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THIRTEENTH
ANNUAL REPORT

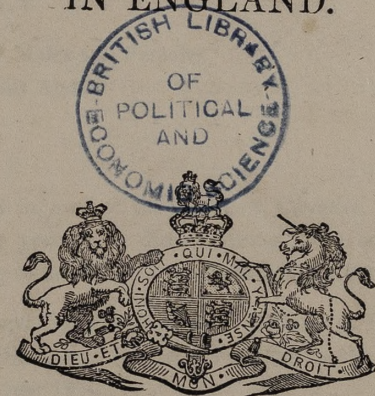
OF THE

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.

1854.

ANNUAL REPORT

REGISTRAR GENERAL

MARRIAGES, BIRTHS, AND DEATHS

IN ENGLAND

LONDON

PRINTED BY GEORGE & CHARLES WILKINSON, 15, N. BARRICK-LANE, LONDON.

CONTENTS.

	PAGE
REPORT	i
MARRIAGES, BIRTHS, and DEATHS in 1850 ; and annual rate of Mortality, of Births, and of Marriages during the years 1838-50	i-ii
MARRIAGES. Number celebrated according to the Rites of the Established Church, and <i>not</i> according to the Rites of the Established Church ; Marriages of Dissenters, Quakers, and Jews	iii-iv
Marriages of Minors	iv-vi
Re-marriages of Widowers and Widows	vi
Border Marriages	vi
Signatures of Persons married	vii-ix
Marriages in different Seasons	ix
BUILDINGS registered for the SOLEMNIZATION of MARRIAGES	x
BIRTHS. Proportion in various parts of England ; Number at different Seasons	xi-xiii
Boys and Girls ; Sexes of Children born in Wedlock and out of Wedlock	xiii
DEATHS. Mortality of Males and Females	xiii-xiv
Mortality at different Ages	xiv-xv
ABSTRACTS:—	
MARRIAGES Registered in each of the Divisions, Counties, and Districts of England in the year 1850 ; distinguishing those according and those <i>not</i> according to the Rites of the Established Church, &c.	2-27
MARRIAGES, BIRTHS, and DEATHS Registered in each of the Divisions, Counties, and Districts, and Births and Deaths in the Sub-districts of England in the year 1850	28-96
BIRTHS Registered in each of the Divisions and Counties of England in each quarter of the year 1850	98-101
ILLEGITIMATE BIRTHS Registered in each of the Divisions and Counties of England in each Quarter of the year 1850	102-105
DEATHS Registered in each of the Divisions and Counties of England in each quarter in the year 1850	106-109
DEATHS at DIFFERENT AGES Registered in each of the Divisions, Counties, and Districts of England in the year 1850	110-149

CONTENTS.

ABSTRACTS— <i>continued.</i>	PAGE
DEATHS from DIFFERENT CAUSES and at DIFFERENT AGES Registered in LONDON in the year 1850	150-155
DEATHS from DIFFERENT CAUSES Registered in each of the DIVISIONS and COUNTIES of ENGLAND in the year 1850	156-167
MARRIAGES Registered in the Divisions, Counties, and Districts of England in each of the Ten Years 1841 to 1850	170-195
BIRTHS and DEATHS Registered in the Divisions, Counties, Districts, and Sub-districts of England in each of the Ten Years 1841 to 1850	196-327

APPENDIX.

EXTRACTS FROM THE QUARTERLY RETURNS of MARRIAGES, BIRTHS, and DEATHS, issued in the year 1850 :—	
Quarter ending MARCH 31, 1850	1-32
Quarter ending JUNE 30, 1850	33-64
Quarter ending SEPTEMBER 30, 1850	65-96
Quarter ending DECEMBER 31, 1850	97-128

LETTER TO THE REGISTRAR GENERAL BY WILLIAM FARR, ESQ., M.D. :—

CAUSES of DEATH in the year 1850	129-131
ZYMOTIC DISEASES	131-132
SPECIFIC DISEASES ; or Diseases of uncertain or variable Seat, and Tuberculous Diseases	133
ORGANIC DISEASES ; or Diseases of particular Organs	133-134
DISEASES of GROWTH, NUTRITION, and DECAY	135
EXTERNAL CAUSES of DEATH	136

INDEX referring by Numbers to the DISTRICTS in the several TABLES of ABSTRACTS	137-140
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REPORT

TO

The Right Honourable VISCOUNT PALMERSTON, M.P., G.C.B.,
Her Majesty's Principal Secretary of State for the Home
Department.

General Register Office,
August 21st, 1854.

MY LORD,

I HAVE the honour to submit to you the Abstracts of the Marriages, of the Births, and of the Deaths registered during the year 1850, in England and Wales; together with a general summary of the annual Abstracts for each of the ten years intervening between the last and the previous census.

TABLE I.—Estimated POPULATION, Number of MARRIAGES, BIRTHS, and DEATHS registered in England in each Year from 1838 to 1850.

Years ended Dec. 31st.	Estimated POPULATION in England in the Middle of the Years.*	MARRIAGES.	PERSONS Married.	BIRTHS (exclusive of Still-born).	DEATHS.	Excess of Births over Deaths.
1838	15,296,070	118067	236134	463787	342760	121027
1839	15,504,361	123166	246332	492574	338984	153590
1840	15,715,491	122665	245330	502308	359687	142616
1841	15,929,492	122496	244902	512158	348847	168311
1842	16,123,793	118825	237650	517739	349519	168220
1843	16,320,479	123818	247636	527325	346445	180880
1844	16,519,565	122249	244498	540763	356933	183830
1845	16,721,081	143743	287488	543521	349366	194155
1846	16,925,051	145664	291328	572625	390315	182310
1847	17,131,512	135845	271690	539905	423304	116661
1848	17,340,492	138230	276460	563059	399833	163223
1849	17,552,020	141883	283766	578159	440839	137320
1850	17,766,129	152744	305488	593422	368995	224427

* The Population has been deduced on the assumption that the annual rate of increase was uniform; viz. 1'220 per cent. in each of the 10 years 1841-51, and 1'362 per cent. in each of the 3 years 1838-40.

TABLE II.—Proportion of MARRIAGES, BIRTHS, and DEATHS to the Population of England.

Years ended Dec. 31st.	To 100 Persons living.				The Number of Persons living.			
	MARRIAGES.	PERSONS MARRIED.	BIRTHS.	DEATHS.	To one Marriage.	To one Person Married.	To one Birth.	To one Death.
1838	*772	1'544	3'032	2'241	130	65	33	45
1839	*794	1'588	3'177	2'186	126	63	31	46
1840	*781	1'562	3'196	2'289	128	64	31	44
1841	*769	1'538	3'215	2'159	130	65	31	46
1842	*737	1'474	3'211	2'168	136	68	31	46
1843	*759	1'518	3'231	2'123	132	66	31	47
1844	*801	1'602	3'273	2'161	125	62	31	46
1845	*860	1'720	3'251	2'089	116	58	31	48
1846	*861	1'722	3'383	2'306	116	58	30	43
1847	*793	1'586	3'152	2'471	126	63	32	40
1848	*797	1'594	3'247	2'306	125	63	31	43
1849	*808	1'616	3'294	2'512	124	62	30	40
1850	*860	1'720	3'340	2'077	116	58	30	48
Mean .	*799	1'599	3'231	2'238	125	63	31	45

NOTE.—By disregarding the decimal points the Table will show the proportion to every 100,000 persons living. A correction for increase of population has been made in calculating the above results.

