

WEEKLY ABSTRACT OF SANITARY REPORTS.

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TREASURY DEPARTMENT,
OFFICE SUPERVISING SURGEON-GENERAL,
U. S. MARINE-HOSPITAL SERVICE,
Washington, D. C., March 29, 1889.

Abstract of Sanitary Reports received through the Department of State from foreign countries during the week ended March 29, 1889, 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 March 9, corresponded to an annual rate of 21.0 a thousand of the aggregate population, which is estimated at 9,555,406. The lowest rate was recorded in Derby, viz., 14.3, and the highest in Blackburn, viz., 31.0 a thousand. Diphtheria caused 3 deaths in Manchester and 2 in Sheffield.

London.—One thousand six hundred and thirty-seven deaths were registered during the week, including measles, 77; scarlet fever, 16; diphtheria, 20; whooping-cough, 29; enteric fever, 4; diarrhoea and dysentery, 15. The deaths from all causes corresponded to an annual rate of 19.6 a thousand. Diseases of the respiratory organs caused 402 deaths; different forms of violence, 52; and 3 suicides were registered. In greater London 2,023 deaths were registered, corresponding to an annual rate of 18.7 a thousand of the population. In the "outer ring" the deaths included measles, 6; diphtheria, 4; fever, 5; and whooping-cough, 4.

Ireland.—The average annual death rate, represented by the deaths registered during the week ended March 9, in the 16 principal town districts of Ireland, was 29.9 a thousand of the population. The lowest rate was recorded in Armagh, viz., 5.2, and the highest in Cork, viz., 33.1 a thousand. In Dublin 226 deaths were registered, including whooping-cough, 1; scarlet fever, 1; enteric fever, 9; measles, 3; and typhus, 1.

Scotland.—The deaths registered in 8 principal towns during the week ended March 9, corresponded to an annual rate of 23.5 a thousand of

the population, which is estimated at 1,314,274. The lowest mortality was recorded in Aberdeen, viz., 16.7 and the highest in Perth, viz., 28.5 a thousand. The aggregate number of deaths registered from all causes was 600, including measles, 26; scarlet fever, 1; diphtheria, 11; whooping-cough, 27; fever, 2; and diarrhoea, 9.

Netherlands.—The deaths registered in the principal cities of the Netherlands, having an aggregate population of 1,129,678, during the month of January, 1889, corresponded to an annual rate of 25.6 a thousand. The lowest rate was recorded in Maastricht, viz., 17.4; and the highest in Hertogenbosch, viz., 33. The deaths included enteric and typhus fevers, 6; scarlet fever, 2; measles, 85; croup, 26; whooping-cough, 44; diphtheria, 22; and diarrhœa and dysentery, 27.

Barbadoes, W. I.—March 2, 1889: Health of Island good. No system of registration.

Cardenas, Cuba.—March 15, 1889: No sickness. Cool and rainy.

San Juan, P. R.—February 28, 1889: Seventy-one deaths were registered during the month of February, including 1 from enteric fever. There were three cases of yellow fever, but no deaths from that disease.

MORTALITY TABLE, FOREIGN CITIES.

[illegible]

UNITED STATES.

The following is a copy of the act to create and establish a State board of health in Florida:

Be it enacted by the Legislature of the State of Florida:

SECTION 1. That the governor shall, within twenty days after the passage of this act, appoint three discreet citizens of the State of Florida, who shall be confirmed by the Senate, and who shall, after taking and subscribing an oath before some person competent to administer oaths, faithfully to perform the duties of their offices, constitute the State board of health.

SEC. 2. It shall be the duty of members of said board to convene in the city of Tallahassee, upon a day to be named by the governor, not more than ten days from the date of their appointment. It shall be the duty of said board, at their first meeting, to elect one of their number as president of said board. At the same meeting it shall be the duty of said board to designate and employ a physician, who shall be an expert in the diagnosis of yellow fever, small-pox, cholera, and other infectious diseases, and who must be a person of recognized ability and skilled in hygiene and sanitary science and a graduate physician of a recognized and reputable medical college, which said person shall be known as the State health officer. The State health officer shall be the executive officer of the board and secretary of the same, and shall hold the office until removed by the board for just cause.

