

Publishers' Department

EVILS OF MAL-NUTRITION.—Disturbances of nutrition are the most frequent causes of chronic diseases, and again have the appearance of various illnesses of an acute character. Diathesis is a permanent disturber of nutrition, which prepares, provokes, and maintains different diseases, as seen in their location, their evolution and pathological process. The reaction of a disturbed nervous system, induces temporary disturbances of nutrition. If nerve reaction, by corrupting nutrition of the moment, can produce the morbid opportunity, it may also modify nutrition in a lasting manner and develop diatheses, but it will be acquired diatheses. The diathetic nutritive disorder is more than a morbid threatening; it is disease in activity. Here is an arthritic. How soon will he be seized with an attack of gout? What explains and links the attacks together is precisely this diathetic state, which is the result of a failure of nutrition. Before every illness there is a disturbance in life, for nutrition is life. Digestion requires that the foods should be not only softened, but thoroughly adjusted and normally assimilated. The patient, taking no combustible material from without, thrives upon his individual tissues. He finds that it is impossible for him to properly digest. He cannot, therefore, normally nourish like other individuals, and it is here that the physician tries, by various means, to introduce into his organism, combustible material and not allow him to consume his own tissues. It is now admitted that in the course of infectious diseases there exists a perversion of the nutritive process. As the results of the derangement of nutritive processes, there are various conditions of dissimulation, disease is likely to arise from derangement of the nutritive functions. When normal nutrition is lowered, as in gouty and obese patients, certain nerve conditions are likely to develop, such as dejection, melancholy, a lack of desire for work and migrain, and it is frequently observed in the renal, cutaneous, the pulmonary excretions and incomplete oxidized products of dissimulation. In all forms of auto-infection and disease the result of mal-nutrition, bovine feeding is an able prop to both the patient and physician in the handling of his case, for it stimulates the normal flow of the digestive fluids, encourages proper assimilation, and supplies all elements of nutrition to meet the demands created by the stimulation, thereby fortifying the system in overcoming the mal-nutrition and enabling Nature to attack the auto-intoxication and disease through natural methods.