Physician on the fifth of August, there was one case and one death, and on the ninth of August, he reported five cases. There had also been reported during this period by others, six cases and five deaths, making the total number of cases twenty-eight, and deaths eleven, up to this date.

AUGUST 10, 1822.

One case of Yellow Fever, reported this day.

Two deaths occurred.

The following letter, written to Doctor Burden, by the President, was read and approved.

NEW-YORK, AUG. 10, 1822.

J. R. Burden, M. D.

DEAR SIR,

Since my letter to you of the eight inst. in answer to your several inquiries, on the subject of the Fever, prevalent in Rector-street and its vicinity, there have been reported to the Board of Health eight cases of the same disorder, all traceable to that particular district of our city. A copy of the Reports as made to the Board, was directed to be forwarded to you by the Secretary, a summary of which are as follows.

- 1, Mr. Millspaugh, a labourer, corner of Washington and Carlisle-streets.
- 2, Miss Roberts, in Lumber, near Rector-street.
- 3, Miss Machett, corner of Lumber and Rector street, removed out of the city.
- 4, Miss Keylor, Rector-street, next to the corner of Greenwich, removed out of the city.
- 5, Miss Myers, Lumber-street, near Rector-street, will remove from the city.
- 6, Mrs. Van Winkle, removed from the vicinity of Rector-street.
- 7, Mrs. Ward, Lumber-street, near Rector.
- 8, James Turner, had been working at the foot of Rector-street.

The foregoing cases, establish beyond controversy, the character of the disease; several of them however, are stated to be mild in their operation, and it will be observed, that they are all distinctly traced to the infected district; we are not without hopes therefore, that by a general removal of the inhabitants from that vicinity, which will be strongly recommended, and if necessary enforced, a stop may be put to the further spread of the disorder, and consequently, that all danger arising from the usual intercourse, between this city and others will be removed. The prompt manner in which our Board of Health, communicate all the informa-

tion in their possession on this important subject, will it is hoped, induce those at a distance from the city, to confide in their public statements, as a correct criterion, by which they may judge the extent and prevalence of the disease.

With great respect your obt. servant,

STEPHEN ALLEN.

The following Letter on the same subject, appeared in one of the public papers.

NEW-YORK, AUG. 9, 1822.

DEAR SIR,

IN reply to your request of this morning, I observe, that the disease you refer to, as having made its appearance in Rector-street and its vicinity, is the *Yellow Fever*. I have visited a sufficient number of cases to satisfy me as to the peculiar character of the disorder.

I am happy however to add, that the cases are few in number, that they are all referable to that part of the city where the Fever commenced, and since measures, interdicting communication with the infected parts of the town, have been adopted by the Board of Health, there is reason to believe the evil will be relatively limited in its extent.

As to the origin of the fever I have yet made no inquiries. On this subject I beg leave to refer you to the report of our Health Officer, Dr. Bayley, and the other constituted authorities. I cannot however but make the following remarks, relative to the views of those who ascribe this pestilential form of Fever to domestic sources.

1st. That we have not experienced, in the present season, the high degree or long continuance of heat, nor the quantity of moisture, which they deem necessary for the production of the disease.

2d. That it has appeared in a part of the town which has never before been visited by the fever—a part too admitted to be much more free from local nuisances than almost any part, either of the western or eastern sides of the city.

3d. That at this moment many parts of our city are filthy and offensive in the extreme, and yet proverbially healthy. Of this fact any person may be satisfied who will visit the streets in the north eastern parts of the city, occupied by slaughter houses, where the air is loaded with the offensive vapours arising from the decomposition of blood, and the other offals of those establishments; yet you will be surprised to be told, that those streets are remarkable for their salubrity, and have in no instance, been the seat of pestilence, even when the disease was prevailing in the vicinity of our wharves.

Our Board of Health, doubtless in due season, will direct their attention to the origin of the fever now existing in our city.

I am, dear sir, with respect,

Your humble servant,

DAVID HOSACK.

J. R. BURDEN, M. D,

Secretary to the Board of Health of Philadelphia.



His Hon. the Mayor, presented the following Preamble and Resolutions, which were adopted.

WHEREAS, the Board of Health are now officially informed, that the disorder prevalent in Rector-street and its vicinity, is Yellow or Malignant Fever, and being of opinion, that the removal of the inhabitants from that district of the city, has become indispensable, therefore resolved, that the Mayor be, and he is hereby advised, to cause the removal of all persons who shall be found within the infected district, as now enclosed by fences, erected on the several avenues leading to the same. And resolved, that such of the inhabitants of the infected district, who are unable to provide for themselves, be permitted to occupy either the buildings at the Narrows, belonging to the state, or the buildings provided by this Board, at Kip's Bay, under the direction of the

Committee on that subject, and that the Commissioners of the Alms-House be instructed to furnish what may be deemed necessary for their subsistence from that establishment, should the circumstances of any require such assistance.

Resolved, That no vessels from foreign ports, be permitted to come to the wharves of the city, without the permission of the President and Health Commissioners.

Resolved, That the Vestries of Grace and Trinity Churches, be requested to close their respective Churches, until the further direction of the Board. Adjourned until Sunday at twelve o'clock.

(Signed) STEPHEN ALLEN, *Mayor*.

J. MORTON, *Secretary*.

The Committee appointed, pursuant to the foregoing Resolutions, were, Alderman Wyckoff, Taylor and Williams.

AUGUST 11, 1822.

One case of Yellow Fever reported this day.
No death occurred.

AUGUST 12, 1822.

One case of Yellow Fever reported this day.
One death occurred.

The Recorder moved the following Resolution.

Resolved, That a committee be appointed by this Board, to inquire into the expediency of regulating or preventing the interment of the dead in Trinity Church Yard, during the continuance of the present epidemic.

Referred to the following committee: the Recorder, Alderman Hall, and Dr Dyckman.

AUGUST 13, 1822.

Four cases reported this day.

Three deaths occurred.

The following Report was received from the Sexton of Trinity Church.

Interments in Trinity Church Yard, from the first day of May to the ninth of August.

May.	{ Adults,	-	-	-	-	-	-	12
	{ Children,	-	-	-	-	-	-	13
June.	{ Adults,	-	-	-	-	-	-	29
	{ Children,	-	-	-	-	-	-	17
July.	{ Adults,	-	-	-	-	-	-	24
	{ Children,	-	-	-	-	-	-	30
Aug.	{ Adults,	-	-	-	-	-	-	9
	{ Children	-	-	-	-	-	-	13

Total, 147

Note—Nine of the above Adults are interred in Vaults, and forty-eight of the Children are under two years of age.

EDWARD COATES, *Sexton.*

The following Report was presented and read.

The Committee, to whom was referred a resolution of the Board of Health, directing them to inquire into the expediency of regulating or preventing the interment of the dead in Trinity Church Yard, during the continuance of the present epidemic, respectfully Report.

That they have ascertained, from the return of the Sexton of Trinity Church, that there have been buried in Trinity Church Yard, since the first day of May last, one hundred and forty seven persons.

Your committee have also ascertained, from different persons, on whom they think implicit reliance may be placed, that the yard of that Church is at times, offensive to

persons in its vicinity, and that, in the evening especially, the exhalations are such as perhaps are dangerous to the health of the citizens in its immediate neighbourhood.

It is proper too that the Board should take into consideration, that as long as funerals take place in that Church Yard, a crowd of persons will be collected very near the infected district, and, in many cases, not more than fifty feet from the residence of persons who have sickened with Yellow Fever.

Your committee have also conferred with some highly respectable gentlemen of that Church, and they have expressed a confident opinion, that any measure which this Board may deem essential for the preservation of the public health, will be cheerfully acquiesced in, by the Vestry of Trinity Church.

Your committee therefore recommend the adoption of the following resolutions.

Resolved, That no grave be permitted to be opened or dug in Trinity Church Yard, until the further order of the Board of Health, under the penalty of one hundred dollars.

Resolved, That any sexton or other person who shall permit any burial in the said yard, in violation of the above resolution, or assist in opening or digging any grave there, shall be liable for the said penalty, to be recovered by the Mayor, Aldermen and Commonalty of the city of New-York, before any Court having jurisdiction thereof.

Resolved, That in case any vaults should be opened during the warm season for the interment of any person, it be, and hereby is recommended to the citizens not to follow it into the yard.

All of which is respectfully submitted,

R. RIKER,
JAMES HALL,
J. DYCKMAN,

Ordered, that an Ordinance conformable to the foregoing Report, be prepared and presented to the Common Council at their next meeting.

AUGUST 14, 1822.

Two cases reported this day.
One death occurred.

AUGUST 15, 1822.

One case reported this day.
Two deaths occurred.

AUGUST 16, 1822.

Three cases reported this day.
One death occurred.

AUGUST 17, 1822.

Four cases reported this day.
One death occurred.

Dr. Dyckman Health Commissioner, submitted the following Resolution.

Resolved, That in reply to the letter of the Health Officer of this date, that it is the opinion of this Board, that no part of the cargo of any vessel coming within the sixth section* of the Health Law, be permitted to be brought into this city, provided the Health Officer suspect that such cargo may convey with it infection or contagion.

AUGUST 18, 1822.

One case reported this day.
Two deaths occurred.

* The sixth section relates to vessels, coming from sickly ports.

The following Report was received from the Assistants, the subject having previously been referred to them.

THE HON. THE PRESIDENT OF THE HON. BOARD OF HEALTH.

Your assistants beg leave to report, that they have visited Potter's Field on the eighteenth inst. and found the same in a good state. Mr. Magee, the keeper, buries all Yellow Fever patients in separate graves, and keeps graves dug for that purpose.

The complaint made to the Board, arose from the yard belonging to the Baptist Society, a person dying with Yellow Fever, being brought to the yard before the grave was dug, and was covered with loose sand for about two hours, when the corpse was interred.

B. HICKS,
G. MILLS.

AUG. 18, 1822.

AUGUST 19, 1822.

Five cases was reported this day.

Five deaths occurred.

The following extract from a letter written by the Health Officer, was read.

QUARANTINE GROUND, STATEN ISLAND, AUG. 17, 1822.

As the reasons upon which I founded my belief, why the cargoes from infected vessels, might be injurious to the public health, has been misconceived, (because it was not fully explained in my letter to the President) I beg leave to state, that I mentioned the number of boxes of Sugar, simply to relate the fact, without any reference to their *contents*, to convey the idea that not less than twenty lighter loads (the cargoes of three vessels) were taken out of infected vessels and sent immediately from them to a particular part of the city, in a short period of time, from two to four loads daily; while those lighters were loading the weather was frequently

calm, so that their cargoes were very imperfectly ventilated, and a great part of them were put under deck, so that they could not get aired in passing from here to the city. If it is admitted that vessels from sickly ports contain infected air, which does attach itself to the smooth oak timbers and planks of vessels, that repeated white-washing, &c. is requisite to remove it, is it impossible for such infected air to adhere to rough sawed pine board boxes? could not several lighters loaded with such cargoes, under such circumstances, contain a quantity of infected air, which when discharged with the cargoes at or near one place the same day, and for several days in succession, convey a sufficiency of contagious air as to cause the Yellow Fever in the impure atmosphere of a city, in the same manner as an infected vessel, discharging her cargo along-side of a wharf? such being my opinion, and I conceive it to be my public duty to have it expressed to the Board; if they differ from me, by not thinking it expedient to have the cargoes of infected vessels kept from the city, for a limited time, I will strictly conform to their determination. I shall not give permits for the Brig Lucy Ann to discharge except for the hides to be landed here, until I hear from you.

Yours' very respectfully,

JOSEPH BAYLEY.

The President read a letter he had addressed to the Health Officer, on the subjects contained in the foregoing extract.

MAYOR'S OFFICE, NEW-YORK, AUG. 19, 1822.

Doctor Joseph Bayley,

DEAR SIR,

Your letter of the seventeenth instant, addressed to the Commissioners, was read at a meeting of the Board of Health, held on the day of its date, and a resolution was passed, expressive of their opinion on the important subject suggested for their consideration, of which you have no doubt been officially informed by the Secretary.

It appears to me by no means improbable, that the large quantity of merchandise brought immediately from the holds of infected vessels, and landed in the vicinity of Rector-street, may have been the cause of the pestilence now prevailing in that part of the city; and as it is clearly your opinion, that a sufficiency of contagious air, may be, by this means, introduced into the impure atmosphere of a city, so as to cause Yellow Fever, it follows of course, that this cause ought to be prevented, by prohibiting the introduction of any part of the cargo of an infected vessel, until it shall have been landed and properly ventilated.

If it is probable then, that infection may adhere to the rough boards of the packages constituting the cargo of an infected vessel; and admitted, that it will continue in the holds of such vessel, after all the ordinary means have been used to expel it, may not some of this infection have been disseminated by the vessels alluded to in my letter of the third instant?

That vessels will contain this infected air, after they have been white-washed and ventilated, has been sufficiently proved by the occurrences of the last year, in the instances of the *Lucy Ann*, *Ann Maria*, *Lyon*, and *L'Hirondelle*; and in one thousand eight hundred and nineteen, by the ship *Florestine*, on board of which, some deaths by Yellow Fever occurred, after her discharge from quarantine, and in the present year, by the *United States Ship Enterprise*.

There have been a number of West India vessels at the wharves near Rector-street, but those which I suspect the most, are the *Ship Shamrock*, and the *Schooner Florida*,* alluded to in my letter of the third instant. The *Shamrock* left *Matanzas* on the first day of June last, and was at the *Havanna* early in May preceding, both of which ports are now sickly, and may have been sickly at the time they left them, without being known to the Captains of the vessels; for our own experience confirms the fact, that the *Yellow*

* The *Ship Shamrock* arrived on the eleventh, and the *Schooner Florida*, on the twenty-first of June. They were both put under quarantine for four days.

Fever generally prevails for several weeks at a place, before it is officially announced. To the Florida, I attach much suspicion: she is said to have left this place in November last, for St. Marys, thence to St. Augustine, and from thence to the Havanna, then to Florida Reef, and from thence back to St. Marys; so far the report made by the Captain. But I am led to believe, there is some omission by the Captain, in the detail of his report, and I strongly suspect, that this is the same Schooner Florida, mentioned in a letter, which Doctor Hicks one of the Assistants to the Board of Health, informs me he received from Mr. Walter Smith, dated at St. Augustine, some time last winter, stating that the Yellow Fever was introduced at that place by the Schooner Florida, Captain Johnson, from Havanna. The Shamrock was permitted by the Commissioners, to haul to the wharf at Rector-street, on the twenty-fifth of June, and the Florida on the same day her quarantine expired, and they both continued there until their departure for sea.

The question is, from which of these sources has the present sickness proceeded? Was it from the cargoes of infected vessels landed in the vicinity of Rector-street, or from the vessels alluded to above; or was it from the combination of both? That it proceeded from any local cause in that district of our city, appears to me totally out of the question, since none can be pointed out that has not an existence in almost every other part of the city. We have doubtless much to learn on this important subject, and for myself, I have no hesitation in acknowledging my lack of information. My only guides in these matters are, experience and observation, and from these I draw my conclusions.

The sickness of eighteen hundred and nineteen could not be traced satisfactorily to a cause; neither could that of eighteen hundred and twenty-one, which caused the death of Van Allen, Collis, and Hawley; but they both occurred in the vicinity of the wharves, and although it could not be ascertained that any infected vessels had lain in the neighbourhood of the place where those persons had sickened, yet there was

not a doubt, indeed it proved on examination to be the fact, that several vessels from West India ports, not considered sickly, had been permitted to haul to the docks at the Old Slip, in eighteen hundred and nineteen, and at Roosevelt-street and James' Slip, in eighteen hundred and twenty-one, and it is by no means improbable, that the cargoes of infected vessels had been landed at both these places, as the practice then was, as now, to permit it to be brought to the city in lighters, immediately on its discharge from the vessel at the quarantine. There is in my opinion, therefore, sufficient cause to fear the evil consequences of permitting, during the hot months, vessels under the following circumstances, to come to the wharves of the city. That is to say; All vessels which at any time of the year, have been at those ports where the Yellow Fever annually prevails; or vessels that have been trading among the West India ports during the year, or during the winter months, and have not experienced the renovating influence of frost, to expel the infected atmosphere of that climate from their holds. Neither ought the cargoes of infected vessels to be landed in the city, until it shall be properly ventilated and cleansed; and if the provisions of the present law are not sufficient to authorise the aforesaid measures, it ought to be so amended as to meet the object proposed.

It is admitted that much inconvenience would result to a portion of the mercantile community, from a strict enforcement of the aforesaid measures, but it is believed, that the loss of property in the aggregate will be much greater, if our citizens shall be compelled annually to flee from the pestilence, than would result from a system of strict quarantine, duly observed, and rigidly enforced. I am well persuaded that it is the interest of this city, that every facility should be given to commerce, consistent with the health of its inhabitants; and in order to mitigate the inconvenience to which the owners of vessels trading to sickly or suspected ports, may be subjected by restrictive measures, and in order that the detention of the cargoes of infected vessels may be

attended with the least possible disadvantage to the owners or consignees, I am of opinion, that store houses ought to be erected at Staten Island, and at other places out of the city, for their reception, at the public expense.

The length to which I have extended this letter, requires an apology, but I can only plead the importance of the subject, in my view, as an excuse, which I pray you to accept.

With great respect,

I am, your obedient servant,

STEPHEN ALLEN.

AUGUST 20, 1822.

Four cases reported this day.
One death occurred.

The following was received from the authorities of the village of Brooklyn.

BROOKLYN, AUG. 19, 1822.

To the Board of Health of the City of New-York.

Doctor Hunt who has been appointed by us as a Health Physician for our village, Reports, that the following persons are sick on board of the Brig Almira, from Savannah, now lying at our wharves, viz. Joseph Small, John M. Kelly, seamen, and Alexander Lord, mate, and that the disease of the first and last of these persons are so doubtful and suspicious, that he recommends their removal from this village, he has also reported that one of the crew, of the name of J. O'Conner, is dead, and we have had him buried; we therefore recommend that the said vessel and crew should be remanded to the quarantine.

Respectfully, yours,

AMIE J. BARBARINE, }
JOHN GARRISON. }

Justices of the Peace.

H

Measures were immediately adopted to remove the aforesaid persons to the Marine Hospital.

AUGUST 21, 1822.

Seven cases reported this day.
Four deaths occurred.

AUGUST 22, 1822.

Three cases reported this day.
Three deaths occurred.

AUGUST 23, 1822.

Five cases reported this day.
One death occurred.

The following Report was received from Drs. Bliss and Stevens.

To the Honourable Stephen Allen, President of the Board of Health.

SIR,

The case of Fever at the corner of Wall-street and New-street, respecting which our suspicions were expressed yesterday morning, has now so far developed its character as to leave no doubt of its being Yellow Fever. The patient states that he does not recollect to have been in Broadway or west of it since the ninth instant, when on his arrival from the country, after an absence of — days, he walked up Courtlandt-street, and down Broadway to his place of residence.

We have the honour to be, &c. &c.

JAMES C. BLISS,
ALEX. H. STEVENS.

MR. BAYARD appeared before the Board in behalf of sundry merchants, and requested to know whether room could be provided in the City-Hall for the accommodation of the Custom-House, if the Collector would consent to remove thither. The Board, so far as they possessed influence or power in relation to the subject, signified their acquiescence to the proposal.

AUGUST 24, 1822.

Six cases reported this day.

Two deaths occurred.

The following notice was submitted by the President and directed to be published.

BOARD OF HEALTH, AUG. 24, 1822.

The Board of Health are desirous that their Assistants should examine and ascertain whether any noxious or impure article has been left in any of the storehouses or premises within the fenced district, and in order that this object may be effected, they request the occupants of stores within the said district, either to inform the President of the Board at what place their keys may be found, or to leave them at the Mayor's office, properly labelled. Care will be taken that no person shall enter the said premises, except the Assistants to the Board, and the keys will be safely returned to the owners of them.

By order of the Board of Health,

STEPHEN ALLEN, *President.*

J. MORTON, *Secretary.*

AUGUST 25, 1822.

Five cases reported this day.

Two deaths occurred.

The following communication from Dr. D. W. Kissam, Junr. together with the opinion of Dr. Hosack, given at the request of the president, was read.

To the Honourable Stephen Allen, President of the Board of Health.

SIR,

I saw through the medium of the Evening Post, of Thursday, August twenty-two, that you were desirous of adopting measures (should there be any substance known that would have that effect) for the prevention of the impending danger that we are subjected to at this time by the prevailing epidemic. I would suggest to the Board of Health the use of the pyroligneous acid, which is the most powerful antiseptic or corrector of animal and vegetable decomposition, that is at present known. Experience in this as well as in other cities, particularly in Europe, has proved its efficacy in surgical cases. Sinks and other places, where putrefaction was going on and very offensive, have been instantaneously corrected, and made sweet by it. Many gentlemen in this city have used it in their privies, always with the same happy effect. I have ascertained that this acid may be procured in any quantity that may be required, at twenty-five cents per gallon, and from a calculation as to the probable quantity that will be wanted, the result is as follows; if applied in the same manner that our streets have been watered for the last few years. One hogshead containing one hundred and seventy gallons of the acid will wet a street of three hundred feet in length, and twenty-five in breadth, equal to seven thousand five hundred feet, and the whole number of feet that will particularly require to be wet with this acid, by a partial calculation will amount to about one hundred and fifty thousand, which will require two thousand seven hundred and forty gallons of the acid, at twenty-five cents per gallon, will make the trifling sum of seven hundred and thirteen dollars. If it required twice, or even five times that quantity (provided it should check the epidemic) what, let me ask every phylanthropic mind, would it be in comparison to the lives of so many of our

fellow-citizens ? I hope for the honour of science, and the safety of the citizens this may be made the subject of close investigation ; at least an experiment might be made immediately at the pleasure of the Board, by recommending the use of it on board of such vessels, that arrive at quarantine with Yellow Fever.

This is very respectfully submitted to the consideration of the Board of Health.

DANIEL W. KISSAM, Jr. M. D.

P. S. The acid can be obtained at the lead manufactory, Broadway.

NEW-YORK, AUGUST 25, 1822.

The Hon. Stephen Allen.

DEAR SIR,

In your favour of this morning, you do me the honour to ask my opinion relative to the advantages to be derived from the use of the *pyroligneous acid*, in counteracting the progress of the disease with which our city is afflicted.

The acid in question, it is well known to chemists, bears a very near resemblance to the *acetous acid*, or *acid of vinegar* ; the former containing an empyreumatic oil, not existing in the latter. It is also well ascertained, that the *pyroligneous acid*, is the most powerful agent that has been discovered, for preserving animal and vegetable substances from the putrefactive state, and to a certain extent of restoring them when impure. In as far, therefore, as it is calculated to arrest the putrefactive fermentation, I entirely concur in recommending the use of it, as suggested by the writer of the communication you refer to, for the purpose of *washing impure ships at quarantine*, and of *correcting the offensiveness and impurities of sewers, privies, &c.* For these purposes the *pyroligneous acid* is doubtless a cheap and efficacious antiseptic.

But as this substance does not readily assume the state of vapour, so as to be diffused through the atmosphere ; and as we possess no evidence of its operation upon the air, its ef-

fects as a means of destroying contagion, and of purifying the infected district of our city, are in my opinion too doubtful to justify the experiment of conveying it through our streets, in the manner that has been proposed.

Allow me, however, in this communication, as connected with this subject, to call the attention of the Board of Health to the means of purification, which have been long since sanctioned by experience; I refer to the *nitrous and oxymuriatic acid fumigations*, recommended as early as seventeen hundred and fifty, by Dr. Johnston, of Worcester, and which have been so successfully employed at Dijon, in France, by the celebrated Guyton de Morveau, and at Winchester, in England, by Dr. Carmichael Smyth, and for which the latter after the most mature investigation of their efficacy, by a board composed of a great number of the most respectable medical men of Great Britain, received a Parliamentary reward of *ten thousand pounds* sterling.

Should the Board of Health, resolve to adopt the measures recommended, and which will be attended with very inconsiderable expense, I can refer them to a gentleman of science and great practical skill in conducting chemical processes, who is in all respects qualified to carry into operation the wishes of the Board on this subject. With the hope that these means may prove successful in arresting the progress of the pestilence with which we are visited.

I am dear Sir, with sentiments of great regard,

Respectfully yours,

DAVID HOSACK.

AUGUST 26, 1822.

Four cases reported this day.

Three deaths occurred.

The following Letter from the President, to the Health Officer, together with his answer, was read.

NEW-YORK, AUG. 26, 1822.

DR. JOSEPH BAYLEY,

DEAR SIR,

OUR Boatman has represented to me, that he can obtain no assistance from your people, in conveying from the boat to the Hospital, the sick persons sent down by us; you will please inquire as to the truth of the aforesaid representation, and if any difficulty exists on the subject with the persons now employed, you will please engage additional hands, at the expense of the Board of Health.

The Board desire me to request, that you will furnish them with a daily statement, designating the disease with which each person we may send to the Marine Hospital is afflicted, and that whenever any death may occur, that it may be announced to us.

With much respect,

Your obt. servant,

STEPHEN ALLEN.

QUARANTINE GROUND, STATEN-ISLAND, AUG. 27, 1822.

DEAR SIR,

Your boatman has misrepresented us in want of attention to aid him in taking the sick to the Hospital; the truth is, he would not render any himself, and informed me that his agreement was, neither to help the sick, in or out of his boat; although he promised me last evening when he brought Edward Boulanger, that he would assist our orderly man in bringing him up, yet he would not aid him. The orderly man and steward are the only men attached to the Hospital, and they generally attend to this duty; but heretofore the boatmen who brought the sick from the city, always assisted in bringing them to the Hospital; if this practice is to be discontinued, I will procure more help, so that no difficulty may occur hereafter.

I will attend to the desire of the Board, and inform them of the state of those persons sent here from the city and Fort Richmond. The death of three men was stated in the weekly reports, since then Mary Atkinson, from forty-nine Greenwich-street, died last night, and Edward Boulanger, (we do not know where from, for he has not been able to inform us) will probably die this night; Mrs. S. White, from Lumber-street, and Polly Wood, from Dr. Floyds, Greenwich-street, convalescent; Margaret Vanderwater and Henry Vanderwater, from forty-nine Cedar-street, last from Fort Richmond, the first recovering, the second symptoms favorable at present; Anthony Zargable, from seventy-eight Cedar-street, symptoms unfavourable, and Richard Todd, from six Beaver-Lane, not as ill as Zargable, they were both received this evening; those are all the cases of Yellow Fever that we have received from the city.

Ann Mc Coy, who was sent from two hundred and fifty-two William-street, was not a case of Yellow Fever, but the consequence of intemperance, she is now well. William Cook, seaman, sent from the Schooner George, lying at Peck-Slip, had an affection of his lungs, with Bilious Remittent Fever, he is convalescent. Mrs. Bostwick from the corner of Beaver-Lane and Washington-street, and the sister to Kearney, was taken sick at Fort Richmond, August twenty-third, and may be considered as a suspicious case, although the irritable state of her stomach, is the only leading symptom of that disease which she has as yet. She is suffering under mental distress in consequence of the loss of her brother, &c. The above are all the cases we have received from the city, except three or four seamen from vessels from Savannah, with Bilious Remittent Fever, who are generally doing well.

With great respect I remain,

Your very humble servant,

JOSEPH BAYLEY.

In consequence of the information contained in the foregoing letter, the boatman employed by the Board of Health, was discharged, and a fit person employed in his stead.

AUGUST 27, 1822.

Four cases reported this day.
Four deaths occurred.

AUGUST 28, 1822.

Six cases reported this day.
Six deaths occurred.

AUGUST 29, 1822.

Six cases reported this day.
Four deaths occurred.

The following Resolution was adopted.

Resolved, That the physicians who report to the Board persons as ill of Yellow Fever, be requested in case of the death of such persons, to report their names, with the time of decease to the Board.

AUGUST 30, 1822.

Four cases reported this day.
Four deaths occurred.

*The following communication was received from Dr. S. Ack-
erly, read and ordered to be published.*

NEW-YORK, AUGUST 29, 1822.

*To the Hon. the President and the Members of the New-
York Board of Health.*

GENTLEMEN,

I have taken the liberty of attending several meetings of your honourable body, and have listened to the propositions of those gentlemen, who have given their opinions, as to the best method of purifying the atmosphere in that part of the

city afflicted with a malignant disease. Observing that the communications on this important subject, were referred to a committee, with powers to institute an experiment if they should deem it expedient, I most respectfully solicit the attention of your Board, to a few observations, touching these points as connected with the health of our city.

1 Of Pyroligneous Acid.

The proposition to sprinkle the city with this acid, in the infected district, appears to arise from the idea that the cause of the disease which alarms the city, exists in the open streets and along the gutters, and hence, if this great antiseptic was thus applied, the cause of the disease would be removed and the sickness cease. It is supposable from the nature of the proposition, that large quantities of putrefying materials, animal or vegetable, remain there, and that the putrefaction is to be arrested by application of the acid. If such materials are not there the acid will do no good; vinegar will not pickle where it is not applied, so the pyroligneous acid will not arrest putrefaction unless applied to the substances in that condition. It is well known to your honourable body, that pyroligneous acid is a kind of vinegar distilled from wood, and is a powerful antiseptic or preserver of animal and vegetable substances from putrefaction. It is a fuliginous or smoky acid, combining the properties of charcoal and vinegar. It is an admirable preserver of animal substances when properly applied. If however animal or vegetable substances in an impure state are not to be found in the streets, but are found in other parts of the sickly district and supposed to be the cause of the disease pervading that part of the city, they must be collected together and immersed or repeatedly sprinkled with the pyroligneous acid, in order to correct the evil; if they cannot be collected or are not found in the compass of a small space, this acid cannot be advantageously applied; if the cause of disease exists in the atmosphere, independent of local contamination, the pyroligneous acid, would be equally inefficacious; from this view of the subject, it appears that the plan and manner of employing the pyroligneous acid or vinegar of

wood is wholly inadmissible, and would be attended with a great unnecessary and useless expense.

2 *Nitrous acid and oxygenated muriatic acid fumigations.*

It has been proposed to the Board of Health to purify the atmosphere of the city by fumigation of *nitrous acid*, and by the oxygenated *muriatic acid*; should the Board think proper to adopt this method of purification, it will only reward their anxiety and exertions by failing to produce the desired effect. These fumigations are recommended on the high authority of Guyton de Morveau, a French Chemist, and Dr. Carmichael Smyth, of England; but let us not be carried away by high authority without reason. Their practice arose from the assumption of a false hypothesis, and hence their reasoning and deductions were illusive. The objects of these gentlemen were sought to be obtained by chemical changes produced upon the infectious atmosphere, by expelling or neutralizing the supposed contagion therein contained. Their reasoning was good if their premises had been correct, but as their assumptions were untrue, their deductions were false.

Acid fumigations were recommended some forty or more years ago, when chemical science was less advanced than at the present time. They were recommended upon the presumption of *the alkaline nature of contagion*. Hence as acids are opposed to alkalis, the former it was thought would consequently counteract the infectious state of the atmosphere, and its inherent contagion, which caused malignant and fatal diseases. These observations apply to all the acids when used as preventives by way of fumigation. The principal which have been used are the sulphuric acid, or oil of vitriol; the nitric acid, or aqua fortis; and the muriatic acid, or spirit of sea salt. These acids I venture to say, will produce no more effect in the manner recommended, than sprinkling the streets with vinegar, scattering snuff into the air, or holding camphor to the nose.

One other assumption has been stated as a reason for the use of acid fumigation. It was considered as a fact, that whenever the atmosphere was contaminated, and malignant

or contagious diseases were generated, that there the air was deprived of a part or the whole of its vital portion or oxygen. That this assumption is incorrect, we may satisfy ourselves by consulting the works of Priestly on air, Morveau himself on infected air, Alibert on malignant intermittents, Doctor Sybert in the medical museum of Philadelphia, of Nicholson's journal, &c.

That these factitious airs, gases or acid fumigations, are useless, we have the testimony both of Morveau and Doctor Carmichael Smyth. Doctor Smyth has condemned the oxygenated muriatic acid fumigations of Morveau, and the latter has treated Smyth's nitrous acid fumes as inert and defective. (See Morveau on infected air, and the New-York Medical Repository, volume six, and the new series of the same volume two.) Doctor Trotter, a celebrated British Physician, affirms that "Dr. Smyth's prevention is the very substance that every intelligent officer is hourly employed to drive from the decks of his Majesty's ships." (See Trotter's *Medicina Nautica*.) In this work is contained a formal complaint against fumigations with nitrous acid fumes. He states, that one of the experiments held up to public view is a "*deception from first to last*." So little faith have the British (medical) public in this remedy, that it has been abandoned, or not generally adopted, and no reliance of late placed upon it. Even in 1809, when the British army at Walcheren suffered so much from infectious diseases, nitrous acid fumigations were not employed. (See new series Medical Repository, volume two.)

I consider it worse than useless to adopt the employment of these acid fumigations long since abandoned and proved to be inefficacious. But if they were good, powerful and salutary in checking or purifying the infectious air of a ship, a prison, a church, or an hospital, how could the remedy be applied to the infected district of this city? In all the instances recorded by Smyth, Morveau, and others, the acid fumes were employed and confined to a single ship, prison, church, or ward of an hospital. (See Smyth on jail distemper, and Morveau on infected air.) We cannot then em-

ploy the acid fumigations in the streets, because their authors never employed or recommended them in the open air. If they are used in the houses, the infection still remains in the external atmosphere, and their employment would be nugatory.

The instance of the Cathedral of Dijon, referred to in a communication to the Board, was that of a Church in France, which produced a malignant disease in the congregation from the putrid bodies of the persons buried in the vaults of the Church. The disease ceased after the Church was ventilated and fumigated. The cure was attributed to the fumigation, but the sepulchral vaults were secured, and the source of infection occluded, and nothing more was necessary.

The famous Winchester experiment was made in seventeen hundred and eighty, and after laying dormant for fifteen years, the British Admiralty ordered an experiment on board the Union Hospital Ship, in seventeen hundred and ninety-five, with the vapours emitted by salt-petre when under decomposition, by means of the sulphuric acid. Dr. Smyth in his letter on the subject to Earl Spencer, gives a flattering account of the experiment, "the sick were made to breathe for some time the airs extricated from the nitre, while the ship's ports and scuttles were intentionally closed up to confine the medicated steams," but this was not all, the Surgeon took care to have "the dirty linen immediately immersed in cold water on deck, and rinsed out before it was carried to the wash-house;" also, in paying due attention to cleanliness and ventilation, and in having seven noisome privies removed from the inside of the lower deck, and two from the inside of the middle deck to the outside of the ship. In these cases there appears to be a deception in the use of acid vapours, and the authors have overlooked the effects of cleanliness, ventilation and the removal of the causes of an infectious atmosphere.

I have infringed upon the time and indulgence of your honourable body, and hope the facts and observations presented, will receive the consideration which the importance

of the subject demands. But it is also hoped, that the Board will not sanction at the public expense a futile experiment with acid vapours. If however, there are persons who have faith in the recommendation, let them try the experiment at their own expense, under the direction of one of the medical officers of the Board. We have a Resident Physician, a Health Commissioner, a City Inspector and an Assistant to the Board of Health, who are Physicians, and must be capable of conducting and directing such experiments. In this way the public cannot be imposed upon.

The method employed by Dr. Smyth to produce the nitrous acid gas is not difficult. If the board choose to sanction it in this way, and if any of the citizens should wish to know the process, they have only to take some nitre or salt petre, place it on a dish, apply a hot iron and shut the doors and windows for a while to keep in the fumes. This was Dr. Smyth's first method. His improved process was to pulverize the nitre, put it in a dish or earthen cup and pour on a little oil of vitriol or sulphuric acid, and so continue until the nitre is decomposed. The earthen vessels were sometimes placed upon a chafing dish of coals, that the heat might hasten the chemical action and extrication of the vapours. These however are about as good as the fumes produced from exploding gunpowder.

The oxygenated muriatic acid gas, is pungent and irritating to the lungs, producing a cough and other unpleasant and sometimes dangerous symptoms. Its use is therefore objectionable in inhabited dwellings. If desired it may be produced after the following manner. Mix two parts of common salt, with one of black oxyde of manganese, and pour upon it two parts of sulphuric acid; and the fumes of oxygenated muriatic acid gas, will arise therefrom. (See Thompson's Chemistry.)

Having commented upon the inutility of pyroligneous acid sprinkled in the streets, and of acid fumigations, it may be thought that some other preposition is due: the following is therefore, with due deference, submitted to your honourable body.

Whatever may have given origin to the first cases of the malignant disease in the lower part of the city, whether they were imported or not, it is evident to all that there must be something in the infected district which contaminates the air and propogates the disease. I am willing to suppose (for argument sake) that the first case of disease might have been imported, but as it does not appear to propogate itself by contagion, there must be local causes to engender and renew it. The laws under which the Board of Health act, recognise both importation and domestic origin, and the measures pursued by your honourable body indicate that filthy streets, noisome privies, improper burials, &c. may be causes of malignant fevers. The disease which has been heretofore confined to a small district, is gradually extending its influence as the continuance of heat increases the noxious exhalations. What then is the state of the case ?

We have had a season of long continued heat, acting upon a dense population in a small district, which has been long settled with narrow streets, small lots, many privies, bad well-water, and one of the largest burying grounds in the city.

Other causes, may possibly be found which added to these, may keep the air in an unhealthy condition. If this malignant disease was propagated by communication with the sick, there would be no need of removing or counteracting these local evils, since as Doctor Carmichael Smyth himself says, that, "contagion being constantly generated, it requires to be as constantly destroyed. (See Morveau on infected air, page 56.) But as the Yellow Fever out of the infected district of this city, does not spread from one to another, there is strong grounds to suspect that some local cause or causes may have an agency in impregnating the atmosphere with noxious exhalations. The means then that I propose to counteract these exhalations, are common and well known antiseptics, to be applied to the sources of foul emanations. They are, *lime, ashes, charcoal, and tan or oak-bark.*

LIME.

Lime is well known and is already in use by advice, and under the authority of your honourable body, and needs no comment.

ASHES.

The healthiness of the soap boilers employment has been long established and is owing to the potash or vegetable alkali contained in the ashes, the antiseptic quality of which prevents decomposition and preserves the fat or oil with which it is combined to make soap.

CHARCOAL.

The antiseptic quality of charcoal is also established beyond dispute. It will preserve meat fresh, and even restore putrid flesh. Its preservative qualities are well known but not much used. The distiller is well acquainted with its power to remove impure tastes, and smell from liquor, and to rectify whiskey into neutral spirits. There are some other uses to which it is applied, and it demands attention on the present occasion.

TAN OR OAK-BARK.

The principal contained in oak-bark, and which acts in preserving hides in the tan vat is called *tannin*. Every tanner and currier is acquainted with this powerful antiseptic. Without it the hides in the vat would putrify, and the employment would be a very unhealthy one, but the tan together with lime used by the trade, preserves the hide and prevents disease.

Now let these antiseptics be used in sufficient quantity separately and in combination. Cover the cart-ways in the infected district (as yet but limited) with tanners' bark, such as is employed to prevent the noise before a sick house, or the fresh bark if it can be procured. This expense will not be all lost, as the bark may be afterwards collected for fuel, and sent to the Alms-house for the poor. The privies should be rendered innocuous by a sufficient quantity of lime, ashes, charcoal, or if you please by the vinegar of wood (pyrologig-

neous acid.) The yards of the houses may be purified by a mixture of charcoal or ashes (or both) mingled with a little clay, that it may not be too readily blown away by the wind, if the weather continues hot and dry.

The case of the Cathedral of Dijon already cited, is a proof that noxious exhalations may arise from dead bodies; and that such exhalations may arise from Trinity Church Yard, we have a report from your honourable body that excites apprehensions in the public mind, that disease is to be apprehended there. That ground has been one hundred and twenty-four years receiving the dead, and the evil day has at length arrived. To strike at the root of this evil, no further interments should be allowed there. The graves might be levelled and covered with a body of clay, upon which a layer of lime, ashes and charcoal should be placed, and the grave stones laid flat, that the rain may run off and not penetrate the soil to hasten putrefaction and increase the exhalations.

From a hasty view of the subject these measures appear to be adapted to the nature of the case, and are respectfully submitted by your fellow-citizen and humble servant.

SAMUEL AKERLY.

AUGUST 31, 1822.

Five cases reported this day.

Two deaths occurred.

SEPTEMBER 1, 1822.

Four cases reported this day.

Six deaths occurred.

SEPTEMBER 2, 1822.

Five cases reported this day.

Seven deaths occurred.

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The following Resolution was passed by the Board.

Resolved, That the Health Committee be authorised to employ such number of persons as a Water Watch, as in their opinion may be necessary, for the effectual protection of the property of our fellow citizens, in the lower parts of the city.

SEPTEMBER 3, 1822.

Three cases reported this day.
One death occurred.

The following notice was issued by the Health Committee.

NOTICE.

The Board of Health have determined to establish a Watch on the East and North River, for the purpose of guarding from depredation, both by day and night, that portion of the city evacuated by the inhabitants. It is expected that at least two vessels, of forty or fifty tons burthen, will be required to be anchored at a convenient place in each river, with row boats of a proper size attached, and a sufficient number of men for the necessary relief. Any person owning vessels of the above description, and disposed to engage in the aforesaid business, will receive all necessary information by applying to the Committee, at the old Alms House, in the rear of the City-Hall.

All persons employed as private Watchmen, are requested to call on the Committee of the Board of Health, at the old Alms House, and give in their names, and shew the authority under which they act; otherwise they will be considered as having no right to act as Watchmen, but be subject to be taken up by the City Watch.

By order of the Committee,

HENRY I. WYCKOFF, Chairman.

SEPTEMBER 4, 1822.

Nine cases reported this day.

Four deaths occurred.

The following Communication was presented by the Mayor, and ordered to be published.

“The Mayor begs leave to inform the Board of Health that the following stores and premises have been examined by the Assistants, and reported to him as containing no article injurious to the health of the city, and particularly, that there are no hides stored therein, viz:—numbers 59, 65, 67, 71, 73, 81, 91, 97, 101, 103, and 109 Washington-street.—Also the store corner of Marketfield and Washington-streets, and 126 Liberty-street. As it is desirable that every store in this district, not included in the above list, should be examined, in order that the public may be satisfied whether any noxious or putrid articles are deposited within them; it is recommended that the owners of stores who have omitted to leave their keys agreeably to the notice of the Board of Health, issued on the twenty-fourth ultimo, be again requested to comply with the aforesaid notice.

The Assistants have also examined a number of dwelling-houses, at the request of the owners. The doors and windows of the following numbers were found shut and secure, and the property within them in good order, viz: 35, 48, 52, 62, 67, 70, 97, 104, 110 and 113 Greenwich-street; also the house and store corner of Broadway and Pine-street, 20 Broad-street, 5 Bridge-street, 3 and 15 Rector-street, 105 and 142 Washington-street, 148 Broadway, 118 Lumber, and 86 Liberty-street.

The following houses have been broken open, and some articles of furniture, &c. wantonly destroyed by the villains who entered them, viz:—numbers 43, 58, 66, 68, 94, 96, 98, and 106 Greenwich-street—numbers 114 and 117 Washington-street—numbers 20 and 25 Rector-street—number 5 Albany-street, and number 4 Dey-street. The property stolen, so far as can be ascertained at present, does not ap-

pear to be of great value, and it is therefore believed that the perpetrators of the aforesaid acts, are youths or boys, two of whom are apprehended and have been convicted by the Court of Sessions. The doors and windows of all the houses examined have been properly secured, and it is believed that the vigilance of the watch which has been appointed to guard that part of the city, will prevent in future a repetition of similar offences.”

SEPTEMBER 5, 1822.

Ten cases reported this day.

Four deaths occurred.

The following Address was presented by the President, and ordered to be published.

SEPTEMBER 4, 1822.

The Board of Health are sorry to learn, that after exhausting every measure of persuasion, and, in some instances, compulsion, for the purpose of removing the inhabitants from the infected district, that there are persons, on whom neither the penalties of the law, the preservation of their own lives, nor the duty they owe the public as good citizens, will prevent from frequenting that part of the city considered infected. The Board have been led to hope, that the measures they have adopted in fencing that portion of the city to the west of Liberty-street, including Broadway, at its intersection with the aforesaid street, would not only have induced the inhabitants in the vicinity of the fences to remove, as well as those within them, but would have been a warning to every person to avoid approaching the prescribed district and its vicinity; and consequently, that a stop would have been put to the occurrence of new cases of fever in the city.

This well founded hope, however, has not been realized; for, although it is twenty-nine days since the Board publicly advised the inhabitants of Rector-street and its vicinity to remove with their families, and twenty-five since the fences

were erected, still they are daily receiving reports of cases, brought on through the temerity of the subjects, either by continuing to reside in the infected atmosphere, or entering it, contrary to the advice and prohibition of the public authority of the city.

The Board have deemed it proper again to caution their fellow citizens generally, and all others, against approaching that part of the city included within the following limits, that is to say: Beginning on the Hudson River, at the pier of number nineteen, at the foot of Dey-street, running up Dey-street to Broadway, down Broadway to Maiden-lane, down Maiden-lane to William-street, down William-street to Beaver-street, along Beaver-street to the Bowling-Green, crossing the Bowling-Green to Marketfield-street, and along Marketfield-street to the Hudson River.

The Board have reason to believe, that the aforesaid district may be deemed infected, and, therefore, that there is great danger in approaching it, particularly by those citizens who have retired from their stores, or dwellings, to a healthy situation; and in order that every person may be apprised of the consequences of entering the proscribed limits, it is hereby made known, that orders have been issued to the persons appointed as day and night watchmen, to bring before the competent authority all persons found within the same.

