Maryland Journal

TOWSON, MD.

Saturday, August 30, 1890.

HON. BARNES COMPTON.

We were not a little surprised in perusing the Hagerstown *Mail* of last week to find an eminently just article laudatory of the Hon. Barnes Compton, extolling his abilities and condemning the course of the House in depriving him of the seat to which he was elected, and intimating that it was likely that he would be again selected as the standard bearer in the Fifth District, but at the same time expressing the belief that Mr. Compton should step aside and allow some other Democrat to be nominated. We regret very much that the copy of the *Mail* of the date noted was mislaid, and we are therefore able to refer to this matter only from a hasty perusal of the editorial in question. We would respectfully ask our friend of the *Mail* how in the name of common sense are we to vindicate Mr, Compton and show the House of Representatives that he was undoubtedly elected at the last election if we do not take him up and make the canvas upon his name? The *Mail* in its article remarked that Mr. Compton had not drawn an unofficial breath in twenty-five years. Even if the *Mail* be correct in so unkind a statement, we feel proud to say, in the language of a friend with whom we conversed upon the matter, that those twenty-five years of official service *were honest breaths, every one of them.* The *Mail* will be obliged to hunt some weightier ground than it has noted to make the Democrats of the Fifth District dissatisfied with Mr. Compton. Seriously, if the *Mail* would look a little closer after the Congressional canvas in the Sixth District, and leave that in the Fifth alone, we feel satisfied the Sixth can be redeemed from the pretty tight hold the Republicans now have upon it. For many years the *Mail* has been disgruntled, and has kicked and kicked, so that the Democracy have not only lost Washington county but the Sixth Congressional District also, and the Republicans continue to hold both the county and the Congressional District because of the *Mail's* disgruntled condition. The *Mail* has failed in the past to dictate the nominees and policy of the party, hence its cold support. There has been scarce a State Convention, or a Congressional Convention in the Sixth District in the past dozen years or more which has pleased our irascible neighbor. It flings javelins at the candidates of the Democracy selected, (with the exception, possibly, of the late Governor Hamilton,) and then finally chimes in with a support when the campaign is on. Our neighbor ought to take a rest, and at least leave the Democrats in the Fifth District put up whomsoever they may deem proper. Neighbor, don't kick the men in your own household.

BALTIMORE COUNTY AGRICULTURAL SOCIETY.

All the necessary preparations for the Fair of the Baltimore County Agricultural Society next week, have been completed. Col. D. M. Matthews, the President and Mr. H. C. Longnecker, the Secretary, have done all in their power to make it a success. In the labors they have been willingly assisted by all the Managers and other officers, and there is hopes the Fair will be a complete success. All that is necessary is for our farmer friends, and manufacturers, and especially the ladies, to lend a helping hand, without which there could be no fair. Last week we announced some special features that should attract a large audience each day, and with good weather it is believed such will be the case.

The following distinguished persons have been invited by the Board of Managers of the Agricultural Society to Timonium and are expected to be present during the Fair:

Hon. J. M. Rusk, Secretary of Agriculture, Washington; Hon. E. E. Jackson, Governor; Hon. E. W. LeCompte, Secretary of State; Hon. Robert C. Davidson, Mayor of Baltimore; Hon. F. C. Latrobe, ex-Mayor of Baltimore; Hon. Frank Brown, President Maryland Agricultural Society; Major H. E. Alvord, Director Maryland Agricultural College and Mr. H. J. Patterson, Chemist; Mr. Wm. H. Bishop, Horticulturist; Mr. Albert J. H. Heyward, Agriculturist, also of the College; Mr. Mortimer Whitehead, Lecturer of the National Grange; Col. L. L. Polk, President National Farmers Alliance, and the following distinguished gentlemen from Washington: Mr. J. R. Dodge, Statistician Agricultural Department; Mr. W. O. Atwater, Director Agricultural Experimental Stations U. S.; Dr. H. W. Wiley, Chief Chemist Agricultural Department; Mr. B. T. Galloway, Chief Vegetable Pathology; Mr. C. V. Riley, Entomologist Agricultural Department; Mr. H. E. Van Deman, Pomologist.

HONOR TO WHOM HONOR IS DUE.

