

# WEEKLY ABSTRACT OF SANITARY REPORTS.

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          TREASURY DEPARTMENT,  
OFFICE SUPERVISING SURGEON-GENERAL,  
U. S. MARINE-HOSPITAL SERVICE,  
Washington, D. C., April 5, 1889.

*Abstract of Sanitary Reports received through the Department of State from foreign countries during the week ended April 5, 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 16, corresponded to an annual rate of 21.3 a thousand of the aggregate population, which is estimated at 9,555,406. The lowest rate was recorded in Sunderland, viz., 14.0, and the highest in Blackburn, viz., 33.1 a thousand. Diphtheria caused 3 deaths in Manchester, 2 in Salford, 3 in Preston, 3 in Birmingham, 2 in Liverpool, and 2 in Bolton. Small-pox caused 1 death in Portsmouth.

*London.*—One thousand six hundred and thirty-nine deaths were registered during the week, including measles, 60; scarlet fever, 16; diphtheria, 31; whooping-cough, 37; enteric fever, 6; diarrhoea and dysentery, 14. The deaths from all causes corresponded to an annual rate of 19.7 a thousand. Diseases of the respiratory organs caused 396 deaths; different forms of violence, 64; and 5 suicides were registered. In greater London 2,016 deaths were registered, corresponding to an annual rate of 18.6 a thousand of the population. In the "outer ring" the deaths included measles, 12; diphtheria, 10.

*Ireland.*—The average annual death rate, represented by the deaths registered during the week ended March 16, in the 16 principal town districts of Ireland, was 25.7 a thousand of the population. The lowest rate was recorded in Lurgan, viz., 5.1, and the highest in Drogheda, viz., 42.3 a thousand. In Dublin 181 deaths were registered, including whooping-cough, 2; scarlet fever, 1; enteric fever, 3; measles, 3; and typhus, 1.

*Scotland.*—The deaths registered in 8 principal towns during the week ended March 16, corresponded to an annual rate of 25.4 a thousand of the population, which is estimated at 1,314,274. The lowest mortality

was recorded in Leith, viz., 11.6 and the highest in Glasgow, viz., 32.4 a thousand. The aggregate number of deaths registered from all causes was 650, including measles, 45; scarlet fever, 5; diphtheria, 7; whooping-cough, 37; fever, 2; and diarrhœa, 10.

*Buenos Ayres, Argentine Republic.*—The United States consul, in his dispatch dated February 19, 1889, writes as follows:

“I have to advise you that there is just now a very uneasy feeling in regard to the public health of this port—not that there is any greater amount of sickness than is usual at this season, but there are grave fears in reference to the approach of yellow fever. About a month ago, several transports with Brazilian troops on board from Rio Janeiro, were permitted by the Montevidean authorities to pass up the river to the Brazilian province of Matto Grosso, with some sickness on board, and since then the fever has appeared in Corumba, Brazil. On this account a quarantine of observation has been established by the Argentine government at the mouth of the Paraguay River, on all vessels proceeding from Matto Grosso or Paraguay. But a still greater alarm has been occasioned by the arrival here, a few days ago, of the royal mail steamer “Atrato,” from Southampton, England. Unfortunately the vessel touched at Rio Janerio, where the yellow fever is now raging, and on the passage down from the latter port, several cases broke out on board, two of them having already proved fatal. The vessel was refused an entrance at Montevideo, and she then steamed up to this port, but she is detained outside, about 12 miles down the river. Her passengers, of which she has a large number, have been transferred to two river boats, to be anchored off Point Piedras, about 30 miles from Buenos Ayres, until their quarantine shall have expired. It is said that the steamer will not be allowed an entrance, and also that she will have to return to England with her cargo. These two occurrences have caused considerable fear in the city lest we may have a visitation of yellow fever; and to guard against such a calamity the authorities are now enforcing the strictest quarantine against all infected ports. Thus far no cases have been reported in any of the ports of the Argentine Republic.

