

by such water. If the lives of those foul organisms are not destroyed when taken up by cows in their drink, but pass into the circulation, tainting the blood, entering the secretions and establishing their filthy abode in the milk, there to increase and multiply in vast numbers, causing the milk to be a mass of filth; then it is reasonable to suppose that persons partaking of this milk, even when freshly drawn, are liable to have their blood also inoculated and thereby contract disease. Who can say that malignant fevers and fatal epidemics do not often originate from these sources? The facts brought out in these investigations would seem to warrant the supposition. At any rate they are sufficiently startling, and should arrest the attention of those who have the care of milk stock, and who are in the habit of using milk freely. They prove that clean water is at least a prerequisite for the cow to yield good, healthy milk, and that there is more danger in allowing stock to slake thirst in foul, stagnant pools, than has commonly been supposed.

In my report upon English Dairies in 1866, made to the American Dairymen's Association, I called attention to the character of English milk as cleaner than ours, and I attributed the finer flavoured cheese of England, in a great measure, to this one cause. Nothing struck me with more force than the care taken by the Cheddar dairymen of Somersetshire to get good milk. The pastures are well drained and provided with an abundance of clear, running water. There are no filthy pools or mud-holes where cows are allowed to tramp and wallow in search of water. The milking sheds are open on one side, paved with stone and cement. There is sufficient incline back of the cows, so that all filth flows into the stone gutters, and after milking, all the droppings are removed and the floors and gutters are flushed with water, so that everything is clean and sweet for the next milking. The liquid, excrements and washings are conducted into a tank sunk into the ground, outside the milk-house, and from thence as occasion requires are applied to growing crops. You will see that under this system of clean pastures, clean stables, and clean dairy-houses, a better milk is obtained than with us, and thus with proper atten-