Facts and Observations,

RELATIVE TO

THE ORIGIN, PROGRESS AND NATURE

OF THE

F E V E R,

WHICH PREVAILED IN CERTAIN PARTS OF THE CITY AND DISTRICTS

OF PHILADELPHIA,

In the summer and autumn of the present year, (1802.)

BY WILLIAM CURRIE & ISAAC CATHRALL.

TO WHICH IS ADDED,

A SUMMARY

OF THE RISE AND PROGRESS OF THE DISEASE

IN WILMINGTON,

COMMUNICATED BY

DR. E. A. SMITH & DR. JOHN VAUGHAN,

OF THAT BOROUGH.

Philadelphia:

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1802.

Facts and Observations, &c.

IMPRESSED with a sense of the great importance that it would be to the citizens of Philadelphia, to ascertain the origin of a disease of which several persons had died in the early part of July, in the vicinity of Vine-street wharf, at a time when every other part of the City and Liberties was not only unusually healthy, but more particularly free from any fever with malignant symptoms; We agreed to unite our best endeavours to discover the cause of the mortality which had taken place, and had excited the apprehensions of the citizens.

For this purpose we inspected and examined the docks, wharves, streets and yards, in that neighbourhood, but without discovering any cause to which a disease so violent in its symptoms, so rapid in its progress, and so generally fatal in its termination, could, with any degree of probability be referred. We learned, however, in the course of our researches, that a ship, called the St. Domingo Packet, which had lately arrived from Cape Francois, and had come to at the second wharf above Vine-street, had lost some hands of the yellow fever in the West-Indies, and on her passage home; and that one of the carpenters who worked on board of a brig called the Esperanza, which laid in the adjoining dock, was one of the first victims to the disease.

We have also since learned, that three boatmen and a storekeeper, from Sherlock's mills, on the river Delaware, above Easton, had been under the necessity of crossing the St. Domingo Packet, to put some goods purchased at the store of Messrs. Thomas and Shreeves, on board their boat, and that two of the boatmen and the storekeeper were soon after attacked with unequivocal symptoms of the malignant yellow fever, of which two of them died, and one recovered. The names of the boatmen were John Simon, Elhannan Price, and John Hambleton; that of the storekeeper, John W. Cotanch. [For the testimony respecting these facts, see the appendix, No. 1, 2, and 3.]

From an account, dated July 19th, published in several newspapers of this city, by William Davidson, who had gone out master of the St. Domingo Packet, it appears, that this vessel was placed under a guard at the Cape, on the 11th of April, consisting of a coporal and six privates, and that captain Davidson was imprisoned till the 29th of the same month, when he was released, and returned to the ship, and found the same guard on board and the same number of seamen as when he left it, all apparently in good health. Ten days after this, captain Davidson left the island by order of Gen. Le Clerc, and came to the United States in another vessel. The day after he left the ship he says, (and he refers to letters from merchants and to the ship's log-book for proof of his assertion) the guard was removed, and the crew proceeded to take on board the remainder of her cargo, &c. which they completed by the 10th of May. Mr. Bender the mate, then began to clear the ship out, but while he was in the custom-house, performing that duty, he was taken ill, and immediately repaired on board, where he continued sick four days, and died on the 14th of May.

Mr. White, a passenger, who had gone out in the ship, was taken ill on board the 11th, and died on the 15th of May.

The steward complained soon after this, of being unwell, but continued to do duty while the ship remained in that port.

The death of Mr. Bender detained the ship, for want of a master, until the 22d of May, when she sailed with a full complement of officers and seamen and nine passengers, and arrived at the Lazaretto on the 9th of June, having lost the steward six days before her arrival at the Lazaretto.

During her detention at the Lazaretto, one person was taken ill on board and sent to the Hospital, where he died; in consequence of which, the ship was detained five days longer, and then came up to the city, and hauled to at the second wharf above Vine-street, as already mentioned, on the 28th day of June, according to the date of the wharf-book.

In captain Davidson's statement it is said, there were nine passengers on board when the packet sailed for this port; but in the manifest delivered into the custom-house the name of only one passenger is mentioned. Did all the others die on the passage?

This manifest (of which we have a copy) also contains the name of Mr. Bender as reported on board, whom captain Davidson calls the mate, and who he says, died at the cape. How are these contradictory circumstances to be reconciled?

Did Mr. Wilburn who acted in the capacity of master on her homeward passage, refer to some of those passengers, when he pointed to certain parts of the cabin, in the presence of captain Davidson, and two other masters of vessels, on the 29th of June, the day after the arrival of the packet in the harbour of Philadelphia, and exclaimed, there one died, and there another? At the same interview, Mr. Wilburn mentioned that he had hard work to keep the people of the Lazaretto from white-washing the cabin, as well as between decks.

At the time the St. Domingo Packet came to the second wharf above Vine-street wharf, which is called Stewart's wharf, several persons were at work

on board a brig called the Esperanza, which had lain in port all winter, and was at this time so situated in the dock that her stern almost touched the starboard bow of the St. Domingo Packet. John Edwards, ship carpenter, who was the first victim to the yellow fever, was at that time at work in the stern of the brig Esperanza.

On Saturday the 3d of July the Packet was committed to the care of Mr. Norris, shipwright, to repair; and on the 6th of July, the day after the celebration of the anniversary of American Independence she was hove down, after which Mr. Norris and six hands were employed about her for several days, without being affected in any degree in their health.

John Edwards, who according to the testimony of Messrs. Mackason and Grice worked in the stern of the brig Esperanza, very near to the starboard bow of the St. Domingo Packet, [See appendix, No. 4.] was attacked with violent feverish symptoms on Sunday the 4th of July, and died on the 7th, having vomitted black matter the day before his decease, as we were informed by his sister-in-law, and the woman who nursed his widow, who was brought to bed a few days before his decease.

Immediately after the Packet came to the end of Stewart's wharf, on a line with Mr. William Brown's bake-house, which stands between the wharf and Water-street, Richard Essex, who was at work in the bake-house, called to John Crosly, a baker employed in the same bake-house, and told him Toussaint was come back; upon which he went down with him to the vessel, to see the image of the noted black general Toussaint, which she carried at her head. When they came near enough to see the figure, Crosly remarked that the black gentleman had turned white since they had seen him. The figure had been painted white in the Cape, to avoid giving offence to the French general. These men were well acquainted with the ship and some of the men, as she had laid at the same wharf for some time

before she sailed for the West-Indies last January. They visited her either on the 29th or 30th of June, at which time the sailors were employed in hoisting out hogsheads.

On the 4th of July, Crosly was attacked with a fever which terminated fatally on the 8th. Richard Essex was also attacked with fever a day or two later, but it terminated favourably in three or four days.

Wm. Draper, a sea boy belonging to the ship Maryland which left the wharf above Vine-street the 30th of June, and moved lower down, was attacked with fever on Monday the 5th of July, had the black vomitting on the 11th and died on the 12th. He was visited by Dr. Wistar, from whom we received this information.

Henry Miller, apprentice to Charles Bonnel in Vine-street, sometimes employed in carrying hoop poles to the wharf, was attacked on the 6th, and died on the 9th.

William West's black man, employed in a store very near to the Packet, was taken ill on the 6th of July, and recovered.

Samuel Thompson, employed in the stores of Starr and Thomas, on the north side of Vine-street wharf, was attacked July 7th and died on the 12th.—Richard Essex has declared that he saw Samuel Thompson on board the Packet soon after her arrival.

Two of Henry Apple's apprentices were taken ill also on the 7th but recovered.—John Joint, apprentice to Mr. Walter, hatter, was attacked on the 9th and died on the 14th, having vomitted a large quantity of black matter, the examination of which convinced us, that the disease was the pestilential or yellow fever with which we had been conversant in the years 1793, '97, '98 and '99.

The son of Mr. Brown, proprietor of the bake-house already mentioned;—James Essex, a boy whose occupation was to carry victuals from below the old play-house, to his father, while working in

Brown's bake-house;—John Whistler, another of Mr. Apple's apprentices; Messrs. Jeans and Parry, of the house of Jeans & Parry, whose store was near the wharf where the Packet laid, and John Vancleave, Esquire, a lawyer, who lived in Front near Vine-street, were all attacked with the fever on the 10th, and all died except Mr. Jeans, after a very short illness.

Mr. Parry mentioned to Mr. Gilliams, who bled him during his illness, that he had been on board the Packet.* It is also declared by Mr. John Service, that he saw Mr. Vancleave on board the same Packet also. We have satisfactory proof, that Mr. Livesly, a miller, who was taken ill with a fever, attended with very violent and alarming symptoms, had been on board for the purpose of chartering her. And that Jacob Bennet, who had been on board to engage the painting, was attacked on the 13th and was very ill, but recovered, as well as Mr. Livesly.

James Crosly, brother to John, also employed about Mr. Brown's bake-house, who visited his brother during his illness, was attacked with the fever on the 11th, and died in 47 hours.

The wife of a sailor from on board the Packet, near Vine-street wharf;—a woman at Mr. Samuel Garrigues, corner of Callowhill and Front-streets;—a woman opposite to the house of G. Budd, Esquire;—a boy at Mr. Bradford's, in Front above Vine;—one at William Brown's;—John Hughes and Mr. Pentland's boy, all complained of indisposition also on the 11th of July, but all recovered. A young woman at Roger Tage's tavern in Water-street, nearly opposite the wharf where the Packet laid, was taken ill the 12th and recovered.—Henry Stillwaggon, employed to repair a pump in William Brown's bake-house yard, on the 9th, was attacked on the 13th, and died on the 16th in Spring Garden.

* The fact of Mr. Parry's having been on board the Packet, has also been confirmed by his mother, and by Mr. Daniel Hughes, clerk to Mr. Knight, lumber merchant.

A boy belonging to Mr. George Abel, in the neighbourhood of Vine-street wharf, was attacked on the 13th, and died on the 19th.

Mr. Abel's child 4 years old, and his wife, were considerably indisposed a few days later, but recovered.

A servant girl at Mr. S. Garrigues was taken ill on the 15th of July, and several other persons in the vicinity of Vine, Callowhill and Water-streets, were taken ill with the fever about the middle of July, as will be seen by the annexed table.—Among these was Mrs. Gilbert, an English woman, who had visited John Joint, and washed his face with vinegar during his illness, not knowing the nature of the disease, and consequently unaware of the danger. She moved to the country when the neighbourhood had become alarmed, to escape the disease, but was seized with it on the 18th, was brought into the Northern Liberties ill on the 23d, and died the day following.

