

and perfume to suit. This is to be the only dressing for the hair. Wash the head occasionally with soft water and fine soap.

THE ORANGE.—The orange is very easily digested, admissible in health and disease, and one before breakfast will often prepare the delicate stomach for a good meal better than anything else.

TURPENTINE AS A DISINFECTANT.—Mr. Thos. Taylor, Microscopist of the Department of Agriculture, has an article in a Washington paper, from which we take the following: "Turpentine I also found to be a powerful deodorizer. A tablespoonful added to a pail of water will destroy the odour of cesspools instantly, and in the sick chamber will prove a powerful auxiliary in the destruction of germs and bad odours."

MRS. PARTINGTON ON DISEASES.—Diseases is very various—very. The Doctor tells me that poor old Mrs. Haze has got two buckles upon her lungs! It's dreadful to think of—'tis really. The diseases is so various! One day we hear of people's dying of "hermitage of the lungs," another of "brown creatures;" here they tell us of the "elementary canal" being out of order and there about the "tear of the throat;" here we hear of the "nemrology in the head" and there of an "embargo" in the back. One side of us we hear of a man getting killed by getting a piece of beef in his "sarco-fagus," and there another kills himself by "deskevering his jocular vein." These things change so that I don't know how to subscribe for any thing now-a-days. New names and "rostrums" take the place of the old and I might as well throw my old yerb bag away.

MONTREAL MORTUARY RETURNS.

Medical Health Officers Report for the past year:

Total deaths, 3,916: death rate—26·08 per 1,000.

Among these deaths the following diseases predominated:—

Children under 5 years of age.....	1,062
Consumption, between 20 & 40...	429
Bronchitis.....	108
Pneumonia.....	157
Diphtheria.....	155
Typhoid.....	104

Total..... 2,015

A large proportion of these diseases are preventable. The mortality among children from *cholera infantum*, neglect, and want of knowledge on the part of poor people how to feed their children or care for them, causes, at least, one half of their mortality. Bad ventilation, and cold and damp houses, hasten rapidly those having a hereditary disposition to consumption to early graves, and out of 259 deaths from diphtheria and typhoid fever, more than two thirds arise from bad plumbing and broken house drains.

Although the death rate of Montreal for the past year is set down at 27 per 1,000, nearly. We are by no means certain that this statement is quite correct, for we have no return of the population since the last census taken in 1880, and, besides, many who die in the city are not interred in our cemeteries, and citizens dying abroad, although their bodies are sent to Montreal for burial, the certificates of death being signed by the physician who attended them, they are not put down in the mortuary returns as citizens, consequently, unless the statistical clerk recognizes the names, they are struck off the list and counted as strangers. The death rate of Montreal we feel certain is 28 per 1,000, if not more, which is a very heavy death rate for a city that possesses every advantage of nature to make it healthy. In the years 1866 and 1867, Dr. George Fenwick kept a careful record of the mortality of Montreal, which he published—and during those years he showed that there was only *one* death from diphtheria and none from typhoid. What a contrast to the enormous increase in these filth-bred diseases, now amounting to 255 for the past year.

SANITARY REPORT.

We have also before us a voluminous report from the Sanitary Inspector of the work done by his staff of five policemen, but only four of them are employed on regular house inspection.

The quantity of work said to have been done by these policemen is really *prodigious*, but from our own personal experience we know how superficially such work is performed, therefore such reports only serve to deceive the public. To say that four policemen, who seldom leave the health office before 9.30 a.m.; often later, and probably take half an hour to get back to their work—and lose two more in going to and returning from their dinners and to return to their homes about 5 p.m.—besides the time lost by them in attending at the Recorder's Court as witnesses in cases of infractions of the health by-laws, making in all not more than five hours a day for actual inspection of houses and premises, and that these four men visited 8237 places in the months of November and December, besides 489 special visits, in all, 8,726 visits in about 48 working days of only five hours each day—or 44 visits a day made by each policeman in the short space of five hours—that is only seven minutes for thoroughly inspecting each house and premises, and entering the report in his book, is something preposterous, and brings discredit upon