

# WEEKLY ABSTRACT OF SANITARY REPORTS.

VOL. III. { Abstract  
No. 22. }

TREASURY DEPARTMENT,  
OFFICE SUPERVISING SURGEON-GENERAL,  
U. S. MARINE-HOSPITAL SERVICE,  
Washington, D. C., June 1, 1888.

*Abstract of Sanitary Reports received through the Department of State from foreign countries during the week ended June 1, 1888, and information received through other channels.*

(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 May 12 corresponded to an annual rate of 17.6 a thousand of the aggregate population, which is estimated at 9,398,273. The lowest rate was recorded in Cardiff, viz., 12.5, and the highest in Bolton, viz., 26.7 a thousand. Small-pox caused 3 deaths in Sheffield, 1 in Manchester, 1 in Preston, and 1 in Leeds.

*London.*—One thousand three hundred and sixty deaths were registered during the week, including measles, 22; scarlet fever, 19; diphtheria, 15; whooping-cough, 52; enteric fever, 9; diarrhoea and dysentery, 14. The deaths from all causes corresponded to an annual rate of 16.6 a thousand. Diseases of the respiratory organs caused 260 deaths; different forms of violence, 51; and 12 suicides were registered. In greater London 1,710 deaths were registered, corresponding to an annual rate of 16.1 a thousand of the population. In the "outer ring" 16 deaths from whooping-cough were registered.

*Ireland.*—The average annual death rate represented by the deaths registered during the week ended May 12 in the 16 principal town districts of Ireland was 22.9 a thousand of the population. The lowest rate was recorded in Dundalk, viz., 0.0, and the highest in Lisburn, viz., 38.7 a thousand. In Dublin 156 deaths were registered, including 9 from whooping-cough; enteric fever, 1; measles, 1; scarlet fever, 4; typhus, 1; and dysentery, 1.

During the quarter ended March 31, 1888, there were 27,252 deaths registered, corresponding to an annual rate of 22.8 a thousand, includ-

ing small-pox, 3; measles, 805; scarlatina, 257; typhus fever, 105; whooping-cough, 421; diphtheria, 138; simple continued fever and ill-defined forms of fever, 96; enteric fever, 154; diarrhœa, 290; simple cholera, 3; hydrophobia, 5.

*Scotland.*—The deaths registered in 8 principal towns during the week ended May 12 corresponded to an annual rate of 21.1 a thousand of the population, which is estimated at 1,299,000. The lowest mortality was recorded in Leith, viz., 14.7, and the highest in Glasgow, viz., 24.3 a thousand. The aggregate number of deaths registered from all causes was 534, including 11 from measles; scarlet fever, 3; diphtheria, 1; whooping-cough, 19; fever, 3; and diarrhœa, 3.

Two thousand eight hundred and twenty-four deaths were registered during the quarter ended March 31, 1888; corresponding to an annual death rate of 20.8 a thousand.

*Honolulu, Hawaiian Islands.*—The United States consul, in his dispatch dated April 28, 1888, relative to the interest that is now manifested throughout the world in the disease of leprosy, and the controversy as to its contagious character, states that “in the case of Keame, who was condemned to death for murder, but had his sentence commuted to imprisonment for life upon his agreement to allow himself to be inoculated with leprosy, that the disease has finally made its appearance after a period of two and one-half years since the inoculation, which has resulted in a general infection of his system with leprosy virus. A very remote chance of his having previously had germs of the disease in his system may exist. This, in the opinion of Dr. Arthur Mowritz, physician in charge of the leper island where the unfortunates are segregated, is possible, but not probable, although Hawaii has been an endemic leprosy focus for the past century.”

*Buenos Ayres.*—Nine hundred and seventy-seven deaths were registered during the month of February, 1888, including small-pox, 70; enteric fever, 39; scarlet fever, 3; and diphtheria, 51.

