

## **Consumption curable! / by Dr. Hall.**

### **Contributors**

Hall, W. W. 1810-1876.

Harvey Cushing/John Hay Whitney Medical Library

### **Publication/Creation**

New Orleans : [publisher not identified], 1843.

### **Persistent URL**

<https://wellcomecollection.org/works/g2pu96cu>

### **License and attribution**

This material has been provided by This material has been provided by the Harvey Cushing/John Hay Whitney Medical Library at Yale University, through the Medical Heritage Library. The original may be consulted at the Harvey Cushing/John Hay Whitney Medical Library at Yale University. where the originals may be consulted.

This work has been identified as being free of known restrictions under copyright law, including all related and neighbouring rights and is being made available under the Creative Commons, Public Domain Mark.

You can copy, modify, distribute and perform the work, even for commercial purposes, without asking permission.



Wellcome Collection  
183 Euston Road  
London NW1 2BE UK  
T +44 (0)20 7611 8722  
E [library@wellcomecollection.org](mailto:library@wellcomecollection.org)  
<https://wellcomecollection.org>

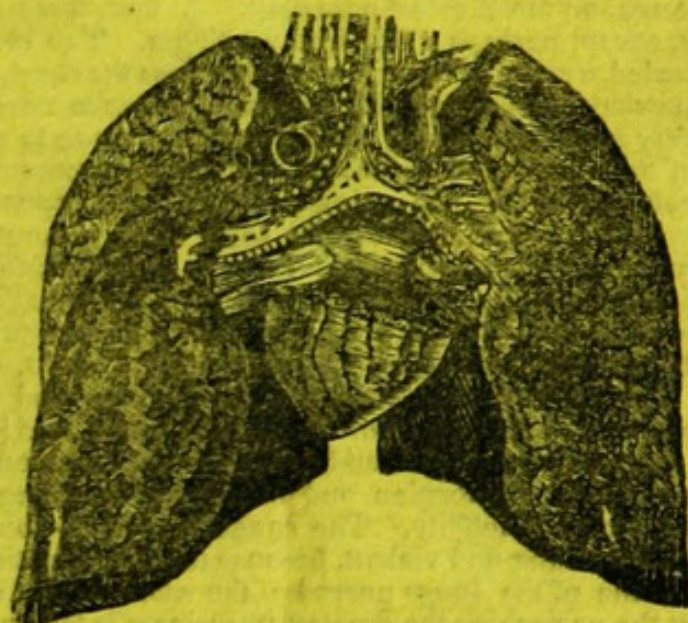
YALE MEDICAL

JUL 1902

LIBRARY

# CONSUMPTION

## CURABLE!




Wm. W.  
**BY DR. HALL.**

**NEW ORLEANS.**

1843.



 **PREJUDICE**, says a great Practitioner, is the bane of advancement in every department of human knowledge. But in none does it tell more heavily against the weal of our common nature, than in our profession. For never will any man practice it with either true dignity or real usefulness, till he casts from him every trammel, whether of education, theory, or authority; until in short, he hears with his own ears, sees with his own eyes, and judges with a perfectly unbiassed mind.

**CONSUMPTION** commonly called "A DECLINE," implies a wasting away of the body, from the effect of a disorganising process going on in the Lungs, by which the patient gradually becomes emaciated. It was from this symptom, that the Greeks called this disease Phthisis, which signifies leanness, from a word which means to cause to dry. A symptom, which more certainly indicates consumption in its incipient stage, than any other.

Consumption very commonly begins as a cold; yet it often happens, that patients are unable to attribute its origin to any precise period, or any particular circumstance, whatever. One of the first symptoms, is the extreme liability of the patient to the frequent recurrence of a short, dry cough, on the slightest occasions. At first, there is no expectoration, except perhaps a little frothy phlegm. The breathing is slightly impeded, a sense of tightness is felt across the chest, and the pulse is somewhat accelerated. If the cough becomes more troublesome on every successive attack, we have strong reason to conclude, especially if the disease be hereditary, that these apparently slight attacks of cold, are in fact, the incipient symptoms of consumption. The disease may go on in this way for some time, without making much apparent progress; but it ought not to be neglected; for while it may sometimes be protracted for years, it will at others run thro' all its stages in the course of a very few weeks. As the disease progresses, the cough becomes more troublesome, especially at night, or in the morning. The expectoration increases in quantity, and alters its character by degrees, becomes more protracted, tough, and less clear, frequently streaked with blood, and finally assumes a greenish, matter-like appearance. Emaciation, and difficulty of breathing increase with the languor and debility. The cough is now no longer short and hicking, but strong and violent, because the inflammation of the lining membrane of the lungs pervades the whole extent of the air tubes. But the part where the greatest uneasiness is felt, is from the top of the breast bone, upwards, along the throat. Sometimes blood is spit in abundance. Pain is felt under the breast bone—increased by coughing or lying on one side. Sometimes there is no pain, only an inability to lie on the affected side. The pulse gets full, hard and frequent; the palms and soles have a burning heat; fever comes on in the afternoon, and soon assumes a hectic character. The urine deposits a copious red sediment, on standing; yet the tongue may continue clear and the appetite good.

But as the disease advances, the inroads it makes on the constitution, become every day more apparent, the eye assumes a pearly lustre, and sinks deep into the head, the cheeks are hollow, and their bones prominent. As the substance of the lungs is expectorated, the chest falls in. There is now a flush on the cheek in the afternoon, and after a feverish, restless night, profuse perspirations break out  
[See third page of cover.]

