

# WEEKLY ABSTRACT OF SANITARY REPORTS.

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TREASURY DEPARTMENT,  
OFFICE SUPERVISING SURGEON-GENERAL,  
U. S. MARINE-HOSPITAL SERVICE,  
Washington, D. C., September 14, 1888.

*Abstract of Sanitary Reports received through the Department of State from foreign countries during the week ended September 14, 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 August 25 corresponded to an annual rate of 18.1 a thousand of the aggregate population, which is estimated at 9,398,273. The lowest rate was recorded in Bristol, viz., 11.5, and the highest in Wolverhampton, viz., 28.7 a thousand. Small-pox caused 1 death in Oldham and 1 in Nottingham. Diphtheria caused 3 deaths in Manchester.

*London.*—One thousand four hundred and thirty-eight deaths were registered during the week, including measles, 47; scarlet fever, 21; diphtheria, 17; whooping-cough, 28; enteric fever, 7; diarrhœa and dysentery, 192; simple cholera and choleraic diarrhœa, 7. Diseases of the respiratory organs caused 172 deaths; different forms of violence, 47; and 9 suicides were registered. The deaths from all causes corresponded to an annual rate of 17.5 a thousand. In greater London 1,821 deaths were registered, corresponding to an annual rate of 17.2 a thousand of the population. In the "outer ring" the deaths included diarrhœa, 58; diphtheria, 8; and measles, 13.

*Ireland.*—The average annual death rate represented by the deaths registered during the week ended August 25 in the 16 principal town districts of Ireland was 17.5 a thousand of the population. The lowest rate was recorded in Lisburn, viz., 4.8, and the highest in Wexford, viz., 29.9 a thousand. In Dublin 121 deaths were registered, including measles, 3; enteric fever, 2; scarlet fever, 1; diarrhœa, 4.

*Scotland.*—The deaths registered in 8 principal towns during the week ended August 25 corresponded to an annual rate of 16.7 a thousand of the population, which is estimated at 1,314,274. The lowest mortality was recorded in Aberdeen, viz., 13.5, and the highest in Paisley, viz., 21.1 a thousand. The aggregate number of deaths registered from all causes was 421, including measles, 5; scarlet fever, 4; diphtheria, 3; whooping-cough, 4; fever, 10; and diarrhœa, 16.

*Hobart Town, Tasmania.*—One hundred and sixty-seven deaths were registered during the quarter ended June 30, 1888, including 12 from enteric fever.

*Martinique.*—The United States consul, in his dispatch dated August 29, states that “in the fortnight preceding the 25th of this month, there were in all 99 cases and 22 deaths from small-pox in the interior of the island, and that prior to the 12th of August there were 3 sporadic cases of yellow fever and 2 deaths therefrom.”

*Cardenas, Cuba.*—The consular report dated August 31 states: "Good health in town and harbor. Weather dry and hot. Only one American vessel in port."

