

of war let loose? What have been the national losses in the past century? I leave you to compute.

But what are the nations doing to avert the untold and the never revealed ravages of the ever present enemy, which, like an unseen cancer, is gnawing at their vitals? If peace has its victories no less than war, it must be remembered that peace has its victims far more than war—for instance, in Great Britain during the Crimean War the needless waste of life was greater than the loss of life in that war—a waste too, accompanied by a long train of physical, intellectual and moral evils involved in general degradation of the people. Are the Governments of the nations organized in anything like the same manner for the protection of the health of the people, as in the case of invasion from a national enemy? One or two have begun the work, but it can safely be said of most countries the situation is tersely described in the opening words of this paper.

The people have, in the main, been satisfied with the work of curative medicine, and who but will acknowledge the great progress made in all branches of both medicine and surgery, how much suffering has been prevented, and how many lives have been saved by the more exact knowledge of the medical practitioner being brought to bear in diagnoses of diseases, and by skillful and judicious use of the knife, and wise selection of remedial treatment. It is well they have, for the results have been for the benefit of mankind, and medical men have perhaps thus unwittingly materially added to the wealth of the nations, for every time the life of a patient is prolonged, you are adding value of a material kind to the capital of the country—ininitely more than the farmer who raises a litter of pigs and sells them to the butcher for consumption as food. The difference between you and the farmer is, he generally gets paid, you often do not; he is considered as of national importance in the raising of that litter of pigs, you, and the patient whom you cure and the children of that patient who by your skill and advice are reared to manhood and womanhood, are not. For convenience' sake in most civilized countries both the man and the hog are placed in charge of a