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EIGHTEENTH ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE

REGISTRAR-GENERAL

OF

BIRTHS, DEATHS, AND MARRIAGES

IN ENGLAND.

Jaken 1888

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EIGHTEENTH

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:

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1857.

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REPORT

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

General Register Office, Somerset House, 10th June 1857.

I HAVE the honour to submit to you, in continuation of my annual statements, the Abstracts of the Births, Deaths, and Marriages in England and Wales during the year 1855.

SIR,

1855.—MARRIAGES, BIRTHS, AND DEATHS.

304,226 persons were married; the births of 635,043 children, not including the still-born, were registered; and 425,703 deaths were recorded during the year. Thus 1,364,972 new names were inscribed on the national registers. Respecting each of these persons, certain important facts are registered, which when carefully collated, throw light upon many subjects of great public interest.

The natural increase of the population by the excess of births over deaths in the year was 209,340; or it was at the rate of 1'121 per cent. on the population. The increase is greater than the annual increase of

the two previous years by several thousands.

The number of marriages decreased; and the persons married were 15,228 less in number in 1855 than in the previous year. The number of births exceeded by 638 the 634,405 births in the previous year. The deaths were 12,202 less numerous than the deaths in 1854.

176,807 emigrants embarked from the ports of the United Kingdom

during the year 1855. About 62,906 of the number were of English or Welsh origin, of whom 27,833 sailed to the United States, 4991 to the North American colonies, 29,868 to the Australian Colonies, and 214 to all other places. Of the 62,906 persons about 24,997 were adult males, and 22,545 adult females; 6769 were males aged 1 to 14 years, and 6470 were females aged 1 to 14; and 2125 were infants.*

* These results have been derived from the following numbers published in the Appendix to the Sixteenth Annual Report of the Emigration Commissioners.

Summary of Emigration from the United Kingdom, 1855.

Adu	ılts.	Chile aged 1	dren to 14.		Not	Section 1	Constitution of solid	Native Country of Emigrants.									
M.	F.	м.	F.	Infants.	stated.	Total.	English.	Scotch.	Irish.	Foreigners.	Not stated.						
65,363	58,950	17,700	16,919	5,557	12,318	176,807	57,132†	14,037	78,854	10,554	16,230						

[†] Of this number of English, 25,278 sailed to the United States; 4,533 to North American Colonies; 27,127 to Australian Colonies; and 194 to other places. In the statement in the text the numbers which appear in this Table under the head of "Not stated" have been distributed proportionally over the other heads.

Marriages.

The annual rates of the year 1855 were such, that to 100 persons living*, there were marriages ·810, persons married 1 ·620, births 3 ·380, deaths 2 ·266. The rate of marriage was below the average; the rates of birth and of death were slightly above the average of the eighteen years 1838-55. One marriage took place to 123 persons living, and consequently one person was married to 62 living; one child was born alive to every 30 persons living; one person died to every 44 living.

The observations now extend over eighteen years; and the resulting average rates for England and Wales are to 100 persons living, 1.631 persons married annually, 3.276 births, 2.246 deaths; or 1 in 61 of the population is married, 1 in 31 is born, 1 in 45 dies annually.

MARRIAGES.

127,751 marriages were celebrated according to the rites of the Established Church, and 24,362 marriages according to other forms. Of 100 marriages, about 84 take place in the churches and chapels of the Establishment. Only 14 marriages were by special licence; more than 20,386 by licence, 99,546 after banns, 3804 by superintendent registrar's certificate. The mode of marriages was not stated in 4001 instances by the clergymen. If we take the proportion in 100 on the 123,750 distinguished cases, 16.5 were by licence, 80.4 by banns, and 3.1 by superintendent registrar's certificate.

The cost of the marriage licence is about 50s.; the common fee for the publication of banns is 1s. The revenue of the ecclesiastical officers under the two heads must have been about 52,613l. for licences, and 5138l. for the publication of banns.

The decrease in the marriages by banns was 5504 on 105,050, or more than 5 per cent.; the decrease in the marriages after licence was 662 on 21,048, or more than 3 per cent. The poorer classes evidently felt the

Table I.—Estimated Population, with the Number of Marriages, Births, and Deaths registered in England in each Year from 1838 to 1855.

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	158590
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

† The Population has been deduced on the assumption that the annual rate of increase was uniform; viz. 1°220 per cent. in each of the 10 years 1841-51, and 1°326 per cent. in each of the 3 years 1838-40. For 1852-55 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, as it did in 1841-51.

pressure of the times more severely than the rich; and they abstained from marriage to a greater extent.

The marriages in registered places of worship belonging to Roman Catholics were 7344; to Independents, Baptists, Methodists, and other Christian denominations 9296, to Quakers 57, and to Jews 224. The marriages among the Roman Catholics attained their maximum (8375) in 1853; they fell to 7344 in 1855, or more than 12 per cent. The number (10,149) among other Christian denominations not of the Established Church was at its maximum in the same year, and fell to 9296 in 1855, or 8 per cent.; while the marriages according to the rites of the Ch

Church was at its maximum in the same year, and fell to 9296 in 1855, or 8 per cent.; while the marriages according to the rites of the Church of England declined 7 per cent. These rates must have been modified by the comparative wealth of the members of the different communities.

High prices of wheat depress marriage among the classes (five out of six) who marry by banns, to a greater extent than they depress marriage among the remaining sixth of the people marrying by licence. Consequently, as the annual average price of wheat was higher (74s. 8d.) in 1855 than it was in any of the 15 years since 1841, the proportion of marriages by banns to the marriages by licence should be lower than it was in any of those years. This is found to be the case, and the proportion was 4.883 marriages by banns, to 1 marriage by licence in 1855. The principle that was announced in the last report, is thus confirmed by the experience of another year. (See Table a.)

Marriages of minors.—8386 young men and 27,207 young women married under 21 years of age; of 100 men who married nearly 6 were minors, of 100 women 18 were minors; or taking 100 persons (50 men and 50 women), 12 married under 21 years of age.

TABLE (a).

	MAR	RIAGES.	Estimated to 1	00 persons living.	
YEARS.	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.	Price of Wheat per Quarter.
1	2	3	4	5	6.
Average:					s. d.
Of 5 years of highest prices -	} .793	4.973	•133	•661	67 8
Of 5 years of intermediate prices	} .843	5.469	•130	.712	52 1
Of 5 years of lowest prices -	} .831	5.230	.127	.704	42 9
1855 1854 1847 1841 1842 1846 1853	.810 .858 .793 .769 .737 .861 .894	4.883 4.991 4.977 4.940 5.072 5.427 5.293	138 143 133 129 121	·672 ·715 ·660 ·640 ·616 ·727 ·752	74 8 72 5 69 9 64 4 57 3 54 8 53 3
1845 1848	·860 ·797	5.705 5.799 5.121	·119 ·126 ·130	·682 ·734 ·667	51 3 50 10
1843 1849 1852 1850 1851	.759 .808 .872 .860	5·490 5·429 5·472 5·666 5·591	117 1126 1135 129	·642 ·682 ·737 ·731 ·728	50 6 50 1 44 3 40 9 40 3 38 6

^{*} By taking the numbers living to be 100,000, the numbers may be read without the decimal points.

The number of young women marrying under age has increased rapidly within the last seven years. The proportion fluctuated only from 13·16 to 13·73 per cent. in the seven years 1841-47. It then rose from 14·06 in 1848, and 15·75 in 1851 to 16·99 in 1852; 17·76 in 1853; 18·03 in 1854; and 17·89 in 1855. The proportion of young men to young women who marry under the age of 21 is as 1 to 3; but the early marriages of men increased nearly to the same extent as the early marriages of women.

The proportion of early marriages of women exceeded 20 in 100 in the following counties; and it was 21 in the county of Northampton, 24 in Huntingdon, 25 in Bedford, 23 in Cambridge, 21 in Essex; it was 28 in Stafford, 26 in Durham, and 22 in Monmouth, the great coal districts; 21 in Nottingham, 21 in Derby, 21 in Lancaster, 25 in the West Riding of Yorkshire, 21 in the East Riding of Yorkshire.

The increase of the proportional number of marriages of young women under the age of 21 was great in Cornwall, Durham, and Monmouthshire and Wales; in Herefordshire, Shropshire, and Worcestershire; in Nottinghamshire and Derbyshire; in the East Riding of Yorkshire, Northumberland, and Cumberland. And the increase was not only in the proportional, but also in the absolute number of such marriages. London, Middlesex, Devon, and North Wales have remarkably few marriages of minors.

Re-marriages. — 21,940 widowers and 14,435 widows re-married; 14,280 widowers married spinsters, and 7660 married widows, and 6775 widows married bachelors. The proportional number of widowers (14.42 per cent.) and widows (9.49 per cent.) exceeded the average.

In London, Bucks, Norfolk, Wilts, Notts, Chester, Lancaster, the East Riding of Yorkshire, more than 15 in 100 men who married were widowers. In London, Hants, Hereford, Stafford, Warwick, Lancaster, Durham, and Monmouth, more than 10 in 100 women who married were widows.

Signatures of persons married.—44,846 husbands and 62,672 wives made their marks; while 107,267 husbands and 89,441 wives wrote their names in the marriage registers. A certain number of the women who

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

		To 100 Persons	s living.	1,72	TI	The Number of Persons living.								
Years ended Dec. 31st.	MARRIAGES.	PERSONS MARRIED.	BIRTHS.	DEATHS.	To one Marriage.	To one Person Married.	To one Birth.	To one Death.						
1838 1839 1840	•771 •79 4 •780	•794 1 588		2·238 2·185 2·288	130 126 128	65 63 64	33 31 31	45 46 44						
1841 1842 1843 1844	*769 *787 *759 *801 *860	1.538 1.474 1.518 1.602 1.720	3·215 3·211 3·231 3·273 3·251	2·159 2·168 2·123 2·161 2·089	130 136 132 125 116	65 68 66 62 58	31 31 31 31 31	46 46 47 46 48						
1846 1847 1848 1849	*861 *793 *797 *808	1.722 1.586 1.594 1.616 1.720	3°383 3°152 3°247 3°294 3°340	2*306 2*471 2*306 2*512 2*077	116 126 125 124 116	58 63 63 62 58	30 32 31 30 30	43 40 43 40 48						
1850 1851 1852 1853 1854	*860 *858 *872 *894 *858 *810	1.716 1.744 1.788 1.716 1.620	3.425 3.428 3.328 3.407 3.380	2·199 2·236 2·288 2·352 2·266	117 115 112 117 123	58 57 56 58 62	29 29 30 29 30	45 45 44 43 44						
1855 Mean	*816	1.631	3.276	2.246	123	61	31	45						

Note.—The Table may be read thus:—In the year 1838 to every 100 persons living there were '771 marriages or 1'542 persons married, 3'029 births, 2'238 deaths; the number of persons living to every marriage, person married, birth or death, was 130, 65, 33, and 45 respectively. By disregarding the decimal points the Table will show the proportion to every 100,000 persons living. A correction for increase of population has been made in calculating the above results.

make their marks are deterred by timidity from writing their names; upon the other hand many thousands of those who write their names, write very badly, and are evidently little practised in the art of writing. The means of education must still be deplorably defective in England and Wales, when we find 41 in 100 women, and 29 in 100 men making crosses instead of writing their names in the registers of their marriages. It is consolatory to find that within the fifteen years 1841 to 1855, the proportion of men who write their names has increased from 67.3 to 70.5; and the proportion of women has increased to a still greater extent; namely, from 51.2 to 58.8 in 100.

Each marriage constitutes a family; and to the family the fact that one of its members can read and write, is of more importance than the fact that both can read and write. Now as 107,267 men and 89,441 women wrote their names, it is evident that the 196,708 may have been so distributed in pairs, as to leave no pairs in which neither the husband nor the wife could write.

Such a combination, however, does not take place. But if it is assumed that the men and women who can write, and that the men and women who cannot write, have no tendency to intermarry greater than that which

TABLE III.—MARRIAGES registered in England in each Year from 1841 to 1855.

