REPORT OF THE STATE BOARD OF HEALTH OF THE STATE OF MISSOURI; THIRTY-SEVENTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY

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STATE OF MISSOURI.

THIRTY-SEVENTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY.



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C. ROACH, Secretary.

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ST. LOUIS, MO., Dec. 31, 1892.

Hon. D. R. Francis, Governor :

DEAR SIR-In obedience to legal requirements, I respectfully present to you the Report of the Missouri State Board of Health for the year 1892.

Hoping that yeu will find the report satisfactory, I have the honor to be, Respectfully yours, etc.

R. C. ATKINSON, See'y.

MEMBERS OF THE BOARD.

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ORGANIZED FOR 1892.

DR. J. D. GRIFFITH, President	Kansas City, Mo.
DR. G. A. GOBEN, Vice-President	Kirksville, Mo.
MR. JOHN P. HARMON, Treasurer	Holden, Mo.
DR. A. C. ATKINSON, Secretary	St. Louis, Mo.
DR. WM. G HALL	St. Joseph, Mo.
DR. GEO. HOMAN	St. Louis, Mo.
DR. ALBERT MERRELL	St. Louis, Mo.

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REPORT OF THE BOARD.

To His Excellency, the Governor of Missouri:

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Section 5433, Revised Statutes, 1889, requires that the report of the Board "shall include so much of the proceedings of the Board, and such information concerning vital and mortuary statistics, 'such knowledge respecting diseases, and such instruction on the subject of hyglene as may be thought useful by the Board for dissemination among the people, with such suggestions as to legislative action as they deem necessary."

It is also a duty, prescribed by section 5419, "to recommend to the General Assembly of the State such laws as they may deem necessary to improve and advance the sanitary condition of the State."

The following general report is respectfully submitted in compliance with the above requirements of the law:

PUBLIC HEALTH.

So far as may be gathered from the evidences presented to the Board, the health of the State has not been up to the usual standard, doubtless owing to the extensive floods of our great river and the large area of territory overflowed, as well as to the long-continued rainless period which succeeded. The result has been the wide prevalence of an obstinate form of continued fever, which in some localities has prevailed as an epidemic.

TYPHOID FEVER.

There has been an extensive prevalence of typhoid or enteric fever, though the percentage of deaths reported as resulting therefrom has not been up to the usual average. In no instance recorded have the examinations of the food or water supply, either chemically or microscopically, resulted in the discovery of the discase germs peculiar to this form of fever, and the cause of its extensive prevalence remains as yet unsettled, unless it be the low level of the ground water this fall, following the extensive saturation of the soil during the great