## CANAŅA

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So much of our space is taken up with a report of the meeting of the Canadian Medical Association that we are forced to postpone some further remarks on the subject of Hygiene, principally in reference to the disposition of sewage, and, also, sewer ventilation. It is well known that decomposing animal and vegetable matter gives out a glutinous, or gelatinous matter, which may be seen floating on the surface of cess-pools. In a system of drains such as we possess, the insides of the pipes or drains are covered with this substance-a substance which is constantly in a state of ferment. yielding an enormous amount of a most poisonous gas. In our sewerage arrangements this vile and noisome gas is constantly contaminating the air we breathe. Each corner of the street contains a grating in direct communication with the sewer beneath, but the quantity of foul gas is so enormous that even these are not sufficient outlets, and a considerable amount is forced into our houses. Any observer can discover for himself the difference between the atmosphere of our city and that of the vicinity of our mountain. The cause is obvious-dirt, neglect; and the greatest and most fatal to the inhabitants of this growing city is the dirt and neglect of our sewers. They are hourly becoming in a worse condition, and if this state is allowed to continue much longer it will be a most dangerous undertaking to remedy it. It has been truly said that the time will come when it will be looked upon as a disgrace for a person to contract typhoid fever. It is well recognised by sanitarians as a preventable disease, but in this good city if we continue to dole out to the inhabitants an abundant supply of excrementitious air-a supply in quantity sufficient to contaminate the food we eat and the water we drink-we need not be surprised at a violent outbreak of typhoid fever, or of some other and more fatal plague, as a judgment from the Almighty for breaking laws which he has given us for our guidance. One of the processes of life is the conversion of food into sewage. It should be the aim of science so to utilize the sewage as to render the air pure; to