TABLE III.—I	MARRL	AGES	registe	ered in	1 ENC	LANI	D 111	eac	h Year	r froi	n 184	#1 to	0 1858	
Trans May No. 10		Accor	ding to	the Rit	es of th	e Esta	blish	ned	Not a	ecordi Estab	ng to to	he R Chu	ites of t	he
od of child	RIAGES.	ce.	247		nt Regis- ficate.		Established	100000000000000000000000000000000000000	in Estab- urch.	In Reered P	laces.	ent Regis-	81.	Mary .
YEARS ending 31st December	TOTAL MARRIAGES.	Special Licence.	Licence.	Banns.	Superintendent Retrar's Certificate.	Not stated.	Total in E	Church.	Total not in Established Church.	Roman Catholies	Other Christian Denominations.	Superintendent trar's Office.	Quakers.	Jews.
1841 1842 1843	122496 118825 123818	13 9 8	15792 14935 14544	78015 75744 79849	972 944 1222	19579 18415 18014		371 0047 6637	8125 8778 10181	588 620 715	00	2064 2357 2817	7 58	113 163 151
1844 1845	132249 143743	10 10	14930 16013	85176 92867	1558 1706	18335 18919	120 129	0009 0515	12240 14228	2280 2816	6284 7181	3446		175 180
1846 1847 1848 1849 1850	145664 135845 138230 141883 152744	14 14 13 18 8	17135 17052 16896 16697 17413	92995 84863 86519 90644 98669	1862 1968 2170 2593 3136	18503 16979 15871 13230 11733	120 121 123	0509 0876 1469 3182 0959	15155 14969 16761 18701 21785	3027 2961 3658 4199 5623	7669 7483 8060 8662 9626	4167 4258 4790 5558 620	8 83 0 67 8 53	224 184 186 229 260
1851 1852 1853 1854 1855	154206 158782 164520 159727 152113	8 8 8 15 14	17781 19461 20624 21048 20386	99406 106497 109166 105050 99546	3351 3610 3814 3811 3804	10412 4306 4430 4185 4001	130 133 138 134	0958 3882 3042 4109 7751	23248 24900 26478 25618 24362	6570 7479 8375 7813 7344	9540 10017 10149 9873 9296	681 710 759 759 744	0 57 8 68 3 52	260 247 288 287 224
	Mar	riages betw	contract reen	ed	Re-married. U			Und	er Age.	Sign	ed the	Mar ith M	riage R Iarks.	egister
YEARS ending 31st December	Bachelors and Spinsters.	Bachelors and Widows.	Widowers and Spinsters.	Widowers and Widows.	Widowers.	Widows.		Men.	Women.	Men.	Women	Women.	Marriages in which both Signed.	Marriages in which one Signed.
1841 1842 1843 1844 1845	_ _ _ 119539	_ _ _ 6028	_ _ _ _ 11835	- - - 6341	15619 16308 16941 18176	$\begin{bmatrix} 108 \\ 111 \\ 128 \end{bmatrix}$	811 183 869	5362 5387 5511 •5515 6287	16285 16003 16403 17410 19376	3995 3803 4052 4291 4766	$egin{array}{c c} 1 & 569 \\ 0 & 607 \\ 2 & 650 \\ 5 & 712 \\ \hline \end{array}$	065 15 073 029	111111111111111111111111111111111111111	
1846 1847 1848 1849 1850	121324 112576 113284 116134 124031	5997 5705 5920 6102 6575	12212 11667 12702 13155 14558	6131 5897 6324 6492 7580	18348 17564 19026 19647 22138	1 116 1 125 7 125 8 141	502 244 594 155	6313 5556 6092 6650 7453	19436 21105 23109	4748 4242 4316 4402 4757	$\begin{array}{c cccc} 9 & 618 \\ 6 & 627 \\ 7 & 651 \\ 2 & 706 \end{array}$	377 771 135 306	32622 32974 —	39062 39989
1851 1852 1853 1854 1855	126018 130672 135023 131141 123398	6625 6696 7139 6826 6775	14313 14044 14739 14189 14280	7250 7370 7619 7571 7660	21563 21414 22358 21766 2194	140 3 147 0 148	875 066 758 397 435	7737 8551 9131 9210 8386	28797	4743 4842 4998 4784 4484	1 707 3 725 3 68	312 772 204 175 372	36186 36636 37345 35255 32139	44879 45921 47497 45508 43240

Marriages.

disposes them to marry those who are not in the same class as themselves, it follows from a well-known mathematical formula* in the calculus of probabilities, that the 152,113 married couples would have been distributed as they are in the second column of the annexed Table.

	Numbers if no selection had existed.	Numbers as given in the registers.	Difference.
Husband AND wife write	63,072	76,734	+ 13,662
Husband or wife writes (mixed) marriages)	70,564	43,240	-27,324
Husband and wife do not write -	18,477	32,139	+ 13,662
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)

Here the indisposition to mixed marriages is evinced in the fact, that instead of 70,564, there were only 43,240 couples in which one or other of the two could write; half the difference of those numbers or 13,662 being added to the 63,072 couples in which both husband and wife write, and the other 13,662 to the 18,477, in which neither the husband nor the wife writes. As the poor intermarry, and the wealthy intermarry, so naturally the classes who cannot write intermarry; and thus, instead of having the greatest number possible of cases in which at least one writes, there is not the due mathematical proportion of such cases, but in 32,139 of the new families, neither the father nor the mother will be able to write.

The number of married couples in England was about 3,150,470 in the year 1855. It is certain that at the date of their marriages, elementary

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.

						To	100 Mari	ried.								
YE.	ARS			roportion un Years of Age		signed th	Proportion ne Marriage with Marks	Register	The Proportion who were							
31st De	cembe	r	Males.	Females.	Mean.	Males.	Females.	Mean.	Widowers.	Widows.	Mean.					
1841 1842 1843 1844 1845 1846 1847 1848 1849 1850 1851 1852 1853 1854			4.38 4.53 4.45 4.17 4.37 4.33 4.09 4.41 4.69 4.88 5.02 5.39 5.55 5.77 5.51	18:29 18:47 18:25 18:16 18:48 18:73 14:06 14:88 15:13 15:75 16:99 17:76 18:03 17:89	8.83 9.00 8.85 8.67 8.93 9.03 8.72 9.24 9.79 10.01 10.39 11.19 11.66 11.90 11.70	32.7 32.0 32.7 32.4 33.2 32.6 31.2 31.0 31.1 30.8 30.4 30.0 29.5	48.8 47.9 49.0 49.2 49.6 48.2 45.5 45.4 45.9 46.2 45.3 44.6 43.9 42.7 41.2	40.8 40.0 40.9 40.8 41.4 40.4 38.4 38.3 38.5 38.7 38.7 38.1 37.6 37.2 36.4 35.4	†12'90 13'14 13'17 12'81 12'64 12'59 12'93 13'76 13'85 14'49 13'98 13'49 13'59 13'62 14'42	18:99 8:90 8:73 8:46 8:60 8:33 8:54 8:86 8:88 9:27 9:00 8:86 8:97 9:01 9:49	†10°95 11°02 10°95 10°63 10°62 10°46 10°74 11°31 11°37 11°49 11°18 11°12 11°12 11°32					

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

 $\therefore \frac{mf}{\text{MF}} + \frac{(m'f + mf')}{\text{MF}} + \frac{m'f'}{\text{MF}} = 1$

The first term gives the proportion of combinations in which both write, the second in which the man or the woman writes, the third the proportion in which neither writes.

education was less diffused even than it is in the present day, consequently the *proportion* of the cases in which neither the man nor the woman writes will be greater among these 3,150,470, than it was among the couples married in 1855, or even in 1847; but upon applying the proportions deduced from the facts of 1847, it is found that in 1855 there must have been nearly 1,488,000 families in which the husband and wife could both write their names; 905,912 families in which one could write,

Table V.—ENGLAND. Marriages.—Proportional Number of Marriages in the several Counties of England during the Year 1855; of Persons who signed their Names; of Persons not of full Age; and of the Re-marriages of Widowers and Widows.

	CINCETER CONTRACTOR SE	100		d their	Person	s not of	Re-mar	riages.
	REGISTRATION COUNTIES.	es to		mes		Age.	Widowers.	Widows.
		Marriages to Inhabitants.	Of 100 Men Married.	Of 100 Women Married.	In 100 Men Married.	In 100 Women Married.	In 100 Men Married.	In 100 Women Married.
	ENGLAND	*810	70.5	58.8	5.21	17.89	14.42	9.49
	I.—London	•975	87.3	78.8	2.46	11.53	15.68	10.77
No. 1 2 3 4 5	II.—South Eastern Counties	•640 •755 •689 •835 •652	71.6 69.4 73.0 73.7 64.3	76.8 68.1 76.6 70.8 69.1	3·24 3·75 4·76 3·17 4·81	14.60 18.84 17.77 14.29 14.14	13.64 13.30 13.46 12.46 13.99	8.78 9.58 7.93 10.84 8.88
	III.—South Midland Counties.							1000
6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13	Middlesex (extra-metropolitan) - Hertfordshire - - Buckinghamshire - - Oxfordshire - - Northamptonshire - - Huntingdonshire - - Bedfordshire - - Cambridgeshire - -	*527 *514 *610 *660 *790 *649 *706 *666	74.7 51.1 60.8 67.2 67.1 56.4 55.9 59.7	72.6 54.1 54.7 68.9 60.3 56.4 47.0 57.4	1.95 7.43 6.64 4.34 8.38 9.93 10.72 7.23	11:94 18:68 19:06 17:89 21:47 23:73 24:85 22:95	13.40 10.08 16.34 13.12 14.17 9.69 14.43 14.08	8.77 8.07 8.82 7.41 8.15 7.02 6.19 8.42
	IV.—EASTERN COUNTIES.							
14 15 16	Essex Suffolk Noriolk	•587 •676 •693	56.3 58.0 59.2	61.2 59.5 60.7	5.53 5.41 5.55	20.52 17.16 17.13	14:94 14:56 16:27	9°79 8°43 8°30
17 18 19 20 21	V.—South Western Counties. Wiltshire	*634 *700 *739 *693 *626	64·2 69·2 72·9 64·4 66·7	61.8 64.3 67.0 50.7 64.2	5.60 5.70 3.82 6.71 6.11	16:43 13:01 12:04 17:76 14:21	16.05 12.39 12.18 12.54 13.81	8:94 7:70 8:91 7:52 7:93
	VIWEST MIDLAND COUNTIES.					11.21	10 01	
22 23 24 25 26 27	Gloucestershire	*814 *671 *673 *928 *814 *835	74·2 57·8 60·7 55·7 67·4 71·5	69°2 67°0 53°4 43°3 60°0 60°8	5*07 2*91 3*87 9*48 6*34 6*32	14.07 12.50 12.89 28.21 19.87 19.36	14.86 13.08 13.06 13.44 12.19 14.50	9·28 10·61 8·38 11·13 8·77 10·14
28 29 30 31 32	VII.—NORTH MIDLAND COUNTIES. Leicestershire	*732 *602 *684 *815 *797	71.6 68.2 70.3 70.0 72.1	61°1 76°6 63°9 56°5 60°0	8.62 2.60 3.57 6.69 6.90	19.40 14.94 18.63 21.11 21.48	14.48 10.39 13.60 15.60 14.31	8 · 90 4 · 55 7 · 36 7 · 49 8 · 50
	VIII.—NORTH WESTERN COUNTIES.					21 10	17 01	
33 34	Cheshire Lancashire	•752 •931	67.9 66.8	49°2 40°8	5.36 7.68	15°98 20°73	16:34 15:82	8.98 10.78
35 36 37	IX.—YORKSHIRE. West Riding East Riding (with York) North Riding	*826 *928 *755	71·2 79·4 79·1	49°2 66°0 68°6	7.83 5.35 2.33	24·82 20·93 13·12	14.96 15.46 13.57	9·15 9·21 7·43
38 39 40 41	X.—Northern Counties. Durham	*989 *880 *481 *624	72·2 79·1 83·7 86·1	53.0 61.7 70.9 75.9	5*49 3*87 4*76 3*15	25.68 16.61 15.89 12.86	12.91 12.38 10.83 11.02	10°27 9°88 5°57 3°41
42 43 44	XI.—MONMOUTHSHIRE AND WALES. Monmouthshire South Wales North Wales	*896 *834 *654	51·8 57·1 57·7	39·8 34·6 39·0	4.86 6.04 4.30	21.64 16.34 11.78	12:95 13:07 13:75	11.45 8.32 8.24

^{*} Let m denote the number of men who are able to write their names, and m' the number of men unable to write their names; also let f denote the number of women able, and f' the number not able to write; then putting m + m' = M and multiplying the terms of the two equations into each other, we have mf + m'f + mf' + m'f' = MF

Births.

the other could not write; and 756,558 families in which neither the husband nor wife, the father nor mother could write their names. How defective the rest of their elementary education must have been, is self-evident.