The Board announce to their fellow citizens, with perfect confidence, that all that part of the city to the east and north of the City-Hall, and which contains three-fourths of the population, is perfectly healthy, and may be frequented with the utmost safety; and they have no reason to doubt, that all the other parts of the city, not included within the infected bounds, as above described, is also free from disease and contagion.

By order of the Board.

STEPHEN ALLEN, *President.*

J. MORTON, *Secretary.*

SEPTEMBER 6, 1822.

Two cases reported this day.
One death occurred.

SEPTEMBER 7, 1822.

Six cases reported this day.
Two deaths occurred.

The following Notice was issued by the Health Committee.

By a resolution of the Board of Health, the Committee were directed to station Guard Boats in the East and North Rivers, for the protection of property in the lower parts of the city. Agreeably to the above resolution, the Committee give notice to their fellow-citizens, that they have engaged two vessels with a suitable number of men and row-boats; one of which vessels will be stationed in the stream of the East River, midway between the Battery and Maiden-lane; and the other between the Battery and Washington Market, on the North River, to take their stations this morning. In order to carry into full effect the intentions of the Board of Health, the committee have instructed the commanders of the guard vessels not to permit, during the night, any boats to enter in or depart from the district under their charge, but to detain all such persons as shall be found violating the notice now given; and during the day, to permit no boats to pass without strict examination, and to detain all such as may appear suspicious. And in order to avoid inconvenience to the persons owning property deposited on the east side of the city, it is recommended that application be made to the committee for permits, whenever a removal by water is required.

By order of the Committee,

HENRY I. WYCKOFF, *Chairman,*

SEPTEMBER 8, 1822.

Five cases reported this day.
Eight deaths occurred.

SEPTEMBER 9, 1822.

Six cases reported this day.
Two deaths occurred.

SEPTEMBER 10, 1822.

Six cases reported this day.
Four deaths occurred.

SEPTEMBER 11, 1822.

Ten cases reported this day.
One death occurred.

The following Resolution, proposed by the Recorder, was adopted.

Resolved, That a special committee be appointed by this Board, for the purpose of adopting such means as in their judgment may, by possibility arrest the further extension of the prevailing epidemic in our city: *Provided*, that the said committee shall not, in all the experiments to which they may resort, expend more than seven hundred and fifty dollars.

The committee appointed pursuant to the foregoing resolution, were—His Hon. the Recorder, Alderman Hall and Alderman Mc Queen.

SEPTEMBER 12, 1822.

Seven cases reported this day.
Three deaths occurred.

SEPTEMBER 13, 1822.

Four cases reported this day.
Six deaths occurred.

SEPTEMBER 14, 1822.

Four cases reported this day.
Three deaths occurred.

The following Address was presented by the President, and ordered to be published.

THE BOARD OF HEALTH TO THEIR FELLOW CITIZENS.

The Board have learnt with regret, that great excitement and alarm has been manifested by that portion of their fellow citizens who have removed, or reside in the upper parts of the city; arising as they are informed, from the opinion, that the persons who have removed from the infected district, with the prevailing disorder upon them, and have located themselves in that neighbourhood, may be the means of spreading the infection in that part of the city.

The Board believe that the present alarm is unfounded, for as yet, there is no instance within the knowledge of the Board, among the numerous removals which have occurred, where any part of the family, or the attendants of the sick, have contracted the disorder out of the infected district; and it is therefore concluded, that the present disease (so far at least) is not infectious in a healthy atmosphere. The Board have nevertheless used every means compatible with propriety, for the removal of the sick to the places provided for that purpose, out of the city; and consequently, all persons who could be brought to consent to the measure, all transient persons, and all those without families or friends, have been removed. The Board feel every disposition to do all acts that they may be called upon by duty or propriety to perform, which will tend to allay the apprehensions, or mitigate

the afflictions of their fellow-citizens ; but they cannot consent to exercise an authority, (without the most cogent necessity) that shall tear from their friends or relatives a person suffering under disease, when there is no proof as yet developed, that there is danger to be apprehended by the neighbourhood, or even by the inmates of the house, in which the sickness prevails.

The Board have no manner of doubt, that on reflection, the candour and good sense of that portion of their fellow-citizens who may differ with them on this subject, will induce such to acknowledge, that a compulsory removal of those whose friends and relatives have provided for them an asylum in the healthy parts of our city, would be a measure so repugnant to every feeling of humanity, under present circumstances, that it ought not to be resorted to.

By order of the Board,

STEPHEN ALLEN, *President.*

J. MORTON, *Secretary.*



SEPTEMBER 15, 1822.

Eleven cases reported this day.

Two deaths occurred.

The following Address was published by the Special Committee, on measures for arresting the progress of the epidemic.

TO THE PUBLIC.

The special committee appointed by the Board of Health, for the purpose of adopting such means, as in their judgment, may, by possibility arrest the further extension of the prevailing epidemic in our city, respectfully request, that the officers to whom the several churches within the city have confided the direction of their affairs, will be pleased, without delay, to cause the burial places attached to their

respective churches, to be covered thickly with lime, or charcoal, or both.

The Committee also request, the proprietors of all manufactories, in which filth or impure air may be collected, to order such manufactories to be thoroughly cleansed with lie, lime or potash. And the Committee most earnestly call upon their fellow citizens at large, to cause ashes, lie, lime, potash or charcoal, to be freely used in their yards, privies and gutters. They also recommend to them, after they close their houses at night, to slack in their kitchens and cellars, a small quantity of lime. This, it is believed, will contribute to purify the air within doors.

The Committee also beg leave to remind their fellow citizens, whose stores or cellars are situated near the margin of either river, that they ought at this season of the year, to anticipate the possibility of a heavy storm, and a consequent rising of the tide, which may be attended with very pernicious effects, if means should not have been previously provided to avert the consequences. Such citizens as have not taken the precaution to meet such an event, are requested to attend to it, or, if they be fearful of going into the infected district, if they will send their keys labeled and numbered, to the President of the Board of Health, the necessary measures will be resorted to, under the care of the Assistants of the Board.

The Committee regret the trouble, to which a compliance with the above request must subject many of their fellow citizens. It will, however, the Committee hope, be ascribed to the solicitude they feel for the general safety.

The Fever has greatly extended its original limits, the weather from its extreme heat is deemed to be unpropitious. During the present month, it has been several degrees hotter than it was in September, seventeen hundred and ninety-eight; that year the Fever continued its ravages until the tenth of November. On the first of November eleven persons died of Fever; on the second, seven; on the fourth, seven; and on the fifth, four. Hitherto no agent but frost has been known to destroy Yellow Fever. If no other

agent can be found, we have no alternative but in patiently submitting to all the evils and inconveniences, that must of necessity afflict the multitudes of families driven from their homes.

The Committee are not however, without their hopes. Experience has shown that one of the most awful diseases which ever threatened the life of man, has yielded to a mild antidote. The small pox is now harmless. The reason why vaccination is a preventive, we are not permitted to know. We know the fact. This knowledge is the result of human labour, and it ought to teach an enlightened and pious community, that they have no right to give themselves up to despair.

The committee have adopted upon an extended scale, some of the methods which have been recommended, to arrest the further progress of the disease; other means will be used. On their part nothing shall be omitted. They rely with confidence upon their fellow citizens to second their efforts.

The Committee are fully sensible of the difficulties they have to encounter. The Fever is widely diffused; the heat of the weather is great; the means they employ are uncertain; the faculty of the healing art are divided in their opinion. Your Committee, however, ask a prompt compliance with their recommendations, and they trust, under the favour of divine Providence, that they will be enabled to prevent the disease from reaching the yet healthy parts of our city.

R. RIKER,
JAMES HALL,
ROBERT M'QUEEN.

NEW-YORK, SEPT. 14, 1822.

SEPTEMBER 16, 1822.

Eight cases reported this day.
Two deaths occurred.

SEPTEMBER 17, 1822.

Thirteen cases reported this day,
Two deaths occurred,

The following Resolution was agreed to at the Common Council last evening.

IN COMMON COUNCIL, SEPT. 16, 1822.

Resolved, That in case any of the city watch who may be employed by the Corporation in the infected district, shall be taken sick, upon application to the Board of Health or the President thereof, a physician shall be employed to attend each watchman, at the expense of this Board.

Resolved, That the additional sum of one quarter of a dollar each night shall be allowed to all the night watch stationed in the first watch district, until the further order of the Board.

J. MORTON, *Clerk.*

SEPTEMBER 18, 1822.

Five cases reported this day.
One death occurred.

The following letter from the President, to the Health officer, together with the one alluded to from Mr. Humbert, and the one in answer from the Health Officer, were severally read.

MAYOR'S OFFICE, SEPT. 18, 1822.

Doctor Joseph Bayley.

DEAR SIR,

Three cases of fever have occurred at number four Lombardy-street, which has excited considerable alarm in the east part of the city, and we are unable to trace them to the infected district. Our fears have been excited therefore, lest some new infection, from an unknown source, has insinuated

itself into this district, and caused the sickness and deaths which have occurred.

The first person who sickened at the aforesaid house, was George W. Mott. He was removed on the eighth instant to Hempsted-Harbour, Long-Island, where he died on the thirteenth. The second was Mrs. Cary, who died on the twelfth; and the third, Mrs. Snow, who died on the sixteenth, both at the house number four Lombardy-street.

It is said that the young man, Mott, arrived here the latter part of the month of August, in the ship Superior, from New-Orleans; that he lodged at this house until he sickened and removed to the country; that his bedding was brought here from on board the aforesaid ship, and the clothes that he wore during the passage, were washed there.

The report of this vessel is not to be found on the files kept in the office of the Commissioners, and I will therefore thank you for a copy of it, together with such other information, touching the situation of said vessel and her crew; to what ports she had been on previous voyages, and where she was during the last winter, &c. as you may be enabled to furnish.

It may be proper to observe, that only one of these persons was seen by the Resident Physician, and she was in the last stage of disease, and was likewise in a peculiar situation, being in the seventh month of pregnancy.

I have this moment received the enclosed letter from Mr. Jonas Humbert, relative to the subject I have noticed above. You will please return it, with such observations as the information communicated may merit.

With much respect,

Your obedient servant,

STEPHEN ALLEN.

Stephen Allen, Esquire, President of the Board of Health.

NEW-YORK, SEPT. 13, 1822.

SIR,

I deem it a duty to communicate, hastily a few lines on some particulars connected with the sickness located in Lom-

bardy-street, agreeably to information from a person residing in the neighbourhood of that place.

At an early period of the sickly season there was a person who died at quarantine ground, who had the Yellow Fever; a day or two after his death, his clothes, bedding, &c. came up, and was deposited nearly in the rear of the house where the persons recently took sick. It is submitted to the Board whether this circumstance merits investigation.

Again, a young man lately came to Lombardy-street from a southern port, the vessel having performed a short quarantine only; himself, Mr. Mott, his mother and sister sickened simultaneously, if I may use the expression. I did not learn any thing concerning this young man's bedding or clothes. As this case may in some measure be considered topical, contrasted with a large portion of this side of our city, the Board of Health will render an essential service to the inhabitants in this vicinity, by instituting an immediate inquiry concerning these cases, and the circumstances just mentioned. The sickness of these people has excited very great alarm in my neighbourhood, as yet (thank heaven) very healthy.

My motives, respected sir, are not at all grounded upon the disputes concerning importation, or domestic origin. Whether imported or not, there is, I humbly conceive, sufficient reason for a strict examination.

If it be true that bedding, &c. came up, only a day or two, after death by Yellow Fever, then our quarantine regulations are very loosely attended. My information I believe to be correct; and the short quarantine of the vessel which brought the young man to this city ought to awaken more attention. Inquiry may possibly, bring out some facts concerning sickness from whence she came, and whether any *hands* had been sick, or died, or whether any infected clothes had been on board said vessel, during his residence in her.

With sentiments of perfect respect,

I am sir, your most obedient servant,

JONAS HUMBERT.

QUARANTINE GROUND, STATEN-ISLAND, SEPT. 18, 1822.

DEAR SIR,

I have enclosed a copy of the report of the Ship Superior, agreeable to your request, by which you will perceive, that two months have elapsed since her arrival, and only one case of Intermittent Fever occurred on the voyage from this port to New Orleans, until her return again. As persons sicken frequently while they are detained at quarantine, I have examined our Hospital Register to see if any person has been admitted into the Marine Hospital after her arrival, and find that William Davis was received as a patient, August eighteenth; his disease is marked Remittent Fever. This is the same person referred to in the Captain's statement, mentioned as Intermittent, and no other person from that vessel was received into the Hospital. The city of New Orleans was healthy while the Superior was there, and if we are to credit the officers of the Custom-House, who issue bills of Health, it continued so as late as the twenty-third of August, as appears by a bill of Health, brought this day by the Ship Asia. From Mr. Humbert's communication it would appear, that the young man, who came in the Superior, sickened at the same time as Mr. Mott and others, and this was the eighth inst. making a period of fifty days since his arrival; this fact in my mind, precludes the possibility of his disease being received from that vessel, or his clothing or bedding brought from her. Mr. Humbert mentions that the clothing and bedding of a person who died of Yellow Fever, early in the sickly season, were deposited near to four Lombardy-street; what particular period he alludes to, is not sufficiently explicit; if the name of the person who died here was stated, I would then be able to state the particulars. But I can assure you, that the first person who died here this season of Yellow Fever, was Ebenezer Hunter, from the Brig Helicon, July third, and his clothing has not been removed from here. From that period until the fifteenth of August, when William White

(sent from Fort Richmond, but removed from Lumber-street) died, there were no deaths of Yellow Fever, except those from the United States Brig Enterprise; none of the crew of this vessel were permitted to go to the city before the thirteenth of August, when they were all discharged, and their clothing and bedding were well cleansed under the inspection of one of their officers, and that part which I saw on board of the Steam-Boat, was perfectly clean. From that time to the present, no clothing of any person who has died here of Yellow Fever, (and they are all from the city) has been taken from here to New-York. Much good may result from an impartial inquiry into the nature and origin of the disease, at four Lombardy-street, and I shall always be ready to transmit any particulars, which can be afforded from this department, that can in the least contribute to such an investigation. I have personally visited every vessel subject to an examination by the Health Officer, since the first of June, which enables me to state the particulars of each, without much trouble.

With great respect, I remain
Your much obliged, and
Very humble servant,

JOSEPH BAYLEY.

SEPTEMBER 19, 1822.

Seven cases reported this day.

Seven deaths occurred.

*The following Letter from a Committee of the Trustees of
"the Free School Society" was received and read.*

NEW-YORK, SEPT. 18, 1822.

The Hon. Stephen Allen, Mayor of the City of New-York.

SIR,

AT a meeting of the Board of Trustees of "the Free School Society of New-York," specially convened this day at their School House in Hudson-street, the undersigned

were appointed a Committee, to make a tender to you of a room in either of the buildings belonging to the Society for the accommodation of the Board of Health, and of the Common Council, during the prevalence of the epidemic, with which our city is at present visited, if it shall be thought necessary to discontinue their meetings in the City-Hall. We would have had the honour of waiting on you personally to make this communication, but were informed, that you are only in the city while necessarily engaged in the arduous duties of your office.

With great respect,

We are your obedient servants,

SAMUEL BOYD,

BENJAMIN CLARK.

Whereupon it was ordered, That the President be requested to signify to the Committee, that the Board would avail themselves of their offer, should circumstances hereafter make it necessary. The following answer was returned accordingly.

MAYOR'S OFFICE, NEW-YORK, SEP. 19, 1822.

Samuel Boyd, and Benjamin Clark, Esqrs.

GENTLEMEN,

The offer made by you, in the name of "the Free School Society of the City of New-York," of a room in either of their buildings, for the accommodation of the Board of Health and Common Council, during the prevailing epidemic, communicated by your letter of the eighteenth inst. has been duly received, and was laid before the Board at their meeting this morning.

I am directed by the Board of Health, to acknowledge the receipt of your friendly communication, and to inform the Society through you, that should it at any time during the present calamitous season, be deemed necessary to discontinue the meetings of the Board at the City-Hall, they will with pleasure accept of the offer you have so liberally made them in behalf of the Society whom you represent.

M

I beg leave to state, that you have been misinformed as to the time I am engaged in the duties of my office, for during the whole of the sickness, myself, together with a Committee of the Board of Health, have constantly attended without the loss of a single day, at the City-Hall, and old Alms-House, from half past eight o'clock in the morning, until half past four o'clock in the afternoon, and we shall continue thus to attend, so long as our health is spared us, and the present necessity exists.

With great respect,

I am your obedient servant,

STEPHEN ALLEN.

SEPTEMBER 20, 1822.

Twelve cases reported this day.

Six deaths occurred.

*The President presented the following Address to the citizens,
which was adopted,*

BOARD OF HEALTH, SEPT. 24, 1822.

Several cases of Yellow Fever having recently occurred in Lombardy and Cheapside-streets, near Catharine-street, it has been deemed necessary by the Board of Health, to recommend a removal of the inhabitants of that vicinity; and it is therefore earnestly recommended to all persons residing in the vicinity of number four Lombardy-street, or number twelve and eighteen Cheapside-street, to remove therefrom, preparatory to such other measures as the Board may deem it necessary to adopt, to interdict the intercourse with that district of the city. Should any of the families residing in the neighbourhood of the infection, be so circumstanced as to be unable to provide a place of refuge for themselves, every facility within the power of the Board will be given them, of which they may be informed by application

to the Committee, at the old Alms-House, in the rear of the City-Hall.

By order of the Board of Health,

STEPHEN ALLEN, *President.*

J. MORTON, *Secretary.*

The following letter from Doctor Jackson, addressed to General Morton, Secretary to the Board, was submitted and read.

PHILADELPHIA, SEPT. 18, 1822.

MY DEAR GENERAL,

I have been intending to write to you for some days past, in consequence of perceiving by the papers, that your Board of Health have undertaken some experiments, with a view to disinfect the atmosphere of your city. The result of my experience in this respect, may afford them some hints that may be interesting.

In eighteen hundred and twenty, I proposed to our Board, to fumigate the infected district at Walnut-street, with chlorine gas.* A resolution was accordingly passed, authorising me to put the process in operation. I was delayed a week in consequence of my sickness. It was not until about the third or fourth of September, that I was able to commence the business of fumigation. For this purpose, I had a number of chaffing dishes of large size made, each holding about a quarter to half peck charcoal. The muriate of soda and powdered *manganese*, previously mixed, were placed in stone ware pans. (As I could not get a sufficiency of this kind, I made use of earthen pans, but they were soon destroyed.) Diluted sulphuric acid was added to the mixture, and the charcoal was lighted. Assistants were constantly engaged in renewing the materials and keeping up the fire. In this manner the district was fumigated for a week or ten days, during which chlorine was kept constantly discharging into the air, from early in the morning until

* Sometimes called oxymuriatic acid gas.—Editor of the Evening Post

late at night. From eight to ten of the apparatus were ranged in each square; they were placed in the alleys, and yards of houses, and along the wharves, from Chesnut-street to the dock. The atmosphere was completely filled with the gas, so as to be perceptible, when the wind blew from the south east and east, at some distance from the enclosed district, in which the disinfecting process was carried on.

One of the men engaged to watch in the infected district, of the name of Davenport, took ill with the fever on the sixth or seventh September, and died; but after that period, no one who frequented the district was taken sick.

I do not feel disposed to attribute, with absolute confidence, the exemption from disease to the fumigation. More experiments, and additional observations, are necessary to enable us to determine with certainty. It has, however, made a strong impression on my mind; and of the schemes that have been yet suggested to your Board, there are none that promise to be of equal efficacy. If numerous vessels discharging chlorine are placed in the vicinity of Rector-street, which appears to be the focus of the disease, the gas will be wafted by the north west winds, that still continue to be the prevalent winds in the course of the malaria or poison by which the disease is produced.

I have scrawled in great haste these few suggestions, in order to be in time for the mail. Should you think the experiment made by our Board in this city, in eighteen hundred and twenty, of any value, you can communicate it to the Committee appointed by your Board, to put in operation some means for purifying the atmosphere of your city.

Believe me sincerely yours,

S. JACKSON.

SEPTEMBER 21, 1822.

Three cases reported this day.

Three deaths occurred.

SEPTEMBER 22, 1822.

Eleven cases reported this day.

Eight deaths occurred.

The following Report, from the Committee on Measures for Arresting the Progress of the Epidemic, was presented and read.

REPORT.

The Special Committee appointed by the Board of Health, for the purpose of adopting such means, as in their judgment, may, by possibility, arrest the further extension of the prevailing epidemic in our city, respectfully report:

That they are led to believe, that some of the means which have been employed to check the advance of Yellow Fever, have been attended with beneficial results. The epidemic was known to be in Fulton-street on the eleventh inst. as on that day Mary Dugan was reported to have sickened of that disease, in Fulton-street, on the east side of Broadway; and other circumstances concur to show, that it must then have been there before.

The materials used by the Committee, of which they will hereafter give a detailed account, were applied in parts of Beekman, Fulton, Barclay, Dey and Courtlandt-streets, and Broadway, Maiden-lane, and down Rector-street to the river. The chief agents employed by the Committee, to arrest the disease, were unslacked lime, charcoal and tanner's bark. Auxiliary measures were also resorted to, which will be particularly explained in their future report.

The Committee are of opinion, that the experiments should be pursued with unabated rigour. And they would earnestly urge, that a full and fair trial be made of several of the acid fumigations, which have been proposed by experienced and scientific men. Some of those acid fumigations may, in the opinion of your Committee, be of benefit. They have been used with success, and are strongly recommended by gentlemen entitled to our confidence.

It is now certain, that the fever has broken out in Lombardy, Bancker and Cheapside-streets. This calamity, affords an opportunity to test the efficacy of the means used by your Committee. The thickness of the population, the narrowness of the streets, and the filth which is there collected, leave us no hopes, if the epidemic be left to take its course, that any thing but frost will stop it. Your Committee are anxious to assail this infected spot.

Your Committe also wish to make experiments upon many cellars and houses, in different parts of the city, which are known to be filled with the poisonous infection. They believe, that such trials will be satisfactory to their fellow citizens, and may eventually lead to a discovery, which will enable us to arrest an evil, which more than any other, threatens the future greatness and prosperity of our city.

Your Committee, therefore, recommend for a purpose so important, a further appropriation of ——— dollars.

R. RIKER,
ROBERT M'QUEEN.

SEPTEMBER 23, 1822.

Twelve cases reported this day.
Five deaths occurred.

SEPTEMBER 24, 1822.

Eight cases reported this day.
Eight deaths occurred.

SEPTEMBER 25, 1822.

Eight cases reported this day.
Three deaths occurred.

The following Letter, addressed to the President of the Board of Health, was read, and ordered to be printed.

QUARANTINE GROUND, STATEN ISLAND, SEPT. 25, 1822.

DEAR SIR,

The magistrates of the town of Brooklyn, sent last night, from that place to the Marine Hospital, Samuel M'Isaacs, who is ill of Yellow Fever. As you have taken every opportunity to examine into the alleged cause of Yellow Fever, and as it is of the utmost importance, that every circumstance which can, in the smallest degree afford any information on the interesting subject of Yellow Fever, should be impartially investigated, I take the liberty of sending you the statement obtained from the said Mr. Isaacs, which I conceive to be worth examining into. His memory is somewhat impaired by disease, which may cause some inaccuracy in the dates, but the facts are probably correctly stated. He is a journeyman blacksmith, and lived with Mr. John Davis, the foreman of Mr. Quick's shop, (coachmaker in Broad-street,) at number forty-two Washington-street; and he removed with Davis's family to Brooklyn, about the twelfth of August, to number seven Poplar-street, in that town, but he continued to work daily at Mr. Quick's, until the shop was closed about four weeks ago. He went with Davis in a boat to his house in Washington-street, about the third instant, and again to New-York in Beaver-street, the sixth instant, and remained there about a quarter of an hour. This was the last time he was in the city. Davis sickened on the ninth or tenth, and died the thirteenth. Nicholas Baisley, aged about twenty-two years, and his sister Antoinette, aged about eleven years, inhabitants of Brooklyn, who occupied with their family, the same house as Davis, died of Yellow Fever the twenty-second instant. The young man had been often to the city, but Mr. Isaacs could not say to what part of it he had gone. He was inclined to believe that the sister had not been there. The inhabitants

were removed from the house yesterday, by order of the magistrates. If this account is correct, is it not probable that Davis has introduced the disease into that dwelling? If the sister of Baisley has not been to the city, and her disease was Yellow Fever, in what manner did she contract it? I do not think it improbable that Mr. Isaacs has taken the disease from Davis, although there are instances of thirteen days, having elapsed after exposure to the infected air of Yellow Fever, before the disease shows itself, yet they are very rare, as you have noticed this season. The most frequent, has been from four to seven days after removal from the infected district. Mr. Isaacs assisted Davis's wife in attending him, and he was the only person who laid him out, and six days after he sickened, on the nineteenth instant. Although Baisley's family did not visit Davis when he was sick, yet they were exposed to his bedding, which was put into the yard immediately after his death, and kept there some days.

With great respect, &c.

JOSEPH BAYLEY.

SEPTEMBER 26, 1822.

Twelve cases reported this day
Three deaths occurred

SEPTEMBER 27, 1822.

Eight cases reported this day.
Three deaths occurred.

The following Letter was received from Doctor Pascalis, and the subject was referred to the City Inspector.

PEARL-STREET, SEPT. 26, 1822.

To the Honourable President of the Board of Health.

SIR,

Having attended and being one of the reporters of two cases of Yellow Fever in Bancker-street, (the late R. Scott, at one hundred and twenty-two, and Mary Mosier, at one hundred and twenty-five,) hearing also that a third case, Rebecca Wheeler, had been reported from the immediate vicinity, I took the trouble this morning to visit and inspect the premises, in order to ascertain to what local and immediate cause, the existing cause of infection could be assigned. Doctor I. T. Howe and I have found sir, that the family of the frame house, number one hundred and twenty-five (half a lot, scarcely fifty feet deep) resort to an overflowing privy, which is one of three other privies, opened on the same sink, for the accommodation of three houses, one of which is number eleven Birmingham-street. In order to check the overflowings from this horrid sink, the people therein, have been obliged to bank the borders with dirt, which becomes itself an additional filth, allowing the contents of the sink to ascend still higher above the ground. In the yard of number eleven Birmingham-street, I observed a small drained cistern, which no doubt empties its water in the above sink, this is also still more clogged by the waters of the adjacent yards.

I have been told that no less than fifty persons are resorting to the sink and privies. My motives for informing of it, are that of procuring if possible, some correction by authority of the above nuisance, and that of assisting the inquirers after or into the origin of the fever in Bancker-street.

I remain, respectfully, sir,

Your humble servant,

FELIX PASCALIS,

N

SEPTEMBER 28, 1822.

Four cases reported this day.

Six deaths occurred.

The President stated, that the City Inspector had suggested to him, the propriety of extending the prohibition of emptying sinks and privies to the first day of November, instead of October; and that he had prepared a resolution on the subject, which was submitted and adopted as follows;

BOARD OF HEALTH, SEPT. 28, 1822.

WHEREAS, by an ordinance of the Common Council of this City, passed the twenty-third day of July, eighteen hundred and twenty two, the owners or occupants of any lot of ground in the said city, are prohibited from emptying the contents of any sink, between the first day of May, and the first day of October, in any year, without being ordered or permitted so to do, by the Board of Health.

And whereas, the Board of Health have conceived it proper, under present circumstances, that the time limited by said ordinance, should be extended to some future day.

Therefore Resolved, That if the owner or occupant of any lot of ground in this city, shall empty, or cause or suffer to be emptied or removed, the contents of any sink, from the same, at any time before the first day of November, without being ordered or permitted by the Board of Health, such owner and occupant shall respectively forfeit and pay the sum of *twenty-five dollars*, for every such offence.

By order of the Board of Health.

STEPHEN ALLEN, *President.*

J. MORTON, *Secretary.*

The following Report was received from the City Inspector, on the subject referred to, in Dr. Pascallis's Letter to the Board.

The City Inspector respectfully reports on the case of a privy one hundred and twenty-five Bancker-street, yesterday referred to him.

Upon examination he found the privy full, notwithstanding it had been ordinated and complied with last March; as the privy is used by three families, and one of them numerous, it is presumable that this circumstance, together with a leaky cistern in one of the yards, has caused the unpleasant event.

The City Inspector thought it right, to direct the nailing up of all the doors of the privy, and tubs used in lieu thereof, which has been acceded to, until it can be with safety emptied after the sickness, and such other means then used as will prevent the recurrence of the evil.

GEORGE CUMING, *City Inspector.*

SEPTEMBER 28, 1822.

SEPTEMBER 29, 1822.

No cases reported this day.

Three deaths occurred.

The President read a note he had addressed to the Health Officer, relative to the Fever existing at Cheapside and Lombardy-streets, together with the answer of the Health Officer, that moment received.

NEW-YORK, SEPT. 28, 1822.

Dr. Joseph Bayley,

DEAR SIR,

There appears to be some diversity of opinion as to the true character of the Fever, now prevalent in Cheapside

and Lombardy-streets, and doubts have been raised, whether some of the cases at least, may not be similar to the Fever of eighteen hundred and twenty, known by the name of the Bancker-street Fever. I have deemed it proper therefore, to request, that you will strictly examine the sick persons which may be sent to the Marine Hospital, from that neighbourhood, and communicate to me your opinion as to the nature of the disease.

I am, with much respect,

Your obedient servant,

STEPHEN ALLEN.

STATEN-ISLAND, SEPT. 29, 1822.

The Honourable Stephen Allen, President of the Board of Health.

DEAR SIR,

I have been particular in attending to the progress of disease in Mrs. Bailey and her sister. They informed us that they had taken an emetic soon after they sickened, and they have not been able to retain any thing since. Mrs. Bailey died this day at noon. Black vomit occurred last evening, and continued until her death. Her sister's symptoms are similar, except black vomit, which has not as yet taken place, but she sickened a day after. Whatever has produced this fatal fever, it is the same disease as we received here from Havanna. But it is not improbable as you suggest that some cases which have occurred, may have been similar to the Bancker-street fever of eighteen hundred and twenty. William Wood who was received last night from forty-three Bancker-street, is convalescent, his case may be termed suspicious, from the yellowness and redness of his eyes, and those are the only appearances remaining, but as he is a labourer along shore, such circumstances may have arisen from his habits.

Yours with great respect,

JOSEPH BAYLEY.

SEPTEMBER 30, 1822.

Nine cases reported this day.

Five deaths occurred.

The President stated that several of the provisions of the Health Law would expire on the first day of October, and suggested the propriety of their being extended to some future day.

Whereupon a resolution was proposed and passed, advising the Mayor to issue his proclamation extending the third, fourth, fifth, sixth and eighteenth sections* of the "Act to provide against the introduction of pestilential disease," to the first day of November 1822.

The following was accordingly issued :

By Stephen Allen, Mayor of the City of New-York.

PROCLAMATION.

WHEREAS, the Board of Health have advised the Mayor to issue his proclamation, extending to the first day of November next, the provisions of the 3d, 4th, 5th, 6th, and 18th sections of the act of the Legislature, to provide against infectious and pestilential diseases, passed the fourteenth day of April, eighteen hundred and twenty.

Now therefore, I, Stephen Allen, Mayor of the City of New-York, pursuant to the authority vested by the thirty-sixth section of the said act, and the advice of the Board of Health, do publish this my Proclamation, and I do hereby

* These sections relate to vessels arriving at this port between the thirty-first of May and first of October.

SECTION 3. Vessels from the West Indies to be quarantined four days.

SECTION 4. Vessels from ports south of the equator, two days,

SECTION 5. Vessels from ports, in the passage from which, they must pass south of Cape Henlopen, to stop for examination.

SECTION 6. Vessels from sickly ports, or having deaths on board during their passage, &c. to be quarantined thirty days.

SECTION 18. Prevents cotton from being brought into the city, and if from a sickly vessel or port, to be landed at the quarantine establishment.

declare and make known, that the provisions contained in the 3d, 4th, 5th, 6th, and 18th sections of the act to provide against infectious and pestilential diseases, the duration of which are limited to the first day of October, are, and the same are hereby extended to the first day of November, ensuing, and all vessels arriving at the port of New-York, between the first day of October and the first day of November aforesaid, are hereby required and directed to proceed to the place assigned for quarantine, in conformity with the provisions of the law, as extended by this proclamation; and I do hereby give public notice to all and every person, that they will be liable to fine and imprisonment, if they contravene or violate the provisions of the law, as set forth by this proclamation. And all magistrates, officers and ministers of justice, in the City of New-York, and all commanders, pilots, and others, having charge of any vessel arriving in this port, are hereby enjoined and required to be aiding and assisting in the execution and enforcement of the law, in conformity with the tenor and true intent of this proclamation, by every means in their power.

Given under my hand at the City-Hall, of the City of New-York, this thirtieth day of September, A. D. 1822.

STEPHEN ALLEN.

OCTOBER 1, 1822.

No cases reported this day.
One death occurred.

OCTOBER 2, 1822.

Four cases reported this day.
No deaths occurred.

OCTOBER 3, 1822.

Three cases reported this day.

Three deaths occurred.

The President proposed that the following Address be published, which was agreed to.

NEW-YORK, OCTOBER 2, 1822.

The Board of Health to their Fellow Citizens.

The report of Yellow Fever cases for several days having greatly diminished in number, it is to be feared that some of those who have removed from the infected part of the city may be induced to return, without duly reflecting on the consequences that may result to themselves and families. Years of experience confirm the fact, that heretofore nothing has effectually eradicated the Yellow Fever, after it has once commenced its ravages, except the appearance of black frost; and that those, who have been so thoughtless and imprudent, as to return to the city before the occurrence alluded to, have dearly paid for their temerity by the sickness, and not unfrequently the death, of some part of their families. To prevent this catastrophe, the Board of Health have deemed it their duty, earnestly to entreat their fellow citizens who have retired from that part of the city known to have been infected, not to return to their dwellings, stores, or other places of business, until officially notified, that the danger has entirely ceased. The Board are fully sensible of the privations experienced by their fellow citizens in being driven from their homes, and the comforts of their several establishments, and they will not delay one moment, when it can be done with propriety, to inform them of the termination of the disease, and the cessation of danger; but in the mean time, they beg leave again to entreat them, as they value the blessings of health, to bear with patience and fortitude, the inconvenience of their present situation, until they are officially informed that they

may return in safety, and be enabled to pursue their several avocations without fear of the renewal of the calamity, which has been the cause of their removal.

By order of the Board of Health,

STEPHEN ALLEN, *President.*

OCTOBER 4, 1822.

Two cases reported this day.

One death occurred.

The following Resolution presented by the Recorder, was adopted by the Board.

Resolved, That the Special Committee, appointed by the Board of Health, for the purpose of adopting such means as in their judgment may, by possibility, avert the further extension of the prevailing epidemic in our city, be authorised to continue their endeavours, and for that purpose to expend a sum not exceeding four hundred dollars.

OCTOBER 5, 1822.

Seven cases reported this day.

Four deaths occurred.

OCTOBER 6, 1822.

One case reported this day.

Three deaths occurred.

OCTOBER 7, 1822.

Eight cases reported this day.

Seven deaths occurred.

OCTOBER 8, 1822.

Three cases reported this day.
One death occurred.



OCTOBER 9, 1822.

Seven cases reported this day.
No deaths occurred.



OCTOBER 10, 1822.

Six cases reported this day.
Four deaths occurred.



OCTOBER 11, 1822.

Two cases reported this day.
One death occurred.



OCTOBER 12, 1822.

One case reported this day.
One death occurred.



OCTOBER 13, 1822.

Two cases reported this day.
No death occurred.



OCTOBER 14, 1822.

One case reported this day.
Two deaths occurred.

A Communication from the Health Officer was read, recommending that all vessels which had arrived at quarantine, and had been purified, according to the regulations prescribed, for twenty days without any sickness on board, should be permitted to come up to the city. A resolution conformable thereto, was submitted and passed.

OCTOBER 15, 1822.

Four cases reported this day.
Three deaths occurred.

OCTOBER 16, 1822.

Two cases reported this day.
Five deaths occurred.

OCTOBER 17, 1822.

Ten cases reported this day.
Four deaths occurred.

OCTOBER 18, 1822.

Six cases reported this day.
Four deaths occurred.

OCTOBER 19, 1822.

Nine cases reported this day.
Three deaths occurred.

OCTOBER 20, 1822.

Four cases reported this day.
Five deaths occurred.

OCTOBER 21, 1822.

No cases reported this day.
One death occurred.

OCTOBER 22, 1822.

Three cases reported this day.
Three deaths occurred.

The following Resolution was proposed and adopted.

Resolved, That in the opinion of this Board, the necessity for the operation of the provisions of the third, fourth, fifth, sixth and eighteenth sections of the Act to provide against infectious and pestilential diseases, have ceased, except so far as they relate to vessels coming from sickly ports, and the Mayor is accordingly advised to revoke his Proclamation of the thirtieth ultimo, in conformity with this resolution.

Whereupon, the President read the following Proclamation, which was adopted and ordered to be published.

PROCLAMATION,

By Stephen Allen, Mayor of the City of New-York.

WHEREAS, by my proclamation, dated the thirtieth of September last, the operation of the 3d, 4th, 5th, 6th and 18th sections of the Act to provide against Infectious and Pesti-

lential Diseases, was extended to the first day of November ensuing.

And whereas, the Board of Health have expressed their opinion, that the necessity for the operation of the aforesaid provisions have ceased, and accordingly advised me to revoke the Proclamation extending and enforcing them, except so far as it respected vessels arriving for sickly ports:

Now, therefore, I, Stephen Allen, Mayor of the city of New-York, pursuant to the advice of the Board of Health, and the authority vested by the said Act, do revoke and annul my Proclamation of the thirtieth of September, eighteen hundred and twenty-two; and I do hereby declare and make known, that the force and effect of the said proclamation will cease and discontinue from and after this date. Provided, nevertheless, That every vessel arriving in the port of New-York, prior to the first day of November ensuing, from any place where malignant or any other pestilential fever existed at the time of her sailing thence, or if during the voyage, any person has died, or been sick on board such vessel, every such vessel shall proceed to, and be anchored at the place assigned for quarantine, and shall be subject to the examination of the Health Officer, and to such regulations as he shall deem expedient, notwithstanding the revocation of the aforesaid Proclamation.

Given under my hand, at the City-Hall of the City of New-York, this twenty-second day of October, A. D. eighteen hundred and twenty-two.

STEPHEN ALLEN.

OCTOBER 23, 1822.

Two cases reported this day.

Two deaths occurred.

OCTOBER 24, 1822.

Two cases reported this day.

Two deaths occurred.

OCTOBER 25, 1822.

Two cases reported this day.
No deaths occurred.

The following Communication was received and read.

PHILADELPHIA, OCTOBER 22, 1822.

GENTLEMEN,

The dreadful disease which still prevails in New-York, induces me to present to your notice, some successful experiments made by me a few years ago, in relation to its cure. I shall proceed to relate the fact, and to show the reasoning which led me to the discovery.

During my residence in the Colonies of Guadaloupe, Martinique and others, where new comers from Europe and other temperate climates are constantly exposed to the attacks of Yellow Fever, I too often heard it avowed by Physicians of the first standing, that this fatal disorder triumphed over all the means which could be brought against it, solely on account of its rapid progress to putrefaction.

Reflecting therefore that this disease attacked only new comers, and comparing the constitution of these with that of the Creoles, I was led to liken the latter to indigenous plants. Their temperament or constitution is in a certain degree modified by nature, to fit them for the climate which they inhabit; and the constitution of Europeans and others is not less modified, but it is fitted for *their* native country, and when they come within the torrid zone, a change so sudden cannot but produce disastrous consequences. The excessive heat operates on the animal economy of these persons, as it does on all bodies solid and fluid. On fluids, its action is greater and more remarkable; in the human body their volume is so considerably augmented, that their respective vessels cannot contain them, whence results a general overflowing and derangement in the system, which give rise to the Yellow Fever; for all the fluids which enter

into our composition, the bile the soonest undergoes the process of fermentation, and in this state proceeds from its reservoir already possessed of corrosive properties.* By its accumulation and retention in the stomach and intestines, it becomes the cause of vomiting and black fetid dejections; it soon corrupts and deteriorates the chyle which being carried into the circulation, decomposes the blood and produces the yellow, livid, black, or purplish hue, as well as the hemorrhages of corrupted blood from the nose, eyes, and sometimes from the ears.

The most eminent Physicians in the Colonies with whom I have been acquainted, agree in dividing the Yellow Fever into three stages. The first stage is distinguished by a sense of oppression and by a general prostration before the patient is obliged to take to his bed. The second stage is generally inflammatory, but so rapid in its progress, that blood letting can rarely be employed with advantage. The third and last stage is that of putrefaction. The disease usually terminates fatally in three days, but sometimes it is prolonged to the seventh or ninth day, and when such is the case, there is hope of saving the patient.

The curative means generally employed in the Colonies are, blood-letting, bathing, blisters, the bark in large doses, emetics and cathartics. Notwithstanding these remedies appear calculated to answer the indications, they seldom prove successful, and their failure, it strikes me, arises from their being insufficient to arrest the progress of putrefaction.

Reasoning from analogy, I asked myself if there was not in use to this day, a substance, which externally applied, was found capable in all cases of arresting the progress of corruption. The almost miraculous effects of charcoal presented themselves to my view. You are well aware of the great efficacy of this remedy in many cases, when applied to foul ulcers, and of its power of arresting gangrene. You know that meat is preserved by it from putrefaction, and that even when tainted, or in a putrescent state, the application

* See Note, page 113.

of the same, restores it, in a great measure, to its original sweetness. In fine, that water which is fetid and in a state of decomposition, becomes sweet and wholesome, by being passed through a charcoal filter. From these well known facts, I concluded that charcoal internally employed as an antiseptic, anti-putrid, or anti-gangrenous remedy, ought to prove specific in Yellow Fever, and putrid diseases in general.

Strongly impressed with the truth of this opinion, I resolved to make a trial of the remedy, as soon as an opportunity should offer. The first person on whom I employed it, was a young man in Guadaloupe, of the name of Bonnafond, who had been in the place about three weeks. I had seen him on his arrival; and the full health he then enjoyed, made me fearful that his would be the usual fate of the youth who sought the destructive climate to which he had just come. I was intimate with him, and told him that if he fell sick, I knew of a remedy which would cure him. We had formerly met with each other at Bordeaux, and he knew that I was then a student in the Hospital de St. Andre, and attended the course of lectures there, as well as in Paris. This circumstance gave him confidence in my abilities, though at the time I did not practice medicine, preferring the profession of a Dentist, as more lucrative; I being the only one in the colonies.

As I had foreseen, Mr. Bonnafond fell sick. He called upon me, and informed me, that for two days past, he had experienced lassitude and uneasiness, and had spent a very bad night. In short, he had a high fever, with great pain in the head and loins; his tongue was of a vivid red, and he was troubled with retchings. These symptoms were unequivocal. I had by me some lime water, which I had prepared for a similar emergency, and I gave him a glass of the same, in which I mixed half an ounce of powdered charcoal. He rejected a part of it by vomiting; and in a quarter of an hour, I repeated the dose. The retchings ceased, but were succeeded by severe colic pains; whence I conceived it necessary to clear the bowels, as soon as possible,

of the offending matters contained in them. Accordingly, I administered two ounces of castor oil, and as soon as it began to operate, I continued the use of the charcoal; an ounce of which I mixed in a pint of lime water, sweetened with lemon syrup, ordering him to drink half a glassful every time he had a stool. The evacuations were very abundant; yellow, green, viscid, and even black; but they had nothing of the fetid odour peculiar to the disease. Towards evening, the mordicant heat of the fever had subsided; the patient passed a pretty good night, enjoyed some sleep, and perspired a great deal. His thirst was no longer distressing, yet I thought it expedient to give him frequently the lime water, with charcoal, as before. The next day I administered an ounce and a half of castor oil; the stools were more copious than before, but equally free from any fetid smell. The third day I omitted the cathartic, but continued the use of the charcoal and lime water in the same dose. The fourth day, as the tongue was still furred, though neither dry nor dark, I gave again an ounce and a half of castor oil. The evacuations were copious and unattended with pain. The alarming symptoms disappeared, and on the fifth day, the patient was entirely out of danger. His convalescence was very speedy.

After this successful trial, which fully satisfied my expectations, and proved the truth of my theory, I had only two more opportunities of employing the same treatment, and in both cases the result was equally happy. The English having taken possession of Guadaloupe, I was among the number of those who were obliged to leave the place. If, gentlemen, I had made numerous and recent trials, I should offer you my observations with greater confidence. One of the motives which has caused me to delay presenting the preceding facts to your notice, was the desire of making new experiments, but I finally concluded, that as I was not a practitioner of medicine, to say I had a remedy for Yellow Fever, would sound too much like quackery. Excuse me, therefore, gentlemen, that I have not sooner made this communication, and believe, that in pointing out a new mode of

treatment for that dreadful disease, and which I believe to be the only one capable of effecting a cure, I am influenced by motives of humanity, and not by a vain self-love.

I have the honour to be, gentlemen,
Your most obd't. humble servant,

ANTONY PLANTOU,

Surgeon and Dentist, No. 110 South-fourth-st. Phil.

*To the Honourable the President and
Members of the Board of Health of
the city of New-York.*

NOTE.

