

SOME HISTORICAL ASPECTS OF THE THERMAL AND MINERAL SPRINGS

of

The United States

John D. Cayman

February 9, 1950.

Few people realize the important part that Thermal and Mineral springs play in the history of this Nation. However, most of the great men of the country have made use of these springs for either the renewal of their health or for relaxation.

In 1781 Thomas Jefferson, in his "Notes on Virginia", gave the following description:

"There are several medicinal springs, some of which are indubitably efficacious, while others seem to owe their reputation as much to fancy and change of air and regimen, as to their real virtues. None of them having undergone a chemical analysis in skilful hands, nor been so far the subject of observations as to have produced a reduction into classes of the disorders which they relieve; it is in my power to give little more than an enumeration of them."

The history of these springs is somewhat mysterious. Such early historians of the American Indians as Smith, Beverly, and Bancroft do not mention the use of these springs in Indian medicine. Yet, it is not probable that these peoples overlooked the comfort of natural hot water, or ignored the odor of some of them. The unusual played an important part in the lives of the Indians.

In the histories written on the various springs there are numerous references to their use by the Indians. Agnes Rothery in her description of Warm Springs Valley gives us the following poetic story:

"Indians knew these springs, and legend goes back to an Indian runner in the sixteenth century carrying a message from his nation in the West to the council fire of the five tribes. Exhausted from his days of travelling over the chilly peaks, he came upon this tranquil open space, and saw the stars reflected in water. Bending to drink, he found the water warm, and lay down and slept in the shallow bed of the spring. The next morning he woke invigorated, and for many years after this valley was respected by all the tribes as neutral territory where they might rest and find peace and refreshment."

There are, however, authentic cases which prove that the Indians knew of the value of medicinal springs. Because the treaty signed by the Creek Indians and the State of Georgia in 1825 specified that gunpowder springs be open to the public forever, Indian Springs Park is believed to be the oldest State Park in the United States.

For many years the Indians carefully preserved the secret of the location of Saratoga Springs from the whites. At last in an effort to lessen the suffering of their dear brother, Sir William Johnson, they decided to reveal their secret. As he was incapacitated by an old wound they carried him to the spring in a litter. Here,

after placating the Manitou of the Spring with an offering of tobacco, he smoked the pipe of friendship with the Indians and drank. History tells us that although he could only stay four days, he gained so much strength from the water that he was able to walk part of the way home.

Strange to say there is little question as to the identity of the first white man to make use of the thermal springs in this country. On his ill-fated expedition to the Mississippi in search of gold, Ferdinand de Soto spent the winter of 1541-42 at Washita Hot Springs in Arkansas where he bathed in the waters. His men were finally convinced that this was not the true "Fountain of Youth" they were looking for when de Soto died of exposure less than three months after they left the springs.

Well over a century later, French missionaries in the North and hunters and trappers in the South, knew of these springs and sometimes used them even though these indulgences increased the natural hazard of their lives. The Indians were not slow in learning the attraction these places had for their enemies.

The oldest spring to come into general use was located at Bath, Morgan County, Virginia, now West Virginia. This spring was known successively as Warm, Frederick, Bath, and Berkley Spring. Dr. John Bell described these waters as follows:

"This is a mild carbonated thermal water of the temperature of 73° F., the same as that which in England, by a strange blunder, is called Bristol Hot Well. It has been very serviceable in a variety of chronic diseases, when used as a bath. Persons who went there crippled with chronic rheumatism have come away quite restored to the free use of their limbs, and as agile in all their movements as the country people around."

Dr. Bell, who wrote in 1855, ends up with the laconic statement, "the hotels are well kept". But, in spite of these doubtful comforts, springs were very widely used. Peter Lyons, in writing to Mr. John Norton in September of 1771, made the following statement:

"We have had a sickly Summer and Fall that has carried off many old standers, and some valuable men. I was long under apprehension for my Friend your Son, but he new seems to have conquered his disorder and I hope will continue in good health, I have recommended it to him not to stay another Fall in the lower parts of Virginia, but to go to the Springs in Augusta or Frederick, where he may enjoy health and good company in a pleasant climate."

