

generate a germ. Germs are not generated in living healthy organs or tissues.

I see no reason to doubt but that the germ theory has passed from a theory to a scientific fact, but I believe that the genesis of germs is, as I have explained, dependent as much on the nidus as upon the atmospheric matter; it is the two latent forces coming together that creates the germ, and upon the nidus depends the characteristics of the germ; moreover from the reasons already given I consider no germ nidus can exist in normal animal or vegetable matter.

Which of us have entered upon this world's stage of existence with normal organs and tissues and, if any, have we so lived in accord with nature's laws, as to maintain, cultivate and develop those organs? If there be any, then, of such I consider them proof against all germ diseases. These are they who live in plague-stricken cities without danger of disease.

To guard against epidemics by means of quarantine and cleanliness is perfectly in accord with nature's laws, and neither would require to be enforced if all persons were properly educated in these laws. But what use of such precaution, if, in our greed for riches, we, hour by hour, and day by day, exhaust our nerve forces by over-work and anxiety. Not entering upon the field of labor, as all men should, to be in accordance with nature's laws, to struggle for existence, but to struggle for riches, affluence and power, and for the gratification of our abnormal selfish desires. Under such pressure it is no wonder that our vital or nervous system, breaks down, and we become fitted to be the victims to the first epidemic, to the first *materies morbis* that enters our system, either by means of digestive or respiratory organs.

Will quarantine and cleanliness alone save the worn-out and exhausted laborer, servant, tradesman, merchant, or professional man, all of whom are slaves to labor, and taking but little rest to recuperate their lost physical forces. Will it save the over-worked teacher and school children who are starving for air and exercise? What will it do for those whose very pleasures are of most exhausting nature, robbing themselves of the proper time to recuperate their lost forces, rushing half mad through the ball room when they should be enjoying "Tired nature's sweet restorer, balmy sleep—" these poor slaves of a false social system who have not the moral courage to live in accor-

dance with nature's laws? And what will it do for the unfortunate inebriate?

I say quarantine and cleanliness alone will not save these people. Nature tired of their unreasonableness, will do in the future as she has done in the past, slay these people with her epidemics; she will not be mocked, the people must choose between nature's laws or sickness and death, or, worse still, folly and crime.

Within the past year there has been very much writing and great discussions on the subject of cholera, but, like all other medical subjects, with very few exceptions, it appears to me that medical men on these subjects, base all their reasoning upon false premises; the old empirical school seems to me to have the same sway now that it had half a century ago, when I first entered the profession, and it rather surprises me to see so very few of the young men of the present day, that make medical philosophy the basis of their medical reasoning; however, I suppose there are none now but admit that there is a cholera germ, a tonic germ, that may be generated in the manner I have explained, in certain animal organs or tissues, which, when generated, becomes a *materies morbis*, that may be taken into the system either by the respiratory or digestive organs. But what has never been proven, at least to my satisfaction is, as to the locality or tissues that forms the nidus for the atmospheric matter, which, with the nidus, produces the germ; or, the germ already existing, where becomes its nidus after it has been received into the system. There is no secret about the nidus of the germ of typhoid fever; not so with the nidus of the cholera germ: because of the diarrhoea, it has been assumed that it is in the alimentary canal, but do the symptoms justify such a conclusion? I know of no dying where the symptoms so much resemble the dying from cholera as those presented by a person dying from the loss of blood, there is the greatest analogy in both cases, and why but that in reality the person dying from cholera does die from loss of blood,—that is to say, the whole serum of the blood is poured out through the coats of the arteries, and ejected by means of the viscera, leaving only in the vessels the red globules, which being deprived of the serum, soon coagulates, arresting the heart's action and resulting in death.

Now what must have taken place before the serum of the blood is separated from its red globules, evidently it must be preceded by par-