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## Original Communications.

A DESCRIPTION OF THE PESTILENT CONDITION OF THE TORONTO LUNATIC ASYLUM IN 1853, AND THE MEANS ADOPTED TO REMOVE IT.

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(Continued from our last.)

At the conclusion of my communication in the January number of the Sanitary Journal, I stated that "much still remained to be done before the establishment, within and without, could be regarded as a comfortable and safe residence." The eclipsing nuisance of the basement cesspool had hitherto thrown into the shade a number of minor, though very deleterious, sanitary evils. I shall restrict my present observations to but a few of these.

The presence of a laundry in the basement of any dwelling is a most objectionable arrangement. When I state that the dimensions of the primitive asylum laundry were less than would be deemed adequate for the purpose in any third rate hotel—that the drain from it, receiving the hot, dirty suds, had to run some fifty yards before reaching that escape from the building which it should have had, but had not, it will hardly be doubted that I regarded the continuance of such a source of atmospheric pollution within the house as an evil flagrantly calling for early removal. The steam and heated air exhaling from the wash-tubs, were largely diffused over the entire basement story, and upwards to the wards, according as the wind