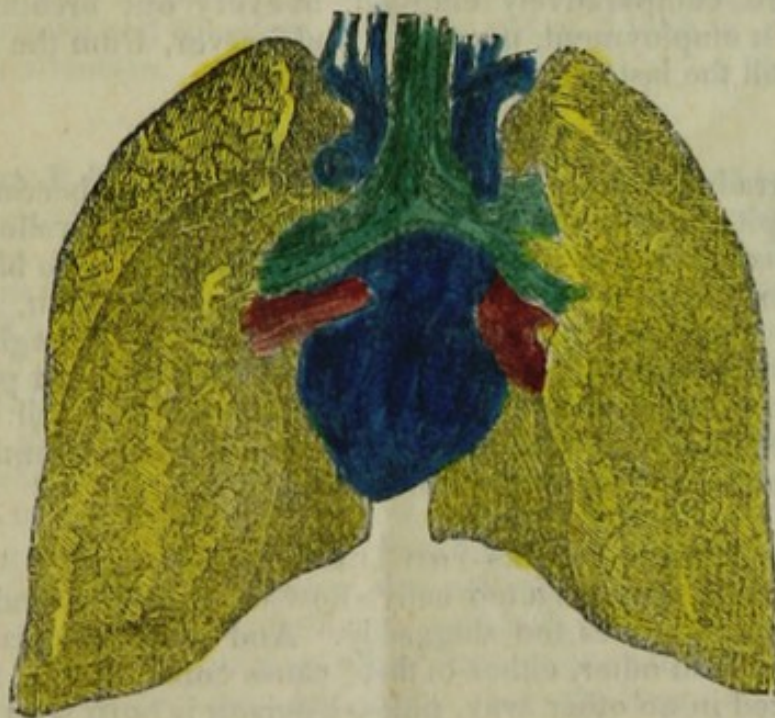


# CONSUMPTION

## CURABLE!

### BY DR. HALL.

---



**A VIEW OF THE LUNGS,  
OF A PERSON FACING YOU, WITH THE BREAST-BONE  
AND RIBS TAKEN AWAY.**

In healthy persons, there is an open space between the lungs and the ribs. But when the lungs are fully distended, there is not the smallest vacancy in the breast.

The Blue portion represents the Heart and some of the upper blood vessels. The yellow indicates the Lungs and their five lobes. The Green traces the Windpipe. The Red are vessels carrying the blood between the heart and the Lungs.

This treatise will be plainly written, as it is wished that all may easily understand it. It will save from a premature death, many thousands of the bright, the beautiful and the lovely; for it is from



among these that consumption takes, every year, a large portion of its victims. It will, however, thus save, only on condition, that those who read it, and have the symptoms, the feelings, the appearances described, will make a timely and judicious use of the proper remedies.

### WHAT ARE THE LUNGS?

They are to man, what the "lights" are to animals; are made in the same way, and look like them, hanging in both sides of the breast, and reaching as far down as the sixth rib. They are divided into five bunches, called lobes, three of which are in the right, and two in the left side. They may be compared to many thousands of small bladders, called air cells, united in one great neck, the windpipe. They have their root at the back-bone, between the shoulder blades; and from that, they stick out forwards; not entirely unlike the extended wings of a bird. These little air cells, have exceeding thin sides; and are of all sizes, from the twentieth, down to the hundredth part of an inch in diameter. They are filled with air at every breath you draw in; and are comparatively emptied, at every out breathing. And this is their employment, unceasing and forever, from the first cry of infancy, till the last effort of expiring nature.

### WHAT IS CONSUMPTION?

It is a gradual wasting away of the lungs. They become rotten, and are spit out of the mouth in the shape of a pale yellow matter, which usually sinks in water, and is often streaked with blood.

At other times, the sides of these little air cells thicken, and meet, and grow together, from the want of full breathing enough, to keep them apart; or from high mucous excitement. It is a part of the treatment, to enforce, and permanently secure that full breathing, in an agreeable way, unknown to the world until recently, and so simple, that a child can understand how it is done.

### WHAT CAUSES THE LUNGS TO CONSUME?

Inflammation; which is a too active flow of the blood; and CONGESTION, when it moves too sluggishly. And although precisely the opposite of each other, either of these cause consumption, and it can be produced in no other way, unless a person is born with tubercles.

The too active circulation, brings on what may be called

### GALLOPING CONSUMPTION,

because it runs its course rapidly, and hurries its victim to the grave in six, and sometimes in three months. This kind of consumption, I do not like, often a person looks hearty and well, but all at once is gone! It is generally brought on thus—A man sleeps in damp clothes, or in a damp bed, or in a low damp room, or sits about in wet clothes after he has been exercising until they are dry; or for a short time, exposes himself while sweating, to a raw air; or to a piercing cold wind, or rain, for several hours until he is chilly, benumbed, stiff. He is suddenly taken with a piercing, knife-like pain in the side. In attempting to draw a long breath, it is instantly cut short, as if a keen spear were driven through the breast. He waits hour after hour, perhaps a day or more, uneasy, restless, sometimes



almost suffocating for want of breath, and yet afraid to draw it; hoping that the pain will soon go away of itself. It does go away after awhile, leaving however in its place, a chilliness, rigor, shuddering, running all through the body. A fearful sign! For the structure, the substance of the Lungs is breaking down, is turning to pure matter, which is afterward spit up in regular quantities from day to day, and readily sinks in water. In six months, often in three, sometimes in a few days, and without much falling away in the face, he is gone—forever!

This kind of consumption is comparatively rare. But that which is caused by a sluggish flow of the blood, or vitiated secretion,

### TUBERCULAR CONSUMPTION,

is the great disease, which in England, and France, and Germany, and in the large cities of this country, is said to kill one person for every six. This is the dread disease, which “does not feed on the thorns and brambles of this wilderness, but on the rose and passion flower of human excellence and loveliness.” To this kind of consumption, which kills its victim piece-meal, in the long progress of dreary months and cheerless, hopeless years, I wish to direct more particular attention.

### WHAT IS A TUBERCLE?

It is a small, clear, shining, grey substance, dotted about on the lungs, usually roundish, but of all shapes; and in size, from a pea, down to invisibility. In the course of time, it begins to ripen, by a little yellow spot appearing, usually in the centre, and gradually widens to the edges. The Tubercle now softens, spreads, meets its neighbor Tubercle half way; these join, and meet others which have joined, and all soften down into one yellow mass together; this is spit up by degrees, and the place it occupied is empty, and is called a cavity, excavation, not unlike that made by mice in cheese; small, if it holds a hazle-nut; large, if it hold a walnut; and very large, when a goose-egg may lay in it. Tubercles ripen at different times, as apples on a tree; and this is the reason, that consumptive persons have such frequent changes in their feelings; well to day, or this week, and ill the next. In process of time, other excavations are made, and communicate with older ones; and in this way, the lungs are burrowed, are hollowed out to a mere shell; and the man speaks in a sepulchral, grave like voice, that makes one shudder to hear it, and soon there are not lungs enough left to live upon, to keep him warm; and the fire of life, goes out—forever!

