

# The Democratic Sentinel

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## TO KEEP CHOLERA OUT.

### HOW NEW YORK RESISTED THE PLAGUE.

Methods of Quarantine Employed at the Gulf Seaport of America—The Distribution of Persons Arriving on Infected Ships—Hoffman and Swinburne Islands.

#### Fighting Death.

New York Correspondence  
Hamburg, Antwerp, and Havre were three cities from which America had most to fear during the late cholera scare. All three are famous seaport towns, Hamburg the greatest in Germany and the fourth in importance in the world. It is yearly visited by more than 9,000 vessels, and steamship and packet lines send the wares of its merchants to all parts of the globe. Its capacious and picturesque harbor is always crowded with shipping.

Hamburg lies on the lower Elbe and has a population of 360,000. It was long a member of the Hanseatic league, and a free city until it became an integral part of the German empire four or five years ago. Since 1870 the bulk of the

row and dirty, its system of drainage, if it can with truth be called a system, is wholly defective, and the city is burdened with a vast pauper population, who live in loathsome squalor and filth on the banks of the River Elbe. The

fully inspected and compelled to show a clean bill of health. Each steerage passenger is critically examined and his or her temperature taken.

The State of New York owns two islands in the lower bay, Hoffman and Swinburne, which are used for quarantine purposes. If suspicious symptoms are developed the patients showing them are at once taken to Hoffman Island, named after the late Gov. Hoffman, covers several acres, and can accommodate about 900 people. It contains several germ-proof buildings, dormitories, operated by the sulphur steam system, and with these the baggage and clothing of infected immigrants are thoroughly disinfected. The cargo of the steamer by which they arrive is also fumigated with great care. Suspected immigrants, as soon as they reach Hoffman Island, are carefully washed and scrubbed, and supplied with fresh clothing. The water in which they bathe is disinfected before it is discharged into the bay. All of their food is cooked by steam. The hospital on Swinburne Island contains accommodations for a large number, and its appointments are very complete. The bodies of those who die are at once burned in a crematory that has been built on the island.

Immigrants who sail from Antwerp for America, and they number many thousands yearly, are brought in close contact with this element, among which cholera gains easy access.



HOFFMAN ISLAND, LOWER QUARANTINE.

foreign commerce of Germany has passed through Hamburg, and its growth and prosperity have in many ways been phenomenal. The improvement of her docks and harbors has been conducted on a princely scale and are subjects of pride to every Hamburg, but is the matter of an effective health organization, good drainage, a wholesome water supply, and a clean population Hamburg is centuries behind the times, and has

Havre, after Marseilles, the greatest seaport of France, is far better prepared than Hamburg and Antwerp to do successful battle with the cholera. The city stretches over a broad territory; its streets are wide and clean, there is no crowding of its population into cramped and unwholesome quarters, and its sanitary condition is almost perfect. Havre is in every sense a modern city and one of the cleanest in the world. The cholera was kept well in hand by the medical authorities at Havre. The most serious menace which this city presents to America lies in the fact that it is a seaport of Paris, and that travelers coming from Paris to this country must pass through Havre, and also that the greater part of Havre's immense trade is with American ports.

**Cholera in the Harbor.**  
Wednesday, Aug. 31, 1892, the cholera entered New York harbor and knocked loudly for admission. It came by the steamer Moravia of the Hamburg Line, twenty-two of whose steerage passengers died of the plague en route. The coming of the cholera was not unexpected, and it found the health officers of New York and port fully prepared to cope with its advance. Health Officer Jenkins at once ordered the Moravia to lower quarantine, the President issued a proclamation declaring that all ships sailing from infected ports should be kept in quarantine for twenty days after their arrival in any port in this country, and the New York Board of Health issued rules for the prevention of the cholera.

