

climatical character to contend with, never paid more than 18 cents per head, and this year only 10 cents! That so much is done with this limited, this miserably small pittance, is the best testimony that can be offered of the energy of the Road Committee, and of that efficient but overworked officer, the City Surveyor. The streets are to be cleaned this year for *four* thousand dollars! Now, can any one in his senses believe that work of such magnitude can be done for such a sum—work that would require 150 horses and men for a considerable portion of the year? Why, it would not suffice to purchase hay and oats for the horses. It is proposed by the report to which I alluded, to increase this amount, and to place the cleaning and sprinkling under the Health Department. It is also proposed to clean not only the streets, but the lanes and yards also, and I must do my friend, Mr. Drummond, the justice to state that the practical suggestions he made to me some days ago were, to a certain extent, the cause of the introduction of that portion of the report. Should the Finance Committee see its way to furnish the necessary assistance—and I am satisfied that the intelligent and conscientious Chairman of that Committee will do all in his power in the matter—the streets, yards and lanes will be cleaned by the authorities, and individual citizens will be relieved. It is estimated that this work can be done efficiently for \$50,000 annually, or about 30 cents per head—a much less amount, it is believed, than is paid by individual citizens for cleaning at long intervals. When I proposed to take upon our shoulders the cleaning of the city, the members of the Road Committee seemed not disinclined to be relieved of the work, and the City Surveyor, who has to look after the making, grading and repairing of our streets, and the construction and alteration of our sewers—work almost disproportionate to the strength of any man—shared in those views. But a question of money arises, and a question of authority also. The Board of Health has the “power and authority in relation to,” &c., “as are possessed by the said Council,” &c. It is empowered to “adopt and enforce all sanitary measures, and all measures relating to the cleanliness of the city.” But whether it has the power to draw checks upon the city treasury, or whether it has the power to have those checks respected, are