In our study of the springs it might be well to trace the history of this, the oldest of the Virginia spas. For this information I am relying on Dr. J. J. Moorman who states that his information came from D. H. Strother, Esq.:

"These springs were resorted to by invalids at a very early period, and had great celebrity throughout the Colonies. Hundreds annually flocked thither from all quarters, and traditional accounts of the accommodations and amusements of those primitive times are calculated to excite both the mirth and envy of the present age. (1859) Rude log huts, board and canvas tents, and even covered wagons, served as lodging-rooms, while every party brought

its own substantial provisions of flour, meat, and bacon, depending for lighter articles of diet on the "Hill folk", or the success of their own foragers. A large hollow scooped in the sand, surrounded by a screen of pine brush, was the only bathing-house; and this was used alternately by ladies and gentlemen. The time set apart for the ladies was announced by a blast on a long tin horn, at which signal all of the opposite sex retired to a prescribed distance, and woe to any unlucky wight who might be found within the magic circle.

"The whole scene is said to have resembled a camp-meeting in appearance; but only in appearance. Here day and night passed in a round of eating and drinking, bathing, fiddling, dancing, and reveling. Gaming was carried to a great excess, and horseracing was a daily amusement.

"Such were the primitive accommodations at the first watering place that was opened in Virginia, and such the recreations and amusements of our forefathers, about the eventful period that ushered us as a nation into the world.

"The importance of this property was appreciated by the country at a very early period,

for in October, 1776, in the first year of the Commonwealth, we find the following in the statute book of Virginia:--

"Whereas it hath been represented to the General Assembly, that the laying off of fifty acres of land in lots and streets, for a town at the Warm Springs in the County of Berkeley, will be of great utility, by encouraging the purchasers thereof to build convenient houses for accommodating numbers of infirm persons who frequent those springs yearly for the recovery of their health,-- 'Be it therefore enacted by the General Assembly of the Commonwealth of Virginia, that fifty acres of land adjoining the said springs *****be laid out into lots of one-quarter of an acre each, with convenient streets, which shall be, and the same are hereby established a town by the name of Bath,' etc. (Hening's Statutes at Large.)

"The town was consequently laid off into lots in August, 1777. Among the purchasers were Charles Carroll, of Carrollton, Horatio Gates, Gen. George Washington, and many others of note and distinction.

"In the schedule to Gen. Washington's will, we find the following clause:--

'Bath or Warm Springs.

'Two well-situated and handsome buildings,
to the amount of £150.'

"The sites of these houses are still pointed out. In the memoirs of the Baroness de Reidesil, (wife of the German general who was taken prisoner with Bourgoyne at Saratoga), she speaks of having passed part of the summer of 1779 at these springs with her invalid husband, and mentions having made the acquaintance of Gen. Washington's family. She devotes a page or two of her most interesting work to the narration of quaint and pleasant incidents illustrating their mode of life at the springs, and at the same time illustrating (though unintentionally) the excellent and amiable character of the authoress.

"After the war of the Revolution, the accommodations at the springs were greatly improved and extended; but as the State progressed in population and prosperity, a host of other bathing places and mineral springs were discovered and improved. Saratoga at the North, and the White Sulphur at the South, began to rival Berkeley in the race for public favor, and from the superior spirit and enterprise shown in their improvement, soon distanced her. Her register of thousands was reduced to five or six hundred per annum, and her hotels and bath-houses seemed

destined to decay. In 1844 a fire accomplished in one night what time was doing gradually; fourteen buildings and half the hotel accommodations were destroyed."

The development of other springs as resorts was slow and in a Gazetteer published in 1826 only fourteen springs are mentioned. The springs listed are:

Amherst, Virginia	Bedford, Pennsylvania
Berkley, "	Yellow, Ohio
Hot, "	Harrodsburg, Kentucky
Sweet, "	Wachitta Hot, Arkansas
Warm, "	Buncombe County Hot, N.C.
Ballston, New York	Shocco, North Carolina
Saratoga, " "	Schooley's Mountain Springs, N.J.

