

of the present generation? How shall they of it be taught to preserve the health and lives of the next, as well as their own. A provincial department could do much, with little expense, in educating the masses in many ways in hygiene; as is being done by State Boards in Michigan, Massachusetts, and other of the United States. In Great Britain the aim has not yet been, seemingly, so much to educate the people as to enforce good public health laws.

Consumption, of all disease effecting the human race, is almost universally the most fatal. In Ontario, in 1876, according to the last report of Registrar General, there were registered 2,259 deaths from this disease alone. No doubt many more died which were not registered, for the returns, though a vast improvement has taken place, are not yet complete. Of the total number of deaths, from specified causes, 12.9 per cent. were from consumption; while, (for comparison) only 2.5 per cent. died from typhoid fever, and 5 per cent. from diphtheria, the next (to consumption) most fatal disease, excepting old age, (8 per cent). While the deaths of most of those registered under this last head were no doubt much hastened, if not quite caused, by some special local disease.

Now in reply to the question, 'can any Sanitary means be devised for the prevention of consumption,' hundreds of the medical practitioners of Ontario reply that, strict observance of the laws of health will largely prevent if not entirely eradicate the disease. It is said doctors differ. On this point, of the hundreds who reply to the above question, there are hardly two opinions; only two or three indeed who do not answer in effect as above stated. Almost all seem to believe, with members of the profession everywhere, and for the belief there are the best of reasons, that the great chief cause of this disease is the breathing of air rendered foul and poisonous by respiration; or, in short, want of ventilation. The disease is most prevalent on wet undrained soil, least so in high well drained districts. Certainly Ontario is an inviting field for sanitary work. A field which promises abundant return for labor expended in it. And delay in cultivating it is death.

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AT THE THIRD annual meeting of the London Schools Swimming Club, Sir Charles Reed, president of the club, in the chair, the report showed that the club was founded in 1875 for the purpose of teaching children—both boys and girls—of public elementary schools the art of swimming. Last season 1,577 children (exclusive of adults to the number of 100) were instructed, making a total since the club commenced of 7,577.

AN ASSOCIATION, already numbering 418 members, has been formed in Edinburgh, for the purpose of securing thorough periodical inspection of the drainage of the houses of members. Such an organization, employing competent inspectors, might be of immense sanitary value to any community, in the prevention of the many diseases that take their origin in defective sewers and drains. The plan is worthy of general imitation.