

WEEKLY ABSTRACT OF SANITARY REPORTS.

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TREASURY DEPARTMENT,
OFFICE SUPERVISING SURGEON-GENERAL,
U. S. MARINE-HOSPITAL SERVICE,
Washington, D. C., December 7, 1888.

Abstract of Sanitary Reports received through the Department of State from foreign countries during the week ended December 7, 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 17 corresponded to an annual rate of 19.7 a thousand of the aggregate population, which is estimated at 9,398,273. The lowest rate was recorded in Brighton, viz., 12.6, and the highest in Cardiff, viz., 29.3 a thousand. Diphtheria caused 5 deaths in Salford, 4 in Manchester, 4 in Nottingham, and 2 in Birmingham. Small-pox caused 1 death in Cardiff.

London.—One thousand six hundred and nineteen deaths were registered during the week, including measles, 124; scarlet fever, 31; diphtheria, 44; whooping-cough, 17; enteric fever, 15; diarrhoea and dysentery, 16. The deaths from all causes corresponded to an annual rate of 19.7 a thousand. Diseases of the respiratory organs caused 374 deaths, and 3 cases of suicide were registered. In greater London 2,028 deaths were registered, corresponding to an annual rate of 19.1 a thousand of the population. In the "outer ring" the deaths included measles, 12; scarlet fever, 4; diphtheria, 7.

Ireland.—The average annual death rate represented by the deaths registered during the week ended November 17 in the 16 principal town districts of Ireland was 21.8 a thousand of the population. The lowest rate was recorded in Lurgan, viz., 0.0, and the highest in Lisburn, viz., 33.8 a thousand. In Dublin 159 deaths were registered, including measles, 5; diarrhoea, 5; whooping-cough, 6; enteric fever, 1; scarlet fever, 1; typhus, 1.

Scotland.—The deaths registered in 8 principal towns during the week ended November 17, corresponded to an annual rate of 19.1 a thousand of the population, which is estimated at 1,314,274. The lowest mortality was recorded in Edinburgh, viz., 15.0, and the highest in Paisley, viz., 37.9 a thousand. The aggregate number of deaths registered from all causes was 484, including measles, 24; scarlet fever, 8; diphtheria, 11; whooping-cough, 4; fever, 6, and diarrhœa, 10.

Denmark.—The United States minister under date of November 7, 1888, transmits a translation of a quarantine order issued by the Danish Government, dated November 2, 1888, of which the following is an extract :

* * * * *

The provisions of section 2, paragraph 1, of the law of July 2, 1880, referring to precautionary measures against the introduction of contagious diseases into the kingdom, are hereafter to be enforced in reference to the following places :

Marseilles; Sicilian harbors; ports of the French coast between Nantes and St. Malo, both inclusive; Egersund; all ports in Chili; all ports in Florida; all ports in Jamaica; all ports in Martinique; all ports in Guadeloupe; St. Jago de Cuba; ports in East India, Tonkin, and Cochin China; Trieste; all ports in Egypt; all ports in the Red Sea; Rio de Janeiro and Havana.

The prohibition against the importation into the kingdom of used linen, used articles of clothing, and used bed-clothes, provided the articles named do not constitute the personal effects of travelers; waste cotton or wool, refuse paper, hair and hides, remains in force in reference to the following places :

Marseilles; Sicilian harbors; ports of the French coast between Nantes and St. Malo, both inclusive; Egersund; all ports in Florida; all ports in Jamaica; all ports in Guadeloupe; St. Jago de Cuba; all ports in East India, Tonkin, and Cochin China, and all ports in Chili.

The prohibition against the importation into the kingdom of used linen, used articles of clothing, and used bed-clothes, providing the articles named do not constitute the personal effects of travelers, remains in force in reference to Rio de Janeiro and Havana. In addition thereto, special attention is to be paid to the cleansing under official inspection of linen, clothing, and bed-clothes, brought from either of the last two places as the personal effects of travelers.

This order to go into effect at once.

Malta and Gozo.—Two hundred and twenty-two deaths were registered during the period from the 16th to the 31st of October, 1888; in-

cluding measles, 1; whooping-cough, 3; enteric fever, 3; and dysentery, 3.