The Moravia was followed in quick succession by the Normannia, the Rugia, the Scandia, and the Bohemia from Hamburg, and the Wyoming from Liverpool, all of which brought the plague with them, and it was seen that only an aggressive and unflogging campaign could prevent the disease from gaining a firm foothold here. Preparations for such a campaign were at once begun. These preparations present de-



FIRE ISLAND LIGHT.

homes were quarantined and disinfected without delay. A large floating hospital was also fully equipped and stationed in the East River ready for an emergency. At Portland, Boston, Philadelphia, Baltimore, and other Atlantic ports a rigid quarantine was instituted, and the same is true of the Pacific coast, where there was a possibility of the cholera entering the country from Siberia. On both coasts the life-saving crews were instructed to be on the watch, and to report any vessel that attempted to land passengers without a proper permit. In Canada, where ships from infected ports were held at anchor, and forty miles from Quebec, for inspection and disinfection, and immigrants coming from Canada into the United States were subjected to a second inspection at different points on the frontier. Mexico also declared a quarantine against vessels from infected European ports, so there was little prospect of the cholera creeping into the United States from that quarter.

According to the best authorities the various cities of the country were never better equipped to resist an invasion of the cholera. The greatest danger of a spread of the plague, should it ever occur, among the people here, lies in the foul and unwholesome slums of our great cities, where thousands of human beings—ignorant, vicious and depraved—swarm like rats in a hole, and by their habits and modes of life daily invite disease. New York City has 300,000 such people, and Boston, Chicago and other large cities have them in equal proportion. They are the darkest and most menacing cloud in a threatening horizon—a cloud that must make even the most hopeful pause and tremble.

Cholera once epidemic among this element, the wisest and most enlightened precaution would not prevent them from dying in swarms, like vermin by the roadside.

**Common-Sense Marriages.**  
Modern society has welcomed common-sense shoes and common-sense of dress, writes John Lambert Payne in an attempt to solve the question "Why Young Men Defy Marriage," in the *Ladies' Home Journal*. It would seem that the time is opportune for a widespread outbreak of common-sense marriages.

At all events, if a change from the present stagnation is to be effected, three things seem to me necessary: First, there must be a popular knowledge of the facts; second, the people at large must think; and third, there must be action.

**Interdomestic Etiquette.**  
In every instance, the housekeeper who engages a servant should write to the former employer to verify the reference, writes Christine Terhune Herrick in the *Ladies' Home Journal*. The unwritten laws of interdomestic etiquette demand this. When the reforms suggested in this little paper are an accomplished fact, the formality may be allowed to lapse.

strengthen its foothold. In August a number of Russian Jews, driven from home by the relentless persecutions of the czarist government, arrived at Hamburg to take passage for America. They brought the cholera with them and were isolated in a camp above the city and on the banks of the Elbe. The drainage of the camp emptied into the Elbe, from which Hamburg draws its water supply, and before the people of the endangered city knew even of its presence the cholera was epidemic among them.

**Up-to-date to Resist It.**  
The coming of the plague found the municipal authorities of Hamburg wholly unprepared to stay its progress. There were, says a correspondent, no hospitals, no medical service, no ambulances, no nurses, no dead houses, no facilities for burying the dead, and the grisly and repellent scenes since enacted can be bettered description. In six weeks fully 1,000 people fell victims to the plague in Hamburg. Of this number nearly half died.

From Hamburg the cholera spread to Antwerp, Havre, Paris, Bremen, Amsterdam, Brussels, and Rotterdam and gained a firm foothold in each of the cities named, but Antwerp and Havre are the ones which, after Hamburg, presented the gravest menace to the welfare of the United States. Antwerp is the chief seaport of Belgium, and in its harbor are always to be found vessels from every country on the globe. Its streets, however, are care-

less and full of interest. When a European steamer arrives at lower quarantine it is once boarded by the health

officer or one of his assistants, who has been apprised of its coming by the watchman at Fire Island light, and every one from the captain down is care-

## A FEAST IN ZULULAND.

The Killing of the Cattle for the Occasion an Exciting Event.

