

Perhaps the enemy's greatest advantage is that he is an invisible foe. Lying in the dust, lurking in food, smudged on fingers or sailing through the air, he is ever ready for the attack and man is none the wiser. The great scientist Pasteur has shown by a very simple experiment that it is difficult to find any spot on the earth's surface where germs do not abound. He demonstrated that broth or bouillon turns sour simply because it becomes contaminated by the germs in the air, and that it would keep for years just as pure as the day it was made, provided, immediately after boiling, it were sealed in germ-free vessels. In order to prove that germs existed in varying numbers in practically every locality, Pasteur prepared many little sealed vessels of germless bouillon and, taking them with him, travelled through city and town, into the fields of their suburbs and out to the meadows of the country. Where he wished to ascertain the presence of germs in the air, he opened for a few moments twenty of the sealed vessels containing the bouillon and then quite rapidly resealed them. He went on into the foot-hills and mountains, in each locality opening and sealing other twenty flasks of bouillon, and did not rest until he finally ascended Mont Blanc, and opened to the mountain air twenty more of his bouillon flasks. Of the twenty flasks opened in the city of Paris, practically all went bad; of twenty-three opened on a country road, eight went bad; of another twenty opened in the foot-hills of the mountains, only five went bad; while out of the twenty flasks opened on the summit of Mont Blanc but one showed contamination by germs. It must