### HOW ARE TUBERCLES PRODUCED?

Sometimes, not seldom, persons are born with them. This wretched legacy is left to children, whose parents used any kind of spirits freely, or wasted their constitutions by other intemperate habits, as high feeding, debaucheries, and the like. I believe the only other way in which Tubercles are produced, is as follows:

On the sides of the air cells, already spoken of, many little blood vessels spread themselves about in every direction; as a vine spreads itself on the side of a wall; through these, all the blood of the body passes many times a day, if there is nothing to hinder it in its progress; to dam it, to choke them up. When that is the case, the extremely



thin sides of these blood bearing vessels, may give, may stretch a little, but the clogging still going on, the thinnest part of the blood is pressed through its pores, or there is a vitiated secretion, which stands there, in the shape of a small, clear drop, with possibly, the slightest tinge of red, this soon enlarges, hardens, and is a young—Tubercle, and this it is, which causes the dry hacking cough in consumption, seeming to come on of itself, yet gives a timely and a friendly warning; but gives it most frequently—in vain. If the means employed by me, were used now, they would take these tubercles away, and effectually prevent spitting of matter, night sweats, and emaciation, from ever coming on; the proof of this is, that in a few days, the cough would become easier, and at length disappear.

WHAT CAUSES THESE LITTLE VESSELS TO CHOKE UP IN THIS WAY?

The surface of the lungs exposed to the action of the air at every breath, is estimated to be equal to two thousand times the surface of the body; and would cover a wall as high as the head, and twenty-five feet long; being a surface of more than twenty thousand square inches.

A healthy young man aged eighteen, will on an average, take in six pints of air at every breath. The air goes into the lungs pure and sweet; but as all know, comes out so impure, as to disgust; and so poisonous, that some have said, if it could be instantly breathed in again, unmixed with the pure air around, it would produce suffocation and death on the spot. But the wise and kind AUTHOR of our being, more mindful of us, ungrateful, than we are of ourselves, has so arranged it, that this poisonous breath, is so light, that on leaving the nostrils, it rises immediately above us; as all can see of a clear, cold, frosty morning; passes into the clouds, is scattered to the four winds, purified and sent back to earth, to give us life again.

But while the air is drawn into the air cells of the lungs so pure, and leaves them so impure, there is another process going on, precisely opposite. The heart at every beat, drives the blood out of itself, into the small vessels, which are spread out on the sides of the air cells, the lungs; but this blood is thick, sluggish, black and impure; having just returned from a circuit through the body, washing it out, and has come back to the lungs, to get clear of the filth which it gathered up; it however passes immediately on, and out of the lungs, going in at one door, and coming out of the other, into another part of the heart. But although it made that flying visit, not stopping an instant, it has changed its character altogether; it is now bright, red, light, sparkling, life-like, and life-giving; and at the next beat of the heart, is driven with electric speed, to the remotest parts of the body, depositing every where in its progress, renovation, and health, and life. The lungs then, are a market place, an Exchange, where the rich pure air, and the poor life-lost blood, meet. The air gives its life to the blood; and in exchange, the blood gives back its death. Now if there be too much blood, or too little air; or the air be not pure enough; the exchange will not be equal, will not be perfect; the blood will move slower, become thicker, and clog up, pressing itself through the pores in the sides of the little stretched vessels, and the hateful tubercle is thus, or by vitiated secretion, brought to birth. I prevent all this, by causing the lungs to receive every day, in some cases, as much as four hundred gallons more of pure fresh air than



they otherwise would have received, and I can prove it; demonstrate it.

Tubercles then, are produced in two ways, which act upon one another, whenever they are set agoing: by a deficiency of pure air for a length of time; or, by a sluggish circulation of the blood. If then we live in an impure air long enough, tubercles are produced. Have you never read of persons having consumption, who lived in warm rooms, factories and the like?

But let the air be ever so pure, if we do not get enough of it, tubercles are produced, we do not get enough of it, if we breathe too short, or too seldom. People who lace tight, breathe short. Do such persons ever die of consumption? What causes a person to breathe seldom? for that also produces tubercles and death. Persons who sit too much, stooping, the back bent out, and the breast bent in; or such as lean their side habitually against a table, or the like—such persons breathe seldom; so much so, that they would soon die, but nature, like a watchful parent, rouses us up, and we stretch, and take a full long breath; which sends a pleasant feeling all over us. Did you ever know shoe-makers die of consumption? or poor but excellent young women? who to make an honorable living, perhaps for a feeble helpless parent, tottering on the grave's brink—bend over the needle, nearly double sometimes, in their forgetfulness, and the clear sky, and the beautiful sun light, and all nature smiling and glad without, every body and every thing glad, but they are not! For they have not time to enjoy; but sit and toil on; and dreary winter comes with its long, dark, cheerless nights; the sleet clicks upon the window; and the heavy wind moans mournfully in the streets, or whirrs through the cracks of the old crazy building, which fairly creaks again, but a mother is there, and they are working for her; and work on, and disease approaches; and for a little while they suffer on, age and disease together! till at last and together, the parent and the child sink into the grave, side by side, in the last, long sleep of death! The remedies proposed, forcibly prevent such an unfavorable position of the body; without bands, or cords of any kind; except one of nature's own make. And here, as in her other operations, she governs so gently, and her rule so pleasant, that we love it, though we feel it not.

But this sluggish motion of the blood in these small vessels, around the sides of the air cells, is brought on in another way. We breathe seldom, when we exercise but little; or become low spirited, from any cause whatever; from care, or losses, or disappointment in our calculations, whether they have been reasonable or not; from the unkindness of kindred; the ingratitude of those whom we have benefited; or from the infidelity of those who used to love us, and we them; or the unavailing thoughts of past prosperity, with its flowers and its sunshine—these are the things which produce the infrequent, long drawn breath, which brings with it the deep and heavy sigh, and sows the seed of certain death: are not these the people, who pass off with that slow and stealthy paced disease? It is the slow circulation which these feelings produce, that is the immediate cause of tubercles, and not the feelings themselves. For those who are blue to day, but the brighter for it to-morrow, do not die of consumption. As they can give advice best, who are farthest from needing it, I will not offer violence to the already wounded heart, and bowed spirit, by saying



that it is not worth while to grieve for the past and that others are worse off than they, although it is a fact, and that the best possible thing to be done, is to forget the past, be busy, look upward, and ahead, although nothing is more true—for it is almost as difficult to get clear of such feelings, as to get well of consumption, unless properly treated. And those who can advise so well, when they come to sorrow's hour themselves, will feel it so. To sum all up; long continued ill health is the great—great immediate cause of Tubercular consumption; and whatever causes that protracted, weak state of health and body, causes consumption. Such however is the weakness of humanity, that the naming of the method to prevent disease, does the least possible good; we wake not, till the giant is upon us.

When enough fresh air does not get into the lungs; or when from weak health, they work in a sluggish manner, or when from other causes, a thickish, sticky coat collects, is secreted, on the inside of the air cells; they, not being distended, swelled out, by full breathing; are at length brought into contact, are inclined to be glued together; and we have difficult breathing, most consumptives have this. It is the part, of some of the means used, to introduce air into these half filled, sticky air cells, as intimated before, and push them apart, swell them out; and by the application of an increased amount of nature's stimulant, wash out this intruding and disagreeable tough matter—which appears, by the patient soon beginning to clear his throat, and spit with greater ease and relief.

