

CE ONLY

42 [HA 161]

STATISTICS
BACKUP

BRITISH LIBRARY
OF POLITICAL AND
ECONOMIC SCIENCE



LONDON SCHOOL OF
ECONOMICS AND
POLITICAL SCIENCE

SEVENTEENTH ANNUAL REPORT
OF THE
REGISTRAR-GENERAL
OF
BIRTHS, DEATHS, AND MARRIAGES
IN ENGLAND.

42 (R7)

1854

SEVENTEENTH
ANNUAL REPORT

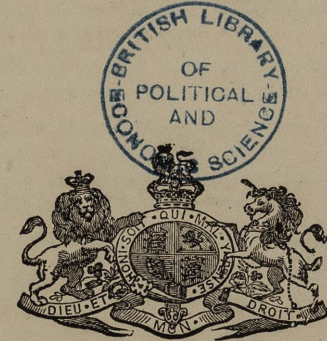
OF THE

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.

1856.

CONTENTS.

	PAGE
REPORT:—	
MARRIAGES, BIRTHS, and DEATHS; and their annual Proportions to the Population in each of the Years 1838-54	i-ii
MARRIAGES in 1854. Number celebrated according and <i>not</i> according to the Rites of the Established Church; after Licence, Banns, &c.; Marriages among the rich and poorer classes, and among Roman Catholics, Quakers, Jews	ii-iv
Minors married	iv-vi
First Marriages and Re-marriages	vi
Signatures of Persons married, and Remarks on the Education of the People	vi-xii
BUILDINGS registered for the SOLEMNIZATION of MARRIAGES	xii
BIRTHS in 1854. Number and Proportion born of each Sex	xiii
Births in each of the Four Quarters	xiii-xiv
Children born out of Wedlock	xv-xvi
DEATHS in 1854. Mortality of the Sexes at different Ages	xvi-xviii
Deaths in each of the Four Quarters	xviii
 ABSTRACTS:—	
MARRIAGES Registered in England in each of the Divisions, Counties, and Districts in 1854; distinguishing those according and those <i>not</i> according to the Rites of the Established Church; and distinguishing also Persons married according to their conjugal Condition, Minority, and Signature of the Register by marks	2-25
AGES of Persons married in 1854, distinguishing those of Bachelors, Spinsters, Widowers, Widows, and their Ages	26-27
MARRIAGES, BIRTHS, and DEATHS Registered in each of the Divisions, Counties, and Districts in 1854; also BIRTHS and DEATHS and EXCESS of BIRTHS over DEATHS in each of the Sub-districts of England; showing Illegitimate Births throughout	28-82
DEATHS in 1854 in the principal Public Institutions in London	83-84
BIRTHS of all Male and Female Children, Registered in the DIVISIONS and COUNTIES in each of the Four Quarters of 1854	86-89
BIRTHS of Male and Female Children born out of Wedlock, Registered in the DIVISIONS and COUNTIES in each of the Four Quarters of 1854	90-93
DEATHS of Males and Females, Registered in each of the Four Quarters of 1854, in DIVISIONS and COUNTIES	94-97
DEATHS of Males and Females at different AGES Registered in 1854 in DIVISIONS, COUNTIES, and DISTRICTS	98-119
CAUSES of Deaths of Males and Females in LONDON, at different Periods of Life, in 1854	120-123
CAUSES of Deaths of Males and Females in ENGLAND, and in each DIVISION and COUNTY, in 1854	124-139

CONTENTS.

APPENDIX.

PAGE

EXTRACTS FROM THE QUARTERLY RETURNS of MARRIAGES, BIRTHS, and DEATHS, issued in the year 1854 :—

Quarter ending MARCH 31, 1854	1-16
Quarter ending JUNE 30, 1854	17-32
Quarter ending SEPTEMBER 30, 1854	33-48
Quarter ending DECEMBER 31, 1854	49-64

LETTER TO THE REGISTRAR GENERAL ON THE CAUSES OF DEATH IN ENGLAND IN 1854, by WILLIAM FARR, Esq., M.D., F.R.S. :—

PUBLIC HEALTH and METEOROLOGY in 1854	65
I. CAUSES OF DEATH	66
(1) ZYMOTIC DISEASES (<i>Zymotici</i>)	<i>ib.</i>
TABLES showing the PRICES of MEAT, POTATOES, and WHEAT in 1852, 3-4	<i>ib.</i>
TABLES showing the NUMBERS and PROPORTIONS of PERSONS DYING of each CAUSE	67-69
(2) CONSTITUTIONAL DISEASES (<i>Cachectici</i>)	68-70
(3) LOCAL DISEASES (<i>Monorganici</i>)	70-71
(4) DEVELOPMENTAL DISEASES (<i>Metamorphici</i>)	71
(5) VIOLENT DEATHS (<i>Thanatici</i>)	71-72

II. MORTALITY of WOMEN in CHILDBEARING, and TABLES showing the NUMBERS and PROPORTION of WOMEN dying from this Cause	72-74
--	-------

III. THE CHOLERA EPIDEMIC OF 1853-54	74
(1) Rise and Progress of the Epidemic	75-76
(2) Comparison of the Two Epidemics of 1849 and 1854. Tables	76-77
(3) Influence of LOCALITY. Tables	77-87
(4) AGE and SEX. Tables	87-88
(5) ELEVATION. Tables and Extracts from the London Weekly Tables of Mortality	88-90
(6) IMPURE WATER. Tables and Extracts from the London Weekly Tables of Mortality	90-99

Table showing the NUMBER of DEATHS from CHOLERA and DIARRHŒA in each of the DIVISIONS, COUNTIES, and DISTRICTS of ENGLAND in 1849 and 1854	100-105
--	---------

Table showing the NUMBER of DEATHS from CHOLERA and DIARRHŒA in DISTRICTS in which the Epidemic was most fatal in 1853	105
--	-----

Tables showing the NUMBER of DEATHS and RATES of MORTALITY in the SUB-DISTRICTS of LONDON, arranged in the order of their ELEVATION above Trinity High-water Mark ; showing also the Companies which supply them with Water	106-107
---	---------

TABLE showing the NUMBER and PROPORTION of CHILDBEARINGS in SWEDEN	108
--	-----

INDEX of DISTRICTS, referring by Numbers to the several TABLES of ABSTRACTS	109-112
---	---------

REPORT

TO

The Right Honourable SIR GEORGE GREY, Bart., G.C.B., Her Majesty's Principal Secretary of State for the Home Department, &c. &c. &c.

General Register Office,
Somerset House,
30th August 1856.

SIR,

I HAVE the honour to lay before you the detailed Abstracts of the Marriages, Births, and Deaths which have been registered in England and Wales during the year 1854.

The registers of that year contain the names of 319,454 persons who married, of 634,405 children born, and of 437,905 persons who died: 1,391,764 new names have thus been enrolled on the national registers. The marriages took place within the year; a few of the deaths, and a certain proportion of the births, occurred at the close of 1853; but as nearly the same numbers of the births and the deaths of 1854 are registered in the books of 1855, the births, deaths, and marriages registered in 1854 may be taken, for all ordinary purposes, to represent the numbers in that year.

The natural increase by the excess of births over deaths was 196,500, or probably still more, as through defects in the law all the births are not yet registered.

The number of immigrants into England is unknown; but the number of emigrants from the ports of the United Kingdom at which there are Government emigration agents amounted to 323,429: of whom 90,966 were ascertained to be of English origin, or, taking a due proportion of

TABLE I.—Estimated POPULATION, with the Number of MARRIAGES, BIRTHS, and DEATHS registered in England in each Year from 1838 to 1854.

