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CHOICE CIGARS, CANDY, ETC.

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FLORENCE NIGHTINGALE.

Cholera Not Stopped by Quarantine
Nor Cordon.

[New York Herald.]

In reply to an inquiry, Miss Florence Nightingale, the Crimean heroine, kindly sends to The New Herald:

Sir: I beg to reply to your note asking for "practical advice in view of the rapid spread of cholera." That our whole experience in India, where cholera is never wholly absent, tends to prove—nay, actually does prove—that cholera is not communicable from person to person. That the disease cannot be ascribed to "somebody else," that is, that the sick do not manufacture a "special poison" which causes the disease. That cholera is a local disease—an epidemic affecting localities, and there depending on pollution of earth, air, and water and buildings.

That the isolation of the sick can not stop the disease, nor quarantine, nor cordons, nor the like. These, indeed, may tend fatally to aggravate the disease, directly and indirectly, by turning away our attention from the only measures which can stop it. That the only preventive is to put the earth, air, and water, and buildings into a healthy state by scavenging, limewashing, and every kind of scavenger work, and, if cholera does come, to move the people from the places where the disease has broken out and then to cleanse.

Persons about cholera patients do not "catch" the disease from the sick any more than cases of poisoning "infect" others. If a number of persons have been poisoned, say by arsenic put by mistake into food, it is because they have each swallowed the arsenic. It is not because they have taken "it," the "mysterious influence," of one another. In looking sadly at Egypt—Egypt, where cholera did not begin anywhere along the route from India to Europe, but at Damietta, where no ship and no passenger ever stops, and where the dreadful insidious condition of the place fully accounts for any outbreak of cholera—in sorrowfully looking at Egypt and at Europe now, one might almost say that it is this doctrine of a special poison emanating from the sick, and which it is thought can be carried in a package that has (mentally) "poisoned" us. People will soon believe that you can take cholera by taking a railway ticket. They speak as if the only reason against enforcing quarantine were, not that it is an impossibility and an absurdity to stop disease in this way, but that it is impossible to enforce quarantine. "If only we could," they say, "all would be well."

Vigorously enforce sanitary measures, but with judgment—e. g., scavenge, scavenge, scavenge; wash, cleanse and limewash; remove all putrid humors; refuse from privies and cesspits and cesspools and dustbins; look to stables and cowsheds and pigsties; look to common lodging-houses and crowded places; dirty houses and yards. "Set your house in order" in all ways sanitary and hygienic, according to the conditions of the place, and "all will be well."

The real danger to be feared is in alarming somebody else and not our own selves for such an epidemic visitation. As a matter of fact, if the disease attacks our neighbors we ourselves are already liable to it. To trust for protection to stopping intercourse would be just as rational as to try to sweep back an incoming flood instead of getting out of its way.

With the most earnest wish that America, as well as England, may "set her house in order," and so defy cholera and turn its appearance elsewhere into a blessing, pray, believe me, ever her and your faithful servant.

Chief Justice Cockburn on Mustaches.

[Notes and Queries.]

Amongst English judges and barristers there has always been a strong prejudice against wearing hair on the face, and until within the last few years it would have been impossible to find a barrister with a mustache, and, I believe, no English judge for some centuries has adopted this natural hair-suit appendage. No doubt this custom is a survival of the days when "the priest all shaven and shorn" was the principal lawyer. We know the coil of the sergeants-at-law was designed to hide the tonsure.

As an illustration of the judicial dislike to mustaches, the following observations, which I heard at the Sussex assizes about six or seven years since, when they were held at Brighton, may be of interest. Lord Chief Justice Cockburn said to a witness: "Witness, in consequence of your having a mustache, I cannot hear distinctly what you say. I don't mean to say that you should cut it off, if you think it an ornament; but it prevents me from hearing you, and you must, therefore, speak more loudly." It is somewhat singular that the use of the wig is now confined to the judges and the bar, having been abandoned by the rest of society; possibly, therefore, the artificial use of hair on the top of the head may be considered to make up for the removal of the natural hair from the face.

Broke Her Pipe.

"I wanner to be pow'ful 'tickler wid dat pipe," warned Aunt Giney to Uncle Sykes, as the latter picked up her clay pipe and limped around the house to his favorite seat against the chimney.

He had been gone only a few moments when Aunt Giney heard a terrible rumbling on the outside, followed by a negro woman running in, and crying mournfully:

"O, Aunt Giney, de climbly done fall an' kill ole Uncle Sykes!"

With pain distorted countenance, and terror blended in her gaze, Aunt Giney looked passionately up, and moaned:

"Dar, now, bress de Lord! an' I bet a dollar dat hit done broke my pipe all to pieces."

How She Explained It.

[Macao (Ga.) Telegraph.]
A very popular young lady, visiting friends in a not very distant city, received a telegram a few days since without showing the least signs of excitement or fright usually manifested by ladies at the receipt of such. After opening and reading it she merely remarked: "I thought I recognized the handwriting." This explained her composure to surrounding friends.

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[OPPOSITE HOTEL ON THE HILL.]

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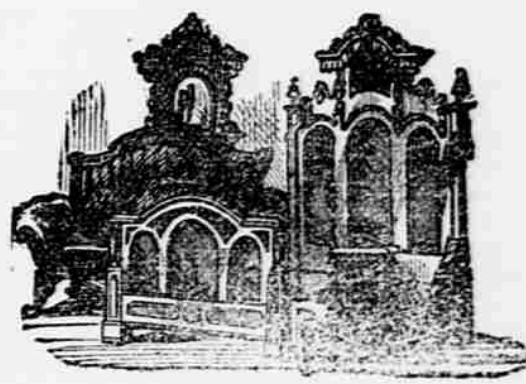
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