

vented by personal and municipal cleanliness. In the twelfth century it was found necessary to pave the streets of Paris, as the stench from them was unbearable. Dysenteries and spotted fever, that had been prevalent, diminished, and a sanitary condition was soon established, that approached to that of the Moorish cities of Spain, that had been paved for centuries. But alas for backsliding! Many of the Spanish cities have been allowed to lapse into an unsanitary condition, and the evidences of Spanish sanitation, as I saw it in Cuba, were not calculated to excite enthusiasm. Under the control of Western civilization and the proper application of knowledge, matters have been changed. When it was decided that plagues were not a visitation of God, quarantine was established. Nothing has protected the human race to a greater extent than the establishment of proper quarantine.

When anesthetics were first introduced, their use in labor was discouraged, as it was believed that women should not escape the curse pronounced against them in Genesis. Now anesthetics are, I hope, very universally used, to prevent the awful agonies of labor, by an enlightened, educated, scientific and humane profession. The very best evidence that can be brought forward to emphasize the benefits to mankind of improved methods of living has been obtained from the British Government reports of life insurance transactions, carried out in the seventeenth, and again, a hundred years later, in the eighteenth century. In 1693, the British Government borrowed money by selling annuities on lives from infancy upward, on the basis of the average longevity. The contract was profitable. Ninety-seven years later, another tontine of scale of annuities on the basis of the same expectation of life as in the previous century, was issued. These latter annuitants, however, lived so much longer than their predecessors that it proved to be a very costly loan for the Government. It was found that while 10,000 of each sex in the first tontine died under the age of 28, only 5,772 males and 6,416 females in the second tontine died at the same age, one hundred years later, or, in other words, 20,000 died in the first period and only 12,188 in the second period of one hundred years later, a very greatly diminished mortality, all conditions being identical except the improvements wrought by advanced sanitation.

Once fairly introduced, discovery and invention have unceasingly advanced at an accelerated pace. Each continually reacted on the other, continually they sapped supernaturalism. The diffusion of knowledge by the newspapers and reviews