

WEEKLY ABSTRACT OF SANITARY REPORTS.

VOL. II. { Abstract
No. 88. }

TREASURY DEPARTMENT,
OFFICE SUPERVISING SURGEON-GENERAL,
U. S. MARINE-HOSPITAL SERVICE,
Washington, D. C., November 4, 1887.

Abstract of Sanitary Reports received through the Department of State from foreign countries during the week ended November 4, 1887, and information received through other channels.

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

The act approved April 29, 1878, referred to, is as follows, and is published for the information of officers concerned :

“An act to prevent the introduction of contagious or infectious diseases into the United States.

“*Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,* That no vessel or vehicle coming from any foreign port or country where any contagious or infectious disease may exist, and no vessel or vehicle conveying any person or persons, merchandise or animals, affected with any infectious or contagious disease, shall enter any port of the United States or pass the boundary line between the United States and any foreign country, contrary to the quarantine laws of any one of said United States, into or through the jurisdiction of which said vessel or vehicle may pass, or to which it is destined, or except in the manner and subject to the regulations to be prescribed as hereinafter provided.

“SEC. 2. That whenever any infectious or contagious disease shall appear in any foreign port or country, and whenever any vessel shall leave any infected foreign port, or, having on board goods or passengers coming from any place or district infected with cholera or yellow fever, shall leave any foreign port, bound for any port in the United States, the consular officer, or other representative of the United States at or nearest such foreign port shall immediately give information thereof to the Supervising Surgeon-General of the Marine-Hospital Service, and shall report to him the name, the date of departure, and the port of destination of such vessel ; and shall also make the same report to the health officer of the port of destination in the United States, and the consular officers of the United States shall make weekly reports to him of the sanitary condition of the ports at which they are respectively stationed ; and the said Surgeon-General of the Marine-Hospital Service shall, under the direction of the Secretary of the Treasury, be charged with the execution of the provisions of this act, and shall frame all needful rules and regulations for that purpose, which rules and regulations shall be subject to the approval of the President, but such rules and regulations shall not conflict with or impair any sanitary or quarantine laws or regulations of any State or municipal authorities now existing or which may hereafter be enacted.

"SEC. 3. That it shall be the duty of the medical officers of the Marine-Hospital Service and of customs officers to aid in the enforcement of the national quarantine rules and regulations established under the preceding section; but no additional compensation shall be allowed said officers by reason of such services as they may be required to perform under this act, except actual and necessary traveling expenses.

"SEC. 4. That the Surgeon-General of the Marine-Hospital Service shall, upon receipt of information of the departure of any vessel, goods, or passengers from infected places to any port in the United States, immediately notify the proper State or municipal and United States officer or officers at the threatened port of destination of the vessel, and shall prepare and transmit to the medical officers of the Marine-Hospital Service, to collectors of customs, and to the State and municipal health authorities of the United States weekly abstracts of the consular sanitary reports and other pertinent information received by him.

"SEC. 5. That whenever, at any port of the United States, any State or municipal quarantine system may now, or may hereafter exist, the officers or agents of such system shall, upon the application of the respective State or municipal authorities, be authorized and empowered to act as officers or agents of the national quarantine system, and shall be clothed with all the powers of United States officers for quarantine purposes, but shall receive no pay or emoluments from the United States. At all other ports where, in the opinion of the Secretary of the Treasury, it shall be deemed necessary to establish quarantine, the medical officers or other agents of the Marine-Hospital Service shall perform such duties in the enforcement of the quarantine rules and regulations as may be assigned them by the Surgeon-General of that service under this act: *Provided*, That there shall be no interference in any manner with any quarantine laws or regulations as they now exist or may hereafter be adopted under State laws.

"SEC. 6. That all acts or parts of acts inconsistent with this act be, and the same are hereby, repealed."

England and Wales.—The deaths registered in 28 great towns of England and Wales during the week ended October 15 corresponded to an annual rate of 17.8 a thousand of the aggregate population, which is estimated at 9,244,099. The lowest rate was recorded in Leicester, viz., 14.2, and the highest in Plymouth, viz., 27.1 a thousand. Small-pox caused 8 deaths in Sheffield.

London.—One thousand three hundred and fifty-one deaths were registered during the week ended October 15, including 14 from measles, 56 from scarlet fever, 22 from diphtheria, 27 from whooping-cough, 17 from enteric fever, and 24 from diarrhœa and dysentery. There were 280 deaths from diseases of the respiratory organs. Different forms of violence caused 58 deaths, and 8 suicides were registered. The deaths from all causes corresponded to an annual rate of 16.7 a thousand. In greater London 1,677 deaths were registered, corresponding to an annual rate of 16.2 a thousand of the population. In the "outer ring" 11 deaths from diphtheria, 9 from scarlet fever, and 8 from whooping cough were registered.

Ireland.—The average annual death rate represented by the deaths registered during the week ended October 15 in the 16 principal town districts of Ireland was 24.1 a thousand of the population. The lowest rate was recorded in Lisbon, viz., 9.7, and the highest in Waterford, viz., 46.3 a thousand.

Dublin.—One hundred and eighty-five deaths were registered during the week ended October 15, including 6 from measles, 2 from whooping-cough, 11 from scarlet fever, 6 from enteric fever, 9 from diarrhoea, and 1 from diphtheria. Diseases of the respiratory organs caused 31 deaths. Seven accidental deaths were registered, and in 23 instances the causes of death were uncertified. The deaths from all causes corresponded to an annual rate of 27.3 a thousand.

