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TWENTIETH
ANNUAL REPORT

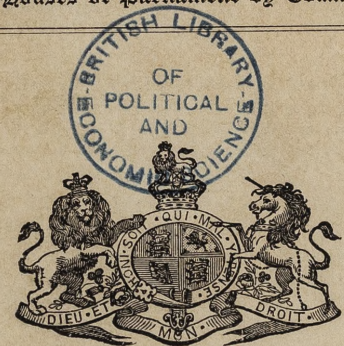
OF THE

REGISTRAR-GENERAL

OF

BIRTHS, DEATHS, AND MARRIAGES
IN ENGLAND.

Presented to both Houses of Parliament by Command of Her Majesty.



LONDON:

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

1859.

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REPORT

TO

The Right Honourable THOMAS H. S. SOTHERON ESTCOURT, M.P.,
Her Majesty's Principal Secretary of State for the Home
Department, &c. &c. &c.

General Register Office, Somerset House,
3d May 1859.

SIR,

I HAVE the honour to submit to you my Twentieth Annual Report, containing the detailed abstracts of the births, deaths, and marriages which were registered in the year 1857, in England and Wales.

One million four hundred and one thousand and eighty names have been inscribed in the National Registers during the year. Three hundred and eighteen thousand one hundred and ninety-four persons married. The births of six hundred and sixty-three thousand and seventy-one children, and the deaths of four hundred and nineteen thousand eight hundred and fifteen persons of all ages, were registered. Neither the births nor the deaths of stillborn children are registered; their numbers consequently do not appear in the Tables.

The births exceeded the deaths by two hundred and forty-three thousand two hundred and fifty-six, and that is somewhat below the number expressing the natural increase of the population, as all the births are not registered, owing to a defect in the English Registration Act.

TABLE I.—Estimated POPULATION, with the Number of MARRIAGES, BIRTHS, and DEATHS registered in England in each Year from 1838 to 1857.

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	15,312,256	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	16,123,793	118825	237650	517739	349519	168220
1843	16,320,479	123818	247636	527325	346445	180880
1844	16,519,565	132249	264498	540763	356933	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	624012	407135	216877
1853	18,403,313	164520	329040	612391	421097	191294
1854	18,618,760	159727	319454	634405	437905	196500
1855	18,786,914	152113	304226	635043	425703	209340
1856	19,045,187	159337	318674	657453	390506	266947
1857	19,304,897	159097	318194	663071	419815	243256

† 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 1.323 per cent. in each of the 3 years 1838-40. For 1852-57 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 1851-2-3-4-5-6-7, as it did in 1841-51.

registrars' offices rose from 8097 to 9642, so the increase was 1545 or 19 per cent. on the numbers in the previous year.

67 marriages were contracted by members of the Society of Friends, and 311 by Jews; the former less by 5, the latter less by 1 than the numbers in the previous year.

The accession of numbers to the class of persons who married *not* according to the rites of the Established Church does not imply any change of creed in any considerable part of the population. It was rather the result of the extension of the principle of toleration by an Act (19 & 20 Victoria, cap. 119.) which came into operation on the first day of the year 1857. Notices of marriage had formerly to be read before the Boards of Poor Law Guardians, and the grant of licences by the superintendent registrar was clogged with difficulties. Both these grievances have been swept away by the Act of Parliament. No one has now any just ground of complaint; and the 131,031 marriages in the national church were performed by no unwilling conformists to her rites.*

* The great facilities for marriage afforded by the present state of the law will be apparent from the following brief notice of the various modes in which the solemnization of matrimony may now be effected. Parties may be married in England and Wales—(1) according to the rites of the Established Church, (2) in registered places of worship belonging to the Dissenting bodies, Roman Catholics, &c., (3) in the District Register Offices, and (4) Quakers and Jews may be married according to their respective "usages."

The solemnization of *marriage according to the rites of the Church of England* may take place (1) by special licence, (2) by licence, (3) after banns, or (4) upon the production of the Superintendent Registrar's certificate. A *special licence* can only be granted by the Archbishop of Canterbury; it allows the marriage to be solemnized "at any convenient time and place," but the fee being of considerable amount, not more than 11 couples, on an average, are married yearly upon this authority. The ordinary ecclesiastical licence granted by a surrogate is for marriage in the parish church or in some public chapel of the parish or chapelry in which one of the parties has resided for the space of 15 days immediately before the granting of such licence. No previous notice is required; the first application for the licence may be made, and the parties may become man and wife within the hour. For marriage after publication of *banns* it is necessary that the banns shall be proclaimed upon three Sundays in the church of the parish in which the parties dwell, and when they live in different parishes, in the parish church of each. To obtain the *Superintendent Registrar's certificate* one of the parties must give "notice of marriage" in the prescribed form at the register office of the district, where such notice must be "suspended or affixed in a conspicuous place" during 21 successive days, and the particulars entered in the "Marriage Notice Book." After the expiration of that period, the Superintendent Registrar's certificate for the marriage is issued upon application. A previous residence of seven days in the district immediately before giving notice is requisite; and where the parties dwell in two different districts, the same forms must be gone through in both. Under a provision of the Act of 19 & 20 Vict. c. 119., no marriage by certificate can be solemnized in a church or chapel without the consent of the officiating minister.

Marriages in registered places of worship not belonging to the Established Church can be solemnized either (1) by licence or (2) by certificate; both of which are to be obtained from the Superintendent Registrar. In order to obtain a *licence* a "notice of marriage" in the prescribed form must be delivered to that officer, who enters the particulars in the "Marriage Notice Book," to be therein open for inspection during *one whole day*, after which the licence may be granted upon being applied for. Either of the persons to be married may give the notice and obtain the licence, but one of them must have resided 15 days in the district in which the notice is given. Where the parties live in different districts, notice given in one district is sufficient. Although in ordinary cases the marriage is celebrated in the district in which one of the parties resides, the law allows them to marry *elsewhere*, in the "usual place of worship" of one of them (provided it is a registered building, and situated not more than two miles distant); they may also be married out of the district when there is within it no registered place of worship in which they may be married according to the forms which they desire to adopt. The same freedom of action is allowed with respect to marriages in Dissenting Chapels by *certificate*. In that case the "notice of marriage" must be suspended or affixed in the District Register Office during 21 successive days after the entry of the particulars in the "Marriage Notice Book," on the expiration of which period the Superintendent Registrar may issue his certificate. Only seven days previous residence is necessary before giving a notice for marriage without licence.

Of the church marriages 9 were by special licence, 21,250 by licence, 102,062 by banns, and 3748 by superintendent registrar's certificate; in 3962 instances the mode was not specified. In 100 of these marriages 16.7 were by licence, 80.3 by banns, and 3.0 by certificate. The proportions differed slightly from those in the previous year, the marriages by licence being in rather larger proportions.

The marriages have been found to vary with the prosperity of the country. When young people are in unusually good circumstances, they marry in unusual numbers, and conversely. The prices of a commodity, like wheat, of universal consumption, also vary, and affect the condition of different classes variously. Thus it has been shown in previous reports, that as the price of wheat falls the proportion of marriages by banns in churches increases, and in the annexed Table (page vi.) it is shown that in seven years, when, the price of wheat ranging from 74s. 8d. to 56s. 5d., was 66s. 3d. on an average, there were 4936 marriages by banns to 1000 marriages by licence; in the five years when wheat was 52s. 1d., there were 5469 marriages by banns to 1000 by licence; and in the five years when wheat was 42s. 9d., ranging from 50s. 1d. to 38s. 6d., there were 5530 marriages by banns to 1000 marriages by licence. The numbers 4936, 5469, and 5530 were in the inverse order of 66s. 3d., 52s. 1d., and 42s. 9d.

The marriages of the middle and of the higher classes are apparently most numerous when the price of wheat is highest, while the reverse happens with respect to the marriages of artizans and labourers. These classes marry in the greatest numbers when the price of wheat is near the general average. All violent fluctuations in prices are injurious; and the

Marriages are celebrated in the *District Register Office* upon production of the Superintendent Registrar's licence or certificate; the contract is a purely civil one, as the use of any religious service is prohibited. The presence of the Superintendent Registrar, as well as that of a registrar of marriages, is requisite, and both officers must sign the register.

Marriages *between Jews* and marriages *between Quakers* may be solemnized with or without licence, according to their respective usages; the Jews may marry either in a synagogue or in a private dwelling, and at any hour of the day; the Quakers in a Friends' meeting-house, between the hours of 8 and 12.

These various forms and authorities may be recapitulated thus:—

Marriages may be solemnized,—		Authority.
1. According to the rites of the Established Church.	}	1. Special licence from the Archbishop of Canterbury.
		2. Licence from a Surrogate, &c.
		3. Publication of banns.
		4. Certificate from the Superintendent Registrar
2. In registered places of worship not of the Established Church.	}	1. Licence from the Superintendent Registrar.
		2. Certificate ditto ditto.
3. In the District Register Office	-	1. Licence from the Superintendent Registrar.
		2. Certificate ditto ditto.
4. Between Quakers and between Jews	-	1. Licence from the Superintendent Registrar.
		2. Certificate ditto ditto.

By the English law as it stood before the passing of the Act of 6 & 7 Will. 4. c. 85. no marriage could be lawfully solemnized (except where both the parties were Quakers or Jews respectively) in any other place than a church or public chapel wherein banns might be published, unless by special licence from the Archbishop of Canterbury. This law was enforced by severe penalties; and if any persons intermarried without licence from a competent authority, or without the previous publication of banns, the marriage was null and void to all intents and purposes. Thus all persons (with the exception of Jews and Quakers), whether conforming to the Church of England or not, were compelled to resort to the Established Church in order to have their marriages lawfully solemnized. The boon conferred upon Roman Catholics and Dissenters generally by the amended law of 1836, which enables them to marry in their own places of worship and according to their own forms, may well be appreciated. The recent Act of 1856, besides abolishing the objectionable practice of reading notices of marriage before Boards of Guardians, has sanctioned marriage out of the district in the "usual place of worship" of one of the parties, and reduced the interval between the giving of notice of marriage by licence and the grant of the licence from seven days to one clear day.

medium price, whatever it may be, is most favourable to the happiness of the great bulk of the people.

Marriages of minors.—8885 men and 28,798 women married under 21 years of age; and of every 100 married 5.58 men, 18.10 women, or 11.84 persons of both sexes were minors. The proportion of minors steadily increased from 8.72 in 1847 to 12.03 in the year 1856, and slightly declined in the year 1857. It will be seen at the next census whether the number of young persons out of whom the marriages took place increased in any unusual proportion. In the meantime it will be noticed in a future Table, that the increase of early marriages is chiefly in the mining and manufacturing counties.

In London 2.74 of the men and 12.11 of the women who married were not of full age. There is an excess of adults in the metropolis at the marrying ages over 21; and there are not apparently the same inducements to marry early as exist in the Midland Counties.

The five counties in which the proportion of men marrying as minors was highest were Bedford 11.75; Huntingdon 10.75; Cambridge 9.38; Buckingham 8.95; Northampton 8.81.

The five counties in which the proportion of women marrying as minors was highest were Stafford 26.85; Durham 25.83; Bedford 25.37; Huntingdon 24.95; the West Riding of York 24.67.

TABLE III. a.

YEARS.	MARRIAGES.		Estimated to 100 persons living.		Price of Wheat per Quarter.
	To 100 persons living.	By Banns to one Marriage by Licence.	Marriages of the higher and middle Classes.	Marriages of the Artizans and Labourers and other Classes.	
1	2	3	4	5	6
AVERAGE:					s. d.
Of 7 years of highest prices -	.804*	4.936	.135	.669	66 3
Of 5 years of intermediate prices -	.843	5.469	.130	.713	52 1
Of 5 years of lowest prices -	.831	5.530	.127	.704	42 9
1855	.810	4.883	.138	.672	74 8
1854	.858	4.991	.143	.715	72 5
1847	.793	4.977	.133	.660	69 9
1856	.837	4.888	.142	.695	69 2
1841	.769	4.940	.129	.640	64 4
1842	.737	5.072	.121	.616	57 3
1857	.824	4.803	.142	.682	56 5
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

* Disregarding the decimal point, this will read 804 marriages were celebrated to every 100,000 of the population; 135 were marriages by licence, 669 were marriages by banns. It may be assumed that these two groups represent the whole of the corresponding classes of society, whether belonging to the church or not.

In the South Midland Counties the men and women marry in early life; many miners everywhere appear to marry very young girls.

Rutland 1.81 in 100, Middlesex 2.07, Hereford 2.48, Westmorland 2.96, Shropshire 3.02, are the counties in which the smallest proportion of men who marry are under age.

North Wales 11.78, Dorset 12.56, Cumberland 12.71, Middlesex 12.76, Hereford 12.85, are the counties in which the smallest proportion of women marry under age.

The ages at which 187,910 persons married are stated at pages 26-7; and it will be there observed that more than half the bachelors and spinsters who marry are 20 and under 25 years of age.

The mean age at marriage was, bachelors 25.9 years; spinsters 24.7; widowers 41.9; and widows 38.8; men without distinction 28.0 years; women 25.9 years.

In the annexed Table (V a) the counties are arranged in the order of the marriages of minors, beginning with the county in which the marriages of minors were in greatest excess in 1841. I have added for comparison the proportional number of women married who signed the register with marks; and the rates of mortality among children under five years of age.

This table deserves to be carefully studied. It will be observed that great irregularities prevail, but that the general law evidently is, that in the counties where the women are the most ignorant they marry in the largest proportions under 21 years of age, and lose the largest numbers of their children. When the counties are thrown into groups the relation is perceptible.

Re-marriages.—21,872 widowers and 14,487 widows married during the year; and out of 100 men 14 were widowers, 86 were bachelors; out of 100 women 9 were widows, 91 were spinsters.

In Middlesex, out of London, the greatest proportion (15.86) of widowers marrying is found, in Herefordshire the smallest proportion 10.06.

In Staffordshire the greatest proportion 10.84, in Westmorland the lowest proportion 4.57 of widows marry.

130,317 bachelors married the same number of spinsters; 6908 bachelors married widows; 14,293 widowers married spinsters; and 7579 widowers married widows.

