



National Water Supply Notes on Previous Inquiries, Prepared in Connexion with the Congress, Held Tuesday and Wednesday, 21st and 22nd May, 1878

Royal Society of Arts



This historic book may have numerous typos and missing text. Purchasers can download a free scanned copy of the original book (without typos) from the publisher. Not indexed. Not illustrated. 1878 Excerpt: ...but even microscopic research is not yet competent to reveal any facts of direct importance in connection with such organised suspended matters. The microscope has never yet discovered, even in the most polluted drinking water, any germ or organism which is known to be deleterious to human health but, by showing the presence of living organisms in water, it proves, either that the water has not been so efficiently filtered as to remove these organisms, or that it has subsequently become polluted by them, and thus it is indirectly demonstrated that the water has not been treated, preserved, or stored, under such conditions as would preclude the access of deleterious germs or organisms. A microscopic examination of the suspended matters and potable waters thus becomes indirectly of considerable value. The analytical determinations, which we have deemed sufficiently important to warrant the expenditure upon them of the necessary time and labour, are the following, those which are of primary importance being printed in italios: --m SOLUTION. Total solid matters, or total solid impurity. Organic carbon, or carbon contained in the organic matter actually present. Organic nitrogen, or nitrogen contained in the organic matter actually present. Ammonia. Nitrogen, as nitrates and nitrites. 6. Total combined nitrogen. 7. Estimation of the previous sewage, or annual contamination. 8. Chlorine. 9. Temporary, permanent, and total hardness. IN SUSPENSION. 10. Mineral matters in suspension. 11. Organic matters in suspension. Every sample of water, the analysis of which is given in this Report, has been submitted to all these determinations, except the last two, which have only been employed in cases where the proportion of suspended matter was considerable. In all cases wh..

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