

WEEKLY ABSTRACT OF SANITARY REPORTS.

VOL. IV. { Abstract }
 { No. 18. }

TREASURY DEPARTMENT,
OFFICE SUPERVISING SURGEON-GENERAL,
U. S. MARINE-HOSPITAL SERVICE,
Washington, D. C., May 3, 1889.

Abstract of Sanitary Reports received through the Department of State from foreign countries during the week ended May 3, 1889, and information received through other channels.

(Published in accordance with section 4, act approved April 29, 1878.)

GREAT BRITAIN—*England and Wales*.—The deaths registered in 28 great towns of England and Wales during the week ended April 13, corresponded to an annual rate of 19.9 a thousand of the aggregate population, which is estimated at 9,555,406. The lowest rate was recorded in Berkenhead, viz., 13.7, and the highest in Preston, viz., 31.0 a thousand. Diphtheria caused 3 deaths in Birmingham.

London.—One thousand four hundred and ninety-three deaths were registered during the week, including measles, 72; scarlet fever, 13; diphtheria, 36; whooping-cough, 43; typhus, 1; enteric fever, 10; diarrhoea and dysentery, 11. The deaths from all causes corresponded to an annual rate of 17.9 a thousand. Diseases of the respiratory organs caused 294 deaths. In greater London 1,845 deaths were registered, corresponding to an annual rate of 17.1 a thousand of the population. In the "outer ring" the deaths included measles, 12; diphtheria, 6; and "fever," 4.

Ireland.—The average annual death rate, represented by the deaths registered during the week ended April 13, in the 16 principal town districts of Ireland, was 22.9 a thousand of the population. The lowest rate was recorded in Sligo, viz., 4.8, and the highest in Armagh, viz., 36.1 a thousand. In Dublin 174 deaths were registered, including whooping-cough, 7; enteric fever, 2; measles, 10; and diarrhoea, 2.

Scotland.—The deaths registered in 8 principal towns during the week ended April 13, corresponded to an annual rate of 23.0 a thousand of the population, which is estimated at 1,314,274. The lowest mortality was recorded in Edinburgh, viz., 14.8, and the highest in Glasgow, viz., 28.9 a thousand. The aggregate number of deaths registered from all causes was 588, including measles, 27; scarlet fever, 2; diphtheria, 7; whooping-cough, 44; fever, 1; and diarrhoea, 6.

BRAZIL—Bahia.—The United States consul reports to the Department of State as follows :

March 11, 1889.—I have the honor to report that during the month of February the health of the city was good, and up to present date of this month has remained so. A great deal of anxiety, however, is now manifested by the health authorities of the city and the people in general, owing to the reported increase of yellow fever at Rio de Janeiro. Vessels from Rio de Janeiro or Santos are subjected to a strict examination by the health authorities of the city. One case of yellow fever was reported on an English steamer entering this port last week. On the patient being removed to the hospital it was found, fortunately, to be a case of bilious instead of yellow fever.

March 19, 1889.—I had the honor to report in despatch No. 10, on the 11th instant, the health of the city good. The same holds true up to present date, but the gravest fears are entertained that the city will soon be visited by the black plague, as it is called, now reported raging at Rio de Janeiro and Santos, and other places south. The authorities here have placed a quarantine upon all vessels from the southern part of this country. Under this quarantine four steamers are now at this port, having arrived since the 16th, and all having cases of yellow fever on board. From the "Argantina," German, of the Hamburg Line, eight deaths are reported since leaving Rio de Janeiro, the captain having died yesterday on board his ship. The others reported having died are chief officers, doctor, chief engineer, quartermaster, steward, and two sailors. The "Neva," British, of the Royal Mail Line, reports sickness on board, and two deaths since leaving Rio. A Dutch steamer and one of the Brazilian line of coasters also report sickness, but no deaths as yet. All communication with such ships is entirely cut off, except by the health officer of the port ; agents of the different lines have received orders not to sell tickets to the Argentine Republic, at least to Montevideo or Buenos Ayres, from any part of Brazil. I am informed the above-mentioned cities have placed a quarantine of 21 days against Brazilian ports. No measures are taken by the authorities to clean the streets, which are in a very filthy condition. If the epidemic comes, there is no doubt it will fall upon the city with great severity.

