

a short paper read before the Sanitary Convention in London in November, 1883. It is this, there are three great receptacles for the malarial poison, viz. : the earth, water and the human body that have a supply in store as it were laid up for the winter, which under favorable circumstances manifests itself in the shape of intermittent or other forms of malaria. The water in the wells is perhaps the greatest source of supply, particularly when the ground is frozen hard for a long time and the water gets low. The second reason is, the poison escapes from under houses and spots of ground protected from the frost, and the third source is that some persons living in a malarious district have a continual supply in the system, only waiting to be developed when it finds a good opportunity, such as exposure, sudden changes of temperature, over fatigue, loss of rest, mental strain or any thing else that will cause the system to run down, thus reducing and impairing the vital resistance of the nervous system; one very strong proof that these organisms are latent is that a man may have lived for fifteen or twenty years in a malarious section without ever having had ague or any other form of malaria, but let that man cross the Atlantic or go where malaria is unknown and he is liable to an attack of it. I have known many such instances, which to me is a very strong proof of the latency of this germ in the blood or some of the organs of the human body.

'Tis true the type of malaria is milder in winter, and for the reason that the sources of supply are limited in comparison to summer, and is principally confined to localities where it is endemic; in other words, there are not enough escapes for the winds to carry it to any distance in sufficient quantities to produce its pathological effects, if indeed it could survive the frosts it would have to encounter on its journey. This, then, is my theory as to why we have malaria in winter. It may be erroneous, but I think the investigations of Laveran and others as to the organisms found in the blood corpuscles give strength to this view, and, if this is correct, go to show that these organisms are not only a diagnostic mark but also a factor in the production of malaria. Another reason that convinces me that these are