

# WEEKLY ABSTRACT OF SANITARY REPORTS.

VOL. IV. { Abstract }  
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TREASURY DEPARTMENT,  
OFFICE SUPERVISING SURGEON-GENERAL,  
U. S. MARINE-HOSPITAL SERVICE,  
Washington, D. C., May 31, 1889.

*Abstract of Sanitary Reports received through the Department of State from foreign countries during the week ended May 31, 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 May 11, corresponded to an annual rate of 18.8 a thousand of the aggregate population, which is estimated at 9,555,406. The lowest rate was recorded in Cardiff, viz., 14.8, and the highest in Halifax, viz., 32.2 a thousand. Diphtheria caused 2 deaths in Salford, 2 in Manchester, 2 in Bolton, and 2 in Portsmouth.

*London.*—One thousand two hundred and ninety-five deaths were registered during the week, including measles, 60; scarlet fever, 10; diphtheria, 23; whooping-cough, 37; enteric fever, 5; diarrhœa and dysentery, 10. The deaths from all causes corresponded to an annual rate of 15.5 a thousand. Diseases of the respiratory organs caused 213 deaths. In greater London 1,649 deaths were registered, corresponding to an annual rate of 15.3 a thousand of the population. In the "outer ring" the deaths included measles, 15; whooping-cough, 6; and diphtheria, 7.

*Ireland.*—The average annual death rate, represented by the deaths registered during the week ended May 11, in the 16 principal town districts of Ireland, was 26.6 a thousand of the population. The lowest rate was recorded in Armagh, viz., 0.0, and the highest in Limerick, viz., 39.2 a thousand. In Dublin 185 deaths were registered, including whooping-cough, 3; enteric fever, 3; dysentery, 1; erysipelas, 1; and scarlet fever, 2.

*Scotland.*—The deaths registered in 8 principal towns during the week ended May 11, corresponded to an annual rate of 21.2 a thousand of the population, which is estimated at 1,314,274. The lowest mortality

was recorded in Leith, viz., 12.3, and the highest in Paisley, viz., 30.8 a thousand. The aggregate number of deaths registered from all causes was 541, including measles, 22; scarlet fever, 5; diphtheria, 6; whooping-cough, 36; fever, 5; and diarrhœa, 3.

URUGUAY—*Montevideo*.—Three hundred and forty deaths were registered during the month of March, 1889, in an estimated population of 164,028, including small-pox, 2; enteric and typhus fever, 13; and diphtheria, 13. The sanitary condition of the city was good.

During the month of February 329 deaths were registered, including small-pox, 2; enteric and typhus fever, 7; and diphtheria, 20.

BAHAMAS—*Nassau, N. P.*—May 18, 1889.—No prevailing diseases of importance. City very healthy.

WEST INDIES—*Barbadoes*.—May 4, 1889.—Health of Island good.

CUBA—*Cardenas*.—May 23, 1889.—Weather warm and dry. Good health in town and harbor.

MORTALITY TABLE, FOREIGN CITIES.

Cities.	Week ended.	Estimated popula- tion.	Total deaths from all causes.	Deaths from—								
				Cholera.	Yellow fever.	Small-pox.	Typhus fever.	Enteric fever.	Scarlet fever.	Diphtheria.	Measles.	Whooping- cough.
London.....	May 16.....	5,642,015	1,649					5	11	30	75	
Paris.....	May 11.....	2,260,945	951			4		3		28	31	8
Glasgow.....	May 15.....	545,678	253					1	4	3		
Warsaw.....	May 4.....	445,770	215			12			12	6		
Rome.....	Mar. 30.....	401,044	174			3		4				
Rome.....	Apr. 6.....	404,449	200			3		2	1	4		
Amsterdam.....	May 11.....	399,051	177				1			2		
Copenhagen.....	May 4.....	307,000	149					1		4		
Palermo.....	May 11.....	250,000	93						3	3		
Belfast.....	May 11.....	229,622	126					2				
Rotterdam.....	May 11.....	197,724	115								3	
Genoa.....	May 11.....	179,915	91			1	2		1	1		
Trieste.....	May 4.....	154,500	63							1		
Stuttgart.....	May 11.....	125,510	61						5	10		
Pernambuco.....	Apr. 16.....	120,000	103		3	1		2	1			
Pernambuco.....	Apr. 23.....	120,000	112		1			1	2			
Havre.....	May 11.....	112,074	64			4		3				
Barmen.....	May 11.....	109,000	54							1	6	
Leghorn.....	May 12.....	102,893	39									
Cadiz.....	May 11.....	65,028	44									
Curacao.....	May 15.....	25,000	6									
Vera Cruz.....	May 16.....	23,800	24									
Cartagena, Col.....	Apr. 27.....	13,000	6							1		
Cartagena, Col.....	May 4.....	13,000	8									
Cartagena, Col.....	May 11.....	13,000	8									
Laguayra.....	May 11.....	7,428	8									

## UNITED STATES.

*Report of Sanitary Inspection of Macclenny, Fla.*

JACKSONVILLE, FLA., May 20, 1889.

