HISTORY OF THE MOBILE DUMPING GROUND.

In the month of March last sent a communication to the Boards of Alermen and Common Council proposing let the city of Mobile have my place on Jovernmentscreet road for a public dumplicy round, and to receive all night soil, desclatinals, &c., free of any charge creek. Every few, which was a sumber of persons engaged in cleaning vanits, &c., who dumped their night soil, &c., in the Check and of the Creek and savanny, and other places inside the city limits, thereby received was man, One Mile Creek and savanny, and other places inside the city limits, thereby received and the creek and savanny, and other places inside the city limits, thereby received and only abate a great missance. Is knew that if hais my newholder of the my place, I could while the city but manufacture a very valuable fertilizer. My communication was referred to the Joint Hospital Committee. Dr. Toxey, the charman of that committee. Dr. Toxey, the charman of that committee, come to my office saveral bines for information in regard to my communication and regarding ground. After several conversations with this several the matter, I said it would be a Rood thing for the city, as well as a lasked for ne monoply, only this; that those parties who were cleaning yaults should, instead of dumpili it at Choctaw swamp, One Mile Creek, &c., be some pelled to bring it to the public dumping ground or take it mostide of the city limits. I said that the presidence was a worth seasons to me, afford was within to pay for it if necessary. I told him I did not have any money then, but that food pay him one hundred a fine was a said that the presidence where. I told him yes he could have it, he left his address where to dilivering months: April. May and June Dr. Toxey's office to remedy the mistake, but Dr. Toxey sent me word that he had got a hand-early in any hooks. I looked upon it as a gift, and as Dr. Toxey sent me word that he had got a hand-early in set of the contract from this since, and the contract from the city of the Board of Trade. In our conversat

passed that would ruin my business and undo my labor of five years, and my anxiety may be imagined, when it is understood and known that I was the first white man (if the investigating committee will allow me to call myself white) to establish such a business in the city of Mobile; that of taking that which had before been thrown away as useless, and making out of it a valuable Fertilizer. I was certain that some steps were being taken in the matter, and the accof I can give is the nature of Dr. Savage's proposal, and Mr. Moses telling me several times on the street that I would never have the city dumping ground. On the 26th of March the Hospital Committee through Or. Toxey brought in the following report in answer to my communication:

"AN ORDNANCE TO PROVIDE A PLACE FOR THE DEPOSIT OF NIGHT SOIL AND SCAVENGERS, REPUSE MATTER ECC.

REFUSE MATTER ETC.

In the transfill that the Manney Aldermen and Controls council in the Unit of Mobile. That a certain lot of land situated on the north side of Government street, owned by W. ft. Smith, and known as the old Woodcock place, is hereby made the dumping ground for all night soil and scavengers, refuse matter, etc.

Be it further ordained, That all scavengers and dight men are required to transport to that certain spot, all night soil and refuse matter that may be hereafter collected in the cit; and shall deposit the same there under the penalty of such fine as the Mayor may impose, not exceeding fifty dollars.

Be it further ordained, That the Joint Hos-

Heit further ordained, That the Joint Hospital Committee is hereby authorized to enter into a contract with the said W. H. Smith, the owner of the property hereinbefore described, for the use of said property for such time and under such conditions as they shall have advisable for the unways having deem advisable for the purpose herein described, provided the same shall entail no expense to the city, and they shall report their action in the premises to the City Boards.

C. Toxey, Chairman,

C. Toxey, Chairman, Hospital Committee.

This removed any doubts that I might have had about Dr. Toxey being my friend, and in all my after connections with him, I was perfectly convinced how much I was in error. I have since learned when the report of the Committee came up in order before the boards. It passed the Council, but in the Board of Aldermen, my friend, Mr. Jemes Bond, amended it by writing sealed proposals, which was agreed to. A few days after this, I met Dr. Cochrane who said that a proposition had been made to him to join a Joint Stock Fertilizing and Dumping Ground Company, and that he had declined the honor. I then

asked Dr. Cochrane his opinion as to what steps I ought to take to prevent those parties from runing me, stating to him that I would have nothing to be with any joing stock compared to the parties of the mean of the parties of any money there was made without any outlay or labor on their part, except working the contract through the Parasts. De. Coornam larges of which we have all the thought he cand thelp me. After this Dr. Toxey took me several the parties of the p

