

ABSTRACT OF SANITARY REPORTS.

VOL. VII.

WASHINGTON, D. C., JULY 15, 1892.

No. 29.

[Published at the Marine-Hospital Bureau in accordance with act of Congress of April 29, 1878.]

UNITED STATES.

SPECIAL REPORTS.

Circular.— *Vessels from cholera-infected districts to be forbidden entry unless provided with certificates of disinfection.*

TREASURY DEPARTMENT,
Office Supervising Surgeon-General U. S. Marine-Hospital Service,
Washington, D. C., July 8, 1892.

To Collectors of Customs, Medical Officers of the Marine-Hospital Service, and others whom it may concern:

The act approved April 29, 1878, entitled "An act to prevent the introduction of contagious or infectious diseases into the United States," provides that no vessel coming from any foreign port or country where any contagious or infectious disease exists, nor any vessel conveying infected merchandise, shall enter any port of the United States, or pass the boundary line between the United States and any foreign country except in such manner as may be prescribed under said act.

Information has been received that cholera prevails in the Caucasus, in eastern European Russia, in Persia, in Calcutta, and on the western littoral of the Red Sea; and in view of the threatened further spread of the disease, and because of the danger which attaches to rags, furs, wool, hides, etc., which may have been gathered in the infected districts, and to articles of personal wear therefrom, it is hereby ordered that no vessel having rags, furs, skins, hair, feathers, boxed or baled clothing or bedding, or any similar article liable to convey infection, hailing from any port in the districts aforesaid, and no vessel from any port carrying the above-mentioned merchandise or immigrants from the present infected districts or from districts that shall hereafter be officially declared infected, will be allowed entry to any port in the United States unless provided with either a consular certificate or a certificate from a medical officer of the Marine-Hospital Service, or State or local quarantine officer of the United States, to the effect that the vessel, cargo, personal effects, etc., have been disinfected in accordance with the methods herewith prescribed.

A.—DISINFECTION OF VESSELS.

The disinfection of the vessel must be in accordance with the most efficient quarantine practice, and will be by one or more of the following methods:

- a. Bichloride of mercury.
- b. Sulphurous oxide.
- c. Steam heat.

In addition to the above, thorough cleansing, flushing with sea water, etc.

B.—DISINFECTION OF ARTICLES OF MERCHANDISE. PERSONAL EFFECTS, ETC.

For the disinfection of the articles of merchandise, personal effects, etc., mentioned in the circular, one or more of the following methods will be used, all articles to be unbaled:

1. Boiling in water not less than one hour.
2. Exposure to steam not less than one hour, the steam to be of a temperature not greater than 115 degrees centigrade (239 degrees Fahrenheit), and unmixed with air.

All bedding and clothing must be subjected to method No. 1 or No. 2.

3. Exposure not less than six hours to sulphurous acid gas, made by burning not less than three pounds of roll sulphur to each 1,000 cubic feet of space.

4. Exposure not less than six hours to an atmosphere containing 3 per cent. of sulphurous acid gas liberated from its liquid state (liquid sulphur dioxide).

5. Solution of carbolic acid of a 2 per cent. strength.

This method (No. 5) may be applied *only* to leather goods, such as trunks, satchels, boots, shoes; to rubber goods, etc., the articles to be saturated with the solution.

WALTER WYMAN,

Supervising Surgeon-General U. S. Marine-Hospital Service.

Approved by direction of the President:

A. B. NETTLETON,

Acting Secretary.

In connection with the above circular the Secretary of State has been requested to cable the consuls in the infected districts notifying them that rigid disinfection will be enforced at United States ports, and urging them to discourage, by all lawful means, shipments to the United States.

Disinfection of immigrants' baggage at Ellis Island, New York.

TREASURY DEPARTMENT,

Office Supervising Surgeon-General Marine-Hospital Service,

Washington, D. C., July 7, 1892.

SIR: I have respectfully to invite your attention to the fact that cholera is spreading in the far east, official information having been received at this Bureau of its prevalence in the Caucasus, in Persia, in India, and on the western shore of the Red Sea. Newspaper reports also indicate that it is spreading in Russia.

The medical press of Great Britain, which is not given to alarm, calls attention to the serious danger which is threatening Europe by reason of the above-named extension of the epidemic. It is therefore incumbent upon the Treasury Department to be forehanded in the use of such means as it possesses for the exclusion of the disease from this country.

A serious matter for consideration is the baggage of immigrants arriving at the port of New York, coming directly from the infected districts or from districts contiguous thereto. Under the present arrangement the baggage of all immigrants passes without detention through New York to the points of destination, the health authorities of some of the States being notified when this baggage comes from suspected localities or ships.

I have now to urge that baggage of the kind just mentioned be thoroughly disinfected on Ellis Island before being permitted to be sent forward. The surgeon of the Marine-Hospital Service in charge of the medical department of Ellis Island can readily learn from the ABSTRACTS OF SANITARY REPORTS, sent weekly from this Bureau, exactly what districts are infected or are suspicious. He is also informed with regard to any infected vessel which may arrive at the port of New York, and the baggage of immigrants from the said districts or from said vessels may, without great detention or great expenditure of labor, be disinfected thoroughly on Ellis Island.

