

# ABSTRACT OF SANITARY REPORTS.

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No. 1.

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## UNITED STATES.

### SPECIAL REPORTS.

#### *Outbreak of disease resembling cholera in the Arkansas penitentiary at Little Rock.*

LITTLE ROCK, ARK., December 31, 1892.

A choleraic disease of virulent type is now prevailing in the Arkansas penitentiary under suspicious circumstances. The disease developed in a convict camp where freight cars were used as quarters. There have been about 40 cases with 14 deaths to this date. I have been requested to ask you to send an inspector with necessary apparatus for making bacteriological investigation. No one here has the experience and necessary appliances for making reliable tests. I think it highly important that a thorough investigation be made immediately. Please answer.

L. P. GIBSON,

*Acting Assistant Surgeon, M. H. S.*

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

Suggest arsenical poison of food. How far was camp from penitentiary? Answer immediately. Wire any other particulars. Bacteriologist awaits answer.

WYMAN,

*Surgeon-General.*

To Acting Assistant Surg. L. P. GIBSON, *Little Rock, Ark.*

LITTLE ROCK, ARK., December 31, 1892.

Convict camp at Helena, on Mississippi River, more than 100 miles from penitentiary. First outbreak was attributed to arsenical poisoning, but that has since been eliminated as a factor. One hundred convicts were in camp, which was wretchedly unsanitary. About 40 were first attacked, of whom 8 died within three days at Helena, and on return trip 5 more. Camp convicts have died since removal to penitentiary. Three convicts who have never been outside of prison walls here have been attacked; 1 has died, and other 2 now in dying condition.

GIBSON,

*Acting Assistant Surgeon.*

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

JANUARY 1, 1893.

Have ordered bacteriologist. Where are the cars? They should be disinfected. Was there any connection with immigrants? Have any cases occurred in Helena outside of camp? Wire there for information if necessary. Answer immediately.

WYMAN,  
*Surgeon-General.*

To Acting Assistant Surg. GIBSON, *Little Rock, Ark.*

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LITTLE ROCK, ARK., *January 1, 1893.*

Railway officials state cars have been in work-train department six months; convicts were returned to penitentiary in boarding cars. Cars were thoroughly cleaned, disinfected, and returned to camp with new convicts. Railway will furnish complete history of cars as soon as it can be had from car-service department.

GIBSON,  
*Acting Assistant Surgeon.*

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

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LITTLE ROCK, ARK., *January 1, 1893.*

Am tracing cars. No cases in Helena outside camp. No direct connection with emigrants. Don't know yet what cars were used for prior to occupation by prisoners. Will wire further particulars.

GIBSON,  
*Acting Assistant Surgeon.*

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

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JANUARY 1, 1893.

Save dejecta in sealed tube for Dr. Geddings, who will arrive Tuesday morning.

WYMAN,  
*Surgeon-General.*

To Acting Assistant Surg. GIBSON, *Little Rock, Ark.*

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JANUARY 3, 1893.

Make temporary arrangements for care of patients and proceed to Helena, Ark.; examine city and location of convict camp where suspicious disease appeared among convicts from Little Rock. Ascertain cause of disease and wire report.

WYMAN,  
*Surgeon-General.*

To Passed Assistant Surg. WILLIAMS,  
*Marine Hospital, Memphis, Tenn.*

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LITTLE ROCK, ARK., *January 4, 1893.*

In past 24 hours no new cases, no deaths; examination so far negative.

H. D. GEDDINGS,  
*Passed Assistant Surgeon.*

To WYMAN, *Surgeon-General.*

HELENA, ARK., *January 5, 1893.*

Have examined condition of city and convict camp. Surface drainage of city by open stagnant ditches. No sewerage; vault system; contents emptied into river below city. Water supply partly artesian, partly cisterns and surface wells. Camp located in quagmire just below city, consists of a passenger coach and five box cars. Eighteen men are housed in one box car. No ventilation to speak of. Bedding filthy. Sewerage disposed of by wooden hopper let into floor in one corner with pail beneath; very filthy. Sewerage dumped into ditch near by. Food very coarse; no fresh meat; water obtained from river near camp. Two slaughter pens, very offensive, containing immense quantity of decomposing offal within 200 yards of camp. Slaughter pens and camp subject to overflow. I believe ground at camp to be saturated with products of animal decomposition. Three cases at camp, not suspicious. Suspicious cases occurred on 18th. Medical attendants give history acute gastro-enteritis with choleric symptoms. In my opinion, suspicious cases due to either poisoned food or contaminated water, plus filth and overcrowding, probably the latter. Stomach of one case in possession coroner. Recommend that it be examined by Service expert. Letter to follow.

L. L. WILLIAMS,  
*Passed Assistant Surgeon.*

TO SUPERVISING SURGEON-GENERAL M. H. S.

*Typhus fever in New York.*

NEW YORK, *January 4, 1893.*

Eighty-two cases to date, confined to 14 centers of infection. Outbreak seems confined to lodging-house population.

CYRUS EDSON:

TO THE SUPERVISING SURGEON-GENERAL M. H. S.

*One case of yellow fever at South Atlantic quarantine,*

DECEMBER 25, 1892.

SIR: I have the honor to report that the Spanish bark *Boringnen*, from Havana to Brunswick, arrived here on the night of the 23d instant, with one case of yellow fever on board. The patient has been transferred to the lazaretto, and the vessel is being disinfected. I inclose a copy of a letter from the health officer at Brunswick.

