

of a surveyor's theodolite. This little tell-tale flew round with such rapidity as to present the aspect of a continuous disc. If all our city houses were provided with this simple and inexpensive means of sub-ventilation, we should hear of fewer cases of typhoid fever than we now do. Seven or eight lengths of even old stove-pipe, painted black for look's sake, and longer wear, set over a round hole in the floor, an inch less in diameter, and let into a hole in the chimney three or four feet above the fire-place arch, is the whole apparatus; but it is too cheap and too simple to please the rich or the ignorant. In the winter time, when supply of air from outside is cut off, it performs the double office of pumping out bad air from beneath, and drawing down, through crevices, the cold air of the apartment, which is always lowest down, consequently it economises heat, instead of wasting it.

The result on the general health of the inmates of the asylum, both sane and insane, from the improvements and alterations above detailed, soon became manifest. Erysipelas utterly vanished, and has not reappeared, except in a few cases of late years, in the new wings, in which a most wayward and serious blunder was, despite my protests, made by the architect, and the plumber who did the work of the water-closets. This subject will be noticed hereafter. Perforating dysenteries, intractable diarrhoeas, and the whole typhoid family of deadly complications, ceased to perplex the medical staff. Still much remained to be done before the establishment, within and without, could be regarded as a comfortable and safe residence; but I fear the present article exceeds the limits awardable, therefore I defer till a future opportunity, the further consideration of the subject.—J. W.

THE IMPORTANCE OF SANITARY SCIENCE.

(To the Editor of the SANITARY JOURNAL.)

DEAR SIR,—

While I profess to considerable enthusiasm in curative medicine, I am no less deeply interested in the science for which your admirable Journal so ably contends. I assume it to be the inevitable tendency of every young practitioner in medicine, who so recently during his college course has studiously waded his way through the labyrinth of theories as to the nature and etiology of diseases; and who, in his own experience (limited though it may be) has frequently witnessed the inefficacy of the measure based on these theories to