adopted by the town, and carefully carried out, completely checked it, and not a single case of the fever has appeared here since, that could not be traced to some other locality, for its origin." *

Ground was broken for the sewers Feb. 16, 1882, and all work on them was finished July, 1882, although some of the private connections were not done till after that date.

The estimated cost of the work was $52,000; the actual cost including a number of items, not originally estimated upon, was $51,785.77.

The question has been frequently asked, "With the knowledge gained from the work done, what changes would be advised, was it to be repeated elswhere? difficult question to answer, as no two places are similarly situated, either geographically, sanitarily, financially, or any other way. It may be sufficient to say, that some of the details of the house connections, such as grease traps, cesspools, and fresh-air inlets, would probably be somewhat differently arranged, and the former built of cast-iron rather than brick, while the general features of the plan would remain unchanged.

CAUSES AND ORIGIN OF CHOLERA.

Other events in Egypt have cast the cholera epidemic rather too much into the shade. The possibility of the spread of the disease next summer is such that all interest in it should not be lost. Anything reliable relating to its cause and origin will be profitable, and ought to be interesting to all who take any interest in sanitary work. At a meeting of the Epidemilogical Society of London, (Eng.) on January 9th, 1884, an important discussion took place upon this question, of which the following is a synopsis from a report in the *Medical Times*:—

Surgeon General Hunter, who has been investigating the outbreak of cholera in Egypt, said, that in regard to the recent outbreak, there was one point in his report to the Government which was of such paramount importance, that he wished to bring it before the members of the Society, and he intended to limit his remarks to that one point, viz.: to enquire into the origin of the commencement of the outbreak. Egypt, he said, was about the same size as Belgium, but with a population close upon 6,800,000 inhabitants, or 1¼ million more than Belgium. The soil was alluvial, rich in decomposing organic matter; the people were agricultural, and led an out-of-door life. The country was almost rainless, except for three months during the cold season, the sky was cloudless, the air dry, the winds almost always northerly. The Nile was the only source of water supply, and periodically inundated the country; the rise began in June, and attained its highest point in September, then gradually falling till the following June; the subsoil water level of course followed that of the Nile. The inhabitants mostly drank water unfiltered and before it had time to settle. At Cairo there was only one tank for drinking purposes, and the water was highly charged with inorganic and organic impurities; in the fashionable quarter there was no attempt at filtration. The water supply at Alexandria was good, it was the only town in Egypt with a wholesome water supply. The Nile was polluted almost from its very source with filth, garbage, and the excreta of all the towns on its banks. At Cairo and Alexandria it was found to contain minute bacteroid organisms in considerable numbers. There had been greater pollution of the river than usual, by the carcasses of animals that had died of typhus fever being thrown in, in order to avoid the fee payable on their death