A dozen magnificent long-horned cattle were run into the kraal, and seven stalwart warriors followed them in, assagais in hand. Crowding the cattle in a bunch against the wall, each warrior singled out a victim, and with a mighty thrust plunged the keen, bright blade into the animal's heart. Generally speaking, the one swift blow was sufficient, but in two or three cases the stricken animals avoided the death thrust, and, goaded to madness by the deep wound, made matters exceedingly lively for the Zulus for the next few minutes, chasing them frantically about the kraal until some well-hurled assegai brought them to earth. One big steer, horned like a Texan, kept his feet and fought till a dozen assegai blades were hurled buried in his body, and in his blind rushing he knocked over a couple of men, and ripped one very badly up the thigh.

The whole affair was as exciting as a Spanish bull-fight. When they were all killed the crowd, who had been enjoying the fun from the kraal wall, hopped into the arena and assisted in the work of skinning and cutting up. As many as could get around an animal assisted, and one could scarce imagine a more barbarous spectacle than a horde of Zulus skinning and dissecting a dozen cows. The blood was allowed to remain in the flesh, and men and children were seen carrying off huge pieces of red, quivering flesh, slung over their shoulders, with the blood trickling down their sleek, dark skins to their heels. Children besmeared their faces and bodies for fun, and about each carcass a group of tall, black warriors hacked and slashed, like the savages they were. While the women boiled the beef in big iron kettles obtained from Natal, the warriors engaged in a big dance.

You can never quite catch the spirit of a Zulu dance by merely hearing it described, any more than you can realize the exhilaration of wine without trying it. The warriors turned out about 300 strong on this occasion, and the dance took place on a level bit of ground outside the kraal. The whole company was gathered in a black mass, squatting in irregular ranks on the grass to see the dance. After the beavers had all been cut up, the warriors retired to their huts. Then very shortly they came straggling out again, one by one, the blood washed off and their bodies decorated with all the gewgaws of war. Many wore kilts of Zanzibar cat-tails or the tails of wolves and foxes, and round their calves and biceps were ornaments of bead and of leopard skin. On each warrior's head was a discus of black mimosa gum, polished until it looked like a circle of jet. With ox-hide shields and bright assegais, they trooped into the kraal until all were assembled.

Then, forming into ranks as natural as a company of grenadiers, they marched out into the dancing ground, singing a strange, weird chant in accompaniment to the rattle of assegai on shield and measured tramp of feet. One could see at a glance now that every Zulu is a warrior born. Here they were, the veriest savages to all intent, naked as animals, yet playing soldier with a bearing and precision of movement that European troops, with all their scientific training, could hardly hope to beat. Forward they stepped, then filing off into semi-circle, two deep, they stood, proud and erect, the most splendid specimens of martial manhood I ever saw, their black eyes glistening with suppressed fire, their chests heaving and muscles twitching in anticipation of the signal to begin. For a minute they stood there, every foot in the crescent keeping time, and every assegai softly tapping time against the shield to a low, buzzing melody.—Boston Bulletin.

**A DRUNKEN ELEPHANT.**  
Raises a Big Rumpus in a Circus in Indiana.

The mistake of a careless keeper in the menagerie of Ringling Brothers' circus, while exhibiting in Frankfort, Ind., recently, almost resulted in the killing of one of the attendants and the breaking loose of the wild animals of the menagerie. "Babe," the biggest elephant of the circus, was taken with cramps, and the veterinary surgeon of the show prescribed a tablespoonful of peppermint in a pint of whisky once in half an hour. Ryan, the elephant keeper, procured a jug containing a gallon of whisky, and Babe was given a dose. Ryan had occasion to leave the tent, and carelessly left the jug within reach of the elephant, who had had a taste of the contents. When Ryan returned he was surprised to find the jug uncorked and empty. Fearing discharge, should his carelessness be discovered, and knowing full well where the contents of the jug had gone, he hastened to a near-by saloon to have it refilled before the mistake should be found out.