templated going into the same business. I wrote a communication to that other member of the committee, telling him of these facts, and offering to prove what I said. And I heard afterwards that, when this gentleman told Dr. Toxey about my communication, he, Dr. Toxey, acknowledged that he had been there before. I heard also that the committee had concluded to have the dumping ground inside the city limits, and that Dr. Savage was the only person that proposed furnishing a place inside the city limits. There were but three proposals before the committee, Dr. Savage's, Mr. Christopher's, and mine. Mine was thrown out; that left Dr. Savage and Mr. Christopher. Mr. Christopher's place being outside the city limits, he had no showing: so nothing remained but for Dr. Savage to take the contract. It was proposed to give it to in then and find the city limits, and an adjournment agreed to for three days. But what good reason the committee could have for wanting to keep this nuisance inside the city limits, I keep this nuisance inside the city limits, I nover could see. Perhaps others can. At this time I went to see Dr. Cochrane, who informed

me of the contents of Dr. Savage's proposal, and that the only difference between his and mine was, that he, Dr. Savage, proposed to clean out the privies at the City Hospital, Municipal Buildings and guardbouse, for nothing. clean out the privies at the City Hospital, Manicipal Buildings and guardbouse, for mething, the toid me to send in a proposal to do the same, which I did. He also said he would (and he did) write a communication for me to the committee against keeping this intisance inside the city, directing me not to give it buthe chairman of the committee, but to Mayor Packer, as he did not think that Dr. Toxey was working all exist. I took this communication to Mayor Packer, sathing to him that my roason for not giving it to the chairman of the committee was because he had opened my sealed proposal before the committee met. He declined to receive it, so I had to give it to the chairman of the committee after all. Still I could not help thinking but that Drs. Cochrane and Toxey were in accord, or how could Cochrane tell me the nature of Dr. Savage's proposal, and advise me to change mine to be equal with his. I had no place inside the city limits to offer, so that part I declined. I heard also that Mr. Christopher would not furnish a place inside the city limits, so that when the committee met Dr. Savage was awarded the contract. I then went to Dr. Cochrane and he agreed with me that something was "rotten in Denmark." He said he had been deceived and was "out," himself, but whatever happened he would see

me paid back the money I had spent to pay current expenses. I then had to let Mr. Alexander know the truth about the disposition of the roney. After I had made the statement to him, he asked me to go with him to Mr. A. J. Hamilton, one of the Hospital Committee, and let him know the facts that I had stated to him. I did so voluntarily, and stated to him. I did not he foregoing. I there be hundred (\$300) dollars, with the promise of the balance shortly, as he said he was waiting to get returned two hundred (\$200) dollars that he had used in this business. About this time I heard that an investigating committee was to be appointed. I went again to Dr. Cochrane to get my money, and he promised to pay me the amonut that the city was owing him on account of his salary as Health Office on the first of August. I was afraid the Bards would appoint that committee before the lirst of August, and I wrett to Countain Leinkanf asking him to trand post-one pointing that cormittee until after the flat of august, as I had a chance to get some of my money back at that time, but he committee was appointed, and on A gist 2d. I received a note from Dr. Cochine, asking me to come to his office the following night at 7 o'clock precisely. I went, and tok a friend with me (he waiting outside). I was taken into the back room, the door leked, Dr. Cochrane putting the key in the After some conversation he produced cerula rumors, and for the information of

MCDE, August 3d. 1872.—In consequence of cernin rumors, and for the information of all co. cened, this is to certify that I have never given or paid to Jerome Cosbrane any sum of metey, large or small, for any purpose

at co. careed, this is to certify that I have never gie no ep paid to Jerome Cochrane any sum of maey, large or small, for any purpositionates."

