BROOKLYN'S FOUL WATER.

Drainage from Cemeteries and Cesspools in the Water-Shed.

RANKEST KIND OF POLLUTION.

Graveyards on the Banks of Some of the Principal Ponds and Creeks.

STREAMS DARK WITH SEWAGE.

Urgent Necessity for the Immediate Purification of the Whole System.

Few of the one million residents of Brooklyn are aware that the water which they drink is largely composed of the filtered drainage from cemeteries, and has, during its course to the city, before being filtered, contained the refuse of factories and houses which environ some of the large ponds on Long Island from which it is drawn. In fact, not

CEMETERY AND GAS WORKS.
Drains Into Remson's Pond.

only does the refuse of the houses and factories in the vicinity of the ponds contaminate the water, but in some places the entire sewerage system of a large town is led into these ponds.

The amount of filth, dirt, garbage and cattle swill on the banks of these ponds, especially at Jamaica and Springfield, can only be appreciated by a visit to the places and can only be compared to the state of affairs existing before the New York authorities undertook to purify the Croton water-shed.

In the case of the investigation of the Croton water-shed the contamination was largely confined to the refuse from single farm-houses and possibly a few factories. In Brooklyn the work of cleaning up the water-shed is a far more difficult task. One pond receives the drainage of a town of 25,000 people, partly by a sewer and partly by cesspools. All the cemeteries near the ponds on the water-shed are from 50 to 150 feet above the level of the water.

So difficult a matter has the task of cleaning the Brooklyn water-shed been regarded that during the machine administration of the last eight years not a single attempt at the work has been made.

During the last cholera scare the serious state of affairs was called to the attention of ex-City Works Commissioner Adams, and the people were promised relief, but little or nothing was done in the matter, and Mr. Adams later stated that the Board of Aldermen had refused to grant him the necessary permission and appropriation needed for the work, and therefore his hands were tied by the apathetic City Fathers. The matter was not pressed, and the water-shed was allowed to continue receiving the same contamination which had polluted its ponds and their tributaries for years past.

DRAINS INTO REMSON'S POND.

The purity of the water supply of a community being a question of importance which can scarcely be exaggerated, "The Evening World" proposes to show Alfred T. White, the new City Works Commissioner, that his administrational reforms should not end in the dismissal of politicians holding sinecures, but to be complete must extend to the purification of the water-shed.

If Mr. White has not made a tour of the water-shed, a visit to Jamaica or Springfield will convince him of the sorryness of the subject and the necessity of immediate action.

The surface water from these ponds is the water which is brought to Brooklyn as it flows through a weir into the conduits to the pumping station.

The surface water naturally contains many of the impurities, notwithstanding the system of screens in use at some places.

Samples of the surface water in the ponds and streams flowing into them at Jamaica and Springfield, taken by an "Evening World" reporter, contained a thick sediment, and had all the appearances of filth.

Any cleanly person would not even wash a wagon with water from the ponds where the samples were taken, and yet it formed a portion of the Brooklyn water supply and was carried to the city to be used by the residents.

The waters of these ponds are not used by the people who live near them. They prefer to sink wells. They ridicule the idea of drinking or bathing in a city which is the basin receiving the sewage and drainage of its bucolic neighbors.

Of course, when the water reaches Brooklyn, it is fairly pure, having been put through a thorough course of filtering en route, which is largely due to the sandy soil of Long Island and not to the exertion of the authorities. But those who use the water cannot feel any joyousness over this fact, for the water no doubt retains some of the filth.

There is a remarkable difference in the water furnished to various parts of the city, the degree of purity being due to the section of the water-shed from which it is drawn. The mortality rate for that reason is, it is said, kept high and low in different sections of the city.

If the 35,000,000 gallons of water distributed among the Brooklynites daily were drawn exclusively from Jamaica and Springfield, the mortality rate of the city would probably be twice as large as that of any other large city in the country. Fortunately, it is not, but a large supply comes from that district, and is distributed among thousands of people.

The greatest menace to the health of a community is probably the presence of a cemetery in the immediate vicinity of a pond from which the water consumed is drawn. In the town of Jamaica is Remson's Pond, which gathers the drainage of Prospect Cemetery and carries it off via a small creek to the pumping station, and thence down to the reservoir, where it is stored for thirsty Brooklynites.

The cemetery is upon a hill about 250 feet from the pond and 75 feet above its waters. During a heavy rainstorm the waters of hundreds of rivulets wash down from the cemetery directly to the pond, and at all times small streams oozing out at the foot of the hill of the cemetery flow into a large stream to the pond. It tells a tale that is startling to a student of hygiene.

Not a mother is there in the village who has not cautioned her little ones about drinking the waters of the pond or the waters of the creek, which is its outlet.

