

## THE BUBONIC PLAGUE.

Some Interesting Facts Concerning the Oriental Disease Which Is Slowly but Steadily Circling the Globe—Where Disinfection Failed—How a City Was Saved From the Scourge by Prompt and Intelligent Action—A Danger Which May Hide Itself for Two Years.

In a previous letter (which appeared in the Eagle, June 9), the writer, dealing with the appearance of the bubonic plague in Chinatown, San Francisco, its origin, and the shameful unsanitary conditions, long existing in this indescribably foul breeding place of disease, endeavored to present an array of instructive facts, which might serve as a warning to the health authorities of Greater New York. For we, too, have black spots—danger points—upon our city map, which should be cleaned up as thoroughly as possible, and that without delay. There is no occasion for alarm, but even those who are not medical experts will recognize the need for precautions on the part of our health authorities as they note the slow, but steady, progress of the plague around the world. Under date of January 9, 1901, Supervising Surgeon General Wyman, of the United States Marine Hospital service, telegraphed to Dr. J. H. White, at San Francisco: "Sir—Regarding plague in San Francisco you might say situation not acute. Experience Oporto, Santos and Glasgow, and climatic conditions in San Francisco make it more a matter of future menace as instanced in British Journal, December 1, page 1614. Present in Calcutta two years before acknowledged. Therefore, more to prevent future catastrophe than to prevent alarm measures should be taken as necessarily arises. Nor need they be in such manner as to excite alarm, but should include inspection, isolation and disinfection, which smallpox. Assured of this, publication would be unnecessary."

That telegram has been publicly construed as meaning that so long as cases of bubonic plague are confined to Chinatown, isolation and disinfection, to the public need not be informed as to the number of cases discovered since Secretary Gage's commission of investigation made its report. Whether that is a correct interpretation or not, there still remains the more impressive fact, stated in the telegram as follows: "Present in Calcutta two years before acknowledged. Therefore more to prevent future catastrophe than to prevent alarm measures should be taken as necessarily arises."

Dr. J. C. Perry, chief quarantine officer for the Philippine islands, reported to the United States surgeon general, under date of March 27, 1901: "Plague, 23 cases and 15 deaths—Chinese, 18; Filipinos, 5."

Under date of March 28, Dr. Perry notes the important fact that disinfection alone does not stay the progress of the plague. The doctor's letter in part reads as follows:

"Sir—Referring still further to the increase of plague in Manila, I have the honor to state that most of the cases have occurred among the Chinese, and that the infection is more virulent than in the preceding year, many cases dying during the first twenty-four hours of the disease, before any external glandular enlargements are manifest. In some the duration of sickness has been only a few hours before death results."

Another point of practical importance is the fact that nearly all cases are traced to the houses infected last year. All these houses were disinfected as thoroughly as possible in houses of their character, and had been occupied several months without any cases of plague occurring among the inmates. It is evident that the cases now occurring are not the result of fresh infection of the house, but in all probability an increase of the virulence of the previous infection.

In April last the U. S. surgeon general received a report from Surgeon Coffey, stationed at Honolulu, in the case of a Japanese woman named Iwami Yei, aged 17 years, who died of bubonic plague on March 24. The deceased had been employed by a nurse and Dr. Carmichael, of the U. S. Marine Hospital service, in his report:

"The woman had been a resident of

Honolulu for two years or more, and had lived in the city at that time, and the place where she resided is one of the cleanest in the city."

"It is difficult to trace the source of the infection, and the general opinion is that it is the result of a fresh importation. The residence of the woman at the Parke place and this quarters occupied by her at the Japanese hospital have been thoroughly disinfected, and the body has been cremated at the quarantine station. It is unfortunate that the source of the infection cannot be traced, but in this case, as in others, it is mysterious. The same bacillus that we found in the cases last year."

A report made by William P. Smyth, United States consul at Hull, England, England, July 19, 1901, declares: "Pneumonic plague is the most infectious form, the sputum being laden with plague bacilli. It is the most difficult to diagnose clinically, owing to the absence of buboes, the lung symptoms leading the medical attendant to regard the case as one of ordinary pneumonia. Pain, tenderness and enlargement of the lymphatic glands in the inguinal, femoral, axillary, and cervical regions, which are the most prominent signs of bubonic plague, which constitutes 70 percent of the persons attacked, are absent."