Very respectfully,

S. H. HUSSEY,  
*Assistant Surgeon, M. H. S.*

TO THE SUPERVISING SURGEON-GENERAL M. H. S.

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HEALTH OFFICE,  
*Brunswick, Ga., December 22, 1892.*

DEAR SIR: The Spanish bark *Boringnen* arrived at our quarantine on the 13th instant, with all well, from Havana. The bill of health from the United States sanitary inspector, Dr. D. M. Burgess, at Havana, states that as far as could be ascertained there had been no sickness of an infectious character on board this ship, but in years gone by

that there had been. She discharged her cargo, which was from Barcelona, at Cabellera wharf, a place on the Havana side of the harbor, the master reporting all well during the voyage to this port; and after mustering the crew on deck upon her arrival, I found that they all looked healthy, and no evidence of any of them being or having been sick. I ordered her into quarantine.

After laying in the stream for two days the vessel was docked. The discharging of the ballast commenced. On yesterday afternoon a man was reported as sick. I immediately went on board, and found him suffering with very suspicious symptoms of yellow fever, so I put the vessel and all the crew under the strictest surveillance, and have sent her to you. The ballast was all discharged when the man was reported to me as sick.

Trusting there will be no other cases occur on board, and that you will not have much trouble with her,

I have the honor to remain, yours, very truly,  
J. A. DUNWOODY,  
*Health Officer.*

To the MEDICAL OFFICER IN CHARGE,  
*Sapelo Quarantine Station, Georgia.*

*Arrival of immigrants at Sault St. Marie, Mich.*

The following report has been received from the United States sanitary inspector at Sault St. Marie, dated December 28, 1892:

Thirty-two immigrants arrived at the Canada Sault this day, having landed at Halifax, and here by Canada Pacific Railroad. They are detained for the disinfection of baggage. All are healthy.

*Reports of States, and yearly and monthly report of cities.*

ALABAMA—*Mobile*.—Month of November, 1892. Population, 31,076. Total deaths, 71, including phthisis pulmonalis, 12, and diphtheria, 3.

MICHIGAN.—Week ended December 24, 1892. Reports to the State board of health, Lansing, from 60 observers, indicate that cholera infantum, inflammation of brain, membranous croup, scarlet fever, typhoid fever, pleuritis, and whooping cough increased, and that cerebro-spinal meningitis, puerperal fever, cholera morbus, dysentery, typhomalarial fever, and inflammation of bowels decreased in order of prevalence.

Diphtheria was reported present during the week at 45 places, scarlet fever at 43, enteric fever at 27, and measles at 9 places.

NEW YORK.—Month of November, 1892. Reports to the State board of health from 8 districts, including New York City, Brooklyn, and 148 other cities, towns, and villages, show a total of 8,448 deaths, including phthisis pulmonalis, 940; enteric fever, 184; smallpox, 18; scarlet fever, 127; diphtheria and croup, 697; measles, 51; and whooping cough, 77.

The Monthly Bulletin says :

There was an average daily death rate during November of 281, which is the lowest of any month of the year, the average daily mortality for the twelve months preceding being 350. There were 300 fewer deaths than in November of last year. This is uniformly the healthiest month of the year in this State, showing an average daily mortality less by 25 than the daily average for the past seven years. Compared with last November, the infant mortality as well as the zymotic mortality are a little higher. Typhoid fever caused 184 deaths, which is less than in November, 1891, and less than in October, 1892; malarial diseases likewise caused fewer deaths, and scarlet fever caused fewer deaths than in 1891, but shows an increase over October; the same is true of measles. Whooping cough is more prevalent than a year ago. Diphtheria, on the other hand, has caused 700 deaths, which is about 150 more than in either November, 1891, or October, 1892. Its prevalence continues at Geneva, Gaines, Port Henry, Catskill, and Jamestown, and limited outbreaks are reported from numerous new localities. The late fall and the winter months are those in which the disease is usually attended with greatest fatality. Smallpox caused 1 death in Jamesport, Suffolk County, and 10 in the Kings County Hospital for Contagious Diseases; a case is reported in Beekmantown, Clinton County, originating in New York, and is the only case outside the maritime district. From acute respiratory diseases there is an increase over last month of 300 deaths, but deaths are fewer than in the corresponding month of last year. All other local diseases, as well as consumption, caused fewer deaths than in October and than in November, 1891, and there is no evidence of the fatal prevalence of epidemic influenza, although for the past two months a number of deaths attributed to this cause have been returned. If prevalent, as there is reason to believe, its lack of fatal severity is in marked contrast to that of the three epidemics occurring since December, 1889.

RHODE ISLAND.—Month of November, 1892. Reports to the State board of health from 21 cities and towns show a total of 438 deaths, including phthisis pulmonalis, 49; enteric fever, 18; scarlet fever, 5; diphtheria, 8; and croup, 9.

VIRGINIA—*Lynchburg*.—Month of December, 1892. Population, 30,000. Total deaths, 25, including phthisis pulmonalis, 5, and enteric fever, 2.

*Publication received.*

Twenty-third Annual Report of the Massachusetts State Board of Health, 1891.