Registered buildings for the solemnization of Marriages.—The number of these buildings on the register at the end of the year 1855 was 3658: 1280 belonged to the Independents, 837 to the Baptists, 642 to the various sects of Wesleyan Methodists, and 440 to the Roman Catholics.

TABLE VI.—The Number of Buildings registered in England and Wales for the Solemnization of Marriages, and on the Register, 31st December 1855.

			OI .	VIAR	LIAG	20,		-			8										1		11	—
18929	ire is an	P	RESB	Y-			Moravians.					WES	LEY.	AN :	МЕТЕ	IODI	sts.		CALVI	NISTIC DDISTS.		hurch.		
COUNTY.	Total.	Church of Scotland.	United Presbyterians.	Presbyterian Church in England.	Independents.	Baptists.	United Brethren or Mora	Roman Catholics.	Society of Friends.	Unitarians.	Original Connexion.	New Connexion.	Primitive Methodists.	Bible Christians.	Wesleyan Methodist Association.	Independent Methodists.	Reformer	Other Wesleyan Methodists.	Welsh Calvinistic Methodists.	Countess of Hunting-don's Connexion.	New Church.	Catholic and Apostolic Church.	Latter-day Saints.	All others.
TOTAL in ENGLAND and WALES	3658	32	30	34	1280	837	5	440	1	156	406	47	92	20	45	4	16	12	88	32	18	15	1	47
ENGLAND. Bedford Berks Cambridge - Chester - Cornwall - Cumberland - Derby Devon Dorset Cornwall - Cumberland - Cumberl		-	1 -	=	9 11 20 18 26 7 11 21 51 22 .14 47 40 5 23 4 38 99 18 14 85 32 17 26 8 8 11 11 11 3 19 42 26 8 11 11 11 11 11 11 11 11 11 11 11 11 1	20 11 14 26 8 5 -1 11 29 5 5 5 17 37 9 11 10 37 41 21 21 21 21 26 6 6 6 2 9 9 26 15 15 16 16 16 16 17 18 18 18 18 18 18 18 18 18 18 18 18 18	1 1	7 3 14 1 3 9	TITTITI	-2 -1 11 -3 13 4 2 1 3 -1 -5 32 2 3 7 -4 3 3 1 -7 1 7 7 7 7 7 7 7 7 7 7 7 7 7 7 7 7	7 6 1 4 4 10 222 5 7 18 6 6 41 1 8 15 13 4 13 5 6 6 7 7 5 5 6 6 6 19 1 5 6 6 6 6 7 7	1 - 1	2 2 1 - 2 2 1 1 3 - 2 5 - 3 3 4 4 9 1 6 6 - 3 1 1 5 1 1 6 6 2 2 1 1 4 1 1 4	1 2 - 1 - 1	1 1	=	-	1	=	1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 2 2 1 1 2 2 1 1 1 1 1 1 2 2 1	1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1	1	111111111111111111111111111111111111111	1 -
York WALES. Anglesey	337			220	1114	1			-	-		11	_		_	1			4	-				
Brecon Cardigan Carmarthen - Carnarvon - Denbigh - Flint Glamorgan - Merioneth - Montgomery - Pembroke - Radnor	36			1	15 19 51 13 77 55 41 9 16 26	8 21 2 5 1 37 2 6 6 21		1 1 1 1 3	1111111	1	1 1 1 1 1 1 1 2 2 5 2 1 1	11111111			111111111				7 4 15 14 3 4	1				

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

BIRTHS.

Births (exclusive of still-born).—The births of 635,043 children were registered in 1855, and the births were 3.380 to 100 of the population, or 1 birth to every 30 of the population. The births fluctuate little; but the ratio of the births registered to the population (100) has risen from 3.029 in 1838 to 3.380 in 1855. This increase is partly due to improved registration.

Table VII.—ENGLAND. Births, 1855.—Number and Proportion of Male and Female Children born in and out of Wedlock.

Allenton	Female Chil	aren i	orn 17	i and	out or	wed	llock.	voje ravete zasa	rene interne Pysine interne	Comparison of the Comparison o	nizmenterez
100	A CONTRACTOR OF THE STATE OF TH	ren born.	ldren born.	Bor Wed	n in lock.	Born Wed	out of lock.	Es born to every FEMALES born.	rn in Wed- every 100 s so born.	rn out of to every 100 so born.	born out of to every 100
	REGISTRATION COUNTIES.	Male Children born.	Female Children born.	Males.	Females.	Males.	Females.	MALES bor 100 FEMA	MALES born lock to ever FEMALES so	Males born out Wedlock to every 10 FEMALES so born.	CHILDREN born out Wedlock to every 1 Births.
	ENGLAND	323960	311083	303089	291171	20871	19912	104.1	104.1	104.8	6.4
	I.—London	43501	42031	41761	40316	1740	1715	103.5	103.6	101.5	4.0
No. 1 2 3 4 5	II.—South Eastern Counties. Surrey (extra-metropolitan) Kent (extra-metropolitan) Sussex Hampshire Berkshire	3221 8067 5220 6393 3023	3123 7728 5073 5997 2843	3068 7660 4867 5998 2830	2991 7309 4738 5671 2630	153 407 353 395 193	132 419 335 326 213	103·1 104·4 102·9 106·6 106·3	102.6 104.8 102.7 105.8 107.6	115.9 97.1 105.4 121.2 90.6	4.5 5.2 6.7 5.8 6.9
6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13	III.—SOUTH MIDLAND COUNTIES. Middlesex (extra-metropolitan) - Hertfordshire Oxfordshire Northamptonshire Huntingdonshire Bedfordshire Cambridgeshire	2397 2657 2374 2655 3905 972 2273 3090	2350 2549 2222 2417 3706 940 2195 2858	2284 2480 2213 2469 3691 922 2095 2840	2249 2377 2093 2248 3480 903 2026 2636	113 177 161 186 214 50 178 250	101 172 129 169 226 37 169 222	102·0 104·2 106·8 109·8 105·4 103·4 103·6 108·1	101.6 104.3 105.7 109.8 106.1 102.1 103.4 107.7	111 · 9 102 · 9 124 · 8 110 · 1 94 · 7 135 · 1 105 · 3 112 · 6	4.5 6.7 6.3 7.0 5.8 4.6 7.8 7.9
14 15 16	IV.—EASTERN COUNTIES. Essex	5715 5339 6676	5495 5028 6383	5354 4873 5992	5186 4618 5750	361 466 684	309 410 633	104·0 106·2 104·6	103·2 105·5 104·2	116.8 113.7 108.1	6.0 8.4 10.1
17 18 19 20 21	V.—South Western Counties. Wiltshire	3680 2754 8220 6182 6812	3556 2605 8043 5789 6674	3405 2575 7747 5866 6388	3287 2438 7587 5495 6247	275 179 473 316 424	269 167 456 294 427	103.5 105.7 102.2 106.8 102.1	103.6 105.6 102.1 106.8 102.3	102·2 107·2 103·7 107·5 99·3	7.5 6.5 5.7 5.1 6.3
22 23 24 25 26 27	VI.—WEST MIDLAND COUNTIES. Gloucestershire	6878 1423 3745 14680 4612 9680	6498 1367 3566 14265 4495 9404	6516 1283 3399 13769 4324 9186	6118 1230 3198 13395 4204 8858	362 140 346 911 288 494	380 137 368 870 291 546	105.8 104.1 105.0 102.9 102.6 102.9	106.5 104.3 106.3 102.8 102.9 103.7	95°3 102°2 94°0 104°7 99°0 90°5	5.5 9.9 9.8 6.2 6.4 5.4
28 29 30 31 32	VII.—NORTH MIDLAND COUNTIES. Leicestershire Rutlandshire Nottinghamshire Derbyshire	4077 370 6654 5358 4810	4002 341 6253 5264 4740	3772 348 6121 4897 4442	3660 309 5774 4795 4386	305 22 533 461 368	342 32 479 469 354	101.9 108.5 106.4 101.8 101.5	103·1 112·6 106·0 102·1 101·3	89·2 68·8 111·3 98·3 104·0	8:0 7:6 7:8 8:8 7:6
33 34	VIII.—NORTH WESTERN COUNTIES. Cheshire Lancashire	7870 42896	7481 41489	7193 40049	6860 38780	677 2847	621 2709	105·2 103·4	104·9 103·3	109.0	8.5
35 36 37	IX.—YORKSHIRE. West Riding	27502 4428 3380	26324 4316 3179	25698 4106 3086	24585 3997 2908	1804 322 294	1739 319 271	104.5 102.6 106.3	104·5 102·7 106·1	103·7 100·9 108·5	
38 39 40 41	X.—NORTHERN COUNTIES. Durham	10036 5714 3286 851	9503 5273 3120 805	9478 5234 2930 762	8968 4869 2796 729	558 480 356 89	535 404 324 76	105.6 108.4 105.3 105.7	105.7 107.5 104.8 104.5	104·3 118·8 109·9 117·1	8.0
42 43 44	XI.—MONMOUTHSHIRE AND WALES. Monmouthshire	3415 11069 6100	3363 10548 5882	3251 10257 5610	3213 9826 5438	164 812 490	150 722 444	101.5 104.9 103.7	101·2 104·4 103·2	109·3 112·5 110·4	7-1

The ratio of births to the population (100) is greatest in Durham (4.437) and Staffordshire (4.305) among the collieries. It is least in Westmorland (2.712), Hereford (2.720), Devon (2.732), Rutland (2.778), Berks (2.832), Somerset (2.836), Hertford (2.839), and Oxford (2.850). The births have decreased in these counties since 1850; at the same time they have increased in Durham and Staffordshire.

TABLE VIII.—ENGLAND. BIRTHS 1855.—PROPORTIONAL Number of BIRTHS registered in each Registration County in the Year 1855, and in each Season of the Year, or the Number of Births in each Quarter to 1000 Births in the Average Quarter.