For this purpose there should be two or three large steam disinfecting chambers established, for which there is ample room on the island, and I would respectfully urge that steps be immediately taken for the establishment of such a plant. The disinfecting chambers would also be used for the clothing of persons who have been exposed to diphtheria, scarlet fever, measles, and smallpox, there being constantly a number of immigrants with these diseases under the care of the immigration service.

WALTER WYMAN,

Supervising Surgeon-General M.-H. S.

To the Hon. SECRETARY OF THE TREASURY.

Plans and estimates for the above disinfecting apparatus are under consideration.

Aid in determining cases of cholera.

TREASURY DEPARTMENT,

Office Supervising Surgeon-General Marine-Hospital Service,

Washington, D. C., July 13, 1892.

SIR: You are hereby directed to exercise the utmost vigilance in the matter of detecting any possible case of cholera that may appear on Ellis Island; and you are informed that in the event of a suspicious case, where positive diagnosis by means of bacteriological investigation is desirable, a telegram will be honored by this Bureau from yourself requesting the presence of Passed Assistant Surgeon J. J. Kinyoun, who will immediately proceed to Ellis Island with a field outfit for the purpose required. * * *

Respectfully yours,

WALTER WYMAN,

Supervising Surgeon-General M.-H. S.

Surgeon WM. A. WHEELER,

U. S. Marine-Hospital Service,

In charge of Medical Inspection of Immigrants,

Ellis Island, N. Y.

Letters to the above effect have also been written to the surgeons of the Marine-Hospital Service acting as medical inspectors of immigrants at Philadelphia, Baltimore, and Boston, and to the U. S. quarantine officers at the Delaware Breakwater and Cape Charles quarantines.

A like tender of special service has also been made to the local quarantine officers at the above-named ports.

Smallpox in Philadelphia, Pa.

Under date of July 12, 1892, Dr. Benj. Lee, secretary State board of health, reports 2 cases of smallpox in Philadelphia. Both patients are immigrants from the S. S. *Indiana*.

Smallpox in Victoria, B. C.

Passed Assistant Surgeon Magruder, in charge of the Marine-Hospital Service at Port Townsend, Wash., telegraphs as follows:

JULY 10, 1892.

Attorney-General of Victoria wires that 30 cases of smallpox have appeared; that infected houses have been quarantined, patients isolated, and passengers and crews of outgoing vessels inspected by medical officers. Port Townsend has adopted no precautionary measures other than inspection of passengers and crews of vessels from Victoria.

Disinfection of rags at Ghent, Belgium.

The following letters have been written enforcing the provisions of Department Circular of May 12, 1892:

TREASURY DEPARTMENT,
Washington, July 2, 1892.

SIR: I am in receipt of your letter of the 29th ultimo, requesting that the United States consul at Ghent be advised to let further shipment of rags from Ghent come forward without the disinfection which is required by the circular letter of this Department of May 12, 1892. In reply, I have to inclose a copy of the WEEKLY ABSTRACT OF SANITARY REPORTS, July 1, issued by the Marine-Hospital Bureau, in which is a communication from the consul at Ghent showing that the epidemic of smallpox at Ghent was caused by foreign rags received at that port. It is evident that the foreign rags received at Ghent are rebaled there for shipment to this country. It was not the intent of the circular of May 12 to limit the disinfection of rags to the period during which smallpox might prevail at Ghent. On the contrary, said disinfection is a permanent requirement, similar to that imposed at the port of Marseilles.

Respectfully yours,

CHARLES FOSTER,
Secretary.

Mr. LEON GOTTHEIL,
53 Beaver Street, New York.

TREASURY DEPARTMENT,
Washington, July 11, 1892.

SIR: In reply to your letter of July 5, inquiring whether a certificate to the effect that the rags shipped from Ghent were gathered in a non-infected district, may not be accepted in lieu of a consular certificate that the rags have been disinfected as required by Department Circular No. 80, dated May 12, 1892, I have to inform you that the circular in question requires that all rags from Ghent shall be disinfected, and a compliance with the provisions of the circular will be exacted.

Respectfully yours,

CHARLES FOSTER,
Secretary.

The FAIRCHILD PAPER Co.,
Chas. Winthrop Gardner, Treasurer,
64 Federal Street, Boston, Mass.

Reports of States, and yearly and monthly reports of cities.

CALIFORNIA—*Los Angeles*.—Month of June, 1892. Population, 50,395. Total deaths, 68, including phthisis pulmonalis, 9; enteric fever, 1; measles, 4; and croup, 1.

FLORIDA—*Alachua County*.—Month of June, 1892. Population, 23,000. Total deaths, 12. No deaths from contagious disease.

Pensacola.—Month of June. Population, 11,750. Total deaths, 30, including phthisis pulmonalis 2 and enteric fever 2.

