EIGHT ANNUAL REPORT OF THE SECRETARY OF THE STATE BOARD OF HEALTH OF THE STATE OF VERMONT FOR THE YEAR ENDING AUGUST 31, 1894

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VARIOUS

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Trieste

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OF THE

SECRETARY

OF THE

STATE BOARD OF HEALTH

OF THE

STATE OF VERMONT

FOR THE

YEAR ENDING AUGUST 31, 1894.

RUTLAND:
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1894.

STATE BOARD OF HEALTH.

OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY,
RICHFORD, September 1, 1894.

To His Excellency,

LEVI K. FULLER, *Governor.*

SIR:—I have the honor of submitting to you the Eighth Annual Report of the State Board of Health for the year ending August 31st, 1894.

Very respectfully,

J. H. HAMILTON, Secretary.

MEMBERS OF THE BOARD.

	Term Expires.
DR. O. W. SHERWIN, Woodstock,	1898.
DR. C. S. CAVERLY, Rutland,	1896.
DR. J. H. HAMILTON, Richford,	1894.

OFFICERS OF THE BOARD.

DR. C. S. CAVERLY, *President.*
DR. J. H. HAMILTON, *Secretary.*

Laws of Vermont Relating to the State Board of Health, Health Officers and Others, and the Spreading of Contagious Diseases.

No. 93—An Act to Prevent the Spreading of Contagious Diseases and to Establish a State Board of Health.

It is hereby enacted by the General Assembly of the State of Vermont:

Section 1. The Governor, by and with the advice and consent of the Senate, shall appoint three persons as members of a State Board of Health for the State of Vermont. The term of office of said members of said board shall be so arranged that the term of one of them shall expire at the end of every second year. Vacancies in said board shall be filled as they occur by appointment of the Governor, and confirmation by the Senate when next in session.

Sec. 2. The members of said board first named in said appointment shall call a meeting of said members immediately after notice of said appointment shall be received by said members, and said board shall meet within six days after said notice, at the time and place designated in said call, and said board shall organize by electing one of their number to be president of said board, and the board shall also appoint a secretary, who shall be a reputable practicing physician of this State, and if not one of the members of said board by appointment he shall be a member of the board by virtue of his appointment of secretary. The said secretary shall hold his office until said board shall appoint another secretary, and he shall be the executive officer of said Board of Health.

Sec. 3. The board shall take cognizance of the interests of life and health among the inhabitants of the State; shall make, or cause to be made, sanitary investigations and inquiries respecting causes of disease, especially of epidemics, and the means of prevention; the sources of mortality, and the effect of localities, employments, habits and circumstances of life on the public health. They shall also, when requested, or when in their opinion the sanitary interests of localities require it, advise with municipal officers with regard to the location, drainage, water supply, heating, and ventilation of public buildings and the drainage and sewerage of towns and cities.

SEC. 4. The board shall meet biennially on the second Tuesday of the session of the legislature at Montpelier, and at such other times and places as in the judgment of the board the public health may require, and also whenever the public safety of the people or the stock and domestic animals of the State shall require. The secretary, as executive officer of the board, shall superintend the performance of the work prescribed in this act, and shall perform such other duties as the board shall direct. He shall also respond to the invitations of boards of selectmen of the several towns or the mayor of a city, in case of epidemics, contagious diseases or other unusual sickness, by visiting the locality, or in such other way as may be deemed best; he shall render the Secretary of State any necessary assistance in preparing for publication the annual registration reports required by law relating to births, deaths and marriages in the State, and he shall make report to the Governor on or before the first day of September in each year of the investigations, discoveries and recommendations of the board, which report shall be printed and distributed as soon as practicable thereafter in the same manner as other public documents of the State.

SEC. 5. The compensation of members of the board shall be five dollars per day and actual expenses while in discharge of their official duties, and the Governor and Auditor of Accounts may allow to the secretary of said board such additional sums for services as secretary, or for services in times of extraordinary peril, as seem to them reasonable, provided the whole expense of the board, including the secretary, for services rendered and all expenses incurred shall not exceed one thousand five hundred dollars in any year, except in some extraordinary public peril, in which case the Governor may order said board to do and perform service for the safety of the State and her people in excess of said sum, but never to exceed the sum of two thousand five hundred dollars in all in any one year.

SEC. 6. This board shall have authority to promulgate and enforce such regulations for the better preservation of the public health in contagious and epidemic diseases as they shall judge necessary; and any person or persons or corporation neglecting or refusing, after having been duly notified in writing, to comply with the requirements of such regulations, shall, upon conviction thereof, pay to the Treasurer of the State a fine of not less than twenty-five dollars, nor more than one hundred dollars, said offense to be prosecuted for before any court of competent jurisdiction in the State.

SEC. 7. This act shall take effect from its passage.

Approved November 23, 1886.

No. 82—An Act Defining the Duties and Powers of State and Local Boards of Health, Health Officers and Others.

It is hereby enacted by the General Assembly of the State of Vermont:

Section 1. The State Board of Health shall appoint a health officer for each city, town and incorporated village in the State, and shall give him a certificate signed by the secretary of the board.

Sec. 2. These health officers, together with the selectmen of the towns, aldermen of cities and trustees or bailiffs of incorporated villages shall be called, and shall act as local Boards of Health with duties hereinafter assigned.

Sec. 3. The health officer shall be secretary and executive officer of the local Board of Health, and shall hold office for three years, and until another is appointed, unless he resigns or is removed for proper cause. In case of a vacancy from any cause, the State Board of Health shall have power to fill the same.

He shall, in conjunction with the other members of the board, make sanitary inspections whenever and wherever he has reason to suspect anything existing which may be detrimental to the public health. He shall have authority to enter any house or other building and any premises where he has reason to suspect anything exists which is, or may become, detrimental to the public health. He shall, as executive officer of the local board, give a written order for the destruction, prevention or removal, within a certain specified time, of all nuisances, sources of filth or causes of sickness.

Anyone neglecting or refusing to comply with a written order of a health officer shall be subjected to a fine of not less than five dollars. In case of such neglect or refusal, the health officer may prevent or remove any such nuisance, source of filth or cause of sickness, and the cost of such prevention or removal may be collected of the owner or occupant of premises where such nuisance, source of filth or cause of sickness exists.

Sec. 4. Local Boards of Health shall have authority:

A.—To abate all nuisances, destroy, prevent or remove all sources of filth or cause of sickness.

B.—To guard against the introduction of contagious or infectious diseases by the exercise of proper and vigilant medical inspection and control of all persons and things arriving in their respective towns or cities from infected places whether within or without this State, or which for any cause are liable to communicate contagion.

C.—To require the isolation of all persons and things infected with or exposed to contagious or infectious diseases, and to provide suitable places for the reception of the same, and, if necessary, to furnish medical treatment and care for sick persons who cannot otherwise be provided for; to prohibit and prevent all intercourse