#### IT HOUSES ITS POOR.

THE CITY OF GLASGOW'S VERY SUC-CESSFUL SCHEME.

The Scotch City Turns Plague Spots Inte Comfortable and Cheap Dwelling Places for Workingmen-Good Work for an Improvement Association

While so many problems of city government engage attention it might be profit able to turn attention to the workings of the City of Glasgow, one of the few novel cities of the world.

The City of Glasgow is run for the benefit of the people on strictly business principles. The municipal corporation controls whatever by their nature are monopolies-water supply, gas and electric lighting, as well as the stockyards, the public markets, even the old clothes market-and all are under the jurisdiction of the common conneil.

Eighteen years ago the town council leased the street railway system to a company, and the lease expires this year. The contract stipulated that five years prior to the expiration of the lease a new lease should be made so that both parties could be reached. It is significant of the paternal character of Glasgow's municipal government that the demands made by it in the negotiations largely related to the comfort of the laboring



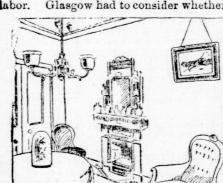
ARTISANS' DWELLINGS, ERECTED BY THE MUNICIPALITY OF GLASGOW IN THE SALT

men who operate the line. The council said to the company: "You must give better service, employ a better class of men, pay them better wages and work them shorter hours," but negotiations fell through, and the City of Glasgow now begins the operation of her own street

Glasgow seeks the welfare of all its people, rich and poor alike. It is the only city in the world to own lodging-houses. Some may say that in acquiring these it made a virtue of necessity, but, be that as it may, virtue remains.

The municipal tenements consist of blocks of flats on either side of the Salt market. The buildings are four stories in height; the ground floors are occupied by shops. The houses are usually arranged so that on two floors there are three tenements, a tenement of two rooms being on each side of the staircase and a tenement of one room between them. There are also several flats of three rooms each. The tenement of one room is fourteen by thirteen feet. It is fitted with a bed closet (which is expected to answer the purpose of a second room), a scullery, a large press or cupboard, a commodious dresser and a kitchen range. Such an apartment rents for \$40 a year. The two-roomed flats have a lobby fitted with a press or closet. On one side of the lobby is the living-room, which is completely furnished as a kitchen. A scullery adjoins. There is also a bed alcove in the room. On the other side of the lobby is the sitting-room, to which is attached a bed-closet. Such a flat rents for 49.50 a year. The three-roomed flats rent for \$80 a year. Gas is supplied by the city at the unusual rate of sixty cents per 1,000 feet. There is a laundry at the top of the house for the use of the tenants. These artizans' dwellings are constructed in the most substantial manner. The stairs are stone and the stairway walls are tiles or glazed brick, which are easily kept clean.

It has long been objected that these dwellings do not meet the necessities of the poorest class of laborers. The rents were too high for men who work in the streets or on the docks and at other kinds of unskilled labor. Glasgow had to consider whether it



SITTING-ROOM OF A TWO-ROOM FLAT IN ONE OF THE MUNICIPAL DWELLING HOUSES OF GLASGOW.

was possible for the municipality to reach these men in any way. If it had been a question of letting rooms to single men the arrangement could have been made easily enough. But the difficulty was to devise homes for large families; and it usually happens that in this part of the world the poorer the man the larger is his family. Houses could be built, of course, but could the poorest class of laborers afford to pay a rent which would return to the municipality an interest of 2, 3 or 4 per cent. on its investment? Could the municipality compete in that respect with the owners of rookeries where families live in single apartments? Much deliberation was given to the subject. It was found that the municipality could put up a block of substantial buildings to meet the wants of the class hitherto left untouched, but that it would not be practicable to provide anything more than what are called "oneroomed houses," that is to say, one room

to a family.

To be sure the rooms could be divided by a partition reaching within two or three feet of the ceiling-the sleeping quarter being thus separated from the cooking quarter. It was finally decided that a block of single-room tenements should be constructed. A place was cleared at the rear of a block of artizans' dwellings, and a plain building of three stories was erected, with four single-room tenements on each floor, two in the tront and two behind. These were let at rents well within the means of unskilled laborers. The buildings were opened a few months ago, and they have been filled ever since. The experiment is financially successful, but in other respects there is little to be said for it. Of course the apartments are larger, lighter, healthier, better-built than any single room tenements in the old rookeries. Nevertheless, the objections to the herding of a family in one room are not thereby removed. They are merely minimized, and in a very slight degree. It is not by any means demonstrated that municipality is justified in doing any-

thing to perpetrate the single room tene-ment for families.