Jamaica is situated on a plateau and has a population of nearly 25,000, a small portion of which is made up of a colony of negroes on the south side of the town a few hundred feet from Remson's Pond. The sewerage system of the town consists largely of hundreds of foul smelling cesspools. Other refuse of the place is carried to the pond by means of sewers.

The town is composed of farm-houses, residences, a few factories and several churches which date back to the colonial times. For several hundred years the process of charging the soil with sewage has been in progress. Every other house seems to have a reeking cesspool that would never be tolerated in any community governed by a Board of Health. The earth is charged with the filth which has been poured into it for generations. Through this filth the water that finds its way into the reservoir trickles. The filth of the town charges the water with its abomination and then the water flows on through Remson's Pond at the foot of the hill to be used by residents of Brooklyn. Remson's Pond lies near the railroad at Jamaica Station, and for some distance at the east end is bordered by the old Springfield Railroad. It covers an area of about six or eight acres. The pond lies in a hollow, and is partially surrounded by houses, stables, chicken-coops, &c.

The banks of the pond slope towards the water, so that its general contour is more favorable to catching the drainage of the village than if the surface were flush with the surrounding land. From a thousand hidden pores in these banks the filth of the town filters through to the water of the pond.

Back of the pond, several hundred feet, between it and the station, are the Jamaica Gas Works. The refuse grease, oil and soil from these works and the railroad tracks are carried over the surface. A sample of the water taken at this point by an "Evening World" reporter shows the oil and filth from this factory.

A little further south of this point the pond is more directly impregnated with the drainage by a sewer leading from the cemetery at the top of the hill and connecting with the gas works. This sewer opens into a small stream a hundred feet west of Mr. Remson's house, near piles of manure and ash heaps, and is carried back alongside of a barn, chicken coop and pigsty to the pond.

The houses on the banks of the pond contribute to the pollution of the water, and the conglomeration of nastiness is carried on down to Jamaica Reservoir.

Another drain from the railroad depot also leads into the pond.

Up back on the hill, a few hundred feet from the pond, is a stream of filth flowing from a pile of liquid manure in a farm-yard, where a cow was feeding. The system of surface sewerage from the yard to the pond had from all appearances been in progress for years, as the soil was almost covered with tin cans, old shoes, hats and other bits of clothing, which were slowly being washed towards the pond.

At the negro colony in the southern part of the village eight closets in the rear of the yards of the houses helped contribute to the foulness of the pond. They are only a few hundred feet from the water.

At the western end of the pond there is a sluice through which the water flows into a stream leading down to the reservoir, and occasionally Mr. Remson, the owner of the pond, raises the gate and cleans out the debris which has collected.

After making a thorough tour of the pond the reporter inquired of the natives in the vicinity the condition of the water in the Spring. He was told that numerous dead animals were carried down to the pond through the sewers, but recently a man had been hired to watch the place where the sewage was discharged with instructions to keep them free of any dead animals washed down from the town. In summer cows stand in the pond, and frequently they come to the pond to drink the water. As the village is only about fifty or seventy-five yards away from the end of the pond, the youngsters spend a great deal of their time playing on the banks and swimming in the water.

A queer thing about Remson's Pond is that although it is important, it does not appear on the map of the water-shed.

From Remson's Pond at Jamaica, following the Rockaway road towards the Jamaica reservoir, are stretches of some of the other water-courses, all of which gather up sewage from the outlying parts of the town. The main brook runs due west for some distance, and then changes its course to the south in a manner that points to a portion of the drainage which does not flow through Remson's pond.

At one time the water from the reservoir was conducted through a branch tube to the conduit. Steam pumps now do the work. The water in the reservoir is not pure by any means, but it is a big improvement on that contained in Remson's Pond.

Morass of Garbage, Ashes and Sewage at North End of Springfield Pond.

Although when the water reaches the reservoir it has dropped most of the particles by filtering through the sand it still must contain some of the poisonous substances.

The reservoir into which it deposits the drainage caught up en route, was formerly known as Baisley's Pond. It has a surface area of forty acres, surrounded by big swamps, the edges of which are composed of stagnant water.

It is about three miles below the settlement of Jamaica, and the town lies well within the drainage area. The slope of the town is even more acute at this point than at the portion of the town where Remson's Pond lies.

Jamaica sends forth a long line of straggling streams, which flow into the reservoir. The situation at this point is interesting when it is understood that in reality the reservoir is a big basin for the reception of the filth and refuse of the town of Jamaica.

Between Remson's Pond and the big Jamaica reservoir little of the drainage from the houses of the 25,000 inhabitants of the town escapes the water consumed by Brooklynites.

Besides this, all the waters from the neighboring lands must pass down through the village streets to the reservoir or Remson's Pond.

It is a picture that must appeal to even the lay mind that has never before seriously contemplated the diseases which may be carried into the stomach by streams of polluted water.

The reservoir is at such a distance from the town that a visitor who was appalled at the relation of Remson's Pond to the cemetery, factories and general sewerage of the town would at first hardly notice the state of affairs at the reservoir until the ground had been gone over carefully.

