

of any use whatever. When money is required for the furtherance of sanitation, it is found that such cannot be afforded, that furnished by our heavily taxed citizens having been expended on useless extravagance or the erection and adornment of such idiotic structures as the city hall. The extraordinary arrangement of our sewers in many places, where the larger pipe is above and the smallest at the outlet, as stated by a late writer, does not indicate much intelligence in the engineering department. Thus public funds are wasted or worse, for the very existence of such an arrangement tends to produce typhoid, diphtheria, cholera infantum and such kindred diseases which help to swell up the death rate. If an officer appears to be somewhat over-zealous in the discharge of his duty, he must be investigated and health measures for the time allowed a rest. We are not, however, without hopes that before many years have elapsed the best known measures will as far as practicable be adopted and carried out efficiently, and that then Montreal will occupy the position, as regards sanitation, which is her right from the healthy position she occupies.

The success of recent numbers of Scribner has been so marked, that the edition of the February number has been placed at 125,000. This number will contain the first part of Eugene Schuyler's illustrated life of Peter the Great, which is said to be graphic and interesting to an unusual degree; also Mrs. Burnett's new story, "Louisiana," which will present some strong contrasts of character; a rollicking paper on Bicycling, entitled, "A Wheel Around the Hub," and other features.

A paper on "The Disadvantage of City Boys," by Rev. Washington Gladden, of Springfield, Mass., is announced for an early number of St. Nicholas. The article is said to be based entirely on personal statistics gathered from a hundred prominent business men concerning their surroundings, habits of life, etc., during boyhood. The statements thus collected will, it is announced, exhibit a remarkable showing of the "Disadvantages of City Boys," and enforce strongly the author's hints toward a successful life. The paper, moreover, is addressed directly to the boys themselves.

REVIEWS.

Messrs. William Wood & Co., of New York, announce the publication of *A Practical Treatise on Nervous Exhaustion (Neurasthenia), its Symptoms, Nature, Sequences and Treatment*. By George M. Beard, A.M., M.D., of New York.

The book is now in press, and will be published in February of the present year. The treatise is one on which Dr. Beard has been specially engaged for a number of years, and it will be devoted mainly to his original observations and researches on this important and growing subject. It is designed to make the work at once condensed and practical, and to adapt it to meet the wants of the practitioner and inquirer in a department of the nervous system that up to the present time has received very little attention from scientific men.

Medical Chemistry, including the Outlines of Organic and Physiological Chemistry. By G. GILBERT WHEELER, Professor of Chemistry in the University of Chicago. William Wood & Co., New York, 1880.

A short time ago we noticed a condensed work by Prof. Wheeler, on organic chemistry, after Riche's *Manuel de Chimie*. The matter contained in that volume has been supplemented by about an equal amount of material treating of the various subjects usually comprised under the head of Animal Chemistry, and published with the above title. To the medical student the latter portion of the book is even more interesting and important than the first issue, because it necessarily assists him in the allied studies of physiology and pathology, while this can only to a much less degree be said of the first section, where only an occasional reference is made to the *Materia Medica*. The author is undoubtedly correct in making attempts only in the direction of generalization; for not only is it important that the student should have some recent and reliable information upon such subjects as the chemical constitution of the blood in health and disease, the chemistry of abnormal urine, the nature of urinary calculi and deposits, &c.; but the information so imparted should be given in as few words as possible. In this respect, especially, is the work a useful one, and likely to be of great value to students of medical chemistry. Lectures on