

BRIEF OPINIONS.

We have received a "World Almanac" for 1892. It contains much valuable statistical information, which is very useful.

The Southport London gives an example of Wamamakerism in the appointment of a negro postmaster at that place against the wishes of the business men; regardless of party.

A convention was held recently in Vance county and a third party was organized. Some of the Democratic papers appear very apprehensive of the disruption of the Democratic party.

The Cleveland and Hill factions of New York are at war with each other. There is a growing sentiment that some Western man will receive the nomination for President. The people are tired of Wall street, domination.

If Congress intends doing anything for the relief of the people it is making slow progress in that direction. The people do not want any foolishness. It is no time for play. They want relief, and the Democratic House should put forth every effort to obtain it.

While our farmer friends are preparing their lands for various crops, they should not forget to sprinkle the soil deep with politics. The court house ring of politicians has brought this country to the present ruined and reeking condition and it behooves every honest man to see that the welfare of the country is looked after.

Bills have been introduced in Congress to have binding twins, cotton ties, and agricultural implements put on the free list. Should these bills pass the farmers will feel some relief, but there are numerous other things necessary to put agriculture on a flourishing basis. Financial reform should not be overlooked.

An agitator is a man who clearly sees an evil and points it out as such. A bigot is a man who will not tolerate the agitator for fear it will change his card-instilled religious or political bias, and prefers the companionship of evil customs to improve conditions. And a fool is a man who will waste valuable time on a bigot trying to explain things to him that he don't want to know.

Allen (Neb.) Chronicle. This State Chronicle recently published a letter from an Alliance man who said that the formation of a Third party in this State by the Alliance would mean destruction to the organization. Now that the Chronicle has been permitted to publish an article from a member of the Alliance, opposing the Third party, our contemporary should not get nervous and uneasy. The people will manage politics this year.

If there are any Alliances in a lethargic state it behooves the members of other organizations to endeavor to infuse new life into them. All of the members will be needed this year, and if the organization is to secure a reform in the conduct of affairs the members must be diligent, active and zealous in their efforts. They can not afford to be recreant or indifferent when the liberties of millions of people depend upon their adhering qualities.

The Bland free coinage bill was introduced in Congress Wednesday with the recommendation that it do pass. It provides that the unit of value in the United States shall be the standard silver dollar as now coined, consisting of four hundred and twelve and one-half grains standard silver, or the gold dollar of twenty-five and eight-tenths grains standard gold; that the standard gold and silver coin of the United States shall be a legal tender in payment of all debts, public and private. This is all right, and just what the country wants. Let the legislative departments of Congress do their duty, and if it fails the responsibility will not rest with them.

The Alliance doctrine on tariff is short and simple. That is take it all off the luxuries. Then it becomes voluntary. And to raise revenue levy an income tax. That will reach property and leave the poor free. The true American idea of taxation is to levy on the remainder after necessity has been supplied. If you tax a man on his clothes and food and implements, you make the laborer pay as much as the millionaire. We believe in equal rights to all and special privileges to none. By a systematic tax in incomes and luxuries a sufficient revenue would be raised, the poor man would pay only equal to the rich, and labor would be lightened of a large share of its burdens.—Liberator.

STATE NEWS.

THE DOINGS OF OUR PEOPLE BRIEFLY AND PLAINLY TOLD.

HAPPENINGS OF THE WEEK CONDENSED.

WILSON.—Rev. J. M. Rose, State Evangelist, will preach in the Presbyterian church here to-night.—Advance.

WELDON.—Weldon can now supply water power in any quantity for mills and machinery of all kinds. The canal now affords twenty-five hundred horse power which can be secured by any one who wants it.—News.

NEWBERN.—The Washington Progress says Mr. Alder Hudson was killed Wednesday last week near Patactos by a falling tree. He was in the timber business and while felling a tree it lodged and then fell back, striking him and breaking his neck, death resulting instantly.—Journalist.

ROCKY MOUNT.—A gloom is cast over our entire town by the death on yesterday, at 4 p. m., of John W. Johnston, a prominent leaf tobacco dealer in this market. He died after a short illness of meningitis. It was brought on by excessive smoking. Mr. Johnston was married only two months ago to Miss Glodstone, of Reidsville, N. C., his former home.—Ez.

