

WEEKLY ABSTRACT OF SANITARY REPORTS.

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TREASURY DEPARTMENT,
OFFICE SUPERVISING SURGEON-GENERAL,
U. S. MARINE-HOSPITAL SERVICE,
Washington, D. C., November 23, 1888.

Abstract of Sanitary Reports received through the Department of State from foreign countries during the week ended November 23, 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 November 3 corresponded to an annual rate of 19.6 a thousand of the aggregate population, which is estimated at 9,398,273. The lowest rate was recorded in Birkenhead, viz., 11.5, and the highest in Newcastle-upon-Tyne, viz., 29.9 a thousand. Diphtheria caused 2 deaths in Manchester, 2 in Birmingham, 3 in Salford, and 4 in Newcastle-upon-Tyne.

London.—One thousand six hundred and thirteen deaths were registered during the week, including measles, 88; scarlet fever, 24; diphtheria, 32; whooping-cough, 19; enteric fever, 22; diarrhœa and dysentery, 34; and small-pox, 1. The deaths from all causes corresponded to an annual rate of 19.7 a thousand. In greater London 2,025 deaths were registered, corresponding to an annual rate of 19.1 a thousand of the population. In the "outer ring" the deaths included diarrhœa, 10; measles, 11; diphtheria, 10.

Ireland.—The average annual death rate represented by the deaths registered during the week ended November 3 in the 16 principal town districts of Ireland was 21.2 a thousand of the population. The lowest rate was recorded in Wexford, viz., 4.3, and the highest in Armagh, viz., 46.5 a thousand. In Dublin 165 deaths were registered, including measles, 2; scarlet fever, 1; diarrhœa, 1; whooping-cough, 6; enteric fever, 8; typhus, 2; diphtheria, 1.

Marseilles.—Eight hundred and ten deaths were registered during the month of October, 1888, including small-pox, 6; enteric fever, 27; scarlet fever, 1; diphtheria croup, 36; measles, 3; whooping cough, 12; and diarrhœa enteritis, 61. The consul under date of November 2, reported that "the health of the city is good, there being a notable absence of epidemic diseases of all kinds."

Montevideo.—Four hundred and twenty deaths were registered during the month of August, 1888, including small-pox, 33; enteric and typhus fever, 6; diphtheria, 37.

Cardenas.—The United States consul in his report for the week ended November 16, 1888, states: "Warm weather and dry. No more fever cases in town. Harbor, good health."

Nassau, N. P.—November 10, 1888: City very healthy. Strict quarantine against Cuba and Florida.

Georgetown, Demerara.—The United States consul under date of October 27, 1888, states that "the three cases of yellow fever reported convalescent at the close of the previous week, are believed to have entirely recovered. I have the authority of the Surgeon-General of the Colony for the statement that there is no infectious disease prevailing, nor any suspicion of such."

Ruatan.—The United States consul in his dispatch dated November 1, 1888, states that "an epidemic similar to that experienced in this island last year, broke out in Truxillo during the month of August last and continued, with fatal effects, until the beginning of the rainy season, about two weeks since. I inclose a list of the citizens of the United States who have fallen victims to this terrible malady, which, in all fatal cases, has presented at least one notable characteristic or yellow fever, viz., black vomit. Some physicians call it 'hemorrhagic pernicious fever,' while others confess that it is the veritable 'Yellow Jack.' Some of the Americans whose names appear in the list were men of capital, and representatives of American companies operating in this country.

"Mr. Ord was manager of the 'Aguan Company' of New York, who have a bank in Truxillo. Messrs. Rector and Milligan were owners and representatives of large mining interests in the interior. The last named gentlemen were accompanied by their wives, who fortunately escaped, and I had the satisfaction of assisting them to a passage to the United States."

Havana.—Eleven deaths from yellow fever are reported for the week ended November 9, 1888.

San Juan, P. R.—Two cases of yellow fever are reported for the week ended November 3, 1888.

