

Classes were suspended at IU

Cholera epidemic in 1850

It took an epidemic of the cholera to suspend classes at Indiana University in the 1850s, but the threat of the disease remained in Indiana and Monroe County for many years afterward.

IN AUGUST OF 1883, for example, there appeared on the front page of the *Bloomington Telephone* a handy remedy for cholera. The recipe was: "Take equal parts of tincture of cayenne, tincture of opium, tincture of rhubarb, essence of peppermint and spirits of camphor. Mix well. Dose fifteen to thirty drops in a

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wineglass of water, according to age and violence of the attack. Repeat every fifteen or twenty minutes until relief is obtained."

According to the *Telephone*, the

remedy was also good for such ordinary summer complaints as diarrhea and dysentery. Those were certainly modest claims compared with the ones in an advertisement in the same edition. It was for Perry Davis' Pain Killer, which must have contained a generous amount of alcohol.

THAT PARTICULAR remedy took care of rheumatism, neuralgia, cramps, cholera, diarrhea, dysentery, sprains, bruises, scalds, toothache and headache. Yet another

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