

arrangements are so faulty as to be beyond remedy. It is in these very dwellings that the filth and poisonous effluvia are constantly accumulating, and that the germs of disease find a fitting soil for their development. Hitherto, sanitary legislation has achieved comparatively little in abating the enormous evils arising from unhealthy dwellings, over-crowding, and filth accumulation; but it is to be hoped that as the requirements of public health become more widely appreciated, these evils will be greatly mitigated, if they cannot be entirely removed. But never mind how strenuous the exertions of our sanitary officers, the evils of surface crowding, as it is called, must necessarily for many years to come, throw great obstacles in the way of reaping to the full extent the advantages to be gained from lessening the in-door crowding. We may congratulate ourselves that we are not in as bad a plight as those in Liverpool, where a thousand persons have been known to be huddled together in one acre of ground; Glasgow and Greenock tell the same tale in some districts. All the sanitary regulations and ventilation in the world would never make healthy such a congregation of small pens packed together in so limited a space.

Demolition of old houses, and the displacement of the population into new blocks of model dwellings, and the opening of new streets, are all necessary.

It is impossible for a corporation to provide houses for its poor citizens. It would be merely offering a premium for pauperism; but great aids may be given to those who can provide houses, by two measures which may be properly carried out by the principal authorities:

I That the houses should be constructed under the immediate supervision of a properly instructed officer of the corporation, as regards drainage, ventilation, and general plan; and,

II. That they should be maintained in sanitary repair under strict regulations.

By the observance of these two simple rules, and perseverance with the measure in force, a great improvement would, within a few years, take place in the ventilation of the houses, in the crowded quarters. And we are confident that there would be a commensurate and material improvement in the health of this most important class.