ROCKINGHAM.—We are grieved to record the death of Miss Ann H. Everett, which occurred at her residence, in this vicinity, a few days ago, at an advanced age. William Fickett, colored, whose skull was badly fractured by a blow recently, is still suffering greatly. Portions of the injured skull have been removed, and the chances now are that the man will recover.—Spirit of the South.

GREENVILLE.—The house on Green street occupied by Mr. Frank Speight, caught on fire about 2 o'clock yesterday from sparks falling on the roof. The alarm was given and the fire company started to the scene in full haste, but the fire was extinguished before they arrived. Very little damage was done to the building. Getting out cross ties is furnishing employment to quite a number of people along the line of the railroad now building from the junction to Washington.—Reflector.

GOLDSBORO.—The smoke-house of Mrs. B. P. Hooks, in Fork township was burglariously entered by some unknown person Sunday night and about 200 pounds of meat taken. There are nearly 20,000 bales of cotton in the warehouses of the Goldsboro Storage Company waiting for a rise in prices. While standing in the door of his residence near this city Thursday, Mr. J. E. Langston stumbled and fell out of doors, breaking two of his ribs. A negro girl named Jane Love, living in Brogden township, had a fit last week and fell in the fire. Her clothing instantly caught and before assistance reached her she was terribly burned from head to foot, with little chance of her recovery.—Headlight.

WINSTON.—On Sunday morning, when the jailer, Mr. J. J. Mizell, and his assistant, Mr. James H. Winborne, accompanied by the latter's son, went to the jail to feed the prisoners, a colored man named John Morris went into the corridor and caught Mr. Winborne by the throat with one hand and his pistol arm by the other. Mr. Winborne was forced against the wall of the corridor and choked. He managed to get his pistol against the breast of the darkie and pulled the trigger, shooting him in the breast. The man then turned and ran into the cell, past Mr. Mizell, and laid down on his bunk. Dr. H. V. Dismant was summoned and examination found the man dead with a bullet hole in the region of the heart.—Ladner.

HOT SPRINGS.—A shocking accident occurred about noon Saturday on the Western North Carolina railroad, near the Mountain Island station, where a freight train and a passenger train ran into each other. The freight train was on a woman and three small children, who were walking along the track. The engineer did not see them in time to stop and while the woman was getting her children out of the way of the train, the engine struck her, the pilot crushing her skull and breaking her neck. Two of the children were struck, but neither were dangerously hurt. The children are all small, the oldest being only 7 years old. This one said that her mother's name was Carver or Collins, but would not give any definite information about her. They had been tramping through the country for some time.—Citizen.

WINSTON.—James Scott, the negro who was arrested last week upon the charge of stealing a gold watch from the jeweler store of Mr. W. T. Vogler, was given a hearing before Esquire Best yesterday afternoon. The evidence brought out was strong and convincing that Scott was guilty of the charge. News was brought here Friday of a sad accident last week which befell Mr. E. T. Keller, a clever citizen of Iredell county. He fell out of his train last week, breaking his thigh in two places, besides receiving a number of other serious injuries. The little son of Capt. W. E. Stage was bitten on leg Tuesday afternoon by the household cat, from the effects of which swelling ensued. A physician was summoned who rendered the necessary medical attention. A cat bite is a rare occurrence.—Sontinel.

GENERAL NEWS.

Sixteen thousand more persons from the famine stricken districts of Russia have taken refuge in St. Petersburg and have been quartered on the householders.

Typhus fever raging at Kansas and a cholera has been established there for the purpose of preventing any of the inhabitants leaving the place and thus spreading the disease.

The fire marshal has reported that the Hotel Royal fire originated in the elevator shaft from the candle of the night engineer, who probably ignited a leak in the rubber gas pipe while making his examination.

H. H. Bancroft, the historian of the Pacific coast, is spending the winter in Mexico with his family, being engaged meanwhile in writing at the request of President Diaz, an account of the resources and developments of the country, for publication in English and Spanish, in time for the World's Fair.

Dr. Galling, the grammar of America's Moscow, which is to say Hartford, is seventy-two years of age, but like Ericsson, the older he grows the more interest he takes in inventions. His hair and beard are white, but the doctor himself is an interesting example of the vigor and sprightliness of hale old age.