Years ended Dec. 31st.	Estimated POPULATION in England in the Middle of the Years.*	MARRIAGES.	PERSONS <i>Married.</i>	BIRTHS (exclusive of Still-born).	DEATHS.	Excess of Births over Deaths.
1838	15,312,256	118067	236134	463787	342760	121027
1839	15,515,296	123166	246332	492574	338984	153590
1840	15,721,029	122665	245330	502303	359687	142616
1841	15,929,492	122496	244992	512158	343847	168311
1842	16,123,798	118825	237650	517739	349519	168220
1843	16,320,479	126318	247636	527325	340445	180880
1844	16,519,565	132249	264498	540763	356983	183830
1845	16,721,081	143743	287486	543521	349366	194155
1846	16,925,051	145664	291328	572625	390315	182310
1847	17,131,512	135845	271690	539965	423304	116661
1848	17,340,492	138230	276460	563059	399833	163226
1849	17,552,020	141883	283766	578159	440839	137320
1850	17,766,129	152744	305488	593422	368995	224427
1851	17,982,849	154206	308412	615865	395396	220469
1852	18,205,627	158782	317564	624912	407135	216877
1853	18,403,313	164520	320040	612361	421037	191294
1854	18,618,760	159727	319454	634405	437905	196500

* 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 1.326 per cent. in each of the 3 years 1838-40. For 1852-54 the increase of Population has been obtained by taking the excess of births over deaths in the four quarters ending June 30th, in each year. The results, by the latter method, will probably be found now to be more correct than those deduced on the hypothesis that the population increased at the same rate in 1851-2-3-4, as it did in 1841-51.

18,678 emigrants whose nationality was not distinguished, about 96,541; of whom probably 42,160 were men, 31,565 women, 11,725 boys, and 11,091 girls.* 50,020 of the emigrants of English origin sailed for the Australian colonies and New Zealand; 6,436 for the British North American colonies; 39,951 for the United States; and 134 for all other places.

The rate of marriage was such, that to every hundred persons living 1.716 married, while to the same number of persons 3.407 children were born, and 2.352 persons of all ages died. The difference between the rate of birth and death was 1.055 per cent. The rates of marriage, birth, and death—which were, in round numbers one in 58, one in 29, and one in 43 of the population—exceeded the averages of 17 years.

MARRIAGES.

Of 159,727 marriages celebrated in the year, 134,109 were performed according to the rites of the Established Church, and 25,618 were otherwise performed; so of 100 marriages, 84 were celebrated in the churches of the Establishment, 16 in the Dissenters' chapels and elsewhere; or the proportions of the two classes were nearly 5 in churches, to 1 elsewhere. The proportions are nearly the same as the proportions in the previous year. Up to that year the marriages "not according to the rites of the Established Church" had increased from 8125 in 1841 to 26,478 in 1853; while the marriages "according to the rites of the Established Church" had increased from 114,371 to 138,042.

Of the marriages according to the rites of the Church of England, 15 were celebrated by special licence, 3811 on certificates of the superintendent registrars; 21,048 on common licences, and 105,050 after banns. The clergy in registering 4185 of the marriages did not state whether they were performed after banns, or by licence. It will be observed that the marriages after banns were as five to every one by licence. The proportion of marriages after banns to those by licence is less than it

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	.771	1.542	3.029	2.238	130	65	33	45
1839	.794	1.588	3.175	2.185	123	63	31	46
1840	.780	1.560	3.195	2.288	123	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	46
1844	.801	1.602	3.273	2.161	125	62	31	48
1845	.860	1.720	3.251	2.089	116	58	30	43
1846	.861	1.722	3.383	2.306	116	58	32	49
1847	.793	1.586	3.152	2.471	126	63	31	43
1848	.797	1.594	3.247	2.396	125	63	30	40
1849	.808	1.616	3.234	2.512	124	62	30	43
1850	.860	1.720	3.340	2.077	116	58	30	43
1851	.858	1.716	3.425	2.199	117	58	29	45
1852	.872	1.744	3.428	2.236	115	57	29	44
1853	.894	1.788	3.328	2.288	112	56	30	44
1854	.858	1.716	3.407	2.352	117	58	29	43
Mean . .	.816	1.632	3.270	2.245	123	61	31	45

NOTE.—The Table may be read thus:—In the year 1838 to every 100 persons living there were .771 marriages or 1.542 persons married, 3.029 births, 2.238 deaths; the number of persons living to every marriage, person married, birth or death, was 130, 65, 33, and 45 respectively. 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.

* The ages of only 308,649 of the emigrants of the United Kingdom are distinguished in the returns of the Commissioners' Report (1855), for the year 1854, pp. 68–9. Of the 308,649, the men were 134,789, the women 100,918, the boys 32,199, the girls 30,170, besides 10,573 infants of undistinguished sex. Of 14,780 persons the ages and sexes were undistinguished.

has ever been in any year, except 1847, since 1841; and it is evident that the pressure of the high prices of provisions, and of other circumstances, depressed the poorer classes of society more than the classes who usually marry by licence. Upon comparing the proportional numbers of marriages by licence and after banns; it appears that when the price of wheat is low or moderate the proportion of marriages by banns preponderates to the greatest extent.

In the subjoined Table (a) it is assumed that the marriages by licence represent the marriages of the higher and middle classes of society, and that those after banns represent the marriages amongst artizans and labourers.

If the facts for the 14 years are arranged in the order of the prices of wheat, it is seen that the marriages among the higher classes were relatively rather more frequent in the five years when the prices were highest than in the five years when the prices were lowest; while the marriages were most frequent among the classes who marry by banns, when the prices of wheat were low; and as these classes are the most numerous, they regulate the general result.

There is less fluctuation in the marriages of the rich than in the marriages of the poor, and the rise has hitherto not been simultaneous in the two classes; so that the difference in the proportion of marriages by banns and marriages by licence is a very sensitive test of the condition of the lower classes. This will be evident on inspecting the Table (b), in which the facts are arranged in the order of the prices of wheat; and where it will be observed that, notwithstanding several irregularities, there is a general correspondence between the figures in the columns 3 and 6.

The cost of the marriage licence is on an average about 50s., while the usual fee for the publication of banns is one shilling; and the other marriage fees vary in the same direction, but not in the same proportion. If we exclude the persons married "not according to the rites of the Established Church,"—who are sufficiently well represented in respect of wealth by those who are married in the church by licence, and after banns—the population is thus voluntarily divided into two great classes, (1) those who are willing to pay 50s. for a licence, and (2) those who marry after banns; the numbers of the two classes on an average of 14 years being to each other as one to 5.35. In these Tables (a) and (b) the classes are designated by general terms for the sake of distinction;

TABLE (a).

YEARS.	MARRIAGES.		Estimated relative Number to 100 persons of all Classes living.		Average Price of Wheat per Quarter.
	To 100 persons living.	By Banns to one Marriage by Licence.	Of Marriages in the higher and middle classes.	Of Marriages among artizans, labourers, and other classes.	
1841	.769	4.940	.129	.640	s. d. 64 4
1842	.737	5.072	.121	.616	57 3
1843	.759	5.490	.117	.642	50 1
1844	.801	5.705	.119	.682	51 3
1845	.860	5.799	.126	.734	50 10
1846	.861	5.427	.134	.727	54 8
1847	.793	4.977	.133	.660	69 9
1848	.797	5.121	.130	.667	50 6
1849	.808	5.429	.126	.682	44 3
1850	.860	5.666	.129	.731	40 3
1851	.858	5.591	.130	.728	38 6
1852	.872	5.472	.135	.737	40 9
1853	.894	5.293	.142	.752	53 3
1854	.858	4.991	.143	.715	72 5

and the facts afford some guide in estimating the relative numbers of two great classes of society, which are well marked, but are not divided by specific names. The licences cost about 54,000*l.*, the publications of banns not less than 5,400*l.* in the year.

Of the 25,618 marriages *not according* to the rites of the Established Church, 7813 were performed in the registered places of Roman Catholics, 9873 in the registered places of other Christian denominations, and 7593 in superintendent registrars' offices. 52 marriages were celebrated by Quakers, and 287 by Jews. The number of marriages in this class declined.

The Roman Catholic marriages increased from 2280 in 1844 to 8375 in 1853; and 1854 is the first year in which the rate has descended. If the marriage rate is 1 marriage to 117 of the Roman Catholic population, their numbers must be about 914,121 in England and Wales. The Roman Catholics are chiefly found in Lancashire (3096 marriages), in London (1281), in Staffordshire (530), Warwickshire (276), Cheshire (304), Yorkshire (697), Durham (336), Northumberland (193), Monmouthshire (125), and South Wales (221). South of the Thames there are few Roman Catholic marriages; and they are very thinly scattered over the North Midland, South Western, and the Eastern counties. The marriages in the registered places of other Christian denominations are more equally diffused over *England*. In *Wales*, to 6543 marriages according to the rites of the Established Church there are 3368 other marriages; of which 1985 were celebrated in the registered places of worship of Dissenters, and 1016 in superintendent registrars' offices.