In the year 1850 the number of marriages was 152744, of births 593422, and of deaths 368995; so the births exceeded the deaths by 224427.

As a standard for a comparison of the results with those of any particular year, it may be stated, that on an average of the 13 years 1838-1850 the annual rate of mortality in England is 2.238 per cent., the rate of birth 3.231, the rate of marriage 1.599 per cent., (the marriages being 0.799 per cent.); or, in other terms, and with somewhat less accuracy, 1 in 45 of the people dies annually; one child is born alive to every 31 living; and 1 in 63 of the population contracts marriage, or there is one marriage annually to every 125.

The marriages and the births in 1850 exceeded the numbers registered in any previous year; and after allowing for increase of population, the rate of marriage (1.720 per cent., or 1 in 58 nearly), as well as the rate of birth (3.340, or 1 in 30 nearly), greatly exceeded the average. The mortality, on the contrary, was below the average; and the rate of 2.077 per cent., or 1 in 48 on the population, is the lowest rate that has been observed.

The mortality in the previous year 1849 was at the rate of 2.512 per cent. It was the year of the cholera epidemic.

TABLE III.—MARRIAGES registered in ENGLAND in each Year from 1838 to 1850.

YEARS.	According to the Rites of the Established Church.					Not according to the Rites of the Established Church.					TOTAL MARRIAGES.	
	Special Licence.	Licence.	Banns.	Superintendent Registrar's Certificate.	Not stated.	Total.	Total.	In Registered Places.	Other Denominations.	Superintendent Registrar's Office.		Quakers.
In the Years ending 30th June 1838	9	13677	68410	493	24612	107201	4280	2976	1093	70	135	111431
" 1839	10	14669	76928	968	22657	114632	6451	4654	1564	73	160	121083
" 1840	10	15564	78642	912	21890	117018	7311	5140	1938	81	152	124329
" 1841	17	13752	77826	856	19997	114448	8084	5816	2036	66	116	122482
In the Years ending 31st Dec. 1841	13	13792	78015	972	19579	114371	8125	5882	2064	68	113	122496
" 1842	9	14935	75744	944	18415	110047	8778	6200	2357	58	163	118825
" 1843	8	14544	79849	1222	18014	113637	10181	7152	2317	61	151	123818
" 1844	10	14930	85176	1558	18335	120069	12240	2280	3446	55	175	132240
" 1845	10	16913	92867	1706	18919	120615	14228	2816	7181	74	180	143743
" 1846	14	17135	92905	1862	18503	130509	15155	8027	7669	68	224	145004
" 1847	14	17052	84863	1933	16979	120876	14969	2961	7483	83	184	135845
" 1848	13	16896	86519	2170	15871	121469	16761	3638	8060	67	136	138230
" 1849	18	16697	90644	2583	13230	123132	18701	4199	8662	53	229	141883
" 1850	8	17413	98609	3136	11733	130059	21785	5623	9626	69	260	152744

YEARS.	Marriages contracted between				Re-married.		Under Age.		Signed the Marriage Register with Marks.			
	Bachelors and Spinners.	Bachelors and Widows.	Widowers and Spinners.	Widowers and Widows.	Widowers.	Widows.	Men.	Women.	Men.	Women.	Marriages in which both Signed.	Marriages in which one Signed.
In the Years ending 30th June 1838	—	—	—	—	—	—	5375	16563	—	—	—	—
" 1839	—	—	—	—	—	—	5028	16414	40587	58959	—	—
" 1840	—	—	—	—	—	—	6101	17909	41812	62323	—	—
" 1841	—	—	—	—	—	—	5537	16391	40039	59896	—	—
In the Years ending 31st Dec. 1841	—	—	—	—	—	—	5362	16285	39954	59690	—	—
" 1842	—	—	—	—	15619	10579	6387	16003	38031	59065	—	—
" 1843	—	—	—	—	16305	10811	5511	16403	40520	60715	—	—
" 1844	—	—	—	—	16941	11183	5515	17410	42912	65073	—	—
" 1845	119539	6028	11835	6341	18176	12369	6287	19376	47663	71229	—	—
" 1846	121324	5997	12212	6131	18343	12128	6313	20901	47488	70145	—	—
" 1847	112376	5705	11967	5397	17564	11692	5556	18118	42429	61877	32622	39062
" 1848	113284	3329	12702	6324	19026	12344	6092	19486	43166	62771	32974	39080
" 1849	116134	6102	13155	6492	19647	12594	6650	21105	44027	65135	—	—
" 1850	124031	6573	14558	7580	22138	14155	7453	23109	47372	70066	—	—

It has been stated that an epidemic is invariably followed by a period of low mortality, which is again accounted for on the supposition that the weakly die of the epidemic, who under ordinary circumstances would die a year or two years subsequently of some other disease. This, however, requires further investigation. In the former epidemic of cholera (1832) the decline of the mortality in the subsequent year was inconsiderable; but in that year the epidemic had not completely subsided.

MARRIAGES.

Of the 152744 marriages in the year 1850, 130959, or 86 per cent., were celebrated according to the rites of the established church; 8 were stated to be by special licence; 17413 by licence; 98669 by banns; and 3136 by superintendent registrar's certificate, which may be looked upon as a substitute for the proclamation of banns or licence. In 11733 instances the preliminary authority for the marriage was not stated by the officiating clergyman.

Of the 21785 marriages that were not performed according to the rites of the established church, 15249 were celebrated in registered places of worship, namely, 5623 in Roman Catholic chapels, and 9626 in the chapels of other christian denominations; and 6207 in superintendent registrar's offices; 69 marriages took place between Quakers; 260 between Jews.

It will be observed that the marriages in registered places increased from 2976 to 15249, or fivefold in 13 years; within the last 7 years the marriages in Roman Catholic chapels increased from 2280 to 5623, and in a more rapid ratio than the marriages in other registered places of worship.

From returns which were procured at the last census, it was estimated that on Sunday, March 31st, 1851, the total number of persons who attended places of public worship was 7,261,032.* Upon comparing the marriages with the number of attendants at different places of religious worship, this general result is obtained:—That among the Roman Catholics the persons who married were in the proportion of one to every 28 attendants, while among the members of the Church of England and of other religious denominations, except Jews and Quakers, there was one marriage to every 25 attendants. The facts stand thus:

	Persons married in 1850.	Attendants at Places of Public Worship on March 30th 1851.	Proportional Numbers.
Church of England and other Christian bodies (exclusive of Quakers and Roman Catholics)	281,170	6,913,690	1 to 25
Roman Catholics	11,246	305,393	1 to 28

If we divide the Protestants into two classes a very different result is obtained:

	Persons married in 1850.	Attendants at Places of Public Worship on March 30th 1851.	Proportional Numbers.
Church of England	261,918	3,773,474	1 to 14
Other Christian bodies (exclusive of Quakers and Roman Catholics)	19,252	3,140,216	1 to 163

The number of persons married in 1850 at the churches was to the number of attendants on the Census Sunday as 1 to 14; while the number of persons married at the chapels was to the number of attendants as 1 to 164. The whole of this discrepancy can scarcely be accounted for by the attendance of members of the Church of England at the chapels, or by the marriage of members of dissenting congregations according to the rites of the Church of England; but it admits of no doubt that from the

* Census of Great Britain 1851. Religious Worship, p. clvi.

influence of long custom, of opinion, or of a preference for the judicious, admirable, and well-established marriage service of the Church of England, vast numbers of the people who habitually attend other places of worship resort to the churches to marry.

