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## Original Communications.

### PROPOSED PLAN OF PUBLIC SCAVENGING.

BY MR. GEO. A. DEUMMOND.

(Read before the Citizens' Public Health Association.)

The substance of the following paper and the proposal it covers, were to have been submitted to the public meeting at which this Association was formed;—but no opportunity for doing so having then occurred, I readily embraced the invitation to submit the matter at the present meeting:

It is a remarkable fact that, in this great and growing city, no system of public scavenging has ever existed. It is (I am informed on enquiry) true that the Health Committee or Board of Health, have some appliances for the relief of extreme cases, and that on application to them this machinery can or may be set in motion; but it is not asserted by any one that this provision is other than palliative, and its very existence is unknown to the majority of the citizens.

In effect, each householder has the disagreeable, troublesome and costly duty forced upon him of removing from his premises all refuse matter whatever which cannot be passed into the sewers. As a necessity it is impossible for him to deal with as it should be; he must permit its accumulation in or about his premises till a cartload is made up, or till its presence cannot longer be tolerated, and then he must seek out a carter and bargain for its removal.

Again, as a matter of fact, and in consequence of no provision being made for its disposal, the carter is compelled to get rid of it, by depositing it in vacant lots and land in the suburbs