

resist the conclusion that there was some connection between epidemic cholera and the absence of ozone.

As to the part that ozone might be capable of playing in preventing or arresting disease, it was necessary to bear in mind its properties. "Soret's experiments," the speaker said, "prove that it is heavier than oxygen; it is also quite insoluble in water, while its power is intensely increased beyond that of ordinary oxygen, so that air saturated with it destroys dead organic matter with great rapidity; thick india-rubber tubing is quickly eaten through by it, and all ammoniacal products are speedily decomposed by its action. It is, however, principally in its chemical character that we must look for its good effect in preventing or arresting disease."

Ozone is a most powerful oxidizing disinfectant, and it is so in virtue of possessing the power of resolving and decomposing all animal and vegetable putrescent matter into primitive and innocuous forms. A stream of ozone passed through a mass of black, offensive, and putrescent blood effects a change in it as if by magic; immediately, almost as soon as the operation has commenced, all disagreeable odor is removed, it reassumes its florid red color, and coagulation is restored. The products of putrefaction are, as no doubt you are aware, not only favorable to the development of special poison germs, but such products also, by their continued action, prevent the proper oxidation which should go forward in the various tissues of the body, thus causing a predisposition to the action of any poisoned germs to which the body may be exposed. If ozone be diffused through apartments or elsewhere, it not only disinfects, by removing noxious vapors and poison germs, whatever their character may be, but, being itself in the gaseous form, it is inhaled during respiration, and, passing into the blood through the lungs, it oxidizes the used-up and effete matters produced during assimilation and the renewal of the various tissues, thus effecting in no inconsiderable manner a certain resistance to their pernicious influence if retained within the human body.

There has been much discussion as to what the precise nature of disease germs may be; but be they in the form of bacteria, or of any other form, ozone is potent for their destruction. . . . There are other competing disinfectants, such as iodine, chlorine, bromine, etc., but it has always appeared to me that we have in ozone Nature's own provided disinfectant; and, although I admit that artificial states often require the application of means correspondingly artifi-