A number of German papers join in a section of the English press in a rancorous abuse of the United States of Chile. The cause is not far to seek. It is jealousy of the extension of American influence in South America, which is leading to a loss of German trade. This trade is already diminishing wherever it has met with American competition.

Two thousand dollars per minute was what Rev. Fr. Evans asked his congregation at Granby-street M. E. Church to contribute to his new church enterprise, on Sunday morning, and in about twenty minutes he announced that he had received the handsome sum of \$40,000, the largest amount ever contributed at one time by any congregation in Norfolk, or, perhaps, in the State.

It is announced that the true secret of the withdrawal of the Louisiana Lottery Company from attempts to procure a renewal of its charter is that arrangements have been made to remove the lottery to Mexico in 1893. President Diaz has expressed himself as favorable to the proposition provided the lottery will make as favorable an offer to Mexico as it has to Louisiana. This has been tacitly agreed upon.

Senator E. C. Wolcott was interviewed regarding President Harrison and free coinage. He says: "There is no man in public life to-day who is more bitter or unrelenting enemy to the free coinage of silver than President Harrison. Only one who has lived in Washington most of the time since his inauguration can understand the baneful influences that are constantly pouring from the White House to hamper or defeat every effort made by the free coinage men for the betterment of the status of silver money."

The stables of the Norfolk City Railroad were burned last week with about eighty horses, in addition to a large amount of forage. The stables were frame structures, and situated just outside the city, in the suburbs known as Huntersville. The overthrowing of a lantern started the fire and the buildings being old and very dry, burned rapidly. Fifty-three horses were saved from the burning stables by employees before they were forced to desert on account of the flames. The total loss is about \$35,000, about three-fourths covered by insurance.

During the course of a long article the Spectator says that the retirement of Mr. Blaine from the position of a candidate for the nomination of President of the United States has brought the President into special prominence. The Spectator thinks that Mr. Blaine's friends in the Republican Convention will not allow Mr. Harrison to be re-nominated. The Republicans, the Spectator says, have an idle "dark horse" in Mr. Robert T. Lincoln, the American minister to Great Britain, who would prove the most formidable candidate they could choose. It adds that this fact is already widely recognized. It is evident unless this movement is checked that Mr. Lincoln will be the third man, granted of course that that third man is required and consents to stand.

Pope Leo XIII. has issued an edict modifying the usual restrictions of Lent in all parts of the world where the grip is prevalent. The order of the Pope has been in the hands of the archbishops and bishops for a number of weeks. It was so worded as to leave the edict inoperative should the disease have disappeared prior to the beginning of Lent. But as the "grip" is still prevalent in most parts of Europe and America, the order will be read in all of the churches on both continents on Sunday, Feb. 28, Lent beginning March 2 and ending April 17. The order is similar to the one issued by the Pope last year. It is intended to obviate the possibility of too rigid fasting and abstinence on the part of many persons whose health demands the generous use of nourishing foods, and yet who have regarded any departure from the rules as an act of disobedience. It is not unusual for the Pope to suspend the Lenten restrictions in cases of great emergency. During the prevalence of cholera in Italy and France the restrictions were entirely suspended.

LIVINGSTON'S SPEECH.

THE GEORGIA ALLIANCE LEADER ON THE HOLMAN RESOLUTIONS.

He Makes an Admirable Argument in Favor of Economy, With Telling Effects.

Following is the full text, from the Congressional Record, of the speech of Congressman L. F. Livingston, of the fifth Georgia, and president of the State Alliance, on the Holman resolutions. These resolutions restrict Congress in appropriating money for anything but for the reasonable and legitimate expense of the government, and will have the effect of cutting off millions of dollars which have been extravagantly appropriated by other Congresses.

Mr. Livingston said: Mr. Speaker, if there was ever a time in the history of this country when the United States Congress should call a halt in the expenditure of the people's money, that time is now. From one end of this land to the other, and from one side to the other, there is a class of people in this country that are more depressed, more in debt than ever before since the history of the country began. I received a letter this morning from a State Senator of my State, and in closing that letter he makes this remark:

If you could come to Georgia now you would find the most important officer within the limits of our State to be the militia district constable, who is selling at public outcry on every court day, from the earliest hour to the latest hour that the law permits, property that the farmer last spring paid from \$150 to \$175 for. They are now realizing only \$20 to \$40, and that is applied on their debts.