Marriages of minors.—9210 men and 28,797 women, or 38,007 men and women, married under 21 years of age; so that the proportion of *minors* in 100 men who married was 5.77, in 100 women 18.03; in 100 consisting

TABLE (b).

YEARS.	MARRIAGES.		Estimated Marriages to 100 persons living.		Price of Wheat per Quarter.
	To 100 persons living.	By Banns to one Marriage by Licence.	Of the higher and middle classes.	Of the artizans and labourers and other classes.	
1	2	3	4	5	6
AVERAGE:					s. d.
Of 5 years of highest prices	} .804	} 5.081	} .132	} .672	} 63 8
Of 4 years of intermediate prices					
Of 5 years of lowest prices					
	} .831	} 5.530	} .127	} .704	} 42 9
1854	.858	4.991	.143	.715	72 5
1847	.793	4.977	.133	.660	69 9
1841	.769	4.940	.129	.640	64 4
1842	.737	5.072	.121	.616	57 3
1846	.861	5.427	.134	.727	54 8
1853	.894	5.293	.142	.752	53 3
1844	.801	5.705	.119	.682	51 3
1845	.860	5.799	.126	.734	50 10
1848	.797	5.121	.130	.667	50 6
1843	.759	5.490	.117	.642	50 1
1849	.808	5.429	.126	.682	44 3
1852	.872	5.472	.135	.737	40 9
1850	.860	5.666	.129	.731	40 3
1851	.858	5.591	.130	.728	38 6

of 50 men and 50 women 11.90. The proportional number of *minors* has varied in the fourteen years 1841-1854, from 4.17 to 5.77 men, and from 13.16 to 18.03 women. During the five years 1841-45, the mean proportion of minors in 100 married varied from 8.67 to 9.00; during the five years 1850-54, the proportion varied from 10.01 to 11.90. The cause of this great increase of early marriages, whatever it may be, has come into operation chiefly since 1848; and its effects are every year increasing.

The number of young women who married under age in London, out of 100 of all ages was 11; while in the following *counties* the girls under age exceeded 20 per cent. of the whole number married: Herts 22, Bucks 23, Northampton 24, Huntingdon 26, Bedford 25, Cambridge 23, Essex 20, Cornwall 21, Stafford 29, Leicester 21, Notts 20, Lancashire 21, West Riding of York 25, Durham 24, Monmouth 22.

The number of young men who married under age, out of 100 of all ages in London was 3. In the following counties the proportions exceeded 7 young men under the age of 21: Bucks 9, Northampton 10, Huntingdon 9, Bedford 12, Cambridge 9, Stafford 10, Warwick 7, Leicester 9, Nottingham 8, Lancashire 8, West Riding of Yorkshire 8. Surrey, Kent, Hants, Middlesex, Devon, Salop, Hereford, the North Riding of Yorkshire, Northumberland, Cumberland, and Westmorland are remarkable for their deviation from the average in

TABLE III.—MARRIAGES registered in ENGLAND in each Year from 1841 to 1854.

YEARS ending 31st December	TOTAL 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.	Total.	Total.	In Registered Places.		Superintendent Registrar's Office.	Quakers.	Jews.
									Roman Catholics.	Other Christian Denominations.			
1841	122496	13	15792	78015	972	19579	114371	8125	5882	2064	66	113	
1842	118825	9	14935	75744	944	18415	110047	8778	6200	2357	58	163	
1843	123818	8	14544	79849	1222	18014	113637	10181	7152	2817	61	151	
1844	132249	10	14990	85176	1578	18335	120009	12240	2280	3446	55	175	
1845	143743	10	16013	92867	1706	18919	129515	14228	2816	3977	74	180	
1846	145604	14	17135	92995	1862	18503	130509	15155	3027	4167	68	224	
1847	135845	14	17052	84863	1968	16979	120876	14969	2961	7483	83	184	
1848	138230	13	16896	86519	2170	15871	121469	16761	3658	8060	67	186	
1849	141883	18	16697	90644	2593	13230	123182	18701	4199	8662	53	229	
1850	152744	8	17413	98669	3136	11733	130959	21785	5623	9626	69	260	
1851	154206	8	17781	99406	3351	10412	130958	23248	6570	9540	65	260	
1852	158782	8	19461	106497	3610	4306	133882	24900	7479	10017	57	247	
1853	164520	8	20624	109166	3814	4430	138042	26478	8375	10149	68	288	
1854	159727	15	21048	105050	3811	4185	134109	25618	7813	9873	52	287	
YEARS ending 31st December	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.	
1841	—	—	—	—	—	—	5362	16285	39954	59680	—	—	
1842	—	—	—	—	15619	10579	5387	16003	38031	56965	—	—	
1843	—	—	—	—	16305	10811	5511	16403	40520	60715	—	—	
1844	—	—	—	—	16941	11183	5515	17410	42912	65073	—	—	
1845	119539	6028	11885	6341	18176	12369	6287	19376	47665	71229	—	—	
1846	121324	5997	12212	6131	18343	12128	6313	20001	47488	70145	—	—	
1847	112576	5705	11667	5897	17564	11602	5556	18118	42429	61877	32622	39062	
1848	113284	5920	12702	6324	19026	12244	6092	19486	43166	62771	32974	39989	
1849	116134	6102	13155	6492	19647	12594	6650	21105	44027	65136	—	—	
1850	124031	6575	14558	7580	22138	14155	7453	23109	47572	70606	—	—	
1851	126018	6625	14313	7250	21563	13875	7737	24286	47439	69812	36186	44879	
1852	130672	6696	14044	7370	21414	14066	8551	26978	48421	70772	36636	45921	
1853	135023	7139	14739	7619	22358	14758	9131	29219	49983	72204	37345	47497	
1854	131141	6826	14189	7571	21760	14397	9210	28797	47843	68175	35255	45508	

the opposite direction; in none of these counties did the minors exceed 4 in 100 of the men married.

In Hereford the fewest men (2 in 100) marry under 21 years of age; in Bedford the most (12 in 100) marry under 21 years of age.

First marriages and re-marriages.—137,967 bachelors, 145,330 spinsters, 21,760 widowers, and 14,397 widows, married in the year; 6826 bachelors married widows, 14,189 widowers married spinsters, and 7571 widowers married widows. Of 100 men who married, 14 were widowers, 86 were bachelors; of 100 women, 9 were widows, 91 were spinsters. The proportional number of widows who re-married was greatest, (11) in Herefordshire, least (3) in Rutlandshire; in Hampshire, Staffordshire, Lancashire and Monmouthshire, also the widows exceed 10 in 100. The proportion of widowers who re-married was greatest in Wiltshire (16), least (10) in Middlesex.

Signatures of persons married.—47,843 husbands and 68,175 wives signed the married register with marks; 111,884 husbands and 91,552 wives wrote their names. The proportion of men who signed with marks was 30, of women 43, giving 36 in 100 as the average number of both sexes at the marriage age, who did not write.

The proportion of men who signed with marks fell from 32.7 in 1841, to 30.0 in 1854; so that the numbers of men left in this benighted state fell by 2.7 per cent. in 14 years. The women who made their marks were 48.8 per cent. of the whole number in 1841, and 42.7 per cent. in 1854. The decrease is 6.1; or 1 in every 8 of the original number. This shows that the education of the people made some progress in the years 1828-1841; but it is still deplorable to find that in the present day 30 in every 100 of the fathers, and 43 in every 100 of the mothers, of the next generation of Englishmen have been so imperfectly educated, that they do not write their names, but sign the marriage registers with marks; while many of those who write their names write very imperfectly.