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	8.88	32.7	48.8	40.8	112.30	18.09	110.95
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	9.08	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	8.74	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	16.89	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
1855	5.51	17.89	11.70	29.5	41.2	35.4	14.42	9.49	11.96
1856	5.72	18.34	12.03	28.8	40.2	34.5	13.94	9.36	11.65
1857	5.58	18.10	11.84	27.7	38.8	33.3	13.75	9.11	11.43

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

progress of the men ; and in the following counties the women who write exceed the men in proportion : Surrey (out of London), Sussex, Berkshire, Hertfordshire, Oxfordshire, Huntingdonshire, Essex, Suffolk, Norfolk, Wilts, Herefordshire, and Rutlandshire. In other points of learning the women also probably excel the men.

In Bedfordshire the women are very illiterate ; only 51 in 100 who marry write their names. In Cornwall only 55 in 100 write their names. In Staffordshire the "blackness of darkness" hangs over the people ; less than half or only 45 in 100 women write their names. Cheshire is bad (50) ; but the women in Lancashire are unhappily kept in still thicker darkness, for 44 only in 100 write their names. In the West Riding of Yorkshire less than 50 in 100 women write their names. The Welsh will labor under some disadvantages until they all learn the English language in infancy ; of the women in Monmouthshire only 44, in North Wales only 43, and in South Wales only 38 in 100 who married, wrote their names.

In the Northern Counties the employments interfered largely with the attendance at schools ; but we may hope that arrangements will be made, by the educated classes in the worst counties, to confer the blessings of education upon their less enlightened neighbours.

Buildings registered for the solemnization of Marriages.—The number of places of public worship registered for the solemnization of Marriages, and on the register on 31st December 1857, was 3925, being an increase of 114 during the year. It will be seen from the Table, p. xviii, that 1342 of these places of worship belonged to the Independents, 882 to the Baptists, 697 to the various sects of Wesleyan Methodists, and 490 to the Roman Catholics. Of the modern sects, the New Church had 21, and the Catholic and Apostolic Church 16. In London there were 263 registered buildings, in Lancashire 430 (of which number the Roman Catholics had 112), and in Monmouthshire and Wales, where Dissenters are more numerous than in any other division, 594. Including 12,272 churches and chapels belonging to the Church of England, the Places of Worship wherein marriages might be solemnized amounted at the end of 1857 to 16,197, besides the Jewish Synagogues and Quakers' Meeting Houses. There were in addition 629 Superintendent Registrar's Offices for the celebration of civil marriages.

TABLE VI.—ENGLAND. NUMBER and ANNUAL RATE per Cent. of MARRIAGES in each Quarter of the Years 1838-57.

Table with columns for YEARS, MARRIAGES registered (March, June, Sept., Dec.), and ANNUAL RATE per Cent. of MARRIAGES (March, June, Sept., Dec.). Rows list years from 1838 to 1857.

BIRTHS.

Births (exclusive of still-born).—663,071 births were registered in the year, and the birth-rate was 3.435 per cent, or such that 3435 children were born to every 100,000 persons living. It is considerably in excess of the average rate (3.293) deduced from the returns of 20 years.

The birth-rate exceeds 4 per cent. in two counties ; it is in Staffordshire 4.225 and in Durham 4.526. In some counties the rate was below 3 per cent. ; it was so in Sussex, in Berkshire, in Cambridgeshire, in Norfolk, in Dorsetshire, in Devonshire, in Somersetshire, in Gloucestershire, in Here-

TABLE VII.—ENGLAND. BIRTHS, 1857.—NUMBER and PROPORTION of Male and Female Children born in and out of Wedlock.

Table with columns for REGISTRATION COUNTIES, Male Children born, Female Children born, Born in Wedlock (Males, Females), Born out of Wedlock (Males, Females), and various ratios. Rows list counties from ENGLAND down to XI.—MONMOUTHSHIRE AND WALES.

5.9, Huntingdon 5.5, Essex 5.7, Devon 5.5, Cornwall 5.3, Gloucester 5.8, Warwick 5.5, Rutland 5.8, Durham 5.0, and Monmouth 5.1.

In eleven counties the proportion of illegitimate births was 8 or more in 100; in Bedfordshire 8.1, Suffolk 8.0, Norfolk 10.5, Hereford 10.2, Salop 10.0, Lincoln 8.3, Nottingham 9.0, Chester 8.0, the North Riding of York 8.3, Cumberland 10.1, Westmorland 8.6.

In London out of 100 births only 4.2 are registered as illegitimate; but it is believed that this is an under statement. In forming an estimate either of the prolificness or of the state of public morals in a country, the number of children born in wedlock must be compared with the number of married women at childbearing ages; in like manner the number of children born out of wedlock must be compared with the number of unmarried women of the same ages.

This is done in the annexed Table (XI).

I have hitherto shown the proportion of births in and out of wedlock to the population of the several counties; and the birth-rate has been found to differ considerably. But that rate is evidently regulated to a large extent, firstly by the proportional number of women in the several counties between the ages of 15 and 55, and secondly by the numbers living in the marriage state at those ages.

In consequence of the arrangements made at the last census, the ratio of legitimate births to married women, and of illegitimate births to unmarried women, can now be definitively determined for each county, from the returns of thirteen years, including six years before and six years after the census year. (See Table XXXIV p. 1.)

The proportion of women of the puerperal age differs much in the manufacturing, mining, and agricultural counties; and while the proportion of women living married at the age of 20-40 to ten unmarried is ten in two counties (Middlesex out of London and Westmorland), and only eleven in North Wales, Devon, Surrey, Gloucester, Somerset, Salop, Hereford, Cumberland, the proportion in four counties, Monmouth, Durham, Stafford, and Huntingdon, is nineteen married women of the age 20-40 to ten unmarried women of the same age.

The number of unmarried women of the age of 15 and under the age of 55 may be divided into nearly two equal portions; the one of women of the age of 20 and under 40, the other of women above or below that age; and the Swedish returns show that the mothers of the great majority of children are 20 and under 40 years of age. I have, therefore, to determine the relative birth rates, compared the births respectively (1) with the number of women of the age of 15-55, and (2) with the number of

TABLE X.—ENGLAND. PROPORTION OF BIRTHS TO 100 Women living at the Age 15-45, in each of the Years 1841-57.

Middle of the Years	Women living at the Age 15-45 (estimated).	Births registered.	Births to 100 Women living at the Age 15-45.	Women bearing Children to 100 Women living.*
1841	3,811,614	512,158	13.4	13.7
1842	3,853,121	517,739	13.4	13.7
1843	3,895,081	527,325	13.5	13.8
1844	3,937,497	540,763	13.7	14.0
1845	3,980,376	543,521	13.7	13.9
1846	4,023,721	572,625	14.2	14.5
1847	4,067,538	539,965	13.3	13.5
1848	4,111,833	563,059	13.7	14.0
1849	4,156,610	578,159	13.9	14.2
1850	4,201,875	593,422	14.1	14.4
1851	4,247,622	615,865	14.5	14.8
1852	4,293,888	624,012	14.5	14.8
1853	4,340,647	612,391	14.1	14.4
1854	4,387,916	634,405	14.5	14.7
1855	4,435,699	635,043	14.3	14.6
1856	4,484,003	657,453	14.7	15.0
1857	4,532,832	663,071	14.6	14.9
1	2	3	4	5

* The number of children born alive is to the number of women bearing children (including those who bear still-born children), nearly as 100 to 102. See the data of this estimate in the 17th Annual Report, Appendix, p. 72. The figures in col. 5. are deduced by multiplying the figures in col. 4. by 1.02.

women of the age 20-40. It will be observed that the counties, arranged in the two orders, stand in nearly the same relative positions.

Thus in Devonshire one child in eighteen born alive is illegitimate; while in Norfolk one in every nine children born alive is illegitimate; and in Devon eleven unmarried women out of 1000 of the age 15-55 bore children annually; while in Norfolk twenty-five out of 1000 unmarried women of the same age bore living children annually. If the illegitimate children had been the children exclusively of women of the age 20-40, then

TABLE XI.—ENGLAND. AVERAGE ANNUAL PROPORTION of Children born alive out of Wedlock to 1000 Unmarried Women and Widows of the Ages 20-40 and 15-55 in the 13 Years 1845 to 1857; Proportion of Children born to One Birth out of Wedlock in the same period; and the Proportion of Married Women to Ten Unmarried Women and Widows of the Age 20-40 living in 1851.

	Average Annual Proportion (1845-57) of Children born alive out of Wedlock to 1000 Unmarried Women and Widows of the Age		Proportion of Children born to One Birth out of Wedlock (1845-57).	Proportion of Married Women to 10 Unmarried Women of the Age 20-40 (1851).
	20-40	15-55		
LONDON	14.7	8.0	25	12
MIDDLESEX (extra-metropolitan)	18.6	10.1	20	10
DEVONSHIRE	20.8	10.9	18	11
SURREY (extra-metropolitan)	22.7	12.0	18	11
GLOUCESTERSHIRE	23.0	12.2	16	11
CORNWALL	25.4	12.4	20	12
SOMERSETSHIRE	25.9	13.5	15	11
RUTLANDSHIRE	28.0	14.1	17	12
HAMPSHIRE	28.4	14.5	16	13
SUSSEX	29.3	14.9	15	12
KENT (extra-metropolitan)	30.1	15.2	17	13
DORSETSHIRE	30.3	15.1	15	12
WARWICKSHIRE	31.4	15.6	18	15
ENGLAND	32.1	16.4	15	13
MONMOUTHSHIRE	33.2	16.1	20	19
WORCESTERSHIRE	33.5	17.0	15	13
NORTH WALES	33.9	17.3	13	11
SOUTH WALES	34.1	17.6	14	12
EAST RIDING (with YORK)	35.0	17.5	14	14
HUNTINGDONSHIRE	35.2	16.0	19	19
ESSEX	35.3	17.3	16	16
WILTSHIRE	35.4	17.4	14	13
NORTHUMBERLAND	36.1	18.2	13	12
BERKSHIRE	36.3	18.2	13	13
LANCASHIRE	36.4	18.8	14	13
HERTFORDSHIRE	37.3	18.3	14	14
NORTHAMPTONSHIRE	37.4	18.0	16	16
OXFORDSHIRE	38.2	19.0	13	13
WESTMORLAND	38.2	19.3	11	10
CHESHIRE	38.8	19.9	12	13
BUCKINGHAMSHIRE	38.9	18.8	14	15
LINCOLNSHIRE	40.0	19.6	14	15
CAMBRIDGESHIRE	40.0	19.3	14	16
WEST RIDING	40.9	20.0	15	16
NORTH RIDING	41.9	21.4	12	12
BEDFORDSHIRE	42.0	20.1	13	15
SHROPSHIRE	42.2	21.5	10	11
LEICESTERSHIRE	42.2	21.0	12	14
DERBYSHIRE	42.7	21.0	13	14
HEREFORDSHIRE	43.1	22.3	10	11
DURHAM	43.5	20.1	17	19
SUFFOLK	45.0	22.1	12	15
CUMBERLAND	46.3	23.7	9	11
NOTTINGHAMSHIRE	46.8	23.1	11	14
STAFFORDSHIRE	49.1	23.0	16	19
NORFOLK	49.5	25.2	9	13
GROUP 1. Nos. 1-11	25.7	13.2	17	12
" 2. " 12-22	34.5	17.1	15	14
" 3. " 23-33	38.9	19.3	14	14
" 4. " 34-44	44.8	22.1	12	14

The Table may be read thus:—In England to 1000 Unmarried Women and Widows of the Age 20-40, the Average Annual Number of Children born alive out of Wedlock in the 13 Years 1845-57 was 32, and to 1000 Unmarried Women and Widows of the Age 15-55 the Average Annual Number of Children born alive out of Wedlock was 16.4. Of 15 Children born alive 14 were Legitimate and one Illegitimate. Of 23 Women living at the Age 20-40, 13 were Married and 10 Unmarried.

ENGLAND (1845-57.)

Average Annual Number of Children born alive to 100 Women of the Age 15-55 - - 12.042
 Average Annual Number of Children born alive to 100 Women of the Age 20-40 - - 21.030
 Women living aged 15-55 on 31st March 1851 - - - 5,003,563
 " " 20-40 in the middle of 1851 - - - 2,865,081

It might facilitate the recollection of the facts to state, that there is in England 1 birth in 30 persons living ; one death in 45 living ; one person married in 61 living. The numbers living out of which the respective events happen, namely, 30, 45, and 61, are nearly in the proportion of 2, 3, and 4.

Sex.—The mortality of males was at the rate of 22.37, and the mortality of females was at the rate of 21.14 in 1000. The difference was 1.23, or rather more than 1 in 1000.

On the average of twenty years, the annual rate of mortality was 23.13 among 1000 males, and 21.53 among 1000 females ; the difference was 1.60. Thus the depression of the mortality below the average among males was greater in 1857 than the depression of the mortality among females.

105 boys were born in the year to 100 girls, and 102 males died to 100 females. On an average of twenty years, 103 males die to 100 females ; and as the number of males living in the country is less than the number of females, this implies that the excess in the mortality

TABLE XIV.—DENSITY OF POPULATION 1841-51, and the ANNUAL RATE OF MORTALITY per Cent. in each County during the 10 Years 1843-1853 (excluding 1849); in the Cholera Epidemic Years, 1849 and 1854; and in 1855, 1856, and 1857, arranged according to the Mortality in 1843-1853.

Table with columns: REGISTRATION COUNTIES, &c., Density of Population 1841-51 (Acres to a Person, Hectars* to a Person), Annual Rate of Mortality per Cent. from all Causes (Mean of 10 Years 1843-1853, Cholera Epidemic Years 1849-1854, 1855, 1856, 1857). Rows list various counties and regions like Surrey, Sussex, Rutlandshire, etc., ending with ENGLAND and LANCASHIRE.

* The Hectar is the unit of land measure in the Metrical system, and it is equal to a square of 100 Meters, = 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.

of males is greater than these numbers imply. Thus if 100 females die out of a given number of females in a given time, out of an equal number of males 107 males die in the same time.

HIGHEST, LOWEST, and MEAN ANNUAL RATES OF MORTALITY,—per Cent.

Table with columns: Males, Females. Rows include: (1.) Highest rate, 1849 (cholera epidemic), (2.) Mean rate, 1838-57, (3.) Lowest rate, 1856, Excess of highest rate (1) over mean rate (2), Depression of lowest rate (3) below mean rate (2), and Extreme range of rates in 20 years.

