

for the change. The first and chief one is better drainage. The second is that the forests have been cut down and the country cleared up, lessening the amount of organic decomposition, and the third one is that nearly all the virgin soil has been cultivated over and over again, thus liberating and getting rid of nearly all the organic matter that had been accumulating and stored up under the sod.

I said I would try and explain why dysentery should be produced by malaria after vegetable decomposition had ceased, and will now endeavor to do so. My explanation is this: continued exposure to malaria engenders a cachectic state of the system by reducing the globular richness of the blood, perverting the nutritive processes of the tissues, and impairing the vital resistance of the nervous system, thus rendering its victims especially liable to attacks of specific febrile diseases, and to splenic, hepatic, intestinal and other local congestions. One of the structures most liable to be affected is the mucous lining of the intestinal canal. Taking, then, the perverted state of the blood and tissues, the congested condition of the intestines, together with the malarial germs infesting the canal, undergoing changes by fermentation and acting locally on the mucous lining as well as constitutionally through the blood, and we have made plain the reason why dysentery follows continued exposure to malarial influences, and why the mortality from this disease at such a time is far above what it would be if the malarial element had not existed. We hear and read of typho-malarial fever. Now I do not believe there is such a disease, and the name is a misnomer.

A person may have malarial organisms in the system and at the same time be attacked with enteric fever; as a consequence there may be and often is a chill followed by a greater rise in temperature and then a remission, but never an intermission; on examining the blood of such a patient the plasmodium will be found; by giving a few good doses of quinine the chill is arrested but the fever goes on and runs its regular course. Again, a person living in a malarious district having typhoid, when convalescing may be attacked with malaria owing to the per-