Sarnia, Ontario.—Dr. W. Lehmann, provincial health inspector, in a communication to the chairman of the board of health, dated November 15, 1888, writes as follows:

DEAR SIR: At the request of the secretary of the provincial board of health I have visited your hospitals and quarantines. In conjunc-

tion with Doctor Oliver, your medical health officer, I have made a thorough examination: I find nine cases of small-pox, five in the hospitals, and four of one family in an isolated house. I find the patients doing well, their medical attendance and comforts satisfactory. Quarantine and disinfection are strictly enforced, and I believe that your present efforts, with compulsory vaccination, which I strongly recommend, will soon free your town of the disease.

I have the honor to be, sir, yours, &c.,

W. LEHMANN, M. D.,
Provincial Medical Health Inspector.

MR. GEORGE LEYS,
Chairman of Board of Health, Sarnia.

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	Nov. 3.....	2,260,945	946			3		18	2	31	17	5
Glasgow	Nov. 3.....	545,678	200						1	1		
Warsaw	Oct. 27.....	444,814	258			4			21	13		
Copenhagen	Oct. 23.....	300,000	126					1	2	2		
Copenhagen	Oct. 30.....	300,000	135					4	2	2		
Palermo	Nov. 3.....	250,000	70							2		
Belfast	Nov. 3.....	227,022	100				1	2	1	2		
Genoa	Nov. 3.....	179,822	97			1						
Toronto	Nov. 10.....	130,000	19					2				
Barmen	Oct. 27.....	109,000	40							1		1
Leghorn	Nov. 4.....	102,540	41					1				
Cadiz	Nov. 3.....	65,028	43									
Bermuda	Nov. 13.....	30,045						6				
Curacao	Nov. 6.....	25,000	5									
Vera Cruz	Nov. 8.....	23,800	28									
Kingston, Canada	Nov. 16.....	17,300	1									
Laguayra	Oct. 27.....	7,428	6									
Bluefields	Nov. 10.....	2,000	1									
San Juan del Norte	Oct. 22.....	780	1									

UNITED STATES.

Port Huron, Mich.—Nov. 17, 1888.—Acting Assistant Surgeon J. K. Farnum writes as follows:

Have just returned from Sarnia, Ont., and while there, visited the patients with Doctor Oliver of Sarnia. The three original patients—one child 9 years old, came from Toronto, Ont.; one Indian student from Owen Sound, 20 years; one woman from Toronto, Ont., 30 years—are all convalescent. From these cases have developed six mild cases, among those quarantined with the original, and all are doing well. All strictly quarantined in a pest-house at a good distance from the city of Sarnia. The mayor of Sarnia has issued orders for compulsory vaccination. I think there is no danger of Port Huron being infected, although our board of health is very deficient. Have had no cases as yet, although papers report some. Could you send me some points by mail to use on the employés of the ferry boats across the river, as we have the large boats plying constantly.

A supply of vaccine virus has been sent to Acting Assistant Surgeon Farnum.

Portland, Oregon.—November 9, 1888: Assistant Surgeon Thomas B. Perry, reports existence of small-pox in Portland and vicinity.

Tampa, Fla.—Dr. J. P. Wall, president board of health, reported as follows, November 14, 1888:

For the week ending to-day there have been reported 6 new cases of yellow fever—5 in the city limits and 1 in the country just outside—and 2 deaths. One of the deaths was that of a woman outside of the city. Her case was complicated by the birth of a child (still-born) directly after being taken with the fever. She died on the 10th inst., and was sick from the 2d inst., and was not seen by a physician till the 8th inst., when I went to see her. The other death was that of a man and occurred on the 11th inst. after an illness of 12 days. This makes the total number of deaths since the 7th of August, 9. No fever at any other place in the county.

TAMPA, FLA., *November 17, 1888.*

The inclosed clipping is from a New Orleans newspaper and is so full of inaccuracies that I venture to call your attention to them. In the first place the yellow fever did not break out here last year in August, nor was there any here as late as the 2d of September, when I left to attend the Ninth International Medical Congress in Washington. I got back to Tampa on the 25th of September, and learned that the man Turk had died on the 22d of that month with what the physicians who saw him pronounced hemorrhagi malarial fever. There was no epidemic of yellow fever here when I got home. During the week following the 25th of September, I saw 5 suspicious cases of a mild type, and on the 2d of October, 2 cases, which on the 4th of October, I announced to the board of health to be yellow fever; and on the 5th publicly declared yellow fever to be in Tampa, and advised the people to leave the place. On the 7th or 8th of October I wired you, in answer to inquiry, that yellow fever was here. So you must see that the statement that the presence of fever in Tampa, was concealed until the 21st of October, is wholly erroneous and without foundation in fact. From the best information that I can get, the fever probably appeared here as early as the middle of September, during my absence.

