

WEEKLY ABSTRACT OF SANITARY REPORTS.

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TREASURY DEPARTMENT,
OFFICE SUPERVISING SURGEON-GENERAL,
U. S. MARINE-HOSPITAL SERVICE,
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Abstract of Sanitary Reports received through the Department of State from foreign countries during the week ended January 27, 1888, and information received through other channels.

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England and Wales.—The deaths registered in 28 great towns of England and Wales during the week ended January 7 corresponded to an annual rate of 23.8 a thousand of the aggregate population, which is estimated at 9,244,099. The lowest rate was recorded in Brighton, viz., 14.8, and the highest in Plymouth, viz., 40.3 a thousand. Small-pox caused 27 deaths in Sheffield, 1 in Bristol, and 2 in Leeds.

London.—One thousand eight hundred and sixty-eight deaths were registered during the week ended January 7, including 25 from measles; scarlet fever, 37; diphtheria, 28; whooping-cough, 120; typhus, 1; enteric fever, 28; and diarrhoea and dysentery, 12. The deaths from all causes corresponded to an annual rate of 22.8 a thousand. In greater London 2,370 deaths were registered, corresponding to an annual rate of 22.4 a thousand of the population. In the "outer ring" 6 deaths from diphtheria; measles, 11; fever, 7; and whooping-cough, 45, were registered.

Ireland.—The average annual death rate represented by the deaths registered during the week ended January 7 in the 16 principal town districts of Ireland was 35.4 a thousand of the population. The lowest rate was recorded in Armagh, viz., 5.2, and the highest in Newry, viz., 45.7 a thousand.

Dublin.—Two hundred and sixty-one deaths were registered during the week ended January 7, including 2 from measles; whooping-cough, 9; scarlet fever, 9; enteric fever, 5; and diarrhoea, 6. Diseases of the respiratory organs caused 73 deaths. Seven accidental deaths, 1 suicide, and 1 homicide were registered, and in 34 instances the

causes of death were uncertified. The deaths from all causes corresponded to an annual rate of 38.5 a thousand.

Scotland.—The deaths registered in 8 principal towns during the week ended January 7 corresponded to an annual rate of 27.1 a thousand of the population, which is estimated at 1,299,000. The lowest mortality was recorded in Leith, viz., 20.3, and the highest in Edinburgh, viz., 30.3 a thousand. The aggregate number of deaths registered from all causes was 685, including 2 from small-pox; measles, 23; scarlet fever, 7; diphtheria, 4; whooping-cough, 30; fever, 7; and diarrhœa, 18.

Bordeaux.—Six hundred and four deaths were registered during the month of December, 1887, including 102 from enteric fever.

Santiago de Cuba.—The sanitary inspector reports for the week ended January 14, 1888, that “no contagious diseases are prevalent just now. * * * Small-pox prevails more or less in the country, and the cities of Havana, Matanzas, Cienfuegos, and Manzanillo are suffering from the variolous disease in an epidemic form.”

Havana.—One death from yellow fever and 70 from small-pox are reported for the week ended January 14, 1888.

Buenos Ayres.—The United States minister, under date of December 12, 1887, transmits a copy of a convention recently signed by the Argentine, Brazilian, and Uruguayan commissioners, relating to the question of quarantine along the South American shores. The convention contains eight articles, the first four of which are as follows:

ART. 1. The contracting countries agree in declaring that: Exotic pestilential diseases are yellow fever, cholera-morbus, and the Eastern plague; and an infected port is one in which either of the said diseases exists as an epidemic; a suspicious port is one in which isolated cases of either of the said diseases are occurring, or one which is in easy and frequent communication with or is not sufficiently protected against infected ports. An infected ship is one in which a case of pestilential disease has occurred; a suspicious ship is one which, proceeding from an infected or suspicious port, has not had during the voyage any case of pestilential disease, or one which, though proceeding from a clean port, has touched at an infected or suspicious port, or one which, during its voyage or on its arrival, has communicated with another ship from an unknown, infected, or suspicious port, or one which has had deaths from an unascertained cause or repeated cases of any kind of disease, or one which does not bring a clean bill of health from the port from which it proceeded as well as from the ports of call, or one which, though it has undergone quarantine or received special sanitary treatment in either of the contracting countries, is not furnished with an international patent of free *pratique*. The declaration of a port being infected or suspicious shall be made by the government of the declarant country at the request of the chief of the maritime sanitary service, and shall be published officially.