SIR: A recent inspection of the town of Macclenny, Fla., shows an improved and satisfactory sanitary condition, and entire immunity from

the presence of infectious and contagious diseases. Active measures are being taken to ameliorate the local conditions of defective drainage, and the former lax system of removal of garbage and excrementitious matter, which unquestionably contributed largely to the rapid spread and fatal character of the epidemic of yellow fever of last year. The municipal health authorities are enforcing strict cleanliness of premises, draining the low areas, and contemplate burning the sawdust heaps contiguous to the ponds and lagoons within the corporate limits of their town. They are firmly impressed with the importance of maintaining a higher standard of municipal sanitation than that of the past, which recalls the sad and costly experiences resulting from their strange indifference to the most ordinary sanitary precautions. During the month of January last every house, public and private, where "the fever" had prevailed was visited by myself or inspectors appointed by me, and all infected material removed and destroyed, and the rooms of each dwelling as thoroughly saturated with the fumes of sulphur as their structure permitted. In addition to fumigation with sulphur, the floors and walls of houses where deaths and cases were numerous, were washed and sprayed with a solution of mercuric chloride, in proportion of 1 to 1,000; and carpets, rugs, lounges, woolen curtains, blankets, after being washed, were sprayed with a similar solution of 1 to 2,000. During my sojourn at Macclenny frost and ice occurred repeatedly, and all the dwellings were thoroughly aerated at night. I feel assured that owing to the liberal manner in which the Government acted toward the owners of infected household material, and the least possible inconvenience to which they were subjected in the disinfection of their dwellings, that no infected house or material escaped the necessary and highly efficient methods adopted by the head of that department of the government under whose direction this delicate and difficult work was accomplished. An interesting illustration, I think, is furnished of the thoroughly efficient treatment of a certain class of infected household goods, viz., feather-beds, pillows, bolsters, &c., which could not be easily replaced except at considerable cost, which were sent in a special car from this town to the Government laundry at Jacksonville, to be cleansed and renovated by the application of super-heated steam. A special apparatus had been devised for this purpose. The shipment comprised a half car-load of feather goods, nearly all of the packages being stained with the excreta and dejecta of the sick, and emitting, when accumulated in the car, in a very forcible manner, the peculiarly offensive and indescribable (urinous-sweaty) odor so familiar to the clinical student of yellow fever. After immersion in a disinfectant solution, steaming of the tickings, and subjection of the feathers to super-heated steam, the cargo was returned for redistribution, clean and absolutely odorless. It is my firm belief that this method is destructive of every vestige of infection contained in this class of goods, and combines the very important feature of economy. As a result of these effective methods of disinfection, and the destruction of infected material, that were practiced in this town, I entertain the highest degree of assurance that the disease, in an epidemic form, can only recur from a new importation of its morbidic matter.

Very respectfully yours,

J. L. POSEY, M. D.,

*U. S. Sanitary Inspector, Marine-Hospital Service.*

To Surgeon-General J. B. HAMILTON,

*U. S. Marine-Hospital Service.*

SOUTH CAROLINA.—*Official Quarantine Notice.*

OFFICE STATE BOARD OF HEALTH OF SOUTH CAROLINA,  
CHARLESTON, S. C., *April 19, 1889.*

The quarantine regulations of this State will be rigidly enforced from Wednesday May 1, at sunrise, and continue until Thursday October 31, at sunset, at the several ports of the State.

Section 948, general statutes of South Carolina: "That for the certain prevention of the introduction of disease into the several ports of the State, every vessel arriving from a foreign port or from a suspected or infected port of the United States shall immediately proceed to the quarantine station of the port of arrival and display a yellow flag, or the vessel's ensign in the rigging, and shall be visited by the Quarantine Officer between sunrise and sunset as soon as possible after such arrival."

Vessels having had yellow fever, cholera, or small-pox on board, either at *port of departure or during voyage*, or at time of arrival, will not be boarded by pilots, but shall be directed by them to the national quarantine refuge station at Blackbeard's Island, Sapelo Sound, on the Georgia coast. Pilots must anchor at the quarantine station all other such vessels that are subject to inspection. They will be held responsible for all violations of quarantine regulations after they have boarded any vessels until authorized to do so by the quarantine physician.

