

ture and rainfall of the state. These charts were exhibited at the World's Fair at Chicago and distributed at important points both in Maryland and throughout the country. Two biennial reports to the General Assemblies of 1894 and 1896 have also been published, in which a general review of the climate, topography, geology and soils of the state was included. Maps and tables were introduced to show the leading climatic features of the state. Both the regular and special reports have been sent widely throughout this country and Europe.

THE MINE INSPECTOR'S BUREAU.—The position of Inspector of Mines was established by an act of the General Assembly in 1876,¹ “regulating the working and proper ventilation of coal mines in Allegany and Garrett counties.” At the session of 1878² the original act was repealed and re-enacted with amendments, the duties of the Mine Inspector remaining substantially the same. Annual reports have been generally published by the Inspector of Mines, in which the volume of output, the condition of the mines and the number of workmen employed have been described. These reports are not intended to be of a geological nature, the information being in most instances restricted to statistical statements.

THE BUREAU OF INDUSTRIAL STATISTICS.—The Bureau of Industrial Statistics was created by the General Assembly of Maryland at the session of 1892.³ It replaced a Bureau of Statistics which had been in operation since 1884 within a much more limited field. The law creating the office provided that “a bureau of statistics and information concerning the various branches of industry practised in this state, and the needs thereof, is hereby established.” The duty of the chief of the bureau was to collect statistics of every sort, including “information in regard to the agricultural conditions and products,” and “in regard to the mineral products of the state, the output of mines, quarries and so forth.”

The appropriations for the Bureau of Industrial Statistics have been

¹ Laws of Maryland, 1876, Chapter 173.

² Laws of Maryland, 1878, Chapter 157.

³ Laws of Maryland, 1892, Chapter 29.