Report of the sub-committee of the Association for Promoting the Extension of The Contagious Diseases Act, of 1866, to the Civil Population of the United Kingdom : with a list of its members.

Contributors

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Second & Report, or, REPORT OF THE SUB-COMMITTEE,

OF THE

ASSOCIATION

FOR PROMOTING THE EXTENSION OF

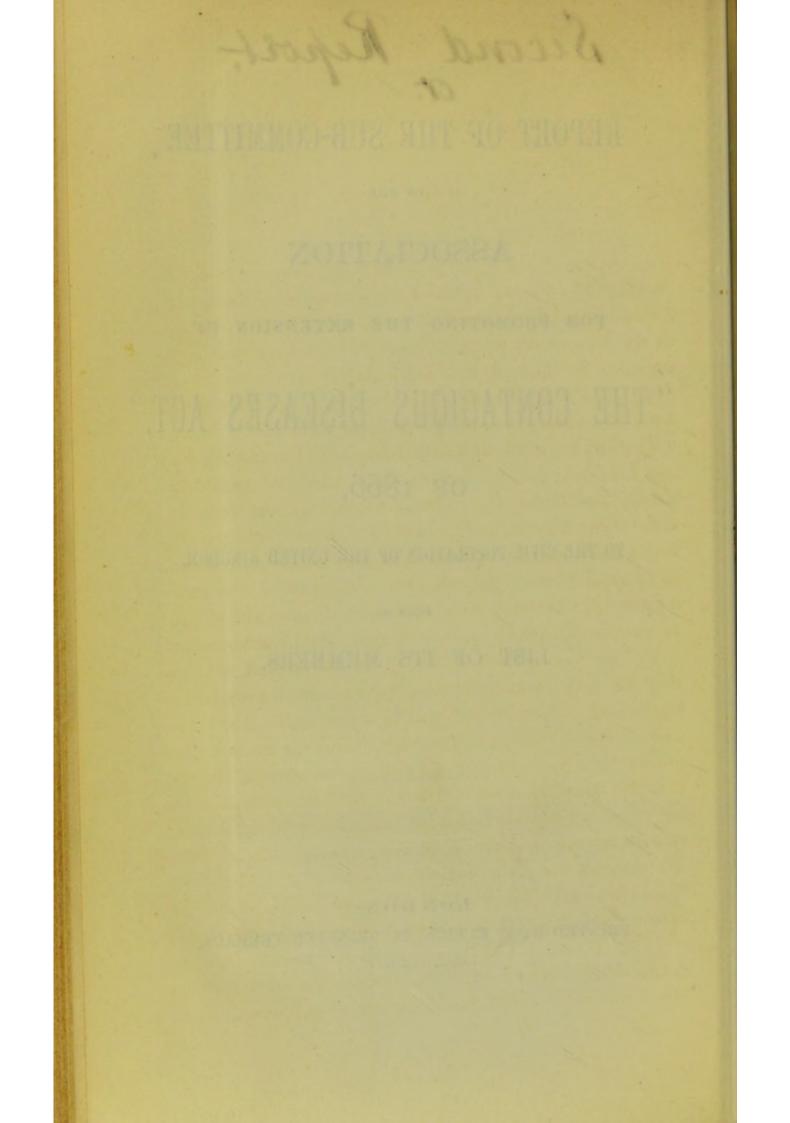
"THE CONTAGIOUS DISEASES ACT," OF 1866,

TO THE CIVIL POPULATION OF THE UNITED KINGDOM.

WITH A

LIST OF ITS MEMBERS.

LONDON: PRINTED BY E. ELFICK, 22, LEINSTER TERRACE, LANCASTER GATE.



REPORT.

THE Sub-Committee, in reporting the main events connected with the Extension of the Contagious Diseases Act, 1866, which have occurred since the General Meeting of the Association in July 1868, beg to congratulate the members on the fact, that progress, though not so great as they desire, has been made in promoting the objects which led to the formation of the Association.