*Santiago de Cuba.*—The United States consul furnishes the following report:

*Statistics and deaths from various causes in Santiago de Cuba during month of February, 1889.*

	In town.	In military hospital outside city limits.
Consumption .....	13	.....
Yellow fever.....	2	8
Pernicious fever.....	7	.....
Other diseases.....	48	4
Total.....	70	12

The diseases described as other diseases, which number 48 among its victims, are principally children diseases, which have carried off negro and mulatto children. The temperature has been variable, with high north winds and lower thermometer. At San Luis, a village 27 miles from this city, a small-pox epidemic was at one time threatened, which was confined entirely to the negroes and mulattoes; 22 were down with it, and 2 children died, but although 2 light cases were reported here, neither resulted fatally and danger is averted, and the facts do not warrant me to create alarm by putting these cases on bills of health issued to vessels clearing for the United States.

Yellow fever has been greatly on the decline, and this month has given the most satisfactory sanitary showing for a long time; 92 deaths per month in a population of nearly 50,000 inhabitants is a surprisingly low rate.

*Health report of Santiago de Cuba and surrounding country for the first half of March, 1889.*

Diseases.	Cases.	Deaths.
Varioloid.....	3	.....
Throat diseases.....	(*)	.....
Dysentery, children .....	11	5
Diarrhoea.....	36	.....
Paludic and catarrhal fevers.....	(*)	5
Pernicious fevers.....	2	2
Yellow fever .....	1	1
Rheumatism.....	22	.....
Hydropsia.....	4	4
Consumption .....	15	15
Tabes mesenterica.....	8	8
Paralysis.....	4	.....
Unknown.....	5	.....
Lesions of the heart.....	3	3
Cerebral lesions.....	2	2
Hepatitis.....	1	1
Wounds and contusions.....	3	.....
Burns.....	5	4
Ophthalmia.....	32	.....
Suicides.....	1	1
Old age.....	2	2
Diseases.....	160	53

These statistics combine the city and the surrounding country for twenty leagues. Small-pox has entirely disappeared, and yellow fever is confined to the military hospital outside of town limits. The health of the port is excellent, and I have issued clean bills of health to vessels clearing from this port for the United States.

*Malta and Gozo.*—Four hundred and one deaths were registered during the month of February, 1889, including, measles, 64; whooping cough, 20; diphtheria, 3; and dysentery, 4.

*Palermo, Italy.*—The United States consul reports that during the month of February, 1889, there were 7 deaths from small-pox.

*Catania, Italy.*—One thousand four hundred and thirty deaths were registered during the year 1888, in an estimated population of 107,165. The deaths included, small-pox, 869; enteric fever, 105; and other

contagious diseases, 406. The sanitary condition of the city was not very good.

*Pernambuco, Brazil.*—The United States consul, under date of February 28, 1889, reports that "the sanitary-inspector of the port of the Province of Espiritu Santo has decreed quarantine against all vessels arriving from Rio de Janeiro, where the yellow fever is spreading itself."

*Havana, Cuba.*—Seven deaths from yellow fever were reported during the week ended March 8; 2 for the week ended March 15, and 4 for the week ended March 22, 1889.

*Colon, U. S. of Colombia.*—The United States consul telegraphs the Department of State, under date of April —, 1889 (received April 3, 9 p. m.), "Yellow fever in Colon."

*Cardenas, Cuba, March 29, 1889.*—Weather cool, pleasant, and dry. Health of the town and harbor good.