Localities.—The mortality was below the average of the preceding ten years in every county, except Stafford, Warwick, and Durham. The mortality in those three counties was high before, and apparently grew

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

Table titled DEATHS OF MALES to 100 MALES living. Columns: Years (1847-1857), All Ages, and age groups (0-85+). Rows show mortality rates for various years and age groups.

Table titled DEATHS OF FEMALES to 100 FEMALES living. Columns: All Ages, and age groups (0-85+). Rows show mortality rates for various years and age groups.

The Table may be read thus:—Of 100 Males living of the age of 35 and under 45, 1.436 died in 1847, 1.303 in 1848, 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.

* Influenza epidemic. † Cholera epidemic.

higher, instead of falling. Sanitary works are unfortunately much neglected in many parts of those counties. The Tables (XIII. and XIV.) deserve to be carefully studied by the proprietors and inhabitants of the respective counties.

The mortality in the outer parts of Middlesex was higher than the average; but it is probable that by the extension of London the population has increased faster than the excess of births over deaths indicates, which would account for the alteration of the rate.

It must be borne in mind, in reasoning on all the county ratios, that the census was taken in 1851, and that every year after that the certainty of the results diminishes.

Ages.—As the mortality is found to vary at different periods of life, it is separately given for each of twelve intervals of age (Table XV.) The mortality of males under five years of age was at the rate of 73 in 1000; that of females of the same age, 65 in 1000; at the next interval (5-10) the mortality was about *one tenth* part of what it had been, and it was nearly the same, rather less than 8, in the two sexes; the lowest rate was attained at the school age of 10-15, when less than 5 in 1000 died. At the ages following, 15-25, 25-35, and 35-45, the mortality rises, and is at the rate of 7 and 9 and 12 in 1000; it is higher at these ages in females than in males. At all the subsequent ages up to 95 the mortality of males exceeded the mortality of females, and the rates increased more rapidly. Thus, commencing at the age 45-55, the deaths out of 1000 men living at each decenniad of life were 18, 31, 64, 141, and at the age 85-95 no less than 279. Out of 1000 women at each of the corresponding ages, the deaths were 15, 27, 59, 130, and 269. The mortality of old men of 95 and upwards was at the rate of 343, of old women at the rate of 416 in 1000.

At nearly all ages the mortality exceeded the rates in the preceding year 1856; but it was below the average rate of the preceding ten years, except in the single case of female children under five years of age.

Seasons.—The deaths were unequally distributed through the year. If the number in the average quarter be represented by 1000, then the deaths in the four quarters, assumed to be of equal duration, were in the proportions 1050, 955, 950, and 1045; the deaths in the two warm

TABLE XVI.—PROPORTIONAL Number of DEATHS in each QUARTER to 1000 Deaths in the Average Quarter of each Year, 1838-57.

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	1122	956	893	1018
1845	87342	1000	1198	1021	867	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
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
1855	106426	1000	1280	1001	816	903
1856	97627	1000	1061	1031	923	980
1857	104954	1000	1050	955	950	1045

seasons being below, the deaths in the two cold seasons being above the average.

The changes in the state of the public health are described in some detail in the following digest of the Quarterly Reports.

SUMMARY OF THE QUARTERLY REPORTS, 1857.

First Quarter.—January, February, March, 1857.

THE returns of births, deaths, and marriages, are satisfactory. The marriage rate was slightly above the average in the first three months of the year. The births exceeded the average number, and the rate of mortality was much lower than the average. The sanitary state of the country has been better in the two last winters than in any two successive winters of which we have authentic records.

Marriages.—The marriages in the winter quarter (January, February, March,) are always less numerous than in any other quarter of the year; but 66,642 persons married in that quarter of the present year. The marriages increased in the manufacturing districts, in Oxfordshire and Northamptonshire, in Essex and Norfolk, in Cornwall, in Worcestershire, in Warwickshire, (and notably in Birmingham,) in Lincolnshire, in Nottinghamshire, in Cheshire and Lancashire, (particularly in Manchester). The marriages in Cumberland rose suddenly from 199 to 300; and in the whole of the four northern counties from 1738 and 1878 in the winter quarters of 1855-56 to 1997 in the winter quarter of 1857. Probably some of the swains who formerly indulged in the licence of a trip to Gretna Green and the Scotch borders to marry, have been induced, by the difficulties which the new law interposes, to marry in England. The great majority of the Scotch marriages are now registered, and we may hope that the Scotch law reformers will ere long free Great Britain from the last stains of their defective marriage law, which, drawing no distinct

TABLE XVII.—ENGLAND. ANNUAL RATE per Cent. of BIRTH, and DEATH, during each Quarter of the Years 1838-1857.

YEARS.	BIRTH RATE.				DEATH RATE.			
	In the Quarters ending the last day of				In the Quarters ending the last day of			
	March.	June.	Sept.	Dec.	March.	June.	Sept.	Dec.
1838	3'082	3'168	2'870	2'928	2'615	2'387	1'887	2'086
1839	3'248	3'338	3'069	3'059	2'359	2'280	1'949	2'164
1840	3'395	3'301	3'021	3'044	2'538	2'310	2'038	2'252
1841	3'424	3'278	3'082	3'092	2'537	2'174	1'877	2'063
1842	3'431	3'344	3'032	3'058	2'436	2'168	2'025	2'067
1843	3'420	3'234	3'114	3'174	2'373	2'149	1'866	2'119
1844	3'507	3'334	3'123	3'115	2'467	2'077	1'913	2'175
1845	3'491	3'291	3'140	3'103	2'554	2'144	1'776	1'908
1846	3'498	3'551	3'251	3'256	2'157	2'144	2'382	2'545
1847	3'488	3'285	2'945	2'938	2'850	2'506	2'163	2'389
1848	3'252	3'474	3'211	3'038	2'794	2'313	2'005	2'108
1849	3'575	3'523	3'056	3'053	2'462	2'341	3'057	2'199
1850	3'321	3'530	3'281	3'253	2'261	2'107	1'917	2'045
1851	3'567	3'557	3'317	3'270	2'388	2'224	2'015	2'176
1852	3'582	3'509	3'291	3'298	2'354	2'221	2'185	2'165
1853	3'578	3'464	3'177	3'100	2'613	2'355	1'985	2'214
1854	3'730	3'722	3'294	3'111	2'449	2'214	2'423	2'329
1855	3'603	3'534	3'261	3'128	2'916	2'277	1'848	2'039
1856	3'585	3'656	3'275	3'264	2'182	2'112	1'896	1'995
1857	3'600	3'548	3'308	3'295	2'295	2'083	2'063	2'263
Mean	3'456	3'493	3'161	3'079	2'480	2'229	2'064	2'165

The Table may be read thus, without reference to the decimal points:—In the March quarter of the year 1838, to 100,000 of the population of England there were 3,082 births, and 2,615 deaths registered. The three months January, February, March, contain 90, in Leap year 91 days; the three months April, May, June, 91 days; each of the two last quarters of the year 92 days. For this inequality a correction has been made in the calculation.

line between clandestine concubinage and marriage, tends to expose the young women of Scotland to cruel temptations and errors.

Births.—The births of 170,430 children were registered in the quarter that ended on March 31st 1857; and the birth-rate was 3.60 per cent. per annum, the average rate of the quarter being 3.51. The conceptions in England are most numerous in spring and summer; the births in winter and spring.

The number of births was greater in the last winter than the number in the previous quarter, except the spring of 1854 and of 1856.

Increase of Population.—As the births in the first quarter of the year amounted to 170,430, the deaths to 108,665, the natural increase of population in England and Wales in 90 days was 61,765, and probably somewhat more, as the whole of the births are not registered.

35,007 emigrants sailed in the same 90 days from the ports of the United Kingdom at which there are emigration agents, and it was ascertained that 14,814 of the emigrants were of English origin; to which 1,045 may be added for the due proportion of 2,305 emigrants whose origin was not distinguished. 9,551 of the English emigrants sailed to the Australian colonies, 6,264 to the United States, and only 44 to the North American colonies and all other places.

The Weather, and the Price of Provisions.—The weather presented few essential peculiarities. The temperature of each month was slightly above the average; so was the humidity, although the fall of rain was only 3.6 inches. Remarkable storms of snow and hail occurred in March, and the ranges of the barometer exceeded one inch in each month.

The price of provisions presents two aspects. Wheat, which was 72s. 4d. a quarter in the winter of last year, has fallen to 56s. 10d. in the winter of the present year. But the price of potatoes has risen from 86s. to 110s. a ton at the water-side market, Southwark; the price of beef from 5½d. to 5¾d.; of mutton, from 5¾d. to 6¾d. a pound, by the carcase, in the Leadenhall and Newgate markets. Thus the price of wheat fell 21 per cent.; while the price of potatoes in London rose 28, of beef 10, of mutton nearly 16 per cent.

State of the Public Health.—108,665 deaths were registered in the winter quarter of this year, and the annual rate of mortality was nearly 23 in 1,000, against the average of the season 25. The winters of 1846, 1850, and 1856 alone, within the registration range of observation commencing in 1838, show a lower rate of mortality; and the winter of 1846, exceedingly mild, was followed by a hot summer, which gave birth to a severe epidemic of diarrhoea and summer cholera. The temperature of the last winter quarter differed little from the average, and will not account for the low rate of mortality, which may be partly referred to improvements in the sanitary condition of the people. In the country, and still more in the towns, there is, however, great room for further improvement; for the mortality in the villages and small towns was at the rate of nearly *twenty*, in the large town districts *twenty-six*, in 1,000.

The registrars make no mention in their notes of any epizootic affecting animals, and it does not appear that the disease prevailing in parts of the continent has reached England. The pathology of domestic animals is exceedingly imperfect; their diseases are badly characterized; and the effect of epizootic causes on the human race is little understood. It is therefore a wise precaution at all times to prevent the importation of infected animals into England; but it may be inferred from the analogies which influenza and cholera supply, that quarantine is no infallible prophylactic, and that our surest defence against extensive loss of life is to be sought in internal sanitary measures. Disease will come, in one shape or another, at one time or another; and it is always most fatal among crowded animals in ill-ventilated stalls, breathing impure air, and drinking dirty water.

English farmers and their families enjoy many sanitary advantages; yet they suffer from the heaps of manure which surround their houses. Young farmers of the age of 25–35 die at the rate of 10 in 1000 annually, which is a slightly higher rate of mortality than is experienced by shoemakers, carpenters, bakers, grocers, miners, blacksmiths, at that period of life. Farmers in the subsequent ages of life enjoy superior health, and after 35 live 33 years on an average, as they then become less sensible to zymotic influences; which, however, prove fatal to their children and their cattle. The cattle are exposed to the additional risk of drinking impure water, which recent experience has proved is often fatal; for many of the unscientific farmers in the country still allow the putrid ammoniacal fluids to stray into the roads, or into the ponds where the cattle drink; although, as the late Principal Harris acutely once remarked, this is about as rational as to retain the grains for use after brewing, and to allow the strong ale to run away to waste.

The deaths in the SOUTH EASTERN COUNTIES were 8736. The mortality was very low in Canterbury, Dover, Portsmouth, and Winchester. 16 deaths occurred from angina maligna (scarlatina?) in Ash, and an unusual number from the same disease in Rotherfield (Uckfield), which “I fear,” the Registrar says, “must be attributed to our very bad sanitary arrangements.” The deaths in St. Peter, Brighton, are below the average. But the following instance illustrates there the pernicious effects of dirt:—

A woman died in the quarter in circumstances which demanded a coroner's inquest. The husband of the deceased died two days after. Several members of the family were immediately afterwards seized with fever, together with some persons who nursed them, two or three of whom died under the attack. The dwelling in which the family resided was in a most filthy and unwholesome condition.

6619 persons died in the SOUTH MIDLAND COUNTIES, or 2073 less than died in the winter of 1855. Measles, however, prevailed in Edgware, where the Brent is polluted, and in Baldock. Bronchitis and whooping-cough have made “sad havoc among children” in St. Andrew the Great, Cambridge. In Sutton Parish, Ely, low fever prevailed; and many cases of ague occurred in the sub-district.

In Essex, Suffolk, and Norfolk, the deaths were 5666; nearly the same number as in the previous winter, but fewer by 1988 than the deaths in the winter of 1855. The Registrar of Bradwell (Maldon) complains that he has every quarter to record one or more deaths not certified by a medical attendant. “They occur,” he says, “amongst persons belonging to a sect called ‘Newlights,’ who always refuse to call in medical assistance.” Scarlatina and whooping-cough have infested Blofield; typhus is lingering in Shipdham, and has proved fatal to several persons in the parish of Tacolnstone. Five children died of whooping-cough in the parish of Docking.

In the SOUTH WESTERN COUNTIES 9737 deaths were registered; 3443 less than the deaths in the winter of 1855. Measles has prevailed extensively, but has not been often fatal. In Stanton St. Quintin, Chippenham, 3 deaths occurred out of 163 cases; nearly every family in Seagry suffered, but “as yet no death has happened.” Small-pox has been excessively prevalent in Wilton; but “thanks to vaccination,” not a single death has occurred. Four deaths from small-pox took place in the union workhouse, Tisbury. Here the reporter is silent under the head of vaccination, which had probably been neglected. There was an excess of deaths from measles in Bridport. In consequence of a misunderstanding between the farmers and the house-owners of Heavitree, sanitary measures have not been carried out to the extent required. The births and deaths are above the average in number. Callington (Liskeard) is in an unhealthy state; 19 persons have died of scarlatina, 3 of typhus. “In this town there is a large cess or catch pool, a receptacle for all the refuse of the town, dammed back for the manuring purposes of the proprietor, which must

"certainly have a deleterious effect on the health of the inhabitants." At Penzance the deaths in the three last winters have been 312, 283, and 262. The Registrar observes, "our medical men attribute the absence of fever, &c. to our improved drainage; the town of Penzance being now in course of thorough draining, and having an unlimited supply of water at high pressure."