One of the most acute thinkers that this country has ever produced, pointed out in 1745 the necessity of instituting a settled system of education in England. In ancient times all classes of the lay population were unable to write; but in the present age all the middle as well as the higher classes can write, and the poor children consequently who grow up deprived of this art are placed at much greater disadvantage re-

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 ended 31st December	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.
1841	4.38	13.29	8.83	32.7	48.8	40.8	*12.30	*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	10.74
1848	4.41	14.06	9.24	31.2	45.4	38.3	13.76	8.86	11.31
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
1851	5.02	15.75	10.39	30.8	45.3	38.1	13.98	9.00	11.49
1852	5.39	16.99	11.19	30.5	44.6	37.6	13.49	8.86	11.18
1853	5.55	17.76	11.66	30.4	43.9	37.2	13.59	8.97	11.28
1854	5.77	18.03	11.90	30.0	42.7	36.4	13.62	9.01	11.32

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

lately to the other classes than the children of the lower classes in the middle ages; which, moreover, threw open the hospitable doors of the colleges to poor scholars. Now also elementary learning is more useful than it was formerly: no business can be carried on successfully without it; it facilitates and lightens as well as sweetens labour; it cements the ties of blood and friendship; and, finally, it gives good men some additional power in controlling the dark passions of our

TABLE V.—ENGLAND. MARRIAGES.—PROPORTIONAL Number of MARRIAGES in the several Counties of England during the Year 1854; of Persons who signed their Names; of Persons not of full Age; and of the Re-marriages of Widowers and Widows.

No.	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	853	70.0	57.3	5.77	18.03	13.62	9.01
	I.—LONDON	1.039	87.5	78.5	2.72	11.22	13.88	9.79
	II.—SOUTH EASTERN COUNTIES.							
1	Surrey (<i>extra-metropolitan</i>)	606	69.7	77.1	2.66	15.60	11.21	8.15
2	Kent (<i>extra-metropolitan</i>)	737	72.8	69.7	3.73	17.44	11.99	8.93
3	Sussex	709	71.6	73.0	4.59	18.64	11.78	7.98
4	Hampshire	717	74.3	72.3	2.64	14.61	13.74	10.56
5	Berkshire	654	62.9	65.2	4.09	13.37	13.30	7.43
	III.—SOUTH MIDLAND COUNTIES.							
6	Middlesex (<i>extra-metropolitan</i>)	580	72.4	74.9	2.33	14.87	10.32	7.66
7	Hertfordshire	533	55.8	57.8	6.64	21.96	13.18	7.46
8	Buckinghamshire	644	62.8	51.4	9.04	23.08	12.27	5.72
9	Oxfordshire	679	66.2	68.3	4.92	14.92	12.92	8.00
10	Northamptonshire	801	67.5	58.0	10.36	23.63	13.66	7.00
11	Huntingdonshire	582	52.3	52.0	8.99	25.89	13.35	7.90
12	Bedfordshire	683	55.2	44.9	11.92	25.03	15.68	7.30
13	Cambridgeshire	630	59.2	55.4	8.96	23.24	15.33	8.56
	IV.—EASTERN COUNTIES.							
14	Essex	613	56.1	60.5	5.65	20.36	13.26	8.06
15	Suffolk	675	57.1	58.1	5.22	16.94	13.12	7.63
16	Norfolk	730	58.1	59.4	6.13	18.12	12.73	6.92
	V.—SOUTH WESTERN COUNTIES.							
17	Wiltshire	683	61.6	61.2	6.95	15.08	15.72	9.42
18	Dorsetshire	696	67.4	65.1	4.92	12.02	14.29	7.73
19	Devonshire	779	73.9	66.3	3.62	13.34	11.63	8.74
20	Cornwall	857	64.2	50.4	6.38	20.57	10.43	6.34
21	Somersetshire	672	65.0	61.4	5.84	14.33	13.79	8.96
	VI.—WEST MIDLAND COUNTIES.							
22	Gloucestershire	948	72.8	66.1	5.63	14.61	13.73	9.17
23	Herefordshire	713	60.0	61.2	2.20	11.69	14.58	11.00
24	Shropshire	687	58.8	52.8	3.93	13.18	12.72	8.38
25	Staffordshire	1.072	54.2	40.3	10.04	29.29	13.08	10.74
26	Worcestershire	898	66.3	58.1	6.22	19.08	11.05	7.05
27	Warwickshire	926	71.0	59.0	7.19	19.85	14.46	9.34
	VII.—NORTH MIDLAND COUNTIES.							
28	Leicestershire	819	71.2	59.9	8.94	20.72	14.73	7.64
29	Rutlandshire	597	68.2	74.2	4.64	10.60	13.25	3.31
30	Lincolnshire	704	72.1	65.8	4.79	16.93	13.87	7.72
31	Nottinghamshire	896	69.4	54.4	7.70	20.42	14.00	7.70
32	Derbyshire	835	71.7	59.2	6.98	19.51	14.57	8.30
	VIII.—NORTH WESTERN COUNTIES.							
33	Cheshire	819	69.7	48.2	5.79	16.61	15.61	8.98
34	Lancashire	1.043	66.0	39.5	7.77	20.64	14.42	10.18
	IX.—YORKSHIRE.							
35	West Riding	899	69.6	45.7	7.79	24.74	14.67	9.25
36	East Riding (with York)	911	78.7	63.8	4.96	19.27	14.10	8.97
37	North Riding	743	79.6	68.8	3.65	16.32	11.41	6.30
	X.—NORTHERN COUNTIES.							
38	Durham	978	72.5	54.1	5.66	24.36	12.95	9.60
39	Northumberland	868	80.3	63.1	3.49	14.79	14.37	9.99
40	Cumberland	524	84.3	70.8	3.94	15.23	12.37	5.81
41	Westmorland	571	82.0	78.3	3.48	12.75	11.59	7.83
	XI.—MONMOUTHSHIRE AND WALES.							
42	Monmouthshire	961	49.5	37.4	4.41	21.65	11.53	10.57
43	South Wales	852	55.5	33.4	6.14	16.40	12.60	7.93
44	North Wales	666	57.8	36.2	4.01	11.19	14.69	7.91

nature; for learning is the atmosphere in which the words of the wise reverberate over the souls of nations, drawing them from error and injustice to truth and righteousness.

The provision under the Poor Law against starvation is undoubtedly made at great cost to this nation; but it is a cost well incurred, for not only are many lives saved from death by accidental destitution, but the heart of the whole laboring population is sustained amidst the conflicts of life, and the property of the country enjoys a degree of security which is possessed by the property of no people where the destitute poor have no legal claim to relief.

TABLE VI.—NUMBER of BUILDINGS REGISTERED in England and Wales for the SOLEMNIZATION of MARRIAGES to 31st December 1854.

COUNTY.	TOTAL.	PRESBYTERIANS.			Independents.	Baptists.	Moravians.	Roman Catholics.	WESLEYAN METHODISTS.						CALVINISTIC METHODISTS.		Residue.	
		Church of Scotland.	United Presbyterians.	Presbyterian Church in England.					Original Connexion.	New Connexion.	Primitive Methodists.	Wesleyan Methodist Association.	Independent Methodists.	Wesleyan Reformers.	All others.	Welsh Calvinistic Methodists.		Countess of Huntingdon's Connexion.
TOTAL in ENGLAND and WALES	3560	31	29	181	1263	815	4	424	394	46	85	46	4	9	10	78	32	107
ENGLAND.																		
Bedford	39				9	19		1	7									1
Berks	37				11	11			6									
Bucks	38				20	14			2									
Cambridge	51			1	18	26			1									
Chester	78	1	11		26	8		10	10	4	2	2	3	1				1
Cornwall	52				7	4		6	22		1	1	1					4
Cumberland	29	2	1	4	10			4	5									1
Derby	56				21	11		7	7		4							1
Devon	132				50	23		5	18				3					14
Dorset	48				24	5		7	6		2	2						
Durham	75	1	5	7	14	5		18	13	2	5	2						2
Essex	82				46	17		7	9									3
Gloucester	106				39	36		2	7		3						4	
Hereford	22				5	8		2	2		4							
Hertford	36				23	10		1										
Huntingdon	15				4	10			1									
Kent	114				36	37		13	16									3
Lancaster	376	3	4	35	97	39		100	40	12	8	13	2			3		16
Leicester	58				18	20		8	8			1						
Lincoln	62				13	13		6	15	1	5							
Middlesex	203	8	3	9	83	36		1	24	11	1	1	2			1	2	13
Monmouth	83				30	39		9	3									
Norfolk	79				18	26		6	13	1	6							4
Northampton	59				26	23		2	5									
Northumberland	84	15	12		11	13		14	6	1	2							3
Nottingham	44				11	13		4	4	2	1							2
Oxford	28				10	6		7	4									
Rutland	5				3	2												
Salop	49				19	9		8	2	2	5					1		1
Somerset	106				43	26		1	5	15		1	1					6
Southampton	76				32	19		9	6		1	1						4
Stafford	97				27	9		24	18	7	5	1						1
Suffolk	64				34	20		4	1		2							
Surrey	72				33	19		7	5	1								3
Sussex	57				22	17		3	6									1
Warwick	73	1			24	18		14	5	1								4
Westmorland	11				2	1		1	1		1							1
Wilts	66				27	25		3	5		4							1
Worcester	47				8	13		9	7	1		1						1
York	330		2	14	114	41		53	63	11	15	6	1	2				8
WALES.																		
Anglesey	4				1	1										2		
Brecon	35				15	13		1	1							5		
Cardigan	38			4	19	7			1							7		
Carmarthen	74			1	51	19			1							2		
Carnarvon	27				11	2		1								13		
Denbigh	26			1	7	5		1								12		
Flint	11				5	1		1								3		
Glamorgan	84			1	39	35		3								4	1	
Merioneth	27				9	2										14		
Montgomery	34				16	6										7		
Pembroke	54				26	21		1	2							4		
Radnor	7				1	5				1								

