

ceived. In a sanitary point of view it will be fruitful of much benefit to the city, for it is difficult to estimate how far this nuisance of rotten planks has added to the general causes of ill health. Any casual passer-by can see for himself as the plank has been removed how invariably the bed on which these decaying boards were lying, presents a deep black muck of vegetable matter, which, after every shower of rain, threw up an unhealthy gas under the very windows and doors of our dwellings. Every sort of creeping insect that feeds on decaying mould found under our walks an undisputed home and generations of rats have lived and died there. It was full time to rip up this nuisance and do away with this oft condemned system of pathways that was sheltering and accumulating the decayed vegetable matter of years. The shade trees certainly flourish under the system, and to them is due in part the relief of their absorbing the rising unhealthy miasma from the matter below—and it will be found that where shade trees had not been planted the smell and noxious vapour from the side-walks have aided to produce the unhealthiness of the locality. We do not pretend to pass any judgment on the character of the present path-way, whether the flag-stone in the centre would not have been all the better for six inches more width, nor of the combination of the crushed stone on each side; it may answer, perhaps will, but in comparison, sanitarily, let us rejoice in the change.