The construction of Glasgo's municipal tenement-houses, whether of the better or

poorer class, is admirable.

The stairways, being built entirely of masonry, are consequently fireproof. The stairs themselves and the hall floors are of stone and the walls of the halls are faced with glazed tiles or glazed bricks, as the case may be, and are easily kept clean.

A very large amount of work yet remains to be done on the municipal estate which comes under the administration of the improvement fund. Old houses are still being torn down and crowded areas are being cleared away. Of course all this is very expensive business. But it is being gradually carried on so that the cost may not fall excessively on any single year. Besides, Glasgow, like every other city in the United Kingdom, is suffering from a depression of trade and this is not the time to tighten the screws of taxation.

An organization known as the Improvement Trust was instituted to let air, light and, if possible, a little sunshine into the dismal closes and courts of the city, where not fewer than 75,000 human beings lived amid surroundings which had become moral and physical "plague spots," a danger and disgrace to civilization, and it has largely succeeded. The condition of the older city referred to comes down to us in the seventeenth and eighteenth centuries. They could never be very wholesome, but would be tolerated with a modern Scotch population. But we have evidence that even then the dark places of the city were not free from the hygienic and moral evils begot of such conditions, which the persussions and terrors of the magistrates and the church were, in the absence of the police and of street and stair lighting, little able to repress. When, therefore, the great railway works came to be constructed and other industries were stimulated in the west of Scotland, in Ireland, teeming with an over-population, and in Glasgow with its tempting port, when no preparation had been made for it, the immigrants took possession of the older and denser parts of the town, and the authorities were face to face with an exigency that only a drastic remedy could

The building defects were owing to the straightened lines within which their frugal ancestors lived. So long as the city remained within the narrow compass, and the green fields were at no point distant, compactness of building was not seriously inconvenient unless epidemics or fires occurred. Originally built in village fashion the houses were on the street and the vegetable gardens in the rear. But the thrifty sires, in place of breaking new ground as families and populations grew



KITCHEN IN A FLAT OF TWO ROOMS IN

ed their houses. Thus High street, Salt market, Gallowgate, Trongate, Gorbals, Calton and other gardens developed gradually into the "closes" and "vennels" which fell to be broken up under the improvement scheme of 1866. A bold and serious thing it was on the part of the authorities of 1865 to face the promotion of a bill that necessitated the purchase of all this densely crowded and heavily rented property, much of it, too, divided and subdivided by legal writs into flats and half flats. The improvement act was passed by both houses of parliament, and it gave assessing powers during fifteen years -five years at six pence per pound and ten years at three pence per pound—and the tax was laid on occupiers exclusively, i.e., all persons hiring houses or flats in Glasgow above a certain very small rental. Immediate progress of the property, and the town council resolved to impose the maximum rate of six pence per pound. Being entirely a new tax and laid on the evening of the November election of 1866, occasion was taken to arouse the citizens against the scheme and its principal author, Lord Provost John Blackie, Jr. Mr. Blackie was standing for re-election as a councilor with a view to presiding over the practical work of the scheme, and he was slightly outvoted at the poll, to the deep and abiding regret of the general community. The convictions of its authors in the urgency of the work of redeeming lar, is the usual shape. the city from the reproach into which it had fallen and their straight-forward policy were cogently shown, first, in satisfying parliament that a sixpenny rate might be necessary, and, second, in the town council determining that the maximum be levied in the first year.

In going to parliament the sum estimated as necessary to be raised by taxation was placed at £500,000, and the tax was based on that calculation. But it must be kept in view that as time wore on more liberal ideas than those of 1866 were advocated, with the result that many more streets, wider thoroughtares and more efficient sewerage operations have been carried out than was contemplated in 1866, and at an additional cost in ground and works of probably £200,000, and also that the number and the paying power of the

ratepayers have greatly increased. Ex-Bailie Archibald Dunlop was chairman of the committee from 1884, and he and his predecessors in the office have been supported at one time and another by the best men in the town council, who find in the complex affairs of the trust an excellent training school, which serves them in good stead in other departments of the public service. Bailie Dunlos recently retired from the council, leaving with the improvement tax at 1d per pound sterling, and with the prospect that this rate will suffice until the trust is wound up. Only older citizens, familiar with the old city, can realize the vast improvements wrought by the improvement scheme in many ways. Even its supposed failures have been sanitarily beneficial. For example, ground in various quarters, cleared of its buildings, failed to sell, but the health of the district has been thereby immensely benefited. There has, indeed, been no property market for several years, because overbuilding and depression of trade, arresting the growth of population, had left many proprietors with a heavy

handful of unletterable property. The committee have had to submit to some temporary unpopularity because of this state of matters, yet there is no scheme of the corporation which has excited or continues to excite more general interest, has its various points more crucially examined into by intelligent strangers in search of ideas and is more extensively imitated by other great centres than the sity improvement scheme of Glasgow.