This list is obviously incomplete but it probably does include the watering places having more than a local reputation.

Dr. John Bell was perhaps the first to write anything like a treatise on the mineral springs of the United States. In his Baths and Mineral Waters, published in 1831, part 2 is devoted to "a history of the chemical composition and medicinal properties of the chief mineral springs of the United States and Europe." He enumerated 21 localities for the United States, which list was increased to 181 in The Mineral and Thermal Springs of the United States and Canada, which he published 1855. Dr. J. J. Moorman, in his Mineral Springs of North America and How to Reach Them, published in 1873, refers to or describes 171 springs. Dr. George E. Walton's Mineral Springs of the United States and Canada, etc. (third edition), published in 1883, mentions for the United States 279 localities. Drs.

William Pepper, H. I. Bowditch, A. N. Bell, S. E. Chaille, and Charles Dennison, as a committee of the American Medical Association, in 1880 made a very complete compilation, which included about 500 localities. Bulletin No. 32, published by the United States Geological Survey in 1886 included 2,822 mineral-spring localities (and 8,843 individual springs), 634 of which were utilized as resorts and 223 as sources of commercial mineral water.

Perhaps the best way to illustrate the popularity of Mineral and Thermal Springs in the past is to state that my list of Springs in Virginia alone includes 73 known Watering Places as well as 45 springs supplying mineral water for sale. We must add to this number 35 names of springs which appear on various maps which are not mineral springs but are used for water supply. Then to add to the problem over 40 of these springs have two or more names. All in all a study of Virginia springs must cover over 200 localities.

The heyday of the springs was between 1830 and 1860. Basically they were still considered a cure for various illnesses. In a "New and Comprehensive Gazetteer of Virginia" written by Joseph Martin in 1835, we find the following:

"The White Sulphur acts, when taken in doses of two or three glasses at a time, as an alternative, exercising on the system much of the salutary influence, without the evil effects of mercury,--used in larger quantities becomes actively diaretic (sic) *****. The

Salt Sulphur is more remarkable than the White, for the latter property; but not equal to it in the former. The Red Sulphur, in addition to the qualities which it has in common with the last mentioned springs, is remarkable for its action on the pulse, which it reduces considerably in a short time. The Sweet springs....are of the class of waters called acidulous, and are valuable as a tonic in cases of debility, and in all varieties of dyspepsia which are unaccompanied by inflammation. The Hot springs are celebrated for their efficacy in cutaneous, rhumatic (sic) dyspeptic and liver complaints. Dr. Bell . . . observes,--all that has been performed by the Bristol, Buxton and Bath waters in England may be safely claimed . . . by the Virginia springs just enumerated. If to the Hot, Warm and Sweet Springs,--we add the White, Salt, Red and Blue Sulphur, we may safely challenge any district of country of the same extent in the world to produce the same number and variety of valuable waters."

Quite naturally, in that enlightened age, actual medical advice was desirable and soon each spring had a doctor in attendance. Since it was desirable that these individuals should have a financial interest in their resort, some of the claims they made are rather startling today when the medical profession is so conservative. It is hard to imagine a modern physician writing as follows:

"Paralysis, both of the lower extremities and one side of the body, has been in many cases, entirely removed by a course of bathing at Wildbad. Before any amelioration takes place, the patient generally experiences some pricking pains and tinglings in the paralyzed parts, followed by a sense of heat, perspiration, and increase of feeling. To these symptoms succeed a gradual restoration of muscular power, accompanied by a sense of electrical shocks passing along the nerves'" (Bell's Mineral Springs, page 200)

It is quite natural that these exorbitant claims would be backed by testimonials. There are several books devoted almost entirely to these interesting bits of literature. Of these I shall quote only one:

"Hot Springs, 29th Aug. 1833.

