

## RULES AND REGULATIONS

ADOPTED BY THE MICHIGAN STATE BOARD OF HEALTH.

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## FOR PREVENTION OF DISEASE.

RULE 1.—No privy-vault, cesspool, or reservoir into which a privy, water-closet, stable, or sink is drained, except it be water tight, shall be established or permitted within fifty feet of any well, spring, or other source of water used for drinking or culinary purposes.

*Reason.*—Soil, especially if it be sandy loam or gravel, or clay with inclined strata or layers, is often an unsuspected conductor of the liquid contents of such receptacles to wells or springs of water. Many well authenticated cases of typhoid fever and other dangerous and often fatal diseases have been traced to the use of water so contaminated.

2. Earth privies, or earth closets, with no vault below the surface of the ground, shall be excepted in Rule 1, but sufficient dry earth or coal ashes must be used daily to absorb all the fluid parts of the deposit, and the entire contents must be removed monthly.

*Reason.*—Dry earth or coal ashes are nearly complete disinfectants if used in sufficient quantities to absorb all the fluids.

3. All privy-vaults, cesspools or reservoirs named in Rule 1 should be cleaned out at least once a year; and from the first of May to the first of November of each year shall be thoroughly disinfected by adding to the contents of the vault, once every month, one or two pounds of copperas dissolved in a pailful of water.

*Reason.*—During the hot season putrescent gasses are given off from the decomposing excreta in such vaults. These gases are not only very offensive, but are frequently the cause of dangerous diseases. They contain compounds of ammonia, which are decomposed by solution of copperas and the foul odor destroyed. In a family vault two pounds of copperas a month is usually sufficient. In vaults used by a large number of persons, five or more pounds of copperas should be used monthly.

4. No privy-vault or cesspool shall open into any stream, ditch, or drain, except common sewers.

5. No night soil or contents of cesspool shall be removed unless previously deodorized by mixing with solution of cop-