The deaths in the WEST MIDLAND COUNTIES were 13,879; more than in 1856, and less than in 1855. The mortality was below its average in Bristol, Clifton, and Hereford; and in North Staffordshire, which has recently been supplied with good water. In Walsall, West Bromwich, and Dudley, 1983 deaths took place in 90 days, out of a population of 219,303 in 1851. The deplorable neglect of sanitary measures, and the extent to which the lives of the poor people of Dudley are sacrificed, may be inferred from this one appalling fact: "small-pox was fatal in *fifty-one* cases!"

The children of Coventry are still dying off rapidly; but it is gratifying to learn that the municipal authorities and the medical men of the town have made some inquiry into the causes, which it may be hoped will ere long be mitigated. "Of the 145 deaths," the Registrar of Holy Trinity observes, "87, or exactly three fifths, are those of children under 5 years of age. Amongst the certified causes of death, there are 28 of measles, 21 of malignant fevers, and 30 of inflammation of the respiratory organs."

6409 deaths were registered in the NORTH MIDLAND COUNTIES. Scarlatina has attacked some districts; but the mortality has generally been below the average. The registrar of St. Ann, Nottingham, considers the exertions of the sanitary committee one of the main causes of the decrease of mortality. The mortality of Leicester was higher in the last winter than it was in the two previous winters; but the mortality of the city has been much reduced within the last three years. Leicester in 1841 was inhabited by 50,853 in 1851 by 60,642 people, dwelling upon an area of 3960 acres, of which only 1320 acres are strictly occupied by habitations. The population is dense, and the mortality was at the annual rate of 27 in 1000 during the 10 years 1841-50. The deaths in the 10 years 1841-50 were 14,921, of which it was computed in the Sixteenth Report* that 5575 were *unnatural* deaths, or the results of the insalubrities in which the people of Leicester lived. The borough under the circumstances appointed an intelligent health officer. The system of deep sewerage was completed in 1855, and the sewage was deodorized. The river, which was the receptacle of nearly all the filth of the town, is now comparatively pure. The courts, which were covered with stagnant water, are now clean. The people who reside over the deepened sewers enjoy improved habitations. The annual mortality in the three years 1852-54 was at the rate of 29, 27, and 25; while in 1855-56 it fell to 23 and to 21 nearly in 1000.† Small-pox has been completely disarmed by vaccination. The mortality will fluctuate, but by persevering in her career Leicester will reap large rewards of health and fame.

18,020 deaths were registered in Lancashire and Cheshire; rather more than the deaths in 1856, and 2805 less than the deaths in the winter of 1855. The deaths in Manchester, Salford, and Chorlton were 3445, in Liverpool and West Derby 3200. The mortality is declining, and in the progress of sanitary improvement we may hope to see the quarterly deaths in each of these great centres of population reduced to 2200.

10,988 deaths were registered in YORKSHIRE. In Leeds and Hunslet the health of the people appears to be deteriorating; 1424 of them died in the winter quarter. Sheffield exhibits little improvement; the deaths

* Reg. Gen. 16th Ann. Rep. pp. 152, 3.

† Report on the "Sanitary Condition of Leicester in 1856, by John Moore, Surgeon, Officer of Health."

were 794. Hull and Sculcoates experienced a high rate of mortality. "Better sanitary regulations" are referred to at Bradford; and in that district the mortality has slightly declined.

5879 deaths occurred in the NORTHERN COUNTIES, where the mortality has gradually declined. The decrease has evidently been counteracted by the epidemic of scarlatina, which has infected many districts. In Bedlington the epidemic has been so virulent that many cases have terminated in death a few hours after the attack.

In MONMOUTHSHIRE and WALES 6803 deaths occurred. Scarlatina, measles, and whooping-cough have been epidemic in some districts. The registrar of Cardiff remarks that "the births are 425, the deaths 224. The deaths, which until very lately have been nearly equal to the births in the town of Cardiff, are now greatly reduced. Fevers and other epidemics rarely prevail. This result is attributable to the excellent drainage of the town recently effected, and also to an abundant supply of water."

Second Quarter.—April, May, June, 1857.

The marriages and the births were above the average numbers, and the deaths were below the average during the quarter that ended on June 30th. Upon the evidence of their births, deaths, and marriages, the 19,300,000 people of England and Wales have hitherto been prosperous and healthy during the present year.

Marriages.—82,534 persons were married in the three months that ended in June; or nearly 172 in every 10,000 persons living. This exceeds the average of the quarter of the ten previous years. The 41,267 marriages exceed by 2447 the marriages in the spring quarter of 1856. A corresponding excess is observable in all the divisions except the northern; where the decrease of marriages in Sunderland, South Shields, Newcastle, Tynemouth, and some other coal districts has reduced the number of marriages in Durham and Northumberland. The marriages in Cumberland during the three quarters ending June 1855-6-7 were 288, 299, 361.

Births.—The births of 170,444 children were registered in the quarter that ended on June 30th; and the births were at the rate of 3.55 annually, the decennial average being 3.52. The number of births is less by 2819 than the births in the corresponding quarter of 1856; but it exceeds by 5167 the births in the spring quarter of the war year 1855.

Increase of Population.—As the births were 170,444, and the deaths 100,046, the natural increase of the population of England and Wales was 70,398 in 91 days.

93,100 emigrants sailed from the ports of the United Kingdom in the quarter that ended on June 30th, and 35,414 of the number were of English origin; of whom 15,737 sailed to the United States, 6459 to the North American colonies, 13,149 to the Australian colonies, and 69 to all other places.

The Weather and Price of Provisions.—At the Greenwich Observatory the temperature was below the average in April, above the average in May and June. Saturation being taken at 100, the degree of humidity was 76, or one degree below the average. The reading of the barometer was slightly below the average. The fall of rain was 4.7 inches, or 2.7 inches below the average. The air moved at the rate of 78 miles daily. The intense heat in June was remarkable. The first eight days were warm; ten cold days followed; hot weather set in on the 19th, and on Sunday the 28th the temperature near the sea rose to 75°; at places between the latitude of 51° and 52° it exceeded 91°, and even 92°; in London it was 88°; and at all other places under observation, somewhat below 90°. This 28th of June was the hottest day we have experienced since July 6th, 1846. It was also remarkably dry; the temperature of the dew-point falling at times during the day full 35° below the air temperature.

The average price of wheat, like that of consols, has been nearly the same as it was in the first three months of the year; it was 56s. 9d. in the thirteen weeks of April, May, and June 1857; and consequently wheat is cheaper by 23 per cent., and 17 per cent. than it was in the corresponding seasons of 1855 and 1856. In the London markets beef has risen 7 per cent., while mutton has slightly fallen since last year. The high price of potatoes is the most unfavourable circumstance in the Table. The price of this important esculent was 59 per cent. higher in London than it was in the spring quarter of 1856. The abundant crop of fruit will, to a certain extent, supply its place as an antiscorbutic; and we may hope that the present year's crop of potatoes will be more abundant.

State of the Public Health.—100,046 deaths were registered in the quarter ending on June 30, and this implied an annual mortality at the rate of 2·086 per cent. The mortality in the districts containing the principal towns was at the annual rate of 2·322, that is 142 less than 2·464, the average of the preceding ten spring quarters. In the remaining districts, comprising chiefly small towns and country parishes, the reduction in the annual rate of mortality was 212; it was 1·868, while the average rate of the season was 2·080.

The deaths in LONDON have fallen progressively since 1855, notwithstanding the increase of population, from 15,001 to 13,212; and the diminution has been proportionally most sensible on the south side of the Thames, where the improvement in the water supply has been greatest. The Registrar of St. James, Bermondsey, notes that to 208 births there were 86 deaths. "This district," he says, "having suffered so fearfully during the prevalence of cholera, when the water supply was very bad, and the open tidal ditches poisoned the atmosphere, it is very satisfactory to observe the excellent state of health now existing, proving the beneficial effects of good water, excellent drainage, paving, cleansing, &c.; and I may remark that an improvement is perceptible in the market gardens and in the foliage generally since the partial abatement of the smoke nuisance."

In Lambeth, Waterloo (1st Part), the Registrar notes births 145, deaths 55. The deaths are about 20 below the average of the three preceding years. "I have a strong opinion," he says, "regarding the unwholesomeness of the water we have for years been drinking. There is now a marked difference in the quality of the supply on this side the river, though there is still occasionally room for improvement. There has been no prevailing epidemic."

Attention was formerly called to the effects of the bad water on the people of London; and the improvement in the public health that has been the result fully establishes the correctness of the remarks made on this subject. The effects of the constant supply of the best water than can be procured have yet to be registered.

In the SOUTHERN and the EASTERN DIVISIONS the deaths were fewer than in the spring of 1855, and generally fewer than they were in the spring of 1856. Some partial epidemics of scarlatina, measles, whooping-cough, typhus, and small-pox, however, are mentioned by the registrars of these divisions. Two persons were killed by lightning while taking shelter under a tree in Kintbury, Hungerford.* At Chalfont, Amersham, one death occurred in digging for chalk, this making the fifth death from that cause within two years, "owing to the careless mode of performing the work."

In the WEST MIDLAND DIVISION, Yorkshire and the Northern Counties, the number of deaths in the spring of 1857 exceeded the number of deaths in the spring of 1855. In the NORTH MIDLAND DIVISION, in Cheshire and

* The sub-district and district are designated by the two names in this and similar cases.

in Lancashire, the diminution in the number of deaths was not considerable. Among the districts in which the deaths were in excess of the deaths in the previous quarters may be enumerated Cheltenham, Ludlow, Bridgnorth, Leek, Burton-upon-Trent, Lichfield, Wolverhampton (1000 deaths occurred here), Walsall, West Bromwich, Dudley. All the South Staffordshire districts are in an unsatisfactory sanitary state. The Pottery districts of North Staffordshire have been recently supplied with good water, and their mortality has fallen considerably. King's Norton, Coventry, Hayfield, Chester, (Great Broughton), Hull, Newcastle-upon-Tyne, have also lost more lives than in the two previous spring quarters.

Many districts of the country still suffer from marsh malaria. In Maldon, the Registrar says, "Ague is very prevalent in Tollesbury, Goldhanger, Tolleshunt-D'Arcy and its neighbourhood." The lower levels of the basin of the Thames as high up the stream as Oxford, and as low as Hoo and Sheppey, suffer from malarious diseases in spring and autumn. The mortality on the high grounds at the sources of the Thames is at the average rate of 17 and 18 annual deaths in 1000 living; in the low flooded districts on its banks the mortality rises to 20, 21, 22, 23 in 1000; in Orsett (Essex) the mortality is at the rate of 24 in 1000, in Hoo (the Isle of Grain) 24, and in Sheppey, containing Sheerness, 24 in 1000.

Thus in the marshy districts the mortality is raised from 17, the natural rate, to 24 in 1000, chiefly in consequence of the noxious emanations from a rich ill-drained soil.

Sheppey may be taken as a type of these districts. The inhabitants have that pallid blue aspect which characterizes aguish districts; they frequently suffer from ague, and sometimes from typhoid fever. A considerable number of men in the Sheerness dockyard and in the ships on the station have been struck down and disabled by fevers during the present year. Sheppey has its high lands but a large quantity of it is marsh, drained imperfectly by ditches containing stagnant water and putrid vegetable and animal matter. The owners of this property are absentees, and the tenants mostly commit their farms to the care of a bailiff. No effort is made at improvement by the small occupiers, although experience has shown that the investment of money in the deep effectual drainage of the marsh is remunerative in a high degree. His Excellency Lord Harris has published an interesting statistical document showing the outlay and receipts in detail on the Rayham farm, of 439 acres, in Sheppey, during the seven years ending Michaelmas 1856. 2200*l.* has been obtained from the Government Drainage Fund and expended on the land during the last four years. After allowing a liberal interest for all the money invested, the profit, which was set down at 141*l.* in the first year, rose progressively to 693*l.*; and upon taking the value from the inventory at the beginning and end of the last year, in connection with the surplus of the receipts over outgoings, 972*l.* remains as a balance towards the rent of a farm in 1856 for which a tenant could not be obtained at Michaelmas 1849 who would pay a higher rent than 100*l.* The whole of this remarkable document* deserves to be closely scrutinized and studied by all the owners of the marsh land which now prejudices the health of the inhabitants and deters people from building in its neighbourhood. Sheerness should be immediately drained and supplied with pure water.

As a Government fund affords very proper facilities for the loan of money, drainage should be made compulsory on the owners of the land in districts which are so fatal to the inhabitants as Orsett, Hoo, and Sheppey; more particularly when the naval force of the country is seriously impaired by this standing insalubrity. It is evident that a large portion of our naval reserve may be paralyzed by ague and fever at the very time when it may be called upon to fight. A force which lives in

* Published at Sittingbourne, Kent.

an aguish atmosphere is necessarily enervated and loses some of its courage. It cannot be always ready to meet the enemies of England at the gates of the Thames and the Medway.

It will be observed that many districts of the country are now unusually healthy. For the information of those who may be about to resort with their families to watering places a Table is annexed of the mortality during the three months that ended on June 30th in some of the principal places of resort. It must be borne in mind that the mortality of some parts of these districts is lower and of other parts higher than that here stated :—

ANNUAL RATE OF MORTALITY per 1000 in the Districts round the Sources and on the Course of the River THAMES, during the 10 Years 1841–50.

No. of District.	DISTRICTS.	Annual Mortality.	No. of District.	DISTRICTS.	Annual Mortality.
		Deaths to 1000 living.			Deaths to 1000 living.
343	WINCHCOMB	17	38	CHERTSEY	18
341	NORTHLEACH	18	47	KINGSTON	18
340	CIRENCESTER	20	48	RICHMOND	20
251	CRICKLADE	20	134	BAENTFORD	21
250	HIGHWORTH	21		LONDON	25
122	FARINGDON	20		WESTHAM (including Stratford)	18
161	WITNEY	22	194	ROMFORD	20
160	WOODSTOCK	21	197	ORSETT	24
158 & 157	OXFORD AND HEADINGTON	23	198	BILLERICAY AND ROCHFORD	21
123	ABINGDON	23	199 & 201	DARTFORD	19
			50		
156	THAME	22			
125	WALLINGFORD	20			
128	BRADFIELD	19	51	GRAVESEND (including North- fleet and Strood)	25
127	READING	24		NORTH AYLESFORD	22
128	WOKINGHAM	17	52	HOO	24
			53		
150 & 155	WYCOMBE AND HENLEY	21	54	MEDWAY (exclusive of Fort Pitt and Fort Clarence)	24
129	COOKHAM	19		MILTON	21
131	WINDSOR	20	68	SHEPPEY (including Sheerness)	24
149	ETON	18	69		
132	STAINES	19			

MORTALITY in the Districts containing some of the principal English Watering Places.