The Baltimore *Sun* of Wednesday, 27th, pays Senator Gorman the following high compliment:

"It is to be regretted that Senator Gorman, whose public service in the cause of Tariff Reform has been so generally recognized, does not feel at liberty to attend the Tariff Reform meeting which will be held in this State at Pen-Mar, on the 12th of September. This meeting promises to be an event in the history of reform in this State, and no one is more entitled to figure as a prominent actor in its proceedings than the Senators of Maryland, especially the senior Senator, by reason of the conspicuous part he has taken in the Senate during what may be termed not inappropriately the present crisis in our national affairs. It was understood that Mr. Gorman along with other leading Democrats had been cordially invited to participate in this gathering, and that he had signified the purpose to do so if possible, but is now of the opinion that it will be impracticable for him to attend on the account of the need of his presence at the Capital during the closing hours of the debate on the pending Tariff bill and the discussion of other important matters on the eve of adjournment.—These are good reasons, no doubt, as the post of duty is the scene of combat. While it is desirable that the Senator should be one of the active participants in the Pen-Mar meeting, it is, perhaps, the wiser course to remain at Washington, as it is probable there will be occasion for much weighty work there even after the Senate has closed debate and reached the vote it is expected to take on the 8th of next month."

Senator Gorman is not yet done with this matter. He has just entered upon it. He will prove to the country that he is one of the most sagacious men in Washington. He has never been given to windy debate, but strikes when the iron is hot. It is certainly most gratifying to his fellow citizens in Maryland, and to Democrats throughout the country, to witness the encomiums which have been, and still continue to be, awarded him. He has never yet disappointed the people of his native State, or the Democracy of the country, when the time for action arrived, and we feel satisfied he will not do so in this instance.

DEATH OF PATRICK HARRIS EAGAN

Patrick Harris Eagan, known as Patrick Harris, the proprietor of Harris Academy of Music, Museum, Baltimore, as well as Museums at other points in the country, committed suicide from ill health at his summer cottage, at Bay Shore, Long Island, on the 20th inst., aged 44 years. On New Year's Day, 1890, Mr. Eagan had a severe attack of indigestion, which was followed by the appearance of Bright's disease of the kidneys. Mr. Eagan sailed for Europe in May and remained a month at Carlsbad. He arrived in New York on Sunday 17th and went at once to his cottage on Long Island and in a fit of temporary aberration of mind from ill health committed suicide. Mr. Eagan was of Irish patronage, and was distinguished as an amusement manager. He was a man of very genial and happy temperament and highly esteemed. He leaves a widow and three children.

The personal estate of the late Michael Bannon has been appraised at $21,398.85. Mr. Bannon was also possessed of considerable real estate, both in Baltimore city and Anne Arundel county.

REGISTRATION.

The several officers of registration from Baltimore county have procured from the Clerk of the Court the old books to which they were entitled, as well as the new books, provided by the registration law as amended at the last session of the Legislature. The amended law provides that the registers shall copy into their respective new books all the names found upon the old books, except such as may be stricken off in accordance with the law. A question having arisen as to whether a register was required to wait until the third Monday of September before he commenced transcribing any of the names from the old books upon the new, State's Attorney W. Sydney Wilson, of Worcester county and also by J. W. Whiteside, Officer or Registration at Laurel, Prince George county, addressed Attorney General White upon the subject, who sent the same reply to both inquiries as follows:

ATTORNEY-GENERAL'S OFFICE BALTIMORE, August 20th, 1890.

Hon. W. Syd. Wilson, State's Attorney:

Dear Sir:—In answer to your favor of the 10th inst. I beg to say:

"1. That the registration officers of the county, where the Districts are not divided into Precincts have the power to transcribe accurately the names of all the registered votes now contained in the registries now in the custody of the Clerk of the Circuit Court.

2. The same rule applies to those registration officers who are in Districts which are divided into Precincts.

3. The transcribing of these names may be done prior to September sittings.

This is my construction of the law.

Yours truly,
WM. PINKNEY WHITE."

"*Dear Sir:*—The above letter will answer your questions. W. P. W.

To J. W. Whiteside, Officer of Registration, Laurel, Maryland."

NO STRIKE ORDERED.

The Supreme Council of Federation of Labor, which was in session at Terra Haute, Indiana, the past week, after mature deliberation concluded not to order a strike upon the New York Central Railroad. The Council, however, sustained Grand Master Workman Powderly in all he had done to have the discharged men again employed. The Council decided that under the laws of the Order no action could be taken. All that could be done was to give moral support. The Council roundly condemned Vice President Webb, of the New York Central. When Mr. Webb was called upon for his opinion as to the action of the Council he said:

"Theirs was the only wise course to take. There was no principle involved in which they could be interested. The entire trouble was local in character, and had nothing whatever to do with organized labor. Whether the Knights of Labor will now take further steps will make but little difference.—There are only a few Knights in the employ of the New York Central. It is a queer commentary that the Supreme Council of the Federation can find no grievance upon which to order a strike; yet they censure the New York Central and its officials.—They also decline to give any support to the strikers, but appeal to the public to furnish it. This I think embodies all I have to say."

