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ELEVENTH

ANNUAL REPORT

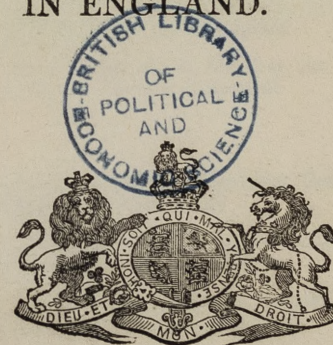
OF THE

REGISTRAR-GENERAL

OF

BIRTHS, DEATHS, AND MARRIAGES

IN ENGLAND.



LONDON:

PRINTED BY GEORGE E. EYRE AND WILLIAM SPOTTISWOODE,
PRINTERS TO THE QUEEN'S MOST EXCELLENT MAJESTY.
FOR HER MAJESTY'S STATIONERY OFFICE.

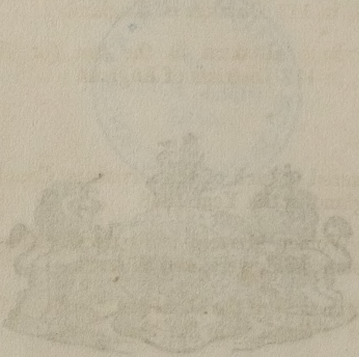
1852.

ELEVENTH
ANNUAL REPORT

REGISTRAR-GENERAL

BIRTHS, DEATHS, AND MARRIAGES

IN ENGLAND



LONDON:
PRINTED BY GEORGE E. FINE AND WILLIAM SPOTTISWOOD

THE REGISTRAR-GENERAL'S OFFICE, ST. MARTIN'S LANE, LONDON.

1851

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REPORT.

TO THE RIGHT HONORABLE SIR GEORGE GREY, BART.,
M.P., G.C.B.,

Her Majesty's Secretary of State for the Home Department.

General Register Office, 1st December 1851.

SIR,

In conformity with the sixth section of the Registration Act, 6 & 7 Wm. IV. cap. 86, I had the honor to submit to you, in the year 1850, a General Abstract of the Marriages, Births, and Deaths registered in England and Wales during the year 1848, in order that the same might be laid before Parliament.

I now submit to you more extended Abstracts of the Marriages in each district, and of the Births and Deaths in each district and sub-district of the kingdom.

The Abstracts of the *Causes of Death at each Age* have been continued. I have only had printed in the present volume the general summaries showing the causes of death among males and females in each county, and the causes of death at different ages in London.

The year 1848 presented some of the characters of the previous year. 276460 persons were married; the births of 563059 living children were registered; of all ages 399831 persons died. The excess of births over deaths registered was 163228.

In the year 1848 the epidemic of influenza had considerably subsided, yet it was one of the causes of the high mortality of the first quarter of that year. In the last quarter of the year the great epidemic of Asiatic cholera first began, but it then produced little effect on the mortality, and appeared only to lay down the basis of its operations and ravages in 1849.

I extract from the Quarterly Returns, which have since 1842 been published within a month of the end of every quarter, brief accounts of the state of public health. I reserve any more extended observations on the subject of these returns until the results of the Census of 1851 are published.

MARRIAGES, BIRTHS, and DEATHS in England.

YEARS.	1838	1839	1840	1841	1842	1843	1844	1845	1846	1847	1848
Marriages - -	118067	123166	122965	122406	118825	123818	132249	143743	145664	135845	138230
Persons Married -	236134	246332	245330	244992	237650	247636	264498	287486	291328	271690	270460
Births - - -	463787	492574	502303	512158	517739	527325	540763	543521	572625	539965	563059
Deaths - - -	342760	338964	350687	343847	349519	346445	356933	349366	390315	423304	399831
Excess of Births Registered over Deaths in England - - -	121027	153590	142616	168311	168220	180880	183830	194155	182310	116661	163228
Emigrants from the United Kingdom* - - -	33222	62207	90743	118592	128344	57212	70686	93501	129851	258270	248089

* Return by the Land and Emigration Commissioners. The number of emigrants who embarked from *English ports* is stated in the Emigration Reports; but it is notorious that many Irish emigrants embark from Liverpool. The Emigration Report does not, unfortunately, distinguish the birth-place of the emigrants.

ENGLAND.—MARRIAGES, BIRTHS, and DEATHS in each Quarter.

Years.	Quarter ending the last Day of	Marriages.	Births.	Deaths.	Excess of Births Registered over Deaths.
1837	March	—	—	—	—
	June	—	—	—	—
	September	24030	74588	148701	15415
	December	34449	89528		
1838	March	23201	113815	98152	15663
	June	29801	121781	90877	30904
	September	27764	114734	72877	41857
	December	37301	113457	80854	32603
1839	March	24679	123543	89740	33803
	June	31339	128806	87969	40837
	September	29887	120115	76280	43835
	December	37261	120110	84995	35115
1840	March	26395	132305	98896	33409
	June	30786	129059	90339	38720
	September	29221	119822	80822	39000
	December	36263	121117	89630	31487
1841	March	24447	133720	99069	34651
	June	32551	129884	86134	43750
	September	29397	123868	75440	48428
	December	36101	124686	83204	41482
1842	March	25860	135615	96314	39301
	June	30048	134096	86538	47558
	September	27288	123296	82339	40957
	December	35629	124732	84328	40404
1843	March	25285	136837	94926	41911
	June	31113	131279	87234	44045
	September	28847	128161	76792	51369
	December	38573	131048	87493	43555
1844	March	26387	143578	101024	42554
	June	34268	136941	85337	51604
	September	31675	130078	79708	50370
	December	39919	130166	90864	39302
1845	March	29551	143080	104664	38416
	June	35300	136853	89149	47704
	September	35003	132369	74872	57497
	December	43889	131219	80681	50538
1846	March	31417	145108	89484	55624
	June	37111	149450	90230	59220
	September	35070	138718	101664	37054
	December	42066	139349	108937	30412
1847	March	27480	146453	119672	26781
	June	35197	139072	106718	32354
	September	32439	127173	93435	33738
	December	40729	127267	103479	23788
1848	March	28398	139736	120032	19704
	June	34721	149760	99727	50033
	September	32995	140359	87638	52721
	December	42116	133204	92434	40770
11 Years 1838-48		1424768	5775819	4000991	1774828
Two last quarters of 1837		58479	164116	148701	15415
11½ Years 1837½-48		1483247	—	—	—
Persons married, Births, and Deaths		2966494	5939935	4149692	1790243

ENGLAND.—Annual rate per Cent. of Marriages, Births, and Deaths in the Population during each quarter of the 11 years 1838-48.

Years.	Quarter ending the last day of	Proportion per Cent.*		
		Marriages.	Births.	Deaths.
1838	March	*618	3'032	2'615
	June	*783	3'198	2'387
	September	*719	2'970	1'887
	December	*963	2'928	2'086
1839	March	*649	3'248	2'359
	June	*812	3'338	2'230
	September	*764	3'069	1'949
	December	*949	3'059	2'164
1840	March	*677	3'395	2'538
	June	*787	3'301	2'310
	September	*737	3'021	2'038
	December	*911	3'044	2'252
1841	March	*626	3'424	2'537
	June	*822	3'278	2'174
	September	*731	3'082	1'877
	December	*895	3'092	2'063
1842	March	*654	3'431	2'436
	June	*749	3'344	2'158
	September	*671	3'032	2'025
	December	*874	3'058	2'067
1843	March	*632	3'420	2'373
	June	*767	3'234	2'149
	September	*701	3'114	1'866
	December	*934	3'174	2'119
1844	March	*644	3'507	2'467
	June	*834	3'334	2'077
	September	*760	3'123	1'913
	December	*955	3'115	2'175
1845	March	*721	3'491	2'554
	June	*849	3'291	2'144
	September	*830	3'140	1'776
	December	1'038	3'103	1'908
1846	March	*757	3'498	2'157
	June	*882	3'551	2'144
	September	*822	3'251	2'382
	December	*983	3'256	2'545
1847	March	*655	3'488	2'850
	June	*826	3'265	2'506
	September	*751	2'945	2'163
	December	*940	2'938	2'389
1848	March	*661	3'252	2'794
	June	*805	3'474	2'313
	September	*755	3'211	2'005
	December	*961	3'038	2'108
Mean of 11 years, 1838-48	March	*663	3'381	2'516
	June	*811	3'328	2'240
	September	*749	3'087	1'989
	December	*946	3'073	2'171

* The Table may be read thus, without reference to the decimal points:—In the year 1848 the annual rates of marriage in each of the 4 quarters were 661, 805, 755, and 961 to every 100000 of the population of England; the rates of death 2794, 2313, 2005, and 2108 to every 100000 persons living. The 3 months January, February, March, contain 90, in leap year 91 days; the 3 months April, May, June, 91 days; each of the 2 last quarters of the year 92 days. For this inequality a correction has been made in the calculation. It was assumed that the population increased at the same uniform rate as the females increased in 1841-51, namely, 1'212 per cent. annually, or '302 quarterly. So $\frac{1}{4} \lambda r = '0013078$.

Marriages registered in England, pursuant to the Act of 6 and 7 Will. IV. cap. 86, in the years 1838-48.