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.
London .....	Mar. 9.....	5,642,015	2,023	.....	.....	.....	.....	4	16	24	83	.....
Paris .....	Mar. 16.....	2,260,945	1,100	.....	.....	5	.....	10	4	40	33	7
Glasgow .....	Mar. 16.....	545,678	329	.....	.....	.....	.....	1	3	1	.....	.....
Warsaw .....	Mar. 9.....	444,814	238	.....	.....	4	.....	.....	5	9	.....	.....
Calcutta .....	Feb. 9.....	433,219	227	22	.....	1	.....	.....	.....	.....	1	.....
Calcutta .....	Feb. 16.....	433,219	196	22	.....	1	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Rome .....	Feb. 2.....	401,044	268	.....	.....	5	.....	1	1	3	.....	.....
Rome .....	Feb. 9.....	401,044	214	.....	.....	2	.....	1	2	3	.....	.....
Amsterdam .....	Mar. 9.....	399,051	187	.....	.....	.....	.....	1	.....	7	.....	.....
Amsterdam .....	Mar. 16.....	399,051	176	.....	.....	.....	.....	4	.....	2	.....	.....
Copenhagen .....	Mar. 9.....	307,000	109	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	2	2	.....	.....
Rio de Janeiro .....	Feb. 17.....	300,000	458	.....	136	1	21	8	.....	1	.....	.....
Rio de Janeiro .....	Feb. 24.....	300,000	400	.....	101	1	15	7	.....	.....	.....	.....
Edinburgh .....	Feb. 16.....	266,900	98	.....	.....	.....	1	.....	.....	3	.....	.....
Edinburgh .....	Feb. 23.....	266,900	105	.....	.....	.....	.....	1	1	2	.....	.....
Edinburgh .....	Mar. 2.....	266,900	101	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	2	.....	.....
Palermo .....	Mar. 16.....	250,000	92	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	4	2	.....	.....
Belfast .....	Mar. 16.....	229,622	120	.....	.....	.....	.....	1	.....	1	.....	.....
Bristol .....	Feb. 23.....	229,361	82	.....	.....	.....	.....	1	.....	.....	.....	.....
Bristol .....	Mar. 2.....	229,361	73	.....	.....	.....	.....	1	1	.....	.....	.....
Bristol .....	Mar. 9.....	229,361	76	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Bristol .....	Mar. 16.....	229,361	101	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	1	.....	.....
Genoa .....	Mar. 16.....	179,872	124	.....	1	1	.....	.....	.....	1	.....	.....
Toronto .....	Mar. 30.....	170,000	22	.....	.....	.....	.....	1	.....	1	.....	.....
Trieste .....	Mar. 9.....	154,500	103	.....	.....	2	.....	.....	1	1	.....	.....
Stuttgart .....	Mar. 16.....	125,510	68	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	3	1	.....	.....
Barmen .....	Mar. 16.....	109,000	43	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	2
Leghorn .....	Mar. 17.....	102,893	56	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Leith .....	Feb. 16.....	76,400	29	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	5	1	.....	.....
Leith .....	Feb. 23.....	76,400	26	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	1	.....	.....
Leith .....	Mar. 2.....	76,400	22	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	1	.....	.....
Mayence .....	Mar. 9.....	65,802	28	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	7	.....	.....
Cadiz .....	Mar. 16.....	65,028	47	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Curacao .....	Mar. 16.....	25,000	5	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Gibraltar .....	Mar. 10.....	23,631	12	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	1	.....	.....
Kingston, Can .....	Mar. 29.....	17,300	2	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Laguayra .....	Mar. 9.....	7,428	3	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Laguayra .....	Mar. 16.....	7,428	5	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Turk's Islands .....	Feb. 6.....	5,000	4	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Turk's Islands .....	Feb. 13.....	5,000	5	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Turk's Islands .....	Feb. 20.....	5,000	5	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Turk's Islands .....	Feb. 27.....	5,000	6	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....