INDIANA—*Evansville*.—Month of June, 1892. Population, 50,756. Total deaths, 46, including phthisis pulmonalis 8 and whooping cough 1.

IOWA—*Davenport*.—Month of June, 1892. Population, 34,500. Total deaths, 22, including 2 from phthisis pulmonalis and 1 from diphtheria.

Dubuque.—Month of May, 1892. Population, 30,311. Total deaths, 28, including diphtheria 1 and croup 2.

Month of June. Total deaths, 34, including phthisis pulmonalis 4 and croup 1.

MARYLAND—*Baltimore*.—Month of June, 1892. Population, 455,427. Total deaths, 216, including phthisis pulmonalis, 69; enteric fever, 8; scarlet fever, 5; diphtheria, 24; measles, 19; and whooping cough, 1.

MASSACHUSETTS—*Northampton*.—Month of June, 1892. Population, 14,990. Total deaths, 19, including 5 from phthisis pulmonalis.

MICHIGAN.—Five weeks ended July 2, 1892. Reports to the State board of health. Lansing, indicate that typho-malarial fever, cholera morbus, cholera infantum, diarrhea, dysentery, and consumption increased, and that smallpox, cerebro-spinal meningitis, membranous croup, puerperal fever, pneumonia, pleuritis, and typhoid fever decreased in area of prevalence.

For the month of June, 1892, compared with the average for the month of June in the six years 1886-91, scarlet fever was more preva-

lent, and smallpox, measles, cerebro-spinal meningitis, puerperal fever, intermittent fever, typhoid fever, remittent fever, whooping cough, inflammation of brain, influenza, erysipelas, and cholera infantum were less prevalent in June, 1892.

Including reports by regular observers and others, diphtheria was reported present in Michigan in the month of June, 1892, at 69 places; scarlet fever, 101; typhoid fever, 34; and measles at 42 places.

Reports from all sources show diphtheria reported at 12 places less, scarlet fever at 10 places less, typhoid fever at 10 places more, and measles at 3 places more in the month of June, 1892, than in the preceding month.

MINNESOTA—*Winona*.—Month of June, 1892. Population, 20,000. Total deaths, 18, including phthisis pulmonalis, 2; scarlet fever, 1; and measles, 1.

NORTH CAROLINA.—Month of May, 1892. Reports to the State board of health from 18 towns, having an aggregate population of 96,060, show a total of 146 deaths, including phthisis pulmonalis, 22; enteric fever, 3; and measles 2.

OHIO—*Cincinnati*.—Month of June, 1892. Population, 296,908. Total deaths, 425, including phthisis pulmonalis, 47; enteric fever, 7; scarlet fever, 3; diphtheria, 14; croup, 1; and whooping cough, 3.

Cleveland.—Month of June, 1892. Population, 261,353. Total deaths, 383, including phthisis pulmonalis, 30; enteric fever, 20; scarlet fever, 1; diphtheria, 6; and croup, 5.

Dayton.—Month of June, 1892. Population, 63,000. Total deaths, 103, including phthisis pulmonalis 11 and diphtheria 2.

Mansfield.—Month of June, 1892. Population, 15,000. Total deaths, 8, including 1 from croup.

RHODE ISLAND—*Newport*.—Month of June, 1892. Population, 20,000. Total deaths, 26, including croup 2 and diphtheria 1.

TENNESSEE—*Nashville*.—Month of June, 1892. Population, 87,754. Total deaths, 82, including phthisis pulmonalis, 19; enteric fever, 2; diphtheria, 1; and whooping cough, 3.

UTAH—*Salt Lake City*.—Month of June, 1892. Population, 60,000. Total deaths, 46, including phthisis pulmonalis, 2; scarlet fever, 2; diphtheria, 4; and croup, 1.

Table of temperature and rainfall, week ended July 11, 1892.

[Received from Department of Agriculture, Weather Bureau.]

