

WEEKLY ABSTRACT OF SANITARY REPORTS.

Abstract }
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TREASURY DEPARTMENT,
OFFICE SUPERVISING SURGEON-GENERAL,
U. S. MARINE-HOSPITAL SERVICE,
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*Abstract of Sanitary Reports received through the Department of State from
foreign countries during the week ended February 3, 1887.*

(Published in accordance with section 4, act approved April 29, 1878.)

England and Wales.—The deaths registered in 28 great towns of England and Wales during the week ended January 15, 1887, correspond to an annual rate of 24.1 per thousand of the aggregate population. The lowest death rate was recorded in Portsmouth, viz: 17.4 per thousand, and the highest in Manchester, viz: 31.0 per thousand. There were 1,860 deaths registered in London during the week ended January 15, including 97 from measles, 17 from scarlet fever, 18 from diphtheria, 32 from whooping-cough, 1 from typhus, 8 from enteric fever, 2 from ill-defined forms of continued fever, 13 from diarrhœa and dysentery, and 591 from diseases of the respiratory organs. The fatal cases of measles, which had been 114 and 104 in the two preceding weeks, further declined last week to 97. The 17 deaths from scarlet fever showed an increase of 6 upon the whole number in the previous week. Different forms of violence caused 60 deaths.

Ireland.—The average annual death rate represented by the deaths registered during the two weeks ended January 15, 1887, in the 16 principal town districts of Ireland was equal to 30.5 per thousand of population. The lowest death rate was recorded during the week ended January 8, in Dundalk, viz., 13.1 per thousand, and the highest in Londonderry, viz., 41 per thousand. During the week ended January 15 the lowest death rate was recorded in Lisburne, 0, and the highest in Waterford, 48.6 per thousand.

Scotland.—The death rate in 8 principal towns during the week ended January 15 was 26.1 per thousand of estimated population. The lowest

mortality was recorded in Greenoch, 16.4 per thousand, and the highest in Paisley, 33.3 per thousand.

Germany.—The deaths registered in 52 cities in Germany, having an aggregate population of 6,523,266, during the week ended January 1, 1887, correspond to an annual death rate of 22.6 per thousand. The lowest death rate was recorded in Münster, viz., 11.8 per thousand, and the highest in Bochum, viz., 40.8 per thousand.

Para.—During the two weeks ended January 9 there were 87 deaths from all causes, including 9 from yellow fever.

Buenos Ayres.—The United States minister, in his dispatch dated December 16, 1886, states as follows:

“Referring to my No. 58, under date of the 3d instant, I may add the cholera is on a steady increase here, and that it has assumed more deadly features. Thirty-six new cases were reported to the Board of Public Assistance of Buenos Ayres yesterday, more than half of which died in a very few hours. The worst of all, lies in the fact of its rapid spread throughout the outside provinces. This dreadful disease, “which walketh at night and wasteth at noonday,” leaps the prudence of quarantine, and breaks down every line of military cordon. It is still raging fiercely at Rosario, and has recently broken out at Cordoba, Tucuman, Zarati, Bahia, Blanco, and Azul, and, worse than that, has gained a foothold on the island of Martin Garcia, where 5,000 terrified immigrants are detained in quarantine, without sufficient food or shelter. We have great fears of appalling results there.

“These fears are based on rumors, and now furnished the Department as such. I have watched every movement of the Government carefully, and though there may have been mistakes, both by omission and commission, not above criticism, I cannot discover any lacking on the part of the machinery of the Government to do actively and liberally all that seems best. The country of course is filled with terror, and at such a time very naturally the power of reason and the exercise of good judgment are not at their best.”

Chili and Peru.—The United States minister at Lima, in his dispatch of the 29th December, 1886, states that—

“Great precautions are being taken in both Chili and Peru against admission of the dread disease from the Argentine Republic.

“All ships touching at ports on the South Atlantic side are prohibited entrance to the ports of Chili and Peru. The mountain passes in the Cordilleras are being guarded to prevent all passing; and there is much concern felt here as well as in Chili. So much so, perhaps insufficient causes might at any time induce very inconvenient regulations in Peru against steamers from the south.”

Marseilles.—The death rate per thousand during the last 6 years was as follows: In 1880, 32.3; in 1881, 27.4; in 1882, 30.2; in 1883, 31.0; in 1884, 33.0; in 1885, 32.9; in 1886, 34.9.

