

by an average of many years. Such is the enormous infantile mortality of Quebec, amounting to 69 out of every 100 in 1851.

The same may be said with respect to the last column, which represents the percentage of death arising from "zymotic" or *air-poison* diseases, which, though generated even in country places, are peculiarly destructive in towns, where they are not instantly diluted with fresh air. In England, out of every million persons living in the country, 3,422 die every year of these diseases; while of the same number living in towns, 6013, or *nearly double the number*, die from the same causes. The returns for Canada, however, will have to be corrected by an average of years; for we find healthy Hamilton losing half of its total number from these diseases, while Montreal loses only 15, and Kingston, with less than half its mortality, only 8. The town-smells, therefore, have other ways of killing-off those who inhale them than by infectious complaints, and this they do, in general, by the gradual weakening of the constitution, through which the system is unable to bear up against whatever disease happens to attack the sufferer.

It appears, therefore, by comparing the averages of Montreal and its adjacent districts, even leaving out the fever year, that there are 21 deaths in every thousand persons which might yearly be prevented; that is, on the present population of (say) 65,000 inhabitants, *the people of Montreal kill-off thirteen hundred and sixty-five of their own flesh and blood* every year, who would not die did they only pay as much attention to health in the city as they do in the country; to say nothing of hundreds of lives more which country and towns' people alike sacrifice on the altar of self-indulgence and "*laissez-faire*."

But this is not all. From the returns of the Manchester Dispensaries, it appears that to every case of death there are 28 cases of sickness. These, on the average of the Preston Sick Clubs, last 5 weeks each. Therefore the people of Montreal voluntarily tax their health to the extent of 38,220 cases of sickness *every year*, which is equal to a loss of 191,100 weeks, or 2,674 years; that amount requiring to be taken twice over, once for the suffering invalid and again for the anxious nurse.

Nor is this the whole of the evil. There is a large amount of general enfeeblement of health, which does not develope into actual disease. This brings misery on the daily life; urges to the use of poisonous stimulants, often leads to recklessness of conduct; destroys the desire and even the power of amendment; and works corruption throughout the whole fabric of society.