

and outskirts of the city—necessarily in the neighborhood of dwellings—and there it still endangers the public health. Indeed I have frequently seen on streets and roads in the lower parts of the city, deposits of garbage of the most abominable description, which had been got rid of in this way.

Further, and apparently as a direct and natural consequence of the above state of things, it appears to be a traditional matter of necessity that all houses in the city should be furnished with outbuildings and have access to a back lane; and, in passing through our most fashionable quarters, a glimpse can be had into a dirty and unpaved lane, presenting a vista of dirt-heaps, where, under precisely similar circumstances, in New York or Boston, the space would be occupied by neatly turfed yards, separated from each other by low painted fences, and permitting the free access of sunlight and air.

In short the present condition of things is a direct defiance of all sanitary laws, without a single countervailing advantage.

How is it to be bettered? Let us lay down this principle—that it is absolutely essential that all house refuse, not tributary to the sewers, shall be removed day by day, or at frequent intervals, from each and every house in the city, and these results flow from it. You at once remove the duty from the individual; it can only be accomplished by co-operation, and it is idle to speak of any other system of co-operation but that already existing—our civic government being in effect nothing but a system of co-operation for this and kindred purposes.

It is the bounden duty of the city authorities to undertake the work, and there is neither originality nor novelty in the statement, nor in the following scheme, for it has been recognized and acted on for an indefinite period by most cities of the least importance.

I apprehend that the function of this Association must always be to deal with general principles and watch results, and that it should not go beyond influencing the authorities to perform the duty in an efficient manner; consequently I do not ask it to deal with the details of the plan which I now propose—nor indeed shall I pretend to do more than sketch it in general terms:

*First*—Let the city undertake the duty, organizing for