* I have often assisted at the autopsic examination of individuals who died of the Yellow Fever, in the hospitals of Guadaloupe and Martinique. In every instance, I have observed on the stomach and intestines, gangrenous and sphacelated spots, more or less extensive. These I could attribute to the corrosive property only which the bile had acquired. The above appearance, in my opinion, imperiously forbids the use of emetics, especially those derived from the mineral kingdom, because their action cannot but increase the erosion already existing.

I also consider castor oil the best cathartic we can employ in this disease, from its power of involving and blunting the corrosive matters, and sheathing the stomach and bowels from their acrimony. My mode of proceeding, resembles the treatment employed in cases of poisoning, and I believe it to be the more reasonable, from the fact that the effects produced by mineral poisons, and by that which I think may be justly termed animal poison, are almost the same, with this difference, that the former excites vomiting only, while the latter, being spread over the whole alimentary canal, consequently produces both purging and vomiting. In both cases, the post mortem examination shows, that the stomach and intestines have undergone the action of a violent corrosive principle.

The excessive heat is, as I have already observed, the primary cause of Yellow Fever in this country, as well as in the West Indies. I consider it the primary cause for this reason; it promotes the decomposition of animal and vegetable substances, and the exhalation of the deleterious miasmata thence arising, while at the same time it renders the animal economy more susceptible of their destructive influence. Does not experience prove, that in this country, and in Spain, where the Yellow Fever has so often made dreadful ravages, it has always made its appearance during the hottest months, and disappeared as soon as the cold became somewhat severe? If such were not the case, Havana, New-Orleans and Charleston, would, like the West Indies, be the constant seat of this terrific disorder.

It is known almost to every one, that the Creoles of the Windward or Leeward Islands, as they are called, are not subject to the Yellow Fever. The reason is evident; it is that custom is a second nature; they are born in an air impregnated with miasmata, and breathe it from the first moment of their existence, whence their constitution is very different from that of the natives of temperate climates. They are in general enervated, Phlegmatic, and of a lax fibre, while strangers who go to that country are quite the reverse, and this it is, which forms the line of demarkation be-

tween them. After a residence of some years, however, this line of demarkation ceases to exist, for in that time the latter acquire the privilege enjoyed by the Creoles, either by having the Yellow Fever, which is called taking the sickness of the country, and usually happens shortly after their arrival, or by becoming gradually seasoned to the climate and undergoing less dangerous disorders. But instances of this kind are alas! few. It is calculated that generally in the space of five years, ninety out of one hundred, perish of the Yellow Fever, of violent Dysentery, or of other diseases, and that ten years after, five of the ten only remain. These it is true, may like some of the Creoles, live to a great age.

The difference between the climate of the West Indies and that of temperate countries, causes the difference in the susceptibility of taking the Yellow Fever in one place or in the other. If an individual in the West Indies has the Yellow Fever once, and recovers, he has nothing to fear from it afterwards, provided he continues to reside there. On the contrary, in this Country and in Spain, instances are not unfrequent of individuals recovering of Yellow Fever one year, and dying of it the next, or some years afterwards. The cause is, that the cold succeeding the heat, restores to the fibre and the whole frame that tone, which once lost in the West Indies, is never renovated, unless by a removal to a temperate climate.

In saying that this disease is divided into three stages, I have confined myself to the observations of the learned Physicians, with whom I was acquainted in Guadeloupe, and of whom I need only mention, Dr. Amic, at Basseterre, Dr. Barbes, at Point au Petre, and Dr. Gaubert at St. Pierre de la Martinique. One period of the Yellow Fever as I have before said, is considered by these gentlemen inflammatory, but so rapid in its progress, that blood-letting can rarely be employed with advantage. I should be happy to found the whole of my belief on the knowledge of the above distinguished physicians; yet, though unknown in medicine, and almost ignorant of the science, it is not impossible that my own opinion may be correct, when I make bold to express it as my belief, since the interests of humanity are concerned, that there is no inflammatory stage in this disease; that the redness of the face and eyes, the accelerated pulse, and the vivid colour of the tongue, are but the symptoms of a commencing corrosion, which is shortly to be followed by putrefaction and death, if means are not immediately applied to the seat of the disorder, capable of arresting the former, and preventing the latter. I consequently infer, that blood letting should be utterly proscribed in the treatment of Yellow Fever. Not to appear wanting in deference to the opinion of practitioners who hold a contrary doctrine, I would beg leave to inquire, whether in any putrid disease they would employ blood-letting. Have they ever employed it in slight or in violent cholera morbus? no. On the contrary, they have endeavoured to allay the irritation of the stomach and bowels, by a plentiful use of diluents. They have employed the most powerful anadoynes in large doses, and have in short correctly fulfilled the indications. Now, there are no two diseases more similar than the highest kind of Cholera Morbus and Yellow Fever. They are similar from their cause, which is the excessive heat, and from their effect, which is a violent irritation of the stomach and intestines, arising from acid and fermented bile, which corrodes those parts. The treatment of Cholera Morbus is well adapted, but for severe cases, the means employed appears to me not sufficiently energetic. I leave to future experience to decide, whether the treatment I have recommended for Yellow Fever, would not be applicable to Cholera. For in this disease, it will not do to attempt to arrive at our object by circuitous routes, or for the practitioner to be a looker on merely. Death is at hand, and must be vigorously resisted, or nature will sink beneath its stroke.

Although I have been fortunate enough to cure the Yellow Fever in three instances, I attribute my success entirely to the use of charcoal and lime, which being most

powerful antiputrid and antigangrenous remedies, decomposed and neutralized the corrosive principles of the bile, correcting at the same time the effects of deleterious miasmata. The Castor Oil assisted in the cure by involving and evacuating the same corrosive principles. The dose of this must be proportioned to the urgency of the case if two ounces at first should not prove sufficient, the quantity might be increased until abundant evacuations are procured. It was by no means without design, that I employed lime water as a vehicle for the administration of the charcoal. I choose it because it is itself antemetic, tonic, and antiseptic, and augments by its combination with charcoal, the oxygen which the latter contains in abundance.

To cure the Yellow Fever is doubtless very desirable, but to prevent it were still more so, and if charcoal has the power of arresting putrefaction when it has commenced, it is reasonable to suppose it will prevent it. I would therefore advise its use as a prophylactic, in the dose of a drachm taken daily in the morning fasting, in water, or a little sweetmeats. This precaution may the more easily be taken, as this powerful remedy costs almost nothing, is every where to be had, does not injure digestion as I have myself experienced, and has no unpleasant taste. In a word, in summing up the uses of this medicinal combination, I think it serviceable in all malignant diseases where the vital principle is so imminently endangered, and where the question is promptly to neutralize the cause and prevent its effects. Consequently, I believe it equally useful in cases of poisoning, from metallic substances, as well as from mushrooms, to which case it is particularly adapted.

I consider blisters very advantageous in all cases where the vital energy requires raising, but they should be applied to the thighs and legs only. One means which is at hand in this country, and which they have not in the West Indies, is ice, which may be used with the same intention as blisters, to cool the drinks, and as a powerful tonic application to the abdominal region. The sole nourishment I employed was rice gruel.

I greatly approve the use of lime to disinfect places which exhale deleterious effluvia; but I think pounded charcoal would have a much more powerful effect, and that they ought to be employed together, when they are requisite for aqueous or humid situations. Charcoal has the valuable advantage of preserving its antiseptic virtues, even after it has produced its effects, whereas the power of lime is momentary. The former may, in this respect, be compared to musk, which will exhale its odorous principles for years, without sensibly losing either weight or smell.

OCTOBER 26, 1822.

No cases reported this day.

No deaths occurred.

The following Address was presented to the Board by the President, and after being read, was adopted and ordered to be published.

OCTOBER 26th, 1822.

The Board of Health to their Fellow Citizens.

The favourable state of the weather, the advancing season of the year, and the reduced number of cases reported

to the Board for several days past, together with the consolatory information derived from the proper sources, relative to the general health of the city, have induced the Board of Health to believe that the calamity with which we have been afflicted, has in a great measure ceased, and they have therefore concluded, under certain limitations, to invite their fellow citizens who have removed, to return to their homes.

The Board are, however, of opinion, that it would be highly improper immediately to re-occupy the houses and stores in that part of the city which has been the seat of infection, or of any of the houses in which sickness or death by Yellow Fever has occurred. In order, however, that measures may be adopted to ventilate, cleanse and purify the buildings, yards and premises, and that no obstruction may be in the way of those who shall be employed for that purpose, in that part of the city enclosed by the fences, the Board have determined that they shall be removed. But it is hoped that these measures will not be viewed as an invitation to the inhabitants of that district to return, until some further time shall have elapsed. How long it will be necessary further to desist, must altogether depend on the state of the weather; and the only indubitable proof as yet afforded us, that the cause of the disorder is completely eradicated, is, such a temperature of the weather as will produce black frost or ice, in all parts of the city; and it is therefore hoped, that such of our citizens whose habitations or places of business were in either of the sections, emphatically styled the infected district, will avoid a too speedy return.

The Board have every reason to believe, however, that no danger can exist in those parts of the city, not tainted by infection, even if there should have been some cases of sickness in the neighbourhood, but which have been traced to one or other of the infected districts.

The Board beg leave to recommend to their fellow citizens, as indispensable, that all the houses be ventilated previous to their being occupied, and as a general measure of precaution to be observed by all who return to the city, the following rules are submitted:

1st. That previous to any of the houses and stores being occupied, the doors and windows be left open for one or two days.

2d. That all the apartments be cleansed, and the walls be white washed.

3d. That every kind of filth be removed from the cellars, yards and premises; and if any of the cellars contain stagnated water, that it shall be immediately removed.

4th. That quick-lime be strewed in the cellars, yards and privies.

5th. That fires be lighted in each apartment, and where there is no fire-place, that stoves be used for the purpose.

6th. In those houses where sickness or death by Yellow Fever has occurred, the Board recommend, in addition to the foregoing measures, that acid fumigations be used. The materials for this purpose, with directions for using them, will be furnished by the Board of health, on application to either of the Assistants.

To those who are unable to bear the expenses, the necessary materials for cleansing and purifying, such as lime, and the articles used in fumigations, will be furnished gratis, by applying as above.

Professor Griscom has kindly offered to instruct any one, who may wish it, how to use, in the most effectual manner, the materials for fumigation. He may be seen at his house, corner of Grand and Elm-street.

The Assistants to the Board of Health, and the persons attached to the office of City-Inspector, are instructed to see that the houses and premises within the infected districts, are ventilated, cleansed and purified; and it is hoped that the direction of the aforesaid persons will be promptly complied with on the part of the citizens.

The Board have deemed it unnecessary hereafter to continue their daily reports; but should any death occur by Yellow Fever, they will be announced in the weekly reports of the City-Inspector.

By order of the Board of Health,

STEPHEN ALLEN, *President.*

J. MORTON, *Secretary.*

The following statement will show the number of cases and deaths by Yellow Fever in each street, by which the citizens may form some judgment to what extent the infection has existed in their particular neighbourhood.

The cases enumerated in each street, are only of those who were considered as having their permanent residence there, and those enumerated under the head of *frequenting the infected district*, are only such whose residence was in a healthy part of the city, but who contracted the disease by frequenting the infected parts.

It is computed that there are but six cases which have not been traced to the west and south of Fulton-street, and but two cases that have not been traced to that part of the city included within the bounds of Catharine, Bancker and Pike-streets, and the river.

STREETS.	Cases.	Deaths.	STREET	Cases.	Deaths.
Rector, - - -	19	11	Pearl, - - -	13	8
Washington, - - -	27	18	Water, - - -	19	14
Greenwich, - - -	22	11	Front, - - -	5	4
Lumber, - - -	11	7	Old-Slip, - - -	2	2
Broadway, - - -	33	20	Dutch, - - -	6	2
Carlisle, - - -	3	1	Ann, - - -	1	1
Beaver-Lane, - - -	4	4	Ferry, - - -	1	1
Albany, - - -	2	2	Chamber, - - -	1	0
Thames, - - -	6	4	Frequented sickly		
Cedar, - - -	8	7	district, but re-		
Wall, - - -	7	4	side in the upper		
Broad, - - -	14	7	part of the ci-		
New, - - -	3	2	ty, - - -	65	34
Nassau, - - -	10	5			
William, - - -	11	4	Total,	355	202
Pine, - - -	2	1	UPPER DISTRICT.		
Liberty, - - -	16	9	Cheapside, - - -	11	6
Courtlandt, - - -	12	8	Lombardy, - - -	13	8
Maiden-Lane, - - -	10	4	Bancker, - - -	7	5
Dey, - - -	1	0	Catharine, - - -	4	3
John, - - -	2	1	Lewis, Grand, - - -	2	2
Fulton, - - -	4	2	Frequented sickly		
Garden, - - -	1	0	district, but re-		
Beaver, - - -	5	2	side in the heal-		
Stone, - - -	3	1	thy part of the		
Mill, - - -	1	0	city, - - -	9	4
Moore, - - -	2	0			
State, - - -	3	1	Total,	46	28

RECAPITULATION.

Cases in Lower District,	-	-	-	-	-	355
Cases in Upper District,	-	-	-	-	-	46
						—
					Total,	401
						—
Deaths in Lower District,	.	-	-	-	-	202
Deaths in Upper District,	-	-	-	-	-	28
						—
					Total,	230

The foregoing exhibit includes several cases which have not been reported to the Board of Health, but they are only such as warranted a belief in the information received, that they were cases of Yellow Fever.

By order of the Board,

STEPHEN ALLEN, *President.*

J. MORTON, *Secretary.*

The Board then adjourned, subject to the call of the Mayor.

NOVEMBER 1, 1822.

The President stated, that he had called this meeting of the Board, in consequence of alarming reports having been propagated, that a great number of cases of the late fever still existed in the city. That he had endeavoured to ascertain the facts, but was led to the conclusion, that there was no foundation for the reports put in circulation. Whereupon, the subject was referred to a committee, who reported the following, as the result of their investigation, which was directed to be published.

BOARD OF HEALTH, Nov. 1, 1822.

In consequence of several rumors of the existence of new cases of Yellow Fever, since the last adjournment of the Board, it was deemed expedient to take the most careful

measures to ascertain the truth of these reports. The result is, that no person has sickened with Yellow Fever, within the knowledge of the Board, since its last adjournment.

Several deaths have occurred of those who were sick previous to the meeting of the Board, on the twenty-sixth ult., which will be announced in the weekly report of the City Inspector.

The Board express their opinion, that if the precautions be taken as recommended by them in their late address, no danger exists of a renewal of the disease with which we have been afflicted.

By order of the Board,

STEPHEN ALLEN, *President.*

J. MORTON, *Secretary.*

The following Letter was received and read.

WILLIAM-STREET, OCT. 31, 1822.

SIR,

The two cases of Fever which recently occurred in Ann-street, and referred to by the Evening Post, require explanation. As I saw Mr. Reed, one of the cases referred to, several times during his illness, and have also seen the person who worked with him, I am enabled to transmit the following statement of facts. Mr. Reed came from the country the seventeenth of October, and on the eighteenth went to work at the shop of Dutch and Burrows, in Ann-street, with M'Cord. The weather was then warm, and the shop had been previously closed. They were both taken sick on the twenty-third, and Reed died the twenty-ninth. He repeatedly assured me, that he had not been lower down than Ann-street. His residence was at the corner of Grand and Forsyth-streets. They probably took the infection on the eighteenth, when first exposed, immediately after their return from the country, and eight days before the adjournment of the Board of Health.

I am very respectfully,

Your obedient servant,

JOHN STEARNS.

Hon. the President of the Board of Health.

The following Report from the Assistant, Doctor Hicks, was presented.

NOVEMBER 1, 1822.

To the Honourable President of the Board of Health.

B. Hicks, Assistant to the Board, begs leave to report, that he has made a very diligent search in both the infected districts, and is happy to find that no new case of Yellow Fever has taken place in those districts, since the Honourable Board adjourned, except three doubtful cases; two in Water-street, and one in Fulton-street.

The following persons have died of Yellow Fever since the adjournment: all sickened during last week and before.

1. Josiah Murray, twenty-six Front-street.
2. Samuel Devoe, nineteen Water-street.
3. Marston Lawrence, came into the shop of Doctor See, number three hundred and twenty-five Greenwich-street, and died a few moments after.
4. John Reed, corner of Grand and Forsyth-street.
5. Henry Goodridge, sixty-eight Vesey-street.
6. Henrietta Jones, seven Cheapside-street.
7. Catharine Kelly, twenty-five Old-slip.
8. Henry G. Wendall, corner Lombardy and Pike-street.
9. Belarmine Lelend, sixty-five Water-street.
10. John Dibbert, thirty-eight Pike-street.
11. Thomas Bower, seven Ferry-street.
12. Mary Carrol, Pike-street.

NOVEMBER 11, 1822.

The President informed the Board, that it had been the constant practice of their predecessors, on the termination of a prevailing fever in this city, to address their fellow citizens, by giving a brief account of the occurrences at the commencement, and during the continuance of the disease;

and the means adopted to alleviate the suffering of the afflicted; and that he had accordingly prepared an address for that purpose, and had called this meeting of the Board of Health, in order that it might be submitted to them.

The following Address was then read, approved, and ordered to be published.

BOARD OF HEALTH, NOV. 11, 1822.

The Board of Health have deemed it proper, on the termination of the malady with which we have been afflicted, and in accordance with the precedent established by their predecessors, to address their fellow citizens, and to bring before them a brief statement of the events connected with the disease, and the means they have resorted to for the purpose of preventing the extension of its fatal effects, as well as to mitigate the sufferings of those who were exposed to its ravages.

During the winter and spring of the present year, energetic measures were adopted for the purpose of removing every species of filth from parts of the city where any knowledge could be obtained of its existence, and when the authority vested in the Board, authorised compulsive measures. The Assistants to the Board of Health were accordingly instructed to employ every moment of their time in examining the lots and premises wherever nuisances were likely to exist, and to report all privies, sunken lots and cellars containing stagnant water, and every other nuisance of whatever description, to the City Inspector, in order that ordinances might be passed for their correction. These instructions, it is believed, were faithfully complied with, and the ordinances passed by the Common Council, on the report of the Assistants, amounting to *eight hundred and fifty six*, were strictly enforced.

Early in June, the Mayor, together with a Committee of the Board of Health, visited Bancker and other streets, with a view of having corrected, before the commencement of hot weather, such nuisances as might have been over-

looked by the Assistants. A report was accordingly made to the Board of Health, and the necessary measures adopted for purifying, as far as practicable, those receptacles of filth and wretchedness.

About this period, the Board received information that the Yellow Fever existed in several ports in the West Indies and other places, with which this city had frequent intercourse, particularly the Havanna, St. Jago de Cuba, and Matanzas; and they were subsequently informed that Port au Prince, New-Orleans, and Pensacola, were sickly ports. The vigilance, industry and perseverance of the Health Officer, Dr. Bayley, in the discharge of his duty, left no doubt on the minds of the Board, that every measure, which prudence and a sound discretion could dictate, would be put in operation to prevent the contagion from reaching our city through the means of infected vessels; and the Board were determined, so far as they were legally authorised, that no efforts should be wanting on their part to carry into effect the means provided by law, both internal and external, for guarding against the introduction and spread of infectious and pestilential disease among our citizens.

On the seventh of July, the U. S. Brig Enterprize arrived at quarantine, from a cruise, via. Charleston, where she had stopped for about one week. This vessel had been at the Havanna in March last, and had not touched at any port except Charleston, until her arrival here.

Lieutenant Cox had died of Yellow Fever during her passage from Charleston, and ten of her crew were sick on her arrival. The number of her sick continuing daily to increase after her arrival, it was deemed proper to land her crew, in order that they might be removed from the infected air of the ship, and a better opportunity afforded to cleanse and ventilate her. The landing was effected on the eleventh of July, and all the usual means were immediately put in operation to expel the foul air from the hold of the vessel; but it was found that the men on shore conducted with so much disorder, that it became indispensable again to return them on board. The ship having under-

gone considerable purification, it was hoped that the infection was so far destroyed as to insure the future health of the crew, but on the twenty-third of July there were three, and on the twenty-sixth, two cases of Yellow Fever which occurred on board of her, a strong proof of the difficulty which exists in disinfecting a sickly vessel. The Health Officer remarks "that seven of the crew of the U. S. Ship Enterprize have sickened with Yellow Fever since Tuesday last, about a week after they returned on board of the vessel, which was well whitewashed, and unslacked lime put in her limbers after they were cleaned out, and the ballast washed and whitewashed; and during the whole process, several wind sails were constantly kept in her hatchways." The men were again brought on shore, and a guard to keep them in order and prevent their escape to the city was obtained from the Navy Yard. The number of sick was about thirty, of whom fourteen died; the last death was on the second day of August.

On the seventeenth of July, indications of the disorder which was so much dreaded, made its appearance at the foot of Rector-street, near the North River. On that, and several succeeding days, information was received of persons being sick in that vicinity. They were uniformly visited by the Resident Physician, who reported them as sick of Bilious Fever. In this stage of the disease, the Board directed a strict examination of the streets and yards in that neighbourhood, in order that they might ascertain whether any local cause existed for the sickness then prevalent, but nothing was discovered except a cistpool, in a state of nuisance, which received the wash water from two or three lots of ground too low to carry it to the street. They were immediately filled up, and the nuisance was abated, but not the disorder.

The first cases reported to the Board of Health as Yellow Fever, were reported by Dr. Neilson, on the thirty-first day of July, on which day the President laid before the Board a detailed account of all the cases of sickness which had occurred in Rector-street and its vicinity, from the tenth day

of July to the thirty-first, inclusive, together with the opinion of the Resident Physician as to the nature of the disease. On the fifth of August, the Resident Physician reported a person as a case of the Yellow Fever, who had sickened on the first, and died on the fifth, the same day on which he was reported. This being considered by the Board as the first official information that the Yellow Fever existed in the city, they immediately issued an address to their fellow-citizens, recommending their removal, and at the same time requested that they would make free use of lime, by strewing it in their yards, privies and gutters; and on the seventh, public notice was given, that all the avenues leading to the infected district, would be forthwith fenced up. On the tenth day of August, the Board advised the Mayor to remove all persons found within the fences, and a Committee was appointed, with authority to provide for the poor who might be ordered out, and to permit them to occupy the buildings at the Narrows, or at Kip's Bay, during the prevalence of the disease.

It was reasonably supposed that these measures would have the desired effect, of stopping the progress of the disorder, and that its ravages would have ceased for the want of subjects; but the imprudence of some, the incredulity of others, and the interest of many, prompted them to visit the proscribed district, and, consequently, the disorder was taken by several, and thus kept alive till its bounds could scarcely be traced, and a general removal of the inhabitants from the lower parts of the city was effected.

At this period, the night watch in that part of the city deserted by the inhabitants, was increased; a day watch was appointed for the district enclosed by the fences, and two vessels, with four barges, were engaged and stationed in the East and North Rivers, with a sufficient number of men to guard the city between Fulton-street and the Battery, on the north, and Fulton-street and Whitehall-slip, on the east.

On the eleventh of September, the Board appointed a Committee, with authority to adopt such means, as might, by possibility, arrest the further extension of the prevailing

epidemic. The means adopted by the Committee were such as are usually applied for the correction of nuisances, and recommended by medical men for that purpose. Whether the effects were as salutary as those that might have been experienced from the use of other measures, strongly recommended by gentlemen of high attainments in chemical knowledge, the Board are unable to decide, but they have no hesitation in declaring it as their opinion, that the motives of their Committee in adopting the means they had selected, were of the most pure and disinterested kind, and that the good effects of their labour were demonstrated in numerous instances.

The Committee to whom was referred the general superintendance of the concerns of the Board during their recess, was constantly in session at the old Alms House; by them the destitute were relieved, the poor removed from the seats of infection, the sick conveyed from the contagious atmosphere of their abodes, advice and instructions were given to the persons employed by the Board, and every duty required of the Committee was performed with fidelity to the public interest, and the perfect satisfaction of the Board of Health.

On the sixteenth of September a new infection was discovered, in a part of the city hitherto deemed healthy; on that day the Resident Physician reported to the Board a case of Yellow Fever, at four Lombardy, near Catharine-street; and on the twentieth there were three cases reported in Cheapside-street, nearly in the rear of that which had occurred in Lombardy-street. The same measures adopted at the commencement of the disease in Rector-street, were resorted to in this instance, and the immediate removal of the inhabitants from the seat of infection was determined on. An order was accordingly issued for removal, preparatory to such other measures as might be deemed necessary to prevent the further spread of the disorder in that part of the city.

These repeated removals caused considerable expense to the public; for although none were permitted to proceed to the places of refuge provided by the Board, except such as

were poor and unable to provide for themselves, it was nevertheless found that the number of applicants was much greater than could be accommodated, and we were consequently compelled to advance to several families small sums in cash, as their necessity required it; and others were permitted to abide at the Alms House until they should be enabled to return to their places of residence, and resume their usual occupations.

The number of persons accommodated at the buildings at Fort Richmond, amounted to two hundred and nine, consisting of forty-four families, counting from two to ten persons each, and twenty-three single persons. There were twenty-six men, sixty-nine women, and one hundred and forty-four children. A portion of these children are left orphans by the loss of their parents, who died of the fever, and have accordingly been taken to the Alms House until a suitable provision can be made for them by their friends. In addition to these, there were twenty-eight persons accommodated at a house rented by the Board at Kip's Bay, who, together with those sent to Staten Island, were regularly supplied with provisions necessary for their subsistence, at the public expense; and in some instances, even their clothing and bedding were provided for them. There were also several sick families in the city, who were destitute, and to whom the necessary relief was afforded, both in food and raiment, together with the aid of medical advice and attendance during their sickness; and to those who were removed to the Marine Hospital, consisting of seventy individuals, every exertion was used by the attending physician and nurses, to promote their comfort, and to insure their recovery.

The reports of cases made to the Board of Health, were considerably less in number, than what actually took place. This may be accounted for, by the fact, that several persons who contracted the disease in the city, did not sicken until after their removal to the country; and there were some who both sickened and died without medical attendance.

The number of deaths reported, were still more deficient than the cases, and cannot be accounted for, only on the supposition, that the request of the Board that they should be reported, was unknown to the physicians.

It appears therefore by the daily reports, as published by the Board, that in July there were sixteen cases, in August seventy-nine cases, in September one hundred and eighty-two cases, and in October eighty-seven cases, making a total of three hundred and sixty-four, and the whole number of deaths reported to the Board, were only one hundred and nineteen.

The cases and deaths, however, that actually occurred, were as follows: in July, sixteen cases and five deaths; in August, ninety cases and fifty-eight deaths; in September, two hundred and five cases and one hundred and ten deaths, and in October, up to the twenty-sixth of that month, ninety cases and fifty-seven deaths, making a total of four hundred and one cases and two hundred and thirty deaths; to which may be added, ten deaths that occurred between the twenty-sixth and thirty-first of October, and were not reported to the Board as cases, making the whole number of cases four hundred and eleven, and of deaths two hundred and forty. The mortality this year, has been much less, in proportion to the sick, than it was in eighteen hundred and nineteen, when the cases were sixty-three and the deaths forty-three; a difference in favour of this year, of more than ten per cent. The great dissimilarity in the number of cases which occurred in the two years may be accounted for by the fact, that the disorder made its appearance this year, nearly two months earlier than it did in eighteen hundred and nineteen.

The Board are bound to acknowledge the countenance and assistance they have received in the discharge of their duty. They are under great obligations to the Governor, for the prompt manner in which he granted them the free and sole use of the buildings belonging to the state at Fort Richmond, Staten-Island. They are indebted to the Commissioners of the Alms-House, for the assistance they have

afforded them, and particularly to Mr. John Hunter, the Assistant to the Commissioners, for the prompt and unceasing attention he has given to the calls of the necessitous, the collecting of the necessary supply for the persons quartered at Fort Richmond, the interment of the deceased poor, and the various acts growing out of the peculiar situation in which we were placed. They are also much indebted to Doctor Charles Drake, the Visiting Physician of the Alms-House, for his voluntary services, and humane attention to the sick poor sent to the building at Kip's Bay, several of whom had contracted the disorder before their removal, and owe the preservation of their lives to his skill and unremitting care. The Common Council have uniformly afforded the Board the most efficient co-operation, both in supplying the necessary sums required to defray the incidental expenses of the Board, and in delegating such powers as enabled them to carry into effect the measures deemed necessary and indispensable. The Resident Physician constantly met with the Board, and executed the important duties of his office with diligence and firmness. The Assistants of the Board, who were of necessity exposed daily to the infection of the most sickly parts of the city, have merited both the thanks of the Board, and the approbation of their fellow citizens, for the zeal and perseverance in which they performed the duties incumbent on them. The Board acknowledge with gratitude the support they have received from their fellow citizens generally. The confidence they have placed in the Board, and the cheerfulness with which they have complied with their recommendations, has tended to lessen the calamity, and to give effect to the means which were employed for its extermination. But above all, the Board in an especial manner are bound to acknowledge the merciful interposition of that *Almighty Being, whose mercy is over all his works*, for the signal demonstration they have received of His favour, in preserving them from the pestilence that was spread over our land, and in returning to their homes so large a portion of their fellow citizens who had fled for

safety; and finally, for averting the evil we have experienced, and restoring to our city its usual degree of health.

By order of the Board,

STEPHEN ALLEN, *President.*

J. MORTON, *Secretary.*

The following Letter from Doctor Drake, detailing the situation of the sick placed under his care, at Kip's Bay, was received and read.

NEW-YORK, Nov. 5th, 1822.

Stephen Allen, Esquire, Mayor of the City of New-York.

SIR,

The building provided at Kip's Bay, for the reception of such of the inhabitants from the infected district, as could not provide themselves with a refuge, has been occupied by the following persons, viz.

Hugh Manfred, from Rector-street, sick of Yellow Fever. He entered August sixth, recovered, and left the house August twenty-eighth.

Jos. Devoe, from the neighbourhood of Rector-street, where he had been employed for two weeks previously in loading and unloading vessels. He entered August seventh, sick of Yellow Fever, recovered, and left the house in the latter part of the same month.

Mary Cunningham, lately from Ireland, was brought to the house August tenth, from the lower part of the city, (what street could not be ascertained) sick of Typhus Fever. She became convalescent on the twenty-third of August, and shortly after was removed to the Alms-House.

Ann John, a black woman, from the lower part of the city. She entered August thirteenth, sick of Bilious Remittent Fever. She became convalescent on the twentieth of the same month, and was sent to the Alms-House shortly after.

Patrick Starr, brought from the city, August tenth, affected with Marasmus, and died the next day.

Mary Ann Roberts, from Lumber-street, entered August nineteenth. She had been ill of Yellow Fever, several days previous to her admission, and appeared at the time to be convalescing.

David Roberts, brother of the above, from Lumber-street, entered August nineteenth, sick of Yellow Fever. His disease proved mild, and he shortly after recovered. These two, with the rest of their family, remained in the house during the remainder of the unhealthy season.

William F. Coit, from Cedar-street, between Greenwich and Washington-streets, sickened with Yellow Fever on the twenty-third of August, and was brought to the house on the twenty-fourth. He recovered and remained in the house with the rest of his family, during the remainder of the season.

Emeline Coit, sister of the above, from the same place, entered August twenty-third, and sickened with Yellow Fever on the twenty-fifth. Recovered.

Mrs. Coit, mother of the two preceding persons, from the same place, entered August twenty-third, sickened with Yellow Fever on the twenty-sixth, and died September the second.

Frances Coit, eldest daughter of Mrs. Coit. She had lived for the last three or four days in Courtlandt-street; entered August twenty-seventh, and sickened with Yellow Fever on the same day. Recovered.

Ellen Kearney, from Courtlandt-street, entered September seventh, sick of Yellow Fever. She had been ill several days, and was perhaps at the time of her admission, recovering. She remained in the house until nearly the end of the unhealthy season.

Mary Kearney, sister of the above, from the same place, entered September seventh, sickened with Yellow Fever on the eighth, and died on the twelfth of the same month.

Besides the above sick, the house has been occupied, during the unhealthy season, by the family of Mrs. Roberts,

consisting of four persons; the family of Mrs. Thompson, of eight persons, and three children of the Coit family: all of whom have continued in good health, with the exception of two children of Mrs. Roberts, and two of the young Coits, who suffered from Intermitting Fever, which is, doubtless, to be attributed to the low wet grounds in the neighbourhood of the house. Such of these people as required public assistance, were supplied from the Alms-House.

I was assisted in my medical duties by Doctor Belden, the Resident Physician of the Alms-House, whose perseverance and almost constant attendance at the bedside of the sick, as long as their cases were deemed hazardous, seeing that nothing was neglected or left unobtained, that could contribute to their safety and comfort, merit the highest commendations.

Respectfully,

CHARLES DRAKE.

The following Account of the Persons sent to the Marine Hospital, was furnished by Doctor Bayley, the Health Officer.

William White, received August thirteenth, from Fort Richmond, Narrows, died August fifteenth.

Sarah White, August thirteenth, Fort Richmond, Narrows, discharged September sixth.

John Kline, August fourteenth, twenty-seven Mulberry-street, died August fifteenth.

Polly Wood, August fourteenth, one hundred and thirty Greenwich-street, discharged September sixth.

Ann M'Koy, August twenty-third, two hundred and fifty-two William-street, discharged September fourteenth.

Pamela Bostwick, August twenty-fourth, Fort Richmond, Narrows, discharged September fourteenth.

Henry Vandewater, August twenty-fourth, Fort Richmond, Narrows, discharged September eleventh.

Margaret Vandewater, August twenty-fourth, Fort Richmond, Narrows, discharged September eleventh.

Mary Atkinson, August twenty-fifth, forty-nine Greenwich-street, died August twenty-seventh.

Edward Boulanger, August twenty-sixth, eighty-four Broadway, died August twenty-eighth.

Richard Todd, August twenty-seventh, six Beaver-lane, died August thirtieth.

Anthony Zargable, August twenty-seventh, seventy-eight Cedar-street, died August twenty-ninth.

Samuel Ditchett, August twenty-eighth, eighty-two Broadway, died September first.

John Clark, August twenty-ninth, Fort Richmond, Narrows, discharged September seventh.

Catharine Cato, September first, corner of Liberty and West-streets, received dead.

John Cross, September first, corner of Liberty and West-streets, discharged cured September eleventh.

Charlotte White, September second, died September sixth.

William Powell, September third, twenty-five Thomas-street, discharged September eighth.

John Rollinson, September fourth, twenty-three Washington-street, died September seventh.

Henry A. Stebbins, September sixth, ninety-four Broad-street, discharged October seventh.

Laurence Mathewson, September sixth, New-street, died September sixth.

William Suter, September sixth, one hundred and four Vesey-street, died September twenty-fifth.

Flora Robinson, September sixth, seventeen Thames-street, discharged September twelfth.

Abel Cotting, September seventh, corner of Pine and Nassau-streets, died September tenth.

George Van Dyke, September eighth, Duane-street, died September tenth.

William Shoe, September ninth, Fort Richmond, Narrows, discharged September fourteenth.

Nancy Steward, September ninth, Fort Richmond, Narrows, died September fourteenth.

Catharine Hunn, September ninth, four Bowling-Green, died September thirteenth.

Isaac Stoutenburgh, September twelfth, corner of Washington and Courtlandt-streets, died September fourteenth.

Martin Phelan, September twelfth, City-Hotel, died September seventeenth.

Jane O'Donnell, September thirteenth, Fort Richmond, Narrows, died September eighteenth.

Charles Merritt, September thirteenth, sixty-nine Courtlandt-street, discharged September twenty-fourth.

Betsey Freelove, September thirteenth, eight Harrison-street, discharged October fifth.

Thomas Davis, September fourteenth, one hundred and ninety-nine Fulton-street, died September eighteenth.

Samson Shearman, September fourteenth, Spring-street, died September twentieth.

Nancy M'Gowan, September fifteenth, two Orange-street, discharged September eighteenth.

Sarah Anderson, September fifteenth, sixty-nine William-street, discharged September twenty-first.

Dinah Taylor, September sixteenth, eighty nine Nassau-street, discharged September eighteenth.

Edward Murphy, September seventeenth, three Mill-street, discharged October fourteenth.

Sarah Green, September seventeenth, corner of Moore and Pearl-streets, discharged September twenty-second.

Victor Bicker, September nineteenth, sixty-eight Beaver-street, died September twenty-third.

Patrice Lanjois, September nineteenth, forty-three Courtlandt-street, died September twenty-second.

Mrs. Bennett, September nineteenth, forty-three Courtlandt-street, died September twentieth.

John Cowan, September twentieth, Murray-street, died September twenty-second.

Ann Dickson, September twenty-third, Fort Richmond, Narrows, died September twenty-fourth.

Robert Williams, September twenty-fourth, three Market-street, discharged October seventh.

Frederick Wys, September twenty-fourth, eleven Dutch-street, died September twenty-eighth.

Andrew Dickson, September twenty-fourth, Fort Richmond, Narrows, died September twenty-sixth.

Mrs. Elizabeth Bailey, September twenty-fifth, twenty-eight Orchard-street, died September twenty-ninth.

Miss Eliza Bailey, September twenty-fifth, twenty-eight Orchard-street, died September thirtieth.

Andrew Guelling, September twenty-fifth, seventy-nine Coffee-House-slip, discharged October seventh.

Margaret Scott, September twenty-sixth, sixty Broad-street, discharged October seventeenth.

Peggy Watts, September twenty-sixth, twenty-three Broad-street, discharged October eighteenth.

William Woad, September twenty-eighth, forty-three Bancker-street, discharged October fourteenth.

Daniel M'Ilvaine, September twenty-ninth, forty-eight Front-street, discharged October fourteenth.

Phebe Smith, September thirtieth, Fort Richmond, Narrows, died October sixth.

Nicholas N. Gavelot, September thirtieth, Thomas-street, discharged October ninth.

Margaret Richs, September thirtieth, sixty-six Pine-street, discharged October twenty-fourth.

Mary M'Laughlin, September thirtieth, ten Dutch-street, discharged October tenth.

John Dempsey, September thirtieth, eighty-eight Front-street, died October eleventh.

John Garland, October sixth, forty-nine Water-street, died October seventh.

Bryan Farley, October seventh, twenty-eight Lombardy-street, discharged October twenty-fourth.

Michael Morris, October ninth, one hundred and twenty-five Anthony-street, died October tenth.

Abraham Richardson, October ninth, thirty Thomas-street, discharged October twenty-sixth.

Elizabeth Ball, October seventeenth, sixty-seven Water-street, discharged November fourth.

John Disney, October seventeenth, Water-street, discharged November twenty-second.

William Nettle, October seventeenth, fifty Pearl-street, discharged November eleventh.

Catharine Welsh, October eighteenth, Bridewell, died November nineteenth.

Christopher Burns, October twentieth, forty-seven Pearl-street, died November twenty-third.

Sophia Taylor, October twenty-second, corner of Greenwich and Canal-streets, died November twenty-fifth.



The following Letter from a Committee, representing the persons sent to Fort Richmond by the Health Committee, was received and read.

FORT RICHMOND, STATEN-ISLAND, NOV. 1st, 1822.

To the Hon. the Board of Health of the city of New-York.

GENTLEMEN,

FEELING, as we do, sincerely grateful for the asylum you kindly granted to us during the late lamentable sickness in New-York, we should deem ourselves unworthy, not only of the comforts we have enjoyed in this delightful retreat, but of the countenance of our fellow-citizens also, did we not, before our return to town, beg your acceptance of our unfeigned thanks, for our timely removal from the various infected districts. Every article provided for our use, was really good, and the quantity sufficient. Here, health has been restored to those of delicate constitution, and with but few exceptions, additional strength to all. May Providence ever direct your councils, and facilitate your designs.

We also beg leave, gentlemen, to communicate to you our perfect satisfaction in the treatment we received from Mr. Dustan and his son, Mr. James C. Dustan, whose gentlemanly deportment, and steady impartiality, gave universal satisfaction.

In behalf of the persons removed from the various infected districts in New-York.

JOHN DUFFY,
WM. BUCKMASTER, } *Committee.*
GEORGE P. PENROSE, }

The following Report was presented and agreed to.

THE Committee to whom was referred the audit of the accounts of sundry persons against the Board of Health, and also to take into consideration the propriety of making some suitable acknowledgment to persons in the employ of the Board, for their perseverance and attention to the duties assigned them, and for the hazard by them incurred in the execution of their trusts, during the prevalence of the late malady with which our city has been afflicted,

REPORT,

That in conformity to their duty, they have carefully examined and corrected the several accounts referred to them, and directed warrants to be prepared accordingly.

Your Committee beg leave further to Report, that from the particular situation in which they were placed by the Board, they had an opportunity of daily witnessing, for nearly three months, the arduous duties performed by Capt. Mills and Doct. Hicks, Assistants to the Board; and also of Mr. John Hunter, keeper of the old Alms House, who under the direction of the Commissioners and your Committee, purchased and forwarded to Fort Richmond all the supplies for the poor at that place, and also attended to sending the sick to the quarantine; and of Mr. Elting, his Assistant, who was constantly engaged at the office. Your Committee would also recommend to the consideration of the Board, Doct. Drake, and the two young gentlemen at the Alms House, Docts. Belden and Westervelt, who had charge of the house used as a Hospital, at Kip's Bay, in which were seventeen sick patients.

After the most mature deliberation, your Committee are of opinion, and accordingly recommend, that the Board present to the following persons the sums affixed to each of their names, in testimony of their approbation of the faithful manner in which they have severally discharged the duties of their respective stations.

Capt. Mills, one hundred dollars.

Doct. Hicks, one hundred dollars, and a further sum of fifty dollars, for his professional services, in attending on seventy-three sick patients.

John Hunter, one hundred and fifty dollars.

William Elting, fifty dollars.

Dr. Drake, one hundred dollars; and to

Docts. Belden and Westervelt, fifty dollars each.

All which is respectfully submitted.

HENRY I. WYCKOFF,
JACOB B. TAYLOR,
ELAM WILLIAMS.

DECEMBER 17, 1822.

The President informed the Board that he had received two interesting communications, on the subject of the late fever, one from Dr. Bayley, the Health Officer, and the other from Dr. D. D. Walters, which he deemed proper should be laid before the Board of Health, and for that purpose he had called this meeting. They were accordingly read, as follows:

To the Honourable Stephen Allen, President of the Board of Health.

My time has been so fully employed with quarantine duties, and recently with the removal of my family to the city, that I have not had leisure until now, to examine the necessary documents which would enable me to state some facts,

and offer some observations, on the important subject contained in your letters; and I am persuaded that you will accept of these excuses for my seeming neglect.

In your high and responsible station of Chief Magistrate of this city, and President of the Board of Health, the cause or source of the deplorable calamity with which we have been afflicted, has deservedly claimed your unwearied attention and close investigation.

The first vessel mentioned in your letters, as one of the probable sources of the late pestilence, is the ship *Shamrock*. She arrived at the quarantine ground the eleventh of June, from Havanna via Matanzas, and after the cargo had been discharged, and the vessel purified, she was hauled to the wharf at or near Rector-street, the twenty-fourth of that month.

It is my opinion that this vessel was not the cause of the disease, for the following reasons. First. The crew was composed of eleven eastern seamen, who are more liable to the diseases of warm climates, than southern sailors; yet they enjoyed uninterrupted health from the time they sailed from Wiscasset, last February, until their arrival in this port; and I have not heard that any of them were sick while they remained here. Secondly. When this vessel was at Havanna in April and the first of May, that place was declared to be unusually healthy, which report was confirmed, by the fact, that of one hundred and ninety-two persons, the crews and passengers of thirteen vessels from Havanna, who arrived here in the month of May, only one person was sick during the voyage, and his disease was diarrhoea. Thirdly. The *Shamrock* sailed in ballast from Havanna, May ninth, to Matanzas, which place was also reported to be healthy: there she was loaded, and proceeded, June first, from thence to this port. An evidence of the healthiness of Matanzas, while the *Shamrock* was there, appears, from the circumstance of one person only being sick, out of one hundred and twenty-three, who came here in ten vessels from that port, in the months of May and June, and he died of consumption. I was also informed by one of our most respecta-

ble merchants, who had resided several months at that place, and who sailed from there and arrived here a few days after the Shamrock, that Mantanzas had been perfectly healthy for many months, and was so when he left there. These facts ought to convince us that this ship was not infected.

The Schooner Florida is considered by many persons to have been the source whence the deadly malady arose; not that she was a sickly vessel on her late voyage, but because she is supposed to have introduced the Yellow Fever into St. Augustine the year before, after her return from Havana, at which place, or on her passage from there to St. Augustine, several of the crew were sick with that disease. Capt. Johnson, her present commander and owner, informed me on his arrival here, a year ago, from St. Augustine, that the first persons taken sick with Yellow Fever at that place, were those who washed the clothing which he used during his illness, and who lived in the house where the clothing was sent. Now, admitting the foregoing circumstances to be true, still we must allow that the frosts which occurred here from the eighth to the twenty-sixth of November, while she was in this port, would eradicate the remains of any infection which might lurk in this small and shallow vessel. She is less than six feet deep in her hold, and only thirty-three tons burthen.

The Schooner Florida sailed from New-York November twenty-sixth, eighteen hundred and twenty-one, and arrived here June twenty-first, eighteen hundred and twenty-two. While she was away, she was employed exclusively in aiding vessels wrecked on Florida Reef, from which place she made several trips to St. Augustine and St. Marys: she was also once or twice off the harbour of Havanna for a day or two, in February last. Capt. Johnson's only business there was to receive payment for transporting troops or emigrants from Florida to Havanna the preceding year, which did not require him to go with his vessel into port; he therefore left her out side of the harbour to avoid port charges. From the time that she sailed from New-York, until her return, a period of seven months, not a per-

son was taken sick during her absence, although the crew were changed more than once. This certainly is a strong proof that no infection remained in her, or it probably would have shown its effects, by causing sickness among her crews, as they had been on board several months while she was in a warm climate. Her cargo, which merely put her in ballast, consisted of a little old copper and iron, a small quantity of snuff, fruit and junk. Her hatches were off all the passage, and her bottom was so worm eaten, that she required constant pumping. After the Florida was purified, she was hauled to the wharf near Rector-street, June twenty-fifth.