"In the month of January 1806, during my attendance on the Virginia legislature, of which I was then a member, I was very sorely afflicted with an attack of inflammatory rheumatism, and about the 1st of July in the same year, after the disease had assumed a chronic state, I arrived at the Hot Springs in Virginia, much debilitated, requiring two persons to put me in and take me out of a carriage. I remained at the Springs sixty-three days, using the bath once every day except three. I was weighed the day I got to the Springs, and also on the day I left them, and, if I was correctly weighed, I

gained sixty pounds in weight in sixty-three days,^{12.}
and remained free from that complaint for upwards
of twenty years.

H. Calloway,

Of Franklin County".

I shall touch only briefly on one claim that has received much attention from historians, i.e. that the water had powers of rejuvenation. The management of two springs boldly made this claim and others implied that their's was the true "Fountain of Youth". These claims must have made considerable impression at the time as we read of one young lady who visited Sweet Springs and refused to go near the spring house for fear of what might happen.

However, a change was taking place. This change is logically explained by J. Winston Coleman, Jr. in his fine paper "Old Kentucky Watering Places":

***** "During the first quarter of the nineteenth century the tempo of life changed; times became better; people had more opportunity for relaxation and pleasure, and the growing desire of many well-to-do families was 'to mix & mingle socially with the best society of the State.' To relieve this pent-up demand for social intercourse and entertainment there were established in Kentucky during this period several health resorts, or 'watering places,' contiguous to some mineral springs. These resorts were modeled somewhat after the famous watering places, or spas, in Europe or the nearer and more familiar famed 'Springs' of Old Virginia"*****

So, second only to the attraction of the springs for ailing, was their social attraction. They were unquestionably the greatest marriage market of that generation. This is well

13.

exemplified by a poem presented to a young lady by General Robert E. Lee. This poem is called "What Do They Do At The Springs?" and closes with the words

"Wherever you find a young lady
And elder ones too do such things
Why they'll eat and they'll flirt and they'll tattle
In city or country or springs"

There was one difference in custom at the watering places of the North and the South. In Virginia once a belle of the springs attained matrimony she was relegated to the ranks of the wallflowers. There were a few exceptions, of course, but their number was limited. At Saratoga the matrons still were rushed and continued to be popular after their marriage.

It is not necessary to dwell on the pleasures of these resorts, the dances, parties, and general companionship. To you ladies these are obvious. Too often the discomforts are forgotten. However, those travelers who wrote daily of their visits mentioned that everything was not perfect. Perhaps these troubles are best described briefly by Ann Maury, daughter of the first American consul at Liverpool when she said,

"At 7 we reached the White Sulphur & were dismayed by the information that we could not be accommodated. In the course of an hour or two, Papa & Matthew were deposited in a sort of Hog Sty in company with a third person & Mrs. Norris of Baltimore kindly took compassion upon me & lodged me in her Cabin.....".

On this same page Miss Maury mentions, "the want of cleanliness which produces Flees and Bugs in abundance."

As late as 1870, Pollard described the accommodations at the springs in the following words:

***** "The hotel accommodations of the springs of Virginia are generally insufficient or imperfect or unattractive. People traveling for health or for pleasure--especially the latter, persons accustomed to the luxuries of cities--will not visit places, however blessed and adorned by Nature, where there is only a dreary hotel of whitewashed boards, and some thin cottages uniformed with wooden washstands, bare floors and cheap, crying bedsteads. Nor will they be satisfied where the untraveled proprietor, in his coarse estimate of human needs, thinks that only certain quantities of food have to be put into the stomachs of his guests, insensible of the truth that the human stomach of the civilization outside of his mountains needs a delicate chemistry, and that the cuisine is really an art*****."

Apparently Pollard found Lynchburg an exception as he recommends that a tour of Virginia should start here and gives a very favorable account of the city:

"The town of Lynchburg is not without its interest--even such as is admissible in these pages--and it should not be hurriedly passed. From 'the Hill City,' as the burg is supremely spoken of by its people, the peaks of the Blue Ridge are already plainly visible, and the scenery that surrounds this really most delightful town--which boasts, with reason, the reputation of containing the best remnant of the old-fashioned and hospitable society of Virginia--invites the eye, and with its fine healthy airs would constitute itself a pleasing summer resort to one habituated to cities.*****"

Another annoyance at the springs was the gambling.