A treacherous pause, as is usual with contagious diseases, now took place between the time that the persons which had been first infected recovered or died, and the time that those sickened who had received the contagion from them.*

This circumstance gave the citizens the pleasing, but fallacious hope, that the disease had ceased, and was not contagious, and, if not contagious, that it would not revive. Its re-appearance however, and the rapid increase of fresh cases before the end of the month, convinced them of their mistake. On the 4th of August a Committee of Enquiry of the Board of Health, published an account that the disease had made considerable progress, and that the mortality had been very alarming since its re-appearance; though every part of the city and liberties, as far as they could learn, excepting the neighbourhoods adjacent to the place where the malignant fever originally appeared, remained remark-

* This was precisely the case at Wilmington. See the appendix.

ably healthy, and entirely exempt from any disease marked with malignant or dangerous symptoms. Dreading the renewal of the melancholy scenes of former years, and finding it would be impracticable, with their limited powers, to prevent intercourse with the infected; they had no alternative, but to recommend to the citizens to withdraw into the country, or to adopt the inhuman, cruel and mistaken policy of certain other commercial towns, and conceal the existence of the disease, or deny its contagious nature. Influenced by motives which do honor to their humanity, they honestly and judiciously acknowledged the truth,—an act which will eventually promote the commercial interest of the city, by giving a credit and currency to the bills of health, which other seaports will be deprived of, on account of their mistaken policy.

The advice of the Board was immediately complied with by a great number of the inhabitants, particularly by those who had the means of procuring a retreat in the country; and, in the course of a few days, nearly two thirds of the inhabitants withdrew from the four streets nearest to the river, and a considerable number from every other part of the City and Northern Liberties; but the number that withdrew from Southwark was very few, and scarcely any from about the New Market, at the lower extremity of the city.

The contagion, however, had been communicated too extensively to be entirely eradicated, though it was manifestly restricted in its progress by this sudden and early desertion of the inhabitants; and, although the air of the city was remarkably pure, as well as more cool than usual for the season, in consequence of frequent floods of rain, and the most violent thunder that has been known for many years, the disease still "held on the noiseless tenor of its way," though in a slow, insidious and fluctuating manner, as will appear by the annexed table, a considerable portion of which was collected and communicated to us by Mr. Samuel Harvey, one of

the members of the Board of Health, to whose assistance and liberality we acknowledge ourselves under particular obligations.

The daily reports of the Board, containing the names of the sick, the number of the houses, and the streets where they were, had also a very great effect in preventing inadvertent exposure to the contagion.

Thirteen patients were admitted into the City Hospital, from the 1st to the 5th of August; other admissions will be mentioned hereafter.

The disease had established itself, and was communicated from some persons to others in the neighbourhood of Chesnut-street wharf, between the 20th and 30th of July; and in the neighbourhood of the Drawbridge and Water-street, the latter end of July and beginning of August.

A hired girl in the family of Mr. Charles Massey, No. 19, South Water-street, was attacked about the 22d of July, and died on the 26th.

Mr. Jonathan Willis's son ——, died on the 26th. —He attended a store on Chesnut-street wharf.

Mr. Wickam, who attended a store on or near the same wharf, was attacked about the same time.

A day or two after the decease of the young woman at No. 19, two young men at William Hamilton's, No. 31, South Water-street, two doors north of Chesnut-street, were attacked with the disease, went across the river to their friends, and both died after a very short illness. One of Mr. Hamilton's daughters, who went into the country, was taken ill a few days later, and recovered; a younger one was taken ill on the 23d of August; she recovered also.—Mr. Hamilton himself was taken ill the 6th or 7th of September, and died with unequivocal symptoms of the yellow fever on the 11th.

William Oliver, clerk of the market, who keeps a boarding house at No. 47, South Water-street, was attacked with fever on the 28th of August. Other

persons were ill about the same time in that neighbourhood, as will appear by the tables.

A young woman at Mr. Samuel V. Anderson's, at No. 25, South Water-street, near William Hamilton's, who went into the country immediately after the appearance of the disease in that neighbourhood, was taken ill and died with black vomiting, and other symptoms of malignity.

Mr. Anderson has said she had been with another young woman, in a sickly neighbourhood up town, a few days before she left the city.

On the 14th of July the schooner Eliza from Port Republican, but last from Wilmington, Delaware, which had lost some of her hands in the Cape, and on her passage, arrived at this port, and came to, a little way above the Drawbridge. Notwithstanding these circumstances, she had received a clean bill of health from the port of Wilmington.*

On the 17th or 18th, a sailor boy, sick at the time, was taken into a tavern and lodging house, kept by John Smith. Another boy was at that time sick in Smith's house, or became so soon after. Nancy Rourk, a young woman hired at John Smith's who had had the scarlet fever last spring, was taken ill on the 30th, and John Smith on the 31st of July. The young woman was removed to her father's in the country, where she died on the 5th day from the attack of the disease; but, though constantly attended by the family, consisting of five or six persons, none of them took the disease from her, though her symp-

* The schooner Eliza arrived here from Port Republican about the 14th of July last. Whilst this vessel was at the aforesaid port four of her seamen were taken sick with the malignant fever, where it prevailed with great mortality. Two of these seamen died—the other two recovered. When the Eliza arrived in the river Delaware, she was ordered by the owners into Wilmington;—her cargo was there unloaded;—her quarantine was there performed, and without a proper cleansing, obtained a bill of health from the port of Wilmington, and was permitted to come up immediately to Philadelphia. After she came up, she laid at a wharf near the dock;—a few days after her arrival the forecastle was cleared out, and among other things were found a canvas bag, in which were clothes and a blanket belonging to one of the men that had died at Port Republican;—these clothes, &c. were afterwards spread on the vessel in order to be purified and aired. This vessel was in the neighbourhood of Smith's tavern—the above facts may be depended on. S. H.

toms were so malignant, that she appeared to be putrid before her decease. John Smith died also on the 6th or 7th day from the attack.

Sarah Burk, a young woman in Smith's house, was taken with fever about the 7th of August, and sent to the hospital;—a lad from the same house, who was sent out to the tents, was taken ill a few days later and sent to the hospital—both of these recovered.

Enoch Walton, who worked in a blockmaker's shop, adjoining Smith's house, was attacked the 1st of August with the same disease, and recovered.

Polly taylor, two doors nearer the Drawbridge, was taken ill the 4th or 5th of August, and sent to the hospital.

Mr. Morgan's niece, two doors nearer the Drawbridge, was taken ill about the 17th of August. A man named John Mongan, on the wharf above Mr. Morgan's, was taken ill the 29th. Miss Morgan recovered after a tedious illness.—Mongan was sent to the hospital, and died on the 17th of September.

Several cases of the disease occurred in Little Water-street and in Penn-street, near the southern extremity of the city, the latter end of August, and the beginning of September.

Stephen Toby, a mariner belonging to a schooner called the Topsham Beauty, which arrived in this port from London laden with hemp, came to at the first wharf above Chesnut-street, directly back of William Hamilton's, on the 7th of August, where she remained till Friday the 20th, and then dropped down to Cuthbert's wharf, at Lombard-street, for the purpose of landing her cargo. Stephen Toby, though not as well as usual at the time, assisted in taking the hemp out of the hold on Saturday the 21st, and was attacked with a feverish disorder in the night, which proved to be the yellow fever, of which he died on the 26th at the City Hospital.

Robert Waters, mate of the schooner, declared that he knew of no house that Stephen Toby had been in during the stay of the vessel near Chesnut-

street, and that he had been absent from the vessel only twice during that time—once above Callowhill street with James Moody, another mariner, to see an acquaintance on board of the brig Polly, John Appleton, master, from Boston, and once at the old market.

Moody agreed in the same account, and added, that he had been once at one other house in the neighbourhood, to get some shirts made.

John Warner, another mariner belonging to the same vessel, with whom one of us had some conversation on the 29th of August said, the account respecting Toby, given by Mr. Waters and Moody, was true, but they had omitted to mention that he had been to a washer woman's near the Crooked Billet, and that he had been disappointed in getting his shirts done as soon as he expected, on account of a child being sick in the house where the shirts were made.

John Warner, who assisted in unloading the hemp, was a little indisposed with sickness at stomach next morning; took a gentle puke, and was perfectly well next day.

The hemp with which the schooner was laden was dressed; a few hundred weight of it had got wet by a heavy sea, during the voyage, which damaged it in its colour, but not in its texture, for it was not the least rotten that could be perceived by those who spread it out to dry, of course, if any moisture issued from it, it must have been the vapour of sea water, which we believe has never been observed to produce a malignant fever.

We have been more circumstantial with this case than would have been necessary, if it had not been made a handle of by some gentlemen who advocate the domestic origin of this disease, in proof of its having originated from the exhalations of putrifying vegetables.

If a few bundles of rotten hemp, flax, potatoes, olives or other vegetables. were capable of producing

a malignant and contagious disease, in open and unconfined air, the whole human race would be destroyed in less than two centuries, for these are sources that always exist in the hot season of every country on the globe.

A girl hired at the sign of the Foxchase, in Little Water-street, was attacked with the yellow fever on Saturday the 28th of August; and Mr. William Lacy and Thomas Hough, a young man who resided at his house, almost opposite to the Fox-chace, and but a few paces distant from Lombard-street wharf, were attacked with the same disease on Sunday the 29th. The girl recovered—the two men died—the one on the 2d—the other on the 3d of September. The tavern was frequented by seamen from different vessels. Mr. Lacy kept a store of groceries.

Mrs. Hoggard died the 7th of September in Lombard-street, a little way above Front-street. She kept a boarding-house, but had nobody sick in it, nor had she visited any family where the sickness existed that she knew of. But contagion is of a nature so subtile and difficult of detection, that it may exist and be conveyed by means little suspected, as is often the case with the small-pox and meazles.

John Gribben, apprentice to a cooper, a few doors below South-street, was attacked with the fever the 29th of August, and sent to the hospital the 1st of September, and died there.

A sailor's wife, in an alley between South and Lombard, in Little Water-street, recovered.

Mrs. North, another sailor's wife, who lived four doors from where Gribben was sick, was attacked the same day with him, and died on the 3d of September.

After the occurrence of the cases last mentioned, several others were taken with the fever in Penn-street and its vicinity; and two seamen on board of a Prussian ship at Willing and Francis's wharf, between Pine and Lombard-streets, which arrived here more than five weeks before from Lisbon, with a

cargo of salt. Both of these seamen died with symptoms of great malignity, one of them in Mead alley, the other at the hospital. The disease might with equal justice have been ascribed to this salt, as to dressed hemp, which though it had been wet, had become dry before it was discharged.

Richard Morrison, a sailor who worked on board of a vessel near Pine-street wharf, and lodged at No. 38 Queen-street, also died, after an illness of five days, with symptoms of high malignity. Fourteen or fifteen persons were then ill with the yellow fever in Penn and Little Water-streets; one at Mr. Morgans, and several in Water near Walnut-street.

In Weaver's family, in Front above Callowhill street, seven persons have been ill with the fever, and five of them have died.

In Thomas Gilpin's family, in Vine between Front and Second-streets, nine have been sick, and three have died.

In William Hamilton's family five have been sick, and three have died.

In Mr. Innis's three have been sick, and three have died.

At No. 46 Dock-street, five were sick, and four died.

In the family of Samuel Thomas, three were sick, and three died.

In some other families, the disease was equally contagious and destructive.

Miss Lucy Bowen fell a victim to it six days after her marriage.

A segar maker, named Monyhan, married the woman from whose house Richard Morrison had been sent to the hospital, wore the clothes of the deceased, took the disease and died in eight days after his marriage.