Such is the best theory of consumption, I have been able to make up, of all I have seen. When a plainer, and more reasonable one is discovered, I will change.

#### HOW DOES A CONSUMPTIVE MAN LOOK?

He comes in, a slim gaunt form, with a dejected, solemn expression of countenance; sharp features, large round eyes, the whites of which are bluish, or have a glistening shiny appearance; narrow breast, flat belly, a delicate, and an uneven edged redness in the cheek; skin is pale, or slightly lead colored, lips inclined to be blue, high cheek bones; poor pinched up nose; hollow and sunken eyes; sometimes the lips are thick, and there is a puffy expression about the mouth toward the last; disposed to bend while walking, besides being a little stoop-shouldered; the shoulder blades, stick out behind like wings; the fingers are long and slim, clubby, ball shaped at the ends; the nails are thick, bent down at the sides, with beaky extremities; the corners of the lips are drawn back, giving the appearance of a bitter smile—that man has consumption, is near his end, and all who are like him, are dying with it.

No one person ever had all these symptoms. Some have not the fourth of them, and yet are in the last stages of the disease. The greater the number of these appearances in any one person, the greater is the certainty, that consumption has already fastened its fangs in the system. But any symptom, although not worthy of much notice under common circumstances, becomes of very serious importance, when it occurs in one, who is of a consumptive family, who has had a brother, or sister, or parent, or uncle or aunt, to die from consumption. The truly wise, will give it early heed. The symptoms above named, appear very much in the order enumerated, as the disease progresses.



**HOW DOES A CONSUMPTIVE MAN FEEL?**—He generally informs you, that he has gradually grown weaker, cannot walk far without weariness, does not sleep soundly; is restless, and sometimes tosses, and tumbles on his bed for hours together, or invites repose in vain. His appetite is usually good, but then again, he has no disposition to eat; and yet is very unwilling to admit that he has consumption at all; complains of pains between the shoulder blades, or at their points, or on the top of the shoulder; sometimes there is a fixed pain along the the breast bone, or in the side: at others, there are wandering pains through the breast, running from the lower ribs, round to the back; or from the breast bone, straight through to the back; more than half, have had more or less of cough and spitting of blood, and a feeling of heat in the palms and soles. When the disease is far advanced, there comes on a chilliness in the afternoon, often running along the back; this is followed by evening fever, and by clammy, disagreeable sweating in the night; which terminates by free morning expectoration. The night sweats are very weakening, and sometimes so copious, as to make it necessary to change the night clothes several times before morning; or even to wet two or three mattresses through and through. The cough and spitting steadily increased from the beginning, in spite of all that was done, or taken for them. The spitting at first was tough and scanty, and dry, with a whitish froth increases a little, then suddenly stops, next breaks out again more than ever; this is because the tubercles ripen at different times; and from the same cause, he feels some days as well as any body, if he were not so weak. At such times, he is cheerful, eats heartily and his sleep is sound. But suddenly, bad symptoms come on again; this is laid to the weather, or something else, having as little to do with it, and he is almost ready to despair. He is thus tossed about for a long time, hoping and despairing, but steadily sinking away. Cough now comes on after meals, with occasional vomiting; the symptoms become worse apace, until the poor body, worn down to skin and bone, finds its rest in the grave, to be wasted and worried no more.

**HOW MAY YOU TELL WHEN YOU HAVE CONSUMPTION YOURSELF?**

By comparing the progress of your own case, with the account which a dying man gives of his. "I took," he will say "a slight hacking cough, some time ago. I thought it was a little cold at first, but could not tell how I got it. It seemed to come on of itself. I took a good many things for it, but nothing seemed to do it much good. It went on in this way for a good while, and then began to bring up a little whitish, tough like spittle, which increased as the cough became easier, having small bubbles in it. In a little time the spittle began to look greenish and dull, the bubbles disappeared, and it was streaked more or less, with dull yellowish lines, sometimes having little particles in it which looked like boiled rice, these in turn disappeared, and it became of a greenish yellow, thick, heavy, roundlike gobs, with rough, ragged edges, falling heavily, and solid on the floor—he stops his melancholy story here, and tells the remainder from the edge of the grave. That which comes from his mouth now, is of a greenish, dirty appearance, becomes thinner, then less and less, at length ceases the swallowing becomes difficult, the eyes fixed, and all is over; he has passed forever away, with his senses about him to the very last.



A Physician who had several thousand cases of consumption under his own care, describes the disease as being "usually marked by some, or all of the following, characters. A short dry cough, with difficult breathing; pain at the breast bone, or some other part of the chest; little fevers, with dryness of the palms and soles; weariness and corresponding fatigue, after slight exertion; florid lips (or blue) hectic flush and spitting of blood. The cough now comes on by spells, and is more violent, with pale yellow spittle, often streaked or mixed with blood; sense of weight and oppression, in some part of the chest; breathing short and greatly hastened by slight exertion; regular redness in the cheek, with afternoon fever, and night sweats; slight wandering pains in the chest, or between the shoulders, falling away, shrivelled skin, swelling of the feet, white blisters in the mouth, sore throat, loss of voice, pinched up countenance, blue complexion, glistening and pearly eyes, thin passages from the bowels every few hours, and death."

WHAT ARE SOME OF THE SIGNS, WHICH SAY THERE IS NO HOPE? There is always hope while there is breath in the body. But if a person has become so weak, as to have been confined to his bed for some time, has little white blisters about the mouth; has three or more passages daily, almost as thin as water, swelled ankles; or spits a dark dirty looking matter—either of these, in connection with the ordinary symptoms, is considered a very fatal sign, and the poor wretch, will soon be in the long rest of the grave, where pain and sickness will never trouble him again. But there is no one symptom which constitutes consumption; there is no one symptom, which may not be absent, and consumption still exist. Yet, the following opinions, selected from some of the most celebrated medical writers,—men, who have devoted their whole lives to the study, treatment, and examination, both of the living and of the dead, from Phthisis Pulmonalis, may serve to give a friendly warning, which if heeded will save, if neglected, will aggravate, a certain death.

Constant and long continued febrile symptoms, without any evident cause, are very suspicious.

LOUIS.

Cough, with general impaired health, is a serious sign of consumption, and ought to be regarded with no small suspicion.

RAMADGE.

Long continued febrile symptoms, with several attacks of spitting of blood, constitute an infinitely probable indication of consumption.

