

gum regions, produced probably by the solidifying of the exudations of oil; and that it undoubtedly overlies vast quantities of oil, which some day, if developed, will prove Trinidad to contain a richer and more inexhaustible oil treasure, than has yet been discovered in the known world. We understand that an American company who have purchased some land near the lake, are preparing to bore for oil; but, from the difficulty experienced in transporting machinery, and securing labourers who understand the business, their efforts as yet have not resulted very favourably, but they are sanguine of success, and doubtless before many months, we will hear of their having made a great strike."

Ozone and Cholera.

Dr. Scheil says: "Ozone is oxygen in a highly electro-negative condition, and air or oxygen ozonized by means of electricity, phosphorus, light, or any other method, may be combined with non-ozonized air or oxygen to form a galvanic circuit."

In support of the above theory, A. T. Hay, in the *Scientific American*, says:—I will present a few facts that have come under my own observation.

In dry, sultry weather, when there is the least amount of ozone present in the atmosphere, telegraph lines are frequently interrupted by the current coming in contact with non-ozonized oxygen, which forms independent or contra-galvanic circuits on the wire, rendering the transmission of messages very difficult or impossible for the time being. A thunder storm at such times always has the effect of destroying such contra circuits. Telegraph lines always work more or less imperfectly in hot weather, and particularly so where the lines are built parallel with large rivers on the low ground, where the least amount of ozone is present.

Ozone is destructive to malaria, and highly beneficial to health in times of cholera or other malarial epidemics.

In telegraph offices there is always the maximum amount of ozone, or highly electro-negative oxygen combining with the non-ozonized oxygen, and thereby rendering the atmosphere pure. During the prevalence of cholera in this country from 1849 to 1854, inclusive, I was connected with the telegraph lines in the States west of the Ohio river, and during that whole time I never knew an instance of a telegraph operator dying of, or even being attacked with, cholera; and in those days telegraph offices in the river towns were generally located in low grounds where cholera prevailed to the most alarming extent.

Foul Atmosphere of Court Houses.

At a recent meeting of the Manchester Literary and Philosophical Society, a paper was read by the President, R. Angus Smith, Ph. D., F. R. S., etc., "On air from off the Atlantic, and from some London Law Courts." The specimens of air collected by Mr. Fryer, when on his way to the West Indies, and those collected in Antigua, are worth remarking, as the first agrees with the figures obtained previously when examining air on the shore and open heaths of Scotland, where the highest average was obtained, and the second agrees with the numbers obtained in more inhabited but not closely inhabited places. Those from a law court are inter-

esting; they are the most deficient in oxygen of any specimens found by me during the day in inhabited places above ground. The first is almost exactly the same as the average found in the currents of galleries in metalliferous mines; that from the lantern is nearly the same as the specimens found close to the shafts of the same mines, meaning of course the average of many specimens. I have not known any mills or workshops so deficient in air. I consider a room bad when it loses 1,000, and workshops very bad when they lose 2,000 of oxygen out of a million parts; here the loss is actually 5,000 less than the parks of London. The circumstance is strange and I hope unusual. A scientific friend happened to call my attention to it and wished me to examine the air. The moisture from the window was collected and there were several ounces obtained, and more might have been easily found. It was perspiration in great part, the smell of it was distinct. It is putrefying, and decolorizes more permanganate now than it did first.

Mere change of air will not purify a room like this—a current must pass through it for a long time until complete oxidation takes place.

Clean the Cellars.

We advise farmers and others to be particular and thorough in cleaning their cellars, sinks, &c., and in removing all filth and rubbish from the vicinity of their dwellings. We advise it as a cholera preventive, and, likewise, as a precaution against the approach of various forms of sickness to which we are particularly liable in the summer season. Do not wait until hot weather comes, and the smell of decayed vegetables in the cellar, render the work a necessity, but purify your premises now.

Soon as danger from the freezing is over, all vegetables keep better if removed to an upper room where the air is dryer. After removing such from the cellar, and cleaning away the *debris*, it is well to scrape off a little of the bottom, if it be of dirt, and take it away, and then scatter some quick lime, or other disinfectant, in various places. Don't neglect to whitewash the walls and ceiling overhead. Then give the cellar a free airing when the weather is warm and dry. Provide, also, for a free circulation of air throughout the entire season. We believe that farmers' cellars can often justly be charged with producing much sickness, and the proper cleansing of them is a matter that cannot be safely neglected, during the coming season. Clean up the yards also, and be watchful that there is no decayed vegetable matter in proximity to the dwelling.—*Rural New Yorker*.

Liebeg on Ventilation.

Liebeg suggests that in close rooms, and on ship-board, deficient ventilation may be compensated for by the use of hydrate of lime. Eighteen or twenty pounds of slaked lime will absorb 38 or 39 cubic feet of carbonic acid gas, which would be immediately replaced by an equal volume of fresh air entering through the crevices.

DIFFERENT sounds travel with different degrees of velocity. A call to dinner will run over a ten-acre lot in a minute and a half; while a summons to work will take from five to ten minutes.