Only two physicians died of the disease this year, and they had never seen any person in it before. These were, Dr. Martin and Dr. Praul. Dr. Martin had moved into the country with his family; but

frequently came into the city. He was attacked five days after visiting a family at No. 46 Dock-street, where several persons were ill at the time. He died in the country on the 4th day of the disease. Dr. Praul was attacked on the first of November, when the disease had nearly ceased, while on a visit to his father in Bucks county, and died on the 10th.

The greatest mortality in proportion to the number of the sick, occurred from the 15th to the 25th of October. The number of the sick appeared to increase after a white frost, which occurred on the 25th of September, but rapidly declined after a black frost, which occurred the 26th of October, and ceased entirely early in November.

During the continuance of this destructive disease the number of persons reported with it to the Board of Health, was 598: of this number 307 died, including 58 that died at the City Hospital, into which 110 were admitted. Eight of these at least were not affected with the yellow fever.

The event of 51 remains unknown to us.

During the existence of the disease in the city and districts, there died of other diseases 505 persons, making altogether 1096; *viz.* 627 adults and 469 children.

The number of deaths in the city and liberties from the 1st of January to the 1st of November, the present year, was 2082—*viz.*

	Adults.	Children.	Total.
January	142	75	217
February	110	60	170
March	100	47	147
April	90	58	148
May	82	59	141
June	96	67	163
July	129	132	261
August	109	153	262
September	178	106	284
October	211	78	301

On the 15th and 16th of August, a person, on whose accuracy we can depend, took an account of the number of houses that were open or shut in several of the principal streets, and found from Vine to South-streets, (which are the north and south boundaries of the city)

	Open.	Shut.
In Water-street	152	330
In Front-street	134	368
In Second-street	184	244
In Third-street	178	208
In Fourth-street	138	250
In Fifth-street	127	(not known.)

The number open in High-street, from Water to Eleventh-street, was 127.

The number in the other streets was not taken, but the desertion was very considerable as far west as Ninth-street, excepting towards the south end of the city, and in Southwark.

The contagion appears to have been carried from Philadelphia to Wilmington, and to Lamberton. The disease also made its appearance at Baltimore about the 11th of July, soon after the arrival of an infected ship from Cape Francois, called the Warren, Mr. Billups master. The mortality at Baltimore was considerable, though great pains have been taken to make people believe the disease that prevailed there was nothing but a common bilious fever, and that it was not contagious.

Two of the mariners belonging to the Warren died after her arrival at the fort, and two others were sent from her to the hospital.

The number of deaths at Baltimore by yellow fever, from August 21st to October 1st, inclusive, was, Adults 133, Children 72—Total 205.

This account we received from a medical gentleman residing in Baltimore.

The weather at Baltimore, as well as at Philadelphia, resembled that which usually occurs within the tropics at the same season of the year, in the fre-

quency of floods of rain, and the violence of thunder, till towards the close of September, after which it became more calm and uniform, and the contagion became accumulated, and operated with greater certainty, than it had done while ventilation continued free. Hence it appears that a particular range of temperature, in conjunction with want of motion in the air, is requisite to give full effect to the contagion of the yellow fever.

Having now detailed the most material facts that have come to our knowledge relative to the origin and progress of a fever which has been more mortal in proportion to the number affected, than at any former period, (the year 1798 excepted) we might safely leave every one to draw his own conclusions, with respect to its origin and nature; but, as the subject involves a question with which the interest and prosperity of this populous and opulent city is closely connected, we cannot forbear offering a few brief observations to the consideration of the public, before we close our statement.

We wish in particular to direct the attention of the public to the circumstance of the disease being originally confined to a very small number of persons, and that every one of those persons had either been on board or very near to the St. Domingo Packet, (which the preceding narrative proves was infected at the time of her arrival at the Lazaretto) or had intercourse with some of the earliest sick.

No such disease had appeared in that or any other part of the city, before the arrival of that vessel; there was no other vessel in the neighbourhood, or any other source to which the most scrutinizing researches could trace a disease of such a character. It is true the brig Esperanza was repairing in the same dock with the Packet, but the innocence of the Esperanza is incontestibly established by the subsequent depositions. The progress of the disease was slow, and similar to what occurs in the

putrid sore throat, and other diseases unquestionably contagious.

If it had originated from bilge-water, or from exhalations proceeding from any other local source, diffused and suspended in the atmosphere, the number of sick must necessarily have been greater at first, and the disease would have ceased entirely, when the vessel or original source was removed, and no longer contaminated the air. But its continuance and subsequent progress affords the most unequivocal proof that it originated from contagion, was propagated from one to another by contagion, and was of foreign origin.

In the year 1793, the pensioners in the alms-house, —the patients in the Pennsylvania Hospital, which is situated a short distance south-east of the centre of the city—the prisoners in the jail, amounting to more than 200, all escaped the disease, while the surrounding inhabitants were constantly falling victims to its ravages.

The French emigrants from the West-India islands who had just escaped from the pursuits of a barbarous and sanguinary enemy, to the amount of between 2 and 3000, all escaped the disease.

Can stronger arguments than these be required, to prove that the cause of the disease was not a depraved or contaminated state of the atmosphere, but contagion derived from the sick—otherwise the prisoners, and more especially those foreigners, accustomed to a different climate, would have suffered more certainly and severely, than the natives of the place: for it is a fact founded upon repeated observations, and admits of no exception, that foreigners are more liable to be affected by, and to suffer most from the endemic or native diseases of the country into which they migrate, than those accustomed to the climate. But a contagious disease being propagated by contact, or the near approach of the well to the sick, those who have no intercourse with the sick always escape; and this is the true reason of the

escape of the Creoles; for not having had time to form an acquaintance with the inhabitants before the disease made its appearance, they had no intercourse with the sick. The want of intercourse also preserved the prisoners, &c.

The escape of Mr. Norris and his assistants who hove down the ship, may appear very unaccountable to those not conversant with medical history; but is by no means so extraordinary as their escape would have been if the bilge-water of the Esperanza which laid very near to the Packet in the same dock, had given origin to the disease, as represented lately in Mr. Bradford's paper, by some writer under the signature of "*A Philadelphian*," of which the following is a copy:—

"Let the following narrative, the truth of which can be substantiated by evidence the most incontestible, serve as a memorable and impressive example, of the mischief that may result from a foul and unventilated vessel. Some time in the autumn of the year 1801, the brig Esperanza arrived in the port of Philadelphia with a healthy crew, and without having previously had any sickness on board.

"She was laid up for the winter in a large dock adjoining Mr. West's wharf, a short distance to the northward of Vine-street. In this situation she lay, without being either cleansed or ventilated, *till within a few days of the appearance of the late malignant disease in that neighbourhood*, which is known to have occurred early in the month of July of the present year (1802). Two men who were employed in first opening her hatches were almost suffocated by an eruption of foul and fœtid air from her hold. A large quantity of putrid, dark, and most offensive bilge-water was discharged from her by her pumps. John Edwards, a ship carpenter who worked on board of her was the first victim to the disease, which soon afterwards spread through the part of the city where she lay. All the other persons, who were in the first instance attacked by that com-

plaint, were near enough to the Esperanza to inhale the pestilential vapour which issued so copiously from her bilge-water and hold. Notwithstanding all the idle clamour which has existed, and the proofs which certain gentlemen have attempted to adduce to the contrary, there was no other vessel in that neighbourhood which could be reasonably suspected of giving rise to disease.

" Between the tenth and fifteenth of July this vessel (the Esperanza) was removed from the dock near Vine-street, where she had so long lain, and brought to at a wharf near Chesnut-street, where there had not previously been a single case of disease. In this place she continued about half a day, and was then, at the remonstrance of a physician, ordered away by the board of health. Within a very short time afterwards there occurred several deaths from malignant fever in the vicinity of the wharf from which she had been last removed. This vessel now dropt down the river (I think) as low as Marcus Hook, where she lay about fifteen days. She then returned to the city, by permission from the board of health, and came to at Hamilton's wharf, a little above the Drawbridge, for the purpose of taking in freight. She had not lain in her new station many days, when malignant disease again made its appearance in some of the adjacent houses, carried off several persons very suddenly, and spread an alarm through the whole neighbourhood.

" Such is in brief the history of the Esperanza. Nor is it in the power of any one either to subvert or silence the facts which it exhibits. Perhaps no vessel that ever entered the port of Philadelphia furnished so strong a ground for being suspected of giving origin to disease. She touched at only three places in the city, namely, near Vine-street, Chesnut-street, and the Drawbridge, and, faithful as the shadow to the substance, malignant fever was her inseparable companion. But she had not lately arrived from any of the places designated in the fifteenth

section of our health law. This is the true cause why such efforts have been made to tranfer all suspicion and odium from her to the St. Domingo Packet."

The following testimony will shew the credit to which the preceding narrative relative to the Esperanza is entitled, at the same time that it precludes the necessity of multiplying arguments.

July 22, 1802.

NATHAN EYRE declares, that the brig Esperanza came to a wharf above Vine-street, in the neighbourhood of William Brown's bake-house the latter end of November, in the year 1801, and that shortly after he was requested to take care of her, in the absence of the owner, Capt. Golden. In the month of April the said Nathan Eyre went on board of her and unlaid one of the hatches, to ascertain the condition of the vessel, but observed no other smell than that of bilge-water. He farther remarked, that he had very often been on board of her without perceiving any thing offensive, or experiencing any unpleasant effect from his visits. He also says, that the cabin windows had been open for a month, and the hatches for several days, at a time.

Philadelphia County, ss.

Personally appeared before me the subscriber, one of the Justices of the peace in and for the county aforesaid, Nathan Eyre, and on his oath according to law, doth say the above is just and true, according to the best of his belief and knowledge.

NATHAN EYRE.

Sworn the 30th day of November, 1802. }

JOSEPH COWPERTHWAIT.

CHARLES WILLIAMS, seaman, says that he was employed by John Mackason, ship-wright, about the 27th of May, to work on board of the brig Esperanza. That when he unlaid the hatches, the steerage and hold of the vessel contained warm air, like other vessels; but which he could not perceive to be the least offensive, or to have any unpleasant effect on his health, although he had remained in the steerage many hours coiling away a cable, and removing another cable on deck to fasten the vessel to the wharf. The water contained in the hold he remarked was nearly as clear as river water, and not offensive—neither was it in sufficient quantity to require pumping out. He worked on board one day and an half.

Philadelphia County, ss.

Personally appeared before the subscriber, one of the Justices of the peace in and for the county aforesaid, Charles Williams, and did make oath according to law, and said the above statement is just and true according to the best of his belief and knowledge.

his
CHARLES ⋊ WILLIAMS.
mark.

Sworn the 17*th day of November*, 1802.

JOSEPH COWPERTHWAIT.

Philadelphia County, ss.

Personally appeared before me the subscriber, one of the Justices of the peace in and for the county aforesaid, Isaiah Beck, and on his solemn oath ac-

cording to law doth say, that he this deponent did command the schooner called the Sally, and that he laid alongside of the brig Esperanza about the 27th of May last—was there about five days; and he this deponent did assist Charles Williams in taking a cable out of the steerage or hold of the vessel Esperanza, and coiling another cable in the same place. He says there was a small quantity of water in the hold, which did not appear to him any way offensive by any bad smell—she appeared to him a clean vessel. And he further says, that Paul Crispen and one other person that he does not recollect the name of, was with him; and that the above persons went with this deponent afterwards to Richmond in Virginia, and all returned hearty and well; and further this deponent saith not.

