

by the bacilli, the predilection of the apices to the occurrence of symptoms indicative of their presence is well recognized. This predilection has been explained on several theories; among others, it has been referred to an imperfect expansion of the apex or to defective circulation. Recently it has been pointed out that the thorax at the apex lacks contracting muscular tissue, and with forced expiration there is a recurrent passage of air into the upper lobes, interfering with the expulsion of any foreign substances that may have entered the bronchial tubes. When they have once entered this part of the lung, Ziemssen thinks they experience an amount of rest, which enables them to penetrate to the sub-epithelial tissues and enter the lymph canals. This penetration generally takes place in the alveoli, where the epithelium is non-ciliated rather than in the ciliated passages of the smaller bronchi.

While in adults inhalation of the bacilli and infection through the respiratory tract is much the most frequent origin of tuberculosis, in children the alimentary tract affords an important path through which the bacilli effect an entrance into the system. The upper part of the tract, owing to the very frequent disorders of the throat, mouth and teeth occasionally becomes the place of primary infection from which the bacilli pass to the cervical and sub maxillary glands, and thence may occasion general infection.

While in healthy individuals the gastric juice has the power of destroying the bacillus, yet in infants it is evidently much less powerful for this purpose than in older children and in adults. This may, we think, be very justly inferred from the greater tendency of infants to be seriously affected by the presence of other micro-organisms in their food. Summer diarrhoea, due principally to this cause, is almost entirely confined to infants under two years of age. Once the bacillus escapes from the acid of the stomach and enters the intestine its action is no longer interfered with owing to the alkaline character of its secretions and contents. Nature relies on the acid gastric juice as its chief barrier to prevent noxious organisms gaining access to the lower part of the canal. When this barrier is broken down by any disturbance of the stomach associated with imperfect secretion of gastric juice, any bacilli entering with the food have an almost unobstructed highway