

# WEEKLY ABSTRACT OF SANITARY REPORTS.

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TREASURY DEPARTMENT,  
OFFICE SUPERVISING SURGEON-GENERAL,  
U. S. MARINE-HOSPITAL SERVICE,  
Washington, D. C., May 12, 1887.

*Abstract of Sanitary Reports received through the Department of State from foreign countries during the week ended May 12, 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 April 23 corresponded to an annual rate of 21.6 per thousand of the aggregate population, which is estimated at 9,245,099. The lowest rate was recorded in Birkenhead, viz., 14.9, and the highest in Manchester, viz., 36.4 per thousand.

*London.*—One thousand five hundred and twenty-nine deaths were registered during the week ended April 23, including 1 from small-pox, 95 from measles, 17 from scarlet fever, 14 from diphtheria, 46 from whooping-cough, 6 from enteric fever, and 12 from diarrhœa and dysentery. There were 337 deaths from diseases of the respiratory organs. Different forms of violence caused 60 deaths. The deaths from all causes corresponded to an annual rate of 18.9 per thousand. In greater London 1,895 deaths were registered, corresponding to an annual rate of 18.3 per thousand of the population. In the "outer ring" 9 deaths from measles and 5 from diphtheria were registered.

*Ireland.*—The average annual death rate represented by the deaths registered during the week ended April 23 in the 16 principal town districts of Ireland was 27.3 per thousand of the population. The lowest rate was recorded in Newry, viz., 7.0, and the highest in Kilkenny, viz., 71.9 per thousand.

*Dublin.*—Two hundred and twelve deaths were registered during the week ended April 23, including 6 from measles, 2 from scarlet fever, 2 from whooping-cough, 4 from enteric fever, 2 from diphtheria, and 3 from diarrhœa. Diseases of the respiratory organs caused 51 deaths. In 39 instances the causes of death were uncertified. The deaths from all causes corresponded to an annual rate of 31.3 per thousand.

*Scotland.*—The death rate in 8 principal towns during the week ended April 23 was 22.0 per thousand of the aggregate population, which is estimated at 1,299,000. The lowest mortality was recorded in Leith, viz., 11.5, and the highest in Paisley, viz., 29.9 per thousand. The aggregate number of deaths registered from all causes was 550, including 30 from measles, 9 from scarlet fever, 2 from diphtheria, 36 from whooping-cough, and 10 from diarrhœa.

*Germany.*—The deaths registered in 52 cities of Germany, having an aggregate population of 6,821,222, during the week ended April 7 corresponded to an annual rate of 24.8 per thousand. The lowest rate was recorded in Karlsruhe, viz., 11.2, and the highest in Chemnitz, viz., 44.5 per thousand.

*Netherlands.*—The average annual death rate represented by the deaths registered during the year 1886 in the 12 principal cities of the Netherlands, having an aggregate estimated population of 1,080,248, was 25.3 per thousand. The lowest rate was recorded in Leeuwarden, viz., 20.7, and the highest in Hertogenbosch, viz., 30.9.

*Catania.*—The United States consul, in his dispatch dated April 8, in reference to cholera, states that "I am now glad to be able to report that the malady has ceased. The disease was first declared to be cholera on the 28th of February last. Soon after quarantine was established against the island of Sicily by the government of Italy. The people were greatly alarmed, and those who could get away fled. \* \* \* At no time did the disease assume alarming proportions. The greatest number of cases reported in any one day was only seven. The disease seemed to be without epidemic features. The cause was attributed to the water of the wells, which was declared to be infected. The municipal authorities ordered the wells closed. The aqueduct for conducting water to the city from the slopes of Etna was completed by the 15th of March, \* \* \* and after the 22d of March no more cases of cholera were officially reported. The whole number of cases officially reported was 83, and the number of deaths 51."

*Greece—Athens.*—The United States minister, in his dispatch dated April 9, states that "the Hellenic Government informs this legation that all vessels from foreign ports must be provided with a bill of health by the Greek consular officer at the port of departure, or, in his absence, by some European consular officer; otherwise such vessels will be subject to quarantine." The minister also states that, owing to the alleged prevalence of cholera on the Danube, the Greek Government has declared quarantine against all vessels from that river and the western shores of the Black Sea, including the coasts of Roumania and Bulgaria.

*Callao*.—The United States consul, in his dispatch dated April 1, encloses copies of cable messages from Chili, “from which,” he states, “the Department will perceive that the ravages of the cholera in that republic have almost ceased. I am informed through private sources that the interdiction between Santiago and Valparaiso has been suspended, and that steamers sailing from Valparaiso for ports on the south Chilian coast are no longer subjected to observation and delay in the ports of their destination; but from what I am able to learn in an unofficial manner here, since this information referred to is not official, the board of health has determined to continue prohibiting the entrance of vessels from Chilian waters. \* \* \* Reports from the Peruvian coast are to the effect that no cases of cholera have appeared in the southern territory of this republic, and the visitation of yellow fever in Guayaquil is now by no means serious.”

The cable messages referred to are as follows:

“VALPARAISO, *March 31*.—New cases during the last 24 hours, 10; deaths, 4.”

“SANTIAGO, *March 31*.—During the last 24 hours 4 new cases, 2 deaths. Number of patients, 40. Total number of victims since epidemic commenced, 2,873.”

*Havana*.—Five hundred and forty-nine deaths were registered during the month of April, 1887, including 21 from yellow fever, 2 from small-pox, 20 from enteric fever, 1 from bilious fever, 4 from pernicious fever, 5 from diphtheria, and 3 from measles.

MORTALITY TABLE, FOREIGN CITIES.

Cities.	Week ended.	Estimated population.	Total deaths from all causes.	Deaths from—						
				Cholera.	Yellow fever.	Small-pox.	Typhus fever.	Enteric fever.	Scarlet fever.	Diphtheria.
Calcutta.....	March 26.....	433,219	219	52						
Guayaquil.....	April 7.....	35,000	81		12	13		22		
Warsaw.....	April 26.....	431,572	193			1				
Rome.....	March 5.....	364,511	210			1		1		2
Genoa.....	April 23.....	179,383	112			5		3		1
Trieste.....	April 9.....	150,157	72			1				3
Rheims.....	April 23.....	97,903	60			2				2
Havre.....	April 23.....	112,074	47					3		
Gibraltar.....	April 17.....	23,631	18							12
Palermo.....	April 23.....	250,000	100						5	4
Amsterdam.....	April 23.....	378,690	175					2		4
Copenhagen.....	April 19.....	289,000	106					1		3
Bremen.....	April 16.....	119,000	48							1
Leipsic.....	April 23.....	170,000	65							5
Glasgow.....	April 23.....	545,678	255							2
Belfast.....	April 23.....	224,422	132				1	1		1
Edinburgh.....	April 16.....	258,629	91					1	3	
Bristol.....	April 23.....	223,695	90						3	
Toronto.....	April 30.....	120,000	29							4

## UNITED STATES.

Under authority of the Sundry Civil Appropriation Act, Maj. George M. Sternberg, U. S. Army, has been detailed to report to the Secretary of the Treasury, and has been instructed by the President to investigate the merits of the method practiced in Mexico and Brazil for preventing yellow fever by inoculation.

## TO QUARANTINE OFFICERS.

Quarantine officers are hereby warned against admitting vessels from South America or the West Indies except on the most rigid scrutiny. This Bureau is informed that in two instances vessels have left an infected South American port (and one of these vessels had cholera on board) and put into a West Indian port without quarantine detention. Such vessels usually do not take bills of health.

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JOHN B. HAMILTON,

*Supervising Surgeon-General, Marine-Hospital Service.*