		BIRTHS	Pr	oportional N	umber of Bi	rths register	ed.*
	REGISTRATION COUNTIES.	to 100 Persons living.	In the AVERAGE QUARTER assumed to be 1000.	In the FIRST QUARTER ending March 31.	In the SECOND QUARTER ending June 30.	In the THIRD QUARTER ending Sept. 30.	In the FOURTH QUARTED ending Dec. 31.
	ENGLAND	3.380	1000	1060	1044	966	930
	I.—London	3.334	1000	1080	1006	947	967
No.	II.—South Eastern Counties.						
1	Surrey (extra-metropolitan)	2.995	1000	1029	1050	970	951
2 3	Kent (extra-metropolitan) Sussex	3·101 2·883	1000 1000	1095 1137	985 1013	960 918	960 932
4 5	Hampshire Berkshire	2.950 2.832	1000 1000	1081 1100	998 1033	925 921	996 946
3		2 002	1000	1100	1000	021	010
•	III.—South Midland Counties.	3.044	1000	1026	1042	946	986
6 7	Middlesex (extra-metropolitan) – Hertfordshire – – – –	2.839	1000	1013	1066	995	926
8 9	Buckinghamshire Oxfordshire	3.052 2.850	1000 1000	1078 1083	1025 1050	947 994	950 873
10	Northamptonshire	3·381 3·004	1000 1000	1082 1007	101 0 1007	968 1021	940 965
11 12	Huntingdonshire Bedfordshire	3.252	1000	1040	1038	991	931
13	Cambridgeshire	2.954	1000	1017	1030	1006	947
	IV.—EASTERN COUNTIES.				7011		00-
14	Essex Suffolk	3·109 2·941	1000 1000	1094 1128	1044 1047	955 959	907 866
16	Norfolk	2.887	1000	1115	1065	938	882
	V.—South Western Counties.						and the
17	Wiltshire	2·886 2·886	1000 1000	1084 1062	1038 1050	971 943	907 945
18 19	Dorsetshire	2.732	1000	1074	1032	956	938
20	Cornwall Somersetshire	3·181 2·836	1000 1000	1147 1056	1050 1099	920 957	883 888
		_ 000					
22	VI.—WEST MIDLAND COUNTIES. Gloucestershire	3.070	1000	1074	1068	952	906
23	Herefordshire	2.720	1000	1109	1025 1064	920 965	946 901
24 25	Shropshire Staffordshire	2.880 4.305	1000 1000	1070 1036	1075	967	922
26	Worcestershire Warwickshire	3·334 3·759	1000 1000	1046 1090	1055 1042	973	926 909
27		0.00	2000	2000			
00	VII.—NORTH MIDLAND COUNTIES.	3.267	1000	1036	1019	1008	937
28 29	Leicestershire Rutlandshire	2.778	1000	1196	908	904	992
30 31	Lincolnshire Nottinghamshire	3.430	1000 1000	1018 1070	966 1053	1011 956	1005 921
32	Derbyshire	3.479	1000	1022	1080	976	922
	VIII.—NORTH WESTERN COUNTIES.						
33	Cheshire	3·456 3·896	1000 1000	1054 1049	1100 1073	942 965	904 913
34	Lancashire	0 000	1000	1019	10/0	000	,,,,
	IX.—Yorkshire.	0.700	7000	1002	1062	1001	909
35 36	West Riding	3·786 3·292	1000 1000	1028 1040	969	983	1008
37	North Riding	3.500	1000	966	1009	1030	995
	XNorthern Counties.				1,000	7010	077
38	Durham Northumberland	4·437 3·461	1000	1002 1031	1009	1018	971 956
39. 40	Cumberland	3.119	1000	1065	1084	954 973	897 999
41	Westmorland	2.712	1000	1103	925	910	000
	XIMonmouthshire and Wales.			7040	7008	7017	872
42 43	Monmouthshire	3.642	1000 1000	1046 1084	1065 1060	1017 951	905
44	North Wales	2.859	1000	1028	1094	980	898

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

Sex.—323,960 boys and 311,083 girls were born in the year. 104 boys were born to every 100 girls. In the county of Derby the boys were 101.5 to 100 girls, in Monmouth 101.5, in Leicester 101.9 to 100, in Cambridge 108.1, Northumberland 108.4, Rutland 108.5, Oxford 109.8 to 100 girls. Derby (101.5) and Oxford (109.8) present the extremes. In London the proportion of boys was 103.5; it is generally below the average of England and Wales.

Seasons.—The births were most numerous 166,225, in the first quarter; least numerous (148,841) in the last quarter of the year. Putting 1000 to represent the average number of quarterly births, the proportional numbers in the quarters of 1855 were 1060, 1044, 966, and 930. The influence of the seasons varies in the several counties as shown in Table VIII.

Children born out of wedlock.—40,783 children, namely, 20,871 boys and 19,912 girls were born out of wedlock; giving the proportion of 6.4 such children to every 100 children born alive, nearly 1 to 15. The proportion is thus lower than it was (6.8) in the three years 1850-1-2. The counties in which the greatest proportion of births out of wedlock occur are Norfolk (10.1), Hereford (9.9), Salop (9.8), Cumberland (10.6), and Westmorland (10.0); while Kent (5.2), Hants (5.8), Northampton

TABLE IX.—ENGLAND. BIRTHS registered in each Quarter of the Years 1838 to 1855.

	Years.		Quarters endin	g the last day of	
979-1	Tears.	March.	June.	September.	December.
	1838	113815	121781	114784	113457
	1839	123543	128806	120115	120110
	1840	132305	129059	119822	121117
	1841	133720	129884	123868	124686
	1842	135615	134096	123296	124732
	1843	136837	131279	128161	131048
	1844	143578	136941	130078	130166
	1845	143080	136853	132369	131219
	1846	145108	149450	138718	139349
	1847	146453	139072	127173	127267
	1848	139736	149760	140359	133204
	1849	153772	153693	135223	135471
	1850	144551	155865	146911	146095
	1851	157286	159078	150594	148912
	1852	161803	159031	151222	151956
	1853	161729	158697	147602	144363
	1854	160785	172457	154724	146439
	1855	166225	165277	154700	148841

TABLE X.—ENGLAND. PROPORTION of BIRTHS to 100 Women living at the Age 15-45, in each of the Years 1841-55.

Middle of	the Y	ears	Women living at the Age 15-45 (estimated).	Births registered.	Births to 100 Women living at the Age 15-45.
1841	_	_	3,811,614	512,158	13.4
1842	-	-	3,853,121	517,739	13.4
1843	-	-	3,895,081	527,325	13.2
1844	-	-	3,937,497	540,763	13.7
1845	-	-	3,980,376	543,521	13.7
1846	-	-	4,023,721	572,625	14.2
1847	-	-	4,067,538	539,965	13.3
1848	-		4,111,833	563,059	13.7
1849	-	-	4,156,610	578,159	13.9
1850	-	-	4,201,875	593,422	14'1
1851	-	-	4,247,632	615,865	14.5
1852	-	-	4,293,888	624,012	14.5
1853	-	-	4,340,647	612,391	14.1
1854	-	-	4,387,916	634,405	14'5
1855	-	-	4,435,699	635,123	14.3

(5.8), Huntingdon (4.6), Devon (5.7), Cornwall (5.1), Gloucester (5.5), Warwick (5.4), Durham (5.6), and Monmouth (4.6) are the counties in which the proportion of births out of wedlock is lowest; if we except London (4.0), where all the illegitimate births are probably not registered, and the parts of Middlesex and Surrey out of London.

The proportion of children born out of wedlock to the number of unmarried women of the ages 15-55 in the several counties, will be found for one year in my Fourteenth annual Report (p. xii).

DEATHS.

425,703 persons died in the year; and the annual rate of mortality was 2.266 per cent. Since the year 1838 the mortality was higher in seven years than this rate; it was 2.288 in 1840, 2.306 in 1846, 2.471 in 1847, when influenza was epidemic; 2.306 in 1848, 2.512 in 1849, when cholera was epidemic; 2.288 in 1853, and 2.352 in 1854, when cholera was again epidemic. The mortality was lowest in 1845 and 1850, when the rates were 2.089 and 2.077. The range of the mortality in eighteen years was from 2.077 (one in 48) to 2.512 (one in 40); and the average rate of the eighteen years was 2.246. Thus the minimum rate fell only 169 below the average; while the maximum rate was 266 above the average rate.

The fluctuations in the rate of mortality are subject to this law, that the excess in the mortality from zymotic diseases raises the mortality much above the average, while the reduction in the mortality never falls in a healthy year to an equal extent.

Sex.—The mortality of males was at the rate of 2.348 per cent., of females 2.187 per cent. in the year; and these rates are to each other as 107 to 100. So if 100 females die out of a given number of females, out of an equal number of males 107 males die. But the number of females in England and Wales is greater than the number of males, and the deaths of males (216,587) were to the deaths of females (209,116) in the

Table XI.—ENGLAND. DEATHS.—Annual Rate of Mortality of Males and of Females, 1838-55.

		De.	ATHS.	1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1	Of equal Numbers	
30.52	YEARS.	To 100 Males living.	To 100 Females living.	Deaths of Males to 100 Deaths of Females.	the Number of Male Deaths to every 100 Deaths of Females.	CARRY CO.
un de trapa	1838 1839 1840	2·335 2·275 2·372	2·133 2·090 2·203	105 104 103	109 109 108	##. 20 min
	1841 1842 1843 1844 1845	2·238 2·241 2·202 2·242 2·170	2.083 2.098 2.047 2.083 2.012	103 102 103 103 103	107 107 108 108 108	
	1846 1847 1848 1849 1850	2·395 2·546 2·391 2·581 2·143	2·221 2·380 2·224 2·445 2·013	103 103 103 101 101	108 107 108 106 106	
	1851 1852 1853 1854 1855	2·276 2·320 2·379 2·434 2·348	2·124 2·156 2·201 2·273 2·187	103 103 104 103 104	107 108 108 107 107	
	Average of 18 years, 1838-55	2:327	2:165	103	108	

The Table may be read thus:—In the year 1838 to every 100 males living there were 2.335 deaths of males; to every 100 females living there were 2.133 deaths of females; and to every 100 females who died there were 105 deaths of males. The last column shows the relative mortality of males and females; and that out of equal numbers living the deaths of males were 109 to every 100 deaths of females in 1838.

proportion of 104 to 100; or nearly in the same proportion as the sexes in the births (104 boys to 100 girls).

TABLE XII.—ANNUAL RATE of MORTALITY per Cent. in each County during each of the Years 1845-1855.

						Death	s to 10	0 Pers	ons liv	ing.			ed)
	COUNTIES.	1845	1846	1847	1848	1849	1850	1851	1852	1853	1854	Ave- rage Annual Rate 1845-54.	1858
	ENGLAND	2.089	2.306	2.471	2.306	2.512	2.077	2.199	2.236	2.288	2.352	2.284	2.20
	I.—London	2.319	2.330	2.695	2.582	3.014	2.104	2:339	2.258	2.435	2.929	2.501	2.4
vo.	II.—South Eastern Counties.	s state			10.50			1733	622		EST	7 Y32	5523
1 2 3 4 5	Surrey (extra-metropolitan) - Kent (extra-metropolitan) - Sussex Hampshire Berkshire	1.872	2·141 1·761 1·963	2:219 1:894 2:133	2·163 1·907 2·138	2:362 2:018 2:523	1.683 1.838 1.768 1.995 1.966	1:916 1:901 1:948	1.820 2.011	2.023 1.855 2.027	2:012 2:173 1:877 2:091 2:008	1.847 2.062 1.845 2.067 2.049	2·1 2·0 1·9 2·3 2·1
100	III.—South Midland Counties.	300.5.44					Circ				DOLLAR.	60.3 181	
6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13	Middlesex(extra-metropolitam Hertfordshire Buckinghamshire Oxfordshire Northamptonshire Huntingdonshire Bedfordshire Cambridgeshire	1.963 2.124 2.074 2.230 2.044	2.070 2.048 2.293 2.160 2.152 2.430	2.069 2.123 2.229 2.159 2.425 2.356	2·139 2·405 2·239 2·365 2·256 2·410	2·254 2·124 2·219 2·211 2·061 2·156	2·104 2·099 2·023 2·296	1.839 2.066 2.144 1.953	1:802 2:010 1:978 2:101 1:940 1:957	1.777 2.144 2.038 2.156 1.993 1.977	2.588 1.796 2.002 2.109 2.193 1.734 2.132 2.031	2.057 1.963 2.115 2.142 2.155 2.081 2.133 2.159	2·1 1·8 2·1 2·0 2·1 1·9 2·8 2·8
	IV.—EASTERN COUNTIES.	2.015	2.049	9.995	2.048	9.995	1.846	1.001	1.924	1.080	2.275	2.049	2.
14 15 16	Essex Suffolk		2.037	2.109	1.981	2.144	1.982	2.026	2.011	2.000	1.846	2·018 2·104	1:
17 18 19 20 21	V.—SOUTH WESTERN COUNTIES. Wiltshire	1.888	1.815 1.871 1.675	2·116 1·896 1·660	1.976 2.024 1.800	2.094 2.362 2.003	1.926 1.869 2.010 1.868 2.031	1.877 1.938 2.123	2:087 1:939 2:028 2:108 1:984	1.936 1.952 2.042	1.820	2.081 1.933 1.984 1.888 1.990	2:1:1:2:0
22 23 24 25 26 27	VI.—WEST MIDLAND COUNTIES. Gloucestershire	2.061 1.955 1.940 2.150 2.128 2.221	2.022 1.984 2.631 2.056	2·114 2·181 2·836 2·299	2·083 2·278 2·419 2·283	1.918 2.225 2.745 2.076	2:095 2:005 1:953 2:297 1:960 2:156	1.890 2.054 2.507 2.066	2.379	2·125 2·100 2·576 2·028	1.813 1.960 2.876 2.178	2·193 1·999 2·059 2·542 2·103 2·414	2: 2: 2: 2: 2:
100	VII.—NORTH MIDLAND COUNTIES.		2000		- 150 - 150 - 100					7	3.51		
28 29 30 31 32	Leicestershire	0 00 .	1.996 2.088 2.159	2.064 2.114 2.352	2·233 2·190 2·225	1.893 2.009 2.142	2.066 1.836 1.811 1.894 2.016	1 645 1 876 2 144	1.627 1.832 2.124	1.765 1.790 2.405	1.581 2.009 2.331	1.847 1.950 2.179	2: 1: 1: 2: 2:
	VIII.—North Western Counties.		1000		175		85		-		(FAI)		1 5
33 34	Cheshire Lancashire	2·162 2·495		2.587 3.582	2·422 2·765	2·409 3·037	2·103 2·464	2.244	2·438 2·889	2·432 2·818	2:218 2:766	2·363 2·860	2.
35 36 37	IX.—YORKSHIRE. West Riding			2.699	2.415	3.279	2·225 2·087 1·750	2.224	2.332	2.179	2.226	2.393	2: 2:
	X.—Northern Counties.		5000				0.00	0.07	0.0-	0-10	0	100	
38 39 40 11	Durham	1.871	2.758 2.683 2.515 2.315	2.585	2.221	2.647	1.929	2.041	2·353 1·928	2.750	2.087	2:369 2:318 2:162 1:964	2:
2 3	XI.—MONMOUTHSHIRE AND WALES. Monmouthshire South Wales	2·068 2·011		2.284	2.077	2·542 2·746 2·223	2·129 1·994	2.108	2.118	2.217	2.238	2·316 2·173	2:

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

Localities.—The Tables XII., XIII. show the rates of mortality in the several counties, year by year from 1845 to 1855, together with the averages of two periods of ten years, and the density of the population.

Ages.—The mortality varies at every year of age, and it decreases from the date of birth to the age of 10-15, at which point it begins to increase. Thus the average mortality among male children under 5 years of age was at the rate of nearly 74 in 1000; at the age of 5-10 it was 9; at 10-15, 5 in 1000; in the next period of life 15-25 out of the same average numbers living (1000) 8 die, and in the following decennial intervals of age the mortality is nearly 10, 13, 19, 32, 68, 150, 303, and 452; so that to every 1000 old people of the age of 95 and upwards, 452 die annually. The deaths at different periods of life are not always from the same diseases, and where the same disease is fatal at every age, its degree of fatality varies. The zymotic diseases fall with unusual severity upon

TABLE XIII.—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, arranged according to the Mortality in 1843-1853.

		Density of 184	Population 1-51	Annu	al Rate of Mo	ortality per Cer	ıt.
No.	REGISTRATION COUNTIES, &c.			Mean of 10 Years	Cholera Epid	lemic Years.	
	000111111111111111111111111111111111111	Acres to a Person.	Hectars* to a Person.	1843-1853 (excluding 1849).	1849	1854	1855
1	Surrey (extra-metrop.)	2.44	-99	1.784	1.932	2.012	2.111
3 29 37	SUSSEX RUTLANDSHIRE NORTH RIDING	2:96 4:54 6:49	1:20 1:84 2:63	1.824 1.844 1.889	2.018 1.893 1.946	1.877 1.581 1.916	1:947 1:879 2:011
20 30 19 7 6 18 41 44 14 5	CORNWALL LINCOLNSHIRE	2.52 4.60 3.08 2.55 1.21 3.57 8.48 4.99 2.96 2.90	1.02 1.86 1.25 1.03 .49 1.44 3.43 2.02 1.20 1.17	1 '923 1 '928 1 '945 1 '945 1 '948 1 '961 1 '964 1 '969 1 '991 1 '999	2:003 2:009 2:362 2:254 2:241 2:094 1:847 2:223 2:235 2:272	1.879 2.009 1.909 1.796 2.588 1.820 1.739 1.919 2.275 2.008	1:978 1:977 2:017 1:890 2:132 1:942 1:756 2:091 2:102 2:122
15 4 21 2 24 17 43 23 26	SUFFOLK HAMPSHIRE SOMERSETSHIRE SHOTSHIRE WILTSHIRE SOUTH WALES HEREFORDSHIRE WORCESTERSHIRE	2.86 2.81 2.23 2.18 3.72 3.22 4.96 4.35 1.77	1.16 1.14 .90 .88 1.50 1.30 2.01 1.76 .72	2.000 2.001 2.011 2.028 2.046 2.063 2.065 2.074 2.092	2:144 2:523 2:186 2:362 2:225 2:285 2:746 1:918 2:076	1.846 2.091 1.797 2.173 1.960 1.979 2.238 1.813 2.178	1.998 2.318 2.050 2.077 2.070 2.151 2.259 2.260 2.066
40 16 9 12 8 11 10 31 32 13 22 23	CUMBERLAND NORFOLK OXFORDSHIRE BEDFORDSHIRE BUCKINGHAMSHIRE - HUNTINGDONSHIRE - NORTHAMPTONSHIRE - NOTTINGHAMSHIRE - DERBYSHIRE CAMBRIDGESHIRE - GLOUCESTERSHIRE - LEICESTERSHIRE	5:36 3:10 2:87 2:52 2:86 3:54 3:06 2:12 2:23 3:16 1:76 2:34	2·17 1·25 1·16 1·02 1·16 1·43 1·24 ·90 1·28 ·71	2:107 2:112 2:114 2:130 2:133 2:140 2:144 2:148 2:154 2:172 2:173 2:187	2:276 2:119 2:219 2:156 2:124 2:061 2:211 2:142 2:117 2:375 2:460 2:210	2:128 2:033 2:109 2:132 2:002 1:734 2:193 2:331 2:215 2:081 2:089 2:075	2·164 2·105 2·024 2·562 2·167 1·915 2·196 2·028 2·110 2·165 2·156 2·1009
39	NORTHUMBERLAND -	4.39	1.78	2.223	2.647	2*087	2.133
42 38 36	ENGLAND MONMOUTHSHIRE - DURHAM EAST RIDING (with York)	2·21 2·64 2·04 3·07	·89 1·07 ·83 1·24	2·226 2·232 2·255 2·262	2:512 2:542 2:641 3:279	2:352 2:492 2:569 2:226	2.361 2.411 2.050
33 35 27 25	CHESHIRE WEST RIDING WARWICKSHIRE STAFFORDSHIRE	1.75 1.34 1.38 1.30	•71 •54 •56 •53	2:330 2:351 2:377 2:398	2*409 2*684 2*276 2*745	2·218 2·438 2·651 2·876	2·192 2·221 2·229 2·470
34	LONDON LANCASHIRE	·04 ·70	·01	2.403	3.014	2·929 2·766	2·414 2·765

^{*} 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 2½) Statute Acres, or, expressed in other terms, a Statute Acre represents '404671 (rather more than 4-10ths) of a Hectar.

people of particular ages, as it will be seen that cholera did in 1849 and 1854, upon comparing the mortality at the twelve periods of life in Table XIV.

The mortality was in 1855 below the average of the preceding ten years at all ages under 45; after the age of 55 the mortality was above the average of those years. This higher mortality of old people was probably the result of the extreme cold in the earlier months of 1855.

In the three early periods of life (0-15) the mortality of males exceeds the mortality of females; as is also the case after the age of 35 up to extreme old age; but from the age of 15 to 35 the mortality of females is in excess. The same observation applies with very little exception to the decennial average, as well as to 1855.

The seasons.—The winter of 1855 was a remarkably cold season, and the deaths amounted to 134,542. The average number of deaths in the five previous winter quarters was 108,022; so that the cold was probably the cause of more than twenty thousand deaths. The deaths in

Table XIV.—ENGLAND. DEATHS.—Annual Rate of Mortality per Cent. of Males and Females at different Ages.

Years -	1845	1846	1847	1848	1849	1850	1851	1852	1853	1854	Average of the Rates of 10 Years 1845–54.	1855
All Ages -	2.170	2.395	2.546	2.391	2.581	2.143	2.276	2.320	2.379	2.434	2.364	2:348
0-	6.665	7.760	7.588	7:401	7.513	6.695	7.298	7.500	7.346	7.795	7:356	7.24
5-	*823	-825	•970	1.043	1.124	*814	*869	•906	*847	•935	•916	819
10-	•466	•507	•550	•530	•646	•467	•491	•520	•506	•550	•523	•49
15-	•781	*859	•929	*858	•951	•717	•776	•799	*828	*835	•833	.77
25-	•926	1.025	1.100	1.028	1.243	.879	•948	•968	1.013	1.025	1.015	.95
35-	1.202	1.272	1.436	1.303	1.581	1.165	1.236	1.230	1.316	1.349	1.309	1.28
45-	1.715	1.800	2.065	1.864	2.262	1.716	1.787	1.816	1.958	1.962	1.895	1.89
55-	2.975	3.129	3.649	3.266	3.655	2.980	3.031	3.073	3.278	3.227	3.226	3.35
65-	6.491	6.758	7.696	6.793	7.244	6.306	6.396	6.284	6.912	6.665	6.755	7.10
75-	14.400	15.070	17.326	14.986	15.187	14.019	14.055	14.161	15.897	14.808	14.991	16.16
85-	30.191	32.214	35.553	30.622	29.976	28.555	28.245	28.279	31.297	28.003	30.294	32.77
95 & upwds.	49.035	51.651	56.607	42.435	42.859	38.560	41.937	43.422	47.305	38.382	45.219	42.65

All Ages -	2.012	2.221	2.380	2.224	2.445	2.013	2.124	2.156	2.201	2.273	2.205	2.187
0-	5.657	6.675	6.553	6.396	6.488	5.738	6.299	6.445	6.362	6.814	6.343	6.224
5-	*800	•813	•951	•997	1.102	*810	*860	*878	*813	•924	*895	807
10-	•476	•533	•577	•566	•653	•491	•527	•537	•540	•560	•546	•494
15-	*815	•870	•919	*878	1.000	•777	*818	*834	*861	•859	*863	.819
25-	•980	1.048	1.173	1.090	1.347	•988	1.005	1.031	1.064	1.102	1.083	1.001
35-	1.188	1.242	1.422	1.301	1.617	1.169	1.193	1.214	1.251	1.328	1.293	1.262
45-	1.467	1.559	1.789	1.589	1.998	1.473	1.519	1.514	1.596	1.663	1.617	1.564
55-	2.668	2.783	3.226	2.860	3.355	2.625	2.679	2.660	2.845	2.852	2.855	2.950
65-	5.856	6.156	6.964	6.072	6.596	5.717	5.854	5.708	6.133	5.979	6.104	6.414
75-	13.036	13.794	15.945	13.604	14.028	12.684	12.818	13.177	14.106	13.325	13.652	14.816
85-	27.569	30.350	32.104	27.623	28.028	25.922	26.357	27.427	28.968	26.412	28.076	30.743
95 & upwds.	42.036	52.200	53.230	46.816	43.323	42.927	45.017	40.676	45.770	40.268	45.226	41.822

The Table may be read thus:—Of 100 Males living of the age of 35 and under 45, 1.272 died in 1846, 1.436 in 1847, 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.

the summer quarter were below the average. The distribution of the mortality over the four seasons, is shown in Table XVI., where it will be seen that the average quarter being set down at 1000, the relative numbers of deaths in the four seasons were 1280, 1001, 816, and 903.

I now submit to you a brief abstract of the observations in the Quarterly Returns, which are prepared from the Registrars' statements, and published within the month immediately after the close of each quarter.

SUMMARY OF THE QUARTERLY REPORTS 1855.

First Quarter.—January, February, March.*

The births are above and the marriages below the average numbers of the season; and as the consequence of the excessively cold weather the mortality of the quarter is the highest on record since the commencement of the civil registration.