### WALKING COSTUME.

ONE THAT IS CORRECT AND PROPER IN OLD ENGLAND.

Differences Noticeable Between English and American Women on the Streets-Jeannette Hale's Very Interesting and

Up-to-Date Description of What to Wear. English women dress very little for walking, and the streets do not present the attractive appearance of the fashionable avenues in this country. Women really walk much in London, but it is considered rank extravagance to get a new gown for morning wear or for shopping. The handsome tailor dresses are bought for the races, and their pretty toilets are reserved for evening and visiting.

The bad weather and dirty streets are probably accountable for the indifference of even fashionable women to their ap-



CORRECT ENGLISH WALKING COSTUME.

pearance on foot. An American lady living in the best set in London said to me: am still American enough to get a good and really handsome street costume, for I do like to look nice when I go out in the morning, but my English friends think it

Occasionally one is seen in a smart costume, covert coating and dark mixed gray, preferably. The very newest thing in London for a walking dress is black specked with white, making an iron gray. Both coat and skirt are made quite plain, with the back of the collar faced with dark gray velvet. The new coat is not too long, with very full coat skirt in the back, and cut off in front to leave a round waist. The skirt flares conveniently at the foot, and the back is laid in box plaits, which spring outward at the bottom.

But while the women are content to wear anything in the morning when on foot, the gentlemen are most carefully groomed.

The long frock coat which we call a "Prince Albert," to the confusion of an English tailor, who does not know it by that name, the finely striped trousers, the polished boots, the white gardenia in the coat lapel and the silk hat, is the universal dress of gentlemen in both morning and afternoon. It is even worn to business. Although one sees occasionally the cutaway, a morning coat and sometimes a "lounge suit," as a tweed sack coat is

It is strange that so frail a thing as a silk hat should be worn in such a treacherous climate, but it is the badge of gentility, and is said to be so respected that it will obtain an audience for a humble individual who would not be permitted to enter the door in a Derby. In the constantly recurring rain and mist constant care is required to keep this delicate plumage unruffled, and the hat is ironed every day, and "a deal of trouble it is, too," said a fashionable hatmaker, "for we agree to keep in order free of charge the hats we sell, and some gentlemen are so particular they drop in twice a day to have them ironed while they wait."

Apropos of fashionable men, the new spring overcoat is a dark gray mixture, in a sort of tweed, in preference to light tan, venetian cloth, and the Chesterfield, with the plain black and dark gray velvet col-

There is a new top coat, however, with a fitted body and very long skirts, so short waisted that a disrespectful trans-Atlantic girl said it looked like an "empire gown." This, like the tan racing coat, with light velvet collar and cuffs, is an extreme fashion, and only looks right on the right men. JEANNETTE HALE,

A Dinner Without Meat.

A Friday dinner was given recently at the New York Catholic Club by one of the members. As an example of what may be accomplished without the use of meats, the menu is given herewith: Wine, Chablis.

Soup-Clear Green Turtle. Pates—Scallops a la Financiere. Radishes, Celery, Olives. FISH.

FISH.
Boiled Striped Bass, Sauce Hollandaise, Bermuda Potatoes, boiled. Sauterne.
Hors d'Ocuvres.
Anchovies—Caviar on Toast.

Tunny Fish, Maime. FIRST ENTREE. Terrapin a la Maryland. Chateau Pontet Canet. Fresh Mushrooms on Toast. Fresh Asparagus, Melted Butter. SECOND ENTREE.

Frogs Legs a la Bordelaise.

Chateau Haut Brion.

French Green Peas.

Fresh Artichokes, Vinaigrette.

SORBET.

Cardinal au Kirsch.

ROAST.

Broiled Lobster, Devilled.

Salad—Chicoree

Selad—Chicoree

Pomard. Salad-Chicoree.
DESSERT.

Savarian au Rhum. Ices. Champagne, Krug sec. CHEESE. CHEESE.
Petits Gervais—Camembert.
Fruit.
Cafe. Cigars. Cognac. Martell.
Chartreuse. Benedictine. \* Cafe. Cigars. Chartreuse.

