

state of things in a city where the excreta of many typhoid and small-pox patients are flowing through the sewers.*

The fatal results can also be shown by contrast with other systems besides the Liernur. In some towns of Great Britain they still follow the method of removing the excrement daily in pails by carts from the houses. The writer saw this method in operation in some of the streets of Dundee eighteen months ago. It is also followed in Edinburgh (old town) side by side with the water-closet system which is followed in Edinburgh (new town). The exact result follows which might be expected after examining the foregoing returns of the Registrar General. It is found that in the water-closeted districts of Edinburgh, typhoid and diphtheria steadily mow their swath of victims, while the old part of the town, with its absence of modern conveniences,

* Dr. Stewart, who was one of the first to point out the difference between typhoid and typhus, states that in Edinburgh typhoid fever was unknown (1838 to 1842) before the water-closet system was used. This is confirmed by Dr. Murchison in the second edition of his work on fevers, pages 443 and 444, in which he states that typhoid fever did not exist in Edinburgh "until the introduction of water-carriage." He also says, "It is remarkable that the increase of enteric fever in London has been contemporaneous with the completion of the main drainage scheme."

Dr. Fergus, the President of the Health Section of the Glasgow Philosophical Society, points out the startling fact that, according to the returns of the Registrar General, the death-rate of Britain from cholera, diarrhoea and dysentery, which are recognized as diseases more or less arising from excremental pollution, was nearly four times what it was thirty-five years ago.

The following are the Registrar General's returns:—

Deaths per million per annum.	
Mean of five years, 1838 to 1842...	298; at this time water-closets almost unknown.
" " " 1847 " 1852...	1,569; including cholera epidemic of 1849.
" " " 1852 " 1856...	1,249; do. do. do. of 1854
" " " 1857 " 1861...	1,192
" " " 1862 " 1866...	1,246; including partial cholera epidemic 1866.
" " " 1867 " 1871...	1,282.

Probably the terrible epidemics included in these figures owed much of their wide spread devastation to the wide spread diffusion of the excrement through the sewers. Dr. Fergus makes the deduction that the cause of the increase was the water-carriage system.