Locality.	Temperature in degrees Fahrenheit.			Rainfall in inches and hundredths.		
	Normal.	*Excess.	*Deficiency.	Normal.	Excess.	Deficiency.
New England States:						
Eastport, Me.....	59	2		.98		.98
Portland, Me.....	68		4	.84		.78
Boston, Mass.....	73		5	.77		.73
Block Island, R. I.....	67		1	.70	.12	
Middle Atlantic States:						
Albany, N. Y.....	74		5	.91		.17
New York, N. Y.....	74		3	1.01		.47
Philadelphia, Pa.....	77		4	.96		.96
Atlantic City, N. J.....	72		5	.77		.77
Baltimore, Md.....	78		7	1.11		.33
Washington, D. C.....	77		8	1.05		.87
Lynchburg, Va.....	80		11	.84		.08
Norfolk, Va.....	79		10	1.21	.47	
South Atlantic States:						
Charlotte, N. C.....	81		14	1.36	2.18	
Wilmington, N. C.....	81		9	1.61		.12
Charleston, S. C.....	82		7	1.60	3.22	
Augusta, Ga.....	82		10	1.17	1.91	
Savannah, Ga.....	83		7	1.11		.30
Jacksonville, Fla.....	83		3	1.48		.24
Key West, Fla.....	84		3	.98		.54
Gulf States:						
Atlanta, Ga.....	79		12	1.05	1.10	
Pensacola, Fla.....						
Mobile, Ala.....	82		6	1.41	4.93	
Montgomery, Ala.....	82		8	1.01	6.17	
Vicksburg, Miss.....	82		6	.97	1.73	
New Orleans, La.....	84		7	1.47	3.57	
Shreveport, La.....	84		7	.98		.45
Fort Smith, Ark.....	81		9	.85		.71
Little Rock, Ark.....	81		8	.78	1.18	
Palestine, Tex.....	83		5	.69		.55
Galveston, Tex.....	86		6	.72	.19	
San Antonio, Tex.....	83		2	.63		.60
Corpus Christi, Tex.....	84		4	.49	.61	
Brownsville, Tex.....	84		2	.51		
Ohio Valley and Tennessee:						
Memphis, Tenn.....	81		9	.70	4.70	
Nashville, Tenn.....	79		8	.98		1.13
Chatanooga, Tenn.....	79		9	.84	2.14	
Knoxville, Tenn.....	77		8	.98	.41	
Louisville, Ky.....	80		8	.91		.88
Indianapolis, Ind.....	77		5	1.12		1.06
Cincinnati, Ohio.....	77		5	.70		.06
Columbus, Ohio.....	76		6	.81		.81
Pittsburg, Pa.....	76		6	1.16		1.16
Lake Region:						
Oswego, N. Y.....	69		4	.81		.80
Rochester, N. Y.....	73		5	.63		.63
Buffalo, N. Y.....	69		0	.77		.76
Erie, Pa.....	73		6	.70		.70
Cleveland, Ohio.....	71		4	.91		.91
Sandusky, Ohio.....	76		5	.73		.73
Toledo, Ohio.....						
Detroit, Mich.....	72		2	.84		.82
Port Huron, Mich.....	71		4	.59		.55
Alpena, Mich.....	65		1	.72		.70
Marquette, Mich.....	66	5		.70		.70
Grand Haven, Mich.....	70		1	.72		.72
Milwaukee, Wis.....	70		4	.77		.77
Chicago, Ill.....	73		4	.91		.89
Duluth, Minn.....	66	3		.91		.91
Upper Mississippi Valley:						
St. Paul, Minn.....	72		0	.77		.77
La Crosse, Wis.....	74		2	1.05		1.01
Dubuque, Iowa.....	75		3	1.09		.89
Davenport, Iowa.....	75		5	.91		.83

*The figures in these columns represent the average daily departure. To obtain the accumulated excess or deficiency of the week these should be multiplied by seven.

Table of temperature and rainfall, week ended July 11, 1892—Continued.

Locality.	Temperature in degrees Fahrenheit.			Rainfall in inches and hundredths.		
	Normal.	*Excess.	*Defic'ncy.	Normal.	Excess.	Deficiency.
Upper Mississippi Valley—Cont'd.						
Des Moines, Iowa.....	75		4	.83	.84	
Keokuk, Iowa.....	77		7	1.04		.44
Springfield, Ill.....	78		9	.68		.37
Cairo, Ill.....	79		8	.93	.23	
St. Louis, Mo.....	79		7	.86	.35	
Missouri Valley:						
Springfield, Mo.....	78		8	1.05	.07	
Kansas City, Mo.....	78		6	.86		.44
Concordia, Kans.....	77		7	.70		.70
Omaha, Nebr.....	77		4	1.35		1.34
Yankton, S. Dak.....	73		2	.91		.91
Valentine, Nebr.....	73		1	.70	.38	
Huron, S. Dak.....	71		1	.91		.91
Pierre, S. Dak.....	74		0	.63		.13
Extreme Northwest:						
Moorhead, Minn.....	67	5		1.09		1.07
Saint Vincent, Minn.....	65	4		.63		.33
Bismarck, N. Dak.....	69	2		.56	.62	
Buford, Fort. N. Dak.....	69	4		.50		.45
Rocky Mountain Slope:						
Havre, Mont.....	66	1		.50	.04	
Helena, Mont.....	65		2	.21	1.11	
Spokane, Wash.....	68		3	.21		.21
Salt Lake City, Utah.....	74	2		.14		.14
Cheyenne, Wyo.....	68		2	.42		.36
North Platte, Nebr.....	74		5	.64		.57
Denver, Colo.....	73		0	.42	.02	
Montrose, Colo.....	69	2		.14	.34	
Pueblo, Colo.....	74		0	.42	.47	
Dodge City, Kans.....	79		8	.63		.59
Abilene, Tex.....	83		4	.35		.22
El Paso, Tex.....	84		2	.49		.49
Santa Fé, N. Mex.....	69		0	.61	.49	
Tucson, Ariz.....	89		0	.75		.31
Pacific Coast:						
Olympia, Wash.....	62		3	.24	.04	
Portland, Oreg.....	67		4	.14		.08
Roseburg, Oreg.....	66		2	.17		.17
Red Bluff, Cal.....	79		2	.00		
Sacramento, Cal.....	72		3	.00		
San Francisco, Cal.....	60		3	.00		
Los Angeles, Cal.....	71		2	.00		
San Diego, Cal.....	67		2	.00		
Yuma, Ariz.....	90	2		.00		

*The figures in these columns represent the average daily departure. To obtain the accumulated excess or deficiency of the week these should be multiplied by seven.

