

**Result of an inquiry whether cholera can be conveyed by human intercourse from an infected to a healthy locality; or, from an infected to a healthy person : that is, is cholera a contagious disease? / by David Macloughlin.**

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RESULT OF AN

ENQUIRY

CHOLERA

MAY BE CONVEYED BY HUMAN

OR MAY INFERRED TO A HEALTHY

AS INFERRED TO A HEALTHY

TRAD. FR.

CHOLERA A CONTAGIO

BY

DAVID MACLOUGHLIN

MEMBER OF THE LEGION OF HONOUR

LONDON:  
J. CHURCHILL, NEW BURLINGTON

1817.

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RESULT OF AN INQUIRY

WHETHER

CHOLERA

CAN BE CONVEYED BY HUMAN INTERCOURSE  
FROM AN INFECTED TO A HEALTHY LOCALITY; OR, FROM  
AN INFECTED TO A HEALTHY PERSON:

THAT IS,

IS CHOLERA A CONTAGIOUS DISEASE?

BY

DAVID MACLOUGHLIN, M.D.,

MEMBER OF THE LEGION OF HONOUR.

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LONDON:

J. CHURCHILL, NEW BURLINGTON STREET.

MDCCCLVI.



RESULT OF AN INQUIRY

CHOLERA

AND OF THE MEANS OF PREVENTING IT

IN THE EAST INDIES

BY J. H. COLEMAN, M.D.

LONDON:

T. RICHARDS, 37, GREAT QUEEN STREET.

## IS CHOLERA A CONTAGIOUS DISEASE?

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BEFORE entering into the inquiry whether cholera can be conveyed by human intercourse from an infected to a healthy locality, or from an infected to a healthy person—that is, whether cholera is or is not a contagious disease—permit me to say a few words on the symptoms which usher in the disease, and which, heretofore, have been so little attended to; and also permit me to say a few words on the change which takes place in the constitution of an individual about to be attacked with the premonitory diarrhœa, and which, heretofore, has been also so little attended to.

At the time cholera, as an epidemic, attracted attention in 1817, the vomiting, spasms, etc., alone fixed attention, and received the name of cholera; the deviations from health which precede this stage were overlooked; and even diarrhœa was considered as unconnected with cholera.

Having had charge of extensive military hospitals in the Peninsula, during the Peninsular War, and having repeatedly seen cholera, almost an epidemic, in these establishments, and having paid attention to the disease; when cholera appeared in Europe as an epidemic in 1831-2, I doubted that it ever attacked, suddenly, an individual in perfect health, and free from diarrhœa.



I was in Paris in the outbreak there of the cholera in 1832, and I had extensive opportunities to study the disease, in the public hospitals, in the ambulances, and in an extensive private practice. But, although my attention, and the attention of friends who acted with me, was directed to the question whether the disease attacked suddenly by vomiting, spasms, etc., we could not discover a single case without its having been ushered in by a diarrhœa.

In 1849, when the disease broke out here as an epidemic, I was placed in charge of the house-to-house visitors belonging to nine unions; and I had nearly one hundred medical gentlemen acting with me. I met these gentlemen daily; and from the first their attention was directed to the inquiry whether cholera attacks suddenly an individual in perfect health, or whether the disease gives any, and what warning, of its approach.

In this way 3,902 cases of cholera, which occurred in the above unions, were inquired into, and every one was found to have been preceded by a diarrhœa for a longer or shorter period; and a report of this result was made to the General Board of Health. See their *Report on Cholera*, published in 1850; Appendix B., p. 105.

In 1853, cholera having again broken out in this country and on the continent as an epidemic, and aware that neither in this country nor on the continent had the disease been scientifically investigated, and that the profession still believed that cholera is a disease independent of, and a superfœtation upon, diarrhœa; in the interests of humanity



I addressed a letter to the Académie Impériale de Médecine de France, which was published in their *Compte rendu des Séances de l'Académie* of the 24th September, 1853; and I addressed another letter to the Registrar-General here, which appeared in his weekly return of births and deaths of the 24th September, 1853.

In these letters it was stated that cholera—that is, vomiting, spasms, etc.—always gives a warning of its approach by a diarrhœa for a few hours, or for a few days, or for a few weeks; and that, if this diarrhœa is scientifically attended to, the progress of the disease can be arrested, developed cholera can be prevented, and life thereby can be saved.

This announcement, that the stage of vomiting, spasms, etc., that the stage of cholera is invariably preceded by a diarrhœa for a few hours, or for a few days, or for a few weeks, is the first intimation which the profession, in any country, had of the connexion which exists between diarrhœa and cholera.

After the publication of the above-mentioned letters to the Académie Impériale de Médecine and to the Registrar-General, the Registrar-General was so kind as to call on all his sub-registrars to state on their certificate, when they reported a death from cholera, whether the individual had been attacked, suddenly, by vomiting, spasms, etc., or whether the individual had had a diarrhœa previous to the attack of vomiting, spasms, etc.

Where it was reported that a diarrhœa had existed previous to the attack of vomiting, spasms, etc., the sub-registrars were further directed to



state for how many hours, or for how many days, or how many weeks, this diarrhœa had existed, previous to the attack of vomiting, spasms, etc.

Where the sub-registrars reported a case of cholera as having occurred without any previous diarrhœa, I made it my duty to inquire into the case, and to report the result to the Registrar-General.

During the outbreak of cholera, in London, in 1853, twenty-one cases were reported as cases of cholera without any premonitory diarrhœa. I visited the house where each of these twenty-one cases had occurred, and I there saw the relations or the friends who had attended these cases in their last moments, and in some instances the medical attendant; and the result was, that I found fifteen of these one-and-twenty cases had had a diarrhœa for a longer or shorter period previous to the attack of vomiting, spasms, etc. I also found that in the sixteenth case, the captain of the vessel, in which the case had occurred, had an interest in denying that his mate was labouring under a diarrhœa, at the time he was attacked with vomiting, spasms, etc. In the seventeenth case, the patient had been admitted into the London Hospital in a state of collapse; and, as the medical gentleman, who admitted the patient, could obtain no information whether he was or was not labouring under a diarrhœa, at the time he was attacked with vomiting, spasms, etc., he reported the case as one without a premonitory diarrhœa. In the eighteenth case, it was ascertained that this person was ill before she was attacked with vomiting, spasms, etc., but with



what, no one could tell. In the nineteenth case, hypercatharsis and death were induced by an overdose of purgative medicine. The twentieth case was one of retrocident gout. The twenty-first case was one of strangulated hernia.

Therefore, in the inquiry in 1853, carried on, as it were, by the whole medical profession in London, it was found that every fatal case of cholera had been preceded by a diarrhœa for a longer or shorter period.

In consequence of these researches in 1853, and in consequence of the publication of the *Result of an Inquiry into the Invariable Existence of a Premonitory Diarrhœa in Cholera*, the profession made more careful investigations into the state of health of their patients, previous to the attack of vomiting, spasms, etc.; and the result has been that the St. Thomas's, the St. Bartholomew's, the Westminster, the Homœopathic, the Royal Military Hospital, Chelsea, the St. Mary's, the University College Hospital, and the Middlesex Hospital, ascertained, and have reported to the General Board of Health, that every case of cholera, admitted into their hospitals, in 1854, had been preceded, for a longer or shorter period by a diarrhœa.

It follows from the above-mentioned researches that the question is now finally settled, and that it is admitted that every case of cholera is invariably preceded by a diarrhœa for a few hours, or for a few days, or for a few weeks; and that it is further in accordance with experience, at the bedside, that, if the disease is scientifically attended to, in this diarrhœal stage, the progress of the disease can be



arrested, developed cholera can be prevented, and life thereby can be saved.

But, although it is now admitted that diarrhœa, for a longer, or shorter period, invariably precedes an attack of vomiting, spasms, etc.—precedes an attack of cholera—yet, before diarrhœa comes on, there is a change which takes place in the constitution of every person about to be attacked by premonitory diarrhœa, and which has not as yet been sufficiently studied, and sufficiently attended to.

I allude to the derangement in the functions of the stomach and bowels, marked by an increase of flatus, by borborygmus, to which the person is not liable, the borborygmus being more especially noticed between the hours of one, and five, in the morning; and, when the person is up, and walking about, by his feeling a weight, and pressure, on the sphincter of the anus, and a feeling of insecurity, as if, at any moment the sphincter would give way, and he would soil his clothes.

And this derangement in the functions of the stomach and bowels is marked, in those persons who are of a costive habit, and who usually have a passage in their bowels only every second, third, or fourth day, of hard fœcal matter, having now a passage in their bowels, every day, of soft fœcal matter; and in those persons who are in the habit of having, every day, a solid fœcal evacuation, having now, daily, two, or more, soft, fœcal evacuations.

But this derangement in the functions of the stomach and bowels, is made evident to the medical attendant, by one-half, or one-third, or one-fourth, the usual dose of purgative medicine producing the



same results now as a full dose would do at any other time; and by a full dose now inducing diarrhœa, too often followed by fatal cholera.

Consequently, on entering into the inquiry whether cholera can be conveyed, by human intercourse, from an infected, to a healthy locality, or from an infected to a healthy individual—that is, whether cholera is contagious or not—we must take into consideration this derangement in the functions of the stomach and bowels—and we must ascertain whether this epidemic derangement in the functions of the stomach and bowels did or did not exist, in a locality where epidemic diarrhœa, followed by epidemic cholera, has broken out, before we can pronounce whether cholera has been conveyed or not, into the locality, by human intercourse.

But this derangement in the functions of the stomach and bowels, which precedes an outbreak of epidemical diarrhœa, and of epidemic cholera, which has been named by Dr. Williams, of Swansea, ‘the premonitory to the premonitory diarrhœa’, and to which the attention of the profession was first called in the *Result of an Inquiry into the Invariable Existence of a Premonitory Diarrhœa in Cholera*, p. 13, has not as yet been sufficiently investigated. And, consequently, until this is done—until the whole train of symptoms which usher in and which mark the disease are ascertained—no one is justified to pronounce whether or not cholera can be conveyed by human intercourse from an infected to a healthy locality, or from an infected to a healthy person—no one is justified to pronounce whether or not cholera is a contagious disease.



It has been stated above, that at the time cholera, as an epidemic, attracted attention in 1817, the vomiting, spasms, etc., alone, fixed attention, and received the name of cholera—the deviations from health which precede this stage were overlooked, and even diarrhœa was considered as unconnected with cholera; and, without any knowledge of the whole morbid phenomena which constitute the disease, in every country, the vomiting, spasms, etc., have been pronounced to be, or not to be, contagious, according as their fears, or according as their supposed interests, prompted them.

In 1831-32, when cholera broke out as an epidemic in England, it was assumed, without any knowledge of the pathognomonic symptoms of disease, and without any researches at the bedside into the cause or causes of the disease—it was assumed, I say, that cholera is a highly contagious disease.

In 1848-49, when cholera again broke out in England as an epidemic, the General Board of Health, again without any knowledge of the pathognomonic symptoms of the disease, and again without any researches at the bedside, into the cause or causes of the disease, pronounced cholera not to be a contagious disease. But if we examine the documents which they have brought forward to support their views, if we accept these as trustworthy, we arrive at the conclusion that the Board have proved that cholera can be transmitted by human intercourse from an infected to a healthy locality—can be transmitted from an infected to a healthy person—and, consequently, that cholera is a contagious disease.

The Board assumed that the first case of cholera,



which occurred in London in 1848, was on the 22nd September, 1848 (see p. 14 of their Report on Cholera, published in 1850); but they forgot to state that this case occurred in a sailor belonging to the *Elbe* steamer, which had arrived, two days before, from Hamburgh, where cholera raged; and that two sailors belonging to this steamer had died of cholera on the voyage from Hamburgh to London. *I have the authority of the Captain of the Elbe for this statement.* And they also forgot to state that a landsman, who slept in the same room as the sailor at Horsleydown, on the night from the 21st to the 22nd September, 1848, was himself attacked by cholera six days after. I have this detail from the landsman.

Therefore, if the fact is correct, that the case which occurred in the sailor on the 22nd September, 1848, was the first case of cholera, which occurred in London, in 1848, it is evident that the disease was imported into London by the steamer *Elbe*; and therefore the Board have proved that cholera can be conveyed, by human intercourse, from an infected to a healthy locality; therefore they have proved that cholera is a contagious disease.

But by referring to the Registrar General's weekly return of births and deaths, we find that one hundred and seventy-nine medical gentlemen certified to the Registrar General that one hundred and seventy-nine cases of cholera had proved fatal in London from 1st January to the 21st September, 1848. Therefore, the disease was raging in London prior to the 22nd September, 1848; and, therefore, the Board of Health were not justified in stating that



the first case of cholera which occurred in London, in 1848, was on the 22nd September.

In 1849 it was suggested to the General Board of Health that the only way to ascertain whether cholera is, or is not, a contagious disease, was to inquire into the state of health of each individual prior to the attack of vomiting, spasms, etc., and to watch the rise and progress of each case as it occurred. But the Board declined to carry out this inquiry; and in their Report on Cholera, published in 1850, they pronounced, as it has been stated above, without any researches at the bedside, and without any knowledge of the pathognomonic symptoms of the disease, that cholera is not a contagious disease.

In 1852, a Sanitary Congress, composed of delegates from the different states of Europe, assembled at Paris. The object this Congress had in view was to inquire into, and to decide, if any, and what modifications, could be made in the international quarantine laws. And at this Congress the question, as to whether cholera can be conveyed by human intercourse from an infected to a healthy locality—or from an infected to a healthy person—whether cholera is or is not a contagious disease—was mooted.

One party, on the authority of the Report on Cholera published by the General Board of Health, in 1850, who, it has just been seen, had pronounced, without any scientific researches at the bedside, and contrary to their own documents, that cholera is not a contagious disease, one party, I say, maintained that cholera is not a contagious disease. The other party, who came there also without



having made any scientific researches at the bedside, maintained that cholera is a contagious disease.

Therefore, the Congress, to arrive at a result, followed a middle course: each party gave way a little, and the congress modified the quarantine laws relative to cholera—leaving the question whether cholera is or is not a contagious disease where they found it—undecided.

In 1853, when cholera re-appeared here as an epidemic, it was again suggested to the General Board of Health that the question as to whether cholera is or is not a contagious disease should be studied in the manner it had been proposed in 1849; but the Board again declined to do this.

In 1854, when cholera reappeared here, again, as an epidemic, the same suggestions were made to the Board of Health, but with no better success. And the Board have published their Report on the cholera which raged here in 1854—and, judging from this Report, without having investigated at the bedside the important question which it was their duty specially to investigate—that is, its etiology.

And still judging from this Report, we arrive at the painful conviction that the Board have not even studied at the bedside the rise and progress of the symptoms of the disease—and that consequently they are not acquainted with the pathognomic symptoms of the disease.

In 1855, when cholera reappeared in London, again as an epidemic, it was determined to undertake the inquiry in the manner it had been so frequently suggested to the General Board of Health; and



to endeavour to pave the way towards setting the question whether cholera is, or is not, a contagious disease, at rest; and the results of this inquiry are contained in the following pages.

In placing these results before the profession, I am aware that the researches which have been undertaken and carried out are not sufficiently extensive to decide this important question; and that more extensive and more careful researches are still required.

As it was impossible for an individual to see and to observe every case of cholera as each occurred, it was determined to inquire into the case of every individual who had died of the disease in London in 1855, and with this view the Registrar General's weekly return was taken as a guide to the cases.

On referring to these weekly returns, we find that under the denomination of "choleraic diarrhœa"; "infantile cholera"; "English cholera"; "cholera"; "malignant cholera"; and "Asiatic cholera"; one hundred and twenty-four persons died in London in 1855.

Without attempting to question these several denominations which the disease has here received, these denominations have been accepted, and each case under each denomination inquired into, and the conclusions arrived at are drawn from the aggregate of all the cases of all the denominations.

It will be seen that the cases under each denomination are placed together, and according to the date at which they have occurred; and that each denomination is placed in the order in which it is mentioned above. So that any one wishing to



refer to these cases, may, at once, do so without any difficulty.