The sporting gentry arrived soon after the first building was erected at Bath, and are in evidence at the few remaining springs open today. Their activities have resulted in duels, suicides, and scandals, but they have always flourished in this carefree atmosphere, and they undoubtedly will continue to exist as long as people gather at the springs.

Aside from "taking the waters", courting, and gambling, the greatest occupation was talking politics. Wherever men from various sections of the country congregate with time on their hands, the conversation naturally gravitates to this important topic. And as the great struggle approached, the talk became more and more of slavery and its effect on the Union. Edmond Ruffin was often the center of these discussions, and as he said,

"In my visit to the Springs I used every suitable occasion to express my opinion...that the slave states should speedily separate as the only means of warding off the assaults of the northern people to destroy slavery and ruin the Southern states."

It was at the Springs that he organized his Publication Society with the avowed object of printing and broadcasting firebrand pamphlets. Months later it was this same old man who fired the first cannon aimed at Fort Sumpter, a shot that ended the era in which the Springs of Virginia played such an important part.

Not that the springs were abandoned. During the great struggle of the War Between the States, ladies found an occasional opportunity to visit the resorts near their homes. But they were not the same and these visits were

truly in search of health.

In July of 1863 Mrs. Robert E. Lee made the trip from Richmond to the Hot Springs, traveling in a freight car fitted with a bed and other accessories for her comfort.

Some of the springs did not escape unscathed. "Action at Aquila" gives an interesting if fictional description of the destruction at Beverly Springs. Hunter, in his retreat from Lynchburg, must have passed Dagger's Spring, and we find that it was destroyed about that time.

In other states most watering places were closed or operated as Hospitals for soldiers and during these unsettled times many buildings were destroyed by fire.

With the War over popularity did not at once return to the Springs -- there was too little money. However, the people of Virginia needed all the relaxation they could find to make them forget. The visit of General Lee to "The White" in July, 1867, helped, but there were so few young men left in the South; and visitors from the North were not welcomed in spite of General Lee's instinctive hospitality.

This hospitality was the basis of the White Sulphur Manifesto. Drawn up and signed by 31 of the leaders of the South, it was a summation of all that General Lee had been pleading for his countrymen to do, conciliate the vengeful elements in the North, accept defeat and appeal for justice. Great importance was attached to this document at the time, but it came to nothing. It took many years to entirely eliminate the hostility.

It was during the last thirty years of the 19th Century that the Mineral Springs became really popular throughout the Nation. Prosperity returned but with a different group of patrons.

17.

Lynchburg too, had its springs. In "Sketches and Recollections of Lynchburg" by the oldest inhabitant, published in 1858, we find a very interesting description of the early watering places of Lynchburg.

"About thirty-eight years since, a man named Smith purchased a small place on the Richmond Road, about a mile below Lynchburg. Digging a well soon after he settled there, it was found, to the astonishment of all, to be a chalybeate of the strongest character. He then fitted up the place, erecting an arbor, and placing seats around. Then he sent out handbills, distributing some, and carefully wafering the others on the sides of walls and houses. As these publications greatly extolled the waters, and the terms for season tickets were moderate, the good folks of the town rapidly subscribed to his mineral well, and crowds frequented this watering place, twice a day--those unable to walk procuring conveyances--so that hacks, horses and two-wheeled gigs might be seen ever wending their way to this Bethesda of Lynchburg. Most remarkable cures were wrought by these healing waters, several persons professing to have been entirely cured of consumption; and Smith's polite attention to his visitors was so great, that he was fast becoming as popular and important a personage as Barrington's Dr. Borumborad, when an unexpected event took place, which forever destroyed Smith's famous well. Whilst at the Zenith of his popularity, and at the time of the most wonderful renovation of invalids from the use of the waters, the enterprising proprietor receiving an advantageous offer for the place, sold out, departing speedily for the Western country. For a short time after,

the well retained its virtues, but in a few weeks the chalybeate taste became more and more faint, till finally all remains of it had disappeared. The new proprietor, descending to the bottom, found, to his horror, a parcel of old nails, horse shoes, frying pans and ovens, and it was then ascertained that the said Luther Smith had been so fortunate as to have had a chalybeate well at whatever place he had previously located."