FOREIGN.

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

CHOLERA.

CONSULATE OF THE UNITED STATES.

Odessa, Russia, now at Tashkend, Central Asia, June 8, 1892.

SIR: The governor-general of the Transcaspian territory has telegraphed to-day to the governor-general of Turkestan residing at Tashkend that a death had occurred from Asiatic cholera at Raakha, a small railway station on the line of the Transcaspian Railway about 500 miles from Uzun-ada. The telegram also stated that all travelers from Central Asia would be obliged to undergo three days' quarantine before being permitted to cross the Caspian Sea to Russia proper. As this quarantine will be known throughout Russia almost immediately, the Department will doubtless be promptly notified by the legation at St. Petersburg and also by our consuls. I requested permission to cable the information, but the governor-general was not willing that I should do so unless the situation became more serious, only one case being reported. As this is a military government, the governor-general's wishes are equivalent to a command. The cholera has existed at Meshed in Persia for sometime past, and Raakha is not more than 60 miles from Meshed. The Russian authorities have been on the alert since the winter, as cholera had been reported from numerous places: Cabul, Herat, and smaller towns on caravan routes. The precautions taken, it is believed, will be sufficient to prevent the disease from spreading. It is well that the Department should understand that much of the wools shipped from Batoum to the United States come from Persia and the district traversed by the Transcaspian Railway. The goatskins which are shipped via Odessa also come from the same section of country, and I have written to Mr. Hall, the United States vice-consul at Batoum, to keep a sharp lookout, and to telegraph the Department should the reports concerning the cholera prove serious.

I have also advised him to notify shippers of Khorassan and other Asiatic wools that he will refuse to authenticate invoices of such wools until such time as the Department understands the case and cables instructions. I hope that I have not taken too much on myself in thus advising Mr. Hall. My sense of duty would not permit me to do less. I found Bokhara when I visited the city in April very clean for an Asiatic city, and I expressed my surprise to the Russian residents. I was informed that the Russians had compelled the Ameer to have the city thoroughly cleaned, going even to the extent of obliging the pious Musselmen to kill their sheep outside the city limits, a condition of things by no means relished by the natives, who prefer to do their killing on the narrow streets fronting their shops. Bokhara is in constant communication with India, Persia, and Afghanistan; hence the precautions taken by the Russians. Uzen-ada, the place where quarantine will be enforced, is a small town on the Caspian Sea, and owes its existence solely to the fact that it is the starting point of the Transcaspian Railway. The place is the very essence of desolation; sand, sand everywhere, and not even a drop of water to drink. The few houses or huts are scarcely more than sufficient for the inhabitants;

the heat is intense, and vegetation does not exist, a circumstance easily understood when it is explained that the town is built on the Kara-Kum desert. Should cholera appear in epidemic form and quarantine be increased to ten days, as would be very likely, I shall be obliged to return to Odessa via Orenburg and Siberia. Two thousand four hundred versts in a cart is not a pleasant prospect, but I much prefer it to ten days at Uzen-ada. Personally I am not at all afraid of cholera, but I am very much afraid of Uzen-ada. I have not touched on the object of my visit to Central Asia, viz, the cultivation of cotton, etc., because as yet I have but very little to say that would be of interest to the Department. * * *

THOMAS E. HEENAN,
Consul.

Hon. WILLIAM F. WHARTON,
Assistant Secretary of State, Washington, D. C.

U. S. CONSULATE,
Batoum, June 21, 1892.

SIR: I beg to inform the Department that I have information to the effect that cholera has broken out at Baku, the eastern terminus of the Transcaucasian Railroad, 560 miles from Batoum; that it was brought from across the Persian frontier, and that at the present time there are eighty (80) cases in Baku.

This information emanates primarily from a doctor practicing in the town of Baku.

I have taken steps to be regularly informed of the progress of this disease in Baku and district.

I am, sir, your obedient servant,

T. HARPER HALL,
Acting Consul.

Hon. WILLIAM F. WHARTON,
Acting Secretary of State, Washington, D. C.

LEGATION OF THE UNITED STATES,
St. Petersburg, June 25, 1892.

SIR: Our minister at Teheran has doubtless kept the Department informed of the prevalence for some time past of cholera at Meshed, Persia, attended by great mortality, as many as two hundred deaths a day being reported.

I regret to have now to advise you of the outbreak of the disease, brought thither from Persia, in the southeastern provinces of the Russian Empire. Notwithstanding the utmost vigilance and precautions taken by this Government to keep off the scourge, it has crossed the frontier and fatal cases are admitted to have taken place at Samarkand, Baku, and one or two stations on the Transcaspien Railway, where it is rumored that the epidemic has already appeared at Astrakhan.

