

and cesspools of the United States—that they can only breed in water; that one mosquito can lay on the average three hundred eggs a day; that the life of one mosquito is about a month. The most dangerous of Southern mosquitoes is the *Stegomyia fasciata*, the natural carrier of yellow fever germs. At the evening dinner, Gen. Fred. D. Grant, of Governor's Island, U. S. army post, gave some interesting reminiscences on mosquitoes and their effect on the health of the army. He related how he had protected a division of the army located on one side of the Rio Grande River, in a southern section of the country, from the spread of yellow fever, which had broken out in a town situated on the opposite bank. He secured funds from Washington to carry out an effective system of screening, and said as a result that not one of his men was taken with the fever. On Governor's Island, numerous relics in the shape of 15-inch-gun shells were inverted, so as to shed water instead of holding it, which had the effect of relieving locally the generation of the insects. Even upright rifle barrels were filled with sand to avoid the collection of water. Mr. Paul D. Cravath related an interesting record concerning the relation of the mosquito to malaria. On the north side of Long Island, about thirty miles from New York, there were certain valleys and bays where the mosquito was notoriously evident. The areas were located upon a map. Another record was made as to the extent of malaria over this section, from physicians and others, and these areas were placed upon a second duplicate map. This medical map was then superimposed over the first map, and it was found the areas in both cases pretty evenly matched each other. This record is of special interest to all boards of health, and proves most graphically how it is possible to improve the public health by the prevention of mosquito breeding. Other interesting remarks were made, showing how marshy places by being reclaimed and converted into public parks could easily improve land valuations and at the same time become a public benefit.—*Scientific American*.

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A LITTLE more than a year ago there died in Jena, that world-famous town, Prof. Ernst Abbe, who has had no small share in making Jena so well known to the entire civilized world. At the time of his death, papers and magazines contained full accounts of the life and work of this truly remarkable man, reciting in detail his numerous contributions to science and his successful experiment in organizing an industrial enterprise upon