

penny per ton. But twopence per ton might be paid, if only taken at intervals, in summer. The sewage of the Metropolis, valued at one halfpenny per ton, would be worth, in round figures, nearly one million pounds sterling per annum. Is it, then, a judicious process to make complicated and costly works to continue a great nuisance, and waste manure when it is of so great value?

The inland towns of England have found out the value of town sewage as a manure when used in broad irrigation, as at Birmingham, Bedford, Nottingham, Doncaster, Leamington, Cheltenham, and other places. On the Continent, Brussels, Paris, Berlin, and Dantzic. . . .

It is said that constant application of sewage will corrupt the land. Experiments over sixty or seventy years, and in some cases for two hundred years, disprove this, as it is found that the sewage deposit is so small in thickness, and is distributed so evenly, that it at once becomes incorporated with the natural soil and loses all taint ; the penetration of the sewage leaves all the solids in the first few inches of porous soil. There is no more corruption of the land with sewage than with other manures, as experience proves.

Modern sanitary science teaches that the removal of excreta from sites of towns and of houses as rapidly as it is generated is of the first importance. And experience further proves that the inhabitants of towns must be supplied with water for domestic uses, this water, after use, having to be got rid of. Sewers and drains must therefore be provided for this purpose, and it has been found in practice that the drains sewers, and waste water will convey the excreta imperceptibly from water closets to any distance at no cost for carriage. The sewers and drains of a properly sewered town and properly drained house transmit waste-water and excreta at rates of from one mile per hour to several miles per hour, in proportion to the fall of the sewers, so that in London, if every sewer and every drain were in perfect order, the entire volume of waste-water with excreta will be out of the entire site each day.

The excreta being silently and harmlessly got rid of, there are street sweepings and dry house refuse to be got rid of besides, and in no case should street sweepings remain beyond the day or dry refuse beyond the week. . . .

To have sanitary works and cleansing arrangements in such order as shall promote comfort, prevent sickness, and prolong life, money must be expended and rates must be paid ; and where there is good local management, the payment of rates is the best money made by the householder. Some amiable and in other respects intelligent men, members of Parliament, have recently expressed alarm at what they call the dangerously accumulating municipal debts. I can only assure these gentlemen that they are utterly mistaken, as every farthing of every municipal debt will in time be paid, and in the meantime the public enjoy wholesome towns and houses with good streets and cheap traffic. If a debtor and creditor account were made out as to the saving in shoes, in