## MORTALITY TABLE, CITIES OF THE UNITED STATES.

Cities.	Week ended.	Population, U. S. Census of 1890.	Total deaths from all causes.	Deaths from—										
				Phthisis pul- monalis.	Yellow fever.	Smallpox.	Variceloid.	Cholera.	Typhus fever.	Enteric fever.	Scarlet fever.	Diphtheria.	Measles.	Whooping cough.
New York, N. Y.....	Dec. 31.....	1,515,301	752	94	.....	1	.....	.....	12	8	49	12	3	
Chicago, Ill.....	Dec. 24.....	1,046,964	434	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	11	9	34	13	3	
Brooklyn, N. Y.....	Dec. 24.....	806,343	335	40	.....	.....	.....	.....	5	4	22	1	5	
Boston, Mass.....	Dec. 31.....	448,477	274	29	.....	.....	.....	.....	2	4	14	1	.....	
Baltimore, Md.....	Dec. 31.....	434,439	184	17	.....	.....	.....	.....	2	.....	10	.....	.....	
San Francisco, Cal.....	Dec. 24.....	298,997	129	17	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	2	4	.....	.....	
Cincinnati, Ohio.....	Dec. 30.....	296,908	128	12	.....	.....	.....	.....	2	1	6	.....	.....	
Cleveland, Ohio.....	Dec. 24.....	261,353	83	6	.....	.....	.....	.....	1	2	4	.....	.....	
Cleveland, Ohio.....	Dec. 31.....	261,353	76	8	.....	.....	.....	.....	4	5	4	.....	.....	
New Orleans, La.....	Dec. 24.....	242,039	112	16	.....	.....	.....	.....	1	.....	2	.....	.....	
Pittsburg, Pa.....	Dec. 24.....	238,617	111	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	5	6	9	.....	.....	
Washington, D. C.....	Dec. 24.....	230,392	100	9	.....	.....	.....	.....	4	.....	5	.....	.....	
Detroit, Mich.....	Dec. 31.....	205,876	67	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	2	2	3	.....	.....	
Milwaukee, Wis.....	Dec. 31.....	204,468	82	8	.....	.....	.....	.....	1	2	7	.....	2	
Newark, N. J.....	Dec. 31.....	181,830	84	10	.....	.....	.....	.....	1	7	5	.....	.....	
Minneapolis, Minn.....	Dec. 31.....	164,738	42	6	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	5	.....	.....	
Louisville, Ky.....	Dec. 24.....	161,129	57	4	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	
Rochester, N. Y.....	Dec. 31.....	133,896	52	6	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	3	5	.....	.....	
Providence, R. I.....	Dec. 10.....	132,146	45	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	2	.....	2	1	1	
Providence, R. I.....	Dec. 17.....	132,146	53	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	2	2	.....	1	.....	
Providence, R. I.....	Dec. 24.....	132,146	57	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	2	2	.....	.....	
Providence, R. I.....	Dec. 31.....	132,146	44	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	2	1	.....	.....	
Toledo, Ohio.....	Dec. 30.....	81,434	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	1	.....	1	.....	.....	
Nashville, Tenn.....	Dec. 31.....	76,306	34	12	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	
Fall River, Mass.....	Dec. 30.....	74,398	34	2	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	4	.....	.....	
Manchester, N. H.....	Dec. 30.....	44,126	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	
Erie, Pa.....	Dec. 31.....	40,634	15	1	.....	.....	.....	.....	1	1	.....	3	.....	
Portland, Me.....	Dec. 31.....	36,426	13	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	
Mobile, Ala.....	Dec. 24.....	31,076	17	1	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	
Auburn, N. Y.....	Dec. 24.....	25,858	3	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	
San Diego, Cal.....	Dec. 24.....	16,159	3	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	
Shreveport, La.....	Dec. 24.....	11,979	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	2	.....	.....	

Table of temperature and rainfall, week ended December 26, 1892.

[Received from Department of Agriculture, Weather Bureau.]

