

settlers change also. But where men are subjected to so many new influences as they are in this new country, it is very difficult to specify or distinguish how much of any observed change of habits is due to each.

When speaking of the 'gloomy unsociableness' of the *tables d'hôte* in the States, Mr. Johnston has some observations which may be considered in connexion with the foregoing:—

'Whether this silence at table and rapidity of meals be a cause of indigestion, or a consequence of disease arising from other causes, it is certain that diseases of the digestive organs, and deaths from such diseases, are much more frequent in the United States than they are in Great Britain. This is very strikingly shown by the following numbers, which represent the average cases of disease and death from disease of the digestive organs in every thousand inhabitants in the two countries:—

	Diseases.	Deaths.
United States	526	14
Great Britain	95	$\frac{1}{2}$

More than one-half the population appear to be affected by such diseases in the United States, and less than one-tenth in Great Britain; and while fourteen out of every thousand die of such disease in North America, only one in two thousand actually dies of it in our island.

'If half the population be subject to a disease which, more than almost any other, interferes with bodily comfort and equability of temperament—which creates a restlessness and nervous irritability that is scarcely to be laid asleep—it must have a most powerful influence upon the habits and general character of the whole people. The prevailing nervous temperament of the New Englanders is ascribed by some of my friends, in the country itself, to the peculiarly dry and searching qualities of the climate. If this temperament lead to choice of food and habits of eating which bring on indigestion, this latter disease will again react upon the temperament, and thus a confounding of cause and effect will take place, which makes it very difficult to decide which is the first or chief agent in producing the observed result. I am very much inclined, however, to the opinion, that a great number of those who emigrate are already more or less affected by the disease in question before they forsake their homes. Privation, hard labour, anxiety of mind, too close confinement during opening manhood, and other causes, produce stomach diseases and nervous restlessness, which make men move to more hopeful regions, or which, being transmitted to children, impel them to new homes. The anxieties which attend the change of life in the new country continue and prolong the excitement; so that, independent of all special climatic action, some generations of tolerable comfort might elapse before the family restlessness would be soothed down. But if, besides, in the nature of the climate and the general example of the people there be causes of new excitement, we may expect the disease to be indefinitely continued, and the temperament to become characteristic of the people, and a national distinction.'

Agriculture,