TABLE XV.—DEATHS registered in each Quarter of the Years 1838 to 1855.

do a	10/1/2	Tribute	The to speak a	Quarters ending	g the last day of		LugarT
	parties within the	Years.	March.	June.	September.	December.	cascar and recognized promotion
		1838 1839	98152 89740	90877 87969	72877 76280	80854 84995	
wii	16 - A - A - A - A - A - A - A - A - A -	1840 1841 1842 1843 1844 1845	98896 99069 96314 94026 101024 104664	90339 86134 86538 87234 85337 89149	80822 75440 82339 76792 79708 74872	89630 83204 84328 87493 90864 80681	
850°S	1 2/2/4 	1846 1847 1848 1849 1850	89484 119672 120032 105870 98430	90230 106718 99727 102153 92871	101664 93435 87638 135227 85849	108937 103479 92436 97589 91845	+ 400.4 E.
		1851 1852 1853 1854 1855	105359 106358 118119 111843 134542	99458 100625 107647 102586 106493	91499 100382 92201 113843 87646	99080 99770 103130 109633 97022	+6 2-6 4-6 1-63

TABLE XVI.—PROPORTIONAL Number of DEATHS in each QUARTER to 1000 Deaths in the Average Quarter of each Year, 1838-55.

KET OF S	100°50 100°50	Number	THE DESCRIPTION	Proportiona	l Number of	Deaths.	140 631	
	YEARS.	of Deaths in the Average Quarter.	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 1839 1840	85690 84746 89922	1000 1000 1000	1145 1059 1100	1061 1038 1005	850 900 899	944 1003 997	6 BA
708. A 1	1841 1842 1843 1844 1845	85962 87380 86611 89233 87342	1000 1000 1000 1000 1000	1152 1102 1096 1132 1198	1002 990 1007 956 1021	878 942 887 893 857	968 965 1010 1018 924	
100 T 600 T	1846 1847 1848 1849 1850	97579 105826 99958 110210 92249	1000 1000 1000 1000 1000	917 1131 1201 961 1067	925 1008 998 927 1007	1042 883 877 1227 931	1116 978 925 885 996	-10 -10 -10
250°S 910°S1 121°S3 (1	1851 1852 1853 1854 1855	93849 101784 105274 109476 106426	1000 1000 1000 1000 1000	1066 1045 1122 1036 1280	1006 989 1022 940 1001	926 986 876 1031 816	980 980 980 993 903	- 53 - 53 - 53 - 53

^{*}The numbers published in the Quarterly Reports were derived from returns furnished for that purpose by the Registrars; in the present re-publication the figures have been corrected from the annual abstracts.

Births.—166,225 children who were born alive had their names inscribed on the registers in the three months of January, February, and March. This number exceeds by twenty thousand the numbers that appear in the return for the preceding quarter, and by five thousand the numbers in the return for the corresponding first quarter of 1854. The rate of births was 3.603 per cent. The increase of births is chiefly in London, in the West Midland Counties, in the Northern Counties, and in Wales.

Increase of Population.—As the number of births was 166,225, and of the deaths 134,542, the excess indicates that the natural increase of the population was 31,683 in the first three months of the present year. In the same period 36,677, or, exclusive of 2217 foreigners, 34,460 emigrants left the ports of the United Kingdom at which the Government has Emigration officers. About 15,806 of the emigrants were of English origin; so that the natural increase by births would be diminished to this extent, if there were no compensating immigration of the Irish and Scottish population into England.

The emigration from the United Kingdom to the United States has fallen from 51,929 in the winter of 1851 to 36,067 in the winter quarter of 1854, and 18,427 in the corresponding quarter of the present year. The emigrants to the Australian colonies were, in the quarters that ended on March 31st, 1003 in 1847, 2942 in 1851, and 17,444 in 1855. The remarkable diminution in the number of emigrants from Ireland to the United States deserves attention.*

The Prices of Provisions, and the Weather.—The price of wheat has been more than 50 per cent. higher than it was in the quarter of 1853 that ended on March 31st, but 9s. 7d. per quarter lower than it was in the beginning of 1854. Beef is 25 per cent. dearer than it was in 1853, and 7 per cent. dearer than it was in 1854. Mutton has been cheaper than it was in 1853, and so have been potatoes. The meteorology, and all the peculiar characteristics of the severe weather, are described by Mr. Glaisher.

State of the Public Health.—The health of the population generally has been bad; and the mortality has greatly exceeded the average. 134,542 deaths have been registered, which is 20,000 in excess of the corrected average of the winter quarters. This addition to the ordinary mortality of winter, which is in England the most fatal season, is referable to the low temperature, with the consequent hard times, against which it is difficult for the wages classes to make an adequate provision; and in other countries, where there is no such system of relief as is administered under the English poor law, the suffering and the mortality are much greater in severe seasons than they are in England.

Persons of advanced ages among all classes have been cut off in great numbers, and have thus fallen before they had passed through the evening of life. Young children have also died in considerable numbers. Bronchitis and the congestive diseases of the lungs have been the immediate causes of death. The frost, which braces the nerves of the hardy and strong, chills the veins of the aged and weakly. The temperature of the night falls, as Mr. Glaisher shows, 11° on an average below the temperature of the day; and it is in the night undoubtedly that the respiratory organs are most frequently injured, when the water freezes in the bedrooms of houses that are not warmed by fires, or by warm air diffused by Dr. Arnott's and other admirable inventions.

The mortality in the country districts was at the annual rate of 26 deaths in 1000 living; in the town districts at the rate of 32 in 1000

^{*}From a Return with which the Registrar General has been favoured by the Emigration Commissioners.

Second Quarter .- April, May, June.

living: out of equal populations, there were six funerals in the towns to every five funerals in the country districts; and the town population is increasing by immigration much faster than the country population; so that, unless measures for the improvement of the health of the artisans, the tradesmen, and the professional and wealthy classes in towns, are immediately adopted, the lives of many, and the vigour and energies of large masses of the English population, will be lost, or for ever impaired.

The 134,542 deaths do not include deaths that have occurred at sea during the quarter, and have been entered upon the marine register, neither do they include the deaths among our soldiers abroad, as no provision has yet been made for placing the names of the men who die in the service of their country abroad, on the national registers.

The excess of mortality in the quarter is diffused over the whole kingdom; nor is it evident that the northern have suffered more than the southern counties. The deaths in London exceeded by 3247, or 1-fifth part, the deaths in the winter quarter of 1854; the deaths in the rest of England were 10,452, or nearly in the same degree in excess of that season. In the South-eastern Counties the deaths were 11,256 in the place of 8400. The Epsom district suffered from scarlatina; Guildford from small-pox and measles; Farnham from fever, measles, hoopingcough, and diarrhea. The deaths for the first time exceed the births in Farnham. In the Bexley sub-district in Kent there were as many as forty cases of small-pox at one time: only those unvaccinated died. Scarlatina prevailed in Folkstone, Elham, Portsmouth, the Isle of Wight, Kintbury, Faringdom, and Fyfield. In the barracks at Winchester, occupied by about 2000 men, chiefly recruits and invalid depôts, 40 men have died, chiefly of acute pulmonary complaints. 46 deaths occurred in the new military hospital, Portsea. Small-pox, imported, it is believed, by the Essex rifles, was the cause of 6 deaths in Windsor, where also 2 children died in February of choleraic diarrhœa in a cleanly country cottage.

The South Midland Counties suffered from scarlatina and fever in several districts. In Oxford 25 deaths occurred from small-pox, and the deaths exceeded the births in number. In Cambridge the mortality was high. In Leighton Buzzard the deaths were nearly double the average.

In some districts of the Eastern Counties measles, small-pox, and hooping-cough prevailed. The mortality was high in Norwich and several other places. The mortality in the South-western Division, where the climate is milder, rose to the same extent. In Salisbury the deaths in the winter quarters of 1853 and 1855 were 77 and 79; and the same result is noticeable in districts all over the country, which must have been exposed to nearly the same degree of cold as the districts in which the cold winter proved most fatal. Cold under the shelter of houses in civilized states only destroys people indirectly, by inducing diseases; is chiefly fatal to the aged or feeble; and it arrests some classes of diseases; so that under certain circumstances the mortality of a district may be lower in a cold than it is in a mild winter.

Influenza was epidemic in Saint Agnes, Truro; typhus in Lerrin, Liskeard; Plymouth and the surrounding districts are still in an unsatisfactory sanitary state. In Bath, Clifton, and Cheltenham the mortality was above the average.

The West Midland Counties suffered somewhat less than the counties of the previous Division. The mortality was high in Hereford, where measles was epidemic; and somewhat above the average in Gloucester, Shrewsbury, Stafford, Worcester, and Warwick. 2094 deaths were registered in Birmingham and Aston; 112 less than the deaths in the winter quarter of 1854, but 352 more than the deaths in the winter quarter of 1853.

In the North Midland Counties the mortality was raised to nearly the same extent (1-seventh) as in the other Midland Counties; the districts of Leicester, Lincoln, Nottingham, and Derby exhibited little or no increase. Scarlatina, measles, and hooping-cough prevailed extensively in Lincolnshire.

Cheshire and Lancashire exhibited but a slight increase in the mortality. 3674 deaths were registered in Liverpool and West Derby; 3261 in Manchester and Salford; the latter number being considerably above the average.

Yorkshire suffered less than other divisions. In Leeds and Hunslet, where 1321 deaths were registered, the mortality was below the average, and in Sheffield and York the mortality was about the average.

Measles and scarlatina prevailed to some extent in the Northern Counties; the mortality was raised one-eighth part above the average. In Monmouthshire and Wales the same diseases were epidemic, and the mortality was raised about one-sixth above the mortality of the winter of 1853. The Registrar of Wrexham says:—"The severity of the winter, and the high price of provisions of all kinds, have had a considerable effect on the health of young and old people."

Second Quarter.—April, May, June.

The returns present these general results: the marriages in the quarter were below the average numbers; the births and the deaths slightly exceeded the average proportions. The severe weather, the high price of provisions, the diminution of employment in some districts, and the withdrawal of an increased number of men from the country by the army and navy abroad, account for the decrease in the marriages. The stagnation in the winter was, however, probably only temporary; for war, instead of depressing, appears to increase the industry, the invention, and the energy of Englishmen. The rapid rate of growth of the British population commenced and attained its culminating point in the last war.

Marriages.—38,549 marriages were celebrated in the quarter; or less in number by 1969 than the marriages in the corresponding quarter of the year 1854.

Births.—The births of 165,277 children were registered in the quarter that ended on June 30th, 1855; or less by 7180 than were registered in the corresponding quarter of the previous year, and more, to nearly the same extent, than were registered in the spring quarters of 1851–53. In the West Midland Counties, particularly in Staffordshire, and also in Cheshire, in Lancashire, in the West Riding of Yorkshire, and in the Northern Counties, the births of the quarter exceeded to some extent the births in the spring quarter of 1853.

Increase of Population.—As the number of births was 165,277 and of deaths 106,493, the natural increase of the English population in three months may be set down as 58,784, exclusive of the increase of immigrants from Scotland, Ireland, the Colonies, or foreign parts. In the same period 65,210 emigrants, including a certain number of foreigners, left the ports of the United Kingdom at which there are Government Emigration officers. How many of the emigrants were born in England has not yet been learnt; but 39,509 proceeded to the United States, 10,397 to British North America, 14,639 to the Australian Colonies, and 665 to other places.

The Prices of Provisions, and the Weather.—The average price of wheat, which in the three months April, May, June 1853, was at 44s. 6d. a quarter, was in 1854 at 78s. 4d., and in the corresponding months of the present year at 73s. 4d. Bread has been dear for two years, or since the harvest of 1853. Beef is somewhat cheaper, and so are potatoes; while mutton is at the same price as in the spring quarter of 1854.

The weather during the quarter was remarkable for the continuance of the cold, which in the previous quarter had been unusually severe. Except on a few days only, the temperature was below the average. There was a deficiency of rain.