The Schooner Nile has also been mentioned as a suspicious vessel; but as she did not arrive at the wharf near Rector-street, until ten days after the fever commenced, it is unnecessary to examine any further into her situation, than to remark, that she was so perfectly clean, that the most scrupulous could not find fault with her. None of the crew were sick during the voyage, and the port she came from was healthy while she remained there.

These are the only vessels supposed to have been infected, which were at the wharves near Rector-street, that I have heard of; if there are any others which have been at that place, whose condition you are desirous of having examined into, I will with pleasure give you all the information in my power.

The local nuisances at or near Rector-street, to which pestilence has been attributed, are very limited in extent, when compared with very many parts of our city which have been totally exempt from the fatal fever of the present season.

Its north-western exposure renders it some degrees cooler than it is on the south-eastern side of the town. The made ground there is composed of the best materials; and that which was dug up to the depth of three feet a month ago, at the foot of that street, to connect the new pier erected there to the bulk head, was, on close inspection, found to be clean gravel and stone cutters' chips, and entirely free from any offensive smell; although this is the very place

which many imagine was impregnated with the pestilential materials supposed to be conveyed in the rain water that falls on, and filters through Trinity church yard, and which being there deposited, have been the cause of the late pestilence.

The peculiar nature of contagious or infectious air, has not yet been discovered: its existence in any place is known only from its effects, and from those alone we can at present fairly draw our inferences.

The facts are numerous and indisputable, that the Yellow Fever has been communicated to individuals who have visited vessels, on board of which one or more persons have had that disease, or which vessels came from a place where it prevailed; and they have imbibed the infection, not only while the cargoes were on board, but after they were discharged, and the vessels thoroughly cleansed.

A noted instance of this fact occurred this year on board of the U. S. Brig Enterprize. After the sick had been removed to the hospital, the well were landed, that they might not be any longer exposed to the infected air of that vessel, and to afford an opportunity of purifying her, which was done by slacking lime in her limbers, and white-washing her throughout, not omitting her iron ballast, in which operation three casks of lime were used, and she was well ventilated by four windsails hoisted constantly in her hatchways.

The crew were so intemperate during the five days that they remained on shore, that we were under the necessity of sending them on board again. The Brig had been purified in the interim, but it was soon evident that she was still an infected vessel; for in six days after the crew were sent on board, four men were taken sick with Yellow Fever, and in the course of five days, seven more had the same disease, making a fourth of all the men on board; and five of the eleven taken sick died. Those persons must have been infected after their return to the Brig, and subsequently to her purification, otherwise the disease would have been excited in them, as it was in the case of some of their ship-

mates, from their irregular living and exposure to the weather, by lying on the ground at night.

Those men were more predisposed to receive infection, after their return to the Brig, than they were previous to their landing, in consequence of having lived in a pure atmosphere, and being debilitated by repeated intemperance. This fatal evidence of the cause of the disease still lurking in the *Enterpize*, induced us to have the crew brought on shore again, and recommence her purification, which was done by using two more casks of lime, by letting into her hold daily several feet of water, and keeping up windsails. Six men were left to take charge of her, whose duty it was to pump out the water and turn the windsails, and they were directed not to sleep below in her hold.

Twenty-five days after her arrival, and after repeated white-washing, letting in water, and constant ventilation, one of the sailors obtained permission of a Lieutenant, to take his wife on board: this woman was taken sick on the ninth of August, with Yellow Fever, after she had been seven days on board, and she died in the Marine Hospital on the eighteenth of that month.

In the case of this vessel, we have a positive proof, that this disease comes from abroad, and that its infection continues to act after an abundant use of lime, being ten times the quantity employed in white-washing a house of similar dimensions, besides the immense quantity of water let in and pumped out, and a constant supply of fresh air, conveyed into her hold by windsails. Here no animal or vegetable matters were to be seen, or otherwise detected, whose decomposition could keep up this poisonous air, especially after she was first cleansed.

It is asserted by many persons, that animal and vegetable decomposition, is the cause of the Yellow-Fever in the West-Indies; and as our climate is equally as warm in summer as it is in those Islands, the same effects must follow like causes here as well as there, consequently the Yellow Fever will be also generated in our city. This reasoning is philosophical, and if the premises are well founded, we

should not hesitate to submit to the conclusions drawn from them. But for the sake of argument, I would ask, if there is no difference between the duration of heat there and here? Does this circumstance not make a very material difference in the productions of the two countries, and why may it not make as great a difference in the products evolved in their decomposition?

Wherein the constituent parts of an infected atmosphere differ from a pure one, is unknown, until this mystery is developed, and the gasses which arise from the decomposition of animal and vegetable substances here, are proved to be precisely similar to those which are supposed to generate the Yellow Fever in the West Indies, we cannot, for the reasons assigned above, consider them to be the same.

This theory of the disease is not supported by the facts furnished even in our own city. If the reasons upon which it is founded are correct, the Yellow Fever should occur at the same time, in all those places of our city, where nuisances exist, in the interior as well as along our wharves; and especially at all the points where it had before commenced, as the same materials which had once generated it, could not fail to reproduce it; and where receptacles of filth most abound, there the infection would be extended to a greater distance, and the virulence of the disease greatly increased. Seldom a year would pass without our being smitten with pestilence, and its annual return would be usually at or near the same time of the year, only a little varied by the previous state of the weather.

It is well known to our inhabitants, that as often as we have been visited by that awful calamity, it has never commenced at the same place, and never has it begun in the interior of our city. It has commenced its ravages in seasons nowise remarkable for their peculiarity, as early as June, and as late as September, while we have escaped the pestilence some years, when the combined action of heat and moisture have been excessive, which causes are universally admitted to give increased activity to the decomposition of putrescent substances. The present year, we have

witnessed its spreading over the highest, cleanest and most airy part of our city, far from the spot where it commenced:

As it does not appear that the vessels above referred to, or the local causes that existed in Rector-street, afford a satisfactory explanation of the origin of the late pestilence, I beg leave to call your attention to another foreign source, that has hitherto received too little attention, but which, on close investigation, will probably appear more adequate to its production, than either of the foregoing.

It has been so repeatedly proved, that vessels from sickly ports have given rise to the Yellow Fever, where no local causes existed for its production, that even those who believe in its domestic origin, admit that it may be imported.

If then, pestilential air escapes from a vessel at the wharf, while the cargo is discharging, may not the cargo of such vessel immediately transported in lighters, under particular circumstances, retain a portion of pestilential air, and the cause of disease be conveyed to the city in this manner?

The following statement of the transportation of cargoes from sickly Havanna vessels, or which sailed from that port when Yellow Fever prevailed there, has been carefully compiled from the records kept by the revenue officers at quarantine.

June 14.	3	Lighter loads from the Brig Rapid, containing 363 Boxes of Sugar;				
15.	2	do.	do.	do.	189	do.
28.	1	do.	Brig Spanish Soldier,	do.	77	do.
29.	1	do.	do.	do.	100	do.
July 1.	2	do.	Brigs Abeona and do.	do.	177	do.
2.	3	do.	do. Ambuscade, Abeona and do.		260	do.
3.	3	do.	do. do. do.	do.	181	do.
5.	4	do.	do. do. do.	do.	216	do.
6.	5	do.	do. do. do.	do.	384	do.
8.	4	do.	do. do. do.	do. Eliza Jane	317	do.
9.	1	do.	Ship Eliza Jane,		106	do.
Aug. 5.	1	do.	Brig Packet,		70	do.
6.	1	do.	do.	do.	70	do.
7.	2	do.	do.		145	do.
8.	1	do.	do.		75	do.

34

2730

From the above particulars, it appears that two thousand seven hundred and thirty boxes of sugar were transported

in thirty four lighters from several sickly Havanna vessels, (and those not sickly were navigated by persons who had made frequent voyages to that port) between the fourteenth of June and eighth of August, and landed at the wharves within the limits of one hundred and twenty yards on each side of Rector-street. But the circumstance to which our attention ought chiefly to be directed, is the important fact, that more than two-thirds of the whole quantity, amounting to one thousand nine hundred and eighteen boxes, the entire cargoes of the Brigs Spanish Soldier, Abeona and Ambuscade, and part of the Ships Eliza Jane, were conveyed in twenty-four lighters, between the twenty-eighth of June and ninth of July, and even nineteen of the twenty-four, in the short period of six days, from the second to the eighth of July. The lighters were generally loaded before noon, at which time the weather was frequently calm; consequently, the infected air adhering to those boxes could not have been completely driven off, in passing them from the hold of the vessel to the hold of the lighter. The average heat of the weather in the shade at Staten-Island, between the twenty-eighth of June and ninth of July, was above eighty degrees at 2 P. M. and upwards of seventy-seven at 8 A. M. and 6 P. M. and for the whole time between 8 A. M. and 6 P. M. more than seventy-eight degrees.

It has been erroneously stated in some of the public prints, that it was my opinion, that the pestilence had been conveyed in boxes of sugar. I never entertained such an idea; but conceived it possible, that infected air, shut up in the hold of a vessel during a West-India passage, would as readily pervade, and be retained in the spongy texture of rough pine boards, (of which those boxes are made) as the more dense structure of smooth oak planks of which vessels are built; and that several lighters loaded with such cargoes, being discharged daily at or near one place, would probably convey as much pestilential air, as a single vessel discharging at the wharf, and which has been known to produce the disease. In the instance before us, we have the cargoes of three vessels discharged at the same time, and near the same place.

It may be asked, if the cargoes from sickly vessels, or from sickly ports, have not been brought to other parts of our city, where no evil has been produced from them; and if pestilence can be conveyed in that manner, how could such places be exempt from it?

To answer this question with impartiality, I have ascertained the amount of produce from Havanna, which has been landed at all parts of the city, other than was discharged near Rector-street, and find by the revenue officer's reports, that one thousand five hundred and sixty-five boxes of sugar, and three hundred and ninety hogsheads and one hundred and seven barrels of sugar and molasses, have been transported in twenty-seven lighters, between the twentieth of June and the eighth of August;* after which time, no

* The cargoes of the following vessels from Havanna, were discharged at all other parts of the city, next at or near Rector-street.

AT OLD-SLIP.

June	20.	1	Lighter load from the Sch. Retrieve,	60	Boxes of Sugar,	50	Bags Pine,
	22.	2	do.		do.	172	do. 30 hhds. 50 do. Coffee,
	23.	1	do.		Cerena,	30	do. 26 do.
	29.	1	do.		do.		35 do.
July	1.	1	do.		do.		35 do.

AT FULTON-STREET WHARF.

June	21.	}	1	do. each day from the Brig Venus,	256	do. Molasses.
	22.					
	24.					
	25.					

AT STEVENS' WHARF.

June	27.	2	do. from Sch. Virginia Packet,	135	do.	
	28.	2	do.	do.	191	do.
	29.	1	do.	do.	82	do.

BETWEEN OLD AND COFFEE-HOUSE-SLIPS.

July	12.	}	1	do. each day from Schooner } 200	do.	115	hhds. & barrels.
	13.						
	16.						

AT OR NEAR OLD-SLIP.

	19.	1	do. from the Brig Fame,	108	do.	
	19.	1	do.	do.	47	do.
	20.	2	do.	do.	140	do.
	22.	1	do.	do.	106	do.
	23.	2	do.	do.	141	do.
Aug.	1.	1	do. Brig Packet,	84	do.	
	5.	1	do.	do.	67	do.

1565 boxes. 497 hhds.

The Brig Venus lost one seaman, June seventh, whose disease Dr. R. Morrel, a passenger in the vessel, informed, was Bilious and not Yellow Fever. The crews of the other vessels were healthy during the voyage.

cargo was immediately brought here from sickly vessels, except such as was purified, by washing the casks, &c. But the greatest number of lighter loads, landed at or near to one place in six successive days, did not exceed seven, which occurred only in a single instance, from the eighteenth to the twenty-third of July. These lighters conveyed the cargo of the Brig Fame, on board of which vessel, no person had been sick during the voyage; whereas nineteen lighter loads from three vessels were discharged in the same number of days near to Rector-street, from the second to the eighth of July, and the first cases of fever occurred a few days after. This, in my opinion, is an obvious difference; for a small quantity of pestilential air may be inoperative, by mixing with a large portion of atmospheric air, while a greater quantity continuing in a more concentrated state, may prove fatal. The fever which took place at the quarantine ground in eighteen hundred and twenty-one, when many vessels were there driven on shore, is an example directly in point. It was evident that the foul air issuing from those vessels at the same time, contaminated the pure atmosphere of the country, which occurrence never before happened from a small number at the wharf. Other circumstances that might make a difference between the cargoes which were landed at Rector-street and other places, could have been ascertained when the vessels arrived here, if I had been aware that any such particulars would have been of any practical use; such as the place where the vessel laid in the harbour, (some positions being healthier than others) and whether the cargo came immediately from the country, or had been stored in a sickly part of the city. It is a well authenticated fact, that vessels coming from Havanna loaded with molasses, are healthier than those loaded with dry sugar, although the bilge-water of the former is much more offensive than that of the latter. The reason of this difference in the healthiness of their crews, is attributed to the circumstance, that the first are loaded at a village called the Regulars, situated on the opposite side of the bay to the city of Havanna, where it is generally healthy.

My object in this investigation, is not to support any theory on the subject, but to endeavour to come at the truth, and learn if any reason could be assigned, that would account for the difference which appears to have been produced by the cargoes landed at Rector-street and other places, that measures may be adopted to guard us in future, if the disease has been introduced in this manner. Although the present law requires a permit from the Health Officer, before the cargo of a sickly vessel can be brought to the city, yet it has never been the practice to detain any articles, except those generally supposed to be susceptible of retaining infection, or such as are damaged.

The commerce of this port with sickly West-India ones, is so extensive, that all the cargoes brought here from thence cannot be stored at quarantine, without providing additional buildings; and the merchants could not examine them there, without being exposed to the foul air of damaged and infected articles; also to sickly vessels at the wharf. This would produce considerable embarrassment in their business, by impeding or preventing the sale of their property. It would, therefore, be proper to discriminate between articles which come from ports where the Yellow Fever prevails, as they are more or less liable to retain infection, that those least liable might be stored at an intermediate place, between the city and Staten-Island, to be ventilated for twenty or thirty days before they are brought to the city, and where the merchants could have free access to them with little hazard. West-India produce, that comes coastwise, and which has not been landed in the United States the same length of time, and which is not susceptible of purification, except by ventilation, ought also to be taken to the same place.

I conceived it to be my duty to offer to you my views on this particular point, which may appear trivial to some, yet on this highly important and interesting subject, which is wrapped up in so much mystery, and in which the lives and prosperity of our fellow-citizens are involved, every circumstance, which in the smallest degree can throw any light on

it, should be unreservedly communicated, particularly if it can be of any practical use.

During the late pestilence, eighty-five persons were sent to the Marine Hospital, from the city and Fort Richmond, forty of whom died. Sixty-five had Yellow Fever, and of this number thirty-seven died, eighteen of whom had black vomit; from which it appears that the recoveries were in the same ratio as took place in the city. This fact ought to remove the erroneous opinion entertained by the public, that the sick sustained much injury in being sent to Staten-Island. It is readily admitted, that sick persons, surrounded by their relatives and friends, and supplied with every comfort, would be injured by their removal to any public institution, especially to a Lazaretto, in consequence of the shock given to their feelings. Such, however, was not the happy situation of the persons sent to the Marine Hospital; they were generally destitute, without attendants, and living in the infected district; their removal to a healthy place, where they could obtain what their condition so much required, could not fail to contribute to their comfort, and in many instances, to their recovery.

The characteristic symptoms of the disease, in those persons who were sent from the upper and lower infected districts, and those from the U. S. Brig Enterprize, were the same, with similar variations in acuteness, as are observable in other febrile diseases. The first, or inflammatory stage, in those from the Enterprize, was generally more violent and longer protracted, than in those who were sent from the city, which probably was occasioned by their being more robust and plethoric than the others, nearly half of whom were females; but we had not a frequent opportunity to judge how violent their fever was at its commencement, as most of them had passed the first stage before they were removed. We did not observe that the malignancy of the disease was in any degree lessened in those persons who contracted it at a distance from the place where it began, nor that its violence was in any measure mitigated in those who were infected a short time before the pestilence terminated.

The more I see of Yellow Fever, the stronger is my conviction, that it is a different disease from Bilious Remittent Fever. They are both diseases which prevail in warm climates, and often exist at the same time in the same place, (but from different causes,) hence it is supposed that they have one common origin; and this is the reason, no doubt, why the great majority of physicians view them as the same disease. It was formerly my opinion, but which has been long changed, by observing the symptoms and termination of both diseases, at the Lazaretto. The one is brought from the West-Indies, the other is usually contracted in our southern ports, where extensive marsh exhalations abound, and it is unquestionably produced from that cause: this opinion is confirmed by its frequently terminating in an intermittent, which is the common disease of low and marshy countries. But of the fifty recoveries from Yellow Fever this year, not one of them had Intermittent Fever. To ascertain the relative proportion of deaths to recoveries, between these two diseases, at the Marine Hospital, I have examined the Register of that institution since it was opened at Staten-Island, in the year seventeen hundred and ninety-nine, to the present period, and find recorded five hundred and eight cases of Yellow Fever, two hundred and eighty-three of which terminated fatally, making the deaths as four in seven; and three hundred and eight cases of Bilious Remittent Fever, of which eighty-six died, making the deaths only two to seven. This very great disproportion in the fatal termination of the two diseases, is in itself a very obvious distinction: moreover, I have witnessed the greater part of those eighty-six deaths, none of whom had the coffee-ground black vomit.

Many persons who believe in the local origin of the Yellow Fever in our city, attribute it to the gass arising from the decomposition of animal and vegetable matters, generated at some depth below the surface. It was readily perceived by those gentlemen, that if they ascribed it to the putrefactive process, which took place on the surface, then its

effects would be felt much earlier in the season than the last of August or first of September, at which period the pestilence has often begun; for the heat of the weather was as great, and often greater, the two preceding months, than it was when the disease commenced, consequently the noxious gass produced from such decomposition, must have been diffused in the atmosphere a much longer period, before its evil consequences are experienced, than facts will warrant us in allowing. But to account for the continuance of the disease in autumn, from this cause, was a difficulty of still greater magnitude, as the evolution of gasses, from the decomposition of putrescent substances on the surface, would be checked or prevented by cool weather.

Since then the gasses from the decomposition of animal and vegetable substances on the surface of the ground, do not satisfactorily explain the origin and continuance of the Yellow Fever, we were induced to examine into the more plausible theory, that the noxious gasses which are said to give rise to it, were produced at some depth below the surface of the ground, which would better explain why the disease did not appear until the sun had been long acting on the earth, and imparted its heat to it, and why it continued after cool nights had checked decomposition on the surface.

For this purpose we made a number of experiments, between the eighteenth of September and the twenty-sixth of October, by burying the thermometer in the earth from three inches to seven feet, and letting it remain there from six to twelve hours. In thirty experiments, made on different days, at or near sunrise, the thermometer laying on the earth, stood at some point between thirty-five and seventy-two degrees, and when taken out of the ground, after having been buried twelve hours, at various depths of from three inches to seven feet, it stood at a point between forty-four and sixty-seven degrees. To the depth of nine inches, the temperature of the earth was altered by alternate changes of atmospheric heat; but very little variation was observed in the thermometer when buried between one foot and seven feet,

although the change was considerable on the surface of the ground. For instance, when the thermometer, lying on the ground, was at fifty-two degrees on the twenty-fourth, and sixty-four degrees on the twenty-seventh of September, it was sixty-four degrees one foot below the surface on both those days. Also, on the fifth, ninth and eleventh of October, when the instrument was laid on the ground, it was fifty-one, fifty-four and sixty-nine degrees, but when it was dug up from the depth of four feet the same days, and at the same time, it was at sixty-four degrees each day.

In twenty-two experiments made in the same manner between one and three o'clock P. M., the thermometer, laid on the ground, in the sun, stood at a point between seventy-six to ninety-one degrees; but when buried for six hours in the earth, at various depths between three and twelve inches, it varied from fifty-six to seventy-six degrees, according as it was placed near to or at a distance from the surface. For instance, on the eighteenth, twenty-first and twenty-third of September, the thermometer, laid on the surface of the ground, in the sun, at one o'clock P. M., stood at eighty-four to ninety degrees, but after being buried six hours in the earth, and the sun acting all the time on the same spot, the instrument when taken up at one o'clock, on the same days, from the depth of three inches, stood at seventy-four, and at the depth of six inches, at seventy degrees; but when placed below the depth of one foot, the thermometer was as little affected by the heat of the sun, as when buried in the shade, for it stood at sixty-three and sixty-four degrees at various depths between one foot and seven feet, while the instrument, laid on the ground, in the sun, varied from eighty to ninety-one degrees.

From these experiments, made in ground not materially different from that which I saw dug up at the foot of Rector-street, it appears, that the earth a foot below the surface, in the latter part of September and in October, varies very little in its temperature, when the sun-beams have been acting upon it for seven hours, or when it has been shaded by

twelve hours night, the heat being about sixty-four degrees.* This is a much lower temperature than I have ever heard would give origin to the cause of Yellow Fever.

The heat of the earth, one foot below the surface, not being more than sixty-four degrees in September and October, we must therefore infer that the continuance of the disease in autumn, by the extrication of gasses from the depth of several feet in the earth, is not a more satisfactory explanation of the cause of it, than that of the noxious gasses emitted from the surface of the ground. We are not prepared to adopt this theory of the origin of Yellow Fever, unless adequate fermenting masses, producing internal heat, and sending off pestiferous gass, are proved to exist constantly in the neighbourhood where pestilence prevails.

I have thus presented to you a plain statement of facts, upon which I have formed my opinion of the introduction of the cause of the late pestilence, and offered a few observations connected with the subject, which I have been induced to do, from a persuasion that they may be of some practical utility, and contribute to the improvement of our quarantine system.

With great respect,

Your most obedient,

And very humble servant,

JOSEPH BAYLEY.

New-York, December 10th, 1822.

*On the twenty-fourth and twenty-fifth of September, two thermometers which had been buried for twelve hours, to the depth of nine, twelve, fifteen and eighteen inches, when taken up at sunrise, stood at sixty-three and sixty-four degrees; although the instrument lying on the surface was fifty-two and fifty degrees. But when the thermometers were buried at similar depths for seven days, on the same days, with the sun acting on the same ground all the time, they stood at sixty-three and sixty-four degrees, at two P. M.; although the instrument, laid in the sun, on the same place, was eighty and eighty-five degrees.

To the Honourable Stephen Allen, Mayor of the City of New-York, and President of the Board of Health.

SIR,

I HAVE written a diary of the first month of the late fever, as it appeared in this city, with some facts and observations relating to the disease. Besides attempting to show whence the fever of this year originated, I had other objects in view. One of these was to throw in my mite towards the correction of public opinion on this subject; another was to prove that the Board of Health, as now appointed, is not organized on the best possible plan, and that the laws which regulate it, as well as those governing the quarantine establishment, are partly inadequate to the object, and more or less founded on erroneous principles. Another object to be answered by this communication, was to show, that although the Board of Health could not be officially informed of the existence of pestilence, until a month after its appearance, yet that some persons did know the true character of the disease at its beginning. If this had been the first occurrence of the kind which had fallen under my own observation, I should most likely have remained silent on the the subject. The same difficulties have happened, in a greater or less degree, several times before, and are even likely still to occur, until some radical change takes place in the organization of the Board of Health, and in the laws regulating the quarantine establishment.

Since the year seventeen hundred and ninety-eight, I have thought a communication of the kind here presented, due to the public interest: for in that year the same difficulties took place, with consequences shocking to humanity, and which beset the Board in so remarkable a manner during the first month of the late fever. The Board of that year, while feeling, no doubt, the most laudable concern for the sufferings of their fellow citizens, and actuated by the best motives for the public good, could not become officially informed of the existence of pestilence in the city, until its

ravages had spread far and wide beyond its control: its exertions were therefore of course paralyzed, and it did nothing except passing a resolve, for quieting the great alarm which existed at that time, "*That the city was free from Yellow Fever.*"

In order to bring the whole ground of difficulty before the public in the way best calculated for its correction, I have thought it best to proceed in the manner I have done; that is, to give a detail of all the facts as they occurred daily, in connexion with my own relative proceedings, and for whatever may appear to savour of egotism, my only apology is, that the public good seemed to require it. These sheets I now beg leave to submit to you, and through you, to the gentlemen who compose the Board of Health; because I have used some of their names with a little freedom. I have quoted some conversations which took place between them and myself. If I have misquoted any thing, I hope they will be so kind as to correct it, for with that intention it is laid before them; and if by any thing I have written, the interests of this city can be promoted, I shall consider my feeble exertions to be well rewarded.

I have, Sir, the honour to be

Your most ob'dt. and humble servant,

DANIEL D. WALTERS,

New-York, Dec. 17, 1822.

On the evening of Thursday, the eleventh of July, eighteen hundred and twenty-two, I visited Mr. Reder's daughters, Amanda and Caroline, the former aged eleven, and the latter nine years. I found them both labouring under the general symptoms of a violent fever. Their mother informed me that they had sickened on the preceding evening. Mr. Reder resides in a neat, airy, brick house, two stories high, situated at the west end of, and fronting Rector-street, one door from Washington-street. This spot, in common with all the west side of the city, was always, until the pre-

sent season, justly considered remarkably healthy, and, indeed, its local advantages in favour of health are certainly very great, as it lies entirely open to the cooling and ventilating operation of the southerly and westerly winds which prevail nine-tenths of the time during our summer months.

Friday the twelfth.—I found my patients without any abatement of fever.

Saturday the thirteenth, was a rainy day, and being myself indisposed, I therefore did not visit them.

Sunday the fourteenth.—I saw then at ten o'clock in the morning, and found that all their feverish excitement had entirely subsided; their eyes, necks and breasts had become tinged with yellow, and Caroline had black vomit. At this juncture it was not easy for one who had marked the symptoms from their commencement with fever, to their present malignant change, to be mistaken with respect to the nature of the disease: I therefore, in a guarded and private manner, expressed my opinion to a few of my friends, for at this time I did not mean to give the alarm, in anticipation of the measures of the Board of Health, nor even to name the disease to the public.

Monday the fifteenth.—I found Amanda much as on the fourteenth, but Caroline appeared to be fast approaching to the fatal termination of her malady. After visiting my patients on this morning, I called on Mr. Waldron B. Post, with whom I had some business. He resides in Greenwich, near Rector-street. I informed him that the Yellow Fever had appeared in his neighbourhood, and that the safety of himself and family required his attention to the circumstance; which I believe he immediately did, by looking out without delay for a place of retreat. Towards evening on this day, in a walk down Vesey-street, I met with Doctors Hosack and Francis; I informed them that Yellow Fever had broken out in Rector-street. Dr. Hosack inquired, whether I had reported it to the Board of Health. I answered in the negative; he replied, "if I knew it to be Yellow Fever, I would report it as such."

Tuesday the sixteenth.—On the morning of this day I found Amanda convalescing, and Caroline growing worse; but John, an interesting youth of seventeen years of age, had sickened during the preceding night. From the violence of the first symptoms, I judged that his case would in its course become highly malignant. On my way from Rector-street, in Broadway, I met with Dr. Daniel W. Kissam, in company with a gentleman with whom I was unacquainted. I informed them that Yellow Fever had made its appearance in Rector-street. I now proceeded directly to the City-Hall, where I reported the cases nearly in the words of the following conversation, which took place between his honour the Mayor and myself:

“Sir, there are three cases of fever under my charge, which I think demand the attention of the Board of Health.”

“What are the names of the persons sick, and where are they to be found?”

“They are the children of Mr. Reder, who lives in Rector-street, next door to the corner of Washington-street.”

“What kind or description of fever do you think they have?”

“I think it such a fever as our soil and climate are not calculated to produce; a fever depending on the introduction of foreign poison for its origin, an exotic in our country, and such a fever as is likely to do great injury, if it be allowed to spread; and I wish the Resident Physician may be requested to examine the patients and name the disease: and I further wish, that neither Dr. Hicks, nor any of the Assistants of the Board, be permitted to visit them at present. If, however, you think it would be agreeable to the Resident Physician, I will wait on him, and introduce him to the patients.”

The Mayor replied, “I will write him a note to that effect, and request him to await your call at his own house, at four o’clock this afternoon.”

Agreeably to the above arrangement, I called, in company with Dr. W. Miner, on the Resident Physician, at

four o'clock, when the following conversation took place between us:

“ Doctor, your patients in Rector-street have Bilious Fever.”

“ Have you seen them, Doctor ?”

“ Yes, after receiving notice from the Mayor this morning, I happened to be in that part of the city, and I thought it more convenient to visit them before dinner.”

“ Well, I am glad you found the disease nothing worse. I fear, however, it will give you some trouble before you have done with it.”

After some other observations on the subject of our difference of opinion, I left the Doctor, not at all offended at his having visited my patients at an earlier hour than had been suggested to him by the Mayor.

Wednesday the seventeenth.—On this day Caroline died, and John grew worse. The Board met at two o'clock, when the Resident Physician stated, “ that he had no report to make.” He had, to be sure, visited my patients in Rector-street, and found them ill with *Bilious*, but not Yellow Fever. Finding the Board about to take no measures on the subject, and that, of course, not only my friends, but also the public in the neighbourhood of the disease, would be exposed to the danger of a spreading pestilence, I resolved at once to throw off the caution which I had hitherto observed, and state, to every inquirer, my opinion on the whole matter. I accordingly lost no time in declaring to every member of the Board with whom I was acquainted, and to all its Assistants, that the disease in question was positively YELLOW FEVER. Among the members thus informed, were his Honour the Mayor,* Aldermen Fairlie and Hall, Doctor Dyckman, the Health Commissioner, General Morton, the Clerk of the Board, and the Assistants, Doctors Cutter and Hicks, and Captain Mills. Three days after this, Alderman Taylor, of the eighth ward, with whom I

* [The Mayor has no recollection whatever, of having received any direct information from Dr. Walters, that the cases alluded to were Yellow Fever.]

was unacquainted at the time, learned my opinion of the disease, in a conversation which he commenced in the Mayor's Office, as follows: "Doctor, we think it very strange, that you should tell your friends that there is Yellow Fever in Rector-street, when you have not reported it as such to the Board." My reply was, "I mentioned the existence of this fever to the Mayor, on last Tuesday morning, in such terms as I thought might call the attention of the Board to it; but in that report, for particular reasons, I purposely omitted the use of the word *yellow*; but I now tell you, that it is positively the Yellow Fever, and knowing it to be such, I consider it my duty to inform my friends of the fact, that they may be enabled to take care of themselves in time. I am aware that the Resident Physician is of a different opinion, but it is immaterial to me, as an individual, what either he or the Board may call the disease. The Alderman replied, we think very highly of Doctor Quackenbos; he was very correct in the year eighteen hundred and nineteen. As a man I think very highly of him too; but my conduct in this affair must be governed altogether by my own opinion of the nature of the fever in question."

Thursday and Friday the eighteenth and nineteenth. John's symptoms progressed from bad to worse, until Saturday the twentieth, when black vomiting began. On the morning of this day the Resident Physician visited him, in company with Doctor Manley, who started a new opinion of the nature of the disease, by calling it "Savannah Fever," which, by the by, is a species of Bilious Fever, that is never communicated from vessels or goods to our shores, so as to become located, and to affect the inhabitants. But, by some means or other, it happened that Doctor Manley was employed to attend John with me, as consulting physician. We saw him together at twelve o'clock, and I observed the Doctor began to think his morning opinion not tenable; and at his evening visit, he stood perfectly corrected; for, as we left Mr. Reder's house, we met Mr. Noah, the editor of the National Advocate, at the corner of Rector and Greenwich-streets, who made some inquiry of us touching the na-

ture of the fever in the neighbourhood; to which Doctor Manley replied in these words: "if I was obliged to give an opinion of this disease, under oath, I should say it is Yellow Fever." And to an observation of Mr. Noah, "we are in danger here, if that is the case," I answered, "yes; while standing on these paving stones, you may consider yourself as knee deep in pestilence." On Monday, the twenty-second, John died. The only family, besides that of Mr. Reder, living in Rector, between Washington and Greenwich-streets, was that of Mr. De Lange. This man I advised to leave the neighbourhood, which he did on the twenty-second, but not early enough to escape suffering, as one of his sons had the disease severely, after retiring to Long-Island. A few days after this time, the Board met with closed doors, in the small room adjoining the Mayor's office. I happened to be in the Hall at the time, and was invited into the room before the assembled Board. The Recorder expressed a wish to hear what I had to say on the subject which had called them together. I stated, that "I had been compelled, by the symptoms of the disease in Rector-street, to consider it precisely that variety of Yellow Fever which overran this city in the year seventeen hundred and ninety-eight."

During my attendance on Mr. Reder's children, after much inquiry, whether any other person had sickened in the neighbourhood, I learned that Andrew Thomas, a young Scotsman, had been sent sick, on or about the eleventh, from the south-west corner of Washington and Rector-streets, to the New-York Hospital, where he died on the sixteenth. I mentioned these circumstances to the Mayor, who caused inquiry to be made, from which it was clearly shown, that Mr. Thomas did die of strongly marked Yellow Fever in that institution, without greatly disturbing the quiet of its managers.

As the Board seemed to feel itself bound to consider all information, not derived from the Resident Physician, incorrect or unofficial, it of course continued to act in an unde-

cided and hesitating manner, until the fifth of August, when the alarming progress of the disease forced that Officer to acknowledge its true character. Doctor John Neilson, to be sure, after a little disputation with the Board about that unmeaning word *bilious*, did, on the thirty-first of July, report two cases of this disease as Yellow Fever, the symptoms of which he well described in a letter to the Board on the following day. His report, however, as it did not come from the right source, like the declarations which for two weeks previous I had daily made on the same subject, was insufficient and unavailing towards influencing the decisions of that assembly.

The number of cases continued to increase daily until the ninth of August, when the Resident Physician seemed to think that the public mind demanded some little explanation, in order to enable it to account, in the most reasonable manner, for what was going on. This explanation he made in the following words: "From the above facts it appears evident, that the cause or causes, which at first were only sufficient to produce Bilious Fever, have now become so concentrated, as to create Yellow Fever." This puzzling and unaccountable concentration of the cause or causes of this disease, if it really took place, was certainly a manœuvre calculated to mislead the most discerning. We have, however, good reason to doubt the fact, as the number of deaths before the announced concentration of the cause or causes, was fully equal to what happened afterwards, in proportion to the number who really had the disease.

From this time the Board met daily until late in October, manifesting the greatest solicitude for the public welfare; for all parties acknowledged that Yellow Fever really existed in town. The table of their chamber now daily teemed with speculations of the learned, on arresting the progress of the disease, or destroying its cause. These propositions, however, to say the least of them, came six weeks too late; for by this time the infection had spread over a surface by far too wide to be controlled by human power.

A general removal, which took place from the lower parts of the city, was the only means of safety left the inhabitants; and the disease continued to spread until the twentieth of September, when a very heavy rain occurred, followed by a cold, strong, northerly wind, of two days continuance. The effect produced on the progress of the fever, by this rain and wind was, in a high degree, striking and sensible. The out-of-door poison, or that part of it which had possession of the streets, seemed to be entirely destroyed; the extension of the infected district, which until this time had been gradual and well marked, ceased; and in four or five days the cases diminished, until the eighth after the change of weather, when not one was reported to the Board. Shortly afterwards, however, the poison again showed itself; but the subsequent cases appear to have arisen from infection remaining in the houses, and not to have been acquired in the streets, as was frequently the case before the storm.

Having given above as much of the late fever, in connexion with the relative proceedings of the Board of Health, as I think due to the public interest, the public curiosity, or to my own reputation, I shall proceed to the consideration of the more important parts of my subject; and the first and most important question to be answered is, Where did the poison which caused the fever of this year, come from? This question has been, and will continue to be, answered by the advocates of different theories, in such a way as to give the most plausible support to their favourite opinion. The exclusive believers in home or local origin, will ever find an old sink, a cist-pool, a rotten potato, or a putrid mouse, or some other nuisance of the kind, sufficient, if one could believe their stories, to poison a world. These gentlemen, however, do not seem to recollect, that the nuisances from which they fear so much, are the hourly productions of nature, and abound every where, at all times, over all the earth, rarely causing disease among its inhabitants. I am willing to admit, that under peculiar circumstances of confinement, or want of ventilation, accumulations of filth may excite Typhus Fever of a very malignant type: I, however, do not ad-

mit, but assert the contrary, that the exhalations from any or all these nuisances have the least influence on Yellow Fever, either to render it more or less malignant, or to retard or hasten its progress; for Yellow Fever is forever precisely the same disease, with its power to kill unimpaired, whether it appears in the healthy atmosphere of Middletown, in Connecticut; the Wallabout, Brooklyn; the Quarantine Ground, or the more impure atmosphere of this and other large cities; and all the stories, even admitted as true, related of churches cemeteries, sinks, jails, and processes of putrefaction, are not worth a jot on the present question. They prove nothing; as the relaters of them have to show that they ever, in a single instance, have caused Yellow Fever. On the question of cleanliness, they are, however, of inestimable value, as they prove the absolute necessity of rigidly enforcing the observance of that virtue. Dirty streets, yards, and damp, filthy, unventilated houses, not only originate several varieties of fever, but sensibly aggravate most diseases to which the human frame is liable; and when these accumulations of filth happen to be assisted by the most vicious habits which idleness and drunkenness can engender, they frequently cause such a fever as appeared in Bancker-street two years ago, which killed negroes by the dozen, and desperately pothered some gentlemen of the faculty, setting them agog for endemic Yellow Fever.

Church, jail, and Bancker-street Fevers, are always caused by a poison, generating and existing within the apartments in which the sick are found; and to remove the cause and restore salubrity, it is only necessary to cleanse and ventilate. But with Yellow Fever the fact is otherwise; this is always caused by an out of door poison, which first gains possession of the streets, from which it enters with equal facility the palaces of the rich and the hovels of the most wretched, carrying to both the same power to destroy. Ventilating and cleansing are here of no avail, until the stormy winds and low temperature of approaching winter have driven the enemy from the streets.

New-York has the reputation of being a dirty city, or at least, it has to my knowledge been constantly complained of as such, for the last twenty-five years; some parts of it are, however, infinitely more dirty than others. The Collect and Swamp, for instance, may be said to be natural cist-pools of very great extent, each of them containing many acres of made ground, and each of them receiving, from time immemorial, as in a place of deposit, the wash and filth of a large surrounding surface. Yet these places, although ten times as filthy as any other part of the city, have always been remarkably exempt from Yellow Fever. This fact is, however, easily accounted for, in the uniform manner of attack pursued by the disease in question, which is invariably on the wharves, by the side of vessels, and no where else: hence, it evidently appears, that if our city filth has any agency in producing Yellow Fever, it is only the filth on the wharves; for all the experience we have on the subject goes to prove, that this disease never made its first appearance in the interior of this or any other northern city.

Before meddling with that fruitful bone of contention among the different theorists who speculate on this subject, to wit, the consideration of the causes in and about Rector-street, whether of foreign or domestic origin, which could have contributed to the production of the late fever, I will proceed to make a few observations on what I deem an incorrect and unphilosophical habit indulged by too many, in forming their judgment of things altogether from external appearances, or on the sensible qualities of taste and smell. This habit appears to be partly natural and partly acquired, but regulated in some cases by our experience. Toads and spiders are charged by thousands with a high degree of venom, merely because their Creator, in his wisdom, did not think proper to give them an aspect corresponding with our notions of beauty; and even with our ample experience of the perfectly harmless natures of these little animals, we cannot look at them without feelings of hostility; and a man ignorant of the effects of aloes and arsenic, would, on account of its offensive taste, throw the former from his

mouth, as poisonous ; while, without suspicion, from its insipidity, he would readily swallow in a dish of tea, enough of the latter to destroy him. In no way, however, has the mind been warped by prejudice, from correct and just conclusions, so strikingly and so frequently, as where offensive impressions have been made on the organ of smelling. This has been more particularly the case in this city, for the last twenty-five years. Prior to the commencement of that period, the people, like the inhabitants of the country now, could approach the offensive atmosphere of a putrid carcass, a mud-hole, or a heap of manure, without ever once thinking of Yellow Fever. The frequent introduction, however, of the invisible poison which causes that disease, in a way unaccountable to such as would not be at the trouble of acquiring correct information, has led thousands, and among that number some physicians, to ascribe this fatal malady to the nearest offensive object of the nuisance kind, that happened to exist at the moment on a neighbour's premises. For, curious as it may appear, I have never yet been able to find a man who would acknowledge any nuisance about his own house, however offensive, capable of producing disease ; but when his family sickened, it was caused by spoiled provision in his neighbour's cellar, or by a mud-hole, or a broken sink on an adjoining lot. These people never once think of correcting their opinions by past experience. If they did, by referring back to the half century preceding the year seventeen hundred and ninety-eight, they would learn that any or all these nuisances were never so mischievous in those days, as to cause Yellow Fever. Previous to the year above mentioned, too, no regulations of the least use had been adopted for keeping the city clean, and nothing was more common than to see dead cats, dogs, and even hogs, broken up by the cart-wheels, in every part of the streets. During a visit which I made a few days ago to the neighbourhood of Rector-street, I could not but observe the application of the foregoing reasoning to the particular subject under consideration. The inhabitants of that vicinity appeared to be divided into four classes, three

of which were altogether *led by the nose*, to make answer to this question, which I put to a number of highly respectable gentlemen; "What do you think caused the late fever among you?" First class. "We think it must have been caused by the cist-pool, for it emitted a very bad smell." Second class. "We think it must have been produced by some puddles of water and filth, which stagnated in the gutters, and became, from the heat of the weather, very offensive to the smell." Third class. "We have no doubt but that it originated from the contents of the sinks, which were thrown into the streets about that time, for the stench of them was intolerable." And a fourth class, who had not been seized so unceremoniously by the nose, believed it to be derived from vessels or goods brought to the wharves.

So great is the disposition of many, to ascribe mischievous powers in producing disease to all substances of strong and offensive scent, that I should not be surprised to find some hereafter ranking assafœtida, hepar sulphuris, and other medicinal drugs, among the causes of Yellow Fever. It is, however, certain, that Yellow Fever has no necessary connexion with sensible smells; for, allowing the poison which causes that disease, to arise from nuisances of any kind, in a state of mixture with the materials of stench, the combination exists only for a very short time; as after every thing sensible to the nose has been driven off, and dispersed by the wind, the infection will continue for months to spread in every direction, as inodorous as it is invisible.

The sources of mischief, in or near Rector-street, which have been spoken of by the different parties to this question, as having a supposed agency in causing the late fever, I shall divide into two kinds: first, those on shore, of local or home production; second, those at the wharves, derived from goods or vessels, and of foreign origin. Of the former kind there are three; and, at the head of these, stands the cist-pool. As this is a word only very lately brought into use, and in bad company too, it is necessary to give a very particular description of the thing signified by the name, in order that no reader may attach to it some magical meaning

of horrid import. A cist-pool is, then, nothing more or less than a little, paltry, dirty, artificial mud-hole. The cist-pool now to be particularly described, was situated two or three feet from the south end of an alley which runs north from Rector-street, on the east side of Mr. Reder's ground, and across the rear of three lots which face Greenwich-street. It was placed there four years ago, when Rector and Greenwich-streets were raised above the adjoining land, to receive the wash and filth of the four lots bounding the alley in which it is contained. It was three feet deep, and four feet in diameter; planked up around the sides, and covered with an iron grate; and, like all other mud-holes, it was sometimes, during the heavy rains, filled to overflowing. Five months previous to the beginning of the fever, it was cleaned out, and about the beginning of July, the water which it contained was taken from it, and thrown into the street. Of the stench of this nuisance, I have spoken above; some of the inhabitants complained of it; others did not. Some time during the last week of July, it was particularly examined, by order of the Board of Health, by Doctor Hicks and two other persons, and found, though not very offensive, to contain a quantity of mud which had not been disturbed when the water was removed a month before. This mud was taken out by two men, put into a cart by a third, and the hole filled up by a fourth. Of the seven persons employed about this affair, not one of them contracted the fever.

Before touching particularly upon the second source of offensive matter, which some persons have spoken of as having a supposed agency in producing disease, viz. several new and old sinks near Rector-street, it is necessary to say something of the nature of the ground in which they are located. All this shore of the city, west of Greenwich-street, is what is commonly denominated "made ground;" that is, it has been raised above the flowing of the tide-water, by earth, or some other material, brought from a distance. The lot which runs from Greenwich-street to the water's edge, south of Rector-street, on which all the jakes

in question were located, was formerly occupied for many years, as a stone-cutter's yard and shop, and was altogether filled up with the chippings of marble and sandstone, in pieces of every dimension, from several pounds weight, down to the smallest grain of sand. Earth, as I shall call it, for want of a more appropriate name, thus made, is hard and very porous, and freely admits the flowing tide-water through it in every direction.