Remson's Pond gathers most of the drainage of the town and the cesspools, but the reservoir gets a fair portion of it.

A vial of the water taken from Jamaica reservoir shows whitish particles floating about. A complete chemical analysis would be necessary to determine just what they are. Most of these particles sank to the bottom of the vial, although some remained floating about. Without the aid of a microscope they resemble fibrous animal and vegetable remains.

The drainage of Jamaica, which is not drawn into Remson's Pond, is caught up by a foul smelling stream at the south end of the pond and carried off through a thickly settled portion of the town to Jamaica reservoir. The stream runs along west of the Rockaway road and then southerly.

Below Jamaica Park pump is Baisley's station, which draws from a supply of wells, but the source of the water is just the same as that which flows into the reservoir. The water is very cold and of good flavor, it having been more thoroughly filtered than the water at the reservoir. The same white filaments are shown, but not so numerous as a positive.

The next place where Brooklyn water is drawn from is Springfield Pond, about four miles below Jamaica.

The pond is a long oyster-shaped affair on the line of the Long Island Railroad. At the north end the uncleanliness of the pond is in striking contrast to the Jamaica pond. Absolutely nothing on the Brooklyn water-shed can compare with the upper end of this pond. There is no cemetery drainage, but the foulness of the house drainage is frightful. There are back yards of manure, chicken coops, piggeries, cesspools and closets in abundance, and there are also a few fertilizing agencies which fill the relations of the factories at Jamaica to Remson's Pond.

At the north end of the Springfield Pond the railroad crosses by means of the small wooden bridge. On the other side of the bridge there is a swamp. It must therefore necessarily catch a large portion of the drainage.

The cesspools of the town are simply holes dug into the ground without any lining. So thickly are these disease-breeding pit holes that in five minutes after a heavy rainstorm the streets and roads of the town are almost thoroughly dried. The soil is porous, and not only absorbs the surface water, but also the filth in the cesspools. Of course the drainage of both is carried down to the pond, which is shown by the sudden rise in the water immediately after a rainstorm.

For a mile along the north end of the pond the back yards open directly upon it. During the rainy season these yards are flooded. Each yard is filled with garbage, swill and filth of all kinds. The solid refuse is dumped into the pond by these residents, while the liquid manure, &c., is carried back by a short ditch dug for that purpose.

It is nauseating even to look at the water of Springfield Pond at this point. Several dead cats helped emphasize the seriousness of affairs. While the reporter was making the investigation the foul odors from the water and piles of refuse could hardly be tolerated.

A resident of the town said the condition was now bad to be compared with the appearance of that part of the pond in the hot weather, when dead cows and horses are added to the putrid mass in the swamp.

Like the inhabitants of Jamaica, the residents of Springfield would not drink the water of the pond, which is pumped out for Brooklynites.

At the southern end of the pond is the inevitable brook leading out to Jamaica Bay. The brook, after leaving the pond, runs through a heavily timbered country to the pumping station. The residents at the lower end of the town dig ditches to carry off their refuse to the brook, forming it into a drain and garbage barrel. A second stream joins it near another pond lying in a hollow, receiving the drainage of several private houses and a farm-house on the banks.

The refuse of the railroad depot at Springfield is conducted into the pond and near its eastern edge is the storage house for fertilizers.

Following the course of the water south of the pumping station is Corner's Pond. The water of the pond is conducted into a tool well by means of a rickety wooden conduit and thence to the pumps. The supply comes from the great springs and is collected for drink. The pond is famous for its fresh water.

Two miles southeast of the Springfield pond is the Brookfield reservoir. The water there is fairly pure and free from contamination.

The reservoir of Brookfield, on the Merrick plank road, drains from an area of nine square miles, carrying off the drainage of farms and residences in the neighborhood. The effect of this drainage upon the waters of the pond, while not so near to the casual observer as the relation of the cemetery is to Jamaica, is nevertheless perceptible to the palate.

The water of Conselyea Pond, near Forest Stream pumping station, a mile or so beyond, is particularly good, as there is no drainage in the vicinity. This pond is said to furnish the best water of the entire system, and it is largely due to the protection of the streams from the contamination of local refuse. There is no doubt that if the other streams of the water-shed were kept as cleanly as Conselyea Pond the water furnished to Brooklyn would be much healthier.

Another source from which fairly pure water is obtained in this vicinity is from Clear Stream Reservoir. The water there comes chiefly from driven wells. Several small streams contribute to the reservoir and carry with them the drainage of a few farm-houses and private residences. The waters of these small streams are polluted with organic matter, which might, with little expense and proper attention, be avoided by the authorities. After the water has been passed through the pumps, however, it is clearly well suited for drinking purposes.