**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. Measles. Whooping-cough.
Paris .....	Aug. 18.....	2,260,945	869	2.....8.....5.....24.....24.....5.....
Paris .....	Aug. 25.....	2,260,945	910	1.....11.....3.....25.....18.....4.....
Glasgow .....	Aug. 25.....	545,678	190	.....3.....1.....1.....
Warsaw .....	Aug. 18.....	414,814	273	11.....10.....8.....
Calcutta .....	July 28.....	433,219	169	15.....
Rome .....	July 21.....	391,188	199	.....4.....
Amsterdam .....	Aug. 25.....	389,916	153	.....3.....
Munich .....	July 21.....	275,000	150	.....1.....1.....2.....
Munich .....	Aug. 11.....	275,000	187	.....1.....1.....
Palermo .....	Aug. 18.....	250,000	84	.....3.....1.....1.....
Palermo .....	Aug. 27.....	250,000	78	.....1.....1.....
Belfast .....	Aug. 25.....	227,022	74	.....1.....5.....
Bristol .....	Aug. 18.....	226,510	58	.....2.....
Bristol .....	Aug. 25.....	226,510	50	.....
Genoa .....	Aug. 18.....	179,720	86	.....2.....
Genoa .....	Aug. 25.....	179,698	87	.....1.....
Trinidad .....	Aug. 11.....	178,270	42	.....
Trinidad .....	Aug. 18.....	178,270	32	.....
Leipsic .....	Aug. 25.....	170,000	87	.....1.....2.....
Trieste .....	Aug. 18.....	154,500	75	.....5.....1.....
Toronto .....	Aug. 24.....	130,000	26	.....1.....
Toronto .....	Aug. 31.....	130,000	31	.....
Stuttgart .....	Aug. 25.....	125,500	45	.....
Bremen .....	Aug. 18.....	122,000	30	.....2.....
Havre .....	Aug. 18.....	112,074	102	.....21.....1.....1.....
Havre .....	Aug. 25.....	112,074	89	.....17.....1.....
Barmen .....	Aug. 25.....	109,000	40	.....1.....
Leghorn .....	Aug. 19.....	101,854	37	.....
Leghorn .....	Aug. 26.....	101,854	36	.....
Mayence .....	Aug. 4.....	65,802	23	.....
Mayence .....	Aug. 11.....	65,802	27	.....
Cadiz .....	Aug. 25.....	65,028	34	.....
Curacao .....	Sept. 1.....	25,000	5	.....
Vera Cruz .....	Aug. 50.....	23,800	22	.....
Gibraltar .....	Aug. 19.....	23,634	9	.....1.....1.....
Kingston, Canada .....	Sept. 7.....	16,216	3	.....
Antigua .....	Aug. 19.....	15,847	26	.....
Antigua .....	Aug. 26.....	15,847	24	.....
Bermuda .....	Sept. 6.....	15,260	.....	.....
Cartagena, U. S. of Colo. ....	Aug. 4.....	13,000	16	.....
Cartagena, U. S. of Colo. ....	Aug. 11.....	13,000	5	.....
Matamoros .....	Aug. 18.....	12,000	8	.....
Matamoros .....	Aug. 25.....	12,000	7	.....
Laguayra .....	Aug. 25.....	7,428	4	.....
Laguayra .....	Sept. 1.....	7,428	3	.....
Turk's Islands .....	Aug. 15.....	5,000	5	.....
Turk's Islands .....	Aug. 22.....	5,000	6	.....
San Juan del Norte .....	Aug. 13.....	500	1	.....
San Juan del Norte .....	Aug. 16.....	500	.....	.....

*Lake City, Fla.*.—Dr. J. L. Posey arrived at Lake City August 23, and in his report to the Supervising Surgeon-General, dated September 1, 1888, states that—

Lake City is the county seat of Columbia County, situated in Middle Florida, with an elevation of 250 feet above sea-level. The city covers an area of one-half mile square, its center rising to an elevation of 17 feet and sloping from east to west, with an average fall of 5 feet, giving an almost perfect natural surface drainage, the water being rapidly carried off after the heaviest rain-falls, which are of rare occurrence in this locality. There are three small fresh-water lakes in the immediate vicinity of the city, viz., Lake Hamburg in the southwest, Lake De-Soto east, and Lake Isabella, the largest and prettiest of the trio, southeast of the city. The latter named is about 1 mile wide and of considerable depth, and is the source whence the city derives its water-supply for public uses. The water almost exclusively used for drinking purposes is supplied by wells, which yield an abundance of clear, cool water at a depth of from 20 to 30 feet. I visited the city water-works recently erected, located on the shore of Lake Isabella, and examined the large cemented brick reservoir, into which the water is first pumped from the lake, and, after filtering through a bed of charcoal, is forced into a wooden tank elevated at a considerable height, and thence distributed through iron mains to hydrants placed 210 feet apart. The water of Lake Isabella is clear, cool spring-water, odorless, tasteless, and apparently free from organic matter. Mr. Collins, the president of the water-works company, informed me that an analysis had been made by a competent chemist, and the water found free from organic matter. I deem it perfectly wholesome, and fit for drinking purposes.

A general and thorough inspection and survey of Lake City revealed an excellent sanitary condition of its streets and drains, as also of the premises. The municipal health board had just completed a general cleaning and disinfection of the closets, which are open and on the surface of the soil, which is a sandy loam with a substratum of clay. The fecal accumulations were removed beyond the corporate limits and put into a large trench, being thoroughly disinfected with lime. The garbage from premises and streets likewise removed beyond the corporate limits, and after saturation with resinous matter entirely burned.