Stop Biting Thread. Ladies who do much sewing frequency suffer a great deal from soreness of the mouth and are at a loss to ascertain the cause of the trouble. Half the time it is simply the result of biting off thread instead of using a pair of shears for cutting. In the case of silk thread the danger is quite marked, because it is usual to soak he thread in acetate of lead, partly to parden it and also perhaps to increase its weight somewhat. If this practice is folowed regularly and very much silk thread s used, the result may be quite serious and even lead to blood poisoning.

OLD TIN CANS.

How They Were Transformed Into Novel Hanging Baskets and Urns.

I was tired of seeing old tin cans, wornout wash basins, rusty tin buckets and old paint kegs serving as flowerpots and hanging baskets, writes Mrs. W. A. Kellarman in American Agriculturist. It seemed to me they might be regenerated. With this idea in mind the children and I made a collection of old tin cans of various sizes, from the pound baking powder cans to great gunpowder cans, of perhaps two gallons' capacity. The smaller cans I could reform with my own hands, but when it came to the large, stiff gunpowder cans I found them too refractory, and was obliged to call for assistance. We were so successful in our efforts, and the enjoyment and pleasure which resulted in consequence, so many times outweighed the trouble which we experienced in converting these unsightly objects into things of beauty, that I would like to tell your readers just how we did, that they may do likewise. The baking powder cans were more plaint and, therefore, handled with less difficulty, so I began with them. With a pair of large, old shears I cut them in strips about half an inch in width, and to within an inch or so of the bottom. It is best to mark with a lead poncil or "scribe awl" just where you wish to cut. After the can has been cut as described, bend the strips at their base, outward, making a sharp right angle; then carefully bend them into a compound curve, inclining an inch or more towards the centre, and then outward again, according to your fancy, until you have formed a graceful curve. After you have had a little experience in the work, you will be surprised to find how many different shapes you can fashion from this foundation, There may be almost as much variation as in that "useful line of poetry," "The plowman homeward plods his weary way." When you have succeeded in reaching your ideal, in curves and general outline, take a strong wirecommon fence wire, minus the barbs-and form a ring or hoop as large in circumference as you wish your hanging basket, bend the strips over this wire at the top at equal distances from each other. For hanging the basket up, fasten three wires at equal distances to this wire ring, or top of the basket, and join them at their extremity. For bending the strips securely about the wire, a pair of pliers should be

The old tin fruit cans must first have the tops melted off. This can be readily done by turning them upside down upon the top of the hot cooking stove. The oldfashioned two-quart cans make the prettiest baskets. They are large enough to admit of more variation in shaping them. These may also be cut with the large old shears, but for a large bucket or gunpowder can a pair of tinner's shears will be necessary. You will not care to buy a pair, but you may be able to borrow, as I did. If you are not so fortunate, you could have a tinner cut them; the expense would be but a trifle, and these large cans may be converted into really beautiful urns. Both baskets and urns are prettiest painted either black or a bright red. Before filling them with soil they should be well lined with moss. If you this prevents the soil from rattling through the strips into urn or basket shape, and also serves to retain the moisture.

My hanging baskets and urns were admired by passers-by generally. One large



INEXPENSIVE PLANT BASKETS AND URNS. urn, filled with nasturtiums, was a source of pleasure all summer long. Placed here and there in appropriate nooks in the yard, these stands add materially to one's enjoyment. The most appropriate pedestals for yard urns you will find ready made in the woods or fields. An old stump will answer the purpose very well, or that bowlder along the road, or the one which has lain in the field, in the way of plow or harvester for years.

For General Wear.

Around the house, until the daily duties are over with, housekeepers wear aprons of a two-thirds length of lawn, nainsook or dimity, trimmed with a hem four inches deep and clusters of tucks divided into threes by insertion or rows of featherstitching. This last trimming can be done with flax or cotton on the garment or the ready made be had by the piece of twelve yards, costing from fifteen to thirty cents a piece. The belt and long, wide strings, which are to be tied at the centre back. are of the material, and if a more fanciful effect is wanted a ruffle of Hamburg or nainsook edging trims the bottom.

A pocket on the right side is indispensable with all sizes and kinds of aprons. A pretty apron made of lawn is trimmed with three clusters of five tucks, each divided by two rows of feather-stitching and edged with a ruffle of embroidery. The belt is also feather-stitched and a tiny ruffle of embroidery is gathered with tho top of the apron and forms an unusual finish. Strings of the material and a square pocket laid in a double box-plait and caught with a narrow bow of the material.