Locality.	Temperature in degrees Fahrenheit.			Rainfall in inches and hundredths.		
	Normal.	*Excess.	*Deficiency.	Normal.	Excess.	Deficiency.
<b>New England States:</b>						
Eastport, Me.	25		18	.98		.91
Portland, Me.	23		11	.77		.77
Boston, Mass.	31		12	.74		.66
Block Island, R. I.	36		14	.91		.50
Woods Holl, Mass.	33		13	.64		.20
<b>Middle Atlantic States:</b>						
Albany, N. Y.	28		12	.63		.61
New York City	34		12	.77		.39
Philadelphia, Pa.	35		12	.62	.01	
Atlantic City, N. J.	35		13	.91		.29
Baltimore, Md.	37		13	.70		.01
Washington, D. C.	36		12	.70		.03
Lynchburg, Va.	38		8	.84	.15	
Norfolk, Va.	42		11	.84	.43	
<b>South Atlantic States:</b>						
Charlotte, N. C.	42		7	1.12		.01
Wilmington, N. C.	47		6	.81		.62
Charleston, S. C.	50		2	.84		.08
Augusta, Ga.	49		6	.84		.17
Savannah, Ga.	51		2	.84		.04
Jacksonville, Fla.	55			.76	.09	
Titusville, Fla.	62		2	.84		.06
Key West, Fla.	70		1	.42		.42
<b>Gulf States:</b>						
Atlanta, Ga.	45		10	1.16	.14	
Pensacola, Fla.	55		9	1.12		.74
Mobile, Ala.	52		8	1.05		.57
Montgomery, Ala.	50		9	1.17		.29
Vicksburg, Miss.	48		9	1.19		.95
New Orleans, La.	56		6	1.09		.88
Shreveport, La.	47		5	1.12		1.07
Fort Smith, Ark.	42		9	.70		.59
Little Rock, Ark.	44		12	.87		.67
Palestine, Tex.	48		3	.77		.66
Galveston, Tex.	57		4	1.04		1.03
San Antonio, Tex.	54		6	.39		.11
Corpus Christi, Tex.	55		2	.47		.34
<b>Ohio Valley and Tennessee:</b>						
Memphis, Tenn.	41		11	.89		.63
Nashville, Tenn.	41		14	.82		.52
Chattanooga, Tenn.	43		10	1.08		.46
Knoxville, Tenn.	40		11	.96		.11
Louisville, Ky.	36		13	.91		.88
Indianapolis, Ind.	32		14	.74		.58
Cincinnati, Ohio.	36		16	.77		.71
Columbus, Ohio.	33		14	.70		.59
Pittsburg, Pa.	34		15	.63		.36
<b>Lake Region:</b>						
Oswego, N. Y.	28		14	.77		.46
Rochester, N. Y.	28		13	.63	.26	
Buffalo, N. Y.	29		15	.76		.34
Erie, Pa.	32		14	.70		
Cleveland, Ohio.	30		12	.59		.24
Sandusky, Ohio.	30		13	.56		.36
Toledo, Ohio.	30		14	.56		.45
Detroit, Mich.	30		15	.56		.31
Port Huron, Mich.	26		13	.49		.19
Alpena, Mich.	23		12	.56		.46
Marquette, Mich.	21		16	.49		.35
Grand Haven, Mich.	28		13	.56	.21	
Milwaukee, Wis.	26		21	.49		.28
Chicago, Ill.	28		20	.49		.43
Duluth, Minn.	15		19	.28		.24
<b>Upper Mississippi Valley:</b>						
St. Paul, Minn.						
La Crosse, Wis.	21		20	.28		.20
Dubuque, Iowa	23		20	.42		.37
Davenport, Iowa	26		21	.38		.10
Des Moines, Iowa	23		18	.35		.29
Keokuk, Iowa	27		14	.49		.49

\* The figures in these columns represent the average daily departure. To obtain the average weekly departure these should be multiplied by seven.

† Missing.

Table of temperature and rainfall, week ended December 26, 1892—Continued.

Locality.	Temperature in degrees Fahrenheit.			Rainfall in inches and hundredths.		
	Normal.	*Excess.	*Deficiency.	Normal.	Excess.	Deficiency.
Upper Mississippi Valley—Cont'd.						
Springfield, Ill.	31		15	.63		.63
Cairo, Ill.	38		13	.77		.76
St. Louis, Mo.	34		12	.53		.49
Missouri Valley:						
Springfield, Mo.	35		13	.49		.17
Kansas City, Mo.	31		16	.28		.20
Concordia, Kans.	30		17	.14		
Omaha, Nebr.	24		16	.21		.14
Yankton, S. Dak.	21		16	.14		.10
Valentine, Nebr.	22		15	.18	.05	
Huron, S. Dak.	15		14	.20		.15
Pierre, S. Dak.	17		16	.14		.09
Moorhead, Minn.	8		19	.21		.02
St. Vincent, Minn.	3		18	.14		.14
Bismarck, N. Dak.	11		17	.14		.05
Ft. Buford, N. Dak.	10		20	.15	.15	
Rocky Mountain Slope:						
Havre, Mont.	14		21	.14	.43	
Helena, Mont.	22		12		.12	
Rapid City, S. Dak.	18		17	.07	.02	
Spokane, Wash.	29		8	.63	1.29	
Winnemucca, Nev.	30	5		.34		.09
Salt Lake City, Utah.	33	2		.41	.15	
Cheyenne, Wyo.	28		4	.07	.01	
North Platte, Nebr.	26		12	.14	.10	
Denver, Colo.	33		8	.14		.08
Montrose, Colo.	27	2		.14		.06
Pueblo, Colo.	34		8	.14		.13
Dodge City, Kans.	31		14	.14		.10
Abilene, Tex.	45		8	.20		.19
El Paso, Tex.	43	3		.14		.14
Santa Fe, N. Mex.	32	1		.14		.14
Tucson, Ariz.	51			.24		.24
Pacific Coast:						
Olympia, Wash. †						
Portland, Oregon	41		8	1.88	3.08	
Roseburg, Oregon	43			1.54	1.29	
Red Bluff, Cal.	47	3		1.25	3.97	
Sacramento, Cal.	48	5		.98	1.96	
San Francisco, Cal.	52	2		1.26	1.06	
Los Angeles, Cal.	55		1	1.07	1.46	
San Diego, Cal.	56			.56		.09
Yuma, Ariz.	56		1	.14		.14

\*The figures in these columns represent the average daily departure. To obtain the average weekly departure these should be multiplied by seven.

†Missing.



## FOREIGN.

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

*Cholera in Hamburg.*

WASHINGTON, D. C., December 29, 1892.

Following received from Estes, consul at Hamburg: "In city 7 cases, of which 1 death. None in port."

FOSTER,  
*Secretary of State.*

To the Hon. SECRETARY OF THE TREASURY.

WASHINGTON, D. C., December 23, 1892.

