

## Editorial Notices and Answers to Correspondents.

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HOUSE OFFAL.—A correspondent says that, according to the instructions of the City Clerk, of which due notice was given in the city papers, he placed a barrel of house offal in a convenient position for the scavenging carts to take away, but to his astonishment it was not touched, but had evidently been disturbed and turned up with a shovel. He went to enquire about it, and was told that he must have had matter in the barrel other than lawful offal. He says he had coal ashes mixed with the garbage. The triumphant sanitary policeman said, "There, I told you you must have had stuff in your barrel that should not have been there." So he writes us to define to him what constitutes house offal. On looking at the appendix of the municipal by-laws for 1870, page 187, sec. 12, we find that "House offal shall include any dead animal, dirt, sawdust, manure, soot, ashes, cinders, shavings, hair shreds, oyster, clam or lobster shells, and all garbage, whether consisting of animal or vegetable matter, and other offensive substances." Would the Health Committee please inform us by what rule the scavengers are guided in their choice of what shall be taken or not taken?

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*To the Editor Public Health Magazine :*

DEAR SIR,—Is there no influence which the new Health Association can bring to bear on the Catholic pulpits throughout the country to induce them to draw the earnest attention of the *habitans* to the necessity of isolation in small-pox cases? Would not a committee calling upon our energetic Co-adjutor-Bishop Fabre, have some good effect? Residing as I do during the summer in a French-Canadian parish, I am painfully aware of the utter ignorance prevailing with regard to small-pox. In fact I sometimes think the old women of the parish rather enjoy a good small-pox epidemic. Yours truly,

"ROMAN CATHOLIC."