No. of District.	DISTRICTS.	Annual Rate of Mortality to 1000 living in the	
		10 Years 1841–50.	3 Months ending 30th June 1857.
57	TUNBRIDGE (including Tunbridge Wells)	20	21
70	THANET (including Ramsgate and Margate)	19	18
72	DOVER	21	17
76	HASTINGS	18	16
78	EASTBOURNE	15	15
85	BRIGHTON	21	16
90	WORTHING (including Littlehampton and Arundel)	17	13
99	ISLE OF WIGHT (including Ryde, Newport, and Cowes)	17	13
227	MUTFORD (including Lowestoft)	17	17
228	YARMOUTH	23	13*
274	WEYMOUTH (including Melcombe Regis)	19	23
283	NEWTON ABBOTT (including Dawlish, Torquay, and East and West Teignmouth)	19	19
295	BARNSTAPLE (including Ilfracombe)	17	20
326	BATH	24	19
330	CLIFTON (including part of Bristol City and Bristol Workhouse)	23	16
344	CHELTENHAM	20	19
388	UPTON-ON-SEVERN (including Malvern)	18	20
403	WARWICK (including Leamington)	20	17
447, 449 } and 450 }	ASHBORNE, BAKEWELL, and CHAPEL-EN-LE-FRITH (including Buxton and Matlock)	20	20
525*	SCARBOROUGH	21	22
531	WHITBY	21	24
575	KENDAL	20	18
597	ABERYSTWTH	18	19
621	BANGOR	21	24
623	ANGLESEY	17	21

* The decrease in the mortality of Yarmouth is stated by the Registrar of the northern sub-district to be owing to the excellent sanitary arrangements carried out by the authorities of the town.

Third Quarter.—July, August, September, 1857.

THE marriages in the three summer months were slightly below the average number for the quarter; the births are above the average. The deaths exhibit a rate of mortality below the average of the season, but higher than the rates of the corresponding seasons of the two previous years. Diarrhœa has prevailed in many districts, and a few fatal cases of cholera of a severe type have been registered.

Marriages.—77,338 persons were married in the three months of July, August, and September. The number is less by 840 than the number of persons who married in the corresponding quarter of 1856. The annual rate of marriage in the quarter was 1.59 persons per cent., the average being 1.61 per cent. In the spring quarter of 1857 the marriage rate was above the average. The marriages fell off in London, in the South-eastern, the South-western, the North-western, and the York Divisions. In the South Midland, the Eastern, the West Midland, the North Midland, the Northern, and the Welsh Divisions, the marriages, as compared with those in the corresponding quarter of the previous year, increased.

Births.—The births of 161,181 living children were registered in the quarter that ended on the last day of September. This number exceeds by 3719 the births in the corresponding quarter of the year 1856; and is the greatest number of births that ever occurred in England during the summer months. The birth-rate of the quarter was 3.31 per cent. It has been only once exceeded in the summer quarter:—in 1851 the rate was 3.32. The births in the first six months always greatly exceed in number the births in the last six months of the year in England.

Increase of Population.—The births were 161,181, the deaths 100,528; consequently the recorded natural increase of population in England and Wales is expressed by 60,653.

51,994 emigrants sailed from the ports of the United Kingdom at which there are Government emigration officers. Of this number 18,725 were ascertained to be of English origin; and allowing for a due share of the 5516 whose origin was not distinguished, the probable number of English emigrants may be set down at 20,947. 10,197 of the number sailed to the United States, 1707 to our healthy North American colonies, 8947 to the Australian colonies, and 96 to other places.

The weather and the Price of Provisions.—These elements affect the births, deaths, and marriages directly and indirectly.

The temperature of July, August, and September was considerably above the average of the same months in the last eighty-six years. Since the year 1771 the temperature of July has only been somewhat exceeded thirteen times. Since 1771, a date as far back as trustworthy records extend, the temperature of the month has never been so high as it was in August last; and the temperature of the month of September was only exceeded six times. In one year only (1818) out of 86 years did the temperature exceed the temperature of the three summer months. July and August were less, September was more humid than usual. Little rain fell in July; the average amount fell in August; the rain-fall in September was above the average. As a general rule the temperature of a thermometer with its bulb on the grass falls in every month below the freezing point (32°); but it is a remarkable fact that at Greenwich the thermometer so placed never fell below 36° in the last three months.

The average price of wheat was 76s. 1d. and 72s. 3d. in the two periods of thirteen weeks ending September 1855, and September 1856; it fell to 59s. 11d. in the thirteen weeks ending September 1857. Wheat is consequently 17 per cent. cheaper than it was last year. The price of beef by the carcase in the Leadenhall and the Newgate markets has fallen in the three summers from 5⁷/₈d. to 5³/₈d. per pound; that is 8¹/₂ per cent. The price of mutton by the carcase has fallen from 6d. to 5³/₄d. a

pound, or 4 per cent., in the same seasons. The price of potatoes has unfortunately risen from 7s. to 7s. and to 10s. a ton, in the three seasons; it was 42 per cent. higher in the thirteen weeks ending September 1857 than the prices of the same season in 1855. The scarcity of potatoes is likely to produce scurvy in the country, as people are not generally aware that potatoes are an antiscorbutic, which can only be replaced by fruit and vegetables. The abundant crop of apples will supply to a certain extent the vegetable acids, which experience has shown that the human frame requires to maintain its elements in equilibrium.

State of the Public Health.—100,528 deaths were registered in the quarter ending September 30th; and the death rate was 2.06 per cent. The deaths in the summer quarter of the previous year were 91,155; and in the summer of 1855 the deaths were 87,646. The excess of deaths in the last summer quarter over this number was 12,882.

The annual rate of mortality per 1000 during the summer was 25 in the town districts and sub-districts where 8,247,017 people dwelt in 1851 upon 2,149,800 acres; and 17 in the other districts and sub-districts of England and Wales where 9,680,592 people dwelt on 35,175,115 acres. The Arts which have been invented in cities are now required to render their natural homes healthy. As a preliminary to all other steps the people must be supplied with pure water. The town manures must be restored to the disinfecting fields every day, and no longer be suffered either to remain under human dwellings or to pollute the streets and streams around them.

If the mortality in the towns had been at the same rate as the mortality in the other districts, the deaths would have been upwards of 17,000 fewer than they were. What was the cause of this great destruction of life? Evidently the violation of the plain natural laws of life. And the strict observance of these laws must be of the utmost importance to the welfare of the human race, otherwise their violation would not be so terribly punished by the Almighty. Indeed, if the English race could lose strength, beauty, health, and life in the impurities of its dwelling-places with impunity, the imagination of Swift alone could conceive,—his pen describe,—the depth of degradation to which the nation might fall.

The intelligent classes of this country will, however, never acquiesce in the continuance of its present imperfect sanitary condition, and of the resulting diseases which it brings down upon the heads of the population; who often when they violate the laws of nature know not what they do.

A summer of unusual warmth in our European climates not only promotes the growth of corn and wine, but is probably salutary to the human frame, where the land is drained, decaying refuse is buried in the earth, and cleanliness is observed. But in England these conditions are not yet complied with; hence fever, ague, and diarrhoea have prevailed extensively in the last hot summer. The Registrar of Strood (Kent) has registered within one as many deaths as births. He remarks:—

This district being marshy in a great part, the poor have suffered during the last winter from agues in a greater degree than has been experienced during a great number of years. Ague leads to debility, and the consequent inability to earn a sufficient livelihood. An unusually hot summer has operated still more to make the marshes and adjacent district intensely unhealthy. Many deaths have been registered from intermittent fever, directly or indirectly. This disease is rarely fatal [under favourable circumstances.] The chief mortality is amongst indigent and debilitated persons and their families, who have fallen an easy prey to diseases of a general character in consequence of their reduced condition.

The other districts of Kent on the marshy banks of the Thames and the Medway have also experienced a mortality above their average; so has the district of Romney Marsh. Other districts of Kent, such as

Elham and Bridge, have lost few inhabitants, the mortality of these healthy places having been below the average. While the mortality in Kent and Hampshire exceeded the average, the mortality in Surrey (out of London) and of Sussex was about the average. 363 persons died in Southampton out of a population amounting in 1851 to 34,098; scarlatina, hooping-cough, and measles having prevailed. The sanitary state of this thriving town evidently admits of improvement, in which the nation at large is interested, as it is the station of the West India and other mails.

The mortality in the SOUTH MIDLAND COUNTIES is higher than usual: 6395 persons died in the three months. Diarrhoea was fatal at Hillingdon, Brentford, Acton, Bishop Stortford, Royston, Hatfield, St. Albans, Ramsey, Dunstable, Cambridge, Ely, Whittlesey, and Wisbeach. One death from English cholera was registered at Ramsey (Huntingdon), and one in Wisbeach.

In the EASTERN COUNTIES the deaths (5686) exceeded the average number. In West Ham, Epping, Billericay, Chelmsford, Tendring, Colchester, and Lexden; in Sudbury, Ipswich, Blything, Mutford, Yarmouth, Norwich, Forehoe, and Docking, the increase of deaths was considerable. Bilious fever, putrid sore throat, typhus, diarrhoea, ague, scarlatina, have prevailed.

The Registrar of Bradwell says:—

There was a terrible epidemic of typhus in Tillingham parish, also of malignant sore throat. The drainage in the part most visited by the fever is very bad. Nearly every house had from 1 to 3 persons sick in it.

One of the Registrars of King's Lynn adds:—

Diarrhoea may be almost said to be universal. The high temperature has continued much longer than usual. The illness is now accompanied with the usual remittent fever, which is the prevailing disease here. The deaths from diarrhoea seem confined to children during dentition.

One death from "Asiatic cholera" was registered at Bungay; and one death from "cholera" at Buxton in Norfolk.

In the SOUTH-WESTERN Division the deaths increased in the three counties of Dorset, Devon, and Cornwall; the deaths in the five counties were 7647. Small-pox was fatal to 8 persons in Wilton. Scarlatina raged at Weymouth as it only rages in bad sanitary conditions. In Lerrin (Liskeard) the Registrar reports:—

The deaths (24) are nearly double the average, and more than a third are those of children from disease in the throat. This epidemic here generally shows itself in the form of cough and sore throat, and appears, after arriving at a certain stage, to baffle medical skill. I am told that something of a fungus nature shows itself in the throat.

Croup, and what is locally called "throat fever," also prevailed in Kea (Truro).

The WEST MIDLAND COUNTIES have suffered more than any of the previous divisions; the deaths amounted to 12,357. The great coal and iron districts, Wolverhampton, Walsall, West Bromwich, Dudley, and Stourbridge, are in a very unhealthy state; the mortality has been raised greatly above the average by small-pox, diarrhoea, scarlatina, typhus. One death from cholera happened in Wolverhampton, one in Wednesbury, 5 in Tipton, one in Sedgley. If the authorities, who are intelligent and active in many things, do not bestir themselves, the population may again be decimated by epidemic cholera. North Staffordshire is already supplied with good water; the supply of water in South Staffordshire was recently, and is probably still, execrable: the results are legible in the registers of death.

The sanitary state of many English towns has undergone improvement, and the mortality has declined in recent years; but this has unfortunately not been the case in the Birmingham district, nor in the districts immediately adjacent. The deaths in the three corresponding summer quarters

of 1855, 1856, 1857 were 920, 1118, and 1520 in the Birmingham district; 293, 353, and 529 in the Aston district; 132, 114, and 202 in the King's Norton district, containing Edgbaston, which has hitherto been one of the healthiest districts in the kingdom. Diarrhœa has been exceedingly rife. The authorities of Birmingham will, we may hope, be stimulated by the recent meeting of the Congress of Social Science to take effective steps for the improvement of a great town, which has hitherto not stood very low in the sanitary scale.

The deaths in the NORTH MIDLAND DIVISION exceed the deaths in the corresponding quarters of the two previous years, but the mortality is not high. In some districts the mortality is low. In Loughborough the Registrar says :—

The deaths are below the average. There have been *fewer cases of diarrhœa than is usual at this time of the year*. The population generally are well employed, which, with sanitary arrangements, may have tended to reduce the rate of mortality.

In Lincoln diarrhœa has been "very prevalent among children;" in Horncastle diarrhœa has been "very prevalent;" in Great Grimsby diarrhœa has raised the deaths above the average. Worksop, Basford, Nottingham, and Newark have also been visited by diarrhœa. In St. Peter, Derby, 31 persons died from diarrhœa. A child (11 weeks) died of "*English cholera*;" a gentleman, 82 years old, of "*English cholera*" (9 days); and a man 73 years of age of "*cholera*, with congestion of brain."

17,287 persons died in Cheshire and Lancashire. The number of deaths exceeds the numbers in the two previous corresponding quarters. Scarletina was fatal in Stockport, Runcorn, and Chester. Diarrhœa also prevailed in districts of the two counties. Three deaths from cholera occurred at Heaton Norris, one of them twelve hours after the attack; one death from "*Asiatic cholera*," it is said, occurred at Cheadle. In Liverpool and in the West Derby district adjoining (pop. 411,515 in 1851) 3650 persons died, while the deaths in the corresponding quarter of 1855 were 3951. In Manchester, where great numbers of people visited the exhibition, the deaths only exceeded by 79 the deaths in the summer quarter of 1855: in the Manchester, Salford, and Chorlton districts (pop. 439,797 in 1851) the deaths were 3460.

Mr. Leigh, of the Deansgate sub-district, makes the following judicious remarks, which deserve the careful consideration of the people of Manchester. Very sad there is the life of a child :—

Births 266; Deaths 254. The total number of deaths, exclusive of coroners' cases, is 224, and of this number 156 were of children under 5 years of age, leaving a total adult mortality of only 68. So large a proportion I have never before known. It is evident that whilst the ordinary circumstances affecting adult life have been to a considerable extent in abeyance, those militating against the very young have been in great activity. Of the children not less than 76 were carried off by diarrhœa, 14 by hooping-cough, 6 by scarlatina, 6 by measles, and one by small-pox. 87 of the children died under the age of one year. Neglected diarrhœa, close confinement to ill-ventilated rooms during hooping-cough, want of proper nutrition, and free administration of laudanum, producing marasmus and convulsions,—as well as hydrocephalus and congestion of brain, these must explain why, with a diminution of all the causes producing disease in adults, the mortality as a total is still so high.

