

"Of a truth the long demonstrated will now be done, the age of revolutions now approaches, but then of happy, blessed ones. Man awakens from his long somnambulism, chases the phantoms that beleaguered and bewitched him."

To none more than to the sanitarian is it evident that the ethical element, or "elevation in the scale of being," must ever be the measure of social progress; and hence it is that sanitary reform is intimately associated with the history of religious, political and social development, for our motto, "*Sana mens in corpore sano*," is but a terse expression of the fact that the science of public health relates to man in every phase of his being. Hence it becomes necessary that we review the social status of the people amongst whom our science took its birth, in order that we may comprehend what progress has been made.

To mathematics, whose development first gave to that oldest study, astrology, a form and meaning, stripping it of its mysteries, and enabling men to establish the first truth of science, viz., the unalterable character of the laws which govern the universe and guide the planets in their course, are we to look for the first evidences of that intellectual development which marked the Renaissance. As a part of it began, those experiments in physics or natural philosophy which especially marked the genius of Galileo, and gave us some of the first crude scientific instruments, making deeper physical investigations possible. Slowly, indeed, were the swaddling bands of astrology and divination cast off, and the reign of natural law inaugurated. But Bacon, with his marvellous powers, had instituted the inductive method, and pressed forward the idea of a scientific society which might give prestige to the work of original experiment, which resulted in the Royal Society of England being founded in 1649. By it first were published those discoveries of Newton which made the extension of his marvellous investigations possible to students on the continent. Their supreme importance may be judged from the fact that in France we find that the greatest scholars among the encyclopedists were all mathematicians, and that D'Alembert, Lagrange, Helvetius and others won their membership in the Academy of Sciences by theses on some subject of natural science. But with the foundation built on which the superstructure of science became possible, we find the spirit of investigation spreading into every field, and though editor Diderot saw volume after volume of his encyclopedia seized under royal interdict, yet after years he saw them published even with royal sanction, since in them the king found described the method of making gunpowder, and the royal mistress the method of making rouge and manufacturing silks. So it came to pass that this marvellous work of twenty-one volumes became a potent agency in developing the spirit of the New Age over both Europe and America. To it