

WEEKLY ABSTRACT OF SANITARY REPORTS.

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TREASURY DEPARTMENT,
OFFICE SUPERVISING SURGEON-GENERAL,
U. S. MARINE-HOSPITAL SERVICE,
Washington, D. C., June 22, 1888.

Abstract of Sanitary Reports received through the Department of State from foreign countries during the week ended June 22, 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 June 2 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 Derby, viz., 13.0, and the highest in Wolverhampton, viz., 24.9 a thousand. Small-pox caused 4 deaths in Sheffield, 1 in Bristol, 1 in Preston, 1 in Oldham, 1 in Hull, 1 in Derby, and 1 in Nottingham.

London.—One thousand three hundred and twenty-three deaths were registered during the week, including measles, 24; scarlet fever, 19; diphtheria, 26; whooping-cough, 37; enteric fever, 9; diarrhœa and dysentery, 19; and choleraic diarrhœa, 1. The deaths from all causes corresponded to an annual rate of 16.1 a thousand. Diseases of the respiratory organs caused 237 deaths; different forms of violence, 73; and 11 suicides were registered. In greater London 1,607 deaths were registered, corresponding to an annual rate of 15.2 a thousand of the population. In the "outer ring" 7 deaths from whooping-cough and 9 from diphtheria were registered.

Ireland.—The average annual death rate represented by the deaths registered during the week ended June 2 in the 16 principal town

districts of Ireland was 21.5 a thousand of the population. The lowest rate was recorded in Armagh, viz., 5.2, and the highest in Wexford, viz., 47.0 a thousand. In Dublin 159 deaths were registered, including measles, 1; whooping-cough, 9; enteric fever, 3; scarlet fever, 5; and diarrhoea, 2.

Scotland.—The deaths registered in 8 principal towns during the week ended June 2 corresponded to an annual rate of 19.3 a thousand of the population, which is estimated at 1,299,000. The lowest mortality was recorded in Greenock, viz., 12.2, and the highest in Paisley, viz., 22.8 a thousand. The aggregate number of deaths registered from all causes was 489, including measles, 11; scarlet fever, 9; diphtheria, 4; whooping-cough, 14; fever, 7; and diarrhoea, 7.

Calcutta.—The report of vital statistics for the quarter ended March 31 shows that 541 deaths from cholera were registered during that period. "The water supply in the worst localities is of the scantiest. On the riparian districts the inhabitants have to resort to the river and to the polluted wells in their own houses. The occupants of large bustees have to resort to the nearest filthy tank. 'Give us water' is the almost universal cry of the inhabitants in the native quarters of the town. That cry has been kept up constantly, to my own knowledge, for nearly two years, without the slightest relief. In 1884, four years ago, during the unprecedented outbreak of cholera in Calcutta, the scarcity of water then formed a subject of complaint by some of the commissioners, but apparently without any effect."

Christiania, Norway.—The Norwegian Government, under date of May 24, issued an order that the following-named countries and ports, until further notice, will be considered cholera-infected:

China, Japan, Cochin China, East Indian Islands, East India, Syria, ports in the Red Sea, ports in Uruguay, and ports in Chili.

Marseilles.—Nine hundred and five deaths were registered during the month of May, 1888, including small-pox, 14; enteric fever, 33; scarlet fever, 3; diphtheria and croup, 50; and measles, 47.

Buenos Ayres.—One thousand and sixty-nine deaths were registered during the month of March, 1888, including small-pox, 78; enteric fever, 65; and diphtheria, 76.

Montevideo.—Three hundred and seventy-five deaths were registered during the month of March, 1888, including small-pox, 39; enteric and typhus fevers, 15.

Havana.—Eight deaths from yellow fever and 5 from small-pox were registered during the week ended June 16, 1888.

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.
Paris.....	June 2.....	2,260,945	955			6		10	6
Glasgow.....	June 2.....	545,678	225						6
Warsaw.....	May 26.....	444,814	176			4			2
Calcutta.....	May 5.....	453,219	216	61					2
Amsterdam.....	June 2.....	389,916	158						1
Rome.....	April 21.....	388,300	181			3		1	6
Copenhagen.....	May 29.....	300,000	124					1	1
Munich.....	May 26.....	275,000	165					1	6
Palermo.....	June 2.....	250,000	82					1	4
Genoa.....	June 2.....	179,401	93				1		
Leipsic.....	June 2.....	170,000	53					1	
Trieste.....	May 12.....	154,500	91			1		4	2
Stuttgart.....	June 2.....	125,500	44						
Bremen.....	May 26.....	122,000	25						1
Havre.....	June 2.....	112,074	67			5		1	
Barmen.....	May 26.....	109,000	45						1
Leghorn.....	June 3.....	101,718	27						
Cadiz.....	May 26.....	65,028	54						
Cadiz.....	June 2.....	65,028	51						
Curaçoa.....	June 2.....	25,000	5						
Vera Cruz.....	June 7.....	23,800	19						
Gibraltar.....	May 27.....	23,634	4						1
Sagua la Grande.....	May 26.....	15,605	8			1			
Sagua la Grande.....	June 2.....	15,605	10						
Bermuda.....	June 12.....	15,260							
Matamoras.....	May 26.....	12,000	5						
Matamoras.....	June 2.....	12,000	10						
Laguayra.....	May 26.....	7,428	6						
Laguayra.....	June 2.....	7,428	5						
Livingston.....	June 9.....	2,500	1						
San Juan del Norte.....	May 21.....	500							

UNITED STATES.