ENGLAND.	MARRIAGES.										
	According to the Rites of the Established Church.					Not according to the Rites of the Established Church.					
	Special Licence.	Licence.	Banns.	Superintendent Registrar's Certificate.	Not stated by which of the foregoing forms.	Total.	In Registered Places of Worship.	In Superintendent Registrar's Office.	Quakers.	Jews.	Total.
In the years ending 30th June 1838	9	13677	68410	493	24612	107201	2976	1093	76	135	4280
" 1839	10	14639	76323	968	22557	114632	4654	1564	73	160	6451
" 1840	10	15564	78642	912	21890	117018	5140	1938	81	152	7311
" 1841	17	15752	77826	856	19997	114448	5816	2036	66	116	8034
In the years ending 31st Dec. 1841	13	15792	78015	972	19579	114371	5882	2064	66	113	8125
" 1842	9	14935	75744	944	18415	110047	6200	2357	58	163	8778
" 1843	8	14544	79849	1222	18014	113637	7152	2817	61	151	10181
" 1844	10	14930	85176	1558	18335	120009	*8564	3446	53	175	12240
" 1845	10	16013	92867	1706	18919	129515	†9997	3977	74	180	14228
" 1846	14	17135	92995	1862	18503	130509	‡10696	4167	68	224	15155
" 1847	14	17052	84863	1968	16979	120876	§10444	4258	83	184	14969
" 1848	13	16896	86519	2170	15871	121469	||11718	4790	67	186	16761

ENGLAND.	Total Marriages.	Not of Age.		Re-marriages.		Signed with Marks.	
		Men.	Women.	Widowers	Widows.	Men.	Women.
In the years ending 30th June 1838	111481	5575	16563	—	—	—	—
" 1839	121083	5628	16414	—	—	40767	59949
" 1840	124329	6101	17909	—	—	41812	62523
" 1841	122482	5537	16391	—	—	40059	59896
In the years ending 31st Dec. 1841	122496	5362	16285	—	—	39954	59680
" 1842	118325	5387	16003	15619	10579	38031	56965
" 1843	123818	5511	16403	16305	10811	40520	60715
" 1844	132249	5515	17410	16941	11183	42912	65073
" 1845	143743	6287	19376	18176	12369	47665	71229
" 1846	145664	6313	20001	18343	12128	47488	70145
" 1847	135845	5556	18118	17564	11602	42429	61877
" 1848	138230	6092	19436	19026	12244	43166	62771

* Of the 8564 marriages in 1844, 2280 were in Roman Catholic chapels, and 6284 in chapels of other denominations.
 † Of the 9997 marriages in 1845, 2816 were in Roman Catholic chapels, and 7181 in chapels of other denominations.
 ‡ Of the 10696 marriages in 1846, 3027 were in Roman Catholic chapels, and 7669 in chapels of other denominations.
 § Of the 10444 marriages in 1847, 2961 were in Roman Catholic chapels, and 7483 in chapels of other denominations.
 || Of the 11718 marriages in 1848, 3658 were in Roman Catholic chapels, and 8060 in chapels of other denominations.

MARRIAGES registered in ENGLAND.

Years.	Total Married.	Under Age.			Of Full Age.		
		Number.	Proportion per Cent. to the whole Number Married.	Number.	Proportion per Cent. to the whole Number Married.		
1843	123818 Couples, or 247636 Persons.	Men - -	5511	4'45	Men - -	118307	95'55
		Women -	13403	13'25	Women -	107415	86'75
	Total and mean -		21914	8'85		225722	91'15
1844	132249 Couples, or 264498 Persons.	Men - -	5515	4'17	Men - -	126734	95'83
		Women -	17410	13'16	Women -	114839	86'84
	Total and mean -		22925	8'67		241573	91'33
1845	143743 Couples, or 287486 Persons.	Men - -	6287	4'37	Men - -	137455	95'63
		Women -	19376	13'48	Women -	124337	86'52
	Total and mean -		25663	8'93		261823	91'07
1846	145664 Couples, or 291328 Persons.	Men - -	6313	4'33	Men - -	139351	95'67
		Women -	20001	13'73	Women -	125663	86'27
	Total and mean -		26314	9'03		265014	90'97
1847	135845 Couples, or 271690 Persons.	Men - -	5556	4'09	Men - -	130289	95'91
		Women -	18118	13'34	Women -	117727	86'66
	Total and mean -		23674	8'72		248016	91'29
1848	138230 Couples, or 276460 Persons.	Men - -	6092	4'41	Men - -	132138	95'59
		Women -	19436	14'06	Women -	118794	85'94
	Total and mean -		25528	9'24		250932	90'77

PROPORTION per Cent. of Persons Married under 21 years of Age, of the Re-marriage of Widowers and Widows, and of Persons who signed the Marriage Register with marks, in England, 1839-1848.

	Married under 21 Years of Age.			In every 100 Marriages the Proportion of			Signed the Marriage Register with Marks.		
	Proportion per Cent.			Proportion per Cent.			Proportion per Cent.		
	Men.	Women.	Mean.	Widowers	Widows	Mean.	Men.	Women	Mean.
In the years ending the last day of June - - 1839	4'64	13'55	8'60	-	-	-	33'7	49'5	41'6
" " 1840	4'90	14'40	9'65	-	-	-	33'6	50'3	42'0
" " 1841	4'52	13'38	8'95	-	-	-	32'7	48'9	40'8
In the years ending the last day of December 1841	4'38	13'29	8'83	12'90	8'99	10'95	32'7	48'8	40'8
" " 1842	4'53	13'47	9'00	13'14	8'90	11'02	32'0	47'9	40'0
" " 1843	4'45	13'25	8'85	13'17	8'73	10'95	32'7	49'0	40'9
" " 1844	4'17	13'16	8'67	12'81	8'46	10'63	32'4	49'2	40'8
" " 1845	4'37	13'48	8'93	12'64	8'60	10'62	33'2	49'6	41'4
" " 1846	4'33	13'73	9'03	12'59	8'33	10'46	32'6	48'2	40'4
" " 1847	4'09	13'34	8'72	12'93	8'54	10'74	31'2	45'5	38'4
" " 1848	4'41	14'06	9'24	13'76	8'86	11'31	31'2	45'4	38'3

Relative MORTALITY of the several Quarters of the Eleven Years 1838-48.

Years.	Deaths Registered in the Quarters ending the last day of				Total Deaths in England.	Deaths in the Districts making Quarterly Returns.*	Deaths in Districts not making Quarterly Returns.
	March.	June.	September.	December.			
1838	98152	90877	72877	80854	342760	..	..
1839	89740	87969	76280	84995	338984	162165	176819
1840	98896	90339	80822	89630	359687	171490	188197
1841	99069	86134	75440	83204	343847	160834	183013
1842	96314	86538	82339	84328	349519	161980	187539
1843	94926	87234	76792	87493	346445	168099	183346
1844	101024	85337	79708	90864	356933	167516	189417
1845	104664	89149	74872	80681	349366	165789	183577
1846	89484	90230	101664	108937	390315	191430	198885
1847	119672	106718	93435	103479	423304	215094	208210
1848	120082	99727	87638	92434	399831	193831	206000

* This column embraced 115 Districts until 1847, when the number was increased to 117 by the addition of Lewisham and Hampstead.

State of the Public Health in the First (or Winter) Quarter of the Year 1848. (January, February, March.)

"The Quarterly Returns are obtained from 117 Districts, subdivided into 582 Sub-Districts. Thirty-six Districts are in the Metropolis, and the remaining 81 comprise, with some agricultural Districts, the principal towns and cities of England. The population was 6,612,958 in 1841."*

The mortality has been high in the Quarter ending March 31 1848, but rather lower than in the previous quarter; and, taking the increase of population into account, higher than in the corresponding quarter of the year 1847. The deaths returned were 57710 in the last, and 57925 in the previous quarter. The deaths in the corresponding quarter of 1847 were 56105.

The smallest number of deaths returned in the 10 last winter quarters was 42,410 in 1839. The mortality was below the average in the winters of 1839, 1842, 1843, and 1844: in the severe winter of 1845 it was 49,996, which is considerably above the average. In the mild winter of 1846 it was much below the average. The rest of the year was unfavourable to health; some of the diseases of hot climates set in; the potato crop failed in

* From the first Quarter of 1849 the Quarterly Reports have embraced the whole of England and Wales, and include Marriages, Births, and Deaths.

England and Ireland, with disastrous effects. In 1847 scurvy, typhus, and other zymotic diseases prevailed; and at the end of the year influenza broke out. Its ravages extended over the country, and continued in some districts through the month of January 1848. The results are shown below.

	1839	1840	1841	1842	1843	1844	1845	1846	1847	1848
Deaths registered in the March Quarters of 10 years	42410	46376	46967	44903	43748	46136	40996	43850	56105	57710
Deaths which would have been registered if the mortality had been uniform, and the Numbers had increased from 1839 at the rate of 1.75 per cent. annually	43389	44352	45128	45817	46721	47539	48371	49217	50078	50955
UNHEALTHY SEASONS.										
Difference above the calculated number	..	2024	1839	..	..	..	1625	..	6027	6755
HEALTHY SEASONS.										
Difference below the calculated number	1179	..	..	1014	2973	1403	..	5367	..	..

In London 16455 deaths were registered in the first 13 weeks of 1848, and 15289 in the first 13 weeks of 1847. The deaths in the winter of 1846 were only 12518; in 1845, however, they had been 14686. The mortality was high during the first 5 weeks of the present year. In the week ending February 5th, 1453 deaths were returned, exclusive of violent and sudden deaths; in the next week the deaths were 1296; the temperature rose; and in the week ending February 19th the deaths were 1102; in the five following weeks the deaths only varied from 1090 in the first to 1054 in the last week but one of the quarter ending April 1. Typhus is still epidemic in London, and destroys the lives of from 60 to 80 persons weekly. Small-pox, measles, scarlatina, and hooping-cough were fatal to many. The deaths ascribed to influenza in the 13 weeks were 102, 102, 89, 56, 59, 47, 27, 33, 18, 11, 10, 16, 8. Pulmonary diseases (exclusive of consumption) were little more than half as fatal at the end as they were at the beginning of the quarter. A great difference will be observed in the causes of death in 1847 and 1848, although the mortality was high in both winters. In the winter of 1847 the deaths from diseases of the lungs were 4056; in 1848 they were 3357; on the other hand, zymotic diseases were more than twice as fatal in 1848 as they were in 1847.

In the districts of the kingdom generally, exclusive of London, the deaths in the winters of the five years 1844-8 were 32494, 35310, 31332, 40816, and 41255. The deaths in the districts of Lancashire and Cheshire in the five winters were 11368, 12896, 11928, 15557, and 15444, and nearly equal in the last two years to the deaths in London, although the population was only 1,530,460 in 1841, when the population of London was 1,948,369.

Typhus, scarlatina, hooping-cough, and small-pox were epidemic in many parts of the country. The mortality of Bir-

tingham, Manchester, and Liverpool still remains excessively high. The deaths in Birmingham were 1661; the population was 138,215 in 1841. Birmingham has, in its site, many advantages in a sanatory point of view; and the occupations of the people are not insalubrious; but the beneficence of nature appears to be defeated by the negligence of the authorities. Water, pure air, and a perfect system of drainage are not provided, as they might be, for the whole town, and the consequence is, that want and the epidemics abroad have destroyed thousands of the lives of the inhabitants within the last two years.

The fatal effects of collecting large bodies of labourers without adequate house accommodation have been illustrated in Lincoln. The Registrar of the *Home* Sub-district, after remarking that the deaths in the quarter were 161, adds:—

“This return shows that within a period of 2½ years the mortality has been doubled. The fact is accounted for by the increase of a temporary population connected with the formation of railways without a sufficient increase of accommodation, which has induced typhus and measles. There have been 19 deaths from fever, 14 from influenza, and 27 from consumption.”

Lincoln appears to be less salubrious than it might be made.

In Nottingham the mortality was high, but not so high as in the winter of 1840.