What are the conclusions which have been arrived at by this inquiry into the rise and progress of these 124 cases of cholera ?

1. That previous to the outbreak of cholera, while the disease rages, and after the outbreak has passed away some time, the epidemic derangement in the functions of the stomach, and bowels, was observed.

2. That every case of cholera was preceded by a diarrhœa, for a longer, or shorter, period.

3. That attacks of diarrhœa, followed by fatal cholera, were induced by errors in diet, as in the case 97, etc., or by an overdose of purgative medicine, as in case 16, etc.

4. That cases of cholera occurred where it was impossible that any communication could have taken place, between an infected and a healthy, individual, as in cases 34, 103, 104, 105, 109, 121, and 123.

5. That it has been impossible to trace the disease from an infected, to a healthy, locality, or from an infected, to a healthy, individual.

6. That, so far as this inquiry has been carried out, we must conclude that an individual may be attacked with cholera without having received the seeds of the disease from an infected locality, or from an infected individual; and that cholera cannot be conveyed by human intercourse from an infected to a healthy locality, or from an infected to a healthy individual—that is, that cholera is *not* a contagious disease.



## CASES.

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### CHOLERAIC DIARRHŒA.

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#### CASE No. 1.

*July 8th, 1855.*—Westminster, St. Margaret. At No. 7, Smith's Rents, the son of a shoemaker, aged three years, is reported in the Registrar General's Weekly Return of the 14th July, 1855, to have died on the 8th July, 1855, of choleraic diarrhœa—sixteen hours ill.

I have seen the father and the grandmother of this child, and they informed me that the child was weakly, but that he was in his usual health up to eleven o'clock at night, when he vomited, and had a copious evacuation from his bowels; that his father gave him some brandy and rhubarb, but does not know how much of this last; that the child went to sleep, and slept, apparently comfortable, till four o'clock, when his bowels acted repeatedly, and suddenly, without any vomiting, till about ten o'clock in the morning, when he was convulsed, and screaming at times, till about two P.M.; and he then sank gradually, and expired at about three o'clock. His hands and face turned slightly blue before death.



Neither the father nor the grandmother had observed whether the child had passed water. The father is certain, he says, that the child could not have taken anything disagreeable to his stomach.

Other children in the court had diarrhœa, but no one had had cholera, before or since the child's death, in the house or in the court.

What *rôle* acted the rhubarb in this case?

#### CASE No. 2.

*July 12th, 1855.*—In the Registrar General's Weekly Return of Births and Deaths of the 14th July, 1855, a child, female, three months old, is reported to have died on the 12th July, 1855, of choleraic diarrhœa, in twenty-four hours illness, at No. 39, King Street, West London, North.

I have been to the house, No. 39, King Street, and I there saw the two women who were with the child to the last. They say that the child was brought up by the hand, and that she did tolerably well till the last week previous to her death, when she began to have a bowel complaint,—that medical advice was obtained, but the diarrhœa was not arrested,—when twenty-four hours before her death she was seized with vomiting, spasms, violent purging, etc., which lasted for above eighteen hours, when she became calm, free from vomiting, spasms, or purging, and gradually sank.

For many hours before her death she became very black, to use the words of my informers, all over; and this darkness increased, if possible, after her death.

The child had not been out of the house for



many weeks, and no one in the house had either diarrhœa or cholera; nor had any one, to their knowledge, the disease in the neighbourhood—nor has any one had diarrhœa or cholera in the house since—nor have my two informants suffered in any way, although they washed and handled the child before and after death.

### CASE No. 3.

*July 20th, 1855.*—At No. 23, New North Street, on the 20th July, 1855, a woman, aged 21, is reported, in the Registrar General's Weekly Return of Births and Deaths of the 28th July, 1855, of choleraic diarrhœa (eight days), typhus.

I have seen the persons where the woman lodged, and the woman who attended her during her illness; and they inform me that she had been to the country for a change of air, and had been away about a month. She returned apparently well; when about eight days before her death she complained of diarrhœa—but still she was not suffering pain or uneasiness—when, on the fifth day, she suddenly began to vomit freely; then she complained of pains in all her limbs, and had severe and frequent purging. These symptoms continued for about a day, when she became easy and gradually sunk.

She was a very quiet, retiring person; did not visit any one from the moment of her return from the country, nor did any one come to see her; no diarrhœa or cholera was in the neighbourhood; and although every one in the house was during her illness in her room frequently, doing all they



could for her, no one has suffered from diarrhœa or from cholera in consequence. She became perfectly blue previous to death.

CASE No. 4.

*July 21st, 1855.*—See the Registrar General's Weekly Return, 21st July, 1855. Bermondsey Leather Market, Ship and Mermaid Row, on the 17th July, the son of a tripe-dresser, aged seven weeks, choleric (eight days), diarrhœa.

I have seen the aunt of this child, who attended him during his illness, as his mother was still weak after her confinement. The child was brought up by the breast; and eight days before his death he was seized with diarrhœa, which was, at first, not attended to.

The neighbourhood where his father and mother lived, and the house in which they live, are low, filthy places; yet no one in the house, so my informant says, had either diarrhœa or cholera previous to, or since this child's death.

CASE No. 5.

*July 21st, 1855.*—See the Registrar General's Weekly Return, 21st July, 1855. Newington, St. Peter, Walworth, at 14, Portland Street, on the 16th July, the wife of a greengrocer, aged fifty-six, choleraic diarrhœa, thirteen hours.

I have been to the above-named house, and I have seen this woman's son, a man of about thirty years old, who informed me that his mother had been ailing for many months; that she had not been out of her house for many weeks; that on



the Saturday, that is, the day previous to her being taken seriously ill, she complained of a pain in her stomach and bowels, and of a bowel complaint. However, she went to bed at her usual hour, and next morning seemed in her usual health; till the evening, when she began to vomit, and to be very freely purged, and to have cramps in her limbs. Medical assistance was obtained, but she died next morning.

This woman had not been visited by any one who laboured under diarrhœa or cholera; and since her death no one in the house has had either diarrhœa or cholera.

#### CASE NO. 6.

*July 23rd, 1855.*—Marylebone, Christ Church, at No. 7, Earl Street, the son of a clerk, aged three months, is reported in the Registrar General's Weekly Return of Births and Deaths for the 28th July, 1855, to have died, at the above-named address, of choleraic diarrhœa, thirty hours.

This child was brought up by hand, and according to the person who had charge of him, was frequently deranged in his bowels. However, two days before his death, he became worse than usual—and after the diarrhœa had lasted above twenty-four hours, he began to scream, occasionally to draw up his limbs suddenly, and to vomit—when a medical gentleman was called in, who pronounced the child in great danger, and he died about eighteen hours after.

Diarrhœa was about in the neighbourhood; but the child had not been out for above a week before



he was taken ill ; and every one in the house was, and all have remained since, perfectly free from diarrhœa or cholera.

CASE No. 7.

*July 23rd, 1855.*—Marylebone, St. John's. At 37, Princess Street, the daughter of a tailor, aged nine months, is reported, in the Registrar General's Weekly Return for 28th July, 1855, to have died at the above-named house of choleraic diarrhœa.

The mother of this child informed me that the child's habit was to have one passage in her bowels daily ; that for a fortnight previous to her being taken ill, she remarked that the child had two, and sometimes three, liquid stools daily, without any pain or uneasiness ; that she believed the looseness was owing to her teething.

However, three days before her death, on going to take her up out of her bed, she found her, to use her own words, swimming in a liquid evacuation ; and after having washed her, and made her comfortable, she had another very copious evacuation ; and during the next twelve hours she had several such copious painless evacuations, when she began to vomit and to scream, and draw up her limbs, as if in pain.

The medical attendant was sent for, and he prescribed ; but from that moment neither medicines nor food could remain on her stomach ; the moment she took anything she both vomited and purged. She sank on the third day.

She did not pass water for the last twenty-four hours ; and the mother did not remark that she



was particularly discoloured in her skin, before or after death.

This child had been taken out before the door, but had not been taken to any house. Diarrhœa was prevailing amongst the children in the neighbourhood, but not in the house where she lived.

#### CASE No. 8.

*July 24th, 1855.*—See the Registrar General's Weekly Report, July 28th, 1855. At No. 5, Pleasant Place, Uxbridge Road, on the 24th July, the daughter of a servant, aged nine months, choleraic diarrhœa, forty-eight hours.

I have seen the person who had charge of this child. The child had been weaned about three weeks. She was thriving, when she was suddenly seized with diarrhœa in the morning early, about four o'clock. This diarrhœa continued all day without any spasms or vomiting; when both came on in the evening, and persisted off and on all night. Next day the purging, spasms, and vomiting, ceased; but the child sank next morning. She had had regular medical attendance shortly after she was taken ill, and up to the last moment of her existence.

This child had not been taken further than the front of the door where she was at nurse. The house is clean and well aired. There was no case of diarrhœa or cholera in the house, or in the neighbourhood, previous to this child's illness, nor has there been any since her death: therefore she cannot have caught the disease from any one.



## CASE No. 9.

*July 29th, 1855.*—See the Registrar General's Weekly Return, 4th August, 1855. St. George-in-the-East, St. Paul, at 7, Bluegate Street, on the 29th July, a girl, aged seven months, choleraic diarrhœa, three days.

The father informed me that the child had had a diarrhœa for above three weeks; and that she was much reduced in flesh, when she was attacked by more severe purging and vomiting, and died three days after.

The house is in a low neighbourhood; but no person had diarrhœa or cholera before this child was taken ill, or since; nor has her mother, who attended the child to the last, in any way suffered.

## CASE No. 10.

*August 4th, 1855.*—See the Registrar General's Weekly Return, 4th August, 1855. Bethnal Green Town, at No. 6, Little York Street, on the 29th July, a female silk weaver, aged nineteen years, choleraic fever, five days.

I have seen two females who attended to this girl during her illness, and they informed me that she was taken ill with what was supposed fever about eight days before her death, accompanied with diarrhœa—to which she, and those about her, paid very little attention, until she began to vomit and to complain of pains—when medical aid was obtained, and all done for her that could be done.

They say that she was a very hard-working, respectable young woman; and they have no reason to suppose that she had visited any one labouring



under diarrhœa or cholera, nor was any one in the house ill with either of these, previous to this girl's illness or since her death.

These two females state that they never left her from the moment she became dangerously ill till the moment of her death; and that they even laid out the remains, and placed them in the coffin; so that had the disease, they say, been a contagious one, they would have caught it.

#### CASE No. 11.

*August 4th, 1855.*—See the Registrar General's Weekly Return, 4th August, 1855. Bethnal Green, "The Green," at 7, Collingwood Street, on the 20th July, a barman, aged twenty-five, diarrhœa, two days; choleraic symptoms, sixteen hours.

I have been to the house where this man died, which is situated in the lowest of the low districts of London, and is itself occupied by the lowest of the low class of society, and no one could give any account of this man, but that he was taken ill and died there.

They admitted that no one had been ill in the house with diarrhœa or cholera before this man was taken ill, nor has any one been ill with diarrhœa or cholera since his death.

#### CASE No. 12.

*August 7th, 1855.*—See the Registrar General's Weekly Return, 11th August, 1855. Marylebone, Cavendish Square, at 20, Little Marylebone Street, on the 7th August, the widow of a farmer, aged seventy, choleraic diarrhœa, several days.



It appears, by the report of the person in whose house she lived, that she was a sick nurse; that she had been on close attendance on a person who died of phthisis; that she was much fatigued in consequence; that while in attendance she had a bowel complaint, which she neglected; that after she returned home, after the death of the patient, the bowel complaint continued; that still she did not take care of herself; that about three days before her death she began to vomit and purge also, but not severely; that on the day after the vomiting first began, on rising out of bed, she was attacked with fainting, and immediately after with cramps, etc.; that the cramps and vomiting were at no time very severe, at least she did not complain much of either. She died as above stated.

This woman had had no communication with any one who laboured under diarrhœa or under cholera; neither of these diseases was in the house or in the neighbourhood where she resided; nor had any one been attacked with either in the house where she resided; and, so far as my informant knows, no one in the neighbourhood had been attacked since her death with either of the above-named diseases.

#### CASE No. 13.

*August 10th, 1855.*—See the Registrar General's Weekly Return, 18th August, 1855. At No. 24, Foley Street, Marylebone, All Souls, on the 10th August, the wife of a French polisher, aged fifty-one, choleraic diarrhœa, ten days.

I have seen the landlady of the house, No. 24,



Foley Street, where the above-named woman lodged, and she informed me that the woman had been ailing for some months in consequence of a change in life; that she, however, went about and attended to her household affairs; that ten days before her death she was seized during the night with diarrhœa, which continued increasing in violence on her till she sank, with, however, little vomiting or pain. She was much reduced in size at the moment of her death, but her skin was not discoloured.

No one in the house suffered from diarrhœa before or after the death of this woman; and her daughter, who washed all the soiled linen, has not had diarrhœa, or been in the slightest way indisposed.

#### CASE No. 14.

*11th August, 1855.*—See the Registrar General's Weekly Return, 11th August, 1855. Lambeth, Lambeth Church (first part), at 5, Asylum Place, on the 5th August, the son of a gardener, aged eighteen months, choleraic diarrhœa.

I have seen this child's mother, and she informed me that this boy was subject to diarrhœa from his birth; that a week before his death he was attacked with diarrhœa again; but, as he was subject to such attacks, this was considered by her merely a repetition of what he was subject to; but when he began to vomit and purge violently, she became alarmed, and sent for medical advice. But it was too late: nothing relieved the child. The child had not, the mother said, been beyond the door of her house since his birth; he had not seen any one labouring under diarrhœa or under cholera; and



no one in the house, or, so far as she could learn, in her neighbourhood, laboured under such diseases previous to, or during, or since her child's death.

CASE No. 15.

*August 12th, 1855.*—See the Registrar General's Weekly Return, 18th August, 1855. At No. 3, Francis Street, Kensington, St. John's, Paddington, on the 12th August, the son of a carman, aged eighteen weeks, died of choleraic diarrhœa, four days.

I have been to the above-named house, and I learn, from a woman who was with the child to the last, that he was brought up by the breast; that for above two weeks before his death he had diarrhœa; that about four days before his death he had vomiting and spasms, when medical advice was obtained; that medicines were administered, which seemed to ease the child; but that for the last two days he lay quite quiet and seemed in no pain, but gradually sank, and before death his skin became quite discoloured—that is, dark.

The child had not, from his birth, been farther than about the door; and the only case of diarrhœa in the house, and, indeed, in the whole neighbourhood, was my informant's child, who had then a severe diarrhœa, in consequence, she believed, of his being then teething, as the child is now fourteen months old. However, her boy got well shortly after the death of the above-named child, and has continued well up to two days ago, when he was again seized with the same kind of diarrhœa as he was labouring under on the 12th of August last;



and she again attributed her child's illness to his cutting a tooth.

Here there is nothing to lead us to suppose that the disease (cholera) was caused by contagion or infection ; that is, brought from a person labouring under the disease to this child.

#### CASE No. 16.

*August 15th, 1855.*—See the Registrar General's Weekly Return, 18th August, 1855. At No. 14, Ferry Street, Isle of Dogs, on the 15th August, the daughter of an engine smith, aged six years, choleraic diarrhœa, one day.

Her mother informs me that the child had received a severe injury of the head about six weeks before the day she was taken ill. On the morning she was taken ill she complained of a great pain in her head ; and she (the mother) gave her a dose of rhubarb and magnesia, which not having operated so soon as she expected, she gave the child a dose of castor oil, when she had three or four very copious stools. After the last evacuation the child seemed eased ; but on going to her bedside, about an hour after, she found her in strong convulsions, and she never spoke after. She died that evening.

The house is healthy ; no bad smells ; nor were there any cases of diarrhœa or of cholera in the house before, during, or since her child's illness and death.

#### CASE No. 17.

*August 18th, 1855.*—See the Registrar General's Weekly Report, 18th August, 1855. Lambeth



Church (first part), at the Workhouse, on the 16th August, a boy, aged four months, choleraic diarrhœa, twelve hours.