NOTE.—The above numbers are for the Counties proper, and not for the "Registration Counties."

By paying in the form of poor rate a portion of the profits of property, the property is enhanced in value, and the rest of the profit is enjoyed by its owners in security. That discovery was made in England some centuries ago; and it has been carried out more effectually during the present century.

The utility of a system of education, to secure the whole population against the dangers of ignorance, is as evident as the utility of a system of poor laws. This is ably argued in a discourse by the author of the "Analogy;" and no argument in his great work deserves more attention, for none is more conclusive. If the preservation of the lives of poor children is wisely provided for by a regulated legal provision, so ought also a certain provision to be similarly made for the cultivation of their intelligence: "For the public is as much interested in the education of poor children as in the preservation of their lives."*

How many children have for a century, notwithstanding Butler's reasoning, been left out of the pale of education under the voluntary, or what that may more appropriately be named the *casual system* is evident; and the wisdom of educating the whole of the rising generation, whether they live in Cornwall or in Northumberland, in Staffordshire or in Bedfordshire, in the most benighted county or in the county of greatest comparative light, is now self evident. But to carry out this vast purpose the casual system is unequal. It would require a century probably for the development of its resources, which even then would never reach large sections of the population; and in that time nearly every child and man now living would be dead. The voluntary system would not be superseded, but would be the necessary supplement to the established schools; as all our institutions that work most satisfactorily

* The following is the argument of Bishop Butler:—"Formerly, not only the education of poor children, but also their maintenance, with that of the other poor, was left to voluntary charities. But great changes of different sorts happening over the nation, and charity becoming more cold, or the poor more numerous, it was found necessary to make some legal provision for them. This might, much more properly than charity schools, be called a new scheme. For, without question, the education of poor children was all along taken care of by voluntary charities, more or less: but obliging us by law to maintain the poor was new in the reign of Queen Elizabeth; yet, because a change of circumstances made it necessary, its novelty was no reason against it. Now in that legal provision for the maintenance of the poor, poor children must doubtless have had a part in common with grown people. But this could never be sufficient for children, because their case always requires more than mere maintenance; it requires that they be educated in some proper manner. Wherever there are poor who want to be maintained by charity, there must be poor children who besides this want to be educated by charity. And whenever there began to be need of legal provision for the maintenance of the poor, there must immediately have been need also of some particular legal provision in behalf of poor children for their education; this not being included in what we call their maintenance. And many whose parents are able to maintain them, and do so, may yet be utterly neglected as to their education. But possibly it might not at first be attended to, that the case of poor children was thus a case by itself, which required its own particular provision. Certainly it would not appear to the generality so urgent an one as the want of food and raiment. And it might be necessary that a burden so entirely new as that of a poor-tax was at the time I am speaking of, should be as light as possible. Thus the legal provision for the poor was first settled, without any particular consideration of that additional want in the case of children; as it still remains, with scarce any alteration in this respect. In the meantime, as the poor still increased, or charity still lessened, many poor children were left exposed, not to perish for want of food, but to grow up in society, and learn everything that is evil and nothing that is good in it; and when they were grown up, greatly at a loss in what honest way to provide for themselves, if they could be supposed inclined to it. And larger numbers whose case was not so bad as this, yet were very far from having due care taken of their education. And the evil went on increasing until it was grown to such a degree as to be quite out of the compass of separate charities to remedy."—Bishop Butler's Sermon, preached at Christchurch, London, on 9th May 1745.

have a mixed character,—so the zeal of individuals and of classes in supporting their own private schools would stimulate the local parish boards of education.

If there is anything in which the holders of rated property are especially interested it is the education of the people; and to the national system, in which all are interested, all should contribute in the equitable proportion of their means.

In London 88 of every 100 husbands wrote their names, in Cumberland 84, Westmorland 82, Northumberland 80, Yorkshire (North Riding) 80. In the following counties the proportions who wrote their names were 70 and under 80 in 100: Kent, Sussex, Hampshire, Middlesex, Devon, Gloucester, Warwick, Leicester, Lincoln, Derby, Yorkshire (East Riding), Durham. In a shaded educational map these would be light counties.

In the following counties, which would be marked by dark shades, and which may be called benighted in comparison with their neighbours, less than 60 in 100 husbands wrote their names, and from 40 to 50 made their marks: Hertford, Huntingdon, Bedford, Cambridge, Essex, Suffolk, Norfolk, Salop, Stafford. In Stafford 54 husbands wrote their names, 46 made their marks; in Huntingdon 52 wrote their names, and 48 made their marks. These would be the darkest counties in an educational map of England.

The women in London are nearly as well able to write as the men; and 79 in 100 wives wrote their names. Where the women are able they write their names in due proportion to the men; and many who write very indifferently still write their names. The number who being able to write sign with a mark must be inconsiderable; and it will, at any rate, be a fair hypothesis to assume that timidity among women of the same degree of instruction operates as a constant quantity in every county; yet in some counties of England 78, in others only 40, in 100 wives wrote their names. There is no reason to believe that the women of Staffordshire or Lancashire, where 60 in 100 made their marks, are more troubled by maidenly timidity than the women of Westmorland, where 22 only in 100 made their marks in the registers.

The counties over which the darker shades fall in a map showing the educational condition of women, would be Hertford, Bucks, Northampton, Huntingdon, Cambridge, Suffolk, Norfolk, Cornwall, Salop, Worcester, Warwick, Leicester, Nottingham, Derby, and Durham; as in these counties from 40 to 50 in 100 wives made their marks: but the shade would be black over Bedford (55); Stafford (60); Chester (52); Lancaster (60); Yorkshire, West Riding (54); as in these five counties more than half of the wives made their marks in the registers instead of writing their names.

I have excluded the Welsh division from this comparison, as the proportional number of women able to write is less than in any English county; for 63 wives out of 100 in Monmouth, 64 in North Wales, and 67 in South Wales, made their marks, and only 37, 36, and 33 in 100 wrote their names. The education of the men is also very defective; in Monmouth 50, in South Wales 44, in North Wales 42 in 100 made their marks; 50, 56, and 58 wrote their names in the registers. It would not be fair to the Welsh people to refer this great defect to inferior aptitude, as it is partly the result of the great difficulties which many necessarily encounter in obtaining any literary education in the Welsh language, and to the embarrassments into which those of them fall who in their situation endeavour to acquire a practical knowledge of two languages.

It will be a happy circumstance when the men and women of England and Wales are educated, and can not only write their names and read

their Bible, but are familiar with the great works of the English classical writers, know something of common things, and are acquainted with many of the productions, the phenomena, and the laws of nature. It will be as a new revelation; for then, indeed, to them that sit in darkness light will come. Might not the produce of the intelligence which would burst forth from the people, who, down to the lowest classes, have in them the elements of all knowledge, as experience has shown, justify the expenditure? What more profitable investment

TABLE VII.—ENGLAND. BIRTHS, 1854.—NUMBER and PROPORTION of Male and Female Children born in and out of Wedlock.