Mr. Speaker, there is a cause for this, and I want to appeal to our friends on the republican side of the house, as well as to those on this side, and tell them that it is due to themselves and to their constituents that they should understand the cause and give relief.

The gentleman from Iowa [Mr. Henderson] remarked a little while ago that this resolution introduced by the gentleman from Indiana [Mr. Holman] was nothing more or less than a platform. I suppose he meant a democratic platform. Well, if it is that, and if it is all wrong, as you think, what business have you got with it? [Laughter.] Why not let it go out to the world wrong? If it is wrong it will help the republican party. [No.] But the very thing made by the gentleman just mentioned, these resolutions contradicts the position which he takes on this floor. If these resolutions are adopted they will help on one side and hurt on the other.

Now, Mr. Speaker, I want to compare two periods in the history of this country, both when we were upon a peace footing. I want to take the period of 1860, when I understand the republican party had possession of the house, and the period of 1891, when I knew they had. In 1860 the expenditures of the government were \$63,430,598. While a population of 34,443,323, that was a tax of \$2.08 per capita. At that time twenty-one pounds of cotton would have paid my part of the national tax. At that time one bushel and a half of Kansas wheat would have paid a farmer's part of the national tax also.

In 1891 the national expenditures were \$235,773,905. There was \$100,000,000 of money paid on the public debt, and in that \$365,000,000 there was included \$104,011,220 paid as premiums upon the national debt. In other words, we paid \$141,220 for the privilege of getting our bonds before maturity. That left us a tax of \$6 per capita, and in that \$6 is not included one great item of expense—the millions of money paid by the tax on the protected "home industries," from which the government does not receive a single dollar. [Applause on the democratic side.]

If you could add that it would greatly increase the amount, that the best estimate of that amount that I have seen comes from the gentleman from Illinois, [Mr. Springer] the chairman of the committee on ways and means, and my recollection is that that estimate made it about \$2.75 per capita. Add that to the \$6 and you have \$8.75 per capita, paid by the producers of this country in 1891, as against \$2.08 in 1860. It will now take 100 pounds of Georgia cotton to pay my part of the per capita tax. In 1860, 21 pounds of cotton paid this tax. In 1860 we had the virgin soil in Georgia, the Carolinas, Tennessee, Kentucky and Alabama, and did not use fertilizers. Now there must be added to the cost of producing the cotton the cost of commercial fertilizers, and during the interval we have had no new inventions made of implements to help either to cultivate or to gather the crop so that cotton costs now more per pound than it cost in 1860, and yet our national tax is four times as great per capita as it was at that time. In 1860, I repeat, one bushel and a half of Kansas wheat met the per capita tax. Now it takes eight bushels and a half.

Now, Mr. Speaker, I submit this proposition: How can the producers of this country live under such a system of taxation? How? Let me foot up. The State and county tax is estimated at \$4 per capita. Add that to the municipal taxation, which I understand to be over \$3 per capita and you have over \$7. Add that to the \$8, and you got a tax of about

\$15 per capita for every man, woman and child in this country, being equal to, if not in excess of the circulating medium of the country. What is it per family? Let us go back to the per capita tax of \$6, made necessary by the expenditures of the recent billion dollar congress—and I want to say to the gentleman of the republican side who denied the proposition, that amount comes as near being a billion as anything you ever saw that didn't figure out quite a billion.

What is it per family? Take a family of five persons. The national taxation amounts to about \$40, the value of one whole bale of cotton. The State, county and municipal taxation is equivalent to two more bales of cotton; that is three bales of cotton in all. The families producing cotton in Georgia, on the average, own six bales of cotton during the year, and you have three bales gone for national, State, county and municipal taxation.

Mr. Speaker, I assert in my place without fear of successful contradiction, that taxation in its last analysis means nothing but the sweat of the face.

Now the price of cotton has gone down from 10 cents in 1860 to 60 cents, the price in Augusta, Ga., today. Wheat has gone down in the same proportion. On the other hand the legislation of congress, as I propose to show when a proper opportunity presents itself, is decreasing the price of farm products and increasing the taxation. Thus taxation is increased while our means of paying taxes is reduced.

It is not time, Mr. Speaker, that the farmer of this country should be kept upon this floor—not from a partisan stand point—I appeal to the good sense and honesty of our republican friends—is it not time to grant relief?