An explosion of fire-damp at the Heys colliery killed 40 persons in the Ashton-under-Lyne district.

10,908 deaths were registered in YORKSHIRE, and the mortality is increasing in several districts; among which are Skipton, Hunslet, Leeds, Dewsbury, Barnsley, Sheffield, Hull, Sculcoates, and Scarborough. Diarrhœa, typhus, and small-pox are prevailing causes.

Except in Westmorland, the deaths in the NORTHERN COUNTIES have been somewhat in excess; in the aggregate they amounted to 5907. Diarrhœa has prevailed here as elsewhere, and has raised the mortality in Sunderland, Gateshead, and Newcastle. In some districts of Cumber-

land the mortality has been below the average. The Registrar of Low Longtown only registered 14 deaths.

The deaths in WALES and MONMOUTHSHIRE amounted to 5467. This number is below the average; and few epidemics are mentioned by the Registrars.

Fourth Quarter.—October, November, December.

The returns of the quarter are in some respects unfavourable, for the mortality is higher than the average mortality of the season. The Asiatic cholera, however, which was threatening in October, was arrested in its course; and the excess of deaths is partly referable to influenza, scarlatina, fever, small-pox, and diphtheria (throat disease). The number of births in the last three months of the year exceeds the average; but the marriages were below the average number for the quarter.

The state of the births and of the deaths on the aggregate of the year 1857, exhibits a favourable aspect; for while the births exceeded, the deaths were below, the average.

Marriages.—The Christmas quarter is always distinguished in England and Wales by the multitude of its marriages. *Ninety-one thousand six hundred and eighty persons* married in the last three months of 1857. The marriages were at the rate of 1·88 persons married to 100 living in a year; the decennial average rate of the corresponding quarter being 1·99.

Births.—The births of 161,016 children born alive, were registered in the last three months of the year 1857. This number exceeds by 3538 the births in the corresponding quarter of 1856. The births were at the rate of 3·30 per cent. per annum; the average of the previous quarters being 3·15. The increase of births is observable in London and in every other division except the Northern.

The births during the year 1857 amounted to 663,071; or to about 3·44 per cent. on the population.

Increase of Population.—As the births amounted to 161,016, and the deaths to 110,576, the natural increase of population was 50,440 in 92 days. The excess of births over deaths, and therefore the natural increase of the population of England and Wales, was 243,256 in the year 1857. In the United Kingdom the natural increase probably did not exceed 1000 daily.

28,673 emigrants sailed from the ports of the United Kingdom at which there are Government emigration officers; namely, 27,790 from four English ports, 879 from Glasgow and Greenock, and only 4 from Irish ports. The origin of the 28,673 emigrants was shown in 25,281 instances; and after distributing those not distinguished proportionally, it appears that 11,630 were of English origin; of whom 7366 sailed to the Australian colonies, 4210 to the United States of America, 20 to the North American colonies, and 34 to other places.

212,875 emigrants sailed from the ports of the United Kingdom in the year 1857, and of that number 78,560 were declared to be of English origin.

The number of English soldiers and sailors who have died abroad, cannot yet be brought into the account.

The Weather and the Price of Provisions.—The high average temperature of the summer was sustained through autumn until the end of the year. In November and December the temperature fell at Greenwich only to 46° and 45°; thus remaining 3° and 6° respectively above the average of each of the last two months of the 86 preceding years. The dew point for the quarter was 45·6°, or 4·7 above the average of the 16 previous years. The humidity was 92, saturation being expressed by 100; and the atmosphere was thus 5 points nearer to saturation than it

now lives about 37 years, and the mortality has fallen to 25 in 1000. Is the excess of 8 deaths a year among every 1000 living inevitable? This cannot be admitted for a moment, if we regard only the imperfect state of those sanitary arrangements which the public authorities of London have within their power. Nor can it be admitted that the excess of 5 deaths—or 22 deaths instead of 17—a year in every 1000 living is inevitable in England and Wales, with evidence before our eyes of the same violations of the laws of nature in every district.

Whether the causes admit or do not admit of removal, the fact, then, is incontestable, and must not be lost sight of, that the excess of deaths in England and Wales over those from causes which exist in sixty-four districts was 91,652 in the year 1857; for 419,815 persons died in that year, and only about 328,163 persons would have died had the mortality not exceeded the standard of 17 deaths in 1000 living. The portion of the loss of life falling during ten years in each of the 628 districts of the kingdom has been published in the Sixteenth Annual Report, and deserves to be carefully studied.

England is a great country, and has done great deeds. It has encountered in succession, and at times in combination, all the great powers of Europe; has founded vast colonies in America; and has conquered an empire in Asia. Yet greater victories have to be achieved at home. Within the shores of these islands the twenty-eight million of people dwell who have not only supplied her armies, and set her fleets in motion, but have manufactured innumerable products, and are employed in the investigation of scientific truths, and the creation of works of inestimable value to the human race. These people do not live out half their days; a hundred and forty thousand of them die every year unnatural deaths; two hundred and eighty thousand are constantly suffering from actual diseases which do not prevail in healthy places; their strength is impaired in a thousand ways: their affections and intellects are disturbed, deranged, and diminished by the same agencies.* Who will deliver the nation from these terrible enemies? Who will confer on the inhabitants of the United Kingdom the blessings of health and long life? Who will give scope to the improvement of the English race, so that all its fine qualities may be developed to their full extent under favourable circumstances? His conquests would be wrought neither by wrong nor human slaughter; but by the application of the powers of nature to the improvement of mankind.

HEALTH of LONDON in 1857.

England is not, like some of the states of antiquity, a city state. The population of the United Kingdom is diffused over nearly two hundred islands. The Metropolis, however, contains not only a larger population, but also a larger proportion of the population of the Kingdom, than the

TABLE XXII.—METEOROLOGY of GREENWICH in the Nine Years 1849-1857.

YEARS.	Mean Weekly Movement of the Air in Miles.	Fall of Rain in Inches.	Mean Dryness of Atmosphere.	Mean Temperature of the Air.	MEAN Temperature of the AIR in the Quarters ending the last day of			
					March.	June.	Sept.	Dec.
1849	735	23.7	6.7	49.9	41.9	51.7	61.0	44.8
1850	761	19.6	6.4	49.3	39.4	53.5	59.6	44.7
1851	684	20.5	6.6	49.2	41.9	51.5	59.8	43.7
1852	724	34.4	7.3	50.6	41.4	51.2	61.8	48.1
1853	593	29.0	6.0	47.7	38.1	51.8	58.5	42.3
1854	687	18.7	5.7	49.0	40.8	51.7	59.8	43.7
1855	638	21.1	5.3	46.9	34.1	50.5	60.4	42.7
1856	713	21.9	5.7	49.1	40.0	52.3	59.9	44.2
1857	568	21.4	5.4	51.1	39.2	53.8	63.3	47.9

* The annual number of deaths in the United Kingdom is about 616,000; and the number constantly sick is about twice the number of the annual deaths, or 1,232,000. If the annual rate of mortality per 1000 were reduced from 22 to 17, the deaths would fall to 476,000; the constantly sick to 952,000.

capital of any other country. London is not merely the metropolis of the United Kingdom. It is the metropolis of the Empire. The Colonies and India sustain part of its multitudinous people. It is a vast representative city, and it contains a mass of the best as well as a due share of the worst portion of English population.

It is six years since the people were enumerated; but it appears to be a law of this great city that it grows at rates not greatly varying in periods of ten years. Hence, if it be assumed that the population has continued to increase nearly 2 per cent. annually, as it did between the two last censuses, its numbers may be now estimated without risk of any important error.

London probably contains 2,667,917 inhabitants within its bounds, which circumscribe an area of a hundred and twenty-two square miles, that may be represented by a tract of land eleven miles long by eleven miles wide. The population in 1851 was two millions, and one third part of a million. According to the estimate, one third of a million of people have been since added to the people on that immense encampment.

The weekly Tables of the year 1857 supply us with the means of knowing the births and the deaths, and the causes of death, as far as they can be determined by the medical practitioners of the day, in fifty-three weeks, and in thirty-six districts of London, amidst the various atmospheric conditions of the seasons.

Every thing in the numbers relating to the Metropolis is on a grand scale. In the year 1857, fifty-nine thousand one hundred and three persons, a number surpassing the aggregate population of two or three county towns, died, and were buried in the churchyards and cemeteries. Eighty-nine thousand five hundred and seventy-seven children were born, and were registered in the same time.

The births registered exceeded the deaths in the year by 30,474. That was the natural increase of the population. Many of the children born in London emigrate, or go to other parts of the country; but the excess of immigrants over the emigrants was about 20,000, consisting of men, women, and children of all ages, who came to London chiefly from the south, or from the Midland counties, and in smaller numbers from Ireland, or from the counties north of the Humber, and even north of the Tweed.

The rate of mortality in the year was 2.22 per cent. The average of the last ten years being 2.45 per cent., the mortality of the year 1857 is less than that average by 1-eleventh part.

The mortality is not so low as it was in the year (1850) immediately after the epidemic of cholera; but it has now remained low for two years in succession, as the mortality of the year 1856 was at the rate of 2.18 per cent.; and the mean of the mortality of the two last years together is less than 22 deaths in 1000 living.

TABLE XXIII.—LONDON.—BIRTHS and DEATHS in the Ten Years 1848 to 1857.

YEARS.	1848	1849	1850	1851	1852	1853	1854	1855	1856	1857
BIRTHS - - - - -	71380	72612	74564	78300	81250	82254	84885	85532	87430	89577
DEATHS - - - - -	57771	68756	48950	53488	54638	60069	73697	61942	57274	59103
Excess of BIRTHS over DEATHS	13609	3856	25614	22812	26612	22185	11188	23590	30156	30474
BIRTHS - { Males - - - - -	36371	37168	37907	40056	41388	42132	42988	43501	44410	45885
{ Females - - - - -	35009	35444	36657	38244	39862	40122	41897	42031	43020	43692
DEATHS - { Males - - - - -	29413	34168	24634	28140	28063	30852	37151	31354	29076	29769
{ Females - - - - -	28358	34588	24316	27348	26575	29217	36546	30588	28198	29334
ANNUAL MORTALITY per 1000	25.83	30.08	20.94	23.40	22.47	24.41	29.38	24.06	21.78	22.20

The reduction in the rate of mortality is not equally great in all the districts. Upon the average of the ten years the five groups of districts stand thus in the order of mortality: * the North districts (2.22), the West districts (2.28), the Central districts (2.44), the East districts (2.58), and the South districts (2.63). Taken in the same order, the mortality in these five groups of districts in 1857 was 2.12; 2.08; 2.29; 2.44; and 2.16. The reduction in the rates pervades the five groups; but it is most remarkable in the South districts. The fall is from 2.63 to 2.16. This modification of the sanitary condition of so large a portion of the population of the metropolis will be watched with interest in connexion with the improved water supply, and with the improvement in the drainage, which still remains defective, and counteracts to some extent the beneficial effects of the diffusion of the population over a wide area. The area of the South districts is 71.2 square miles, and of the Central districts 2.9 square miles; while the population of the South and of the Central districts in 1851 was nearly as three to two, or 616,635 and 393,256.

Small-pox was fatal in 156 instances. In the year 1856 the deaths from that disease were 531. The disease naturally fluctuates largely; but it is certain that if the whole of the children are vaccinated the number of deaths will be inconsiderable.

1341 (children chiefly) died of measles; from which 1479 also died in the previous year. 2318 died of this disease in 1845, when the mean temperature was 47.6; and 600 in 1852, when the mean temperature was 50.6.

Of scarlatina 1599 persons, chiefly children, died; less than in any of the previous 5 years. Whooping-cough was unusually fatal; the deaths by this disease were 2527, a number only exceeded in the zymotic class by the deaths from diarrhoea (3115), which was more fatal than in any previous year, except when cholera raged. 2343 of the deaths from diarrhoea were registered in the summer quarter, when 177 deaths from cholera occurred. The deaths in the year from cholera amounted to 214; and late in the year the epidemic cholera, which had prevailed at Hamburgh, appeared to be impending.

Typhus, typhoid, and relapsing fever, which are registered together, destroyed 2096 lives; and the mortality from this cause increased in the two last quarters of the year.

TABLE XXIV.—LONDON.—DEATHS IN PUBLIC INSTITUTIONS, 1852-57.

	1852	1853	1854	1855	1856	1857
TOTAL DEATHS IN PUBLIC INSTITUTIONS	8479	10116	12046	11310	10381	10079
IN WORKHOUSES	4890	5955	6812	6552	5797	5714
PRISONS	105	106	155	71	81	71
MILITARY AND NAVAL ASYLUMS	332	342	312	299	304	285
GENERAL HOSPITALS	2247	2675	3415	2956	2859	3008
HOSPITALS FOR SPECIAL DISEASES	299	281	326	441	612	332
Women	7	13	20	27	14	11
Children	26	22	43	40	31	23
LYING-IN HOSPITALS	183	263	441	404	282	180
MILITARY AND NAVAL HOSPITALS	31	59	57	64	61	63
HOSPITALS AND ASYLUMS FOR FOREIGNERS	359	400	465	456	340	392

* The following Districts are comprised in these five groups:—*West Districts*: Kensington—Chelsea—St. George, Hanover Square—Westminster—St. Martin-in-the-Fields—St. James. *North Districts*: Marylebone—Hampstead—Pancras—Islington—Hackney. *Central Districts*: St. Giles and St. George—Strand—Holborn—Clerkenwell—St. Luke—East London—West London—London City. *East Districts*: Shoreditch—Bethnal Green—Whitechapel—St. George in-the-East—Stepney—Poplar. *South Districts*: St. Saviour—St. Olave—Bermondsey—St. George, Southwark—Newington—Lambeth—Wandsworth—Camberwell—Rotherhithe—Greenwich—Lewisham.