I have been to Lambeth Workhouse, and I was informed that this child and his mother were admitted into the Workhouse on the 15th August, and that he died on the 16th August; that he was, however, ill with diarrhœa when he and his mother were admitted.

The clerk of the Workhouse informed me that this child, and his mother, had come from No. 2, Glasshouse Street, Vauxhall; but I have been to that street, and there is no "No. 2" in that street. Nos. 1, 2, 3, and 4, were demolished when the railroad was built, and the houses have not been re-numbered since.

And, further, I applied to several persons in that street to know whether a woman and her child had gone to the Workhouse in August; but no one could give me any information.

However, the clerk further informed me that no one in the workhouse caught either diarrhœa or cholera from this child.

#### CASE No. 18.

*August 18th, 1855.*—See the Registrar General's Weekly Report, 18th August, 1855. St. Saviour's, Southwark, at No. 56, Ewer Street, on the 12th August, the daughter of a coal porter, aged four months, choleraic diarrhœa, one week.

The father and mother of this child have left the street, but the person who resides now in the house, and who was godmother to the child, and



attended her through her illness, stated to me, that the child was brought up by the breast; that she was seized with diarrhœa about a week before her death; that this diarrhœa was not attended to by the child's mother, or by her, as they did not believe it of consequence, till the child began to vomit and scream, evidently in pain, when the medical attendant saw and prescribed, but did not arrest the disease. The child died on the seventh day.

No one in the house had diarrhœa or cholera before, or during, the child's illness, or since her death; and the child had never been out of the house from the moment of her birth.

#### CASE No. 19.

*August 18th, 1855.*—See the Registrar General's Weekly Return, 18th August, 1855. Bethnal Green, "the Green," at No. 2, west, on the 18th August, a carpenter, aged forty-two years, choleraic diarrhœa, seven days.

The medical attendant states that the house is bounded back and front by an open drain, the stench from which is certainly injurious to health, especially in hot weather. In the same house his wife now lies in a hopeless state.

I have been to the above-named house. I have had a letter from the medical gentleman who attended this man, and I have seen his employer, and a friend and fellow-workman who worked at the same bench with him.

From his fellow-workman, who knew him for many years, I received the information that this man was very much subject to diarrhœa; that he



had had the diarrhœa on him for many weeks before the day he was taken so ill ; that he was obliged to leave his work before the usual time ; that the medical attendant was sent for the day after.

The medical gentleman states, that when he saw him he considered him then labouring under choleraic diarrhœa, and that he rapidly sunk. But the medical gentleman cannot find out from his notes what day he saw the man for the first time.

As to this man's wife, from the certificate it would appear that she too was labouring under choleraic diarrhœa ; but I have a letter from the medical gentleman who attended her for some months in consequence of chronic bronchitis, and he informed me that she had been confined about two months before her death, and that he considered her case as hopeless, when another medical gentleman saw her, and attended to her. This gentleman I have also seen, and he told me that this woman was labouring under typhus ; that she was removed to the workhouse after the death of her husband, along with her three children, all labouring under typhus.

I went to the workhouse and I ascertained from the books that this woman had died in the workhouse, a few days after her admission, of typhus ; and that one of her children had also died of the same disease ; and that the lives of the other children were saved with great difficulty. Therefore, there are no proofs that the husband caught diarrhœa or cholera from any one ; and it is certain he did not communicate the disease to any of his family.



## CASE No. 20.

*August 25th*, 1855.—See the Registrar General's Weekly Return, 25th August, 1855. St. Pancras, Regent's Park, at No. 4, Gloucester Street, on the 18th August, the wife of a retired bootmaker, aged seventy-six, choleraic diarrhœa, five days.

I have seen the person who attended this woman from the moment she was taken ill with diarrhœa till the moment of her death; and she informed me that this woman had not been out of the house for above a year; that she felt the weight of age, without having anything serious the matter with her; that when she first was taken ill with diarrhœa, neither she nor any one of the family were alarmed. After the first day medical attendance was obtained, but she died four days after. No one in the house had diarrhœa or cholera at the time this woman was taken ill; nor has any one had either of these since her death.

The house is well aired and clean; and the family appear to be in affluence and comfort.

## CASE No. 21.

*August 28th*.—See the Registrar General's Weekly Report, 25th Aug., 1855. At No. 7, Hart Street, Covent Garden, the son of a kitchen porter, aged eight months, choleraic diarrhœa, four days.

The parents of this child have removed from the above-named house, and have not left their address; but the landlady of the house informed me that she had assisted to attend this child during her illness; and she reports that the mother had suddenly lost her milk, in consequence of a fright, above a month



before the child's death ; that, consequently, the child was brought up by the hand ; that a fortnight before his death he was labouring under a bowel complaint, which she and his mother believed to depend on teething, and, consequently, did not pay much attention to this diarrhœa ; four days, however, before his death, he was seized with severe vomiting, purging, and cramps, when he was taken to a medical gentleman, who pronounced the child in great danger ; and he did all he could for the child, but in vain : the child died on the fourth day.

No person in the house had diarrhœa or cholera before or since the child's death ; and as the child was only taken to the door occasionally for the benefit of fresh air, and had had no communication with any one labouring under diarrhœa or cholera, it is impossible that he can have caught the diarrhœa from any one.

#### CASE No. 22.

*Aug. 28th.*—See the R. G. W. R., 1st Sept., 1855. At No. 13, Rose Street, City Road, a female child, aged eight months, of choleraic diarrhœa.

I have seen this child's mother, who informed me that the child was one of twins ; that she had been in delicate health from her birth ; that she had an eruption on her body, for which she had been, almost from her birth, under medical treatment ; that for a month or six weeks before her death, she and her twin sister had had, off and on, a diarrhœa, for which they both received medical assistance ; that her twin sister got well ; but that she was suddenly seized with vomiting, cramps, etc., and died in two days after.



Both these children were brought up partly by the breast and partly by hand; as the mother, a delicate woman, had not sufficient milk for both. These two children had not been out of the house for some weeks previous to being taken ill; and they had had no communication with any one labouring under diarrhœa or cholera; no one was ill in the house with either diarrhœa or cholera previous to the illness of these children; nor has any one been ill since.

This woman says, that she heard that several children were ill with diarrhœa at the time her children were unwell.

#### CASE No. 23.

*Sept. 1st.*—See the R. G. W. R., 1st Sept., 1855. At No. 2, London Passage, a male child died of choleraic diarrhœa.

I have been to the above-named house, and I find that the family are removed, and no one knows where. A neighbour informed me that the child had been ill several days from diarrhœa, and at last died suddenly. My informant was not aware that any person had been ill in the house from diarrhœa or cholera before this child was taken ill, or since his death.

The registrar of the district informed me that the child had been reported to him as a weak child, and that he had died of choleraic diarrhœa; but he could give no further information relative to this infant, only, that this was the only case of death from choleraic diarrhœa in his district.

#### CASE No. 24.

*Sept. 3rd.*—See the R. G. W. R., 8th Sept., 1855. At No. 4, Vincent Street, Limehouse, Stepney, the



son of a caulker, aged one year, choleraic diarrhœa, seven days.

The child's grandmother informed me that the child was weaned, and that he was teething; that he was taken with diarrhœa about seven days before his death; that his mother and herself considered this diarrhœa to depend on teething; but when the child began to vomit and be in pain, a medical gentleman saw and prescribed for him; but he died on the seventh day.

The house is perfectly healthy; the child was not out of the house for some weeks; and no one in the house, or in the neighbourhood, that she was aware of, had diarrhœa or cholera.

#### CASE No. 25.

*Sept. 8th.*—See the R. G. W. R., 8th Sept., 1855. Westminster, St. Margaret, No. 27, Stafford Place, 3rd Sept., a messenger, aged seventy-four, choleraic diarrhœa.

It appears that this man had been for some time in a declining state of health; and, consequently, very seldom went out of doors; that he had not left his house for some weeks; when, four days previous to his death, he was seized with diarrhœa; and for the two first days gave himself and his friends no uneasiness. On the morning of the third day he began to vomit and purge severely, and to complain of pains in his limbs. Medical advice was obtained, but without avail. He died the next day. No one in the house was ill with diarrhœa or cholera previous to, or during his illness.

My informant, who attended him during his illness, and who was much interested in him, was so alarmed



at the sudden death of her friend, that she became ill with diarrhœa and vomiting; but she herself attributes this attack, under which she suffered for two days, more to mental anxiety than to anything else. No other persons who attended him had had anything the matter with them.

#### CASE No. 26.

*Sept. 12th.*—See the R. G. W. R., 15th Sept., 1855. At No. 41, Rufford's Buildings, on 12th Sept., the daughter of a boot-closer, aged eight months, choleraic diarrhœa, four days collapse.

I have seen this child's mother, and she informed me that the child was teething, but did not appear to suffer much; that four days before her death she was suddenly seized with diarrhœa, which she (the mother) believed depended on her teething; and, therefore, did not pay much attention to this looseness. Towards the evening the child became worse, and began to scream, as if in pain; she was then taken to the medical attendant, who prescribed; but the child got worse, and died on the fourth day.

The child had been taken out into the open air almost daily, but had not been taken to any house; nor had any one visited at the house where the child was who came from a house where a case of diarrhœa or of cholera existed.

She says, further, that she heard of persons having diarrhœa in the neighbourhood; but that she had not heard of the existence of any case of cholera.

#### CASE No. 27.

*Sept. 22nd.*—See the R. G. W. R., 22nd Sept., 1855. St. George in the East, St. Mary, at 8, Christian Street,



on the 18th Sept., a dock labourer, aged sixty years, febris some months, choleraic diarrhœa two days.

I have seen the landlady where this man resided, and she says he had been in delicate health for some months—as stated by the medical officer's certificate—when he was seized with diarrhœa, and died on the second day.

The house is in a low neighbourhood; but is clean, and no one has been suffering from diarrhœa or cholera in the house or in the neighbourhood, since the death of this man—nor is she aware that anyone suffered from these two diseases previous to this man's illness.

#### CASE No. 28.

*Sept. 22nd.*—See the R. G. W. R., 22nd Sept., 1855. City of London, North West, at Queen's Hotel, St. Martin's-le-Grand, on 19th Sept., 1855, a merchant, aged forty-six, choleraic dysentery, six days, exhaustion.

I have seen the mistress of the Queen's Hotel, and she informed me that this gentleman arrived at her hotel apparently in perfect health, and remained so for about four days; when he began to complain of a diarrhœa which gave him no pain, but appeared to annoy him, merely by the frequent calls to go to the water-closet. In this state he remained for about eight days, going about and attending to his business. The night before his death he was suddenly seized with vomiting, severe purging, followed by cramps, and collapse—and he ceased to live a few hours after. He had every care bestowed upon him possible, and every medical aid that could be had. The mistress of the hotel adds that she does not know from whence the gentlemen came, and knows nothing whatever



of his family or connections, only that some of them came from Liverpool, she believes, to attend to his affairs after his death.

No one in the hotel was ill with diarrhœa or with cholera at the time this gentleman was taken ill ; nor had any one ever been ill in the hotel with these diseases ; nor has anyone had diarrhœa or cholera in the hotel since this gentleman's death.

#### CASE No. 29.

*Sept. 22nd.*—See the R. G. W. R., 22nd Sept., 1855. At No. 5, Gilbert Street, St. George, Hanover Square, on the 22nd Sept., the wife of a servant, aged twenty-five, is reported to have died of choleraic diarrhœa, absorption, typhus gravior.

I have seen the person at whose house this woman died, and the medical attendant. From this last I learn that this woman was seized with diarrhœa above a fortnight before her death ; that after a few days she had severe cramps, vomiting, etc., all the symptoms of cholera, in fact ; that she miscarried during the attack of cholera, and which then abated—that is, the spasms, vomiting, and purging. But she then began to have symptoms of fever, which ultimately terminated in typhus.

It is evident that this person had, at first, cholera ; and that the subsequent stage was that of collapse.

From the mistress of the house I learn that this woman was a very steady person, that she is not aware that she could have seen or had communication with persons labouring under diarrhœa or cholera, and that no person in the neighbourhood laboured under either of these stages of cholera.

The medical attendant says that he did attend seve-



ral cases of diarrhœa and of cholera at the same time he attended to this woman, but that she had been for some days ill with diarrhœa when he first saw her, and she was then labouring under spasms and vomiting : therefore he could not have brought the disease to her.

#### CASE No. 30.

*Sept. 22nd.*—See the R. G. W. R., 22nd Sept., 1855. Whitechapel, Aldgate, in the Tower Hospital, on the 17th Sept., a private of the 54th Regiment, aged thirty, choleraic diarrhœa, two days illness.

As the Detachment belonging to the 54th Regiment, and the medical officer in charge, had left the Tower, I applied to, and received the following information from the Director-General of Army Hospitals, Dr. Smith. It appears from the official report made to him by the medical officer in charge of the Detachment, that seven cases of diarrhœa had been admitted into the hospital during the month. Six of these had been attended to previous to the attack of vomiting, spasms, etc., and were cured. The above-named man neglected to apply for medical aid till he was found in the *rear*, and brought into the hospital labouring under cramps and diarrhœa—which soon ceased, and he never rallied.

No inquiry was made, it appears, when and where the first symptoms of diarrhœa supervened ; nor were any inquiries made to discover whether this man could have received the seeds of the disease from, or communicated them to, the other men.

#### CASE No. 31.

*Sept. 24th.*—See the R. G. W. R., 29th Sept., 1855.



At Islington West, No. 31, Upper Bingfield Street, on the 24th September, 1855, the daughter of a baker, aged seventeen months, choleraic diarrhœa, four days.

I have seen the father and mother of this child, and they inform me that the child was not yet weaned—that she was teething; that she had been ill with a bowel complaint, diarrhœa for above four weeks; that the child had had regular medical attendance; that the disease had been considered to depend on teething; that four days before her death she began to vomit, but not severely; that the next day this increased, with more frequent purging, and cramps; that from this time, that is, from the time the cramps came on, she gradually sank, and died on the fourth day after the vomiting first appeared.

This child had not been out of the house for many weeks, no one in the house was ill with diarrhœa or cholera, nor had any one labouring under either seen the child. Since her death no one in the house has had diarrhœa, or cholera.

At the time the child was ill with diarrhœa, the parents had heard that persons, in the neighbourhood, had diarrhœa; but, again, none of these persons had come near the child.

#### CASE No. 32.

*Sept. 29th.*—See the R. G. W. R., 29th Sept., 1855. St. George in the East, St. Mary, at 18, St. George Court, on the 29th Sept., the son of a dock labourer, aged six years, choleraic diarrhœa, three hours.

I have seen the father of this child, and he informed me that the child went to bed apparently in perfect health; that about three o'clock next morning the child got up, said he felt very ill in his stomach, had



a very free stool, felt relieved, and went to bed again ; at six, when the father got up, the child had another evacuation, and from that time, till about six in the evening, he was repeatedly relieved in his bowels. At about six in the evening he began to vomit, and to have cramps, and died about three hours after. Therefore, the registrar's return is in error to say that the diarrhœa lasted only three hours.

Some of the children in the court had diarrhœa, but none had cholera, so far as he knows—certainly no one died of the disease previous to, or since his son's death.

#### CASE No. 33.

*Sept. 29th.*—See the R. G. W. R., 29th Sept., 1855. St. George in the East, St. Mary, at 31, Henry Street, on the 23rd Sept., the widow of a journeyman tin-plate worker, aged thirty, phthisis three months, choleraic diarrhœa, fourteen days.

I was informed by the persons who attended this woman, that she had not been out of her house for at least a week previous to being seized with diarrhœa, and that no one in the house had diarrhœa or cholera previous to her illness or since her death.

#### CASE No. 34.

*Nov. 10th.*—See the R. G. W. R., 10th Nov., 1855. Westminster, St. Margaret, in the House of Correction, the daughter of a labourer, aged ten months, choleraic diarrhœa.