SEC. 3. The term of office of each member of the board of health shall be four years from the date of his appointment, or until his successor is appointed and qualified, and the term of employment of State health officer shall be for four years from the date of his appointment, or until his successor is appointed and qualified: *Provided*, That should any member of the said board be and remain absent from the State for ten days after any disease has been declared epidemic, the governor may declare his office vacant and proceed to fill the same by appointment, and should the health officer be and remain absent from the State for five days after his attention has been called to the presence of any disease in the State, the board of health may declare the office vacant and proceed to fill the same by designation and employment of a suitable person to perform the duties thereof.

SEC. 4. It shall be the duty of every practicing or licensed physician in the State of Florida to report immediately to the president of the board of health, by telegram or in the most expeditious manner, every case of yellow fever, small-pox, or cholera that comes within his practice, such telegram to be paid for out of the funds to be provided for the expenses of said board of health.

SEC. 5. Any practicing or licensed physician who shall fail to report to said president any such case, in the manner provided in the preceding section, shall be guilty of a misdemeanor, and, upon conviction thereof, shall be fined in a sum of not less than \$100 nor more than \$1,000, or by imprisonment in the county jail for not less than three nor more than six months.

SEC. 6. Any person or persons who shall falsely or maliciously disseminate or spread rumors or reports concerning the existence of any infectious or contagious disease, shall be guilty of a misdemeanor, and,

upon conviction thereof, shall be punished as provided by section 5 of this act.

SEC. 7. It shall be the duty of the several judges of the circuit courts of this State to give in charge to the grand juries of their respective courts sections 4, 5, and 6 of this act at each term thereof, and it shall be the duty of the grand juries of the said several courts specially to investigate in their respective counties the offenses therein specified, and to present impartially all offenders against the same.

SEC. 8. In the several counties of this State where county criminal courts of record exist, or may hereafter be established, it shall be the duty of the county solicitor of the said several courts to present and prosecute all offenders under sections 5 and 6 of this act.

SEC. 9. It shall be the duty of the president of the board of health, immediately upon the receipt of information that there is any case of yellow fever, small-pox, or cholera in any portion of this State, to order the State health officer by telegram, if he is not at hand, to proceed immediately to said place, and there to investigate the said reported case or cases of yellow fever, small-pox, or cholera, and to report to the said president by telegram the results of his said investigation; and said State health officer shall have power, and it shall be his duty, to declare said infected point to be in quarantine, and to place any and all such restrictions upon ingress or egress thereat as, in his judgment, shall be necessary to prevent a spread of the disease from the infected locality; and it shall be the duty of the said State health officer, when he shall have declared any city, town, or other place to be in quarantine to so control the population of said city, town, or other place, and make such disposition of the same as shall, in his judgment, best protect that population, and at the same time prevent a spread of the infection among the same. The sheriffs and constables of the several counties of this State, and the police officers of all the cities and towns of this State shall be under the control of the said State health officer, to enforce and carry out any and all quarantine regulations that he may prescribe, which said regulations shall be immediately published in the most practicable manner in the several counties, cities, towns, or other places where quarantine may be established; and said State health officer shall make immediate report of his actings and doings in the premises to the president of the board of health, and from time to time, so long as quarantine shall continue.

SEC. 10. It shall be the duty of the governor of this State, whenever called upon by the State health officer so to do, to furnish the said officer with all requisite means to enforce whatever quarantine regulations it may be necessary, in his judgment, to prescribe, including such armed force from the militia of the State as, in the judgment of the governor, may be required, upon information furnished by said officer.

SEC. 11. The board of health shall have power, and it shall be their duty, at all times to impose upon all railway and navigation companies, and upon all individuals who may own or operate steamships or other vessels plying between any of the West Indian, South American, or any other foreign ports and the ports of the State of Florida, such restrictions and regulations as to inspection, quarantine, and sanitary rules as, in their judgment, may be necessary to protect the health of the people of this State, and which may not be in conflict with the acts of Congress already passed, or that may hereafter be passed, and do not amount to an absolute interruption of commerce with said foreign ports: *Provided*, That whenever any case of yellow fever, small-pox, cholera,

or other infectious disease shall appear, or be developed among the passengers, officers, or crew of any such steamship or other vessel, said steamship or other vessel shall be ordered in quarantine for such time and under such regulations as may be prescribed by said board of health: *Provided further*, That should said board of health at any time be convinced that yellow fever, small-pox, cholera, or other infectious disease exists in any foreign port in such form that the landing of any steamship or other vessel, hailing from said infected foreign port, at any of the ports of Florida, will put in peril the health of the people of said State, it shall be the duty of said board to put all and any such steamships or vessels, their crew, passengers, and cargo in quarantine for such time and under such rules and regulations as may be prescribed by said board of health: *Provided further*, That said board of health shall charge and receive from such vessels undergoing inspection or sanitation, as provided in this section, such fee or fees as said board may prescribe.

