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NOTES AND EXTRACTS ON DISPOSAL OF SEWAGE.

It seems to be of the utmost importance that this, the great hygienic question of the day, should be freely discussed in this growing country. The strong and universal tendency for men to flow into great centres, to congregate into cities, which is as marked in Canada as elsewhere, constantly magnifies the importance of the question. The purity of the two most important essentials of life, namely, air and water, depends upon the proper removal and disposal of all excrementitious matter. Hundreds of deaths and much sickness not ending in death, are undoubtedly caused, as any thoughtful person must know, in Toronto and other cities, towns, and villages throughout Canada, every year by air and water contaminated with human excrement. The evil is constantly and, I may say, rapidly accumulating, intensifying, and it is lamentable to think of the apathy of the people in the midst of it.

The following very 'common sense' remarks upon this question are from the *Sanitary Record* of June 1st, inst. :—

In order to grapple successfully with the 'Sewage Difficulty' it is above all things necessary to understand or comprehend where the difficulty lies, and what it consists of.

In its simplest form, the sewage difficulty is the difficulty connected with collecting and disposing of the daily excrement of the people, and also the slop or refuse water from our households. Other difficulties have been superadded in the shape of the natural rainfall and even the drainage of homesteads, farmyards, and cattle folds, but as these are voluntary difficulties they need not be considered at all. The sanitary authority that hampers itself with troubles by attempting to purify storm-water or to provide improvident agriculturalists with drains for their yards deserves neither pity nor help. Storm-water may occasionally be used for its flushing powers, but it is quite out of place as a rule in sewers.

The first thing to be considered is whether there shall be sewers