The city council and not the board of health declared the epidemic over about the 19th of December, and refugees came flocking back into the place, but so far as I know not a returned refugee took the fever, though there were a few cases in January, and one death as late as January 30th. But these cases did not occur in returned refugees, but among those who had been in Tampa more or less during the epidemic.

The fever got into Plant City in October, but was not recognized till the 14th of November, when the first death occurred, a full month after its first appearance there in a refugee from Tampa. And all this time Plant City was keeping up a strict quarantine against Tampa, and enjoying free intercourse by rail with the outside world. In fact at no time during the winter was any quarantine instituted against Plant City, the majority of her physicians declaring the fever to be malarial.

In April a case was seen by me in Tampa's corporate limits, though

practically in the country. Some of the family had had the fever during the epidemic, and this case was in a member of the family who had escaped then. After this there was no case of fever in Tampa until the 11th of July, when Mr. Waterman, a commercial traveller, returned from Manatee on the 10th, and was taken sick on the 11th, and died on the 21st of July.

Now, so far as I am concerned, I never denied the presence of yellow fever here at any time, when it was here to my knowledge during the winter or any other time; nor was there any here, except the case in April, from January till July, when the man Waterman sickened and died.

Whether McCormick had the fever* or not I do not know. He left here the 27th of July and there was no other case here till the 7th of August. And in view of all the facts in connection with what has occurred at other points, I am strongly inclined now to the opinion that had not Mr. Waterman contracted the disease in Manatee and been sick in Tampa, we would not have had any fever here this summer.

* * * * *

At the proper time I expect to write the history of the epidemic in Tampa, when these false statements will be duly noticed.

I have taken great pains in investigating the introduction of the fever into Tampa, and consequently know something about the facts.

All the concealment of cases of yellow fever that I ever heard anything about—and this, Doctor Caldwell charged in *The Times-Union* in August, in answer to Doctor Holt—was the Orange county and Duval county boards of health. So I do not wish to be misrepresented in this matter by your report.

Apologizing for the length of this letter, I am, with high esteem,
Yours very truly,

JOHN P. WALL.

Dr. J. B. HAMILTON.

LETTER FROM DOCTOR MAXWELL ON THE ORIGIN OF THE FEVER.

JACKSONVILLE, FLA., *November 17, 1888.*

DEAR SIR: It may aid you in making a report of the conduct of yellow fever in Florida, during the last two years, to be informed of what you probably do not know, viz.: that a case of the fever came to this city, from Tampa, in the latter part of October, 1887.

The facts are, as related to me by the man himself, that a Mr. Lane, an employé of the music house of A. B. Campbell & Co., went into Tampa twice during the month of October, 1887, the latter visit being in the latest days of that month; that he was taken sick with fever whilst in Tampa the last time, and came directly to his home and family in this city; that he was treated by the late Doctor Leonard, who died of the fever during the prevailing epidemic, and his disease was called "yellow jaundice," but from his description of the symptoms and course of the disease, in connection with his recent exposure in Tampa, I have no doubt was yellow fever.

I was, by invitation of Dr. Jno. P. Wall, chairman of the Hillsboro' county board of health, in Tampa at the time Mr. Lane said he was there and was taken sick, and the fever was then a widely prevalent and somewhat malignant epidemic.

* McCormick's case was undoubtedly yellow fever.—J. B. H.

There is good reason to believe that a disease which prevailed in Jacksonville in midwinter of 1887-'88, which by a euphemism was called "society fever," was, in fact, as some of the local physicians said at the time, and Doctors Wall and Porter told me in February, they suspected yellow fever. Of course in the preparation of a history of this disease you must needs have all the facts attainable. It is to assist you in reaching that end, that I write this note.

Respectfully,

GEO. TROUP MAXWELL, M. D.

N. B.—Campbell's music-store is next door to Bucky's store, which Dr. Guiteras defined as the "focus of infection" last fall.