Washington, D. C.—The following regulations, approved by the President and promulgated by the Secretary of State, has been issued to United States consular officers by the State Department. They are republished here for the information of United States quarantine officers and municipal health officers :

The quarantine service.

Section 2 of an act entitled “An act to prevent the introduction of contagious or infectious diseases into the United States,” approved April 29, 1878, provides—

“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 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."

The object of the foregoing section of the law is to secure timely advice of the outbreaks of cholera and yellow fever, and of the probable transportation of the poisons of these preventable diseases in vessels bound for the United States; and consular officers for the United States are directed to put themselves into communication with the health authorities of their respective stations, and from the information obtained from such authorities, or from other reliable sources where no regularly constituted health authorities exist, to prepare and transmit by the mails to the Department of State, for the information of the Surgeon-General of the Marine-Hospital Service, on forms prescribed by the Department, weekly reports of the appearance, progress, or termination of cholera, yellow fever, small-pox, plague, or typhus occurring in their respective localities, and are further instructed to include in said reports information in relation to the prevalence of other preventable diseases, as diphtheria, enteric and scarlet fevers, &c., the prevailing disease or diseases in port, if any, and, when practicable, the annual death-rate per one thousand of the population as shown by the official record of deaths for the week reported. Special interest should be taken in the healthiness of vessels, reporting those arriving from or departing to the United States in a bad sanitary condition; also reporting the facts of any serious sickness or unhealthiness of seamen in port, or of crews arriving from or departing to the United States.

In the event of the outbreak of Asiatic cholera, yellow fever, or Asiatic plague, or other contagious disease in epidemic form, the Department must immediately be advised by cable or telegraph of such outbreak, using such abbreviation as the Department may from time to time direct.

The following cipher and abbreviations should be used:

"Cholera"—meaning cholera has appeared.

"Yellow"—meaning yellow fever has appeared.

The name of a country—meaning that the disease has made its appearance at several places in the country named.

The name of a vessel—meaning that the vessel named has departed from the place whence the dispatch is sent, bound for a port in the United States.

"Poison"—meaning that the vessel referred to, though leaving a then healthy port, has on board passengers or goods (baggage) coming from a district infected with cholera or yellow fever.

When cholera or yellow fever has appeared at several places in a country, name the country only after the word "cholera" or "yellow," as the case may be; if it has appeared at the place only from which the dispatch is sent, do not repeat the name of that place in the body of the dispatch, but if at any other particular place, name it.

In a dispatch announcing the departure of a vessel to a port in the United States, the port of departure will be understood to be the place from which the dispatch is sent; hence the name of the port of departure need not be repeated. In the body of a dispatch the name of the vessel should be given first; second, the name of the country, when applicable; third, the day of departure, omitting the day of the month and of the year, as they will be understood without saying; fourth, the name of the port of destination (the importance of observing

this order will appear obvious when it is understood that many vessels bear the names of ports in the United States); fifth, the name of the disease, "cholera" or "yellow," as the case may be, should be given, provided the Department has not been already advised of the outbreak of the disease. When advice has once been given of the appearance of cholera or yellow fever at a certain port, the name of the disease need not be repeated in dispatches announcing the subsequent departure of vessels from that port.

When the name of a vessel is given without stating whether it is a steamer or sailing-vessel, it will be understood to be a steamer; if the vessel is a sailing-vessel, its proper designation should be prefixed. The sender of the dispatch should sign his last name only.

The consul will give to every master of a vessel bound to a port in the United States a bill of health, on the form prescribed by the Department, giving full information of the number of persons on board such vessel at the time of sailing, and the sanitary condition of the vessel so far as known, and also the sanitary condition of the port of departure at the time. At such ports as may from time to time be designated by the Department, a physician will be employed or detailed to make the necessary inspection of the vessel, her passengers, crew, cargo, and ballast. In case the master of any vessel shall refuse to receive a bill of health, the fact shall be immediately reported to the Department by cable, if necessary.

When a vessel having received a bill of health touches at any other port while *en route* to the United States, the consul at such port shall *visa* the bill of health, and note thereon such changes as may have taken place since its original issue.

Monthly reports of the bills of health issued must be made to the Department on the regular forms.

Memphis, Tenn.—Thirteen cases of small-pox were reported up to the 18th instant in the Memphis taxing district.

JOHN B. HAMILTON,
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