ISAIAH BECK.

Sworn the 20th day of November, 1802.

JOSEPH COWPERTHWAIT.

WILLIAM MACKASON, ship-wright, says he began to work on board the brig Esperanza on the 21st day of June, 1802, and that the bilge-water had been pumped out of her before he went to work on her. He thinks she was a clean vessel, and at one time he worked on her below for half a day, and did not perceive any thing offensive to the smell. He recollects that while engaged on board the brig one day, some bedding was landed from the St. Domingo Packet, which laid at the end of the wharf, with her bow towards the stern of the brig. That John Edwards, late deceased, worked on board of the brig until the 3d of July inst. inclusive. On the 4th he was taken ill. William Mackason, his brother John, and Carpenter Lownsburry, continued to work on her until the 6th of July, and the said William Mackason worked on her the 7th.

Philadelphia County, ss.

Personally appeared before me the subscriber, one of the Justices of the peace in and for the county aforesaid, William Mackason, and on his solemn oath doth depose and say, the above deposition is just and true according to law; and further this deponent saith not.

WILLIAM MACKASON.

Sworn the 22d day of November, 1802.

JOSEPH COWPERTHWAIT.

JOHN WARE, ship joiner, says that on or about the 25th day of June, several of his journeymen and himself went on board the brig Esperanza to work, and that some of them continued to be employed on board until the vessel was ordered from the wharf by the Board of Health. During that period they worked in different parts of the vessel, and some of his journeymen had been in the cabin, forecastle and hold of her. The said John Ware remarked, that he did not perceive any offensive smell on board, more than he had frequently experienced while working on a new or any other clean vessel. The workmen and himself have continued in health, and some of them have since been in the country.

John Ware affirmed, the 17th day of November, before me the subscriber, one of the Justices of the peace in and for the county of Philadelphia, to the above, and believes to the best of his knowledge, it is just and true.

JOHN WARE.

JOSEPH COWPERTHWAIT.

To obviate the objections which have been made to the probability that any contagion could remain in the St. Domingo Packet, after the purification to which she had been subjected at the Lazaretto, (where she was washed, scrubbed, fumigated, ventilated and white-washed, and all suspected clothing and bedding taken out of her) we might adduce examples from the most approved authors, of the impossibility of always eradicating contagion from vessels, to the timbers of which it pertinaciously adheres, (as well as to every article composed of wool, cotton, silk or hair) and especially from the forecastle, where the seamen generally lodge.

In the present case it does not appear that the cabin, where more than one person with the disease certainly died, was either white-washed or painted.

Whether the limbers were lifted or not, is of little consequence, as there is no authentic instance on record of the exhalations of muddy or slimy water giving origin to a malignant contagious fever. And that this disease was both malignant and contagious, is evinced by the manner in which it commenced and progressed from family to family, and from one neighbourhood to another, as persons happened to have intercourse with one another.

We could enumerate many unequivocal instances of the contagious effects of this disease, particularly in the year 1798, entirely out of the sphere and influence of the city air.

Of this description we consider the following:

On the 7th of August, 1798, Elizabeth Johnson, who was about ten years of age, went from Philadelphia to her mother's in Germantown; was taken ill with the distinguishing symptoms of the malignant yellow fever on the 10th, and died on the 13th. Elizabeth Duy, a near neighbour, who had visited E. Johnson during her illness, and the family after-

wards, was taken ill with similar symptoms on the 26th of August, and died on the 30th. Mary Hubbs, neighbour to Mrs. Duy, visited her during her illness, and was attacked in the same manner, the 29th of August, and died the 3d of September. Charles Hubbs, son of Mrs. Hubbs, was attacked the same day with his mother, but recovered in less than a week. Christian Duy, the husband of Mrs. Duy, was taken ill with the same disease the 6th of September, and died on the 23d. Elizabeth Johnson, the mother of the girl who introduced the disease into that neighbourhood, was taken ill with the same disease on the 21st of September, and died the 29th. Joseph Fisher's wife, who had apartments at Christian Duy's, was taken with the fever soon after the death of Christian Duy, and recovered. Joseph Fisher was taken ill the 22d of September, and died the 27th. Mrs. Johnson's servant maid was taken ill about the same time as her mistress, and recovered. Elizabeth Star, who lived in Mrs. Johnson's family, was taken ill on the 27th of September, and died on the 14th of October, though she had been freely salivated!

Not one of the above-mentioned persons, except E. Johnson, had been into the city for several weeks.

The above facts were collected by Dr. Wistar, and communicated by Mr. C. Marshall, jun. soon after their occurrence.

Similar instances occurred at Lamberton; at Chew's landing, in West-Jersey; at Marcus-Hook, and at several other places. As a detail of facts. however, on a question so obvious to persons of common understanding would be surperfluous, we forbear to enlarge; but advise those who still doubt, to begin their studies afresh.

Several attempts have been made this season, to mislead or bewilder the public mind, by ascribing the disease to wrong sources.

Finding nothing on shore that the most ingenious artifice could wrest to its purpose, without the risk

of immediate detection, it has been asserted that we have only had sporadic cases of what in common language is called the "fall fever;" though the same writer in a subsequent number says, "faithful as the shadow to the substance, malignant fever was the inseparable companion of the Esperanza wherever she touched."

By others the appearance of the disease in Little Water-street the latter end of August, is ascribed to a small cargo of hemp from London, which had been wet, but was no otherwise damaged than in its colour, and communicated no offensive smell; yet this has been asserted with as much confidence, as if the person who published the account gave credit to it himself. The disease had been gradually progressing in different parts of the city, for more than six weeks before the hemp was landed in that neighbourhood, and as there was nothing to prevent intercourse, might have been brought into it by different persons.

In Mr. Bradford's paper of the 5th of October it is stated, that the disease was occasioned in the neighbourhood of Almond-street wharf, by the effluvia of putrid hides and tallow imported from the River La Plata, in the brig Mary, and had proved fatal to several persons; and among others to a young woman at Mrs. Hale's tavern in Swanson below Almond-street, and to Simeon Springer, in Almond-street, as well as to the captain of the vessel soon after his arrival.

The pretensions with respect to the two first, have already been shewn to be groundless, by testimony that cannot be called in question; and to refute the last it is only necessary to give a correct statement of facts, with the dates of their occurrence.

The brig Mary, captain Norton, from Monte Video, (River La Plata) arrived at Mr. T. Penrose's wharf in Southwark above Almond-street, on Friday the 17th of September, and began to discharge her cargo consisting of hides and tallow (some of which was putrid and had a very offensive smell)

and deposit it in Mr. Penrose's stores on or near the same wharf, on the 22d of the same month. James Norton, the master of the brig, was attacked on Thursday the 23d, five days after a visit to captain Norris, at that time recovering from a fever with suspicious symptoms. He had also been in different parts of the city, and the disease was prevalent in the neighbourhood where he lodged, which was at the corner of Spruce and Water-streets. Mr. Hughs the owner of the vessel, who came passenger in her, the mate, and all the hands who discharged the cargo, have remained perfectly free from the disease. The disease had made its appearance in Swanson-street, a very short distance above Mr. Penrose's stores, before the arrival of the Mary, as may be seen in the daily reports published by the Board of Health. Simeon Springer, who lived in a large new house in one of the airiest situations in Southwark, was attacked with the disease on the 19th of September, two days before the stores were engaged, and three before any part of the cargo had been discharged, or even disturbed.

One physician, straying still farther in the wilderness of error than the rest, has asserted, that the unity of the autumnal fever and the malignant yellow fever has never been more clearly *demonstrated*, than in the present epidemic; for so he calls a disease which appeared in a few connected spots. Its four principal grades (he adds) *viz*. The intermittent, the mild remittent, the inflammatory bilious fever, and the malignant yellow fever, have all run into each other in many instances. A tertian has ended in death with a black vomiting, and a fever with the face and eyes suffused with blood, has ended in a quotidian, which has yielded to a few doses of bark. But in vain have these facts and many others equally striking, been urged in favour of the *domestic origin of our present fever*. Our citizens indolently repose in a belief that it was derived from a vessel, on board of which two persons died on her passage from

St. Domingo. This *execrated* but *harmless* vessel was thoroughly cleansed at the Lazaretto, where she lay twenty days, and no person who worked on board of her has died or been indisposed since her arrival. It is probable several cases of fever may have originated from the foul air of some other vessel; but the greatest part of them have been evidently derived from the putrid exhalations from our docks, wharves, yards and cellars, in different parts of the city. Not an instance has been seen of the disease spreading by contagion.

I have deplored the continuance of all these errors, *so fatal to the lives*, and *injurious* to the *property* of our citizens, but I have deplored them in silence. By ceasing to oppose them, I have hoped *a calm and unprejudiced examination of facts* would take place. This is all that is necessary to produce a conviction that the yellow fever is not derived from specific contagion; that it is always generated by putrefaction; that it is not contagious in its simple state; and that it never *was*, *is not*, and (while the laws of nature retain their present order) never can be imported so as to become an epidemic in our country."

This gentleman appears to be unfortunate in confounding cases of fever arising from season and soil, with those derived from contagion. He might with equal propriety contend for the unity of the small-pox and the dysentery, as they are both frequently preceded by mortification, when they have a fatal termination. The yellow fever frequently begins with symptoms resembling an intermittent—so does the small-pox and the jail fever, for all fevers have many symptoms in common at their commencement; but the subsequent symptoms are totally different, and designate their character. At the time the malignant yellow fever was most prevalent in the city, several cases of the ague and fever occurred in the same neighbourhood; but, this is no proof of their identity, otherwise several cases of the malignant

yellow fever would have occurred in the country, where the intermittent fever, or ague and fever, was more prevalent than for many years. But we challenge the advocates of domestic origin, to produce a single case of the kind, excepting those that have been fabricated.

This gentleman seems to have forgot that no cases of the malignant fever appeared in that part of the city where the cellars were fullest of water, and the sources of putrefaction most abundant. and that several persons who were severely afflicted with the intermitting fever in the country, and that were daily growing worse during their continuance there, were immediately restored to health on their return to the city—a circumstance which affords a strong presumption that its air is not quite so pestilentially disposed, as certain gentlemen have taught.

The facts we have detailed will shew the mistake of the assertion that " not an instance has been seen of the disease spreading by contagion."

Those gentlemen who affect to deplore, what they so dictatorially pronounce, the errors of those who believe in the *foreign origin* of the malignant yellow fever, and who charge that doctrine with being " fatal to the lives and injurious to the property of our citizens," do not seem to be aware that the charge may be retorted with double force upon themselves. Nor, do they appear to be sensible of the resemblance of their conduct to a certain usurper, who while he was laying waste all before him, and increasing the misery of surrounding nations, professed himself the friend of humanity, and declared he was only contending for the freedom and happiness of mankind.

