

an urban authority should be placed under the inspection and control of local sanitary authorities, who shall be bound to see to the effective construction and due maintenance of all such house drains, pipes, and connections. Provisions having this object in view already exist in the "Local Management," the "Public Health," and the "Sewers" Acts; but practically they seem scarcely sufficient for the purpose.

"Second—That plans of such drains and connections be deposited in the charge of the respective local authorities, who shall be bound to exhibit them and supply copies of them to the public on payment of a moderate fee.

"Third—That the owners of houses be compelled by law to send to the respective local authorities, within a specified time after the passing of the Act, plans of all house drains on an appointed scale."

You will see from the above-mentioned "conclusions" of the Committee that the question of ventilating the sewers and disposing of sewer gases is very far from being settled. It is also satisfactory to note that the very positive recommendations of the Committee respecting house drainage and its connections with the common sewers are identical with those published last year in the "Public Health Magazine" in "Notes on Household Sanitary Matters;" and it may not be out of place to mention, in connection with the subject of sewer ventilation, that I have a number of reports from towns and cities in Great Britain where the plan of ventilating sewers by means of ventilating shafts and factory chimneys has been in successful operation for many years; while the mode of ventilation with charcoal ventilators placed in the water gullies, has gradually fallen into disuse. Even at Croydon, where a few years ago charcoal ventilators were considered to be a triumphant success, Dr. Alfred Carpenter stated at the "Conference" last May "that they had all been removed."

MONTREAL, September 9th, 1876.