The first pit made for a new sink, was directly in the rear of, and a few feet from, Mr. Bakewell's duck store. It was at first contemplated to make this pit ten feet deep; but from the inconvenience experienced and expected, from the free ingress of the tide, it was carried to no greater depth than seven feet. The earth taken from it, of the nature above described, had no offensive smell or appearance, and was thrown into Washington-street, where some hollows required filling up. The next pit made for a new sink, was thirty feet east of the one above described, in the same kind of earth, and the same difficulties were experienced from the ingress of the tide; but the circumstance which gave the labourers the most trouble, and the sink a bad name, as causing fevers, was, in consequence of the spot chosen for the pit, being so near to one which was in daily use on an adjoining lot, that when the workmen had descended to the depth of five feet, a part of the thin partition of earth between the old sink and the new pit gave way; thus permitting a small portion of the contents of the former to escape into the latter. This was necessarily removed with the earth, to the annoyance of some individuals in the neighbourhood. It was not, however, suffered, as some have stated, to lie in the street, but was carted to the battery, to fill up a dock in that vicinity. The number of persons employed, from the middle to the last of July, about this affair, were from twelve to twenty, not one of whom was attacked with fever.

The third nuisance, mentioned by some as a cause of disease at this place, was the stagnant water which remained in the gutters until it became offensive. Rector-street,

however, from its descent, will not permit water to stand in any part of it in greater depth than two inches.

The above enumeration includes every thing which has been spoken of as a cause of the fever on the spot where it first appeared. Some ingenious persons did, however, labour hard to prove that the source of the mischief was to be found in the burying-ground attached to Trinity Church. In order to confute every argument which they have advanced in support of their opinion, it is only necessary to state the fact, that the poison which actually did cause the disease, was spreading daily in every direction, from the place of its first appearance, for one month before it reached the vicinity of that church-yard.

The second grand division of causes which were likely to originate the late fever in Rector-street, comes next to be examined. These, all of foreign origin, are to be sought after in suspicious vessels, which were permitted to come to the wharves in that vicinity, or in goods landed there from vessels known to be infected. The officers of the quarantine establishment for this city, have designated as four-day-vessels, a certain class, which are always to be regarded as suspicious, because, owing to a defect in the law, they are privileged to carry pestilence wherever they go; thus jeopardizing the lives of thousands, and rendering all other quarantine regulations useless. To prove the above allegation, it is only necessary to state a few facts. First, it is well known, that the different Boards of Health of the cities and towns on our seaboard, are, five times out of six, among the last public bodies which come to the knowledge of pestilence in their respective districts. Hence, in almost every case where a pestilential fever appears in any city, from one to two months elapse before its Board of Health become officially informed of it. During this period, the public authorities of the place continue to issue clean bills of health to every vessel sailing from it. One of these vessels, though infected with the poison of Yellow Fever, may arrive at this port with a healthy crew, or one or two of her hands may have sickened or died on her passage, and the

officers, as it is always their interest so to do, may disguise or conceal the real character of the disease. This vessel, on her arrival here, is liable to be stopped only four days at the quarantine ground, to undergo the too often useless operation of white-washing. She is then permitted by law, to come to our wharves, with a strong probability in favour of her kindling pestilence wherever she touches. Cases of the above description are by no means of rare occurrence; it is, however, unnecessary to mention more than one or two. The Ship Asia sailed from New-Orleans, some time in the month of August last, and arrived here on the eighteenth of September. She left three of her crew sick with Yellow Fever, in the hospital of that city; yet, strange as it may appear, she brought a clean bill of health, signed by the proper authorities of the place. And during the first three weeks of the late fever in this city, it is well known that vessels sailed daily from this port with clean bills of health: one of these, the Ship Illinois, however, which left Rector-street wharf, on the sixteenth of July, did lose a passenger by Yellow Fever.

Again, a vessel may cruise between the different ports in the West Indies for months, and at last venture near enough to some sickly place to receive the poison of pestilence on board, which may, or may not, affect her crew, on her passage to the north. She may touch at Charleston, or some where else in the southern states. When she arrives here, she reports herself healthy from the last place she was at, within the limits of the United States; she is then, by law, detained four days at the quarantine ground for purification, from whence she is permitted to come to the city to discharge her cargo, with a possibility of poisoning whoever approaches her.

To the four-day class belong all the suspicious vessels, lying near Rector-street wharf, at the commencement of the late fever. These were five or six in number; first, the Schooner Florida, Captain Johnson, of which much has been said. This schooner was employed as a cartel, in eighteen hundred and twenty-one, to transport to the Ha-

vanna, at the expense of the Spanish government, such citizens of St. Augustine, as chose to leave that place upon its cession to the United States. She arrived at Havanna in the month of August, crowded with passengers, at the time when that place was extremely sickly with Yellow Fever, which was soon introduced on board, affecting a number of persons, several of whom died, and her commander had the disease. In September, she returned to St. Augustine, where it is stated that Captain Johnson sent a quantity of clothing on shore, which was washed by a woman, who had a husband and three children, all of whom, five in number, were poisoned by the clothes, and all died with Yellow Fever; the first victims of that disease on shore for a number of years. The poison, now located at the house of the washerwoman, spread from thence in every direction over the town, attended by its usual accompaniments, death and desolation. The Florida, some time after this, sailed for this port, and arrived here in November: she sailed again for Cape Florida on the twenty-sixth of the same month.

Here a question arises, whether a few days exposure to our November temperature was sufficient to destroy the infection, of which, no doubt, she contained much? She spent the last winter in the West India seas, part of the time near Cape Florida, but occasionally looking into the Havanna: in the spring she became very leaky, and about the first of June sailed for this port for the purpose of repairing: after stopping at the quarantine ground four days, she arrived at a wharf near Rector-street. On the twenty-first of June, her little cargo, consisting of old iron, old junk, snuff in bottles, &c. was taken out and placed on the wharf, and two large turtles which she brought, were made fast with ropes, and put into the water alongside of her. She was then hove down, her bottom taken out, and a new one put in. In her repairs, from six to twelve men were employed for three weeks, none of whom were taken ill, except her blacksmith and his apprentice, who, according to their own statement, were both on board her, and both among the first affected with the fever. Besides this black-

smith and his apprentice, five others, four of whom are since dead, are known to have visited this vessel, or the dock at which she lay, viz. John Reder, Andrew Thomas, Leonard Archer, William Kimball and William Morgan. Now I have not told this long story about the Schooner Florida, to prove, or even to infer, that she was an infected vessel when she arrived, but on the contrary, I think with our able Health Officer, that she was not. She, however, unintentionally I think, did some mischief; for by placing her turtles, one of which was so large as to attract much notice, alongside, she drew many, especially children, who were inclined to see those animals, into the very centre of Yellow Fever poison, which was then discharging from another source to be noticed hereafter.

The next vessel to be mentioned, is the Ship Shamrock, from Matanzas, which arrived on the eleventh of June: she was quarantined four days, and then permitted to come to the wharf near Rector-street, although it was soon discovered that she had sailed from a sickly port. We have, however, reason to believe she fortunately escaped infection; so with the Elias Burger and Schooner Nile; they were both from sickly ports, though believed to be otherwise at the time of their arrival, and both quarantined four days. They did not, however, either of them arrive early enough in the season, whether infected or not, to have caused the Yellow Fever. The last vessels I have named, with their attending circumstances, principally to show the absolute necessity of putting the four-day vessels under very different regulations, if the health of the city is to be preserved by quarantine establishments.

The part of my subject next to be considered, demands the most serious attention from every inhabitant of this city, whose wishes and exertions are united for the attainment of that invaluable blessing, the public health; as it shows how absolutely the appearance of that particular kind of pestilence, called Yellow Fever, is enchained to an intercourse with known and admitted foreign infection. Indeed, it may be truly affirmed, that the substance does not more certainly

regulate the movements of the shadow, than does the intercourse here mentioned, the appearance of that fever in this city and its neighbourhood; and here I beg leave to state a curious fact, but whether one to be laughed at, or treated more gravely, I will not now decide, viz. that the sticklers for the local origin of this disease, have never yet found a nuisance which was, in their opinion, sufficient to produce it, but it happened some how or other, to be always located in the very centre of this intercourse with foreign infection. We find, that during the last twenty years, without going further south than Perth Amboy, the Yellow Fever has been communicated to this city, or to some town or place in its vicinity, in more than twenty instances; and in only two or three instances out of those more than twenty, has there been the least difficulty experienced in pointing with certainty to the vessel which brought it, or to the intercourse through which it was communicated; and in the two or three instances, where the poison has not been fairly traced to the vessel which brought it, it has been owing to the want of proper inquiry timely made on the subject, or to difficulties inseparable from such inquiries; for the persons who know most about the particular facts, are frequently much disposed, for obvious reasons, to hide or at least discolour them. And where were these two or three instances of pestilence found, in which some difficulty was experienced in tracing them to their proper sources of infection? Not at the Wallabout, nor at Brooklyn, nor at Perth Amboy, nor at the Quarantine Ground, nor at Middletown, nor New-Haven, nor New-London. No, it was at none of these small towns, whose most minute intercourse is continually exposed to the public eye; some of which have, however, suffered severely several times by the introduction of Yellow Fever. It was in New-York that the difficulty was found; a city, including sojourners, containing a population of one hundred and forty thousand souls, and probably enjoying a larger commerce with sickly places, than any other in the universe of the same number of inhabitants. A city, not like many in Europe, surrounded by a "Corps

Sanitare," armed with bayonets, to prevent the introduction of foreign pestilence, but depending for protection in that respect, on a quarantine establishment, which is regulated by laws so unaccountably formed, as not only to admit daily to its wharves, vessels as likely to be infected as otherwise, but also to admit to any part of it, during the greatest heat of summer, a cargo known to be infected, or even three or four such cargoes at a time. And, as it is now admitted, because proved beyond the power of contradiction, that a sailor's bed, or even his bundle of clothes, may convey enough of the subtle and invisible poison, which causes Yellow Fever, from a sickly place in a distant country, to a healthy family or community in this, to originate that disease with all its horrors; it is to me really a matter of astonishment, that hundreds of instances have not occurred, which could not be traced at all, instead of two or three which have presented difficulties on that account.

With the foregoing general observations touching the subject under consideration, I have thought it best to preface the particular instance of intercourse with admitted infection, now to be related. It seems our merchants claim under the colour of law, or long usage, the privilege to bring to this city in lighters, the cargoes of all vessels at the quarantine ground, which may have arrived there from sickly ports, and consequently subject to a detention of thirty days, regardless of any disease or mortality that may have occurred on board them. Of this description were the four following vessels, viz. first, the Spanish Soldier, which had sixteen days passage from the Havanna, and arrived on the twenty-fifth of June; one man was sent on shore, sick of Yellow Fever, before she sailed, who died on the thirtieth of May; another sickened of the same disease, and died on the seventeenth of June, during her passage to this port. Second and third, the brigs Ambuscade and Abeona; the former of these vessels had thirteen days passage, the latter fourteen; they were navigated by acclimated crews, composed chiefly of Spaniards, who of course were not subject to Yellow Fever. On their arrival here they reported the Havanna as very

sickly. Fourth, the ship *Eliza-Jane*; she had thirteen days passage, and arrived here on the first of July. Two of her crew died of Yellow Fever, one on the tenth of June, just before she sailed; the other on the eighteenth of the same month, while on her passage. The cargoes of these four vessels, which I have named above and described, as known and admitted by all parties to be infected, for the reasons above mentioned, began to come to the city on or about the twenty-eighth of June; and between that day and the sixth of July, nearly two thousand boxes of Havanna sugar had been landed within a space of two hundred and forty yards, of which space the bottom of Rector-street appears to be the centre. On the tenth of July, five days after the principal part of the infected goods, viz. twenty-four lighter loads had been landed, the first cases of the fever appeared. The merchandise, to which we charge the introduction of poison in this instance, was wood, made into boxes containing sugar, and therefore judged by many to be incapable of imbibing infection. This opinion, in connexion with some others, which seem to have influenced the Legislature at the time of their passing the laws establishing quarantine regulations, I wish to examine, because I believe them to be not only very erroneous in themselves, but very dangerous to the interests of this city, when made the basis of practice.

The opinion above alluded to, held forth by the law and by the merchants on this subject, appears to be founded on the belief, that there has been conferred on man, through the operation of his organs of sense, a capability of distinguishing so nicely in this most difficult and dangerous of all cases, as to enable him to point out with certainty the several articles of an infected cargo, which have imbibed the least or the greatest quantity of the poison which causes pestilence. Now, as it is well known that no such power of judging aright has been gratuitously given to man, and that he only becomes informed of the existence of the cause from its dreadful effects; and as the executors of the law, who in conjunction with others of the same opinion, under the influence of its erroneous doctrines, have made a few experi-

ments, to which, though originating from the best intentions, thousands of their fellow-creatures have fallen victims; and as it is certain that the members of the Legislature, in common with the rest of mankind, have been at all times ignorant of the nature, composition, and chemical affinities of the poison of pestilence; and as it is moreover equally certain that the few facts, which have been slowly developed, and arranged mostly in this country, during the last twenty-five years, and which serve to throw a faint gleam of light on some of the laws which seem to govern the causes of pestilence, have not been called in to the aid of those whose duty it is to guard us against its approach, either in the correction of their opinions, or the improvement of their practice; is it to be expected, I ask, under all these circumstances, that the result should have been more favourable than it really has been? or that the best laws should not have been devised and passed for the protection of the public health; and that the practice under these laws should not have been the safest which could have been adopted? All, or indeed the greatest good that could have been expected from Legislative bodies, surrounded as they always have been with darkness and difficulties, would have been the passing of a law enforcing yearly the total prohibition of intercourse between this city and infected vessels and their cargoes, from May until November. And whenever our experience, founded on facts, can convince us that particular articles of merchandise may be safely exempted from quarantine vexations, then, and not until then, will it be time for enlightened Legislators to step in and pass laws in favour of the exemption of particular articles.

The few facts hinted at above, from which I have thought some conclusions of practical utility might be drawn, I beg leave to state as follows, viz.

First. Great heat, with drought so long continued as nearly to suspend the watery exhalations from the earth, check, in the same proportion, the progress of Yellow Fever.

Second. The greater safety in visiting an infected spot

in the time of night, after the aqueous vapours have fallen to the earth, than in the time of day when they are rising from it.

Third. The difficulty experienced in all attempts to cleanse an infected vessel, either by washing, white-washing, ventilation, or fumigation.

Fourth. The tenacity with which infection adheres to any spot of earth where it once becomes located.

Fifth. Very heavy or long continued rains, by thoroughly washing the earth's surface, appear to dispose of or carry away so much of the poison of pestilence, as sometimes to almost suspend its progress. This effect was observed at the Old-slip, in eighteen hundred and nineteen, from a very copious fall of rain which occurred in October, and also during the late fever, from a like storm, which happened on the twentieth of September.

Sixth. The moment any considerable difference of temperature takes place between the earth's surface and the stratum of air in immediate contact with it, though freezing does not follow, that is, when the air is cooled fifteen or twenty degrees below the temperature of the earth, the cause of Yellow Fever becomes very much weakened, and sometimes altogether checked.

Seventh. Whenever the temperature of the atmosphere is so low that water is changed to ice, pestilence is invariably stayed.

The above facts have been so uniformly developed in the economy of that kind of pestilence, known by the name of Yellow Fever, that they may be considered as well authenticated, and from them the following conclusions appear to me to be naturally deducible :

First. That the poison which causes this disease, be it what it may, unites very readily with water, and in that state of union penetrates freely every substance which absorbs that fluid.

Second. That this poison cannot act noxiously on the human frame, but through the medium or agency of water ;

nor even through that medium or agency, unless that fluid shall have passed into the state of vapour.

Third. When aqueous vapours cease to arise from an infected spot of earth, or infected goods, in consequence of extreme dryness, or any other cause, the only operation by which the poison of this pestilence can be applied to man also ceases, and disease is invariably stayed, or, at least, the danger of contracting it greatly diminished, according to our first and second facts.

Fourth. All articles capable of absorbing water, and which have taken up that fluid in union with infection, are to be regarded as dangerous to the public health, in proportion to the quantity imbibed; and the time of this danger will be more or less protracted, as they dry more or less slowly. And the wood of which ships are composed, and that found among the cargoes of infected vessels, become highly imbued with this poison, for this article absorbs water like a sponge; and in consequence of drying more slowly, it continues to throw out infection for a longer time than most other materials. This is the reason why a ship may be so cleansed by washing and ventilation to-day, as to be visited with comparative safety; but in the act of drying next week, she will throw out so much poison as to become re-infected herself, and to infect the atmosphere in her immediate neighbourhood; and thus, also, the water which has become infected, and has sunk two or three inches into the ground will remain there, undisturbed by the wind, until the action of a warm sun shall bring it forth in a state of vapour, to do the work of mischief and death, according to our third and fourth facts.

If the conclusions here are fairly drawn and warranted by the facts, the sugar-boxes, which were landed by the thousand, at the bottom of Rector-street, in the beginning of last July, were unquestionably the most mischievous articles which could have been brought into the city. If very large quantities of pure wholesome water be suddenly thrown upon infected spots of the earth, the poison of fever is carried to so great a depth below the surface, or so washed away,

as to be rendered nearly harmless, according to our fifth fact. Here I beg leave to suggest the propriety of introducing into this city a supply of good water, sufficiently large to wash freely and frequently over any part of it that may become unhealthy.

During autumn, as the influence of the sun becomes diminished, and the cold northerly winds begin to prevail, the atmosphere is cooled much more rapidly than the surface of the earth; hence the watery exhalations from it will be immediately condensed, and returned to it without their having obtained sufficient elevation to become very mischievous, according to our sixth fact. The condition of water is so completely changed by being frozen, that all evaporation from it of the least importance, ceases; hence it is no longer the medium for the circulation of the poison of pestilence, and the poison of pestilence also ceases to circulate for want of such a medium, and the watery vapours afloat in the atmosphere, cease to be united with pestilential miasm, in consequence of their precipitation to the earth in the form of hoar frost; thus purifying the air, and staying pestilence, according to our seventh fact.

If what I have stated for facts, are really such, and I have no doubt they are, and if the conclusions which I have drawn from thence are just, as I believe them to be, the first step may then be said to be made towards the establishment of something like rational quarantine regulations; which I do not think exist at present in any part of the commercial world: for while our own are so loose as to permit infected vessels and cargoes to pass them by wholesale, those of Europe are so rigid as to quarantine a vessel for forty days in one of their out-harbours, although she may have arrived in the middle of winter, so overloaded with ice, as to be in danger of sinking from it. For this purpose it is only necessary to make these practical distinctions between the several articles of merchandise which may come into our ports, on board of infected vessels, and to divide them into three classes: First, such goods as do not imbibe water at all: to this class belong all metals, and articles formed of glass, marble,

&c. These, to be cleansed, need only to be well washed, and thoroughly dried. No washing and drying, however, which have been done on board of infected vessels, or in infected districts of a city, are to be relied on with perfect safety. Second: such goods as absorb water freely, and part with it quickly: to this division belong clothing and bedding, and, if not too closely packed, even cotton and sponge; repeated washing and drying will, no doubt, cleanse these articles. Third: such goods as take up water freely, and part with it very slowly; for instance, coffee and hides, if large quantities of them be together. At the head, however, of articles of this class, always charged for the work of mischief, will be found infected vessels themselves, so long as they continue to be made of wood, and the portions of their cargoes, which are composed of that material. In cleansing these portions, the exercise of that great virtue, long patience, seems to be absolutely necessary, as the poison they have imbibed lies out of the reach of ordinary washing, fumigation, or ventilation. Certain agents may be found, from their avidity for water, possessing great exsiccant power; among which are quicklime, and some others. These may, therefore, be sometimes used with advantage to intercept the matter of poison, or to render it inert, by depriving it of its medium for circulation; but they ought always to be employed in a state of extreme dryness, and not saturated with water, as in white-washing. Indeed, the lime which was spread over a part of the infected district, during the late fever, might have done some good, if those who placed it there had not taken effectual measures to render it *useless, by slackening it at the time of laying it on*. And as we know that any thing placed alongside an infected vessel, is liable to become itself infected; and as we also do not know how small a quantity of this infection, when introduced into our city, may originate a most desolating pestilence, I cannot avoid thinking that it would be our wisest course to run no risks on this head. I therefore beg leave to suggest the propriety of preventing those vessels called "lighters," from approaching the wharves, for at least some days, after having lain for

hours in contact with vessels known to be poisoned, whether they have received goods from them or not : neither would I permit goods of any description to be brought into the city in the same lighter which conveyed them from the vessels to the place of their purification.

The detention of persons who may arrive at the quarantine ground, on board infected vessels, may be with perfect safety reduced under plain and easy practicable regulations to one-fourth of the time now prescribed by law. The adoption of a reasonable practice in this particular, would go far towards removing quarantine vexations.

The following speculations and opinions, interspersed with facts, are thrown out merely to invite the attention of the curious to this subject. By the time the poison which causes Yellow Fever, has passed fifty yards, more or less, from the source whence it is emitted, it has become too much weakened by diffusion to excite that disease, and no length of time, the source continuing of the same extent, can enable it to act hurtfully to a greater distance ; because in an ever-changing atmosphere, it is constantly and rapidly passing to the point of diffusion. Fifty yards I will suppose to be the average distance to which it can act with effect in this country, from its source of emission, varied however a little by different states of the atmosphere. In some tropical climates, however, this poison appears to be carried with noxious powers to a much greater distance, and the following seem to be the reasons why this happens. In some of these countries, in which the poison is produced in great quantities, or found to abound, a profuse watery exhalation arises from the surface, elevating with it into the atmosphere much of this poison, which, owing to the considerable difference of temperature, between the day and the night, a large quantity of this vapour is rapidly condensed, and returned towards the earth in the form of a West Indian dew, which has been generally remarked to produce the Yellow Fever. The moment this condensed vapour begins to descend, what is called the land-breeze, sets in, which always blows from the land to the water, no doubt

carrying with it much of this infected dew ; hence, the danger of vessels approaching within a mile or two of the shores of these countries, if sickly, especially during the night.

But Yellow Fever does extend its ravages, gradually and slowly over large cities ; its source then by some means or other, must become proportionally extended : now it is evident, for the reasons given above, that this extension cannot be effected in the atmosphere above the earth's surface ; we must therefore look for some place where it can be effected, and this place we find at the surface of the earth. The humidity in that situation seizes the poison with the greatest avidity, either to be carried into the atmosphere by evaporation for the production of disease, or to be washed away out of mischievous circulation, if the spot, where it becomes located, should be inundated with water. If, at the time of the location of this poison on a spot of earth, heat and moisture are properly combined, so as to favour its operation, the extension of its district begins, I apprehend, in the following way : a portion of the poisoned vapour which arises from an inch of infected surface, falls on the adjoining inch of uninfected surface, and by it enables that in its turn to poison another, and so on ; thus slowly enlarging the infected part of a city, until pestilence spreads far and wide.

Of the chemical nature, or composition of the poison of which we have been treating, nothing appears to be known. We have, however, reasonable grounds for believing that it is not of animal origin, and therefore does not excite a disease personally contagious. It is not of animal origin ; for, in countries where it most abounds, all the inhabitants being acclimated, the fewest persons have it : it is there the stranger's disease ; and all the facts, experiments I will call them, which have been quoted to prove Yellow Fever personally contagious, have been too loosely made. They do touch this question, but they prove something else, which is, that this fever is personally infectious ; that is, the poison which excites it may be carried in any articles of clothing on or about a first person, so as to communicate disease to

a second, whether the first may have the disease or not. This is personal infection, as I understand these words.

I said above, that this infection did not act hurtfully more than fifty yards from its source of emission; but after it has passed these fifty yards, and become too much diffused to act noxiously, does it cease to act at all? I think not; for I believe it to be a stimulant of the highest exciting powers when applied to the human body, and that, like all other poisons, when the dose becomes too small to kill, it cures. Suppose we administer to a weak man, too large a dose of opium or arsenic, what is the consequence? Why, he is stimulated into painful sensations, disease and death; but if we administer to the same weak man, small doses of either of these active poisons, he is stimulated into pleasurable sensations, strength and health.

From this view of the poison which excites Yellow Fever, I am led to account for a fact, which occurs so universally as to be generally noticed; which is, that when that disease is spreading, for a considerable distance in advance, of the infected district, all other diseases, especially those of debility, seem to be banished or suspended. This suspension of such diseases, I think may be ascribed to the medicinal effects of this stimulant poison, which is diffused through the atmosphere in quantities too small to cause disease.



Yellow Fever in Cheapside and Lombardy-streets.

When one half of a large city is so overspread with pestilence, that thousands of its inhabitants have been forced to fly to its more healthy parts for safety, and when the intercourse of necessity, of business, of friendship, of curiosity, and of knavery, have each had their share of influence, it appears very idle to expect to trace every case which may occur elsewhere, to the district first infected: each kind of intercourse here mentioned, occasionally, no doubt, has its

victims. When, however, the communication has been carried on for the purposes of knavery, it is not very likely that those who have sickened from it, will be very communicative on the subject, unless the facts be wrung from them at the hour of death by the pangs of a guilty conscience. The particular cases of fever now to be noticed, were caused by the intercourse of friendship or affection: and, as we should expect in all like cases, we find in this, that the family who suffered most, held more communication with admitted infection, or with the infected district, than all the people of the Seventh Ward beside. The facts are these: on or about the seventh of August, Mr. Samuel Ward, who resided in Lumber-street, within the infected part of the city, sickened with Yellow Fever, and was reported as such, by Doctor Perkins, to the Board of Health. Here he lay ten days very ill. During this time, his father's family, who lived at number twenty Cheapside-street, manifested on this occasion the most laudable anxiety for his welfare. He was not only visited daily, or oftener, by his father and mother, but his brother, a dumb boy, fifteen years of age, and a sister of thirteen, were constantly with him, as nurses or assistants. They slept at his house every night until the seventeenth, when it was thought that he had so far recovered as to enable him safely to leave Lumber-street, which he did, and went to his father's house, from whence he set out for the country next day. He brought with him from Lumber-street, a quantity of clothing, which, however, was said to have been washed there; that is, washed in pestilence, and dried in the poison of pestilence. About five days after he was gone, his brother and sister above mentioned, who had returned with him to their father's house, both sickened with fever. The sister's case was not very severe, but the brother was extremely ill; and as he could not speak, he expressed his sense of pain by laying his hand on his head, his back and stomach. On the fourth or fifth day of his disease, he was taken with profuse bleeding from the nose: after this, they both gradually recovered. Now, there is not in my mind any manner of doubt,

but that both these children had Yellow Fever. A few days after this, another daughter of the elder Mr. Ward was taken ill. Doctor Boyd was called in, who, no doubt, very correctly reported it Yellow Fever; and in a few days more, the elder Mr. Ward and another son were seized with the same fever, both of whom died. Mr. Ward's house and its immediate vicinity, may now be fairly considered a second infected district, located only about sixty or seventy feet from number four Lombardy-street; where, it appears from the following affidavit and certificates, that another spark of the poison was set afloat :

No. I. (COPY.)

Jonathan Darrow, cartman, number five Jefferson-street, in the city of New-York, being duly sworn, deposes and saith :

That on or about the second day of September, in the present year, he was requested by a young man, at or near the New-Market, at the bottom of Catharine-street, in the city aforesaid, to take up and put on his cart, two chests, a bed, a hammock, and a bundle of clothes, tied up in a blanket. This young man had with him a sailor, as from his dress he appeared to be, who appeared to own a part of the things aforesaid. The young man first mentioned, after the articles were put on the cart, got on himself with them; he then requested this deponent to drive to number four Lombardy-street, which request was complied with. While on the way thither, a conversation took place between this deponent and the said young man, in which the latter observed, "a part of these things now on the cart does not belong to me, but they did belong to a young man who lately died of Yellow Fever," or words to that effect. And this deponent further says, that he drove his cart to the house number four in Lombardy-street, where he delivered that part of the goods, to wit, one chest, one bed, and the blanket containing the clothes, which the young man above mentioned had charge of, to an old woman and a young woman,

who both received the goods, and placed them in the entry of the house number four Lombardy-street. And this deponent further saith, that he then drove into Bancker-street, about half way between Catharine and Market-streets, where de delivered the remaining part of the goods, to wit, one chest and a hammock. And further this deponent saith not.

(Signed) JONATHAN DARROW.

Sworn before me, this 18th day of December, 1822.

(Signed) HARRIS SCOVELL, *Assistant Justice.*

No. II. (COPY.)

We, whose names are hereunto subscribed, hereby certify, that we saw, during the first week of September, in the present year, several different times, a chest on which was placed a bundle of clothes, or bedding, as they appeared to be, tied up in a blanket, as we believe, standing in the entry of the house number four in Lombardy-street.

Given under our hands, the 18th day of December, 1822.

(Signed) WILLIAM H. MOTT,
FRANCIS SCHRODER,
ELEBRED POLHAMUS.

No. III. (COPY.)

I, Sarah Potter, residing at number twenty-three Lombardy-street, hereby certify,

That I was employed by the late Mrs. Cary, and the late Mrs. Snow, on Tuesday the third of September, in the present year, to wash some bedding and clothes, which I was informed had, or did belong to some person who had been sick, and that I accordingly did wash one rose blanket, one bed-quilt, one pair of socks, one handkerchief, one waist-coat, and three shirts, and that the shirts were very offensive and very yellow. And that while I was washing the said clothes, the late George Washington Mott came near

to the washing tub, and inquired of me whether I took in washing.

Given under my hand, this 8th day of December, 1822.

(Signed)

SARAH POTTER.

On two occasions, it seems that infected clothes or bedding may be peculiarly mischievous, viz. when they are first opened in a warm atmosphere, after having been long closely packed up; and again, when they are put into warm water for the purpose of washing. The profuse vapour of warm water, seizes the matter of infection with the utmost avidity, and conveys it, in its most active state, to the noses, mouths and lungs of the bystanders. This fact was shown in a very striking manner; for at the time the clothes referred to in document number three, were washing, George Washington Mott, having that day come to the city, was, with Mrs. Cary and Mrs. Snow, standing by the tub: they all sickened with Yellow Fever on the same day, and all died within a few hours of each other. The infection in Lombardy and Cheapside-streets reached to Catharine-street; thus taking possession of three principal avenues which lead to the wharves and the New Market, from the upper part of the city; and to this second infected district, no doubt, we may justly charge some cases of fever which occurred to the eastward and northward of it, and which were not at the time fairly traced: a case in point was that of Mr. D. Rogers. There were, however, three or four cases that fell under my own observation, which were reported to the Board of Health as Yellow Fever, in the upper part of the city; about which I shall not speak, unless I was disposed to trace a drunken frolic, or something as unlike Yellow-Fever as drunkenness, to the infected district.

I shall conclude with the case of Yellow Fever that follows, and which was among the most mischievous that occurred in the upper part of the city, during the late autumn,

causing more alarm, and consequently more unnecessary removals than any other. This was owing to two reasons; first, the supposition of it being impossible to trace it to the infected district; second, it being ascribed to a broken sink in the neighbourhood, a thing which too often happens in like cases. The subject of the case here alluded to, was Mr. Scott, who resided at one hundred and twenty-two Bancker-street, by trade a tailor. He had received his work for months by the job, from Messrs. Pierson and Jacobs, whose store is at the corner of Maiden-lane and Nassau-street. For wages or work, he went there two or three times a-week during August, and until the tenth of September, on which day the store was closed, on account of the alarming progress of the fever in the neighbourhood, as several cases had already occurred at the noted sugar-house, a few yards distant, which terminated fatally. On this day, the tenth of September, he settled with his employers, but was detained there much longer than usual, owing to some difficulty in his accounts. After receiving his wages, as he stated, on his return home, he went through Maiden-lane to Broadway, merely to witness the desolation of that part of the city. Six days after this, to wit, on the sixteenth of the same month, he sickened of Yellow Fever, and died on the twenty-third. Another journeyman employed by the same firm, who was at the store on the same day, sickened about the same time that Scott did, and was reported to the Board as a case of Yellow Fever, but recovered. Mr. Pierson, one of the partners of that firm, however, soon after this, took the disease, and it proved fatal.

D. D. WALTERS.

MARCH 1, 1823.

THE President stated, that this meeting of the Board was called, principally, in order to the receipt of a Report from the Committee, "On Measures for Arresting the Progress of the late Epidemic."

The following Report was accordingly presented by the Committee.

Report of the Special Committee of the Board of Health.

THE Special Committee, appointed by the Board of Health on the eleventh of September, eighteen hundred and twenty-two, for the purpose of adopting such means, as in their judgment, might, by possibility, arrest the further extension of the then prevailing epidemic in the city, respectfully REPORT :

That immediately upon their appointment, they proceeded, with the utmost diligence, to employ such measures as they conceived would be useful to effect an object of so much importance to the city. To enable the Board to form a just and an enlightened opinion, whether those measures have been beneficial or not, your Committee have thought they could not treat the subject more clearly, than by answering with accuracy, and in detail, the following questions :

I. When and where did the fever begin, and how far had it progressed on the eleventh of September, the day when the Committee commenced their operations ?

II. What means did the Committee use to stop the progress of the Fever, and what was the result ?

The first cases of fever which excited alarm, began at Mr. Reder's, on the north side of Rector-street, next door above Washington-street. Two of his children sickened on the tenth of July, one of whom died on the eighteenth. Another child sickened on the sixteenth, at the same house, and died the twenty-second. About the twelfth of July, Andrew Thomas was taken ill of fever at the corner of Rector and Washington streets, nearly opposite Mr. Reder's. He was removed to the hospital, and died the fifth day of his illness.

On the twentieth of July the Resident Physician, Doctor N. Quackenbos, visited a child sick of fever, at Mrs. Rose's, at the southwest corner of Rector and Greenwich streets.

Several others were seized with fever in that vicinity, and on the thirty-first of July, Dr. Neilson reported Reuben W. Archer and Mrs. Edwards, at Mrs. Rose's, sick of Yellow Fever. On the fourth of August, the Resident Physician announced to the President of the Board of Health, that Mrs. N. Phillips, who had sickened on the first of August, at ninety-eight Greenwich-street, the fourth house above Rector-street, was dangerously ill of Yellow Fever: she died the next morning. The alarm now became great; the number of cases soon increased. The inhabitants near the seat of the disease were advised to remove. On the seventh of August, the Board of Health resolved, That the several avenues leading to what was afterwards termed the *infected district*, should be forthwith fenced up. They described the limits of the district directed to be enclosed, as follows, to wit, "Rector-street, from the intersection of Lumber-street; Greenwich-street, from the intersection of Lumber-street; Washington-street, between Pier numbers three and four, including number four; Greenwich-street, from the intersection of Carlisle-street; Washington-street, from the intersection of Carlisle-street." These limits comprehend an area of nearly nine acres. On the eighth of August, the superintendent began to erect the fences, in obedience to the direction of the Board. Hopes were entertained that these precautions would arrest the progress of the fever. Similar measures had been adopted in eighteen hundred and nineteen, and with success. It must, however, be remembered, that the fever that season did not appear till late. The first cases reported to the Board, were those of Abraham and George Van Nest, on the fifth day of September; whereas, this year, it had extended itself considerably from the original focus of infection, and became seriously alarming before the middle of August. The hopes of arresting it by fencing, and other means, which were cherished for a little time, soon gave way. It was seen with regret that the poison had passed the fences, still it was thought proper to renew the effort to check it. The fences were removed so as to enclose a greater extent. The fever, notwithstand-

ing, continued to spread itself and pass them. The measure was tried once more. On the twenty-second of August, the Board resolved as follows: "That it be referred to the Health Commissioners, to consider the propriety of enlarging the bounds of the infected district, and, (if in their opinion necessary,) that the fences be removed, so as to embrace a larger portion of the city." The Superintendent reported to your Committee, that he put up the fence across Broadway on a line with the southerly side of Liberty-street, on the twenty-seventh day of August. Liberty-street had been previously fenced up at Broadway, as was Cedar, Thames, and Rector streets, and the Alley leading from Broadway to Lumber-street. The fence put up across Broadway at Liberty-street, was the last fence which was erected. The report of the case of George Linnen, who sicked on the west side of Broadway, number one hundred and forty-five, next door below Liberty-street, and within fifty feet of the fence, was made to the Board of Health on the twenty-ninth of August. This created fears that the fever had already past the last barrier which had been erected. Neither the Board nor the public were left long in doubt that such was the fact. On the fourth of September, Nancy Powers and William Herttell were reported sick with Yellow Fever, at Mr. Dover's, on the east side of Broadway, number one hundred and sixty-four, within one hundred feet south of Maiden-lane. In this house, situate in Broadway, on very high ground, six out of seven persons who composed the family, took sick with Yellow Fever.

At the time the fever first made its appearance in the house of Mr. Dover, it was officially known to the Board that it had extended itself to Wall-street, to Beaver-lane, down Broadway near the Bowling-green, down Greenwich-street near the Battery, and up the city to Liberty and Courtland streets. That there may be no doubt that the fever had so spread itself, the Committee beg leave to recal to the recollection of the Board the following cases.

J. M. Thompson, a clerk of Mr. Wiley, at the corner of Wall and New-streets, was reported as a decided case of

Yellow Fever on the twenty-third of August: he died the next day. He had passed through Courtlandt-street, and down Broadway to Wall-street. The case in the family of Mr. Baker, on the opposite corner to Mr. Wiley; the cases in New-street, and those at nineteen Wall-street, can leave no doubt that the fever was then in that street. The Resident Physician reported Henry Van Antwerp, at nineteen Wall-street, on the twenty-sixth of August. Richard Todd, at five Beaver-lane, sickened on the twenty-fifth of August, and was reported on the twenty-eighth. Mrs. Buckmaster, of Beaver-lane, died on the twenty-eighth, and it will be recollected that all who took the fever in that street died. Mr. and Mrs. Mather, at forty Broadway, were both reported the same day, to wit, the twenty-eighth of August, and both died. Mrs. Morrison and daughter, at forty-two Broadway, were reported by the Resident Physician on the thirtieth of August, and Mrs. Morrison died. Charlotte White was reported from Washington-street, near Beaver-lane, on the first of September. On the third of September, John Robinson was reported as low down as twenty-three Washington-street; and Ann M'Carthy had been reported to the Board on the twenty-ninth of August, from number four Greenwich-street, next door to the Battery: all these died. These cases, and others that might be referred to, leave no doubt of the progress of the fever to the vicinity of the Bowling-green and Battery. We shall now trace it to another direction. William Overend, corner of Liberty and West streets, sickened on the twenty-seventh of August, was reported on the twenty-ninth, and died on the third of September.

Hugh Oldham, corner of Liberty and Washington-streets, was reported on the thirtieth of August; he died, and Robert Wade, corner of Liberty and Greenwich-streets, died on the twenty-ninth of August. On the thirty-first of August, Ann E. R. Whitehead, number seventy-four Liberty-street was reported; she sickened on the twenty-sixth. Mrs. Coates and son, as early as the twenty-fourth of August, were both reported from number one hundred and

twenty-two Liberty-street, and both died. The destructive effects of the pestilential poison at the sugar-house in Liberty-street, and in other places in the vicinity of the vaults of the New Dutch Church, which very soon showed itself, attest the fact that the fever had spread nearly through the whole of Liberty-street, at the time it reached the house of Mr. Dover. Reeder Burk, who worked at the sugar-house, was reported on the seventh, and died on the eighth of September. On the twenty-fifth of August, Dr. Yates reported the first suspicious case which appeared at number five Courtlandt-street. The great number of cases of undoubted Yellow Fever which shortly afterwards broke out in that house, as well as at number sixty-nine, and other houses in that street, leave no doubt that the poisonous infection had extended itself to Courtlandt-street, and probably was as high as Dey-street, when it first attacked the family of Mr. Dover. The Board of Health, aware of its gradual advances, had watched its progress with the most scrupulous care. On the fourth of September, they deemed it their duty to admonish their fellow citizens, how widely the fever had spread. This they did by the following publication :

“The Board have deemed it proper again to caution their fellow citizens generally, and all others, against approaching that part of the city included within the following limits : that is to say, beginning on the Hudson River, at the pier number nineteen, at the foot of Dey-street, running up Dey-street to Broadway, down Broadway to Maiden-lane, down Maiden-lane to William-street, down William-street to Beaver-street, along Beaver-street to the Bowling-green, crossing the Bowling-green to Marketfield-street, and along Marketfield-street to the Hudson River. The Board have reason to believe that the aforesaid district may be deemed infected, and therefore that there is great danger in approaching it.” Thus far, and to the extent of the above limits, did the Board of Health, on the fourth of September, believe the infection to have extended, *and that there was great danger in approaching the district which they had so designated.*

Before the Board issued the above publication, the Rev. Mr. Uphold requested the opinion of the Board, whether it was safe to continue public worship in St. Paul's Church.

This request was made on the twenty-eighth of August. On the twenty-ninth, (the next day) the Board recommended that public worship be discontinued in that church.

Before your Committee proceed further to trace the progress of the fever, they beg leave to call the attention of the Board to a singular fact in relation to it; a fact which experience has fully established, and which, in the opinion of your Committee, deserves the attention of every reflecting man.

From the year seventeen hundred and ninety-eight to the present time, it has been observed, that whenever the Yellow Fever had broken out, it has extended itself gradually in every direction from the focus of infection.

Dr. Hosack notices this curious phenomenon in the following words: "Whenever the Yellow Fever has been introduced into the cities of the United States, its first extension has always been slow and gradual. Upon several occasions its boundaries have been accurately defined by the Board of Health. This I have stated on a former occasion, was remarkably the case in this city in eighteen hundred and five." (Vide Dr. Hosack's Reply to Dr. Chrisholm. Appendix to Thomas' Pract. 977. ed. of 1822, New-York.) Upon no occasion, nor any where, perhaps, has this extraordinary law which governs Yellow Fever, been marked with the care and precision that it has been by the present Board of Health of the city of New-York.

Another curious circumstance attending Yellow Fever is this: that though the circle of infected atmosphere, or poison, or whatever it be that produces Yellow Fever, gradually enlarges itself in all directions around its original focus, its malignity is in no way abated. During the present year, the poison was equally fatal, when it had embraced an area of two thousand feet from its focus, as when it was distant from it only two hundred. Of the last forty cases of Yellow Fever reported to the Board, twenty-eight died.

These peculiar characters of Yellow Fever being known, that is, that it extends itself in every direction, and is alike fatal, however remote from its original source, it being also known that the fever had passed all the fences, and was regularly progressing up Broadway, every body foresaw that if no change could be produced, it must in a short time reach the City-Hall. In that event, the Corporation and the Board of Health would be driven from it. Offers for their accommodation were accordingly made by different associations, and many of the most respectable magistrates of the city, believed that it would shortly become unsafe to transact business there.

The Committee will now return to trace the progress of the fever up to the eleventh of September, when they commenced their operations. On the fourth of September, as has been stated, the Board of Health designated Dey-street and Maiden-lane as the northern boundary of the infected district. It was yet early in the season, the heat of the weather was intense, and no reasonable hopes could be entertained that the fever would not continue to extend itself.

On the eleventh of September, as had been anticipated, the fever appeared as low down Maiden-lane as the corner of William-street. That day, Thomas Peterson, who had worked there, was reported to be sick, and on the same day, that is, the eleventh of September, Dr. Walker reported Mary Dugan, in Fulton-street, near Broadway, on the east side, as sick of Yellow Fever. There is no information that she had been south of Fulton-street.

Thus had this infectious atmosphere, or whatever it be that causes Yellow Fever, gradually progressed from Rector-street, pretty equally in every direction, up and down, and across the city, without being essentially, if at all, controlled by the winds, when it reached Fulton-street about two months after its first appearance. Measuring from Rector-street to Fulton-street, the distance is about eighteen hundred feet. This then must have been the semi-diameter of the volume of infected atmosphere, which was still increasing its bulk, when your Committee were appointed.

Your Committee have been thus minute and particular in stating the gradual march of Yellow Fever from Mr. Reder's in Rector-street, where it first began, to Fulton-street; because if it can be shown by the official documents of the board, that the fever continued to spread itself afterwards and in every direction, except only in that direction where your Committee employed means to stop it; it will follow, that fact being clearly established, that every ingenious mind must admit one of two things; first, either that the means used by the Committee, have been successful; or second, that though they do not believe those means to have been successful, yet they in candour acknowledge themselves unable to account for the result.

Your Committee undertake to put that important fact, (that is, that the fever did continue to spread itself in every other direction, except only in that direction where means were used to stop it,) in so unquestionable a shape, as to preclude all cavil or doubt.

Before, however, they proceed to establish that fact, they will in answer to a part of the second question, give a detail of the materials which were used to arrest the progress of the fever, and the mode in which the materials were applied.

The board need scarcely to be reminded of the manner in which they were importuned to do something. Daily communications were received, touching not only the nature and cause of Yellow Fever, but the means of destroying it. One contended that it was imported; another that it originated here; a third that it was a gas, that floated in the air; a fourth that the poison of Yellow Fever emanated from the earth, and some urged what may be deemed a fanciful theory, that it is animalcules.

Equally discordant were they in their proposed means to arrest the fever. Some of the many conflicting suggestions to disinfect the air, and thereby prevent the disease from spreading, was the firing of gun powder, the covering the streets with ice, or with some impermeable substance, the burning of tar, sprinkling the streets with vinegar of wood, fumigating with brimstone, and with certain acid

gasses. To these were added the application of lime, charcoal, ashes, and tanner's bark to the sources of foul emanations. Of all the propositions, the use of the latter articles recommended by Dr. Samuel Akerly, in his letter to the Board of Health, of the twenty-ninth of August, appeared to your Committee the easiest to be applied, accounted for on rational grounds, most agreeable with experience and common sense, and especially as lime had been tested by practice at the quarantine ground, in purifying foul vessels, and found to be one of the most efficient agents for that purpose.

