before your readers the following therapeutic synopsis, by which it is my intention to regulate the treatment of myself and patients in time of need.

TREATMENT
OF THE BLUE CHOLERA EPIDEMICA.

I. Of the Preliminary Stage:—

Characterized by watery evacuations, neither feculent nor bilious, attended with symptoms of threatened collapse.

*Indications:—*1. To stop the serous effusion from the capillaries of the gastro-pulmonary mucous membrane.

2. To prevent collapse.

Therapeia:—a. By soliciting the flow of blood from the organs threatened with congestion to the surface of the body, by brachial venesection, according to the age, sex, idiosyncrasy, &c., and the effects produced.

b. By the successive injection of diluo-astringent fluids into the rectum, at about 98° Fahr. such as, veal broth, and laudanum, or catechu, or other astringent.

c. By retaining the enemata within the rectum, until an urgency arises to throw them off; this may be effected by plugging up the anus by a tapering cork, smooth and oiled, and secured, as recommended by Dr. Clanny, with a T bandage.

d. by the infraction of laudanum and camphor, suspended in olive oil, along the spinal column, by warm, close, and thick, flannel.

e. By the administration of hot brandy and water.

f. By ministering to the tranquillity and cheerfulness of the patient's mind.

II. Of the Second Stage:—

Characterised by vomiting, strangury, pain in the lumbar and hypochondriac regions, cramps, cutaneous blueness, &c. &c.

*Indications:—*1. To relieve the depression of the heart and arteries.

2. To remove prostration.

3. To restore capillary action.

Therapeia:—a. By drawing blood from the regions of the kidneys and gall-bladder by cupping, and from the arm as well, if possible.

b. By giving three teaspoonfuls of mustard, finely diffused throughout half a pint of warm water, to which may be added two grains of tartarized antimony, in order to secure its emetic effects.

c. By the hot-air bath, as recommended by Armstrong; warm frictions, &c., and especially by the application of heat to the regions of the gall and urinary bladders.

d. By hot diluted brandy and laudanum per os.

e. By continued exhibitions of injections per anum.

III. Of the Febrile Stage.

Characterised, for the most part, by the symptoms of the last stage of typhus.

*Indications:—*1. To relieve local congestion, &c.

*Therapeia:—*By means familiar to every intelligent practitioner.

2. To restore the healthy function of the bowels.

Therapeia.—By five or ten grains of calomel, followed up by cathartic pills composed of jalap, aloes, soap, and calomel.

The foregoing is the skeleton of the plan by which I intend, in the absence of a better, to regulate my treatment of the epidemic should it invade this neighbourhood. I beg leave to submit it to the thinking portion of the profession. An idea occurred to me (which I endeavoured to carry into effect here, but was defeated in an honourable minority of three), that it would be highly advantageous to the inhabitants of different places, if the resident medical practitioners would form themselves into societies, for the purpose of taking into consideration the nature and treatment of the epidemic, founded on philosophical principles, with a view to the counteraction of this dreadful disease. *Sed hæc hactenus.* I subscribe myself, Sir, &c.,

JOHN THOMAS.

Well Street, Hackney, Feb. 16, 1832.

BARK IN CHOLERA.

APPEARANCES IN MR. ENSOR'S CASE.

To the Editor of THE LANCET.

SIR,—In perusing your valuable publication of the 11th, I observed a letter from Dr. Negri commenting on the efficacy of cinchona in the “febris perniciosa cholericæ of Torti” or the fatal epidemic, which I consider to have existed in this town some weeks previous to its acknowledgment by the Central Board of Health.

The remarks of Dr. Negri deserve serious attention, and I feel pleasure in bearing testimony to the assertions of that gentleman as regards the efficacy of the sulphate of quinine; having found that preparation of the bark a more valuable remedy than the crude, which frequently would be rejected from a stomach already too irritable.

