

## SPECIAL TO EDITORS.

It is within your power, more than in that of any other class of the community, to aid in spreading the "Gospel of Health"—the "New Gospel," as some leading clergymen have termed it. Through you, every family in Canada may receive the "glad tidings" of this gospel.

In this JOURNAL we give every month articles specially calculated for the masses of your readers, compiled and prepared from only the highest established medical authorities, carefully culled from the leading medical and sanitary publications of the world, nearly all of which are received by the JOURNAL; and the JOURNAL is now mailed free regularly to at least two or three of the principal papers in every county in the Dominion.

Health literature may not be very "popular" reading; but editors can make almost anything popular by giving it space from week to week; and readers must soon see the good there is in a knowledge of this sort and want more of it.

We are not at all particular about receiving the usual credit for our articles when given by other papers, a subscriber is never obtained in this way; although we are always glad to receive a marked copy of any paper giving an extract.

To any daily or weekly that would publish an article, say twice a month, we would be pleased to send advance sheets.

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IT IS ALL WELL ENOUGH to talk of educating the plumber, says the Sanitary News, but an equally important matter is the educating of the public up to a proper understanding and appreciation of good plumbing. The great majority of our plumbers—all real, genuine plumbers are educated, but the ignorant public keep on employing men who know nothing about plumbing to save a few dollars at the expense of health.

The Boston Board of Health have added membranous croup to its list of contagious diseases.

## EDITORIAL NOTES.

THE OBJECT of this JOURNAL has ever been, from the first issue, sixteen years ago, rather to EDUCATE the public in regard to health than to promote legislation for COERCIVE measures. It urged the formation of provincial health boards, and even also of local boards, more with the view that they would educate the people in regard to the greater value, and the methods, of prevention, instead of cure, than of trying to compel the people to comply with health regulations. The larger proportion of the many who, it is true, require coercion, require it because they do not know or understand the value—the greater advantages of employing timely preventive measures, and how really easy it is to keep well.

THE SANITARIAN has still to go forth to try to teach, as the medical officer of Birmingham, Dr. Hill, said the other day in an address at the fifty-eighth annual meeting of the British Medical Association which was being held there (July 29th to August 2nd), "to teach that, without cleanliness, health is impossible, and that though much has been done in this direction, very much indeed still remains to be done. In order to effect the required amelioration, we must in the first place secure, as far as possible, cleanliness and purity of air, water, soil, and food. This is the object to which human effort has been directed more or less from the earliest historic times.

THE Jewish code of laws clearly provides for such conditions with a precision and detail which strike the modern mind as over-elaborate; while the Romans had a system of sanitation which, as regards its baths, its aqueducts, and its gymnasia, magnificent evidences of which, after more than 2,000 years, remain to bear witness of it, excites wonder and admiration. The fact that cleanliness and purity, so much inculcated and practiced thousands of years ago, should have been almost entirely neglected in modern times, is not only incredible but for the indisputable proof of it, but is absolutely humiliating.

MUCH has been done in recent years. If two hundred years ago, as Dr. Hill said, anyone had predicted that the then death-rate of 50 per 1,000 in London would be reduced to 20, his statement would have only excited ridicule. If