

amount and quality of their food—the length and nature of their exercises, &c., and swallow, with almost religious observance, the stately appointed doses of medicine; but, so long as they enjoy vigorous health, they neither find it convenient nor agreeable, either personally, or collectively as communities, to attend to the advice of those who have made personal and public hygiene the object of study. The pursuits of business, of trade, of profession, of pleasure, are followed with a devotion and recklessness of consequences, which prove they find it, individually, a most difficult matter to pay any attention to those circumstances necessary to the conservation of personal health; whilst the stagnant pools and undrained flats of Griffintown and Quebec Suburbs, reeking, in many instances, with filth and corruption, and, worse still, the sites of pools, the water of which has evaporated by the action of the sun—the villanous odors emanating from decayed and decaying animal and vegetable matter, which impress the olfactories of the passer-by in certain streets and lanes—the masses of refuse and garbage allowed, by the city Fathers, to be deposited during the winter months under the designation of *snow*, quite within the precincts of the city—the imperfect drains, and the notoriously insufficient supply of water,—abundantly attest that the people of Montreal, as a community, no matter what they may say to the contrary, consider measures necessary to the preservation of the public health, things of very small moment.

Our city has just passed through a season of sickness and death: One of the most dread diseases which has ever appeared to afflict mankind, has made sad havoc among our citizens. No less, in our opinion, than *thirteen hundred* persons were cut off by cholera during the late epidemic. As early as February last we gave warning of its approach, and made the following remarks, which were allowed to pass unheeded:—

“If all the investigations into the nature and causes of cholera have been entirely barren of results, the observation of its progress and developement, and the study of its history have made us acquainted with some important facts. In the first place, we have learned that *cholera can be arrested*. It is now admitted that the vast majority of cases of cholera begin with simple diarrhœa. When seen in this stage, and proper remedies administered to check the inordinate dejections, the chances are that the disease will not proceed to the stage of collapse. Secondly, That when it has advanced to the stage of collapse, the probabilities are that it will eventuate in the death of the patient. Thirdly, That hygienic regulations strictly enforced among communities, have a great influence in limiting the extent of its ravages. With a knowledge of these facts, and in the almost certain prospect of a speedy visit from this dreadful scourge, a fearful responsibility rests on our Provincial Government. Inaction, under these circumstances, becomes criminal. It is no time when the disease is in our midst, committing havoc in our families, to adopt