Further down the plank road a different state of affairs exists, which, in the way of contamination, is somewhat to be compared with the pond at Jamaica. The pond is known as Valley Stream Reservoir, and covers about twenty-three acres, and draws on a drainage of several square miles. The northern end of the pond tapers off into an arm which natives say in hot weather reeks with filth. Traces of pollution from the neighboring farm-houses may be seen at any time of the year.

The pond proper is composed of clear-looking water and in some places is very deep. The narrow parts of the pond in Summer are said to be absolutely alive with frogs, which are caught by the inhabitants and sold to New York marketmen. The pond has become so thickly populated with the "hoppers" of every variety within the last few years that frog-catching has become quite an industry in the village.

At the southern end of the pond, where the banks are slimy, there is a stream leading to Watt's pumping station, which adjoins the conduit a half mile away.

Four or five miles away to the eastward is Hempstead reservoir, which, owing to its location on a hill, is not contaminated by the refuse of farm-houses.

The pond has an area of twenty-six acres and a drainage of twenty-five square miles. It is the largest reservoir in the group of the Rockville Centre ponds. The pond is fed chiefly by a number of brooks, which do not drain the houses of the town. The water is, therefore, fairly good before passing through the filtering process.

Beyond this point as the course goes from Brooklyn all the smaller ponds of the system are on high ground and contain good water. Neighboring cemeteries and factories do not pollute the water. Back towards Brooklyn, between the city and Jamaica, is the system drawing from the cesspools and cemeteries of East New York and Ridgewood.

In East New York the ground is charged with the sewage from thousands of residences.

Here Spring Creek carries off the refuse of the place and deposits it into the water to be used for drinking purposes in the city.

Actual tests of this water made by the authorities have shown clearly the contamination of the stream. Little or no effort was made by the officials to remedy the evil, and unless Commissioner White takes some action the filthy waters may go on flowing into Brooklyn for years to come.

The fact that the water was put through a course of filtering was formerly deemed sufficient excuse for the laxity of the authorities. Under the new administration it may not be so. The water at Spring Creek pumping station has always been regarded as a menace to public health, and the debris which may be fished out of the well at this point daily is alone sufficient to support the theory. An epidemic would thrive upon the substance furnished by this stream.

On the line of the Merrick plank road, on the outskirts of Jamaica, the next reservoir is even more filthy than the Spring Creek stream. It is known as One Mile Pond, and is supplied by foul, sluggish brooks.

And now this system of the water-shed has practically been covered from Hempstead to East New York.

At Ridgewood, the water is obtained from a series of ponds, brooks, springs and wells. The conduits supplying the reservoirs run about due east, and are tapped by secondary conduits or pumps. At this point the maps of Long Island show an unbroken slope from Hempstead towards the Ridgewood pumping station and the heights.

All the water is brought along through a line of conduits from the following pumping stations: Smith's, Watt's, Clear Stream, Forest Stream, Springfield, Jamaica Park, Baisley's, Spring Creek and Ridgewood, which is distributed to the boroughs of Brooklyn.

When the water reaches Ridgewood all the contamination picked up along the line, including the sewage of the main Spring and those side of large cases 12 and miles long, but even near Brooklyn, the stream receives pollutions from the cemeteries of Ridgewood and East New York, which are also on high ground, and contribute more or less sewage to the running streams.

Near the last pumping station of the Brooklyn water-shed system some of the streams gather up the sewage of the Jewish cemetery. The cemetery is near the northern end of the feeders of the wells, and the drainage has no outlet except toward this pumping station. There are a number of other cemeteries surrounding the pumping station including Cypress Hills, National Soldiers' and Evergreen.

It was near this point that several years ago a number of Indians lost their lives at the conduit while making some repairs on a broken tube. So indifferent to the cleanliness of the Brooklyn drinking water were the authorities that the break with its waters exposed was allowed to continue without attention for two or three years. Dirt, dust and leaves collected in the waters and flowed into the pumping station. Here the waters of the streams are stored in a reservoir for the last time. From this point, and only from this point, are the waters free from pollution. Studying the lay of the land of the watershed from this point nobody can doubt that the rains washing through the cemeteries tend towards Jamaica Bay, and that a large percentage of this drainage flows into Spring Creek.

This alone, to any fair-minded person, would be considered sufficient to awaken these officials who are paid to protect the health of the community. The apparent stolidity of these officials, are, of course, fairly neutralized by the process of filtration, but certain it is that the city authorities, whose business it is to look after the cleanliness of the water-shed, have been negligent, and have left altogether too much to the system of filtration.

Considering the foulness of the waters, the drainage and polluted streams, it is impossible for a taxpayer of Brooklyn to be satisfied with the present state of affairs.

In order to make a fair test of the water an "Evening World" reporter obtained samples of the foulest streams flowing into the reservoirs and ponds, and also at its destination in the city.

