

lifetime, at the public expense. If but one case of this kind occurred during the year, it would save almost as much to the poor rates as it now takes to support the Dispensary for a year. Epidemics of contagious disease, which usually commence among the poor, are recognised at their very commencement, when they can be more easily combatted, while if poverty were to prevent those affected from calling in paid medical advice, the contagion might spread unchecked over the whole city.

It will be seen by reference to the table of diseases accompanying this Report, that a large number of cases of slow or typhoid fever has been treated,—the disease prevalent all over the city during the past summer and autumn. We took occasion in our last annual Report to remind the civic authorities of the necessity of having good sanitary laws strictly enforced, especially in the crowded localities occupied by the poorer classes. Our experience has been that our health laws are not carried out with care, nor does sanitary science receive the attention its importance demands. The drainage of the
 * city is bad, garbage and filth are allowed to accumulate about houses, or are thrown into the street without hindrance, and their decomposition gives rise to noxious gases, which poison the air, and which we have no doubt is continually productive of typhoid fever and other debilitating diseases. This bad air is ever ready also to develop and propagate any imported contagion, such as small pox or cholera. Its least baneful influence is to diminish the vital force of all those, poor and rich, who breathe it.

* During the past year it was thought necessary to have a public vaccination in the city. We regret that the

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 Apoplexy.....
 Adenitis.....