The dissenters also complain, with justice, that in marrying according to their own rites they are subject to restrictions and unnecessary annoyances,* the notices of their marriages are read before boards of poor law guardians, and their marriages in the register offices have often to be performed in the workhouses, which, it must be admitted, as they offer no pleasant associations, open no very inviting avenue to the temple of Hymen.

The Quakers attended to the number of 18,172 at their 371 places of worship, containing 91,559 sittings, on the Census Sunday (March 30th, 1851); but in the year 1850 only 138 of the Friends married according to their own forms, so that there is still an unusual reluctance to marry among the male or female members of this remarkable sect, which, if it is neither sustained by hereditary accessions nor proselytes, will eventually decline in England.

The Jews present quite a different aspect; they marry in considerable numbers (520 were married in 1850); but the number who attended their synagogues on Saturday was only 4150; so that there was one Jew married to every 8 who attended. Marriage appears to be common, but polygamy, though it is allowed by the law of Moses, is, I am informed, not practised by the Jews in any country of Europe except Turkey.

Marriages of minors. In the year, 7453 young men and 23109 women married under 21 years of age; so that 4.88 per cent. of the men, 15.13 per cent. of the women, were minors; or, taking 100 (50 men and 50 women),

TABLE IV.—MARRIAGES. The Proportion per Cent. of *Minors* of each Sex, of Males and Females who signed the Register with Marks, and of Persons who were *Widowers* or *Widows*.

YEARS.	To 100 MARRIED.								
	The Proportion under 21 Years of Age.			The Proportion who signed the Marriage Register with Marks.			The Proportion who were		
	Males.	Females.	Mean.	Males.	Females.	Mean.	Widowers.	Widows.	Mean.
In the Years ending 30th June 1839	4.64	13.55	8.60	33.5	48.7	41.1	—	—	—
" 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 31st Dec. 1841	4.38	13.29	8.83	32.7	48.8	40.8	*12.90	*8.99	*10.95
" 1842	4.53	13.47	9.00	32.0	47.9	40.0	13.14	8.90	11.02
" 1843	4.45	13.25	8.85	32.7	49.0	40.9	13.17	8.73	10.95
" 1844	4.17	13.16	8.67	32.4	49.2	40.8	12.81	8.46	10.63
" 1845	4.37	13.48	8.93	33.2	49.6	41.4	12.64	8.60	10.62
" 1846	4.33	13.73	9.03	32.6	48.2	40.4	12.59	8.33	10.46
" 1847	4.09	13.34	8.72	31.2	45.5	38.4	12.93	8.54	11.31
" 1848	4.41	14.06	9.24	31.2	45.4	38.3	13.76	8.86	11.37
" 1849	4.69	14.88	9.79	31.0	45.9	38.5	13.85	8.88	11.37
" 1850	4.88	15.13	10.01	31.1	46.2	38.7	14.49	9.27	11.88

* The proportion of Widowers and Widows in the Year 1841 is for the September and December quarters only.

* The expense attending a marriage by licence in a dissenting place of worship is as follows: fee for entry in marriage notice book 1s.; certificate of the entry 1s.; affidavit stamp 2s. 6d.; licence and stamp 3l. 10s.; Registrar's fee 10s.; certificate of the marriage (optional, but usually required and paid for) 2s. 6d.; total 4l. 7s. If the parties live in two different districts, notice must be given in each, causing an additional expense of 2s.; the total expense is thus raised to 4l. 9s. In the established church the cost of a licence (including the stamp), is generally about 2l. 12s. 6d.; the fees at the church are about 1l. 1s.; and the certificate of marriage 2s. 6d.; total 3l. 16s. The fees are not the same at all churches, but the sum of 1l. 1s. (thus sub-divided, rector 13s., clerk 5s. 6d., sexton 2s. 6d.) may be stated as the amount usually demanded in the parishes of the metropolis.

it is found that 10.01 per cent. (nearly one in 10) are *minors*, which is more than the average proportion of previous years. The practice of early marriage differs in the several English counties, and is apparently most prevalent in the Eastern, and in the Midland Divisions; of every 100 *men* that married the minors exceeded the proportion of 7 in *nine* counties:

TABLE V.—ENGLAND. MARRIAGES.—PROPORTIONAL Number of MARRIAGES in the several Counties of England during the Year 1850; of Persons who signed their Names; of Persons not of full Age; and of the Re-marriages of Widowers and Widows.