As to the demand of the Knights of Labor that the New York Central Company should submit to the organization all the reasons for the discharge of the men, the St. Louis *Globe-Democrat* says:

"The contention that the (railroad) company ought to give the express reasons for the discharge of these men (in whose behalf the Knights have nominally struck) and submit the sufficiency thereof to arbitration is manifestly improper. A corporation cannot fairly be asked to render such an account of its ordinary business proceedings, and to thus practically surrender the right to control its own affairs in its own way."

The New York State Board of Meditation and Arbitration on the 28th notified the New York Central authorities, as well as Grand Master Workman Powderly, to have witnesses before the Board in New York city on Tuesday next, September 2d, to examine into the strike and ascertain whether the strikers were discharged because they were Knights of Labor.

THE TARIFF BARONS AND THE FARMER.

Another effect of the deal made with the tariff Barons by which Quay, Dudley et al. fried the fat out of them, is the advance in the price of baling wire. The manufacturers have put up the price 25 per cent. to the great injury of farmers of all sections of the country. The tariff, which the Democrats endeavored to reduce, places a duty on imported wire ranging, according to size, from 1½ to 3 cents per pound. Of course a tax of from $33.60 to $67.20 per ton on the foreign-made wire enables the combination of tariff lords to put up the price where they want it at the season of the year when they expect a brisk demand. If the foreign wire could come in free of this burden the poor farmer would not now be subject to this arbitrary advance of 25 per cent for the benefit of wealthy Pittsburg tariff lords.

The celebrated Clover Club of Philadelphia is in clover. Mr. M. P. Handy, formerly editor of the Philadelphia *Press*, and now editor of the daily *News* of that city, is to be appointed Consul General to Cairo, Egypt. This is the third member of that Club who has been honored, the other two being Dr. Edward Bedloe and Charles Emory Smith. With Dr. Bedloe and Mr. Handy gone, a mighty sight of rare wit and geniality will be absent from the Club's monthly dinners. But won't the "Darby Ram" sound sweet when they return home?

THE CHOLERA SPREADING.

Cholera is spreading at Toledo, Spain. It is almost at our doors. It becomes the imperative duty of quarantine officers to be extra vigilant, so that no cases find a lodgment upon our shores. If it continues to spread in Spain there is serious danger. An ounce of prevention is worth a pound of cure.

The name of ex-Representative John V. L. Findlay is mentioned in connection with the Republican nomination for Congress from the Fourth District of Maryland, comprising a portion of the Wards of Baltimore city. It is stated that Mr. Findlay is averse to the use of his name for that purpose prefering to practice his profession.

William B. Hill, who was a State Senator in 1878 from Prince George county, and for twenty-five years a Judge of the Orphan's Court of that county, died suddenly at Upper Marlboro, of heart disease on Saturday, 23d inst., aged 77 years. Judge Hill was highly esteemed by a wide circle of friends throughout the State.

Mr. Frederick H. Putzman, a well know business man of San Francisco, died of heart disease at his home, in Alameda, on the 22d of February last. His wife was a Miss Lizzie Capprice, whose father was a Baltimorean and among the early settlers of California. The deceased left a large family.

The Maryland Treasury Relief loan bonds, issued under the Act of 1878, will be retired on the 1st of September. Interest will cease on the 31st inst. Comptroller Baughman and Treasurer Brown settled the matter on Monday, 18th.

The tunnel under the St. Clair River between Port Huron, Michigan, and Sarnia, Ontario, has just been completed. It is the longest underground tunnel in the world, being 3480 feet, 11 feet longer than the Brooklyn Bridge.

The President and his family have left Cape May Point and gone to Cresson Springs, where he will enjoy a vacation until late in September, going only to Washington should important business demand his attention.

Hon. Wm. L. Wilson, the distinguished Tariff advocate, has been unanimously renominated for Congress by the Democrats of West Virginia.

The German Emperor William has paid a visit to the Czar of Russia, and was received with much cordiality.

George M. Pullman has offered to give the Word's Fair directors all the ground needed for the show at his town, and in addition to take up the five million dollars in bonds to be sold by the city. After the show is over he will make a public park of the ground. Pullman is a suburb of Chicago, though it is some distance from the lake front.

[Correspondence of the Maryland Journal.]

OUR BALTIMORE LETTER.

Fighting the Fervid Fiend—The Day of Reckoning—Monkton Morality—Satan at Timonium—Extent of His Stamping-Grounds—A Question for the Monkton Preacher—Senator Vance on Protection in Eden—Business and Politics.

BALTIMORE, August 29th, 1890.

Pluto, or whatever power it may be that supplies us with torrid temperatures, has at length been driven from our borders, and has taken his pack of fiery goods with him; to the great comfort of Baltimore's melting souls.