The mortality in Liverpool and Manchester is still excessively high, but not so high as in the winter of 1847. There is a manifest improvement in Huddersfield, Halifax, Bradford, and Leeds. In Sheffield and York the mortality was higher in 1848 than in 1847.

The extent to which vaccination is neglected in some parts of the country is deplorable and inconceivable. Such facts as the following are, it is to be feared, not uncommon in other districts besides East Sunderland.

“Deaths 140: considerably above the average; 69 more than in the corresponding quarter of last year. The increase is principally to be attributed to the prevalence of small-pox in the district. 47 persons have died of small-pox (only one after vaccination). Out of the 140 deaths 84 are of children under 5 years of age.”

Here 47 persons, chiefly children, died, and this implies that some hundreds besides were injured and disfigured by a disease that may be almost altogether prevented by vaccination; which the legislature, under the administration of the Poor Law, has placed within the reach of every poor child in the kingdom.*

* An important circular has recently been issued on the subject of vaccination by the Poor Law Board, at whose request I have instructed the Registrars to present a “notice” to all who register births, reminding them of the provisions of the Vaccination Act.

COMPARATIVE METEOROLOGY of the MARCH Quarters of the Years 1846, 1847, and 1848.

Quarters ending	Years	Mean height of the Barometer, corrected and reduced to 32 degrees Fahrenheit.		Highest during the Quarter.		Lowest during the Quarter.		Mean		Dew Point.		Self-registering.		In the water of the Thames at Greenwich by the Self-registering Thermometer, read at 9 o'clock.		Difference between the Dew-point temperature and Air temperature.		WIND.		The mean weekly amount of Horizontal Movement of the Air.		Mean amount of Cloud, 0-10.		Rain in Inches during the Quarter.	
		Highest during the Quarter.	Lowest during the Quarter.	Of the highest on each day.	Of the lowest on each day.	Mean of all observations.	Mean of all results.	Highest in the sun.	Lowest on the grass.	Of the highest on each day from the observations.	Of the lowest on each day from the observations.	Mean of the observations.	Mean of the observations.	Mean of the observations.	Mean of the observations.	Mean of the observations.	Mean of the observations.	Mean of the observations.	Mean of the observations.	Mean of the observations.	Mean of the observations.	Mean of the observations.	Mean of the observations.	Mean of the observations.	
March	1846	29.721	29.615	59.9	26.7	43.7	39.8	78.5	15.0	32.4	45.7	43.5	3.9	7.7	1.1	4.9	12.0	0.6	1039	7.6	5.73	7.6	5.73	5.73	5.73
	1847	29.846	29.615	61.2	12.0	37.2	32.2	80.0	9.0	27.3	39.1	37.4	6.0	11.2	2.1	1.6	16.5	0.3	828	7.3	2.82	7.3	2.82	2.82	2.82
	1848	29.615	29.615	73.0	16.8	40.9	34.5	89.5	12.5	27.5	39.3	38.1	4.3	8.0	1.9	1.8	13.0	0.6	1147	7.9	6.48	7.9	6.48	6.48	6.48

* Mean of 9 weeks.

DEATHS in LONDON from all Causes, exclusive of Violent and Sudden Deaths.

Number of Weeks	1846		1847		1848		Total.
	1846	1847	1846	1847	1846	1847	
Winter Quarter (January, February, March)	1846	1847	1846	1847	1846	1847	11,805
	1846	1847	1846	1847	1846	1847	14,722
	1846	1847	1846	1847	1846	1847	13,870
Mean Temperature	1846	1847	1846	1847	1846	1847	43.7
	1846	1847	1846	1847	1846	1847	37.2
	1846	1847	1846	1847	1846	1847	40.9
	1846	1847	1846	1847	1846	1847	43.7
	1846	1847	1846	1847	1846	1847	37.2
	1846	1847	1846	1847	1846	1847	40.9
	1846	1847	1846	1847	1846	1847	43.7
	1846	1847	1846	1847	1846	1847	37.2
	1846	1847	1846	1847	1846	1847	40.9
	1846	1847	1846	1847	1846	1847	43.7
	1846	1847	1846	1847	1846	1847	37.2
	1846	1847	1846	1847	1846	1847	40.9
	1846	1847	1846	1847	1846	1847	43.7
	1846	1847	1846	1847	1846	1847	37.2
	1846	1847	1846	1847	1846	1847	40.9
	1846	1847	1846	1847	1846	1847	43.7
	1846	1847	1846	1847	1846	1847	37.2
	1846	1847	1846	1847	1846	1847	40.9
	1846	1847	1846	1847	1846	1847	43.7
	1846	1847	1846	1847	1846	1847	37.2
	1846	1847	1846	1847	1846	1847	40.9
	1846	1847	1846	1847	1846	1847	43.7
	1846	1847	1846	1847	1846	1847	37.2
	1846	1847	1846	1847	1846	1847	40.9
	1846	1847	1846	1847	1846	1847	43.7
	1846	1847	1846	1847	1846	1847	37.2
	1846	1847	1846	1847	1846	1847	40.9
	1846	1847	1846	1847	1846	1847	43.7
	1846	1847	1846	1847	1846	1847	37.2
	1846	1847	1846	1847	1846	1847	40.9
	1846	1847	1846	1847	1846	1847	43.7
	1846	1847	1846	1847	1846	1847	37.2
	1846	1847	1846	1847	1846	1847	40.9
	1846	1847	1846	1847	1846	1847	43.7
	1846	1847	1846	1847	1846	1847	37.2
	1846	1847	1846	1847	1846	1847	40.9
	1846	1847	1846	1847	1846	1847	43.7
	1846	1847	1846	1847	1846	1847	37.2
	1846	1847	1846	1847	1846	1847	40.9
	1846	1847	1846	1847	1846	1847	43.7
	1846	1847	1846	1847	1846	1847	37.2
	1846	1847	1846	1847	1846	1847	40.9
	1846	1847	1846	1847	1846	1847	43.7
	1846	1847	1846	1847	1846	1847	37.2
	1846	1847	1846	1847	1846	1847	40.9
	1846	1847	1846	1847	1846	1847	43.7
	1846	1847	1846	1847	1846	1847	37.2
	1846	1847	1846	1847	1846	1847	40.9
	1846	1847	1846	1847	1846	1847	43.7
	1846	1847	1846	1847	1846	1847	37.2
	1846	1847	1846	1847	1846	1847	40.9
	1846	1847	1846	1847	1846	1847	43.7
	1846	1847	1846	1847	1846	1847	37.2
	1846	1847	1846	1847	1846	1847	40.9
	1846	1847	1846	1847	1846	1847	43.7
	1846	1847	1846	1847	1846	1847	37.2
	1846	1847	1846	1847	1846	1847	40.9
	1846	1847	1846	1847	1846	1847	43.7
	1846	1847	1846	1847	1846	1847	37.2
	1846	1847	1846	1847	1846	1847	40.9
	1846	1847	1846	1847	1846	1847	43.7
	1846	1847	1846	1847	1846	1847	37.2
	1846	1847	1846	1847	1846	1847	40.9
	1846	1847	1846	1847	1846	1847	43.7
	1846	1847	1846	1847	1846	1847	37.2
	1846	1847	1846	1847	1846	1847	40.9
	1846	1847	1846	1847	1846	1847	43.7
	1846	1847	1846	1847	1846	1847	37.2
	1846	1847	1846	1847	1846	1847	40.9
	1846	1847	1846	1847	1846	1847	43.7
	1846	1847	1846	1847	1846	1847	37.2
	1846	1847	1846	1847	1846	1847	40.9
	1846	1847	1846	1847	1846	1847	43.7
	1846	1847	1846	1847	1846	1847	37.2
	1846	1847	1846	1847	1846	1847	40.9
	1846	1847	1846	1847	1846	1847	43.7
	1846	1847	1846	1847	1846	1847	37.2
	1846	1847	1846	1847	1846	1847	40.9
	1846	1847	1846	1847	1846	1847	43.7
	1846	1847	1846	1847	1846	1847	37.2
	1846	1847	1846	1847	1846	1847	40.9
	1846	1847	1846	1847	1846	1847	43.7
	1846	1847	1846	1847	1846	1847	37.2
	1846	1847	1846	1847	1846	1847	40.9
	1846	1847	1846	1847	1846	1847	43.7
	1846	1847	1846	1847	1846	1847	37.2
	1846	1847	1846	1847	1846	1847	40.9
	1846	1847	1846	1847	1846	1847	43.7
	1846	1847	1846	1847	1846	1847	37.2
	1846	1847	1846	1847	1846	1847	40.9
	1846	1847	1846	1847	1846	1847	43.7
	1846	1847	1846	1847	1846	1847	37.2
	1846	1847	1846	1847	1846	1847	40.9
	1846	1847	1846	1847	1846	1847	43.7
	1846	1847	1846	1847	1846	1847	37.2
	1846	1847	1846	1847	1846	1847	40.9
	1846	1847	1846	1847	1846	1847	43.7
	1846	1847	1846	1847	1846	1847	37.2
	1846	1847	1846	1847	1846	1847	40.9
	1846	1847	1846	1847	1846	1847	43.7
	1846	1847	1846	1847	1846	1847	37.2
	1846	1847	1846	1847	1846	1847	40.9
	1846	1847	1846	1847	1846	1847	43.7
	1846	1847	1846	1847	1846	1847	37.2
	1846	1847	1846	1847	1846	1847	40.9
	1846	1847	1846	1847	1846	1847	43.7
	1846	1847	1846	1847	1846	1847	37.2
	1846	1847	1846	1847	1846	1847	40.9
	1846	1847	1846	1847	1846	1847	43.7
	1846	1847	1846	1847	1846	1847	37.2
	1846	1847	1846	1847	1846	1847	40.9
	1846	1847	1846	1847	1846	1847	43.7
	1846	1847	1846	1847	1846	1847	37.2
	1846	1847	1846	1847	1846	1847	40.9

State of the Public Health in the Spring Quarter of the Year 1848. (April, May, June.)

It is gratifying to observe a very remarkable improvement in the state of the public health. The number of deaths registered in the three months ending June 30th was 46552, which is less by 11158 than was registered in the winter quarter of the present year, and less by 5033 than was registered in the corresponding quarter ending the last day of June 1847. The mortality of the country, after having been excessively high during the latter half of the year 1846, the whole of 1847, and the first quarter of 1848, is now little above the average of the nine years 1839-47. The mortality, however, is still much higher than it was in the spring quarter (April, May, and June) of 1844, when the number of deaths was only 38977; which, taking the increase of population into account, implies a lower rate of mortality than has been experienced in the spring season of any other year. The changes in the mortality of the parts of the country making the returns may be traced in the tables.