At Baku seven deaths out of eight cases are mentioned; this is the more remarkable in that everything, including the atmosphere at Baku, is so saturated with petroleum and its products that cholera has rarely proved fatal there since the development of the oil wells and trade. But the appearance of the disease at Astrakhan, if true, is a far

more serious matter, for once there, it will be impossible to check its progress up the Volga with the provinces so severely tried by the famine of the last six months, where the population, weakened by long suffering and privation, will prove an easy victim.

At this moment, too, on the eve of the great heat of the summer in those regions, and when that great channel of communication, the Volga, is about to be thronged by thousands on their way to and from the annual fair at Nijni Novgorod, it will be all the more difficult to combat this formidable enemy. One must therefore regard the coming months for the people of that part of the Empire with the gravest anxiety.

The press has been permitted to publish the sanitary regulations made by Government in view of the possible invasion of the epidemic. I inclose herewith a translation of them, and have the honor, etc.,

GEORGE W. WURTZ.

Hon. WILLIAM F. WHARTON.

Acting Secretary of State, Washington, D. C.

[Inclosure.]

Measures against cholera by the Department of Medicine.

[Translation of the sanitary regulations made by the Russian Government in view of an outbreak of cholera, to accompany dispatch No. 206 of June 25, 1892, from the United States Legation, St. Petersburg.]

Besides the various measures intended to protect our country from the introduction of cholera, the Medical Department publishes in the *Official Messenger* the following, intended to prevent the introduction and spread of the cholera epidemic in government (provincial) and district towns:

In all cities, with their districts, there will be formed in connection with crown or public institutions charged with the public health, sanitary commissions of physicians engaged in crown or public service.

The object and problem of the commissions consist in the preparation and the execution of measures to combat cholera.

There is incumbent upon the commissions a concise statement of the general plan of struggle with the epidemic; the consideration and conception of a system relating alike to the detailed measures of sanitary supervision and measures of precaution against the epidemic in case of its appearance; a system of organization of the necessary medical personnel of lazarets and disinfection, and of measures and means of securing quick medical aid, especially to needy classes, and the organization of such aid in necessary cases.

Measures of general welfare of the populations lying within the sphere of the commissions, as well as measures against the possible introduction of the pest into favorable localities, constitute the special problem of the commission. In this purpose the commission is authorized to make careful investigations, through persons sent out by it, with the assistance of the local police authority; to regulate the sanitary conditions of the localities, of the radius intrusted to them; to supervise those works which should be immediately executed for the public welfare; to require a timely execution of them by the inhabitants; to hold the latter legally responsible in case of the non-performance of the requirements of the sanitary-police authority, and in case of refusal of house owners, the commission itself will execute the work by means

of funds in its possession, and then proceed legally against the owners. In case of inability of the owners, the necessary expenses for the work in improving the sanitary condition of the houses and property may be undertaken by means of funds at the disposal of the commissions.

In detail the problems of the commissions in improving the welfare of inhabited localities, and in controlling the sanitary situation, should be in harmony with the local conditions, but in general these measures are draining of the ground; immediate carrying off of dirty water and refuse from dwelling houses; therefore the throwing of filth into rivers, ponds, and holes should be rigidly avoided; the maintenance of clean streets and yards; the isolation of rubbish and manure heaps; the cleaning and disinfection of water-closets of all kinds; the cleaning of water pipes and the construction, when necessary, of the so-called Abyssinian wells; prohibition to bathe, to strip flax and leather in those places of rivers and ponds whence water is taken for the population, and likewise above those places; control over the sale of provisions and the cleanliness of dwellings, especially of public ones and those of the poor classes; the closing of houses clearly harmful from a sanitary point; to forbid or limit the crowding of people in bazaars, fairs, and church fêtes, if possible not to interfere with economic interests and the necessary requirements of the people; the closing of schools in localities where the cholera has appeared, and the permission to children to attend school in favorable localities.

During the time of the cholera the sanitary commission should take also the following measures: A purely medical supervision over travelers (caravans) without interfering with their personal liberty, and should isolate those sick with cholera.

Public conveyances should not be used to transport cholera patients. The bodies of the dead should not be washed, but wrapped up in disinfected sheets and hermetically sealed in caskets. Funeral services are forbidden. Houses in which there have been cases of cholera, likewise everything that may have been in contact with the sick, should be disinfected; articles of no value should be burned. Loss of property of poor people should be made good by the public.

Sale and export, from cholera districts during the epidemic and for six weeks after its disappearance, of rags, down, feathers, hair, old clothes, and bed appurtenances should not be permitted, unless properly boiled and washed, with the certificates of the sanitary police authority showing that said articles had been subjected to the required disinfection.

In the execution of the above regulations everything that might cause discontent and dissatisfaction should, as far as possible, be avoided.

For accurate information concerning the progress of the disease, the sanitary commissions should issue as frequently as possible bulletins concerning the number of sick and dead, and should send out as widely as possible instructions among the people.