Some of the *blessed* consequences which have already resulted from inculcating the doctrine of the domestic origin of the malignant yellow fever, absurd and incredible as it must necessarily appear to all who have not been misled by the sophistry and pedantry of science, are placed in a striking point of

view, in an extract of a letter to the following effect, published in the year 1799.

" I enclosed to my correspondent in Europe, with my customary order for goods, an essay in proof of the domestic origin of the " Bilious pestilence" in America.

Judge of my astonishment, when instead of the goods I had written for, I received by the return of the vessel, a letter thanking me for the essay I had sent, and informing me, that as an unfortunate and unexpected change had taken place in our climate, which gave origin to the pestilence, and had become so unsalutary as to convert diseases, which in other countries were mild and tractable, into a malignant and mortal nature, he hoped I would excuse him for declining to send the goods I had ordered, as he could not think it adviseable to trust his property in a place where life was so precarious, and where the interruption which would be given to business by the ravages of so deplorable a calamity as the pestilence, would necessarily render my remittances uncertain. He also requested me to dispose of the stock he held in our funds, and the vacant lands I had purchased for him, on any terms I could obtain; as he was sure they would daily decline in value; and added, that if the opinion contained in the pamphlet was established, which from the character and abilities of some of the gentlemen who supported it, he had no reason to doubt, it would put an effectual stop to emigration from Europe to America. He concluded with assuring me, that several of his mercantile friends had also concluded to have no farther connexion with America, till the disputes were settled with respect to the cause of our pestilence, and till they should receive satisfactory information of the extent of its ravages; for it had been represented to them that disease and death were inevitable throughout every part of the continent where grass or stubble were permitted to rot in the fields, or water to remain in the mill-ponds, as well as in the docks of

the city; and which their physicians assert must be the necessary consequence in the country as well as in the city if it is derived from putrefying vegetables, insects," &c.

To this catalogue of evils we shall add, that if this doctrine was generally received, the vessels which sail from this country during the hot season, would be subjected to a tedious, vexatious and expensive quarantine in foreign ports, the value of property in the city would become of little value, and a great portion of the city be finally abandoned by its inhabitants: for every reflecting person would prefer a place of safety in the howling wilderness, with the common necessaries of life, to the most splendid residence with all the luxuries of wealth, in a city where his own life and the lives of those most dear to him would be in jeopardy for four months in every year, by a malady in which the resources of the medical art have hitherto been of little avail.

If the disease was derived from putrid exhalations, it would be impossible to prevent it from returning annually, because it is impossible to remove all the sources of putrefaction from a large city. Mud and putrefiable materials will collect in docks, sewers, sinks, privies, grave-yards, slaughter-hauses, shambles and tan-pits, in spite of all the vigilance and precautions that can be used. The flats and ponds at either end of the city, and on the commons, will always pour forth their noxious steams in the warm season, and gloomy and hideous would be the prospect of the citizens, harrassed every returning summer by the dread of the fell destroyer.

With this view of the subject, which is by no means an exaggerated one, we leave it to the judgment of every dispassionate enquirer, whether when considered in all its relations, the belief in the domestic origin of pestilence would not check the growth, and affect the prosperity of this city infinitely more, than the belief of its being imported from foreign countries; especially as in the latter case by vigi-

lance and proper precautions, its introduction might be prevented without imposing intollerable burthens upon the trading part of the community; or if it gained admittance, it might be completely extinguished before it had time to spread.

If the cities of the neighbouring states should profit by the establishment of our quarantine regulations, by being less particular or strict with theirs, their triumph would be but short, or at best, precarious; since, if through their remissness it should gain admission among them, of which there can be little doubt, the injury it would occasion in one year by the dispersion or mortality of the inhabitants, and the consequent suspension of the pursuits of industry, and interruption to the operations of commerce, would be infinitely greater than could possibly result from the most rigorous quarantine in seven, independent of the sufferings and complicated miseries which it occasions to many worthy individuals.

Some of the medical gentlemen who advocate the opinion that the yellow fever originates from the effluvia of putrifying substances in our commercial cities, aware of the difficulty of accounting for the production of a disease of so malignant a nature, now, by those causes, when it is universally known that they did not produce it formerly, (for not a single case of such a disease was ever observed in Philadelphia, from the end of the year 1762 to the beginning of 1793, during which long interval putrid materials were much more abundant, and much less attended to, than they have been since the year 1793,) pretend to have discovered an agent in the regions of "the viewless air," which by uniting with the causes of the simple ague and fever, have converted them into pestilential principles, and have produced this deplorable effect.

This chimerical doctrine reminds us of the reveries of the astrologers, who accounted for the appearance of the *syphilis* (which was introduced into

Europe in the year 1494, by some of the adventurers who returned with Columbus from exploring the southern continent of America) from an alteration which they pretended to have discovered in the relative position and aspect of certain planets, that shed a baneful influence upon the earth, and perverted the wholesome quality of the grain and fruits —a doctrine which fell into merited contempt, as soon as it was discovered by the observations of men whose understandings were not misled by abstract speculations, that those only were infected who had intercourse with the diseased.

This doctrine also reminds us of the ingenious artifice of Lancisi, physician to one of the Roman pontiffs, to prevent the detection of his errors from affecting the consequence he had acquired in his profession by his pretensions to exclusive knowledge. This superficial observer of the operations of nature, taught that the pestilence which had frequently depopulated the city of Rome, originated from nuisances that existed within that city, particularly from the obstructed aquæducts, hemp-stores, and horse litter. In consequence of his remonstrances against these sources of impurity, they were entirely removed, and the ceremony of washing and cleansing all suspected places duly performed. The disease however returning with greater violence, Lancisi, whose invention never failed him, now asserted that the season they had chosen for rhe removal of those nuisances was an improper one, in consequence of which, myriads of invisible animalcules had been generated, which occupying a great portion of the atmosphere, were taken in with it by breathing; and that they must now lay their account with the perpetual existence of the disease till they had consumed all those animalcules, which would take a longer or shorter time, in proportion to the number of people within the sphere of their operation.

This doctrine, (though we have not done it justice) absurd and irrational as it appears, hav-

ing been delivered with boldness of expression and solemnity of manner, aided by the superstition of the times, imposed upon the credulity of the citizens, diverted the attention of the government, and prevented the officers of the *health department* from vigilantly guarding the avenues of commerce through which alone the disease entered, and was the unhappy cause of prolonging the calamities of that deluded city.

A List

Of persons who DIED *of the Yellow Fever, in the City and Liberties of Philadelphia, in the year* 1802.

July. JOHN CROSLY, Artillery lane. John Edwards, in an alley between Front & 2d above Vine. Samuel Thompson, Vine-street wharf. John Joint, Front above Vine. William Brown's son, Vine above Front. Richard Esseck's son, Southwark. John Whistler, Front above Vine. Henry Miller, Fourth above Race. James Crosly, Coats-street. Two men, one at Easton, and one at Belvidere. Philip Taylor, Northern Liberties. Matthias Snyder, Water below Vine. David Parry, Vine above Second. John Vancleave, near Vine-street wharf. Henry Stillwaggon, Eighth between Callowhill and Vine. Miss Gilbert, returned from the country the 23d. Reuben Scott, Front-street, iron sign. Elizabeth Bauchman and Margaret Bauchman, in a little court going west from Front near Brown's. Mrs. Pollick, near Vine in Front. Joseph Marshall and Margaret Marshall, Callowhill-street. Jane Hughes, Cable lane. Hannah Weaver, Front above Callowhill. Mrs. M'Duff, Callowhill-street, No. 2. Eleanor Bohlen, Second above Callowhill. Elizabeth Dalby, Callowhill-street, hospital.

August.—William Campbell, at Kincaid's, [hospital]. Miss Burns. Mr. Burns. Mary Taylor, at Kerrn's, two doors below Smith's, [hospital]. Mrs. Spratt, Britton's wharf. John Smith, at Mrs. Stall's, No. 78, north Third. John Smith, near the Drawbridge. Ann Rourke, at Smith's. Margaret Doyle, Water near the Drawbridge. Isaac Cryder, New-street. Bryan Peart, Sterling alley. George Dentzel, near Green-street. Thomas Joyce, Northern Liberties, Third-street. John Wiles, Cable lane, [hospital]. Mrs. M'Kean, Water above Vine. Mrs. Hurst, Moravian alley. Peggy M'Dade, had lived in Callowhill-street, [hospital]. Mrs. Evans, Callowhill near Front. A man, North alley. Michael Doran, at James Galaher's, [hospital]. Mrs. Smith. William Saudders, 207, north Second-street. Mrs. Say, behind Mr. Innis's in Water-street. Mr. Boyle, Catharine between Second and Third. Sarah Clements and Ann Holland, Debtor's apartment, [hospital]. Thomas Preston, from Frankford, [hospital]. John Hughes, from old Lazaretto, [hospital]. Mrs. Innis, Water below Vine. Grand-child of ditto. Anthony Balde, in the street. Sarah Martin, Spruce-street, back of the sign of the cock in Spruce, [hospital]. William Cope, came from Marcus hook to Almond-street, [hospital]. James Crispen, do. Lawrence Kenary, 161, north Front, Elizabeth Smith, Seventh between Race and Vine-streets, [hospital]. John Lascam, Alley near Callowhill. A man, 391, north Second-street. Samuel Oliver, Race-street wharf. John Allican, Taper alley, N. L. hospital. A woman, above Race in Front. Adam Hoops, mate of the New Jersey. Joseph Blythe, a little south of Race. Stephen Toby, from on board the Topsham Beauty, [hospital]. Samuel M'Elroy above Callowhill [hospital],

Benjamin Oliver, Germantown. Mr. Weaver, Front above iron sign. Mr. Weaver's son, Artillery lane. John Gribbin, Swanson below South [hospital.] Sarah Gilpin, Vine above Front. John Mongan, Hamilton's wharf [hospital.] Mr. M'Collom, Petticoat alley. Mr. Dunwoody, Germantown.

August 29.—William Lacy, Little Water street. Thomas Hough, Little Water street. Miss Pilligan, near Callowhill street wharf. Mr. Nailer, at James Davidson's [hospital.] Severn Jones, Artillery lane. Mrs. Boyle, back No. 20 Spruce. Rhody M'Coy, Plumb between 3d and 4th [hospital.] A man, Front below Spruce. A hatter, Front below Spruce.