REGISTRATION COUNTIES.	Male Children born.	Female Children born.	Born in Wedlock.		Born out of Wedlock.		MALES born to every 100 FEMALES born.	MALES born in Wedlock to every 100 FEMALES so born.	MALES born out of Wedlock to every 100 FEMALES so born.	CHILDREN born out of Wedlock to every 100 Births.
			Males.	Females.	Males.	Females.				
ENGLAND - - -	324069	310336	303091	290573	20978	19763	104·4	104·3	106·1	6·4
I.—LONDON - - -	42983	41897	41242	40236	1746	1661	102·6	102·5	105·1	4·0
No. II.—SOUTH EASTERN COUNTIES.										
1 Surrey (<i>extra-metropolitan</i>) - - -	3276	3092	3108	2893	168	199	106·0	107·4	84·4	5·8
2 Kent (<i>extra-metropolitan</i>) - - -	8236	7705	7769	7249	497	456	107·3	107·2	109·0	6·0
3 Sussex - - -	5583	5184	5197	4779	396	355	108·9	108·7	111·5	7·0
4 Hampshire - - -	6565	6324	6176	5919	389	415	103·6	104·3	93·7	6·2
5 Berkshire - - -	3017	2995	2802	2751	215	244	100·7	101·9	88·1	7·6
III.—SOUTH MIDLAND COUNTIES.										
6 Middlesex (<i>extra-metropolitan</i>) - - -	2482	2300	2356	2268	126	122	103·8	103·9	103·3	5·1
7 Hertfordshire - - -	2724	2612	2540	2412	184	200	104·3	105·3	92·0	7·2
8 Buckinghamshire - - -	2378	2256	2205	2107	173	149	105·4	104·7	116·1	6·9
9 Oxfordshire - - -	2776	2605	2587	2430	189	175	106·6	106·5	108·0	6·8
10 Northamptonshire - - -	3721	3590	3491	3385	230	205	103·6	103·1	112·2	5·9
11 Huntingdonshire - - -	1002	920	950	862	52	58	108·9	110·2	89·7	5·7
12 Bedfordshire - - -	2309	2214	2136	2057	173	157	104·3	103·8	110·2	7·3
13 Cambridgeshire - - -	3123	2915	2923	2720	200	195	107·1	107·5	102·6	6·5
IV.—EASTERN COUNTIES.										
14 Essex - - -	5618	5378	5245	5050	373	328	104·5	103·9	113·7	6·4
15 Suffolk - - -	5445	5090	4999	4643	446	447	107·0	107·7	99·8	8·5
16 Norfolk - - -	7158	6600	6440	5918	718	691	108·3	108·8	103·9	10·2
V.—SOUTH WESTERN COUNTIES.										
17 Wiltshire - - -	3801	3807	3510	3555	291	252	99·8	98·7	115·5	7·1
18 Dorsetshire - - -	2795	2633	2594	2465	201	168	106·2	105·2	119·6	6·8
19 Devonshire - - -	8532	8394	8009	7927	523	467	101·6	101·0	112·0	5·8
20 Cornwall - - -	6340	6084	6028	5756	312	328	104·2	104·7	95·1	5·2
21 Somersetshire - - -	7032	6787	6556	6350	476	437	103·6	103·2	108·9	6·6
VI.—WEST MIDLAND COUNTIES.										
22 Gloucestershire - - -	6827	6569	6443	6195	384	374	103·9	104·0	102·7	5·7
23 Herefordshire - - -	1540	1477	1359	1347	181	130	104·3	100·9	139·2	10·3
24 Shropshire - - -	8837	8691	8464	8357	373	334	104·0	103·2	111·7	9·4
25 Staffordshire - - -	14310	13520	13474	12722	836	798	105·8	105·9	104·8	5·9
26 Worcestershire - - -	4719	4645	4387	4341	332	304	101·6	101·1	109·2	6·8
27 Warwickshire - - -	9629	9447	9107	8913	522	534	101·9	102·2	97·8	5·5
VII.—NORTH MIDLAND COUNTIES.										
28 Leicestershire - - -	4125	4044	3814	3742	311	302	102·0	101·9	103·0	7·5
29 Rutlandshire - - -	363	383	344	355	19	28	94·8	96·9	67·9	6·3
30 Lincolnshire - - -	6491	6262	5987	5763	504	499	103·7	103·9	101·0	7·9
31 Nottinghamshire - - -	5395	5294	4948	4848	447	446	101·9	102·1	100·2	8·4
32 Derbyshire - - -	4731	4387	4387	4056	344	331	107·8	108·2	103·9	7·4
VIII.—NORTH WESTERN COUNTIES.										
33 Cheshire - - -	7797	7414	7200	6824	597	590	105·2	105·5	101·2	7·8
34 Lancashire - - -	42908	41318	40054	38615	2854	2703	103·8	103·7	105·6	6·6
IX.—YORKSHIRE.										
35 West Riding - - -	27422	26236	25647	24600	1775	1636	104·5	104·3	108·5	6·4
36 East Riding (with York) - - -	4423	4245	4076	3943	347	302	104·2	103·4	114·9	7·5
37 North Riding - - -	3247	3079	2960	2811	287	268	105·5	105·3	107·1	8·8
X.—NORTHERN COUNTIES.										
38 Durham - - -	9056	8630	8556	8192	500	438	104·9	104·4	114·2	5·3
39 Northumberland - - -	5326	5002	4913	4635	413	367	106·5	106·0	112·5	7·6
40 Cumberland - - -	3369	3160	3028	2852	341	308	106·6	106·2	110·7	9·9
41 Westmorland - - -	963	855	877	775	86	80	112·6	113·2	107·5	9·1
XI.—MONMOUTHSHIRE AND WALES.										
42 Monmouthshire - - -	3512	3289	3360	3130	152	159	106·8	107·3	95·6	4·6
43 South Wales - - -	11064	10287	10284	9595	780	692	107·6	107·2	112·7	6·9
44 North Wales - - -	6074	5661	5559	5230	515	431	107·3	106·8	119·5	8·1

can the nation make of a few farthings in the pound of its annual produce?

Registered buildings for the solemnization of marriages.—The number of such buildings on the register was 3560 at the end of the year 1854; and of this number 1265 belonged to the Independents, 815 to the Baptists, 594 to Wesleyan Methodists of various forms. (Table VI.)