Rio de Janeiro.—During the week ended March 17, 1889, there were 647 deaths registered from all causes, in an estimated population of 300,000 ; including yellow fever, 81 ; small-pox, 2 ; typhus fever, 78 ; enteric fever, 19 ; and *accesso pernicioso*, 112.

During the week ended March 24, there were 377 deaths from all causes, including yellow fever, 68 ; small-pox, 2 ; typhus fever, 12 ; enteric fever, 11 ; and *accesso pernicioso*, 14.

ARGENTINE REPUBLIC—Buenos Ayres.—One thousand one hundred and eighty-six deaths were registered during the month of January, 1889, in an estimated population of 480,000. The deaths included small-pox, 9 ; enteric fever, 41 ; scarlet fever, 1 ; and diphtheria, 53. The prevailing diseases are enteric fever and diphtheria.

DUTCH GUIANA—*Paramaribo*.—Ninety-seven deaths were registered during the month of January, 1889, in an estimated population of 27,553, including 2 from enteric fever.

ITALY—*Palermo*.—One death from small-pox was registered during the month of March, 1889. The sanitary condition of the port is said to be good.

MALTA AND GOZO—Two hundred and forty-two deaths were registered during the first two weeks in March, 1889, including small-pox, 1; measles, 22; whooping-cough, 7; diphtheria, 1; dysentery, 1; and remittent fever, 2.

CUBA—*Havana*.—For the week ended April 18, two deaths from yellow fever are reported; and four for the week ended April 26, 1889.

Cardenas, April 19, 1889.—Good health and good weather in town and harbor.

BAHAMAS—*Nassau, N. P., April 20, 1889*.—No prevailing diseases of importance. City very healthy.

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.....	Apr. 13.....	5,642,015	1,845	.....	.....	.....	1	10	14	42	84	.....
Paris.....	Apr. 13.....	2,260,945	1,010	.....	.....	4	.....	12	4	43	31	12
Glasgow.....	Apr. 13.....	528,144	294	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	1	3	23	.....
Warsaw.....	Apr. 6.....	445,770	235	.....	.....	5	.....	.....	4	8	.....	30
Amsterdam.....	Apr. 13.....	399,051	195	.....	.....	.....	.....	1	.....	2	.....	.....
Copenhagen.....	Apr. 11.....	307,000	145	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	6	.....	.....
Edinburgh.....	Apr. 6.....	266,900	91	.....	.....	.....	1	.....	1	.....	.....	.....
Palermo.....	Apr. 13.....	250,000	97	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	3	4	.....	.....
Trieste.....	Apr. 6.....	154,500	89	.....	.....	.....	.....	1	.....	.....	.....	.....
Stuttgart.....	Apr. 13.....	125,510	74	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	2	4	.....	.....
Havre.....	Apr. 6.....	112,074	92	.....	.....	3	.....	1	.....	.....	.....	.....
Havre.....	Apr. 13.....	112,074	56	.....	.....	1	.....	1	.....	.....	.....	.....
Barmen.....	Apr. 6.....	109,000	44	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	3	1	.....
Barmen.....	Apr. 13.....	109,000	48	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	1	.....
Leith.....	Apr. 6.....	76,400	27	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Mayence.....	Apr. 6.....	65,802	26	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Cadiz.....	Apr. 6.....	65,028	55	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Cadiz.....	Apr. 13.....	65,028	70	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Merida.....	Apr. 5.....	47,448	98	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Merida.....	Apr. 12.....	47,448	110	.....	.....	.....	.....	1	.....	.....	.....	.....
Curacao.....	Apr. 13.....	25,000	6	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Gibraltar.....	Apr. 7.....	23,881	9	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	1	.....	.....
Gibraltar.....	Apr. 14.....	23,881	21	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	3	.....	.....
Kingston, Can.....	Apr. 27.....	17,300	31	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Cape Haytien.....	Apr. 13.....	15,000	5	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....

UNITED STATES.

GEORGIA—*South Atlantic Quarantine Station*.—Passed Assistant Surgeon J. H. White, in charge of this station, reports that a mild case of yellow fever has developed on the Swedish bark "John Fougat,"

which arrived there April 10 (see Abstract No. 16). The vessel is discharging ballast and will be fumigated, after which she will be allowed to put to sea if the captain so desires.

