

osculatory salutations of every other woman she meets merely because it is fashionable?

It seems highly probable that diseases of this sort may be spread by means of the cup at public drinking fountains. I have often thought when witnessing the many drinking at the street fountains in Toronto, that some who drank might get much more than simply a drink of water.

Dr. Mac Cabe relates an instance of the transmissibility of scarlatina by means of wearing apparel. He was sent for to see a lady suffering from an attack of scarlatina, and when he told her husband the state of the case, he, to use Dr. Mac Cabe's expression, laughed him to scorn, and asked how she could have got it. On investigation, it was found that a youth of the family had returned from Rugby, because the school he attended was shut up in consequence of an outbreak of scarlatina. He had not had the scarlatina himself but had brought it over. The doctor called at the same house a few days after and found a ball-dress lying on the lady's bed, which had just been sent in from a Dublin firm. The patient said she was looking at it to see if it was made in accordance with her directions, and that it was for a lady in Belfast. The dress was accordingly sent to Belfast, but with an unexpected addition of zymotic poison, and the young lady who received and wore it died of scarlatina.

Everyone knows that diseases are often spread by means of milk from some infected dairy; and in conclusion I will only say in reference to this that, Dr. James Christie, of Glasgow, Scotland, investigated the causes of an epidemic of enteric fever that occurred last April in one of the districts of Glasgow. Ninety-two cases occurred in a population of 1,242, and 86 of the cases were traced to the milk from one dairy.

#### ON THE DRY METHODS OF REMOVING EXCRETA.

Dr. Parkes says, "It is highly probable that to the barbarous and inefficient modes of removing the excreta of men and animals we must partly trace the great prevalence of diseases in the middle ages; and there is no doubt that many of the diseases now prevailing in our large towns are due to the same cause."

There is no doubt, indeed, that a very large proportion of the diseases which afflict humanity are caused by the imperfect manner in which the waste matters from our own bodies are disposed of; from these waste matters—from the lungs, the skin, the bowels—finding their way back into our bodies again, and chiefly along with the air and water consumed. It is usually along with the excreta of the body that the specific germs of contagious diseases are conveyed from person to person.

In cities and large towns where there are efficient provisions for abundance of water, the water carriage system of removal of excrement is very generally preferred. And no doubt, with good plumbing work, perfect ventilation of soil and waste pipes, and a water course which will carry the sewage far out to sea and not simply to some other town or city, it is a very excellent plan for the removal of waste. But in the estimation of many eminent sanitarians it is falling into disrepute, for general use. For the most part, it takes the excreta from one door and deposits it at some other door. We are not now, however, going to discuss the value of the water carriage system: in small towns and villages it cannot well be adopted for want of water.

In Canada the water carriage plan is the only one in use. Where it cannot conveniently be employ-