Following received from Estes, consul at Hamburg: "Bills health have not been clean. Two cases to-day."

JOHN W. FOSTER,  
*Secretary of State.*

To the Hon. SECRETARY OF THE TREASURY.

*Cholera in Nantes, Br est, and Lorient, France.*

UNITED STATES CONSULATE,  
*Nantes, December 14, 1892.*

SIR: Since my last report, dated December 7, 1892, contained in dispatch No. 26, I have the honor to inform you that the health of the city of Nantes is constantly improving. Within the last ten days there have been but 10 cases of cholera, with 5 deaths from the disease. The prefect, whom I saw yesterday, tells me that since two days no new cases have been reported, and that it is the opinion of the physicians of the board of health that the epidemic is nearly extinct. Nevertheless the prefect continues to enforce the same sanitary measures stated to you in my dispatch of November 30, 1892, No. 25.

The report I received from Brest shows the city, also that section of Brittany, to be entirely free from cholera.

From Lorient I received the inclosed report, which shows that for the week ended December 9, 1892, inclusive, 28 cases of cholera were under treatment, and that 9 deaths had occurred.

I am, sir, your obedient servant,

H. DE SALLIER DUPIN,  
*United States Consul.*

To the Hon: WILLIAM F. WHARTON,  
*Assistant Secretary of State.*

*Cholera in the Netherlands.*

UNITED STATES CONSULATE,  
*Rotterdam, December 19, 1892.*

The minister of the interior of the Netherlands reports 3 deaths from cholera within the Netherlands (all in the province of South Holland) during the week ended Saturday, December 17, 1892.

WALTER E. GARDNER,  
*United States Consul.*

*Cholera continues to exist in Persia.*

UNITED STATES CONSULATE,  
Teheran, November 1, 1892.

SIR: I regret to report that the cholera continues to linger on in some districts of Persia, and although it is given out to be of a milder type, yet it still claims daily a considerable number of victims. I think the type is most probably the same, but from climatic and other circumstances the peculiar virulence and fatality which marked its earlier movements have to a certain extent declined.

For three weeks or more the disease has infested the villages in the neighborhood of Shiraz (in the south) and the mortality has been high. It is now reported that the disease has actually entered that city, though not in a very malignant or fatal form, and it is hoped and believed that it will not spread to any great extent.

It has also broken out in the town of Zingan, midway between Teheran and Tabruz, and has assumed a rather violent character, and a large number of deaths have already occurred. As, however, the temperature of Zingan is low at this time of the year, it is probable that the disease will shortly disappear.

In Isphahan these are still some traces of the scourge though the number of cases is small.

\*       \*       \*       \*       \*       \*       \*

I have the honor to be, sir, your most obedient servant,  
JOHN TYLER,  
*Interpreter in Charge.*

To the Hon. WILLIAM F. WHARTON,  
*Assistant Secretary of State.*

*Dangers of immigration into the United States from Russian ports.*

UNITED STATES CONSULATE-GENERAL,  
St. Petersburg, December 9, 1892.

SIR: I have to acknowledge the receipt of circular Treasury Department dated November 16, 1892, relative to entry of vessels carrying immigrants.

In this connection I have the honor to report that the danger of cholera infection still exists at nearly all the ports and interior cities of Russia. In this city new cases of cholera are brought to the hospital daily. Only last week, when the weather was warmer than usual, there was a fresh outbreak in the city of a very serious character.

Although the cases were not more than fifteen or twenty per day, they were very severe, and in consequence the medical authorities of this city have expressed to me personally their belief, a belief in which I fully share, that on the opening of navigation in the spring this epidemic will break out with greater severity than that shown during the past summer. It has been the history of cholera in Russia that the second year has been worse than the first, and the present conduct of this epidemic argues to the same end. But I have been officially informed that the local authorities will make early and strenuous efforts to stamp out the disease by cleaning out the gutters and alleys and by carting away the ice from the canals before the spring thaw.

It is not believed, however, that the most strenuous efforts made by the Russian Government will prevent a recurrence of the cholera throughout the Empire in a very serious form.

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

J. M. CRAWFORD.

To the Hon. WILLIAM F. WHARTON,  
*Assistant Secretary of State.*

*Measures taken at the port of Halifax, Nova Scotia, to prevent the introduction of cholera into the United States.*

UNITED STATES CONSULATE-GENERAL,  
*Halifax, December 16, 1892.*

SIR: In view of the precautionary measures which our Government is taking in order to prevent the introduction of cholera into the United States, it may be interesting to the Department to learn definitely what is being done in reference to such measures at the port of Halifax, especially since during the colder season, say from November till May, the steamers which in summer ply between certain European ports and Montreal are prevented by the ice from entering the St. Lawrence, and therefore enter at Halifax.

First, I will say that for several months past, since the cholera appeared in western Europe, the inspecting physician of this port boards and inspects all vessels and steamers arriving with passengers from foreign ports before they are allowed to land passengers or freight. As yet no case of cholera has appeared. Should there be a case of that or other dangerous contagious disease, there is an island below the harbor, 3 or 4 miles distant from the town, which is set apart for quarantine purposes. Here are one or two quarantine buildings, with capacity, as I am informed, for two or three hundred people. It is stated that the Dominion Government contemplates adding to the capacity and convenience of the buildings on the island, and building a wharf at which large steamers may land.

