The Canada Health Journal

Vol. X.

JUNE, 1888.

No. 6.

THE WORK OF SANITARY OFFICERS—MORE THAN EPIDEMICS AND INFECTIONS TO ATTEND TO.

THE following is from an address to the Association of Sanitary Inspectors, at Liverpool by Dr. Alfred Carpenter, on May 18, 1888: Gentlemen, you have a higher motive than that of self preservation. You desire to be worthy of the offices you fill, and to perform the duties pertaining to them with credit to yourselves, and advantage to the locality in which you are placed. Here is the motive, and it is one which must commend itself to the citizens of this great commercial metropolis.

What is that higher motive? You desire to get more knowledge upon the work in which you are engaged. You desire to go the shortest, and the most successful way by which you may effect the object you have in view. You desire to do this with the least disturbance to the people among whom you are placed, and to do no unnecessary work. The effect of the desire must be that it is necessary to know the results of sanitary work elsewhere, as well as in the North-Western provinces of England, and that you should have opportunities of meeting together for the purpose of submitting to your practiced eyes the work of other men, and the theories which may be based upon that work. Sanitarians like myself are always delighted to get the opinions of practical men upon suggestions which are continually cropping up, and a few words spoken in a meeting like this where work is explained as performed elsewhere, either exposes its weakness, or points out the strength of the proposal in a most convincing manner when the words are spoken by practical men.