

which on the contrary often contemplate their own welfare, it is next to useless to write anything, more than useless to say anything, almost a pity to have the ability to think anything.

It is not now that our attention is directed to the difficulties many people have to withstand since the new sanitary demands are being thrust upon the community without regard to whether they are feasible or not or even lawful. We have heard enough of it and when we have explained to some parties that these regulations are not compulsory, we have been answered that such and such orders had been given them and if they were not carried out they would be fined. The strangest part of the whole thing is that while we are being impressed upon that these measures are for the public benefit and absolutely expedient, attention, is only being constantly paid to these "reforms" where such will entail some expense to private parties. The gutters on the streets are as dirty as could be, in many places stagnant water accumulates and remains there until it stinks, the streets are seldom swept and on which account the offal which has been thrown out from numerous yards at orders from the sanitary officers, is left just there, in our opinion in a dangerous, and far more unsightly position than if it had been left inside; public wells do not seem to require wire shutters; a useless trough erected on the public wharf in memory of a person unknown to anybody here, and itself a useless obstacle, except to harbor mosquito larvæ, are unobserved while the sanitary men are busily engaged in rooting up somebody's backyard to inspect the closets or order some dry trash thrown out of the yard.

The limit of extreme demands seems to have been reached the other day when we learned of parties being ordered to uproot greens planted in their yards during the time when all were enjoined upon to plant vegetables and raise gardens. It amounts to an encroachment upon people's civil rights to attempt to control what they shall plant in their yard or what they shall not plant, or whether they shall plant anything at all. Sanitary measures will be welcomed by all progressive people and nowhere will objections be raised to purely reasonable and necessary demands, but what we object to is that any department should have the right to be instrumental in incurring expenses upon poor people because some sanitary feature is to be carried out. In former times, the prices for doing all kinds of work did not reach the half of what we have to pay for inferior labor along the same lines now, and it should be borne in mind that while these different sanitary propositions may look very well on paper, they constitute a source of misery to those who haven't the means to follow them. We quite agree with West End News that

where the parties required to execute the Sanitary Department's orders are unable to do so for lack of pecuniary ability, such orders should be fulfilled from public funds. It appears to us that the renovation of cisterns and water closets for the benefit of the public health should be paid for from public funds. There is talk of a water supply for the island: in event this project matures, it would be carried out as a measure for the public good and the expenses connected therewith defrayed from public funds; well likewise when we want to expel or alter something for public good, the resources of individuals should not be taxed and embarrassments thrown up before them, because the work is to be performed on private property. Cases are recorded where the price charged by the Sanitary Department for executing work has been as much as half underbid by other workmen privately engaged. This sort of thing gets the people riled and largely defeats the intended efforts at cultivating interest in sanitation which then becomes a disgusting institution the value of which, when compared with former times, is not apparent.

What we have here said is intended solely at last a system and it should be entirely clear that no personal attack is intended against any of the sanitary officers who may be simply following their plans and instructions. What we aim at is to have the Government take serious notice of the question to have the sanitary requirements performed without annoyance or distress to persons unable to stand the burdens imposed upon them, and that attention be paid to consistency which we have pointed out to be lacking, in that sanitary demands rigorously enforced on private property are not carried out on public places where there is as much danger to public health from neglect of the same; also that the sanitary regulations provide moderation in prescribing the nature in which changes and additions shall be made. For instance the introduction of backstops to closet seats are a nuisance which it ought to be left to the people to decide whether they will have or not. Now let us ask in this connection, what control has the Sanitary Department got in regard to seeing that the same thing it aims at eliminating by the use of the fixture referred to is not violated indoors?

It has been said before, and we repeat that the backstop as we now have it, which compels one to lean against a filthy, stinking cover, is a pernicious and unsanitary arrangement that should be abolished instead of coercing people to retain it.

When the people begin to see really sanitary movements around them in public places it will do more to develop true interest in this respect than arbitrary rules now employed.

OFFICIAL NEWS.

The Quebec Line Steamer Korona arrived at St. Thomas on Thursday morning and after discharging 139 tons of cargo and three passengers, sailed for St. Croix.

The Steamer Parima from the Windward Islands sailed yesterday morning for New York with a large freight and full passenger list.

The American steamer Mosspoint with cargo of lumber from Pensacola bound for Montevideo, Uruguay, arrived on Thursday at St. Thomas for minor repairs.

The Danish schooner Johan, 35 days out from Havre in ballast arrived at St. Thomas on Thursday enroute to Jamaica.

WEATHER REPORT.

St. Croix, Bar. 30.09, Ther. 85, E. partly cloudy.

Rainfall for past 24 hours, 0.

Frederiksted's Apothecary Hall

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CUT LOAF SUGAR,

FINEST QUALITY

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Shoe polish, Furniture polish, Stovepolish,

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KING'S PURE MALT,

A Liquid Strengthener of Great Food Value.

Shaefer's delicious LAGER BEER, The Favourite Drink.

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