

around the child and in its food. But there is an awakening going on. This will lead to the spread of knowledge and the making of better laws.

The air is full of the spirit of light and improvement. The spirit of knowledge is abroad. Strong men and women are at work, and are bending the bow of public opinion in order that they may send forth the arrow of truth. In the words of Shelley all this is:

Like a spirit, hastening to its task  
Of glory and of good, the light springs forth,  
Rejoicing in its splendour till the mask  
Of darkness rolls from the awakened earth.

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#### THE INTERNATIONAL HYGIENIC CONGRESS.

Some five thousand physicians and hygienists were in attendance at the Congress of Hygiene, which was held in Washington a few weeks ago. Those who were present on that occasion have returned to their own countries with much new information to think over and put into some concrete form in their own lands.

Health is now becoming an international problem. There are many diseases that call for the strong arm of united effort to suppress them. This is matter for rejoicing to all who have the philanthropic instinct at heart. There can be no greater question brought before the mind of man than the elevation of the human race. The vastness and importance of this is seen when one thinks of the multi-millions still in ignorance and barbarism, and mowed down by all sorts of pestilences. The history of the epidemics that have swept over Europe in the past, and how these have been placed in chains by sanitary laws, tells of one of the most brilliant achievements of man for the good of man.

It is to be hoped that these educated physicians and hygienists will go home to impress on their respective countries the arts of peace and social reform. It is to be hoped that they will urge that more money be spent on education and health and less on swords and guns. If such should be one of the outcomes of the Congress the words of Longfellow would have a chance of coming true:

Were all the power that fills the world with terror,  
Were all the wealth bestowed on camps and courts,  
Given to raise the human mind from error,  
There were no need for arsenals and forts.