Mr. Speaker, the resolutions introduced by the gentleman from Indiana not only embody sound democratic policy and principle, but they embody in their essence simple honesty and statesmanship, and I do not see how any gentleman on this floor, whether he belongs to the democratic party or to the republican party or to a "third party," can make up his mind to do anything else than support these resolutions.

The gentleman from Maine has said that we have no legislation introduced here which calls for these resolutions. I admit that fact, but we need to consider any such legislation as we had in the last congress; that is the purpose. I presume, sir, that if a resolution of this kind had been presented at the beginning of the last congress it would have been adopted. And now, at the beginning of this fifty-second congress, let us plant ourselves upon the principles of retrenchment and reform. For whose sake? For mine? For yours? For the sake of the democratic party or the republican party? No, I appeal to you to do this for the sake of the people—for my constituency and yours—for the interest of the working people, north and south, east and west.

The gentleman says these resolutions are nothing but "bumbo." Mr. Speaker, if the seats on this floor could be vacated today and we could call in here agriculturists from Texas or Carolina—if they could be called in to discuss this resolution, I will guarantee that not two out of a thousand would ever think of opposing such a proposition. [Applause on the democratic side.] No, Mr. Speaker; there are men in this country who would not consider these resolutions "bumbo"; they are looking today with their eyes and listening with their ears for some sign of relief to be afforded by the legislation of this democratic house.

Now, Mr. Speaker, I say, in all kindness and sincerity, that the people who are behind us at our homes are in a desperate condition. Would not the passage of such a resolution as this encourage them? Suppose it should be passed? Or will you lose the poor farmer, who has seen his last mule or his last cow sold under the hammer of the constable start out with brighter hope, with more encouragement to work during this year 1892 if he had before him this resolution, adopted by this house of representatives, guaranteeing to him that he should not be overtaken while he holds the reins of government? I will stand by the essence of the resolution. Sink or swim, I am in favor of it.

Now, let our motto be in this session of congress: "Legislation for the people—such legislation as will meet the wants of all the people, from every section of this country and thus restore the confidence of the people in the government." [Applause on the democratic side.]

Fighting Flames at Sea. The British tramp steamship Africa completed an eventful voyage yesterday. She sailed from Hamburg for this port Jan. 10 last. When about a week at sea her machinery became disabled and Capt. Clark headed for Povey. There he made repairs and sailed again Jan. 26. After leaving Povey very boisterous weather was encountered. The ship being lightly laden was tossed about like a chip. The giant waves rolled over the vessel carrying away the bridge, smashing two of the starboard lifeboats, demolishing the wheelbox and sweeping the deck clear of all the fixtures.

For a week, without a moment's intermission, the Africa was battered and knocked about by a succession of violent northwest gales. Going ahead was almost out of the question, and some days the ship did not cover fifty miles.

On the afternoon of February 7, the storm abated. The Africa's crew by this time were pretty well used up. The millin' the storm allowed them to turn in and take a much needed rest. Only those absolutely necessary to work the ship were on deck early on the morning of February 8.

Capt. Clark and Mate Pelvey were on the bridge about 3 o'clock. Mate Pelvey detected the odor of something burning. He immediately told Capt. Clark, and they lost no time in investigating. The ship was loaded with a cargo of paper bags.

Mate Pelvey had no sooner left the bridge than he saw smoke coming out of hatch No. 1. It was barely visible, and looked like steam vapor. With the assistance of the captain the hatch was opened. Then a glowing sheet of flame and heavy smoke shot out of the hatchway. It startled the mate and captain but they lost no time in battering down the hatch and calling the crew to quarters.

No sooner had the alarm of fire been sounded than the entire crew were on deck and ready to battle with the flames. The hose was turned into the burning hole. This seemed to have no effect. The flames roared and crackled, and judging from the way the smoke was coming out of the hatch the fire was rapidly spreading.

Capt. Clark resorted to extreme measures. It was his only hope to save his ship and to do it meant a risk of his own life. But he did not hesitate. He rigged a temporary derrick and gathered a lot of chains and several iron grapples.