I have been to the House of Correction and have seen the medical attendant, who informs me that this child and her mother were admitted into the house on the 29th October ; that both appeared in perfect



health; that on the 5th November the child was attacked with diarrhœa, which was followed on the second day by vomiting, spasms, etc., and the child died on the third day from the commencement of the attack of diarrhœa.

No case of diarrhœa or of cholera existed then in the house, nor has any case occurred since this child's death in the establishment.

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## INFANTILE CHOLERA.

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### CASE No. 35.

*July 28th.*—See the R. G. W. R., 28th July, 1855. Lambeth, Kennington, at No. 21, Treport Place, Wandsworth Road, on 28th July, the son of a butcher, aged six months, cholera infantum, twenty-eight hours.

The father and mother of this child have left the house where their child died; but a neighbour and relative of theirs informed me that this child was weak from his birth; that he was suddenly seized with a bowel complaint, which she, my informant, believed to be in consequence of teething; but as the bowel complaint became more severe in a few hours, followed by vomiting, and the child screaming occasionally, a medical gentleman was sent for: but nothing arrested the disease, and the child ceased to live in about twenty-eight hours from the first liquid stool.

No one in the house had diarrhœa previous to this child's illness, or since his death.



## CASE No. 36.

*July 28th.*—See R. G. W. R., 28th July, 1855. Lambeth, Lambeth Church, second part, at 80, Broad Street, on the 25th July, the son of a house painter, aged one year, teething; diarrhœa, ten days; and convulsions, eight hours.

The father of this child informed me that the child had been delicate in his bowels from his birth; that is, that he was subject to attacks of diarrhœa; that when he was this time first attacked with diarrhœa, the mother did not feel any alarm about the child's illness, till about the fourth day, when the child began to vomit. Medical assistance was obtained, but with no relief: the child ultimately died in convulsions. No one in the house, or in the neighbourhood, so far as the father knows, had been ill of diarrhœa or cholera previous to the child's illness, or has been ill of these diseases since.

The house is in a low, dirty neighbourhood; and the house itself is dirty.

## CASE No. 37.

*July 30th.*—It is reported in the R. G. W. R. of Births and Deaths, 4th August, 1855, that a child, the son of a tailor, aged twenty-six days, died on the 30th July, 1855, of cholera infantum, forty-eight hours ill, at No. 4, Buckle Street, Whitechapel Church.

I have seen the mother of the child, and she informs me that she was obliged to feed and to nurse the child at the same time, as she had not enough of milk. The child at first did well, but for the last five or six days his bowels became relaxed, and then he began to vomit and had convulsions, she says, that is, starting and screaming, as if he was in pain.



The child had not been out since its birth, except before the door. No one had diarrhœa or cholera in the house before or since.

CASE No. 38.

*Aug. 4th.*—See R. G. W. R., 4th Aug., 1855. Shoreditch, Haggerston East, at No. 8, Livermore Road, on the 30th July, the daughter of a labourer, aged seven months, infantile cholera, two days.

I have seen this child's mother, and she informs me that the child was brought up by the hand; that she was a weakly child, and had repeated attacks of diarrhœa; and that the last time the child was taken ill with diarrhœa, she supposed that this was only one of her usual attacks; but when the child began to vomit, and to have spasms, she obtained medical advice, but it was too late; the child died some hours after.

The child had not been out of the house for many weeks; and no one in the house was ill with diarrhœa or with cholera previous to the child's illness, or since her death.

CASE No. 39.

*Aug. 4th.*—See R. G. W. R., 4th Aug., 1855. Shoreditch, Haggerston West, at 16, York Street, on the 25th July, the son of a dressmaker, aged five months, infantile cholera, twenty-four hours.

I have seen the mother of this child, and she informed me that the child was brought up by the hand; that he was weak from his birth, and very liable to attacks of diarrhœa; that he had a diarrhœa for several days previous to the attacks of vomiting, spasms, and purging severely, which carried him off in less than twenty-four hours. She also informed



me that this child had not been out of the house since his birth; that he had not been visited by any person who was labouring under diarrhœa or cholera; that no one in the house had diarrhœa or cholera previous to or since her son's death.

CASE No. 40.

*Aug. 4th.*—See R. G. W. R., 4th Aug., 1855. At No. 9, Eustache Place, Greenwich, Woolwich Dockyard, on the 30th July, the daughter of a farm labourer, aged eight months, cholera infantum, seven days.

This child was brought up by the breast; the mother is a very healthy person; and she informed me, that when her daughter was first taken ill with diarrhœa she supposed the child was teething, and, therefore, did not attend so much as she possibly ought to have done to this diarrhœa. However, on the fourth day, as the child then began to vomit all she took, a medical man saw and prescribed for her; but it was unavailing; the child died on the seventh day from the time she was taken ill.

The house where this child resided is in a low neighbourhood and filthy. In the house, and in the neighbouring house, there are many children; but, before or since the death of this child, no one has been ill with diarrhœa or cholera.

CASE No. 41.

*Aug. 11th.*—See R. G. W. R., 11th Aug., 1855. St. Luke, Old Street, at No. 10, James Street, on the 10 Aug., the daughter of a servant, aged four months, diarrhœa, fourteen days; cholera infantum, six days.

The mother of this child informed me that the child was weakly from her birth; that she was brought



up by hand ; that she had frequent attacks of diarrhœa previous to the last, which carried her off ; that the child had not been out of the house since her birth ; had not been visited by any one labouring under diarrhœa or cholera ; that no one in the house had either disease ; and, so far as she had heard, no one in her immediate neighbourhood laboured under either diarrhœa or cholera.

CASE No. 42.

*Aug. 12th.*—See the R. G. W. R., 18th Aug., 1855. At No. 11, Bloomfield Terrace, on the 12th Aug., the son of a sculptor, aged six months, died of infantile cholera, two days ill.

This child was brought up by hand ; he was a healthy child, and was well up to two days before death ; when he was seized with a bowel complaint, diarrhœa, and a few hours after he was carried to the medical attendant for advice. This gentleman prescribed ; but towards evening the child became worse, the diarrhœa was more urgent, and nothing passed but like water ; and now cramps came on, and the poor child seemed at times to be in agony, screaming and throwing himself about in his bed. From this time the child grew gradually worse, and he died about two days after being taken ill. His skin was not discoloured either before or after death.

The child had never been taken out but before the door. No one in the house, or in the neighbourhood, had diarrhœa or cholera ; and most certainly no one with the disease had come near the child.

The nurse blames the smell from Ranelagh sewer as the cause of the child's illness ; the smell is at times very offensive from the sewer, and the bad



smell is sensibly felt even in the house. The house itself is clean and airy. Although she attended the child to the last she has not suffered in any way.

#### CASE No. 43.

*Aug. 17th.*—See R. G. W. Returns of B. and D., 18th Aug., 1855. At East London, St. Botolph, No. 7, Skinner Street, Bishopsgate, the son of a provision merchant, aged twenty-three days, is reported in the weekly return of births and deaths to have died at the above address, of cholera infantum.

The child was brought up by the hand and was sickly from his birth, and at last sank after having a bowel complaint for nine days, and the last day convulsions. The child had not been out of the house, nor had any one having a diarrhœa been to the house.

#### CASE No. 44.

*Aug. 19th.*—See R. G. W. R., 25th August, 1855. Hackney, at High Street, Homerton, on the 19th August, 1855, the daughter of a grocer, three months, cholera infantum, three days.

I have seen the father and mother of this child, and they state that the child was very weakly from birth; that her mother lost her milk, and consequently the child was sent out of the house four times a day to get the breast, and in the interval the child was fed; consequently the child did not thrive, and her bowels were often deranged; that four days before her death she began to vomit, purge severely, and have cramps; that a medical gentleman did all he could, but that she died on the fourth day.

The father and mother are certain, that the person to whose house she was daily carried four times a day



was perfectly well and free from diarrhœa, and that her children were also free from diarrhœa ; that she had heard of many persons having diarrhœa at the time the child was taken ill, but no one of these had any communication with her family, and consequently with her child. The house is not clean, and it is in a low neighbourhood.

CASE No. 45.

*Aug. 21st.*—See R. G. W. R., 25th August, 1855. At No. 6, Church Place, on the 21st of August, the daughter of a park labourer, aged eleven months, cholera infantum, three days.

I have seen this child's mother, who states that the child was strong and healthy ; that she was brought up by the breast ; that three days before her death she was taken out, and on returning home the child was seized with a bowel complaint, which kept increasing on her all day. In the evening she took her to a medical gentleman, who prescribed for her ; but during the night she was seized with cramps and vomiting and severe purging. The next day, a medical gentleman saw and prescribed for her, but all in vain ; she died on the third day.

Diarrhœa was very prevalent in the neighbourhood, and a man and his child had both severe diarrhœa in the house at the time the above child was taken ill ; but the child was not taken into their rooms, nor did they come into the child's room—in fact, the two families had no communication whatever. The mother of the above child does not wash for any one.

CASE No. 46.

*Aug. 5th.*—See the R. G. W. R., 25th Aug. 1855.



At Little George Street, No. 9, Chelsea South, on the 23rd August, 1855, the son of a general dealer, aged four months, infantile cholera, eleven days.

I have been to the above house, and I have seen the mother of this child. The child was brought up by the breast. About a month before his death his bowels became deranged, that is, he had diarrhœa. She herself (the mother) was not well, the catamenia were on, and she fancied that her milk disagreed with the child. She weaned him; but the bowel complaint continued getting worse and worse, and for the last fourteen days he was very ill; cramps and vomiting at last came on, and the child sank.

The house where the child died is in a low neighbourhood; the mother, however, says that, to her knowledge, no case of diarrhœa or of cholera existed in the house with her, or in the neighbourhood—nor had any one having intercourse with persons labouring under cholera, been to the house, and her child had not been out for some weeks—consequently he could not have caught the disease from any one.

And, it may be added, that the mother and another person who attended the child, have not suffered, in the least, in their bowels.

#### CASE No. 47.

*Aug. 25th.*—See the R. G. W. R., 25th Aug., 1855. Hackney, Stoke Newington, No. 1, Millfield Place, Green Lanes, Aug. 25th, the daughter of a brick-field labourer, aged one year, cholera infantum, one week.

I have seen this child's mother, who says that the child had a skin complaint, and that she had been very weak from her birth; that her bowels were frequently out of order, which the mother supposed de-



pended on the teething; that she brought up the child by the breast, and was very particular as to any light food which the child got; that about a week before her death she had a return of the diarrhœa, but did not appear to suffer pain. But about twenty-four hours before death she was suddenly attacked with vomiting, spasms, and severe purging, when a medical gentleman saw her, and pronounced her dying. She lived only a few hours after.

Diarrhœa was very prevalent amongst the children and grown-up persons in the house and in the neighbourhood, but no case of cholera previous to, or since, her child's death has occurred. The neighbourhood is inhabited by the less fortunate members of society.

#### CASE No. 48.

*Aug. 25th.*—See the R. G. W. R., 25th Aug., 1855. Greenwich East, at No. 3, Lovegrove Place, on 22nd August, the son of a captain of a steam-boat, aged three years, cholera infantilis.

The mother of this child informed me that he was delicate from his birth, but that the day he was taken ill he was in his usual health, had taken his dinner with the other children as usual; but at about four in the evening his bowels began to act freely, and the discharge was liquid. After two or three motions he began to vomit, and in about six hours from the first motion cramps came on, followed soon after by collapse, and he died the evening following.

None of the other children had anything the matter with them at the time this child was taken ill, and they have all remained free from diarrhœa, or cholera, and free from any disease, since.

The child had not left the house for weeks, nor



had he seen any one labouring under diarrhœa or cholera—nor is the mother aware that the disease was in the neighbourhood.

The house is in a well-aired and clean neighbourhood, and is itself apparently perfectly clean. The mother complains of no bad smells in the house.

CASE No. 49.

*Aug. 25th.*—See the R. G. W. R., 25th Aug., 1855. Stepney, Shadwell, at Gould Hill Green, on the 22nd August, the daughter of a bone merchant, aged eleven months, cholera infantum, two days.

I have seen the father and the mother of this child and the medical attendant. From the mother I learned that this child was partly brought up by the breast and partly by the hand; that two days before her death she was attacked with diarrhœa, when medical attendance was obtained.

The medical gentleman stated that he found this child labouring under diarrhœa, for which he prescribed, and that subsequently vomiting and spasms came on and the child sank.

The child had not been further than the yard; had had no communication with any one labouring under diarrhœa or cholera; that her other children, three in number, were then in perfect health and free from diarrhœa and cholera, and have remained so since. And the husband added, that he and his wife had been before the child's illness in perfect health, and were also so since.

CASE No. 50.

*Aug. 25th.*—See the R. G. W. R., 25th Aug., 1855. Islington East, at 15, Brand Street, Holloway, on the



22nd August, the son of an assurance brazer, one year old, diarrhœa, two weeks, cholera infantum.

I have seen this child's grandmother, who assisted her daughter in attending to him, and she stated that the child was in good health when he was seized with diarrhœa; that as the child did not appear to be in pain, she and her daughter believed this diarrhœa was caused by the child's teething, and did not send for medical advice; but as soon as the child began to vomit and to seem in pain a medical gentleman was sent for, who did all he could; but the child died.

There were, and there are still, sixteen children in four rooms, besides eight grown-up persons; no one had been ill with diarrhœa or with cholera before this child was taken ill or since his death, either in these four rooms or in the other rooms of the house, and the house is in a low, filthy, and dirty neighbourhood.

#### CASE No. 51.

*July 2nd.*—It is reported in the R. G. W. R., ending 7th July, 1855, that a female child, aged five months, died on the 2nd July, at No. 22, George Street, York Road, Wandsworth, of infantile cholera, after three days illness.

I went to the above-named house, and I saw there the persons who had care of the child from her birth, and they informed me that the child was brought up by hand, and that she was delicate from her birth; her bowels were frequently deranged, and the child did not thrive as children in good health generally do. Three days before her death she was seized with a severer bowel complaint than usual, and sank the third day, not having had much vomiting or cramps. My informant further adds that the child had not left



the house since her birth ; and that no person in her house, or in the neighbourhood, had, to her knowledge, either diarrhœa or cholera. Her house is clean and dry, and she complains of no bad smells from the drains.

CASE No. 52.

*July 19th.*—See the R. G. W. R., 28th July, 1855. Hackney, at 7, Princes Road, Homerton, on the 19th July, the son of a carpenter, aged seven months, cholera infantum.

I have seen the mother of this child, and she informs me, that in consequence of sore breasts she was obliged to bring her child up by hand ; that he was a healthy child, and throve, apparently, on the milk diet which she gave him ; that about a week or ten days before his death he was seized with diarrhœa, to which she did not pay much attention, as the child seemed in no pain ; that three days before his death he was seized, during the night, after 12 P.M., with vomiting and severe purging, and towards morning the child screamed a deal ; and, as soon as she could, she sent for her medical attendant, who pronounced the disease to be cholera infantum ; and the child died eight and forty hours after.

She adds, that the child had never been out of the house since his birth ; that all the other children in the house were free from diarrhœa or cholera, and have remained so since his death ; that no one labouring under diarrhœa or cholera was within her door previous to the child's illness or since his death ; that she had heard that there were cases of diarrhœa in the neighbourhood, but none of cholera.

Her house is perfectly clean and well aired.



## CASE No. 53.

*Oct. 21st.*—See the R. G. W. R., 27th Oct., 1855. At the Coldstream Guards' Hospital, Vincent Square, Westminster, the daughter of the hospital serjeant, aged nine months, is reported to have died of cholera infantum.

I have seen the medical attendant, and the father and mother of this child; and I was told that the child was attacked about four in the morning with vomiting and purging, but not severe at first. However, these two symptoms increased in severity; when, some hours after, the child began to have cramps, and died in fourteen hours from the time she was first taken ill. It appears that the child had never been in good health; that she had chronic bronchitis, and that she had weaned herself about three weeks before death.

She had not been out of the yard of the hospital; and there were neither diarrhœa nor cholera cases in the hospital; and neither the mother nor father, nor their two other children, have had either diarrhœa or cholera.

