

other fellow in preference to him—it only makes the symptoms more violent. Now is the critical stage of the disease. As a certain professor says, “there’s a point right there.” From this point the disease either becomes chronic or dies out. The patient never dies.

To prevent it from running into a chronic condition several methods are in use. First: If the young man’s parents are anxious to save him from lingering suffering they can often effect a cure, though severe remedies are sometimes required. Second: It is more often checked by the girl from whom he was first infected—it is strange, but such is the case. Sometimes the effects of this check are very bad; the subject becomes silent and morose, cares no more to see guard-mounting—even studies, which is the worst sign of all.

Slowly he recovers from the evil effects; he feels ten years older; his life is a wreck. He is certain that, like yellow fever, it has left him never to return—that his immunity is perfect. But this is a great mistake. (However, a bad case has been known to give immunity for three weeks.

Now if the disease becomes chronic as is sometimes the case, a peculiar condition is produced. The nervous and mental systems are so much disturbed and so permanently changed that the poor fellow thinks himself perfectly well. Though suffering from an incurable disease he fails to see it, or if he realizes it he is content to remain under its influence. In fact, he lives in a hypnotic state as it were, and the fool will swear to you that he is the happiest man in the world.

Heroism.

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IN THAT imaginary time called the heroic age Mother Earth was peopled with semi-divine beings, demigods having a fabled origin, and honored after death with a kind of inferior worship or adoration. In the Homeric age