

In Chap. II. on the "general pathology of fever," Virchow's and Parkes' opinion that the increased consumption of organic material which evolves the augmented temperature in fever, has its immediate cause in alterations of the nervous system, is accepted. Physiologists admit that the nervous system regulates the metamorphosis of tissue and the production of heat; and Virchow holds that it exerts a moderating power over the waste of the tissues, and that in fever this power is restrained, paralysed, and in the same proportion the waste is increased and the temperature of the body augmented; and thus the *starting point* of fever is attained. This view derives much support, amongst other things, from the results of division of the sympathetic nerve in the neck or of the vagus, which brings about increased temperature, acceleration of pulse and other febrile phenomena; from the characters of many of the phenomena of fever, such as the early prostration, exhaustion, and apathy; from the rigors; from the periodicity of many of the symptoms, etc., and from the influence of bark on periodic fevers: but we do not think these arguments establish the opinion of Virchow that the exciting cause of fever, having entered the blood, exerts its first influence on the moderating nervous centres. Did our space permit, many arguments might be adduced to show that the *blood* suffers *first* and that it *participates* largely with the nervous system in the determination of the phenomena of fever; that in fact the starting point of *fever* is the entrance into or generation in the blood of some morbid agent. By the way, we conceive that our author has misapprehended Virchow's meaning when he attributes to him the idea that "the fever poison first invades the animal system through the channel of the nerves" (p. 40.) That pathologist admits that the fever making cause enters the blood, although he holds that it exerts its first influence on the nervous system.

Chapter III gives the following classification of fevers, which, though not free from grave scientific objections, may be convenient for the memory. 1. *Primary Fevers*, comprising the several forms of continued, intermittent, and remittent fever: 2. *Irritative Fevers*, comprising gastric, gastro-intestinal, remittent, and hectic fever; and 3. *Eruptive Fevers*, comprising small-pox, measles, &c.

Chapters IV to VIII inclusive are devoted to a consideration of the several forms of continued fever, and as these are of most interest and importance to Canadians, we will confine our remarks to the topics they may suggest, and pass by for the present, the subject of yellow fever, which has received a large share of the author's attention, and the personal study of which he made the object of a special visit to Portugal during an epidemic which prevailed there. No other forms of fever are discussed by our author.

Continued fever may be divided according to Dr. Lyons into—

Synocha or Inflammatory Fever.

Synochus or Mixed or Nervous Fever.

Typhus or Adynamic Fever.

Typhoid or Enteric Fever.

The Synocha of this writer is not the mere inflammatory fever of Cullen, nor alone relapsing fever as Christison considered it, but it includes these as varieties together with the "seven day" fever or "febricula" of Jenner, and those fevers which though running on to 14 or 21 days are unattended by the prostration of