

becomes affixed to its outer coat. Here it grows and becomes filled with a numerous progeny. Finally it ruptures and emits its contents, which are termed blasts. Guided by a marvellous prescience of their future destiny, the blasts work their way to the salivary glands of the mosquito, from which they are ejected through the proboscis into the blood of the next host, and the process recommences.

In 1899, the Liverpool School of Tropical Medicine, resolved to put the discovery thus made, to some practical use. Under its auspices a special expedition, of which Ross was one of the members, was sent out to the West Coast of Africa with the object of finding some better means for the prevention of malaria than those at present used.

A question which has a very important bearing on the prevention of the disease is whether anopheles is the only genus of mosquito hospitable to the human parasite. All evidence hitherto, including that of the African Expedition, points to this conclusion. To take one illustration.

It is a well known fact that large towns are unfavorable to malarial fever. This can be explained on the ground that *Anopheles* do not breed in tubs and vessels of water, and the stagnant puddles necessary for them are not found in well drained cities. The common mosquito on the other hand does breed in tubs of water and abounds in every city.

After a patient has once suffered from the disease which he has primarily got in some malarious region he may suffer from relapses for many years. Between the relapses the parasite still exists in his blood in small numbers, but its condition during this stage has not yet been fully determined.

Further research, will, no doubt, do much to solve various points in connection with malaria. The question of the prevention of the disease has of late become a considerable factor in imperial matters, and it has been said that Major Ross did more than anyone to add to the extent of the British Empire when he dissolved the darkness which enshrouded the action of the spirit of malaria. The British colony of Sierra Leone was chosen as the field of operations, and Ross and his associates succeeded in finding almost immediately two species of anopheles in which the human parasite would develop. It was found that anopheles breed only in pools of stagnant water; haunting the abodes of men by night, the female anopheles obtains the blood necessary for her fertilization and having inoculated her victim with malaria, returns to deposit her eggs in the stagnant water. Drainage of such pools, and destruction of larvæ, by pouring tar on the surface of the water were suggested by the expedition.....and mosquito