

nerable, and is found collected together in more or less considerable quantities. The greatest points of attention to this end are cess-pools, muck heaps, drains, manure heaps, and the like. Arsenic and arsenical compounds should not be used for the destruction of flies' eggs and larvæ in open cesspools in country districts, where—too often, unfortunately—they are in underground or other communication with wells, watercourses, and springs, which might thus get poisoned. Recourse should be taken to some substance which not only dissolves in the liquid contained in the drain, but which will penetrate right into the heart of solid matter. This substance must be of a nature to withstand fermentations and all transformations experienced by the solids contained in the cesspool, as they are always, in such media, of ammoniacal and reductive nature. These reactions show that it is useless to employ sulphate of iron, sulphate of copper, etc., for although in the beginning these metallic salts might have some effect, they would subsequently become changed by fermentative influences and lose their efficacy. The first trials made showed that ordinary soda, mixed with ordinary chloride of zinc (in the proportion of 5 kilogrammes of each to every cubic meter of matter), was quite sufficient to kill the larvæ and prevent the hatching of further eggs laid in the same place during the season. This process could, if necessary, be used for stationary, hermetically closed cesspools, but it would not do for movable closets, sewage tanks, or open drains. Petroleum was then tried by the author of the pamphlet in question, in the proportion of one liter to every superficial meter; but in a short space of time—due, probably, to the slight rise in temperature, caused by fermentative processes—the petroleum disappeared. This was verified by putting a stick into the cesspool; if petroleum had still been present, it would have left traces thereon. Coal tar was then tried with much better results, although they were still not all that could be desired. The most satisfactory results were secured with raw petroleum or raw schist oil (residue of distillation). Two liters per superficial meter were mixed with water, the whole being well stirred up with a piece of wood. This, on being poured into a drain or closet, will form a stratum of oil which will destroy all the larvæ, while, even should flies not be prevented from entering the drain, at least all the eggs they may deposit will be prevented from hatching. This oil is sufficiently consistent and tenacious to adhere to the walls of drains, to form a coating over solids, and remain attached thereto for a long time. This protective layer