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ART. XXVI.—*Sketches of the Endemic Fever of Upper Canada, and of the Effects of its Climate on European Constitutions, by JOHN JARROUN, Surgeon, Dunnville.*

[CONTINUED FROM OUR LAST.]

The position and character of that part of the American continent constituting Upper Canada being an alluvial flat divided by ridges, and bordering on large fresh-water lakes, into which its waters flow, the levels of which they attain for miles before discharging themselves, and as a consequence, to which the rise and fall of the waters in the lakes greatly contribute, forming at their mouths swamps of greater or less extent, according to the size of the streams, as well as its natural state, covered with one immense forest, and exposed during the summer to the rays of a burning sun, become at almost every point a fertile source of malaria, the effects of which are most powerful on the constitutions of many thousand Europeans who annually settle there, coming, as they do, from localities in which the usual recognised effects of malaria are almost unknown. To these general sources of malaria may be added the much smaller one of the daily exposure to the sun, by clearing around the dwellings of the new comers of the surface of the ground, and the innumerable lesser swamps caused by the irregularity of the surface, and the confinement of the waters by fallen trees and other artificial barriers. The new habits of the settlers, the imperfect shelter, and unlooked-for discomfort incident to the character of their shan-

ties or first houses, as well as the depressing influence on the spirits of such a change of life, become predisposing causes of the diseases to which such a state of country naturally gives rise.

The present sketches of disease are drawn from experience in a locality where all these causes were in full operation; and though well aware of the extent to which malarious diseases may vary with locality and circumstances, the writer has little doubt that they will apply generally to the fevers of the country.

A European family arriving in the country early in the season, and taking up their abode on a new farm, especially if near a sluggish stream, or the swamps caused by the discharge of the rivers into either of the lakes, will, for a time enjoy perfect health. In the month of July they will begin to complain of the heat, of disinclination for work, or even to move about, and loss of strength; their ruddy complexion will gradually disappear, and a sallow bilious look, pervading the whole body, takes its place; they will lose their appetites, and become restless at nights; the mouth will be insipid and food tasteless; the tongue moist and rather increased in size, perhaps slightly furred in the morning, but always of a whitish coat, as if painted over with milk; the bowels will be said to be regular, though in parties who notice their excretions and are directed to this point, the motions will be found to be irregular, and the color to vary. This state will continue for weeks, the un-