

as to be dangerous sources of disease. Country dwelling-houses, with beautiful exterior relations of shade trees and verdure, but with neglected graveyard proximities and other death streams beneath and around, with privy vaults, cesspools, and wells all in proximity are the common nests of typhoid fever all over the country. The indispensable requisites to health—an abundant supply of pure air and pure water—receive but little recognition and are rarely provided for.

School-houses, public and private, are a disgrace to human nature. Situated, constructed and furnished with utter disregard of the nature of the soil, exposure, air and light, they are in effect systematic institutions appropriated to the nurture of disease and the acceleration of death. With reading lessons recounting the horrible act of the half-civilized nabob of Calcutta more than a century ago, and the no less barbarous act of the captain of the emigrant steamship Londonderry twenty-five years ago, and school physiologies teaching that each individual requires for healthy respiration 2,000 cubic feet of air hourly, notwithstanding these instances and this patent knowledge, examples are not wanting in the public schools of our large cities where the air-space appropriated to each individual is less than 50 cubic feet and with little or no provision for change. Literally, schools for the growth, culture, and promotion of scrofula and consumption, and the hurdling places of the infections of childhood. Three hundred cubic feet of air space, with efficient provision for change three times an hour, is the lowest possible estimate which should be allowed. With less than this, the air speedily becomes poisonous, and the active nidus of infection.

Tenement houses are notoriously situated without regard external relations of soil, air and light; and within, from sub-cellar to garret, curious for their ingenuity as architectural imitations of the bee for space, but wholly devoid of that insect's instinct in regard to cleanliness and ventilation. * * * The occupants of such dwelling-places become an easy prey to the sensual excitements of alcohol and other debasing agencies and influences. As people become accustomed to dirt, they cease to recognize its presence and to exert themselves to avoid it; there is no limit to the downward tendency. The same broad road to disease and death is the highway to moral degradation. And that such an institution should breed disease and death; that it should be the hecatomb of children; that it should sustain liquor stalls by the thousand, and supply the ghastly gaiety which flaunts beneath the gaslight and makes night hideous; that it should send the boys who escape