REGISTRATION COUNTIES.	Marriages to 100 Inhabitants.	Signed their Names in Writing.		Persons not of full Age.		Re-marriages.	
		Of 100 Men Married.	Of 100 Women Married.	In 100 Men Married.	In 100 Women Married.	Widowers.	Widows.
						In 100 Men Married.	In 100 Women Married.
ENGLAND - - -	*860	68.9	53.8	4.88	15.13	14.49	9.27
I.—LONDON.							
Middlesex (<i>part of</i>) - - -	1.059	87.8	76.9	2.44	9.53	14.78	10.00
Surrey (<i>part of</i>) - - -	1.083	87.9	77.0	1.57	8.53	17.05	10.35
Kent (<i>part of</i>) - - -	*752	85.6	74.7	2.83	9.70	12.02	11.72
II.—SOUTH EASTERN COUNTIES.							
1 Surrey (<i>extra-metropolitan</i>) - - -	*530	65.5	72.3	2.92	14.96	11.48	8.00
2 Kent (<i>extra-metropolitan</i>) - - -	*723	72.1	67.5	2.82	15.30	12.79	8.67
3 Sussex - - -	*723	70.2	69.7	3.99	16.47	12.27	8.23
4 Hampshire - - -	*786	71.8	66.8	2.97	13.04	13.23	9.43
5 Berkshire - - -	*710	59.7	59.5	3.71	12.91	14.27	9.06
III.—SOUTH MIDLAND COUNTIES.							
6 Middlesex (<i>extra-metropolitan</i>) - - -	*549	68.8	69.4	3.78	12.20	12.20	7.07
7 Hertfordshire - - -	*625	51.7	50.2	7.63	20.37	12.00	7.72
8 Buckinghamshire - - -	*752	58.8	49.2	7.75	20.36	15.59	6.82
9 Oxfordshire - - -	*752	64.4	58.7	5.43	14.80	14.57	8.82
10 Northamptonshire - - -	*775	68.4	57.7	8.00	19.96	13.98	8.00
11 Huntingdonshire - - -	*795	60.3	51.9	8.23	24.00	12.87	6.54
12 Bedfordshire - - -	*787	52.8	41.0	13.69	22.02	14.48	6.75
13 Cambridgeshire - - -	*759	59.4	53.3	7.07	21.43	13.45	7.70
IV.—EASTERN COUNTIES.							
14 Essex - - -	*611	57.2	54.4	6.73	20.11	13.76	9.14
15 Suffolk - - -	*707	54.3	52.3	4.46	15.43	12.29	7.14
16 Norfolk - - -	*763	58.8	56.1	5.51	16.26	12.88	6.61
V.—SOUTH WESTERN COUNTIES.							
17 Wiltshire - - -	*715	58.7	57.1	8.09	16.47	16.41	7.97
18 Dorsetshire - - -	*764	65.5	63.8	4.26	10.39	15.40	6.35
19 Devonshire - - -	*785	74.0	63.2	2.83	9.54	12.78	8.78
20 Cornwall - - -	*716	65.0	48.2	4.00	12.40	11.53	6.22
21 Somersetshire - - -	*711	65.7	57.1	4.63	11.32	15.01	8.30
VI.—WEST MIDLAND COUNTIES.							
22 Gloucestershire - - -	*915	73.9	62.6	3.91	11.86	15.79	9.18
23 Herefordshire - - -	*631	59.3	58.8	1.45	9.02	10.47	7.57
24 Shropshire - - -	*703	57.7	48.0	3.39	9.35	16.12	8.47
25 Staffordshire - - -	*930	53.1	39.3	6.66	21.08	14.38	10.83
26 Worcestershire - - -	*845	63.1	52.8	4.39	13.73	12.52	7.72
27 Warwickshire - - -	*892	68.5	55.0	5.64	17.54	14.93	10.30
VII.—NORTH MIDLAND COUNTIES.							
28 Leicestershire - - -	*927	67.1	54.2	9.10	17.96	15.31	9.00
29 Rutlandshire - - -	*682	76.2	70.7	3.05	14.63	14.63	6.71
30 Lincolnshire - - -	*685	72.6	59.8	3.18	17.84	13.33	7.68
31 Nottinghamshire - - -	*896	68.2	51.4	5.94	17.01	14.82	8.66
32 Derbyshire - - -	*826	72.2	62.6	4.83	13.64	16.13	9.33
VIII.—NORTH WESTERN COUNTIES.							
33 Cheshire - - -	*827	67.5	43.9	5.24	14.86	14.94	8.84
34 Lancashire - - -	1.062	62.7	35.7	6.69	17.97	15.41	10.77
IX.—YORKSHIRE.							
35 West Riding - - -	*974	65.9	38.6	7.60	23.06	15.48	9.41
36 East Riding (with York) - - -	1.037	80.3	62.9	3.90	15.30	17.97	11.21
37 North Riding - - -	*754	81.4	66.2	2.76	12.34	14.13	6.48
X.—NORTHERN COUNTIES.							
38 Durham - - -	*864	73.8	53.1	4.01	17.14	14.38	9.74
39 Northumberland - - -	*802	80.5	60.6	3.65	12.70	12.25	8.30
40 Cumberland - - -	*586	83.9	67.6	3.88	12.69	10.84	6.26
41 Westmorland - - -	*712	81.1	65.0	3.40	10.68	10.68	7.52
XI.—MONMOUTHSHIRE AND WALES.							
42 Monmouthshire - - -	*910	49.9	37.6	3.58	15.31	13.74	11.73
43 South Wales - - -	*827	56.4	31.6	3.92	10.54	14.18	9.54
44 North Wales - - -	*686	55.7	33.4	2.66	7.60	13.31	8.26

they were 7.63 in Hertford, 7.75 in Bucks, 8.00 in Northampton, 8.23 in Huntingdon, 13.69 in Bedford, 7.07 in Cambridge, 8.09 in Wilts, 9.10 in Leicester, 7.60 in the West Riding of Yorkshire. In London, in the South Eastern counties, in the Northern counties, and in Wales, the proportion of *minors* was generally much below the average (4.88 per cent. for males); and in Herefordshire the proportion of *minors* among the men married was only 1.45 per cent.; among the women 9.02 per cent. In Bedfordshire the proportion of *minors* was 13.69 among men, 22.02 among women. The other counties in which more than 20 per cent. of the women are under the age of 21 years on the day of marriage, are Hertford (20.37), Bucks (20.36), Huntingdon (24.90), Bedford 22.02, Cambridge (21.43), Essex (20.11), Stafford 21.08, the West Riding of York 23.06. In London (9.32), Devon 9.54, Hereford 9.02, Salop 9.35, North Wales 7.60, the young women under the age of 21 did not exceed 10 per cent. of the number married.

At a future time I shall endeavour to apply another method to this inquiry into the age of marriage, which differs in different counties as well as in different classes of society, and in its causes and its consequences is of an importance that has not been determined, and is probably not adequately appreciated.

Re-marriages. 22138 men and 14155 women were re-married in 1850; so of the men married 14.49 per cent. were widowers, and 9.27 per cent. of the women were widows. In the East Riding of York 17.97 in 100 men, in Herefordshire 10.47 in 100 men that married in the year were widowers. These two counties present the extreme proportions. The proportion of widows among the remarried ranged from 11.73 in 100 in Monmouthshire to 6.22 in Cornwall.

Border marriages. Upon examining the proportion of marriages to the population in the several counties (Table V.), it will be observed that, although the marriages in the country generally are in the proportion of 860 marriages to every 100,000 of the population, the proportions in London, Lancashire, and the East Riding of York, including the city, exceed 1000, while in the parts of Middlesex and Surrey around London, in Essex, in Hertfordshire, in Herefordshire, and in Cumberland the proportion of annual marriages is less than, or scarcely exceeds, 600. Some of the usual residents of the surrounding counties probably resort to London to marry; and the proportional number of persons of a marriagable age in London exceeds the average of the country. The marriages that are registered in the northern counties are reduced by the "Border marriages" as they are called.

Marriages are performed in various ways in Scotland; and of some the ceremony, as in the marriages at Gretna Green, is of the simplest and most primitive character. It is shown in the last census report that the loose state of the marriage law, far from facilitating, discourages marriage in general, and that at present the proportion of persons living avowedly in families united by wedlock is proportionally much less in Scotland than it is in England. The border, however, does facilitate the clandestine marriages of English *minors* and daughters of the wealthier classes; and, since the railways have been laid down, is resorted to, I am informed, by great numbers of the humbler classes, not without considerable risk of the deterioration of manners which always follows where marriage, the foundation of families and of society, is treated as a light matter, and the line of demarcation between those living in wedlock and those living in concubinage is indistinct.*

* I am informed that 800 marriages have been performed in a year at one turnpike gate on the border; and the statements in the subjoined extract from a letter, addressed

Signatures of persons married. At every marriage the two parties sign the register either by a *mark* against the name, or by writing their

to me by an estimable clergyman living 30 miles from Gretna Green, are supported by ample evidence:

"When I became vicar in 1829, Gretna Green marriages were not uncommon, but by degrees, and as I suspect by the facility of railways, first by the opening of the Newcastle and Carlisle, and still more afterwards of the Caledonian, they have become almost universal, in so far as the humbler classes are concerned. Thus in 1830, with a population of 4119, there were 29 publications of banns; but recently, with a population of 5368, there were 7 marriages in the year, of which but one was by banns, (see my return); and I believe there was not a marriage at any place in the parish, except the church, during the year. A few years ago a Carlisle newspaper stated that upwards of sixty couples were married at Gretna within 24 hours after a hiring of servants there; and the Newcastle Courant of December 20th, 1850, says, 'One day last week 7 couples from Northumberland arrived at the Tweedmouth Station, Berwick, with a view of being married over 'the border.' Indeed the inhabitants of Berwick have petitioned Parliament more than once to pass a law for the prevention of such marriages; and I need scarcely to remind you, that a man is now undergoing a sentence of imprisonment in Appleby Jail for the abduction of a child of only 12 years old from a boarding school, being an heiress, to whose fortune he will be entitled, because Gretna Green marriages are legal. But apart from such a special case, this practice is productive of very great evils. Boys and girls in their teens, from 15 (I have known one from 14) and upwards, run off from a dance, or some holiday meeting, or otherwise get married, almost as a joke, but to the consternation and distress of their parents, upon whom, having nowhere else to go, they quarter themselves: they are wedded to poverty and unhappiness, and have children, while yet children themselves, and totally devoid of every qualification for the proper guidance of a family. There is also sometimes a serious difficulty in proving the marriage. Not very long ago the township of Haltwhistle was at the expense of more than 40*l.* in establishing the identity of parties to a border marriage, contracted in the presence of a woman, where the wife had been deserted, and become chargeable; and sometimes (as I could point out instances) couples, without reaching their destination, have returned to live together as man and wife, till some accidental circumstance betrayed them. But I am sure it is unnecessary further to enumerate the evils and immoralities of the system (for they have been universally admitted), or to point out the inefficiency of the English Marriage Act for this part of the kingdom, in insisting on preliminaries which give time for consideration, and on perfect publicity of what is intended, so that parents may interfere, because the parties can just step over the border and evade them all, by being lawfully married at any time and in any way."

The following passages are extracts from his replies to inquiries that were addressed to him:

"Adults as well as minors resort to border marriages; in fact it appears very rare for the humbler orders to think of being married in any other way, as my return of 7 marriages in 1854, of which but *one* was after banns, is a sufficient proof. Though the system is not universal amongst those classes which are generally married by licence, still it is often adopted, as may be inferred from my return (being 6 marriages by licence in the year for a population of 5368), and it appears steadily advancing.

"I believe 'the little trouble in the ceremony' forms the *great charm* of border marriages,—certainly not 'economy' (as my third answer will show);—next, the little jaunt there, and a certain amount of levity, which, though out of place, is frequently the concomitant of a wedding; but not 'motives of secrecy'; for, apart from the exceptional cases of boys and girls in their teens, or where there are other strong objections, the setting off is generally known,—I mean of such as ought to have been the ordinary couples at church,—and there is often an assemblage at the station to greet them at the time of their expected return. It is also very usual to start from a hiring or fair, and when the man is more or less under the influence of liquor or other excitement; and if this should subside on the journey, still the fear of ridicule prevails, for I never heard of any who confessed to have returned unmarried. In the cases I alluded to in my former letter (being two) which were detected (particularly one of them) in a very extraordinary way, after three children had been born, I managed with some difficulty to marry them at church; but it is not at all improbable that there may be couples so living together now, and equally unsuspected as these.

"The 'cost of marriage' is, I believe, in this part of England, quite low; but I cannot speak positively of any parish except my own, where the fees are little more than the half of those which I have known elsewhere. Thus at Haltwhistle the fees for a marriage by licence are 5*s.* to the clergyman, and 4*s.* 6*d.* to the clerk; after banns, the publication is 1*s.*, at the ceremony 2*s.* to the clergyman and 2*s.* 6*d.* to the clerk. After the service the wedding party sometimes resorts to a public house, but it is not unusual for them to go straight home; so there is no established custom of additional expense which people in

names. The mode of signature is optional; but it is probable that the *mark* is only resorted to where the parties are unable to write their names, or where they write imperfectly. This simple test affords, therefore, a good indication of the diffusion and progress of elementary education among the people. Now in 1850 of 100 men that married 68·9 wrote their names, of 100 women 53·8 wrote their names; and 31·1 of the men, 46·2 of the women signed the marriage register with *marks*. This is a striking example of the neglect of elementary education in England at the time these persons were educated. 46 in every 100 of the future mothers of the English population cannot write, or write so imperfectly that they made their marks instead of writing their names in the marriage register. How long is the population to remain in this state of ignorance?

Within the 8 years 1839—1846 the number of males who signed with marks ranged from 32 to 34, and in the 4 subsequent years the number fell to 31; so in the first period from 48 to 50 in 100 women signed with marks, while in the latter the proportions fell to 45 and 46. The numbers who can write appear to increase; but it is not improbable that a part of the improvement is only apparent, and that since public attention has been called to the subject, a few of the men and women who write very badly, and under former circumstances would have made their mark, are now induced to write their names.

London and certain counties are distinguished above the rest by the high proportion of the men and women who write: thus, in London 88 in 100 men wrote their names, in Cumberland 84, Westmorland 81, Northumberland 81, in the North Riding of Yorkshire 81, in the East Riding of Yorkshire 80.

Second in the proportional order of writing are the men of Rutland, 76·2; Devon 74·0, Gloucester 73·9, Durham 73·8, Lincoln 72·6, Derby 72·2, Kent 72·1, Hants 71·8, Sussex 70·2.

In strong contrast with these counties, many counties may be enumerated in which less than 60 in 100 men that married wrote their names. In the county of Monmouth only 49·9 in 100 wrote their names, in Hertford 51·7, in Bedford 52·8, in Stafford 53·1, in Suffolk 54·3, in North Wales 55·7, South Wales 56·4, Essex 57·2, Shropshire 57·7, Wilts 58·7, Bucks 58·8, Norfolk 58·8, Hereford 59·3, Cambridge 59·4, Berks 59·7.

Contrast the two mining counties, Durham, in the north, 73·8, Stafford, in the West Midland Division, 53·1; and again Lincolnshire 72·6, with Essex 57·2; Cumberland 83·9 with Bedford 52·8, in 100 men at the age of marriage who write.

Among counties those supply a standard in which 80 in every 100 men who marry write; and we may inquire why do so many counties fall

general, and especially the poorest, find a difficulty in breaking through. I have been told, but cannot speak from my own knowledge, that there is much bargaining about fees at Gretna, and that with good management and a stout plea of poverty a couple may be married for a very little; while generous tempers, especially when made more generous by the occasion, and perhaps by the additional stimulus of liquor, are obliged to pay very exorbitantly. I have myself frequently heard men complain afterwards of the expense of a Gretna marriage, and know that in one way or other they have often scarcely enough to carry them home, and it is under my knowledge that they sometimes have to borrow or pledge at Carlisle; and the railway fares there and back are at least double the whole expense of being married after banns at the parish church, without taking anything else into the account.