P. S.—Having a knowledge of the topography of Bucky's and adjoining stores, obtained during a residence in Jacksonville twenty years ago, I examined their condition a few days after my return in August last, and reported the terribly insanitary condition of the ground under their floors, in *The Times-Union*. An examination was ordered by the citizens' auxiliary association, but the inspector's report has not been made public. It is understood that his report will corroborate my assertions, and show inexcusable if not criminal culpability on the part of the health officials of the city and country.

MAXWELL.

Camp Perry, Fla.—Surgeon W. H. H. Hutton telegraphs as follows:

November 17: "Morning report: Present, officers, 5; guards, 10; employés, 30. Refugees arrived, 7; discharged, 6; remaining, 79. Fever camp, 1; critical."

November 18: "Morning report: Present, officers, 4; guards, 10; employés, 30. Refugees arrived, 10; discharged, 16; remaining, 73. Fever camp, 1; improving."

November 19: "Morning report: Present, officers, 5; guards, 10; employés, 30. Refugees arrived, 18; discharged, 9; remaining, 82. Fever camp, 1. Geddings has just returned from Green Cove Springs, Fla., and reports 3 serious cases, 1 moribund."

November 20: "Morning report: Present, officers, 5; guards, 10; employés, 31. Refugees arrived, 20; discharged, 6; remaining, 96. Fever camp, 1."

November 21: "Morning report: Present, officers, 5; guards, 5; employés, 28. Refugees arrived, 2; discharged, 13; remaining, 85. Fever camp, 1; recovered. Weather very cold."

November 22: "Morning report: Present, officers, 5; guards, 5; employés, 28. Refugees arrived, 7; discharged, 2; remaining, 90. Fever camp, 1, recovered."

November 23: "Morning report: Present, officers, 5; guards, 5; employés, 28. Refugees arrived, 4; discharged, 19; remaining, 75. Fever camp closed."

Jacksonville, Fla.—Dr. Jos. Y. Porter telegraphs as follows:

November 15: "New cases, 16; deaths, 4. Total cases, 4,568; deaths, 396. Patients, St. Luke's, 14."

November 17: "New cases, 13; deaths, 1. Total cases, 4,596; deaths, 397. Patients, St. Luke's, 14."

November 19: "New cases, 8; deaths, 4. Total cases, 4,621; deaths, 402. Patients, St. Luke's, 13."

November 20: "New cases, 22; deaths, 1. Total cases, 4,643; deaths, 403. Patients, St. Luke's, 17."

November, 21: "New cases, 3; deaths, 2. Total cases, 4,646; deaths, 405. Patients, St. Luke's, 15."

November 22: "New cases, 13; deaths, none. Total cases, 4,659; deaths, 405. Patients, St. Luke's, 14."

Gainesville, Fla.—Assistant Surgeon Martin telegraphs as follows:

November 17: "Six new cases; 2 white, 4 colored."

November 18: "Five new cases; 2 white, 3 colored. One death, white."

November 19: "Five new cases; 1 white, 4 colored."

November 20: "Three new cases; 1 white, 2 colored."

November 21: "Two new cases; colored."

November 22: "Two new cases; colored. No frost yet; temperature 49 degees."

Fernandina, Fla.—Surgeon Ross telegraphs as follows:

November 21: "One new case of yellow fever reported for 24 hours ended 6 P. M., November 20. Careful analysis of status showed 4 cases of yellow fever under treatment in Fernandina yesterday. On no day since my arrival here has total number of cases under treatment been so small as yesterday. Yellow fever pabulum about exhausted."

November 22: "Theo. Fairbanks, the acting railroad agent at Hart's Road, attacked to-day; engine sent out to bring him to hospital here for treatment. Shall visit and inspect Hart's Road to-morrow. For 24 hours ending 6 p. m., November 22, no new cases, and four cases reported as total under treatment in Fernandina. Good reason to believe that there are two additional cases of yellow fever under treatment which are not reported as such. There have been about 1,200 cases, and about 38 deaths of fever here this summer. The great majority of these occurred in August and September, before my arrival. The rule, with remarkably few exceptions, is that persons here who have had yellow fever in former epidemics have not had fever this year and no person, I believe, has had more than one attack this season."