If we place together the deaths from small-pox, measles, scarlatina, whooping-cough, diarrhoea, and typhus, and divide by the corrected population, it is found that the mortality from these diseases was at the rate of about 41 to every 10,000 living in London.

7369 deaths are referred to phthisis, which is the most fatal disease of adults. Notwithstanding the elevation of the temperature, 5710 deaths are referred to bronchitis; many of which properly belong to the epidemic influenza which prevailed to some extent at the close of the year. Medical practitioners are too often apt to overlook the specific character of influenza, and to refer the deaths it occasions to one of its effects, bronchial congestion or inflammation.

118 mothers died of metria or puerperal fever, and 247 of the other diseases incidental to childbirth. Childbirth is much more fatal than it should be; but much less fatal than it was.

2520 deaths were referred to the six following heads: intemperance (99), privation (20), cold (4), neglect (11), want of breast-milk (347), and violence (1852). Many of the deaths by disease are induced and accelerated by the operation of the causes in this class. Of the violent deaths 99 were by poison, 266 were by burns and scalds, 315 by hanging and suffocation, 340 by drowning, 661 by fractures and contusions, 107 by wounds, and 64 by other violence.

10,079 deaths, or nearly a sixth of the whole number, took place in the public institutions of London, and of these 5714 occurred in the workhouses.

The peculiar meteorological phenomena of the year are the high temperature (51.1°) and the slowness of the wind's movements. The temperature was 2° above the average of the preceding 17 years; the wind, instead of moving at the average rate of 110 miles a day, passed over London at the rate of 81 miles during the 53 weeks. The rain-fall was 21.4 inches.

GREAT BRITAIN.

The Registrar-General of Scotland supplies me with a return of the births, deaths, and marriages in Scotland. It completes the Return for Great Britain.

The excess of births over deaths was 41,703 in Scotland, which contained about 3,072,725 inhabitants, so the rate of natural increase was about one per cent. The births were at the rate of 33.73, the deaths at the rate of 20.15 to 1000 living; the marriage rate was 13.88 persons married to 1000 living.

TABLE XXV.—LONDON.—DEATHS and METEOROLOGY, 1848-57.

YEARS.	Total Number of Deaths.	Mean Temperature of Air.	Dryness of Atmosphere.	Fall of Rain in Inches.	Mean Weekly Amount of Horizontal Movement of the Air.	WEEKLY AVERAGE OF 1857.						
						Number of Deaths weekly.	Mean Temperature of Air.	Average daily Range of Temperature.	Dryness of Atmosphere.	Fall of Rain in Inches.	Amount of Horizontal Movement of the Air in each Week.	
1848	57771	50.2	5.6	30.1	Miles. 1018							
1849	68756	49.9	6.7	23.7	735							
1850	48950	49.3	6.4	19.6	761							
1851	55488	49.4	6.6	20.2	684	First Quarter	1238	38.9	12.8	3.9	0.27	606
1852	54638	50.6	7.3	34.4	724	Second Quarter	1019	53.2	21.5	7.3	0.38	640
1853	60069	47.8	6.0	29.6	596	Third Quarter	1097	63.6	21.4	7.5	0.60	498
1854	73707	49.1	5.7	17.3	687	Fourth Quarter	1182	48.2	12.5	2.2	0.41	529
1855	61942	46.9	5.3	21.1	638							
1856	57274	49.1	5.7	21.9	713							
1857	59103	51.1	5.4	21.4	568							

The excess of births over deaths was 284,959 in Great Britain, and the natural rate of increase was 1·273 per cent. The births were at the rate of 34·26, the deaths at the rate of 21·53 in 1000; and 16·12 persons out of 1000 married.

The births, deaths, and marriages of Ireland are not registered, so that the vital statistics of the United Kingdom are left incomplete. Such a glaring defect does not exist in any other civilized state of Europe.

Her Majesty's Government introduced a Bill in the last Session of Parliament to wipe away the reproach, by securing a registration system for Ireland, and a measure for this purpose will probably be enacted and be in force ere many months have passed.

TABLE XXVI.—ESTIMATED POPULATION, MARRIAGES, BIRTHS, and DEATHS in Great Britain, 1857.

	Area.		Estimated Population in the middle of the Year 1857.	Marriages.	Persons Married.	Births.	Deaths.
	Acres.	Hectars.					
England and Wales	37,324,915	15,104,312	19,304,897	159,097	318,194	663,071	419,815
Scotland	20,047,462	8,112,627	3,072,725	21,314	42,628	103,628	61,925
GREAT BRITAIN	57,372,377	23,216,939	22,377,622	180,411	360,822	766,699	481,740

Note.—The population of England and Wales has been obtained by taking the excess of births over deaths in the 4 quarters ending June 30th in each year; the population of Scotland has been deduced on the assumption that it increased in 1857 at the same rate as it did in each of the 10 years, 1841-51.

PROPORTION per Cent. of MARRIAGES, BIRTHS, and DEATHS to the Population of Great Britain, 1857.

	Acreality.		To 100 Persons living.			
	Acres	Hectars	Marriages.	Persons Married.	Births.	Deaths.
	to a Person.					
England and Wales	1·93	·78	·824	1·648	3·435	2·175
Scotland	6·52	2·64	·694	1·368	3·373	2·015
GREAT BRITAIN	2·56	1·04	·806	1·612	3·426	2·153

The total area of a country, divided by its population, gives what is here called the "Acreality;" it is the average area to each person. The reciprocal gives the "density" of the population or the population to each acre, square mile or other measure.

TABLE XXVII a.—NUMBER OF DEATHS in the BRITISH ARMY during 1855, 1856, and 1857 (furnished to the Registrar-General by the Adjutant-General by direction of H.R.H. the Commander-in-Chief).

	1855			1856			1857							
	GREAT BRITAIN.	IRELAND.	ABROAD.	GREAT BRITAIN.	IRELAND.	ABROAD.	GREAT BRITAIN.	IRELAND.	ABROAD.					
	Officers.	Non-commissioned Officers and Men.	Officers.	Non-commissioned Officers and Men.	Officers.	Non-commissioned Officers and Men.	Officers.	Non-commissioned Officers and Men.	Officers.	Non-commissioned Officers and Men.				
Cavalry	3	70	-	32	8	731	2	69	-	37	2	111	} 27 482 7 175 163 2,921	
Infantry	11	854	6	383	229	17,058	14	672	8	396	64	2,243		
Artillery	3	199	-	17	12	1,184	1	132	1	25	1	131		7 53 - 14 4 118
Engineers	2	30	-	-	14	179	4	21	1	-	5	23		1 12 - - 1 13
Total	19	1,153	6	432	263	20,052	21	794	10	458	72	2,508	35 547 7 189 168 3,052	

His Royal Highness the General-Commanding-in-Chief has favoured me with a return of the strength and the number of deaths in the army abroad, from which I have deduced the rate of mortality in the population of Great Britain, including its due share of the army abroad. And the mortality can now be compared with that of France. M. Legoyt, who directs, with such intelligence, the statistical operations of France, has supplied me with the official returns for the years 1856 and 1857. It will be observed that the people of France marry at nearly the same rates as the people of England; that the births to 1000 people living in the two countries are, 26 in France, and 34 in Great Britain; the deaths 23 in France, 22 in Great Britain. The mortality in the two countries rises and falls in the same years; but the rate was rather higher in France than it was in Great Britain.

TABLE XXVII b.—DEATHS OF OFFICERS AND MEN in the ARMY ABROAD, and Estimated Numbers belonging to Great Britain and to England and Wales, in each of the four Years 1854, 1855, 1856, and 1857.

YEARS.	Deaths of Officers and Men in the Army Abroad.	Estimated Numbers in Col. 2 belonging to	
		Great Britain.	England and Wales.
1	2	3	4
1854	7,383	4,287	3,496
1855	20,315	11,794	9,619
1856	2,580	1,498	1,222
1857	3,220	1,869	1,525

The number of Deaths in the cols. 3 and 4 were estimated on the assumption that the soldiers abroad belonged to the different parts of the British Empire in the proportions indicated in the next Table derived from the Census Report, Occupations, Vol. I., Supplementary Tables, p. cccxlv., vi. See Table XXVII c.

TABLE XXVII c.—ARMY SERVING AT HOME AND ABROAD.

	1851
Officers and Men born in England	67,647
" " Scotland	15,300
" " Ireland	53,169
" " Foreign Parts	6,754
Total	142,870

It was inferred also that the 76,446 officers and men abroad in the army in 1851 should be added to the population of the several parts of the United Kingdom, also in the proportions indicated in the above Table. Thus the population of England and Wales at home in 1851 was 17,927,609; add the proportion of the army abroad (36,196) belonging to England and Wales and its population becomes 17,963,805. The estimated population at home in 1856 was 19,045,187, and the population, including its share of the army abroad, was deduced from the following proportion:—

$$17,927,609 : 17,963,805 :: 19,045,187 : x = 19,083,644$$

Great Britain was dealt with on the same principles.

TABLE XXVII d.—ANNUAL RATE OF MORTALITY per Cent. per Annum, including the Deaths of Soldiers Abroad.

YEARS.	GREAT BRITAIN.	ENGLAND and WALES.	FRANCE.
1855	2·287	2·312	2·594
1856	2·035	2·053	2·306
1857	2·157	2·178	2·323

BIRTHS AND DEATHS OF ENGLISH SUBJECTS AT SEA.

I have unfortunately to repeat a sentence which appeared in my last report, to this effect: that the Registration Act has still been imperfectly complied with by the captains of ships, and the births and deaths at sea are not fully returned. 101 births at sea were reported to this office during the year 1857. Of the deaths at sea in 1857, only 352 have been reported to me by the captains and commanding officers of vessels; yet it appears from the accounts of wages and effects of seamen dying before the termination of the voyage, received by the Registrar General of Seamen, that 3444 died in that year. The mortality was at the rate of 19.5 in 1000. The health of this important class of men is of great importance, and it may be undoubtedly improved. Quarantine would be less costly if all vessels were kept clean, well ventilated, and well provided with sweet water and good food, including a due supply of lime juice.

TABLE XXVIIe.—RETURN showing the AVERAGE STRENGTH of the ARMY ABROAD, in the Years 1855, 1856, and 1857. Furnished to the Registrar-General by desire of H.R.H. the Commander-in-Chief.

	1855		1856		1857	
	Officers.	Non-commissioned Officers and Men.	Officers.	Non-commissioned Officers and Men.	Officers.	Non-commissioned Officers and Men.
Cavalry - - - - -	245	5,676	137	3,614	126	2,757
Infantry - - - - -	3,003	95,440	2,682	85,257	2,327	65,361
Artillery - - - - -	307	9,067	240	7,694	246	5,402
Engineers - - - - -	130	1,388	106	1,434	107	1,350
Total - - - - -	3,685	111,571	3,165	97,999	2,806	74,870

TABLE XXVIII.—ENGLAND and FRANCE. ESTIMATED POPULATION, REGISTERED MARRIAGES, BIRTHS, and DEATHS, in each of the Years 1854, 1855, 1856, and 1857.

	ENGLAND and WALES.				FRANCE.			
	1854	1855	1856	1857	1854	1855	1856	1857
Estimated Population -	18,618,760	18,786,914	19,045,187	19,304,897	36,155,682	36,118,408	36,205,792	36,292,663
Marriages - - - - -	159,727	152,113	159,337	159,097	270,906	283,846	284,335	290,349
Births - - - - -	634,405	635,043	657,453	663,071	923,461	899,559	952,116	929,832
Deaths - - - - -	437,905	425,703	390,506	419,815	992,779	936,833	835,017	842,961

The Population of England and Wales for 1854, 1855, 1856, and 1857 has been deduced by taking the excess of births over deaths since 1851, when the population was enumerated.

* According to the official Enumeration this Population includes 166,428 men, being the Effective Strength of the Army of the East in the Crimea in the month of January 1856. M. Legoyt has favoured the Registrar General with the Returns of France for the years 1856 and 1857. The Census is not taken on one day in France, as it is in England, and the date of the French Census is not stated.

PROPORTION of MARRIAGES, BIRTHS, and DEATHS to the Population of England and Wales, and in France, 1854-7.

	ENGLAND and WALES.				FRANCE.			
	1854	1855	1856	1857	1854	1855	1856	1857
Marriages - - - - -	.858	.810	.837	.824	.749	.786	.785	.800
Persons married - - -	1.716	1.620	1.674	1.648	1.498	1.570	1.570	1.600
Births - - - - -	3.407	3.380	3.452	3.435	2.554	2.491	2.630	2.562
Deaths - - - - -	2.352	2.266	2.050	2.175	2.746	2.504	2.306	2.323

The rate of mortality of females during the year 1854 in England was 2.273, and in France 2.721 per cent. In 1855 the female rate of mortality in England was 2.187, and in France 2.483 per cent.

The registers of the marriages of British Subjects before Her Majesty's Consuls abroad, received by me, pursuant to the Statute in the year 1857, amounted to 167.

I have been favoured by the Board of Trade with Returns relating to the mortality of Merchant Seamen. (Tables XXX. and XXXI.)

TABLE XXIX.—NUMBER of BIRTHS and DEATHS of ENGLISH SUBJECTS in BRITISH VESSELS AT SEA, reported by the Captains or Commanding Officers of Vessels, and entered in the "Marine Register," pursuant to Sections 21 and 26 of the Registration Act.

	TOTAL.	MALES.	FEMALES.
From 1st July 1837 to 31st Dec. 1857:—			
Births at Sea - - - - -	750	380	370
Deaths at Sea - - - - -	3821	3460	361
Whereof were reported during the years 1856 and 1857:—			
Births at Sea { 1856 - - - - -	72	37	35
{ 1857 - - - - -	101	50	51
Deaths at Sea { 1856 - - - - -	302	274	28
{ 1857 - - - - -	352	261	91

TABLE XXX.—MORTALITY of MERCHANT SEAMEN at SEA, in the 7 Years 1852-58.*

YEARS.	STRENGTH.	DEATHS.	MORTALITY.
			To 1000 living.
1852	159,563	2,205	13.8
1853	172,525	3,276	19.0
1854	162,416	2,772	17.1
1855	168,537	3,318	19.7
1856	173,918	3,549	20.4
1857	176,387	3,444	19.5
1858	177,832	3,486	19.6
In the 7 years } 1852-58.	1,191,178	22,050	18.5

* Deduced from a return of the number of accounts of wages and effects of seamen (exclusive of masters) dying before the termination of the voyage, received by the Registrar General of Merchant Seamen. This return does not include seamen dying ashore in foreign parts, whose wages and effects are delivered to the consuls or officers of the hospitals to which such men are sent; accounts of their effects are sent direct to the Board of Trade.