September.—John Brim, [hospital.] Elizabeth Fleming, Water above Race. Lydia Gilpin, Vine street. Thomas Corbelly, back of No. 19 Vine street. Michael Cantwell, Water near Chesnut [hospital.] Mr. Freyberger, country, [hospital.] Mrs. Hogard, Lombard near Front. John Mitchel, near hay scales. Mrs. North, Swanson. A seaman, Shippen near Front. Jacob Francis, [hospital.] A woman in Mifflins alley. Richard Robinets's boy, Powel street. Mr. Callawood, Petticoat alley. Jane Plumbly, Front above Callowhill street, next to iron sign. Isaac Childs in Front. John Sider, South near Fifth, [hospital.] Mrs. Boone, Little Water. Frederick Miller, below Pine, on board a Prussian ship [hospital.] William Hamilton, No. 31 S. Water. A boy above Noah's Ark. Samuel Thomas, Front below Callowhill. Richard Morrison, Queen below Front, [hospital.] Captain Hall, Water below Market. A seaman, Mead alley. Joshua Mitchill, Cable lane. Mrs. Frederick, Front above Callowhill. Mary ———, Front above Race. Jane Bennett, Front above Callowhill. Ann Ward, Second near Vine. Elizabeth Cain, ditto. David Weaver. John Stone, Third opposite Coates's ground, [hospital.] Griffith Thomas, Front above Vine. William Hendricks, at Kincaid's distillery [hospital.] Mrs. Thomas, Front above Vine. M'Gorgle's child, Penn. A man, Front near Callowhill. Resolve Gardner, Keys's alley. Mrs. Burke, Keys's alley. Mrs. Scull, Front near Green. A woman, Front above Callowhill. Abner Story, No. 89 S. Water [hospital.] Morton Kerby, 63 Race. William Lauck, inspection office. A woman, at old ferry. I. Schoals, Hoovers' alley and Little Water. Mary Roberts, Walnut bet. 8th and 9th [hospital.] Nicholas Rees's child, Callowhill and 2d. Robert Chambers, New-Market street. Sam. Hall, Plumb between 2d and 3d. Miss Morris, Buttonwood lane. James Harley, No. 168 N. Water [hospital.] John Ratcliff, Water above Arch [hospital.] Henry Fryer, No. 17 Walnut (hospital.) Nicholas Hopper, No. 46 Dock. Mrs. M'Kenney, Farmers row. Henry Feltich, Callowhill near Front. Mrs. Bivino, Front above Callowhill. Richard Given, Callowhill near Front. Simeon Springer, Almond below Front. Elias Hughs, Plumb between 3d and 4th. Henry Prall, No. 46 Dock. Sarah Shannon, Hoovers alley, (hospital.) Mrs. Brown, Water between Walnut and bridge. Elizabeth Inticut, Callowhill and Water (hospital.) Irvine Jones, 47 Penn. James ———, 46 Dock. Benedict Abraham, Northern Liberties. Thomas Gilpin, Vine above Front. Miss Lacy, Little Water. Mr. Tully, Mead alley, between Front and Second. Mrs. Moore, Penn. James M'Knight, 142 Swanson. James Galaher, Catherine above 2d. Mr. Haas, Water above drawbridge. Henry Gurky, Callowhill and Front. A boy of H. Gurky. Mr. Beck, Callowhill between 2d and New Market. Barnabas Bussey, Coats street. Maj. Craig, Branch street. Mr. Smith, 10th street. Jacob Smith, Locust between 12th and 13th. A woman, Locust between 12th and 13th. A child, Water below Spruce. Ann Frame, 258 Front (hospital.) Mr. Nelson, Shippen and Fourth streets. Jesse Brooks, Walnut between 5 and 6. Mrs. Shads, Christian between Front and Swanson. Mr. Blair, Penn and Pine. George B. Moss, ship Jefferson, Wilcox's wharf (hospital.) Mr. Stout, Callowhill below 2d. A young man, 4th near Race. Captain Norton, Spruce and Water. Peter Johnson, Oak near Wells' alley (hospital.) A man, Tenth. Miss Redman, Third above Market. Miss Redman, her sister, ditto. Mr. Collins, drawbridge. A child, between 2d and New Market. Sarah Rush, a black girl, Front near Market. Sarah Greene, Water below Walnut. Miss Firth, 3d near Race. John Rees, 46 Dock street (hospital.) John Grey, 180 N. Front (hospital.)

Peter Johnson, [hospital]. A woman between 12th and 13th, and Locust and Walnut. Mrs. Whipple, George below South. Rose Stokes, Baileys alley east of Vernon, [hospital]. Elizabeth Anderson, Swanson below Almond. A man, Pine between Front and Second.

October.—Dr. Vanleer's wife, Eighth between Market and Chesnut. Mary Garratz, 60, Vine-street, [hospital]. Joseph Norris, Kunckle near Callowhill. Mary Eaton, 7, Swanson-street, [hospital]. Andrew Robinson, 360, south Second-street, [hospital]. Moses Noyes, 15, south Water, [hospital]. John Crocker, do. do. do. Susanna Doyle, [hospital]. Francis Peters, 51, north Water, [hospital]. Dr. Martin, in the country. A woman, Buttonwood lane. Mr. Hagley, Cable lane. Joseph Roberts, Fourth between Market and Arch. A woman, back of the sign of the cock, Spruce-street. Mrs. Foulke, Second above Vine. A man, at Rink's near Market-street. A man, near Market-street. Captain Kirkbride, Front below Almond. A girl, Front below Market, [hospital]. Captain ———, Sixth near Spruce. A girl, Norris's alley, [hospital]. A girl, Gray's alley, [hospital] Sebastian Voight, Second above Race. Mr. Bushel, Second above Race. John Cooper, Front above Market. Robert Couper, near Race in Second. Henry Rees, Callowhill near Market. Mr. Preston's apprentice, Artillery lane. Miss Flemming, Water above Race. A young man, Second above Race. M. Lawler, a child, Walnut below Second. Miss Willis, Front above Spruce. A man, second below South. Mr. Emerick, Front above Race. John Prentiss, Drinker's alley, [hospital]. A man at Troll's, Swanson below Almond. A man, South-street wharf. A man, back of No. 11, Swanson. A man, South above Second. A man, Swanson below Queen. Courtney, Christian above Second. A woman, Penn-street and Hoover's alley. A man, Penn below South. A French Jeweller, corner of Vine and Third-street. John Yeager's son, 103 Race-street. David Weidner, Key's alley. Mr. Waggoner, Phar's alley. Mrs. Waggoner, do. A boy, Coomb's alley. A boy, do. Mr. Chapman, Elfrith's alley. Mr. Sherred, Market above Third. A black man, 435 south Front. Michael Claney, 35 Plumb. Michael Lap, New below Third. A man, Callowhill. A person at Mrs. Stokes, Vine-street. William Reynolds, Fourth and Plumb, [hospital]. Lehman, Front near hay-scales. Chamless Wharton, Chesnut above Second A man, Arch above Second. Mary Hart, in an alley going north from Race above Second, [hospital]. A young man. Edward Gibson, 76, north Fourth. Sarah Hasson, 117, Vine, [hospital]. Mr. Dugdale, Third below Vine Richard Thatcher, Second above Market. Mrs. Hutchins, Front above Arch. Mrs. Kay, Front below Arch. Mr. Evans son, Front and Dock. Charles Williams, Fourth and Greenleaf's alley. A girl, iron sign, Front above Callowhill. Mrs. Wright, Strawberry alley. A woman, Moravian alley. Ann Rolf, Swanson below Almond. Mary M'Glachlin, Mead alley below Front. A child, Second near Callowhill. William Brown's apprentice, Front above Vine. A young woman, near Callowhill-street wharf. A woman, Front above Callowhill. Mr. Nicholson, Front between Vine and Callowhill. Mrs Peck, Thirteenth near Broad-stseet. Mrs M'Hollan, Christian above Second. Joseph Groff, Second below Chesnut. Two men, marine barracks. Mr. Read, Front, 1 door below South. Benoni Daw, corner of Water and Callowhill. Mr Fogel, Fifth below Vine. Boaz Cramer, clerk to Isaac Hazlehurst. Mrs Jackson, Second below Dock. Captain Kirkbride's mother-in-law, Loxley's court. Mrs Murray, sister to captain Kirkbride. Gotlib Sawyer, Brown-street. A man, Hopkin's court. Mrs. Decosta, Margaret street. A child of C. Snyder, Artillery lane. Mrs. Ashton, Brown's alley. Jacob Maug, Moyamensing. A man, from the ship Juno, between Arch and Race. Mrs. Lucy Yard, New-street. Mr. Stone's apprentice. Mrs. Keyser, Front above the bridge. David Rogers, Second above Race. Mrs. Bull, Spring Garden. A person at Mrs. Lawrence, Walnut between Second and Dock. Hannah Simmons, Vine above Front.

November—Dr. Isaac Praul, in the country. Robert Sinickson, Second above Market. A man, Second between Race and Vine.

APPENDIX.

No. I.

Questions proposed by the Resident Physician of the Port to the Captain or Commander of the St. Domingo Packet, with his answers on oath.

Q. What is the name of this vessel?

A. Ship St. Domingo Packet.

Q. What are the names of the captain, or commander, and of the pilot?

A. John C. Wilbourn, and Daniel Schillinger.

Q. Where does your vessel belong to?

A. Philadelphia.

Q. How many men belong to this vessel?

A. Eleven.

Q. Have you shipped any hands since the commencement of your voyage; and where, and at what time?

A. Shipped four hands in Cape Francois.

Q. Have you brought with you all the crew which you have taken out or shipped on the voyage, &c?

A. All returned but *five;* three discharged; *one* died *on board* in Cape Francois, and *one* the 3d inst. Likewise, the captain's brother died on board in Cape Francois.

Q. How many passengers have you brought with you; and are they now on board, &c?

A. Eight on board—one landed at New-Castle. Left Cape Francois the 22d May—Sickly amongst the army. Cargo coffee, molasses and stone ballast.

Q. Have you lost any by disease during your voyage? If so, in what place, and what was his or their complaint?

A. Two died in Cape Francois, one the 14th, one the 15th, of fever, and one the 3d inst. said to be by the piles.

Q. Have you any wearing apparel or bedding belonging to deceased persons on board?

A. Bedding thrown overboard—*trunks*, &c. on board.

All in good health at present.

Sworn the 8th day of June, 1802.

JOHN C. WILBOURN.

N. B. One of the hands belonging to this vessel was taken ill on board while she was performing quarentine, and died at the lazaretto before her quarentine was finished.

No. II.

Manifest of the persons on board the St. Domingo Packet, entered at the Custom House, June 9th, 1802.

J. W. Wilbourn,	Master.
Stephen Beonder,	Mate.
John Cob,	Carpenter.
William Stewart,	Seaman.
Abram Wilber,	do.
Thomas Brown,	Boy.
William Taylor,	Cook.
Simon Hedger,	Stewart.
James Melchor,	Seaman.
Christ. Cosmer,	do.
Thomas Williams,	do.
George Christie,	do.
Mr. Josiah Lewden,	Passenger.

No. III.

The Declaration of Messrs. Thomas and Shreeves, respecting goods purchased at their store by John W. Cotanch, and conveyed to Mr. West's wharf to be put on board of a Durham boat.

Messrs. THOMAS & SHREEVES say, that the goods purchased by John W. Cotanch were taken from their store to the Durham boat, at West's wharf, on the second of July last.

THOMAS WRIGHT, drayman, says that he hauled goods from the store of Messrs. Thomas & Shreeves to West's wharf, above Vine-street, to go on board a Durham boat, which then lay in the dock along side of a ship at the said wharf.

No. IV.

The Declaration of William Mackason, respecting the position of the boat while the Packet lay along side of Mr. West's wharf.

WILLIAM MACKASON has assured the editors that he saw the Durham boat along side of the St. Domingo Packet, on the 2d of July, and that the ship laid so close to the wharf that the boat-men had to climb up her side by the chain-plate to get on shore.

No. V.