The Canadian Government seems not to have adopted regulations, as ours has done, requiring the disinfection of the effects of immigrants arriving from Europe, and the baggage of such immigrants as remain here, or proceed to other parts of Canada, is not subjected to any disinfecting process unless, of course, for special reasons. Since, however, immigrants are not allowed to enter the United States unless their baggage has been properly disinfected, suitable arrangements for disinfecting have been provided here. A large, closely lined, box railway car, with a capacity of 1,600 cubic feet, supplied with steam pipes sufficient to allow a dry steam heat of more than 212° F., has been fitted up and attached to an engine. The car is run on to a side track by the door of the immigrant shed on the steamer's wharf. Suitable racks are provided within the car, upon which the effects of the immigrants are loosely exposed under this heat for at least one hour, according to the government requirements. A certificate, per form inclosed, is then filled out, signed, sealed, and delivered to the immigrants by myself or deputy, and a tag like the inclosed sample is also signed and attached to each piece of baggage in order that the same may be quickly identified by the United States inspecting officer.

An immigration agent, appointed by the Dominion Government, is stationed here, who assists in the work of disinfection. He appears to be a faithful and efficient officer, and thus far coöperates with me in carrying out the necessary requirements.

We are now having one or two passenger steamers per week from Europe, although as yet not many immigrants have arrived to go to the United States via Vanceboro. Some remain on the steamers and land in Portland; others go to western Canada or some of the Western States, crossing the border at Port Huron, Detroit, or some other point. I am informed suitable disinfecting arrangements have been made.

I have given particular attention to this matter of disinfection, and have visited the station often and spent considerable time there. I attend whenever my presence is required, going sometimes in the evening and on Sunday if it is desirable to start without delay trains with emigrants to the United States.

Should many emigrants for the United States arrive this winter, it will be a considerable tax upon this office to attend to the duty of certifying to the disinfection of their baggage, etc. The emigrant station is at least a mile from the consulate, and a mile and a half from my residence. The baggage must be exposed to the required heat for at least one hour, and, including the time spent in preparing the certificates, tags, etc., not less than two hours must be spent at the station, and sometimes on days when the presence of both myself and deputy may be needed at the office.

I would respectfully ask if the Government will not, if it should become necessary, allow the appointment of a trusty and reliable person to attend to this duty, with authority to use the tags and issue the certificates signed by myself or deputy, and receive a reasonable compensation from the Government for his service? Dr. M. L. Porter, the United States sanitary inspector at Vanceboro, who has recently been here on a visit of inspection, suggests the appointment of a consular officer, in which case he could himself certify, etc., but this might necessitate the payment of a considerable salary, and there would be the usual delay in obtaining his recognition. I think the expenses would be less under the plan I suggest, should that plan be considered practicable.

Two Liverpool steamers, one with 200 immigrants, the other with 300, will be due here in a day or two, but I am not informed how many of the immigrants are destined to the United States.

I will not urge the appointment of an assistant unless it shall seem to me to be actually necessary.

I am, sir, your obedient servant,

WAKEFIELD G. FRYE,  
*Consul-General.*

To the Hon. WILLIAM F. WHARTON,  
*Assistant Secretary of State.*

*Epidemic of smallpox diminishing at Tangier.*

UNITED STATES CONSULATE-GENERAL,  
*Tangier, December 1, 1892.*

SIR: In relation with the existence of cholera in various parts of Europe, I have the honor to transmit to you herewith the various regulations adopted by the Morocco board of health at Tangier, which,

as you are aware, is composed of the foreign representatives accredited to the Emperor of Morocco.

I also beg to inform you in this connection that the epidemic of smallpox reported by me in dispatch No. 89, of the 7th ultimo, is now rapidly diminishing.

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

F. A. MATHEWS.

To the Hon. WILLIAM F. WHARTON,

*Assistant Secretary of State.*

BRAZIL—*Ceara*.—Month of October, 1892. Population, 35,065. Total deaths, 98, including 4 from beri-beri.

CUBA—*Havana*.—Under date of December 24, 1892, the United States sanitary inspector reports as follows:

There were 118 deaths in this city during the week ending December 22, 1892. Three of those deaths were caused by yellow fever, with approximately 10 new cases; 16 were caused by enteric fever; 2 by so-called pernicious fever, and 1 by diphtheria.

*Santiago de Cuba*.—Two weeks ended October 31, 1892. Total deaths, 51, including 4 from phthisis pulmonalis.

FRANCE—*Nice*.—Month of October, 1892. Population, 97,720. Total deaths, 165, including phthisis pulmonalis, 16; enteric fever, 10; scarlet fever, 1; diphtheria and croup, 3.

Month of November, 1892. Total deaths, 143, including phthisis pulmonalis, 22; enteric fever, 13; diphtheria and croup, 6; and whooping cough, 1.

*Rouen*.—Month of November, 1892. Population, 111,847. Total deaths, 275, including phthisis pulmonalis, 47; enteric fever, 22; scarlet fever, 4; and croup, 4.

GREAT BRITAIN—*England and Wales*.—The deaths registered in 33 great towns of England and Wales during the week ended December 10 corresponded to an annual rate of 19.6 a thousand of the aggregate population, which is estimated at 10,188,449. The lowest rate was recorded in Halifax, viz, 11.2, and the highest in Salford, viz, 31.6 a thousand.

