

pression that the preponderance was heavily in favour of the present winter. This appears however not to have been the case, as the recorded statistics prove.

A very remarkable difference, however, existed between the two winters. The winter of 1860-61, was remarkable for its severity, the temperature having fallen to the lowest probably ever recorded in this city, viz.:—34° on the 8th February, 1861; yet although we had a heavier fall of rain and snow, several thaws occurred, which melted it off from time to time. The last winter on the contrary was one of the warmest which we have ever had, the lowest temperature indicated by the thermometer having been only—11° 7' occurring on the 4th January of this year. This last winter, nevertheless, warm comparatively as it was, exhibited only one or two thaws, the consequence having been, that the snow as it fell accumulated, and when the spring set in, the quantity of water from the melting snow became so unusually great, as to burst through every barrier, tear up the streets, choke up the sewers, and by a back water flood the cellars of a very large proportion of the houses in town; in our own cellar we had upwards of three feet of water. Now as this is a contingency which has happened once, there can exist no reason why it should not happen again; and as the events of the last month have demonstrated the utter insufficiency of all the main drainage of the city, the City Council should at once take measures to rectify this grievous evil, which not only destroys all family comfort, but in its full influence tends to endanger life by the induction of disease. Upon nothing is the salubrity of a town so mainly dependent, as upon a thorough and effective system of sewerage; and we venture the assertion, that with every natural facility for such a purpose, there is not a city on this continent whose artificial drainage is worse; and this not the consequence of natural impediment, but the result of a peculiar engineering skill which led the current of the main sewer, not down or with the stream so as to permit it to disembody below the city, but upwards or against the current, causing the discharge to take place at a point almost literally above it; and this is actually the fact as regards the sewerage of the upper half, and the finest and best half of the city.

The following statistical averages will follow from the second table. The average, during seven years, of the falls of rain and snow, are as follow: The average fall of appreciable rain is 12.36 inches; that of appreciable snow is 11.11 inches; and the average of both rain and snow melted and reduced is 23.98 inches. It is a singular fact that the winter of 1858-59, shewed 4.33 in deficiency of this mean result, while that of 1860-61, should have exhibited exactly 4.37 inches in excess.

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AMOUNT OF RAIN AND SNOW DURING THE WINTER MONTHS OF 1860-61 AND 1861-62, FROM OCTOBER TO MAY RESPECTIVELY.

Months.	Rain in inches.	Snow in inches.	Total rain and melted snow in inches.
October,.....	3.98	Inap.	3.98
November,.....	2.26	6.00	2.87
December,.....	1.30	20.69	3.37
January,.....		44.25	4.55
February,.....	1.10	37.75	5.09
March,.....	3.01	10.50	4.06
April,.....	2.57	17.00	4.43
Total,....	14.22	136.19	28-35