

particularly two : first, and above all, there is danger of water supplies, which are in any degree tainted by house refuse or other like kinds of filth, as where there is overflow, leakage, or filtration, from sewers, house drains, cesspools, foul ditches, or the like, into streams, springs, wells or reservoirs, from which the supply of water is drawn, or into the soil in which the wells are situate, —a danger which may exist on a small scale at the pump of a private house, or on a large scale, in the source of supply of public waterworks ; and, secondly, there is the danger of breathing air which is foul with effluvia from the same sorts of impurity.”

Filth percolating into well water is a very fertile source of disease. The report of Dr. Ballard, of Islington, concerning the propagation of enteric fever, by milk polluted with enteric fever poison, through leakage into the well which supplied the cattle with water, is conclusive evidence as to the occasional origin of so trying a disease.

The subject of sanitary legislation is one of vast importance inasmuch as by preventable diseases, thousands of lives are lost which might be saved annually. We require fresh air, pure water and clean food ; this brought about, even in a moderate degree, would confer an inestimable blessing on society at large. So strongly impressed are the members of the American Medical Association on this subject, that at their last meeting at St. Louis in June, a strong resolution was passed recommending the establishment of a “ National Sanitary Bureau,” with relation to the general Government at Washington, similar to the Bureau of Agriculture. It is quite evident, considerable new life must be thrown into this subject, and should sanitary regulations be thoroughly and systematically carried out, by skilled operatives, the advantage which would accrue to this Dominion would be beyond computation. An enlightened opinion would thus be built up, through the exercise of which, we might possibly