Germany.—The deaths registered in 52 cities of Germany, having an aggregate population of 6,821,222, during the week ended October 8 corresponded to an annual rate of 19.8 a thousand. The lowest rate was recorded in Braunschweig, viz., 11.2, and the highest in Königsberg, viz., 31.7.

Netherlands.—The deaths registered in the principal cities of The Netherlands, having an aggregate population of 1,102,200, during the month of August, corresponded to an annual rate of 19.8 a thousand. The lowest rate was recorded in Groningen, viz., 15.7, and the highest in Maastricht, viz., 27.8.

Ningpo.—The United States consul, in his dispatch dated September 15, 1887, states that "cholera is on the decrease in this village, whilst in the walled city it has not abated since my last report. The two American missionaries reported by the doctor are Dr. C. C. Lord (for many years our consul at this port) and his wife. They were attacked with cholera on the 13th instant; this morning they were both very low, but I hope for the best." The consul also encloses a copy of Dr. Daly's report on the health of the city, stating that the number of deaths per day is estimated at from 200 to 600.

Palermo.—The United States consul, in his dispatch dated October 10, 1887, with reference to cholera, states that—

"I now have the honor to say that only 11 cases thereof and 8 deaths therefrom occurred during the week ending the 9th instant, a decrease of 8 cases and 4 deaths, compared with the preceding week."

Naples.—The United States consul, in his dispatch dated October 10, 1887, states that "according to the best information I have been able to obtain, the number of deaths resulting from cholera in the city of Naples between the 27th of September and the 6th of October were 18. Since that time there have been no cases. In the surroundings of Naples the disease has also almost entirely disappeared."

Santiago de Cuba.—The sanitary inspector, in his report for the week ended October 23, 1887, reports that “the small-pox epidemic has completely disappeared, only 1 case of varioloid having been recorded, and no deaths. Scarlet fever rages at present in a mild form. Yellow fever still prevails among the troops of the garrison, but the cases are treated at the military hospital, outside the city limits. Twelve cases and 8 deaths have been recorded for the week. I may here state that it is exceedingly rare that cases of yellow fever do not exist at the military hospital. The port is clean, no sickness having taken place on board the shipping.”

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.
Glasgow.....	October 15.....	545, 678	236	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	8	5
Munich.....	October 8.....	269, 000	126	.....	.....	.....	.....	1	.....	5
Rio de Janeiro.....	September 17.....	300, 000	413	.....	.....	171	.....	2	.....	1
Rio de Janeiro.....	September 24.....	300, 000	367	.....	1	142	.....	3	.....	1
Palermo.....	October 16.....	250, 000	91	7	.....	.....	.....	2	2	4
Genoa.....	October 15.....	179, 545	84	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	1
Leipsic.....	October 15.....	170, 000	64	.....	.....	9	1	.....	.....	8
Trieste.....	October 9.....	150, 157	113	.....	.....	9	.....	1	2	2
Toronto.....	October 23.....	125, 000	33	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	4
Pernambuco.....	October 1.....	111, 000	61	.....	.....	.....	.....	1	.....	.....
Barmen.....	October 8.....	108, 000	29	.....	.....	.....	1	.....	.....	.....
Rheims.....	October 15.....	97, 903	32	.....	.....	.....	.....	1	.....	1
Mayence.....	October 1.....	65, 701	21	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	1	.....

UNITED STATES.

Tampa, Fla.—*Yellow fever.*—The quarantine inspector telegraphed, under date of November 3, 1887, as follows:

“For week ended November 2, 74 cases, 9 deaths. Total cases, 325, approximately. Total deaths to date, 48. To-day, 3 new cases, 2 deaths. Think epidemic rapidly subsiding.”

Many Lakes, Fla.—Dr. King Wylly, in his telegram dated October 31, 1887, with reference to alleged cases of yellow fever at several places in Pasco county, stated that “Dr. Montgomery reports 2 cases three weeks ago at Many Lakes. Man died, wife recovered; both refugees. No spread of disease. Other places perfectly healthy.”

New York quarantine.—The information contained in the New York Evening Telegram, of October 27, 1887, relative to the departure of immigrants, with their baggage, from the infected Italian steamship “Independente” to Chicago, Cleveland, Philadelphia, New Orleans, St. Louis, Boston, Washington, Cincinnati, Pittsburgh, Baltimore, Syra-

cuse, and Providence, was communicated by this bureau, the following morning, to the respective health officers at the places named, from the majority of whom immediate replies were received stating that search was being made for the immigrants, with a view of disinfecting their baggage and taking necessary precautions.

The commissioner of health of Chicago, under date of October 28, telegraphed :

“I have found 13 immigrants referred to yesterday ; all well. I have found 8 packing-cases and 6 bundles bedding. Clothing all packed near or at Palermo and not opened at New York. I shall disinfect or burn.”

The health officer at New York, in his telegram next day, (October 29,) stated that “the steamer ‘Independente’ was detained more than 24 hours. All baggage, parcels, and bundles were opened in the steerage and thoroughly disinfected. There were no deaths during voyage, and not a single case of illness among the passengers.”

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