

Editor's Special Corner.

THE REDUCED PRICE of the JOURNAL, to \$1.50 per volume, is intended only for those who pay in *advance*, and without *account being sent*; sending accounts incurs great trouble and expense.

CHRISTMAS AND THE NEW YEAR is near at hand, and we hope we shall, before those days arrive, hear from many who have not yet sent in the amount due for this vol.; and especially from some who are owing for vol. 4, and even vol. 3.

TO A FEW DELINQUENTS, who seem very indifferent about paying for the JOURNAL, we purpose not to continue it *after this number*; i.e. if they do not pay at an early day. We trust, however, they will "reform," and permit us to keep them on our list.

IF FRIENDS OF THE JOURNAL would kindly send us names with address, of any persons likely to be interested in the JOURNAL, copies will be mailed them; and the sending of such names will be esteemed a special favor.

THE SCIENTIFIC AMERICAN advertised in another place, is a most valuable periodical, a large weekly, costing \$3.20 per year. We will send it and this JOURNAL, both free of postage, to any new subscriber for \$4.00.

AN ILLUSTRATED SPECIMEN of lead drain pipe eaten across by rats, is given in the *Sanitary Record*, of August. The pipe formed part of a waste-pipe of a sink, in a house near London, Eng. The marks of their teeth were plainly visible on the pipe.

WE RECEIVE REGULARLY the monthly statements of deaths issued by the Health Department of Montreal, by the indefatigable health officer, Dr. Larocque. There were no deaths from small-pox in July; during the previous month there were 8, and in July 1879 there were 26 deaths from this disease.

ASPHALT DRAIN PIPES are now manufactured, and prove to be a very excellent article. After much experimenting the manufacturers have improved in it by combining a number of ingredients so that it

keeps its shape and will resist safely a pressure of 120 lbs. to the inch. To make them continuous and perfectly tight the joints are packed with the same material the pipe is made of, and it "sets" perfectly; so says a correspondent in the *Sanitary Engineer*.

CAUSES OF DIPHTHERIA.—The Montreal *Daily Witness* publishes a report from the *Chicago Times* of some investigations made by that paper into the causes of diphtheria and other zymotic diseases. The *Times* investigator found in every reported case the prevalence of sewer gas in close proximity to the sleeping apartments in which deaths had occurred. The *Witness* says, we are glad to state that our republication of this report is made at the request of a Montreal physician. Now that the medical faculty begins to busy itself with the public health we may look for changes. In times past hygienic movements have originated chiefly from other sources.

TYPHOID IN MILK.—England has long been suffering from epidemics of typhoid caused by milk. They appear to be commencing in Canada. From the October number of the *Canada Medical and Surgical Journal* we learn that some months ago considerable interest was felt there on this subject owing to a series of cases in which there was the strongest reason for suspecting this method of contagion. Recently the fact has become known that several persons amongst the customers of one milkman were suffering from this disease, which led to further enquiries by medical men amongst those they were attending with fever, with the result of finding still others who have had milk from the same source. It has since been learnt that a member of the milkman's family has been ill with typhoid fever at the homestead whence the milk is brought.

CO-OPERATIVE COWS.—Apropos to the above we may mention that co-operative cow keeping is becoming more and more common, it appears; two or more families unite in keeping a cow to supply milk for their own use. The wonder is that so few families afford themselves the luxury--not by