

## HEALTH AND SEWAGE OF TOWNS.

In view of the fact that there is in Toronto not less probably than 10,000 privies, and a like proportion in most other cities and towns in Canada, the following may prove interesting, especially the 8th resolution. We have long urged the necessity for the abolition of these pests.

The Executive Committee on the Health and Sewage of Towns (Great Britain), report that the Conference applied itself specially this year to the dry systems, as distinguished from the water-carried systems discussed last year, and have passed the following resolutions thereon :—(*Sanitary Record*.)

1. That the pail system, under proper regulations for early and frequent removal, is greatly superior to all privies, cesspools, ashpits, and middens, and possesses manifold advantages in regard to health and cleanliness, whilst its results in economy and facility of utilisation often compare favourably with those of water-carried sewage.
2. That hitherto no mode of utilising the excreta had been brought into operation which repays the costs of collection.
3. That the almost universal practice of mixing ashes with the pail products, though it applies these as a convenient absorbent, and possibly to some extent as a deodorant, is injurious to the value of the excreta as manure.
4. That, for use within the house, no system has been found in practice to take the place of the water-closet.
5. That, although there are appliances and arrangements by means of which the sewer-gases may be effectually prevented from entering houses, they still do so in the great majority of dwellings, both in town and country, including the metropolis.
6. That it is of the highest importance, in a sanitary point of view, that the metropolitan and local authorities should exercise great vigilance with respect to this matter, and that it should be made by law the duties of these bodies to enforce efficient measures for the exclusion of sewer-gases from dwellings, and to watch over their being efficiently carried out under such a system of payment as shall not press too heavily on those at whose charge the work is done.
7. That in every large town plans of its drainage should be deposited with the local authorities, and be accessible to the public.
8. That all middens, privies, and cesspools in towns should be abolished by law, due regard in point of time being had to the condition of each locality.
9. That the annual accounts of the sanitary authorities especially in great towns, should be prepared and published in sufficient detail.

(Signed by) THE RIGHT HON. JAMES STANSFIELD, M.P.,

*Chairman of the Conference.*

*Committee.*—Lord Alfred Churchill ; Sir H. Cole, K.C.B. ; Lieut.-Col. Sir E. F. Du Cane, R.E., K.C.B. ; F. A. Abel, F.R.S. ; General F. C. Cotton, R.E., C.S.I. ; Capt. Douglas Galton, R.E., C.B. ; F.R.S.