Other Lynchburg springs mentioned in this book were Richardson's Springs, Thurman Springs, and Tate's Springs; and in later years a resort hotel was built on the site of several springs. This is now one of the main buildings of Lynchburg College.

It has been said that the people of this century no longer like simple pleasures. In any event during the last 45 years, the springs have lost their appeal. One hotel after another has closed and the property allowed to decay. Only the really great springs were able to survive. Probably the most serious blow was the internment of Enemy Diplomats at the White and the Hot during World War II. This patriotic duty was explained in a letter from the Homestead of its regular patrons with the expressed hope that "By the time Spring returns to our valley, all traces of alien visitation will be gone". However, at the Greenbriar the German Diplomats were followed by wounded American soldiers and White Sulphur Springs became a Government Hospital.

One would think that a study of these old Watering Places would be an ideal way to escape from the problems of the modern world. I am now convinced that there is no escape. Schooley's Mountain Springs was, in its day, very popular with Society; as famous perhaps in that locality as Berkeley was in Virginia. Today it is a "Youth Center" and the dining hall is known as the Paul Robeson Building.

The only Virginia Springs active today are:

The Homestead at Hot Springs

The Cascades Inn at Healing Springs

The Inn at Warm Springs

and

Hotels are open at:

Craig Healing Springs

Orkney Springs

Shenandoah Alum Springs

Patrick Springs

Some few of the old hotels have been converted into private homes but most of them have been allowed to decay. No one can stand amid the desolation of one of these resorts and recall their greatness without a feeling of nostalgic sadness.

Clarendon Gaseous Springs, Vermont

Calcic.

These springs depend on their gases for their medicinal properties. The recommended dosage was very large, from five to twenty-five pints being regularly consumed. The medicinal properties of this spring were discovered in 1776, making it one of the oldest in this country. Active as a Watering Place until about 1900, it is now closed and the buildings are gradually decaying.

BERKSHIRE Soda Springs, Massachusetts

Acidulous

Very little is known about the curative powers of these springs. Their great popularity during the middle of the last century were probably due to the literary colony located there. Writers living near these springs in 1855 were William Cullen Bryant, Oliver Wendell Holmes, G.P.R. James, Catherine Sedgwick and Herman Melville. Today the springs are almost forgotten locally.

Hopkinton Springs, Massachusetts

Never very popular, little is known of the history of these springs and they are completely forgotten in that locality today.

Schooley's Mountain Springs, New Jersey

Chalybeate

An old spring of unusually pure water with iron in suspension. Accurate analysis has been difficult due to the settling out of this iron. The flow of these springs is very small. Accomodations were inadequate until late in the 19th century when a large hotel, The Heath House, was

built. This resort is now a "Youth Center" and the dining hall is known as the Paul Robeson Building.

Avon Springs, New York

Sulphur

The Senecas had a name for this spring which they called Canawaugus and French missionaries drank the waters in the 17th Century. In this vicinity are battlefields of the French and Indian War. In 1821 the first effort was made to develop this resort. Some years later a large hotel was built. Avon Spring water was a "valuable" sulphur water and the flow was very "bold". With the improvement of the accommodations this became a very popular place. However, the Springs fell into disuse soon after the turn of the Century and the Park is now the property of the Genesee Vally Breeders Association who are interested in raising fine horses.

Ballston Spa, New York

Various

Even today Ballston Spa claims to be the "original watering place of America". The springs were discovered in 1767 and in 1804 the Son Souci Hotel was built. At that time this was the largest hotel in the world. It grew as did Saratoga Spa, its more society minded neighbor for almost 100 years. Today the springs at Ballston are little used.

