

pestilence, so that an understanding of the problems involved therefore assumes more than academic importance. The rickettsial diseases have without doubt played an important part in the development of modern medicine, especially in its preventive aspects.

The louse still remains mankind's enemy and is now beginning to develop resistance to the newer insecticides. You may remember how its presence in the hair of a woman in church inspired Robert Burns to write his "Ode to a Louse," and I shall—I trust appropriately—conclude with "Rabbie's" pungent lines:—

"Ye ugly creepin, blastit wonner
Detested, Shunn'd by saunt an' Sinner."

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