

to be often a cause of severe disease; a condition of blood-poisoning equal to that present in acute rheumatism is developed, producing symptoms differing in character, but often as grave, and frequently far more intractable in their nature. This condition of the blood, upon due examination, will often be found to be the cause of the persistence of many cases of chronic gastritis, bronchitis, periostitis, and various neuralgic affections, and whether taken in with the food, or produced in the blood by the chemical changes which are constantly progressing during the various processes of nutrition, it accumulates in the system principally from the inability of the kidneys normally to perform their functions, and it must be evident that until this power is restored (if such, from the condition of things, is possible), that the diseases caused by it will remain more or less permanent, or their liability to recur may be sufficiently intelligible.

That the patient was labouring under the effects of the oxalate of lime in the blood, and had done so in all probability before he left Ireland, was shown by the frequent return of the pains, and their disappearance after an effort of nature had encouraged the activity of the kidneys, and assisted its removal from the system. In this man the oxalate produced in the first place symptoms of sciatica; afterwards it caused hypochondriasis and inability to perform the sexual functions, but what effect it had in producing the marked brittleness of the bones, or the great swelling of the arms under severe frost, does not at the present moment appear.

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