is all that can be desired for removing excreta and water waste. Such is not entirely the case, however, with buildings which are erected on impervious soils, for surface water will settle to the bottom of the foundations of all buildings; and in the cases mentioned, foundations are rarely free from stagnant water, even where precautions have been taken to drain it off. One of the most costly edifices in Montreal, built on a bed of clay, stands permanently in water, notwithstanding that a large outlay was incurred for making surface drains all round it. The natural consequence is, that in many cases such water becomes very offensive, and the effluvium from it, aided by the warmth of the basement stories of dwellings, will sometimes ascend and permeate the whole building, causing sickness which the inmates or their medical advisers are unable to ...ccount for; and it is clear that flushing drains, or ventilating soil-pipes, or using disinfectants, would have no permanent effect in removing disease arising from such a cause as this . and I have little doubt that many fatal attacks of disease which have appeared so mysterious might be traced to stagnant waters accumulated round the foundations of the dwellings in which they occurred.

Some years ago, a case occurred in a fashionable loce''ty in this city, which furnishes an instructive illustration of the above. A large dwelling-house, built on clay soil, was greatly troubled with effluvia which could not be traced to any defect in the drainage, but on a travech being dug down to the foundations, a quantity of black fetid water ran off, the effluvium from which was evidently the same as that experienced in the house, and the two laborers who dug the trench were so affected by it, that they were taken sick the same evening with diphtheria from which, however, they recovered.

From what has been stated in my previous notes in the Magazine, it will, I think, be clear, that the drainage there described is not adapted to receive the drainage of the foundations of buildings. It is necessary, therefore, in the case of buildings erected on retentive soils, to make, first, a "trench drain" filled with broken stone, from the horse to the sewer,