

das sogemante—Hensieber, hew asthma, and the other by Dr. Abbotts Smith, Physician to the North London Hospital for diseases of the chest, &c., &c.

Dr. Abbotts Smith says, "The following is a curious fact in connection with the subject of hay fever, that three distinct *though erroneous* opinions are held by different persons, viz :

1. That no such disorder exists.
2. That it is only of slight consequence when it does occur.
3. That when it does present itself it must be looked upon as incurable.

This malady has a tendency to recur and recur annually and occasionally semi-annually in the same individual when it has once manifested itself. It seems to prevail to a greater or less extent in all countries, attacking both sexes, although men seem to suffer most in the proportion of two to one.

Animals even are known to suffer from it. Dr. Abbotts Smith reports a case of two dogs manifesting the more characteristic features of this disease after having new-mown hay placed in their kennels. Other cases are mentioned by Dr. Phœbus in his work.

This affection usually first manifests itself in a person when about the age of twelve to fifteen, although it has been noticed in a child of nine months. In this case the father and other relatives were very subject to the complaint. This disease has a tendency to disappear as old age comes on, though it then leaves the patient very liable to attacks of chronic bronchites and asthma.

The season at which this disorder usually manifests itself is from the end of May or beginning of June to the middle of September. The average duration of an attack is from five to six weeks, unless cut short by treatment. Some persons are liable to a second though milder attack in September.

*Causes.*—An hereditary tendency or predisposition is perhaps the chief one, though persons whose parents or relatives have suffered from gout or rheumatism seem very prone to attacks of this malady. Intermittent fever bears a close relation to this disorder, and may be the beginning of the malady or the means of transmitting it to one's offspring.

The first heats of summer, especially, if setting in suddenly after a cold, damp spring, usually cause much suffering. The odor of new-mown hay, flowering of grasses, rye, wheat, &c., strongly scented flowers, &c., decomposing vegetable matter occasionally, also other plants as beans, nettles, roses, lilacs, elder trees, &c., while in bloom, will bring on an attack in those susceptible to this