But it is not until after several severe battles with our atmospheric guardians that he was driven from our coasts. They tried to drown him out, last Thursday afternoon, with a deluge of rain that flooded some of our streets to a depth of four feet, interfering with travel, inundating hundreds of houses, and doing considerable damage to property. And with an army whose shadows blackened our skies, they opened upon him all the artillery of the heavens, and chased him off into the west where he lingered for a while in an iridescent blaze of his fury, and then plunged headlong back into his dark abyss.

The old Prince of Tartarus was not conquered, however, but returned to the attack the very next day, with the intention of continuing that frying and frizzling of Baltimore humanity which he has been practicing upon us almost the whole summer. So there was nothing for it but to bring out our pneumatic forces, and blow the old fellow quite out of our latitude; though in some doing we were obliged to sacrifice a small amount of city property, and to put in jeopardy much of the shipping of our port, to the great terror of large crowds of excursionists.

But we finally came off victorious, as we usually do when we go to work in earnest to achieve any great end; and the result is a great relief to us. Of course, the fiery-tempered old tyrant may yet, sometime, endeavor to return, but if he has any discernment or self-respect, the present extreme "coolness" on our part, ought to be sufficient to deter him.—And, at any rate, we will settle his case for him some time this fall, as we will that of certain political aspirants who will find themselves "elected to stay at home" then. For there comes a day of reckoning to all the powers of evil.

Speaking of his Satanic majesty suggests an item in last week's JOURNAL, from its interesting Monkton correspondent, J. F. H. According to the accounts of this gentleman Monkton seems to be the stamping-ground of a very peculiar brand of preachers. A year or two ago there was one of them who stirred up the milk question, and did his small best to prevent the infants and invalids of this region from getting their proper supplies thereof, on Sundays.

Whether he would have allowed the cows to be milked at all on Sunday, or would have considered it wicked for the farmers to sell the Sunday milk on Monday, does not appear; but he was evidently willing for the babies and the sick folks to do without nourishment on Sundays. Perhaps he was related to the old farmers who wanted his bacon to have "a streak of fat and a streak of lean" through it, and so fed his porkers well on one day, and gave them nothing the next, in order to accomplish that end.

And now we have another of Monkton's wise preachers advising his people to "abstain from going to the Agricultural Fair at Timonium this year," because the aforesaid Satan is to be there!

It might be asked, of course, whether the preacher in question is in correspondence with Satan or some of his emissaries, or how else he obtained information concerning the movements of this diabolical personage. What especial attraction is there to be at Timonium, that will temp the Evil One himself to leave his throne in perdition, and come up to see the fun? And if the doings there are going to be so extremely alluring, how can the preachers suppose that any weak mortal will be sufficiently strong to resist them.

And if Mr. Preacher should reply that he bases his knowledge of the satanic intentions merely upon the known fondness of the diabolical tribes for country fairs in general, he be responded that his knowledge of the diabolicals is extremely limited if he supposes that satanic intentions are altogether, or even chiefly, confined to agricultural Fair grounds.

The preacher may be youthful, but if he has used his eyes at all, he must have suspected that the Church fair is as dear to Satan as the apple of his eye. He is sure to be there. The campmeeting, too, is one of the great resorts in which his soul delighteth. And not only in the marts of business, at places of amusement, along the roads of all of life's ambitions, but in the very churches, in the midst of the assembled saints, sits Satan, in goodly raiment, and not one whit less dangerous than when he appears in much less reputable company.

Of course the old Serpent will be at Timonium. But the preacher himself need not go there to find him. When he is shut up in his closet, at his devoutest devotions, if he will just turn his head and look over his shoulder he will find the sly fiend. Yea, almost any but a self-deceived Christian will know that coiled up in his own heart there lurks some thin little serpent of sin, which at almost any moment could start up into a full-fledged Satan.

So if J. F. H. will obligingly interview this astute Monkton preacher, and find out for us some spot of the earth's surface where Satan is not, he will confer a great favor by letting us know it. For, of course, we cannot hope to escape from him by leaving this world. If we go down to Tartarus, he is there also; and in the first chapter of the Book of Job, as well as elsewhere in the Bible, we read that he also has access to heaven.

Satan seems to go everywhere. So, Timonium, perhaps, is as safe as elsewhere, since what people need is the power to resist him, if they want to be safe anywhere in the universe. He got into Eden, we know, and made a conquest of our first parents, even though there was no agricultural fair in progress in Paradise.

But Senator Vance explains this unfortunate episode by attributing it to the absence of Protectionism. In one of his speeches, the other day, he said of the Protectionist: "He might as well go back to the Garden of Eden and say that if Adam had properly protected Eve he would not have eaten the apple, and would be there now, lying flat on his back in the garden looking up and waiting for pippins to drop.

