the importance and practical value of such health officials, and to give the best of them employment.

Thirdly, the laboratory wants the co-operation and assistance of sanitary authorities and inspectors, and especially of those of this city and state.

It needs to know from time to time what they are interested in and are working at, to have the opportunity of showing to its students cases of special interest—sick houses, localized epidemics, special forms of nuisance.

And, on the same principle and for the same reasons, it desires to have its attention called to special methods of heating, ventilating, and draining buildings, and especially public buildings, such as schools, hospitals, prisons, churches, and theaters, and to matters connected with the hygiene of manufacturing establishments and special occupations, methods of disposal of offensive or dangerous waste products, of protecting workmen against dusts, gases, etc.

In short, we want to know how these things are managed by the men who have a practical interest in them; and if, in our turn, we can suggest improvements, we shall be glad to do so.

Fourth, the laboratory wants a reference library as complete as it can be made, and always up to date. Many of the books and journals required must be purchased, and for this purpose a special fund is needed, but many of the works required can only be obtained by gift.

Thus we want all the reports of boards of health—state and municipal—of municipal engineers, waterworks and water commissioners, park commissioners, etc.

We want the catalogues and circulars of all manufacturers of heating and ventilating apparatus, of plumbers' supplies and house fixtures, of electric and gas fixtures, of machinery and apparatus connected with water-supply and sewage disposal.

We want copies of plans and specifications of large buildings of all kinds.

And these things can only be obtained through the aid and good will of manufacturers, engineers, architects, and sanitarians over all the country; and this aid I venture to ask, feeling sure it will be granted by those who know what is wanted.

I will mention but one more special want today, and that is of means for the proper publication of illustrated reports and accounts of the work done in the laboratory.

In the meantime we must be patient, and not too eager to touch the fruit of the blossom that is not yet blown.—*N. Y. Med. Jour.*

THE VENTILATION OF CHURCHES AND CHAPELS.—That churches should be so ill-ventilated and badly heated as to become sources of danger to the assembled worshippers is at once hostile to the spiritual as well as to the physical interests of the community. All sanitarians are aware that the air of chapels and churches often becomes distinctly injurious before even an hour of the service has elapsed; many have marvelled that so little care and attention have been bestowed at the outset to construct churches upon even the most commonplace principles of hygiene. The gas—which is almost invariably placed low down over the heads of the people—owing to the large amount consumed, aids materially in the air pollution. No provision is made to supply fresh air which has been previously warmed, and hence, for the greater part of the year, the inevitable old lady or gentleman who is possessed of a special faculty of detecting an amount of air movement which an anemometer would barely be sensitive to insists upon all ventilating openings (often only doors and windows!) being shut. Further, so as to make matters as bad as they possibly can be, and so as to insure that air shall not be induced to enter by any circumventive tactics, no means of outlet (or at least very inefficient ones) are provided for the escape of foul air. It would have been easy to achieve good results in the first instance, since the matter only entails the application of a few measures which are well understood and often adopted; but after construction the best remedial steps involve considerable difficulty and expense. Provision should be made in every case for warming the entering air, preferably by hot-water pipes, since the building itself is best heated by these means; and the warm air may be best admitted by small gratings at the bottom of the walls near the floor, and