The whole amount appropriated for experiments was eleven hundred and fifty dollars, being seven hundred and fifty dollars on the eleventh of September, and four hundred dollars on the fourth of October. This sum your Committee have expended, the vouchers are annexed. The Committee commenced their operations on the eleventh of September, and finished on the twelfth of October following. The materials employed in their experiments were, lime, charcoal, and tanner's bark. Twenty-nine cart loads of tanner's bark from the vat, were spread on Fulton-street, between William-street and Broadway, on the thirteenth, fourteenth and sixteenth of September. This was the whole of that article applied by the Committee. Sixteen cart loads or three hundred and eighty-four bushels of charcoal were purchased and ground; as it was prepared, the cartmen scattered it on the fourteenth, sixteenth, seventeenth, and eighteenth of September, on Nassau-street, between Fulton and Liberty-streets, and on Maiden-Lane, between Broadway and William-streets; some of it was also scattered about the lower end of the Park, on Fulton-street, along St. Paul's Church Yard, and on Courtlandt-street. No more than three hundred and eighty-four bushels of charcoal were used.

Several circumstances occurred which led the Committee to confine their operations exclusively to the use of lime, after the trial of a small quantity of tan and charcoal. The physician who recommended these articles, stated to the Committee when they began their experiments, that he put the least reliance upon the tan; unless the unexpended bark

could be procured. Upon inquiry it was found that the unexpended bark was from fifteen to twenty dollars per ton, (about a cart load,) which would cover but a small space, and that even at these prices it could not be obtained. There was not a plentiful supply of partly expended tan, and the persons engaged by the Committee, were a whole week in collecting twenty-nine loads, which only covered about six hundred feet of Fulton-street.

The delay in procuring, grinding, and spreading charcoal, were obstacles in the employment of it, and as the expense was comparatively much greater than that of lime, the Committee abandoned the use of it altogether, after the eighteenth of September; lime also was used by your Committee at the same time they used the bark and charcoal.

So widely was the fever now diffused, that the Committee believed it to be entirely beyond the controul of any of the remedies proposed, but as some physicians of respectability supposed the Yellow Fever was imported, and all agreed that it required an impure air to spread in, it occurred to your Committee, that if they could interpose such substances as would produce a pure air, between the City-Hall and the infected district, the disease would at least be confined and prevented from passing this barrier.

That lime would produce this effect they had some hopes, and that it would not they had some fears. The public required that something should be done, and your Committee adopted by way of experiment, one among the many plans recommended. Dr. C. Roosa, who first suggested the use of unslacked lime, and the means of applying it, superintended the experiments, and went into the infected atmosphere, down to Rector-street, to distribute the lime; he believes in the contagion of Yellow Fever, and he is also strong in the belief, that lime distributed in the manner it has been done by your Committee, will produce an atmosphere in which the contagion of Yellow Fever cannot be renewed. He also proposes to slake the lime in the streets, and scatter it while hot in the gutters and on the pavements, and by so doing, to destroy the nidus of the contagion.

In justice, however, to Dr. Akerly, whose letter to the Board, was a strong inducement with your Committee, to undertake these experiments, it must be stated, that he urged to the Committee, the immediate application of lime, &c. to Trinity Church Yard, and Rector-street, the centre of the infected atmosphere, and where the Yellow Fever first made its appearance; also at and about the sewers, whence foul emanations were known to arise. He not believing the Yellow Fever to be contagious, thought there were local causes sufficient to create an infected atmosphere, and produce a malignant disease. At the same time he expressed his conviction, that these local sources of deleterious gasses, were within the controul of remedies properly applied.

Your Committee, however, with due deference to all the conflicting doctrines respecting Yellow Fever, and the various means to arrest it, concluded, that if by application of lime, an atmosphere could be produced in which the prevalent disease could not circulate, they might render all north of Fulton-street secure, and after forming such a barrier, they would proceed to the centre of infection if their means would allow.

They accordingly commenced on a line marked out upon the map of the city, and extending from river to river.

This line consisted of the whole of Barclay-street, from the North River to Broadway, across and around the south end of the Park to Beekman-street, along Beekman to William-street, along William-street to Fulton street, along Fulton-street to the East River.

The streets on this line were covered with lime slacked on the ground and spread while hot, on the nights between the eleventh and nineteenth of September; Broadway from the Park to the fence at Liberty-street was also covered within this time, and on the night of the nineteenth it was continued south to Rector-street; Ann-street, Dutch-street, and Theatre-alley were covered in the same way, and lime was also strewed over the tan in Fulton-street. The intersections of Fulton-street at Broadway, Nassau and Wil-

lian streets, were covered several times. About four hundred and fifty casks of lime were slacked and strewed on these streets. This expense of lime, charcoal and tan, together with that of carting and labour nearly exhausted their funds. Anticipating this they called upon the authorities of the different churches to cover their burying grounds with lime, charcoal or ashes, &c. and a notice to this effect was published on the fourteenth of September.

The night was taken as the best time to perform these operations. It was observed that the night watch had as yet generally escaped the fever. Dr. Roosa supposed that the foul air in the absence of the sun, settled with the dew near to or upon the earth. To confirm this impression it was stated that nearly all the night watch of seventeen hundred and ninety-eight also escaped the fever, and moreover it was told as proof that the infectious miasma or gas did not rise high in the air; that in seventeen hundred and ninety-eight when the Yellow Fever destroyed above two thousand people in New-York, a number of physicians died, and many more in proportion to numbers, of those who walked to see their patients, than of those who rode in a carriage. Another physician (Dr. Pascalis) also informed the committee that analogous facts had been observed in Spain of the impure atmosphere being nearer the earth at night. Your committee believing these facts to be substantially correct therefore concluded, that the night would be the best time to distribute the lime. At any rate the committee could but give Dr. Roosa his choice of night or day as he was to encounter the risk. On the twentieth of September nine days after the experiments were commenced, there fell a continued and heavy rain which washed away almost all the charcoal, and much of the lime.

On the night of the twenty-third of September, Trinity church yard was covered with fifty-two casks of lime slacked upon the spot and spread upon the graves. The whole of this burying ground is represented as being at that time very offensive, and particularly so in the rear of it adjoining Rector and Lumber-streets.

On the twenty-fourth of September one hundred and ninety-two bushels of slacked lime were spread upon the recent graves and about the vaults in St. Paul's church yard. It was less offensive than several others. On the twenty-sixth of September two hundred and fifty-six bushels of slacked lime were spread upon the line or barrier first marked out, in order to supply that which had been washed away by the rain of the twentieth.

On the twenty-eighth, sixty-four bushels were spread in the gutters around the Park, and several casks slacked in the different apartments of the City-Hall. The committee were induced to pursue this step in hopes to keep the air pure in which the Board of Health daily held their meetings. Some of the most judicious members of the Board had already ceased to meet, and it was apprehended that if the Board should move from the City-Hall, additional terrors would be added to the fright which had already taken place.

On the night of the twenty-eighth of September one hundred and seventy-two bushels of slacked lime were spread upon the grave-yard and about the vaults of the North Dutch church corner of William and Fulton-streets. The grounds about this church are not extensive and principally occupied by vaults, which nevertheless emitted very offensive effluvia. On the first of October two cart loads of lime (thirty-two bushels) were dumped in the cist-pools at the foot of Rector-street and thirty casks were slacked and spread on Rector-street and Lumber-street, in the rear of Trinity church.

These were the last operations of the committee in the first or lower district, except the covering of the vaults of the middle Dutch church corner of Liberty and Nassau-streets on the eighth of October with forty casks of lime. These vaults were exceedingly offensive, and it will be recollected that a number of cases of deaths occurred in the immediate vicinity. The vaults of the French church in Pine-street in the vicinity of the former church also emitted disagreeable smells. Some other church yards were attended to by the congregations to which they belong, and together

with those just mentioned were covered at the expense of their respective churches.

It was represented to your committee by several physicians, that still and stagnant waters in warm weather, are apt to produce noxious exhalations which contaminate the atmosphere we breathe, and engender disease; and on the contrary, that streams of clear running water tend to purify the atmosphere, by absorbing noxious vapours, and producing a healthful ventilation in their neighbourhood.

It was therefore suggested that if the water was suffered to run from the conduits of the Manhattan reservoir through certain streets in the infected parts of the city, it would materially aid the other proceedings of the Committee.

The Manhattan Company was accordingly applied to, and they promptly concurred in the wishes of the Committee. The pipes were opened on different nights by which a stream of water ran down Maiden-Lane, Dey-street, and some other streets of the city. While the Committee was thus employed to stay if possible the fever in the lower part of the city, it made its appearance in another direction, which was afterwards called the upper infected district.

On the sixteenth of September, five days after the Committee commenced their experiments, Mrs. Snow, was reported as a case of Yellow Fever at four Lombardy-street. This case was confirmed by the Resident Physician on the seventeenth; she died that night of black vomit and other malignant symptoms. Her residence was more than a mile from the lower infected district, and there is no reason to believe she had been in that district. She sickened on Tuesday the tenth of September, before the Committee commenced their experiments. Mrs. Cary, and George W. Mott, living in the same house with Mrs. Snow, were also reported sick of Yellow Fever on the same day, sixteenth of September.

A few days afterwards other cases of Yellow Fever were reported in Cheapside-street, next south of Lombardy-street, and others in Bancker-street on the north. Here appeared to be a new focus or centre of infection, and your Commit-

tee coinciding with public sentiment, were apprehensive of a wide spreading plague, and great mortality, as in this part of the city was a dense and crowded population, and in some of the streets the people were poor and filthy.

In this emergency the alarm became serious at the time when the appropriation of seven hundred and fifty dollars was nearly expended, or anticipated, on the lower or first infected district. The Committee was therefore obliged to divide their funds, though small, between the two places. A recommendation to the citizens residing in this district to remove was published, (September twenty) by the Board of Health, and complied with by some who could afford to remove; but on the fourth of October following, a census of the inhabitants being taken, there remained a population of two thousand nine hundred and eighty-five, in the square lying south of Henry-street, to the East River, and between Catharine and Pike-streets. The streets in this district were not fenced up as in the first, and it was daily frequented by numerous persons from the adjacent parts of the city.

The danger of infection was increased by an additional concourse of people at two fires in that district, one on the night of the twenty-sixth of September, the other on the night of the eighth of October. In some of the streets in this part of the city, the population is well known to be prodigiously crowded, and it was so during the whole of the prevalence of the Yellow Fever. Several families frequently occupied one lot, and from thirty to sixty people dwelt in one building.

Your Committee spread lime on Catharine, Market, and Pike streets, from the East River up to Henry-street; also on Henry, Bancker, Lombardy, and Cheapside streets, as well as on those narrow ones, called Birmingham and Torbert streets.

Much of the lime distributed in that district, was given to the people and scattered in their yards, alleys, gutters, sinks and cellars.

Unslacked lime was also given to them to white-wash, and many made use of it for that purpose.

The first thirty-two bushels of lime spread on Lombardy-street and Cheapside-street, on the nineteenth of September, was chiefly washed away by the rain of the twentieth.

It was not renewed till the twenty-second, when its employment was extended to the other streets. On the twenty-ninth more was spread, and on the third of October an additional quantity. Some also was distributed on the fifth of October, and the last that the appropriation would allow, was on the twelfth of October.

The whole quantity used in the upper infected district, has been nine hundred and twenty-two bushels of slacked lime, and forty-five casks of unslacked.

From the sixteenth of September to the twenty-sixth of October, a period of forty-one days, forty-six persons were reported as sick with Yellow Fever, from the upper district, and of these, twenty-eight died, in a stationary population of two thousand nine hundred and eighty-five. Thirty-seven cases, and twenty-four deaths, were among the stationary inhabitants, and nine cases and four deaths among those who frequented the sickly district, but resided in the healthy parts of the city.

On the night of the twenty-sixth of September there was a large fire at the corner of Catherine and Bancker streets, and one person was afterwards taken sick with Yellow Fever who lived out of the district, and who attended that fire. On the eighth of October there was another fire, in Henry-street, opposite Birmingham-street, but no one sickened by attending it. At these dates the streets were covered with lime.

Whilst your Committee were thus employed in endeavouring to stop the fever both in the upper and lower infected districts, Mr. Griscom made several communications to the Board, urging, among other things, the application of chlorine gas. A letter was also received by Gen. Morton, from Dr. Jackson, of Philadelphia, recommending the same thing, and supporting his recommendations by referring to an experiment.

This letter was submitted to your Committee. The communications of Mr. Griscom and Dr. Jackson, induced your Committee to ask the opinion of a number of the faculty as to the probable success of using the chlorine gas. Among those was Dr. Mitchill. He informed the Committee of the nature and effects of both chlorine gas and lime, and urged the Committee to rely upon the latter as the great agent to arrest the fever.

The mechanical and chemical properties of lime were explained. The manner in which it purifies the air, as in white-washing a room, and the avidity with which unslacked lime seizes upon and absorbs all humid or foul exhalations, were stated with great clearness.

Its heat in slacking, your Committee had ascertained exceeded that of boiling water, by one hundred and eighty degrees of Fahrenheit's thermometer. It will be recollected that it was spread while thus heated, and so as to form a covering to the gutters and streets. Your Committee, however, not wishing to decide a question, advocated on both sides by gentlemen of high scientific attainments, and desirous to satisfy the public, determined, if possible, to try both the chlorine gas and lime; two of them accordingly waited upon Mr. Griscom, who cheerfully promised to give every necessary direction as to the mode of using the gas; and on the twenty-fourth of September, your Committee applied to the Board of Health for a further appropriation, so as to enable them to test, by experiment, the efficacy of the gas as well as the lime. The Board refused the appropriation; but on the fourth of October, granted four hundred dollars, which was barely sufficient to renew, upon a small scale, the experiment with lime. The experiment with chlorine gas was consequently abandoned.

Your Committee will here premise, that it has been said that two or three of the men employed in carting and distributing the lime in Fulton-street, died of Yellow Fever. Your Committee will not consume the time of the Board to consider whether it be so or not. If it be not true, it is to be discarded because it is a falsehood. If it is true, it shows

that the poison of Yellow Fever was then in Fulton-street. It has also been said that the Yellow Fever, notwithstanding the covering of Fulton-street with lime, actually got north of that street. The Board of Health in their address to their fellow-citizens, on the twenty-sixth of October, when they concluded to adjourn their regular meetings, say, "It is computed that there are but six cases which have not been traced to the west and south of Fulton-street."

Of these cases, Mrs. Corwin, next to the theatre, who was not reported, Eliza Halloway, at one hundred and thirteen Chamber-street, reported on the twenty-fourth of September, and Mrs. Lyon, eleven Ann-street, reported on the eighth of October, only require to be noticed. Mrs. Corwin had been attacked with fever before your Committee commenced: she got better, relapsed, and died. Her attending physician did not report her. If it was Yellow Fever with which she died, she might have been south of Fulton-street. In the house in which she died, there were twelve persons, none of whom took sick. Eliza Halloway was undoubtedly sick of Yellow Fever. The Resident Physician, Doctor Quackenbos, with Dr. Walker, and other medical gentlemen, in whose opinion full confidence may be reposed, declare that it was an undoubted case of Yellow Fever. In this house there were eighteen persons, none of whom took sick.

It is also proper to state, that the Committee caused a census to be taken of the number of inhabitants that remained between Murray and Barclay streets, and between Broadway and the North River. The number was six hundred and sixteen, of whom, not one, except Miss Halloway, sickened. Mrs. Lyon, eleven Ann-street, corner of Theatre-alley, was reported by Dr. Eddy: she was an old lady, at the advanced age of seventy-eight years. She had been unwell several months. In her house lived sixteen persons, none of whom took the fever; and within about two hundred feet of her, in Theatre-alley, there lived in one house, during the whole fever, twenty-one persons, all of whom remained in good health.

Your committee have been told by distinguished medical men, that when an epidemic or an endemic exists there may also be, what they term sporadic cases. These sporadic or scattered cases they say cannot be traced. Whether this be so, or not, your committee will not take upon themselves to determine. But they think that the cases of Mrs. Corwin, Miss Halloway, and Mrs. Lyon cannot be ascribed to any volume of the poison of Yellow Fever which had extended itself to those houses, otherwise other persons in those houses or in their vicinity must have been attacked.

Your committee will now proceed to a consideration of the question, What was the result of the use of the lime?

Some general results of the means used by your committee to arrest Yellow Fever cannot have escaped the observation of any body. For example the upper district as has been before stated contained a fixed population of two thousand nine hundred and eighty-five persons. The streets were extremely dirty, many of the inhabitants were thrown together in small houses. From thirty to sixty persons occupied one tenement, and one yard and one sink served them all. The heat of the weather was great, almost beyond a parallel. Yet in this crowded population, under all these circumstances after the lime was used there, the fever did not increase. On the contrary from the twenty-fourth of September, five days after the lime was first spread, to the fifteenth of October, five days after they ceased using the lime, a period of twenty-two days. Twelve days of these twenty-two passed without a single case being reported from that district.

Another general result is this, that from the time the burying ground of Trinity church was covered with lime, on the twenty-third of September not a single case of Yellow fever occurred west of Broadway that could not be traced to the other parts of the infected district where no lime had been used.

Another general result is this, that, though the fever was as high up as Fulton-street on the west side of Broadway as early as the fifteenth of September, for on that day John Davis at one hundred and ninety-nine was reported, and

on the seventeenth of September Mrs. Adams, one hundred and ninety-seven was reported, and although it ought judging by its progress in other directions to have reached Chamber-street before the Board adjourned, it never passed Barclay-street. If it had, it must have attacked some one out of the six hundred and sixteen persons who lived between Barclay and Murray-streets.

But the following general result is more particularly deserving the attention of the Board. The fever which had on the eleventh of September, reached Fulton-street on the east side of Broadway, and afterwards extended itself along the margin of Fulton-street, from River to River, nevertheless did not progress northerly on the *east side* of Broadway, although it must, if it had progressed northerly as it did in other directions, have reached the City-Hall before the end of September.

Your Committee will also contrast the cases of fever which took place in several streets where no lime was spread, with those which took place in the upper district, where lime was used. Broadway was not covered with lime until the nineteenth of September. The last case reported from Broadway was on the seventeenth of September. It commenced on the twenty-second of August, with Mrs. Kemp, and ended on the seventeenth of September, with John Mortee. Most of the inhabitants in Broadway below Mr. Dover's, had left it, when it appeared in his family on the fourth.

Amongst the stationary inhabitants of Broadway, there were thirty-three cases and twenty deaths.

How did it happen that in twenty-seven days, and in so small a population, there should have been thirty-three cases of fever; and in the upper district, in a population of nearly three thousand, only thirty-seven? so in Courtlandt-street when the fever reached it, there probably were not twenty houses occupied; allowing ten persons to every house it gives two hundred inhabitants; of that number twelve took the fever. In Maiden-Lane, the number of inhabitants who remained were still less. As far as your

Committee have been able to inform themselves, not more than ten or twelve families staid through the fever, and there were ten cases in that street; in Liberty-street, there were sixteen cases and seven deaths; in Greenwich-street, twenty-two cases and eleven deaths, and in Washington-street, twenty-seven cases and eighteen deaths. Admit there was a population of three hundred persons in Broadway below Mr. Dover's who remained through the whole fever, though your Committee believe that there were not ten houses occupied between Mr. Dover's and the Battery. Admit also, that in Courtlandt-street, two hundred persons remained; in Maiden-Lane, two hundred; in Liberty-street, two hundred; in Lumber-street, one hundred; in Greenwich-street south of Fulton-street, two hundred; and in Washington-street, two hundred; making a total of fourteen hundred; of these one hundred and thirty-one sickened of Yellow Fever; whereas in the upper district in a population of three thousand, only thirty-seven sickened.

Again, your Committee having conceded that three hundred persons remained in Broadway, below Mr. Dover's during the whole time that the fever prevailed; why did not one sicken after Broadway was covered with lime? by the nineteenth of September, the Committee had spread lime down to Rector-Street. It may be said that the cause of the great disparity of cases and deaths in the streets referred to, and those in the upper district is this, the fever began in those streets much earlier in the season than it did in the upper district; this being a fair argument is entitled to a satisfactory answer. Your Committee will give a satisfactory answer, by shewing the results in other streets in which it appeared after it broke out in the upper district.

The fever reached Water-street six days after it broke out in the upper district. The first case reported in Water-street, was that of John Haywood, on the twenty-second of September, six days after Mrs. Snow, Mrs. Carey, and Mr. Mott, were reported from Lombardy-street.

In Water-street, between Fulton-street and the Battery, nineteen persons sickened and fourteen died, more than half the whole number in the upper district. There are

about two hundred houses in Water-street, between Fulton-street and the Battery; probably not one house out of eight was occupied. We will however suppose one out of four was occupied, and ten souls in every house. That calculation will give a population of five hundred, being one sixth of the population in the upper district. Why then should there not have been six times the number of cases and deaths in the upper district? were not the inhabitants as much crowded there as in Water-street; was there not as much filth? were not the streets as narrow? was not the heat of the sun which was so oppressive throughout the greater part of the month of September, and part of October, equally felt there as in Water-street?

If the great spread of pestilential infection in Water-street be ascribed to casualty, what will be said of Pearl and other streets, in which the fever also appeared as late as it did in the upper district. In Pearl-street, from Fulton-street to the Battery, there probably were not one hundred persons; yet in Pearl-street there were thirteen cases and eight deaths: and all these occurred as the Board have assured the public by their address of the twenty-sixth of October, amongst those alone who had their permanent residence in that street. How is this great disparity in the cases and deaths in those streets and the upper district, considering their relative population, to be accounted for?

Your Committee will now proceed to show, by the official documents of the Board of Health, that after the eleventh of September, the day that your Committee commenced their experiments, the fever did continue to spread itself, and in every direction, except only in that where your Committee had employed means to stop it. The Board will recollect, that on the fourth of September, they officially described the infected district. They bounded it on the north by Dey-street and Maiden-lane; on the east, by William-street and Broad-street; on the south, by Beaver-street and Marketfield-street, and so extended the line to the Hudson River. The fever was at this time on the increase. The greatest number of cases, thirteen, were reported on the seventeenth of September, five days after your Committee began. Ac-

ording to the Mayor's minutes, there were, in July, sixteen cases, in August, ninety-four, and in September to the seventeenth, one hundred and thirteen. On the eleventh of September, it is admitted that the fever had extended northerly as high up as Fulton-street.

Your Committee now proceed to show, by official reports to the Board of Health, that the fever continued to extend itself after the eleventh of September, the day when your Committee began their operations, in every direction, except in that direction where your Committee used means to stop it. To put this fact beyond all doubt, they refer to the following cases of fever which occurred, and of which authentic information has been obtained.

On the fifteenth of September, George Hamilton, corner of White-Hall and Stone-streets, was reported sick of Yellow Fever. He died on the eighteenth. The next day Michael Furgerson, forty-four Beaver-street, was reported. And on the seventeenth September, Mr. and Mrs. Osborn, fifteen Stone-street, were both reported ill of Yellow Fever. They sickened on the fifteenth. As Mr. and Mrs. Osborn were taken sick in the same house, and on the same day, we may reasonably conclude, that the poison had reached there, and produced its effects at that time. The distance of their house from Beaver-street, the line marked out by the Board of Health on the fourth of September, is upwards of three hundred feet. On the same day Edward Murphy, three Mill-street, was reported. He also sickened on the fifteenth of September. Sarah Reeves, ten Old-slip, was reported on the seventeenth of September. Her residence is distant from William-street, about four hundred feet. She sickened on the thirteenth. On the nineteenth of September, Henry Freeman Jaques, twenty-nine Pearl-street, and John Decker, four Front-street, were both reported sick with Yellow Fever.

These two cases ought not to govern the Board, as it is believed they both exposed themselves within the limits declared by the Board to be infected.

But the fever was no doubt in their vicinity, for on the next day, the twentieth of September, Betsy Griffith, three State-street, was reported; and it will be recollected, that the following day, Mary Minjag was seized with Yellow Fever, in the same house. On the twenty-second of September, a female at the corner of State and Pearl-streets, died of Yellow Fever. Here your Committee, invite the severe scrutiny of the Board; because, if your Committee can show that the poison of Yellow Fever, had actually extended itself from Beaver-street to State-street, a distance of nine hundred feet, from the fourth to the twentieth of September, then it ought to have extended itself in the same space of time, from Dey-street to Park-place, a distance of only eight hundred and eighty feet. It is in vain to say, that State-street which fronts the Battery, is not as healthy a street as Park-place.

Your Committee have already shewn that two persons sickened in the same house, three State-street, of Yellow Fever, one on the twentieth, and the other on the twenty-first of September. On the twenty-third of September, John Murphy, forty-eight Pearl-street, was reported; he had died the day before, and it will be recollected that two others took sick with Yellow Fever in that house, both of whom died.

On the thirtieth of September, Miss Murphy, fifty-one Pearl-street, was reported sick of Yellow Fever, and James M'Curdy, three Moore-street. On the second of October, John Hull, and Mary, his wife, at fifty Pearl-street, were reported. They died on the fifth. The day before they died, Mrs. Lambert and Edward Kearney were both attacked with fever at the same house. In this place, number fifty Pearl-street, five persons took sick, two of whom died.

The Board may deem it a waste of time, to refer to any other cases, to show that the fever had progressed in that direction, to the extent stated by your Committee, but the fact is too important to be left open to any dispute. The Committee pass from Pearl-street to Water-street.

On the twenty-third of September, Eliza Pike, ninety-six Water-street, was reported, and died the same day. Sarah Caldwell, thirty Water-street, reported on the twenty-seventh. The same day, John Robinson, in the same street. On the thirtieth of September, Alfred Brightly, eighty Water-street, was reported, and died the same day. On the twenty-third of September, John Varian, sixty-seven Water-street, had died, and no less than five persons sickened of fever in this house sixty-seven Water-street, of whom four died.

The Committee having thus shown beyond a possible doubt, that the fever had spread itself in the direction and to the extent stated, proceed to follow its progress in other directions.

On the twentieth of September, Ellen M'Cormick and Murtoagh Byrne, one hundred and twenty-four Fly Market, were reported. Byrne died the same day. On the twenty-second of September, John Haywood, one hundred and thirty-eight Water-street, was reported. He died on the twenty-eighth of September, and Polly Haywood, from the the same house was reported on the thirtieth, and died the same day. On the twentieth of September, Andrew Gailaig was reported from seventy-four Coffee-House-slip. He sickened on the twenty-fourth. On the fifth of October, Catharine Dempsy, eighty-eight Front-street, was reported and died the same day. John Dempsy sickened and died in the same house.

Andrew Phelan, corner of Front and Depeyster-street, died on the nineteenth of October. The distance of Phelan's residence from William-street, is about one thousand feet, and according to the progress of the fever in that quarter, it ought to have broken out in the Mechanic Hall in Broadway, if it had progressed equally in that direction.

Your Committee will now shew by the same official documents, that the fever extended itself from River to River in the vicinity of Fulton-street. The Board are reminded that the first case in Fulton-street, appeared on the eleventh of September; the second that of John Davis, one hundred and ninety-nine Fulton-street near Greenwich-street, on

the fifteenth of September; Mrs. Adams, one hundred and ninety-seven Fulton-street, on the seventeenth; Betsy Phelan, eleven Dey-street, had sickened on the tenth of September, and the first case at eleven Dutch-street, was reported on the sixteenth of September. Several cases afterwards occurred at ten and eleven Dutch-street. Paul Spear, as high up Greenwich-street as one hundred and eighty-eight, was reported on the sixteenth of September, and died on the nineteenth of September. The Committee will notice a few of the later cases on the eastside of Broadway. On the third of October, Mr. Cochran sickened at the corner of John and Gold streets; on the fifth, William Thomas, ninety-seven William-street, just above John-street, was reported. The next day Sarah Ketchum, twenty-nine Gold-street died. On the seventh of October, John and James Voorhis, corner of John and Nassau streets, were both reported; same day Mr. Roberts and Mrs. Hutchings, thirty-nine Maiden-lane, were also both reported, as was John White, at ten Dutch-street. On the fifteenth of October, Thomas Pearson and Dennis Mahony, were both reported from one hundred and five William-street, between John and Fulton streets, and both died.

Your Committee now submit to the calm and dispassionate decision of the Board, whether the fever did not spread itself in every direction, except only in that direction where means had been employed to stop it. Some may suppose there were no persons between Fulton-street and the City-Hall to take sick. This is a mistake. On the twenty-third day of September, the Committee caused a census to be taken of the inhabitants living between Beekman and Fulton streets, and William-street and the Park. The number was two hundred and eighty-one, not one of whom was sick of fever. There were in some houses eight or ten in a family, and from that to sixteen and eighteen. In Theatre-alley, there was as has been before observed, twenty-one persons in one house, and all of them were well.

If we describe a circle from Mr. Reders' where the fever began, so as to reach three State-street, where it appeared

on the twentieth of September, the same circle will extend to Barclay-street. Of consequence if the poisoned atmosphere had continued to spread northerly as it did in every other direction, it must have entered the City-Hall before the end of September. Did the Yellow Fever at any time, even as late as the twenty-sixth of October, reach the City-Hall.

The Committee do not deem it necessary to say much to convince the Board of Health, that the poison of Yellow Fever never reached the City-Hall. The Board know that they attended daily at the Hall, and that not a member took sick. Many citizens met to hear the reports, and we have no reason to believe that any of them took the fever.

The Court, the Grand Jury, and the Petit Jury convened in the City-Hall, and transacted public business as usual, none of them were attacked with fever; the parties, witnesses, and by-standers were safe; no instance of sickness occurred.

If there be any who still assert that the fever did progress as well in the direction where your Committee used means to stop it, as where no means were used, the Committee must leave the decision to the discernment of this Board, and of their fellow citizens.

If it be asked why the covering the earth with lime in the manner it was done by your Committee, should stop the progress of the Yellow Fever?

Your Committee would perhaps be justified in replying that there are many things which we know by experience to produce an important result, and yet we cannot assign the cause. For example, we know that vaccination is an antidote to small pox, yet we believe no one can tell the cause. It has been known for centuries that the magnetic needle will point to the pole, yet the cause why it does is as much a mystery now as when we first became acquainted with the fact. The faculty tell us that many things are innocent when taken into the stomach, that are deadly poisons when introduced through the blood vessels. The small pox and

some other diseases can be taken but once. Water will extinguish fire. Can any one explain the reason of these things?

Your Committee however think that consistently with the theories of many of the faculty, substantial reasons may be assigned why the covering the streets with lime should stop Yellow Fever. If Dr. Hosack be correct when he says, "that an impure atmosphere is indispensibly necessary to multiply and extend the specific poison constituting plague, dysentery, typhus and Yellow Fever; (see his reply to Dr. Chisholm, appendix Thomas's practice page 978) And if it be true that lime will purify the atmosphere, may not lime check and even destroy Yellow Fever.

If the poison of Yellow Fever emanates from the earth as Dr. Stephens, Dr. Coventry, and others have suggested, then why may not lime spread upon the earth, as has been done by your Committee, stop the progress of the poison, as well as any other covering would do? If pure earth was spread over the ground, from whence pestilential exhalations arise, so as to prevent those exhalations getting into the atmosphere, would it not stop the cause of pestilence? If pure earth would, why would not lime? The mechanical effect of both would be the same.

If the theory of the poison of Yellow Fever be correct as stated by Dr. Pascalis and acted upon by Dr. Roosa, that it settles near to or upon the earth with the dew of the night, may not lime have a powerful agency in its destruction applied as was done by Dr. Roosa? It has also been stated to your Committee that the plague is stopped by great heat, and a gentleman, who assures us that he has made the experiment, says, that the virus of small pox is decomposed when exposed to frost, or to a degree of heat equal to that of boiling water.

If it be true as is contended for, lately, that the poison of Yellow Fever is infused in water, and that whatever will absorb water will give out the poison; and in that way the sugar boxes landed at the foot of Rector-street communicated the poison of Yellow Fever as is alleged. If this theory be

true, would not unslacked lime, be of all others the most powerful agent to stop the poison. Will not unslacked lime seize and absorb, with avidity, every exhalation or vapour which is combined with water?

If further experience should show that the animalcular theory of the cause of Yellow Fever, be in fact the true theory, could any thing be employed to stop it with so much probable success as lime, applied as has been done by your Committee.

If Dr. Mitchill and the great body of the faculty be correct that this poison of Yellow Fever not only will originate, but continue, wherever a sufficient quantity of filth is exposed, to a sufficient degree of heat, then, if that filth be covered so as to prevent the action of the heat upon it, or to prevent all exhalations from it, will not Yellow Fever cease? Could this be done by any thing better than by lime?

Your Committee were encouraged in their labours by Dr. Mitchill, Dr. Onderdonk, Dr. Pascalis, Dr. Akerly, and many other Physicians of distinction, and having seen the result of the use of lime, the Committee acknowledge their obligations to those gentlemen, as well as to several others who gratuitously aided the efforts of your Committee.

If your Committee have taken up the time of the Board in laying the subject so fully before them, they hope it will be ascribed to a proper solicitude which they feel.

The experience of the present year has shown how difficult it is to trace the cause of the calamity which has afflicted us. Many learned men of the faculty say that the fever of the present year, originated among ourselves; they ascribe it to local causes, and to the long and continued heat of our summer. Some others holding an equal standing in their profession, say it cannot originate in our climate, and have assigned the causes of the disease to certain vessels, beds, and clothing, or to a quantity of sugar boxes.

Your Committee will not enter into these disputes. So long as the poison of Yellow Fever is so subtle, that its origin cannot be traced, it must be of incalculable importance

to the city, that some means should be found after it begins to put a stop to it.

If it can be introduced by a bed, by clothing, or by boxes of sugar, it is much to be feared that no quarantine, however strict, surrounded as we are on all sides by water, can at all times prevent its getting into our city.

Your Committee have reason to believe that means may be employed to stop it. Therefore your Committee,

In conclusion most earnestly recommend to those who may hereafter be entrusted with the care of the public health, that, upon the first appearance of a suspicious fever, without waiting to ascertain whether it be Yellow Fever or not, they immediately cause the house or houses in which the fever may shew itself, to be thoroughly cleansed and white-washed, that quick-lime be slacked in the cellars, yards, and privies, that the streets around such houses be covered with quick-lime, and your Committee advise that the measure be repeated with a giant hand, and every few days, untill its efficacy or inefficacy to destroy the poison of Yellow Fever, be put beyond a doubt.

All which is respectfully submitted,

R. RIKER,
JAMES HALL,
ROBERT M'QUEEN.

NEW-YORK, DEC. 7, 1822.

For the information of the curious the Committee have subjoined, the meteorological observations taken during the great fever of seventeen hundred and ninety-eight and of the present year eighteen hundred and twenty-two. The continued heat of the present year exceeded that of ninety-eight and the autumnal heat of this year was much greater than that of seventeen hundred and ninety-eight. This fall there was no ice till late in October, and on the nineteenth of October at two o'clock P. M. the thermometer stood at eighty-three degrees, and on the twentieth at eighty-four de-

grees. From the twenty-eighth of August to the sixteenth of September this year, the thermometer at two o'clock P. M. ranged from eighty to ninety-four degrees. During the whole month of August there were only three days when it fell below eighty degrees at two o'clock P. M. and seven days of that month, at the same hour it was from ninety to ninety-four degrees. From the twenty-first of June inclusive throughout the whole month of July, and up to the fifth of August, with the exception of one day, (twenty-fifth of June) two o'clock P. M. the thermometer was never lower than eighty degrees, and was frequently above ninety. One day it stood at ninety-six. The four first days in June the heat at the same hour was from eighty-four to ninety-one. The tenth and twelfth of June it was at ninety-three degrees. The observations for the present year eighteen hundred and twenty-two were kept by Richard Pennell, M. D. at the New-York Hospital. Those of the year seventeen hundred and ninety-eight by Mr. J. Hardie in the cupola of the museum. Old Exchange.

METEOROLOGICAL OBSERVATIONS,

Made in the Cupola of the Museum in the City of New-York,
for August, 1798.

DAYS.	BAROMETER.		Thermometer		WINDS.		WEATHER.
	Sun Rise.	2 P.M.	Sun Rise.	2 P.M.	Sun Rise.	2 P. M.	
1	29 70	29 73	70	82	N. W.	N. W.	
2	29 80	29 83	68	80	E.	S.	Foggy.
3	29 93	29 91	72	80	W.	S. E.	
4	29 67	29 59	74	80	S. E.	S.	
5	29 67	29 59	76	84	S. W.	do.	
6	29 59	29 63	74	84	W.	N. W.	
7	29 74	29 77	70	84	S. W.	N. W.	
8	29 75	29 69	72	91	W.	S. W.	
9	29 60	29 52	76	96	S. W.	do.	Distant lightnings in the evening.
10	29 47	29 40	78	90	S. W.	S.	
11	29 40	29 47	78	89	S.	S.S. E.	Constant lightning and thunder 43 W.
12	29 63	29 71	74	86	Variable.		
13	29 80	29 84	74	83	N. E.	S.	Heavy rains with thunder.
14	29 82	29 80	74	80	E.	S.	
15	29 80	29 86	74	82	Variable.		H. showers & th.
16	29 81	29 80	75	85	S. W.		Small showers.
17	29 71	29 70	75	90	S. W.	S.	do. with thunder,
18	29 66	29 66	76	90	S.		Calms.
19	29 70	29 80	72	84	N. E.	S. W.	
20	29 80	29 79	74	83	E.	S.S. E.	
21	29 72	29 67	77	87	S. W.	S.	
22	29 63	29 71	76	84	N.	N. E.	*A fine shower with lightning & thun.
23	29 92	29 92	65	76	N. E.	E.	
24	29 82	29 71	66	80	S. W.	S. W.	
25	29 63	29 63	76	91	S. W.	S. W.	Distant lightning at evening.
26	29 62	29 59	79	93	do.	do.	
27	29 75	29 70	77	85	W.	W.	
28	29 61	29 60	69	76	W.	S. W.	
29	29 61	29 55	67	76	W.	N. W.	
30	29 62	29 58	67	80	S.	S. W.	
31	20 61	29 65	68	81	Variable.	W.	

METEOROLOGICAL OBSERVATIONS,

New-York, September, 1798.

DAYS.	BAROMETER.		Thermometer		WINDS.		WEATHER.
	Sun Rise.	2 P.M.	Sun Rise.	2 P.M.	Sun Rise.	2 P.M.	
1	29 76	29 80	68	80	E.	S. E.	
2	29 81	29 87	67	77	E.	E.	
3	29 80	29 75	61	71	E.	S. E.	[thunder.
4	29 62	29 58	63	74	E.	S. E.	Some rain wh. heavy
5	29 39	29 39	69	74	S. W.	S. W.	Distant lightning.
6	29 43	29 43	66	71	E.	E.	Some rain.
7	29 38	29 60	64	73	S. W.	do.	Foggy.
8	29 60	29 60	63	70	E.	E.	A small shower.
9	29 66	29 66	60	70	N.	E.	
10	29 67	29 67	63	77	W.	N.	
11	29 76	29 76	66	77	E.	S. E.	
12	29 97	30 00	63	71	S.	S. E.	
13	29 90	29 83	61	73	E.	S.	
14	29 77	29 73	63	76	S.	S.	Foggy.
15	29 75	29 75	68	79	S. W.	S.	
16	29 75	29 12	70	80	S. W.	S. W.	
17	29 72	29 74	69	82	Varia.		
18	29 78	29 78	70	76	E.	S. E.	Foggy. [evening
19	29 78	29 78	73	79	S.	S.	Fine shower in the
20	29 78	29 78	70	79	E.	S. E.	Foggy.
21	29 60	29 67	74	76	S.	S. W.	Heavy shower.
22	29 68	29 68	59	72	E.	S. E.	
23	29 63	29 62	62	74	S.	S. W.	
24	29 62	29 62	55	64	N. W.	N. W.	A gale.
25	29 31	29 35	62	74	Calm.	S.	
26	29 76	29 68	52	65	N.	N. W.	
27	29 60	29 47	61	71	S. W.	S. E.	Shower at night.
28	29 61	29 50	50	59	W.	N. W.	
29	29 75	29 77	50	52	S. W.	N. W.	
30	29 82	29 77	40	62	W.	S. W.	

METEOROLOGICAL OBSERVATIONS,

New-York, October, 1793.

DAYS.	BAROMETER.		Thermometer		WINDS.		WEATHER.
	Sun Rise.	2 P.M.	Sun Rise.	2 P.M.	Sun Rise.	2 P. M.	
1	29 90	29 91	51	67	S. W.	S.	
2	29 98	30 03	63	69	Calm.	S.	Foggy.
3	30 00	29 92	58	74	Calm.	S.	Do.
4	29 97	29 89	58	72	do.	do.	Do.
5	29 70	29 69	57	71	N.	N. E.	
6	29 66	29 58	61	71	N. E.	N. E.	Clear.
7	29 50	29 40	60	59	N. E.	N. E.	Plentiful rain.
8	29 37	29 38	55	59	N. E.	N.	
9	29 61	29 69	54	70	N. W.	N. W.	Clear.
10	29 78	29 80	59	71	Calm.	N. W.	Foggy.
11	29 80	29 87	59	68	N. E.	N. W.	
12	30 02	30 05	57	62	E.	E.	Foggy.
13	30 12	30 12	47	58	E.	E.	Do.
14	30 10	30 04	50	59	N. E.	N. E.	Do.
15	29 95	29 90	48	64	N. E.	N. E.	Clear.
16	29 84	29 80	50	66	N. W.	S. W.	Do.
17	29 67	29 75	56	71	N.	E.	Do.
18	29 71	29 81	56	76	E.	E.	Do.
19	29 90	29 88	51	56	N. E.	N. E.	Foggy.
20	29 80	29 71	50	57	N. E.	N. E.	Small rain.
21	29 50	29 45	53	70	N. W.	N.	
22	29 59	29 43	55	70	Calm.	S.	Smoky air.
23	29 20	29 13	64	64	S. W.	N. W.	Foggy, small rain.
24	29 48	29 60	50	59	N. W.	N. W.	
25	29 61	29 60	50	65	N. W.	Calm.	
26	29 58	29 50	50	72	N. W.	S. W.	Clear.
27	29 55	29 54	60	60	S.	N. W.	Plenty of rain, foggy.
28	29 40	29 53	50	56	Calm.	S. W.	Small rain, do.
29	29 53	29 55	36	44	W.	W.	Clear.
30	29 50	29 34	29	38	W.	W.	Do. frost.
31	29 20	29 34	34	40	W.	N. W.	Do.

METEOROLOGICAL OBSERVATIONS,

New-York, November, 1798.

DAYS.	BAROMETER.		Thermometer		WINDS.		WEATHER.
	Sun Rise.	2 P.M.	Sun Rise.	2 P.M.	Sun Rise.	2 P. M.	
1	29 61	29 59	32	35	W.	S. W.	
2	29 35	29 40	32	42	N.	N. E.	Cloudy.
3	29 44	29 39	37	40	N.	N. W.	Do. small rain.
4	29 52	29 51	31	42	W.	N. W.	Clear.
5	29 59	29 70	30	37	W.	N. W.	Clear.
6	29 81	29 81	32	48	W.	W.	Do.
7	30 00	30 00	32	50	N.	Varia.	Do.
8	29 98	29 88	36	52	W.	W.	
9	29 72	29 66	38	53	S. W.	S. W.	Clear.
10	29 87	29 96	36	36	N.W-	N. W.	Do.

METEOROLOGICAL OBSERVATIONS,

FOR JUNE, 1822.

Made at the New-York Hospital, by Richard Pennel, M. D.

DAYS.	BAROMETER.			THERMOMETER.			WIND.			RAIN GAUGE	HYGROMETER.	WEATHER.
	7	2	9	7	2	9	7 A. M.	2 P. M.	9 P. M.			
	A. M.	P. M.	P. M.	A. M.	P. M.	P. M.						
1	30 20	30 20	30 16	68	84	70	S	S	S		772	Cloudy.
2	30 10	30 10	30 10	73	90	79	S E	S W	S W		784	Do.
3	30 10	30 10	30 10	77	88	74	N W	S W	S W	.24	720	Clear.
4	30 10	30 10	30 18	70	91	65	S W	S W	N E		760	Cloudy.
5	30 29	30 22	30 30	61	74	64	N E	S E	S E		648	Do.
6	30 32	30 30	30 30	64	73	64	N E	N E	N E		643	Do.
7	30 27	30 18	30 08	65	74	68	S W	S W	S W		643	Variable.
8	29 90	29 90	30 04	71	85	74	S W	S W	S W		620	Cloudy.
9	30 04	30 04	30 04	70	89	75	N W	S W	S W		596	Clear.
10	30 06	30 06	30 06	70	93	75	W	W	W		572	Do.
11	30 00	30 00	30 00	73	88	72	W	S W	S W	.15	600	Variable.
12	29 97	29 97	30 10	73	93	73	N	N	N		584	Clear.
13	30 25	30 30	30 34	65	80	70	N	S	S		680	Do.
14	30 48	30 48	30 50	65	70	60	S E	S E	S E		672	Do.
15	30 30	30 50	30 25	68	85	75	S E	S W	S W		584	Cloudy.
16	30 02	30 00	30 00	70	89	72	S W	S W	N W		572	Clear.
17	30 00	30 00	30 00	70	88	72	N W	N W	N W		573	Cloudy.
18	30 00	30 00	30 00	64	72	64	N W	N W	S W		573	Do.
19	30 12	30 12	30 12	62	80	64	S W	S W	S W		586	Clear.
20	30 18	29 94	29 94	64	65	64	S W	S E	S E	1.01	608	Cloudy.
21	21 94	29 90	29 90	64	80	70	S	S	S		616	Do.
22	29 90	30 00	30 08	70	85	72	N W	W	W		600	Clear.
23	30 18	30 18	30 18	70	84	71	W	S W	S W		594	Do.
24	30 18	30 18	30 18	72	85	75	S W	S W	S W		630	Cloudy.
25	30 18	30 18	30 18	70	74	71	W	S W	S W	.19	664	Do.
26	30 18	30 18	30 10	68	81	68	E	E	E	.04	700	Do.
27	30 18	30 20	30 20	65	84	72	N E	N E	S W		696	Variable.
28	30 20	30 20	30 20	64	88	75	S W	S W	S W		628	Clear.
29	30 20	30 20	30 20	72	92	78	S W	S W	S W		628	Do.
30	30 20	30 20	30 20	75	92	78	S W	S W	S W		639	Cloudy.