SEC. 12. The State Board of Health shall have general supervision of the public health of the State of Florida, and shall have power to make, promulgate and enforce such rules and regulations as may be necessary for the preservation of the same. It shall be the duty of the State health officer, between the first of November and the first of May, of each and every year, and oftener, if deemed necessary by the board, to visit all the cities and towns, or other points where two or more railroads meet, in the State of Florida, which, in the judgment of the board, it may be necessary for him to inspect, and to thoroughly investigate the sanitary condition of said cities or towns; and he shall have the power, and it shall be his duty, to condemn in any of said cities or towns, any sidewalks, pavements, buildings, wharves, or other things that in his judgment shall be likely to produce or cause the spread of epidemic diseases; and he shall give notice to the mayor and council of such city or town, or other authority, to repair, remove, cleanse, or remedy the same within thirty-six hours, and if the same shall not be done, as so required, it shall be his duty to have the same done himself, and the expense thereof shall be paid out of the health fund hereinafter provided and be afterwards assessed as a tax upon the assessable property of said city or town, to be assessed by the county assessor upon notification by the health officer of the amount, and collected by the county collector at the next annual assessment and collection thereafter, said amount so realized to be replaced in the health fund of the State by the proper authorities; *Provided*, A list and memorandum of property to be condemned shall be made and valuation placed upon the same by three disinterested freeholders, one to be selected by said health officer, one to be selected by the owner of the property or his agent, and the third to be selected by the two freeholders already selected, before being condemned or destroyed, and the value of any private property that may be condemned and ordered to be destroyed by the health officer, shall be paid to the owner thereof out of any funds provided and appropriated for the expenses of the State board of health, upon the certificate of said health officer that said property was so destroyed, approved by the board of health and endorsed by the president of the board.

SEC. 13. It shall be the duty of said State board of health, at their first organization, herein provided for, to formulate such rules and regulations for the preservation of the public health as, in their judgment, they may deem necessary, and to meet upon the first Monday in

May, A. D. 1890, and upon the corresponding day annually thereafter, to formulate such additional rules and regulations for the preservation of the public health as their experience may suggest; and they shall have the same published in such place and in such manner as they may deem best to give greatest publicity to the same, and it shall be the duty of the State health officer to attend all meetings of said board of health, and act as secretary of the same. The president of said board of health shall have power to call meetings of said board at any time and at such place as he may designate, to take measures for the public safety.

SEC. 14. The State board of health shall have the power, after close personal inspection, to modify or abrogate any or all quarantine regulations after they may be established by said State health officer. The State board of health shall have the power, by and with consent of the governor, when the occasion demands it, to call upon the general government for such aid as the necessities arising out of any epidemic may require.

SEC. 15. Any person who violates, disobeys, omits, neglects or refuses to comply with any quarantine regulations which may be established by the State health officer, or any of the rules and regulations which may be adopted by the State board of health, as hereinbefore provided, that may be duly promulgated by said State health officer or the said board of health, shall be guilty of a misdemeanor, and upon conviction thereof shall be fined in a sum not less than \$100 nor more than \$1,000, or by imprisonment in the county jail for not less than one nor more than six months.

SEC. 16. The State health officer shall receive a salary of \$3,000 a year, to be paid quarterly, upon his requisition, approved by the president of the board of health, out of the fund hereinafter provided, together with his actual traveling expenses, while engaged in the discharge of his duties as State health officer. The members of the State board of health shall receive a per diem of \$6 for each day of actual session, with mileage to and from their homes to the place of meeting, by the nearest and most practicable route, at the rate of 10 cents per mile.

SEC. 17. There shall be designated and employed, by the State board of health an assistant State health officer, who must also be a physician of experience and skilled in the diagnosis of infectious and contagious diseases, and who shall be subject to the orders and instructions of the State health officer, and, in case of sickness or disability of the State health officer, he shall succeed to the duties of the office for the time being of the State health officer. The assistant health officer shall receive \$15 per diem for each day that he is engaged in actual service under the direction of the State health officer, and 5 cents per mile for every mile traveled in the performance of such service, and shall hold appointment until removed for cause by the State board of health.