The samples were gathered with the utmost care. In each case, except that of the water drawn in Brooklyn, a thick sediment settled at the bottom of the bottle, and the water was reeking with filth. Even then the water had a soapy or muddy hue. In a single sample of the filthy water could be obtained which was free from "wigglers," oil and sediment. After the samples had been bottled for a few hours the water gave forth a nauseating odor that was suggestive of Newtown Creek.

It would be just as hard to convince the ordinary person that those samples by filtration could be made pure as it would be to make him believe that by a certain process the fat of carrion could be transformed into butter as sweet as that churned from milk.

Chemist Edward W. Martin, of the Health Department of this city, was asked to examine samples of water taken from streams along the Brooklyn water-shed. Here is what he wrote:

The three samples of water you desired examined were submitted to a partial analysis only as the quantities were too small to make a complete analysis.

The results were as follows:

Sample No.	1.	2.	3.
Chlorine	5,100	1,700	17,000
Sodium chloride	8,408	2,802	28,020
Nitrites	decided	none	none
Nitrogen in nitrates	—	—	0.206
Free ammonia	0.060	0.200	3.000

These results are expressed in parts by weights in 100,000.

These data are insufficient for me to give any decided opinion, but I should say that No. 1 and 2 contain sewage and No. 3 appears to be sewage, but I cannot give any positive opinion. Very truly yours,

EDWARD W. MARTIN.

New York, Feb. 26, 1894.

Chlorine is an indication of sewage. In sample No. 1 there should not be more than one part in 100,000 parts, but instead there were more than five parts. Sample No. 3 was simply rank with chlorine.

Free ammonia was found in a dangerous quantity in sample No. 1, and in sample 2 and 3 it was still more prevalent, being indicated by three parts in 100,000 parts.

Commissioner Alfred T. White, of the Brooklyn City Works Department, when visited by an "Evening World" reporter, and told of the polluted waters of the ponds, said he had not had time to take a trip over the water-shed since he assumed office on Feb. 1, but he would do so at his earliest convenience. Mr. White was surprised at the filthiness of the samples.

"I am glad," said he. "The Evening World' has taken the matter up and obtained these samples (pointing to the specimens), as it has brought the subject before me much quicker than it would come through the original channels. It convinces me that an investigation is necessary, and I shall begin soon to ascertain whose services may be dispensed with and how to reorganize the force of employees on the water-shed so as to prevent pollution of the streams and ponds. No community of 1,000,000 people should be compelled to drink water from such sources as these specimens were taken, no matter what the process of filtration may be.

"I intended to go over the water-shed before this, but I have been prevented by a pressure of other business. I should like to see the results of these analyses when they are made.

"It is certain that the water-shed must be improved some way."

Commissioner White passed the samples over to Dr. Roger for his subordinates to see the kind of water they drank. At the Brooklyn Health Board, Commissioner Emery became interested in the subject at once, he referred the reporter to Dr. Alfred T. Kent, chemist of the Board. Dr. Kent has been in the employ of the city for years, and is perfectly familiar with the places on the water-shed from which the samples were taken.

Several times Dr. Kent has taken samples from Jamaica and Springfield, but in each case, he said, the water was drawn from the ponds and not from the streams flowing into them.

Before beginning the analysis Dr. Kent made a preliminary test of sample No. 3, which was taken in direct from the north end of Springfield Pond, the east bank of which is bordered by the back yards of houses. The drainage and refuse of houses, sties and closets in the yards are carried into the pond direct.

"This place," said Dr. Kent, "is probably the filthiest of the entire system. I have never made any test of the water there, because the engineers desired to have the samples taken from the deeper places in the pond. It is certain that this portion of the pond should be filled in or the houses on its banks condemned.

"The odor of the water in this sample bottle is sufficient to tell a layman that it contains sewage, and the refuse is shown in the sediment. It contains, I should say, a large amount of sulphuretted hydrogen, and I have here a piece of paper prepared in white lead.

"A simple test of sulphuretted hydrogen is to place this paper in the neck of the bottle and watch the effect upon its color."

The paper, then a pure white, was placed in the neck of the bottle containing the sample, and immediately its color changed to a dark brown.

"That," said Dr. Kent, "shows what I may expect to find in a large quantity. I would not have believed that the water was so foully charged with the strong gas.

"This sample is just as dangerous as the waters in Newtown Creek. Sulphuretted hydrogen is one of the great chemical and objectionable characteristics of the waters of Newtown Creek. It is a most dangerous gas, and water containing it should never be fed to a community, even after being filtered.

"The predomination of sulphuretted hydrogen in the waters of Newtown Creek is what discolors the thousands of houses within a radius of three or four miles. The gas turns the paint on the houses black. If there were three or four barrels of this water in the bottle exposed for twenty-four hours in this office, it would turn the color of the paint brown or black, according to the volume.

