

be selected for it. Without a first-class, suitable man, many causes and sources of disease, and its spread, may be overlooked. For safety, every home in the community in which you live, at least, however humble it may be, must be in as good a sanitary condition as your own; hygienically all must be as perfect as possible. To get the best men for such positions the pay must be liberal. Often municipal authorities do not pay such officials well, because the people—their supporters, will not sustain them in so doing. Wise supporters, or electors, will take care that the health of

officials, the most important officials of the municipality, whether city or town or only village or township, are so paid that they may have the "heart" to do their work well—to be "up betimes" and "vigilant in their calling." And indeed, at best, every man should, himself, take heed, a little, judiciously, to his neighbour's sanitary condition, even before the sense of smell is affected, and so aid the health officers, remembering that "eternal vigilance" is, too, the price of cleanliness and health.

THE CHOLERA AGAIN. WHAT THE LEADING MEDICAL JOURNAL SAYS.

THE British Medical Journal of August 16th, says: "Now that the cholera, which has been slowly advancing—as in all epidemics prior to 1865—by the North Persian and Euphrates Valley routes, has suddenly appeared on the Red Sea littoral, there is no longer any good ground for entertaining the hope, even should the present epidemic in Spain not spread beyond the Peninsula, that Europe generally will escape, though from the lateness of the season the brunt of the attack may, as in 1865-6, be postponed until next year." In referring to America, it continues: "It is notorious that that continent has been involved in all epidemics, even those in which, as in 1871 and 1875, Great Britain has escaped."

And again: "It is true that for five-and-twenty years we have in our own country (Great Britain), with the simplest system of detention and inspection of infected or suspected ships and persons, enjoyed entire immunity, *thanks to our good sanitary arrangements*, especially as regards water supplies, which the remarkable exemption of Seville and one or two other Spanish towns, and of Rome, have proved to be the most powerful factors in the propagation of cholera."

Now what of the future? What is the plain duty of every health organization in Canada? Our reply is, to prepare for a possible, indeed probable, visit from this

dreaded disease next summer; and that it is not too soon to commence preparations *now*—to commence preparations for a pure water supply and for thorough drainage and cleanliness. In many cases, next spring will be too late to make thorough and complete preparations. There are a great many of the smaller towns throughout Canada which, depending now on more or less contaminated, dangerous wells for a water supply, are in much need of a better system; many in which the more prudent and thoughtful, those with due regard to their health interest, would like a better system, but in which the "majority", that often too mighty, because mislead, irresistible force, is opposed to such improvement, as being unnecessary. Now is the time to move in such towns. The near approach of well defined danger will change many votes in this respect. The systems in some of the larger towns and cities are not so safe as they should be, and in their present state might be the means of the destruction of thousands of human lives. The Queen City, Toronto, seems to have but a very unsafe, treacherous supply, which should be put in much better shape before next summer. It is, depend upon it, high time now to begin this sort of work and, too, to make provision for improved sewerage, "all along the lines."