

ensue. However, in some rare cases, nature has been enabled to effect a spontaneous cure, especially in the case of pulmonary consumption, which is *only one* of the many affections that are due to the presence of these bodies, and which is at the same time one of the most common diseases met with in temperate climates.

When such spontaneous cures have occurred, it has been ascertained that the tubercles have been disposed of in one of three ways:

First,—either the whole of the tuberculous matter has been expectorated, or, Secondly,—that the tubercle has dried up or withered, that is to say, has become re-absorbed into the blood, or, Thirdly,—that it has become ossified or calcified, *i. e.*, converted into hard pieces, consisting of lime.

Such being the course adopted by nature to effect a cure in *Tuberculosis*, it only remains for us to furnish her with the sufficient and requisite material or pabulum to improve the quality of the blood, and to assist her in her exertions to throw off the morbid and irritating substance. These ends are, to a certain extent, accomplished by cod liver oil alone, yet in many cases even this valuable remedy has failed, in consequence of the defective power of assimilation of the food, or weakness of the digestive apparatus preventing the oil from being absorbed into the blood, and frequently the stomach and bowels are too weak to retain it, thence diarrhoea and vomiting follows its exhalation, in fact it then becomes an irritant itself, and nature endeavors to throw it off by these means. This want of tonicity in the digestive organs is due to diminished or weakened *nerve force*, and is counteracted by hypophosphate of lime, which was first brought into the notice of the medical profession by the celebrated Dr. Churchill, of Dublin, who states that the effects of this salt upon the tuberculous diathesis, disposition or constitution is immediate, all the general symptoms of the disease disappearing with a rapidity really marvellous. On the one hand, it increases the principle, whatever it may be, which constitutes *nerve force*, on which healthy nutrition depends, and on the other, it is a most powerful blood maker, being infinitely superior to any of the medicines of that class hitherto known." He also considers it to be a certain preventive against tuberculous formations or deposits.