He tid he wished me to do him the favor to sign i. In one hand he held a roll of money, in the other a pen. He said sign this and the mone, is yours. He said, sign it, Smith, for the sace of the good I would have done you; for this sake of christianity and generosity. I did no intend to sign it, but said give me the mone first. He would not do it. After three hours trying, I concluded to have that paper, and I did get it, by what means Dr. Cochrane know. Now I am invited to appear before the Brestigating Committee, and when I saw three gentlemen on that committee who I knew were in favor of Dr. Toxey, I concluded not to say anything unless that committee was changed. When I went into the committee room I called Mayor Parker and Councilman Anderson into the Mayor's private office, and stated to ten that I wished to state fearly and rely all about my connection with the amping ground, but that I declined to do so unless that committee was partly changed. When I wished to state fearly and rely all about my connection with the amping ground, but that I declined to do so unless that committee was partly changed. When I wished the connection with the amping ground, but that I knew. I looked upon that committee was partly changed. When I was consect when they read the report of the committee, and I would like to ask here, why is it, that the report of he committee; and I would like to ask here, why is it, that the report of the committee, I cannot but believed favored my enemies, and who doubts but that I was correct when they read the report of the committee; and I would like to ask here, why is it, that the report when they read the report of the committee is an inority report when they have a substance of the committee, I cannot but believe that the report was a foregone conclusion. Somebody had to be the scape out, and who so fit as Smith? Now let me ask any candid perso did he inspect my place on Government street average thus, and examine into my business? Tatisements view and sam to be 10 particular to and on how I, managed the business? How could he stand it to come so often to my office and be so friendly with me after such base propositions had been made? I could atmost believe that Dr. Toxey and Dr. Savage were the two others "not mentioned" in Messrs. Moses and Fort's propositions to me? and how could Dr. Toxey after telling the committee that he could not think of entertaining my proposal, that I was so low and base as to approach him with a bribe, that same eventing come in company with Dr. Savage, and invite me to take a drink with them, which invitation I accepted, and we went into John Meyer's saloon and drank together. Dr. Toxey could force his feelings to that extent. Had I know a then, what I do now, I am sure I would not rave drank with him. Was it not a great error of judgment on the part of Dr. Toxey to urge the claims of Smith before the boards in the round to make the said and the committee was appointed to investigate the conduct of the Hospital Committee, and it, was only then that I am found to be such a base fellow. But it seems to me that although the committee was appointed to investigate the conduct of the Hospital Committee, and city "Reigls, they were more engaged in investigate that for the work of the Hospital Committee, and city "Reigls, they were more engaged in investigate in a few words. First, A. J. Moses says: city steals, they were more energed in investicating the conduct of W. H. Smith for the what testified how great a wretch I am, I will reply in a few words. Flust, A. J. Moses says: after cour years dealings with me he finds me wind y unreliable as to truth and veracity. My onnections with Moses were these: In 180s, I bought a baggy from him on credit, when the time came I had not me money to pay, having been disappointed in my collections but without going to a law sit, I paid Moses my notes as they fell due, be ides all interest, costs and his lawyer's fees voluntarily. So much for that. After that Moses and me mada arrangements to go into the privy cleaning lasiness together. I had been in correspondence with Mr. Homer, of St. Louis, who had effored to let me have a machine on eight months credit, but it was necessary for me to go took. Louis to learn how to work the machine. It was arranged that Moses was to farnish me with the money to pay the expenses of my rip there, and he was to have one-third interest in the business. When I was ready to go and had bid my family good-bye, I called on loses for the money, he told me he had none and after waiting several days for him to give me the money and he failing, at the solicitations of other parties, I made business arrangements with them; but not until after Moses had failed to farnish me the money to go to St. Louis with. Now, if Moses thou fut I was such a bad egg, why did he wish to go into the dumping ground business with me a few months ago? Why did he seek me at my office and propose that he (Moses), Mr. Fort myself, with two others, should form a joint stock company, stating that he could get the lumping ground contract—the dumping ground to be on my place. After that we should get a contract from the city, to clean out all the privies in the city for ten years—a

