

# WEEKLY ABSTRACT OF SANITARY REPORTS.

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TREASURY DEPARTMENT,  
OFFICE SUPERVISING SURGEON-GENERAL,  
U. S. MARINE-HOSPITAL SERVICE,  
Washington, D. C., October 4, 1889.

*Abstract of Domestic and Foreign Sanitary Reports received during the week ended October 4, 1889, published in accordance with section 4, Act of Congress, approved April 29, 1878.*

UNITED STATES.

*Transfer of Land for the South Atlantic Quarantine.*

NAVY DEPARTMENT,  
Washington, September 16, 1889.

It appearing, by an indenture filed in this Department, dated April, 1800, that the title in fee to Black Beard Island, Sapelo Sound, State of Georgia, was conveyed by the marshal of the district of Georgia to the President of the United States, and his successors in office; that this Department has heretofore and still exercises jurisdiction and control over said island for naval purposes, and that the public interests will be subserved by transferring such jurisdiction and control to the Treasury Department of the United States for quarantine purposes; it is hereby ordered and directed, with the approval of the President, that Black Beard Island, Sapelo Sound, Georgia, be, and the same is hereby, so transferred and made subject to the use and control of the said Department for quarantine purposes, reserving, however, to the Navy Department all growing timber upon said island, and the right to cut and remove the same at all times.

B. F. TRACY,  
*Secretary of the Navy.*

EXECUTIVE MANSION, September 27, 1889.

Approved.

BENJ. HARRISON.

FLORIDA—*Pensacola.*—The following letter has been received:

OFFICE OF THE BOARD OF HEALTH,  
*Pensacola, Fla., September 27, 1889.*

SIR: The vessel "Salacia" left Rio de Janeiro about the beginning of August with a clean bill of health, and arrived off this port yesterday. Your Weekly Abstract of Sanitary Reports shows yellow fever prevailing there on that date, and, in accordance with the provisions

of our proclamation, we have notified the consignees of the vessel that she can not enter the port.

Your obedient servant,

WM. FISHER, *Secretary*,

To Surgeon-General J. B. HAMILTON.

*Reports of States, and Yearly and Monthly Reports of Cities.*

ILLINOIS—*Peoria*.—Month of August, 1889. Population, 40,000. Total deaths, 32. None from contagious diseases.

IOWA.—Month of September, 1889. Reports to the State board of health, Des Moines, show that scarlet fever was present in 2 places, diphtheria in 13 places, and measles in 1 place. The Monthly Bulletin says :

On the 26th of August Health-Officer Bailey reports a new case of small-pox, a boy about 6 years old, at Mount Ayr, and that the outlook is favorable for the disease for some time to come. And all this comes from an unfortunate reliance on vaccine virus that failed to work.

MICHIGAN.—Week ended September 21, 1889. Reports to the State board of health, Lansing, from 52 observers, indicate that inflammation of brain increased, and cholera infantum, remittent fever, cholera morbus, pneumonia, and influenza decreased in area of prevalence. Diphtheria was reported present during the week, and since, at 12 places ; scarlet fever at 8 places ; enteric fever at 22 places, and measles at 4 places.

NEW YORK.—Month of August, 1889. Reports to the State board of health from 128 cities and towns and 8 districts show a total of 9,372 deaths, as against 10,017 deaths during the same period in 1888. The deaths included enteric fever, 224 ; scarlet fever, 54 ; measles, 22 ; erysipelas, 10 ; whooping-cough, 133, and diphtheria and croup, 327. The Monthly Bulletin says :

The average mortality for August for the last five years is 8,668 ; that of August, 1889, is 9,373, which is less by 600 than that reported for August, 1888. The average proportion of infant mortality for five years is 45.5 per cent., and of deaths from zymotic diseases 332.27 per 1,000 ; for this month the proportions are respectively 40.7 and 280.75. From diarrhoeal diseases there are fewer deaths than usual in August, and about 1,200 less than in July. There is an increase in typhoid fever, which began last month. The per cent. of deaths from this cause in August for four preceding years is 1.72 ; of this month it is 2.40. The increase over last year is principally in New York and Brooklyn ; Binghamton reports an unusual number of deaths. Special prevalence is not reported from any place. Scarlet fever and measles are much less prevalent than a year ago. From consumption 109.46 deaths in each 1,000 occurred, and 192 per 1,000 deaths above the age of five years.