Extract of a communication from Mr. Joseph Grice, of Point Pleasant, to the editor of the Aurora, respecting the St. Domingo Packet, &c. dated July 21.

JOHN EDWARDS, who was the first who fell a victim to the disease the present year, was at work on a brig that lay with her stern against the starboard bow of the St. Domingo Packet. The forecastle scuttle, where the people generally lodge, was near the stern of the vessel he was at work on; and when they were pumping the ship, I am informed, he complained very much of the stench of the bilge water; he was but in a weakly state of health before, but was able to attend to his business; he had been at work for Mr. Grice so late as the 12th of June, and from thence went to work on this brig. Every endeavor is made, I find, to bring in question the origin of the contagion on the St. Domingo Packet, but this much I can say of my own knowledge, and have given a certificate of the same, that on passing to the south end of the port in a boat, on the 29th of June last, the flood tide being against me, I steered the boat close in shore, to avoid the strength of it, so near that one of the oars touched the side—two black men were then on her deck, and appeared to have just quit the

pump, for the water was running from the scuttle, and appeared very black, and the stench very offensive. But being so used to the smell of bilge water, I did not at that time think any thing of it; nor should I have noticed the ship, perhaps, if I had not observed the head, which is a likeness of the fallen Emperor Toussaint. I observed to Mr. Mackason the carpenter, who was repairing the brig in the dock, that they had washed the blackamoor white, and passed on.

No. VI.

Copy of a letter from Henry Spering, Esq. containing an account of the sickness of the men, &c. belonging to the Durham boat, after their departure from Philadelphia.

"*Easton, July 20th*, 1802.

"I MENTIONED, a few days since, that I had heard from the proprietor of the Easton mail stage, circumstances respecting the indisposition and death of some persons belonging to a Durham boat which had loaded at Vine-street wharf, lately from this place, and was requested to state them to you in writing, which I now will do, in such manner as the facts have been related to me since my return from the city.

"John Simon, junr. one of the boat hands in Mr. William Shirlock's boat, says, that he, with Elnathan Price, and two other boatmen, and a Mr. John Cotanch, arrived from this place at Vine-street wharf on Friday the 2d instant, in perfect health, and immediately proceeded from the wharf to Roger Tage's tavern, in Water near the corner of Vine streets. On their way to the tavern they were assailed by a very disagreeable smell, that seemed to affect Price more than him; that in the course of that day he, the said John Simon, went on board of a *black looking vessel*, with three masts, laying a little above said wharf, to purchase reed fishing poles thereon, brought, as he supposed, from some of the islands; and, on the same day, he left the city

with the boat and hands. On their way towards Easton John Cotanch, who was in the boat, but not as a hand, complained of a pain in the head and want of appetite, with an inclination for vomiting; that on Monday the 5th inst. the said Simon felt a severe pain in his head, above the eyes, and sickness at the stomach, with a pain in the small of his back, which, upon taking a draught of bitters, left him until the next day, when he was again seized with the same symptoms, and remained indisposed until about the 17th, when he had much recovered, and is now perfectly well. A large black spot appeared on his back, as he says, where he was affected with the pain. Doctor Cooper attended him in his indisposition, as well as Price, who is dead with the complaint, and who, on his way home from Philadelphia, did not hear complain.

" One Wallace, of Easton, says, that on the 5th of July inst. he went with Elnathan Price from this place (to which said Price had returned from Philadelphia) to Shirlock's mill, about six miles up the Delaware. Next day returning, Price fell sick, complained of violent pain in his head, back, and in all his limbs.

" Elnathan Price died on the 12th instant; divers persons who were about him in his illness say, and it is without a doubt true, that he vomited and purged a black matter, in large quantities, which was very offensive. No one, however, attending him, as at present informed, has been indisposed.

" The account given me by Mr. Jacob Haupt, a clerk in Mr. Shirlock's store, of the indisposition and death of the above mentioned John Cotanch, is, that on Monday evening the 5th inst. he the said John Cotanch arrived at Mr. Shirlock's from Philadelphia in the boat (the same boat in which were Elnathan Price and John Simon above mentioned). On Saturday thence following, being the 10th instant, he being in perfect health, went to Belvidere; on his way thence he seemed indisposed, and continued so until next day in the morning, when the white of his eyes assumed a red colour, and he was otherwise severely

affected. A doctor endeavoured to administer medicine, but it would not remain with him. He vomited a black matter until Wednesday evening the 14th instant, when he died. A young man, Mr. Haupt says, who attended the said Cotanch in the capacity of nurse, has been taken in the same manner as the symptoms of Cotanch's disorder first appeared, but how it has terminated I have not heard.

"John Simon, one of the hands, tells me that himself, Elnathan Price, and one Hamilton, lay on the platform or cabin of the boat, under *oil-cloth and a sail,* which prevented them from getting wet.

I am, Sir,

Your obedient Servant,

Dr. CURRIE. H. SPERING."

No. VII.

Information from Major Paul's niece.

JOHN W. COTANCH returned to Major Paul's on Saturday, the 10th of July, about sun-set; he told Mrs. Paul that he had been taken ill whilst riding from Mr. Shirlock's, a distance of about nine miles; and that he never before had so violent a fit of the ague. He immediately retired to bed, had his feet bathed, something applied to his head, and took some simple medicine. On Sunday morning he walked down stairs, and breakfasted with the family, but looked very ill. He returned to bed, and a physician was sent for. Till Tuesday evening Mrs. Paul attended him chiefly herself, though all the family went into the room. Several young men that lived in the neighbourhood called in to see him; Mrs. Paul requested that some of them would stay all night, as she was much fatigued. A young man by the name of Hays, and Joseph Ker, who was a clerk in Mr. Paul's store, offered their services, during the night. They lay down alternately in an adjoining room; toward morning Cotanch insisted

on Ker's laying down on the bed; he complied reluctantly, and had just fallen into a dose, when Cotanch became so restless that he got up. During his illness, he appeared very defective in memory, spit and vomitted quantities of black offensive matter, bled violently at the nose, and was very restless; on any persons near approach to him, he insisted they smelt offensive; he was extremely thirsty, and immediately after drinking, vomitted; he appeared unconscious of his danger, and expired on Thursday evening about sun-set. On preparing to lay him out, a young man who assisted, said he was convinced that he had died with the yellow fever, for he had frequently seen persons in Philadelphia with it, where he had formerly resided. Mr. Ker, who was present, replied, he was positive he had imbibed the disorder. It was not till that moment Mr. Paul recollected, that Cotanch on his arrival, informed him he had been to Philadelphia, and left it on Friday the 2d of July. On Friday the 16th of July, very early in the morning, Mr. Ker who lodged in the store came over to the house and complained of being ill; the symptoms exactly like those of Cotanch, only much more violent; he continued at Mr. Paul's until Monday the 19th, when his father who lives two miles from Belvidere, came with a waggon and a bed in it, to remove him home; he complied reluctantly, and expired on Wednesday evening the 21st. On the morning of his departure from Mr. Paul's, the matter he vomitted was so offensive, that it was hardly possible to remain in the room. Both Cotanch and Ker were extremely yellow. Every precaution from the time of Cotanch's decease was used, such as washing and steaming the room with vinegar, burning tar, having every thing used by the sick carried from the house, and put in water; the beds were buried, and have never since been in the house; every part of the house white-washed, and thoroughly cleansed, the furniture that belonged to the room where they were sick, scrubbed and exposed to the air and rain for a length of

time; no article of clothing belonging to either ever brought into the house, and the room never since entered by any of the family that have been indisposed. During the present season no unusual degree of sickness has prevailed in Belvidere, except in this family, and none with symptoms similar to those of Cotanch and Ker. James Paul was sent to Knolton, a distance of nine miles from Belvidere, on Tuesday the 20th of July, and continued well until August the 24th, when he complained of a pain in his head. Mrs. Paul accompanied by a physician went to him, and on Friday the 27th, Mr. Paul went for the purpose of bringing his wife and child home; but the day proving very warm, remained at Knolton till Saturday the 28th. On their return home, the child seemed better, though from the time he was first taken unwell, he appeared by no means dangerous, complained for the first day or two of his head, but appeared in no pain afterwards. His fever one day very high, the next more moderate, alternately, till Tuesday afternoon, August 31st, he suddenly expired. He was not in the least offensive, and his colour very little changed. On Wednesday night, September 8th, Mr. Paul complained of a fever, but felt no chill. It returned regularly at night, till the afternoon of Saturday he walked from his house to the store, and attended to his business, when he took to his bed. For the first few days he complained slightly of his head, and sometimes of a pain in his back, but felt no propensity to vomit. His fever violent, but alternately better one day, and worse the next. He continued till Wednesday morning the 22d, when he expired, retaining his senses till the last moment. He was attended by Doctors Gwinup, Kennady and Cooper, who pronounced his disorder a bilious remitting fever, which this season, has been very fatal in some parts of Sussex county, but particularly in Knolton.

None of the family has since been ill, except Mrs. Paul, who has had but a slight degree of fever, occasioned by her great fatigue and anxiety, and at this

time appears likely to recover, her only complaint being extreme weakness. And no other deaths, except Mrs. Paul's infant, who lived but a few moments after its birth on Sunday morning, the 19th of September. On Monday, the 19th of July, a man whose name Mrs. Paul cannot recollect, informed Mr. Paul that he had been in company with Shirlock's boatmen in Philadelphia—that they had fastened their boat to the St. Domingo Packet, and went on board of her. On pumping the vessel, some of the water ran down in the Durham boat, and immediately on their return on board of the boat, they were all sick and vomitted. On Friday, the 2d of July they left town, and on their return home one of the boatmen was taken ill, and it was believed he had been put on shore near Howell's ferry. Also one of them had expired at the same time Cotanch did, and that one recovered. The latter Mr. Paul intended visiting for the express purpose of obtaining information to transmit to Dr. Wistar, but the sudden loss of his son, and a multiplicity of business made him delay it.

Belvidere, 17*th October*, 1802.

POSTSCRIPT.

The man belonging to the St. Domingo Packet, who died at the Lazaretto while she was performing quarantine, was only slightly indisposed when taken on shore, and became so well in a few days, that he returned on board; but was soon afterwards taken ill and sent to the hospital, with the symptoms which distinguish dangerous cases of the yellow fever, and died there.

This case affords strong suspicion that infection lurked on board the ship at the time of her leaving the Lazaretto, and the circumstance of other persons taking the fever who went on board of her after her arrival in the neighbourhood of Vine-street wharf, confirms it.

Any farther comments therefore on a fact so completely substantiated, would be superfluous.

Official Account of the Fever

AT WILMINGTON.

No. VIII.

PORT OF WILMINGTON, (Del.)

Health-Office, Sept. 10, 1802.

WHEREAS it has been represented to this board, that some erroneous reports respecting the state of the health of this borough, are in circulation: And whereas the board are desirous of removing every unfounded rumour, and to lay open the whole truth to the best of their knowledge,

Resolved,

That the following detail of facts be published and submitted to the judgment of the public.

In consequence of the disease existing in Philadelphia, the police of this place did, on the 5th ult. publish a proclamation, greatly restricting the intercourse with that city—appearances becoming more favorable, the said police authorised this Board to mitigate, or annul, the penalties of that proclamation, if, with the advice of the health-officer, it should appear to them just and proper. The Board did accordingly under certain regulations, open anew the communication with said city.