In June 1868, Viscount Lifford moved that a select Committee be appointed by the House of Lords to consider the Contagious Diseases Act, 1866. A few days later the Committee was named, and after much careful enquiry they issued their Report on July 2nd, and made the following recommendation-" The Committee recommend the introduction into Parliament, at the earliest practicable opportunity of a Bill giving to Her Majesty in Council power to apply the Act of 1866, first, to all Naval and Military Stations, and secondly to any locality the inhabitants of which may apply to be included in the operation of the Act, and be able to submit satisfactory proofs on the following points, viz., that adequate hospital accommodation can be provided and maintained; that the necessary arrangements can be made for the religious and moral care of the inmates of such hospital or ward, according to the provisions of the Act, and that the police force is efficient."

On February 25th, 1869, the Earl of Morley stated on behalf of Government, in answer to a question in the House of Lords, that "the Extension of the Contagious Diseases Act, 1866, had been under the consideration of the Home Office, and that a Bill would shortly be introduced, based

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on the recommendations of the Committee which enquired into the subject last year."

On the same day Mr. Gladstone stated in answer to a question in the House of Commons, that "Government had under their consideration the course to be taken with respect to the Act of 1866, and would in a short time state the conclusion at which they had arrived."

On Friday, May 14th, Mr. Bruce, Secretary of the Home Department, moved that a select Committee be appointed by the House of Commons "to enquire into the working of the Contagious Diseases Act, 1866, and to consider whether, and how far, and under what conditions it would be expedient to extend its operation." The Committee was named on June 8th, and sat for the first time on June 18th—Mr. Childers in the chair.

In consequence of the above-mentioned statements respecting the intentions of Government, we did not think it necessary or desirable to promote Parliamentary action, but were not a little surprised on hearing that, in lieu of the promised Bill, it was proposed to add a second enquiry by a Parliamentary Committee to that made by the House of Lords in 1868.

It is understood that the enquiry now going on will, owing to the late period of the Session, refer exclusively to extension of the existing Act to additional Garrison and Seaport Towns, and that in 1870 further enquiry will be made as to the propriety, and best means, of extending the principles of the Act to the Civil Population.

These circumstances lead us to believe that some advance has been made towards the attainment of our objects. Till 1864 the question had attracted little public attention. It has since been proved by the almost unanimous evidence of medical men—and to them alone is known the extent of the evil—that the disease against which we fight is committing fearful rayages upon the population, and sapping the health and strength of future generations; but, that from ignorance, apathy, and unwillingness to discuss a disagreeable subject, it has been too long allowed to take its course, unchecked and uncontrolled.

The formation of numerous branches of our Association, and the meetings which have been held, in many populous towns, the appointment of Committees for enquiry by both Houses of Parliament without a dissentient voice, justify us in thinking that public feeling is becoming favourable to our views, and we believe, that the fuller the enquiry may be, so much the more favourable will it still become.

We propose on behalf of the Association to continue in the course which we have adopted; to collect information, and statistics, on which legislation may sooner or later be founded; to circulate documents showing the enormity of the evil, and so to stir up our fellow countrymen to join us in doing our utmost, consistent with the claims of morality, to stamp it out.

Memorials signed by the Mayors of seventeen important towns, by a large number of magistrates, by the highest ecclesiastical and educational authorities, including Bishops, Deans, and Heads of Colleges at Oxford, Cambridge, Winchester, &c., by numerous Clergy and non-conformist Ministers, by Officers of the Army and Navy, and others, have been sent to us for presentation to Government: but as the prayer of them refers more especially to the Civil Population, and as that branch of the subject will not engage the attention of Parliament until next year, we propose to defer the presentation till then, and shall meanwhile urge all who are interested to promote similar Memorials, and to petition the two Houses of Parliament.

We think it desirable for the same reason to postpone for the present our next General Meeting.

The Committee of the Association added at their last

meeting the names of Viscount Lifford, and of Sir John Simeon, Bart., M.P., to the Sub-Committee.

The accounts have been audited by the gentlemen appointed for that purpose, and their statement is appended.

We append also the names of the Members of our Association, and call attention to them with feelings of satisfaction.