There should be a generous participation by the sanitary commissions in charity to the suffering people, such as serving for the poor classes cheap and healthy food, providing them with clothing, etc., likewise an effort on the part of the commissioners to interest in the work the rich and enlightened classes.

This, with the confidence and gratitude on the part of the people, may considerably aid in the success of the undertaking.

All these measures are presented with the special approval of the minister of the interior for such locality.

CONSULATE-GENERAL OF THE UNITED STATES,
St. Petersburg, June 27, 1892.

SIR: I have to report that I have this day received official information that the cholera, for some time past raging in Persia, has reached Samarkand, and that I have sent you a cablegram this day to that effect.

I am also informed on very good authority, but not officially, that this epidemic has reached Baku, on the west coast of the Caspian, and I fear that the report will prove to be true. Rigorous measures are being enacted, especially in Astrakhan, for it is generally understood that if it reaches this city it will rapidly go up the Volga, and thus infect the whole Empire.

I shall not hesitate to inform the Department of the progress of this terrible scourge.

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

J. M. CRAWFORD.

HON. WILLIAM F. WHARTON,

Acting Secretary of State, Washington, D. C.

Sanitary Commission at Constantinople—Report of the United States Commissioner—Disappearance of plague in Mesopotamia—Cholera spreading rapidly in Asia.

REPORT NO. 48.

In my last report, No. 47, under date of March 30, I announced the existence of the plague epidemic in Mesopotamia and the existence of cholera in Africa and in Asia. I am glad to announce that the plague in Mesopotamia has nearly disappeared; the same I may say for cholera in Harrar, in Africa, at least according to the official notification which has been made by the Italian representative in the yesterday's sitting of the International Sanitary Commission. I can not say the same for the cholera epidemic in Asia, which epidemic is rapidly spreading in Persia, and is a real threat to Turkey. I say that for two reasons. First, because the Persian authorities do not take any steps to check the spread of the epidemic, and, second, because, according to the religious feelings of the Persians, they must bury the bodies of their dead at Kerbela or Nejif, in Mesopotamia, holy places, in order to be admitted to heaven. Therefore, they send the bodies of men that died from cholera to these places, and the consequence is the spread of the epidemic. I must say that the Turkish Government does not allow the entrance of these bodies into the Turkish territory, but I can not be sure that this order is executed as it should be. There is another question to be taken under consideration. At this moment begins the pilgrimage to the holy places, Mecca, Medina, in the Hedjaz, and Kerbela and Nejif, in Mesopotamia.

It is proposed now to forbid the pilgrimage for the Persians entering the Turkish territory by land.

Meanwhile the epidemic is spreading, and every day new villages are infected. On the 7th instant, for instance, it has been announced that 190 deaths have been registered within 7 days in the surrounding villages of Meshed, and on the 14th instant another dispatch announces that from the 9th up to the 11th instant 503 cases of cholera occurred at Lheh Zever or Zebzever. This village is on the way from Meshed to Askabad.

It will be a real calamity if cholera makes its appearance in Turkey, where the general sanitary conditions are, as I have already mentioned in my reports, imperfect. The different sanitary physicians send reports by which they draw the attention of the Government to this bad condition.

S. C. ZAVITZIANO.

CONSTANTINOPLE, *June 15, 1892.*

Concerning reported cholera in Paris.

The following dispatch has been received from the State Department :

JULY 11, 1892.

The Department is in receipt of a telegram from American minister at Paris, stating there are many cases cholera nostris in environs, caused by drinking Seine water. No Asiatic cholera.

SEVELLON A. BROWN.

To the SUPERVISING SURGEON-GENERAL M.-H. S.

BAHAMAS—*Green Turtle Cay—Abaco.*—Two weeks ended June 16, 1892. Population, 3,686. Total deaths, 2.

CUBA—*Santiago de Cuba.*—Month of May, 1892. Total deaths, 48, including phthisis pulmonalis 6.

Two weeks ended June 15, 1892. Total deaths, 34, including phthisis pulmonalis 9 and enteric fever 1.

FRANCE—*Nice.*—Month of May, 1892. Population, 97,720. Total deaths, 156, including phthisis pulmonalis, 14; enteric fever, 2; diphtheria and croup, 4; and whooping cough, 1.

GREAT BRITAIN—*England and Wales.*—The deaths registered in 33 great towns of England and Wales during the week ended June 25 corresponded to an annual rate of 17.3 a thousand of the aggregate population, which is estimated at 10,185,736. The lowest rate was recorded in Croydon, viz, 8.8, and the highest in Oldham, viz, 22.9 a thousand.

London.—One thousand four hundred and fifteen deaths were registered during the week, including smallpox, 1; measles, 100; scarlet fever, 28; diphtheria, 39; whooping cough, 26; enteric fever, 5; and diarrhea and dysentery, 51. The deaths from all causes corresponded to an annual rate of 17.8 a thousand. In greater London 1,762 deaths were registered, corresponding to an annual rate of 16.0 a thousand of the population. In the "outer ring" the deaths included measles, 28; diphtheria, 6; scarlet fever, 5; and whooping cough, 11.

