

were forced to leave their unsanitary home. But what shall be said and thought in the twentieth century of us in the nineteenth, who let houses to other people in the condition of a slow death trap, and get our rent paid under the pressure of a court of law, because, forsooth, we did not give a written warranty that they were sound? When one buys articles of food or clothing, no warranty is given of their being in a sound condition for eating or wearing; but if when we come to use them we find them unsound or unfit, the supplier has to make them good or return us our money. Why cannot the same equity be observed in the selling, letting, and inhabiting of houses? It should be penal for any one, clergyman or otherwise, to let a house that is unfit for habitation, viz.: whose drains are not in sound order, or whose water supply is inadequate. And the sooner it is made so, the better for the bodies and souls of the nation. There should be attached to every County Council a well paid official, an expert in all matters connected with drainage, sewage, and water supply, whose sole business should be to see that the drains, etc., of every house within his jurisdiction are in sound condition. Whatever altering or repairing were necessary to bring them up to the accepted standard should be done at the expense of the owner of the house. Where a house is damp from insufficient drainage of the land on which it is built, the owner of the land should bear the cost and responsibility of securing good drainage. He let his land for building purposes, and he should be as certainly compelled to provide an article suitable for the purpose for which he let it, as any other letter or seller of anything else. It is terrible to think of the numbers of valuable lives that are sacrificed every year to this Moloch of Insanitation. Still more so, to think of the far greater numbers who drag on wearily through dull grey lives, from the cradle to the grave, always suffering from some minor trouble of body, always cramped in brain power, because childhood was spent in one incessant struggle for life in bad air, in a damp and chilly house, in dark rooms, and in an atmosphere of diffused poison. "Is not the life more than meat, and the body than raiment?" asks the Great Teacher. Yet from the life lived in the home, and the body that environs that life, we withhold that protection of law which is accorded to food and clothing.

#### LEGAL ARITHMETIC.

WE do not intend to comment upon the Charter while it is *sub judice*, but the following statements made by Sir RICHARD WEBSTER, on November 21st and November 28th respectively, are worthy of immediate notice—as instances, not only of legal arithmetic, but of the wonderful accuracy of the instructions given by the opponents to their Counsel. Considering the justly high reputation of Sir RICHARD WEBSTER, we feel confident that he will not approve of having been led into making such self-contradictory assertions as the following:—

*November 21st.*  
"Of all the number of metropolitan schools only two, I believe, support this scheme, and the large number of others are opposed to it. If you go to the country practically nine-tenths of the hospital training schools desire to prevent the system of registration."

*November 28th.*  
"In London . . . there are four hospitals supporting my learned friend, and eight opposing him. . . . If we go to the provincial hospitals we find seven supporting the petition against eleven opposing it. . . . there are thirty large nurse training institutions, of which nineteen are opposed to this register as against eleven which, wholly or in part, are in favour of it."

We have now obtained the full facts of the case, and when we publish them our readers will observe a still further conflict of evidence.

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## The Treatment of Cholera.

By G. SHERMAN BIGG, F.R.C.S.,

Late Staff Surgeon, Allahabad, India.

### CHAPTER I.

(Continued from page 929.)

#### CHOLERA.

**S**YMPTOMS OF CHOLERA.—As the disease becomes intensified, characteristic symptoms manifest themselves. The diarrhoea increases, and the motions, at first watery and profuse, lose all colour and assume the white flakey appearance of rice water evacuations. Vomiting sets in, at first bilious, but soon colourless like rice water. Later on, the vomiting gives place to violent retching, which is far more distressing to the patient than the sickness. Cramps in the legs, arms, stomach, and back, cause the most excruciating agony so that a man cries for death to relieve him from his sufferings. The thirst is insatiable, and the earnest entreaties for a long drink are heart-rending and most painful to hear. The almost incessant vomiting, the constant drain by the diarrhoea, and the violence of the cramps, soon exhaust the strength of the patient who falls into a state of collapse. The features are pinched, the eyeballs become sunken, and the cheeks hollow. The voice is a mere whisper, the skin becomes cold, blue, and clammy, a cold perspiration breaks out on the forehead, the pulse is scarcely perceptible, and the surface temperature falls much below normal. The contraction of all the tissues gives an expression of countenance peculiar to cholera, and which once seen is not easily forgotten. The intellect remains clear throughout the disease until shortly before death when coma sets in, and brain symptoms develop. Sometimes death results from exhaustion, and then brain symptoms are absent. Another symptom of the greatest importance is the suppression, or rather absence, of urine. The symptoms naturally are modified in cases of less severity.

*The Treatment of Cholera.*—The treatment of cholera imposes a grave responsibility on the medical adviser, who, amidst so many conflicting opinions, has to exercise his own judgment. The discovery of the cholera bacillus has not as yet aided the treatment. Many medicines which dur-

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