The quarantine measures established against infected points (this city being only 60 miles by rail north from Jacksonville) are efficient and stringent, and are rigidly enforced by the city board, composed of gentlemen of intelligence and ability, who are deeply impressed with the conviction that the only means of escaping an invasion of yellow fever is by maintaining a strictly military quarantine. In addition to these measures, a weekly house-to-house inspection has been ordered, to compel residents to preserve the present fine sanitary condition of the city. They are required to disinfect their closets once or twice a week with a saturated solution of sulphate of iron and carbolic acid.

At the date of my inspection, I met the president of the city health board and the principal physicians practicing there, and was afforded every facility for making a complete investigation of its sanitary state. They all assured me that there was not at that time, or had been pre-

vicious, a single case of yellow fever, or any case that they deemed suspicious—in fact, not even a case of any type of malarial disease.

A type of malarial remittent fever prevails in some of the alluvial lands, which the natives call “yellow disease,” and which is an aggravated form of hæmaturia, usually fatal, and occurring in persons who have been the subjects of repeated attacks of intermittent fever, who have become cachectic and leucocythæmic.

I subjoin a few notes giving the data requested in your letter of instructions:

Name of mayor Lake City, W. R. Bush. Health officer, Dr. D. A. Watts. Water-supply, well-water and lake-water. Disposal of sewage, surface drainage. Burial permits, none issued. Distance of cemetery from business center, one-half mile; mode of interment, six feet below surface. Number of deaths from May 1 to October 1, 1887, 8; number of deaths from May 1 to August 24, 1888, 5—total, 13. Population (white and colored), estimated at 2,000.

In conclusion, I desire to state that, from the conditions of soil, elevation, and general cleanliness of Lake City, I am of the opinion that the occurrence of a case of yellow fever in its limits would, upon immediate isolation, fail to establish a focus for the development of an epidemic atmosphere or rapid spread of the specific infecting matter of yellow fever. The statements of the oldest resident practitioners and other residents tend to corroborate this view, as 2 cases of yellow fever occurred in 1876 in the city, which were clearly traced to importation, both cases resulting in recovery and no other cases developing from them. During a period of twenty-five years there has not been an epidemic of any disease prevailing in Lake City. A few cases of cholera occurred in 1867, without any tendency to develop an epidemic. In face of such a health record, I entertain the firm conviction that this charming City of the Lakes is justly entitled to be ranked as one of the most salubrious of the cities of Middle Florida. The average temperature, I think, is about 75° Fahr.; the nights and mornings, at the time of my visit, delightfully cool and invigorating, and, during the noon and afternoon, cool, balmy breezes sweep over its richly-wooded hills of pine, oak, and magnolia. I submit this brief sketch of the sanitary conditions of the attractive City of the Lakes as the result of close personal observation and thorough inspection of its situation and surroundings.

*Tampa, Fla.*—Dr. J. P. Wall telegraphed as follows:

September 8: “Three cases reported to-day, making 7 since last report. It continues mild. No deaths.”

September 9: “One new case here. No deaths.”

*Manatee, Fla.*—Dr. M. B. Harrison reports for the week ended September 7: Three new cases for Manatee, and 2 for Palmetto—total, 51. No deaths.

*Jacksonville, Fla.*—Dr. Neal Mitchell, president of the board of health, telegraphed as follows:

September 9: “For 24 hours ending 6 p. m.: New cases, 49; deaths, 7. Total number of cases to date, 604; total number of deaths to date, 73.”

September 10: "For 24 hours ending 6 p. m.: New cases, 32; deaths, 5. Total number of cases to date, 636; total number of deaths to date, 78."

September 11: "For 24 hours ending 6 p. m.: New cases, 48; deaths, 11. Total number of cases to date, 684; total number of deaths to date, 90."

September 12: "For 24 hours ending 6 p. m.: New cases, 59; deaths, 10. Total number of cases to date, 743; total number of deaths to date, 100."

