

potent factors in bringing about this condition of things. Its effects were not less, but more dangerous, because they were subtle. The object of ventilation was to provide people indoors with as pure air as they would breathe out of doors."

SOME THEORIES OF VENTILATION, Mr. Dick said, had been founded on the supposition that carbonic acid gas, being heavier than any of the other constituents of the air, would fall to the floor and could be drawn off from there without disturbing the other and lighter elements. The law of the diffusion of gasses proved this view to be erroneous. Mr. Dick produced two thermometers and tested the atmosphere in the meeting-room. Near the ceiling it was 73°, and at the floor 52°. These figures, he said, went to show how difficult it was to warm uniformly, any room by direct radiation."

THE PRINCIPLE and plan of warming and withdrawing the foul air from a room advocated by so good an authority as Mr. Dick, we are pleased to find, are those always contended for in this JOURNAL, and in the face of much adverse action. This, especially in regard to the removal of the foul air. We have always believed that this may be most readily removed from the upper part of the room. Warm air being admitted below, in its ascent to the ceiling, as Mr. Dick says, "would carry with it the vitiated air and the watery vapour with its organic impurities; and if the outlet were there at the ceiling it would sweep them both out of the room without giving them a chance to cool and fall down again amongst the pure air."

OTHER CITIES would do well to follow the example of Toronto and organize sanitary associations. It is a great drawback and very discouraging that the work of carrying out anything of this kind always falls upon a few individuals, who rarely get from the benefitted public even thanks for their trouble. The most wealthy people, large "property-owners," are, as a rule, very indifferent about such things, though they are the ones most benefitted by sanitary improvements in a city, and usually suffer most

from sanitary losses when an epidemic comes. But they are so afraid of parting with a little of their money that they won't see it till it is too late (sad words), more often, probably, through ignorance of the value of sanitary work than from any other cause.

THE LADIES' PROTECTIVE SANITARY ASSOCIATION, of New York City, is now fully organized. Already it has made itself felt. The manure contractor, who was originally indicted through the efforts of the association, has been fined \$250 for failure to have the nuisance removed. The proposed sanitary league to be formed of the various sanitary associations of the city and of parties interested in sanitary reform is likely to be a success it appears.

THE REPORT OF THE BOARD OF HEALTH of New York for the quarter ending Dec. 31, 1884, shows that during that period 95,634 examinations were made by the Sanitary Inspectors, and the number of causes of complaint returned was 12,636. The number of milk inspections was 1,182; specimens examined, 1,923; complaints entered, 22; arrests made, 14, and fines collected, \$850. Over 146,000 pounds of meat and fish were condemned as unfit for food. The number of houses for which plumbing plans and specifications were received was 403; number of plans examined and reported to the Board, 246; houses reported as begun during the quarter, 468; finished, 548; houses reported in violation of the law in respect to plumbing and drainage, 319; notices issued to owners of the same, 146; inspections under the law regulating the plumbing and drainage of new houses, 17,835; inspections of the plumbing and drainage of old houses made on complaint of citizens, 181.

THE EFFECTS OF SEWER GASES, it may be observed in this connection, are of much wider range than many people, even physicians, know of. Dr. Morrill is endeavoring to trace out the less marked effects of these gases, and publishes in the *Boston Medical and Surgical Journal* some interesting results of his observations. He believes, what is doubtless true, that "sore-throat, neuralgia,