Oak Orchard Acid Springs

Sulphuric Acid

Very unusual springs, 9 in number, containing free Sulphuric Acid. This water was taken internally for ulcers and used externally on wounds. Although the water was bottled

and sold in pioneer times. The history of these Springs as a resort was brief. The hotel burned soon after it was built in 1855.

Saratoga Springs, New York

Various

The many medicinal springs at Saratoga were known to the Indians who revealed their location to Sir William Johnson. This is one of the two great Spas of the country. The emphasis at Saratoga today is on horse racing and gambling rather than health

Bedford Springs, Pennsylvania

Purgative, chalybeate

The first cure resulting from the use of these waters was in 1804 and their fame spread rapidly from that time. A hotel was built in 1817 which is used today to accommodate the overflow of guests from the beautiful new hotel. These springs are unique in having been used as a Watering Place continuously for almost a century and a half. Today Bedford Springs is one of the few places the restoration of health is the prime consideration of the management.

Caledonia Springs, Pennsylvania

Pure Water

A very unusual spring in that cures were attributed to the unusual purity of the water. This resort was active about the middle of the last century and was widely advertised at that time. The hotel burned almost 100 years ago and was never rebuilt.

Hot Springs of Buncombe County, North Carolina

These Thermal Springs were discovered in 1778. They have been used for many years, and their beautiful location in the mountains on the bank of the French Broad River has attracted visitors. These springs with modern bath houses, and an attractive hotel with attending physicians are in operation today.

Shocco Springs, North Carolina

Saline, sulphur.

This is one of the original watering places and was operating in 1826. In 1859 there was a large hotel and numerous cabins accommodating 400 people at these springs. In 1883 the buildings were "Mostly destroyed". No recent information is available.

Glenn Springs, South Carolina

Contains Culphate of lime.

This was the leading Resort of South Carolina in 1847. There were 300 visitors registered and the list read like a "Who's Who" of the state. In addition there was an Academy located there. The original purchase of this property was dated 1808 but development was slow as Sulphate of Lime was a substance not used medicinally at that time. It is no longer an active resort.

Indian Springs, Georgia.

Purgative

These springs were originally sacred to the Creek Indians. They were discovered by a white man in 1792 and were called Gunpowder Springs because of their odor. Although these springs were in a State Park, they were not widely used

from 1860 - 1882 due to the problem of transportation. Today^{24.} they are visited by thousands of people every year.

Bailey Springs, Alabama

Various

The main spring at this resort is alkaline chalybeate although there are four other medicinal springs and some 75 other springs on the property. This watering place was very active in ante-bellum days. After the war it was inactive until 1880 when a large hotel with numerous cottages was in operation here. Recently a development has been planned including a Health and Recreational Resort and a restricted Residential area. Up to the present this has not been successful.

Yellow Springs, Ohio

Calcic

A post-office was established here in 1805 and in 1838, Yellow Spring was famous as a Watering Place. The water was so mildly mineralized that it was used for ordinary domestic uses. Webster and Clay debated here in 1840. For some time a colony of Owenites made their home here, but this idealistic experiment in cooperative industry was short lived. Since 1853 Yellow Springs has been the home of Antioch College. Recently the Spring property has been acquired by the College and the glenn is gradually being restored to its original beauty.

French Lick Springs, Indiana

Saline sulphur

The town was a French trading post over 200 years ago and was named "The Lick" because animals came there to

lick the rocks around the springs. The springs were developed in 1832 and the first hotel was built in 1840. A very large and modern hotel now caters to conventions up to 1200 delegates as well as to the sick. The water from the spring is concentrated and sold as Pluto Water.

West Baden Spring, Indiana

Saline sulphur

This Spring was developed at the same time as French Lick only a mile away. When the original hotel burned in 1901, the present imposing structure was built. In the early 1930's the beautiful hotel was given to the Jesuit Order and has become the West Baden Springs College. The water from the Springs is now piped to the hotel in the town.

