

our fathers saved many who would have been allowed to die under the expectant treatment so fashionable a few years ago.

Diphtheria reached us before railways had opened up the country, and I repeatedly saw it on isolated farms, surrounded by woods, and where it could not possibly have been carried from without, and where the land had been so recently redeemed from the forest that it could not have been derived from some previous but forgotten case. This has seemed to me to prove that the origin of the Klebs Loeffler bacillus requires further investigation. We also had cases of cerebro-spinal meningitis ; and I was much interested in a paper read by Dr. (now Sir James) Grant at the first meeting which I attended of this association, in (I think) the year '69. It was on Cerebro-spinal Meningitis, or, as he termed it "Purpuric Fever," as it appeared in the Ottawa Valley. It had appeared with us at the same time ; and, changing the locality and the names, his paper would have fairly described my cases and their results.

The country became rapidly and thoroughly cleared and drained ; and it so completely rid us of the cause of miasmatic disease that I have scarcely seen a case of ague in twenty or twenty-five years, nor a case of old-fashioned remittent, in my own practice of some forty years, and it is so long since we have had a case of murrain among our cattle that it has ceased to be a tradition. We have occasional cases of typhoid ; but, though for years there was no attempt to isolate the patient, it is very seldom we have had a second case in a neighborhood. We have a German settlement near us, where it is considered to be the duty of everyone within reach to visit the sick, which they do without the slightest precaution, yet I never saw it communicated. In the township adjoining, where the soil is very porous, the opposite obtains. There an isolated or single case is the exception. Time and time again I have seen a case of typhoid fever followed by one, two or three others, in the same house or in the immediate vicinity. The only difference between the localities is in the soil and the water. Their water is spring, and from either springs, wells or streams is bright, sparkling and good tasted ; while ours is far from being clear,