The United States consul, in his dispatch, states that "it thus appears that not only is the death rate of this city steadily increasing, but the mortality and death rate of 1886 were greater than the death rate of the two preceding years, both of which were marked by epidemics of Asiatic cholera, while 1886 brought no visitation of that disease to Marseilles. This apparent paradox is readily explained by analysis of the death list of last year, under the several classes of fatal diseases." He encloses a table which shows that during the year 1886 there were 2,051 deaths from small-pox, 192 from measles, 390 from typhoid fever, 19 from scarlet fever, 582 from diphtheria, 1,458 from pulmonary consumption, 2,171 from diseases of the respiratory organs, 2,049 from diseases of the nervous system, 1,254 from diseases of the digestive organs, and 137 suicides, and from all other causes, 2,855, making a total of 13,158 deaths. He further states that "while the cholera destroyed 1,781 lives in Marseilles during 1884, and 1,266 in 1885, the small-pox, which became epidemic towards the close of the latter part of 1885, and continued with extraordinary fatality through the first eight months of 1886, destroyed during the past 12 months 2,051 lives, or 270 more than the cholera death-list of 1884, the most fatal year in the recent records of this city. The general death rate of France, which was 30 per thousand inhabitants in 1800, has been gradually reduced by sanitary improvements to 22 per thousand in 1885. The mean average death rate of the 48 largest cities and towns in France, inclusive of Marseilles, is 25.3 per thousand inhabitants. The death rate of Marseilles for 1886 was therefore 38 per cent. higher than the average of other French cities. The mean average death rate of the 63 largest cities of Europe, outside of France, is 24.6 per thousand, or 41.9 per cent. less than the death rate of Marseilles for 1886. Nor is this all. Even the extraordinary figure of 34.9 per thousand, which Marseilles attained last year, marks the average mortality of the city entire, and not that of its worst quarters. There are two large and populous arrondissements in this municipality where the death rate exceeds 50 per annum for each thousand of their population. It is there that the small-pox, the diphtheria, and various types of zymotic fevers have done, in recent years, their most fatal work. Both these precincts are remote from the sea, and nearly destitute of sewerage, except the surface drainage."

MORTALITY TABLE, FOREIGN CITIES.

Cities.	Estimated population.	Week ended.	Total deaths from all causes.	Annual rate of mortality per 1,000.
Genoa.....	179,516	January 15.....	159	46.1
Warsaw.....	431,572	January 8.....	244	29.4
Glasgow.....	545,678	January 15.....	311	29.7
Leipsic.....	170,000	January 15.....	60	18.4
Rome.....	355,026	December 4.....	145	21.2
Amsterdam.....	372,325	January 8.....	172	24.0
Leghorn.....	101,044	January 16.....	70	36.1
Trieste.....	150,157	January 8.....	114	39.5
Paris.....	2,260,045	January 15.....	1,105	25.4
Belfast.....	224,422	January 15.....	130	30.2
Munich.....	262,000	January 8.....	129	25.6
Barmen.....	108,000	January 15.....	52	25.1
Bristol.....	223,695	January 15.....	113	26.3
Gibraltar.....	23,731	January 9.....	14	30.7
Rheims.....	98,083	January 15.....	56	29.7
Curacao.....	25,000	January 15.....	7	14.6
Cape Haytien.....	10,000	January 15.....	9	46.9
Cadiz.....	65,028	January 8.....	62	49.7
Acapulco.....	4,200	January 17.....	4	49.5
Laguayra.....	7,428	January 15.....	4	28.0
Hiogo.....	61,363	December 12.....	19	16.1
Stuttgart.....	125,510	January 15.....	49	20.3
Frankfort.....	155,000	January 8.....	51	17.1
Mannheim.....	65,000	January 1.....	23	18.4

Genoa.—The 159 deaths registered during the week ended January 15 included 3 from small-pox, 2 from enteric fever, and 1 from diphtheria.

Warsaw.—The 224 deaths registered during the week ended January 15 included 9 from small-pox.

Glasgow.—The 311 deaths registered during the week ended January 15 included 1 from small-pox, 2 from typhus fever, 8 from scarlet fever, 4 from diphtheria, 99 from pulmonary diseases, 18 from whooping-cough, and 5 from diarrhœa.

Leipsic.—The 60 deaths registered during the week ended January 15 included 2 from scarlet fever, 1 from diphtheria, and 1 suicide.

Rome.—The 145 deaths registered during the week ended December 4, 1886, included 4 from small-pox, and 2 from enteric fever.

Amsterdam.—The 172 deaths registered during the week ended January 8 included 1 from enteric fever, 1 from small-pox, and 1 from diphtheria.

Trieste.—The 114 deaths registered during the week ended January 8 included 3 from diphtheria.

Paris.—The 1,105 deaths registered during the week ended January 15 included 2 from diphtheria and 1 from small-pox.

Belfast.—The 130 deaths registered during the week ended January 15 included 2 from typhus fever, 2 from enteric fever and 1 from scarlet fever.

Munich.—The 129 deaths registered during the week ended January 8 included 1 from enteric fever, 1 from scarlet fever, and 4 from diphtheria.

Barmen.—The 52 deaths registered during the week ended January 15 included 4 from measles, 1 from typhus fever, and 1 murder.

Bristol.—The 113 deaths registered during the week ended January 15 included 5 from enteric fever.

Gibraltar.—The 14 deaths registered during the week ended January 9 included 1 from diphtheria.

Rheims.—The 56 deaths registered during the week ended January 15 included 1 from whooping-cough, and 1 from diphtheria.

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