Again, this case appears to me to shew that cholera is not an infectious disease.

## CASE No. 54.

*Sept. 22nd.*—See the R. G. W. R., 22nd Sept., 1855. Wandsworth, Clapham, at No. 4, Union Crescent, Lark Hall Lane, on the 20th Sept., the son of a police constable, aged three years, cholera infantum.

I have seen the mother of this child, and she informed me that this child was taken ill, with diarrhœa, five days before his death, in consequence of having eaten a quantity of green peas in the garden. This



diarrhœa lasted two days before spasms came on, followed by collapse.

A younger sister of his had had diarrhœa about three weeks before this boy was taken ill; and with her the mother believed that the diarrhœa was brought on by the child having eaten decayed apples, which she accidentally got hold of; and, therefore, this child could not have communicated the disease to her brother. She recovered, and is now in perfect health.

The house where they then resided, and which I have visited, is in a well-aired, healthy district, and is perfectly clean.

The mother adds, that her children had no communication with any other children, and that they had not been out of her house and garden for many weeks.

#### CASE No. 55.

*Nov. 10th.*—See the R. G. W. R., 10th Nov., 1855. St. George, Hanover Square, Belgravia, at No. 1, Ebury Square, on the 2nd Nov., the daughter of a slate polisher, aged one month, cholera infantum, one week; diarrhœa, after the vomiting ceased, four days; dry nursed.

The father and mother of this child have removed, and their address is not known; but the landlady informed me that the child's mother had sore breasts, and that she wished to bring up the child by hand; that the child was attacked with vomiting of all her food; then that a diarrhœa came on; and that she died, apparently to her, from want of proper food.

The child had never left the house since her birth, and no one labouring under diarrhœa or cholera had seen the child; and no one has been ill in the house with either since her death.



## CASES OF ENGLISH CHOLERA.

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### CASE No. 56.

*June 27th.*—I have been this day to No. 49, Old Castle Street, Bethnal Green, Hackney Road, to inquire into the case of a man who is reported in the W. R. B. D. of the 12th of May, to have died, on the 5th of May, of English cholera, after fourteen hours illness, age forty-nine.

I find that the man, so his sister-in-law told me, had been subject, all his life-time, to occasional attacks of diarrhœa, and at times very severe; but that he always cured himself by a good dose of brandy, and sometimes pepper in the brandy; though he was a very sober and a well-behaved man.

That this time he was attacked in the usual manner by diarrhœa, which lasted some days; and at last vomiting, spasms, etc., came on, although he had recourse to his usual remedy, and a doctor was sent for, who pronounced him hopelessly attacked, and he died in a few hours after. He had not been exposed to meet or see any one labouring under diarrhœa or cholera. As I have said before, he was a sober, steady man, who worked as a carpenter and joiner, and never frequented either ale houses or pot houses.

### CASE No. 57.

*July 2nd.*—A woman, aged thirty-two, is reported in the R. G. W. R., 7th July, 1855, to have died, on the 2nd July, of English cholera, after seven days



illness, at No. 2, Cumberland Street West, St. Pancras district.

I have been to the house where this person died, and I have seen the person in whose house she lived, and who was with her, and attended her from the moment she was taken ill till the moment of her death. And she says that this woman was a most laborious, careful person; that she was a washer-woman for the soldiers of the Horse Guards; that she was ill, for above two months, with a severe cough and expectoration; that she would not have medical advice; that for the last fortnight before she died, she had a bowel complaint, to which she would not attend; that seven days before her death, she attended to her work as usual; but, towards evening, she was obliged to take to her bed, in consequence of severe vomiting and purging; that this went on for two days, when the Medical Officer of the Regiment of Horse Guards saw and prescribed for her; but on the fourth day, that she took to her bed, cramps came on, and from that time she gradually sank.

This woman had not been out of her house to visit any one for months; and there was no case of diarrhœa or of cholera in the house or in the neighbourhood, nor has there been any case of diarrhœa, or of cholera, in the neighbourhood since, to her knowledge.

#### CASE No. 58.

*July 3rd.*—I have been this day to Woolwich, and to No. 24, Richardson's Buildings, to inquire into the case of "English cholera and disease of the heart" reported in the R. G. W. R. for the week ending 16th June, as having died of the above-named diseases on the 11th June.



I find that she was ill, with diarrhœa, for above three days, when she was attacked with vomiting and spasms, and died a few hours after; that medical aid was obtained, but too late to be of any use.

It appears that she was one of the unfortunate females who live in those houses; and that consequently she led a very intemperate life. My informant could give no account of this woman's state of health previous to the attack of diarrhœa. They lived together, and she believed her to be in good health. No person of her acquaintance had any diarrhœa, or was unwell previous to this woman being taken ill, or since. And my informant herself, who attended her to the last moment, and who remained along with the corpse, has had no diarrhœa, nor has she in any way suffered, although she leads a very irregular life, and drinks more than she eats, to use her own words. Therefore, no contagion can be traced here.

I forgot to say that she had not crossed over to Blackwall, or had any communication with the boy who died on the 9th June, 1855, in Mile End Old Town, North Stepney, at No. 14, Alfred Terrace.

#### CASE No. 59.

*Aug. 18th.*—See the R. G. W. R., 18th Aug., 1855. Clerkenwell, Pentonville, No. 26, White Lion Place, on the 13th August, a silver chaser, aged thirty-one, English cholera, ten days.

This man's family have left Pentonville for the country, but a neighbour and friend of the family, a person who has known this man since he was a child, stated to me that this man was consumptive, that he had been ailing for several years, and that for the last



year he had a cough and expectoration. That he began to have a diarrhœa about ten days before his death, when his usual medical attendant saw and prescribed for him, but without avail; the vomiting, spasms, and severe purging came on, and he ceased to live in about ten days from the moment the diarrhœa began. No one in the house was ill with diarrhœa or with cholera, nor had any one been ill up to the time of the family going into the country, or since they have been there; and that so far as my informant is concerned, she says that she remained with him and his family up to the last moment, but that she has not suffered in any way in consequence.

#### CASE No. 60.

*Aug. 25th.*—See the R. G. W. R., 25th Aug., 1855. Lewisham, Plumstead, at 41, Banage Grove, on the 16th August, the wife of a painter and glazier, aged forty-five, English cholera, twenty-one days.

I have seen this woman's daughter, and a neighbour who attended her from the moment she was taken ill, and I have also had a statement of her case from the medical gentleman who attended her. It appears that she was taken with vomiting and purging at first; that the medical gentleman considered it to be a case of what he called English cholera; that after a few days the purging ceased and the vomiting increased, and nothing passed by the anus for eight days. She had now intussusceptio, of which she died. Therefore this is not a case of cholera.

Her daughter and the female attendant stated that this woman had not left her house for weeks, and that she had no communication with any one labouring under diarrhœa or under cholera.



## CASE No. 61.

*Sept. 8th.*—See the R. G. W. R., 8th Sept., 1855. St. George-in-the-East, St. Mary, at 39, Betts Street, on the 31st August, the daughter of a journeyman wheelwright, aged ten months, English cholera.

This child was teething, had a diarrhœa for some weeks, and at last sunk, by the father's account, exhausted.

No other person had diarrhœa or cholera in the house, or in the neighbourhood, previous to or since her death.

## CASE No. 62.

*Sept. 8th.*—See the R. G. W. R., 8th Sept., 1855. Whitechapel, Aldgate, at No. 8, Hayes Court, Glass House Street, on the 8th of September, the son of a dock labourer, aged eight months, English cholera.

The family have removed from the place, and no one knows where they are gone. It is a low, dirty neighbourhood.

I saw the landlady where the parents of this child lived. The child was brought up by the breast, but was a delicate child. About a week before his death he was seized with a diarrhœa, which the mother and the landlady believed depended on his teething, when he was suddenly seized with vomiting and cramps; when a medical gentleman was sent for, but he died in a few hours.

The child had not been taken out of the court since his birth, and no child or any other person, so far as my informant knew, had diarrhœa or cholera previous to the child's illness or since.



## CASE No. 63.

*Sept. 15th.*—See the R. G. W. R., 15th Sept., 1855. Whitechapel, Mile End New Town, at No. 43, Underwood Street, on the 15th September, the son of a domestic servant, aged five months, English cholera, nine days.

The family have removed and their address is unknown. The landlady with whom they resided says, that this child was a fine healthy boy, was brought up by the breast, when he was attacked with diarrhœa, but not to alarm the mother. Then he was suddenly seized with vomiting and spasms, and died in a few hours after.

This family had another child, who was in perfect health before and after the death of this boy.

She is not aware that there was any case of diarrhœa or of cholera in the neighbourhood. She is certain that no one in the house, either before or after the child's death, was afflicted with either diarrhœa or cholera.

## CASE No. 64.

*Sept. 25th.*—See the R. G. W. R., 29th Sept., 1855. Hackney, No. 16, Victoria Street, Homerton, on the 25th September, the widow of a ground labourer, aged sixty-six, English cholera, four weeks; coma, three days.

I have seen the daughter of this person, who attended her to the last, and she says that her mother has been ailing for several months, although she did, now and then, go out as a charwoman. That she had a bowel complaint for at least a month, but to which she did not attend; that four days before her death she was attacked with severe vomiting, spasms, and



severe purging, and that she became insensible and died three days after.

The house which she inhabited is in a low neighbourhood, and is very dirty.

But no one was attacked with cholera in the house previous to her being attacked, although several had diarrhœa, nor has any one since. That six days before her death, a man at No. 13 in the same street had died of cholera; but as she herself was then ill with diarrhœa, she had not left her room to see him, nor had she any communication with him or with any one that had seen him.

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## CASES OF CHOLERA.

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### CASE No. 65.

—————. In the R. G. W. R., of Saturday, May 19th, 1855, a case of cholera is reported to have occurred on the 15th May, 1855, at Whitechapel North, Crown Court, No. 12, in a child of one year old, cholera, fifty-four hours.

I have seen the mother and father of this child, and they tell me that the child was still at the breast; that he had taken no food that could hurt him; that he seemed in perfect health, when, about twelve or one, after dinner hour, he was taken with a bowel complaint, then sickness at stomach; that these went on the remainder of the day, and at about ten o'clock at night he was attacked with spasms, and died fifty-four hours after he was first attacked.



The child had not been out of the court, nor had he had any communication with any one having a diarrhœa or an attack of cholera; that the whole of the inhabitants of the court are free from diarrhœa or cholera; that his brothers and sisters, seven in all, were, and are, in perfect health and free from diarrhœa; that the child had always enjoyed perfect health; that neither the father nor mother had had communication with any one suffering from diarrhœa or from cholera.

This, to me, is a true case of spontaneous cholera. I shall return to this house in a fortnight to ascertain whether all the members of the family continue in good health and free from cholera.

#### CASE No. 66.

*June 30th.*—Stepney, Mile End Old Town, North. A boy, aged fourteen, the son of a cabinet maker, is reported to have died, on June 9th, of cholera, at No. 14, Alfred Terrace, Mile End Old Town, North Stepney.

I have seen the boy's mother, and the medical attendant; and the mother informs me, that four days before the boy's death he went to a fair, where he played with the boys of his own age, got heated, and lay in the grass sometimes. During the night he was taken with a bowel complaint, but went about the next day, and even went to his work. Next day his mother took him to an apothecary's shop, where he had some medicines, but which did not stop the diarrhœa; the next day he became worse, when the medical attendant was sent for, and he found him in



cramps, blue, and in perfect collapse. He died a few hours after.

The mother is not aware that he was in any place where persons were labouring under diarrhœa or cholera; and he himself, and the remainder of her family, were in perfect health; and the remainder of the family had remained in perfect health since the death of their brother; that neither diarrhœa nor cholera is prevalent in the neighbourhood; that this is confirmed by the medical attendant, Mr. Hawker, Edward Street, Stepney.

Consequently, here it is impossible to trace the disease as arising from contagion.

#### CASE No. 67.

*July 2nd.*—See the R. G. W. R., 7th July, 1855. At No. 5, Wood Street North, St. Luke's, a child, aged four months (a female), died of cholera on the 2nd July.

I have seen the nurse who had charge of the child, and she tells me that she was brought up by hand; that for a fortnight before her death the child was unwell with a bowel complaint; but nothing more, she thought, than is usual to children brought up by hand. On the morning of the 1st of July she was taken with vomiting and severe purging, and the medical attendant was sent for. The vomiting and purging increased, and on the morning of the 2nd she was seized with spasms, and died in the evening of the 2nd July. The child had not been out of the house for some weeks; there was no one in the house labouring under diarrhœa or cholera; the house is clean, situated on a gravel soil, and is airy, and without any noxious smell.



## CASE No. 68.

*July 2nd.*—See the R. G. W. R., 7th July, 1855. At No. 18, Charles Street, Westminster, a child, ten weeks old, died, on the 2nd July, 1855, of cholera.

Mrs. Stevens, the child's mother, whom I saw, said, that the child was in perfect health up to six days before death; that his illness began by a bowel complaint, which did not, in any way, alarm her, as she had been accustomed to attend to children, and has seen them, frequently, deranged in their bowels, without any inconvenience, or danger; that the day before his death he became worse, and she then took him to a medical gentleman, who pronounced him in great danger, and prescribed; but the child died the next morning.

The child was carried out of the house only a few times, and that by herself, and the nurse, and their walk was always in the park; she had gone to no house with the child, nor had any one else. She had heard that persons, in the neighbourhood, had diarrhœa, but not cholera; but no one in the house, to her knowledge, had diarrhœa, and certainly not cholera.

## CASE No. 69.

*July 5th.*—See the R. G. W. R., 7th July, 1855. On the 5th July, the wife of a timber dealer, Mrs. Vining, aged 47, died of cholera, at No. 8, Buckingham Row, Westminster.

I have seen the landlady of this house, who attended Mrs. Vining from the moment she was taken ill to the moment of her death, and she tells me, that Mrs. Vining was at the change of life, and had been in indifferent health for many months; that for the last fortnight, or three weeks, she had a diarrhœa, which



gave her no pain, and which she neglected; that on the day before her death she took some cider, and some hours after she was seized with violent purging, vomiting, and spasms in her limbs, abdomen, etc., and a medical gentleman was sent for, who pronounced the case one of cholera; and she died a few hours after.

The patient herself attributed the attack of spasms, vomiting, etc., to the cider she took, and to nothing else; but two other persons, who shared the cider with her, did not suffer. Consequently, it is fair to suppose that her disease was not caused by the cider; although, in the state of health she was in, and labouring under diarrhœa, the cider might have hurried on the disease to its developed stage.

My informant told me that no one in the house suffered from diarrhœa, or from cholera, before or since Mrs. Vining's death.

And it may be added, that Mrs. Vining had not gone out of the neighbourhood for months, nor had she received visitors for many weeks. Her husband and herself were very quiet people. The husband enjoys perfect health, and has had no diarrhœa.

#### CASE No. 70.

*July 16th.*—See the R. G. W. R., 21st July, 1855, in which there is reported a case of cholera in a child, a boy, nine months old, which occurred in the infirmary, Royal Mint Street, 16th July, 1855.

I have seen the father of the child. He says, the child was healthy, and brought up by the breast. He was vaccinated about three weeks before his death, and the father says, the child began to droop a few days after the vaccine lymph had been taken; and



that for a week previous to his death he had a bowel complaint, but nothing to alarm the mother or himself. At last, about twenty-four hours before his death, he was seized with spasms, and vomiting, and purging, freely, and sank about twenty-four hours after.

The child had not been out of the yard since its birth, nor out of the house for above three weeks before his death; and no one in the house, or in the neighbourhood, had diarrhœa or cholera, to his knowledge; nor had any one come to the house from one where diarrhœa or cholera prevailed.

#### CASE No. 71.

*July 16th.*—At No. 5, Bowl Court, Shoreditch, a boy, aged nine months, is reported in the R. G. W. R. to have died on the 16th July, 1855, cholera, twenty-four hours.