*Palermo, Italy.*—The United States consul, in his dispatch dated May 9, 1888, relative to his reports on cholera of last year, states: “I am of opinion that the disease has again manifested itself in this city. This opinion is based on the large number of deaths in proportion to the total thereof, which occurred in this city during the last week from ‘intestinal catarrh,’ a term almost synonymous with cholera in Palermo, in view of the initial cases of that disease being thus designated by the authorities (in order to prevent a panic) in recent epi-

demics, as well as upon the fact that the messenger to the consulate was attacked last night by so-called intestinal catarrh, and is now confined to his bed."

*Rome, Italy.*—The United States consul-general, in his dispatch dated May 4, 1888, states that "there exists a great deal of misapprehension in regard to the health of Rome as compared with other cities. By many persons Rome is supposed to be almost uninhabitable in summer, and they believe that a very dangerous disease, known as 'Roman fever,' prevails in Rome at all times of the year. No such disease is known to medical men in Rome, or is mentioned in any medical work. There is a certain amount of malarial and typhoid fever in Rome, but the so-called Roman fever is purely imaginary. Undoubtedly Rome has greatly improved in regard to its sanitary conditions since the establishment of the present government. The whole drainage system, which in former days was very bad, has been remodeled, and the city is now thoroughly drained. Large tracts of vacant land within the walls have been closely built over, and malaria, which formerly existed in those tracts, has since disappeared. The closing of all the wells in the city has done much to decrease zymotic diseases, and the enforcement of wise sanitary regulations has greatly lessened the death rate. Outside of Rome, in the Campagna, the malaria in summer and autumn is very dangerous. While it does not extend within the walls, it produces a great deal of illness among the peasants, especially during the harvest season, when troops of men and women come down from the mountains and live night and day in the Campagna until the harvest is over. When these people fall ill of malarial fever they are brought to the Roman hospitals, and in case of death they contribute to swell the death rate of the city. \* \* \* The large increase of the death rate in the month of September, 1887, was not normal, but was due to the presence in Rome of the cholera at that time. There were some 200 to 250 deaths of cholera here in the late summer and early autumn of 1887."

*Havana.*—The sanitary inspector reports 3 deaths from yellow fever and 7 from small-pox during the week ended May 19, 1888.

SANTIAGO DE CUBA, *May 19, 1888.*

No yellow fever has appeared this week at the military hospital. The town is also free from it.

*Marseilles.*—Nine hundred and twenty-one deaths were registered during the month of April, 1888, including small-pox, 10; enteric fever, 20; scarlet fever, 6; diphtheria and croup, 43; and measles, 54.

## 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.
Paris.....	May 12	2,260,945	1,027			6		10	4	50
Glasgow.....	May 12	545,678	246						1	1
Warsaw.....	May 5	444,814	210			5			1	6
Calcutta.....	April 14	433,219	232	59						2
Amsterdam.....	May 12	389,916	166							
Copenhagen.....	May 8	300,000	105						1	3
Edinburgh.....	May 5	262,733	106							1
Edinburgh.....	May 12	262,733	107					1		
Palermo.....	May 12	250,000	77						1	2
Belfast.....	May 5	227,022	126					1	1	1
Belfast.....	May 12	227,022	109					2	1	2
Genoa.....	May 12	179,513	89			4	1			
Leipsic.....	May 12	170,000	70						1	1
Trieste.....	May 5	154,500	95			2				1
Stuttgart.....	May 12	125,510	40							1
Bremen.....	May 5	122,000	55						1	
Havre.....	May 12	112,074	65			6		1		
Pernambuco.....	April 14	110,000	79		1					
Barmen.....	May 5	109,000	38				1			
Barmen.....	May 12	109,000	45							
Rheims.....	May 12	97,093	72							2
Mayence.....	May 5	65,802	37							
Cadiz.....	May 5	65,028	49							
Cadiz.....	May 12	65,028	38							
Merida, Yucatan.....	May 6	48,800	47					3		
Merida, Yucatan.....	May 13	48,800						1		
Cienfuegos.....	May 14	40,753	11			1				
Curacoa.....	May 12	25,000	5							
Vera Cruz.....	May 17	23,800	21							
Gibraltar.....	May 6	23,630	6							
Sagua la Grande.....	May 5	15,605	9							
Sagua la Grande.....	May 12	15,605	7			1				
Matamoras.....	May 12	12,000	14							
Matamoras.....	May 19	12,000	11							
Laguayra.....	May 5	7,428	6							
Laguayra.....	May 12	7,428	12							