Mate Pelvey volunteered to descend into the hold with the captain. The hatch was opened, and after the first sheet of smoke and flame had burst forth the captain and mate were lowered into the burning hole. The undertaking was a perilous one. Down among the burning cargo mate and captain groped about and grappled burning bale after bale. As soon as they found a burning bale they grappled it, gave the signal and the men on deck hoisted it and threw it into the sea. For an hour the two men worked in the fiery depths. They succeeded in getting out twenty-six of the blazing bales.

Then the fumes and the heat exhausted them. They could stand no longer, and signaled to the men above to haul them out. Both were weak and faint; their hands and faces were scorched and burned, and for some time after getting on deck they could scarcely speak.

Their heroic work saved the ship. They had succeeded in getting out all but the smoking bales. With the assistance of the lost bales were flooded and the fire at last extinguished. The ship was not damaged by the fire. The extent of the loss to the cargo cannot be ascertained until to-day, when the ship will be docked and her cargo removed.

The South's Development. The Manufacturers' Record, of Baltimore, in its issue of February 13, says:

"While there is no marked increase in the organization of industrial enterprises throughout the South, there is a steady, solid advance, and also a growing confidence with the leading capitalists of the country that the South is the best field in America for investment. Many plans of great magnitude are being worked out, and with a return of activity in investment and business interests in the country at large the South will again become the center of development, and future operations will probably be on a larger scale and by heavier capitalists than anything which the South has seen yet. Among the more important undertakings reported during the week are the very extensive iron and steel-making and town building operations to be commenced by Mr. Alex. A. Arthur, the founder of Middleborough, in connection with some of the foremost iron-makers and largest capitalists of the North. This enterprise, or rather these combined enterprises, will probably draw not less than \$10,000,000 into that section within the next 12 or 18 months. At Tuscaloosa, Ala., a \$250,000 coal and coke company has been organized, in connection with contracts previously made, to secure a railroad to navigable water on the Warrior river, thus opening a water route from Alabama coal fields to the Gulf; a \$60,000 coal company has been organized in Shelby county, Ala.; a knitting mill will be removed from the North to Bridgeport, Ala.; at Ocala, Fla., it is reported that a syndicate with a cash capital of \$1,000,000 will establish 8 large tobacco factories; a company has been organized to establish a saw-mill at \$1,000,000 in Kentucky to purchase and develop oil and mineral lands in Frankfort, Ky.; a \$300,000 distillery company has been incorporated; Marietta, Ga., is to have a large furniture factory; a \$250,000 knoll company has been organized in Lake county, Fla.; a \$15,000 furniture-factory company in Greenville, S. C.; a \$50,000 ice-sawery company in Shreveport, La.; a \$800,000 company is being organized to purchase and develop 50,000 acres of Kentucky coal lands.

Life Underground in Caves. After the Confederate ranks were thinned by the desperate fight in 1863, the lines of the deserters fell in hard places. The Richmond government set energetically to work to bring every available man to the front. President Davis by proclamation urged every man to hasten to his country's defense, and proffered pardon for all past delinquencies provided the offender now hastened to do his duty. Stringent orders and threats of punishment infused energy into the officer of the home guard. Detachments of Confederate troops visited the neighborhood at short and irregular intervals, while the homes of the deserters were watched and repeatedly searched.

Then it was that the deserters, as we called all who shirked military duty, whether they had ever actually been in the army or not, had recourse to a mode of hiding which they had learned from run away slaves. The fugitives in this region, having neither the swamps of the east nor the mountains of the west for refuge, like all hard run creatures, naturally took to earth. He either enlarged an concealed some natural cavity, or dug a cave in which he hid by day, to sail out under cover of darkness in quest of poultry, pigs, sheep, fruit, roasting ears, water-melons and other good things in season. If he feared pursuit by dogs, he rubbed the soles of his feet with onions or odorous herbs in order to confuse the scent. If moderately wary or skillful he found little difficulty in remaining "out" till the dogs were called, and all the heavy work was over, or till the cold weather drove him back to a snugger berth in the quarters.

HEALTH DEPARTMENT

CONDUCTED BY DR. J. W. JONES, LATE PRESIDENT STATE BOARD OF HEALTH.

Report of The Committee on Pollution of The Water-Supply.

