

has seemed to me possible that this might in time produce the above effects.

I have alluded to the existence of an endemic malarial fever occurring principally in the fall. This is general throughout the Territories, and has given rise to much comment and some difference of opinion among medical men. Its character is variously modified by the season, climate, soil and immediate surroundings of the locality in which it is present. It has been called remittent, intermittent, malarial, typho-malarial and typhoid, according as a certain set of symptoms predominated, and is known throughout all the West by laymen as "mountain fever." During the past ten years, and while acting as surgeon in the Mounted Police, I have been stationed in different parts of the Territories, and have had occasion to observe this fever in all its different forms. I have seen it at its lightest, characterized only by a chill and the symptoms of a heavy cold, and broken up at once by free diaphoresis and a dose of quinine. On the other hand, I have attended cases in which all treatment was of no avail, cases badly affected by environment, that would go on from bad to worse until finally they would sink into the typhoid state—too often only the beginning of the end. Between these extremes all grades of severity are met with, their most general characteristic being, however, their atypical character. Routine treatment is therefore impossible, except, perhaps, at the beginning, when I made it a rule to relieve the bowels by a calomel purge, promote free diaphoresis by pulv. ipecac. co. or antipyrin, sometimes a combination of the two, and give two or three large doses of quinine,—subsequent treatment on general principles.

I have alluded to the different names by which this fever has been called and the consequent confusion. The cause of this is, I believe, the tendency to regard it as a distinct typical disease, which it is *not*. The cause may be the same (no one, I believe, has ever questioned its malarial nature), but the variations in the course, symptoms and severity are important enough to entitle them to be called almost distinct types. These variations are due to locality, to the season, to differing conditions of soil, climate, atmospheric moisture, etc., and to the individual. An-