## UNITED STATES.

The following letter has been received from Dr. J. P. Wall, president of the board of health, Tampa, Fla., under date of the 23d instant :

The Plant steamers from Havana landed at Port Tampa for the first time on the 13th instant. \* \* \* The disinfection is done on board of steamer for the present, as in previous years. I am, however, having a fumigation-chamber and other disinfecting apparatus fixed up on the wharf at Port Tampa, which is about one mile from shore. The incomplete condition of the wharf prevented my having this done earlier, before the steamer began to make that the place of transfer. I think that before the 1st proximo everything will be in working order. As you know, it is the company's policy to prevent the steamers from becoming infected, and, although every pains will be taken here as to the disinfection of baggage, the rules and regulations of the company as to not allowing unacclimated persons to take passage will be still enforced as in the two previous years. I went out to Plant City yesterday, in company with Dr. Jerome Coch-

ran, of Alabama. The place is healthy, and there had not been any case of fever there since week before last. I had the place thoroughly disinfected, burning all beds and mattresses in houses where sickness had been, and otherwise disinfecting houses and premises. I think the fever has been stamped out, though we will not allow people to return there before week after next, keeping up a vigilant observation and resorting to aeration as much as possible in the mean time.

Additional rules and regulations for Tampa Bay and the Gulf coast of Hillsborough County have been adopted and promulgated by the Board of Health of Hillsborough County, locating the quarantine grounds in Old Tampa Bay. The following is an extract from said rules and regulations:

Rule 2. A yellow flag will be displayed at or near the station, where all boats and vessels, except those of regular established lines making regular periodic trips, will stop until visited by the quarantine physician or inspector, and the sanitary condition of the vessel and the health of the crew and passengers, as well as that of the city and port from which the vessel hails, are fully inquired into, when, if everything in connection with the vessel and hailing port is found satisfactory, *pratique* shall be granted, and the vessel can proceed to Port Tampa or other place within the county to land passengers and discharge cargo. Otherwise, the vessel shall be ordered into quarantine, subject to the further orders or disposition of the board of health—either to be ordered to the nearest United States quarantine station or to be subjected to such detention and processes of disinfection as the board of health may order and direct, under the supervision of the quarantine physician.

\* \* \* \* \*

Rule 4. All vessels or boats arriving in the waters of Hillsborough County from the high seas shall, if ordered into quarantine, proceed to the quarantine station near Port Tampa, in Old Tampa Bay; and all vessels or boats from any port or city, foreign or domestic, where infectious or contagious diseases are prevailing, shall be ordered into quarantine and undergo inspection before being allowed to land passengers and freight or hold any communication with the shore.

Rule 5. The quarantine rules and regulations adopted by the board of health for the port of the City of Tampa are hereby declared to be in full force and effect, so far as applicable, to all vessels from the high sea arriving in the waters of Hillsborough County.

Rule 6. The board of health shall appoint a quarantine physician and a quarantine inspector, the latter to remain permanently at the quarantine station during the season of quarantine, and pay such physician and inspector such salaries, respectively, as may be mutually agreed upon. The inspector shall be under the control and orders of the physician.

*Memphis, Tenn.*—The two cases of small-pox reported in the last abstract, passed through the first week of the disease before they were discovered by the health officer, and isolated in the pest-house; but no new cases have since been reported.

JOHN B. HAMILTON,  
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