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HOUSE AND SEWER VENTILATION.

(A paper read before the Citizens' Public Health Association.)

BY ROBERT T. GODFREY, M. D., PROFESSOR OF HYGIENE
AND PUBLIC HEALTH, MCGILL UNIVERSITY.

Any person possessing the sense of smell must admit that, on entering any of the houses in this city, the air they contain is far from being as pure as it ought to be. This remark applies particularly to our hotels and public buildings, and, unfortunately for some of their residents, they may contain some of the most poisonous gases, which cannot be detected by the sense of smell; and this cause of danger may be diffused by a slight crack or chink in any of the drain pipes. The principal cause of this existing evil is the fact that at present none of our pipes, sewers, or drains are ventilated. The tile pipe runs from the street sewer into the house, a four inch soil pipe is connected with this; the poisonous gases being lighter than the atmosphere ascend in the pipe, and are constantly escaping through the house. The only way to remedy this evil is to have a ventilating pipe attached to the highest part of this drain pipe and carried directly through the roof.* The pipe is simple in its construction, and one that could be put up at a small cost. When we consider the lightness of this gas, we will perceive that it is always trying to escape at the highest point, consequently all

*Here the doctor exhibited a ventilating pipe, (manufactured by Messrs. Gordon & Egan, Plumbers, of St. Catherine street).