I have seen the person who attended the child along with the mother; the boy had the breast, but for some days before his death he became unwell with his bowels, having, in fact, a slight diarrhœa; and, twenty-four hours before death, he began to vomit, purge, and scream, as if in pain. This continued some hours, when the doctor was sent for; but the child died a few hours after the doctor saw him.

There were children in the different houses about who had diarrhœa, but no cholera; nor were any of the children in the same house attacked by diarrhœa, or by cholera, before, or after, this child's death; and the mother, and my informant, have continued perfectly healthy ever since.

#### CASE No. 72.

*Aug. 4th.*—The wife of a baker is reported, in the



R. G. W. R., of the 11th August, 1855, to have died of cholera, at No. 24, Union Street, Spitalfields.

It appears that this woman had been confined three weeks, and for a fortnight before her confinement she had not left the house. Her confinement was natural, of a dead foetus; she was as well as usual for the fortnight after, when she began to have a bowel complaint, which, however, was so slight as not to alarm any one. Her milk disappeared at the same time; but about six, or six hours and a half, before her death, she was suddenly seized with vomiting, spasms, and purging, and she gradually sank, but not in severe pain. She was sensible to the last.

The house is healthy; the family well to do; since her death no one in the house has been ill; and her servant, who attended her to the last, informed me that she never suffered in consequence of her attendance on her mistress.

The servant was not aware of any case of diarrhœa or of cholera in the neighbourhood. Here, most certainly, the case could not have originated from infection.

I have a letter from Mr. Brown, 2, St. Mary Axe, the medical attendant, who confirms the above report of the case; and says, that he and Dr. Pettigrew, who was called in consultation, considered this a case of cholera. Mr. Brown adds, that while he attended this person he had several cases of severe diarrhœa, which all did well, and that this was the first case of cholera which he had seen during this season.

#### CASE No. 73.

*Aug. 8th.*—See the R. G. W. R., Aug. 8th, 1855. At Trafalgar Place, Kensington Town, on the 8th



Aug., the wife of a carpenter, aged sixty-three years, cholera, seventy-two hours.

I have been to Trafalgar Place, and I have seen this person's aunt, who lived with her, and attended her to the last, and this person informed me that her niece was a woman of good general health; that she had been in perfect health up to the Sunday evening before her death, when she was seized with diarrhœa, and after a few evacuations vomiting came on; but no one felt alarmed, and no medical gentleman was sent for till the next morning, that is, on Monday. But the diarrhœa and occasional vomiting continued; and during the night of Monday to Tuesday, she began to complain of pain in her limbs, which were thought at first merely spasms, with which she sometimes was attacked. The next morning, when the medical gentleman saw her, he pronounced her in great danger. She died the next day, Wednesday.

This person was a washerwoman by trade; but her aunt is not aware that she had washed the clothes of any one labouring under diarrhœa, or under cholera; and she is certain she had no intercourse with any one labouring under either diarrhœa, or under cholera; nor is she aware that any case of either occurred in the neighbourhood. She adds, that neither herself, nor any of the family, or neighbours, who attended her niece to the last, have suffered either from diarrhœa or cholera.

This person had dined on veal and bacon; and at first she thought that they had disagreed with her: in short, that she had an indigestion.

CASE No. 74.

*Aug. 11th.*—See the R. G. W. R., 11th Aug., 1855.



Wandsworth, Streatham, at Baker's Lane, 2nd Aug., 1855, a gardener, aged fifty-six, cholera, two days; consecutive fever, three days.

I have been to the above address, and I have seen this man's daughter, a woman of about twenty-eight years old, and she informed me that her father was taken ill on the morning of the 29th July at about three o'clock, with great pain in his stomach and bowels and with a severe diarrhœa; that she and her mother got up and gave him warm drinks, applied dry heat to his stomach, which eased him considerably; but the bowel complaint continued, with less pain however. At about ten o'clock he began to vomit and to have cramps in his limbs, when medical aid was obtained, and all was done for the patient that could be done, but in vain. He died on the fifth day from the time he was first taken ill.

This man was a perfectly sober man, and every way a respectable person; he was occupied as a gardener, and had not left his house and his garden for some weeks, nor had any communication with any one labouring under diarrhœa or cholera. And, so far as my informant knew, no one in the neighbourhood laboured under either diarrhœa or under cholera.

Neither my informant, her mother, two other females who attended her father during his illness, nor her three children, have suffered in the least since the death of her father; and they are all in good health this day, 8th April, 1856.

#### CASE No. 75.

*Aug. 14th.*—See the R. G. W. R., 18th Aug., 1855. East London, Cripplegate, at Beech Street, the son of a printer, aged seven months, died on the 14th Aug. at the above address, cholera, three days.



I have seen the mother, and she informed me that the child was a strong healthy child up to two months before his death, when it became advisable to wean him, in consequence of her bad health; as soon as he was weaned he began to droop, his stomach and bowels were constantly out of order. At last, three days before his death, he became much worse; medical advice was called in, and after taking some medicines prescribed, he began to vomit severely and to be purged at the same time, with evident cramps in his limbs; and expired the third day. He did not become blue, but was much reduced in flesh. She has three other children, who were, and have continued, free from diarrhœa. Nor had the child left the house for two or three weeks. She was not aware of any one in the neighbourhood having diarrhœa or cholera.

CASE No. 76.

*Aug. 16th.*—See the R. G. W. R., 18th Aug. 1855. At 11, Barlow Place, Mile End Old Town, Lower Stepney, Mile End Road, on the 16th Aug., a general labourer, aged sixty-seven years, cholera, three days. The medical attendant, Mr. Rose, No. 10, Barnes Place, adds—was attacked on the 10th August, but had no medical advice until the 14th, and refused medicines in part.

I have seen this man's daughter, who informed me that her father had been for some time in a delicate state of health; that he was attacked with diarrhœa, for which he would not have medical advice; that when the spasms and vomiting came on, he would not attend to the prescriptions of the medical attendant; that, so far as she knew, he had not any communication with persons labouring under diarrhœa or cho-



lera ; that no one in the house had either diarrhœa or cholera before or since her father's death, nor has she in the slightest way suffered in consequence of her attendance on her father.

#### CASE No. 77.

*Aug. 25th.*—See the R. G. W. R., Aug. 25th, 1855. Stepney, Mile End Old Town, Lower, at Queen Street, No. 3, on the 21st August, the wife of a carman, aged thirty, cholera collapse, fifteen hours, after a dinner of roast lamb, and apparently in good health, she was seized about three o'clock on Monday, and died at eight o'clock on Tuesday morning.

I have seen the landlady with whom this woman resided. From her description of the case, it would leave doubts that this was a case of cholera.

However, no one had cholera or diarrhœa in the house, previous to or since this woman's death.

By the landlady's account this woman was a very quiet person, not having left her house or visited any one for many days before she was taken ill.

#### CASE No. 78.

*Aug. 25th.*—See the R. G. W. R., 25th Aug., 1855. St. Saviour's, Christ Church, at Green Court, on the 21st August, the wife of a journeyman carpenter, aged sixty years. Cholera, diarrhœa, eight days; collapse, one hour.

This woman's family have removed from this court, but none of the neighbours can say where they have gone. However, one of the neighbours states that this woman had a severe diarrhœa for many days, that at last she was seized with vomiting, severe purging and cramps, and died in a few hours. No one in the



house or in the court, so far as she knows, had either diarrhœa, or cholera, at the time this woman was attacked with the disease; nor has any one, so far as she knows, suffered from either of these diseases since the woman's death. And as she was never out of the house, it is not probable that this woman caught the disease from any one she might have visited.

CASE No. 79.

*Aug. 26th.*—See the R. G. W. R., 29th Sept., 1855. Hackney, West, at Orchard Court, Kingsland, the daughter of a general labourer, aged eight months, cholera.

I could not see the mother of this child; but a neighbour, who had seen the child, states that a few days before her death the child was allowed to fall on the ground; and that the mother dates the beginning of the bowel complaint from that moment, as none of her other children had any diarrhœa. I have seen the medical gentleman who attended this child, and he says he was called to her only when she was in *articulo mortis*, and that it was a true case of cholera.

It appears that several of the children in the same court had, previous to this child's illness, and subsequently, diarrhœa; but no case of cholera has occurred in that court or in the neighbourhood previous to, or subsequent to, this child's death.

The house is in a low neighbourhood, and very filthy.

CASE No. 80.

*Aug. 28th.*—See the R. G. W. R., 1st Sept., 1855. At No. 4, Gore Lane, Kensington, the daughter of a portrait painter, aged one year, cholera, twenty-four hours.



It appears that this child had been labouring under hooping cough for some weeks, that she was attacked with diarrhœa, which lasted nearly a week, when vomiting and spasms came on, and the child died a few hours after these had come on.

I have the above information from two of the persons who resided in the next house to where this child's parents resided, as they have left for Australia. My informants say that they were not aware that the child had been taken out to any place where cholera or diarrhœa raged.

They are certain that no one in the locality had cholera, though there might have been some slight cases of diarrhœa.

All the inmates of the house where this child died have continued in perfect health.

#### CASE No. 81.

*Aug. 28th.*—See the R. G. W. R., 1st Sept., 1855. At Southwick Mews, St. John, Paddington, on the 28th of August, 1855, the wife of a coachman, aged thirty-four, died of cholera.

I have been to this mews, and I find that the husband and the children of this woman have removed, but no one can give any information where they are to be found.

A female neighbour, who was with this woman to the last, says that she was poorly for many days previous to the fatal day—that she believes she had diarrhœa. At about eleven o'clock in the morning she saw her in the yard; at about three in the afternoon she saw her in bed and in great pain, and vomiting and purging; and she died that night, at about eleven P.M.



Diarrhœa was very prevalent in the neighbourhood, but not cholera, to her knowledge. She is not aware that she washed for any one but her family, and she is not aware that any of them had diarrhœa.

Another coachman, his wife and children, went into the rooms where this woman had died, a few days after her death, and have not suffered in consequence either from diarrhœa or cholera.

#### CASE No. 82.

*Aug. 30th.*—See the R. G. W. R., 1st Sept., 1855. At No. 11, Alford Road, St. Mary, Paddington, the daughter of a mantua maker, aged one year, of cholera, three days.

I have seen the father and mother of this child, and they informed me that their child was in perfect health up to three days before her death; that she was seized with diarrhœa, which, at first, did not alarm them, but the next day, the child being worse, they obtained medical advice, but without any relief to the patient. She died on the third day. The child had not been out of the house, nor had she been seen by any one labouring under diarrhœa or cholera. The house, No. 11, Alford Road, is in a perfectly healthy quarter of the town; is well aired, and has no bad smells.

#### CASE No. 83.

*Aug. 30th.*—See the R. G. W. R., 1st Sept., 1855. At No. 4, Whitehart Place, Poplar, a female child, aged six years, cholera.

The mother informs me that her child had been seized with diarrhœa at about eight o'clock in the morning; that her bowels were frequently relieved



for three hours; that she was then seized with severe spasms in her arms and legs; that she sent for a medical gentleman, who did all he could for her child, but that she died that evening at about seven o'clock.

Several children had diarrhœa, she understood, in the neighbourhood; but none of her other children, or of those of the other persons in the house, had diarrhœa or cholera before, at the time of, or after her child's illness; nor does she believe that her child had seen or visited in a house where a diarrhœa or cholera case existed.

#### CASE No. 84.

*Aug. 31st.*—See the R. G. W. R., 1st Sept., 1855. Hackney, West, No. 2, Victoria Cottages, Halford Road, a female, aged fifty-three, cholera.

I have learnt from this person's daughter, and from the landlady of the house, that she was of delicate health through life, especially liable to bowel complaints, and for the last three years she had a chronic disease of the liver. That she had not been out of the house for some weeks previous to her being attacked with diarrhœa—ten or twelve days before her death.

When she first was attacked with diarrhœa, she supposed that it was one of her usual attacks, and therefore did not pay much attention to it. Two days before her death she began to be sick at stomach and to be purged more severely, and during the night cramps came on; when medical advice was obtained, but too late.

The house where she resided stands by itself, is well aired, and perfectly clean. No one in the house, before her illness, had diarrhœa or cholera, or since



her death. And as the family lived very retired, she had had the visit of no one labouring under these diseases.

CASE No. 85.

*Sept. 1st.*—See the R. G. W. R., 1st Sept., 1855. Fulham, Peterborough Lane, Parson's Garden, a male child, one year old, cholera.

The family have removed from the neighbourhood, and none of the neighbours could give any information relative to this child's illness, nor who was the medical gentleman who attended him.

CASE No. 86.

*Sept. 1st.*—See the R. G. W. R., 1st Sept., 1855. St. Clement Danes, No. 7, Milford Lane, a female, aged sixty-five, cholera.

I have been to the above-named house, and I have seen the landlord and the landlady in whose house this woman died, and they informed me that she had been ill for the last three years; and that she was so weak that she seldom went to the door of the house; that her illness was a gradual decay of nature; that about a week before her death she was seized with diarrhœa, to which she at first did not pay attention; that three days before her death medical advice was obtained, as she had become worse; that all was done for her that could be done; but in vain.

No one in the house had diarrhœa, or cholera, when she was attacked with diarrhœa; nor could she have seen any one labouring under the disease, as she could not go out, and no one from without visited her.

And, since her death, no one has been ill in the house either with diarrhœa or cholera.



## CASE No. 87.

*Sept. 1st.*—See the R. G. W. R., 1st Sept., 1855. At No. 6, Harding Place, a woman, aged seventy-five, cholera.

I have seen the landlord and landlady where this person lived, and they inform me, that two days before her death she appeared in perfect health, when she was attacked with diarrhœa, which she did not attend to till spasms and vomiting came on, when a medical gentleman was sent for, who did all he could to relieve her; but she died in eight-and-forty hours after being attacked first with diarrhœa.

The landlord and landlady inform me that the woman had not been out of the house for several weeks; that she had seen no one ill of diarrhœa or cholera; and that since her death no one in the house has suffered from diarrhœa or cholera.

## CASE No. 88.

*Sept. 1st.*—See the R. G. W. R., 1st Sept., 1855. At No. 6, Essex Street, St. Saviour, a woman, aged sixty-seven, died of cholera.

I have seen this woman's daughter-in-law, who informed me that she had eaten hastily, the night she was taken ill with a diarrhœa, of sausages, plum-pudding, meat, etc.; that some hours after being in bed the diarrhœa came on, and went on increasing in frequency of the discharge till the middle of the next day, when a medical gentleman saw her and prescribed for her; but towards evening she began to vomit and to complain of spasms; and then gradually sank.

This woman had not been out of the house for weeks. She had had no communication with any



one who had, or who had had, cholera; nor were any cholera cases in the neighbourhood, so far as my informant knew. Although she had heard that persons in the neighbourhood complained of diarrhœa, no one in the house had diarrhœa or cholera previous to her mother's illness or since.

#### CASE No. 89.

*Sept. 1st.*—See the R. G. W. R., 1st Sept., 1855. St. Olave, Guy's Hospital, from No. 10, Cable Row, Kent Street, Borough, a female child, one year, cholera.

I have been to Guy's Hospital, but they have no record of the above-named child having been admitted, and having died in the Hospital; nor has the Registrar of the district any record of the case. And I have been unable to find Cable Row, in Kent Street. Therefore, there must have been some error in reporting this death.

#### CASE No. 90.

*Sept. 1st.*—See the R. G. W. R., 1st Sept., 1855. At St. Paul's, Deptford, No. 4, Victoria Place, Pemroy Street, a female child, aged one year, cholera.

I have learned from the mother of this child, that she was brought up partly by hand and partly by the breast; that the child was teething; that the day before her death, at about four A.M., she was taken ill with a bowel complaint, which the mother believed was caused by her teething. At about twelve o'clock in the day the child seemed well, but at about three o'clock she began to vomit and to be purged freely, with occasional screaming, as if she were in pain; and towards twelve o'clock that night she became more composed, but died before six o'clock in the morning.



The child had not been out of the house for above a month, and therefore could not have visited any one labouring under diarrhœa or under cholera.

None of the other children in the house were ill, or have been ill since, with either diarrhœa or cholera.

Therefore this is not a case of contagion.