State of the Public Health.—The public health has partly recovered from the effects of the late epidemic cholera, and from the severe weather of last winter, and the mortality, which is on the average at the annual rate of 2.243 in 100 on the population, was 2.277 in 100 in the last quarter. The average rate of mortality in the spring quarter in 117 districts, comprising the chief towns, is 2.455 in 100 persons living, in the small towns and country parishes 2.056 in 100. The mortality in the last quarter was at the rate of 2.503 in 100 in the town districts, 2.097 in 100 in the country districts.

There were 106,493 deaths in the quarter; or 3907 more deaths than were recorded in the corresponding quarter of 1854; for the cholera, which was epidemic in that year, only became fatal in the subsequent quarter. In the Eleven Divisions the deaths varied little during the spring quarters of 1853, 1854, 1855.

In London some improvements are referred by the Registrar of St. Giles to the working of the Lodging House Act; and the health of Bermondsey has been better since the tidal ditches have been filled up, and the parish has been paved and drained.

In the South-eastern Counties, Farnham has for the last seven months been suffering from low fever, hooping-cough, and measles; Canterbury from small-pox, scarlatina, and bronchitis. Alverstoke has suffered severely from scarlatina, and the deaths (211) exceed the births (121): the same excess of deaths is observed at Winchester, where 23 men died in the barracks. The death of a female aged 105, at Windsor, is mentioned; and it is stated that her two sons are above 80 years of age.

In the South Midland Counties, Northampton and Bedford experienced a rate of mortality that much exceeds the average. Scarlatina has raged. In Royston the parish of Kelshall has suffered from typhus; the drainage and water are "very bad."

In the Eastern Division several districts have been healthier than usual; Norwich, Depwade, Mitford, Downham, and Thetford have, however, suffered from a higher than their average death-rate. Small-pox, measles, and scarlatina have prevailed in several districts of Essex and Norfolk.

In the South-western Division the mortality is about the average, but it was higher than it was in the preceding year in Wilts, Devon, Cornwall, and Somerset. The excess was considerable in Chippenham, Stoke Damerel, and Liskeard. The mining population in Cornwall is not in a satisfactory sanatory condition. One of the Registrars of Liskeard says:—

"In Calstock, one of the parishes of my district, there is an epidemic of scarlatina. Some houses of miners and others are overcrowded, and due regard is not paid to ventilation. There are no waterclosets, privies, or other conveniences belonging to the premises, and the places for the deposit of soil, &c. are in many places immediately adjoining the houses, in some almost touching the door of the dwellings. In another parish (Callington) there are several unregistered lodging houses, and the whole of them are in a filthy and unwholesome condition; every night there is a great influx of vagrants of the lowest order, and on my visiting them one night after 10 o'clock I found 5 persons in a bed, and as many as 18 in one room. It is a great pity the magistrates do not look into the matter and abate the nuisances."

In the West Midland Division, the mortality was lower in the spring quarter both in Staffordshire and Warwickshire than it was in the spring of 1854; measles, small-pox, and scarlatina are mentioned as prevailing in some districts of Shropshire.

The mortality in Lincolnshire, of the North Midland Division, was above, in Leicestershire, Nottinghamshire, and Derbyshire below, the death-rate of the previous spring quarter (1854). Scarlatina occurred in Lincoln,

Horneastle, Caistor, and Gainsborough. The frame-work knitting trade has been bad for some time in Basford, near Nottingham.

In the North-western Division, 2490 deaths were registered in Cheshire, 14,478 in Lancashire. A death from Asiatic cholera was returned at Runcorn on the 1st of June. Some sanatory improvements are noticed in the Lancashire towns. Liverpool is healthy at present. In West Derby it is said:—

"The district has been, during all the quarter, in a very healthy state, which may in a great degree be owing to the extent of street and house draining, street cleansing, and other excellent sanatory improvements that have been adopted by the corporation of Liverpool in the municipal part of the district."

At Wigan sanatory improvements are progressing, such as street sewerage, drainage of private property, and the removal of nuisances. The Registrar of North Bury writes:—

"The deaths in this quarter are considerably under the average, and amount to just a half the number of births. No small-pox, measles, scarlatina, hooping-cough, or cholera. The sewering, water supply, paving, scavenging, &c. of the town are in a very satisfactory state. Large sums have been judiciously expended by the town commissioners during the last seven years, to the comfort and advantage of the inhabitants, and the appearance of the town now offers an agreeable contrast to other manufacturing towns in this district."

These facts are encouraging, as they show that the high mortality in the Lancashire districts may be greatly diminished, and that substantial improvements are followed by immediate results. Measles, scarlatina, and typhus prevailed in some districts of Lancashire; and the mortality was higher in Manchester than it was in the two previous springs.

In Yorkshire the deaths (10,423) were below the average numbers; and the decrease was chiefly in the West Riding. Leeds and Sheffield were healthier than in the previous two springs. The Registrar of Bradford East refers the low mortality to sanatory improvements; vaccination is, however, neglected. He singularly enough observes:—"There is an "increase in the births this quarter, caused by a slight improvement in "trade, and the settling at home of a great number of the wives of the "militia." The linen trade in Barnsley is depressed; the colliery and iron works are carried on with vigour, and have drawn many families to the works; the births and the deaths exceed the average numbers.

The Northern Counties experienced their average rate of mortality; 5593 of the inhabitants died. Small-pox and scarlatina have been fatal in some districts of Durham; vaccination is neglected.

In Monmouthshire and Wales the deaths were 7366, which is near the average number. Measles prevailed in Abergavenny and Crickhowell.

Third Quarter.—July, August, September.

The returns of deaths exhibit as their general result a favourable state of the health of the country in summer, and a striking improvement on the returns of the summer quarter of the previous year. The diminution of the number of marriages indicates some pressure on the resources of the people from the high price of bread; but the low rate of mortality implies that under the English system of Poor Laws, imperfect as it is, the labouring classes suffer less distress than the workmen of the Continent, who have no legal right under any circumstances to relief. Liberality in the administration of the Poor Law is the natural remedy of many of the evils of high prices in England.

Marriages.—37,308 marriages were registered in the quarter, or less by 874 than the number in the corresponding quarter of the previous year, when the number of marriages was considerably above the average. The number of persons married was 74,616. The annual average rate of the summer quarter is 776 marriages to 100,000 of the population; in the summer of 1854 it was 813, in the last summer 787. In Hampshire, chiefly in Portsea Island, the Isle of Wight, and Southampton, and in

some districts of Buckinghamshire, Bedfordshire, Northumberland, and Wales the marriages increased; in the mining and manufacturing districts the greatest decrease is observed, and notably in the mining districts of Cornwall, in Staffordshire (Wolverhampton and Dudley), in Cheshire, in Lancashire (Manchester, Bolton, and Liverpool), and in the West Riding of Yorkshire (Halifax and Leeds).

Births.—154,700 births were registered in the quarter that ended on September 30th. This number only exceeds by 24 the number of births in the summer quarter of the year 1854, and indicates a rate of birth (3·261) above the average of the season (3·146 annually). The births increased to some extent in the counties of Hertford, Northampton, Essex, Stafford, Worcester, Warwick, Leicester, Derby, Durham, and Northumberland.

Increase of Population.—154,700 births and 87,646 deaths were registered. The natural increase of the population of England and Wales in the three months is therefore 67,054, which makes the gain of people in nine months in this part of the empire 157,521. Of the number of immigrants from Scotland, Ireland, and foreign countries no record is kept. The emigrants from the ports of the United Kingdom at which there are Government Emigration Officers amounted to 44,698; of whom 13,486 were ascertained to be of English, 3534 of Scotch, 18,701 of Irish, 3093 of foreign origin; the origin of 5884 emigrants was not distinguished. After taking a due proportion of the latter class the English emigrants will amount to 15,530; nearly half of whom sailed to Australia, and the rest to our North American Colonies and the United States.

The number of emigrants from the United Kingdom, which was 109,236 in the summer quarter of 1852, has fallen to 44,698, which is nearly the

same number as emigrated in the summer quarter of 1847.

The Prices of Provisions, and the Weather. Among the most important circumstances that affect the numbers of births, deaths, and marriages. must be placed the state of trade, the prices of food, and the weather. The prices of consols in the three quarters that ended in September 1853, 1854, and 1855 were 97, $93\frac{7}{8}$, and $90\frac{6}{8}$; so the interest of money rose in the proportion of the reciprocals of these numbers. The prices of wheat in the same seasons were 51s. 10d., 63s. 10d., and 76s. 1d. a quarter; of beef, by the carcase, in the London markets, $5\frac{1}{8}d$., $5\frac{6}{8}d$., and $5\frac{7}{8}d$. a pound. The prices of these articles of food therefore rose in the interval of two years, wheat 48 per cent., beef 15 per cent. Mutton, in the three summer quarters, was sold at 61 d., 6d., and 6d. a pound. Potatoes by the Waterside Market, Southwark, were sold at 117s. 6d., 8os., and 74s. a ton. The fall of 37 per cent. in the price of an article of food which is consumed at the tables of all classes, and by persons of all ages and both sexes, is an important set-off against the rise in the price of wheat, and may partly account for the fact that the public health is better,—the rate of mortality lower,—than it was in the summer of 1853.

The weather of the three months is described by Mr. Glaisher. The mean temperature was 60.4°, and was in every month slightly above the average at Greenwich. Rain which was in excess in July was below the average in August and in September. Since November 1853, 32\frac{3}{4} inches of rain have been collected about London, which is 14\frac{1}{4} inches or 30 per cent. less than the average. Wheat was cut at Ryde on July 14th, at Aberdeen on September 10th; so that the wheat harvest in the island

extended over nearly two months.

State of the Public Health.—87,646 deaths were registered in the quarter that ended on the last day of September, and the annual rate of mortality in the quarter was 18.48 deaths to 1000 living, while the average rate of the summer quarter is 20.73. The annual rate of the summer quarter of the year 1854 was 24.23, and the number of deaths

were 113,843; the excess being due in a considerable measure to the epidemic of cholera and diarrhœa which broke out at Newcastle and other places in 1853, and was exceedingly fatal in London and several districts

in the summer quarter of 1854.

In 117 districts comprising the chief towns 44,169 deaths were registered; while in the 511 districts comprising the small towns and the country parishes the deaths were 43,765; the annual rate of mortality was 1.643 in the latter districts, and 2.165 in the town districts, to every 100 of the population; or .522 more in the towns than in the open country.

The health of the towns exhibits some improvement, for the mortality to 100 living has fallen from 2.633 in the ten summer quarters (1845-54), to 2.165 in the summer quarter of 1855; but the great incentive to exertion remains, that the mortality is certainly not inevitably at a higher rate than 1.643 in the summer quarter, as that rate only was actually

experienced on the area of 511 districts.

The great work of the day is to improve the health of the people; and the first steps towards its accomplishment are the throwing open building grounds on favourable sites, facilitating the distribution of the population over town and country by railways, supplying the towns with pure water, draining and opening streets, and removing constantly for immediate deposit in the soil the town guano, which would no doubt prove an excellent substitute for the guano that is now fetched from the islands of a foreign state in the Pacific Ocean by British ships, which could in former ages only be allured round Cape Horn by silver and gold.

The health of London is described in the weekly tables. The deaths were 13,069 in the quarter, or less by nearly twelve thousand than the deaths in the corresponding quarter of last year, when cholera was epidemic, and less by 110 than the deaths in the corresponding quarter of 1853. The Belgrave sub-district, which lies low and is still supplied with the impure water of the Thames, suffered, the Registrar states, from low

continued or gastric fever.

The mortality has before in England as in other countries been low after an epidemic, and it has been hence inferred that epidemics only carry off prematurely people who would otherwise die in the course of a few years. But it will be observed that in every Division, although cholera was not generally epidemic, the mortality is lower than it was in 1854.

The deaths in the South Eastern Division were 7482, or less by 2060 than in the corresponding quarter of 1854. At Gillingham dysentery and diarrhœa prevailed, the deaths of some invalids from the Crimea and the Baltic were registered. The cholera seeds still remain about Sandgate, where 5 persons died from the disease, besides 2 in the town of Folkstone, and 34 men of the foreign legion, who were stationed in the Folkstone district.

