

working so hard and so nobly against intemperance would render valuable assistance to the temperance cause. Too often and too commonly is intemperance regarded as the cause, instead of the effect, of the unhappiness and filth, and consequent sickness, in the overcrowded, ill ventilated, and dark abodes of the poor and degraded.

A properly organized Health Board could remove these causes, prevent these dire effects. We have our Boards of Health. Wherefore? What do they accomplish? The Lieutenant-Governor may by proclamation establish a Central Board of Health whenever the "Province or a part thereof appears to be threatened with any formidable epidemic, endemic, or contagious disease." Why wait until it appears we are threatened with such calamities? Better of course to have it even then than not at all. But it might then be almost too late for such a Board to act efficaciously. Though the constant and permanent existence of a Central Board of Health would not be able to prevent us being threatened from without the Province, or even invaded, by formidable epidemic or contagious diseases, it might do very much in the way of rendering their effects much less serious than they otherwise would be, and very greatly diminish the amount of endemic disease. If it could be made as effectual as such Boards are found to be in certain of the United States—Massachusetts and Minnesota for example—it could at least reduce the average sick rate as much as one-fourth, and the average death rate as much as one-fifth; and reduce the infant mortality one-third, while increasing the health and vigor of offspring.

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SHADOWS FROM THE WALLS OF DEATH.—At the Quarterly Meeting of the Michigan State Board, in July last, Dr. Kedsie presented specimens of arsenical wall-papers, from various sources, which he had appropriately inscribed "Shadows from the Walls of Death." One square foot of surface of one sample of the papers presented contained 1.16 gr. of arsenic. He cited several cases of poisoning from such papers.