LOUIS.

Where there is constant, and slightly furred tongue; or clean, but very red, pulse ninety to the minute, with an occasional hack, or slight cough, there is no doubt of tubercles existing in the lungs.—ROSE.

Long continued dry cough, fever, and uneasy breathing, are certain indications of consumption.

LOUIS.

A dry hacking cough, continuing for months, and not materially influenced by remedies, is the usual method in which consumption creeps upon its victim.

But those who have other symptoms of the disease, should not wait for a cough or a spitting of blood, for sometimes, these do not appear, till human skill is unavailing.

Some have had no cough, until within fifteen days of death; while others, were never observed to have spit blood at all.

LAENNEC.



A person may have no cough, until within six weeks of death and yet, have lungs loaded with tubercles, and full of excavations,  
LAENNEC.

Persons have died of consumption, in less than forty days from the first attack of sickness.

There may be tubercles, not only softened, but excavated, in persons apparently robust, and who never had any sign of consumption.  
LAENNEC.

If tubercles are in any part of the body, it is positively certain they are in the lungs also.

A very large proportion, of those who die in civilized countries, are found to have Tubercles in the Lungs, because many are born with them; and when not congenital, they may be generated in a few weeks.  
ROSE.

When Tubercles are once in the lungs, from whatever cause, the application of any of the causes capable of generating them, may induce their softening in twenty days; and then, the patient is in the last stages of consumption.

Protracted enfeebled health, from whatever source, more frequently induces tubercles than all other causes together. Tubercles give no pain; but whenever they once find their way into the lungs, they will, unless arrested in their growth, always produce inevitable death by consumption.

The first stage of consumption, is the existence of hard tubercles, in size, color and shape, like millet or hemp seed.

If these tubercles have not begun to soften, the remedies offered, when judiciously used, will infallibly remove or encyst them, and effectually prevent their recurrence.

The second, and last stage of consumption, is the softening of these tubercles into something like that which comes from the nose, and is expectorated daily.

If these tubercles are begining to soften, or to form a small cavity, the same remedies, properly applied, will empty the cavity, and heal it up.

More persons die of consumption, between the ages of eighteen and thirty-five, than of all other ages put together.

Weariness in the morning, relieved by walking about awhile, and spitting a tough, whitish substance, pain along the breast bone, or between the shoulders, followed by night sweats, and a steady wasting away, are evidences of consumption, that cannot be mistaken.

A person may appear full in the face, yet if he has the most common symptoms, and spits up about the same quantity every day, of heavy, dull looking yellow matter, he has rapid consumption.

The remedies employed are simple, safe, and agreeable; while CALOMEL, OPIUM, EMETICS, BLISTERS, CAUSTICS and SEATONS are considered decidedly injurious in this disease. I consider it due here, to that excellent man J. S. ROSE, M. D., a pupil of Wistar and Physic, and a graduate of the University of Pennsylvania, in her palmyest days of sunshine and of glory, when "To Pass," was the highest honor, and in no schoolboy's power; to say distinctly, that he was the originator of the system, not only for America, but for the world. But like most men of real worth, refused to announce it publicly, until he had repeatedly tested its high value, by the ot-er-



vations, and varied experiments, of more than twenty years. Within two years, he has published the system in its present complete state; and the success which has attended its judicious practice, has been uniform, and encouraging, in the highest degree. Already there are men of high moral worth, all over the Union, who are prepared at any day, or hour, when properly approached, to bear a decided, and grateful testimony in its favor.

Inferior means, but of a similar character, have been more extensively applied by a Physician of the London Lung Infirmary, which Institution, is sustained by the private munificence of gentlemen, some of whom, are of the highest rank in Europe. His success in thousands of instances, has gained him an extensive reputation, and brought him patients from remote parts of Sweden and Russia. His first published work on the subject, had two editions printed in London within six months; while distinct translations, and repeated editions of it, appeared in Germany, France and Hungary. Within the present year, an edition of a thousand copies of a French translation of an American work, was sold off in Paris in a few days. These statements are made, to show that the system is not unknown to the world, or untried. It is as effectual in SCROFULA, as in CONSUMPTION: while those who have a NARROW CHEST; and thirty inches in circumference under the arms, is quite narrow for a man, or SUNKEN BREAST, are surprisingly benefitted in a very short time, if it be a benefit to give a prominent form to the latter, and to add to the former, several inches to its measurement.—Those who are of a CONSUMPTIVE FAMILY, can infallibly shield the system from death, from this disease, by a timely and judicious use of the remedies; and all who employ them thus, are left in a condition more capable than before, of resisting any ordinary exposure to weather, or sudden atmospheric change. PALPITATION, irregular beating of the heart, has frequently disappeared, while Chronic LIVER affections, and habitual CONSTIPATION have been relieved by the mechanical agency alone, when medical means had been abandoned in despair. In fact, just such benefits have resulted, as an educated and practical physician, would expect from an increase of a tenth, more or less, to the volume of the lungs, and a daily addition of hundreds of gallons of fresh air, beyond the amount commonly received.

Frequently, after one or two visits, the perfection of the cure, is entirely dependant on the fidelity, with which the patient adheres to the directions given. A few, require several weeks of daily and careful attention, to bring their system to a state of health requisite for the application of the main, and more specific remedies. I am often asked

### WHAT DO YOU DO FOR CONSUMPTION?

The most interesting reply, at least to the patient is—I cure it. Tubercles are absorbed, taken away, or encysted. Large cavities are encased, small ones healed up. This last is done, by causing the sides to meet together, and heal with a scar, just as a gaping cut finger will heal in a healthy person, if you press the sides together. That such scars are found in the lungs, and consumption cured, the following testimonies are offered. Not the assertions of men, who have



never examined the lungs in a dozen dead bodies, but of those who have examined many thousands, and have a right to know, to be relied on.

I found an encased cavity, on an almost healthy lung tissue. **LOUIS.**

That a tubercular excavation is ever capable of a cure, is an important fact; and it is so, independantly of all medical aid. **COWAN.**

Pathological anatomy has perhaps never afforded more convincing evidence in proof of the curability of disease, than it has in that of tubercular consumption. **Dr. CARSWELL, of London.**

That this most formidable disease can be permanently cured, is no longer a matter of doubt. **S. W. HALL, M D., of New York City.**

"It is next to an impossibility to open a dozen bodies, without meeting with positive proof of the curability of consumption"—in the presence of cicatrices, scars, in the lungs. **Dr. RAMADGE, of Lond.**

**Dr. CLARKE** of England, who wrote a book to prove that consumption could not be cured, admits that "cavities in the lungs may remain a long while stationary, gradually contract, and become obliterated!"

