

could not hitherto avail themselves of it, and will form circuits where blind ends previously existed. 2,932 feet of brick sewers, of an average diameter of 20 inches, have been constructed in the town.

Dr. Coventry says. "A recent report which I made to the Board of Education shows that in four schools visited there were 880 pupils on the rolls and only 782 seats. The minimum air space laid down by the regulations of the Education Department is 250 cubic feet of air space to each pupil. The average space in the schools mentioned is only 174 feet, and in some it is as low as 94. This combines compulsory education with compulsory suffocation."

DR. MCKAY, of Wootstock, reports that the by-law relative to the dry earth system, which came into operation last May, had been very generally complied with. No less than 150 vaults had been cleaned out and filled up during the year, and the earth closets used instead; "upwards of 400 are now in use, so that the old-fashioned vault is almost a thing of the past." Wootstock is much in need of a pure public water supply. The medical officer urges the importance of it.

DR. MACKINNON, Med. Officer of Alvington village, reports progress in the use of earth closets, but that many of the householders do not continue the use of them, and he points out one special difficulty. What is the chambermaid to do with the bucket she carries outside in the winter season, or for that matter in any season? She cannot pour it into the dry earth box. Nor can she be allowed to throw the contents into any other convenient place. What is she to do? Even in summer the difficulty is not easy to overcome. It is at this point that the system breaks down. It is clear that two receptacles are needed.

THE HEALTH JOURNAL has recommended for the slops, in some circumstances, a large tight barrel, with a large round hole in one end, a large funnel and a long wooden stopper to fit the hole, and which could be put in tightly and removed without much difficulty. After the barrel is filled it could be plugged with the stopper,

turned on its side and rolled away to a convenient distance.

A VERY SAD CASE.—DR. ALGIE, of Caledon, in an interesting report gives the following very sad case, which should act as a warning everywhere. "A plasterer, whose family were living in Alton, had been working in Bracebridge during the winter; he was taken down with a severe illness, the nature of which we did not at that time know but which confined him to bed for many weeks. As soon as he had fairly recovered he came home to his family, and not having had any conversation with him on his return, I was not aware of the nature of his illness. About a week afterwards, I was called to see their little girl, the youngest of the family, and found her suffering from a violent attack of scarlet fever, from which she died in a few days. The following day three other children of the same family were taken down with the same disease, and though their illness was long and tedious they finally recovered. These cases occurring so soon after the father's return, and at a time when there were no other cases in the neighbourhood, aroused my suspicion and I questioned him regarding his illness. He said that the doctor told him he had diphtheria, but stated that in the house where he boarded a child had died from a severe sore throat, accompanied by a rash which he said was exactly like the rash his children had. I then asked him if his clothing had been disinfected, and he said that nothing had been said to him about it, and he was not aware that it was necessary. Here was a father returning home to his family after a protracted and painful absence, and they received him joyfully, glad after many weeks of uncertainty and suspense to see his face again, not knowing that he had brought with him germs of a disease that would place one of the little darlings that ran forth to meet him in her grave, three others on a bed of long and painful suffering, and bring the family to the brink of starvation. By strictest isolation and thorough disinfection not another case occurred. The name of "the doctor" in Bracebridge should have been given to the public.