

Your readers will not have forgotten that in my last communication, I said that to empty the contents of the trunk sewer into the Don, would be but to perpetuate the nuisance now existing. Mr. Shanley's plan, by including the turning of the river into a new channel, to be cut in solid ground to the eastward, and closing up its present entrance, provides against the evil above instanced.

It is to be hoped the new cutting will be carried to a sufficient length to prevent exhalation from its liberated contents being wafted by favoring winds back upon the city. If the new cut debouches into the swamp, this untoward result will be inevitable. It should empty into the open Lake.

Some members of the city Council, actuated no doubt by economic motives, and a laudable desire to contribute to the agricultural prosperity of the adjacent country, have suggested the utilization of the sewage, by conversion into fertilizing manure. If this end can be attained without detriment to the paramount sanitary purpose in view, there might be no objection to a fair trial being given to the experiment; but from information which I several years ago received from some large public institutions in the old country, where the process was carried into effect, I should regard its introduction here as a very unadvisable step; should it, indeed, be attempted within any moderate distance, we should soon discover that we had made matters worse than they are at present, for the sewage delivered into our Bay, and there becoming diluted by admixture with cool water, is much less harmful than it would be in large detaining reservoirs, which in warm weather would certainly give off copious volumes of pestilent gases. If the process of conversion should be entertained, the works should not be located nearer the city than four miles. But it is my belief that the value of large towns' sewage as a manure, is very much overrated. The advocates of the dry-earth closet system, have pointed out, with much force, the great desirability of capturing animal *excreta* immediately on evacuation, for they speedily part with those elements which constitute their chief value as fertilizers; and when discharged into the common sewers, and there commingled with large quantities of water, they undergo a dilution, and chemical changes, which render them almost valueless to the agriculturalist. Certainly the sewage of Toronto, once cast into the stream of the Don, and conducted to a safe distance eastward, would require a huge eliminative process to separate from the dilute mass its useful fertilizing portion. That the process must not be dreamed of at any point before escape into the Don, must be palpable to every person possessing the smallest measure of common sense.