	1839	1840	1841	1842	1843	1844	1845	1846	1847	1848
Deaths registered in the June Quarters of 10 years - - - - -	41244	42074	39133	38569	40343	38977	40847	43737	51585	46552
Deaths which would have been registered if the mortality had been uniform, and the Numbers had increased from 1839 at the rate of 1 7/8 per cent. annually - - - - -	39029	39712	40407	41115	41834	42566	43311	44069	44840	45625
UNHEALTHY SEASONS.										
Difference above the calculated number - - - - -	2215	2362	..	..	..	..	..	..	6745	927
HEALTHY SEASONS.										
Difference below the calculated number - - - - -	..	..	1274	2546	1491	3589	2464	332	..	..

In London the deaths in the quarter were 12945; the deaths in the preceding quarter were 16455; in the quarter ending December 1847, when influenza prevailed, 19605. Influenza has almost disappeared; it was the cause of death in only 50 cases during the 13 weeks ending in June. Small-pox was fatal to 381 persons in London; measles to 306; scarlatina to 816; hooping-cough to 449; purpura and scurvy to 12; typhus to 882; erysipelas to 129. Small-pox, scarlatina, and typhus were prevailing epidemics in London. Scarlatina in one week destroyed 107 lives. Typhus was at a maximum (1279) in the last quarter of the year 1847; it is now declining; but it is invariably longer in the epidemic form than other diseases of the class. The diseases of the tubercular class, namely, scrofula, tabes, consumption, and hydrocephalus, fluctuate very little; to them 2640 deaths were ascribed in the June quarter of 1841, and 2403 in the June quarter of 1848, which were the highest and lowest numbers returned in the 8 years 1841-8. Diseases of the lungs declined rapidly; they were the cause of 176 deaths in the first week, of 76 deaths in the last week, of the quarter.

The improvement in the health of Liverpool is remarkable; while there were 4809 deaths in the June quarter, 1847, there were only 1906 deaths in the June quarter of 1848. In Manchester, Birmingham, and Leeds there has also been some improvement.—(See Table below.)

Small-pox and scarlatina have been the prevailing epidemics throughout the country.

The Registrar of the Eastern sub-district of Bolton says:—

“The malignant fevers which have been so prevalent here have almost vanished, and the number of deaths continues to diminish. The town generally appears to be in a healthy state. A fall in the price of provisions has probably had a favourable effect.”

The Registrar of Wigan, after observing that there is a great decrease in the deaths, says:—

“This result may be attributed in a great measure to the decrease in the influx of Irish vagrants who brought disease with them into the town.”

The Registrar of St. George, Manchester, says:—

“Typhus, so prevalent during the last 15 months, has considerably abated. The poor people in the district are now more employed and better fed. This may account for the decline of fever, and consequent decrease of mortality.”

The Registrar of Market Street, Manchester, makes a similar statement:—

“In the workhouse, New Bridge Street, 82 deaths were registered. In the corresponding quarter of last year 199 deaths were recorded in that establishment. The almost universal want of employment amongst the labouring population, and the high price of food, occasioned severe privation, and no doubt greatly induced the spread of disease, and augmented the number of workhouse inmates at that period. At the fever hospital, Long Millgate, only 27 deaths have taken place, and the fever cases are so few that the hospital is at this time entirely closed. During the quarter just ended 52 persons died in the Royal Infirmary, on 24 of whom inquests were held. Upon the whole the district may be pronounced healthy in an unusual degree, the number of deaths being fewer than in any preceding quarter for a lengthened period.”

DEATHS REGISTERED IN

LONDON.					MANCHESTER.				
Quarters ending in	March.	June.	September.	December.	Quarters ending in	March.	June.	September.	December.
1846	12518	11423	12601	13221	1846	1524	1613	2354	2318
1847	15289	12361	13187	19605	1847	2182	2361	2765	2209
1848	16455	12945	..	..	1848	2079	1746	..	..
LIVERPOOL.					BIRMINGHAM.				
1846	1931	2095	2946	2735	1846	881	842	1623	1838
1847	3067	4815	5665	3737	1847	1188	1261	1160	1795
1848	2927	1906	..	..	1848	1661	1134	..	..

The deaths in London from diarrhœa, dysentery, and cholera were 11, 23, 13, and 14 in the first four weeks, 27, 31, 37, and 51 in the last four weeks, of the quarter. The mortality from these diseases is somewhat higher than it was in the corresponding weeks of 1847. The deaths ascribed to cholera in the June quarters of the eight years 1841-8 were 1, 7, 8, 9, 2, 9, 4, 17; in the last year therefore, though the deaths are not numerous, there is a slight excess.

These three diseases are always most common in the three months of July, August, and September, when the temperature is highest. The popular error which ascribes them to fruit was referred to last year.

DEATHS FROM TYPHUS IN LONDON.

Quarters ending	March.	June.	September.	December.
1846	410	384	493	619
1847	442	568	895	1279
1848	922	882	..	..

That it is an error is established by the fatality of these diseases to infants at the breast, to the aged, to persons in prison and public institutions who procure no fruit, and by many such facts as the following, reported about the middle of the last century by Sir John Pringle in his classical account of the diseases of the campaign in Germany :

“ Nearly half the men were ill or had recovered from dysentery a few weeks after the battle of Dettingen, which was fought on the 27th of June 1743. The dysentery, the constant and fatal epidemic of camps, began sooner this season than it did in any succeeding campaign. Now, as the usual time of its appearance is not before the latter end of the summer or the beginning of autumn, the cause has been unjustly imputed to eating fruit in excess. But the circumstances here contradict that opinion, for this sickness began and raged before any fruit was in season, except strawberries (which from their high price the men never tasted), and ended about the time the grapes were ripe, which growing in open vineyards were freely eaten by everybody.

“ To this add the following incident. Three companies of *Howard's* Regiment, which had not joined us, marched with the King's baggage from *Ostend* to *Hanau*, where arriving a night or two before the battle, and having orders to stop, encamped for the first time at a small distance from the ground that was afterwards occupied by the army. These men had never been

exposed to rain or lain wet; by this separation from the *line* they were also removed from the contagion of the privies, and having pitched close upon the river they had the benefit of a constant stream of fresh air. By means of such favourable circumstances it was remarkable that while the main body suffered greatly, this little camp almost entirely escaped,* though the men breathed the same air, the contagious part excepted, eat of the same victuals, and drank of the same water. This immunity continued for six weeks until the army removed from *Hanau*, when these companies joined the rest, and encamping in the *line* were at last infected, but suffered little as the flux was then so much on the decline.”—*Pringle on Diseases of the Army*, 3d Ed., 1761, pp. 20, 21.

Fruit, potatoes, and green vegetables are essential parts of the food of man, and it is only when taken to excess that, like other articles of diet, they disorder the stomach.

There is as yet in England no trace of the epidemic of cholera which is ravaging Russia, from Moscow to St. Petersburg, and ascending the Danube. It raged in the summer of 1831, seventeen years ago, at St. Petersburg, reached Sunderland in October, London in February 1832, Paris in March of the same year. Whether it will pursue the same course now, travel at the same rate, and be less or more fatal, must depend on a variety of circumstances. If the visitation cannot be arrested, it is greatly to be wished that it should be deferred; for though enlightened communities have before been too much in the habit of postponing sanitary arrangements, and only commencing them when the plague is actually destroying them,—which is very like admitting the enemy within the city walls and then putting the fortifications in repair,—it is certain that the great capitals of the continent were never in a worse condition to withstand an epidemic than they are at the present time.

That much remains to be done in English towns is evident from what is observed in London. It is one of the best established truths in medical science, confirmed by the experience of the army, the navy, the prisons, the town and country districts of England, that pure water and pure air are necessaries of life, and in the supply of these London, though in a much better position than other places, is still deficient. The vestry of St. Marylebone, the largest and wealthiest parish in London, to which we last year called attention, subsequently appointed a committee to inquire into the condition of their constituents. The committee drew up a valuable report, in which they state among other things that:—“There are 583 streets or ways in the parish of St. Marylebone,”—and though formerly sceptical, and not very

* I heard of only one man that was taken ill of the bloody flux.

well informed, their information is now satisfactory and complete. —“Your committee have through the parish surveyor obtained now *for the first time* a complete knowledge of the state of the sewers of this great parish, and they are compelled to declare that it is manifestly insufficient for the wants of the locality, *no fewer than ONE HUNDRED and NINETY-ONE streets or ways in the parish being WHOLLY WITHOUT PROPER SEWERAGE, and a great portion of the remainder DEFECTIVE OR INCOMPLETE.***** Your committee have to report another nuisance of a most pestilential character, over which they have not the slightest control, viz. :— the gully holes opening into the sewers. Of these there are no less than 2732 in the parish, and your committee feel that the number of these pest-holes has been increased, as the streets were built without the smallest reference to their previous situation and requirement, and without any regard to their noxious effects.” There does not in fact appear to be any valid reason why these “gully holes” should open under the faces of people, when the gases generated inevitably in the present sewers may be so easily carried up the sides of the chimneys, over the houses, into the smoke. The committee accounts for this state of things in its own way :—“It must be attributed entirely to the fact, that the ratepayers have no voice at the Board of Commissioners of Sewers.” The water supply is pronounced defective; the water is only “on” for about an hour three days a week. The Report says :—“The West Middlesex Company who brought their water into the parish under the express pretence of defeating monopoly, of giving a cheaper and purer supply, after a few years entered into an agreement with the other companies, parcelled out the metropolis into districts, and placed the whole community at the mercy of this giant monopoly, both as regards supply and price.”* It is always so : the supply of water is a thing in which there can be no permanent competition.

The committee throws all the blame which the sewers and water supply suggest on other bodies; the vestry has the control of the “dust” and cleansing. This, though touched tenderly by the committee, is admitted to be in an unsatisfactory condition.

“Regarding the removal of the dust, your committee find in many places through the parish *accumulation of dust in the yards and cellars* of the houses, and there *is a very general complaint of the dustmen refusing to remove the same unless they are PAID for so doing.*” For “dust,” which is innocuous, read, the refuse of the kitchen and all varieties of putrefying vegetable and animal matter, which were then only removed when paid for in some way or other, and are even now never removed at all but at the request of the inhabitants, who in the worst parts are not very intolerant of dirt.

* A Report of Committee of the Vestry of St. Marylebone on the Sanatory Condition of the Parish, pp. 7-9.