Montevideo, Uruguay.—Four hundred and eighteen deaths were registered during the month of September, 1888, including small-pox, 25, and typhus and typhoid fever, 9. The sanitary condition of the city was good.

Gibraltar.—The Board of Health, at a meeting held November 15, 1888, declared the Canary Islands as infected places under the provisions of the "Quarantine order in Council, Gibraltar, 1886," and imposed a quarantine of 14 days on all arrivals thence.

Havana, Cuba.—Thirteen deaths from yellow fever are reported for the week ended November 23, 1888.

Cardenas, Cuba.—Good health is reported in town and harbor, November 23, 1888.

Guaymas, Mexico.—The United States consul under date of October 31, states that "there is no particular or epidemic sickness in this consular district. Sanitary condition good."

Nassau, N. P.—The United States consul reports under date of November 24, 1888: "City is very healthy. Weather dry and pleasant."

Georgetown, Demerara.—The United States consul reports that "the bills of health issued during the month of October were all entirely clean except three, which were slightly qualified by the insertion of the word 'epidemic' before 'yellow fever' in the paragraph relating to the health of the colony in general. This was on account of the existence of four sporadic cases of that disease. These having entirely disappeared, the subsequent issues have been 'clean' without any qualification."

Cartagena, United States of Columbia.—The United States consul reports as follows:

November 3: "Beri Beri, a new disease here, is being carried to all ports from Colon and Panama."

November 10: "But 1 death from Beri Beri last week."

November 17: "Only 1 case of Beri Beri. Two much-needed rains have fallen."

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. 10.....	2,260,945	956			4		17		30	24	5
Paris.....	Nov. 17.....	2,260,945	873			6		11	1	28	13	
Glasgow.....	Nov. 10.....	545,678	226					3	9	3		
Glasgow.....	Nov. 17.....	545,678	185					1	6	6		
Warsaw.....	Nov. 3.....	444,814	235			8			18	11		
Warsaw.....	Nov. 10.....	444,814	213			7			18	9		
Calcutta.....	Sept. 29.....	433,219	227	29								
Rome.....	Sept. 29.....	391,188	136					6	1	3		
Rome.....	Oct. 6.....	393,496	166			1		8	1	3		
Amsterdam.....	Nov. 10.....	389,916	127									
Amsterdam.....	Nov. 17.....	389,916	160					1	1	5		
Rio de Janeiro.....	Oct. 21.....	350,000	188		1	3						
Rio de Janeiro.....	Nov. 4.....	300,000	210		7	3	1	3		2		
Copenhagen.....	Nov. 6.....	300,000	115					1	1	5		
Copenhagen.....	Nov. 13.....	300,000	111									
Munich.....	Nov. 3.....	275,000	142					1	3	11		
Munich.....	Nov. 10.....	275,000	125									
Edinburgh.....	Oct. 27.....	262,733	81									
Palermo.....	Nov. 10.....	250,000	81			2						
Palermo.....	Nov. 17.....	250,000	66			3				2		
Belfast.....	Nov. 17.....	227,022	96					1	1	1		
Bristol.....	Nov. 10.....	226,510	81							1		
Bristol.....	Nov. 17.....	226,510	61									
Genoa.....	Nov. 10.....	179,851	94			3	1			1		
Genoa.....	Nov. 17.....	179,851	71			3		3		1		
Trieste.....	Nov. 3.....	154,500	77			1		1	1	3		
Trieste.....	Nov. 10.....	154,500	84			10				1		
Toronto.....	Nov. 24.....	130,000	17									
Stuttgart.....	Nov. 10.....	125,510	36							1		
Stuttgart.....	Nov. 17.....	125,510	27									
Bremen.....	Nov. 3.....	122,000	39							1		
Bremen.....	Nov. 10.....	122,000	25							1		1
Havre.....	Nov. 10.....	112,074	64			1		7				
Havre.....	Nov. 17.....	112,074	53			1		2				
Barmen.....	Nov. 10.....	109,000	21									
Leghorn.....	Nov. 11.....	102,540	38									
Leghorn.....	Nov. 18.....	102,540	35									
Leith.....	Oct. 27.....	74,320	14									
Cadiz.....	Nov. 17.....	65,028	54									
Curacao.....	Nov. 17.....	25,000	5									
Vera Cruz.....	Nov. 22.....	23,800	28									
Gibraltar.....	Nov. 11.....	23,631	11									
Kingston, Can.....	Nov. 23.....	17,300	1									
Bermuda.....	Nov. 27.....	15,260						1				
Cartagena, Colombia.....	Nov. 17.....	13,000	11									
Laguayra.....	Nov. 10.....	7,428	11									
San Juan del Norte.....	Nov. 12.....	1,004	0									

UNITED STATES.

