

tary authorities, who shall be bound to see to the effective construction and due maintenance of all such house drains, pipes, and connections.

' 2. 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.

' 3. 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.

' (Signed by) The Right Hon. JAMES STANSFELD, M.P.

' Chairman of the Conference.

' Lord ALFRED S. CHURCHILL, Chairman of the Council,

' F. A. ABEL, F.R.S., President of the Chemical Society,

' Sir HENRY COLE, K.C.B.

' Capt. DOUGLAS GALTON, R.E., C.B., F.R.S.,

' Lt-Col. E. F. DU CANE, R.E., C.B., Sur-Gen. of Prisons.

Members of the Executive Committee.'

At Gennevilliers, Paris, according to M. de la Trehonnais,—
' Sewage, containing forty-three grammes of nitrogen per ton before its application to the land, when analyzed after percolation through the soil, gave scarcely any trace of it in a decomposable state. Only 1.6 grammes of nitrogen in a state of mineral ammonia could be found. It was the same with the quantity of soluble oxygen. The sewage-water, when laid on the land, scarcely contained two cubic centimeters of oxygen per quart. On its effluence from the soil, it was found to contain from eight to ten, which is the unerring characteristic of healthy water.

Prof. Wanklyn thinks that the contagium of the diseases communicable by infected water are of an albuminoid character, and of such definite form, etc, as to be removed by efficient filtration. Dr. Alfred Carpenter, whose sixteen years' experience at Croyden entitles his opinion to great consideration, says :—

' The most important operation that takes place on a sewage farm, is the destruction of contagious particles. The moment they are brought into contact with the spongioles on the rootlets of sewage-grown crops, as may be easily seen in any field of rye-grass which is being irrigated by sewage, the spongioles seize upon the albuminous matters in the sewage by a kind of elective affinity, including the contagium-particles, remove them from the water and digest them with an avidity which is most remarkable; no putrefaction takes place, no retrograde decomposition arises, but the albuminous matter is digested as perfectly as white of egg is digested by the human stomach. Putrefaction is no part of sewage utilization, and, if putrefaction takes place, there is a corresponding decrease of productive power, and also a proof that sewage farming is not properly carried out.'

Professor Ansted, F.R.S., in a paper read before the Society of