

room. Therefore, it is to be removed only by an entire and steady change of the whole atmosphere of the room; which can be accomplished by having a perceptible current through it from side to side, and in no other way. We ought to be convinced of the insufficiency of one open window for getting rid of anything noxious in the air, when we see how long a cloud of tobacco smoke will hang almost motionless in the room when there is an opening on one side only. It should convince us that something more than the moderate opening of one window is needed to purify the sick room of its poisonous gases.

In the outer air, even in the city streets, the amount of carbonic acid has little variation, and is kept within healthy limits, by the force of currents aiding its diffusion; but in an occupied room it constantly accumulates, and even with tolerable contrivances for ventilation is found by examination, to exist in an amount far beyond its normal proportion. In the experiments of the late Dr. R. C. Stiles (published in the report of the Metropolitan Board of Health for 1869), on the atmosphere of the public schools in Brooklyn, some of which are regarded by the Board of Education as models in their method of ventilation, the amount of carbonic acid was always in excess, in one school being present in eight times the ordinary amount. The atmosphere of a large proportion of dwelling-houses would not give any more favorable results.—*Sanitarian*.

EXTRACT FROM PAPERS READ BEFORE THE AMERICAN PUBLIC HEALTH ASSOCIATION—SECOND ANNUAL SESSION.

[The second annual session of the American Public Health Association commenced November 11th, 1874 at 12 o'clock in the hall of the College of Physicians, Philadelphia, and continued four days. Many prominent members of the Association were present, including physicians of the highest standing in the United States. The written papers were of a high order, and more numerous than could be read during the session. We take the following extracts from exchanges.—ED.]

HEREDITARY DEFECTS.

J. R. Black, M. D., of Ohio, read a paper on "The Influence of Hereditary Defects upon the Health of the People, with suggestions in regard to Prevention and Eradication."