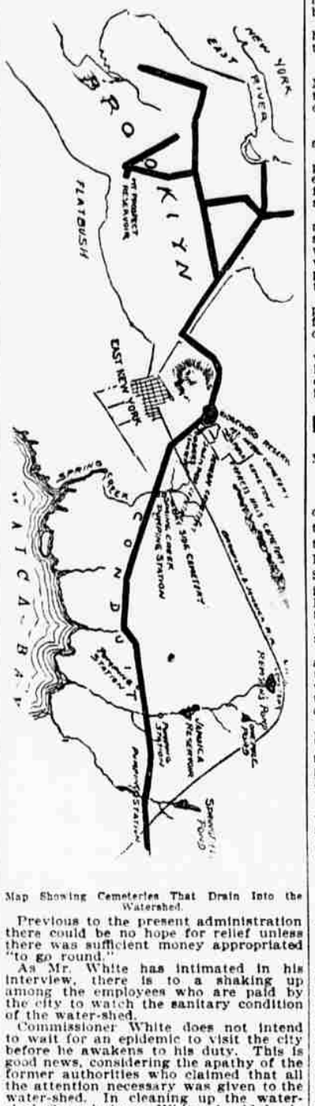
"The people in the Eastern District, who object to the waters of Newtown Creek, base their objection upon the amount of sulphuretted hydrogen contained therein.

"This sample," continued Dr. Kent, "is the correct way to take a specimen—to show what is carried into the ponds.

"I am glad 'The Evening World' has called attention to the contaminated waters, and I am sure it can only result in good for the residents of Brooklyn.

"Some time ago Engineer Van Buren commenced work on a plan to relieve the sewage of Jamaica and prevent it from flowing into Remson's Pond. For some reason the work was discontinued, but I guess it will be recommenced."

It may be seen by the interviews with Commissioner White and Dr. Kent that the authorities are thoroughly aware of the condition of affairs on the water-shed.



Map Showing Cemeteries That Drain Into the Water-Shed.

Previous to the present administration there could be no hope for relief unless there was sufficient money appropriated "to go round."

As Mr. White has intimated in his interview, there is to a shaking up among the employees who are paid by the city to watch the sanitary condition of the water-shed.

Commissioner White does not intend to wait for an epidemic to visit the city before he awakens to his duty. This is good news, considering the apathy of the former authorities who claimed that all the attention necessary was given to the water-shed. In cleaning up the water-shed Commissioner White should begin at Ridgewood, and in some way prevent the drainage of the surrounding cemeteries, especially that from the Hebrew Cemetery, from washing into the streams flowing into the pumping-station.

The matter should be traced then down to Spring Creek and followed to Jamaica where the contamination of Remson's Pond might be prevented at little expense.

The persons living near the pond say an appropriation would not be necessary to prevent the contamination of the streams near Jamaica, if the men paid by the taxpayers to clean the water-shed did not regard their positions as sinecures.

Further down toward Hempstead, at Springfield, where a more serious state of affairs exists, it will cost money to rid the pond of its pollution. The residents of the houses bordering on the bank of the pond have for years been allowed to dump their refuse into the waters uninterruptedly, although the authorities were aware of the condition of the swamp.

In speaking of this to an "Evening World" reporter, Commissioner White said he would pay particular attention to this point of the water-shed and, if necessary, condemn all the property which contributed contaminating influences to the waters of the pond.

At all other points mentioned, except Hempstead, the pollution may be discontinued at little cost if the authorities do their duty.

In Hempstead, where the reservoirs and ponds are fairly pure, owing to their elevation, there are a few streams on the outskirts of the village which will need attention. These are two small streams which flow near barns and carry off the drainage of a few farms. Their pollution is not to be compared to other places on the water-shed, but they certainly need attention. In fact, there is not a place on the entire water-shed that does not need investigation.

The object of "The Evening World" in presenting the pictures taken by "The Evening World" photographer and exposing the serious state of affairs is not to brave that the water distributed in Brooklyn is charged with refuse and the sewage of the country towns, but to show the contaminated waters and filth allowed to exist on the water-shed, and to point out the danger to which the city would be liable at the time of an epidemic.

By the judicious expenditure of a small amount of money this great menace to public health might be avoided and the water in Brooklyn made purer.

"The Evening World" has called the attention of the proper authorities and the public to the existing danger, and it now remains with Commissioner White to remedy the evil by organizing a crusade against the sources of pollution.

SEWER WHICH DRAINS INTO REMSON'S POND.

For Selling Whiskey to Children

Saloon-Keepers Edward Coleman, of 119 Chrystie street, and John Schlegal, of 46 Allen street, were held in Essex Market Police Court this morning for trial on a charge of selling whiskey to children.

BURGLAR MAY DIE.

Jumped from a Window While Trying to Escape.

Lawrence Had Attempted to Rob His Employer's House.

The Latter Surprised Him and Effected His Capture.

