

condition. The general circulation or that of supply is enfeebled—the pulse becoming small, frequent, and feeble. The organic or capillary circulation presents opposite states. The surface of the body loses its temperature, the extremities begin to cool and to diminish in bulk, showing the moveable element, the organic fluid of their tissues, is forsaking them. The head in the same manner has a diminished temperature. The features begin to shrink, the eyes look hollow. The colour of the whole exterior is of a duller hue, the nails and lips are livid, the eyes are surrounded with a darkish zone, the fingers, hands, and feet exhibit a lividity that is unnatural. The pulmonary or respiratory organs in this stage exhibit signs of disorder. The breathing is anxious, laboured, oppressed, in some exceedingly distressing.

In this state then the organs affected are the stomach and bowels, the glandular organs, the nervous organs of muscular contractility and sensibility, the organs of the general circulation, the capillary vessels of the external surface, and the respiratory organs.

2d. The condition of the organs is to be determined from the symptoms and a knowledge of their functions. The symptoms are the outward sign or manifestation of the disturbance in the natural function or condition of the organ. They are the language of the suffering organ. The natural function or condition must first be known before the meaning of the symptom can be understood.

The symptoms emanating from the stomach and bowels are those of a most wide spread and most active irritation of the gastro-intestinal mucous tissue. It is not a single compartment of this extensive surface, greater than that of the whole exterior, that is affected, but every point is involved at the same moment. Hence the simultaneous discharge upwards and downwards. Neither is it one element of this complicated tissue which is the subject of this morbid impression and suffers in its mode of being. The capillaries are highly injected, as shown in post mortem examinations, when death ensues in a few hours, and previous to copious discharges, that relieve the congested organ. The exhalents pour forth a copious watery or serous perspiration. The mucous follicles and cryptæ, and the glands of Peyer and Brunner invariably enlarged, and in protracted cases mostly ulcered, are irritated, inflamed, and furnish the vitiated mucoid secretion, constituting the whitish, creamy, and albuminous matter discharged from the bowels and found in them so constantly after death. The nervous expansion or tissue forming an element of this membrane experiences a violent irritation, provoking the contractions of the muscular tunic. Hence the spasms, tormina and griping pains so frequently torturing the patient with agonizing sufferings.

The condition of the nervous organs, giving rise to the cramps, spasms, and neuralgic pains, it is not easy to determine. These symptoms have their origin in the columns of the spinal marrow, but the precise pathological state of this structure is very obscure. Dissections do not demonstrate any remarkable alterations of structure, nor is the coloration so generally affected, or injection of vessel frequent, as to lead to a supposition of any very intense ac-