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### MALARIA, AND ITS RELATION TO OTHER DISEASES.

By J. L. Bray, M.D., Chatham, Ex. Pres. Coll. Ph. & S., Ont.

MR. PRESIDENT AND GENTLEMEN OF THE CANADIAN MEDICAL ASSOCIATION :

I stand before you to-day to deliver the address on medicine, and the only thing I regret is that some one more worthy and competent to perform the task assigned me had not been selected.

However I take it as one of the highest honours that could be conferred on any member of the Association to be asked to deliver this address before the Profession of the Dominion in this its chief city, and can only attribute my being thus honoured to the great kindness of your President, and to his limited knowledge of my capabilities, and must crave your indulgence for any shortcomings on my part in the performance of this duty, and will endeavour in a very plain manner to give you my views and experience on malaria. Instead of going over the whole domain of medicine, which if I were equal to the task, would only worry and bore you, and further I feel it will better serve the object and interests of this Association to give a few practical points for discussion in order to bring out

the opinions of the members present to-day, as I consider we have too many papers and too little discussion in this and every other medical society. Most medical journals are full of papers which only represent the author's ideas, while a short practical paper, which I trust you will find this to be, elicits criticism, and the flaws are pointed out and condemned while the good things (if any there be) are approved and endorsed by men of experience and ability.

Perhaps in no subject connected with medicine have more theories been advanced or divergence of opinion expressed than that of malaria, and I must confess that I know very little of its etiology after reading most of these theories, aided by an experience of nearly thirty years practice in a malarious district. But scientists and investigators of the present day are approaching more nearly the solution of this knotty question.

It is a generally recognized and acknowledged fact that three things are necessary for the production of malaria, viz., heat, moisture and vegetable decomposition, and unless these three causes combine we can have no malaria.

Modern research has shown that vegetable decomposition of organic matter in the soil is due to the vital activity of living organisms, and we are indebted to such