These facts are not adduced to throw any special censure on the vestry of St. Marylebone, who, as well as their officers, have, since the report of their committee, evinced a laudable anxiety to do their duty to the constituency, and to improve the health of the district. The report of Marylebone exhibits a fair specimen of the condition of London, and must undeceive those who suppose that the houses are drained, or that the rich and middle classes, to say nothing of the poor of London, are adequately supplied with the means of cleanliness, and enjoy the benefit of a pure salubrious air. Other towns in England are comparatively in a worse condition; the continental cities are still more insalubrious; and judging from the analogy of the last epidemic they will suffer much more than London. But it is little satisfaction to the inhabitants of London to run the risk of dying by thousands, while their neighbours die by tens of thousands, when they know that the danger to their health and lives may be diminished to a great extent *by simple and obvious* precautions. It may be a difficult, but it is assuredly not an impossible problem in engineering, to supply every house in London with abundance of pure water, and to remove all dirt by scavengers and sweet drains; and these simple arrangements would render it possible for the population to be cleanly.*

A part of the mortality which men experience in early life is perhaps inevitable, but this natural mortality cannot exceed the mortality in some of the districts of England, comparatively healthy, where parts of the population are exposed to privation and injuries of various kinds. Now in parts of Surrey and Devonshire about 3 or 4 in 100 children under 5 years of age die annually; in Lewisham, the healthiest district of London, the annual mortality is about 5 in 100 annually; in nearly every district of London the mortality of children is double the mortality in the country; in many districts the mortality is triple the mortality which some persons may consider natural to mankind. Of 1000 men between the ages of 45 and 55 living in a healthy district of England about 12 die annually; in nine districts of London the annual deaths among the same number of men at the same age varies from 30 to 33. This is fully established by the facts in my Ninth Report, 8vo., recently published, from which the following table is extracted.

*For some sound practical suggestions in reference to cholera, see the postscript to the Report on the Capabilities of the Metropolitan Workhouses for the Reception and Treatment of Cholera Cases.

ANNUAL NUMBER of DEATHS to 100000 Living.* (Derived from the Deaths registered during the 7 years 1838-44.)

DISTRICTS.	Under 5 Years of Age.		Age 45-55.		All Ages.	
	100000 Girls.	100000 Boys.	100000 Women.	100000 Men.	100000 Females.	100000 Males.
	Die yearly.	Die yearly.	Die yearly.	Die yearly.	Die yearly.	Die yearly.
Lewisham - - - - -	4663	5317	1646	1849	1613	1839
Hampstead - - - - -	4918	6286	1222	2184	1731	2317
Camberwell - - - - -	5552	6247	1432	2511	1744	2197
Hackney - - - - -	5627	6581	1361	2103	1734	2204
Wandsworth - - - - -	5661	5989	1488	2167	1835	2114
Islington - - - - -	5737	6891	1957	2115	1848	2144
Poplar - - - - -	6441	7896	2016	2458	2150	2666
Greenwich - - - - -	6460	7633	2010	2507	2203	2561
Newington - - - - -	7013	8804	1737	2520	2126	2514
Paneras - - - - -	7233	8580	1877	2368	2051	2392
(a) Kensington (b) Chelsea - - - - -	7262	8306	1726	2873	2011	2663
Stepney - - - - -	7301	8162	2049	2903	2254	2579
Lambeth - - - - -	7499	9004	1984	2527	2155	2500
City of London - - - - -	7745	10141	2093	2974	2018	2255
St. George, Hanover Square - - - - -	7965	8690	1630	2280	1642	1990
LONDON - - - - -	8027	9309	2001	2726	2308	2737
Shoreditch - - - - -	8040	9110	2096	2714	2406	2609
Bethnal Green - - - - -	8102	9028	1844	2126	2337	2436
Rotherhithe - - - - -	8199	8699	1894	3129	2526	3008
Clerkenwell - - - - -	8383	9540	2162	2693	2310	2526
Bermondsey - - - - -	8460	10012	1797	2659	2497	2780
Marylebone - - - - -	8469	10031	1922	2713	2051	2493
Strand - - - - -	8534	10688	2213	3208	2380	2454
St. Martin-in-the-Fields - - - - -	9140	12059	1999	2755	2254	2545
St. James, Westminster - - - - -	9286	10794	2090	2543	2029	2204
St. Luke - - - - -	9319	10894	2442	2878	2713	2806
Westminster - - - - -	9428	10122	2044	3004	2496	2699
St. George-in-the-East - - - - -	9470	10169	2356	3158	2705	3069
St. George, Southwark - - - - -	9609	10667	2255	3015	2565	2772
(a) East London (b) West London - - - - -	9698	11967	2315	3167	2582	2764
Whitechapel - - - - -	10116	11437	2657	3259	2773	3034
(a) St. Saviour (b) St. Olave - - - - -	10150	11273	2345	3211	2707	2986
Holborn - - - - -	10223	11564	2200	2971	2619	2693
St. Giles - - - - -	10890	12281	2449	3242	2556	2823
(a) Godstone. (b) Reigate. (c) Dorking (Surrey) - - - - -	3332	4123	1215	1174	1616	1536
(a) South Molton. (b) Torrington. (c) Crediton. (d) Barnstaple (Devonshire) - - - - -	3384	3993	945	1185	1568	1668

* See Appendix to the Registrar General's Ninth Annual Report, 8vo., pp. 168-245. This Table may be read thus: to 100000 Girls living in Lewisham under Five Years of Age, 4663 die annually.

For nearly 10 years facts of this kind have year after year been submitted to the public by this office, and that their practical effect might not be entirely lost, instead of giving the bare facts, or leaving the results enveloped in figures, their nature and bearing have been expressed in plain and sometimes, perhaps, strong language, which those commissioners, vestries, and corporations who happen to have been offended will now think excusable. For if they have any regret, it will not be that their attention has been directed to sanatory improvements, but that whole communities, whose fate they have to a certain extent held in their hands, are now living in uncleansed houses, along streets one third of which are not drained, crowded in fevered cities, while that dark destroying cloud that arose in Asia is looming over Europe.

It is not easy to determine from the vague terms employed in the letters and papers from St. Petersburg whether cholera is now more or less fatal than it was in the former epidemic, which began on June 14th, 1831, and ended in April 1832, attacked

13905 persons, and was fatal to 9696 in that city.* It is usual in this country in speaking of the population of St. Petersburg to refer to the province which, according to an official return with which I was favoured by the Russian Government, had in 1842 a population of 465791, or 229427 males, 236364 females, on an area of 15087 English square miles; an area equal to more than one fourth part of the area of England and Wales. The mortality of this province was 4.417 per cent. among males, 3.770 per cent. among females, in 1842. The province of Petersburg contains nine large districts, the district of Petersburg proper contained only 28911 inhabitants, 15519 males, 13392 females, among whom the deaths in 1842 were 833 males, 628 females.

The government or province of Moscow, on an area of 11688 English square miles, had, in 1842, 1398977 inhabitants, 740517 males, 658460 females; the deaths among males were 26648, females 26407, in 1842; the mortality of males was 3.599 per cent., of females 4.010 per cent. The district of Moscow had 455644 inhabitants (with which it is usual to compare very erroneously the population of the province of St. Petersburg); the males were 275328, females 180316; the deaths of males 6950, females 6678, in 1842.

The mortality in 1842 of females in the province of Moscow was 4.010 per cent.; of females in the district of Petersburg 4.689; the mortality of females in London within the tables of mortality in the same year was 2.220.† Petersburg and Moscow are in nearly the same sanatory condition as London was in the 17th and 18th centuries; and under any circumstances the mortality from cholera in London or in the other cities of the United Kingdom will probably not approach the mortality in Petersburg, where the mortality was raised 84 per cent. in 1831-32, when the church burials in London were raised from 38794 in 1831 to 43082, or 11 per cent. The deaths in Paris were raised by cholera from 31115 in 1831 to 53382 in 1832, nearly 72 per cent.; 18654 deaths were ascribed to cholera in the official returns. The scanty supply of water, the bad drainage, the filthy state of the privies (which can scarcely be conceived), the wretchedness of the poor, who have no poor law to fall back on, sufficiently account for the devastation of cholera in Paris sixteen years since, and sanatory improvement is unfortunately one of those practical questions which, not appealing to the imagination, has hitherto attracted little public attention in France.

* The deaths in Petersburg up to July 12th of the present year were 7623. This would imply a much higher mortality than that experienced in the first epidemic. Little dependence, however, can be placed upon returns, or upon anything else, commenced in the midst of the consternation an epidemic occasions. It is highly desirable that all the great cities in Europe should publish at all times such weekly statements of the mortality and causes of death as now appear in London. They should be commenced before any epidemic breaks out. Such Tables have been published, however imperfectly, in London, ever since the reign of Queen Elizabeth, and were begun at the suggestion of the able statesmen by whom she was surrounded. When simultaneous observations are recorded on an extended scale it will be possible, with the assistance of a body of trained health officers, to determine the singular laws which regulate the diffusion of zymotic diseases.

† A certain but unknown proportion should be deducted from the Russian deaths, which include the still-born.

south-western division. The Registrar of Heavitree, St. Thomas, notices cases of malignant typhus which occurred in a family very badly fed. The other members of the family had fever, but recovered. The disease did not spread. Dysentery, which is rarely epidemic in England, caused 65 deaths in Penzance, and was also fatal to many persons in Marazion, the neighbouring sub-district. The Registrar of the latter district says it was "principally with the poor," and he ascribes it "to the dampness of the season and impoverished diet." In Bristol, Clifton, Stroud, the deaths in the quarter were more numerous than in the corresponding quarter of 1847. Scarletina, small-pox, and hooping-cough were epidemic. The mortality declined rapidly in the summer quarters of 1847, 1848, in Worcester, Kidderminster, Dudley, Walsall, Wolverhampton, Wolstanton, Birmingham, and Coventry, the principal seats of the carpet, iron, pottery, and silk trades. Diarrhœa, however, prevailed in several of these districts, and particularly in Dudley, Walsall, Coventry, and Birmingham, where it was so fatal in 1846. There was one death from common cholera in Wolverhampton. The deaths declined rapidly in Leicester, Lincoln, Nottingham, Basford, and Derby; in the September quarters of 1846-7-8 they were 1902, 1606, and 1367. The deaths in Nottingham were 467, 442, and 311. The registrar of St. Ann, Nottingham, says,—

"The improvement may be attributed to the comparative cheapness of provisions, to the infrequency of fever consequent upon the diminution of Irish immigration, and the almost total absence of diarrhœa. The number of old persons carried off last year was so vast that fewer than the usual proportion of that class survived to swell the returns of subsequent times."

