

ask what this fever was? where it came from? and how it could be prevented? In a short time the trend of public opinion was strongly in favour of sanitary legislation. Parliament soon crystalized public opinion into sanitary laws which, with improving amendments that have been enacted from time to time since, have given England a distinct department of the public service devoted to the public health.

The British people are a commercial people, and the same may be said of their offspring in the colonies and the United States.

If we wish to arouse public opinion in regard to the importance of these new sciences we must show that they have an influence on the material wealth and commerce of the country.

In most countries it is the farmer who is the real wealth producer. In this country farming is by far the most important industry, to it we look for the production of the food supply of the world. When we consider the enormous amount the export of the product of the farm returns to this country we can gather some idea of the immense importance that agriculture is to us. It is not necessary, then, to prove that everything that tends to give a more successful yield to the labour of the farmer should claim the special attention of the Government. I am glad to see that the fact is being recognized, though slowly, that the pursuit of agriculture requires an education in science, and so we find that schools of agriculture, experimental farms, and other means of teaching scientific farming, are growing up among us. But we are only waking up to the importance of this special scientific training, and though we lead the mother country in this respect (for this subject is to a large extent neglected in England) still we are only making a small part of the effort that should be made in this direction. In many European countries, by reason of the fact that science is fostered and supported by the government, its influence upon agriculture, manufacture and the arts is more quickly recognized and applied than in England, the United States, or in this country, and in consequence in many lines of production we find these countries, more especially Germany, are taking a lead with better and more finished articles in the markets of the world. This is more particularly the case in regard to those articles in which the advance of science has influenced production.

This new science of bacteriology has an especial relation to agriculture. As we now know that bacteria have a direct influence upon human life and its diseases, so the life of other animals and plants must be equally under the power of bacterial growth. To show the extent to which this is true it is only necessary to name some of the diseases of animals that are known to be due to micro-organisms, such