J. R. BRATTON, M. D.,

*Chairman Executive Committee, State Board of Health.*

Approved:

J. P. RICHARDSON,  
*Governor.*

MISSISSIPPI.—The following letter has been received from A. Parker Champlin, M. D., State quarantine physician:

MISSISSIPPI STATE QUARANTINE SERVICE,

SHIP-ISLAND QUARANTINE STATION, *May, 21, 1889.*

SIR: Replying to yours of recent date, I will state that this station is for the treatment of all vessels subject to quarantine, with the exception of those infected, or from infected ports. Those from infected ports, or infected, are sent by me to your Chandeleur Island Station for treatment. I also inspect all incoming vessels, wherever they may be from. I send a copy of rules and regulations now in force.

Yours truly,

A. PARKER CHAMPLIN, M. D.

*Quarantine Physician, Ship-Island Station.*

(These rules and regulations were published in abstract No. 21, current series).

CALIFORNIA—*Los Angeles*.—Month of April, 1889. Population, 80,000. Total deaths, 46; including enteric fever, 3; and croup, 2.

MICHIGAN.—Reports to the State board of health, Lansing, from fifty-

nine observers, show that for the week ended May 18, 1889, measles, neuralgia, erysipelas and tonsillitis increased in area of prevalence, and that influenza, whooping-cough, diarrhoea, and consumption of lungs decreased. Including reports by regular observers and others, diphtheria was reported present during the week ended May 18, and since, at seven places; scarlet fever at twenty-two places; enteric fever at two places; and measles at eleven places.

NEW JERSEY—*Hudson County*.—Month of April, 1889. Estimated population, 282,254. Total deaths, 544, including scarlet fever, 22; diphtheria, 22; whooping-cough, 1; enteric fever, 8; malarial fevers, 4; and diarrhoeal diseases, 7.

PENNSYLVANIA—*York*.—Month of April, 1889. Estimated population, 20,845. Total deaths, 22, including diphtheria, 1; and erysipelas, 1.

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.	May 25	1,566,940	684							4	36	52	5	11
Philadelphia, Pa.	May 25	1,040,245	339							15	5	2	5	3
Chicago, Ill.	May 25	830,000	250							3	4	16	5	
Brooklyn, N. Y.	May 25	821,525	300							2	6	22	3	9
Baltimore, Md.	May 25	500,343	123							5		3		
San Francisco, Cal.	May 17	330,000	112							4				2
San Francisco, Cal.	May 24	330,000	96							2	1	2	1	1
Cincinnati, Ohio.	May 25	325,000	104									11		
New Orleans, La.	May 18	254,000	141										2	1
Detroit, Mich.	May 18	230,000	69							1	1	2		
Pittsburgh, Pa.	May 25	230,000	74								2	2	1	2
Louisville, Ky.	May 25	227,000	59											
Washington, D. C.	May 25	225,000	74								2			1
Milwaukee, Wis.	May 25	210,000	48								1			1
Minneapolis, Minn.	May 18	200,000	25									6		
Minneapolis, Minn.	May 25	200,000	34								1	3		
Newark, N. J.	May 21	182,457	72							1	1	6	6	
Newark, N. J.	May 28	182,457	80							1	4	5	1	1
Kansas City, Mo.	May 25	180,000	33							1		1		
Providence, R. I.	May 25	127,000	49							1	1	6		
Richmond, Va.	May 25	100,000	21							1				
Denver, Colo.	May 24	100,000	28			1							1	1
Toledo, Ohio.	May 24	83,500	22							3	1	2	1	1
Nashville, Tenn.	May 25	65,153	17									1		
Fall River, Mass.	May 25	63,000	25							1				
Charleston, S. C.	May 25	60,145	34							1	2			
Lynn, Mass.	May 25	50,000	18							1				
Portland, Me.	May 25	42,000	12								1			
Munchester, N. H.	May 18	42,000	7											
Galveston, Tex.	May 10	40,000	15											
Davenport, Iowa.	May 25	33,715	3											
Binghamton, N. Y.	May 25	30,000	6									1		
Auburn, N. Y.	May 25	26,000	12										3	
Haverhill, Mass.	May 25	25,000	6											
Newton, Mass.	May 25	21,553	7										1	
Keokuk, Iowa.	May 25	16,000	4										1	
Pensacola, Fla.	May 18	15,000	6											1

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