

The *drink* of a nation is second only in importance to its *food*.

The character of the latter determines the former.

A nation consuming a large amount of animal flesh *must have a drink-possessing anæsthetic properties*.

The necessity of this is easily shown. In addition to the products of tissue degeneration in the form of nitrogenous compounds, *urates*, and the micro-organisms present in all decomposing animal flesh, there are other irritating and noxious compounds formed in the tissues of all *sentient* creatures when under the influence of *fear*. Together these form a trinity, to which the vital principle of the cells offer a measure of resistance—disease, in proportion to its vigor when presented with this compound, consisting of the *debris* of tissue degeneration, micro-organisms and other products of putrefaction in the form of *butchers' meat*, as material for the manufacture of *bioplasm* for the renewal and growth tissues and organs of the human organism.

This condition of irritation, this sense of *dis-ease* ever present with the consumer of animal flesh, when not under its immediate stimulating influence, imperatively calls for something to give relief, something of an *anæsthetic* nature.

Tea, coffee, tobacco and liquor possess this property in common, increasing in degree in the order named.

Observations show that their consumption by a nation is in proportion to its consumption of *butchers' meat*.