#### CASE No. 91.

*Sept. 1st.*—See the R. G. W. R., 1st Sept., 1855. At 48, Woburn Place, St. George, Bloomsbury, a female, aged fifty-three, cholera, five days.

I have been to the above-named house, and I have seen this person's sister, a lady well informed, who told me that her sister had been an invalid for about two years; that she had been very subject to diarrhœa all that time—in fact, so much so, that if she went into a room where gas was used, she was immediately attacked with diarrhœa; that five days before her death she was suddenly attacked with severe diarrhœa, without any apparent cause; that the next day vomiting and spasms came on; and that she died on the fifth day from the first attack of severe diarrhœa.

She further states, that her sister had not left the house for many weeks; that she had had no intercourse with any one labouring under diarrhœa or cholera; and that no one in the house, previous to or subsequent to the death of her sister, were or have been affected with diarrhœa or cholera. She is not aware that any one of these diseases was prevalent in the neighbourhood at the time of her sister's illness.

#### CASE No. 92.

*Sept. 1st.*—See the R. G. W. R., 1st Sept., 1855.



At Mile End Old Town, Upper, 64, Greenfield Street, a man aged sixty-two, cholera.

The family with whom this man lodged have left the neighbourhood, and no one knows where they are gone, not even the landlord of the house ; and therefore no information relative to this case can be obtained.

#### CASE No. 93.

*Sept. 1st.*—See the R. G. W. R., 1st Sept., 1855. Somers Town, 17, Drummond's Crescent, a man, aged forty-eight, cholera, twelve hours.

I have seen this man's widow, and she informed me that she and her family had partaken of a lobster for supper on Friday night, which did not disagree with any one except her husband—who, on the Saturday, stated, repeatedly, to his fellow-workmen, that the lobster had disagreed with him, and that he wished he had not eaten it. However, he returned home after his work, in appearance in good health, ate his supper as usual, of meat, etc. ; went to bed at about ten o'clock, but during the night he frequently complained of cramps in his legs ; but being subject to cramps, neither he, nor his wife, paid attention to these cramps, except that he got up out of bed to relieve himself by standing up.

At about five, A.M., he was seized with diarrhœa most abundantly running from him like water. With some delay medical assistance was obtained, when medicines were administered to him, but which he rejected immediately. When the cramps returned very severely in his legs and arms, and from this moment every thing he took he brought up immediately ; and he continued some hours in this way, till at about five in the evening he died.



The widow is not aware that he had any diarrhœa during the Saturday, but as he frequently complained to his fellow-workmen that the lobster had disagreed with him, he must have had some reason for saying so. However, from the time he came home till the next morning at about five o'clock, she is not aware that he went to the water-closet.

She adds, that her husband could not have had any communication with any one labouring under diarrhœa or cholera, or she would have heard of it; and she further adds, that he slept with her, and that she never left him the whole time he was ill, and remained in the same room with his body after his death; but neither herself, her children, or the persons who kindly assisted her during her husband's illness, have suffered from diarrhœa, or from cholera, since his death.

#### CASE No. 94.

*Sept. 1st.*—See the R. G. W. R., 1st Sept., 1855. Whitechapel North, 81, Whitechapel Road, a male child, six months old, cholera.

The father and mother of this child have removed, but the person with whom they resided informed me that this child was brought up by the breast, but that he was a sickly child. He had a diarrhœa for some time, which they both thought depended on his teething, and were not consequently alarmed about him till the child began to vomit and to have spasms, when two medical gentlemen saw and prescribed for him; but he died a few hours after he began to vomit and to have spasms.

No one in the house had had diarrhœa or cholera, nor had the child been out of the house, so as to be exposed to take the disease from any one.



## CASE No. 95.

*Sept. 8th.*—See the R. G. W. R., 8th Sept., 1855. Islington East, Shepherd's Cottages, on the 3rd Sept., an Inland Revenue officer, aged thirty-nine, cholera, three days.

This man's widow, and family, have left for Liverpool, and none of the neighbours can give the address where they are to be found ; nor do any of the neighbours know anything about this man's illness, so that I have been obliged to give up any further inquiry into his case.

## CASE No. 96.

*Sept. 15th.*—See R. G. W. R., 15th Sept., 1855. Stepney, Shadwell, on board the bark "Bridgeman," New-Crane Dock, a mate, aged twenty-seven years, neglected diarrhœa, seven days ; cholera, nine hours.

I have seen the owner of the above-named vessel, who attended the mate in his last moments, and also the medical attendant.

From the owner of the vessel I learned that this mate had returned last from the Cape of Good Hope, about a month before his death, still very weak, the consequence of an attack of dysentery, followed by an attack of rheumatism, at the Cape.

That about three weeks before his death he complained that the water he had drunk at the docks disagreed with him, and had brought on his former complaint of dysentery ; that he then consulted a medical gentleman.

The medical gentleman stated that he prescribed for this man in consequence of his labouring under diarrhœa ; and that he was called to him when he



was attacked with vomiting and spasms, a few hours before his death, when he found him in collapse.

This gentleman believes that the mate may have used some of the damaged sugar which the ship contained, and which brought on the attack of diarrhœa followed by cholera.

This man had had no communication with any one labouring under diarrhœa or cholera. He was a sober man living with his wife, and by themselves on board of the ship. She was, and is still, in perfect health, and did not suffer from her attendance on her husband.

#### CASE No. 97.

*Sept. 18th.*—See the R. G. W. R., 22nd Sept., 1855. At 4, Buccleugh Cottages, Hackney, Stamford Hill, on the 18th Sept., the daughter of a horsekeeper, aged fifteen years, cholera, from eating rhubarb, partially boiled, twenty-two hours.

I have seen the person with whom this young woman lived as a servant, and she informed me that this young woman was in perfect health; that she ate of partially boiled rhubarb, and also that she has every reason to suppose she had eaten some without it having been boiled, as she found a quantity in her pockets after death, which she supposes she had secreted for the purpose of eating it.

She further informs me, that this young woman was seized with diarrhœa after having eaten the partially boiled rhubarb, and that five or six hours after she was seized with cramps, vomiting, etc., and died—twenty-two hours after the first liquid stool.

This case is a highly interesting one. Here is a person in good health, who has eaten food which has



disagreed with her stomach, and which has brought on diarrhœa, followed by cholera, and death.

It must be added, that no case of cholera was in the neighbourhood; that this young person had not left the house for some weeks; that no person in the house has been attacked with diarrhœa, or with cholera, since her death. And further, it may be added, that the cottage is perfectly clean, has no bad smells about it, and that it is situated on a hill, looking down into a beautiful valley of some miles in extent. Therefore, here there can be neither contagion, nor bad smells, nor bad drainages, etc., to cause the attack of cholera.

The attack of cholera must be referred entirely to the peculiar change which takes place in the stomach and bowels of all persons when cholera is about; so that anything which disagrees with their stomachs brings on diarrhœa, followed by cholera, and, too often, by death.

#### CASE No. 98.

*Sept. 22nd.*—See the R. G. W. R., 22nd Sept., 1855. London Road, at 50, Market Street, on the 16th Sept., 1855, the wife of a shoemaker, aged forty-eight, diarrhœa, two days; cholera, twelve hours.

Her husband informed me that his wife was subject to diarrhœa, and that she was in a very delicate state of health for some years; that she had a diarrhœa on her, not for two days, but for several weeks, which tended to weaken her very much; that two days before her death she was seized with vomiting, severe purging, and cramps in her extremities, when medical advice was obtained.



Although the carpenter and glazier, whose death is reported to have taken place in this same house on the 9th of Sept., died of cholera, yet, as this woman had the premonitory diarrhœa on her for some weeks previous to this man's death, it is evident that he did not communicate the disease to her.

Neither this woman's husband, nor any one in the house, have had diarrhœa or cholera since her death, or since the death of the carpenter.

#### CASE No. 99.

*Sept. 22nd.*—See the R. G. W. R., 22nd Sept., 1855. Shadwell, at No. 12, Waggoner Place, on the 20th Sept., the son of a shipwright, aged ten years, diarrhœa, three hours; cholera, twenty-four hours.

I have seen the father of this child, and the medical attendant.

From the father, I have learned that this boy was in perfect health up to the moment he was suddenly seized with diarrhœa; which, at first, did not attract attention; but, as soon as he began to vomit, and to have cramps, medical aid was called in.

From the medical gentleman who saw this child, I heard that he was, when he was called in, suffering from spasms, vomiting, and severe purging; and that all that could be done for the child was done.

From the father and the medical attendant, I further learnt that this boy had gone on board the bark *Bridgeman*, New Crane Dock, which had in her a quantity of sugar, supposed damaged by sea water, that the child had eaten a quantity of this sugar, which is supposed to have brought on the diarrhœa, spasms, etc.



## CASE No. 100.

*Sept. 29th.*—See the R. G. W. R., 29th Sept., 1855. St. George-in-the-East, St. Mary, at 15, Providence Street, on the 22nd Sept., the wife of a journeyman engine smith, aged thirty-six, cholera, and consecutive fever, five days.

I saw the daughter of this woman, who informed me that her mother had been taken ill, about five days before her death, with purging and vomiting, and also cramps; but that she did not know whether she had had any diarrhœa previously.

She also states, that three days before the death of her mother, a child, aged four years, died in the house of cholera after some days illness.

## CASE No. 101.

*Sept. 29th.*—See the R. G. W. R., 29th Sept., 1855. St. George-in-the-East, at 15, Providence Street, on the 26th Sept., the daughter of a journeyman tailor, aged four years, diarrhœa, duration uncertain; cholera, fourteen hours.

The young woman who has charge of the house, and whose mother died of cholera on the 29th Sept., states, that this child had a diarrhœa for many days; but that he had not the vomiting or cramps till the last day of his existence.

Herself, her father, and her young brothers and sisters, have been quite free from diarrhœa or cholera; nor does she know of any one in the neighbourhood who has had these diseases.

## CASE No. 102.

*Oct. 6th.*—See the R. G. W. R., 13th Oct., 1855.



At Ranelagh Cottages, No. 1, St. George, Hanover Square, Belgravia, on the 6th October, the son of a bricklayer's labourer, aged five years, died of cholera, fourteen hours illness.

I have seen the aunt who had charge of this child ; and she says, that he was weakly, and that he had been sent from the sea-side to her house for a change of air. His habit was to have a passage in his bowels daily. The day before he was taken ill he had two, the last liquid. But the child did not complain of pain or uneasiness, and slept very well all night. In the morning he complained of feeling unwell, and he had a large fœtid evacuation. In about half an hour after he had another, very liquid, but still without pain or uneasiness ; in about another half hour he had a third, quite watery, but without pain or uneasiness. She then sent for the medical attendant, who prescribed for the child ; but the medicines were rejected as soon as taken, and the bowel complaint now increased in frequency, and the child began to feel very weak. About three she saw a great change in him for the worse. She sent for the medical adviser, who told her there was no hope. The child died a few hours after. He complained of pain only at the pit of the stomach, and she did not think that he had any cramps. But, in truth, she was so distressed that the child might have had cramps, slight, without her noticing them. The skin did not turn blue before or after death.

This boy had not been beyond the door of the house since he had been with her. No person in the house, or in the neighbourhood, laboured under diarrhœa or cholera.



## CASES 103, 104, AND 105.

*Oct. 18th, 19th, 20th.*—In the R. G. W. R. of 27th October, 1855, three cases of deaths by cholera are reported for Milbank Prison.

I have been to that prison, and I have seen the surgeon in attendance; and he informs me, that these three men, who had died of cholera in the prison, had been inmates of the house above a month; that they were in perfect health when they entered, and continued so up to a few days before their death, when they were seized with diarrhœa, which lasted a few days, and then vomiting, cramps, etc., came on, and terminated fatally, the first in forty-three, the second in twenty-two, and the third in thirty-three, hours.

The surgeon states, that no case of cholera had occurred in the establishment for some months; that these men had no communication with any one who had the disease, or who, themselves, had had any communication with any one ill of cholera; that there were a few cases of diarrhœa in the prison, but not more than usual. This gentleman entertains the opinion that cholera is *not* necessarily preceded by a diarrhœa. However, there is every proof that the disease, cholera, had not been brought into the prison from outside the walls; and these three cases go far to prove that cholera is not a contagious disease.

## CASE No. 106.

*Oct. 22nd.*—See the R. G. W. R., 27th Oct., 1855. At 44, Fleet Lane, on the 22nd Oct., the daughter of a coal dealer, aged six years, died of sporadic cholera, fifteen hours illness.

I have seen the father and mother of this child, and they tell me that she was in perfect health up to



the morning of her death ; that she then complained of pain in her head, and of feeling sick at stomach ; that at about seven she went to the water closet, and had a full motion, relaxed ; that in about half-an-hour she had another, more relaxed, but without pain or uneasiness ; that at the same time she threw up a little, but felt still sick. About half-an-hour after she had a third liquid motion, still without pain or uneasiness. She now lay down and seemed comfortable ; but in about an hour she had a fourth evacuation, and now felt faint ; medical advice was obtained, but nothing relieved her ; the vomiting was not severe, but the diarrhœa continued increasing in rapidity and watery. At seven in the evening the medical attendant pronounced her past all hope. She died in about three hours after.

The mother says, that she is not aware that her daughter had any spasms, at least she complained of no pain in her limbs ; but of a pain at the pit of the stomach. The child was a very placid child, and was neither fretful nor peevish ; and the mother says, she might have had spasms without complaining, as some children would have done.

This child could not have caught the disease from any one. She had not been out of the house for weeks before ; no case of diarrhœa, or of cholera, existed in the house, or in the neighbourhood, to the father's or mother's knowledge ; nor did any one, to their knowledge, come to the house from another where these diseases existed.

I must add, that the child's skin was not discoloured before or after death. She had eaten heartily, the day before her death, of boiled pork and currant pudding.



## CASE No. 107.

*Oct. 23rd.*—See the R. G. W. R., 27th Oct., 1855. At No. 16, College Place, Chelsea, north-west, a stonemason, aged fifty-one years, is reported to have died of cholera, on the 23rd Oct., 1855, after thirty-two hours illness.

I have seen this man's wife, and she informs me, that he was taken, on the morning of the 22nd Oct., with a diarrhœa, going once every second or third hour; that he was sick at stomach once during the day; that towards the evening, as he felt very weak, the medical attendant saw him; but the diarrhœa seemed then to increase, and he continued to get weaker and weaker, and sank about thirty-two hours after the first liquid motion. She did not notice whether he passed any water above once during all that time. He had very little vomiting, and she cannot say whether he had any cramps, as he was subject to cramps; all she can say is, that he did not appear to have more cramps than usual. He did not turn blue before or after death.

The man had *necrosis* of the bones of the foot; had been ailing for the last three years; had been in St. George's Hospital nine months, and was discharged from there only three weeks before, as he was evidently sinking in consequence of the great discharge from the foot.

Is this a decided case of cholera, or one of consecutive diarrhœa? This woman informed me that no diarrhœa or cholera case had occurred in her house; but that on the same day her husband had been attacked, two neighbours of her's were seized with diarrhœa; and one turned blue on her skin, but re-



covered. These two persons had no communication with her husband; nor had he left his house since leaving St. George's Hospital.

CASE No. 108.

*Oct. 29th.*—See the R. G. W. R., 3rd Nov., 1855. A laundress, aged forty-nine, died, on the 29th Oct., 1855, at the Royal Military Asylum, Chelsea, of cholera spasmodica, after six days illness.

I have seen the surgeon to the above-named establishment, and he informs me, that this woman had been labouring under diarrhœa, and sickness at stomach, occasionally, for about three days, before she applied for medical advice. That when she did apply, she was very ill, with both diarrhœa and vomiting; and that cramps, etc., ultimately came on, and she died, after being ill, in all, six days.

No severe case of diarrhœa existed in the asylum, neither before, or since, this woman's death; nor had there been this year, or since her death, a case of cholera in the establishment; and, consequently, she could not have caught the diarrhœa by washing the clothes.

She, herself, attributed her illness, I was informed, to having eaten heartily of a kidney pie, while in Chelsea.