“Stating, lastly, that in this extensive parish there are four railway stations, offering facilities for the trip, which bring Gretna Green still more in competition with the parish church, I will only add, that this wholesale desertion is not at all occasioned by my own personal unpopularity, for I am happy to say that I stand well with my parishioners of every grade, while the humbler ones never hesitate to come to me for assistance and advice in their troubles or little matters of business; and that it will give me much pleasure to supply any further information in my power that shall be of use in forwarding this important object.”

short of this degree of elementary instruction which in other counties has been actually attained? Are the people of the retarded counties less capable of learning than the other people? Is the organization of schools different? Is the supply of schools adequate or inadequate to the wants of the people? Are the clergy, the learned classes, or the landed proprietors more or less active in promoting instruction in the one class than in the other class of counties, arranged in the order of education? Do the occupations of the children interfere more in certain counties than in others with their instruction? All these inquiries should be made; and it will probably be found that by increased exertions, and by some simple, well-considered arrangements 80 per cent. if not the whole of the men of the next generation may be enabled to write.

Of the women, more than 70 in 100 wrote their names in London, in Surrey, and in Rutland; more than 60 in 100 in Cumberland, Westmorland, Northumberland, the East and the North Ridings of York, Gloucester, Devon, Dorset, Middlesex, Kent, Sussex, and Hants.

The instruction of women in writing is lowest in Wales; Lancashire stands next (only 36 in 100 women wrote their names); in Monmouth the proportion who wrote is only 37·6, in the West Riding it is only 38·6. This is probably one of the incidental, but most deplorable, results of the factory labour of females in Lancashire and the West Riding of Yorkshire, where the women would, under more favourable circumstances, be as competent to write as the women of other counties.

Marriages in different Seasons. Marriages take place in every month of the year; but while the number of marriages through the spring and the summer quarters amounted to nearly 13,000 a month, the marriages were at the rate of 10,000 a month in the first three months, and 15,000 a month in the last three months of the year. And thus it has happened for the thirteen years (1838-50) that in England there have been *three* marriages in October, November, and December to every *two* in January, February, and March.

The inclination to marry in the last three months of the year is carried to the greatest excess in the Eastern Division, Essex, Suffolk, and Norfolk, where the marriages in the quarters of the year were 1476, 1596, 1585, and 3059.

In London, upon the other hand, there is a slight excess of marriages in the *third* quarter ending in September.*

In Lincoln the great excess of marriages falls upon the genial months of April, May, and June.†

TABLE VI.—MARRIAGES in each quarter of the Years 1838 to 1850.

YEARS.	Quarters ending the last day of			
	March.	June.	September.	December.
1838	23201	29801	27764	37301
1839	24679	31339	29887	37261
1840	26395	30786	29221	36263
1841	24447	32551	29397	36101
1842	25860	30048	27288	35629
1843	25285	31113	28847	38573
1844	26387	34268	31675	39919
1845	29551	35300	35003	48889
1846	31417	37111	35070	42066
1847	27480	35197	32439	40729
1848	28398	34721	32995	42116
1849	28429	35844	33874	43736
1850	30567	39204	37636	45337

* In London the marriages in the several quarters were 4794, 6389, 6782, and 6389.

† In Lincolnshire the marriages in the several quarters were 444, 1034, 563, and 667.

Marriages are celebrated in churches and superintendent registrars offices. They are also celebrated in 3106 registered buildings belonging to different religious denominations.

TABLE VII.—NUMBER of BUILDINGS in each of the Counties of England and Wales REGISTERED for the SOLEMNIZATION of MARRIAGES under the Acts of 6 & 7 Will. IV. c. 85. and 1 Vict. c. 22., to 31st December 1850.

Table with columns for COUNTY, Class I. PRESBYTERIANS, Class II., Class III. BAPTISTS, Class IV. METHODISTS (Arminian), Class V. METHODISTS (Calvinistic), Class VI., Class VII. FOREIGN CHURCHES, Class VIII. MISCELLANEOUS, and Total Number of Buildings Registered in each County.

Note.—This return is for the Counties proper, and not for the "Registration Counties."

BIRTHS.

The proportion of births to the population of England is 3.340 per cent.; but in the counties of Hereford, Salop, Rutland, Westmorland, in North Wales, and in the extra-metropolitan parts of Surrey and Middlesex,

TABLE VIII.—ENGLAND. BIRTHS, 1850.—NUMBER and PROPORTION of Male and Female Children born in and out of Wedlock.

Table with columns for REGISTRATION COUNTIES, Male born, Female born, Born in Wedlock (Males, Females), Born out of Wedlock (Males, Females), Males born every 100 Males born, Males born in Wedlock to every 100 FEMALES so born, Males born out of Wedlock to every 100 FEMALES so born.

the births were less than 3·00 per cent. on the population; the proportion was lowest (2·77) in Shropshire. In the following counties the proportion of births exceeded 3·6 per cent.; namely, Huntingdon, Bedford, Cambridge, Stafford (3·777 highest), Lancashire, West Riding of Yorkshire, and Durham. The proportion of births to the population is lowest in the agricultural,—highest in the manufacturing and mining counties.

TABLE IX.—ENGLAND. BIRTHS, 1850.—PROPORTIONAL Number of BIRTHS registered in each Registration County in the Year 1850, and in each Season of the Year, or the Number of Births in each Quarter to 1000 Births in the Average Quarter.