**Dr. LATHAM**, another English physician of distinction, who also endeavored to prove the same point, distinctly says "we occasionally find traces of cavities, which have healed, in persons who have died of consumption."

The important fact of the curability of consumption, has been satisfactorily established, and its **PERFECT CURE DEMONSTRATED**, by the presence of scars in the lungs. See *Cyc. Prac. Med. Art. Tub.*

A French physician, who died a few years ago, and is believed to have taught the world more that was new on the subject of this same disease, than any one man who had ever lived before him, and who spent many years among consumptive patients, inquiring into their symptoms, and feelings when alive; and examining the lungs of those who died, writes in this manner, "when I first asserted the evidence of pulmonary cicatrices, it directed the attention of the Hospital physicians to the subject, and so many of these evidences *existed*, they concluded it could not be that, but was something else!"

An Ulcer in the lungs may be cured in two ways, by a scar, or by turning it into a fistula; these scars and fistulas in the lungs are extremely common; and considering the *great number* of consumptive, and other subjects, in whom they are found, the cure of consumption ought not to be considered impossible; for cavities in the lungs may be completely obliterated. It has been shown that its cure is not beyond the powers of nature, it is possible for nature to cure it, not for medicine. **LAENNEC.**

These great men, and many others, admit that consumption has been cured, that nature can do it. We have only to find out how nature has done this, and imitate her. This I do.

It is said that the lungs cannot heal, because they are never at rest. Do men who are stabbed in the breast ever get well? There must have been a healing, wherever there is a scar. What means all the scars spoken of in the above quotations? Have you ever heard of a female who had consumption, but who became pregnant, and got well? Is not a wounded bowel quiescent? and why may not a wounded lung be so too? But that lungs heal, is too plain to reason about. They move in the mass. while the opposing surfaces are



perfectly at rest, at the points of contact. Place the palms of your hands together, then raise them up and down at the same instant.

Heat is generated in proportion to the size and vigor of the lungs. Many persons with imperfectly developed lungs and a predisposition to consumption, complain habitually of a coldness of the surface and feet. And many who were in previously good health, become more and more sensible to cold, in proportion as the approach of the disease, weakens the functions of the lungs. I have noticed this, both in myself and others, before any other evident symptom had appeared. And I *have seen its further progress arrested*, by a timely use of the proper means, where much greater difficulty would have been experienced, had the warning not been attended to.

Dr. COMBE, of Scotland.

To this very point I direct my attention. To strengthen, and increase the available surface of the lungs.

A common man takes into his lungs daily, four thousand gallons of air, and should measure under the arms, some thirty-six inches. Yet I procure, as is proven by actual measurement, an addition of four inches in circumference, in some cases, in persons not old; or two thousand two hundred and twenty-two inches of lung surface; with an increase in the supply of pure air consumed in every twenty-four hours, of four hundred gallons. If cavities then are so certainly healed up, and the fact of their having healed, being so clearly proven, by their scars being found in the lungs at any time, can tubercles be arrested in their growth, insulated, prevented from spreading? All who know any thing about the matter, that is, who have extensively examined the lungs of the dead, with an eye to the point in question, will not deny, that half of all post-mortems, have tubercles in the lungs, it matters not of what disease they died, at what age, or whether by accident, or natural causes. Half the people do not die of consumption. These two circumstances then, most conclusively show, that tubercles do not always kill. Why? because they do not always ripen, are stationary, are prevented ripening. Nature or accident, or something else does this. So do I.

Dr. BACON of England, published a book, endeavoring to prove that tubercles never did soften!! He could not possibly have made such a statement, unless he had found, times out of number, tubercles in the lungs, still hard, in extreme old age, of those who have not died of consumption. This is the strongest kind of evidence, that tubercles do not always soften, always kill; but are very often retarded in their growth. It will not do to say, that in such cases, the tubercles had just been produced, because it now remains a well established fact, "that from the fourth, to the fourteenth year, the number of tuberculous children, is greater than that of those who are not so." The system proposed, prevents the further developement of tubercles by mechanical and other means; and removes those already present by medicinal, or encases them; and LOUIS found "great numbers of encased tubercles." The means adopted, only profess to do what has been done many thousands of times by nature, or accident.

That none may be prevented making application, from any vague opinion in relation to the charges, as well as for mutual convenience, they are plainly stated, and there will be no deviation. They are placed at the low rate named, that it may be at least in the power of



all, to use for themselves the means which have saved thousands from suffering and a premature grave, and will, when properly used, save others.

No charge is made, unless examination and advice are expressly requested. The most gratifying results begin to be manifested, in many instances, in a few days; but always, in proportion as the patient, with a cheerful determination, and resolute punctuality, **MAKES IT HIS BUSINESS**, to give the remedies a steady, and judicious trial, for a length of time, proportioned generally, to the coming on of the disease, or the ravages made.

These remedies are most advantageously employed, amid the attentions and comforts, of friends and home. Hence, persons from a distance, are frequently not necessarily detained in the city, beyond a day or two. I do not profess to cure every case, or to effect it in any instance, in a day or week; nor by any secret or inexplicable mode; but upon rational principles easily comprehended by the educated and unprejudiced. The cure is effectual, in proportion to the smallness of the amount of lungs actually destroyed. Four out of five may be saved, of those who make a timely application, that is, before the lungs are covered with tubercles, or before suppuration has taken place. The extent of either of these, can only be told, by seeing the person, and making the necessary examinations, which is done, without the slightest pain in any instance. If there is a cavity not large, it is effectually and permanently healed, by a lining membrane, or cicatrix, in a time proportioned to its size.

Persons sometimes apply to me, "afraid that their lungs are affected." Being under this impression, they are filled with the most gloomy forebodings; when on examination, it is immediately, and perfectly apparent, that the lungs are entirely sound. But such an impression would produce tubercles in a person of such a temperament. In a case like this, it is of priceless benefit to have the impression removed, by submitting to the examination of an experienced, skilful, and candid physician. Uncertainty and apprehension, will waste away the strongest constitution.

CLERGYMEN and others, in different parts of the United States, have given a willing testimony to the efficiency of some of the remedies employed, in removing Affections of the throat, called **BRONCHITIS**, of several years standing; not a partial and temporary, but a complete and permanent removal. There can be no good reason why the same things should not be accomplished in others, by the same means. Some have been enabled to speak in public with great ease and comfort, who had been previously compelled to abandon their profession.