September 13: "For 24 hours ending 6 p. m.: New cases, 44; deaths, 4. Total number of cases to date, 785; total number of deaths to date, 104."

*Camp Perry, Fla.*—The Secretary of the Treasury has received the following telegrams from Supervising Surgeon-General Hamilton:

September 10: "Arrived to-day, 1 p. m. Refugees in camp, 132; in fever hospital, 4. Died at fever hospital, 1. Four officers present."

September 12: "Morning report: Officers, 5; guards, 7; employés, including carpenters, 59. Refugees received, 16; discharged, 64; remaining, 86. In fever camp, 6 patients."

## MORTALITY TABLE, CITIES OF THE UNITED STATES.

Cities.	Week ended.	Estimated population.	Total deaths from all causes.	Deaths from—									
				Cholera.	Yellow fever.	Small-pox.	Varicoid.	Varicella.	Typhus fever.	Enteric fever.	Scarlet fever.	Diphtheria.	Measles.
New York, N. Y.	Sept. 8.	1,534,676	716					1	17	19	18	8	23
Chicago, Ill.	Sept. 8.	800,000	291						14	2	19	1	4
Baltimore, Md.	Sept. 8.	431,879	177						9	1	3		3
Boston, Mass.	Sept. 8.	415,000	175						2	1	5		
San Francisco, Cal.	Aug. 31.	330,000	114						1		2		
Cincinnati, Ohio.	Sept. 8.	255,139	93						3		1		3
New Orleans, La.	Sept. 1.	248,000	114						2		10		1
Pittsburgh, Pa.	Sept. 8.	230,000	70						1	1	5		2
Washington, D. C.	Sept. 8.	225,000	83						3		1		7
Milwaukee, Wis.	Sept. 8.	195,000	82								1		3
Minneapolis, Minn.	Sept. 7.	180,000	48						1		1		
Kansas City, Mo.	Sept. 8.	180,000	38						5		1		
St. Paul, Minn.	Sept. 8.	175,000	41						9		2		
Rochester, N. Y.	Sept. 8.	120,000	47						3		1		
Detroit, Mich.	Sept. 7.	116,340							4	1	2		2
Denver, Colo.	Sept. 7.	96,000	37						7	1	2		
Columbus, Ohio.	Sept. 8.	93,000	30						4				
New Haven, Conn.	Sept. 8.	82,000	21						2				
Toledo, Ohio.	Sept. 8.	80,000	20										
Nashville, Tenn.	Sept. 8.	65,153	19								1		
Fall River, Mass.	Sept. 8.	65,000	24					2					
Charleston, S. C.	Sept. 8.	60,145	43					1					
Cambridge, Mass.	Sept. 8.	59,660	34						1		1		3
Evansville, Ind.	Sept. 6.	53,000	21								1		
Savannah, Ga.	Sept. 7.	52,827	21										
Lynn, Mass.	Sept. 8.	50,000	18										
Mobile, Ala.	Sept. 8.	40,000	13										
Galveston, Tex.	Aug. 31.	40,000	12										
Portland, Me.	Sept. 8.	40,000	12										
East Saginaw, Mich.	Sept. 8.	33,000	16										
Davenport, Iowa.	Sept. 8.	30,084	6										
Altoona, Pa.	Sept. 1.	29,546	14							1			
Salem, Mass.	Sept. 8.	29,000	15										
New Albany, Ind.	Sept. 8.	28,689	11						1	2			
Yonkers, N. Y.	Sept. 10.	28,000	9										
New Bedford, Mass.	Sept. 8.	26,845	13										
Auburn, N. Y.	Sept. 1.	26,000	9										
Auburn, N. Y.	Sept. 8.	26,000	5										
Haverhill, Mass.	Sept. 8.	25,000	4										
Jackson, Mich.	Sept. 8.	22,500	7										
Newton, Mass.	Sept. 8.	21,105	5										
Poughkeepsie, N. Y.	Sept. 8.	21,000	16								1	1	
Newport, R. I.	Sept. 6.	20,466	4										
New Brunswick, N. J.	Sept. 8.	20,000											

By order of the Supervising Surgeon-General:

GEO. W. STONER,

*Surgeon, Marine-Hospital Service.*