A diminution in the mortality is equally conspicuous in the great seats of the cotton manufactories. The deaths in the districts of Cheshire and Lancashire during the summer quarters of 1846-7-8 were 15221, 17080, and 11720. Epidemics of scarlatina and diarrhœa are noticed as causes of death by several of the Registrars. The deaths in Hulme (Chorlton) were 439, and in the corresponding quarter of 1846 the deaths were 479. "At that period there was scarcely a house unoccupied in the township of Hulme, while at this time there are nearly 1000 houses without tenants." The Registrar of Deansgate (Manchester) makes an important practical remark respecting scarlatina, which is now so prevalent and so frequently followed by dropsy:

"The mortality has not generally occurred during the early stages or actual progress of the fever, but has resulted from the dropsical effusion following it. This is in very many cases induced by the carelessness of the parents or other attendants of the children of the poor, for before they are well recovered from the fever they are allowed to run out of doors; and during the wet weather, from constant exposure to the rain, inflammatory affections supervene, and cause effusion and death. * * * Scarletina and other infectious diseases are rendered much more

extensive by the utter want of ventilation in the dwellings of the poor. * * * When scarlatina once gets into these small, crowded, ill-ventilated dwellings, it is almost sure to affect successively almost the whole of the occupants."

The Registrar of Middleton, Oldham, ascribes the health of his sub-district to the "exceedingly low price of provisions."

A few cases of common cholera are referred to in the Lancashire districts. The population of some parts, like Hulme, has probably diminished, in others it has increased slowly, and the Irish immigration into Lancashire appears now to have ceased or to excite no remark. But the health of the Lancashire people has unquestionably been better during the summer of 1848 than in that of 1846, after allowing for the operation of those changes which reduce the deaths without implying a diminution of the rate of mortality, that is, of the proportion the deaths bear to the population during a given time.

The mortality which in the summer of 1846 was excessively high in Sheffield, Huddersfield, Halifax, Bradford, Leeds, and Hull was little above the average of preceding years in 1848. The deaths in Leeds and Hunslet during the three summer quarters of 1846-8 were 1368, 1329, and 1158; in Hull, 488, 401, and 337. Diarrhœa and dysentery have been prevalent and fatal in Leeds. The deaths in Myton (Hull) were 218, of which 61 were by zymotic diseases, including 39 cases of diarrhœa, 4 of cholera, 4 of remittent fever, 3 of typhus. The mortality which in 1846 was so high in Sunderland, Gateshead, Tynemouth, Newcastle-on-Tyne, Carlisle, Cocker-mouth, and Kendal fell to a point near the average of the years preceding 1846. The deaths in the summer quarters of 1846-7-8 were 2988, 2310, and 1813.

The deaths in the Welsh districts have been nearly stationary since 1846. In Merthyr Tydfil the deaths were 374, 431, and 310 in the summer quarters of 1846-7-8.

The pressure of mortality has slightly increased in London, though it has abated in the country. While the deaths of the four summer quarters 1845-8 in the country districts were 25152, 38804, 36292, and 29942, the deaths in London were 10987, 12601, 13187, and 13503. Influenza it will be recollected was much more fatal in London than in the country. The increased mortality of London is principally owing to the deaths from diseases of the zymotic class increasing in the four summers 1845-8 from 2437 to 5162. Scarletina has been more fatal in the last than in any previous summer quarter since the new tables commenced. It destroyed 1560 lives in 13 weeks, or 1079 more than the average. The epidemic presented this singularity, that the deaths in the summer quarters 1841-4 were 193, 392, 548, 1020, and again 194, 208, 316, 1560 in the summer quarters 1845-8, which justifies the hope that the mortality from this disease next year will not be considerable. Small-pox, notwithstanding the facilities for vaccination, was fatal to 435 persons—children chiefly who had never been vaccinated.

Typhus destroyed 882 lives in London; the epidemic has prevailed since 1846, and is but slowly declining. 128 persons died of erysipelas, 52 women of metria, and 57 of other accidents in child-bearing. 156 persons died in the 13 weeks of fractures and contusions; 26 of gunshot and other wounds; 116 by drowning; 36 by hanging; 31 of burns and scalds; 15 of poison. The deaths of 15 persons were ascribed directly to intemperance; of 33 to *delirium tremens*—a disease generally caused by intemperance. Only 2 deaths were directly referred to privation; 4 deaths were ascribed to neglect; 59 to the want of the mother's milk. It is gratifying to observe that there has been no death from hydrophobia in London during the last five summers, a result which may be fairly ascribed to judicious police regulations. Consumption, the enemy of mature life, carried off 1534 victims. The fatality of this and of other diseases of the tubercular class remains almost invariable, allowing for differences of nomenclature; the deaths in the eight various summers of 1841-8 were 2400, 2511, 2428, 2275, 2199, 2659, 2370, 2221.

Dysentery was rather more fatal than in previous years. Every summer there have been many deaths from diarrhoea; in the summers of 1846-7-8 diarrhoea was epidemic, and fatal to 1549, 1196, and 1048 lives; cholera was fatal in the same season to 197, 98, and 158 lives. The mortality from these diseases for the last 9 years is shown in the annexed tables.

DEATHS from DIARRHOEA in London in each of the Four Quarters of the Years 1840-48.					DEATHS from CHOLERA in London in each of the Four Quarters of the Years 1840-48.				
Quarters ending	March.	June.	September.	December.	Quarters ending.	March.	June.	September.	December.
1840	57	62	279	62	1840	3	4	53	6
1841	68	65	228	112	1841	1	1	23	3
1842	81	63	489	87	1842	.	7	106	13
1843	69	50	455	268	1843	6	8	60	14
1844	79	83	414	129	1844	4	9	47	5
1845	109	84	449	199	1845	4	2	26	11
1846	119	153	1549	331	1846	7	9	197	15
1847	178	202	1196	400	1847	3	4	98	12
1848	244	239	1048	..	1848	6	17	158	..

Both cholera and diarrhoea were fatal to adults between the ages of 15-60, and to old people, but the great majority of the cases occurred in children. In the 13 weeks of the present year ending September 30th the deaths of 90 children under 15, 37 men and women of the age of 15-60, and 30 of the age of 60 and upwards, were referred to cholera. The duration of the attack in adults varied from 16 hours to several days.

So far as the returns down to the end of September go, I may repeat what I stated three months since, that "there is no trace of the epidemic of cholera in England." The subsequent weekly returns for London justify the suspicion then expressed, that the epidemic might, as in 1831, reach England in October.

COMPARATIVE METEOROLOGY of the SUMMER Quarters of the Years 1846, 1847, and 1848. (Deduced from the Greenwich Observations.)

Quarters ending	Years	Mean reading of the Barometer, corrected and reduced to 32 degrees Fahrenheit.		THERMOMETERS.		Dew Point.		Self-registering.		In the water of the Thames at Greenwich by the Self-registering Thermometers, read at 9 o'clock A.M.		Difference between the Dew-point temperature and Air temperature.			WIND.			The mean weekly amount of Horizontal Movement of the Air.		Mean amount of Cloud, 0-10.		Rain in Inches (91 days).	
		Highest during the Quarter.	Lowest during the Quarter.	Mean of all observations.	Of the highest on each day.	Of the lowest on each day.	Mean of all results.	Highest in the sun.	Lowest on the grass.	Of the highest on each day from the observations.	Of the lowest on each day from the observations.	Mean of the greatest on each day.	Mean of the least on each day.	Difference between the greatest and the least on each day.	General direction.	Greatest pressure in the Quarter.	Pressure in lbs. on the square foot.	Mean for the Quarter.	Total.	11	12	13	Total.
September	1846	88.4	43.0	63.1	72.3	56.6	115.8	94.5	32.0	47.7	65.8	15.0	0.8	+2.1	..	9.0	0.2	6.7	8.03	880	819	783	11,943
		86.0	39.0	61.3	70.9	54.7	108.5	87.3	30.0	44.1	62.9	18.9	1.1	+0.3	..	12.0	0.1	6.6	4.61	998	1109	1010	12,686
		84.5	33.2	59.5	69.4	52.9	103.8	83.9	23.0	43.1	62.0	12.7	2.0	-0.3	S.W.	9.0	0.2	6.6	9.10	895	1007	1067	13,001
																				84.5	60.3	59.2	63.1
																				56.3	54.1	56.1	61.3
																				52.3	56.7	56.7	59.5

* In the last quarter the average is taken from only 7 years (1841-47). † Mean weekly, deduced from 74 days. ‡ Mean of 63 observations.

DEATHS in LONDON from all Causes (exclusive of Violent and Sudden Deaths) in the 13 Weeks of the SUMMER Quarters 1846, 1847, and 1848.

Number of Weeks	Deaths from all causes, exclusive of Violent and Sudden Deaths			Mean Temperature		
	1846	1847	1848	1846	1847	1848
1	894	835	963	65.0	61.3	63.0
2	882	857	910	60.0	65.5	64.6
3	1026	921	1065	64.9	70.2	62.5
4	976	871	1108	62.6	63.1	61.6
5	1063	928	1025	70.6	65.9	60.0
6	1100	940	1042	66.5	62.6	58.2
7	925	1070	994	61.8	63.2	59.0
8	870	1043	923	60.8	64.1	57.7
9	875	1054	942	62.6	60.3	59.7
10	850	1002	1000	61.6	54.3	61.2
11	880	998	895	64.5	56.3	52.3
12	819	1109	1007	60.3	54.1	56.7
13	783	1010	1067	59.2	56.1	56.7
TOTAL.	11,943	12,686	13,001	63.1	61.3	59.5

Number of DEATHS from SCARLATINA in LONDON in each of the Four Quarters of the Eight Years 1841-48.

Years.	March.	June.	September.	December.	Total.
1841 - - -	170	133	193	181	677
1842 - - -	123	196	392	522	1233
1843 - - -	299	325	548	718	1890
1844 - - -	536	601	1020	872	3029
1845 - - -	421	201	194	299	1085
1846 - - -	221	177	208	322	928
1847 - - -	196	174	316	747	1433
1848 - - -	615	816	1560	..	..

State of the Public Health in the Autumn Quarter of the Year 1848. (October, November, December.)

"The Quarterly Returns are obtained from 117 Districts, subdivided into 582 Sub-Districts. Thirty-six Districts are in the Metropolis, and the remaining 81 comprise, with some agricultural Districts, the principal towns and cities of England. The population was 6612958 in 1841."

It is gratifying to find that the mortality of the Quarter has been below the average. Only 46124 deaths have been registered. The deaths in the corresponding Quarters of 1846 and 1847 were 53055 and 57925; so that notwithstanding some increase of population, the decrease of deaths on 1847 is 11801; on 1846 is 6931. Taking the increase of population into account, the deaths are 2571 below the average of the deaths in the same quarter of 9 preceding years.