William Lawrence, forty-five years old, lies in Gouverneur Hospital to-day, hovering between life and death, as a result of injuries received in trying to escape from capture while attempting to commit a burglary last night.

Lawrence had for the last few months been employed by Morris Doyle, in his saloon at 119 Roosevelt street, as a carver. He was apparently honest and industrious, and seemed to have the highest regard for his employer.

Yesterday afternoon Lawrence was sent by Doyle to deliver some groceries at his house. While in the house, 25 Hamilton street, he saw Mrs. Doyle counting and sorting out a pile of silver.

The money had been taken from a trunk near the rear window. Lawrence remarked that it was a "big pile" to keep about one's house, but Mrs. Doyle paid no attention to the remark, and her suspicions were not in the least aroused.

Lawrence saw her count all the money, arrange it in packages and replace it in her trunk. Then he went away.

Last night Mr. Doyle closed his saloon early and returned to his home at 12.10 o'clock.

He lives with his wife on the second floor. In the hallway he met two men, but he passed by without a word.

When he attempted to enter his room he found that the door was bolted from the inside.

Mrs. Doyle, he knew, was away.

While attempting to force the door, Mrs. Burke, a neighbor, who lives across the hall, told him that some one had entered the room.

"Then I'll see who it is," said Doyle.

He threw himself against the door and broke it in.

Lawrence was standing near a bed opposite the door. At the sudden and unexpected appearance of Doyle, he jumped for the open window in the rear and sprang out.

Doyle ran downstairs and found the man lying unconscious in the yard. He summoned a policeman, and the burglar was removed to Gouverneur Hospital, where it was said that his injuries would probably prove fatal. His spine is said to be injured.

Lawrence and two confederates had planned to rob Doyle's house, but were frustrated by the unexpected appearance of their intended victim on the scene.

A complaint of attempted burglary was entered against Lawrence at the police station, but he was in too critical a condition to be taken to court this morning.

PARTED FROM HER CHILDREN

Mrs. Pelican's Alarm Gets a Steamship Line in Trouble.

When Mrs. Helen Pelican left Glasgow on the steamer State of California, of the Allan-State line, she had with her three children. When she arrived at Ellis Island Thursday she had but one. She set up a hue and cry for her missing children, and was taken before the Board of Special Inquiry. She said the two children, both girls, Frances, aged three, and Susie, five years old, were still on the ship.

The immigration authorities immediately sent a man to investigate the matter and found that the woman's story was true. The two little girls were on the vessel, but their names were not on the manifest.

This oversight on the part of the Company would cost them $10 for each child had they been sent to the island, as the law imposes that fine for every immigrant not on the manifest. But if they keep back an immigrant they are liable to a fine of $1,000 for each one.

The children were taken off and returned to their mother, and Dr. Senner says he will now push the case against the Steamship Company for violating the Immigration laws.

DAISY BELL FINED.

Appears in Court and Not on "a Bicycle Built for Two."

A stylish-looking, light-haired woman, giving the name of Daisy Bell, and describing herself as a theatrical performer, was fined $10 in the Jefferson Market Police Court this morning upon a charge of disorderly conduct.

With tears rolling down her cheeks she asked Justice McMahon to send for her friend, "Jimmy" Lynch, a saloon-keeper at Fourth and Wooster streets.

Daisy said she lived at 44 Great Jones street, and that the company she had been with disbanded three weeks ago. She said that Policeman Gallagher had tried to get her to accompany him to a saloon last night, and when she refused he arrested her.

When Policeman Murphy was called and asked by the Justice if he knew her, she coyly edged up to him and, catching him by his sleeve, pleadingly whispered, "Don't, don't!" Murphy hesitatingly said he had seen her on Third street several times lately. Then she was fined.

Ingle Leaves New Rochelle.

NEW ROCHELLE, N. Y., March 2.—John Ingle, the real estate agent who was arrested last night on a charge of threatening to kill his employer, Supervisor Jacob H. Hollwegs, was released, and early this morning left town not to return again. The Supervisor withdrew the complaint on condition that Ingle would do this.

Wire News in Brief.

An unknown schooner is reported ashore off Hog's Island, Va., bar.

Section Master Flynn was wounded and a Mr. Smith was killed at Scriven, Ga., Tuesday night by Calvin Carter, a negro.

At Belle Centre, O., William Hall, aged sixty-six, was beaten to death with an Indian club by Charles Green, a negro, who was arrested.

At Henrietta, Tenn., Arthur, the eight-year-old son of Mr. Zack Jarnett, was accidentally shot and killed by his fourteen-year-old brother.

Green Warlock & Co.'s bank at Victoria, B. C., has assigned for the benefit of creditors. The assets are $400,000 and liabilities about $400,000.

The fishing schooner Red Breast, of Dipper Harbor, N. B., struck on the ledges at Grand Manan Thursday evening and is a total wreck. The crew was saved.

