



superintendent's act in having the basin drained, there certainly is displayed a most unwarrantable policy on the part of a few in Lockport to injure a neighboring town." The paper claimed that the epidemic was being caused by the low level of the basin between Jackson and Jefferson Streets. ~~have so intimidated him that he says he dare not discharge his duty."~~

Actually, the water level was low because of a lack of rain. In a word, the good citizens were determined not to let the canal operate at all as their actions prevented passage through Lock Number 5.

The next issue of the *Signal* returned to the charge. "We

reiterate again that we a 0 0 1 317.28 649.44 Tm 0 Tc 0 Tw 70804 Tf 1 0 0 1 283

These comments stirred up a hornet's nest in Joliet. The canal superintendent went to Joliet to explain; a delegation of Jolietans went to Lockport to complain, and finally a mob descended upon the lockkeeper at Joliet.

On July 14 Superintendent Ed Talcott reported, "Several of the citizens of Joliet have interfered to prevent the lockkeeper from a proper discharge of his duty by closing the gates and recently by forcibly throwing him into the canal when he was in the act of opening the gates. In short, they

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