

slopes off very gradually and beautifully, especially on the north easterly side, to the Bay. The general features of many of the townships are swampy, so much so that it is said fully one-half of several are worthless; it seems to me certainly, that swamps predominate. The climate is very uncertain, alternating with excessive heat, cold, and frosts during every month of the year.

My first impression was, that ague was a prominent disease, from the fact of so many swamps, entailing, as they do, much decaying vegetable matter, but in this I was much mistaken, for I have never seen or heard of a pure case of Intermittent, except an imported one.

On my first *debut* here, I interrogated a brother medico, on the subject of fevers, and was very much surprised to hear him say there was no fever at all in the county of Grey. I soon found, however, that his tongue ran much faster than his wit, or else that his professional observations were extremely limited—for more than one case soon presented itself, and my diagnosis was Bilious Remittent, pure and simple, and my observations led me to the following conclusions:—

Firstly, That although Intermittents may not be found on these high table lands, they are not exempt from malaria of sufficient power to cause distinct remissions, and without much effort to seal the type of fever as Bilious Remittent.

Secondly, That the general partial clearance of arable land surrounding the swamps, prevents the dissemination of the Malaria, in sufficient quantities to produce its more distinctive effects.

Thirdly, That this is proven by a comparison of former years, for in the same ratio as the improvements take place, so is the increase of remittents. I am aware in this I have found no new theory, for the teachings of my Alma Mater embraced similar principles. Tracts of aquatic districts, exposed to the rays of the sun, after subsidence of the water, are certain in their supply, and from observations in the British army, juts of lands or forests of trees intervening were sufficient barriers frequently to the spread of the poison. I am not surprised, therefore, that the present state of things exists here, but the time may come when every obstacle is removed and the full power of those active agents without barriers, may produce the malaria in its most concentrated form.

Fourthly, I think the poison may be produced by a more