A band of Yaqui Indians has been robbing settlers in the Upper Yaqui River Valley, Mexico, and murdered one ranchman named Torres, because he offered resistance.

The State Bank of Brookville, Saline County, Kan., has failed. The bank was organized with a capital stock of $60,000, but the business depression had reduced it to $20,000.

A. D. Cory, the railroad agent at Suspension, Ala., was fatally injured by an unknown man yesterday, who assaulted him with a hatchet and then pushed his face and arms into the office fire.

REAL ESTATE ADS.
IN
THE WORLD
BRING RESULTS.
A 3-line Ad. 3 Times
COSTS ONLY
$2.01,
Daily or Sunday.

TOUCHED A LIVE WIRE

A Plumber Receives an Electric Shock While at Work.

He Was Engaged Repairing a Gas Pipe on a Ceiling.

Thrown to the Floor and Picked Up Unconscious.

William Ferrer, a plumber, aged twenty-nine, who lives on Manhattan avenue, Brooklyn, received an electric shock while repairing a gas pipe on the ceiling of Napoleon Napolielo's tailoring establishment at 43 Cortlandt street, this morning, and fell to the floor from the top of a ten-foot ladder.

He was unconscious when men near by rushed to him and had only slightly recovered when a Chambers Street Hospital ambulance arrived.

Ambulance Surgeon Van Wagener attended him and removed him to the hospital, where it was stated that Ferrer would recover.

The gaspipe at which he was working runs parallel and within three feet of the electric light wire. The latter is supposed to be insulated. At the time Ferrer touched it he was working on the gas pipe with one hand and the other was placed on the ceiling to steady himself. He is supposed to have moved it slightly and thus came in contact with the wire.

KNOCKED FROM A POLE.

A Truck Struck the Ladder on Which Mass Was Standing.

Charles Mass, twenty-six years old, of 343 East Twenty-second street, was thrown from an electric light pole at Forty-second street and Lexington avenue this morning into the street.

He received severe injuries about the legs.

He was standing on the top of a ladder leaning against the electric light pole.

A passing truck struck the ladder and threw Mass into the street.

He was removed to Bellevue Hospital.

William Little, the driver of the wagon, escaped.

SMALL-POX IN THE MISSION.

Another Patient Removed from the Five Points Institution.

Jeanette Fryer, two years old, was removed from the Five Points Mission, this morning, to North Brother Island, suffering from small-pox. There have been several cases in this institution.

FAMILY HAS TO SUFFER.

Many Men and Women Are Rejected for Life Insurance.

"I have been refused insurance, and my family must suffer!"

The speaker was a well-known member of the Shoe and Leather Exchange, of New York.

"You don't mean to say that the company has refused to grant you a policy!" exclaimed his friend, in evident astonishment.

"Yes," was the sad reply, "the medical examiner has reported against me, and now my plans for providing for my wife and children are all destroyed."

The terrible significance of this poor man's condition can be better realized by referring to the statement recently made by Dr. Lambert, General Medical Director of the Equitable Life Assurance Company. In explaining why so many applicants for insurance are daily rejected he said:

"We reject 16 per cent. of the applications made to us for life insurance, and I have saved the entire expense of this medical department by the rejection alone of applicants who have diseased kidneys and who died within two years after I rejected them."

The startling importance of these words cannot be too widely proclaimed. The fact that such an awful condition exists in this land should arouse thoughtful men and women to a sense of the great danger that threatens them. Such cases can be found on every hand.

Mr. Edson L. Weston, a well-known resident of Port Henry, N. Y., recently said: "Some years ago I suffered from pains in my back and throughout my body, but thought it nothing serious until about that time I desired to obtain a life insurance policy, and found that I had to undergo a medical examination. My application was promptly rejected by the doctor, who pronounced it a 'badly developed kidney disease.' My case was considered dangerous, and I at once looked around for the best cure. I decided what that was, began taking it, and I am pleased to say I am to-day a well man, and the doctors say so, too, for since then, without any trouble, I have taken out a life insurance policy. The medical examiner pronounced me 'sound as a trout,' and I owe it all to the remarkable power and efficiency of Warner's Safe Cure, which restored me to health and enabled me to pass a perfect medical examination."

These facts show the insidious nature of kidney or Bright's disease. It has often no symptoms of its own, but, unfortunately, the symptoms of every known disease. The victim of Bright's disease goes along unsuspecting until in many cases it is too late! The case of the eminent professor who was lecturing to his class and showed them the analysis of Bright's disease urine, and also that in a condition of health, is in point. He suddenly paled, trembled and said: "Gentlemen, I have made a painful discovery—I, myself, am a victim of Bright's disease," and in less than a year he was dead.

The lesson which should come to all is that the greatest care and attention are necessary to preserve these great and yet delicate organs of the body. Both men and women are victims of this dread disease, and they alone are wise who realize the fact and act in time.