From One Who Knows.

A dealer in cosmetics who is nothing of a charlatan says that "steaming the face is not as injurious as skinning the face. She is a good-looking woman herself, and when she wants to look her prettiest she washes her face with castile soap and cold water for cleanliness and color. There is more than a bit of common sense in this advice. -New York World.

Baked Bananas.

Bananas may be baked. A tablespoon of sugar and a teaspoon of hot water should be allowed for each banana. The fruit should be pared and slit in two. They should be placed in a shallow dish. A tablespoon of butter melted in hot water should be poured over the fruit and the sugar mixed with a little spice and sprink. led over the top. About twenty minutes is required for baking. A ROUNDABOUT CALL.

Waking a Sleepy Operator by a Cable Dispatch.

There is a good story about a telegraph operator who once worked the land wires in the Duxbury (Mass.) cable office, going to sleep one night and a message having to be sent 6,000 or 7,000 miles to wake him up. The operator is now a practicing physician in Cambridge, Mass., but before an nexing M. D. to his name was one of the gilt-edge telegraphers of the country.

One night while on duty in the Duxbury office, he fell asleep at his key. The sleep was a sound one. The New York opera-tor called till out of patience, when he sent a message to Boston requesting the chief operator in charge to tell Duxbury to answer New York. The sleeper, however was as deaf to Boston's "Di, the impatient characters flashed on from New York. In the cable-room next the sleeping oper-

ator was the cable artist. The room was dark and he was watching the mirror for the tiny sparks that in those days went to make up a message. To him the Morse alphabet was all Greek, so the sleeper slept Seeing no other way out of the muddle

and thinking the operator asieep. New York called Canso in Nova Scotia, and addressed a message to the cable operator at Duxbury. The message read:

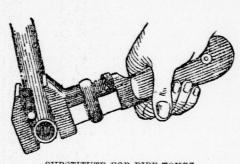
"Go into the other room and wake up that operator."

Canso sent it to Heart's Content in Newfoundland; Heart's Content rushed it. across to London, thence to Dover, and across the Channel to Calais and to Brest. Brest kept it moving on to Miquelon, and Miquelon gave the cable operator at Duxbury a unique surprise. The sleeper was then aroused, about eleven minutes having been taken by the grand round of the cablegram. He tried to explain matters by telling New York that he was out of adjustment. The story didn't impress the officials as being truthful, and in a day or two there was a vacancy in Duxbury .-Donohue's Magazine.

WORKS JUST AS WELL.

Wrench and Round File as a Substitute for Pipe Tongs.

The man who is full of expedients is the one who gets along in the world. If what he wants is not at hand, something else is substituted, and matters progress as



SUBSTITUTE FOR PIPE TONGS. though every facility were available.

This applies especially in mechanics, where it is impossible to provide a tool for everything, and when just the tool required-even though there be such a tool-is not at hand.

Our artist recently saw a mechanic who, cannot obtain moss in your own desiring to unscrew a pipe, and not having woods or neighborhood, you can procure pipe tongs or any of the usual appliances "sphagnum" at a greenhouse, perhaps; for such work, picked up a wrench and a piece of a round the openings formed by the separation of the manner shown in the cut. In an instant, and without difficulty, the pipe was loosened. - Scientific American.

Political Proverbs.

Sum statemen air born grate; sum hav grateness thrust upon them and sum buy

A wise candidate will let a voter cheet him in a hoss trade. A member o' parliament don't see much use in scratchin' the backs uv them that

About the best thing that can be done with anarky is to hang it up with a rope whar it can dry. No party's prinsipuls kin stand against

can't scratch his back.

hard times. Pertater politicks is pizen. Holdin a party together ain't nothin to holdin the country together.

flag except to shoo voters up to the polls with it. Thar woodent be enny less talk on the tairif ef wimmen was in polliticks.

A pollitishan haint got much use fer the

So Many Somanias. Kissers have lipsomania. Waiters have tipsomania. Sailors have shipsomania. Skaters have slipsomania. Barbers have clipsomania. Drivers have whipsomania. Inebriates have dipsomania. Dead beats have skipsomania. Mild drinkers have nipsomania. Tea drinkers have sipsomania. Poker players have chipsomania.

Rather Topheavy. Boy-That toy boat you sold me is no

Dealez-What's wrong with it? Boy-It won't stand up. Flops right over quick as I put it in the water. Guess you thought I wanted it for a man-ofwar.



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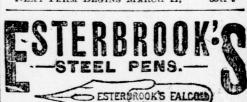
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