

will certainly carry off a greater number of victims in this class than in that more favourably situated.

Shade is almost always accompanied by moisture or humidity. This last favours the development of systemic conditions favourable to the detriment of force and consistence. A plant, placed in a sombre and damp situation will perhaps grow in length more than in a sunny exposure, but, its stem will be weak, slender, soft and unable to stand erect; it will either climb or creep. The same reasoning may be applied to a human being; situated in the same condition he may grow immoderately, but he will always be etiolated and sickly.

24. Man respiring a deleterious air. He respire either little or much of it; if he respire much of it and has previously been healthy, the changes which respiration produces in the economy will be sudden and of a sthenic character. For example, a strong and robust man exposed to either variolic or erysipelatous infections, will be affected in the ratio of his strength; the disease may attack him with equal violence, so to speak, and taking advantage of the slightest deviation in the regimen, or any trifling error in the treatment, it will promptly overpower the patient and carry him off in a short time; whereas a weak and cachectic person will often escape. Still, we cannot draw any conclusions in favour of the latter. Pure inflammatory diseases of a sthenic type, seldom resist a well conducted course of treatment; but those of an asthenic character, will always baffle the skill of the best practitioners.

25. If respiration plays such an important part in the etiology of diseases, it may also rank the first in the manifestation of mental emotions. If we observe man, and even animals under the influence of a violent passion, what do we perceive? Even before passion is evidenced by attitude, contracted features and bristling of hair, respiration is perverted; it is momentarily suspended, then becomes agitated and more frequent. The cat and all the feline race have a peculiar breathing to express their anger. It is admitted as a principle of philosophy, that there is no effect without a cause; we may add that there is no cause without an effect, for we cannot conceive a cause otherwise than by the effects which render it evident to our understanding and senses.

If the peculiar breathing which the animal emits under the influence of anger is considered as the *effect* of a *cause* which has previously existed on the brain, (which may be doubted,) we must look upon it as a cause productive of subsequent effects. For instance, naturalists have observed that the air expired by wild beasts under such circumstances, possesses noxious deleterious properties, to those who inhale it. One would imagine that the animal itself is conscious of it, as it expires with all the force of its lungs, and in as great a quantity as possible, in order to repulse or annihilate the object of its passion. A deeper study of that morbid respiration or expiratory effort, which we think reacts on its author in a more or less pernicious manner when it cannot reach its aim, would perhaps lead to the discovery of some unsuspected secrets. (We might perhaps find here one cause inductive of hydrophobia.) Here we stop, however, and will feel sufficiently gratified if some more learned observer will investigate more thoroughly the subject.

26. The point of view under which we have treated respiration is so novel