The following letter of Dr. John C. L'Engle, chairman of the committee of the Jacksonville auxiliary sanitary association on sanitary work, explaining the nature of the work performed, is published as a matter of general interest :

JACKSONVILLE, FLA., *November 13, 1888.*

DEAR SIR: Referring to your letter in regard to the expenditure of the sanitary department of the Jacksonville auxiliary sanitary association, I would say that the work that has been done consists in ditching and draining overflowed lands contiguous to habitations where

yellow fever has occurred, putting in box-drains (tiling could not be had), removing fecal matter where, in wet places, it could not be covered up without impregnating the soil.

By referring to the topography of this city, you will notice that it is situated on the north bank of the St. John's River, the river turning at right angles and passing to the east of a portion of the city recently added to the corporation; that this tract of country is low and flat, much of the land being marshy; that we have a creek on the west passing partially around to the northwest; another on the east extending to the northwest. This country lying between these two creeks is low and flat, and has never been thoroughly drained, and the water, in some places for acres, could be found a foot deep, with plank-walks through the yards and to the out-houses, and with wells containing only surface water or drainage from the seeping. The marshes and low lands along the sides of these creeks also emitted miasmatic stench deleterious to health, or supposed to be, and all demanding attention. The area of fever has been five miles from east to west, and ten miles from north to south, and the outlying district, where this condition existed, is inhabited by the lower classes, principally negroes, who have had a large share of fever and are now having it. This country demands attention, and the principal expenditures have been made in these places, where the owners and inhabitants have been unable, peculiarly in the past, to do the necessary work for sanitation, and includes an area which has been annexed to the city of Jacksonville during the last meeting of the State legislature, the act going into operation on the first of January last. In this district, four times the previous size of the city, the existing municipalities were disorganized and the government of the country assumed by the city authorities of the city of Jacksonville.

The city appointed a health officer, inspectors, and a sanitary force, but, unfortunately, they did not realize the magnitude of the undertaking, or the area of the new city. Hence, much was left undone that should have been, and now must be done, to insure reasonable health. That the appearances of the surrounding country have been improved is natural, and, in fact, could not be otherwise, as, in order to obtain the sand or earth necessary to fill in low places, hills and slopes must be graded, and while this grading is being done, necessary for the sand wanted, care is taken to do the whole work under the supervision of a competent civil engineer, and that portion of the work which is of a public nature is charged to the proper account for public improvements.

I take pleasure in referring you to the most excellent article by Gen. B. F. Butler in the November number of the *North American Review*, on this subject of sanitary work done by him in New Orleans, and beg to say that I believe this the most direct and feasible means of avoiding the recurrence of yellow fever, and beg to say that though the expenditures made are apparently large, they have been necessary, and that much more remains to be done, and must be done, before reasonable safety can be felt.

Respectfully,

JNO. C. L'ENGLE,
Chairman Sanitary Committee.

DR. JOSEPH Y. PORTER,

Surgeon-in-Charge Government Relief Measures, City.