In spite of tariff issues, however, the trade of Baltimore this fall gives promise of being exceptionally good. Our merchants are lying in larger supplies of goods than usual; and among other things, the opening of the Eastern Shore R. R., the building of the Belt line, and other local enterprises are expected to boom business.

As for politics, though the time for our municipal campaign is coming on apace, it is said that the aspect of national issues is absorbing the attention in political circles as has not occurred before since the old war times. The Democratic leaders know that they will have to fight against the flapping wings of the powerful dollar; but there is cheer in the fact that Republicanism is growing two wings to fly away with itself. CHELYS.

FACT AND FANCY.

A curious result of Tolstoi's last book has been the imprisonment in Berlin of one of his disciples for publicly denouncing Christian marriage as immoral.

Pauperism has declined in England and Wales and is declining in Ireland. In view of the failure of the potato crop, however, the trouble is likely to increase in the latter country.

According to a correspondent a French festival is soon to be given, imitating old-fashioned customs. The musicians will be placed in garland-wreathed hogsheads, as in the good old times.

A sycamore tree near Newton, Conn., is said to be eighty-five feet high and twenty-one feet in diameter, while its branches shade an area extending eighty feet from the trunk. It produces large and abundant white blossoms.

Experience has shown that an electric street car can be comfortably heated by the expenditure of one horse power of electrical energy. The electrical heaters do not reduce the seating capacity of the car, which is kept clear of coal dust and cinders.

A young woman who pays heavy taxes in Parsons, Kan., demands the right to pasture her cows in the school house grounds because she never had any children to send to school. "My cows are my children," she says, with the dignity of a Roman matron.

Wood-stone is the name of a new compound material composed of saw-dust and calcined magnesia. The mixture, having been well worked up with water, is put into moulds and pressed into whatever shape may be desired. A scientific authority says it is incombustible.

The most absurd superstitions are rife in Russia. At Serpookhoy, near Moscow, an official announcement was recently placarded at the street corners. The common people are unable to read. They requested a man, who looked like a priest, to decipher for them the contents of the bill. He unhesitatingly and positively declared that it contained the warning that the city of Serpookhoy would be swallowed in the ground.

An ingenious New Yorker with a wife who insisted upon wicker rockers with dainty head rests, and small tables with china, and who frequently had to get up nights for the paregoric, went out one morning after a night's groping for the match box and brought home a pot of phosphorescent paint, which he daubed on all corners, points and edges of those darling little rockers and sweet tables, decorating the match box, the bed posts, the gas bracket and door knobs, determined upon avoiding the shoals and wrecklage of the midnight cruise. And now at night the room looks like the ghost scenes from "The Flying Dutchman." The phosphorescence gathers light all day and lets it loose at night.

LOCAL NEWS.

SANITARY CONDITION OF LUTHERVILLE.

"A few weeks since complaint having been made that offensive matter detrimental to the health of Lutherville were in existence, Dr. C. W. Chancellor, Secretary of the State Board of Health made, a personal and critical examination and has made a full report, which we give herewith. The public will recollect the report made as to the sanitary condition of Towson and the unpleasant feeling engendered about it, but there is not the shadow of doubt that that report was productive of the very highest good to our town, and its sanitary condition is now one of the best in the State. With this object in view we give place to the report of Dr. Chancellor as to Lutherville, feeling satisfied that the citizens of that beautiful town will look upon it in the proper light; as we are sure its people are too intelligent to do otherwise. Lutherville is emerging from the "ville" condition, and it must now take its place among the expanding towns of the State, and so charmingly situated, within twenty minutes ride over one of the best built and conducted railways in the world, to the great city of Baltimore. Dr. Chancellor's report is as follows:

In a recent investigation into the sanitary condition of several towns and villages in the State, my attention has been particulary directed to the fact that a large proportion of the drainage from the privies, pig-pens and stables of Lutherville, Baltimore county, finds its way into the head waters of Roland run, and thence directly into Lake Roland, one of the sources of water supply to Baltimore city. This circumstance is fraught with so much danger to localities in the city supplied with water from this particular source that I have deemed it of sufficient importance to call together the Executive Committee of the Board and submit for their consideration the following: 'Beautifully situated on the Northern Central Railway, about two miles above Lake Roland, and ten miles north from Baltimore, Lutherville would seem to offer, by its select position, peculiar advantages as a summer resort. Exposed by its elevated position to invigorating breezes, from whatever direction the wind may blow, this lovely spot appears to be particularly favored by nature to be a fit resting-place for tired brain workers and all persons in search of health and healthful surroundings. The village has a resident population of about five hundred, which is nearly doubled during the summer months.—There are quite a number of attractive residences, several large boarding-houses or summer hotels, some of which are situated on the heights from which magnificent views may be obtained of the surrounding country, and a rapidly-increasing number of isolated summer cottages scattered here and there on the undulating grounds.

