

cases of *Sore throat*. A child, aged three years, had diphtheria, and died in three days. In the same house, there were three adults suffering from sore throats, all of whom recovered. I found that there was a bad smell from untrapped slop-stone.—

13. *Puerperal Septicæmia*. The third day after confinement, the patient had usual symptoms of septicæmia. She nearly succumbed two or three times. After about five weeks, she had a relapse, which proved fatal. In this case there was a foul smell from an untrapped drain, within a few feet of the door, where the patient was confined.

REMARKS.—It is difficult to state definitely the cause of many diseases. In some of the cases given above, it may be a coincidence, and sewer-gas may not have been the cause. Though I think in most, if not in all, sewer-gas was the chief factor, I would not say positively typhoid fever can be generated *de novo* from sewer-gas; yet my experience goes to prove that much may be said in favour of it.

*Summer-diarrhœa*, especially in infants and young children, I believe, is often due to sewer-gas. In the summer, decomposition of sewage is very rapid. Infants who are nearly all day indoors in houses in which sewer-gas exists (and there are, unfortunately, a large number among the poor) soon get diarrhœa. Of course, there are other things to produce it.

*Diphtheria and sore throats* are often due to sewer-gas. House No. 12 seems to prove that the poison which generated diphtheria in the child, in the three adults caused bad sore throats. Several cases of death from puerperal fever have occurred, generally in houses which are subject to bad sanitary arrangements, especially as regards drainage and ventilation. I have had a large number of abscesses in children during the past summer. In nearly every instance there were strong reasons to believe it to be due to sewer-gas. As a rule, if two or more persons in a house are suffering from summer diarrhœa, or abscesses, we may suspect sewer-gas. Sewer-gas is especially dangerous to children. Older persons may resist its influence; but in them it will probably be the cause of anæmia, nausea, and headache. In the winter, when the decomposition of sewage