

and sap the foundations of their health. More particularly does this apply to the younger classes of pupils, who at the most susceptible age too frequently fall into the hands of persons with just sufficient knowledge to teach the lowest rudiments of learning, but altogether ignorant of the simplest and most essential rules of hygiene. In a matter so nearly concerning our national welfare it is time that some action were taken, and we might treat our school children with at least as much consideration as we show our convicts, by requiring certain specified sanitary conditions in the places of their confinement, and fixing the minimum allotment of cubic space for each."



DWELLINGS FOR THE POORER CLASSES.

The great difficulty in supplying houses for the poorer classes, is the building of them with a due regard to hygienic principles, combined with a low rental. In towns we find another difficulty, in obtaining good sites at a low figure, and in the country building is as expensive; so that the poor man is unable to pay a rental commensurate with the expenditure. Where the ground rent is low, a very good laborer's house or cottage may be put up on the following plan: First a living room for general every-day use, a bedroom for the laborer and his wife, a bedroom for boys, a bedroom for girls, a wash-house and closet—at a cost of from four to six hundred dollars. But supposing the ground to be large enough, two could be built together at a very much less cost.

In large towns very excellent house accommodation may be given to the laboring man in what are called tenements, thus making the ground rent cheaper for each individual tenant. This, of course, applies to newly built houses, but a far more difficult problem is the repairing and improving of the unhealthy abodes which increase the annual mortality to an extent that is appalling. Our laws should prohibit the inhabiting of dwellings which are dark, damp, and underground. There are many habitations such as these which it is impossible to improve or alter, where the only other alternative is that of immediate demolition. They are situated in narrow dingy alleys, or huddled together in courts, so as to be practically unventilable, and the internal structure and