The Norwegian bark "Imperator" arrived at this station April 14, in ballast (stone) from Rio de Janeiro for Savannah, with a crew of twelve men, all well on arrival. There was one death from Chagres fever on the voyage. The vessel is discharging ballast, and will be fumigated, and released when this is completed.

FLORIDA—*Manatee*.—A committee appointed by the board of health of Manatee County, Florida, to examine into the sanitary condition of the town of Manatee, have made a house-to-house inspection, and report the town in fair sanitary condition.

Sanitary Inspection of Live Oak and Lake City.

SIR: In obedience to your telegraphic order of the 12th of April, I have visited the town of Live Oak, Fla., county seat of Suwanee County, and Lake City, Fla., the county seat of Columbia County, both situated on the main lines of the Florida Railway Navigation Company, and Florida Western Railways. After a general sanitary inspection and conversations with the local practitioners, I feel assured that there are no infectious diseases prevalent at these two places. There seems to exist an unfortunate apathy, on the part of local health officers, in making any systematic efforts to maintain an ordinary degree of cleanliness of their streets, drains, and public places. In the central part of the town of Live Oak the practice is tolerated of allowing the sewage from the county jail to flow into a small marshy pond a few yards distant, which, during the summer drought, becomes dry, leaving the fecal matter exposed to slow evaporation, necessarily producing a very unwholesome atmospheric condition. The topography of the town is such that the surface drainage flows into several small lagoons, which are situated in the corporate limits, and doubtless supply ample morbid material for the development of the various types of malarial fever which prevail during the summer and autumn. Little attention is paid to the systematic removal of garbage and contents of open closets, and as a result the water supplied by wells of no great depth furnish types of typho-malarial fever, which usually prevails. The general sanitary condition of this town is bad, and the prevalence of yellow fever last year during the autumn should awaken the residents to the necessity of some early improvement of their surroundings.

The inspection of Lake City reveals a condition that is far from pleasing, and which is susceptible of great improvement. There is no methodical disinfection of fecal accumulations or removal of garbage, which is usually thrown from premises into the smaller side streets to await the indefinite arrival of the city garbage cart. The location here of the State Seminary and Agricultural School, whose buildings and premises are handsome and very inviting, should be a high incentive for the municipal council to maintain a perfect sanitary state of their city and emulate the example of this institution. I was informed that some early action is contemplated to improve their present unsanitary

condition, but it is difficult to predict when these measures will be inaugurated, as small municipal bodies move tardily and their resources usually are very limited. It is a subject of surprise to me that so little foresight has been exercised in nearly all the smaller towns of Florida in the selection of sites for cemeteries. In view of the porous nature of the soil and the general use of well-water, it would appear a matter of ordinary prudence to locate the burial plot a mile at least from the corporate limits of a town, but the usual site is in the town proper or just beyond its boundary. In the rapid growth of most of these towns the founders and earlier settlers seem to have placed implicit faith in the balmy atmosphere and climate of this peninsula as ample protection against their neglect and indifference to the most ordinary sanitary precautions, but the experiences of the recent invasion of disease last summer, I trust, will prove a wholesome lesson, illustrating the need and value of improved domestic and municipal sanitation. Nature has indeed been lavish in her gifts to this sub-tropical and attractive land, but there is ample scope for man to render it still more so by the wise exercise of his genius and industry.

Very respectfully,

J. L. POSEY,

United States Sanitary Inspector, Marine Hospital-Service.

To Surgeon-General HAMILTON,

United States Marine-Hospital Service.

Quarantine Proclamation by the Governor of Louisiana.

Whereas on the 11th day of April, A. D. 1889, the board of health of the State of Louisiana have adopted resolutions requesting the executive of this State to issue his annual proclamation of quarantine against the hereinafter enumerated and mentioned ports, to take effect from and after the 1st day of May, A. D. 1889—

All vessels arriving at the several quarantine stations in this State, together with their crews, passengers, and cargoes, shall be subjected to inspection by the quarantine officers at said stations;

All vessels, together with their cargoes, crews, passengers, and baggage arriving at the Mississippi quarantine station from intertropical American and West Indian ports, shall be subjected to thorough maritime sanitation, according to the following schedule:

First Class—Vessels arriving from non-infected ports;

Second Class—Vessels arriving from suspected ports;

Third Class—Vessels arriving from ports known to be infected;