Callahan, Fla.—Dr. J. L. Posey reported as follows in regard to his inspection of this place :

CAMP PERRY, FLA., *November 20, 1888.*

SIR: In pursuance of several orders issued by Surg. W. H. H. Hut-ton, I have inspected Callahan, Fla., a small town situated in Nassau County, 20 miles north of Jacksonville, and 20 miles south of Camp Perry. The lines of the Florida Railway and Navigation Company, and the Savannah, Florida and Western Railroads intersect at this point, and passengers and baggage are transferred for Jacksonville or Fernandina, thus rendering this place liable to the introduction of yellow fever from both cities where the disease has been epidemic. The site of the town is low and marshy, plainly indicating that the various types of malarial fever must be very common there; the correctness of this opinion being amply confirmed by the appearance and experience of the resident population. At the time of my first visit, about the 30th of September, there remained only a few whites; the greater part of the population had taken flight in anticipation of the occurrence of the disease in their midst. The first case was that of John Upchurch (white), who, in company with other young men of the neighborhood, left Callahan on the 6th of September for Fernandina to take part in quelling the labor-strike existing there. He returned with his companions on the 9th of September, and was taken sick the following day with all the symptoms of yellow fever of a mild type. The history of his case was given me by himself and a competent nurse, and at the time I saw him he presented the appearance of a convalescent from this disease. On or about the 26th of September his brother, George Upchurch, who had not visited Fernandina or any known infected point, and who had nursed his brother John during his illness, was taken suddenly sick with chill, intense cephalalgia, pain in the back, and high fever. I saw this case on 30th of September and October 1 in company with his medical attendant, Doctor Pope, of Fernandina. This was one of the most severe and typical cases of yellow fever I have seen during my inspections of infected Florida towns. His condition was indeed a critical one at the time of my two visits. He had already vomited large quantities of "coffee-grounds" fluid, an active delirium alternating with a comatose condition, retention of urine, which, upon test, showed 10 per cent. of albumen; subsultus tendinum, eyes deeply injected and icteric; the brow and neck of a dark-yellow color, and face a dusky-red hue; in fact, all the symptoms of this disease in their most formidable array. Under the most careful treatment and excellent nursing he recovered, and spent three days of his convalescence at Camp Perry, where he rapidly gained his strength. I also saw, accompanied by Doctor Pope, Mr. R. T. Richard, who had been taken sick on the 30th of September, and who had repeatedly visited the rooms occupied by the Upchurch brothers, and had helped to nurse them during their sickness. He presented all the symptoms of yellow fever, but in a milder form, and was convalescent on the twelfth day of his attack. Other cases occurred, among them young Matthews, a son of the hotel-keeper, where the guards slept on their return from Fernandina, and where Richard and Parker were taken sick. The cases of Matthews and Parker (whites) were treated at the Camp Perry fever-hospital, as also several cases of colored people living near the town, among the latter that of a negro man who nursed the Upchurch brothers, whose case was one of great severity.

Since the occurrence of these cases I have revisited Callahan, and burned all infected bedding, thoroughly fumigated the houses where these cases were found, and disinfected the premises. There are not at present, and there have not been within the last three weeks, any other cases of yellow fever, and I consider the town as free from infection as complete and thorough sanitary measures can render it.

Respectfully submitted,

J. L. POSEY, M. D.,
U. S. Sanitary Inspector.

To the SUPERVISING SURGEON-GENERAL,
United States Marine-Hospital Service, Washington, D. C.

Tampa, Fla.—Dr. J. P. Wall, president board of health, reports as follows:

November 28: For the week ending to-day there have occurred two new cases of yellow fever, both taken sick Sunday morning.

One is a young lady who arrived here from Scotland on the 22d ultimo, and the other is a man from New Jersey, who has been here a few weeks. These are the only cases since the 12th instant.

I had a house-to-house inspection made in Tampa the first three days of the week, but failed to discover any cases of yellow fever. We had a light frost here Monday morning, the 26th, and the weather has been cooler and more pleasant.

November 30: One of the new cases reported on the 28th instant, of yellow fever, died yesterday afternoon, on the fifth day of illness.

This death occurred in the case of the gentleman recently from New Jersey. I learn that he arrived here on the 16th instant. The other case is of mild type, no nephritic trouble, and is improving. No other new cases.

This makes 10 deaths from yellow fever since the 7th of August. Weather cool.

Charleston, S. C.—The acting city registrar telegraphs as follows:

December 1: "Quarantine restrictions were removed on November 28."

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

December 1: "New cases, 5; deaths, 2; total cases, 4,697; deaths, 410. Patients, St. Luke's, 3."

December 2: "New cases, 2; deaths, none; total cases, 4,699; deaths, 410. Patients, St. Luke's, 3."