The general mortality of the country was comparatively low in the five years of 1841-5; in the middle of 1846 epidemics set in, and proved fatal through the rest of 1846, through 1847, and the winter of 1848. A manifest improvement took place in the spring of the year 1848; the summer was of the average degree of health; and although cases of cholera have occurred in London and several districts during this Quarter, the Returns in the subjoined Tables prove that the epidemic has hitherto produced no sensible effect on the mortality.

	1839	1840	1841	1842	1843	1844	1845	1846	1847	1848
Deaths registered in the December Quarters of 10 years - - -	41740	44186	39292	39662	42608	44080	39293	53055	57925	46124
Deaths which would have been registered if the mortality had been uniform, and the Numbers had increased from 1839 at the rate of 1.75 per cent. annually - - -	41656	42385	43126	43881	44649	45430	46225	47034	47857	48695
UNHEALTHY SEASONS.										
Difference above the calculated number - - - - -	84	1801	..	..	..	..	..	6021	10068	..
HEALTHY SEASONS.										
Difference below the calculated number - - - - -	..	..	3834	4219	2041	1350	6932	..	..	2571

DEATHS REGISTERED in each of the Four Quarters of the Ten Years 1839-1848 in 117 of the Districts of England and Wales.

Quarters ending	1839	1840	1841	1842	1843	1844	1845	1846	1847	1848
March - - - - -	42410	46376	46967	44903	43748	46136	49996	43850	56105	57710
June - - - - -	41244	42074	39133	38569	40343	38977	40847	43737	51585	46552
September - - - - -	37317	39498	36053	39409	36953	38933	36139	51405	49479	43445
December - - - - -	41740	44186	39292	39662	42608	44080	39293	53055	57925	46124
Total - - - - -	162711	172134	161450	162543	163652	163126	166275	192047	215094	193831

LONDON.—The deaths in London were 14725; of which 5137 were caused by diseases of the zymotic class; of which 1765 were by scarlatina, 883 by typhus, 472 by hooping-cough, 126 by erysipelas. Scarlatina has been epidemic, and has raged with great violence. It has destroyed more lives than any other disease, and shows no sign of abatement. The deaths by scarlatina in each of the four quarters of 1848 were 615, 816, 1560, and 1765, making 4756 deaths in the aggregate. Small-pox was fatal to 413 persons, chiefly children who had never been vaccinated. The deaths from small-pox in the autumns of 1841-47 were 75, 108, 114, 571, 106, 42, and 372. Nearly all these deaths arose from the neglect of vaccination, which under a recent Act of the Legislature is nevertheless gratuitously performed on all applicants at stations in every district of London.* Typhus was fatal to 883 persons: this disease is decreasing, for the deaths in the autumn of 1847 were 1279. The deaths from cholera were 468; the deaths in the autumns of the seven previous years were 3, 13, 14, 5, 11, 15, 12. Consumption was less fatal than usual; only 1450 persons died of that malady. Heart diseases, lung diseases, and liver diseases were much less fatal, not only than in 1847 when influenza was prevalent, but less fatal than in the

* In May 1848 the Poor Law Board issued a circular urging on the Guardians the propriety of adopting new measures for extending vaccination; and I requested the Registrars of Births to give copies of the Notices respecting gratuitous vaccination "to all persons attending for the purpose of registering a birth." The Poor Law Board has placed at my disposal the subjoined return, from which it will be seen that 374232 persons were successfully vaccinated in 1848; while only 247762 persons were successfully vaccinated in 1847. If the same progress be made in 1849 small-pox must soon disappear as an epidemic.

VACCINATION.

Abstract of Returns of the Number of Persons vaccinated by the Public Vaccinators in 626 Unions and Parishes in England and Wales in the years 1847-1848.

Years.	Number of Unions, &c.	Number of Vaccinators.	Number of Persons vaccinated.	Number of Persons successfully vaccinated.
1848	626	3,154	389,367	374,232
1847	621	2,855	267,895	247,762
Increase 1848	5	299	121,472	126,470

autumn of 1846. A hundred and sixty-three mothers died in childbirth; about 17745 children were born alive; so that one mother died to every 109 children born alive. Of the deaths, 100 were ascribed to *metria*, or childbirth fever. The mortality from this cause is high, and deserves grave consideration. Thirteen deaths were ascribed directly to intemperance. *Thirty-four* deaths are referred to *delirium tremens*, generally the result of drinking spirits to excess,—a slow but certain suicide. Of the violent deaths, 24 were caused by poison, 31 by wounds, 22 by hanging, 68 by drowning, 63 by burns and scalds, 131 by fractures and contusions.

SOUTH-EASTERN DIVISION.—The mortality in Brighton and Portsea Island has been high during the quarter. Scarlatina prevailed in Brighton, small-pox in Portsea Island, typhus in both districts. Windsor was also visited by typhus and scarlatina, and a vagrant died there of English cholera after 21 hours' illness. The aggregate mortality of Kent, Surrey, Sussex, Hampshire, and Berkshire in the three last autumns was above the average; the births were 11825, the deaths 8002, in the autumn of 1848.

SOUTH MIDLAND DIVISION.—The mortality of St. Albans, and of Great Marlow, Wycombe, was above the average. Scarlatina prevailed in both districts. Bedford, Northampton, and Oxford were unusually healthy. Typhus prevailed at Cambridge, and there several cases of cholera were registered; the deaths were but slightly increased. The deaths in the South Midland Counties were 6645; they were 7199 in the autumn of 1846, and only 5963 in the autumn of 1847. The births were 8981.

EASTERN DIVISION.—The mortality of Colchester, Ipswich, Norwich, and Yarmouth deviated little from the average of the preceding autumn quarters. On the whole Essex, Suffolk, and Norfolk were much healthier than in the autumn of 1846, but less healthy than in the autumn of 1847.

SOUTH-WESTERN DIVISION.—The same remarks will apply to Wiltshire, Dorsetshire, Devonshire, Cornwall, and Somersetshire. The births were 12581, the deaths 8258. Exeter and Bath have been unusually healthy; the parishes surrounding Exeter in the district of St. Thomas suffered from scarlatina, measles, and fever. Plymouth and Penzance have been unhealthy. Small-pox destroyed 84 lives in Plymouth. Only one of the 37 who died in the sub-district of Charles the Martyr had been vaccinated. Dysentery was epidemic in Penzance and St. Ives. Sickness prevailed very much in Marazion; from the want of employment great numbers of the labouring classes left the district.

WEST MIDLAND DIVISION.—The deaths in Bristol, Stroud, Cheltenham, and Hereford were somewhat more numerous than in the autumn of 1847. Scarlatina and small-pox prevailed in Bristol. The Registrar of St. Mary, Redcliff, justly complains that the burial of the dead is too long deferred in his district.

The mortality of Clifton, Shrewsbury, Worcester, and Kidderminster was rather lower than in preceding years. A most

striking improvement is observed in the health of the coal and iron districts of Staffordshire and Warwickshire. The deaths registered in Birmingham during the autumn quarters of 1844-8 were 964, 777, 1338, 1795, and 853. In Dudley, Walsall, and Wolverhampton the diminution in the mortality of the last quarter of 1848 is equally striking. In Wolstanton and Coventry the mortality also declined. The deaths registered in all the districts of Gloucestershire, Herefordshire, Shropshire, Worcestershire, Staffordshire, and Warwickshire were 12859, 12739, and 10477 in the autumn quarters of 1846-8. There were fewer births in 1848 than in 1846. The births in the autumn quarter of 1848 were 16008, the deaths only 10477.

NORTH MIDLAND DIVISION.—In Nottingham and Derby the mortality was low. Diarrhoea and dysentery were unusually prevalent at Nottingham in October, and one case of cholera occurred. Mumps attacked several individuals in confined and unhealthy localities, but the disease was not fatal. Small-pox was prevalent in Leicester; scarlatina in Lincoln; typhus in both districts; and the mortality was higher than in the autumn of 1847. In the five counties of Leicestershire, Rutlandshire, Lincolnshire, Nottinghamshire, and Derbyshire the deaths were 6863, 5993, and 5701 in the autumn quarters of 1846-8. The births in the last quarter were 8915.

NORTH-WESTERN DIVISION.—The mortality of Stockport and Macclesfield, Chester, Liverpool, and West Derby, Blackburn, Preston, Rochdale, Bury, Bolton, Wigan, and Prescott, Chorlton, Manchester, Salford, Ashton, and Oldham, was lower than in the autumn quarter of 1846; in some districts the reduction in the mortality was 50 per cent. In Preston 968, 636, and 424, in Manchester 2318, 2209, and 1651, deaths were registered in the autumn quarters of 1846-7-8; in the same quarters the total deaths registered in Lancashire and Cheshire were 20392, 18696, and 14892. The births were 21245 and 19412 in the autumn quarters of 1846 and 1848. The births and deaths decreased. The decrease of mortality is ascribed to improvements in trade, and by some to the removal of the population. The commercial depression began in 1846; the mills were stopped and were only partially opened in 1847; many persons therefore removed to towns where particular manufactures offered employment, and have not been induced to return now that trade has been restored.—(Registrar of Heaton Norris, Stockport.) The Registrar of the Market Street sub-district, Manchester, says:—

“The state of the district generally is healthy. It is said that trade for some time has been making slow but steady progress, and in the opinion of many employment will, in a brief period, be universal among the artizans in the manufacturing districts.”

The Registrar of Ashton Town, Ashton-under-Lyne, says:—
“The births (194) are less than usual in the quarter, and the number in the year less by about 7 per cent. than the average of the last 5 years. There was a similar decrease from 1840 to 1842

inclusive, and 495 empty houses were counted at the census. There are (I believe) at present upwards of 500 empty houses. High prices of food and want of employment preceded both periods. There has been also a much more extensive emigration than at any time previous, which, with the other circumstances, accounts for the diminution of births. Deaths 212, being about the average of corresponding quarters; scarlatina and diarrhœa prevailed, the former fatal in 25 cases, the latter in 10."

YORKSHIRE.—The mortality in the great town districts of Yorkshire has been below the average, and very much below the mortality of the two preceding autumns. The deaths in Sheffield were 803, 736, 591 in the autumn quarters 1846-7-8; in Huddersfield 959, 709, 648; in Bradford 1086, 895, 831; Leeds and Hunslet 1390, 1413, and 1090; Hull 404, 489, 319; York 343, 522, 321. Three cases of death by cholera were registered in Huddersfield; three (called English cholera) in Horton, Bradford; 12 in the Humber sub-district of Hull; 8 in Micklegate, York. Leeds is healthy, but diarrhœa and dysentery have been fatal to a few persons. The deaths registered in all the districts of Yorkshire were 11190, 10521, and 9016 in the three autumns of 1846-7-8. The births in the autumn quarters of 1846 and 1848 were 13963 and 13890.