*London*.—One thousand four hundred and fifty-two deaths were registered during the week, including measles, 30; scarlet fever, 23; diphtheria, 58; whooping cough, 17; enteric fever, 11; diarrhea and dysentery, 17. The deaths from all causes corresponded to an annual rate of 17.7 a thousand. Diseases of the respiratory organs caused 339 deaths. In greater London 1,867 deaths were registered, corresponding to an annual rate of 16.9 a thousand of the population.

In the "outer ring" the deaths included diphtheria, 11; measles, 22; and scarlet fever, 11.

*Newcastle-upon-Tyne*.—Two weeks ended December 10, 1892. Population, 192,205. Total deaths, 154, including enteric fever 1, and scarlet fever 1.

*Ireland*.—The average annual death rate represented by the deaths registered during the week ended December 10, in the 16 principal town districts of Ireland, was 19.6 a thousand of the population. The lowest rate was recorded in Dundalk, viz, 12.6, and the highest in Kilkenny, viz, 37.8 a thousand. In Dublin and suburbs 161 deaths were registered, including scarlet fever, 1; whooping cough, 1; and enteric fever, 2;

*Scotland*.—The deaths registered in 8 principal towns during the week ended December 10 corresponded to an annual rate of 24.5 a thousand of the population, which is estimated at 1,447,500. The lowest mortality was recorded in Greenock, viz, 13.2, and the highest in Leith, viz, 41.6 a thousand. The aggregate number of deaths registered from all causes was 683, including measles, 102; scarlet fever, 13; diphtheria, 13; whooping cough, 12; fever, 6; and diarrhea, 10.

ITALY—*Milan*.—Month of October, 1892. Population, 418,803. Total deaths 789, including smallpox, 1; enteric fever, 36, scarlet fever, 1; and diphtheria, 28.

SWITZERLAND—*Lucerne*.—Month of November, 1892. Population, 22,000. Total deaths 31, including enteric fever, 6; scarlet fever, 2; and diphtheria, 6.

#### *Status of the cholera epidemic.*

[Translated for this Bureau from the Deutsche Medicinische Wochenschrift, December 15, 1892.]

GERMAN EMPIRE.—A fresh case of cholera has been reported at Altona under date of December 3. On December 8 a servant woman, who had been at Gustrow, in Mecklenburg, on December 5 and 6, died of cholera at Hamburg. No other cases were reported throughout Germany during the same period. The official inspection stations in the provinces along the Vistula have been closed. From November 16 to 20 5,790 vessels, 619 rafts, and 43,024 persons were examined; 4,295 vessels, 174 rafts disinfected. No cholera cases or cases suspected of being cholera were found. In the Elbe provinces, for the whole period during which the official inspection service was in operation, 32,851 vessels and rafts were disinfected, and 108 cholera cases and 11 suspicious cases verified. The inspection stations for river craft at Regensburg and Passau, in Bavaria, have been closed.

NETHERLANDS.—Only 4 cases of cholera were reported for the first week in December.

BELGIUM.—According to information received, there were 28 cholera cases and 17 deaths from cholera at Brügge between November 19 and 28. In Brussels, November 19, 6 cases and 3 deaths.

FRANCE.—Numerous cases have occurred in the vicinity of Calais and Cherbourg since November 19. In Nantes, from November 13 to 19, there were 9 cases and 4 deaths; from November 22 to 25, 13 cases.

**AUSTRIA-HUNGARY—Galicia.**—The number of cholera cases has increased. The principal focus of the epidemic is at Husiatyn, a locality near the Russian frontier, and in adjacent places. The number of cases and deaths since the beginning of December is as follows: Husiatyn, 2 cases, 2 deaths; Olchowcyk, 8 cases, 4 deaths; Suchovol, 3 cases, and 1 death; Szydłowcze, 15 cases, 3 deaths. The disease was imported by travel across the Russian frontier.

**Buda-Pesth.**—The number of cholera cases now occurring is small. The epidemic is officially declared extinct. In other Hungarian localities the epidemic has declined.

**RUSSIAN-POLAND.**—Isolated cases still occur in many localities in the government of Warsaw. At Mława, on the southeastern frontier of Prussia, 6 cases and 4 deaths have recently occurred; in an adjacent place, 4 cases, and 1 death.

According to official information the epidemic continues to prevail with considerable severity in Russia, especially in the governments of Cherson, Bessarabia, Podolia, Kiew, Kursk, Tambow, the Caucasus and Baku.

**ASIA MINOR.**—The epidemic has declined in the villayet of Ezroom. The number of choleraic cases has been estimated, to the middle of November, at 784; deaths, 514. At Trapezunt, from November 8 to 13, 54 cases and 45 deaths; since the outbreak of the epidemic, October 30, 137 cases and 85 deaths.

**PERSIA.**—During the first week in November cholera cases were reported from many localities, as follows: Ispahan, 400 cases, 150 deaths; Cheistan, 190 cases, 75 deaths; Zendjan, 150 cases, 60 deaths.

