

matter in solution, was the remote cause of the heavy mortality which swept away, in a few days, one-half the inhabitants of the square."

After an elaborate examination of the cause of the dreadful loss of life occasioned by the outbreak of cholera in Albion-terrace, Wandsworth-road, Mr. Grant, the Assistant Surveyor of the Metropolitan Sewers Commission, says, "Whatever other influences may have existed in causing this excessive mortality, I cannot for the reasons stated avoid coming to the conclusion, that the contamination of the water, with which the terrace was supplied, was one prominent element."

It appears, that on the 26th of July (the first case of cholera occurring on the 27th) a very sudden and heavy fall of rain occurred; this seems either to have caused the drains to overflow into the tanks, or to have burst the drains or cesspools, the contents of which flowed partly into the tanks. "The samples of water taken from the tanks," says Mr. Grant, "require but to be looked at and smelled to satisfy any one of their contamination, which seems clearly to have taken place after the water left the spring." Among the results of a more careful examination made by Dr. Snow, a medical gentleman who has taken considerable interest in this case, the following is one:—"The large bottle labelled No. 7, contains black semi-fluid matter, possessing very distinctly the odour of privy soil. On proceeding to open the bottle, as soon as the cork was disturbed, it was driven violently out, together with part of the contents, by the gases resulting from the putrefaction going on. There was sulphuretted hydrogen among the gases. Several substances that escape digestion were found in the contents of this bottle—as currants, grape-stones, and portions of the epidermis, or thin outer covering of fruits and vegetables; and another material that enters privies was found, namely, little bits of paper."

"The fatal effects of impure water at such a time as the present," adds Mr. Grant, "appears to be confirmed by another remarkable case of excessive mortality lately reported by me in Surrey Buildings, where in one court 10 or 11 persons died in one week of cholera, and in the adjoining court the people remained in health, the only apparent difference in the two courts being that in the first is a well in which foul water was admitted, and in the other there was not."

Some of these deplorable results have happened partly in consequence of want of due care, and partly from the small extent of the supply afforded. It might seem almost out of place to recommend that water which smells or tastes offensively should not be used; and yet there is reason to fear that the use of such water has occasioned fatal attacks of cholera during the present epidemic season. The leakage of privies, cesspools, or sewers, even in very small quantities, is known to render well-water poisonous.

In other cases, however, the retention of the ordinary water supply in cisterns or other vessels, so as to expose it to the absorption of unwholesome exhalations, renders the water unfit for use after a short period of time. Hence the urgent necessity, at a season like the present, of affording daily supplies of water, especially to the poorer districts, where, from the great contamination of the atmosphere, the water which is exposed to it becomes rapidly vitiated. Hence also the necessity of the very frequent emptying and cleansing the cisterns, and the importance of not retaining for any length of time the water that is used for domestic purposes in open vessels in courts or yards, or in living or sleeping rooms. When there is reason to suspect that the water, though not in any way offensive to the senses, may yet

contain impurities, the simple process of boiling it and allowing it to cool, will materially improve its wholesomeness, by throwing down much of the impurity in the form of sediment.

The over-crowded state of many of the dwellings of the poor renders the subject of ventilation one of more than usual importance at the present time. After all practicable measures of cleansing have been carried out, the atmosphere in small close apartments, as where single families live and sleep in one small room, is rapidly vitiated. Under such circumstances considerable and immediate relief may be given by a plan suggested by Dr. Arnott, of taking a brick out of the wall near the ceiling of the room, so as to open a direct communication between the room and the chimney. Any occasional and temporary inconvenience from down drafts will be more than compensated by the beneficial results of this simple ventilating process.

The General Board of Health, in another Notification relating to the Burial Grounds of the Metropolis, have explained the grounds on which they have proceeded, in conformity with the terms of the Act, to direct the temporary closure of particular grave yards.

By Order of the General Board of Health,
HENRY AUSTIN,
Secretary.

September 18, 1849.

NOTICE is hereby given, that a separate building, named Albert-place Chapel, situated at Albert-place, in the township of Little Bolton, in the county of Lancaster, in the district of Bolton Union, being a building certified according to law as a place of religious worship, was, on the 11th day of September 1849, duly registered for solemnizing marriages therein, pursuant to the Act of 6th and 7th Wm. IV., cap. 85.

Witness my hand this 15th day of September 1849.

John Woodhouse, Superintendent Registrar.

In the Matter of the Joint Stock Companies' Winding-up Act, 1848, and of the Tring, Reading, and Basingstoke Railway Company, Bankrupt.

BY direction of Richard Richards, Esq. the Master of the High Court of Chancery charged with the winding up of this Company, notice is hereby given, that the said Master will proceed, on the 9th and 10th days of November next, at twelve o'clock at noon, at his chambers, in Southampton-buildings, Chancery-lane, London, to settle the list of contributories of this Company; and that, after such list shall have been settled, no party affected thereby will be allowed to dispute the same without leave of the High Court of Chancery first obtained.

R. Richards.

CONTRACTS for SALT PORK of the CURE of the UNITED KINGDOM, or of any FOREIGN COUNTRY WHATSOEVER.

Department of the Comptroller for Victualling and Transport Services, Somerset-Place, July 30, 1849.

THE Commissioners for executing the office of Lord High Admiral of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Ireland do hereby give notice, that, on Thursday the 27th September next, at one o'clock, they will be ready to treat with such