

among the poor and ignorant, communicable diseases are no respectors of persons, and the poorest resident of a back alley may be able to give to the richest citizen the most loathsome, fatal, or rapidly-spreading disease. As "the strength of a chain is the strength of its weakest link," so the health and strength of the people or a community may depend upon the health and strength of its weakest members. In these times of rapid communication among people throughout the world, and close relations of members of communities, no man can live for himself alone ; but, whether he knows it or not, he has a vital interest in the health and prosperity of his fellow beings.

MISSIONARY SANITARY WORK.

After the student in sanitary science has mastered so much of the physical, medical, social and other sciences as to enable him to be of real use to humanity in his particular sphere, his usefulness will then be somewhat in proportion to his ability to impart the results of his research, experience, observation and study. Therefore one of the most important parts of the work of the leading sanitarian is now, and it seems to me must always be, somewhat akin to the missionary work done by the clergy. The leading sanitarian must first labor until he is convinced that he has gained a part at least of nature's eternal truth, and he must then rouse people to an appreciation of the direful consequences of their own transgressions ; he must point out the better way of life, while he denounces most of the old ways as sinful, degrading, and leading down to death and destruction. Stated in this way, it really seems that the work is a noble one, because intended to advance the best interests of mankind—to promote health and happiness among the people. Perhaps it is for this reason that the sanitarian is so often forced to carry his cross ; because we have still with us many people who can persecute the apostle of science in ways which cause pain if not death. People do not seem to like to have their transgressions of sanitary laws pointed out to them. This brings me to consider some hindrances to sanitary progress.

A case of small-pox occurs, and to avoid a panic or loss of custom to a few merchants and others, the truth is suppressed, the people are not warned that they must be vaccinated, and an epidemic of small-pox occasionally results. Scarlet fever breaks out, but no