

apparatus. It has been used with marked success at the Severn tunnel. With it the diver walked more than 1000 feet at a depth of 35 feet below the surface, and was cut off from all communication for one hour and a half. Ordinary diving gear was useless, as respiration could not be maintained through the necessary length of tubing.

If we mistake not Dr. J. Baker Edwards gave an informal address on the Metric System of Weights and Measures to a number of teachers at the close of the late Convention, held in this city. This system is in vogue on the Continent of Europe generally, and was legalized in the United States in May 1866. Certain parties are petitioning the American Government to make its use compulsory. This has produced a remonstrance from an eminent Philadelphia engineer, who maintains that the system is not nearly so convenient for the workshop as the old method. While his objections may be valid with reference to drawings made to a certain scale, we cannot see how for any other purpose the metric is inferior to the inch system. We hope the day is not far distant when the metric system will be as generally used in this country as it is on the Continent of Europe.

The researches of Gustav Hausen have shown that the antennæ of insects are organs of smell. When they are coated with paraffin or removed, the insects are quite indifferent to the most odorous substances; flies so treated take no notice whatever of the presence of putrid meat.

When typhoid fever first appeared among the students of Bishop's College, Lennoxville, samples of the waters used in the College for drinking and cooking purposes were submitted to Dr. Baker Edwards for analysis. At the same time samples were submitted to Dr. H. H. Croft of Toronto. Dr. Edwards reported as the result of his first analysis, that the College water supply was "not only pure but excellent." On examining a second lot of samples he reported: "None are polluted by sewage or contain organic germs likely to cause sickness." Dr. Croft pronounced "the waters all bad, as containing too much organic matter." Certain medical men of Sherbrooke also questioned the results of Dr. Edwards' analysis. At the last monthly meeting of the Natural History Society of this city, the latter gentleman stated that he was prepared to uphold his results and would be glad to have an opportunity of doing so at the next meeting of the Society. We shall endeavor to give our readers next month a summary of Dr. Edwards' explanations concerning his analyses.

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