The report made by Consul Smyth is of general interest, for it tells of an outbreak of plague on the steamship Cardiff while the vessel was lying at one of the Hull docks, England. It appears that the vessel, loaded with cotton seed, left Alexandria on December 22, 1900, touched at Algiers on December 23, whence she sailed direct for Hull. The ship had on board 100 crew, 100 passengers, and 100 tons of cotton seed. The captain reported the death of one of the crew two days before his vessel arrived at Hull. The body was interred in one of the Hull cemeteries. Shortly after two of the crew were reported as ill and Dr. Mason, the port medical officer, promptly made an examination. At first he believed the men were suffering from influenza. They died inside of four days. Post mortem and bacteriological examinations were made and the evidence was clear that the men had died from plague.

The Friary was promptly taken to a moving station, twelve miles from the city, for disinfection, and several members of the crew were removed to a hospital and isolated. There were in all eight deaths from the plague in the quarantine hospital, four and one-half miles from Hull. The mortality was confined to the men who had lived in the forecabin of the ship; there several rats were found dead and the dog and the cat quarantined there "were taken sick and had to be destroyed."

The residents of Hull did not become panic stricken, nor did the leading business men of the city declare in the interest of trade, as was the case in San Francisco, that the health authorities had not discovered bubonic plague. The people of Hull trusted their health officers and relied implicitly on the statement that medical science could stamp out the plague. And the results show that this confidence was not misplaced. The plague was confined to those who had contracted it aboard ship. No resident of Hull took the disease.

As it is within the bounds of possibility that some plague infected ship may land at one of our docks, in case of such an undesirable event the experience of the people of Hull should go a long way in the direction of quieting the fears of the timid. And really there will be no cause for alarm, for veritable health authorities do their duty.

The thoroughgoing methods adopted by the Hull authorities may serve as an example to be emulated about the plague come this way. Health Officer Mason describes these methods in this fashion:

"The whole of the crew, the nursing staff and those who had been in any way exposed to infection, numbered in all 99 persons, underwent Haff-

## Mother

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king's prophylactic treatment as supplied by the local government board. The names and addresses of all who had been on board or otherwise associated with the ship, numbering upward of 100 persons, were obtained and were kept under daily observation for a period of sixteen days. Three persons, namely, a telephone messenger, a shipping clerk and a policeman—who had been in contact with the infected vessel, and who were feeling unwell, were removed to hospital for observation, but did not, however, develop plague.

"The whole of the effects of the deceased seaman were destroyed. The whole of the crew, excepting those who had been on board or otherwise associated with the ship, numbering upward of 100 persons, were obtained and were kept under daily observation for a period of sixteen days. Three persons, namely, a telephone messenger, a shipping clerk and a policeman—who had been in contact with the infected vessel, and who were feeling unwell, were removed to hospital for observation, but did not, however, develop plague."

"A circular letter setting forth the details of the outbreak of plague in Hull, and urging that steps be taken for the destruction of these vermin as far as possible, has been addressed to the chambers of commerce of Hull and London, the owners of shipping, warehousemen and others concerned. A sanitary committee met daily and the Hull and Goole port sanitary authority at frequent intervals to receive reports of the medical officer of health, and daily bulletins were issued to the press. Happily, the outbreak of plague in Hull was confined to the crew of the Friary, excepting the medical attendant and the watchman referred to. The latter who had only for one night been engaged in the ship. In accordance with the provisions of the Venice international convention, 1897, a certificate declaring the city and port of Hull free from plague was issued to the collector of H. M. customs, the consular service and the press on January 20."

In San Francisco the authorities have been dealing with the plague for more than a year, owing in a large measure to the unwillingness of the governor and political demagogues to admit that the plague really existed in Chinatown. But in the case of Hull the authorities freed themselves from the plague inside of less than a month. How did they do it? Consul Smyth says:

"Nothing short of extraordinary vigilance on the part of Dr. Mason and his assistants, earnestly supported by the health committee, saved the port from a serious invasion. Fortunately for Hull the health committee is composed of some of the best men in the corporation, and is unquestionably one of the most representative organizations of its kind in the country. The port medical officer himself is a very clear, cool-headed and energetic man, who carries with him the entire confidence of the community. The recourse to prophylactic treatment in the case with a therapeutic instinct. It was not until the outbreak of plague in Hull that the health committee was most satisfactory."