REGISTRATION COUNTIES.	BIRTHS to 100 Persons living.	Proportional Number of Births registered.				
		In the AVERAGE QUARTER assumed to be 1000.	In the FIRST QUARTER ending March 31.	In the SECOND QUARTER ending June 30.	In the THIRD QUARTER ending Sept. 30.	In the FOURTH QUARTER ending Dec. 31.
ENGLAND - - -	3·340	1000	974	1051	990	985
I.—LONDON.						
Middlesex (part of) - - - -	3·177	1000	993	986	983	1038
Surrey (part of) - - - -	3·332	1000	1015	967	988	1030
Kent (part of) - - - -	3·082	1000	1016	956	971	1058
II.—SOUTH EASTERN COUNTIES.						
1 Surrey (extra-metropolitan) - - -	2·866	1000	1021	953	1022	1004
2 Kent (extra-metropolitan) - - -	3·196	1000	1018	1016	975	992
3 Sussex - - - -	3·036	1000	998	994	1009	998
4 Hampshire - - - -	3·169	1000	1035	1012	951	1001
5 Berkshire - - - -	3·087	1000	984	1032	975	1008
III.—SOUTH MIDLAND COUNTIES.						
6 Middlesex (extra-metropolitan) - -	2·983	1000	980	996	993	1031
7 Hertfordshire - - - -	3·333	1000	1052	993	923	1032
8 Buckinghamshire - - - -	3·383	1000	1043	1048	956	952
9 Oxfordshire - - - -	3·267	1000	1030	1019	967	954
10 Northamptonshire - - - -	3·425	1000	982	1036	1057	924
11 Huntingdonshire - - - -	3·677	1000	993	1102	942	965
12 Bedfordshire - - - -	3·608	1000	1044	978	957	1020
13 Cambridgeshire - - - -	3·609	1000	957	1079	1022	942
IV.—EASTERN COUNTIES.						
14 Essex - - - -	3·262	1000	997	1018	995	990
15 Suffolk - - - -	3·333	1000	1008	1092	960	940
16 Norfolk - - - -	3·207	1000	1007	1076	953	962
V.—SOUTH WESTERN COUNTIES.						
17 Wiltshire - - - -	3·187	1000	943	1062	1034	960
18 Dorsetshire - - - -	3·183	1000	946	1064	964	1026
19 Devonshire - - - -	3·020	1000	1038	1005	977	979
20 Cornwall - - - -	3·225	1000	1033	1071	945	951
21 Somersetshire - - - -	3·093	1000	963	1072	976	989
VI.—WEST MIDLAND COUNTIES.						
22 Gloucestershire - - - -	3·047	1000	1008	1027	985	980
23 Herefordshire - - - -	2·860	1000	936	1084	1004	976
24 Shropshire - - - -	2·770	1000	957	1111	982	949
25 Staffordshire - - - -	3·777	1000	983	1085	991	941
26 Worcestershire - - - -	3·247	1000	964	1035	980	1022
27 Warwickshire - - - -	3·564	1000	1015	1030	980	976
VII.—NORTH MIDLAND COUNTIES.						
28 Leicestershire - - - -	3·421	1000	945	1102	946	1008
29 Rutlandshire - - - -	2·785	1000	851	1048	1018	1071
30 Lincolnshire - - - -	3·388	1000	965	1019	1000	1016
31 Nottinghamshire - - - -	3·343	1000	974	1035	952	1039
32 Derbyshire - - - -	3·413	1000	916	1085	1051	949
VIII.—NORTH WESTERN COUNTIES.						
33 Cheshire - - - -	3·326	1000	933	1151	1000	916
34 Lancashire - - - -	3·755	1000	947	1094	995	964
IX.—YORKSHIRE.						
35 West Riding - - - -	3·669	1000	940	1068	1005	988
36 East Riding (with York) - - - -	3·233	1000	932	1005	1012	1050
37 North Riding - - - -	3·183	1000	955	1048	1023	973
X.—NORTHERN COUNTIES.						
38 Durham - - - -	3·727	1000	917	1075	1012	996
39 Northumberland - - - -	3·358	1000	975	1021	1010	993
40 Cumberland - - - -	3·237	1000	962	1074	1024	941
41 Westmorland - - - -	2·970	1000	966	1017	1017	999
XI.—MONMOUTHSHIRE AND WALES.						
42 Monmouthshire - - - -	3·403	1000	879	1063	1027	1000
43 South Wales - - - -	3·227	1000	921	1102	1003	974
44 North Wales - - - -	2·899	1000	959	1102	1017	923

In all England the births are registered in the greatest numbers in the three months of April, May, and June; but it will be noticed in Table IX. that the distribution of births over the four seasons differs in the different counties. Thus in Kent extra-metropolitan, Hants, Hertford, Bedford, and Devon the births are the most numerous in the first quarter of the year.

Boys and Girls.—In every country of any great extent of population the male exceed the female births. In this year 104 boys were born in England to every 100 girls, or 26 boys to 25 girls. In Hertford the proportions were nearly equal; in Berks, Northampton, Gloucester, and Derby as 102 to 100; in Middlesex (extra-metropolitan), Oxford, Westmorland, and Monmouth as 109 to 100; in the small county of Rutland the proportions were 115 to 100.

If the children are distributed into two classes, it is found that the boys born in wedlock are to those born out of wedlock as 13·78 to 1, while the girls of the corresponding classes are as 13·66 to 1.

The reason of the discrepancy is this; the excess of boys born out of wedlock over girls (103·38 to 100) is not so great as the excess of boys among the children born in wedlock (104·28 to 100).

DEATHS.

Mortality of Males and Females. The mortality of males during the year 1850 was at the rate of 2·147; of females at the rate of 2·014 per cent. The mortality of males was 2·322 per cent. on an average of 13 years; of females 2·158; and the difference in the two rates is ·164; so the annual mortality of males is nearly 1 in 43; of females 1 in 46.

TABLE X.—BIRTHS registered in each Quarter of the Years 1838 to 1850.

Years.	Quarters ending the last day of			
	March.	June.	September.	December.
1838	113815	121781	114734	113457
1839	123543	128806	120115	120110
1840	132305	129059	119822	121117
1841	133720	129884	123868	124686
1842	135615	134096	123296	124732
1843	136837	131279	128161	131048
1844	143578	136941	130078	130166
1845	143080	136853	132369	131219
1846	145108	149450	138718	139349
1847	146453	139072	127173	127267
1848	139736	149760	140359	133204
1849	153772	153693	135223	135471
1850	144551	155865	146911	146095

TABLE XI.—ENGLAND. DEATHS.—ANNUAL RATE of MORTALITY of Males and of Females.

YEARS.	DEATHS.			Mortality of Males to the Mortality of Females assumed to be 100.
	To 100 Males living.	To 100 Females living.	Deaths of Males to 100 Deaths of Females.	
1838	2·343	2·136	105	110
1839	2·281	2·094	104	109
1840	2·377	2·205	103	108
1841	2·242	2·085	103	108
1842	2·244	2·100	102	107
1843	2·206	2·048	103	108
1844	2·245	2·085	103	108
1845	2·173	2·013	103	108
1846	2·398	2·222	103	108
1847	2·549	2·381	103	107
1848	2·394	2·225	103	108
1849	2·584	2·447	101	106
1850	2·147	2·014	102	107
Average of 13 years, 1838-50	2·322	2·158	103	108

The Table may be read thus:—in the year 1838 to every 100 males living there were 2·343 deaths of males; to every 100 females living there were 2·136 deaths of females; and to every 100 females who died there were 105 deaths of males. The last column shows the relative mortality of males and females; and that out of equal numbers living the deaths of males was 110 to every 100 deaths of females in 1838.

The number of deaths of males exceeds the number of deaths of females in the proportion of 103 to 100 on an average of 13 years; but while in the two first years (1838-39) the females were as 105 and 104 to 100, in the two last years (1849-50) the proportion of females fell to 101 and 102 to 100. But the number of females in England is greater than the number of males; and if the numbers living of the two sexes were equal the proportions dying would be 108 females to 100 males, over the average of the 13 years; and 107 to 100 in the year 1850.

Mortality at different Ages. Long experience has shown that men die at every age, from the moment of birth to the hundredth year, and the uncertainty of the tenure of life according to the popular notion is the greatest in infancy and in old age, but is nearly equal at the several intermediate stages. The returns of the ages of the whole population of this country in 1841 and 1851, and the registration of the ages at death during every year since 1837, afford an opportunity of determining by exact calculation the law that regulates human mortality; and by that law, as it is exhibited in the annexed Table, it will be observed, that while the rate of mortality is as high in the first five years of life as it is at the advanced age of 65-75, in both males and females, the uncertainty of life increases from the age of puberty through the whole of the intermediate stages of

TABLE XII.—ENGLAND. DEATHS.—ANNUAL RATE OF MORTALITY per Cent. of Males and Females at different Ages.