December 3: "New cases, none; death, 1; total cases, 4,699; deaths, 411. Patient, St. Luke's, 1. Disinfection commenced to-day. Ninety-eight houses treated."

December 4: "New cases, 1; deaths, none; total cases, 4,700; deaths, 411. Patients, St. Luke's, 1. Houses fumigated, 71."

December 5: "New cases, 4; death, 1; total cases, 4,704; deaths, 412. Patients, St. Luke's, 1. Houses fumigated, 93, and 81 inspected."

December 6: "Board of health reports: New cases, none; deaths, none; total cases, 4,704; deaths, 412. Patients, St. Luke's, 1. Houses umigated, 205; houses inspected, 245."

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

December 1: "Morning report: Present, officers, 4; guards and employés, 7. Refugees discharged, 34; remaining, none. Camp officially closed."

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

December 1: "No new cases; no deaths. Dr. Posey will commence fumigation Monday."

December 2: "One death, colored; no new cases. Discontinued all relief measures last night."

December 3: "No new cases; no deaths."

December 4: "No new cases. The last case discharged to-day."

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

December 4: "For week ending 6 p. m., December 3, there were at Palmetto, Fla., new cases yellow fever, none; deaths, none. Total number cases to date, 85."

MORTALITY TABLE, CITIES OF THE UNITED STATES.

Cities.	Week ended.	Estimated population.	Total deaths from all causes.	Deaths from—									
				Cholera.	Yellow fever.	Small-pox.	Varicella.	Typhus fever.	Enteric fever.	Scarlet fever.	Diphtheria.	Measles.	Whooping-cough.
New York, N. Y.	Dec. 1.	1,545,140	691						6	25	41	12	9
Philadelphia, Pa.	Nov. 24.	1,016,758	345						9	11		1	2
Brooklyn, N. Y.	Nov. 24.	805,885	295						6	2	22		6
Chicago, Ill.	Dec. 1.	800,000	245						14	4	20	5	2
Baltimore, Md.	Dec. 1.	431,879	167						6	5		1	1
San Francisco, Cal.	Nov. 23.	330,000	123						4		3		2
Cincinnati, Ohio.	Dec. 1.	255,137	116						5	1	12		
New Orleans, La.	Nov. 24.	248,000	114						1		5		
Pittsburgh, Pa.	Nov. 29.	230,000	72						4	2	6	1	2
Cleveland, Ohio.	Nov. 17.	227,861	53						3		3		1
Milwaukee, Wis.	Dec. 1.	195,000	55						1	3	3		
Kansas City, Mo.	Dec. 1.	180,000	35								2		
Minneapolis, Minn.	Nov. 24.	180,000	46						3		3		1
Newark, N. J.	Nov. 27.	176,000	57						2		2		
Rochester, N. Y.	Dec. 1.	120,000	32								3		
Denver, Colo.	Nov. 30.	96,000	34						2	1	6		
Toledo, Ohio.	Nov. 30.	80,000	21										
Nashville, Tenn.	Dec. 1.	65,153	17						2	1			
Fall River, Mass.	Dec. 1.	65,000	20						1	1			
Charleston, S. C.	Dec. 1.	60,145	42								1		
Lynn, Mass.	Nov. 24.	50,000	10						1		1		
Manchester, N. H.	Nov. 24.	41,000	8						1		1		
Galveston, Tex.	Nov. 23.	40,000	9										
Portland, Me.	Dec. 1.	40,000	11										
Davenport, Ia.	Nov. 24.	33,715	10								5		
East Saginaw, Mich.	Dec. 1.	33,000	9										
New Albany, Ind.	Dec. 1.	30,000	4								1		
Altoona, Pa.	Nov. 24.	29,546	5						1		1		
Auburn, N. Y.	Nov. 29.	26,000	6										
Haverhill, Mass.	Dec. 1.	25,000	5										
Keokuk, Ia.	Nov. 24.	16,000	2										
Keokuk, Ia.	Dec. 1.	16,000	3										
Pensacola, Fla.	Nov. 24.	15,000	5										

JOHN B. HAMILTON,

Supervising Surgeon-General, Marine-Hospital Service.