

of the broader questions relating to the physical features of the state. The several bureaus which touch these matters in one way or another are the Maryland State Weather Service, the Mine Inspector's Bureau, the Bureau of Industrial Statistics, and the Immigration Bureau. None of these organizations except the first are engaged in a scientific study of the physical features, the latter being occupied chiefly in an accumulation of statistical material which will show to the people both within and without the state the volume of her products, the condition of labor, and the advantages of Maryland as a place of residence, and in these directions are rendering an important service to the commonwealth.

THE MARYLAND STATE WEATHER SERVICE.—The Maryland State Weather Service was organized May 1, 1891, under the joint auspices of the Johns Hopkins University, the Maryland Agricultural College, and the United States Weather Bureau. The few scattered observers in Maryland and Delaware who had hitherto reported to the chief of the United States Weather Bureau were authorized to send their reports to the central office at the Johns Hopkins University. At the same time the Baltimore office of the United States Weather Bureau was moved to the University, as the efficiency of the State Service was recognized to depend largely upon the closeness of co-operation with the National Service. Two series of publications were at once established, viz., monthly Meteorological Reports and weekly Crop Bulletins.

It was evident from the start that the results of the local service could not be available to the people of the state unless provision was made for the publication and distribution of the information obtained. The institutions interested in the organization of the State Service were willing to prepare the data for publication, but they had no funds at their disposal for printing. To that end a bill was introduced in the General Assembly of 1892, was passed by both houses, and signed by the Governor. It provided for the establishment of the Maryland State Weather Service, the commissioning of its officers by the Governor, and an appropriation to defray the expenses of printing.¹

¹ Laws of Maryland, 1892, Chapter 329.