

others at their home sick with low fever, in all probability caused by sewer gas poisoning." All through the report of the inspector for the Provincial Health Board, there are evidences of alarm at the possible results of cutting off the free circulation of water, and of making our port a back water basin—fetid and noisome from the washing of the city's putridity and rottenness. With a rapidly running river draining half a continent flowing past the City of Montreal, it is difficult to conceive any project to find favor which does not embrace the securing to it the advantages it enjoyed, by nature, of an abundant and constantly changing supply of pure water. We should be glad to see this question seriously considered by the proper authorities where the *sanitary* aspects of the question would be taken fully into account. We do not object to the guard pier, *per se*. What we do object to is that provision was not made for a sufficient supply of water being received from the river above the pier, instead of forcing our harbor and its shipping to trust to the inadequate quantity afforded by the canal—inadequate we do not hesitate to say at all times, and liable to be cut off at anytime.

But as the guard pier is there, and looks, in its huge bulk, as if it were to stay, it becomes the imperative duty of the City Council, in order that the upper harbor may not become a place to be avoided rather than to be selected for the purposes of receiving and discharging freight, to at once devise means for remedying the evil which, if it has not been created by the council, most certainly exists. To us, unlearned we admit in the mysteries of engineering skill, there appear to be several methods, either of which might be followed with advantage, and, if combined, with entire success.

The question of expense should not obtrude itself too much where the sanitary condition of our harbor is concerned, and where the advantages it affords for the purposes of commerce, and for the pleasure of travel, may be made to harmonize, most easily, with the best interests of public health.

GOLD AS A SPECIFIC IN INEBRIETY.

Dr. Oliver C. Edwards of Ottawa read a paper before a large gathering of the Medico-Chirurgical Society of Montreal on 10th January, 1896, "On the Treatment of Inebriety as a Disease." The paper records original investigation, and throws some light upon a subject that hitherto has been one of difficulty to