In answer to the Doctor's letter, who considered I should have been more fortunate in my case at Knightsbridge (page 620), had I “substituted bark for opium and brandy, or combined it with them,” I must reply, the patient had been afflicted with a rheumatic affection of an intermitent character, and, with other remedies, had taken the various preparations of bark which produc-

ed alarming debility; occasioning nausea and vomiting, accompanied with distressing colic. Within the last month I have had an opportunity of witnessing three similar cases of a milder character, and have found the preparations of cinchona highly advantageous where a determination to the skin has been previously established; but when the surface of the body has become cold, corrugated, and dry, the bark has invariably proved emetic. In such cases, where the illness has assumed a tertian form, I have employed the liquor arsenicalis, in the dose of five to fifteen drops two or three times during the day, with the greatest advantage.

There were existing on the 17th of this month, in Vane Street in the Borough, several cases bearing the strongest analogy to the one at Knightsbridge; and it may be here worthy of remark, that the daily diet of these poor creatures consisted of potatoes and cold water, reflecting no slight disgrace on the parish authorities, who are quoted in our daily papers as offering all the assistance to the afflicted sufferers which humanity can suggest.

I have subjoined the *post-mortem* appearances of the case at Knightsbridge, which I omitted in my former relation, not having had an opportunity of examining the brain and spinal cord.

Appearances on dissection of the body 36 hours after death.

Externally.—Emaciation very remarkable; eyes rather prominent; pupils much dilated; rigidity of the superior extremities much less than that of the inferior; lips light purple; fingers and toes of a leaden colour; the remaining parts presented their usual appearance.

Abdomen.—Omentum small, but natural; the pyloric extremity of the stomach of a dark livid colour; the mucous membrane being detached with facility; the internal membrane of the small intestines slightly injected in distinct patches; both stomach and intestines contained a fluid resembling barley-water; the liver slightly enlarged, in other respects healthy; gall-bladder distended with bile; biliary ducts very much contracted; pancreas healthy; spleen three times its usual bulk, being distended with dark blood; right kidney much larger than the left, their structure natural; bladder contracted to the size of a dried fig, containing about three drachms of urine.

Chest.—Congestion of the lungs, with firm adhesions to the pleura costalis; no water in the pericardium; auricles of the heart and aorta filled with dark thick blood; the right ventricle very much enlarged, its parietes thinner than usual; left ventricle natural, containing thick dark-coloured blood;

pulmonary artery empty; superior and inferior cava, with the other large venous trunks, distended with viscid, dark, semi-fluid, blood; the neighbouring arteries empty.

I remain, Sir, your obedient servant,

SIDNEY R. ENSOR.

33, Dorset Street, Portman Square,
21st February, 1832.

LETTER FROM MR. AMESBURY ON HIS WARNING TO THE LONDON MEDICAL SOCIETY.

To the Editor of THE LANCET.

SIR,—I did not anticipate that any notice of the communication which I made to the London Medical Society on the 30th January ult. would have appeared in your Journal, as it was not delivered till the Society's meeting for the evening was broken up; but as you have given a report of what took place on that occasion, I would request you to insert this letter in order to remove any erroneous impression which, for want of greater fulness in the report, your readers might imbibe. The substance of my statement was as follows:—The great God and our Lord Jesus Christ is about to anoint a ministry to preach the gospel, as in the first age of the Christian church, with demonstration and power of the Holy Ghost, which will be accompanied with signs and wonders as at that time. This gracious revelation the Lord made known to a number of persons assembled together for worship, by one of his servants speaking in the Spirit, and we were commanded by the Holy Ghost to warn the people of what the Lord is about to do, lest he should break forth upon them and slay them before us. For this purpose we were not commanded to leave our several occupations, but to tell out the message to the people as opportunity might offer, without premeditation or argument, whether they would hear or whether they would forbear. To this I added, in order to prevent misconception, a further revelation; viz., that the ministry whom the Lord will anoint will neither add to, nor take from, the written word of God, and also that Satan is come in as an angel of light, and will presently attempt to establish false doctrines by signs and wonders so great, that if it were possible the very elect should be deceived. His subtlety will be such, that none will be able to discover the doctrines of devils from the true gospel of our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ but such as may have the discernment of the Spirit and seek to walk with all sincerity before the Lord, in accordance to his word.