

WEEKLY ABSTRACT OF SANITARY REPORTS.

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TREASURY DEPARTMENT,
OFFICE SUPERVISING SURGEON-GENERAL,
U. S. MARINE-HOSPITAL SERVICE,
Washington, D. C., March 2, 1889.

Abstract of Sanitary Reports received through the Department of State from foreign countries during the week ended March 2, 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 February 9, corresponded to an annual rate of 19.1 a thousand of the aggregate population, which is estimated at 9,555,406. The lowest rate was recorded in Brighton, viz., 11.1, and the highest in Blackburn, viz., 32.3 a thousand. Diphtheria caused 9 deaths in Manchester, 2 in Salford, 2 in Preston, 2 in Bristol, and 2 in Sunderland.

London.—One thousand four hundred and sixty deaths were registered during the week, including measles, 56; scarlet fever, 12; diphtheria, 24; whooping-cough, 33; enteric fever, 5; diarrhoea and dysentery, 18. The deaths from all causes corresponded to an annual rate of 17.5 a thousand. Diseases of the respiratory organs caused 340 deaths; different forms of violence, 49; and 10 suicides were registered. In greater London 1,837 deaths were registered, corresponding to an annual rate of 17.0 a thousand of the population. In the "outer ring" the deaths included measles, 18; diphtheria, 5; and whooping-cough, 8.

Ireland.—The average annual death rate, represented by the deaths registered during the week ended February 9, in the 16 principal town districts of Ireland, was 25.2 a thousand of the population. The lowest rate was recorded in Newry, viz., 7.0, and the highest in Londonderry, viz., 30.3 a thousand. In Dublin 166 deaths were registered, including whooping-cough, 3; enteric fever, 4; scarlet fever, 3; diarrhoea, 3; and erysipelas, 1.

Valencia, Spain.—*Yellow Fever.*—The U. S. Consul at Puerto Cabello, under date of February 7, 1889, states that—

The *Boz Publica*, a journal published in the city of Valencia, within this consular district, contains, under date of February 6, 1889, the in-

closed proclamation by the mayor of said city, which I hasten to transmit to the Department of State. I write, to-day, to Mr. Grosewisch, United States consular agent at Valencia, requesting him to obtain all the information he can procure concerning this epidemic of yellow fever, and to send me his report as soon as possible for transmission to the Department of State. Although the city of Valencia is only 42 miles distant from Puerto Cabello, and in daily communication with it by rail, I am glad to state that there is not, and there has not been, as yet, a single case of yellow fever in this port. Should the disease make its appearance here, I shall immediately notify the Department thereof, pursuant to paragraph 335, Consular Regulations.

Proclamation of Mayor of Valencia.

The Jefatura Civil (Mayoralty) of the District—

Considering that yellow fever is spreading more and every day throughout this city, assuming now the character of an epidemic, and that there are well founded reasons for believing that, in spite of the utmost diligence on the part of the military commander at this post for preserving the cleanliness of the premises occupied as soldiers' barracks, this latter place is, nevertheless, one of the centers of infection which vitiate the atmosphere, because the filth thereof (fecal matter) is deposited therein during the day, and is thence carried away during the night through a considerable portion of the inhabited quarters of the city, to be cast out at the edge of the town.

Resolved, To appoint a commission composed of the duly empowered doctors, Manuel Cardenas, Eduardo Celes, and José Rafael Revenga, to study the subject and report, within the shortest possible delay, to this Jefatura.

Martinique.—The U. S. Consul reports, under date of February 5th, that "the health of this island is now perfect, and there has not been, since the 8th of January past, even an isolated case of any contagious malady whatsoever."

Bahia, Brazil.—January 26: No contagious diseases.

Ceara, Brazil.—One hundred and seventy deaths were registered during the month of January, 1889. No contagious diseases.

Merida, Mexico.—Forty-two deaths were registered during the week ended January 22, 1889. Yellow, gastric, malarial, and enteric fevers prevail, but no deaths from those diseases are reported.

Bordeaux, France.—Five hundred and eighty-seven deaths were registered during the month of January, 1889, including enteric fever, 16, and diphtheria and croup, 21.

Barbadoes, W. I.—February 9: Health of island good.

Nassau, N. P.—February 16: No prevailing diseases of importance. City very healthy.

Havana, Cuba.—Four deaths from yellow fever were registered during the week ended February 15, and one during the week ended February 21, 1889,

Cardenas, Cuba.—February 22: Good health prevails in town and harbor. Weather dry and pleasant.