Ireland.—The average annual death rate represented by the deaths registered during the week ended June 25, in the 16 principal town districts of Ireland, was 17.3 a thousand of the population. The lowest rate was recorded in Galway, viz, 3.8, and the highest in Armagh, viz, 42.0 a thousand. In Dublin and suburbs 184 deaths were registered, including measles 24 and whooping cough 5.

Scotland.—The deaths registered in 8 principal towns during the week ended June 25 corresponded to an annual rate of 19.3 a thousand of the population, which is estimated at 1,447,500. The lowest mortality was recorded in Perth, viz, 13.7, and the highest in Glasgow, viz, 21.1 a thousand. The aggregate number of deaths registered from all causes was 538, including measles, 35; scarlet fever, 3; diphtheria, 8; whooping cough, 27; fever, 1; and diarrhea, 11.

GUIANA—*Paramaribo*.—Month of April, 1892. Population, 28,221. Total deaths, 117. No deaths from contagious disease.

RUSSIA—*Riga*.—Month of April, 1892. Population, 200,000. Total deaths, 372, including smallpox, 3; enteric fever, 6; scarlet fever, 11; diphtheria, 15; measles, 1; and whooping cough, 2. Thirty-eight deaths from "cramps" are also reported.

TURKEY—*Constantinople*.—Month of May, 1892. Total deaths, 694, including 16 from smallpox.

MORTALITY TABLE, FOREIGN CITIES.

Cities.	Week ended.	Estimated popula- tion.	Total deaths from all causes.	Deaths from—								
				Cholera.	Yellow fever.	Smallpox.	Typhus fever.	Enteric fever.	Scarlet fever.	Diphtheria.	Measles.	Whooping cough.
London	June 18.	5,752,204	1,743			3		8	35	39	137	
Paris	June 18.	2,424,705	941					17	4	24	27	1
Vienna	June 4.	1,406,933	734					4	9	22	26	
Glasgow.	June 18.	639,059	273					2	3	12	12	
Hamburg.	June 11.	570,534	225					3	1	2	2	
Liverpool.	June 18.	517,951	226			1		3	3	10	11	
Warsaw	June 11.	490,417	236			3		1	10	11	11	
Lyons	June 18.	430,000	168			3		1	3	5	9	
Munich	June 11.	366,000	205					2	1	1	5	
Odesa.	June 18.	302,000	211			1	2			2	2	
Edinburgh	June 18.	264,787	57									
Belfast	June 18.	255,922	121				1	1	1	2		
Palermo.	June 18.	250,000	89					10	19	40	2	2
Stockholm	June 18.	248,051	405							2		
Antwerp	June 18.	241,263	91			1				2		
Bristol.	June 18.	223,592	71							2		
Rotterdam	June 25.	216,679	117					1	3			
Paramaribo	June 8.	200,000	85		2			7				
Prague	June 18.	183,703	107			2				5		
Genoa	June 18.	181,487	72				1			2		
Genoa.	June 25.	181,487	69				1			2		
Stettin.	June 18.	117,000	68					22		1		
Havre.	June 18.	116,369	65					4				1
Göthenburg.	June 18.	105,800	32									
Leghorn.	June 19.	103,395	51									
Zurich.	June 18.	91,323	24					1				
Mannheim	June 18.	80,000	30						4	8	3	5
Mayence	June 18.	72,281	32							3		
Leith	June 18.	69,956	19									
Jerez de la Frontera	June 11.	61,708	64									
Trapani.	June 18.	43,095	5									
Marsala.	June 18.	40,131	21							1		
Matanzas	June 25.	40,000	23									
Schiedam	June 25.	25,371	14									
Girgenti.	June 18.	23,817	9									
Kingston, Can.	July 1.	19,264	1									
Sagua la Grande	June 25.	18,109	9									
Rio Grande do Sul	May 14.	17,000	20									
Rio Grande do Sul	May 21.	17,000	18			5		3				
Rio Grande do Sul	May 28.	17,000	13			1						
Flushing	June 25.	14,000	5									
St. Thomas	May 20.	12,019	46									
St. Thomas	May 27.	12,019	30									
St. Thomas	June 3.	12,019	31									
St. Thomas	June 10.	12,019	30									
St. Thomas	June 17.	12,019	31									
Sonneberg	June 18.	12,000	5									
Port Stanley and St. Thomas.	June 3.	10,750	2							1		
Port Stanley and St. Thomas.	June 10.	10,750	3									
Guelph	July 2.	10,539	1									
Tuxpan	June 18.	10,280	7									
Clatham	July 2.	10,000	2									
Sarria.	July 5.	6,600	1									
Clifton.	July 2.	3,219	2									
Coaticook.	June 25.	3,082	4									
Amherstburg.	July 2.	2,266	1									

OFFICIAL:

WALTER WYMAN,

Supervising Surgeon-General Marine-Hospital Service.