"It is now too much the fashion with a certain class of our profession, when they find or fancy, that lesion of the lungs is present, to condemn the patient to inevitable death; and thenceforth abandoning all active measures for their recovery, adopt a mere palliative mode of treatment, under which, time never to be regained is lost, and the patient glides into that incurable stage, in which they had at first pronounced him to be. The accurate **LAENNEC** gives many instances of perfect recovery." **JOHN MARSHALL, M. D., of Manchester, Eng.**

"How often do we find not only cicatrices indicative of former lesions, but substances in size from a millet seed to an egg, contained



in what had been evidently the sacs of tubercles that had run their course, discharged their contents and then been forcibly closed up by the curative efforts of nature. Why then do we abandon them to death and send them to die far from home and their friends, when they might have remained among their kindred and been saved by judicious treatment."—*ib.*

### TERMS.

**TWENTY** dollars for an examination, opinion, and single prescription.

**FIFTY** dollars for two weeks attention, including the above, and all the necessary remedies for the time.

**ONE HUNDRED** dollars for five weeks attendance, etc.

If at the expiration of the time paid for, the prescriptions have been strictly observed, without a visible benefit to the patient, during the time, the amount paid, is returned on personal application, the first item, not included. None are visited out of the office, unless under peculiar circumstances.

There is an additional charge of **FIVE** dollars for making a requested visit to any part of the city, for the first time; and two dollars for each especially desired visit thereafter.

**ALL CHARGES MUST BE PAID IN THE OFFICE.**

Office hours—From nine in the morning until three in the afternoon, daily, except on Sundays.

Unpost-paid letters not taken out of the Office.

In conclusion, aside from any pecuniary benefit to myself, and considering this system of treatment, as the most splendid medical discovery of modern times, well worthy the serious, unprejudiced, and grateful attention of all; most especially of well educated and judicious physicians of long practical experience, to whom the unfortunate consumptive, in the confidence of friendship, and by the right which a generous patronage gives, looks for advice and life—I do sincerely regret, that any one should procrastinate the timely use of the remedies for a single day; for at least they cannot injure, and may save again, having saved thousands before; and surely life is worth trying for, on terms like these, if it is worth preserving at all.

It is impossible for any man to regard the system more contemptuously than I did, until in courtesy to a friend, I gave it a thought first, then a long, a prejudiced, and suspicious examination. Admitting nothing, unless I could see or demonstrate it. Educated Physicians will generally look at it in the same way. For perhaps we all have received at the University a similarly concise, sententious sweeping lecture, and exceeding brief "Young gentlemen, consumption can be cured." This was the lesson learned from talented Professors: the next one, we learned ourselves, 'What is the use of trying!'

The family physician, in medical matters, usually wields an unlimited influence. A single word decides the parent. The life of a patron's son, however high in promise and in hope; or of a daughter, however beautiful and lovely, is sacrificed on the altar of an opinion. Under such circumstances will not kindness dictate? "Try it!!" Otherwise, it will still happen, that many of the brightest, and best, and loveliest of our race, will pass forever away from among us by consumption every year, who else might have lived, to love us, and to bless, till a happy old age.



## OBSERVATIONS FROM VARIOUS AUTHORS.

Consumption sometimes passes through all its stages, with scarcely any hectic symptoms. An obscure but certain indication of hectic, is a dry burning sensation in the palms and soles. Most frequently the immediate cause of death is Diarrhœa. A delusive hope of recovery is entertained by many consumptives to the very last, this feeling is almost peculiar to consumption. They can't be persuaded to admit that very much is the matter with them, except weakness. Dr. Wilson Philip speaks of Dyspeptic consumption brought on by a diseased state of the digestive organs. But it is now generally decided that diseased bowels is caused by diseased lungs. The feet often swell, and the voice, mostly alters in the last stages of the disease. Where there is great emaciation, and little fevers, we may reasonably suspect the lungs are affected. Statistical observations prove, that March, April and May are the most fatal months; and that consumption is most prevalent among the thinly clothed, and badly fed, in all countries. It is well known that patients have died of consumption without having been troubled with cough. I have sometimes met with a strange disposition in consumptives to conceal the fact, that they have had spitting of blood. Encysted abscesses are of frequent occurrence.

MORETON.

I consider one of the surest signs of consumption already begun, to be a listless, dont care feeling, gradually creeping over a person, an increasing slowness in all the bodily movements, ending in a disposition not to move about at all; weakness, easily made tired, or put out of breath, with narrow chest or from a consumptive family. Such a person may have little or no cough, or spitting, or pain; while the bowels, appetite, sleep, are more or less sound; yet unless such a state of things is arrested, he will almost certainly die of consumption by an under current, silent but steady; imperceptible, but terribly sure, with scarcely any violent symptoms to the last hour.

A timely adoption of the system proposed will remove every symptom above referred to, and end in a restoration to health.

Bowditch, Fourcroy, Beddoes, Percival, Darwin, Withering, Hume, Home, and many other very distinguished men, have recommended the breathing of one kind or other of Gas or fumes in consumption, and all derived more or less benefit from it. There must have been some circumstance, common to all, which did the good, there is only one thing common to all, that is forcible distention of the lungs. This is what I do, with this very great advantage, I recommend the pure, fresh air, which nature designed to be used in that way. They employed tar, hydrogen, hog pens, cow sheds, and the like. They did not exactly recommend these things to be breathed, but the exhalations arising from them.

Medicine alone can't cure consumption, it can only slightly aid. The following questions are proposed to educated physicians, of long practical experience.

"Have you ever known medical treatment, without active exercise, materially protract life in any case of consumption? Without active exercise, have you ever known one single case of consumption cured,



averted or arrested, by bleeding, digitalis, mercury, prussic acid, emetics, blistering, cicuta, Liverwort, stove rooms, &c.?

"Have you ever known a case of apparent and supposed consumption cured, unconnected with free exercise in the open air at all seasons?"

It is one main object in the new system to obtain the advantages referred to, and yet remain at home.

A granulation, (one of those drops, pressed out, or secreted, in the vessels spread out on the sides of the air cells of the lungs) may become a tubercle in three or four weeks. LOUIS.

Tubercles are tumors of a dull yellowish white aspect, of variable consistence; and softening after a certain time, empty into bronchial tubes, thence into the windpipe and give rise to excavations more or less considerable.

Where tuberculous matter is not removed from the lungs, it may be arrested, and kept at bay.

Habitual activity of body and mind has often kept the malady at bay, for a very long series of years.

A tuberculous habit is indicated, by a glazed and shining appearance of the skin, at the roots of the finger nails, extending nearly up to the first joint.