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.
London	Feb. 9.....	5,642,015	1,837	.....	.....	.....	.....	5	14	29	74
Paris	Feb. 9.....	2,260,945	1,013	.....	.....	1	.....	12	3	36	36
Glasgow	Feb. 9.....	545,678	273	.....	.....	.....	.....	3	2	7	.....
Warsaw	Feb. 2.....	444,814	260	.....	.....	7	.....	.....	10	9	.....
Calcutta	Jan. 5.....	433,219	293	29	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	1
Amsterdam	Feb. 9.....	399,051	179	.....	.....	.....	.....	2	.....	6	17
Rome	Dec. 22.....	393,496	227	.....	4	.....	8	.....	.....	6	.....
Rome	Dec. 29.....	393,496	170	.....	2	.....	.....	1	3	.....	.....
Copenhagen	Feb. 2.....	307,000	115	.....	.....	.....	2	.....	.....	1	.....
Munich	Jan. 26.....	281,000	169	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Edinburgh	Jan. 19.....	266,900	92	.....	.....	.....	3	4	13	.....	.....
Edinburgh	Jan. 26.....	266,900	94	.....	.....	7	1	.....	3	.....	.....
Palermo	Feb. 9.....	250,000	115	.....	4	.....	.....	.....	1	.....	.....
Belfast	Feb. 9.....	229,622	129	.....	.....	.....	7	1	.....	.....	.....
Bristol	Feb. 9.....	229,361	84	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	2	.....	.....
Genoa	Feb. 9.....	179,870	91	.....	3	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Toronto	Feb. 16.....	170,000	51	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	2	.....	.....
Trieste	Feb. 2.....	154,500	108	.....	4	.....	1	.....	3	.....	.....
Stuttgart	Feb. 9.....	125,510	45	.....	.....	.....	.....	2	1	.....	.....
Havre	Feb. 9.....	112,074	68	.....	9	.....	3	2	.....	.....	.....
Pernambuco	Jan. 22.....	110,000	72	.....	1	.....	2	1	2	.....	.....
Pernambuco	Jan. 29.....	110,000	66	.....	.....	.....	2	1	1	.....	.....
Barmen	Feb. 2.....	109,000	37	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	2	1
Barmen	Feb. 9.....	109,000	25	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Leghorn	Feb. 10.....	102,893	41	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	2	.....
Leith	Jan. 19.....	74,320	20	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	1	.....
Leith	Jan. 26.....	74,320	28	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Mayence	Feb. 2.....	65,802	28	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Cadiz	Feb. 9.....	65,028	48	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Merida	Feb. 14.....	48,502	40	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Guayaquil	Jan. 7.....	30,000	53	.....	.....	3	.....	11	.....	.....	15
Guayaquil	Jan. 14.....	30,000	69	.....	.....	3	.....	14	.....	.....	11
Gibraltar	Feb. 3.....	23,631	9	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	1	.....
Kingston, Can	Feb. 22.....	17,300	1	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
St. Thomas	Feb. 8.....	13,500	34	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Laguayra	Feb. 2.....	7,428	8	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....

UNITED STATES.

By direction of this bureau, a sample of the water furnished by the city water-works to the city of Lake View, near Chicago, Ill., and to the United States Marine Hospital, located at that place, for the port of Chicago, Ill., has been chemically analysed at the laboratory of the Marine-Hospital Service, at the port of New York. The report of the analysis is as follows:

Color (through 12 inches).....	Yellow.
Sediment.....	Abundant, yellowish, flocculent.
Luster.....	None.
Taste, smell	Offensive.

Suspended Matter.

Fixed (principally oxide iron).....	m. g. per liter.
Volatile (organic).....	82
	170

Constituents of Filtered Water.

	m. g. per liter
Residue. { Volatile (organic).....	103
{ Fixed (mineral).....	98
	<hr/> 201 <hr/>
	m. g. per liter.
Ammonia, free .....	. 09
Ammonia, albuminoid.....	. 32
	<hr/>
Total, ammonia.....	. 41 <hr/>
Nitrates and nitrites (calculated as ammon.).....	. 08
Hardness by Clark's test—	
Removable.....	0. 00°
Permanent	3. 85°
	<hr/>
Total	3. 85° <hr/>

Mineral Constituents.

	m. g. per liter.
Sulphate Lime.....	92. 00
Sulphate Magnesia.....	3. 00
Silica.....	2. 00
	<hr/>
	97. 00

A very dangerous water for all domestic purposes. The content of albuminoid ammonia at once puts it in the category of suspicious waters. The content of nitrates and nitrites point to sewage contamination. The use of the water should be discontinued.*

Respectively submitted,

H. D. GEDDINGS,

Assistant Surgeon Marine-Hospital Service.

