

three weeks with inflammatory rheumatism, caused by the fall and subsequent exposure, his business, meanwhile, suffering from neglect. The recital is not unique in the experience of our profession, as Dr. L. suggests, nor is the sequel. For he has never received the thanks, much less an honorarium, from the Company. Nor would the incident be recalled at this late date except to point the moral, that doctors, journeying as they annually do for the public weal, are entitled to something better than Midwinter Fair rates. Change the Code? No, but rather the consciences of men.

Faithfully yours,

C. M. FENN, A.M., M.D.

A Curiosum.

INDIANAPOLIS, April 21, 1894.

To the Editor:—Our Board of Health concluded to have a new pest-house.

Once on a morning, this month, our Mayor with his medical advisers and constables marched out, as in ancient times the burgomasters did, to burn the old pest-house. The old ground would become valuable and be sold at a price to purchase a new ground and to build a new house.

The foolish act was done with great dignity. But in the very afternoon a tramp marched in town with smallpox. Certainly the court house was vaccinated from the Mayor to the watch-dog, and so the station house. Then, with equal dignity, the whole city government sat down in a meeting: the Mayor, the Board of Public Safety, of Public Works, of Health and Charities, and all wise men of the town.

Whereas no bids for the old grounds had come in, it had been unanimously concluded to build new pest-houses on the same ground, but little ones, that the mistake may not appear too great.

Perhaps it is advisable to publish this incident as a warning.

G. B.

From Dr. Woodbridge.

YOUNGSTOWN, OHIO, April 20, 1894.

To the Editor:—I supposed that when I published my paper, "Can Typhoid Fever be Aborted," that I would immediately be buried under an avalanche of adverse criticism. It was, therefore, a great and very agreeable surprise when letters of commendation and inquiry began to pour in upon me from every part of the United States and Canada. I regret that I can not answer them, and at the same time (in addition to my other duties) prepare a paper for the San Francisco meeting. If the writers will excuse me until I return from the meeting of the AMERICAN MEDICAL ASSOCIATION I will employ a stenographer and will then take pleasure in answering, as far as I am able, every question.

Very respectfully,

JOHN ELIOT WOODBRIDGE.

Philadelphia County Medical Society.

To the Editor:—At a meeting of the Philadelphia County Medical Society held April 18, the following resolutions were adopted:

WHEREAS, The Code of Ethics of the AMERICAN MEDICAL ASSOCIATION declares it derogatory to professional character for a physician to dispense or in any way promote the use of a secret nostrum; and the AMERICAN MEDICAL ASSOCIATION by a resolution unanimously adopted at its meeting in 1892 forbade the advertising of such nostrums in its JOURNAL; and

WHEREAS, The JOURNAL of the ASSOCIATION has continued to advertise such nostrums and in defense of its course in this particular has published an anonymous personal attack on a member of the AMERICAN MEDICAL ASSOCIATION and of this Society;

Resolved, That the Philadelphia Medical Society respectfully demands that the Trustees of the JOURNAL shall in their public official acts, respect the spirit and the letter o

its Code of Ethics; and that the columns of its JOURNAL shall not be used for the anonymous personal abuse of its members in good standing.

Resolved, That a copy of these resolutions be transmitted to the Medical Society of the State of Pennsylvania; and to the AMERICAN MEDICAL ASSOCIATION; and to the weekly medical journals.

T. B. SCHNEIDEMAN, Secretary.

PUBLIC HEALTH.

Smallpox.—Except in Chicago, smallpox is fast losing its importance as a factor in the public health situation. The disease seems to have attained its maximum spread about the middle of March, when a total of 219 infection centers had been reported in twenty States and the Dominion of Canada. At the beginning of the present week there were reported as still remaining fifty-five infected points in the following States: Massachusetts, Connecticut, New York, Pennsylvania, Indiana, Illinois, Wisconsin, Minnesota and Iowa.

The lodging-houses continue to give some trouble in New York city, nearly all the recent cases being found in these unsanitary premises. Another inspection of them was recently begun, this time at night so as to secure the vaccination of all inmates. An occasional walking-case still turns up in the city public offices, and a clerk in an office on the ground floor of the City Hall was recently taken to the pest-house. The building has been again disinfected and all occupants and employes from the Mayor down to the scrub-women, have been again vaccinated or re-vaccinated. The disease, which was declared epidemic in Brooklyn in March, had almost entirely disappeared in that city during the early part of the present month. April 4, for the first time, in several months, no new cases were reported. There was however, a recrudescence of the outbreaks soon thereafter and the work of inspection and vaccination is still being vigorously prosecuted. Infected and suspected premises are rigidly quarantined, in one case fourteen whole blocks of buildings being in charge of a corps of vaccinators and disinfectors, protected by the reserves of five police stations, and the entire population of about 5,000 were vaccinated in a single night. Elsewhere in the State, tramps conveyed the disease into the Wayne County poor-house, April 1; into the police station at Syracuse, April 8; and into the county jail at Schenectady March 18, where the character of the case was not discovered until April 6 by which time six other cases had developed.

The arrival at New York of two of the Netherlands line of steamers with smallpox on board caused the Health Officer of the port to notify the Company that its vessels will not be allowed to enter, unless their crews have been vaccinated before clearing from Rotterdam, and to request the United States Consul at that place not to give clearances for New York to these steamers unless this provision is carried out and the passengers and crews are disinfected before the vessels sail.

In Pennsylvania there were reported fifty-nine cases in the State, all but two of which had been directly traced to Danville, where, as previously noted, the disease was declared epidemic March 23. Advices from Dr. Benjamin Lee, Secretary of the State Board of Health, announce that smallpox has disappeared from Tyrone Forge, Reading, Williamsport and Wilkesburg.

Dr. C. N. Hewitt, Secretary and Executive Officer of the Minnesota State Board of Health, reports that State free from smallpox except the cases in St. Paul, where there have been two infected houses—some half dozen cases in a suburban hotel, from which there has been no spread, and one case in a house in the city itself; this latter case was