NORTHERN DIVISION.—The mortality in Gateshead, Tynemouth, Newcastle-on-Tyne, Carlisle, and Cocker-mouth was much lower than in the autumn quarters of 1846-7. The deaths in Newcastle were 888, 900, and 420 in the three quarters; in Gateshead 426, 293, and 219; in Carlisle 327, 277, and 192; in Sunderland 357, 495, and 400. Cases of cholera have occurred in *Sunderland*, *Tynemouth*, and *Newcastle-on-Tyne*.

The Registrar of Monkwearmouth, Sunderland, says:—

"The excess of deaths is due to cholera, which was fatal in 29 cases, of which 8 were those of children, almost all about the coal mines. The weather has been very cold and wet with sudden and severe changes. Sanatory measures *are in contemplation*, which, if carried out, will be productive of much good. I have reported to the guardians about 25 cases that required to be dealt with, and some improvement has been made. There is great deficiency of light, air, and water. Many passages and staircases are quite dark, and windows are built up to escape the tax. The increase of births, which were 166, is owing to the movement of population, caused by the making of new docks and the enlargement of coal mines at Monkwearmouth."

The deaths in Durham, Northumberland, Cumberland, and Westmorland were 6803, 5655, and 4404 in the autumn quarters of 1846-7-8. The mortality decreased 35 per cent. The births were 7374 in the last quarter of the year 1846, and 7989 in the last quarter of 1848.

WELSH DIVISION.—The mortality of Pontypool, Merthyr Tydfil, and Holywell is lower than it was in the corresponding quarters

of 1846-7. In Wrexham 302 persons died within 3 months. The Registrar of the town reports that—

"Sanatory improvement in the town is under consideration, but at present obstacles prevent the sanatory committee from proceeding with the measures in contemplation. A vast majority of the cottages in the town are never limewashed from year to year; sewerage is unknown; stagnant filth meets the eye in every bypath, and in places of public resort."

The deaths in Wales and Monmouthshire were 5900, 5600, and 5263 in the autumn quarters of 1846-7-8. The births were 8537 in the autumn quarter of 1846, and 7971 in the autumn quarter of 1848.

ENGLAND.—The number of Registrars in England is 2189. Hitherto only 582 Registrars have made the returns from which the Quarterly Tables are compiled. It is proposed to publish the returns complete for the March quarter of 1849. The returns for the autumn quarter 1848 have been procured, and although the notes refer chiefly to the large town districts, a brief summary of the deaths in the whole country may not be uninteresting.

	POPULATION.		Deaths in the Autumn Quarters of Nine Years, 1840-8.
	1841	1841	
ALL ENGLAND - - -	13896797	15014148	821050
The 582 Registrars Districts, chiefly comprising large Towns, which have hitherto made the Return in the Quarterly Tables - }	5484291	6612958	406225
The remaining 1607 Registrars Districts chiefly comprising Country Districts and small Towns - - - - - }	8412506	9301190	414825

These facts are quite in conformity with those exhibited in other returns, yet they are in many respects remarkable. The population of the large town districts was nearly $6\frac{2}{3}$ millions in 1841, the deaths in the nine years 1840-8 were 406225; the population of the small town and country districts was $9\frac{1}{3}$ millions in 1841, the deaths in the nine years 414825. The population of the first was to that of the second class of districts nearly as 2 to 3; if the mortality in the large town districts had not been greater than it was in the country and in the small towns, the deaths would by this proportion ($\frac{2}{3}$) have been 276551 in the large towns, or less by nearly 130000 than the numbers actually registered. The population increases faster in the towns than in the country, chiefly in consequence of immigration from the country into the towns; and some correction is required on this account, as well as on account of difference of age and income; but after every allowance has been made for these influences, *a hundred thousand deaths* in the nine last quarters of each of the nine years remain, which must be chiefly referred to the want of pure air and water, house-room, and drainage, which good laws and institutions may supply.

CHOLERA.—The deaths from cholera in London have already been mentioned. The prevalence of epidemic cholera in many other districts of the kingdom is referred to by the Registrars in remarks appended to their returns for the quarter. Epidemic cholera, it will be recollected, appeared in England at the close of the year 1831, or at the same season as it appeared in 1848. It expended its fury, and caused nearly all the mortality in the next year. We may fervently hope that it will not a second time pursue a similar course. No efforts should be spared to prevent or control its ravages. Much may be done to mitigate its severity, if not to avert its invasion. The cholera, unlike some other epidemics, advances slowly; but our sanitary defences have unfortunately advanced still more slowly, so that the enemy finds Glasgow, Edinburgh, London, and the great cities of the kingdom as assailable now as they were in 1832. It was evident in 1846 that cholera would reach England. This was referred to in a passage of the remarks on the Tables for the quarter ending June 1846:—"Notwithstanding the improvements effected when cholera was last epidemic, the foul untrapped sewers and the ground areas of the best streets emit noisome smells and volatile poisons, which are as fatal as arsenic to a certain number of persons. London is surrounded, too, by stagnant water and putrid ditches, as some cities are by walls. It would be well not to wait carelessly until cholera reaches the country, but 'to look before,' remove these nuisances, and purify the reeking atmosphere which gives the disease breath, life, and being." We unfortunately have waited; many of the evils complained of in 1846 are not removed. But a Health of Towns' Act exists, a map of London is in progress on which the fatality of epidemics may be traced, and which will facilitate the drainage, a new commission of sewers has been issued, a Board of Health has been constituted, innumerable reports have been printed, and if no time is lost much may yet be done before the great epidemic is in a condition to put forth its strength in summer. The establishment at Tooting has shown us how cholera is made fatal; it is still easier to show how it may be made comparatively innoxious. And the lesson will probably not be so soon forgotten as it was in 1832.*

* Mr. Martin, in one of the ablest local reports that emanated from the Health of Towns Commission, after visiting Nottingham, Coventry, Leicester, Derby, Norwich, and Portsmouth, and pointing out the bad sanitary arrangements which he everywhere witnessed, remarks:—"It is thence that the dread of epidemic cholera [1831-2] everywhere and for the moment stimulated the people and the authorities in most of our towns to vigorous plans of inquiry at least as to matters supposed to be influential in promoting and keeping up the disease in particular, and epidemics in general. In many places, indeed, the most salutary preventive measures were sketched out for immediate adoption; they were then, perhaps, considered in a cursory manner, and the instant cholera took its departure those most excellent plans for the abatement of nuisances and for the promotion of sanitary measures disappeared along with it. Nothing was then done, nothing has been done since, and nothing will be done till it is so ordered, and till some responsible authority is placed to see that the thing is done."—Health of Towns' Commission, 2d Local Report, vol. 2, 8vo., p. 114.

COMPARATIVE METEOROLOGY of the AUTUMN Quarters of the Years 1846, 1847, and 1848. (Deduced from the Greenwich Observations.)

Quarters ending	Years	THERMOMETERS.										WIND.				Rain in Inches.					
		Mean reading of the Barometer, corrected and reduced to 32 degrees Fahrenheit.		Highest during the Quarter.		Lowest during the Quarter.		Dew Point.		Self-registering.		Difference between the Dew-point temperature and Air temperature.		In the water of the Thames at Greenwich by the Self-registering Thermometers, read at 9 o'clock A.M.			Difference between the mean temperature of the Quarter and the mean on an average of 25 Years.		The mean weekly amount of Horizontal Movement of the Air.		Mean amount of Cloud, 0-10.
		Mean of all observations.		Mean of the observations.		Mean of the observations.		Mean of all results.		Mean of the observations.		Mean of the observations.		Mean of the observations.		Mean of the observations.		Mean of the observations.		Mean of the observations.	
December	1846	29.621	65.8	19.8	44.2	41.0	86.5	60.7	9.0	33.0	45.8	8.1	6.7	0.8	-1.3	10.5	0.3	1003	7.3	8.16	
	1847	29.815	73.0	26.5	47.4	44.0	..	..	18.0	36.1	47.6	3.4	7.1	1.0	+2.3	12.5	0.3	950	7.6	5.19
	1848	29.747	73.6	22.4	46.6	42.2	91.8	59.3	18.0	35.4	48.7	4.4	7.9	1.9	+1.8	12.0	0.5	1133	6.9	7.24	

* The difference was taken for the last quarter of 1848 on an average of 7 years. † Mean of 10 weeks, and which requires a correction of +1.0° on account of the loss of 3 weeks observations. ‡ Mean of 11 weeks, and which requires a correction of -0.4 for loss of observation, and one of +1.0° for index error.

DEATHS in LONDON from all Causes (exclusive of Violent and Sudden Deaths), in the 13 Weeks of the AUTUMN Quarters 1846, 1848, and 14 Weeks of 1847.

Number of Weeks	1846														1847														1848														TOTAL.			
	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14				
Deaths from all causes, exclusive of Violent and Sudden Deaths	838	872	798	862	938	912	889	937	918	1020	1111	1214	1214	..	999	985	933	943	925	1034	1059	1060	1641	2419	2367	1862	1178	..	983	965	966	1087	1083	1140	1144	1174	1123	1116	1080	1069	1089	1284	..	12,543	18,891	14,213
Mean Temperature	53.5	56.4	50.5	49.1	43.2	49.1	44.1	47.8	45.8	52.0	35.9	29.9	36.3	..	51.7	53.0	54.8	53.5	49.8	50.5	49.8	40.7	49.5	46.7	48.0	35.4	..	60.3	52.1	44.7	51.5	44.9	40.3	42.1	45.5	46.7	49.0	50.2	37.5	41.2	..	44.2	47.4	46.6		

DEATHS in LONDON from DIARRHOEA
in each of the Four Quarters of the
Years 1840-48.

Quarters ending	March.	June.	September.	December.
1840	57	62	279	62
1841	68	65	228	112
1842	81	63	489	87
1843	69	50	455	268
1844	79	83	414	129
1845	109	84	449	199
1846	119	153	1549	331
1847	178	202	1196	400
1848	244	239	1048	375

DEATHS in LONDON from CHOLERA
in each of the Four Quarters of the
Years 1840-48.

Quarters ending	March.	June.	September.	December.
1840	3	4	53	6
1841	1	1	23	3
1842	..	7	106	13
1843	6	8	60	14
1844	4	9	47	5
1845	4	2	26	11
1846	7	9	197	15
1847	3	4	98	12
1848	9	17	158	468

A full account of the progress of epidemic cholera during this year will be found in the Supplementary Report, which I shall present to you on this disease.

I have the honour to be,

Sir,

Your faithful Servant,

GEORGE GRAHAM,

Registrar-General.