TABLE VIII.—ENGLAND. BIRTHS 1854.—PROPORTIONAL Number of BIRTHS registered in each Registration County in the Year 1854, 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 - - -	3.407	1000	1026	1090	968	916
I.—LONDON - - -	3.374	1000	1063	1045	969	923
II.—SOUTH EASTERN COUNTIES.						
1 Surrey (<i>extra-metropolitan</i>) - - -	3.027	1000	1049	1104	922	925
2 Kent (<i>extra-metropolitan</i>) - - -	3.159	1000	1051	1049	938	962
3 Sussex - - - - -	3.034	1000	1035	1048	968	949
4 Hampshire - - - - -	3.089	1000	1085	1068	922	925
5 Berkshire - - - - -	2.922	1000	1053	1051	949	947
III.—SOUTH MIDLAND COUNTIES.						
6 Middlesex (<i>extra-metropolitan</i>) - - -	3.136	1000	1024	1071	931	974
7 Hertfordshire - - - - -	2.934	1000	1034	1130	920	886
8 Buckinghamshire - - - - -	3.101	1000	1062	1071	945	922
9 Oxfordshire - - - - -	3.045	1000	1064	1071	976	889
10 Northamptonshire - - - - -	3.280	1000	1010	1104	972	914
11 Huntingdonshire - - - - -	3.049	1000	994	1125	1022	859
12 Bedfordshire - - - - -	3.318	1000	1053	1063	986	898
13 Cambridgeshire - - - - -	3.018	1000	977	1112	1015	896
IV.—EASTERN COUNTIES.						
14 Essex - - - - -	3.072	1000	1068	1101	948	883
15 Suffolk - - - - -	3.016	1000	1004	1106	979	911
16 Norfolk - - - - -	3.066	1000	988	1104	963	945
V.—SOUTH WESTERN COUNTIES.						
17 Wiltshire - - - - -	3.059	1000	1009	1086	973	932
18 Dorsetshire - - - - -	2.948	1000	987	1164	939	910
19 Devonshire - - - - -	2.862	1000	1040	1060	973	927
20 Cornwall - - - - -	3.344	1000	1088	1064	914	934
21 Somersetshire - - - - -	2.930	1000	1023	1124	946	907
VI.—WEST MIDLAND COUNTIES.						
22 Gloucestershire - - - - -	3.098	1000	1055	1062	960	923
23 Herefordshire - - - - -	2.960	1000	1000	1152	909	939
24 Shropshire - - - - -	2.987	1000	1050	1162	930	858
25 Staffordshire - - - - -	4.199	1000	1041	1093	966	900
26 Worcestershire - - - - -	3.466	1000	1091	1043	920	946
27 Warwickshire - - - - -	3.800	1000	1072	1106	946	876
VII.—NORTH MIDLAND COUNTIES.						
28 Leicestershire - - - - -	3.340	1000	1067	1123	923	832
29 Rutlandshire - - - - -	2.949	1000	995	1000	1032	973
30 Lincolnshire - - - - -	3.053	1000	1011	1011	1013	965
31 Nottinghamshire - - - - -	3.494	1000	1037	1091	945	927
32 Derbyshire - - - - -	3.362	1000	986	1124	992	898
VIII.—NORTH WESTERN COUNTIES.						
33 Cheshire - - - - -	3.466	1000	1012	1150	950	883
34 Lancashire - - - - -	3.929	1000	1026	1103	977	894
IX.—YORKSHIRE.						
35 West Riding - - - - -	3.826	1000	991	1114	990	905
36 East Riding (with York) - - - - -	3.296	1000	944	1094	1001	961
37 North Riding - - - - -	3.119	1000	937	1093	1012	958
X.—NORTHERN COUNTIES.						
38 Durham - - - - -	4.078	1000	952	1088	983	977
39 Northumberland - - - - -	3.291	1000	966	1070	1000	964
40 Cumberland - - - - -	3.209	1000	1014	1085	969	832
41 Westmorland - - - - -	3.008	1000	946	1077	1032	945
XI.—MONMOUTHSHIRE AND WALES.						
42 Monmouthshire - - - - -	3.694	1000	935	1147	1007	911
43 South Wales - - - - -	3.385	1000	1010	1120	975	895
44 North Wales - - - - -	2.820	1000	1008	1134	977	881

* In calculating the proportional number of births in the four quarters a correction has been made for the difference in the number of days in each quarter.

BIRTHS.

Births (*exclusive of Still-born*).—634,405 children were registered in the year; and the proportion to the population was 3.407 per cent., or nearly 1 in 29; the average of the last 17 years being 3.270, or 1 in 31. The birth-rate, therefore, exceeds the average.

Sex.—324,069 boys were born, to 310,336 girls; so to every 100 girls 104.4 boys were born. The proportion of boys is less than in the three previous years, but is greater than it was in 1850. The exact proportions from 1850 to 1854 inclusive, were 104.2; 104.7; 104.6; 105.1; 104.4.

The proportion of boys to 100 girls was in London 103; in Westmorland 113 (highest); in Sussex 109; in Wilts 100; in Rutland 95. The numbers fluctuate from year to year in the same county; and by a well-established mathematical law, the fluctuations are greatest among the smallest numbers. (Table VII.)

Seasons.—160,785 births were registered in the first quarter of the year (January, February, March); 172,457 in the second quarter;

TABLE IX.—BIRTHS registered in each Quarter of the Years 1838 to 1854.

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
1851	157286	159073	150594	148912
1852	161803	159031	151222	151956
1853	161729	158697	147602	144363
1854	160785	172457	154724	146439

TABLE X.—ENGLAND. DEATHS.—ANNUAL RATE of MORTALITY of Males and of Females, 1838–54.

YEARS.	DEATHS.		Deaths of Males to 100 Deaths of Females.	Of equal Numbers living, the Number of Male Deaths to every 100 Deaths of Females.
	To 100 Males living.	To 100 Females living.		
1838	2.335	2.133	105	109
1839	2.275	2.090	104	109
1840	2.372	2.203	103	108
1841	2.238	2.083	103	107
1842	2.241	2.098	102	107
1843	2.202	2.047	103	108
1844	2.242	2.083	103	108
1845	2.170	2.012	103	103
1846	2.395	2.221	103	108
1847	2.546	2.330	103	107
1848	2.391	2.224	103	108
1849	2.581	2.445	101	106
1850	2.143	2.013	102	106
1851	2.276	2.124	103	107
1852	2.320	2.156	103	108
1853	2.379	2.201	104	108
1854	2.434	2.273	103	107
Average of 17 years, 1838–54	2.326	2.164	103	108

The Table may be read thus:—In the year 1838 to every 100 males living there were 2.335 deaths of males; to every 100 females living there were 2.133 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 were 109 to every 100 deaths of females in 1838.

154,724 in the third quarter; and 146,439 in the fourth quarter. The proportional numbers in the four quarters of the year, if we take 1000 as the average, was 1026, 1090, 968, and 916. The proportions vary in different counties; in Dorset, Hereford, and Salop the excess that is thrown on the second quarter is the greatest. (Table VIII.)

TABLE XI.—ANNUAL RATE of MORTALITY per Cent. in each COUNTY during the 13 Years 1842—1854.

Table with columns: No., COUNTIES., Deaths to 100 Persons living. (1842-1854). Rows include ENGLAND, I.—LONDON, II.—SOUTH EASTERN COUNTIES, III.—SOUTH MIDLAND COUNTIES, IV.—EASTERN COUNTIES, V.—SOUTH WESTERN COUNTIES, VI.—WEST MIDLAND COUNTIES, VII.—NORTH MIDLAND COUNTIES, VIII.—NORTH WESTERN COUNTIES, IX.—YORKSHIRE, X.—NORTHERN COUNTIES, XI.—MONMOUTHSHIRE AND WALES.

Note.—In deducing the results given in this Table a correction has been made for increase of population, based on the numbers enumerated in 1841 and 1851, on the assumption that the increase was uniform in each year (1841—1851). Since the Census of 1851, as no satisfactory data exist for ascertaining the progress of the population, which has been much interfered with by emigration and other causes, the increase has been taken to be approximately represented by the excess of births over deaths registered in each respective year ending June 30th.

Children born out of wedlock.—40,741 children were born out of wedlock; and of that number 20,978 were boys, 19,763 were girls; so the proportion of boys was 106.1 to 100 girls, while the proportion of boys born in wedlock was 104.3 to 100 girls.

6.4 in 100 of the children born in 1854 were born out of wedlock. The proportions in the five years 1850-54, run 6.8; 6.8; 6.8; 6.5; 6.4; thus indicating a gratifying diminution in their numbers as compared with the numbers of children born in wedlock and fostered by the care of both father and mother. This may be the result of improved manners, or of the diminution of the number of young unmarried women by early marriages. The fact is in itself gratifying; and the cause of the altered proportions, whatever it might be, is in general operation all over the country.

Even Norfolk, Herefordshire, Shropshire, Nottinghamshire, Cumberland, and Westmorland, which have hitherto enjoyed an unhappy pre-eminence, show symptoms of improvement in the figures. In every 100 children born, Norfolk had 11.4 born out of wedlock in 1852, and

TABLE XII.—DENSITY OF POPULATION 1841-51, and the AVERAGE ANNUAL RATE of MORTALITY per Cent. in each County during the 10 Years 1843-1853 (excluding 1849), arranged according to the Mortality; also the RATE of MORTALITY per Cent. in each County in the Cholera Epidemic Years, 1849 and 1854.

Table with columns: No., REGISTRATION COUNTIES, &c., Density of Population 1841-51 (Acres to a Person, Hectars* to a Person), Annual Rate of Mortality per Cent. (Mean of 10 Years 1843-1853, Cholera Epidemic Years 1849, 1854). Rows include Surrey, Sussex, Rutlandshire, North Riding, Cornwall, Somersetshire, Gloucestershire, Herefordshire, Shropshire, Staffordshire, Worcestershire, Warwickshire, Leicestershire, Rutlandshire, Lincolnshire, Nottinghamshire, Derbyshire, Cheshire, Lancashire, West Riding, East Riding (with York), North Riding, Durham, Northumberland, Cumberland, Westmorland, Monmouthshire, South Wales, North Wales, Lancashire.

