

still subsist, and more especially by the oxidation of the products of the decomposition of surface organisms as they sink through it toward the bottom.

A great deal has yet to be done before we can be in a position to generalize with safety on the many chemical questions of great interest which have been raised during the progress of the expedition. I hope, however, that the next two years may see the water and gas analyses, and the analyses of the matters of mineral and organic origin which form the deep-sea deposits, well advanced; and that the complete data in this department may appear in the form of appendices to an early volume of the official report.