

the general health, and to adopt means commensurate with the evils attendant on a crowded state of society—in short, so far as in our power, to secure in the city by art, that which the country inherits from nature.

Now, is it not true, that there was a time when the spot on which the city now stands, although possessing fewer pretensions, was almost free from every disease under which it now labors, and we are therefore driven to the conclusion, that those diseases, are the price which we pay for the privileges of society, with all its attendant refinements. We here, in like manner remark, that there was, according to the farmer's observation, a time when the country, or district in which he lives, was free from the wheat midge,—on the same principle as we have observed with regard to cities and their change from a healthy to an unhealthy state, consequent on an accumulation of human beings at one place. The very fact of our country having arrived at a certain stage of improvement in agriculture, accounts for the presence of the farmer's worst enemy. It has been observed, and perhaps justly, that climate is more or less influenced and its harsh features more or less modified or equalized by agriculture. This does not appear to be inadmissible, when we reflect on the mutual relation which subsists between the matter composing our soil, and the rarer and more subtle gases composing its circumambient atmosphere—questions which are beautifully illustrated by agricultural chemistry; and it appears to us evident, that in this state of transition, and at a certain given stage, the mutual action of the earth and atmosphere affords facilities for issuing into existence*

* Let us not be accused of favoring the infidel belief, that organized beings are, or can be, called into existence, by a mere fortuitous combination of circumstances—far from it. The ova, we admit, already exist, but require the favoring influence of warmth, moisture, &c., before development is complete, or before they can manifest their mischievous tendencies.