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SEWERAGE AND SEWER VENTILATION.

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In a recent number of the "SANITARY JOURNAL" appeared an extract from "La France Medicale," in which, after speaking of a visitation of typhoid fever, (I think), the writer proceeds to say that this, like some other outbreaks, tells trumpet-tongued of the necessity of doing away with sewers—which are nothing else than elongated cesspools, and resorting to a rigid dry-earth system, with frequent removals. Opinions such as this show that there is plenty of room for the discussion of the question of drainage; and even for taking up some points which one might almost suppose too well and too commonly known to require notice; its importance in a practical point of view being such as to demand that it should be thoroughly understood in all its details.

It is not my intention in this paper to enter into a discussion of the various theories of the causes, and mode of propagation, of certain forms of disease, nor to quote statistics to show the value of the various systems of dealing with sewage matter; but rather to point out some of the essentials of a proper system of drainage.

The popular idea of a drain seems to be some kind of a subterranean passage into which an unlimited supply of fluid may