

The total number of death in Massachusetts during the five years, from all causes was 156,289 ; of that number the deaths from zymotic diseases comprise twenty-six per cent. ; those from acute pulmonary diseases were seven per cent. ; and those from phthisis seventeen per cent. So that if we include all these among the " preventable " diseases, the deaths from these causes represent one-half the actual mortality.

I am Sir, yours respectfully,

F. W. DRAPER.

To Henry I. Bowditch, M.D.,
Chairman State Board of Health, Mass.

Dr. Brouse has earned for himself the lasting gratitude of the whole Dominion by his benevolent efforts, which must culminate sooner or later in a complete system of sanitary statistics, and public hygiene, that will result in an incalculable saving of life, health, and wealth. Who that has shed tears over a valued friend or relative during any of the numerous unchecked periodical pestilential visitations of small pox, cholera, ship fever, etc., with which this country has been visited in times past, does not feel to the fullest extent the truth in the trite old saying, that there is more virtue in an ounce of prevention than in a pound of cure.

THE PROPOSED CITY TRUNK SEWER.

BY JOSEPH WORKMAN, M.D.

In my third communication, which appeared in the March number of the *SANITARY JOURNAL*, I drew attention to the urgent requirement of the construction, along the City front, of a receiving trunk sewer, for the purpose of carrying away, to a sufficient distance, before discharge into the lake, all the foul fluids discharged from houses and premises within the city. It has been with very high gratification that I have, since writing the above article, seen the discussion which took place in the City Council, on this subject, as it proves that our civic authorities have not been unmindful of the obligation resting upon them as guardians of the public health. Instead of severe animadversion on their past supineness in this relation, it should be the part of every intelligent citizen to thank them for the rational and dispassionate manner in which they have entertained the project submitted to them by their able and energetic engineer, and it is most earnestly to be hoped that the good sense and enlightened public spirit which have characterized the inception of