

Persons visiting our city, either on business or for pleasure, seldom get away without suffering from severe diarrhœa or cholera. It is by no means uncommon for these attacks to prove fatal. We need only to turn to our mortuary statistics to ascertain the fact that cholera, diarrhœa and dysentery are very often fatal during the heat of summer, and this principally amongst the floating population. The citizens themselves occasionally suffer though not in the same degree, as they become as it were accustomed to the impurities. But there are other diseases, equally dangerous to life, which may be produced by the impurity of our water supply—such as typhoid fever, and the generation of the numerous family of entozoa, so commonly met with in children, and which are occasionally fatal. On looking over the work of Dr. T. Spencer Cobbold, on Helminthology, with reference more particularly to the internal parasites of man, the reader becomes horrified at the numerous forms, and injurious results of taking into our stomachs the ova or the young of various entozoa which live and generate within us."

These affections are known to be preventable, and with regard to cholera, diarrhœa and dysentery, they arise frequently from some irritating material taken into the stomach, some substance which the body cannot utilize, and which is therefore cast out. Can we wonder at such a result, when we present as a beverage to our visitors a vile compound of human and animal excrement, fish spawn, vegetable refuse and germs of all sorts. Naturally the stomach rejects it, and what passes into the lower tracts of the intestinal canal acts as an irritant and is thrown off. Why kill off our children by the host of bowel and other derangements induced by drinking these impurities? Our city parents do not like to assume the expense of a public filter, although we believe the expense would be trifling compared to the ultimate benefit to the fair name of the city. To this might aptly be applied the couplet:

" Kill a man's family, and he may brook it,
But keep your hands out of his breeches pocket."

Some four or five years since I suggested the propriety of an annual clearance and cleansing of the Mountain Reservoir, and upon its subsequent drainage an amount of filth and live stock was