NEW HAMPSHIRE.—Month of August, 1889. From the Sanitary Volunteer, the official organ of the New Hampshire State board of health, the following is extracted :

The following contagious and infectious diseases were reported for the month of August:

*Diphtheria*.—Dover, 15; Manchester, 6; Claremont, 7; Newport, 6; Nashua, 6; Derry, 2; Rollinsford, 2, and Bethlehem, Concord, Moultonborough, Richmond, and Salem, 1 each.

*Scarlet fever*.—Manchester, 37—making a total of 186 cases since May 18; Tilton, 11; Berlin, 5; Concord, 6, and Laconia, Derry, and Claremont, 1 each.

*Typhoid fever*.—Manchester, 8 (3 imported); Claremont, 7; Concord, 6; Laconia, 5; Dover, 3; Hudson, 3; Bethlehem, 2, and Henniker, Hopkinton, Jaffrey, Walpole, Nashua, Moultonborough, and Weare 1 case each.

*Measles.*—Manchester, 1 case.

*Manchester*.—Month of August, 1889. Population, 42,000. Total deaths, 59, including diphtheria, 3; scarlet fever, 2, and enteric fever, 2.

MORTALITY TABLE, CITIES OF THE UNITED STATES.

[illegible]

## FOREIGN.

(Reports received through the Department of State and other channels.)

**GREAT BRITAIN—*England and Wales.***—The deaths registered in 28 great towns of England and Wales during the week ended September 14 corresponded to an annual rate of 16.7 a thousand of the aggregate population, which is estimated at 9,555,406. The lowest rate was recorded in Derby, viz, 13.2, and the highest in Plymouth, viz, 31.8 a thousand. Diphtheria caused 2 deaths in Manchester and 2 in Derby.

*London.*—One thousand two hundred and thirty-six deaths were registered during the week, including measles, 10; scarlet fever, 17; diphtheria, 41; whooping-cough, 18; enteric fever, 19; diarrhœa and dysentery, 68. The deaths from all causes corresponded to an annual rate of 14.8 a thousand. Diseases of the respiratory organs caused 152 deaths. In greater London 1,551 deaths were registered, corresponding to an annual rate of 14.3 a thousand of the population. In the "outer ring" the deaths included diarrhœa, 19; whooping-cough, 7, and diphtheria, 4.

*Ireland.*—The average annual death rate, represented by the deaths registered during the week ended September 14, in the 16 principal town districts of Ireland, was 21.1 a thousand of the population. The lowest rate was recorded in Wexford, viz, 4.3, and the highest in Newry, viz, 45.7 a thousand. In Dublin 166 deaths were registered, including scarlet fever, 1; enteric fever, 4; diarrhœa, 12, and dysentery, 3.

*Scotland.*—The deaths registered in 8 principal towns during the week ended September 14 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 Paisley, viz, 12.5, and the highest in Dundee, viz, 23.6 a thousand. The aggregate number of deaths registered from all causes was 488, including measles, 9; scarlet fever, 3; diphtheria, 5; whooping-cough, 13; fever, 11, and diarrhœa, 38.

**TURKEY IN ASIA—*Cholera.***—

DEPARTMENT OF STATE,  
Washington, October 1, 1889.

SIR: I have the honor to state that, as I am informed by our minister at Teheran, the cholera in an epidemic form has appeared at Bassorah, Bagdad, and various places on the Euphrates.

I have the honor to be, sir, your obedient servant,

JAMES G. BLAINE.

The Honorable the SECRETARY OF THE TREASURY.

