

rather than diminish. Yet it is into these same sewers that the drainage of our dwellings, shops and factories must be discharged. It is therefore of the utmost importance, while disposing of our drainage, to secure ourselves against the poisonous effects of gases which are being constantly generated in the sewers which receive it.

In addition to this, it must be borne in mind that all who adopt the modern water closet system for removing the soil and water-waste from their buildings, necessarily introduce directly into said buildings a tubular branch of the street sewer, and in the case of dwellings, this branch in most instances is carried up and terminates in the immediate vicinity of the sleeping apartments, where it is connected with the water closet, bath, wash-stands and sinks of the building. Sometimes these connections have air traps to prevent the passage of sewer gas through these conveniences, and sometimes—as is the case with many houses in Montreal—these air traps are omitted altogether, and sewer gas has, in consequence, free, unimpeded entrance to the apartments. But even with air traps, by this arrangement of the drain or soil pipe, very little protection is obtained from the evil effects of sewer gas, because no means are provided for relieving the soil pipe from the pressure of the column of sewer air which, by its levity, is constantly pressing upon and forcing itself through the air traps. It is not surprising, therefore, that all houses having water closet arrangements of *this* kind should be constantly troubled with effluvia from the sewers.

Now, there are two plans which are eminently superior to all others for making use of this branch sewer or soil pipe for all the purposes above mentioned, in such a manner as to avoid poisoning the air of the building in which it is placed with sewer gas.—One of these plans was described by Professor Godfrey at the last meeting. The other has been described by myself in the PUBLIC HEALTH MAGAZINE. By the first of these plans, as Professor Godfrey explained to you, the branch sewer is carried directly up through the building to the roof, without air traps or obstructions of any kind. The strong updraught of sewer air through this pipe will, it is contended by the learned professor, not only ventilate the sewer with which it is connected, by discharging its