Persons in a decline frequently say to me, "I do not think much is the matter with me, but I know I am not as strong as I used to be. I believe I am getting nervous, the slightest noise causes me to startle, and I am very restless at night, sometimes I cannot get to sleep for hours, and even then my rest is disturbed."

Changes of temperature, and night sweats, generally come on, in the last stage of this disease. M. CHOMEL says that out of 358 cases of sickness and death from all diseases under his care during forty-two months, 143, or nearly one half had tubercles in the lungs; that is, really had consumption. A celebrated French Physician found, that two out of ten died in six months from the beginning of the disease, four out of ten, died between the sixth and twelfth month; and about two out of ten, would linger on for two years. About two thirds of the cases spit blood, and this is generally worse at the beginning. It generally comes on without any warning, or any apparent cause, and when the person appears in perfect health. Copious spitting of blood, that is, when several table spoonfulls are spit up in a few hours, is seldom repeated three or four times in one person. Only a few complain of pain of their own accord. It is owing to the absence of pain, its insignificance and rarity, together with the silent and unseen progress of the disease, that so many are so completely deceived as to their real situation. Almost all have loose bowels during some part of the disease; but generally in the last stage. In the greatest number of cases, the cough comes on without any evident cause, and frequently one, or several months pass away, without expectoration which at first is clear, frothy, white. A dry cough, followed in one or more months by such an expectoration, with pains in the breast or between the shoulders, with spitting of blood before or at the time render the presence of tubercles certain. And this combination of symptoms is very frequent. LOUIS.



towards morning, when the exhausted patient usually falls to sleep. Soreness of the bowels comes on, the hair falls off, the nails become curved, the ankles swell, the extremities become cold, the pulse ceases to beat, and death ends the scene.

Such is the ordinary commencement, progress and termination of consumption, as described by Hume Weatherhead, M. D., of London, a lecturer in one of the Metropolitan schools of medicine, and a distinguished member of a number of British medical societies. It is probably as correct and plain a description as can be written.

Consumption is usually divided into two stages—the first and last. Attention is called to the fact, that the cicatrices, so frequently found in the lungs, as proven by the testimony of distinguished men, see eleventh page, not only indicates, but demonstrates three things: that there must have been a cavity; that it was entirely emptied; that it perfectly healed; and this could have happened in no other way than by an approximation of its sides; and this last could only occur by diminishing the cavity of the chest, as by pregnancy, or by increasing the volume of the lungs, and this last especially we profess to be able to bring about; which, however is a SMALL PART, for the general health must be first restored, and peccant and foreign matter removed by absorption, and to accomplish these last, is most essentially necessary, by medicinal means.

It has then, perhaps, already occurred to the thinking reader, that the presence of scars in the lungs, demonstrates the cure of consumption in its LAST, that is, its suppurating stage, for there cannot be a scar without there had been a cavity, and a cavity is a consequence of suppuration.

It must be remembered that no remedy can cure all cases, or reach every stage of the disease, for man is born to die. When there is extensive disorganization, cures are not to be expected by virtue of remedies which, under other circumstances, are justly considered specific.



McDOWELL.

The system proposed is new, and contrary to the received opinions of the age we live in; hence, as thousands have already perished, so thousands will perish again—from pride of opinion—the victims of a prejudice founded on what they know nothing of.

If the system be one of the phantasies of the times, the sooner it is exposed the better. But if it be true, the lightnings wing can't bear it too rapidly to the dwellings of the doomed. It merits a candid investigation, on account of the great good it pretends to, if for no other reason. Yet, like every other great discovery, it must bide its time, and work its own way into the credence of men, by a slow method, but sure; not by the ordinary heraldings of the day, but by the private, yet grateful zeal, of those whom it has already rescued from the grave.

As to the full course of treatment adopted by me, I am not aware that it has ever been pursued, by any physician, living or dead. I am willing to trust its merits to the unsolicited testimony, of those who are benefitted by it.

---

 **Persons to whom this may be sent Gratuitously,**   
Are requested, after reading it, to place it within the reach of those, who may be benefitted by its perusal.

**Address Post Paid, Dr. Hall, New Orleans, La.**



The cure of consumption has been so repeatedly accomplished of late years, and the proofs of it are so undeniable, that no medical writer of any reputation would now be willing to hazard a contradiction. The curability of the disease, is taken for granted, is spoken of, and written about, as a matter of course, as a thing so demonstrable as to become almost intuitive. And the man who at this late day says that it cannot be cured, only means that he at least does not know how to do it, and has the additional misfortune of differing from a large number of the most distinguished practitioners of modern times.

Marshall Hall says, Obs. 2316, "The usual appearances of a cavity in Phthisis and of the subsequent cicatrix," &c. and then in his great work proceeds to give engravings to show how they look.

The utmost resources of our art often avail us nothing. But scars are seen in the lungs, establishing the fact that a tuberculous cavity heals, after the matter is expectorated and I will tell you how to remove tuberculous matter by absorption and prevent its further formation.

Dr. WEATHERHEAD.

Tuberculous cavities are healed in three ways. Dr. HOPE.

It is a singular fact, that while many physicians of any note admit that consumption is curable, they often qualify it by saying that it is only curable in its LAST STAGES.

I consider it due to my own reputation, and to that of the system which I have adopted, to say again, most distinctly that I pretend to nothing at all miraculous, to no secret unnameable remedies, no instantaneous cures. On the contrary, when cures are effected, they are the work of weeks and months of persevering assiduity on the part of the patient, and the restoration to health is sometimes by the slowest degrees, although it is often not necessary for me to be seen but once.

I would not willingly excite a groundless hope in any heart.—Therefore let the reader take notice that I make no pretention to the cure of every case. So far from it, I do not promise a cure if a person has been compelled to take to bed for any length of time. If a man cannot come to my office, because he is too weak to walk or ride there, he had as a general thing better stay at home; for I promise him no permanent relief, I will promise him not even a temporary benefit. A case to be sure, occurs to me while writing this, where the patient was sick two years, confined to the house for six months and to bed for several weeks, could not sit up beyond one hour in the twenty-four, constant night sweats, pulse like a race horse, and abandoned to die of Phthisis by a candid and intelligent physician of thirty years constant practice, was seen but once and in two weeks he was able to ride some eight or ten miles to see me in my office without the slightest injury. But such is only an exception, not a rule, owing perhaps to peculiarities which might render its recurrence only a possibility in the practice of years. If then in the face of this I am urged to visit the bed-ridden or the hopeless cases of page eight, and the regular charge is paid in the office, I will go, out of office hours, and if the patient is yet breathing I will do all I can to save, but I give not the smallest encouragement to hope.