*Cholera in Mesopotamia.*

[From the Journal d'Hygiene, September 19, 1889.—Translation.]

Our correspondent at Constantinople informs us again this week that cholera has made new progress toward the north of Mesopotamia.

The following is Dr. Gabuzzi's letter of the 10th of September :

Traversing Diala River, cholera morbus passed over the first sanitary cordon established from Salanie to Zehrit, and on September 2d made its appearance at Zissyne, on the 4th at Selimie, on the 7th at Bomadi on the Euphrates, and on the 8th at Kerbouk. The epidemic is especially most murderous amongst the Arab tribes. The sanitary cordons have been extended farther North. The first extends along the Tigris and Euphrates, whilst the second penetrates into the province of Mossoul in order to cover the city of Van.

The official mortality bulletins for the zone stricken by the plague reaches 4,000, about (3,923) the number of deaths, but this number is surely below the truth, the impossibility of registering exactly the cases of morbidity and mortality in the midst of these infatuated hordes being taken into consideration.

DR. GABUZZI.

CONSTANTINOPLE, *September 10, 1888.*

DEMERARA.—September 2, 1889. No cases of any contagious or infectious disease during the month of August, 1889.

SPAIN.—*Cadiz*.—The United States consul, in his dispatch to the Department of State under date of September 11, 1889, says :

I deem it my duty to inform you that the present sanitary conditions of this city are bad. Were its situation and climate one degree less favorable, epidemics, in my opinion, would be perennial. The system of sewerage now in use originated with the city, and during the past centuries it has undergone no improvement. There are no such things as sewer man-holes, and water is used in sparing quantities. The water-closets after being used are flushed with dippers of water, instead of being flushed and flooded as we are accustomed to see it in the United States. There is scarcely a building in Cadiz that has not unwholesome smells to a greater or less degree, and many places on the streets are almost stifling.

That there is no excuse for the existence of such conditions is evidenced by the sea surrounding the city, and the additional fact that its natural drainage is almost perfect. One other thing assists to be foul ; that is the filthy custom of making urinals of the walls of all buildings. In some parts of the town darkness is a license to make water-closets of the sidewalks. Every recess is used as a filth depository, and it not unfrequently happens that morning shows behind the outer entrance door of dwellings the excrement of some vagrant.

The result of this sanitary status is a death rate unsurpassed by any city of the same population.

At Gibraltar the death rate is about 20 per thousand per annum. At Cadiz it is fully 35, and I am of the opinion that accurate statistics would increase this figure. All deaths occurring on Sunday are not re-

ported. So far as I know there is no American or English governed city of the same size where the death rate is so high. Under proper sanitary regulations Cadiz would, I believe, be one of the most healthy cities in the world.

HONDURAS—*Ruatan*.—The United States consul, in his dispatch dated August 13, 1889, says:

Referring to my Nos. 237, 238, and 258, the latter dated November 1, 1888, relating to the sanitary condition of the ports of Ruatan and Truxillo, I have now to inform you that a fever similar in all respects to that described in the above-mentioned dispatches made its appearance in this port about six weeks since, causing the death of several soldiers and prisoners, besides the following-named persons of note:

1. His Excellency, Manuel Lopez, Civil and Military Governor of the Bay Islands, died June 25.

2. Captain Lara, died July 11.

3. Edward Fromann, a very promising young German-American, employed as private secretary in this consulate, died July 17.

4. Salvador Yngles, collector of customs at this port, died July 25.

On the 27th of July I was prostrated by the same fever, and believe that I owe my recovery to medical treatment quite different from that practiced in the cases above cited.

During the present month no new cases have been reported, and it is hoped and believed that the fever has disappeared.

CUBA—*Havana*.—Nine deaths from yellow fever are reported for the week ended September 20, 1889.

*Santiago de Cuba*.—The United States consul furnishes the following sanitary report for the first half of September, 1889:

Notwithstanding the continuous wet and stormy weather, the health of the city has not been worse during the first half of this month than during the same period in August. In fact, the death-rate from yellow fever at the military hospital outside the town limits has decreased. The health of the port has been excellent. Thirty-eight deaths were registered, including yellow fever in military hospital, 10; pernicious fever, 5, and diphtheria and croup, 2.

