

clusion can be framed than that climate was instrumental in producing the different races. Now these races, when of the lowest kind, as in uncivilized nations, show no peculiarities amongst individuals ; these seem as much alike as the sheep in a flock ; they are all employed in the same manner, they eat the same simple food, and their mode of life is remarkably uniform. There seem to be no especial temperaments amongst the African tribes, who live on vegetables, or in some savage islands where the inhabitants subsist on fish. If it be true that a perfect uniformity of character exists where the food is of one kind, we may gain a clue to the diversity of temperament from the variety of food used in civilized life. The nature of the soil implying different occupations will also have its effects, also the influence of light and the density of the atmosphere. Thus it has been thought that bilious temperaments prevail in hot, and phlegmatic in cold climates. The soil and the occupations of its inhabitants necessarily dependent on it will produce in our own small island different types, as the agriculturists along the eastern border, the manufacturers in the centre, and the miners amongst the western hills.

It is remarkable how few have studied the different temperaments of Englishmen. Most medical writers have been content to take the different varieties as described by Hippocrates as existing amongst the Greeks, and with him divide all persons into the sanguineous, the bilious, the melancholic, and the phlegmatic, according as each possessed a superfluity of blood, of yellow bile, of black bile, or of phlegm. Now although these terms are to a certain extent applicable at the present day, and are still in use, yet better ones, no doubt, could be found suited to the English soil and its inhabitants. Climatic influences are seen in such well-marked cases as the negro drooping in this country, and the want of proper development in the English child if brought up in India. Medical men of late years, when speaking of temperaments, have distinguished them in reference to certain tendencies to disease, as for example, the gouty, consumptive or nervous. This nomenclature has been very useful, but it would be preferable to have a division framed after the Greek model, on a healthy basis, for then we could speak of the different types of man, which would include at the same time their proclivities to special forms of disease. What we really want in studying the health of the community is the variety of type amongst our countrymen, then to discover what are the tendencies in different families and individuals, how these have come about, and by what means we can best avert the development of any morbid