

THE Secretary of the Illinois State Board of Health reports, Oct. 26, "There are indications of an approaching small-pox epidemic throughout the country. The disease was reported during the quarter in Canada, Massachusetts, Connecticut, New York, Pennsylvania, Ohio Tennessee, Iowa, Minnesota and California."

IN TORONTO the Medical Officer reports, Nov. 16, the disease entirely stamped out here; showing prompt and efficient action on the part of the local health officials.

IN TWO PLACES in Ontario, only, we believe, at this date, 20 Nov., is the disease known;—at Sarnia and N. Gwillimbury; where it appears the local authorities are making effectual efforts to restrict and stamp out the disease.

FROM MONTREAL, the authorities flatly contradict some sensational reports in American papers as to the health of the city and state that the city is almost entirely free from contagious diseases, that there is less typhoid fever and diphtheria than last year, that there has not been a case of small-pox in the city or vicinity for the last three years; and that should an outbreak of any kind occur, arrangements are complete and organization perfect for combating and stamping out the same.

LIVERPOOL, ENG., has made good progress of late years in sanitary works and the result is shown in the last report of the medical officer of health of that city. The number of deaths for the past year was 12,005, and the average death-rate 20.0 per 1,000. The deaths for the previous year amounted to 24.3 per 1,000. The deaths the past year were 2,544 below the average for the past ten years, notwithstanding the increase of population, and the death-rate was 62 below the average of the same period, and 93 less than in the decade 1867-77. The deaths from zymotic diseases mounted to about 2.5 per 1,000, the lowest ever recorded.

FROM TOXTETH PARK, ENG., the Medical Officer reports an outbreak of scarlet fever, which seemed to have its origin in the milk supply. In two notable instances diphtheria attacked children who had only a very short time before recovered from scarlet fever in the same houses.

REXHAM'S Medical Officer reports that the importation of the Newcastle town manure, a subject which has engaged his attention for some years, has caused typhoid fever and diphtheritic sorethroat in that district.

IN GLASGOW scarlet fever, traceable to milk infection, has assumed, in the west end, the dimensions of an epidemic. The majority of cases at present is about the terraces and crescents of the well-to-do; the families of two medical men being among those attacked.

In Greenock scarlet fever continues to spread, 55 cases being in hospital at the date of the medical officer's last report, October 16th. "It was stated (Brit. Med. Jour.) that the extension of the disease was due to several parents

and guardians failing to report the disease in their families, and permitting convalescent children to mix with the healthy. One member urged that parents could not be expected to report cases when the first thing that followed was the forcible removal of the child to hospital, and that this forcible removal was carried too far."

AN EPIDEMIC of measles has during the past month caused hundreds of deaths in North Staffordshire. In one small suburb of Hanley no fewer than twenty-four deaths took place in the week ending Nov. 3rd. Adults are attacked almost as freely as children, and with them also the disease is frequently fatal. All Board schools and most of the voluntary and Sunday schools have been closed.

MADRID has long enjoyed the unenviable notoriety of being one of the least salubrious towns in Europe. From 1880 to 1887, the average annual rate of mortality was 41.2 per 1000, and for 1887 it was 36.69, rates which, as regards European towns, were only exceeded by those of St. Petersburg and Buda-Pesth. The great prevalence of diphtheria and small-pox there during this last summer, according to the British Medical Journal, whereby the mortality was raised to 45 per 1000, has at last roused the authorities to action and the Central Board of Health have been called upon to investigate and report. The Board urges general reform, in drainage, disinfection, hospital accommodation, etc., etc.

SANITARY PROGRESS IN ALBANY, N. Y.—The Medical Society of Albany, has a standing Committee on hygiene. At the last meeting, Oct. 10th, it reported on plumbing, heating and ventilating schools, street cleaning, etc. "In the department of heating and ventilation we find conspicuous examples of the march of improvement in public schools No 14 and No. 3. The former, at one time a death-trap on account of the unsanitary conditions prevailing in and around it, has been quite remodeled as to its interior, and now takes first place so far as its system of ventilation is concerned. The principle upon which this is based, that of exhausting the foul air from the rooms and building, must ever lie at the bottom of correct ventilation. In taking our retrospect through the year we find at almost every point the lines have been advanced, but that the resting time has not yet come from the fact that our city has suffered the infliction of 1,300 cases of zymotic and preventable diseases. The faithfulness with which physicians have reported cases of contagious and infectious diseases renders it now much easier to obtain statistics. Your Committee has searched the records of every day, from Sept. '87, to Sept. '88, and learn that there have been recorded 151 cases of typhoid fever, 216 cases of scarlet fever, 104 cases of measles, and 269 cases of diphtheria; there have been 250 deaths from diarrheal diseases, of which 50 per cent. were of children under five years of age; there have been over 300 deaths from consumption." A high rate for a city of the size of Albany.