**ARABIA.**—A fresh cholera case occurred at Yemen, November 10.

#### MORTALITY TABLE, FOREIGN CITIES.

Cities.	Week ended.	Estimated population.	Total deaths from all causes.	Deaths from—							
				Cholera.	Yellow fever.	Smallpox.	Typhus fever.	Enteric fever.	Scarlet fever.	Diphtheria.	Measles.
London.....	Dec. 10.....	5,752,204	1867					11	34	69	
Paris.....	Dec. 17.....	2,424,705	1009	3		1		10	1	43	11
Calcutta.....	Nov. 19.....	681,560	418	27		1				1	
Glasgow.....	Dec. 10.....	669,059	327				3		11	8	
Liverpool.....	Dec. 10.....	513,790	210					3	2	1	
Warsaw*.....	Dec. 3.....	490,417	260			12		1	14	17	
Brussels.....	Dec. 10.....	482,158	165	1				1		2	
Lyons.....	Dec. 10.....	430,000	154					1	1	9	
Cairo.....	Dec. 1.....	374,838	286			1		6			5
Munich.....	Dec. 3.....	366,000	149							9	
Odessa.....	Dec. 10.....	302,000	162			2		3	9	2	1
Dresden.....	Dec. 3.....	301,400	106					2	1	9	
Dresden.....	Dec. 10.....	301,400	95					1	1	10	
Cologne.....	Dec. 17.....	295,858	107							6	2
Edinburgh.....	Dec. 10.....	264,787	129					1		3	
Belfast.....	Dec. 10.....	261,046	122				1	5	3	4	
Palermo.....	Dec. 10.....	250,000	89							1	
Antwerp.....	Dec. 10.....	241,263	100			2		3		3	9
Alexandria.....	Dec. 1.....	231,396	166						2	4	
Rotterdam.....	Dec. 17.....	216,679	103					4			
Pernambuco.....	Oct. 27.....	200,000	70					4			
Pernambuco.....	Nov. 3.....	200,000	57					5		1	
Pernambuco.....	Nov. 10.....	200,000	68					2			
Pernambuco.....	Nov. 17.....	200,000	73					5			
Pernambuco.....	Nov. 24.....	200,000	78				1	3			

\* Eighteen deaths from plague, reported by United States consul during week ended November 26, 1892.

## MORTALITY TABLE, FOREIGN CITIES—Continued.

Cities.	Week ended.	Estimated population.	Total deaths from all causes.	Deaths from—							
				Cholera.	Yellow fever.	Smallpox.	Typhus fever.	Enteric fever.	Scarlet fever.	Diphtheria.	Measles.
Hanover.....	Dec. 3.....	185,200	39				1			4	
Hanover.....	Dec. 10.....	185,200	78							5	2
Frankfort-on-the-Main.....	Dec. 10.....	185,000	42					1		4	
Prague.....	Dec. 10.....	185,538	121					2		13	
Genoa.....	Dec. 10.....	182,039	109			3	1		1	2	
Genoa.....	Dec. 17.....	182,039	127			2	1		1	5	
Venice.....	Dec. 3.....	161,644	86					3		1	
Venice.....	Dec. 10.....	161,644	69							1	
Trieste.....	Dec. 10.....	158,054	73							8	
Christiania.....	Dec. 10.....	156,500	62						2	3	
Nuremberg.....	Dec. 3.....	151,256	52							3	
Ghent.....	Dec. 10.....	150,398	55							1	4
Hioho.....	Nov. 19.....	142,394	46			12	2				
Hioho.....	Nov. 26.....	142,394	54			13	2				
Funchal.....	Dec. 3.....	140,000	13				1				
Funchal.....	Dec. 10.....	140,000	14								
Bremen.....	Dec. 10.....	126,600	46						1	3	
Stettin.....	Dec. 10.....	120,000	43						1	4	
Havre.....	Nov. 12.....	116,369	49				2				
Crefeld.....	Dec. 17.....	108,000	66								
Aix-la-Chapelle.....	Dec. 11.....	107,167	34							1	
Gothenburg.....	Dec. 10.....	105,800	48								
Leghorn.....	Dec. 18.....	103,395	21				4	1	5	5	1
Zurich.....	Dec. 3.....	91,323	33							2	
Mannheim.....	Dec. 10.....	80,000	36							5	
Mayence.....	Dec. 10.....	72,281	56						1	1	
Leith.....	Dec. 10.....	69,956	32					1		1	
Jerez de la Frontera.....	Dec. 3.....	61,708	43						1	5	
Jerez de la Frontera.....	Dec. 10.....	61,708	35								
Guayaquil.....	Dec. 3.....	44,772	29								
Guayaquil.....	Dec. 10.....	44,772	42								
Guayaquil.....	Dec. 17.....	44,772	24				2				
Marsala.....	Dec. 3.....	40,131	10								
Schiedam.....	Dec. 17.....	25,371	18		1			2			
Vera Cruz.....	Dec. 23.....	25,000	11								
Girgenti.....	Dec. 10.....	23,847	21								
Kingston, Canada.....	Dec. 23.....	19,264	2								
Kingston, Canada.....	Dec. 30.....	19,264	22								
Antigua.....	Dec. 3.....	16,664	15								
Antigua.....	Dec. 10.....	16,664	4								
Flushing.....	Dec. 19.....	14,000	7								
Matamoros.....	Dec. 23.....	12,000	2								
Guelfh.....	Dec. 24.....	10,539	6								
Queenstown.....	Dec. 17.....	10,340	11								
Tuxpan.....	Dec. 10.....	10,280	2								
Tuxpan.....	Dec. 17.....	10,280	1								
Chatham.....	Dec. 24.....	10,000									
Sarnia.....	Dec. 24.....	6,600									

OFFICIAL :

WALTER WYMAN,  
Supervising Surgeon-General Marine-Hospital Service.