

this way, but I may be permitted to note two recommendations. "First, that the city of Montreal build an abattoir after the most approved principles, furnished with every appliance for facilitating the work to be done and meeting sanitary requirements, and in this abattoir alone should the killing of animals intended for food for the city be permitted. Secondly, that the butchers should associate themselves in a Joint Stock Company for the purpose of erecting and maintaining an abattoir." The latter recommendation Alderman McCord prefers, and states that "None of the abattoirs visited are the property of the City Corporations."

I have no desire to be considered impracticable, but I submit that, with more than eighty slaughter-houses in various parts of the city, some of them located in the most densely populated districts, and many of them without any system of drainage to carry off the animal refuse and blood, it becomes the duty of the Corporation to erect the abattoir—if the butchers will not undertake that duty—and it does not appear at all likely that they will do so, or that they recognize it as a duty—and thus remove from our city one cause of the many preventable ones which are producing disease and death in our midst.

It is scarcely necessary to say that as a result of slaughtering animals in so many places the earth in the locality of each is saturated with the blood of the animals killed, mixed with the water used in the process of cleaning, and this liquid—in some cases reported to me—finds its way underneath the foundations of dwelling-houses, producing most disagreeable effects upon the inmates—so that the inhabitants living in the neighborhood of those slaughter-houses, not only suffer from breathing the polluted atmosphere surrounding their dwellings, but, on closing their windows in the vain hope of excluding the poison from without, they find that they only succeed in condensing it within.

There is no intention on my part to blame or cast any reflection upon the butchers of the city as a class; on the contrary, I could name several of them who possess slaughter-houses which are models of cleanliness and completeness in almost every respect. Yet from those establishments the washing and other refuse must necessarily find their way into the sewers, speedily undergo decomposition, and emit their poisonous exhalations by the