

tenement house districts ; and wherever examination has been made into the physical nature of the soil, in localities where croup has been most frequent, there unfavourable conditions have been encountered. Along the water front, occupying ground rescued from the river or bay ; upon the site of marshes, now more or less obscured by the filling-in process ; in valleys that have been the site of water-courses, whose drainage is imperfect ; these are the districts over which, as the map plainly shows, the malady has destroyed the most people.

Dr. Pilcher's conclusions are of especial value in calling attention to the fact that so prevalent a malady is preventable by the ordinary sanitary precaution of proper drainage.

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HOW TO PRESERVE AND RESTORE FLOWERS.—Flowers may be preserved in a fresh state for a considerable time by keeping them in a moist atmosphere. Those who love to see plenty of fresh flowers in their parlors or sitting-rooms will be gratified by adopting the following plan : Pour water into a flat porcelain or glass dish. Set a vase of flowers in the dish, and over it place a bell glass, with its rim in the water. The air which surrounds the flowers being confined beneath the bell glass, is kept continually moist with the water which rises in the form of vapor. As fast as the water is condensed it runs down the sides of the bell glass back into the dish ; and if means were taken to enclose the water in the outside of the bell glass, so as to prevent its evaporating into the air of the sitting-room, the atmosphere around the flowers would remain continually damp. Those who wish 'to linger on the beauty' of a rare flower or bouquet will be repaid by this experiment. It can be tried on a small scale by inverting a tumbler over a rose-bud in a saucer of water. Another method, by which some flowers may be preserved for many months is, to carefully dip them as soon as gathered in perfectly limpid gum water, and after allowing them to drain two or three minutes, to set them upright, or arrange them in the usual manner in an empty vase. The gum gradually forms a transparent coating on the surface of the petals and stems, and preserves their figure and color long after they have become dry and crisp. Faded flowers may be generally more or less restored by immersing them half way up their stems in very hot water, and allowing them to remain in it until it cools, or they have recovered. The cooled portion of the stem must then be cut off, and the flowers placed in clear, cold water. In this way a great number of faded flowers may be restored ; but there are some of the more fugacious kinds on which it proves useless ; but flowers may also be preserved and their tints deepened by adding to the water a little of the solution of carbonate of ammonia and a few drops of the phosphate of soda. The effect of this, in giving the flower a deeper color and a strong appearance, is quite wonderful ; and by cutting off every other day about one-half inch of the stems of the flowers with a sharp knife, they may be kept as long as their natural life would last.—*Sanitarian from Lancaster Farmer.*