

these reservoirs are by a continuous process, and without any exposure to the air, converted by evaporation *in vacuo* into a dry powder, which contains all the manurial elements to be found in the substance collected by the system. The drying process is effected without using additional fuel, the waste steam of the high pressure engine, of the caloric unities, in which only eight per cent. at the outside are converted into power, being found quite sufficient for the purpose. The principle is the same as that used in reducing liquid beet-root sugar. The sedimentary matters of house and sink water, I may mention, are separated from the water flowing off to the sewer by a very simple and ingenious apparatus.

My time is too short to give minute descriptions. Suffice it to say that the closet without water is more inoffensive to eye and nose than any water-closet at present in use, that no intrusion into houses is required, that there is nothing moveable in the whole network of pipes to get out of order, and that, from the moment matter is deposited in a closet till after it is converted into *poudrette*, there is no possibility that either the air or the soil can be contaminated. Also that any virus or germ of disease contained in excrement is rendered innocuous by heat, the only known agency which will effectually do so.

Further, let me say that in towns of average density of population this resulting manure is in a concentrated form, and so valuable (10s. per head per annum) as not only to cover the working expenses, but to provide for interest on and redemption of the capital invested, and to yield a handsome balance over and above.

Secondly, as to manufacturing refuse and waste water. The solution of the pollution problem is simply an impossibility as long as manufacturers are allowed to pour their refuse into sewers or streams. It is comparatively easy to clean such water separately, when perfectly fresh, and with its volume and constituents known or easily ascertainable, but it is impossible to do so when mixed all together in the sewers with the other refuse of a town.