contract that would pay he said \$50,000 per year; and tell me that if I did not enter into this agreement that my labor, wagons, teams, and all belonging to my business would be worth nothing to me. Yet, bad as this would make me appear, I declined to have anything to do with their (job). I can say that sometimes, I am mighty short of money, but still have always paid one hundred cents on the dollar for just debts. Perchaps Mr. Moses knows some who are perfectly reliable who cannot do that. Now, a few words in regard to my connections with Dr. G. A. Ketchum, who also thinks me such a bad egg. In 1869 I attempted to start a joint stock company for the purpose of manufacturing Fertilizers, a great many business men in the city interested themselves with me in it. We put in a petition before the boards and after waiting four months for the world advance the price of one share (\$500), he should have forty dollars taken off the price of his share. He gave me his note and I went to Price Williams and had the note shaved. On the same day I gave the Chairman of the Committee five hundred (500) dollars, and he gave me a note to the City Clerk, directing him to summons the committee together. Lalso, at noon of the same day, went to Dr. Ketchum's office, to let him read the note for his own satisfaction, as he distinctly understood what the price of his share was going to be used for. After he read it he said these words: "Yee. Smith, grease atways heips." That day the committee passed our petition, as did the Common Council, when they

he has spread, are the first steps towards fulfilling his promise to me in my office lust summer.

Mr. Hamilton said that he had some business with me and found that I was a rascal and unworthy of trust. "That's pretty heavy."

Now let me state (except buying drugs in his store which I always paid for) the only business transaction that I ever had with Mr. A. J. Hamilton: In the month of February, he employed me to clean his vault. I did so, and sent him a bill for \$22.50, the price for hauling three (3) loads. He paid the bill and never complained to me in regard to the amount of the bill, nor as to the manner in which the work was done. It was only a few days ago when I called upon him to know wherein I had proved myself such a rascal in my business of the first said that I had agreed to hanl two loads for \$15—so I did, but I had to haul three, and that is how the bill came to be \$750 more. Now I was in his store several times after that job was done; if he had any complaints to make why did he not make them to me? but he never made any. No, it was but necessary before the Dumping Ground Investigating Committee sat. There are three persons—Drs. Cochrane and Toxey, and W. it. Smith involved in this matter. Drs. Cochrane and Toxey, and W. it. Smith involved in this matter. Drs. Cochrane and Toxey, and with smith is about a spood a subject to put it on to as could be found, but Smith has enough to do to carry his own burthens and sins, without earrying "others," and he don't intent to. I cannot help but think it was a great erro. of judgment on the part of the manager of the Investigating Committee, not to have found out whether Drs. Gaines and Owen were going to say a good word or me; for out of else in Doctors called to the stand by the mem etc. of the Medical Society, they were the only two who, after several years' business transactions, that didn't have a bad word for Smith. In concision, I wish to say that whatever money was used I borrowed it and used it on nature's first impulse, that of self-preservatio disadvantage to contend with, for I was a new comer in Mobile. Let them remember who worked (No. 19) every night for two years ruining my health thereby—having to stand the siurs of those lazy no account loafers who are a clog and misfortnne to Mobile; then after five years hard work other parties calculate to result the needs. who are a clog and misfortune to Mobile; then after five years' hard work other parties calculate to reap the profits. Was I not the first man in Mobile that offered to receive these matters free of charge to the city; and I would ask any candid person to tell me how many could be found that would not use money for their own protection? Has there never been money used before in Mobile, not along hy individuals, but by corporations? I for one know there may not then it was done by our own people. I am certain had I not alora hy individuals, but by corporations? I for one know there may, but then it was done by our own people. I am certain had I not been a Datchman no such report would have been brought in against me. I started a business here that these irreproachable gentlemen were ashamed of antil they got to believe that there was at least \$10,000 per year in it clear, without performing any labor. My advice to all persons wishing to start a new business is to select a city where doctors are less plentiful than in Mobile, and where doctors can make a living without going into street contracts and cleaning privies. And now, can anybody tell me how it was that the whole medical fraternity, and the friend's of the other parties, are summoned to support their side, while none but enemies are invited to speak for me. Had I known how I should have demanded that my friends should have been heard. And, thank God, I have some of as high standing as any that testified before that committee.

WM. H. SMITH.

STATE OF ALABAMA, MOBILE COUNTY.—I,
Wm. M. Loomis, Notary Public, in and for
said county, hereby certify that W. H. Smith,
whose name is signed to the foregoing deposition, and being duly sworn, deposed before
me this day that the statements therein contained are true and correct.
Witness my hand, this 17th day of September, 1872.
Wm. M. Loomis,
Notary Public, Mobile Co.