NO SYSTEM OF SEWERAGE.

There is no system of sewerage, nor is there a public water supply. Each individual cottage, boarding-house and residence has its own supply of water derived from wells and springs. All are subject to the same sanitary conditions and surroundings. Each building takes care, in a more or less imperfect manner, of its liquid and semi-liquid household refuse. As a rule each cottage and boarding-house has its own water-tight or leaching cesspool, but to avoid the annoyance of frequent emptying or pumping out, I am informed that these cesspools are, for the most part, provided with overflows, allowing the surplus liquid waters to soak away into the ground or run in pipes or open gutters into Roland run, which skirts the town at the lower level to the north and west, while the solids are retained in the cesspool an indefinite time. The villagers more often drain their waste waters upon the surface of the ground near their houses, and use for the solid excretal matters the old-fashioned privies, some of which were found to be in an extremely unsanitary and disgusting condition. Of the two modes of disposal the latter is decidedly the less injurious, when properly cared for, the safest. The cesspool or cesspit method is attended with peculiar hazard, not only to the wells and springs of the town, but also to the waters of Lake Roland, which, through Roland run, eventually receives a large proportion of the drainage from these places, as well as the offal and liquid filth thrown upon the surface of the ground in the immediate vicinity of the stream. Other sources of contamination are numerous pig-pens, cow barns and stables, which, for the most part, drain directly into the stream.

MENACE TO PUBLIC HEALTH.

It should be well understood that putrefying filth of whatever character in the immediate neighborhood of human habitations is a standing menace to the public health, and while this applies even to the smallest single habitations or isolated cottages, it is particularly applicable to large boarding-houses or of summer hotels, where a considerable number of people congregate annually for pleasure or health. With few exceptions this law has been violated at Lutherville, and the fact that the place has up to this time escaped severe visitations from infectious disease must be explained to a large extent by its exceptional natural advantages.

Privy vaults as well as leaching cesspools are abominations which should be no longer tolerated in any civilized community, especially when they serve to poison drinking water derived from wells or springs, or to pollute the tributaries of any water supply used for drinking or dietetic purposes. It is a fundamental principle that all filth incident to human life should be removed thoroughly and immediately, or at least before putrefactive decomposition begins. With privy vaults, cesspits, pig-pens, &c., abounding, the general health will necessarily be affected. It is from excretal sewage that we have most to fear, for it is in such matters that disease inducing germs are most frequently found.—At this time, when we know that there is at least one centre of infection in Lutherville, and wells and springs and water supplies that are in danger of being affected should be diligently watched and kept free from all possible surface defilement and underground pollution.

DANGER FROM TYPHOID FEVER.

It is a well ascertained fact that sewage if not infected with germs of disease at one time may become infected at another time, and therefore the drainage from the population of Lutherville is an ever present danger to the health and lives of all who are furnished with water from Lake Roland, and especially at a time when typhoid fever exists in the village. It is true that running water may have its ordinary sewage matter destroyed in a measure by a retroversion of its elementary organic forms, but there is overwhelming evidence to show that this purifying influence cannot be relied upon to protect from specific germs of infection. The epidemics recorded by Murchison, page 640, et seq., in Maidstone, in 1868, and in London in 1864; by Prof. Frankland at Lausen, Switzerland, in 1880, and finally the Plymouth (Pennsylvania) epidemic in the spring of 1885, where twelve hundred persons were stricken down and more than one hundred, out of a population of seven thousand, died in a few weeks from typhoid fever occasioned by the dejections of a single patient suffering with the disease being washed into the stream above the water works, and it supplied with water, point to sewage matter in drinking water as an element of great danger. Recent experiments, moreover, show that dilution does not disarm the poison, but that the matter into which the typhus miasm is dissipated by ventilation. It is there, and although one tumblerful may not contain it, another will.

GUARD THE WATER SUPPLY.

As we cannot distinguish between infected and non-infected sewage, the safest course to pursue is to prevent as far as possible any sewage matter entering the source or tributary of a water supply. In a report made to the Local Government Board of England in 1874, Prof. Frankland says: 'Rivers of flowing water which contains any proportion, however small, of sewage or animal contamination should be considered as suspicious or doubtful, and any such water which is known from actual inspection to receive sewage should be discharged into it directly, or mingling with its surface drainage, must be regarded as dangerous drinking water.'

Mr. Simon, the distinguished English sanitarian, who rightly insists upon a high standard of purity for drinking water, in his second annual report to the city of London observes that: 'We cannot expect to find the effect of impurewater always sudden and violent. The results of the continued imbibition of polluted water are indeed often gradual and may elude ordinary observation, yet be not the less real and appreciable by close inquiry. In fact, it is only when striking and violent effects are produced that public attention is arrested; the minor and more insidious but not less certain evils are born with the indifference and apathy of custom.'

