

ANNUAL PECUNIARY LOSS TO THE CITY OF MONTREAL, RESULTING FROM
"LAISSEZ FAIRE."

Value of manure, now run to waste or breeding sickness, on 65,000 inhabitants, besides animals, say at \$3,.....	\$195,000
Loss from 191,100 weeks of preventible sickness, at \$3 per week, ..	573,300
Cost of 1,365 funerals at \$15 each,	20,475
Supposed pecuniary value of 1,365 lives; estimating a Free Canadian simply as property, at Elihu Burritt's tariff of \$300 per head,.....	409,500
Maintenance of orphans, &c., say.....	1,725
Total,.....	\$1,200,000

To which ought to be added an indefinite amount for injury to stocks of goods, dress, furniture, &c., resulting from dirt and dust.

These and similar facts prove that, however expensive sanitary reform may be, the present system is far more so; and that however difficult it may be to cleanse the Augean stables in the back yards of Montreal, it is the duty of the Council to see that the wages of death are no longer wrung from the hard earnings of the poor, but that all who undertake to let houses shall be compelled to put them and their surroundings into a condition favourable to health and life.

If a Statistical Society were formed to collect and verify information on this and other social subjects, it might be able to lay important facts before the governing bodies; and might point out the causes of error in the present returns, with a view to their correction in the forthcoming census. The English "Health of Towns Associations" have also been extremely useful, (1) in making reports of the actual condition of their respective localities, by visiting from house to house; (2) in diffusing information among the masses of the people by free lectures and plainly written tracts; and (3) in watching and acting upon city officials and owners of property, in a way which private individuals hesitate to do.

When Edwin Chadwick, Esq., the first mover of sanitary reform in England, visited the Exhibition of Industry in Paris, every opportunity was offered to the deputation from the Society of Arts, of which he was a member, to see the notabilia of that magnificent capital. The Emperor afterwards asked him what were his impressions of the city. He replied by giving Louis Napoleon a half-hour's disquisition on the sanitary condition of Paris, and the necessary steps to be taken for its immediate improvement. The courtiers were filled with indignation; His Majesty answered by