DEATHS to 100 MALES living.														
Years -	1838	1839	1840	1841	1842	1843	1844	1845	1846	1847	1848	1849	1850	Average of the 13 Years 1838-50.
All Ages -	2.343	2.261	2.377	2.242	2.244	2.206	2.245	2.173	2.398	2.549	2.394	2.584	2.147	2.322
0-	7.041	7.167	7.542	6.843	7.048	6.898	6.984	6.665	7.760	7.588	7.401	7.513	6.695	7.165
5-	.901	.904	1.063	.956	.901	.844	.897	.823	.825	.970	1.043	1.124	.814	.930
10-	.519	.512	.542	.510	.501	.478	.473	.466	.507	.550	.530	.646	.467	.515
15-	.851	.819	.832	.811	.783	.772	.763	.781	.859	.929	.858	.951	.717	.825
25-	1.064	.986	.995	.973	.928	.924	.940	.926	1.025	1.100	1.026	1.243	.879	1.001
35-	1.342	1.255	1.266	1.217	1.197	1.218	1.225	1.202	1.272	1.436	1.303	1.581	1.165	1.283
45-	1.949	1.798	1.796	1.785	1.733	1.722	1.750	1.715	1.800	2.065	1.864	2.262	1.716	1.843
55-	3.410	3.192	3.142	3.137	3.041	3.008	3.051	2.975	3.129	3.649	3.266	3.655	2.980	3.203
65-	6.916	6.421	6.678	6.482	6.595	6.578	6.736	6.491	6.758	7.696	6.793	7.244	6.306	6.746
75-	14.752	13.874	14.488	14.266	14.578	14.090	14.651	14.400	15.070	17.326	14.986	15.187	14.019	14.745
85-	29.745	27.923	30.242	29.650	29.438	28.758	31.716	30.191	32.214	35.553	30.622	29.976	28.555	30.353
95&up	49.699	43.112	48.498	46.633	46.427	45.631	43.228	49.035	51.651	56.607	42.435	42.859	38.560	46.494

DEATHS to 100 FEMALES living.														
Years -	1838	1839	1840	1841	1842	1843	1844	1845	1846	1847	1848	1849	1850	Average of the 13 Years 1838-50.
All Ages -	2.136	2.094	2.205	2.085	2.100	2.048	2.085	2.013	2.222	2.381	2.225	2.447	2.014	2.168
0-	6.047	6.138	6.432	5.861	6.023	5.897	5.885	5.657	6.675	6.553	6.396	6.488	5.738	6.138
5-	.895	.935	1.113	.963	.925	.848	.902	.800	.813	.951	.997	1.102	.810	.927
10-	.543	.535	.569	.520	.512	.485	.503	.476	.533	.577	.566	.653	.491	.536
15-	.854	.848	.868	.842	.830	.784	.810	.815	.870	.919	.878	1.000	.777	.853
25-	1.046	1.007	1.033	1.007	1.005	.976	1.006	.980	1.048	1.173	1.090	1.347	.988	1.054
35-	1.313	1.248	1.269	1.227	1.220	1.227	1.200	1.188	1.242	1.422	1.301	1.617	1.169	1.280
45-	1.630	1.549	1.567	1.542	1.526	1.484	1.525	1.467	1.559	1.789	1.589	1.998	1.473	1.594
55-	2.977	2.730	2.820	2.740	2.744	2.692	2.773	2.668	2.783	3.226	2.860	3.355	2.625	2.846
65-	5.919	5.554	5.899	5.841	6.013	5.877	6.052	5.856	6.156	6.964	6.072	6.596	5.717	6.040
75-	13.281	12.519	13.541	13.375	13.084	13.037	13.494	13.036	13.794	15.945	13.604	14.028	12.684	13.494
85-	26.463	25.242	28.394	28.255	28.438	27.655	28.434	27.569	30.350	32.104	27.623	28.028	25.922	28.037
95&up	41.099	39.915	46.199	45.907	42.832	46.679	44.616	42.036	52.200	53.230	46.816	43.323	42.927	45.214

The Table may be read thus:—Of 100 Males living of the age of 35 and under 45, 1.342 died in 1838; 1.255 in 1839, 1.217 in 1841, and so on for other years; a correction for increase of Population having been made for each Age at each Year. The data upon which these Tables are constructed appear in this or have appeared in the previous Reports, and in the Census Report. See Census Report 1851; and the Annual Reports of the Reg. Gen., particularly the 6th.

age, at determined and increasing rates. Thus to every 1000 boys of the age of 10 and under 15 in the population, 5 die annually; of 1000 young men of the ages 15-25, 8 die annually; and so the deaths out of the same number living increase every successive ten years of age to 10 at 25-35; 13 at 35-45; 18 at 45-55; 32 at 55-65; 67 at 65-75; 147 at 75-85; 304 at 85-95; 465 at 95 and upwards. The rate of mortality after the age of 55 is doubled, and something more, every ten years; for the chance of dying in a given time is more than twice as great at the age of 70 as it is at the age of 60.

The mortality of males in the first five years of life exceeds the mortality of females in the proportion of 7 to 6; for 72 of every 1000 boys, and 61 of every 1000 girls, in the population, under five years of age, die annually; and again, at the age 5-10, boys die in rather larger proportions than girls; from the age of ten to the age of thirty-five the mortality is greater among women than it is among men; but after the age of forty-five the mortality of men greatly exceeds the mortality of women.

I refer to the reprint of portions of the quarterly returns in the Appendix for short accounts of the prevalent diseases, and the state of the public health, in the several quarters of the year. The Causes of Death are briefly discussed by Dr. Farr in a letter addressed to me, which will also be found in the Appendix. The number of deaths in the quarters of the thirteen years 1838-1850 are subjoined.

I have the honour to be,

My Lord,

Your faithful Servant,

GEORGE GRAHAM,

Registrar-General.

TABLE XIII.—DEATHS registered in each Quarter of the Years 1838 to 1850.

Years.	Quarters ending the last day of			
	March.	June.	September.	December.
1838	98152	90877	72877	80854
1839	89740	87939	76280	84995
1840	98896	90339	80822	89630
1841	99069	86134	75440	83204
1842	96314	86538	82339	84328
1843	94926	87234	76792	87493
1844	101024	85337	79708	90364
1845	104664	89149	74872	80681
1846	89484	90230	101664	108937
1847	119672	106718	98435	103479
1848	120032	99727	87638	92436
1849	105870	102153	135227	97589
1850	98430	92871	85849	91845

TABLE XIV.—ENGLAND. DEATHS.—PROPORTIONAL Number of DEATHS in each QUARTER to 1000 Deaths in the Average Quarter of each Year.

YEARS.	Number of Deaths in the Average Quarter.	Proportional Number of Deaths.				
		In the Average Quarter (assumed to be 1000).	First Quarter ending March 31.	Second Quarter ending June 30.	Third Quarter ending Sept. 30.	Fourth Quarter ending Dec. 31.
1838	85690	1000	1145	1061	850	944
1839	84746	1000	1059	1038	900	1003
1840	89922	1000	1100	1005	899	997
1841	85962	1000	1152	1002	878	968
1842	87380	1000	1102	990	942	965
1843	86611	1000	1096	1007	887	1010
1844	89233	1000	1132	956	893	1018
1845	87342	1000	1198	1021	857	924
1846	97579	1000	917	925	1042	1116
1847	105826	1000	1131	1008	883	978
1848	99958	1000	1201	998	877	925
1849	110210	1000	961	927	1227	885
1850	92249	1000	1067	1007	931	996