

THE BATTLE WITH TUBERCULOSIS

PART ONE

CHAPTER I

THE ENEMY

OF the world's conflicts there is none comparable in magnitude or fatality to the war between the human being and the germ. This conflict has lasted for thousands of years; every man has been a party to it, and every hour of every day the battle is still being waged. On the one side in this conflict is the germ, a powerful enemy whose name is legion, whose battalions are manifold, and whose methods, while entirely offensive, are complicated, deceitful, and cruel. On the other side is man, living, until recent years, in blissful ignorance of the dangers that lurk by the way. Fortunately within the citadel of his being are forces of defence as varied and complicated as those of the invader; forces which, if treated fairly, if shown anything like proper consideration with respect to rest and food, will resist, with ingenious tactics, the hourly invasion of the enemy's hosts. How many persons there are who realize too late that through ignorance they have fatally neglected their forces of resistance and defence!