

say that a trifling scratch on the arm, and a few days of discomfort will amply repay an individual if it preserves him from an attack of so loathsome and dangerous a disease as Small Pox.

*Measles.*—This disease proved fatal in 32 cases. All were children under 8 years of age; of these 7 were Protestants, and 25 Roman Catholics. The St. Antoine, St. Mary, and St. James' wards having the largest number of deaths.

*Scarlet Fever.*—Sixty-five cases of death are recorded from this cause; 34 were Protestants, and 31 Roman Catholics. This fact will not fail to strike the reader. I must refer him, however, to the next disease in the column, Fever, under which heading I have included all other fevers, however named. It will be observed that 82 cases are recorded as occurring amongst Roman Catholics, 53 of whom are children. Again, under the heading Dropsy, we have 11 cases among Roman Catholics, all children. As fever on the one hand is not by any means a common disease of early childhood, and dropsy is seldom, if ever seen, except as a sequelæ, we may reasonably infer that the majority, if not the whole of these cases, were either scarlet fever, or in the latter instance the sequelæ of that malady. The largest proportion of deaths from scarlet fever, occurred in the St. Antoine and St. Ann's wards.

*Fever.*—Under this heading if we subtract the 53 deaths which are recorded as having occurred among children, there will remain a total of 37. The largest proportion of deaths being in the St. Antoine, St. Ann's, and St. James' wards. I have entered thus minutely into the details of the above class of diseases as shewing a bearing on the unhealthy localities of our city.

All who have made this subject one of ordinary observation, will allow that the line from Mignonne Street to the foot of Cote à Barron, and from St. Lawrence Main Street east, is exceedingly unhealthy from the existence of a continuous swamp, which in summer pours forth its noxious emanations with deadly effect on the inhabitants of that district. The same may be said of the St. Antoine ward, between St. Antoine and Bonaventure Streets, and across in an open lumber yard in the latter street, may be observed an open drain, which after heavy rains is swelled into the proportions of a small river. This drain is one terminal extremity of the Craig Street tunnel, which carries off more than half the sewerage of the city.

Again, another source of the high rate of mortality in the St. Ann's ward, may be traced in the open drain which runs across McCord Street, beneath William and down through the college property, to empty its waters into the St. Lawrence, somewhere in the neighbourhood of the Custom House. But this is not alone the source in the St. Ann's and St. Mary's wards; there is an absence of efficient drainage in both these wards; the upper end of Griffintown lies very low, and the passer-by will notice in the spring, after the melting of the winter snow, vacant building lots, some of considerable extent, lying beneath water. These, as the heat of summer advances, become covered with vegetable mould, and ultimately dry up. If the season is wet they remain more or less covered with water the entire summer. The same may be said of the lower part of the St. Mary's ward, though not to so great a degree.

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(To be continued.)