SEC. 18. The State health officer before entering upon his duties shall take before some person competent to administer oaths, an oath to faithfully perform the duties of his office, and enter into a bond, with good and sufficient securities, in the sum of \$10,000, payable to the president of the board of health, said bond to be approved by the said president, conditioned for the faithful discharge of his duties. Said bond to be prosecuted by the attorney-general for any neglect of duty or abuse of power herein conferred, and if said bond should be for-

feited, all such amounts collected from such prosecution shall be placed to the credit of the before named health fund, by said president of the board.

SEC. 19. All expenditures of the board of health shall be certified by the president of the board, and he shall make an annual report to the governor of all such expenditures, in a clear and concise statement, together with any special observations, recommendations or facts that he may present, that would be conducive to the health and sanitary conditions of the State, and such annual statements shall finally be submitted by the governor to the State legislature when in regular session convened, and shall be published like other reports of State officers, and the president of said board shall hold for inspection properly certified vouchers for such expenditures, a copy of which shall be furnished the comptroller, who shall not draw his warrant on the treasurer without the proper certificates and vouchers.

SEC. 20. That there shall be annually levied and collected upon the assessable property of the State a tax of not more than half a mill, the revenue derived from which assessment and collection shall constitute a special fund to be used for public health purposes of the State.

SEC. 21. The State board of health shall have general supervision and control over such county boards of health as the legislature may establish.

SEC. 22. That this act shall take effect from and after its approval by the governor.

SEC. 23. That all laws and parts of laws in conflict with the provisions hereof be, and the same are hereby, repealed.

Approved February 20, 1889.

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.	Mar. 23.	1,559,092	822					5	59	42	16	17	
Philadelphia, Pa.	Mar. 23.	1,040,245	412					14	11	5		2	
Chicago, Ill.	Mar. 23.	830,000	279					9	2	26	5	1	
Brooklyn, N. Y.	Mar. 23.	814,505	352					3	9	21	10	14	
Baltimore, Md.	Mar. 16.	500,343	175					1	2	4			
Baltimore, Md.	Mar. 23.	500,343	160					4	3	2	1	2	
San Francisco, Cal.	Mar. 15.	330,000	121							1			
Cincinnati, Ohio.	Mar. 23.	255,139	103					2	1	3		2	
New Orleans, La.	Mar. 16.	254,000	119					3				1	
Pittsburgh, Pa.	Mar. 23.	230,000	83					3		2	3	3	
Washington, D. C.	Mar. 23.	225,000	110				1	1	1			2	
Milwaukee, Wis.	Mar. 23.	210,000	52						5	1	1	1	
Newark, N. J.	Mar. 19.	180,145	107					2	1	1		2	
Minneapolis, Minn.	Mar. 23.	180,000	52					1	1	4			
Kansas City, Mo.	Mar. 23.	180,000	30						1	1		1	
Saint Paul, Minn.	Mar. 16.	180,000	31					1	3	4			
Saint Paul, Minn.	Mar. 23.	180,000	41					1	1	5			
Providence, R. I.	Mar. 23.	127,000	49					1		2		3	
Rochester, N. Y.	Mar. 23.	120,000	55							2		2	
Denver, Colo.	Mar. 22.	100,000	29			1			1				
Nashville, Tenn.	Mar. 23.	65,153	20					1					
Fall River, Mass.	Mar. 23.	65,000	30						1		1		
Toledo, Ohio.	Mar. 22.	51,000	27							1			
Lynn, Mass.	Mar. 23.	50,000	12										
Manchester, N. H.	Mar. 16.	42,000	11										
Portland, Me.	Mar. 23.	42,048	8										
Galveston, Tex.	Mar. 8.	40,000	20							1			
Galveston, Tex.	Mar. 15.	40,000	9										
Council Bluffs, Iowa.	Mar. 16.	35,000	10										
East Saginaw, Mich.	Mar. 23.	33,000	10										
Altoona, Pa.	Mar. 16.	30,000	9							1			
Auburn, N. Y.	Mar. 23.	26,000	6					1					
Haverhill, Mass.	Mar. 23.	25,000	7							1			
Newport, R. I.	Mar. 21.	22,000	8										
Newton, Mass.	Mar. 16.	21,553	3					1					
Newton, Mass.	Mar. 23.	21,553	4										
Pensacola, Fla.	Mar. 16.	15,000	4										

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