But it was not long before the elephant began to develop symptoms of intoxication. The attention of other keepers was attracted by peculiar noises, the like of which they had never heard before. They hastened to the tent to find the huge brute rocking from side to side with a peculiar light in its little eyes. One of the men took an elephant hook and endeavored to calm the excited beast, but the medicine was not of a soothing nature, and Babe became very angry. With a remarkably quick motion the keeper was seized by the elephant's trunk, and after being held aloft fully a minute was violently thrown about twenty-five feet, fortunately striking against the side of the tent and narrowly missing a child or dog.

Naturally there is little desire for education. The mountain schools

have sometimes less than half a dozen pupils for the few months they are in session.

A gentleman who wanted a coal bank opened

engaged for the work a man passing along the road.

Some days later he learned that his workman was a school teacher who, in consideration of the

seventy-five cents a day, had dismissed his academy.

Many of the people, allured by rumors from the West, have migrated

thither, but nearly all come back

from love of the mountains and in

disposition to cope with the rush and

vigor and enterprise of frontier life.

Theirs, they say, is a good lazy

man's home.

**Praise and Appreciation.**

There are persons in this world—

and the pity is that there are not

more of them—who care less for

praise than appreciation. They have

an ideal after which they are striv-

ing, but of which they consciously

fall short, as every one who has a

lofty ideal is sure to do. When that

ideal is recognized by another, and

they are praised or commended for

something—let that something be

important or not—in its direction,

they are grateful, not for praise, but

for appreciation. An element of

sympathy enters into that recogni-

tion, and they feel that they have

something in common with the ob-

server who admires what they admire

and praises what they think is most

worthy of praise.

If Christopher Columbus had land-

ed among a people like the denizens

of Fire Island, the settlement of

America might have been delayed

several centuries. They were more

gentle savages where he first came in

contact with them.

whisky had passed off, and Babe was as peaceful as ever and free from cramps.

## ROLLING CHAIRS.

Make It Possible for the Physically Disabled to Go the Rounds.

You can press a button and take a seat and ride in an electric rolling chair at the World's Fair. It has been decided that no carriages will be allowed within the grounds, and some means of conveyance must be provided for those who are physically unable to meet the exertion of walking through all the departments. In this emergency another "button" device has been provided. It is an electric tricycle with a chair frame.

The tricycle will be operated by electricity. A storage battery will be

fully charged.

Many Odd, Curious, and Laughable Phases of Human Nature Graphically Portrayed by Eminent World Artists of Our Own Day.

Some Sharp Sayings.

The mother tongue is probably the language of Mars.—Yonkers Statesman.

CONTESTANTS in the running races at the fair should prepare by taking a bottle of catchup.—Lowell Courier.

The man who was too full for uterance went to jail instead of going to the fight.—New Orleans Picayune.

"GETTING ahead" in the liquor traffic isn't always to be interpreted as an assurance of progress.—Boston Courier.

The hot spell of summer is known as the dog days because it is too warm then to make sausage.—Hazleton Sentinel.

SO MANY people go around looking as though they had a piece of Limburger cheese under their noses.—Atchison Globe.

WHY not make the cactus the national flower? It has more fine points than any other yet mentioned.—Chicago Inter Ocean.

JUDGING BY SOUND.—Phat's that, Mis' Mullay? "Mary Ann's practisin' the scales." "Begorrah, she must weigh a ton."—Judge.

THE self-closing door-spring is an awful aggravation to the man who is going out of your office mad and wants to slam the door.—Sittings.

GOWRT.—What you brook, Broly! I thought you had a snug sum in the bank for a rainy day?" "Brolly! I had, but it rained on the bank.—Puck.

"I HEAR Harkins was struck by lightning down on the Jersey coast last week." "Yes." "I wonder what they charged him for it."—Harper's Bazaar.

TROTTER.—"You look sad." Barlow

—I am. I took my best girl to church and put \$2 in the plate in

order to impress her and she never saw it."—New York Herald.

"I THINK," said the man who saw the distortions of his ready-made clothes reflected in a mirror, "that this would unquestionably be a suit for libel."—Washington Star.