

dried the moisture which was at first deposited within it, making the neck dry as well as open from end to end, so that it could present no obstacle to any gaseous constituent of the atmosphere. Nevertheless, though thus freely exposed to the action of the gases of the air for so long a period, including two unusually hot summers, the urine still retains its original straw color and perfect transparency, presenting neither cloud, scum, or sediment. But very different is the appearance of the urine in this other flask whose neck, short and vertical, was calculated to admit particles of dust, as well as gaseous materials. (In the case of the contorted neck the angles arrested the dust). The transparent straw has given place to a muddy brown, with sediment of fungi. It is pungently ammoniacal, as can be easily observed by placing the warm hand on the flask and a nostril at the orifice. I was not content with observing the completely unchanged appearance of the bent neck flasks. Half a year after the experiment was begun I poured out half an ounce of the clear contents of one of these into a wine glass for examination. Its odor was perfectly sweet, and its reaction faintly acid. Under the microscope a careful search with an excellent glass of high power failed to detect any organisms. But exposed to dust, in two days it was loaded with minute organisms and fungi, visible to the naked eye."

Some tried these experiments of his and failed to get the same results. Lister answered these failures by saying negative results are far less strong than positives. It is also easy to understand failure in such experiments consistently with the truth of the theory; it is impossible to understand success in any single instance, consistently with the falsehood of the theory.

Then he ended the lecture. "Gentlemen, I commend these facts to your candid and impartial judgment, beseeching you to form your own opinions regarding them. The minds which you bring to bear upon this subject are very much the same as they will be throughout your lives, and you are as competent as ever you will be to draw correct inferences from established data.

"Throughout the course I shall endeavor to place before you simple facts, trusting that in estimating their significance you will be guided by what our dear master (Syme) has so consistently striven to inculcate as our leading principle—love of Truth."

Very similar experiments he later conducted with milk, only using superheated wine glasses and covering them with a glass cap and shade, purified in the same manner. The milk was not boiled, but introduced directly into the glass as from the cow, whose