The quantity of rain which fell this month, is one inch and 85-100th.

At the commencement of this month, the atmosphere was very humid, and the mornings foggy: there was but little thunder and rain. On the second and twenty-first, there fell a small quantity of rain from the shower passing over. The sun was obscured on the twentieth and twenty-fifth, and on the greatest part of the first and eighth. The sky generally was clear at night. Those days on which there was but little wind, the heat was very oppressive, especially on the eleventh. There was lightning on the evenings of the second, sixteenth and thirtieth.

METEOROLOGICAL OBSERVATIONS,

FOR JULY, 1822.

Made at the New-York Hospital, by Richard Pennel, M. D.

DAYS.	BAROMETER.			THERMOMETER.			WINDS.			RAIN GAUGE	HYGROMETER.	WEATHER.
	7	2	9	7	2	9	7 A. M.	2 P. M.	9 P. M.			
	A. M.	P. M.	P. M.	A. M.	P. M.	P. M.						
1	30 18	30 18	30 18	78	94	73	S W	S W	S	.16	653	Cloudy.
2	30 18	30 12	30 10	75	87	71	S	S W	S W	1.63	685	do.
3	30 08	30 00	30 00	76	87	76	S W	S W	S		700	do.
4	30 00	30 08	30 18	76	93	75	S	S	S		686	do.
5	30 24	30 24	30 20	75	88	76	S	S	S		694	do.
6	30 20	30 20	30 20	77	87	75	S	S	S	1.84	720	do.
7	30 20	30 10	30 10	78	92	75	N	S	S	.18	736	do.
8	30 04	29 94	29 90	75	92	74	S W	S W	S W		748	do.
9	29 90	30 04	30 18	76	85	76	N W	N W	N W		660	Clear.
10	30 33	30 33	30 39	73	91	80	N W	S W	S W		653	do.
11	30 30	30 22	30 16	77	85	76	S W	S W	S W		650	Variable.
12	30 08	30 08	30 08	75	86	74	S W	S W	N W	.34	710	Cloudy.
13	30 10	30 10	30 00	76	84	72	N W	N W	N W	.67	726	do.
14	30 00	30 00	30 00	72	88	78	S W	S W	S W		732	Variable.
15	29 96	29 98	30 06	78	87	72	S W	S W	W	.11	730	Cloudy.
16	30 10	30 18	30 24	72	88	76	W	N W	N W		700	Variable.
17	30 30	30 30	30 30	70	87	77	N W	N W	S W		660	Clear.
18	30 30	30 30	30 30	75	92	79	S W	S W	N	.06	663	Variable.
19	30 30	30 26	30 20	76	92	78	N	S	S		665	do.
20	30 18	30 18	30 10	79	96	78	S W	S W	S W	.04	656	Cloudy.
21	30 18	30 18	30 18	79	90	78	S W	S W	S W		645	Clear.
22	30 10	30 06	30 00	76	85	78	W	W	S W		645	do.
23	30 00	30 00	30 00	76	90	76	S W	S W	S W	.28	675	do.
24	30 00	30 00	30 00	78	88	71	S W	N	N		655	Cloudy.
25	29 94	29 98	30 00	72	82	76	W	W	W		665	do.
26	30 08	30 20	30 26	68	80	70	W	N W	N W		630	Clear.
27	30 23	30 28	30 28	65	81	73	N W	N W	N W	.32	645	do.
28	30 20	30 20	30 12	70	88	75	S	S	N W	.03	670	Cloudy.
29	30 10	30 26	30 26	73	83	73	N W	N	N		650	Clear.
30	30 40	30 40	30 40	70	85	74	N	E	E		634	do.
31	30 47	30 47	30 40	71	87	70	E	E	E		650	do.

The quantity of rain which fell this month, was five inches 66-100ths.

This month was remarkable for its unusual humidity, and its numerous and heavy falls of rain. We were visited by thunder, lightning and rain, on the first, second, sixth, seventh, eighteenth, twentieth, twenty-fourth and twenty-eighth. There was lightning on the evenings of the third, seventh and twenty-eighth. There was lightning on the third, seventh and twenty-eighth. The sun was totally obscured on the sixth. The rain on the twenty-seventh fell in the night.

METEOROLOGICAL OBSERVATIONS,

FOR AUGUST, 1822.

Made at the New-York Hospital, By Richard Pennel, M. D.

DAYS.	BAROMETER.						THERMOMETER.			WINDS.			RAIN GAUGE.	HYGROME- TER.	WEATHER.
	7		2		9		7	2	9	7	2	9			
	A. M.	P. M.	A. M.	P. M.	A. M.	P. M.	A. M.	P. M.	P. M.	A. M.	P. M.	P. M.			
1	30	40	30	40	30	38	70	84	72	E	E	S W		656	Clear.
2	33	39	30	22	30	20	71	87	73	S W	S W		27	670	Cloudy.
3	30	16	30	16	30	10	75	89	76		S	S		705	do.
4	30	03	30	—	29	80	76	94	74	S		N W	42	698	do.
5	29	90	30	06	30	10	74	80	70	N W	N W			685	Clear.
6	30	10	30	22	30	23	64	78	67	N E	N E	N E		647	do.
7	30	38	30	40	30	40	67	75	68	E	S E	S E		643	do.
8	80	47	30	47	30	47	64	82	72	S E	N E	N E		638	do.
9	30	47	30	40	30	40	72	86	70	S W	S	S		645	do.
10	30	40	30	40	30	34	72	88	72	S				650	do.
11	30	30	30	30	30	30	72	92	74	S W	S W	S W		645	do.
12	30	30	30	23	30	23	74	90	79					648	do.
13	30	23	30	20	30	20	75	89	79					652	do.
14	30	32	30	32	30	22	70	85	70	N W	N W	N W		670	Cloudy.
15	30	10	30	10	30	—	74	92	75	S	S	S	02	662	do.
16	30	17	30	17	30	17	70	90	76	N W	S W	S W		650	Clear.
17	30	17	30	17	30	17	74	91	78	S W				664	do.
18	30	20	30	20	30	20	70	86	74	N	N E	N E		680	Cloudy.
19	30	15	30	15	30	—	72	85	75		S		17	700	do.
20	30	—	30	—	30	—	77	94	76					660	do.
21	30	—	30	—	30	—	75	88	75	N W	N W	N W		660	do.
22	30	08	30	10	30	18	73	85	74	E	E	E	17	660	Variable.
23	30	25	30	25	30	25	65	80	71	E	N E	N E		672	Cloudy.
24	30	25	30	25	30	25	69	80	75	S E	S E	S	03	670	do.
25	30	36	30	36	30	36	66	85	74		N E	S E		660	Clear.
26	30	36	30	36	30	30	70	84	70	S E	S E			660	do.
27	30	30	30	30	30	20	68	78	68	N E	N E	N E		658	do.
28	30	16	30	16	30	16	67	80	70					660	Cloudy.
29	30	20	30	20	30	20	72	88	73					680	Clear.
30	30	40	30	40	30	40	64	81	69					658	Cloudy.
31	30	40	30	40	30	40	65	82	70					656	do.

The quantity of rain which fell this month, is one inch and 3-100ths.

This month attracts our notice for the number of devastating tornadoes in different parts of the United States; its arid atmosphere, clear starry nights and moderate rains; fourth, clear morning, wind S: at 3 P. M. wind changed to N. W. it soon began to blow tremendously; the dust ascended in large quantities, so as to obscure some parts of the city; it laid prostrate a number of trees, and did considerable damage; it was accompanied with loud thunder, lightning and rains, which lasted until half past four P. M. We had likewise, thunder, &c. on the fifteenth and twenty-second. A beautiful double rain bow was seen in the south on the fifteenth, at 7 P. M. There was, likewise, lightning on the evenings of the fourth, fifteenth, nineteenth and twentieth. On the night of the ninth and tenth, I observed a number of shooting meteors.

METEOROLOGICAL OBSERVATIONS,

FOR SEPTEMBER, 1822.

Made at the New-York Hospital, by Richard Pennel, M. D.

DAYS.	BAROMETER.			THERMOMETER.			WINDS.			RAIN GUAGE.	HYGROMETER.	WEATHER.					
	7	2	9	7	2	9	7	2	9								
	A. M.	P. M.	P. M.	A. M.	P. M.	P. M.	A. M.	P. M.	P. M.								
1	30	37	30	30	30	22	70	85	74	SE	SE	SE	08	685	Variable.		
2	30	10	30	04	30	—	76	81	70	S	S	NW	90	724	Cloudy.		
3	29	90	30	—	30	—	69	87	74	S	WS	WS	W	704	Variable.		
4	30	08	30	20	30	20	66	82	67	S	WS	WS	W	684	Clear.		
5	30	26	30	26	30	26	62	81	69	S	WS	WS	W	656	do.		
6	30	26	30	26	30	26	65	82	71	N	ES	WS	W	645	do.		
7	30	26	30	26	30	15	68	88	76	S	WS	WS	W	636	do.		
8	30	15	30	15	30	15	70	88	75	N	WS	WS	S	638	Cloudy.		
9	30	10	30	10	30	22	72	85	76	S	WS	WS	S	672	do.		
10	30	20	30	20	30	20	70	90	76	S	S	S	W	01	690	Clear.	
11	30	14	30	14	30	14	75	94	78	S	WS	WS	W	687	Cloudy.		
12	30	27	30	27	30	27	76	91	77	S	WS	WS	W	660	Clear.		
13	30	27	30	27	30	27	78	94	79	S	WS	WS	W	684	do.		
14	30	27	30	20	30	20	72	84	72	S	W	SE	S	W	31	695	Cloudy.
15	30	14	30	14	30	—	74	90	74	S	WS	WN	W	670	Clear.		
16	20	90	20	90	30	10	72	82	69	S	WN	N	WN	W	633	do.	
17	30	30	30	44	30	56	60	68	60	N	WN	WS	W	622	do.		
18	30	64	30	60	30	52	54	71	62	N	WS	WS	W	619	do.		
19	30	38	30	38	30	30	64	79	68	S	WS	WN	W	38	660	Cloudy.	
20	30	—	30	—	30	—	69	75	69	SE	N	WN	W	1.62	680	do.	
21	29	90	30	—	30	12	65	72	62	S	WS	WN	W	650	Clear.		
22	30	36	30	36	30	40	58	70	62	N	WN	N	WN	W	645	do.	
23	30	57	30	57	30	57	55	70	60	N	WN	N	WN	W	642	do.	
24	30	50	30	50	30	50	58	73	62	NN	E	N	ES	W	648	do.	
25	30	44	30	44	30	44	59	74	68	calm	S	WS	WS	W	650	do.	
26	30	44	30	44	30	30	64	75	73	S	WS	WS	W	07	718	Variable.	
27	30	30	30	30	16	30	70	77	74	S	W	S	S	00	800	Cloudy.	
28	30	16	30	16	30	—	73	83	75	S	SE	SE	SE	03	832	do.	
29	30	—	30	—	30	—	73	78	72	S	SE	SE	SE	00	834	do.	
30	30	—	30	—	30	12	68	77	70	N	WN	N	WN	W	750	Clear.	

The quantity of rain in this month, was three inches and 40-100ths.

The thermometrical range for September, was considerably higher than for the same month in the preceding year. It was unusually moist, especially towards the latter part. Very thick fogs and light winds, on the mornings of the third, ninth, twenty-fourth and twenty-sixth. The autumnal equinox, made its appearance at 10 P. M. on the nineteenth, and continued until the evening of the twentieth. The sun was obscured, on the greatest part of the fourteenth, and completely so on the twentieth, twenty-sixth and twenty-seventh. The thermometer placed in the sun, on the sixth, at 2 P. M. stood at one hundred and six. Thunder, lightning and rain, on the second and fourth. Lightning on the evenings of the eleventh and thirteenth. The rain on the first, tenth and nineteenth, fell in the night.

METEOROLOGICAL OBSERVATIONS,

FOR OCTOBER, 1822.

Made at the New-York Hospital, by Richard Pennel, M. D.

DAYS.	BAROMETER.						THERMOMETER.			WINDS.			RAIN GUAGE.	HYGROMETER.	WEATHER.			
	7		2		9		7	2	9	7	2	9						
	A.	M.	P.	M.	P.	M.	A.M.	P.M.	P.M.	A.M.	P.M.	P.M.						
1	30	27	30	27	30	27	53	65	56	N	W	N	W	W	710	Clear.		
2	30	30	30	30	30	46	53	58	54	N	W	N	E	N	E	696	Cloudy.	
3	30	47	30	40	30	36	51	62	55	N	E	N	E	N	E	690	Variable.	
4	30	30	30	30	30	30	54	72	62	N	E	N	E	N	E	687	Clear.	
5	30	30	30	30	30	30	58	73	63	N	E	N	E	N	E	693	do.	
6	30	30	30	30	30	30	59	73	61	N	E	S	E	S	E	710	do.	
7	30	25	30	19	30	10	65	78	68	S	E	S	E	S	E	724	Cloudy.	
8	30	08	30	08	30	08	65	80	65	N	W	N	W	N	W	0.7	730	Clear.
9	30	20	30	20	30	18	55	73	63	N	W	S	W	S	W	730	do.	
10	30	15	30	15	30	10	67	75	70	S	W	S	W	S	W	.11	735	Cloudy.
11	30	04	30	—	30	—	70	78	72	S	W	S	W	S	W	.03	780	do.
12	30	—	30	—	30	15	65	74	61	S	W	S	W	S	W		825	do.
13	30	25	30	24	30	30	64	74	58	S	W	S	W	S	W		770	Clear.
14	30	35	30	45	30	45	51	66	56	N	E	N	E	N	E		732	Cloudy.
15	30	45	30	45	30	45	49	63	54	N	W	N	W	N	W		686	Clear.
16	30	45	30	40	30	33	52	70	62	S	E	W	W	W	W		672	Cloudy.
17	30	22	30	20	30	20	56	73	62	W	W	S	W	W	W		632	Clear.
18	30	20	30	14	30	10	59	78	67	S	W	S	W	S	W		687	Cloudy.
19	30	10	30	—	30	—	63	83	70	S	W	S	W	S	W		725	do.
20	30	—	29	97	29	86	71	84	72	S	W	S	W	S	W	02	732	do.
21	29	75	30	—	30	20	71	68	62	S	N	W	N	W	W		686	do.
22	30	26	30	34	30	40	52	75	49	N	W	N	W	N	W		680	Clear.
23	30	40	30	40	30	40	37	58	45	N	N	N	N	N	N		657	do.
24	30	40	30	34	30	22	43	54	44	N	N	N	N	N	N		632	Cloudy.
25	30	20	30	30	30	36	40	54	42	N	E	N	E	N	E		623	do.
26	30	40	30	40	30	40	36	54	46	N	E	N	E	N	E		622	do.
27	30	35	30	18	30	04	42	49	46	N	E	N	E	N	E	1.42	640	do.
28	29	63	29	60	29	60	49	55	46	N	E	N	W	N	W	.67	655	do.
29	29	60	29	80	29	87	45	54	45	W	W	W	W	W	W		650	do.
30	29	95	29	90	30	03	41	54	48	W	W	W	W	W	W		650	Clear.
31	30	05	30	—	30	—	42	68	56	S	W	S	W	S	W		650	do.

The quantity of rain which fell this month, is thirty-two inches, and 82-100ths.

The weather, during the month of October, was for the most part, pleasant and dry, although the commencement was humid. The nights were generally clear and starry. On the mornings of the fourth and eighteenth, there were heavy dews, with fogs and light winds. The same was observed on the second, eleventh, fourteenth, twenty-seventh and twenty-eighth.

On the twenty-third, there was ice at the village of Bloomingdale, and at Hoboken, a few miles from this city; but the thermometer it will be seen, was at seven o'clock on the same morning, thirty-seven degrees, in a south east exposure. The rain, on the seventh, fell a short time before sun rise.

Professor Griscom addressed to the Board of Health during the prevalence of the Yellow Fever, several well written letters, recommending an experiment of the acid fumigation, for the purpose of putting a stop to the ravages of the disease. The following letter is the concluding one of the series.

To the Board of Health of the city of New-York.

As the Board of Health have thought proper to persevere in the application of lime, &c. to the pavements of our streets, and thus to confine themselves to one view only of the cause and progress of the disease, I have thought there might be some benefit, while the subject is still fresh upon the minds of our citizens, in once more turning their attention to the fallacy and pertinacity of those objections that have been made against the application of acid vapours. To cover the pavement of a city with any substance whatever which emits no diffusible emanation, for the cure of a diseased condition of the atmosphere, appears to me to be too much like the application of a plaister to the sole of the foot, for a pain in the shoulder or a disease of the lungs. One plain conclusion must, I think, be formed in every unbiassed mind, who reflects a moment on the subject—that the most certain mode of changing a poisonous state of the atmosphere, would be to throw into such an atmosphere some substance, which spreading throughout the whole mass of air, would come in contact with the deleterious particles, and by the effect of chemical attraction, neutralize their acrimony and destroy their virulence. The only thing then to be desired, is to discover some substance, sufficiently active and appropriate, and which, naturally existing in the form of vapour, can be transmitted through a given region of air, so as to fill with its pungent fumes, nearly the whole of that region. The ancient physicians knew nothing of any substance capable of such diffusion, except those which were produced by the *burning* of certain combustible matters. To these they had recourse in time of pestilence, but probably

without effect, a few of the vapours thus produced are possessed of much activity. But the discoveries of Pneumatic Chemistry, have brought to light a number of airs or gasses, possessed of surprising energy, and which without any extravagant expense, can be produced in sufficient quantity to impregnate the air of a whole city. It was natural therefore, for chemists to look to such substances as the likeliest means of correcting an infected atmosphere; and as far as it might be practicable for them, to spread and diffuse those corrosive gasses, it was as natural for them to presume that any ærial poison they should meet with, would be altered or destroyed, as that mercury or antimony would change the poison of disease in the animal constitution.

The first attempt on record to employ acid vapours in the way alluded to, was by Dr. James Johnson, who made use of fumigation by muriatic acid gas, in an epidemic fever which prevailed at Kidderminster, in England, in seventeen hundred and fifty-six. In this, it appears, he was successful, for in "an historical dissertation concerning that epidemic, which he published in seventeen hundred and fifty-eight, he recommends the use of this remedy on all similar occasions.

But public attention does not appear to have been much drawn to this process, until the year seventeen hundred and ninety-five, when the experiment made by direction of Dr. James Carmichael Smyth, in disinfecting the Union Hospital ship at Sheerness, and a number of Russian ships just then arrived in England with an infectious fever on board, was so conspicuous and satisfactory, that upon a representation of the benefits resulting, and likely to result from acid fumigations in such cases, a reward of 5000*l.* was granted to Dr. Smyth by Parliament. From the clear and candid statements of Menzies, surgeon of H. M. sloop Discovery, who at the request of Dr. Smyth, undertook the management of the experiment on board the Union, the following facts appear. From the third of September, seventeen hundred and ninety-five, when the fever first made it appearance on board the Union, it continued to spread with pro-

gressive malignity until the twenty-sixth of November, when the fumigations were commenced. Ten persons had been seized with the disease in September, eight in October, and twelve in November; in all thirty, of whom eight had died. From the commencement of the fumigation, till the twenty-fifth of December, (a whole month) "not one person on board was attacked with the fever. Their despondency was changed into joy, and their fear into confidence; but as very great confidence is always dangerous, it proved so in the present instance. On the seventeenth of December, they imagined themselves so secure, that they discontinued the custom of fumigating the ship morning and evening, thinking that once a day was sufficient; the trial perhaps was worth hazarding, but on the twenty-fifth of December, one of the nurses suffered a *slight attack*, and on the twenty-sixth a marine, who for a week had been in a state of intoxication, was seized with the fever, of which he died. These two accidents gave immediate alarm; they returned again to the practice of fumigating twice a day, and from that time to the end of the disorder, there has not been an instance of a person suffering from contagion on board the ship. But the advantage of the fumigation was not felt by the ships company and attendants alone, whom it preserved from the baneful effects of the fever; the sick and convalescents derived almost an equal benefit from it. The symptoms of the disease were ameliorated and lost much of their malignant appearance." (Smyth's account, p. 55.) It thus appears, that during a month after the commencement of the new process, not a single case occurred, and of the two that happened on the relaxation of the remedy, one was very slight, and the fatal termination of the other was in all probability the consequence of the vitiated state of the patients constitution from habitual intemperance.

On the fourth of January, the surgeon wrote thus, "As a week has now elapsed since any person has been attacked with the disease, *notwithstanding we daily receive patients in the same putrid petechial fever from the ships lately arived from sea*, I have every reason to expect our being once more a

whole ship." On the thirteenth of January, he states, "I have to acquaint you that since we began again to fumigate the ship twice a day, no one has been attacked with the fever, although there are several carpenters at work, in altering the Necessaries which are nearly completed on the lower gun deck, and are to be altered immediately on the other deck." On the third of February, his account is: "I have the pleasure to inform you that the contagion seems now to be totally extinct, no one having been attacked with the fever from the twenty-sixth of December last, and only two since the twenty-sixth of November, the time when the fumigation was begun. I therefore, now consider the experiment as complete, and containing sufficient evidence to convince any one that the contagion in the hospital, on board the Union, has through Divine Providence, been destroyed by the fumigation you recommended. The sick bear it perfectly well, and as the acid vapour keeps the ship sweet, it is my intention to continue it constantly, if I am permitted so to do. I most sincerely congratulate you on the success of this business." (Smyth's account, p. 34.)

Attempts have been made to invalidate the result of this demonstrative experiment, by alledging that at the time the fumigations were made, extraordinary attention was paid to washing and ventilation. This, however, was not the fact; much praise on the contrary, is bestowed upon the Surgeon who had charge of the hospital, prior to the commencement of Dr. Smyth's process. Dr. Smyth, indeed, directed that the body-clothes, and bed-clothes of the sick, should as much as possible, be exposed to the nitrous vapour, and that all the dirty linen should be immersed in cold water, rinsed, dried and *fumigated* before it was taken to the wash-house. This appears to be the only additional charge relative to cleanliness, given by Dr. Smyth, except that the bedsteads were occasionally washed with diluted muriatic acid. It is true that, in the course of the fumigation, the Surgeon who had the direction of it, pointed out to the commanding officer, the unpleasant effect resulting from the form and position of the privies. "Seven of them on the lower deck, and two

on the middle deck, were made with small funnels that pierced the sides of the ship in a slanting direction, and generally retained the soil, unless it was washed away, which troublesome and dangerous office fell to the lot of the nurses, and doubtless tended to spread the contagion among them." The correction of this evil has been urged also by the opponents of Dr. Smyth, as the cause of the relief which the sick experienced; but it happens that this salutary alteration of removing the privies from the inside to the outside of the ship, and cutting down the lower edge of the port holes to form entrances to them from the hospital, *was not effected until after the middle of January*; that is, nearly a month after the last case of fever occurred, and but a few days before the infection was pronounced to be extinct! It appears from the whole tenour of Dr. Smyth's apparently candid statement, that there is nothing on the score of cleanliness and ventilation, that can possibly be made to account for the striking and immediate change which took place in the condition of the marine hospital, except by those that are determined at all hazards, to laugh at a remedy which is at variance with their preconceived notion of the cause of infection, or of the means they have been *accustomed to employ* to guard against its extension.

Of this class, the only one among British medical writers worthy of note, is Dr. Trotter, an author of considerable ability and estimation. Either because (being himself a Physician in the British navy) he was animated by the spirit of rivalry and envy, or from motives which are not at this distance apparent, he appears to have armed himself in hostility to the process of Dr. Smyth, and endeavours, by chemical reasoning as well as by ridicule, to bring it into disrepute, and to *outsmoke* the fumigation itself. Nothing, however, can be more wretched than his chemistry, as every one acquainted with the science, who reads his *Medicina Nautica*, will be convinced. In his zeal against Dr. Smyth, he undertakes to shew in a letter to the admiralty, that the foul and infectious effluvium from a ship is "*azote or mephitic air*." This is of animal origin, and abounds whenever

the air is polluted by breathing animals, as between the decks of a ship. Now, this azote is the base of nitrous acid; they only differ in the degree of combination with oxygen, and in proportion to the quantity it attracts of this principle, it is called azote, azotic gas, nitrous gas, nitrous acid, nitric acid. In short, Dr. Smyth's preventive is the very substance that every intelligent officer is hourly employed to drive from the decks of his majesty's ships"! *

If any young medical student should now write and publish such reasoning as this, he would meet, in the eye of every scientific physician, a severe reprimand, and be sent back to his studies. The composition of the atmosphere had been then known for twenty years, and the nature and habitudes of azote for a dozen years, and yet it would seem that there had not been time for this knowledge to reach the understanding of Dr. Trotter. In the answer which he received by direction of the Admiralty, written and signed by Drs. Blair and Blane, (now Sir Gilbert Blane) he met with a deserved rebuke for his ignorance, and yet his vanity induces him to publish it, but with a salvo which involves his philosophy in a still deeper mist. "There is no great difference (he says in his excuse) between *azotic gas* and *nitrous gas*; and I contend that the latter, however diluted by common air, is in direct opposition to the purposes we intend by a free ventilation"! It is no wonder that such a chemist as this, should say, as he does afterwards with a flourish of the pen, "For my own part I never see or hear of the operation for diffusing the nitrous gas in his majesty's ships, and the arrangement of the pipkins, but it brings to my remembrance the succession of images and crucifixes in Roman Catholic countries, which are carried about the streets by priests and friars, to deprecate Divine vengeance, during pestilence and famine, or some dreadful convulsion of nature." In fact, Dr. Trotter most evidently mistakes the *nitric acid vapour*, given out by Dr. Smyth's process, for *nitrous gas*, a substance entirely different in its affinities and applications.

* *Medicina nautica*, p. 229.

There is, in the whole of his essay on contagion, a gloss and flippancy well calculated to deceive a superficial reader, and they have probably had no inconsiderable effect in diverting the attention of nautical physicians from the real nature and operation of those gaseous remedies, relative to which, a single unvarnished fact, is worth a volume of such crude speculations, however florid the style in which it may be given forth. Dr. Trotter every where insists on the importance of cleanliness and ventilation on board of a ship, as the means of preserving health. In this respect his publication may have been of essential service. But to insist, as he appears to do, that these and other preservative measures are sufficient under all circumstances, to prevent infection, or to expel it when it appears, will be considered, I trust, by all intelligent and experienced men, as straining his doctrine in opposition to fumigation, to a violent length; and nothing can justify his disingenuousness in saying, as he does, in reference to the form and situation of the privies on board the *Union*, that Mr. Menzies very judiciously "*began his experiments* by getting these nuisances altered; it probably prevented all the remaining people from being infected;" when, if he had read with fairness, he would have found, that these nuisances were *not* altered until long after the last case of infection had appeared.

Much stress is laid, in various parts of the essay in question, on the danger of impregnating the air of a sick room with acid vapours, and of the *irrespirable* nature of the gasses themselves; as if it was the intention of those who introduced fumigations to produce a factitious air for the *purpose* of respiration; this is no part of the object in view, and it might, by a parity of reasoning, be objected to an emetic or a sudorific, in a case of a disease, because it was by no means adapted to *nourish* the patient in his state of debility.

Among the means which Dr. Trotter recommends for the cure of infectious fevers on board of a ship, is a *Band of Music*. "The people (he remarks,) on board the *Vengeance*, when I was surgeon, were regularly piped to danc-

ing every evening; and I always thought it but justice to allow it a share of credit in the extinction of typhoid contagion." Now this may be well enough in the way of exercise, or, for aught that I know, as a prophylactic; but if he had looked at Smyth's account of the nitrous fumigation with candour, he would allow at least an equal share of influence on the minds of the patients, in the instantaneous destruction of the fetor, and the confidence which the sick are thus led to repose in it.

I should not have thus noticed the work of Dr. Trotter, but for the manner in which his authority has been arrayed against the use of acid fumigations in this city, and the injurious influence which I fear his reasonings, unscientific as they are, have had in preventing a fair experimental investigation of a practical question of vast importance to human welfare.

Dr. Trotter's writings have doubtless been of use to medical literature. His essay on drunkenness, and his view of the nervous temperament are valuable productions, and his *Medicina Nautica* unquestionably contains many important observations and directions. But all his works appear to have sprung from his hand *currente calamo*, and for want of more research, a little more thinking, and a great deal more science, he abounds in loose remarks, and in so many grave errors, as to weaken one's confidence in his conclusions and respect for his impartiality.

From the tone and style of the replies that have been published to my third letter addressed to the Board of Health, I presume that I might, as it regards public opinion, very safely dispense with any further notice of them. But as I have been again induced, from a perusal of the *Medicina Nautica*, to resume the general subject, I shall briefly advert to such of the remarks as I conceive to be of any importance, which those replies contain. It is certainly of consequence that not only the Board of Health, but every intelligent citizen, should arrive at just conclusions in relation to all that is done or to be done, in the way of preventing or assuaging the evils of so great a calamity.

The principal point which has been advanced as an objection to my former remarks, is the antiseptic power of alkalies. I did not recollect (as was stated in the third letter) any facts which prove that alkalies, have any direct antiseptic tendency like salt, sugar, vinegar, &c. An antiseptic in this sense, which is the sense in which the term is used in domestic economy, and if I mistake not, in medicine, is a substance that not only prevents *putrefaction* but also *decomposition*; a substance which preserves whatever is fully exposed to its agency, in its identical form, as cucumbers in vinegar, a ham in brine, or a peach in sugar. Alkalies have no such property. Neither anatomical preparations, nor any of the culinary articles are ever preserved in alkaline solutions, nor are alkalies to be found among *antiseptics* in any work on materia medica that I have seen. They may, when in a caustic state, suspend putrefaction for a time by the absorption of moisture, but if exposed to animal matter in *contact*, they inevitably decompose it, from their strong affinity to oils, fat, &c. Lime is an alkaline earth, and partakes in some measure, of the properties of this class of bodies. Its antiseptic properties have been urged with an air of triumph, by a reference to its employment in tan yards, and to the existence of animal remains in limestone rocks. These instances are truly unfortunate. Lime is seldom if ever used by tanners to prevent the putrefaction of their hides, but for very different purposes. Its first office in the lime vat is to dissolve the cuticle, and thereby to loosen the hair. The second intention is to extract the oil and fat from the skin, forming with them a kind of soap. By this the skin is not "hardened," but loosened in its texture and rendered more fit for the reception of the tanning, which combining with the pure gelatin of the hide, forms leather. So far from being necessary to the tanner as an antiseptic, the process in some places, and particularly in England, is carried on entirely without it in tanning the heaviest hides. By the action of heat upon the raw hides an incipient putrefaction is excited so far as to loosen the epidermis or outer skin. The hair

and other extraneous matter is then scraped off, and the hide is immersed in an *acid solution* or *sourings* in order to *raise* it and prepare it for the reception of the tan. Lime in this case is not used at all. That a hide in which the process of putrefaction has run rather too far *may be* recovered by complete immersion in the lime-vat I would by no means deny; but the same effect would result from burying it in almost any material which excludes the atmospheric air and strongly imbibes moisture. The more common process of correction when the hide has sweat too much, is to immerse it in a solution of tan and then in an acid.

As to the bones and shells of animals, which are so abundantly imbedded in the earth, in a state of petrefaction or otherwise, whoever before thought of ascribing their preservation to the *antiseptic* powers of lime or limestone? Of what do these animal remains consist? Is flesh, either lean or fat; is muscle, cartilage, or even skin ever found in such situations? Are clams, muscles or oysters, I mean the animals themselves, ever thus found pickled in limestone? Could we extract from our marl pits, or limestone quarries, a good ham of a mammoth, or find well preserved some of the identical species of oysters on which our antedeluvian forefathers used to breakfast, what a treat for Philosophy! But no such success as this attends the geologist. He finds little else than bones and shells; mere lime combined with an acid; almost identical with the rock itself. So that the antiseptic power amounts to this, that lime preserves lime from putrefaction.

It is the same with plants. They are found either in a state of petrefaction, that is, changed to the rock itself, or it is merely the form or impression of the vegetable substance that remains. It is true that the species can often be easily recognised by these remains; but so they can from a picture in a book. Where the woody fibre is found unchanged, (and I do not know that this is ever the case,) it must be owing to the complete extrication of its juices, and the entire exclusion of air.

But if lime stone, in this point of view, is antiseptic, so is sand stone and so is clay, for animal and vegetable remains of a very remote period, are found imbedded in these strata or depositions, almost as abundantly and commonly as in lime stone. Indeed the most interesting varieties of organic remains are more generally found in clay. This is remarkably the case in a recent and a very interesting instance. A cave was last year discovered in Yorkshire, England, which extended about two hundred feet, into a rock of Oolite, a minute account of which has been read by Professor Buckland to the Royal Society. The bottom or floor of this cavern was covered to the depth of a foot with a sediment of mud, which it is reasonably supposed is a deposition from the waters of the deluge. In this mud were found imbedded the bones of twenty-two species of animals, including the hyæna, tiger, bear, wolf, fox, weasel, elephant, rhinoceros, hippopotamus, horse, ox, deer, rabbit, &c. and the bones of several birds. "The effect of this mud (says Professor Buckland) in preserving the bones from decomposition, has been very remarkable; some that had lain a long time before its introduction were in various stages of decomposition; but even in these, the further progress of decay appears to have been arrested by it; and in the greater number, little or no destruction of their form, and scarcely any of their substance has taken place. I have found on immersing fragments of these bones in an acid, till the phosphate and carbonate of lime, were removed, that nearly the whole of their original gelatin has been preserved. Analogous cases of the preservative powers of diluvial mud occurs on the coast of Essex, near Walton, and at Lawford, near Rugby, in Warwickshire. Here the bones of the same species of elephant, rhinoceros, and other diluvial animals occur in a state of freshness and freedom from decay, nearly equal to those in the cave at Kirkdale, and this from the same cause, viz. their having been protected from the access of atmospheric air, or the percolation of water, by the *argillaceous* matrix in which they have been imbedded; while similar bones that have lain the same length of time in dilu-

vial sand, or gravel, and been subject to the constant percolation of water, have lost their compactness and strength, and great part of their gelatin, and are often ready to fall to pieces on the slightest touch; and this where beds of clay and gravel occur alternating in the same quarry as at Lawford."* Is it probable that as much as this can be said of any organic remains that have ever been found in lime stone, or other calcareous matrix? I do not know that the gelatin of bones is ever found preserved in rocks or depositions of lime.

That caustic lime has the power to check the putrefaction of an animal body, so far as to prevent the escape of fetid gasses when copiously applied, and in immediate contact, I have not denied or doubted. To this end it is, however, important to apply it, as I have before remarked, before putrefaction has made much progress, otherwise it may accelerate the gaseous exhalation. In the experiment at the Cathedral of Dijon, recourse was first had to lime. It was thrown into the vaults in its caustic state, but it rather tended to augment the danger. With regard to its efficacy in correcting an infected atmosphere by spreading it on the streets, I am obliged, from every view I can take of it, to remain incredulous; and equally so with respect to bark and charcoal.

It is stated in one of the replies, that my fourth letter to the Board of Health was published "before being presented to the Board," which shows says the reply, that I had "appealed from their decision to the tribunal of the public." Whether that letter was *presented* to the Board or not, before it was published, I do not know, but I do certify that it was sent to the Secretary of the Board twenty-four if not forty-eight hours before the copy was asked for at the printing office.

With respect to the distinction between *contagion* and *infection*, I did not intend to make any, because it was not at all necessary to my meaning to do so. Medical writers have often used the terms synonymously, and it is remarkable,

* Annals of Philos, August, 1822.

that they are so used in the very letter to the Board of Health which condemned the use of acid fumigations.

J. GRISCOM.

10th mon. (Oct.) 6th, 1822.



The following Resolution proposed by the Recorder was adopted.

Resolved, That a Committee be appointed for the purpose of digesting and arranging the proceedings of the Board of Health, during the late fever in this city; and that the said Committee be authorised to publish in a pamphlet form, all such official documents of the present and former Board of Health, and also, all such statements and communications as in the judgement of the Committee, may be useful to be preserved, in case of a recurrence of a similar calamity to our city.

The Committee appointed pursuant to the foregoing resolution were, the Mayor, the Recorder, Aldermen Zabris-
kie, Taylor and Wyckoff.

THE following Table contains the Names of all the persons Reported to the Board of Health, as being afflicted with the Yellow Fever, during its prevalence in eighteen hundred and twenty-two; including also the names of those derived from other sources of information. The first column contains the date on which they were reported, or the information received. The second, the names of the persons. The third, the place of residence in the sickly districts, and if the residence was in parts of the city not infected, then the place at which the disease was contracted. The fourth, the place of residence out of the sickly district, or the place to which the person had been removed after contracting the disease. The fifth, the day on which the person sickened, in every instance where it was practicable to obtain correct information. And the sixth, the day on which those who died with the disease, departed this life.

<i>Date of Report.</i>	<i>PERSONS NAMES.</i>	<i>Place of Residence in the sickly Districts, &c.</i>	<i>Place of Residence, or of Removal, out of Sickly Districts.</i>	<i>Day on which they sickened,</i>	<i>Day on which they died.</i>
1822.				July	10 July
July 17	Caroline Reder, . . .	26 Rector-street, . . .	. . . . .	10	18
	Amanda Reder, . . .	do. . . . .	. . . . .	10	*
	John Reder,	do. . . . .	. . . . .	16	22
	Andrew Thomas, . . .	Cor. Wasb'gton & Rector-st.	New York Hospital,	12	16
20	Louisa Rose,	Cor. Greenwich & Rector-st.	. . . . .	16	24
21	John Whailey,	Corner Cliff and Ferry-st.	. . . . .	20	*
25	William Butler,	15 Rector-street, . . .	. . . . .	20	*
	His Apprentice,	do. . . . .	. . . . .	*	*
26	Euphemia Dobson, . . .	Cor. Greenwich & Rector-st.	10 Beaver-street, . . .	24	*
	Mrs. Edwards,	do. . . . .	. . . . .	25	*
	Leonard W. Archer, . . .	do. . . . .	. . . . .	25	August 1
	Mrs. Waters,	do.	Brooklyn, Long-Island, . . .	24	July 29
29	Child of Mr. Reder, . . .	26 Rector-street, . . .	. . . . .	.	*

<i>Date of Report.</i>	<i>PERSONS NAMES.</i>	<i>Place of Residence in the Sickly Districts, &c.</i>	<i>Place of Residence, or of Removal, out of Sickly Districts.</i>	<i>Day on which they sickened.</i>	<i>Day on which they died.</i>
July 29	Susan Buck,	24 Rector-street, . . . . .	. . . . .	July 25 *	
30	Mrs. Jones,	115 Washington-street, . . . . .	. . . . .	27 *	
	John Hamilton,	Cartman, stand at Rector-st. . . . .	. . . . .	27	Aug. 2
August 4	Rachel Phillips,	98 Greenwich-street,	Cor. Broadway and Chatham-sts.	1	5
5	Hugh Montfort,	86 Greenwich street,	Kipp's Bay,	4	
6	Mary Speights, . . . . .	. . . . .	258 Hudson-street,	27 *	6
9	Mrs. Van Winkle,	118 Greenwich-street, . . . . .	. . . . .	7 *	
	Samuel Ward,	36 Lumber-street, . . . . .	. . . . .	7 *	
	James Turner,	Worked on board the quarantine lighters foot Rector-st.	145 Orange-street,	4	10
	Mr. Millspaugh,	Cor. Wash'gton & Carlisle-st.	Cor. Sullivan and Houston-sts.	5 *	
	Miss Roberts,	34 Lumber-street, . . . . .	. . . . .	5 *	
	Miss Machett,	Cor. Lumber and Rector-sts.	Newark, New-Jersey,	7	14
	Mary Kaylor,	Rector-street,	Harlaem,	7	13
	Miss Myers,	52 Lumber-street,	Allen-street,	8 *	
	John Hill,	6 Albany-street,	Jersey City,	7	13
10	Molly Roe,	Cor. Greenwich & Rector-st. . . . .	. . . . .	8 *	
11	Thomas Cade,	61 Lumber street,	56 Warren-street,	8	12
12	John Kampmeyer,	Washington, near Rector-st.	192 Division-street,	6	13
13	William White,	38 Lumber-street,	174 Broadway,		15
	Mrs. William White,	do.	Staten Island,		
	Nancy Curry,	89 Greenwich-street,	do.		
	Lambertus Walters,	Washington, near Rector-st.	30 Liberty-street,		10

<i>Date of Report.</i>	<i>PERSONS NAMES.</i>	<i>Place of Residence in the Sickly Districts, &c.</i>	<i>Place of Residence, or of Removal, out of Sickly Districts.</i>	<i>Day on which they sickened.</i>	<i>Day on which they died.</i>
Aug. 14	Polly Woods,	130 Greenwich-street,	Staten-Island,	13 *	13 *
15	John Kline,	Labourer, worked in district,	27 Mulberry-street,	10 Aug.	15 Aug.
16	David S. Doughty,	87 Greenwich-street,	6 Roosevelt street,	10	17
	Mary Knight,	Type foundry, Lumber-st.	42 Pike-street,	11 *	11 *
	Robert Newell,	Was lately in the district,	333 Greenwich-street,	11	18
	John Decker,	Cor. Washington & Rector-st.	306 Spring-street,	10	16
17	Judith Willit,	Cor. Greenwich & Rector-st.	82 Cedar-street,	14 *	14 *
	Joseph T. Murden,	Was lately in the district,	39 Chapel-street,	14 *	19
	John Scorgee,	55 Washington-street,	Bank-street, Greenwich,	17 *	17 *
	Mary, his daughter,	do.	do.	17	19
18	Margaret Taylor,	111 Greenwich-street,	171 Greenwich-street,	16	19
19	William Beck,	Was lately in the district,	98 Harman-street,		19
	Ellis Jones,	99 Washington-street,	158 Harman-street,		19
	John McKenna,	Cor. Cedar & Greenwich-st.	Cor. Washington & Chamber-sts.	17	20.
	Samuel Floyd,	130 Greenwich street,	Jersey City,	14	18
	Ida G. W. Scorgee,	55 Washington-street,	Bank-street, Greenwich,	18	22
20	Robert Kerney,	40 Washington-street, . . . . .	. . . . .	18	22
	William Waterman,	32 Lumber-street, . . . . .	. . . . .	13	22
	Lavinia Toffs,	Lumber-street, . . . . .	. . . . .	17	21
	Abraham Quackenbos,	Was lately in the district,	46 Leonard-street,	16 *	21
21	John Marshall,	Shop 139 Greenwich-street,	Art-street,		26
	Jane Jenkinson,	Lately in Cedar-street,	62 Broadway,	20	21
	Ansel Keith,	10 Lumber-street,	Vandam-street, Greenwich,	13	21

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Aug. 21	J. C. Dennies,	Carlisle-street,	New-Jersey,	15 Aug.	19
	Mr. Dennies,	do.	do.	14 *	
	Mr. Dennies,	do.	do.	17 *	
22	Jonathan Perkins,	Had frequented the district,	Canal, near Chapel-street,	16	21
	Mr. Clossey,	Cor. Liberty & Greenwich-st.	11 North Moore-street,	*	
	Mary Barr,	Cor. Greenwich & Cedar-st.	Thomas-street,	*	
23	Mrs. Kemp,	61 Broadway,	Brooklyn,	18	24
	Terrence Quin,	Cor. Cedar & Washington-st.	257 Spring-street,	*	23
	Abraham Wilson, M. D.	Had frequented the district,	23 Lespenard-street,	*	
	John Wood,	Had frequented the district,	207 Greenwich-street,	*	
	Charles E. Mortimer,	111 Broadway,	104 Fulton-street,	22 *	24
24	James M. Thompson,	Was in Courtlandt-street,	Cor. Wall and New-streets,	18	
	Mrs. Oldham,	Cor. Greenwich & Cedar-sts.	137 Washington, cor. Liberty-st.	22 *	
	Edward Arcularius,	Was at do.	30 Courtlandt-street,	20 *	
	Dorothy Coats,	122 Liberty-street,	295 Bowery,		25
	John M. W. Coats,	do.	do.		27
	James Maginnis,	123 Greenwich-street,	Shop 19 Dey-street,		25
	Thomas Brown,	14 Thames-street,	Found dead in his house,		23
25	John Knott,	78 Cedar-street,	do.		24
	William O'Kief,	Residence unknown,			30
	Daughter of J. Taylor,	111 Greenwich-street,	Town of Tappan,		27
	Mary Atkinson,	47 Greenwich-street,	Staten-Island,	20	26
	Hannah Roberts,	Was at 55 Broadway,	Cor. Duane and Cross-streets,	20	26

