

the Fever of Malta, tells us that when typhoid fever broke out at the Fort of Lascaris, from the opening of a drain, other affections were simultaneously developed, viz., 'diarrhoea, dysentery, slight pyrexial disorders, and diseases of the primary assimilative organs.' A close examination and analysis of the affections produced by the inhalation of sewer air, would probably much enlarge this list; and the class of affections resulting from this cause, to which it may be difficult to assign a nosological name, will be found, I believe, to be essentially connected with derangement of the digestive rather than with the pulmonary system.

The air of sewers passing into houses aggravates most decidedly the severity of all the exanthemata—erysipelas, hospital gangrene, and puerperal fever (Rigby); and it has probably an injurious effect on all diseases.

Two special diseases have been supposed to arise from the air of sewers and fecal emanations, viz., diarrhoea and typhoid (enteric) fever.

With regard to the production of DIARRHOEA from fecal emanations, it would seem that the autumnal diarrhoea of this country is intimately connected with temperature, and usually commences when the thermometer is persistently above 60°, and when there is, at the time, a scarcity of rain-fall. It is worst in the badly-sewered districts, and is least in well-drained districts, and in wet years. It has been checked in London by a heavy fall of rain. All those points seem to connect it with fecal emanations reaching a certain rapidity of evolution in consequence of high temperature, deficient rain, and perhaps relative dryness of the atmosphere. At the same time, there is a connection between this disease and impure water. It may own a double crigin, and in a dry season both causes may be in operation.

That ENTERIC FEVER may arise from the effluvia from sewers is a doctrine very generally admitted in this country, and is supported by strong evidence. There are several cases on record in which this fever has constantly prevailed in houses exposed to sewage emanations, either from bad sewers or from want of them, and in which proper sewerage has completely removed the fever. Many of these cases occurred before the water-carriage of typhoid was recognised, but yet the connection between the sewage emanation and the fever seem undoubted.