ART. 2. The contracting countries shall establish adequate sanitary services, and the chiefs thereof shall communicate with each other upon all matters affecting the service. A code of international regulations shall be issued for establishing uniformity in the services.

ART. 3. The contracting countries shall establish such lazarettos as may be necessary, and they shall be placed upon islands; at least one floating lazaretto shall be established in case of an epidemic; floating hospitals shall be created in connection with the fixed lazarettos, to be used for the treatment of persons attacked by exotic pestilential diseases in the ships which may arrive or are already anchored; the quarantines and sanitary measures adopted in any lazaretto of either of the three countries shall be considered valid, for the purposes of this convention, provided they be officially certified; the ports shall not be closed against any ship, whatever may be her sanitary condition.

ART. 4. A ship proceeding from foreign ports shall not be put in free *pratique* without a previous sanitary visit. The visiting sanitary authority shall thoroughly investigate the sanitary condition of the ship, and shall decide on the treatment to be applied.

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	December 24.....	2,260,045	951			6		32	4	39
Paris	December 31.....	2,260,045	1,070			3		60	6	37
Paris	January 7.....	2,260,045	1,138			5		33	3	48
Glasgow	January 7.....	545,678	273			1			2	1
Warsaw	December 31.....	439,174	204			14			10	4
Calcutta	December 10.....	433,219	260	17						
Marseilles	December 31.....	376,000	872			4		34	1	66
Rome	December 3.....	373,356	196			4		10	2	2
Palermo	January 2.....	250,000	126			4	2			2
Palermo	January 8.....	250,000	122							6
Belfast	January 7.....	224,422	161							1
Genoa	December 31.....	179,493	109			8	1		1	1
Genoa	January 7.....	179,447	170			8	2		1	2
Leipsic	January 7.....	170,000	70						1	4
Trieste	December 31.....	154,500	115			10		2	2	6
Toronto	January 14.....	130,000	19					1		4
Toronto	January 21.....	130,000	29							1
Barmen	December 31.....	108,000	39							1
Havre	December 31.....	112,074	67					3		1
Rheims	December 31.....	97,903	57					1	1	4
Mayence	December 31.....	65,701	39							3
Cienfuegos	January 9.....	35,464	29			21		1		
Cienfuegos	January 16.....	35,464	54		1	41				
Gibraltar	January 1.....	23,631	11						1	
Sagua La Grande	January 7.....	15,605	5				4			

UNITED STATES.

San Francisco—Small-pox.—From January 1 to 17 there were 123 cases reported. The secretary of the health department reports as follows: "On the 14th instant the steamer 'Gaelic' arrived from Hong-Kong with small-pox on board, and seven Chinamen affected with the disease have been removed from her. The vessel will remain in quaran-

tine for some time. It is considered that the disease is decreasing already, and with the measures taken will soon be eradicated.”

Port Townsend, Wash.—The Secretary of the Treasury, upon request of the local board of health, has authorized the revenue steamer “Walcott” to cruise between Port Townsend and Whidby Island, and, in connection with regular duties, notify vessels from San Francisco, where epidemic small-pox exists, to enter this port and comply with quarantine requirements before proceeding into interior.

Key West.—One case of small-pox is reported, under date of the 19th instant. The patient came from Havana about the first of the month. The usual precautions have been taken to prevent the spread of the disease.

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