Fourth Class—Vessels which, without regard to port of departure, are infected; that is to say, vessels which have yellow fever, cholera, or other contagious or infectious diseases on board at time of arrival, or have had same on voyage;

Vessels of the first class to be subjected to necessary maritime sanitation at the Mississippi River quarantine station, without detention of either vessel or persons longer than may be necessary to place such vessel in perfect sanitary condition;

Vessels engaged in the tropical-fruit trade, and coming from known non-infected localities, and whose sanitary condition and health record are satisfactory, may be allowed to pass the quarantine station after inspection, subject, however, to such sanitary treatment as the board of health may prescribe;

Vessels of the second and third classes to undergo the same conditions as those of the first class, together with detention for observation for a period of five full days from hour of arrival in quarantine;

Vessels of the fourth class to be remanded to the lower quarantine station, there to undergo sanitation and detention of vessels and persons such length of time as the board of health may determine;

All vessels arriving from ports known or suspected to be infected with cholera or small-pox, or which may hereafter become infected, shall be subjected to maritime sanitation and such detention as the board of health may determine;

Vessels arriving from the above-named ports and places, and belonging to the second, third, or fourth class, as set forth in the above schedule, shall not be allowed to pass the Rigolets or the Atchafalaya quarantine stations, or other State quarantine stations which may hereafter be established, without having undergone a period of detention of forty days and thorough cleaning and disinfection:

Now, therefore, in accordance with the laws of this State and upon the recommendation of the board of health of the State of Louisiana, I have thought proper to issue this my annual proclamation of quarantine, directing that quarantine shall take effect from and after Wednesday, the first day of May, A. D. 1889, against the above-mentioned ports and as contained in the foregoing schedule.

Quarantine officers at the several stations in this State are specially charged and required to strictly enforce the execution of this proclamation, and the board of health in the city of New Orleans is requested to prosecute vigorously all violations of the same, as well as the quarantine laws and regulations of this State.

In testimony whereof, I have hereunto affixed my signature, authenticated with the seal of the State of Louisiana, at the city of Baton Rouge, this 16th day of April, in the year of our Lord one thousand eight hundred and eighty-nine.

FRANCIS T. NICHOLLS,
Governor of Louisiana.

By the Governor:

GEO. SPENCER, *Ass't Secretary of State.*

Special suggestions to owners, agents, masters of vessels, and passengers.

The Louisiana State board of health recommends the following suggestions to agents, owners, masters of vessels, and passengers, for the purpose of facilitating the work of quarantine officers and reducing the period of detention to a minimum:

1. That vessels should be stripped during the quarantine seasons of all woolen hangings, carpets, curtains, and such like materials, and upholstered furniture as far as practicable. Hair or moss mattresses to be replaced by wire or wicker beds.

2. That as far as possible vessels trading with tropical ports should be manned with acclimated crews.

3. Masters of vessels, ship and consular agents are earnestly requested to instruct passengers from quarantinable ports to dispense, as far as possible with baggage which may be injured by wetting, in case of pestilential outbreak on board, while undergoing disinfection. Such

passengers are especially warned against bringing silks, laces, velvets, and other fabrics of delicate texture, as they will be compelled to assume all risks of injury.

4. While in ports infected with yellow fever, vessels should be anchored out in the harbor, when this is possible, and the crew prohibited from going ashore, especially at night.

5. When practicable, cargoes should be loaded in such a manner as to allow access to the pumps, and also to enable the quarantine officials to pump out and wash the bilge.

6. Special attention should be given to cleanliness of vessels and persons, and provision should be made for all possible ventilation of the entire vessel. The best disinfectants and instructions for using same can be obtained by application to the Board of Health or any of its officers.

7. Masters should, before arrival, see that the bilge is thoroughly pumped out and cleansed, and that the entire vessel be put in such good sanitary condition as to permit of the least possible detention. Fruit-vessels, particularly, should be kept thoroughly cleansed for the purpose of avoiding delay at the quarantine station.

8. Vessels observing the above recommendations will receive special consideration at the quarantine station, detention and cost of cleaning, disinfecting, &c., being materially lessened thereby.

