

the air. The statement of these reasons here would be quite out of place: it is enough to say, that they are principally founded on remarkable changes in certain secretions of the human body, which, during the prevalence of the epidemic, were observed to be almost universal; and that analogous changes have been observed in the same secretions of those, who have been much exposed to what has been termed *Malaria*. The foreign body, therefore, diffused through the atmosphere of London, in February, 1832, was probably a variety of malaria, a subject which we now proceed to consider.

In districts partially covered with water, and having a luxuriant vegetation, such as marshes and fens, particularly in warm countries; or in colder countries, at seasons of the year when the sun is most powerful; noxious exhalations arise, whose nature differs perhaps in some degree according to the locality. Such exhalations have received the general name of *Malaria*, and are well known to be the fertile source of various diseases, more or less, of the intermittent febrile type. In cold and in temperate climates, these diseases for the most part assume the character of regular ague, or of rheumatism: but on approaching to, and within the Tropics, they appear as the more formidable remittent and continued fevers, the well-known scourges of hot climates.