Palmetto, Fla.—Inspector M. B. Harrison telegraphs as follows:

November 15: "For week ended November 12 there were, at Palmetto, new cases, 9; deaths 1. Total cases to date, 84; deaths, 10."

Palatka, Fla.—Assistant Surgeon Magruder telegraphs as follows:

November 17: "Three cases, one having black vomit, reported at Green Cove Springs to-day."

Enterprise, Fla.—G. F. Carlile, secretary board of health, telegraphs as follows:

November 19: "Four new cases last 48 hours."

November 21: "Surgeon Hutton reports 8 new cases at *Enterprise*."

Dr. J. F. Hartigan telegraphs as follows:

Brooksville, Fla., November 19, 1888.—"Have inspected Dade City and Brooksville; both places healthy. Leave for Leesburg to-day."

Savare's, Fla., November 20, 1888.—"Am at Eustis to-day; place healthy. Will leave for Ocala to-morrow."

Leesburg, Fla., November 21.—"Am at Leesburg to-day. No infectious diseases. Leave for Ocala this afternoon."

Ocala, Fla., November 22.—"Am at Ocala to-day. Place healthy. My tour is completed. Will leave for Washington to-morrow."

MORTALITY TABLE, CITIES OF THE UNITED STATES.

Cities.	Week ended.	Estimated population.	Total deaths from all causes.	Deaths from—										
				Cholera.	Yellow fever.	Small-pox.	Varioloid.	Varicella.	Typhus fever.	Enteric fever.	Scarlet fever.	Diphtheria.	Measles.	Whooping-cough.
New York, N. Y.	Nov. 17.	1,543,396	600							13	25	24	12	7
Philadelphia, Pa.	Nov. 10.	1,016,758	334							13	12	8		8
Philadelphia, Pa.	Nov. 17.	1,016,758	354							9	5	17		5
Brooklyn, N. Y.	Nov. 10.	805,855	256							4	5	18		3
Brooklyn, N. Y.	Nov. 17.	805,855	296							8	2	33		5
Baltimore, Md.	Nov. 17.	431,879	138							3	1	6		2
Baltimore, Md.	Nov. 9.	330,000	145							3		7		1
San Francisco, Cal.	Nov. 17.	255,139	85							6	1	4		
Cincinnati, Ohio	Nov. 10.	248,000	104							1		2		
New Orleans, La.	Nov. 17.	195,000	57								1	2		
Milwaukee, Wis.	Nov. 10.	180,000	47							4		3		1
Minneapolis, Minn.	Nov. 17.	180,000	39							3	1	4		
Minneapolis, Minn.	Nov. 17.	175,000	32							4	1	2		
St. Paul, Minn.	Nov. 17.	120,000	33									3		
Rochester, N. Y.	Nov. 17.	101,885	17							2				
Columbus, Ohio.	Nov. 10.	100,000	30							1				
Richmond, Va.	Nov. 16.	96,000	38							6		4		
Denver, Colo.	Nov. 16.	80,000	9											
Toledo, Ohio	Nov. 17.	65,000	23									3	1	
Fall River, Mass.	Nov. 17.	60,145	37							1				
Lynn, Mass.	Nov. 17.	50,000	15									2		
Manchester, N. H.	Nov. 10.	41,000	24							1				
Portland, Me.	Nov. 17.	40,000	14											
Galveston, Tex.	Nov. 9.	40,000	13							1		1		
Davenport, Iowa.	Nov. 10.	33,715	11								3			
East Saginaw, Mich.	Nov. 17.	33,000	6									1		
Altoona, Pa.	Nov. 10.	29,546	5											
Altoona, Pa.	Nov. 17.	29,546	4											
Auburn, N. Y.	Nov. 19.	26,000	4											
Haverhill, Mass.	Nov. 17.	25,000	5											
Newton, Mass.	Nov. 17.	21,105	5							1				
Newport, R. I.	Nov. 15.	20,466	3											
Keokuk, Iowa.	Nov. 17.	16,000	6											
Pensacola, Fla.	Nov. 17.	15,000	7											

JOHN B. HAMILTON,

Supervising Surgeon-General, Marine-Hospital Service.