

would enable them to be distinguished from the members of other groups. In other words, I would suggest the study of the affinities as well as the differences of the organisms. In that case, even if one might not be quite certain if the organism was a new species, he would know approximately where to place it.

It may, perhaps, not be out of place to quote the following passage from my report made in 1891 :

“The result of the large number of disjointed efforts made in the direction of systematic description of the water bacteria makes it clear that the matter can never be settled on paper or by the isolated observations of individuals. What is wanted seems to be more co-operation among those working on the subject. This would lead to a sounder basis of classification of the water flora and seems really to be the only feasible means of attaining that end. If a society or committee of those engaged in water analyses in different localities could be formed, and each member allotted one group to investigate, so that various organisms of the same group obtained from different localities could be compared by parallel cultures, the results when compared and published would soon form a recognized standard of comparison. This would not only help beginners, but would obviate to some extent the causes which tend to confuse the work.”

Not feeling myself competent to take the lead in a project of this sort, I refrained from taking any steps in the matter, but it may be mentioned that with the co-operation of Professor Adami, of Montreal, an attempt is now being made to organize somewhat upon the lines just laid down a scheme for the co-operative study of the water bacteria.

*Bacteria Found in Montreal Water.*—The forms which occurred were almost exclusively bacilli, only two species of micrococci being met with.

During the pollution due to heavy rains and melting snow a considerable number of molds, were present. A new form of *Fusarium* was once detected in tap water.

The relative proportions of the species present often gave valuable indication of slight degrees of pollution when the total