

from which the water for supply of the institution was furnished. This evil might have continued for an indefinite period, had not Providence sent relief in the cutting of the Great Western and Grand Trunk Railways through the Garrison Common. It became necessary to lower the sewer under the tracks, and thus its contents no longer found outlet at the pumping-house, but ran down the side of the Grand Trunk and escaped over the beach into the lake, three or four hundred feet from its previous entrance.

The salutary change was instantly observable. Before, water at times actually stank, and some persons with keen sight declared that they could see feculent particles floating in it. In calm weather, when the lake was motionless, the foul fluids emptied from the sewer would unquestionably make their way over the short distance between the mouth of the sewer and the mouth of the supply pipe, conducting the water into the pumping-house well. By this arrangement it is quite probable that befouled water leaving the house in the morning, found its way back again, in a rather improved form, before night. Here was another beautiful illustration of the value of a building committee.

Do not the citizens of Toronto well know that the water supplied to them for years past, has been just such as that pumped up to the Asylum before the year 1855? Or rather must it not have been very much worse? All the sewage of the city is discharged into the bay, and though now we have promise of a pure supply from beyond the island, must not the accumulation of filth, which is constantly and rapidly going on all along the water front, soon become a vast pestilence concoctor and disseminator? Our city authorities cannot enter upon the serious consideration of this matter a day too soon. The poisonous water of our sewers must be carried away a sufficient distance, whether eastward or westward, to prevent deposit of pestilent matter in any part of the bay. It is my opinion that the cheapest and best plan would be the construction of a large trunk sewer along the front, running westward through the garrison common, and onward into the Humber Bay, so that the efflux of the river would there carry the foul discharge out into the lake. As the surface level of the lake is uniform, it is a matter of indifference, unless as to distance, in which direction the trunk sewer is conducted. If an eastward course be the shorter, it must be preferable: but considering the obstacle presented by the Don, over which the sewer must be carried, (for to empty its contents there would be but to perpetuate the nuisance), and the proximity of the