

time to strengthen the resisting power of a people, to enable it to withstand a mortal disease when that disease had actually located itself amongst them, and while months of preparation would have been required to fulfil the intentions of the regulations—yet the country can never forget the personal exertions of that philanthropic and distinguished physician, Dr. Wolfred Nelson, when President of the first Board, to supply the deficiency of the act; and almost simultaneously, the present excellent Mayor of Quebec, Dr. Morrin, then President of the local Board of Health, also contributed his excellent acquirements and experience in *public hygiene*, to those of his learned friend. “We cannot over-rate the importance of preliminary sanitary measures by a Board of Commissioners—they have nothing to seek when the emergency arrives,—all plans of operations are settled and their machinery arranged.” These are the very judicious expressions of Dr. Wolfred Nelson.

The conclusion necessarily follows that the time has arrived, when efforts, in some degree commensurate with great impending evils, can no longer, with safety, be deferred, and that to insure to the public the benefit and protection of well considered and efficient sanitary measures, with all the appliances that science can devise, none but men of distinguished attainments and experience, who have been long held in public estimation for these important attributions, should be entrusted with their execution.

Since writing the above, I have seen His Excellency the Governor General’s speech on the opening of the Provincial Parliament, and among the most important measures which His Excellency has recommended to the consideration of the Legislators, is one for the more *effective inspection and supervision of all public institutions*. It is a measure in which writers of much practical experience and observation have been engaged for several years, and it may be added, that the most intelligent portion of the press of the country has never failed to exert its powerful influence, to promote the important ends contemplated by that measure. The state of these public institutions, the crying evils which pervade them, as well in their management and economy, as in their subjection to influences prejudicial to their well-being and prosperity, have frequently drawn the attention of Grand Jurors in their hurried visitations,—but it is not too much to say, that in their expositions and suggestions, they invariably evidenced an entire absence of correct information, on their internal administrative economy and discipline.

It may yet be within the recollection of many of your readers, that during the short administration of our Provincial Government by Lord