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Aug. 26	Thomas Clayton, . . .	12 Thames-street,	23 Aug.	27
	J. Lagrange, . . .	111 Broadway, . . .	Above White st. in Broadway,	23*	
	Henry Van Antwerp, . . .	19 Wall-street, . . .	. . .	23*	
	Henry I. Magary, . . .	96 Broadway, . . .	499 Greenwich str. . .	23*	29
27	Robert Wade, . . .	Cor. Greenwich & Liberty-st	4 Lewis st. . .	23	25
	William Suiter, . . .	Had been in the district,	58 Chapel st. Sent to S. Island,	Sept.	28
	Anthony Zargable, . . .	78 Cedar-street, . . .	. . .	24 Aug.	28
	Edward Boulanger, . . .	84 Broadway, . . .	Staten Island, . . .	22	28
28	D. W. Helm. . .	Was at cor. New & Wall-st.	35 Pearl st. . .	25 Sept.	1
	Richard Todd, . . .	5 Beaver-lane, . . .	. . .	22 Aug.	28
	Samuel Ditchett, . . .	82 Broadway, . . .	Staten Island, . . .	26	31
	Joseph Mathers, . . .	40 Broadway, . . .	do. . .	25	30
	Elizabeth Mathers, . . .	do. . .	Greenwich Village, . . .	24	27
	Mrs. Buckmaster, . . .	Beaver-lane, . . .	. . .		28
29	Elizabeth Jackson, . . .	62 Broadway, . . .	Staten Island, . . .	24*	31
	A. J. Voorhis, . . .	90 Broadway, . . .	152 Chamber st. . .	25*	
	George Linnen, . . .	145 Broadway, . . .	Mott st. . .	26*	
	Deborah Shoe, . . .	21 Washington st. . .	135 Reed st. . .	26*	
	William Overend, . . .	Cor. Liberty and West sts.	. . .	27 Sept.	2
	William L. Young, . . .	5 New st. . .	. . .	27*	
30	Dinah Coxen, . . .	21 Cedar st. . .	24 Garden st. . .	Aug.	29
	Joseph Dykeman, . . .	Had frequented the district,	Walker st. near Broadway, . . .	28	29
	Maria Morrison, . . .	42 Broadway, . . .	Sullivan, near Houston st. . .	23	30

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Aug. 30	Miss Morrison, . . .	42 Broadway, . . .	Sullivan, near Houston-street,	Aug. 25*	Aug. 30
31	Eleanor Constantine, . . .	Cor. New and Wall-streets,	Bowery, . . .	26*	29
	Hugh Oldham, . . .	Cor. Liberty & Wash'gton-st	Lawrence, bet. Broome & Spring		
	Eliza Whitehead, . . .	74 Liberty-street, . . .	Grand, near Forsyth-street, . . .		
	John N. Luff, . . .	41 Broad-street, . . .	. . .	
	Elizabeth Duncan, . . .	Residence unknown, . . .	. . .	
Sept. 1	Jude Neal, . . .	9 Wall street, . . .	79 Mulberry-street,	27	2
	John Dixon, . . .	74 Liberty-street, . . .	59 Thomas-street, . . .		
	Catharine Cato, . . .	Cor. West and Liberty-st.	Staten-Island, . . .	30	1
	John Note, . . .	Cor. Thames & Lumber-st.	37 Augustus-street,	26	1
2	John Law, . . .	Cor. Garden & New-streets,	Newark, New-Jersey, . . .	27	2
	Young woman at Morse'	5 Courtlandt-street,	. . .		
	James Seaman, . . .	Had been at 4 Wall-street,	22 Orchard-street, . . .	1	12
	Mary Tirnan, . . .	Broadway near the Battery,	66 Cross-street, . . .		2
	Edward Harley, . . .	Had been at 4 Wall-street,	Bloomington, . . .	31*	8
3	Thomas Buchan, . . .	Rear of 42 Broadway, . . .	221 Church-street,	31	2
	James Dally, . . .	61 Cedar-street, . . .	17 Harman-street, . . .	1	2
	Jefferey Thompson, . . .	Wash'gton-st. near the fence	. . .	31	2
4	Nancy Powers, . . .	164 Broadway, . . .	. . .	Aug. 2*	
	William Hertell, . . .	do. . .	29 Gold-street, . . .	3*	
	John Rollinson, . . .	23 Washington-street, . . .	Green, near Spring-street,	3	7
	Ann M'Catharty, . . .	4 Greenwich street, . . .	Cor. Collect and Pearl-streets,	31	4
	Charlotte White, . . .	Wash'gton near Beaver-lane	Staten-Island, . . .	Aug. 31	8

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Sept. 4	William Powell, . . .	Wall-street, near Broadway,	Staten-Island, . . .	Sept. 1 *	1 *
	Thomas Agg, . . .	96 Broadway, . . .	Albany, . . .	Aug. 24	Aug. 28
	William Lawson, . . .	45 Courtlandt-street, . . .	Middletown Point, New-Jersey,	Aug. 28	Sept. 1
	Miss Knott, . . .	78 Cedar-street, . . .	Newtown, Long-Island, . . .		4
5	John Dover, . . .	164 Broadway, . . .	80 Wall st. . . .	Sept. 4	7
	Cornelius W. Lamb, . . .	Had frequented the district	Amboy, New-Jersey, . . .	Aug. 29	5
	William Morgan, . . .	Cor. Carlisle & Washington	do. . . .		4
	Mrs. Morgan, . . .	do. . . .	do. . . .	*	*
	William H. Bull, . . .	2 Wall-street, . . .	Bloomingdale, . . .		4
	Francis Coit, . . .	92 Cedar-street, . . .	Kip's Bay, . . .		2
	Emily Washington, . . .	4 Thames-street, . . .	24 Anthony st. . . .		5
	Elizabeth M'Pherson, . . .	Beaver-lane, . . .	Middletown Point, New-Jersey,		5
	Sister to Elizabeth, . . .	do. . . .	do. . . .		6
	Lydia Howland, . . .	Cor. Cedar & Temple-st.	. . . .		5
6	William Little, . . .	Broad near Beaver-street,	Tenth street, . . .	Sept. 3 *	3 *
	Lawrence Mathewson, . . .	New, near do. . . .	. . . .	3	7
7	Reader Bush, . . .	Sugar house in Liberty-st.	77 Mott st. . . .	3	8
	Henry Stebbins, . . .	94 Broadway, . . .	Staten Island, . . .	3 *	3 *
	Flora Robinson, . . .	Thames-street, . . .	do. . . .	2 *	2 *
	David Chace, . . .	Has frequented the district,	380 Pearl street, . . .	2	8
	John Stevenson, . . .	Had been looking thro' fence	11 Dutch street, . . .	5 *	5 *
	Margaret Stevenson, . . .	do. do. . . .	do. . . .	5	8
8	Mary Morris, . . .	144 Washington-st. . . .	19 Desbrosses street, . . .		8

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Sept. 8	Mrs. R. Bogart, . . .	14 Thames-street, . . .	Cor. Spring & Washington-sts.	Aug. 31	*
	Richard Welsh, . . .	Had frequented the district, . . .	Removed to the country, . . .		*
	John Carney, . . .	5 Courtlandt-street, . . .	81 Orange-street, . . .	Sept. 5	8
	Lorinda Wood, . . .	Broadway, . . .	Saugatuck, Connecticut, . . .		8
9	Dupeerre Christey, . . .	42 Courtlandt-street, . . .	21 Orchard-street, . . .	5	*
	Alexander Deforest, . . .	Cor. Beaver & New streets, . . .	. . .	4	*
	William Taite, . . .	N. W. cor. Liberty & Nassau, . . .	. . .	7	*
	Mr. Fisher, . . .	Sugar house in Liberty st. . .	69 Chrystie-street, . . .	6	10
	Abel Corton, . . .	Cor. Nassau & Pine-streets, . . .	Staten-Island, . . .	7	10
	George Van Dyke, . . .	Reed-street, near the river, . . .	do. . .	9	*
10	William Jones, . . .	Carrier to National Advocate . . .	3 Pike-street, . . .	9	*
	Peter Symers, . . .	Cor. Liberty & Nassau-sts. . .	27 Orange-street, . . .	9	*
	Nathan Dusenberry, . . .	Cartman, stand foot Dye-st. . .	Wooster, near Prince-street, . . .	8	*
	John Hertell, . . .	164 Broadway, . . .	Green, near Spring-street, . . .		13
	Catharine Hume, . . .	4 do. . .	Staten-Island, . . .		14
	Nancy Stewart, . . .	Residence unknown, . . .	do. . .	4	*
11	Mary Colfax, . . .	69 Courtlandt-street, . . .	. . .	7	*
	Mary Merritt, . . .	do. . .	. . .		13
	Thomas Peterson, . . .	Shop cor. M. lane & Wm. st. . .	22 Vandewater-street, . . .		14
	Caroline Berault, . . .	Broad, near Wall-street, . . .	Bloomington, . . .	7	
	Richard Parks, . . .	City Hotel, . . .	152 Leonard-street, . . .	7	
	Catharine M'Gafferty, . . .	4 Greenwich street, . . .	514 Pearl-street, . . .		*
	Mary Dugan, . . .	Fulton-st. near Broadway, . . .	89 Nassau street, . . .		*

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Sept. 11	Nancy Low,	Had frequented the district,	22 Ferry-street,	7	Sept. 12
	Emilia A. Morse,	5 Courtlandt-street,	Hubert-street,	10	*
	William Shoe,	Washington-street,	Staten-Island,	10	*
12	Thomas Van Beuren,	Had frequented the district,	22 Ferry-street,	11	*
	Frederick Forsyth,	69 Courtlandt-street,	. . . . .	11	*
	Charles Merritt,	do.	. . . . .	11	*
	John Hulsbart,	Night watch,	6 Jefferson-street,	11	*
	Mary Carney,	5 Courtlandt-street,	Kip's Bay,		
	George G. Warren,	Broadway,	City of Boston,	3	Sept.
	D. Jaques,	Had frequented the district,	New-Jersey,	7	
13	Mary Ann Ragan,	13 Broadway-street,	2 James-slip,	11	
	George Davidson,	Broadway, near Courtlandt,	28 Barclay-street,	10	*
	Betsey Pheler,	11 Dey-street,	8 Harrison-street,	5	*
	Ann Maria Walsh,	46 Broadway,	Bloomfield, New-Jersey,		
14	Thomas Sharon,	Was at the foot of Reed-st.	Greenwich village,	13	*
	Gideon Tucker,	Had frequented the district,	5 White street,	12	*
	Abraham Gordon,	Day and night watch,	71 Crosby-street,	11	*
	Thomas Smith,	6 John-st. shop in Dey st.	Grand street,		
15	John Gritman,	Day and night watch,	49 Sullivan-street,	13	
	George Hamilton,	Cor. Whitehall & Stone-st.	50 Mercer-street,	8	*
	James Kewin,	do. Broadway & Liberty-st.	8 Thomas-street,	10	*
	John Richards,	do. Liberty & Nassau-sts.	North-street,	14	*
	Mrs. R. Bunn,	69 William-street.		

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15	Sarah, a colored woman	69 William street,	Staten-Island,	Sept. 14*	Sept. 19
	Ralph Smith,	22½ Nassau st.	Staten Island,	14*	17
	John Davis,	199 Fulton st.	do.	11	14
	John O'Donnel,	28 Lumber st.	do.	.	17
	Isaac Stoughtenburgh,	Cor. Liberty & Washington,	do.	.	14
	Martin M'Phelan,	City Hotel,	do.	.	15
16	Fanny Snow,	4 Lombardy st.	.	9	13
	Mrs. Cary,	do.	.	.	20
	George W. Mott,	do.	Long Island,	.	.
	Michael Ferguson,	44 Beaver st.	Sullivan, near Houston st.	.	.
	Paul Spear,	188 Greenwich-street,	357 Broadway,	.	.
	Mr. Lynch,	3 Broad street,	.	14	.
	John Stevenson, sen.	11 Dutch street,	.	.	.
	John Hinton,	Had frequented the district,	231 Church street,	.	.
17	William Cisco,	do.	Cor. Charleaton & Washington st.	.	23
	Charles Osborn,	15 Stone st.	.	15*	.
	Mrs. C. Osborn,	do.	.	15*	.
	Mrs. R. Smith,	22½ Nassau st.	Staten Island, relapsed,	16*	7
	Sarah Green,	Cor. Moore and Pearl st.	.	16*	.
	James Montee,	42 Broadway,	61 Mott street,	.	.
	James Watson,	96 Broad street,	.	16*	.
	James H. Woodhull,	35 Maiden-lane,	.	14*	.
	Edward Murphy,	3 Mill street,	.	15*	.

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Sept. 17	Benjamin Archer, . . .	Shop in John st. . . .	Cor. Church and Canal st. . .	*	
	Peter Griffin, . . .	Worked in Wall st. . . .	11 Anthony-st . . .	*	
	Amelia L. Adams, . . .	197 Fulton st. . . .	Charlton, near Hudson st. . .	Sept. 13	19
	Sarah Reeves, . . .	10 Old-slip, . . .	19 Henry st. . . .	Sep. 16	17
18	Joseph Wyble, . . .	Worked in Fletcher st. . .	Greenwich Village, . . .	*	19
	Catharine Parker, . . .	8 Beaver st. . . .	. . . .	*
	Mrs. Harris, . . .	Broad, near Beaver st. . .	. . . .	
	James North, . . .	Cor. Nassau and Liberty st. .	. . . .	
	Mrs. Daley, . . .	23 Broad st. . . .	Newark, New-Jersey, . . .		21
19	Peter Langois, . . .	43 Courtlandt st. . . .	Staten Island, . . .		22
	Mrs. Bennet, . . .	do. . . .	do. . . .		22
	William Gray, . . .	Was on board the sick boat, .	76 Reed st. . . .	*	20
	John Decker, second, . . .	4 Front st . . .	Day-watchman, . . .	*	
	Patrick Boyl, . . .	Worked cor. Wash. & Beav'r .	547 Pearl st. . . .	17 *	17
	Alexander Benthuyssen, . . .	do. Wm. & Pine st. . . .	195 Church st. . . .	14 *	14
	Henry F. Jaques, . . .	29 Pearl st. . . .	. . . .	15 *	19
20	Betsey Griffith, . . .	3 State st. . . .	22 Walker st. . . .	19 *	19
	Joseph Nelson, . . .	Cor. Broad and Garden sts. .	. . . .	19	24
	James Fowler, . . .	Had frequented the district, .	43 Harrison st. . . .		26
	Martin Hauser, . . .	Worked in Liberty st . . .	Stuyvesant st. . . .		20
	Ellen M'Cormick, . . .	124 Fly Market, . . .	252 William st. . . .	*	
	Emeline Brown, . . .	18 Cheapside st.	*	15
23	Hannah Brown, . . .	do.	15	19

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Sept. 20	Nathaniel Ward,	20 Cheapside-street,	.	Sept. 17	21
	Catharine Bayley,	do.	.	15	21
	Murtagh Byrne,	124 Fly-Market,	.		20
	Amelia Wilcox,	66 Pine-street,	.		20
	Patty Benthuyesen,	124 Washington-street,	.		20
21	Reuben Bunn,	60 William-street,	.	*	24
	Sophia Bunn,	do.	.	*	
	Miss Ward,	22 Cheapside-street,	.		22
22	John Conklin,	177 Fulton-street,	.	17	22
	John Biterman,	Sugarhouse, Liberty-street,	155 Crosby-street,		23
	John Haywood,	138 Water-street,	.	16	23
	Isaac Hadley,	Broad, near Stone-street,	107 Molt-street,	20	
	Richard Scott,	Had frequented Maiden-lane,	122 Bancker-street,	*	
	Mary Mosier,	125 Bancker-street,	.	*	
	Mrs. Fraitus,	Cor. Pearl and State streets.	Bloomingdale,		22
	Harman Hautman,	Sugar-house, Liberty-street,	117 Forsyth-street,		25
	Daughter of C. Wilcox,	66 Pine-street,	Removed from 18 Broadway,	*	
	Wife of C. Wilcox,	do.	do.	15	19
	Daughter of B. Wilcox	do.	do.		
23	Henry Brush,	Had frequented the district,	Cor. Cherry and Pelham sts.	22	
	Moses Randolph,	Was at cor of Nassau & John,	14 Thomas-street,	22	
	Ann Smith,	Liberty-street,	Corner Cherry and Walnut sts.		24
	Peggy Watts,	23 Broad-street,		22	

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Sept. 23	John Murphy, . . .	48 Pearl-street,	99 Vesey-street,	Sept. 13	Sept. 22	
	Martin Earl, . . .	Had frequented the district,	do.	*	29	
	Marcus Earle, . . .	do.	148 Orange-street,	21	*	
	<i>Phillis Croger</i> , . . .	16 Cheapside-street,	Staten-Island,	22	*	
	Clara Morris, . . .	15 Chapel-street,	do.			
	John Cowen, . . .	Murray-st. near the river,				
	John T. Varian, . . .	67 Water-street,				
	Elizabeth Pike, . . .	96 Water street,				
	24	Mrs. (name suppressed),	Cor. Courtlandt & Greenwich	Bushwick, Long-Island,	*	22
		Mrs. (do.) . . .	Had been down Broadway,	do.	*	23
Alexander Murray, . . .		35 Maiden-lane,	City of Jersey,	20		
Eliza Holloway, . . .		113 Chamber-st.	Said she had not been lower down			
<i>Daniel C. Hopkins</i> , . . .		Lewis, near Delaney-street,	Had only been to Pike-street,	20	*	
Mary Mingay, . . .		3 State-street,	69 Cliff-street,	21	*	
Victor Bicker, . . .		68 Beaver-street,	Staten Island,			
Mrs. T. Allen, . . .		Duane-st. near Broadway,	Hoboken, New-Jersey,	21		
25		Robert Williams, . . .	Had frequented the district,	Staten Island,	23	*
		Frederick Wysz, . . .	11 Dutch-street,	do.	23	
	Andrew Murray, . . .	33 Nassau-street,		24	*	
	John Johnson, . . .	do.				
	Sarah Claar, . . .	Had been in the district,	75 Cherry-street,	20		
	Mrs. <i>E. Bayley</i> , . . .	Nursed at 12 Cheapside-st.	Staten Island,	23		
	Miss <i>E. Bayley</i> , . . .	do.		do.	24	
						30

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Sept. 25	Gilbert H. Rodgers,	336 Pearl-street,	6 Lewis st.	Sept. 27	27
26	John Smith,	Carted tan in district,	131 Delancy st.	Sept. 24	26
	Andrew Gaillaig,	74 Coffee-house slip,	Staten Island,	24 *	27
	William Winslow,	Had been in the district,	Brooklyn, Long Island,	23 *	28
	Rebecca Whelan,	8 Birmingham st.	do.	* *	26
	William Gantier's son,	63 Nassau street,	Staten Island,	* *	25
	Henry Armstrong,	163 Washington st.	do.	19	13
	John Williams,	29 Lombardy street,	do.	9	22
	Andrew Dickson,	15 Water street,	Brooklyn, Long Island,	* *	24
	Samuel M. Isaacs,	42 Washington st.	do.	* *	24
	John Davis,	do.	do.	* *	28
	Nicholas Baisley,	Had been in the district,	do.	* *	25
	Matthew Pope,	do.	do.	* *	17
27	James Ransom,	Was at fire in Catharine st.	470 Grand street,	* *	24
	Sarah Caldwell,	30 Water st.	547 Greenwich st.	* *	28
	Jacob Freeland,	Catharine, op'site Cheapside	3 Varick street,	* *	27
	Isabella Bulkley,	31 Cheapside st.	39 Bancker street,	* *	29
	Ann Dickson,	15 Water st.	Staten Island,	* *	24
	Ann Smith,	6 John st.	West Chester,	* *	24
	John Robinson,	Water st.	do.	* *	28
	A lad, (name unknown.)	42 Broad st.	do.	* *	27
28	Harriet Woodhull,	35 Maiden lane,	6 White street,	* *	29
	Margaret Scott,	60 Broad st.	Staten Island,	* *	29

Date of Report.	PERSONS NAMES.	Place of Residence in the Sickly Districts, &c.	Place of Residence, or of Removal, out of Sickly Districts.	Day on which they sickened.	Day on which they died.
Sept. 28	Margaret Cowan,	Residence unknown,	Staten Island,	Oct. *	3
	Gustavus Du Clare,	Ship Elb,	.	*	
28	No case reported,	.	.	.	
30	Solomon Day,	Watchman,	Washington, near Charlton st.	Sept. 26	
	Miss Murphy,	51 Pearl-street,	Kip's Bay,	29 *	
	Mary M'Laughlin,	10 Dutch-street,	.	29 *	
	James M'Curdy,	3 Moore-street,	.	29 *	
	<i>Perry Brown,</i>	11 Chesnut-street,	Was in the upper district,	*	
	Abraham Warner,	41 Beaver-street,	Woodbridge, New-Jersey,	Sept. 30	
	Alfred Brightly,	80 Water-street,	.	30	
	Polly Haywood,	138 do.	.	30	
	<i>John Ladda,</i>	28 Lombardy,	.	30	
Oct. 1	No case reported,	.	.	29 Oct.	5
2	John Hull,	50 Pearl-street,	A day and night watch,	30	5
	Nancy Hull,	do.	.	*	
	Margaret Rich,	66 Pine-street,	Staten Island,	*	
	Nicholas Gevlot,	44 Maiden-lane,	do.	*	
3	<i>Moses Ward,</i>	Had frequented upper district	Cor. Water & Scammel streets,	•	3
	Mr. Cochrane,	Cor. of John and Gold sts.	.		
	<i>James Philmore,</i>	Front, near Walnut-street,	Had worked at Gouverneur-st.	28	3
4	Laura Lawler,	50 Pearl-street,	.	2 *	
	Edward Kerney,	do.	.	2 *	
5	Mary Page,	12 Ferry-street,	Had not been from home,		5

Date of Report	PERSONS NAMES.	Place of Residence in the Sickly Districts, &c.	Place of Residence, or of Removal, out of Sickly Districts.	Day on which they sickened.	Day on which they died.
Oct. 5	Joseph Jones,	19 Garden-street,	.	3	*
	William Thomas,	97 William-street,	.	*	
	Elisha Harris,	1 Old-slip,	New-Canaan, Connecticut,	Oct.	8
	Catharine Dempsey,	88 Front-street,	.		1
	John Polhemus,	Day watchman,	Green, near Broome st.		4
	Philip Garnis,	do.	16 James st.		5
6	<i>Letty Farly,</i>	28 Lombardy-street,	.	1	*
7	John Voorhies,	Cor. John and Nassau-street,	.	*	*
	James Voorhies,	do.	.	*	*
	William Roberts, jun.	39 Maiden-lane,	.	*	*
	Mrs. Hutchings,	do.	.	*	*
	<i>Agur Beach,</i>	496 Grand street,	Had not been in the districts,	3	7
	James Morril,	Carted in the district,	7 Ludlow street,	1	6
	James White,	10 Dutch street,	.		7
	John Garland,	49 Water street,	Staten Island,		7
8	Mrs. Lyon,	11 Ann street,	.	5	7
	Sarah Ketchum,	29 Gold street,	.		6
	Josiah Baisdon,	168 Water street,	.		7
9	John Stroebel,	Had frequented the district,	44 Nassau street,	4	16
	James Thompson,	Horse-driver, Alms-house,	15 Augustus st.	*	
	Mrs. Davenport,	Residence unknown,	.		15
	Henry P. White,	Had been in the district,	69 Frankfort street,	3	10
	Ebenezer T. Grant,	do.	205 William street,	4	10

Date of Report.	PERSONS NAMES.	Place of Residence in the Sickly Districts, &c.	Place of Residence, or of Removal, out of Sickly District.	Day on which they sickened.	Day on which they died.
Oct. 9	John Brisland, Mrs. Mount,	343 Water street, 60 William street, Had been low as Franklin sq	Worked along shore, Broome street, Bloomingdale,	*	Oct. 7
10	Mr. Kerr, Elizabeth Skinner, Michael Morris,	35 Lombardy street, Hackdriver, 125 Anthony st.	Staten-Island, 18 Spring street,	*	10
11	Joel Hodges, Bryant Farley, Edward Ragen, Catharine Dailey,	Cartman, (no case.) 28 Lombardy street, do. do. Cor. Front and Depeyster st	Remittant fever, 19 Cross street, Staten Island,	*	10
12	Patrick Phelan,	Employed to distribute lime,	19 Cross street,	7	14
13	Mary Laidly,	28 Lombardy street,	Staten Island,	*	12
14	John Dempsey,	88 Front street,	Staten Island,	*	11
15	Jane Wareham, Thomas Stevens, Anthony Verhoef, Thomas Pearson,	67 Water st. 69 William street, 2 Water st. 105 William street, do.	Was a private watchman,	*	15
16	Dennis Mahony, Christian Nestell,	31 Catharine st. 118 Bancker st.	33 Allen street,	10	16
17	George Whitty, Lorenzo Wendelker, Samuel Reed, Mary Kirk,	Sugar-house, Liberty st. A city watchman, 90 Bancker st.	263 Mott street, 115 Cherry street, Cor. Vesey and Washington sts.	11	16
17				*	17

Date of Report.	PERSONS NAMES.	Place of Residence in the Sickly Districts, &c.	Place of Residence, or of Removal, out of Sickly Districts.	Day on which they sickened.	Day on which they died.
Oct. 17	Isabella Blakeley, <i>James Witty,</i>	Cor. Vesey & Wash'gton-st.	. . . . .	Oct.	18
	Joseph Curiel,	118 Bancker-street,	. . . . .		17
	Martin Keough,	349 Water-street.	Worked along shore,		18
	Abraham Ball,	343 do.	Worked at the foot of Dover st.		18
	David Withson,	67 do.	. . . . .		16
	<i>Ann Thorburn,</i>	116 Broadway,	. . . . .		16
	Etienne Vidal,	96 Catharine-street,	. . . . .		15
18	Robert Smith,	32 William-street.	. . . . .		19
	John Freeman,	349 Water-street,	Worked along shore,		20
	Jane M'Cartney,	343 do.	do.	*	*
	Christopher Burns,	45½ Nassau-street,	. . . . .		18
	William Nettle,	48 Pearl-street,	. . . . .		23
19	Israel Eldred,	50 do.	Staten Island,	Oct. 12	19
	Patrick Denn,	Visited Rector-st. 6th Oct.	Bloomingdale,		22
	Warren Thompson,	Was at 94 Broadway,	62 Barclay-street,		
	<i>Mary Clark,</i>	Had frequented the district,	Cor. Greenwich & Barclay sts.	*	20
	<i>Elizabeth Cranford,</i>	31 Lombardy-street,	217 Chapel-street,		20
	<i>Clarissa Chappeau,</i>	128 Bancker-street,	. . . . .		20
	Andrew Phelan,	do.	. . . . .		19
	Elizabeth Ball,	Cor. Front & Depeyster-st.	Staten-Island,	*	
	<i>Catharine Wclsh,</i>	67 Water street,	do.		
20	Mary Richards,	Had frequented Lombardy-st.	. . . . .	*	21
		45½ Nassau street,	. . . . .	

Date of Report.	PERSONS NAMES.	Place of Residence in the Sickly Districts, &c.	Place of Residence, or of Removal, out of Sickly Districts.	Day on which they sickened.	Day on which they died.
Oct. 20	William Gordon,	Cor. John & William-sts.	Had returned from the country,	*	22
	Abigail Bradford,	West, near Vesey-street,	.	*	22
	Alexander Rankin,	48 Pearl-street,	.	Oct.	24
	No case reported,	.	48 Spring-street,	*	24
	Sally Walker,	67 Water-street,	.	*	24
	Mathew Ferguson,	37 Lombardy-street,	Canal, corner Greenwich-st.	*	23
	Sophia Farfer,	Was twice thro' Broadway,	.	*	23
	Catharine Jones,	7 Cheapside-street,	.	*	23
	Alexander Butler,	Water, near Catharine-st.	Staten Island,	Oct.	23
	Hannah Carpenter,	51 Water-street,	.	19	23
	Hannah M ^r Norton,	do.	.	21	23
	Henrietta Jones,	7 Cheapside-street,	.	21	23
	William Sargeant,	3 Moore-street,	.	22	23
	No cases reported,	.	.	*	30

The following Cases were not Reported to the Board. They all sickened, however, except John Macord, previous to the 26th October, the day on which the Board of Health adjourned.

Date of Report.	PERSONS NAMES.	Place of Residence in the Sickly Districts, &c.	Place of Residence, or of Removal, out of Sickly Districts.	Day on which they sickened	Day on which they died.
Oct. 27	Josiah Murray, . . .	26 Front-street, . . .	. . . . .	. . . . .	Oct. 27
	Samuel Devoe, . . .	19 Water st. . . . .	. . . . .	. . . . .	27
28	Thomas Bower, . . .	7 Ferry st. . . . .	. . . . .	. . . . .	28
	Mary Carrol, . . .	Pike-st. . . . .	. . . . .	. . . . .	28
29	Marston Lawrence, . . .	Found sick in the street, . . .	. . . . .	. . . . .	28
	Catharine Kelly, . . .	Old-slip, . . . . .	. . . . .	. . . . .	29
	Susan Archard, . . .	Residence unknown, . . .	. . . . .	. . . . .	29
30	Henry Goodrich, . . .	68 Vesey-st. . . . .	. . . . .	. . . . .	30
	John Reed,	Grand st. . . . .	. . . . .	. . . . .	30
31	Henry G. Wendle, . . .	Pike-st. . . . .	. . . . .	. . . . .	31
	Belarmine Leland, . . .	Water st. . . . .	. . . . .	. . . . .	31
Nov. 4	John Macord,	Residence unknown, . . .	. . . . .	. . . . .	Nov. 4

NOTE. The Names printed in *italics*, are those who contracted the disease in Cheapside and Lombardy streets, and their vicinity, usually designated as the Upper District.

Those who recovered from the effects of the disease, are marked thus, (*) opposite their names in the last column.

A number of the cases were reported after the death of the persons had occurred; some of them several days after the event happened.

The following Communications were addressed to the Board of Health, during the sickness of eighteen hundred and twenty-two, and are selected in addition to those in the body of the work, from a great number of similar import, as claiming the most interest; and also, as specimens of the various methods proposed by the gentlemen of the faculty, for the extermination of the supposed cause of the epidemic with which we were afflicted.

NEW-YORK, AUGUST 27, 1822.

To the President of the Board of Health of New-York,

SIR,

Your attention having been lately called to the pyroligneous acid, as the means of destroying contagion; permit me to state my opinions respecting its utility. Rely upon it, pyroligneous acid may do very well to wash down the infected walls of a house or hospital; but you must either be at an enormous expense, if you attempt to destroy the contagion of Yellow Fever, as it now exists in the city, or you will fail in your attempt. We are in possession of far greater antiseptics than it. One ounce of lunar caustic, put into twelve thousand ounces of water, will keep it from putrifying for ever. I however, merely mention this as a fact, without having the slightest intention of recommending its being used on the present occasion. There is still one means of destroying contagion, which I do most sincerely recommend to you, and that is muriatic acid gas. I appeal to every man of science, and physician in the city, that muriatic acid gas coming plentifully in contact with contagion destroys it. I admit, however, that while few will dispute its power when shut up in a house, many a one will be a good deal sceptical of its application out of doors. I also grant, that in the open air, its power of destroying contagion owing to its diffusing itself through the air would be greatly diminished. But in fumigating the gutters, (for they, and not the streets are the true source of contagion,) a very simple contrivance will prevent the muriatic acid

gas from passing into the atmosphere. I shall merely point out the principle. A piece of the very coarsest calico painted on both sides, of a sufficient breadth, is to be extended along the gutters, as far as you please, held down on each side of the gutter, by bricks placed on it at small distances. This would for a mere trifle, form a complete awning, under which, pots containing common salt, and sulphuric acid poured over it might be placed, to give out the muriatic acid gas. In the infected district where the houses are shut up, the same mode of fumigation should be had recourse to. In streets and houses still occupied, nitre might be substituted for the salt; and in laying down the awning along the gutters, indeed during the whole of the process, those employed in carrying it into effect, should be surrounded with nitric acid gas, as it can be safely breathed. This subject is of the very highest importance, and deserves your serious consideration, while this plan if properly conducted, would in a few days eradicate the Yellow Fever from the city.

I am sir, your most obedient servant,

ROBERT MUTER, M. D.

To the Board of Health of the City of New-York.

The Board of Health having evinced a desire to receive the suggestions of medical men and others in relation to the means of arresting the progress of the prevailing fever, and being about to make experiments, if I am rightly informed, with the pyroligneous acid, and the oxymuriatic acid gas. I beg leave to offer a few remarks on the subject.

The noxious emanations by whatsoever term they may be designated must either arise from the surface of the earth or from some substances in a state of decomposition above it, and from whichever of these sources they may derive their origin, it would appear evident that the supply of them must be great, because their influence has pervaded a large extent of atmosphere.

Placed in the responsible stations of guardians of the public health at this period of calamity, the Board of Health will no doubt deem it a duty to guard against every possible source of danger, and will not be satisfied to provide against those causes of disease which any one of the conflicting theories may contemplate. With these views of what the public expect of them, it will occur to the Board, that if, as some believe, the unknown something which causes the disease arise from the surface of the earth and mix itself with the atmosphere, it must in a greater or less degree be subject to all the locomotive changes which that atmosphere is constantly undergoing. It must rise when the air in which it is diffused is lighter than that which surrounds it, and vice-versa; and it must be carried along horizontally by every current of the air in which it floats. The tenacity with which this substance retains its noxious power, may be judged of by reflecting on the distance at which a foul vessel and other acknowledged centres of pestilential exhalation have excited the disease. Some cases in point mentioned by Dr. Bailey as occurring at Staten Island two years since, and others with which the Board must be acquainted might be cited if necessary.

Now if the corrective powers of the oxymuriatic acid gas be admitted to the full extent of what is contended for them, (and they have not been fully tested, so far as I am aware, except in connection with ventilation and cleansing,) still it would appear utterly impossible for it to be furnished in such quantities and so unremittingly, as to mix itself with and neutralize every infectious emanation that is rising from the earth diffusing itself through the atmosphere. Moreover such a general fumigating process would render the district uninhabitable. An atmosphere highly charged with oxymuriatic acid gas cannot be breathed with impunity. If in connection with this fact we consider that no fumigating process of this kind can have the slightest tendency to prevent or arrest the escape of noxious emanations from the earth, it is difficult to conceive what possible advantage can be derived from it. If the Board believe or deem it right to

consult the feelings of those who do believe that the cause of the disease emanates from the earth, I can conceive of no effectual means of arresting it, except covering the surface from which it is supposed to emanate with some impermeable substance, as a coat of mortar, sheet-lead, tarpauling or something of the kind. Probably the statement of what is expected from the material to be employed will suggest to others something preferable to either of the articles enumerated.

I am not prepared to recommend the adoption of either of these plans. I trust the inadequacy of the oxymuriatic acid gas, to correct noxious emanations from the earth has been made evident from the preceding remarks, and that some one may suggest the material that will answer the purpose.

With respect to the use of the Pyroligneous acid for the same purpose, it is evident that it has this advantage over the former plan, that it acts on the source of the pestilence and not on the atmosphere which is its vehicle, and to judge how far it might be advantageously employed it may be proper to inquire first, what evidence there is of its powers, supposing it to be capable of being directly applied to the noxious materials, and next what probability there is that it can be so applied in a way that will be cheap and practicable. If it be probable that noxious vapours arise from the surface of the earth, I hold it to be almost equally evident that they are not generated at or near the surface. Heat, moisture and decomposable animal and vegetable substances are acknowledged to be necessary for their production and the heat must not only be considerable but of several weeks duration. Yet the surface of the ground is heated probably by one weeks heat, especially if it be intense, as much or more than by many weeks of heat a little more moderate. On the other hand several weeks of cold (quite sufficient to reduce the surface of the earth below the temperature acknowledged to be necessary for the production of the disease) has little apparent effect in checking its progress, even when accompanied by heavy and cold rains; all which and other circumstances that might be mentioned, go to show that the sources of the

exhalation are deep in the earth, and probably beyond the reach of any reasonable quantity of pyroligneous acid.

It will be seen that the objection to the use of the oxymuriatic acid gas and to the pyroligneous acid which I have offered, do not apply to the use of the former in stores or vessels supposed to be infected, and of the latter to sinks and privies; but I venture to express my conviction that no means will be found adequate, that do not cover the surface of the earth, and I might add the sides of the wharves with a material impermeable to air, and that no ship or store containing infectious materials should be considered safe even after the most thorough fumigation, without long continued ventilation and repeated cleansings with lime and pearl ashes in the manner usually practised.

Respectfully submitted,

ALEXANDER H. STEVENS.

Warren-street, 28th Aug. 1822.



NEW-YORK, SEPTEMBER 3, 1822.

Hon. Stephen Allen, President of the Board of Health.

SIR,

To the many able communications recommending means to suppress pestilential effluvia, the addition of the following remarks, I trust, will not be deemed irrelevant or obtrusive.

If we admit the noxious miasmata to be the product of putrefaction, we naturally advert to the class of antiseptics for correctives. Although the admission of this principle may be contested, I shall not attempt to provoke a discussion, that can have no other tendency than to involve the subject in deeper obscurity. While the infectious matter is too subtle for analysis in the operation of chemical agents, no one can doubt the efficacy of means to destroy the source from which it emanates. It is equally apparent that the pyroligneous acid, possesses these highly antiseptic properties for which it has been recommended. In the

instances of its failure, therefore, it probably never reached the source of putrefaction, or was too deficient in quantity or duration to produce its well known effects. To be successful it must be applied in quantities sufficient to penetrate deep beneath the surface, until its contact with the putrifying materials has been well ascertained. For this purpose it should be frequently repeated, and at times when it is least liable to evaporation.

Pulverised charcoal, is also an antiseptic, perhaps not inferior to the acid, and possesses the additional advantage of greater permanency, and consequently of more durable action upon the putrescent materials.

Lime and ashes are useful to purify from filth, and ought therefore to be liberally used in every part of the city, to prevent other emanations from giving additional virulence to the infection already in the atmosphere.

Although fumigations of oxymuriatic acid cannot operate upon the putrescent materials on or beneath the surface, they are important to purify the superincumbent atmosphere, and are useful auxiliaries to other means. In devising means to arrest the fever, I find no one deriving any benefit from these operations of nature, which she has often proved to be effectual. Frost is the great sheet anchor of all our hopes. May not this natural process be successfully imitated by covering the infectious surface with ice? If frost operates by merely obstructing the degree of heat necessary to perpetuate putrefaction, and to elevate its product into the atmosphere, this substitute on a limited scale, aided by refrigerating chemical agents, might be rendered equally successful, particularly if applied during a cold night. It certainly deserves consideration

In proposing these corrective measures, I am aware of the objections usually urged of the extent of the infectious district, the consequent expense, and the uncertainty of success. All these should never be urged, even admitting their cogency, in competition with the great benefit to be derived from their success. Ample remuneration would be found in the preservation of life, the restoration of business and prosperity to the city, and the certainty of possess-

ing a preventive against the recurrence of similar calamities. But I contend the objections are destitute of validity. The origin of the fever and its exclusive limitation for a fortnight to a small space near the foot of Rector-street, prove incontestably that the source of all the infection, now so extensively diffused, is confined to this neighbourhood. It is probably circumscribed by Greenwich-street, Carlisle-street, and the North River, and the alley on the south.

If the experiments are effectually and speedily made upon this space, I have no doubt that it will immediately arrest the progress of Yellow Fever deriving origin from this source. But if it be permitted to continue and to extend its poisonous effluvia, they may in time incorporate with other putrifying materials, and by assimilating with their products, diffuse their pestiferous virulence to every part of the city.

In this communication I have merely exhibited a condensed view of my ideas, and avoided a detailed discussion which cannot conduce to any profitable result.

I have the honor to be

Very respectfully,

Your obedient servant,

JOHN STEARNS.



GRAVESEND, SEPTEMBER 9, 1822.

*The Hon. Stephen Allen, President of the Board of Health
of the City of New-York.*

SIR,

Having seen in the papers two or three plans to destroy miasmata in the infected district, by washing the streets, permit me to submit the following facts to your consideration. I was taken prisoner last war and sent to the Dartmoor depot, where I was attached to the hospital department; under each wing of the hospital were a number of vaults, occupied as repositories for the clothes of sick and

dead prisoners, old hammocks, rugs, &c. On a particular occurrence they were ordered to be cleared out; the men selected for that duty on entering the vaults found the air so very impure, that they were compelled to make a precipitate retreat, they complained of giddiness, impeded respiration, and to use their own words, they felt as if there were balls in their throats. The vaults were fumigated with nitre and nitric acid, and subsequently with nitre and sulphuric acid; after which the decaying contents were removed with perfect safety. One range of vaults was abundantly washed, the air in that range remained damp and deleterious, while in the other range, the air after fumigation was innoxious. From my observations in crowded prisons, prison ships, and hospitals, I am decidedly of opinion, that to purify impure or infected air, fumigation will do it more effectually than water or any solution; when the wind is from any point between north or west, fumigating vessels might be placed at the foot of Rector and other streets, and the wind would carry the vapours up and through the intersecting streets; or the vessels placed in the cellars of houses deemed infected, I believe with decided benefit. During the time I was attached to the hospital, small pox, pneumonia, and typhus were prevalent; a great number of the prisoners were vaccinated, and it is an incontrovertible fact, that not one who had been vaccinated, was attacked while the system was under the influence of the vaccine by the prevailing disorders; but several who had pneumonia, were vaccinated, when the disease assumed a milder form, and was more under the control of medicine. Whether vaccination would act as a preventive of the Malignant Fever now in New-York, or not, or that it could be introduced into the system of a fever patient, I do not pretend to say, but I think no bad results would arise from a trial.

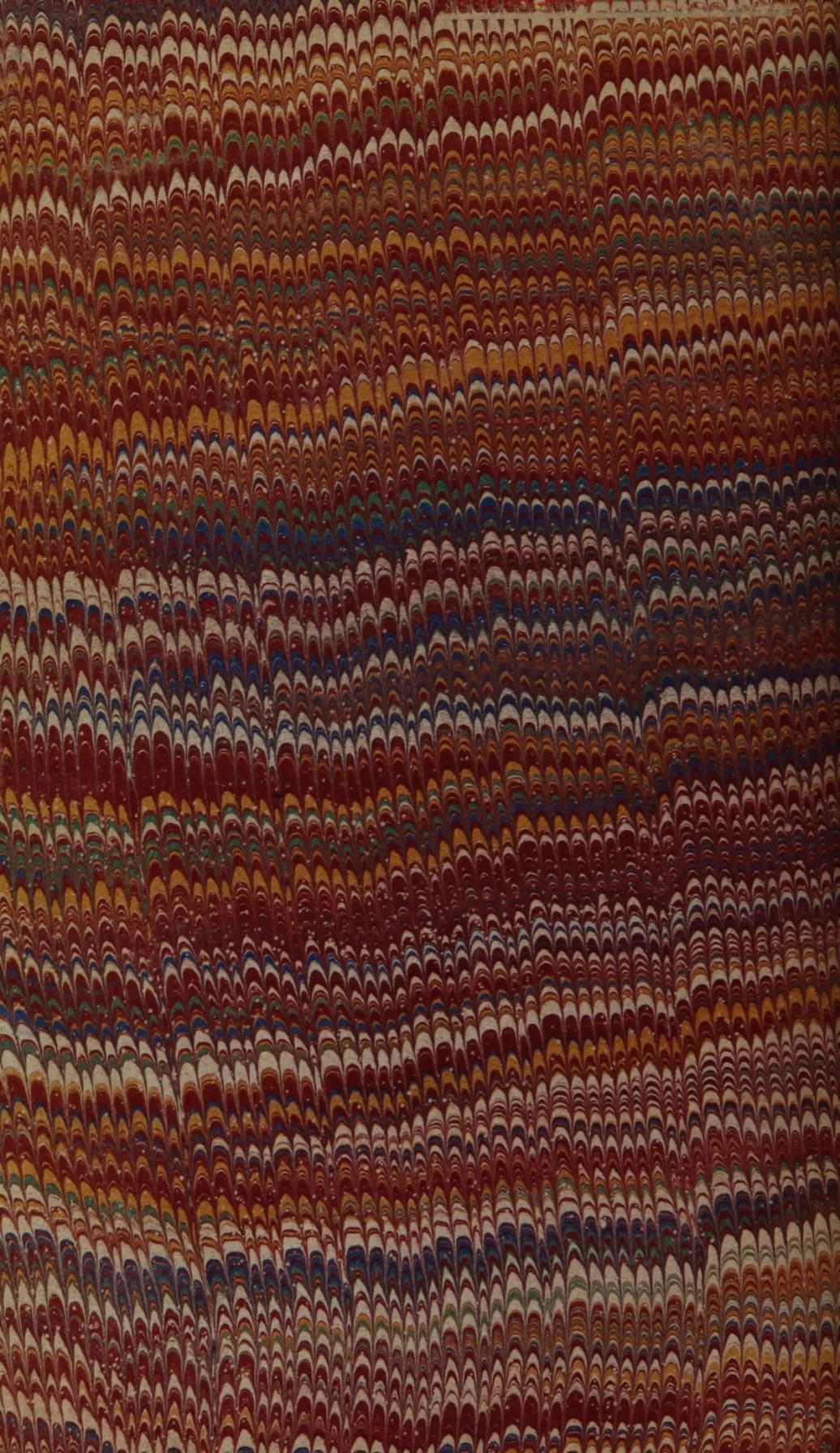
I have the honor to be

Sir, your obedient servant,

BENJAMIN MERCER.

GRAVESEND, LONG-ISLAND.

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