## UNITED STATES.

PUNTA GORDA, FLA., *March 28, 1889.*

SIR: In obedience to your instructions, I have inspected the town of Punta Gorda. This town is situated in De Soto County, on Charlotte Harbor, an arm of the Gulf of Mexico, and is sparsely built, with a population of only 300, and has been incorporated since the year 1887. Its present sanitary condition is good, and from an interview with Doctor Burland, the health officer and only resident physician, I am informed there is no sickness prevalent among the resident population. The admirable situation of this point should make it one of the healthiest of the Gulf coast resorts of Florida, and its splendid deep-water harbor one of the principal sea ports of this State. It is connected by the South Florida Railway with the Jacksonville, Tampa and Key West Railroad system, which it joins at Lakeland and Bartow Junction. By strict quarantine measures, enforced during the prevalence of the fever at Key West in 1887, and later at Tampa, this point escaped infection. There is only one line of steamers (the Morgan Steamship Company) touching here on its way from Havana, at the South Florida Railroad dock, 2 miles beyond the town. The principal traffic is in fish and oysters and fruit from the islands, and the danger of an introduction of yellow fever at or through this point is in the smaller craft—fishing smacks and fruit vessels. A quarantine station, established at Cape Haze, at the entrance of Charlotte Harbor, about 20 miles south of Punta Gorda, could control the movement of these vessels, which are largely engaged in smuggling tobacco and “agua ardiente” from the tropics, and would be an ample protection to this port, which seems destined in the near future to become one of considerable importance. It is my firm conviction that the establishment of such a station at the point named would be highly beneficial in its results. The proximity of this point to Havana and Key West entitles it to some protective measures, as it is in direct communication with a very populous region north of it, and within twelve hours (by rail) of Jacksonville, the commercial metropolis of Florida. There is no system of sewerage, except from the Punta Gorda hotel, the natural surface drainage into the harbor being good. The water supply is from cisterns; closets are open. The mayor is Jas. L. Sandlin. Health officer, Doctor Burland.

Very respectfully,

J. L. POSEY, M. D.

To Surgeon-General HAMILTON,  
*United States Marine-Hospital Service.*

## MORTALITY TABLE, CITIES OF THE UNITED STATES.

Cities.	Week ended.	Estimated popula- tion.	Total deaths from all causes.	Deaths from—										
				Cholera.	Yellow fever.	Small-pox.	Variceloid.	Varicella.	Typhus fever.	Enteric fever.	Scarlet fever.	Diphtheria.	Measles.	Whooping- cough.
New York, N. Y.....	Mar. 30.....	1,559,964	860	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	5	57	47	13	14	
Philadelphia, Pa.....	Mar. 30.....	1,040,245	389	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	18	10	9	1	2	
Brooklyn, N. Y.....	Mar. 30.....	814,505	390	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	10	29	8	10	
Baltimore, Md.....	Mar. 30.....	500,343	156	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	4	5	4	.....	.....	
San Francisco, Cal.....	Mar. 22.....	330,000	106	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	1	2	1	.....	.....	
Cincinnati, Ohio.....	Mar. 30.....	255,139	134	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	3	.....	3	2	.....	
Detroit, Mich.....	Mar. 23.....	250,000	61	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	1	2	.....	1	
New Orleans, La.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	
Newark, N. J.....	Mar. 26.....	180,000	75	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	1	6	.....	.....	
Providence, R. I.....	Mar. 30.....	127,000	44	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	1	.....	1	.....	.....	
Rochester, N. Y.....	Mar. 30.....	125,000	42	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	1	.....	2	
Richmond, Va.....	Mar. 23.....	100,000	40	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	
Denver, Colo.....	Mar. 29.....	100,000	20	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	1	.....	.....	.....	.....	
Toledo, Ohio.....	Mar. 29.....	80,000	23	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	1	.....	.....	
Nashville, Tenn.....	Mar. 30.....	65,153	24	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	
Fall River, Mass.....	Mar. 30.....	65,000	23	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	1	1	.....	.....	
Lynn, Mass.....	Mar. 30.....	50,000	17	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	1	.....	.....	
Manchester, N. H.....	Mar. 23.....	42,000	12	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	
Portland, Me.....	Mar. 30.....	42,000	13	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	
Davenport, Iowa.....	Mar. 23.....	33,715	9	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	1	.....	.....	
East Saginaw, Mich.....	Mar. 30.....	33,000	13	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	
Altoona, Pa.....	Mar. 23.....	30,000	14	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	1	.....	.....	
Newport, R. I.....	Mar. 29.....	22,000	5	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	
Newton, Mass.....	Mar. 30.....	21,553	8	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	1	.....	.....	
Keokuk, Iowa.....	Mar. 23.....	16,000	2	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	1	.....	.....	
Pensacola, Fla.....	Mar. 23.....	15,000	4	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	

*Erie, Pa.*—Month of February, 1889; estimated population, 39,000.  
Total deaths, 44, including membranous croup, 1; enteric fever, 2.

JOHN B. HAMILTON,  
*Supervising Surgeon-General, Marine-Hospital Service.*