Olympian Springs, Kentucky

Saline-sulphur

In August of 1803, it was announced that a regular stage line had been started between Lexington and Olympian Springs, formerly Mud Lick and from that time on this was a popular Watering Place, often visited by such notables as Henry Clay. This place was the scene of fighting on October 19, 1864. This Spa staged a remarkable comeback after the war and in the 1880's was at its peak of popularity. This popularity gradually declined and Olympian Springs closed about 1918.

Herrodsburg Springs, Kentucky

Sulphate of Magnesia

It is reported that in 1808, fifteen hundred people were entertained at Greenville Springs. Shortly afterwards this resort was combined with a nearby watering place to form

Harrodsburg Springs. It was called the Saratoga of the South. From 1853 to 1861 the Springs belonged to the U. S. Government and was known as the Western Reserve Asylum. A hospital was established here during the war and later the buildings burned. Nothing was done with this resort until 1911 when Old Graham Springs was revived. After a lapse during the World War these springs are operating as a sanitorium today.

(Unknown Grave)

Other famous Kentucky Springs of the early 19th Century were:

Blue Lick	(1807)
Estill	(1814)
Crab Orchard	(1827)
Chameleon	(1824)
Drennon	(1827)

Winchester Springs, Tennessee

Various

About the middle of the last century these springs attained considerable prominence. They were noted chiefly for the close proximity of four springs, a Red Sulphur, a White Sulphur, a Chalybeate and a freestone. These springs were not mentioned twenty-five years later and today appear to be forgotten.

Cooper's Wells, Mississippi

Chalybeate

This well was completed in 1841 and became a popular resort in 1850 when a large hotel was built. The hotel was destroyed during the War Between the States but was rebuilt in 1880. This spring has lost most of its prestige although the water is still bottled.

Ocean Springs, Mississippi

27.
Saline, chalybeate

Once a popular resort and the site of Ruskin Oak named for John Ruskin after his visit in 1885. These springs are located on the original site of Biloxi.

Washita Hot Springs, Arkansas

Thermal

These springs, 57 in number, vary in temperature from 93° to 150° Fahr. They are the oldest known thermal springs in this country and were used by deSoto in 1542. These springs have been internationally famous since 1800. The accommodations there have always been good. In 1921 this area was taken over by the Government as a National Park and The Baths are now run by the Government. In view of this it is not surprising that current information can not be obtained.

Springs of the Rocky Mountains and the Pacific Slope

This area contains many thermal and mineral springs most of which are now included in National Parks. They were discovered too recently to have had much effect on American History. However, John D. Fremont visited and described many of these springs in 1843-4, earning the title "path-marker" from his travels. It is an interesting commentary on American politics that a Government publication issued in 1883 soon after Fremont's disgrace, makes no mention of his discoveries.

To me the most challenging problem I have found was the cryptic note in the Gazetteer published in 1828.

"Amherst Springs, a post village in Amherst County, Virginia, 125 miles west of Richmond."

This is the only reference I have ever seen to a mineral spring in Amherst County. The theory that the reference was to Buffalo Ridge Spring in Nelson County was quickly exploded. Luckily Mr. D. H. Dillard remembered visiting a spring that filled the requirements many years ago. Further inquiries by Mr. Max Guggenheimer solved my problem and I have visited the Amherst Springs in the past two weeks.

On a county road between Pedlar Mills and Forks of Buffalo, two miles beyond Allwood is a mail box marked Buffalo Springs. Here is a small hotel of about 16 rooms still in good repair. It was probably built about 1900 although the foundation girders are many years older. There are no modern conveniences beyond a deep well near the rear porch.

The spring is in a nearby valley and is nicely fixed up with a concrete and wood springhouse. The water seemed to be mildly sulphur with some alum. Names written on the walls indicate that the hotel was abandoned around 1920.

Further investigation shows that this spring was on the old Sandidge Patent and was known as Amherst White Sulphur Springs. It was popular as a Resort early in the last century at which time there was a small hotel complete with bar and a number of cabins. The property was acquired about 1900 by Dr. Meyers and the present hotel was built. It was active for about 20 years.