All of which is respectfully submitted to our wide-awake health officials for their thoughtful consideration.—Mul in Brooklyn Eagle.

Breath, their ordinary food in fish, and they even capture salmon in the sea. This, however, I have never had confirmed by the Greenlanders, who consider that the bear's powers of swimming would not be equal to it. According to the same authority, neither the natives nor bears are safe from the polar bear, but this I think is a mistake. Nature has intended that it should seek its prey in the water and on the ice rather than on the land.

When really hungry, there are few things which a bear will reject, down to old skin garments and tattered ropes. It is under such circumstances that it ventures close to the huts and devours whatever it can find. When in such positions, we are extremely anxious to get away. In the winter of 1896-7 a bear was shot at Godhavn with the whole of the fore part of the body in an oak cask, which it was taking. In the Julianshaab district, where the bears are most numerous, they are considered as much more dangerous than the walrus or the hooded seal.

The food of bears consists mainly of seals, which, however, they cannot seize in the water, but only when lying on the shore or on ice, but as the seal, when in such positions, is extremely watchful and wary, the stalk is often fruitless, and the bear is obliged more frequently than suits it to depart with an empty stomach. Caribou they take at any time. In summer they rob birds' nests of eggs and young ones, and appear to be partial also to berries. Probably, too, they live upon sea fowl, seizing them from below while resting on the water. According to

## YOUNG MEN ADVISED BY RICK MERCHANT

Henry C. Lytton, in Chicago American, Says Success in Life Depends on Diligence and Honesty in Every Act.

How can a young man succeed in life? That is a question with which every young man should get busy and to which the old man should give his attention.

It is a question of the hour. Moreover it is one that can never be discussed too often or at too great length. I like to discuss it, and I like to have others discuss it with me. Advice of this kind can never be amiss.

There are many qualifications a young man must be possessed of before he can be successful. Self-sacrifice must predominate in all his dealings. Hard work must be a part of his every day life. Punctuality should be one of his best qualities. Veracity, frugality, patience, application to business, attention to detail and a determination to succeed—these are but few of the essential qualities which must be found in a man who succeeds in life.

To the boy about to begin a career I would say: "Get as much of an education as you can. If you are too poor to go to school read the best books you can; observe the manner in which your employers and successful business men around you do their work, and store the knowledge thus gained for future use."

A man cannot have too much education in this life, but did he have the best that could be acquired he could not be successful without possessing the other qualities I have mentioned. Elements of success are like the organs of a man's body. Without the heart, what good would the rest of the body be? With the brain inactive or afflicted, how could we get along? With our liver out of order, what would we care about business? It is the same way in the daily actions of man. Honesty, what are all the other qualities I have mentioned as necessary to success? Without application, how can we expect to go through life and be successful? Without a determination to succeed, what use is it for us to enter into a business venture? It is the lack of one or two of these essential virtues in a business man that give us so few Carnegies or Rockefellers.

## IMPORTANCE OF THRIFT.

Here is something every young man should bear in mind: No matter how small the salary you get, save money. Even if it be but a mere pittance, the time will come when you will need it. You are not always going to get along with \$5 a week, or \$35 a month. Nevertheless, unless you practice economy on a small salary you cannot hope to save when you get a larger one. I started out in life with a determination to economize. I can thank my early savings for the start which made it possible for me to become possessed of a large and lucrative business.

Here is another point: Do not pass

over little details because they appear to you insignificant at this time. The tiny many come—and it surely does to a man who forgets this advice—when the dimensions of something important. The very successful man always thinks of this and gives as much, or as least as careful, attention to little matters as he does to the momentous ones.

Be punctual. Without punctuality a man can get into all kinds of trouble. To make an engagement for 9 o'clock and keep it five minutes past that hour is not punctuality. It impresses the other party that you are not particular regarding the business you wish to transact with him. Be ahead of time if you wish, but do not be late. I never saw a man yet who abused this advice and was successful.

