

And yet the causes of this great mortality among our children are many of them known to the leading hygienists, and may be known to the people, if they will only study the subject. And the impulse for such study should arise when the assurance is given by those who do study the subject that the deaths are known to be in great part preventable.

"Such demonstrations as those to which we have referred were not possible until the system of registration of population and mortal diseases became a part of the established law of civilized communities. Political economists and statesmen had seen the waste of life, and philanthropists had seen the suffering, but in the absence of vital statistics no one could prove what many intelligent minds perceived. At the present day we stand face to face with facts of the deepest interest, showing the comparative duration of life in different communities, the causes of deaths, the influences of soil, of climate, of race, of inheritance, of occupation, of contagion, of putridity."

REQUIREMENTS FOR THE DRAINAGE OF EVERY HOUSE.

From the Sanitary Engineer, Sept. 1879.

In the light of present knowledge, the following seems to us the essential requirements for the drainage of every house. Time and further experience may suggest other features or modifications of these. *We invite our readers to criticise or ask for more detailed explanation of any section not fully understood or concurred in.*

*Every house drain should have an inlet for fresh air entering at a point inside the main trap, and carried to a convenient location *out-of-doors*, not too near windows.

A trap should be placed on every main drain TO DISCONNECT the house from the sewer or cesspool. In places liable to unusual pressure from the sewer it should be a double trap, with vent from between the tw traps, running up full size above the roof; or, where the pressure from sewer is only occasional and the rigor of climate will permit, this vent may be carried to the sidewalk or area, at a safe distance from windows. If the first trap is forced, the gas can gain easier exit through this pipe than through the second.

*This pipe will relieve the smaller house traps from pressure occasioned by a descending column of water that would otherwise be likely to force the seals of these traps. The air drawn through this inlet to the lower part of the drainage system assists the circulation within the drains, and is essential to ensure the diffusion of the gases generated within them.