Many persons are still to be found who believe that if water is bright and clear, and not unpleasant to the taste, it must be good; whilst it has been proved over and over again that such water may be polluted with unspeakable filth, and that an excess of brilliancy and lightness is sometimes a suspicious sign.

SUGGESTIONS FOR PRACTICE.

Evidently wisdom lies in striving to remove all sources of contamination from water supplies; therefore, in closing this report I submit the following suggestions:

1. That the State Board of Health should as far as practicable cause the abatement or discontinuance of every nuisance existing at Lutherville, whereby the water of Lake Roland is likely to be fouled. This may be done by enforcing the Act of 1886, Chapter 6, entitled 'An Act to prevent the pollution of streams, etc.'

2. That all privies, pig-pens, cow barns, slaughter-houses and stables near any stream or the tributary of any stream emptying into Lake Roland should be removed, or so constructed and kept as not to create any nuisance or to drain into the stream.

3. That all decomposing animal and vegetable matter, such as manure heaps, should be protected from the rain by a simple roof or covering, thereby preventing soakage which will drain into the stream.

4. That when old-fashioned privies are used they should be kept dry and odorless by the use of dry earth and lime, and all deposits should be frequently removed.

5. That no filth, waste water or slops should be emptied near to or allowed to drain into the stream, and if emptied or discharged on the ground remote from the stream the point of discharge should frequently changed in order to prevent saturation of the soil.

6. That all cesspools without cemented sides and bottoms, and all pig-pens, cow barns, stables and slaughter-houses without floors impermeable to water, and all cesspits or mere holes in the ground for the reception of excretal matter, should be abandoned, and under no circumstances should the drainage from such places be allowed to flow over the surface or saturate the soil near any well, spring, stream or other source of water supply, or any pond of water from which ice is gathered for household or dietetic purposes.

7. If cesspits, cesspools or vaults are used for excremental matters, a bad practice, the contents should never be allowed to accumulate and overflow, but such places should be frequently emptied and disinfected and the contents carried far from any source of water supply. Excremental matters deposited on the surface, or in boxes or pails, should be constantly covered with dry earth or ashes, and removed at least once a week to a point remote from any source of water supply, and always deposited in a fresh spot.

8. It should be remembered that the beneficial cleansing power of earth does not continue for an indefinite period. Soil is liable to be overdosed with filth, and is then unable to carry on this purifying action, so that animal and vegetable matters in a state of decomposition will pass through it unchanged. Its particles require rest and free exposure to the air before it recovers its expended powers."

ACTION ON THE REPORT.

The report was read and its points were discussed, after which the following resolutions were unanimously adopted:

"*Resolved*, That in the opinion of the Executive Committee of the State Board of Health the special report of the Secretary of the Board clearly establishes the fact that the waters of Lake Roland are liable to dangerous pollution from the drainage of Lutherville.

Resolved, That the committee concur in and indorse the recommendations set forth in the report of the Secretary, and that the Secretary be requested to lay the matter, with full explanations, before the Attorney General of the State as soon as practicable, with a view of ascertaining what action the Board would be justified in taking to protect the water supply of Lutherville and Baltimore city, under the Act of 1886, Chapter 6, or any other sanitary law of the State, and that such action as may be advised by the Attorney General be executed by the Secretary as soon as possible."

REPLY OF ATTORNEY GENERAL WHITE.

Attorney General Wayne has replied to the letter of Dr. Chancellor, as follows:

"*Dear Sir:*—I have received the resolutions of the Executive Committee of the State Board of Health relating to your special report on the danger incident to the water supply of Lake Roland. The special report itself has been carefully read by me, and I have examined a diagram of the locality complained of and fully appreciate the danger of the pollution of the water of Lake Roland, and consequently agree with you that prompt measures should be taken to arrest such a result.

The present statue law is fully adequate for the emergency. The Act of 1886, Chapter 6, is ample to put a stop to flow of the sewage from cesspools, pig-pens, slaughter-houses and the like into the water, and punish by heavy fine those who permit sewage to run into the same, and to enable the Board of Health to abate such nuisances. The Act of 1890, Chapter 622, sections 4 and 6, gives authority to that Board to make all needful regulations respecting nuisances, sources of filth and causes of sickness, &c., and the violation of these rules is made punishable by fine and imprisonment.

