THE MODE OF DRAINING LONDON PROPOSED BY MESSRS. BIDDER, HAWKESLEY, AND BALDAGGETTE.

The representatives of the Metropolitan Board of Works, in the main drainage of London, has just been issued in com-plete form, with plans of the proposed modes of constructing the sewer main and the main outfall conduits, and the accompanying plans, which will be interesting to many of our readers, is intended to enable the main features of the scheme. The authors of the report state that they have come to a certain and definite opinion that the remote outfalls proposed by the Government are unnecessary for the effecting of the object of the 15th section of the Metropolitan Local Government Act, and that their own experience has informed them not only that it is extremely uncertain in a majority of cases of ever to cause sewage matter to become intermixed with sea-water, and the various circumstances which would be necessary to bring up the river by the flood side, but that if the sewage were passed into a much larger volume of water, and into a natural stream, it would be much more suitable to the purpose.

These statements are made, and especially under the direction of Mr. Foster, whose opinion is not to be lightly disregarded. The result of the report of the engineers of the Metropolitan Board of Works, which has been under consideration for some time, has arrived at a clear decision that the favourable conditions and circumstances are such as to render the scheme of Messrs. Bidder and Hawksley more wholesome, and, in almost every respect, more likely to lead to the formation of a healthy body of itself. At these points the basins of the river for several miles are low, marshy, and unwholesome; but beyond these points they believe the river side bore more frequent and active affluents.

Apart from the chemical, economical, and sanitary grounds on which the Metropolitan Board of Works engineers prefer outfalls situated at the points mentioned, they observe that many difficult situations will be encountered by attempting to obtain a more remote outfall. The necessity for the design of the sewage will soon bring it in a level at which it cannot emptied itself at any period of the tide. This is a very serious consideration, whether in regard to the making or repairing the channel, or in regard to cleaning it from the deposits brought down by the flood. Moreover, a sewer as constructed will either drain all the adjacent wards of their spring water, or feed them with sewage water, according as the water naturally stands in the wells above or below the water of the sewer. At Greenwich, for example, either of these results might take place. A large amount of sewage man-ged in making the sewer of greater diameter, and in providing for the necessary line, it would be much better spent in the construction of a sewer, which is alleged to have been formed in the meantime by the Government to the Thames, at a point 58 miles above the point of departure of the London district. The authors of the report state that the Government have not given them an opportunity of examining the scheme, and of considering its various merits.