We conclude our Report with an expression of our sincere thanks to the Honorary Officers who have carried on, at great sacrifice of time, and with much trouble, the business of the Association.

July 1869.

SUB-COMMITTEE

OF

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- ^oHepburn, Colonel H. Poole, C.B., 18, Charles-street, Berkeley-square.
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- Hill, Pearson, General Post-office.
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- ^oHood, Sir A. Acland, Bart., Carlton-club.
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- ^oJervoise, Sir J. C., Bart., 78, Chester-square.
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- ^oKing, Colonel J. Hynde, C.B., 34A, Charles-street, Berkeley-square.
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- Lawrence, Henry, Grenadier Guards.
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- ^oLegge, Lt.-Colonel, Coldstream Guards.
- ^oLeonard, Peter, M.D., R.N., Plaisance, Upper Norwood.
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- ^oThompson, Sir Henry, 35, Wimpole-street.
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Heyworth, Rev. James.

^eHill, Matthew D., Q.C.

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Percival, Rev. L., Head Master of Clifton College.

Phippin, Robert, High Sheriff of Bristol.

Smith, Wm.

^oSymonds, John A., M.D.

Beddoe, John, M.D., { Hon. Secs.

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Drury, Rev. B. H., M.A., Tutor of Caius College.

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Gunson, Rev. W. M., M.A., Tutor of Christ's College.

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MERTHYR TYDFIL.

Cresswell, Pearson, R., Hon. Sec.

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Dansey, G., Hon. Sec. for Devonport.

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Barcham, Thomas, Deacon of King's Road Chapel.
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Dalton, Rev. Joseph B., Curate of St. Mary's.
Darter, W. S., Alderman and J.P.
Eisdell, Arthur R., Deacon of Castle Street Chapel.
Exall, William, Alderman, J.P., Deacon of Castle St. Chapel.

C

Exall, William, Deacon of Castle Street Chapel. Few, Rev. William Tebb, Curate of St. Mary's.

^oFosbery, Rev. T. V., Vicar of St. Giles.

Friend, Rev. Martin Thomas, Curate of St. Lawrence.

Harris, Thomas, Alderman, and J.P.

Hillard, Charles, Wesleyan Minister.

Hussey, Rev. P. F., Curate of St. John's.

Jenkinson, Rev. John H., Curate of St. Mary's.

Legg, William, B.M., Minister of Broad Street Chapel.

Maine, Rev. Lewin George, Vicar of St. Lawrence.

May, George, Sidmouth House, President of the Reading Pathological Society, on behalf and with the authority of the Society, which comprises 49 Members.

Merriman, Rev. G., Assistant Curate of St. Giles.' Micklem, Edward, J.P.

^oMonck, J. B., J.P. County of Berks.

Palmer, George, J.P.

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Powys, Rev. William, Curate of St. Mary's.

Preston, Samuel.

Purvis, Edward, J.P.

Rogers, Thomas, Town Clerk.

Simonds, H. A.

Simonds, Henry.

Simonds, John.

Stevenson, Rev. John Frederick, LL.B., Minister of Trinity Chapel.

Taylor, John D., Chairman of the Guardians of the Reading Union.

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Whiston, Rev. Robert, M.A., late Senior Fellow of Trinity College, Cambridge, and Head Master of the King's School, Rochester.

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°Cardell, J. M.

ST. LEONARDS.

Adey, C. A., M.D.

SCARBOROUGH.

Hales, Rev. W. A.

SOUTHAMPTON.

Parkes, E. A., M.D., F.R.S.
Stebbing, Alderman J. R., F.R.A.S., Mayor. Symons, A.
Wiblin, J.

TORQUAY.

Pollard, James, Hon. Sec.

WINCHESTER.

The Mayor of Winchester. ^oThe Rev. the Warden of St. Mary's College.

H. SPENCER SMITH, Treasurer, in account with the Association for extending "The Contagious Diseases' Act," 1866, to the Civil Population, from May 28th, 1868, to July 19th, 1869.

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A. B. R. MYERS, Auditors. C. INGLIS,