

**FUNGOID ORIGIN OF DIPHTHERIA.**—Dr. Michael Taylor in an article published in the *British Medical Journal* (Canada *Lancet*), expresses the belief that this disease may spring from fungoid growths. Three children were taken with the disease and on examination the water supply was found all right, but in their bedroom a large number of toadstools (*Caprinus*) were growing from the wall of the sleeping room, as well as a fine bluish mould. This belief is shared by Pro. Laycock, whose theory is that diphtheria depends on oidium, or potato fungus.

DENVER, COL., has been sewered on the same principle that was adopted in Memphis. Mains are laid from north to south on every other street, while laterals run from East to West down the alleys, a true "separate system," with man-holes and with flushing apparatus. The house drains are restricted to 4 and 5 inches. A correspondent writes: Our sewers are working nicely, and the general good health of Denver during the heated term of unprecedented severity is in marked contrast to the sickness that prevailed this time last year.

Referring to medical expert testimony, Guiteau says: "If I had the money I could get fifty of the best experts in the country to swear that I was as crazy as a loon." Who doubts it? says the *Detroit Lancet*.

#### EPITAPH "ON A QUACK."

"I was a quack, and there are men who say  
That in my time I physick'd lives away;  
And that at length I by myself was slain  
With my own drugs, ta'en to relieve my pain  
The truth is, being troubled with a cough,  
I, like a fool, consulted Dr. Gough,  
Who physick'd me to death at his own will,  
Because he's licensed by the state to kill:  
Had I but wisely taken my own physic,  
I never should have died of cold and 'tisick,  
So all be warned, and when you catch a cold,  
Go to my son by whom my medicine's sold."

For good or ill, from day to day,  
Each deed we do, each word we say,  
Makes its impress on the clay  
Which moulds the minds

-Of other men.

And all our acts and words are seeds  
Sown o'er the past, whence future deeds  
Spring up to form our wheat or weeds;  
And as we've sown  
So reap we then.

THE SECRETARY of the Michigan State Board of Health, Dr. Baker, stated in a paper read at a Sanitary Convention that diphtheria and scarlet fever had in many instances in that State been "stamped out of existence in localities where they had appeared" by the practical application of sanitary knowledge.

**WORKINGMEN AND SANITATION.**—A local Rights Association, of Soho, London, Eng., has been organized in order that workingmen may "do something to prevent their fellow-beings growing up in the wretched condition in which they were constantly found in the quarters inhabited by the working classes."

THE TRADES UNIONS, too, of England are awakening to the necessity of doing something to improve the sanitary condition of the working classes. At their recent Congress attention was directed to the over-crowded and general insanitary condition of the small work-shops and rooms of dwelling-houses.

Dr. West, formerly regarded as the great opponent of the identity of croup and diphtheria, says the *Detroit Lancet*, now declares his conversion to the opposite view. Membranous disease is one and the same, sometimes local and sometimes septic.

A DOCTOR who had continued his visits on a wealthy lady for an inordinate time after convalescence had set in, was somewhat surprised one day at being told by the servant that madam could not see him that day as she was ill.

A Philadelphia Quack tells the public, "If a patient wants it gentle and mild, I'm a homœopath; and when any body wants thunder and lightning, I'm an allopath."

#### A CONSULTATION.

A single Doctor like a sculler plies,  
The patient lingers, and by inches dies.  
But two Physicians, like a pair of oars,  
Waft him with swiftness to the Stygian shores.

#### SPECIAL NOTICES.

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