MICHIGAN.—Reports to the State Board of Health, Lansing, from forty-two observers, indicate that for the week ended April 20, 1889, tonsillitis, whooping-cough, and neuralgia increased in area of prevalence. Diphtheria was reported during the week ended April 20, and since, at five places; scarlet fever at twelve places; enteric fever at four places; measles at six places; small-pox, in the contagious diseases, hospital at Detroit.

CONNECTICUT—*New Haven*.—Month of March, 1889; estimated population, 82,000; total deaths, 112, including enteric fever, 3; whooping-cough, 1; diphtheria and membranous croup, 6.

VIRGINIA—*Petersburg*.—Month of April, 1889; estimated population, 25,000; total deaths, 58. No contagious diseases.

MASSACHUSETTS—*Newton*.—Month of March, 1889; estimated population, 21,553; total deaths, 23, including diphtheria, 2; enteric fever, 1.

NEW JERSEY—*Hudson County*.—Month of March, 1889; estimated population, 282,254; total deaths, 634, including measles, 2; scarlet fever, 32; diphtheria, 33; whooping-cough, 8; enteric fever, 11; diarrhoeal diseases, 3.

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.	Varioloid.	Varicella.	Typhus fever.	Enteric fever.	Scarlet fever.	Diphtheria.	Measles.	Whooping- cough.
New York, N. Y.	Apr. 27	1,563,452	830							3	51	54	12	19
Philadelphia, Pa.	Apr. 20	1,040,245	423					1		8	2	10	2	2
Philadelphia, Pa.	Apr. 27	1,040,245	395							15	5	6	2	4
Chicago, Ill.	Apr. 27	830,000	256							2	8	18	4	1
Brooklyn, N. Y.	Apr. 27	821,525	324								9	28	15	4
Baltimore, Md.	Apr. 27	500,343	132								1	2		2
San Francisco, Cal.	Apr. 19	330,000	121							4				
Cincinnati, Ohio.	Apr. 27	325,000	128							2		7	1	1
New Orleans, La.	Apr. 20	254,000	118											
Cleveland, Ohio.	Apr. 6	235,000	80							2	1	2		
Cleveland, Ohio.	Apr. 13	235,000	88							2	1	1		
Pittsburgh, Pa.	Apr. 27	230,000	96							2	1	1		
Detroit, Mich.	Apr. 20	230,000	57										1	
Washington, D. C.	Apr. 27	225,000	85							1	4	1		
Milwaukee, Wis.	Apr. 27	210,000	49									2		
Minneapolis, Minn.	Apr. 20	200,000	54							1	1	6		
Newark, N. J.	Apr. 23	181,351	82								2	2		1
Kansas City, Mo.	Apr. 27	180,000	36							2				
Rochester, N. Y.	Apr. 27	120,000	50									2		
Richmond, Va.	Apr. 20	100,000	20											
Richmond, Va.	Apr. 27	100,000	32											
Denver, Colo.	Apr. 26	100,000	30			2						1		
Toledo, Ohio.	Apr. 26	83,500	23											
Nashville, Tenn.	Apr. 27	65,153	19							1	1			
Fall River, Mass.	Apr. 27	65,000	21										1	
Charleston, S. C.	Apr. 20	60,145	28							1				
Charleston, S. C.	Apr. 27	60,145	25							1			1	
Lynn, Mass.	Apr. 27	50,000	18											
Portland, Me.	Apr. 27	42,000												
Manchester, N. H.	Apr. 20	42,000	13											
East Saginaw, Mich.	Apr. 27	40,000	9											
Galveston, Tex.	Apr. 12	40,000	13											
Galveston, Tex.	Apr. 19	40,000	8									1		
Council Bluffs, Iowa.	Apr. 13	35,000	4											
Council Bluffs, Iowa.	Apr. 20	35,000												
Davenport, Iowa.	Apr. 20	33,715	7										4	
Davenport, Iowa.	Apr. 27	33,715	3									2		
Altoona, Pa.	Apr. 20	30,000	6											
Auburn, N. Y.	Apr. 27	26,000	12									1		
Newport, R. I.	Apr. 25	22,000	4											
Newton, Mass.	Apr. 27	21,553	7							1				
Keokuk, Iowa.	Apr. 20	16,000	1											
Keokuk, Iowa.	Apr. 27	16,000	6									2	2	
Pensacola, Fla.	Apr. 20	15,000	5							1				

JOHN B. HAMILTON, .

Supervising Surgeon-General, Marine-Hospital Service.