Before proceeding to take measures of a punitive character, I would advise a notification by the Secretary to all persons whose premises are in a state of nuisance, or whose arrangement for carrying off sewage is open to the condemnation of the Board of Health under the law, to remedy the defective condition of things, in accordance with the regulations and suggestions of the Executive Committee, and on failure to comply with the notice, after a reasonable time given for the improvement to be made, the Secretary should be directed to inform the State's Attorney of the county, whose duty it is to bring the matter to the attention of the Grand Jury, that the offending parties may be indicted and punished.

The abatement of the nuisance can be ordered by the State Board of Health under Sec. 6, of Chap. 622 of 1890."

Dr. Chancellor will act on suggestions of Attorney-General White, and will at once serve notices on all persons who are polluting the stream in question. They will be allowed 15 days to remove the cause for complaint, after which time, unless excellent reasons are given for the delay, the offenders will be prosecuted according to the law. Dr. Chancellor will personally supervise the work, and after the nuisance is done away with will see that nothing offensive goes into the stream. He will leave for Cumberland and Lonaconing to investigate some cases of nuisance, after which he will go up to Preston, Harford county, to investigate an outbreak of diphteria which it is feared will become epidemic. Upon his return Lutherville will receive his attention.

Mr. R. E. Martin, Chief Engineer of the Water Department, was asked about the passage of a law to enforce protection to the streams supplying Loch Raven and Lake Roland. "Ever since 1881," he said, "I have been trying to get the right law passed, but have not succeeded. At the time the Gunpowder works were put in operation I wanted to procure a protective law, but was defeated every time. The bill seemed to have been traded off every time it was submitted, and I am informed that prominent members of the Legislature from Baltimore city were interested in the defeat of the proposed bill. Finally, a law was passed in 1888 relating to the whole State but vesting authority in the Circuit Courts.—I do not believe this law is operative in the way desired, though Dr. Chancellor thinks it gives sufficient authority. I would like to see a test case made.

I have a man who patrols the streams, emptying into both Gunpowder and Roland. Lake Roland, who reports all nuisances, and I immediately take steps to remove them. I do not believe much pollution reaches the streams. Occasionally a dead animal gets in, but it is removed as soon as it becomes known. The city paid the Warren Factory Company $2,500 to remove its nuisances so as not to drain into the Gunpowder. I do not believe that much filth is emptied into the Gunpowder from the mills along the stream. All the citizens of Baltimore are interested in this matter, and I do not care to be brought out prominently.

When it was decided to allow a boathouse and rowing on Lake Roland I objected, but it was said that rowing would not pollute the water, and it does not, but then when people are rowing they pitch watermelon rinds and other refuse into the water, and it does not permit the water to be drawn off directly, or mingling with its surface drainage, must be regarded as dangerous drinking water.'

Mr. Simon, the distinguished English sanitarian, who rightly insists upon a high standard of purity for drinking water, in his second annual report to the city of London observes that: 'We cannot expect to find the effect of impurewater always sudden and violent. The results of the continued imbibition of polluted water are indeed often gradual and may elude ordinary observation, yet be not the less real and appreciable by close inquiry. In fact, it is only when striking and violent effects are produced that public attention is arrested; the minor and more insidious but not less certain evils are born with the indifference and apathy of custom.'

Many persons are still to be found who believe that if water is bright and clear, and not unpleasant to the taste, it must be good; whilst it has been proved over and over again that such water may be polluted with unspeakable filth, and that an excess of brilliancy and lightness is sometimes a suspicious sign.

SUGGESTIONS FOR PRACTICE.

Evidently wisdom lies in striving to remove all sources of contamination from water supplies; therefore, in closing this report I submit the following suggestions:

1. That the State Board of Health should as far as practicable cause the abatement or discontinuance of every nuisance existing at Lutherville, whereby the water of Lake Roland is likely to be fouled. This may be done by enforcing the Act of 1886, Chapter 6, entitled 'An Act to prevent the pollution of streams, etc.'

2. That all privies, pig-pens, cow barns, slaughter-houses and stables near any stream or the tributary of any stream emptying into Lake Roland should be removed, or so constructed and kept as not to create any nuisance or to drain into the stream.

3. That all decomposing animal and vegetable matter, such as manure heaps, should be protected from the rain by a simple roof or covering, thereby preventing soakage which will drain into the stream.

4. That when old-fashioned privies are used they should be kept dry and odorless by the use of dry earth and lime, and all deposits should be frequently removed.

5. That no filth, waste water or slops should be emptied near to or allowed to drain into the stream, and if emptied or discharged on the ground remote from the stream the point of discharge should frequently changed in order to prevent saturation of the soil.

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8. It should be remembered that the beneficial cleansing power of earth does not continue for an indefinite period. Soil is liable to be overdosed with filth, and is then unable to carry on this purifying action, so that animal and vegetable matters in a state of decomposition will pass through it unchanged. Its particles require rest and free exposure to the air before it recovers its expended powers."

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