

# PUBLIC HEALTH MAGAZINE

AND

## LITERARY REVIEW.

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10:

#### THE PNEUMATIC SYSTEM OF SEWERAGE AND ITS APPLICATION TO THE CITY OF MONTREAL.

BY R. CARR HARRIS, C.E., M. Inst. C.E.

Among the great questions which are still pressing upon society for solution, there is no one of more importance than that of finding out the right way of dealing with the sewerage of towns. Our old systems are on all sides acknowledged to be most unsatisfactory, leading to enormous expense, and yearly causing an amount of misery, sickness and death which can scarcely be calculated. Rich and poor are alike struck down by the fatal gases and the infectious diseases disseminated by our net-work of sewers, which not only let their deathly vapors leak through into the streets, but also discharge them into the chambers of our houses.

Custom has dulled our perception of these dangers, which, if newly presented to our minds, would startle us with their reality.

Few know how small the germ may be in zymotic diseases, and how rapidly it may develop. Like a microscopic cell of yeast, it has the power of developing countless multitudes of cells, and a single infected person may become the prolific centre of disease.