

generated by the decomposition of vegetable and animal matter; Second, æriform contagious, generated by the animal system in a state of disease. First, infection may result from the humid decomposition of vegetable and animal matter, contained in the filth of cities, in marshes, and some soils furnishing these materials, hence the designation marsh-miasma. Second, it may result from the decomposition and natural exhalations and excretions of the human body, under ill-conditioned circumstances; to this has been applied the term idio-miasma, expressive of the personal or private character of its source. Marsh-miasma has also received the name of malaria. Much has been written of malaria but little of its true nature is understood, although it is supposed to be the effluvia that generates fevers, cholera, and such like diseases; many physicians of eminence have written elaborately on the subject—but after all, very little is really known of its subtle influence.

Here is a picture drawn by Dr. Macculloch:—"The fairest portions of Italy are a prey to the invisible enemy, malaria—its fragrant breezes are poison, the dews of the summer evenings are death. The banks of its refreshing streams, its rich and flowery meadows, the borders of its glassy lakes, the luxuriant plains of its overflowing agriculture, the valleys, where its aromatic shrubs regale the eye and perfume the air, these are the chosen seats of this plague—the throne of malaria. Death here walks hand-in-hand with the resources of life, sparing none. The labourer reaps his harvest but to die, or he wanders amid the luxuriance of vegetation and wealth, the ghost of man, a sufferer from his cradle to his impending grave; aged even in childhood, and laying down in misery that life which was but one disease. He is driven from some of the richest portions of this fertile, yet unhappy country; and the traveller contemplates, at a distance, deserts—but deserts of vegetable wealth—which man dares not approach, or he dies." Whatever is its composition, it may be enough for us to know that its existence in the atmosphere is incompatible with health. Now, Ozone is said to destroy this malaria; no deleterious substance is found in the atmosphere where Ozone is manifest, for one of the peculiar properties of Ozone is, its disinfecting powers; putrid meat exposed to the action of ozonized air soon becomes disinfected. Manure heaps and foul drains, where there is decomposition going on, become quite innocuous: and it has been shown that when putrid organic matter is subjected to the action of