On the 15th ult. the health-officer reported to the Board, that Ann Davidson, who had arrived from Philadelphia the day of the publication of the late proclamation* was ill of a fever, which he believed to be the same as that which was said to exist in Philadelphia.—On a subsequent visit, he informed the

* The 5th of August.

Board that he remained of the same opinion. The woman, however, recovered, and retired into the country. About the 1st instant, a waterman who had lately been in Philadelphia, died.—This case appeared unequivocal and violent; he died in a high open part of the town.

On the 5th inst. the Board was summoned to meet at two o'clock, P. M. They were then informed that the fever had, in Philadelphia, assumed a more alarming appearance—that through the means, which even a regulated intercourse permitted, many persons had introduced themselves in a clandestine manner, and that a few others had openly disregarded the rules enjoined on strangers; to these alarming and disagreeable circumstances, others still more so, were added: the Board had information that from the house adjoining that where Davidson had been sick, a child was buried the preceding evening; that in the house adjoining Davidson's on the other side, a woman had, that day, died suddenly; that in a house nearly adjoining the latter, another woman had died and was buried the preceding evening; that in a house very near the others, a man had just expired, and that four or five other cases were known to exist within about fifty yards of Davidson's house —and all this when the rest of the town was known to enjoy its usual health.

Under this pressure of evidence and cause of alarm, the Board thought themselves bound to do what they could to prevent the introduction of further mischief, and hoped that if an epidemic did exist, the wisdom of the people would remove their sick from the well, or that some other cause might check the progress of the disorder; they therefore rescinded all their regulations facilitating the intercourse with Philadelphia, and took such other measures for their internal safety as their wisdom, and the power with which they were invested, could devise or justify.

The public may rest assured that the foregoing is a fair statement of things previous to the 5th inst.;

since that time two persons have died, viz. one on the 9th inst. and one this day, both very near Davidson's dwelling; some other persons, perhaps eight or ten, remain ill or indisposed in that vicinity, *but no new case hath come to our knowledge since the fifth instant, nor any other deaths than those before mentioned, occurred within the borough, since the first instant, except one child in a distant neighbourhood.*

It may be further observed, that the mother of Ann Davidson, who on the recovery of her daughter retired with her into the country, is now ill with the same complaint.

By order of the Board,

JOHN BAILEY, President.

Attest, THOMAS SMYTH, Secretary.

A summary of the rise and progress of the fever which prevailed in the borough of Wilmington in the autumn of the present year, communicated by Dr. John Vaughan.

WHEN the disease of the season had become alarming in your city, our board of health adopted sundry measures to prevent the introduction of the contagion into this place by the fugitives from Philadelphia. At the same time vessels from foreign ports and from Philadelphia, were subjected to such quarantine regulations as appeared necessary to the board of health, after the examination and report of the health officer. Some regulations were also directed and proclaimed for domestic precaution, but none of these were executed. Under these circumstances the month of August passed away without much alarm. A few cases of aggravated fever occurred. A lady from the marshy country near Christiana bridge removed to this place and died *with suspicious* symptoms on the fourth day of the disease. Ann Davidson, a young woman who came from Philadelphia in the beginning of the month, was re-

ported by the health officer on the 15th, as a case of contagious fever at her father's house in King-street. Johnsons Owens, a shallopman, who had been for some time labouring under an intermittent fever, was at length confined at his father's house in French-street, and died on the 1st of September, with black vomit and other symptoms of malignant disease.—This man had been at Philadelphia a few days before his confinement. Ann Davidson whose case occasioned the greatest alarm, from its being in a compact part of the town, recovered in a few days without having been affected with any of the more violent symptoms of febrile disease, and with her recovery the alarm in a great measure subsided. King-street where Ann Davidson was sick, is contracted to the limits of a narrow alley from Second-street to Christiana creek, and the house where she lay is an old wooden building adjoining a miserable hovel occupied by John Hadley, the cellar of which was constantly full of water, and was the common receptacle of every kind of filth, which made its way into Davidson's cellar. This nest of noxious effluvia was offensive to the whole neighbourhood from the beginning of August, was reported to the police as a public nuisance, and condemned as such, but not removed.

In the beginning of September, several persons sickened in this square of King-street, and on the 4th and 5th there were four deaths in and adjacent to this wretched abode of human misery, *viz.* Thomas Musgrave's child, a hired girl in the family of captain West, nearly opposite Mordecai Cloud's, who had come from Philadelphia several weeks before she was taken with the fever.—Before her decease she had dysenteric symptoms, but neither vomitting of black matter nor hæmorrhages. The third case was the wife of John Hadley, next door to Davidson's—She died on the 5th day after the attack. Mordecai Cloud, who lived opposite captain West's, was attacked on the 30th of August, and died on the 5th of September, having previously vomitted black

matter. Hannah Robinson at the north corner of King and Front-streets, was attacked on the 2d of September, and died on the 9th. Lewis Brown at the corner of Second and Walnut-streets, was attacked on the 3d, but recovered after a severe illness of ten days.—Mrs. Day, next door to Lewis Brown's in Second-street, sickened on the 8th, and died on the 11th. Samuel Bush's family corner of Second and King-streets, and Timothy Jackson's daughter and wife in Second between King and French-streets, were attacked about the same time. Mrs. Jackson died on the 14th. To the westward, Elias Dale in Front near Market-street, was attacked on the 2d—J. Warner's bound girl in Market between Front and Second-streets on the 4th—and R. Hagin's son in Thorn-street, upwards of three squares distance from Davidson's, but who had gone to school in King-street near Second-street, was attacked on the 3d. The three last recovered. So many cases of disease occurring so nearly together, and for the most part in the same neighbourhood, excited great alarm; in consequence of which, the board of health addressed a circular letter to the physicians of the borough, requesting their opinions on the disease. To this the physicians replied, that "*A bilious fever of a formidable grade* had for some time existed in the borough, and was attended with *unusual mortality*, and that whether it was contagious or not, its present features demanded attention, though it might hereafter be moderate or violent as incidentally influenced by the *sensible* qualities of the atmosphere." In addition to this, the inhabitants of the "*infected district* were advised to move from it without delay." A number complied with this advice, but others irresolute and balancing between their hopes and fears, remained where they were, and several of them fell victims to the fatal disease. From the 10th to the 18th, there were but 5 deaths by fever, and but few ill. On the 19th and 20th there was no death. From these circumstances, the inhabitants were encou-

raged to hope that the disease was at an end. But the scene again changed with the change of weather. On or about the 23d, several fresh cases occurred in the neighbourhood where the disease originally appeared, and the number rapidly increased. There was no hospital establishment for the indigent sick. Nurses could not be procured that would do justice to them, and the board of health had neither power nor funds to do much for their relief. The deaths by the fever, from the 22d to the 30th of September inclusive, were 15, making altogether from the 1st of September to the 1st of October, 34—of which 26 were marked cases of pestilential fever; of these 34, the number of male adults was 10, female do. 17, children 7. On the 1st of October the number of persons that remained in the district south-west of Market-street and Second-street, was only 605, the rest having withdrawn into the country. Of these 605, 25 were sick, and 10 to eastward of Market and Second-streets. There were 17 deaths from the 1st of October to the 15th inclusive. After the middle of October the disease became more general, and cases occurred in the two squares northward of Third-street; and about the 20th of the month, the inhabitants seized with consternation, fled from the previously secure and higher parts of the town, and a melancholy gloom pervaded the deserted streets. The number of deaths this month amounted to 46, of which 34 took place after the 15th. Ice appeared on the 27th, and a severe frost on the wings of a northern breeze, ushered in the morning of the 1st of November, after which there were but two deaths. One of the last victims to the disease was Mr. John Ferris, junior, who had been constantly employed in acts of humanity and benevolence towards his fellow-citizens from the commencement of this awful calamity.

The whole number of deaths from the 1st of September to the 2d of November, was 86, including 6 that had moved into the country. Of these the deaths by aggravated bilious or *pestilential* fever, were 72
By other diseases 14

86

Of the 86 that died the number of adult males was 33
Females 39
Children 14

Total 86

The number of persons that were sick in the district south of Market and Third streets, both streets included was 157—of whom died 56
Recovered 101

157

In the district west of Market and Third streets sick 15—of whom died 5
Recovered 10

15

Cases of disease north and east of Third-street 26; of whom died 6
Recovered 20

26

Scarlet fever in do. (do. October—4) of whom died 1
Recovered 3

4

Putrid sore throat in do. do. 1—recovered 1

Died	68
Recovered	135
	203

A number of deaths were from various diseases as before mentioned—Cases of fever of common grade in the northern district of the borough, were not recorded.

No. IX.

Extract of a letter from Dr. E. A. Smith, physician of the port of Wilmington, dated December 14th, 1802.

I BELIEVE the contagious fever which existed here this season, and every preceding one, was imported from Philadelphia, which from being health officer of this port, I had a good chance of knowing, as we never had the same species of disease, but when it prevailed in Philadelphia, although the same sources of putrefaction, with a state of the atmosphere more congenial to the propagation of the disease, has prevailed at other seasons, when no such disease was propagated. The Indian's remark of the small-pox, that it was never known amongst them until the white people brought it in a ship, I believe, would well apply to the fever improperly denominated yellow, which I am verily persuaded would not now be known in our country, had it not been imported from the West-Indies. After the fever in Philadelphia had produced alarm here, a board of health was instituted and a penalty annexed against persons coming from Philadelphia without examination. Captain Bush's packet at the very instant arrived with passengers without examination. Ann Davidson, whose parents lived in an alley near to Christiana creek, in a small frame house, in a thickly inhabited part of the borough, came in the above packet to her father's. Some days afterwards,

an inspecting committee from the general board of health, hearing she was unwell, applied to me to visit her, and make a report of her case, which I did, and reported her disease to be of a contagious nature, and in my estimation similar to the fever then prevailing in Philadelphia, and to the fever so fatal to this place in 1798, however differing in degree, and varying in some symptoms, yet the same in kind, with a remark, that there was no year in which it had appeared, but what it assumed somewhat different features, but yet with sufficiently characteristic marks to distinguish it from every other kind—differing materially from our usual autumnal fevers. My report was, however, contradicted by other physicians. I then visited the girl a second time, and being fully convinced, I confirmed my former report. She was however permitted to remain, and shortly after, several persons on either side of her, and in that neighbourhood, were seized with a similar fever and died very speedily, which made it appear as clear to me as the day, that she introduced the contagion. I was early infected by attending in the complaint. My house was remotely situated from the supposed atmosphere of malignancy, on high ground, thinly settled, large, roomy and clean, in a pure atmosphere, nevertheless, my wife caught the fever in her attendance on me, and my oldest son in succession—my other children were in the country. It however did not spread in my neighbourhood. My wife having taken it from me, proves it beyond contradiction, contagious, as there was no other possible way of its being communicated to her. I do not think it necessary to add any thing farther to these few desultory and hasty remarks, as I presume they would be too late to answer your present design of publishing.

FINIS.