TABLE XXXI.—RETURN showing the NUMBER of DEATHS from VARIOUS CAUSES on board BRITISH VESSELS engaged in Voyages between the United Kingdom and the Foreign Parts enumerated in the Year 1857.

	Total Number of Ships including repeated Voyages.	Total Number of Men comprising Crew.	Deaths.				Total Number of Deaths from all Causes.	Per-centage.
			Cholera.	Accident.	Disease.	Fever.		
New Orleans Trade - - -	60	1,372	-	8	3	1	12	.875
African - - - - -	361	5,083	8	45	36	85	174	3.423
Mexican - - - - -	27	267	-	3	1	12	16	5.992
United States - - - - -	216	5,641	2	25	12	9	48	.850
West India - - - - -	956	15,710	17	65	57	308	447	2.845
South American - - - - -	457	7,483	6	63	26	26	121	1.616
Brazilian - - - - -	342	5,767	-	29	4	110	143	2.479

CERTIFIED PLACES OF MEETING FOR PUBLIC WORSHIP.

All buildings registered for the solemnization of marriages of which, as before stated, there were 3925 on the register at the close of 1857

TABLE XXXII.—Showing the NUMBER of BUILDINGS REGISTERED for the SOLEMNIZATION of MARRIAGES, and on the Register on 31st December 1857.

Table with 18 columns: ENGLAND: DIVISIONS AND REGISTRATION COUNTIES, TOTAL, Church of Scotland, United Presbyterians, Presbyterian Church in England, Independents, Baptists, United Brethren or Moravians, Roman Catholics, Unitarians, Wesleyan Methodists (Original Connexion, New Connexion, Primitive Methodists, Bible Christians, Wesleyan Methodist Association, Wesleyan Reformers, Other Wesleyan Methodists), Calvinistic Methodists (Welsh Calvinistic Methodists, Countess of Huntingdon's Connexion), New Church, Catholic and Apostolic Church, All others.*

* For the names of the religious bodies or other description given on the registration of these buildings, see next page.

(Table XXII.), must previously be certified as places of meeting for public worship.

The certification of 481 places of meeting for public religious worship was completed during the year, making a total of 8194 buildings on the register on 31st December 1857. In addition to the existing places of worship certified in this office, a large number had been previously certified according to law, during the period between the passing of the Toleration Act in 1688 and 30th June 1852 in the Courts of the Bishops and Archdeacons, and to Justices of the Peace in General or Quarter Sessions. All uncertified places of worship are now certified exclusively to the Registrar General. At the census of 1851, returns as to accommodation and attendance were obtained from about 20,400 places of worship then existing and not belonging to the Established Church. The denominations whose buildings have been certified since June 1852 are distinguished in Table XXXIII.

NON-PAROCHIAL REGISTERS.

In the year 1836 Commissioners were appointed to inquire into the state, custody, and authenticity of all registers or records (not being parochial) of births or baptisms, deaths or burials, and marriages duly

TABLE XXXII a.—BUILDINGS REGISTERED FOR MARRIAGES.—Names of the Religious Bodies or other description given in the registration of the 63 Buildings entered in the preceding Table in the Column "all others."

Table with 2 columns: RELIGIOUS BODIES, Number of Registered Buildings.

TABLE XXXIII.—NUMBER of PLACES of MEETING for PUBLIC WORSHIP in England and Wales, certified to the REGISTRAR-GENERAL, and on the REGISTER on December 31st, 1857.

Table with 18 columns: TOTAL, Church of Scotland, United Presbyterians, Presbyterian Church in England and Unitarians, Independents, Baptists, United Brethren or Moravians, Roman Catholics, Society of Friends, Unitarians, Wesleyan Methodists (Original Connexion, New Connexion, Primitive Methodists, Bible Christians, Wesleyan Methodist Association, Independent Methodists, Wesleyan Methodists, Other Methodists), Calvinistic Methodists (Welsh Calvinistic Methodists, Countess of Huntingdon's Connexion), New Church, Catholic and Apostolic Church, Latter Day Saints, Jews, All others.

solemnized, with a view to some legislative provision to insure the safe preservation of such of them as might be found trustworthy and authentic, and to give to them full force and effect as legal evidence in judicial pro-

TABLE XXXIV.—NUMBER OF REGISTERED BIRTHS, distinguishing those in *Wedlock* and those out of *Wedlock*, and the Proportion of *Births in Wedlock to Married Women*, and of *Births out of Wedlock to Unmarried Women*, in England and in each of the Registration Counties in the Thirteen Years, 1845-57.

	Thirteen Years, 1845-57			Proportion of Births in <i>Wedlock</i> , 1845-57 to 100 <i>Married</i> <i>Women</i> .		Proportion of Births out of <i>Wedlock</i> , 1845-57 to 100 <i>Unmarried</i> <i>Women and Widows</i> .	
	Total Births.	Births in <i>Wedlock</i>	Births out of <i>Wedlock</i>	Under the Age of 40.	Under the Age of 55.	Of the Age of 20-40.	Of the Age of 15-55.
ENGLAND	7,832,991	7,312,287	520,704	34.499	22.024	3.209	1.635
I.—LONDON.*							
Middlesex (part of)	738,881	708,535	30,346	30.566	20.366	1.470	.800
Surrey (part of)	217,195	208,486	8,709				
Kent (part of)	57,931	56,417	1,514				
II.—SOUTH EASTERN.							
1 Surrey (extra-metropolitan)	77,757	73,427	4,330	34.413	21.024	2.266	1.197
2 Kent (extra-metropolitan)	202,905	190,624	12,281	35.175	22.114	3.008	1.518
3 Sussex	133,675	124,613	9,062	33.535	20.939	2.933	1.487
4 Hampshire	163,572	153,637	9,935	33.056	21.090	2.837	1.446
5 Berkshire	78,157	72,144	6,013	34.210	20.906	3.627	1.820
III.—SOUTH MIDLAND.							
6 Middlesex	57,591	54,706	2,885	33.934	20.699	1.855	1.008
7 Hertfordshire	71,735	66,576	5,159	34.364	21.356	3.732	1.829
8 Buckinghamshire	60,703	56,448	4,255	34.679	21.483	3.887	1.884
9 Oxfordshire	69,713	64,432	5,281	35.358	21.597	3.822	1.902
10 Northamptonshire	94,928	89,070	5,858	34.919	22.083	3.743	1.804
11 Huntingdonshire	26,510	25,129	1,381	34.555	22.127	3.520	1.587
12 Bedfordshire	59,077	54,572	4,505	34.736	22.505	4.197	2.011
13 Cambridgeshire	82,601	76,764	5,837	33.612	21.628	4.004	1.927
IV.—EASTERN.							
14 Essex	142,462	133,523	8,939	33.720	21.307	3.525	1.726
15 Suffolk	139,748	127,985	11,763	33.626	20.935	4.504	2.210
16 Norfolk	175,403	156,883	18,520	32.101	19.606	4.953	2.523
V.—SOUTH WESTERN.							
17 Wiltshire	96,562	89,700	6,862	35.190	21.164	3.539	1.737
18 Dorsetshire	70,146	65,347	4,799	35.404	21.239	3.032	1.508
19 Devonshire	218,184	206,376	11,808	33.665	20.248	2.077	1.089
20 Cornwall	153,067	145,218	7,849	39.164	23.746	2.537	1.244
21 Somersetshire	177,669	166,197	11,472	35.253	20.965	2.587	1.347
VI.—WEST MIDLAND.							
22 Gloucestershire	167,388	157,206	10,192	33.650	20.648	2.304	1.215
23 Herefordshire	36,892	33,175	3,717	35.429	20.165	4.312	2.225
24 Shropshire	91,163	82,251	8,912	34.741	20.019	4.219	2.149
25 Staffordshire †	326,059	305,200	20,859	37.675	25.183	4.909	2.301
26 Worcestershire	111,651	104,125	7,526	34.926	21.917	3.346	1.696
27 Warwickshire	223,840	211,170	12,670	34.218	22.387	3.137	1.556
VII.—NORTH MIDLAND.							
28 Leicestershire	102,917	94,632	8,285	34.880	21.635	4.223	2.099
29 Rutlandshire	9,346	8,784	562	36.386	21.288	2.798	1.405
30 Lincolnshire	167,525	155,241	12,284	34.803	21.626	4.001	1.960
31 Nottinghamshire	128,616	116,970	11,646	34.365	21.253	4.683	2.307
32 Derbyshire	114,710	105,625	9,085	35.230	21.891	4.270	2.096
VIII.—NORTH WESTERN.							
33 Cheshire	184,810	169,311	15,499	33.175	21.486	3.878	1.985
34 Lancashire	1,026,657	952,725	73,932	36.019	24.043	3.635	1.876
IX.—YORK.							
35 West Riding	645,465	601,317	44,148	35.789	23.493	4.091	1.996
36 East Riding (with York)	108,663	100,765	7,898	32.613	20.897	3.498	1.745
37 North Riding	80,701	73,751	6,950	37.743	22.573	4.191	2.141
X.—NORTHERN.							
38 Durham	213,226	200,924	12,302	37.519	25.149	4.353	2.013
39 Northumberland	133,006	122,988	10,018	35.593	22.884	3.613	1.823
40 Cumberland	81,304	72,670	8,634	36.306	22.459	4.634	2.373
41 Westmorland	22,770	20,673	2,097	38.126	22.888	3.822	1.933
XI.—WELSH.							
42 Monmouthshire	80,217	76,218	3,999	34.196	22.620	3.319	1.605
43 South Wales	260,409	241,931	18,478	37.562	23.499	3.411	1.757
44 North Wales	149,474	137,756	11,718	35.495	20.752	3.389	1.728

* Lewisham and Hampstead were added to London in 1847. In this return London has been corrected for these Districts in 1845-6 by adding an estimated number of Births in and out of *Wedlock*, on the assumption that the numbers in those two years bore the same proportion to the Total Births in London as in the subsequent years 1847-50.

† In 1847 the District of Dudley was for the first time included in *Staffordshire*; in this return, for the sake of uniformity, it has been included in the same County for the two previous years 1845 and 1846.

ceedings. A large number of the Nonconformist congregations possessed of records of the nature referred to gladly availed themselves of the opportunity thus offered, and transmitted their registers to the Commissioners. About 7000 register books, from upwards of 3600 religious congregations, besides about 1500 registers from the Society of Friends, from Dr. Williams's library, and from other sources, were, after careful examination and inquiry, pronounced to be authentic and admissible. The Commissioners in their report recommended that these registers should be kept together in a secure place of deposit, under the care of the Registrar General; that the registers should be then deemed to be in legal custody; that they, or certified copies of them, should be receivable as evidence in all courts of justice; and that such certified copies or extracts should be given to the public, under certain regulations, upon payment of a moderate fee.

These several recommendations were embodied in an Act of Parliament passed in 1840, "For enabling Courts of Justice to admit Non-Parochial registers as evidence of Births or Baptisms, Deaths or Burials, and Marriages" (3 & 4 Vict. c. 92.); and, pursuant to its provisions, all the registers examined and certified by the Commissioners are now in my custody at this office, where searches and certified copies are granted.

Subsequently to the close of the labours of the Commission, a considerable number of additional registers belonging to the Society of Friends, which were overlooked when the others were collected, were discovered; and it was the earnest desire of that body to have them also duly authenticated and placed in the same custody, and on the same footing, as the others.

In order to accomplish this object, and at the same time to afford to other religious communities or to individuals who might be in possession of any registers of a like nature, an opportunity of securing an extension to them of benefits similar to those conferred by the Act above cited, Her Majesty was graciously pleased to issue a further Commission of Inquiry.*

The first proceeding of the newly appointed Commissioners was to make known amongst the various Nonconformist bodies the objects of the Inquiry. This was effected by public advertisement and by circular letters addressed to the acting representatives of the several associations of Protestant Dissenters, to the proprietors of burial grounds closed by Orders in Council, and to all other persons presumed or known to have non-parochial registers in their possession. Applications were also made with respect to the registers of the Roman Catholics and of the British Jews, but both of those bodies, for the reasons assigned on their behalf by Cardinal Wiseman and Sir Moses Montefiore respectively, declined to part with the custody of their registration records.

Of the whole number of registers transmitted to the Commissioners, 303 were judged to be accurate and faithful, and such as might be advantageously legalised as evidence by an Act of the legislature. They included 120 volumes and bundles belonging to the Society of Friends, 45 registers of Independent congregations, and smaller numbers from the Wesleyan Methodists, the Baptists, Lady Huntingdon's Connexion, and a few other sects, besides the original registers kept by the respective chaplains of the royal hospitals at Greenwich and Chelsea, and the Foundling Hospital, which were deposited by the governors of those

* The Commissioners were Mr. Samuel Gale, Mr. John Sutherland Burn (members of the former Commission), Mr. R. Lush, Q.C., Mr. W. P. Parken, Mr. Horace Mann, Mr. Hull Terrell, and Major Graham. Mr. James T. Hammack acted as Secretary to the Commission.

institutions. These 303 registers, comprising upwards of 270,000 entries, have been placed in my custody, pursuant to the provisions of the recent Act of 21 Vict. c. 25., by which they are made receivable in evidence in all courts of justice upon the same footing as the non-parochial registers previously deposited in the General Register Office.

The diseases and other causes of death in the year 1857 are briefly discussed by Dr. Farr in a letter addressed to me which will be found in the Appendix.

The Appendix also contains a new Life Table for *Females*, corresponding with the ENGLISH LIFE TABLE No. 2. for *Males* already published*. It has been computed under the immediate superintendence of Dr. Farr, and is founded on the ages at which the entire number of deaths of females occurred in England and Wales according to the registers of the seven years ending 1844.

I have the honour to be,

Sir,

Your faithful servant,

GEORGE GRAHAM,

Registrar-General.

* Twelfth Annual Report of the Registrar General (8vo.) Appendix.—Finance of Life Assurance, pp. 73-108.