

plunges it into an open drawbridge are not criminals, and incendiarism and burglary are trivial misdemeanors."

The "Press," the leading Dailies and Weeklies, could do a great deal in enlightening the masses of the people relative to the importance and value of the most complete isolation possible of all cases of infectious diseases, and to wholly dispel the belief, not now so general as it used to be,

that it is better for young children, while yet young, to "take" scarlet fever, measles and such like diseases and have the trouble and danger over; as if all children were destined to necessarily suffer from such affections. With a more enlightened public and vigilant sanitary officers such diseases could be in a few years entirely stamped out and become only a thing of the past.

SEWERAGE AND WATER-SUPPLY OF SMALL TOWNS.

A NUMBER of towns it is gratifying to observe are making or are about to make provisions for a public water supply. Many of them however have no special sewerage system and are not even providing for this. Such a course is a mistake. Certain portions of cities in like manner are sometimes supplied freely with water from the public source, where there are no sewers in the locality for carrying away the excess of water. There should invariably be some provision for carrying off the waste water from all buildings, even with the use of dry earth closets. Otherwise the soil will become most injuriously saturated with impurities. This is a rule laid down by the most experienced sanitarians, and the practice of it is of obvious utility and indispensableness.

Many small towns are prevented from introducing sewers and enjoying the more approved sanitary conditions thereby secured, by a false impression of the expense involved. The old-time sewerage system which provided for storm water as well as sewage proper, required very large costly sewer pipes. An objection to this system is the washing into the pipes of considerable quantity of sand and gravel, which formed dams at frequent intervals, causing the sewage to accumulate in pools, and filling the pipes with offensive gases which sooner or later found their way into the homes connected with the sewage system. The modern "separate system" of sewerage provides two separate

pipes, one for carrying away the storm water, the other for the sewage, and is much less expensive, as sewers must be made absolutely impervious, while for storm water ordinary drains will answer. In some towns, indeed, on a high or rolling situation, the storm water may be carried off by surface drainage. It is found that small pipes answer the purpose of sewerage conduction much better than large pipes, as the stream more nearly fills the pipe, flows more freely, and thus keeps the pipes freer from sediment. An eight-inch sewer laid at a grade of even one foot in one hundred, will it is said carry away much more sewage than will be discharged from a row of houses, each with forty feet "front," two miles long, each house occupied by five persons; it being supposed that each person will furnish not less than 60 to 80 gallons per day of sewage or contaminated water. It has been estimated that in average soils, an eight-inch sewer pipe can be laid at an expense, including cost of pipe, of less than two thousand dollars per mile; the expense to each forty feet of front being only about \$10.60, and the interest at 4 per cent., forty-two cents a year, or eight cents per head of occupants. With a sinking fund to pay off the principal in 20 or 40 years, so that the next generation, who would receive equal benefit would aid in the payment, the yearly cost would be far less than is constantly being paid almost daily for some trifling, useless or injurious luxury.