* The Hectar is the unit of land measure in the Metrical system, and it is equal to a square of 100 Metres, = 109.3633 yards, to the side. It is equivalent to 2.471143 (nearly 2 1/2) Statute Acres, or, expressed in other terms, a Statute Acre represents .404671 (rather more than 4/10ths) of a Hectar.

10.2 in 1854. Herefordshire in the same years returned the proportions of 10.6 and 10.3; Shropshire 9.6 and 9.4; Nottinghamshire 9.5 and 8.4; Cumberland 10.7 and 9.9; Westmorland 10.4 and 9.1.

The people of Surrey (5.8), Middlesex (5.9), Huntingdonshire (5.7), Devonshire (5.8), Cornwall (5.2), Gloucestershire (5.7), and Warwickshire (5.5), deserve especial mention, for in none of these counties were 6 in 100 children born illegitimate; and thus these counties maintain the favourable position which they have held from the commencement, (Table VII.)

The return must not, however, be considered an infallible test of the morality of the unmarried women of the several counties, for various reasons. This is measured more exactly by taking the proportion of children born out of wedlock to the number of unmarried women of the ages 15-55; as was done in my 14th annual Report (see p. xii.) Other disturbing causes interfere; and in London and in the large towns it is probable that many illegitimate children are either not registered, or are registered so as to be undistinguishable in the register from children born in wedlock.

DEATHS.

437,905 persons died in the year; and the annual rate of mortality was 2.352 per cent. In round numbers 24 in 1000, or 1 in 43, of the people

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

DEATHS to 100 MALES living.											
Years	1845	1846	1847	1848	1849	1850	1851	1852	1853	1854	Average of the Rates of 10 Years 1845-54.
All Ages	2.170	2.395	2.546	2.391	2.581	2.143	2.276	2.320	2.379	2.434	2.364
0-	6.665	7.760	7.588	7.401	7.513	6.695	7.298	7.500	7.346	7.795	7.356
5-	.823	.825	.970	1.043	1.124	.814	.869	.906	.847	.935	.916
10-	.466	.507	.550	.530	.646	.467	.491	.520	.506	.550	.523
15-	.781	.859	.929	.858	.951	.717	.776	.799	.828	.835	.833
25-	.926	1.025	1.100	1.026	1.243	.879	.948	.968	1.013	1.025	1.015
35-	1.202	1.272	1.436	1.303	1.581	1.165	1.236	1.230	1.316	1.349	1.309
45-	1.715	1.800	2.065	1.864	2.262	1.716	1.787	1.816	1.958	1.962	1.895
55-	2.975	3.129	3.649	3.266	3.655	2.980	3.031	3.073	3.273	3.227	3.226
65-	6.491	6.758	7.696	6.793	7.244	6.306	6.396	6.284	6.912	6.665	6.755
75-	14.400	15.070	17.326	14.986	15.187	14.019	14.055	14.161	15.897	14.808	14.991
85-	30.191	32.214	35.553	30.622	29.976	28.555	28.245	28.279	31.297	28.003	30.294
95 & upwds.	49.035	51.651	56.607	42.435	42.859	38.560	41.937	43.422	47.305	38.382	45.219

DEATHS to 100 FEMALES living.											
Years	1845	1846	1847	1848	1849	1850	1851	1852	1853	1854	Average of the Rates of 10 Years 1845-54.
All Ages	2.012	2.221	2.380	2.224	2.445	2.013	2.124	2.156	2.201	2.273	2.205
0-	5.657	6.675	6.553	6.396	6.488	5.738	6.299	6.445	6.362	6.814	6.343
5-	.800	.813	.951	.997	1.102	.810	.860	.878	.813	.924	.895
10-	.476	.533	.577	.566	.653	.491	.527	.537	.540	.560	.546
15-	.815	.870	.919	.878	1.000	.777	.818	.834	.861	.859	.863
25-	.980	1.048	1.173	1.090	1.347	.988	1.005	1.031	1.064	1.102	1.083
35-	1.188	1.242	1.422	1.301	1.617	1.169	1.193	1.214	1.251	1.323	1.293
45-	1.467	1.559	1.789	1.589	1.998	1.473	1.519	1.514	1.596	1.663	1.617
55-	2.668	2.783	3.226	2.860	3.355	2.625	2.679	2.660	2.845	2.852	2.855
65-	5.856	6.156	6.964	6.072	6.596	5.717	5.854	5.708	6.133	5.979	6.104
75-	13.036	13.794	15.945	13.604	14.028	12.684	12.818	13.177	14.106	13.325	13.652
85-	27.569	30.350	32.104	27.623	28.023	25.922	26.357	27.427	28.968	26.412	28.076
95 & upwds.	42.036	52.200	53.230	46.816	43.323	42.927	45.017	40.676	45.770	40.268	45.226

The Table may be read thus:—Of 100 Males living of the age of 35 and under 45, 1.202 died in 1845, 1.272 in 1846, and so on for other years, a correction for increase of Population having been made for each Age in each Year; and the deaths of persons whose ages were not returned have been distributed proportionally over each age. The data upon which this Table is 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 8th and 9th.

died in the year. This is greatly in excess of the average rate, which in the last 17 years was 2.245; that is, nearly 22 in 1000, or 1 in 45, of the population. (Table X.)

The excess in the mortality was produced by an epidemic of cholera, which is described subsequently.

The mortality of males was at the rate of 2.434 per cent. on the male population, of females 2.273 per cent. on the female population; so the mortality rate of males was to that of females as 107 to 100. The fluctuation of this element in 17 years extends only from 106 to 109, the average being 108.

The average mortality rate of males is 2.326, of females 2.164; or for the 17 years 1 in 43 males, and 1 in 46 females. The mortality rate of each sex in 1854 was 1 in 1000 above the average. The deaths of males were to the deaths of females as 103 to 100; there being more females than males living in England.

The counties arranged in the order of their mortality rate stand as in Table XII.; in which the density of the population is also shown.

The mortality rate varies with age; it reaches a high point in early infancy, and declines till at the age of puberty, 10-15, it is at the minimum; it then rises gradually up to the age of 55; and after that age it increases rapidly, doubling every ten years.

TABLE XIV.—DEATHS registered in each Quarter of the Years 1838 to 1854.

Years.	Quarters ending the last day of			
	March.	June.	September.	December.
1838	98152	90877	72877	80854
1839	89740	87969	76230	84995
1840	98896	90339	80822	89630
1841	99069	86134	75440	83204
1842	96314	85538	82339	84328
1843	94926	87234	76792	87493
1844	101024	85337	79708	90864
1845	104664	89149	74872	80681
1846	89484	90230	101664	108937
1847	119672	106718	93435	103479
1848	120032	99727	87638	92436
1849	105870	102153	135227	97589
1850	98430	92871	85849	91845
1851	105359	99458	91499	99080
1852	106358	100625	100382	99770
1853	118119	107647	92201	103130
1854	111843	102586	113843	109633

TABLE XV.—ENGLAND. DEATHS.—PROPORTIONAL Number of DEATHS in each QUARTER to 1000 Deaths in the Average Quarter of each Year, 1838-54.

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	973
1848	99958	1000	1201	998	877	925
1849	110210	1000	961	927	1227	885
1850	92249	1000	1067	1007	931	996
1851	93849	1000	1066	1006	926	1002
1852	101784	1000	1045	989	986	980
1853	105274	1000	1122	1022	876	980
1854	109476	1000	1036	940	1031	993

Generally the mortality under 10 years of age in 1854 exceeded the *average rate* at that age during *ten years*; at other ages the difference was not considerable; but this *average* embraces the two cholera epidemic years (1849 and 1854); and upon comparing the rates in 1854 at different ages with the rates in 1845 and 1850, it will be seen that the mortality was raised at nearly all ages by the epidemic.

The deaths in the four quarters of the year presented this unusual result in England: the numbers in July, August, September (113,843), exceeded the numbers in January, February, March (111,843). The proportions in the consecutive quarters of the year, after correcting for inequalities in the length of the months, were 1036, 940, 1031, and 993; 1000 being set down as the quarterly average.

The Reports which accompanied the returns published at the close of each quarter are reprinted in the Appendix.

The causes of death are discussed by Dr. Farr in a letter addressed to me, which is also printed in the Appendix.

I have the honour to be,

Sir,

Your faithful Servant,

GEORGE GRAHAM,

Registrar-General.