

To the work of palliating or curing diseases, 25 physicians or other medical men honourably devote their lives, and are thankfully supported by the inhabitants, along with 15 vendors of drugs; in all, an apparatus of 40 persons devoting their energies to restoration, besides large numbers of Hospital attendants, Sisters of Charity, and other nurses employed in tending the sick. But to this day the city of Montreal does not employ a single officer of health to detect the causes of preventable disease, nor does she make it a requirement in the men she elects to her Municipal Council, that they should enforce those sanitary regulations which the law empowers them to carry out.

The limits and scope of this paper do not allow me to point out the special causes of this extreme mortality, nor the means required for their removal. It may be sufficient to place on record an account of a court in the Petite Rue St. Antoine, which I visited in April last in company with a Domestic Missionary. It was by no means so bad as many parts of the Griffintown suburbs. It is to be hoped that the time will soon come when this description will be as great an antiquarian curiosity as the "plague-stone" in the Warrington Museum, in a hollow of which the money was passed through vinegar to prevent transmission of infection.

We left the street through a covered passage, treading on bricks and pieces of wood through a mass of wet and decomposing manure and filth. Reaching thus the small back-yard, we found it to consist apparently of a widely-extended midden, consisting of disgusting slutch and every kind of refuse, from a few inches to some feet in thickness. On two sides, this yard was separated from two similar ones by partition fences; on the other two it was enclosed by dwellings. The inner house, or rather hovel, was divided into two; the two little rooms upstairs, inhabited by a French family at a rent of \$4 a month; those below by two families, paying \$3.50 for the liberty of being poisoned. The miserable rooms not only got no air but what was charged with the stenches of the yard, but just outside were several privies, too disgustingly filthy to be used, but breeding "nast" to soak through the wooden walls and floor of the inner room. This was filled by a family, where of course there was sickness; with closed door and window, so that no air entered but what was saturated with fever-stenches. For the upper rooms of the cottage opposite, \$8 a month were paid. On descending the stairs to reach the street, we had to cross over fluid matter, stepping on bricks. The lower story, for which \$6