Don't be afraid of hard work. The man who says he can attain his end without that is wrong. Apply yourself to the work in hand and do not leave it until it is finished. If you have to work overtime to accomplish something, do not grumble. The satisfaction you derive from knowing you have completed your task recompenses you for the loss of time.

Above all, be honest. The money you make through deceit or deliberate theft never does you good. The conscience will not permit a man to succeed with ill-gotten gains. He is constantly worried by a sense of his shame, and though no one but himself knows it, it will spoil his life. I have yet to meet the man who will say he can be happy with ill-gotten gains.

Another thing I might advise is to keep at one line of business if you can. There is nothing made in ventures. If a man finds he is adapted to a certain line he ought to stick to it no matter what the difficulties he has to surmount. Variety never did help a man. In leaving one pursuit in which you have been engaged for some time and taking up another you are practically throwing away a lot of valuable time. That you do not succeed immediately is no reason why you should become discouraged and "throw up the sponge." As it were, there are men in my firm now receiving their share of the profits of a business, who began their business careers on very small salaries. I can name five who at one time or another told me they had chances to enter some other field that would, for the time, pay them more money. I advised them to remain where they were, and they took my advice. These men are now eminently successful. They have comfortable homes, good incomes, and promises of greater success than adds with them at present. They have the head and heart to themselves. They are possessed of all the qualities I have enumerated, and used them every day. They were hard workers, and never overlook details of their business.

I would sooner have an illiterate man who works hard and applies himself to small details than the most polished individual in the world who does not believe in hard work in connection with

## A FILIPINO MURDER SOCIETY

"Sandathans" Had Their Own Executioner and Grave Diggers.

Washington—A Philippine mail brings to the war department the records in eleven cases wherein Filipinos were tried by military commissions on charges including murder, criminal assault, kidnapping, assault and battery, burglary and violation of the rules of war.

A case especially notable arose out of the operations of a famous outband of the band of Filipinos called the "Society of the Sandathans." The principle officers of this society, and the triumvirate of chiefs, are the chief executioner and assistants and the requisite number of grave diggers who participate in this self-appointed work of the band. The leaders select their victim, capture and carry him away in the night to a secret rendezvous on a sandy beach covered with very tall grass, where the diggers have already prepared the grave. Here, in the presence of the assembled band, the victim is bound and taken to time to time have been stabbed to death and tossed into the graves. The members of the band then disperse and trust to the rise and fall of the nearby waters to hide the evidence of their work. Ten members of the band, including two of the chiefs, were tried before a military commission, and eight of them were sentenced to be hanged. In approving the sentences, General MacArthur says:

"To the reviewing authority it is evident that there can be no hope of peace for the Filipino people, nor security for the United States, until they shall learn to unite against all bands of murderers and assassins, under whatever name they shall assume, and to the assistance of the officers of the law in the determination to bring them all to justice."

In another case an armed band of

about twenty-five Filipinos carried away nine of the inhabitants of the Barrio of Casantulan and by repeated blows from the butts of their rifles drove them to the presidencia of Cabanatuan. Here all drank freely of vino and the prisoners were made drunk. Then, according to the testimony of two of the prisoners who escaped, the other seven were led off in the direction of a grove of trees, where two days later their bodies were discovered. The members of the band who were re-captured received sentences of death in some cases and imprisonment at hard labor for varying terms in others.

Four native policemen, who had been sent to gather wood for a detachment of American troops, were set upon, one of their number was killed and another lost his arm. A member of the band which attacked them was sentenced to twenty years' imprisonment.

A native named Miranda was tried on four charges. A band under his leadership ambushed, robbed and killed two native soldiers. Later he accused his band against the country house of a native, set it afire, looted its contents and carried off into the fields three daughters of the owner, robbing them of their jewelry. Three days later his band attacked the town residence of the same native and thoroughly sacked it. His last crime was the murder of a native named Abellon, who frequented a gambling house kept by Miranda's inamorata, for the sole reason that Abellon had not paid a gambling debt. Miranda was sentenced to be hanged.

Three natives were tried, charged with the murder of Private Henry P. Shafer, company I, Seventeenth infantry. They were sentenced to be hanged. But this determination by General MacArthur, in the case of two of them to imprisonment for life, and in the case

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