

storms. The glare of the lightning at night was terrific, and the dismal effect was enhanced by the continual calls at the doors of the physicians and apothecaries, which rendered it but too evident that the pestilence was increasing in violence. In the course of that day and night, I am satisfied that more rain fell, than is ordinarily allotted to a month. After these storms the rains ceased, and the temperature of the atmosphere fell. Sunday morning was clear, cool and beautiful, and with the brightening of the heavens, cheerfulness and hope were restored, in a measure, to the minds of the citizens. They flattered themselves that the epidemic had begun to abate, and that under such genial skies it would soon disappear. A few hours taught them how unfounded was their confidence. About 12 o'clock it became manifest that it was growing more violent, and before night the cases had evidently been multiplied four fold. The fatality along Main and Water Streets was appalling, but by this time no part of the city was entirely exempt. Monday it was evidently still increasing. On Tuesday, the 9th or 10th day after the appearance of the first case, it was believed to have attained its acme, and on this day it is computed that from 50 to 60 persons died, and that 1000, some physicians think 1500, were ill of the disease. There was no great difference in the mortality of Monday, Tuesday, and Wednesday, and there is scarcely a doubt that in those three days Lexington lost from 120 to 150 of her citizens. This mortality is the more striking contrasted with that of former times—when it is considered that the annual mortality of the city for many years, with a population nearly as great as at present, did not exceed 50—its average number of deaths for a year, being thus crowded into a single day!

The weather remained dry and warm until the end of the week, and after Wednesday the epidemic visibly declined. It was evident that there were fewer cases on Thursday than on the day preceding, and from this time it subsided about as rapidly as it arose. A number of families were severely afflicted after this time, and a few fatal cases continued to