The persons about the Asylum, her companions, are not aware that she had visited any one labouring under cholera.

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## CASES OF MALIGNANT CHOLERA.

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### CASE No. 109.

*July 6th.*—See the R. G. W. R., 7th July, 1855. A labourer, aged thirty-two, is reported to have died, on the 6th of July, 1855, at the Workhouse, Wandsworth, of malignant cholera, having had premonitory diarrhœa for one day, certain.

I have been to Wandsworth Workhouse, and I was informed, by the clerk, that the man had been admitted, on the 27th June, in consequence of an ulcer in his right hand, which prevented him from working, and, being destitute, he was admitted into the infirmary. He continued in good health till the day of the 5th July, when he was seized with a diarrhœa; and as it got worse in a few hours, the medical officer was sent for; but he died on the sixth, with all the symptoms of malignant cholera.

The Wandsworth Workhouse is situated on an elevated position, and is not shut in by buildings. The interior is clean and healthy.

Previous to this case there were neither diarrhœa nor cholera cases in the Workhouse; nor have any occurred since. And very few cases of either diarrhœa, or cholera, have occurred in this union, this year.

### CASE No. 110.

*Sept. 8th.*—See the R. G. W. R., 8th Sept., 1855. Hanover Square, at the “Plough” public-house, Brook Mews, on the 3rd Sept., the son of a licensed



victualler, aged one year, diarrhœa, five days, and malignant cholera, one day.

This child was in good health up to the moment he was seized with diarrhœa, six days before his death, although he was teething, and was about to be weaned. No person in the house had diarrhœa or cholera at the time he became ill, during his illness, or after his death; and he himself was not taken to any house where he could have caught the disease.

#### CASE No. 111.

*Sept. 20th.*—See the R. G. W. R., 22nd Sept., 1855. Hackney, at 13, Victoria Street, Homerton, on the 20th Sept., a brickmaker, aged thirty-six, diarrhœa, twelve hours; malignant cholera, twenty-four hours.

I have seen the landlady where this man resided, and who attended him along with his wife and other neighbours. She states, that he had a diarrhœa for above six weeks, which he did not attend to, as he was not in pain. That two days before his death, the diarrhœa suddenly increased in frequency, and in about twelve hours he was seized with severe vomiting, spasms, etc., and died in about twenty-four hours after being attacked with vomiting and cramps.

This man was a labouring man, who did not idle his time, but attended to his occupation as brickmaker; therefore, he had no opportunity to see or visit any one labouring under diarrhœa or cholera. Before this man's death no case of cholera had occurred in the neighbourhood, although there were several persons complaining of diarrhœa.

#### CASE No. 112.

*Oct. 6th.*—See the R. G. W. R., 13th Oct., 1855.



On the 6th and 7th Oct., the son and wife of a costermonger, aged, respectively, three, and thirty-one years, cholera maligna, twenty-four and fifty hours.

The head of this family, and his other children, have removed to another part of the town, address not known. But the master of the workhouse, Chelsea, who saw this man, and who had the particulars of the death of the wife and child, says, that the family partook, the night before being taken ill, of decayed fish; that the mother and child were taken ill, during the night, with purging and vomiting; and ultimately, when medical assistance was called, both were past all hope, and died of malignant cholera. The father was also indisposed, but ultimately recovered.

I have seen the place this family resided in. It is a mere hovel, filthy in the extreme, and the neighbourhood is a low one; but no case of cholera had occurred in this place previous to these two cases, or since. There were a few slight cases of diarrhœa in the court, but none died; and the persons of the court are not aware that this woman, and her child, had visited any one labouring under the disease. Her neighbours believe that she had not been out of the yard for some weeks.

#### CASE No. 113.

*Oct. 11th.*—See the R. G. W. R., 20th Oct., 1855. Died, on the 11th Oct., 1855, at No. 19, New Peter Street, Westminster, of malignant cholera, the wife of a bricklayer's labourer, aged forty.

I have seen the daughter of this woman, herself a person of about twenty, and she tells me, that her mother was a washerwoman; that she had been ailing for the last year; sometimes with palpitations, some-



times with pains in various parts of the body, but that she still continued her work. That, about five days before her death, she was seized at night with diarrhœa, but she had no pain. During the evening of the next day she began to have cramps, which, at first, were very severe; but, after a few hours, the cramps and purging diminished; and next day she was free from both, but very weak, and her hands and face became dark; and she was then told by the medical attendant, she says, that her mother had the black cholera. She died two days after.

This woman says, further, that her mother had not washed any clothes belonging to any one ill of diarrhœa or cholera; nor had she, to her knowledge, visited any one having the disease. And, she adds, that she believes it was impossible she could have seen any one having the disease, no case had occurred in the neighbourhood, and she never had been absent from her work. She adds, that her mother attributed her illness to having had her feet wet at the moment the catamenia were about to come on.

Every one in the house was, previous to, and since, this woman's death, free from diarrhœa or cholera. And my informant, her daughter, says, she herself never was in better health; although she had much labour and anxiety in attending on her sick and dying mother.

#### CASE No. 114.

*Oct. 26th.*—In the R. G. W. R., 27th Oct., 1855, it is stated, that the son of a fishmonger, aged thirteen years, had died, on the 26th Oct., of malignant cholera, twelve hours illness, at No. 14, Old Pye Street, Westminster.

I have been to the house, and I have seen the



mother of this boy, and she informed me, that when he got out of bed in the morning, he was obliged to run down to the water-closet, half-dressed. On his return he dressed himself as usual, took his breakfast, did not complain of any uneasiness, and she did not notice whether he returned, during the morning, to the water-closet; but about one P.M. he was there, when he was seized with severe cramps in his stomach, and was obliged to be helped into the house. She believes that he had vomited, but is not quite certain. He now complained of being unwell, and had several watery stools. At about half-past two he complained of slight cramps in his legs; medical assistance was obtained, but he gradually sank, and died at about seven o'clock, having had very little vomiting, but frequent watery stools.

The mother is not aware that her son had any intercourse with persons labouring under diarrhœa, or cholera; no case of either disease was in the neighbourhood; her other children are perfectly healthy, and have not had either diarrhœa, or cholera.

Her boy, she says, had always been a very delicate child, frequently attacked with bowel complaints; and last year, about the same time, he had a very severe attack of diarrhœa, and she was near losing him then.

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## CASES OF ASIATIC CHOLERA.

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### CASE No. 115.

*July 24th.*—See the R. G. W. R., 28th July, 1855. Chelsea, South, at No. 22, Church Street, the wife of



a laundry keeper, aged sixty-four years, diarrhœa, one week; Asiatic cholera, twelve hours; consecutive fever, twenty-four hours.

I have seen this woman's son, and his wife, who attended her through her illness. It appears that she had been gradually failing in health; about ten days before her death she was attacked with diarrhœa, to which she paid no attention, although she was very much alarmed lest she should have cholera. Two days before her death she was suddenly seized with vomiting and severe purging, followed, in a few hours, by very severe cramps, which lasted, off and on, for about twelve or fourteen hours, when she became easy, without any spasms, or purging, or vomiting, and died in about eighteen hours after. She was a laundress by trade, but she herself never washed or touched the clothes; and they are not aware that any person for whom she washed had had diarrhœa or cholera. Some cases of diarrhœa did occur in her neighbourhood, and two cases of cholera, but she had had no intercourse with either cases. It may be added, that none of the women she employed to wash the clothes have had either diarrhœa or cholera.

#### CASE No. 116.

*July 28th.*—See the R. G. W. R., 28th July, 1855. Bethnal Green Church, at 16, Hereford Street, on the 26th July, a brewer's servant, aged thirty-two, cholera Asiatica, fourteen hours and a half.

I have seen this man's landlady, who informs me, that the day before his death he was in perfect health; that he dined off salmon, which disagreed with him; that a diarrhœa came on during the night; that the



next morning he got up and went to the medical attendant, from whom he got some medicines, which he attempted to take, but vomited up the whole immediately, when cramps came on, and, in the evening, another medical gentleman saw him; but he died in a few hours after.

No one in the house had diarrhœa, or cholera, previous to this man's illness; nor has any one been ill with diarrhœa or cholera since.

This man was a temperate, well-behaved person; and the landlady is not aware that he visited any person labouring under diarrhœa, or under cholera.

The first medical gentleman who prescribed for this man, says, that he laboured under a true attack of Asiatic cholera.

#### CASE No. 117.

*Aug. 1st.*—At No. 3, Argyle Row, Argyle Square, Gray's Inn Lane, St. Pancras, a man, aged sixty-six, is reported, in the R. G. W. R. for 4th Aug., 1855, to have died of Asiatic cholera; diarrhœa, six days.

I have been to the house, and I there saw his daughter-in-law, who informed me, that the man enjoyed good health; that for above ten days, or may be more, he had a diarrhœa; that he went several times to consult a medical gentleman, but that the diarrhœa was not stopped. The day before his death he was suddenly seized with vomiting, spasms, etc., and he gradually got worse, although medical aid was obtained; and he died in less than twenty-four hours from the time he began to vomit. He became very blue all over his body some hours before death, and



he was much altered in the face, and his body much reduced in size.

He was a grocer, and never went out but to market; and she is not aware that he had been to any house where any one was ill with diarrhœa or cholera. No one in his house was ill with either, previous to his death, or has any one of his family been ill with either since his death; and they are not aware of any one being attacked with diarrhœa, or cholera, in the neighbourhood.

#### CASE No. 118.

*Aug. 19th.*—See the R. G. W. R., Aug. 25th, 1855. East London, St. Botolph, at No. 101, Houndsditch, on the 19th Aug., a woman, thirty-seven years old, is reported to have died of Asiatic cholera.

I have seen the woman who was with her at Amsterdam, and attended her from the moment she was taken ill till she died, and she says, that diarrhœa was very prevalent at Amsterdam; that several persons in the house where they were on a visit had diarrhœa, but not cholera, to her knowledge. That the morning she and her friend embarked to return to England, they both had diarrhœa, but her friend worse than herself; but neither of them had any pain; they ate very little all day, and went to bed early.

At about eleven o'clock at night her friend was seized with vomiting and violent purging, and, shortly after, with cramps in her legs and arms. She gradually got worse, that is to say, fainter and fainter; and when the vessel arrived she could hardly speak. She was put into a cab to be sent home; but she died in the house. She was blue, and much altered in her appearance.



My informant got well of the diarrhœa, but has remained weak ever since. She is not aware that her friend had seen, or had had any communication with, persons who had cholera. Herself, her husband, and her late friend's husband, have not been ill since.

CASE No. 119.

*Aug. 25th.*—See the R. G. W. R., 25th Aug., 1855. St. Saviour's, Christ Church, at No. 14, Church Street, on the 18th Aug., the daughter of a stationer's assistant, aged four years, Asiatic cholera.

I have seen this child's mother, and she informed me, that her daughter was seized with diarrhœa two days before her death, which, at first, gave her no uneasiness; but when the child began to vomit, and to be purged violently, she became alarmed, and sent for her medical attendant, who did all he could, but to no avail: the child died a few hours after he had visited her. The child had not been away from home for months, and had been visited by no one labouring under diarrhœa or under cholera; and no one in the house, previous to, or during the child's illness, or since the child's death, has laboured under diarrhœa or cholera.

CASE No. 120.

*Sept. 15th.*—See the R. G. W. R., 15th Sept., 1855. Southwark, London Road, at 50, Market Street, 9th Sept., a plumber and glazier, aged forty-two, Asiatic cholera, sixteen hours.

The widow of this man informed me, that her husband worked in the docks; that he came home, on the 8th Sept., feeling unwell in his inside; having, in fact, a slight diarrhœa; that he attempted to go



out into the next street, but returned soon, saying, he felt very unwell; and requested to have some tea and brandy, which he took. Shortly after he began to vomit, to purge violently, and to be in great pain from spasms in his limbs; that medical aid was obtained, but in vain: he died in less than sixteen hours from the time he came home and said he felt poorly.

She is not aware that he had visited any one labouring under diarrhœa, or under cholera; but he had repeatedly complained of the bad smells which existed where he was at work at the docks; and the man himself attributed his illness to this cause.

#### CASE No. 121.

*Oct. 9th.*—See the R. G. W. R., 13th Oct., 1855. At the House of Correction, Tothill Fields, 10th Oct., the wife of a stonemason, aged forty-five, died of Asiatic cholera, twelve hours.

I have seen the deputy-governor, and the nurse, at the hospital of the establishment. By the deputy-governor, I was informed that this woman had been eleven months in the prison; that she had communicated with no one out of doors; that she was considered a person in good health.

The nurse said, that she was taken during the night with severe diarrhœa; that in the morning she was brought down to the hospital; that towards mid-day she was seized with spasms, and, in a few hours, her skin became discoloured; and she died in about twelve hours after having called for assistance.

She is not aware whether the woman had had a diarrhœa previous to her being taken ill the night previous to her death. It may here be remarked, that no medical officer resides in the prison; and that



when any one is taken ill during the night, they have to send for one at about a mile from the prison.

From the most minute inquiries, it is impossible to trace that the disease was brought into the house, though there are a few cases of diarrhœa in the establishment; therefore, the disease originated in the house.

#### CASE No. 122.

*Oct. 20th.*—See the R. G. W. R., 20th Oct. 1855. St. George in the East, at 16, St. George's Court, a dock labourer, aged forty-nine, died on the 13th Oct., diarrhœa, eight hours; Asiatic cholera, thirty-six hours.

This man's widow informed me that her husband was a sober, steady man; that he was in his usual health the day before and up to the time when the diarrhœa came on, which was towards morning. As he was in no pain he did not, for the first few hours, pay much attention to this diarrhœa; but as soon as he began to vomit and to have spasms, a medical gentleman was called in, who pronounced it to be an attack of cholera. He died in about six-and-thirty hours after the vomiting and spasms set in.

His widow is not aware that he had seen any one labouring under diarrhœa or cholera. Herself and her children, and the remainder of the families in the house were, previous to, and have remained since his death, in perfect health, free from diarrhœa and cholera.

#### CASE No. 123.

*Oct. 27th.*—See the R. G. W. R., 3rd Nov., 1855. On the 27th Oct., 1855, a person, formerly a labourer,



aged twenty-seven years, died at Milbank prison, of Asiatic cholera, eleven days ill.

I have seen the medical attendant and the deputy governor. From the last I learn, that the man had been in the prison one month and five days; that he was in good health when he came in, and continued well for about three weeks, when he was attacked with diarrhœa.

From the medical attendant I learn, that this man was brought into the hospital on the 16th October labouring under diarrhœa, but not severely. Is not aware that the patient had had diarrhœa previous to the day he was sent into the hospital; the day after his admission into the hospital he was seized with vomiting and spasms, and he gradually passed into the collapsed stage; and he had, in fact, all the symptoms of Asiatic cholera.

There have been seven cases of cholera in this prison, and this is the fourth case that has died in consequence; but this man had no communication with the other six cases, till brought into the hospital himself, then labouring under the premonitory diarrhœa.

It is evident that this man could not have been infected, either by the persons in the prison-room or from any one outside, as he was visited by no one during the time he had been in the house. His diet was, up to the time he was taken ill, the usual prison diet.

#### CASE No. 124.

*Oct. 28th.*—See the R. G. W. R., Nov. 3rd, 1855. In the Workhouse, Chelsea North-west, on the 28th



October, 1855, a widow, aged seventy-four, Asiatic cholera, thirty hours.

I have been to the Workhouse, and from the master I learn, that she had been out four days before her death, and that she had partaken largely of plum-pudding, which, she said, disagreed with her stomach, and a bowel complaint was the consequence; which the next day was attended with vomiting, cramps, etc.; and then medical assistance was called, when it was discovered that she was sinking; and she died the next day.

There were a few cases of slight diarrhœa in the house previous to this case, and she herself was not quite right in her bowels when she partook of the pudding. There was not then, nor has any cholera occurred since, in the house; and the master informs me that the medical officer cannot believe that the woman caught the disease the day she went out; they believe that it arose from indigestion.