*Cardenas*.—September 20, 1889. Rainy weather, winds southerly, affected by a passing cyclone, probably to the southward.

DANISH WEST INDIES—*St. Thomas*.—Four hundred and sixty-two deaths were registered during the second quarter of 1889, including dysentery, 33; intestinal catarrh and acute diarrhoea, 104, and intermittent and remittent fever, 197.

INDIA—*Singapore*.—Month of July, 1889. Total deaths, 598, including fevers, 177; bowel complaints, 90, and beri-beri, 6.

## 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.....	Sept. 14.....	5,642,015	1,551	.....	.....	.....	.....	19	20	45	11	.....
Paris.....	Sept. 6.....	2,260,945	890	.....	.....	1	.....	28	3	32	10	12
Paris.....	Sept. 14....	2,260,945	867	.....	.....	5	.....	25	3	30	12	13
Glasgow.....	Sept. 14....	545,678	200	.....	.....	.....	.....	4	.....	2	.....	.....
Warsaw.....	Sept. 7.....	445,770	244	.....	26	.....	.....	6	12	.....	.....	.....
Calcutta.....	Aug. 17....	433,219	226	16	1	.....	.....	.....	.....	1	.....	.....
Rome.....	July 20....	407,936	207	.....	1	.....	.....	1	.....	3	.....	.....
Rome.....	July 27....	407,936	158	.....	1	.....	.....	4	.....	1	.....	.....
Amsterdam.....	Sept. 14....	399,051	120	.....	.....	.....	.....	1	2	.....	.....	.....
Copenhagen.....	Sept. 7.....	307,000	104	.....	.....	.....	.....	1	.....	6	.....	.....
Palermo.....	Sept. 14....	250,000	68	.....	.....	2	.....	.....	1	.....	.....	.....
Rotterdam.....	Sept. 14....	197,724	62	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	1	.....
Genoa.....	Sept. 14....	180,274	76	.....	.....	.....	1	.....	.....	2	.....	.....
Trieste.....	Sept. 7.....	154,510	77	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	3	.....	.....
Stuttgart.....	Sept. 14....	125,510	29	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	1	.....	.....
Pernambuco.....	Aug. 27....	120,000	78	.....	.....	.....	.....	1	1	.....	.....	.....
Barmen.....	Sept. 14....	109,000	25	.....	.....	.....	2	.....	.....	1	2	.....
Catania.....	Sept. 15....	108,000	39	.....	.....	.....	.....	1	.....	.....	.....	.....
Leghorn.....	Sept. 15....	103,142	41	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Mayence.....	Sept. 7.....	65,802	31	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	1	.....	.....
Cadiz.....	Sept. 14....	65,028	41	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Cienfuegos.....	Sept. 16....	40,655	17	.....	1	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Ceara.....	Aug. 3.....	29,000	42	.....	1	.....	.....	5	27	.....	.....	.....
Ceara.....	Aug. 10....	29,000	45	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	23	.....	.....	.....
Vera Cruz.....	Sept. 19....	23,800	25	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Gibraltar.....	Sept. 8.....	23,631	12	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	1	.....	.....
Kingston, Can.....	Sept. 20....	20,000	6	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Cartagena, Colombia.....	Sept. 14....	20,000	14	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
St. Thomas.....	Aug. 23....	13,500	14	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
St. Thomas.....	Aug. 30....	13,500	7	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
St. Thomas.....	Sept. 6.....	13,500	7	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
St. Thomas.....	Sept. 13....	13,500	5	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
La Guayra.....	Aug. 31....	7,428	9	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
La Guayra.....	Sept. 7.....	7,428	5	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
La Guayra.....	Sept. 14....	7,428	5	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....

JOHN B. HAMILTON,

*Supervising Surgeon-General, Marine-Hospital Service.*