

a bad supply of scavengers, and a constant accumulation of filth.'

"The inducements to correct this lamentable state of things are twofold: First, the removal or mitigation of contagious diseases, which, by finding a stronghold in such places as have just been alluded to, endanger the health of an entire population; and secondly, the valuable purposes to which the substances causing these diseases can be applied in Agriculture. The fruitful cause of disease may thus be made a source of fertility; we may thus minister to the health of our towns, and the fruitfulness of the surrounding country, by one and the same means."

The above extract is well worthy the attention of our city authorities. Every means should be adopted, both in Montreal and Quebec, to perfect the drainage, and provide for regularly cleansing the streets and the cities generally. We have the typhus fever in the country now, and it is most essential that all possible precautions be taken to prevent its spreading further, and every remedy be applied to cleanse the cities and country of this dreadful pestilence. In conclusion, we give the following few lines from an article published on "the necessity for rational and sanatory methods of sepulture." In reference to Ireland, it remarks:—

"Will the results of the famine now devastating Ireland disappear this season? No! nor for twenty years. Could food, even by a miracle, be placed now, and in perpetuity, and in profusion, at the command of every living being in that wretched, most wretched country, health or rather freedom from disease and pestilence is beyond their possible attainment. The source of future typhus "lies festering" at the very feet of the unwary passenger, a few inches of soil only hide, and barely hide, thousands of corpses that lie stricken by the pestilence; and these will rise again in foul miasmas, in putrid gases, and spread desolation on future occupiers of that unfortunate land."

This is another subject that should be a warning to us to be cautious how the bodies of those dying of typhus are disposed of after death.

The following we copy from "The Farmer's Note-book," No. 16, published in the "Transactions of the Highland Agricultural Society of Scotland."

"Richardson, on the Domestic Fowl.—This little work is a cheap and compendious summary of nearly all most deserving to be known, respect-

ing our domestic poultry, by one who seems to have considerable acquaintance with the subject. We believe that the management of poultry has been a good deal improved of late; but much may yet be done, especially in improving the breed, and selecting the most useful varieties. Among the small farmers, a very poor and degenerate race of fowls are generally found, and these occasion just as much trouble and expense, in keeping, as a more valuable race. Were they made sensible of this, and facilities afforded for introducing an improved breed, which can be so easily multiplied, no inconsiderable benefit would accrue to them. The author shows, that, besides being an interesting recreation, the breeding and rearing of poultry may be rendered a very profitable pursuit; considerable profit may arise from the disposal of superfluous stock, especially if the attention be confined, as it ought, to the more valuable varieties. The Spanish fowls are perhaps the best layers. Mr. Richardson recommends the expediency of improving the breed, by an intermixture of Malay, Spanish, and Dorking fowls; he describes no fewer than twenty-three varieties of domestic fowl. At the head of these stands the Malay fowl, as the most excellent of the poultry yard, but the author is of opinion that, by crossing with the Dorking, an improved breed might be obtained. One of the most remarkable kinds of fowl, existing in the British Isles, is named the Ostrich, Cochinchina fowl. This gigantic bird, says Mr. Richardson, has only very recently been introduced into Great Britain, and it is to that royal patroness of poultry fanciers, the nature-loving Victoria, that we owe their addition to our stock of domestic fowls. Our beloved Queen was graciously pleased to send a brace of these noble fowl to the Royal Dublin Society's Show; and Mr. Nolan, of Dublin, a poultry fancier, has also imported several specimens. Her Majesty subsequently presented her fowl to the Lord Lieutenant. This variety of fowl so far surpasses, both in size and power, all that we have ever yet seen in the shape of poultry, as to lead many, who have been permitted to inspect them, to prefer them to the family of bustards. They are, however, genuine poultry. Their general colour is a rich, glossy, brown or deep bay; on the breast is a marking of a blackish colour, and of the shape of a horse-shoe; the comb is of a medium size, serrated, but not deeply so, and the wattles are double. Besides their gigantic size, however, these fowls possess other distinctive characteristics, among which I may enumerate the following:—The disposition of the feathers on the back of the cock's neck is reversed; these being turned upwards, the wing is jointed, so that the posterior part can at pleasure be doubled up, and brought forward between the anterior half and the body. I am not aware whether trial has yet been made of the flesh; but from the white colour and delicate appearance of the skin, I feel confident they will afford a luxu-