An analysis of the spring water which was used at the yellow fever refuge camp at Camp Perry, Florida, during the recent epidemic in Florida, has also been made, which shows that it is of fair quality as a potable water. The report is as follows:

Physical Characters.

Color (through 12 inches).....	† Yellowish.
Turbidity.....	None.
Sediment.....	None.

Ingredients.

	† m. g. per liter.
Fixed.....	87
Volatile at low red heat	71
	<hr/>
Total.....	158

* As a matter of fact, the use of the water was discontinued for drinking purposes, about two years since, and is now used in the hospital only for general purposes, and after filtration by a steam-filter. A bacteriological examination of the water will be made, but the chemical analysis, as shown above, has a peculiar significance at this time, in view of the presence of a considerable epidemic of typhoid fever in the region of the city supplied by the Lake View Water Works.

† Probably due to fact that the sample was sent in a new oaken keg.

‡ m. g. per liter = parts per 1,000,000.

	* m. g. per liter.
Ammonia, free.....	0. 16
Ammonia, albuminoid.....	0. 22
Nitrates and nitrites.....	None.

Fixed Ingredients.

Calcium, carbonate.....	82. 00
Magnesium, carbonate.....	3. 00
Lithium (by flame coloration).....	A trace.
Iron.....	A trace.
Total	85. 00

Respectfully submitted,

H. D. GEDDINGS,

Assistant Surgeon Marine-Hospital Service.

MORTALITY TABLE, CITIES OF THE UNITED STATES.

Cities.	Week ended.	Estimated population.	Total deaths from all causes.	Deaths from—									
				Cholera.	Yellow fever.	Small-pox.	Varicoid.	Varicella.	Typhus fever.	Enteric fever.	Scarlet fever.	Diphtheria.	Measles.
New York, N. Y.....	Feb. 23.....	1, 555, 604	870							4	58	52	12
Philadelphia, Pa.....	Feb. 23.....	1, 040, 245	347						18	11	7	1	4
Chicago, Ill.....	Feb. 23.....	830, 000	246						2	5	22	4	2
Brooklyn, N. Y.....	Feb. 23.....	814, 505	341							12	19	9	10
Baltimore, Md.....	Feb. 23.....	500, 343	178						2		2		2
San Francisco, Cal.....	Feb. 15.....	330, 000	110								3		
Cincinnati, Ohio.....	Feb. 23.....	255, 139	103						8				
Pittsburgh, Pa.....	Feb. 23.....		67						1	2	4	2	3
Washington, D. C.....	Feb. 23.....	225, 000	102						4	1	2		3
Kansas City, Mo.....	Feb. 23.....	180, 000								1			
Newark, N. J.....	Feb. 19.....	179, 139	94						5		2		1
Providence, R. I.....	Feb. 23.....	127, 000	51						1		1		
Rochester, N. Y.....	Feb. 23.....	120, 000	44										2
Denver, Colo.....	Feb. 22.....	100, 000	26								2		
Toledo, Ohio.....	Feb. 22.....	80, 000	19							1	1		
Nashville, Tenn.....	Feb. 23.....	65, 153	15										
Fall River, Mass.....	Feb. 23.....	65, 000	26						1		1		
Charleston, S. C.....	Feb. 23.....	60, 145	30									1	
Lynn, Mass.....	Feb. 23.....	50, 000	22										
Manchester, N. H.....	Feb. 16.....	42, 000	13										
Portland, Me.....	Feb. 23.....	40, 000	14						1				
Wheeling, W. Va.....	Feb. 16.....	35, 000	5						2				
Davenport, Iowa.....	Feb. 23.....	33, 715	11								6		
East Saginaw, Mich.....	Feb. 23.....	33, 000	9										
Altoona, Pa.....	Feb. 16.....	30, 000	4										
Auburn, N. Y.....	Feb. 23.....	26, 000	5										
Haverhill, Mass.....	Feb. 23.....	25, 000	7										
Newport, R. I.....	Feb. 21.....	22, 000	6										
Newton, Mass.....	Feb. 23.....	21, 553	11										

* m. g. per liter = parts per 1,000,000.

JOHN B. HAMILTON,

Supervising Surgeon-General, Marine-Hospital Service.