The members of your Committee on the Pollution of the Water-Supply, appointed at Toronto, regret that they have been unable to meet in conference during the last year. This has been due to no lack of inclination on their part, but to certain difficulties which were associated with their distance from each other, the pressure of official business, and their ignorance for a great part of the year of the membership of the committee and the scope of its work. They have, however, all born in mind the duty to which they were assigned by the Association, and have overlooked no opportunity of investigation bearing on what they conceived to be their special line of work.

Much valuable material collected in Massachusetts, and a series of investigations instituted on the waters of Lake Erie, all of which will be presented hereafter, have given your committee a large knowledge of the questions at issue. One member has devoted attention to the bacterial growths in water contaminated by factory refuse. Another has given his thought and research to the evils consequent on the use of polluted supplies, and the methods of dealing with sewage that it may cease to be a source of danger. A third spent a month in Minnesota, in a systematic effort to track the sewage of Minneapolis, St. Paul, and other cities in its progress down the Mississippi to other towns which draw their water-supplies from that river. The vice-president of the Association, Secretary Hewitt of the state board of health, placed not only his laboratory, but his personal assistance therein, at the disposal of the investigator. The committee desires here to thank Dr. Hewitt for the opportunity which he afforded for this investigation, and to express its high appreciation of the earnestness and ability with which he perfected the arrangements and cooperated in the chemical work, thus making a great deal to be accomplished in a short time. Water samples were gathered from along the whole length of the Mississippi river in the state of Minnesota, and particularly from above, and at below the points of sewage inflow of certain cities and towns.

One object of this investigation had of course a local reference; but so far as this committee was concerned, the object was to find out whether, by a careful estimate of the ammonia, organic and inorganic, and the nitrates, the analyst would be able to follow the nitrification of the former, and account for its diminished quantity of the latter. This can be done in laboratory experiments on dilute ammoniated and organic solutions kept in bottles and examined from time to time; but it required proof to show that the changes could be followed in a river which contains so much organic matter and receives so many tributary streams, each of different quality, as the Mississippi. This proof was sought in the Minnesota investigation, but it was not found. The details of the analyses of about seventy water samples were published in the issue of Public Health in Minnesota for February of this year, so that, thus making it possible to do more than refer in general terms to the results. The waters of the Mississippi, tested time and again at this city, and at Memphis, New Orleans, and other points, have always shown a large amount of organic matter, chiefly of a carbonaceous or vegetable nature, but usually ascribed in part to the sewage of the many large manufacturing cities that are built upon its banks and on those of its tributary streams. But this carbonaceous matter was found in the Minnesota experiments to exist in the river at points where there was practically no sewage; and as the stream was ascended the quantity of this organic matter increase, so that at Aitkin, Brainerd, and St. Cloud the natural water of the Mississippi as shown by the permanganate test as much organic matter as that of a London swamp. The ground waters in Britain and in our Eastern states seldom require more than a part of oxygen per 100,000 for the oxidation of their organic matter, and if more is needful the water is conceived to be of doubtful quality and unsuited for a general water supply; but this water in the upper Mississippi required 1.2 parts.

This large quantity of organic matter does not detract from the potability of the water, as it appears to be filtered from the pine-covered lands in which the radicles of the stream take their origin; but its influence on the results of the laboratory processes for the detection of variations in the quantity of sewage was very great.

Sewage could readily be detected in the samples taken from opposite St. Paul, and for several miles below the city; but after this it became so diluted by its dispersion in the makes of the flowing stream, and so commingled with the large quantity of vegetable matter natural to the water, as to be no longer susceptible of detection with any degree of certainty. The influence of dilution was perhaps more marked than that of the vegetable organic matter in preventing the detection of the sewage at points distant from its inflow.

Daily Duties of Japanese Girls. In that very entertaining volume, "Japanese Girls and Women" is found this record of the daily duties of the Japanese daughters. "Every morning are the beds to be rolled up and stored away in the closet, breakfast to be cooked and served, and always a good deal to be done, for many Japanese dresses must be taken to pieces whenever they are washed and are dried, dyed and made over again, so long as there is a shred of the original material left to work upon. Then there are the every-day dishes which Japanese maidens must learn to prepare. The proper boiling of rice is itself a study. The construction of various soups, which form a staple in the Japanese bill of fare, the preparation of mochi, a kind of rice dough which is prepared at the New Year, or to send to friends on various festival occasions.

(CONTINUED IN OUR NEXT.)