THE AIR WE LIVE IN.

piness, moral conduct, and condition of the labouring classes, the searching investigation unveiled in Mr. Chadwick's Report, coupled with the remedial measures submitted by him for consideration, ought to win as well as claim our most serious attention; but when we reflect that the air the labouring classes breathe; the atmosphere which by nuisances they contaminate, is the fluid in which rich and poor are equally immersed; that it is a commonwealth in which all are born, live, and die equal; it is undeniable that a sanitary inquiry into the condition, for instance, of the ten thousand alleys, lanes, courts, etc., which London is said to contain, becomes a subject in which every member of the community is self-interested. Where nearly two millions of people are existing together in one town, it is frightful to consider what must be the result in disease, if every member should, even to a small amount, be neglectful of cleanly habits. It is frightful also to contemplate what injury we may receive, not only from the living, but from the fifty thousand corpses which are annually interred in our Metropolis; indeed no man who will visit our London churchyards can gaze for a moment at the black, cohesive soil, saturated with putrid animal matter, which is daily to be seen turned up for the faithless reception of new tenants, without feeling that the purification of our great cities, and a watchful search throughout the land we live in for every removable cause of disease, are services which science should be proud to perform, which a parental Government should strenuously encourage, and which Parliament should deem its bounden duty to enforce.

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