In the South Midland Counties 5758 persons died; or less by 1116 than died in the summer quarter of the previous year. Scarlatina has prevailed in Bedford, and the Registrar remarks that "the great majority of deaths from this and other zymotic diseases have occurred in the worst drained and most densely populated localities."

In the Eastern Counties,—Essex, Suffolk, and Norfolk,—the mortality fell to nearly the same extent, and was at a lower rate than it was in 1853. A river bargeman died of cholera in West Ham; he was brought from Poplar in London. Two men were brought ashore, and died of "malignant"

cholera" at Lowestoft.

In the South Western Counties, where the mortality was not raised above the average of the season by cholera in 1854, the mortality was below the average in 1855; thus implying a favourable sanitary constitution of the season quite independently of any previous removal of weakly people by epidemic cholera. The Registrar of Redruth says:—
"People are now beginning to think that cleanliness and the removal of

nuisances from near their houses are conducive to health;" and he notices that the "deaths are much below the average." The removal of the "muck" to some distance from the farm-houses and cottages would not only be conducive to the health of the farmers and labourers' families, but lessen the mortality of every kind of stock.

The West Midland Counties exhibit a low rate of mortality (9692 deaths); Birmingham has lost some lives from diarrhoa, but has been on the whole

unusually healthy.

In the North Midland Counties the deaths are low in numbers (5286)

when compared with the deaths of previous years.

14,905 deaths were registered in Cheshire and Lancashire, against 17,225 deaths which occurred in the summer quarter of last year. Diarrhoea was becoming prevalent in Chester; and one death from cholera was registered. Liverpool and Manchester exhibit signs of increased salubrity.

In Yorkshire the deaths were 9177, against 10,829 in the corresponding

quarter of 1854; Leeds and Hull were healthier than usual.

The Northern Counties lost 4998 lives, against 7058 in 1853 and 5907 in 1854. The great outbreak of cholera in Newcastle-upon-Tyne raised the mortality in that town to 2085 in the summer quarter of 1853, against 531 in the summer quarter of the present year.

The deaths in Monmouthshire and Wales were 5242, and the mortality was less than in either of the summer quarters of the two previous years.

The decrease of the mortality in some districts is striking, and the registrars in their notes endeavour to account for this evident fact. Some refer the improved health of the people to the fine weather; others to active employment in the harvest; others to the removal of the population, either in search of employment, or by drafting into the militia, and into the ranks of the army. In the mining district of Redruth the Registrar conceives that "the frugality and temperance" promoted by the high price of provisions has been salutary; in other districts the benefits of improved health are connected with "good wages and plentiful work;" in many places the utility of sanatory measures is admitted. The Registrar of Pontespury, who has registered no death for two months, "can assign no cause." One registrar makes the following statement:—

"The deaths are below the average. In the township of Workington, containing a population of 6122, the deaths during the last 9 years have averaged 42 quarterly; this quarter they are 21. In the other 9 townships, containing a population of 3412, there have been only 4 deaths. Some ascribe the decreased mortality to Providence; others to improved sanatory arrangements."

Various causes in operation undoubtedly contributed to this happy result:
—that if all the deaths of British soldiers in the Crimea during the last three months were added to the deaths in England the sum would be less by some twenty thousand than the deaths registered in England during the three summer months of 1854. More lives may be saved by sanatory arrangements at home every year than have ever perished abroad in the years of our greatest losses in war; and the enlightened people of this kingdom will suffer no such embarrassment as the Registrar of Workington has recorded if this result be realized, as they know that all effectual measures for the improvement of the human race receive the blessing, because they are the inspirations, of Divine Providence.

Fourth Quarter.—October, November, December.

The return is on the whole satisfactory. But the marriages were slightly below the average of recent years, from various causes. The births were near the usual number; and the mortality was much below the average, both in the towns and in the country.

Marriages.—47,070 marriages were celebrated, and consequently 94,140 persons were married in the three months that ended on 31st December 1855. The number of marriages in the first quarter of the year was 29,186, in the last quarter 47,070; but it has always hitherto happened

in England that the marriages are most numerous in the Christmas quarter after harvest, and least numerous in the Lent quarter, so that this difference is in accordance with the ordinary state of things. The rate of marriage in the last quarter of the year was much below the rates of marriage in the corresponding quarters of the years immediately preceding. The rate of marriage decreased in London and in the manufacturing districts, and the decrease is probably referable partly to the high price of provisions, and partly to the increase of the army and navy, where men do not marry to the same extent as in the civil population.

Births.—148,841 births were registered in the last quarter of the year 1855; or more in number by 2402 than the births in the corresponding quarter of 1854. The annual rate of births in the quarter was 3:128 per cent. on the population; which is near the average (3'112). There was an increase of births in every division, except in the two divisions south of the Thames and in the Eastern Counties. The Registrars account in various ways for the decrease of births. At Royston the Registrar says :-- "Many young married men are gone into the militia." The militia is referred to also by the Registrar of Hatfield; and at St. Albans "the removal of many young women with the numerous recruits," accounts for the decrease of births. Upon the other hand, "the formation of the camp at Aldershot" it is said "accounts for the increase of births and deaths" in the district of Farnham. The registrar of Southampton notices that only 84 births took place in May, while the numbers in that month in previous years had varied from 95 to 142; and on the whole he has a decrease in the year of 138 births; which he attributes "to the fact that so many ships belonging to this port have been detained in the Black Sea, rather than to a diminution of the population." The decrease of births in Camborne, Redruth, is explained by " the fact that a very large proportion of the male population has been for some time past employed in America at the copper mines of the Lake District, and the gold diggings of California and Australia, where a great number of Cornish miners have emigrated, leaving their wives and families at home, who are maintained by remittances from the husbands."

Increase of Population.—In the Northern and Midland Counties the effects of temporary or local causes of the decrease of births in the South have been neutralized; and generally in England there is little ground of complaint or of any apprehension of a paucity of births, as 635,043 children were born in the year of war 1855; or 209,340 in excess of the number of deaths (425,703). In the last quarter of the year the excess of births over deaths, or the natural increase, was 51,819. Of the immigration into England and Wales from Ireland and Scotland during the period no records exist.

24,207 emigrants sailed from the ports of the United Kingdom at which there are Government Emigration officers; 16,111 to the United States, and 7329 to the Australian colonies. 7615 were ascertained to be of English origin, 840 Scotch, 10,689 Irish, and 1426 foreigners; the origin of 3637 was undistinguished.

The Prices of Provisions, and the Weather.—Upon comparing in the table the prices of the principal articles of food in the last quarters of the years 1853, 1854, 1855, it is seen that wheat was 69s. 10d., 68s., and 79s. 4d. a quarter; beef was 5d., $5\frac{5}{8}d$, and $5\frac{6}{8}d$. a pound. Mutton $5\frac{5}{8}d$., 6d., and $5\frac{6}{8}d$. a pound. Bread was dear during the last quarter. The average prices of beef and mutton by the carcase were equal, differing little from the prices of 1854, but higher than the prices of 1853. Potatoes have fallen from 150s. a ton in 1853, to 95s., and this materially alleviates the pressure from the high prices of other articles. The mean temperature of October was above, of November and December below, the averages of those months. The air was humid in October and No-

vember, dry in December. The average quantity of rain fell at Greenwich. The mean temperature varied from 46° 5 in Cornwall and Devon to 41° 7 in North Shields; the fall of rain, from 10° 5 in. in Newport and Ryde to 5° 5 in. in Liverpool.

The deaths of 97,022 persons were registered in the last quarter of the year; and the annual rate of mortality was 2.039 per cent. on the popula-

tion, or 0.130 less than the average rate of the season (2.169).

The mortality of 117 districts, comprising the chief towns of England and Wales, was in the quarter at the rate of nearly 24 in 1000; the mortality in the other 511 districts containing the small towns and the country parishes was at the rate of 18 in 1000; the average rates of the ten autumn quarters preceding, were nearly 26 in 1000 in the large town districts, and 20 in the small town and the country districts.

The mortality was slightly below the average in each of the Southeastern Counties; Croydon and Dartford, which formerly suffered from epidemics, were healthy. Canterbury, Gravesend, and Farnham have suffered to some extent from epidemics. Small-pox prevailed among the soldiers at Canterbury, who it appears had not been vaccinated. Scarlatina prevailed in Alverstoke, Newport (Isle of Wight), Winchester and Windsor. At Winchester there have been seven deaths "from fever;" and, adds the Registrar, "about the same number of deaths from syphilitic gangrene or ulcus grave, which prevailed in the military hospital, and also in the county hospital and union workhouse, especially among women."

The mortality is much lower than it was last year in the South Midland Counties. In a few districts epidemics prevailed. Small-pox has been fatal in Ware, in the "densely populated courts and alleys," where vaccination was neglected. The Registrar of Royston notes:—"Sanatory arrangements much neglected, typhus very prevalent." Scarlatina was fatal in Welwyn, Harpenden (Hertford), Chesham (Bucks), Turvey, Bedford and Cardington, Ivinghoe (Beds), in Cambridge, Ely, and Wisbeach. Small-pox occasioned some deaths in these counties. Many complaints are made of the working of the Vaccination Act. Scarlatina and fever prevailed in Cambridge both during summer and autumn.

The mortality was low in the districts of the Eastern Counties, with the exception of Risbridge, King's Lynn, Saffron Waldon, and a few more. Scarlatina in a malignant form was prevalent in the parish of Downham and in the Ingatestone sub-district. Erysipelas, chiefly of the face, was very prevalent in Coggeshall. The Registrar of Manningtree

TABLE XVII.—ENGLAND. MARRIAGES, BIRTHS, and DEATHS in each Quarter of the Years 1838-1855.

		MARR	TAGES.			Bir	THS.			DEA	THS.	
YEARS.	In	the Quar	rters end t day of	ling	In the Quarters ending the last day of the last day of						rters endi day of	ng
	March.	June.	Sept.	Dec.	March.	June.	Sept.	Dec.	March.	June.	Sept.	Dec.
1838 - 1840 - 1841 - 1842 - 1842 - 1843 - 1845 - 1846 - 1847 - 1846 - 1847 - 1855 - 18	23,201 24,679 26,395 24,447 25,860 25,285 26,387 29,551 31,417 31,417 32,7480 28,398 28,429 30,577 33,274 33,234 32,774 33,234 29,186	29,801 31,339 30,786 32,551 30,048 31,113 34,268 35,300 37,111 35,197 34,721 35,844 39,204 40,402 40,446 40,518	27,764 29,887 29,221 20,397 27,288 41,675 35,003 35,070 32,439 32,439 32,995 33,874 37,636 38,400 39,899 38,182 37,308	37,301 37,261 36,263 30,101 35,629 38,573 39,919 42,066 40,729 42,116 43,736 45,337 47,313 49,026 47,778	113,815 123,543 182,305 133,720 125,615 136,837 143,578 143,578 144,510 146,453 139,736 153,772 144,551 157,286 161,803 161,729 160,785 166,225	121,781 128,806 129,059 129,884 134,096 131,279 136,941 136,853 149,450 139,072 149,760 153,693 155,865 155,965 175,903 158,697 172,457 165,277 165,277	114,734 120,115 119,822 123,868 123,296 128,161 130,078 132,369 138,718 127,173 140,359 135,223 146,911 150,594 151,222 147,602 154,724	113,457 120,110 121,117 124,686 124,732 131,048 130,166 131,219 139,349 127,267 133,204 135,471 146,095 144,363 146,439 144,343 148,841	98,152 89,740 98,896 99,069 96,314 94,926 101,024 104,664 89,484 119,672 120,032 105,870 98,430 105,359 106,358 118,119 111,843 134,542	90,877 87,969 90,339 86,134 86,538 87,234 85,387 89,149 90,230 106,718 99,727 102,153 92,871 99,458 100,625 107,647 102,586	72,877 76,280 80,822 75,440 82,339 76,792 79,708 74,872 101,664 93,435 87,638 135,227 85,849 100,382 92,201 113,848 87,646	80,854 84,995 89,630 83,204 84,323 87,493 90,864 80,681 108,937 103,479 92,436 97,589 91,845 99,080 99,770 103,130 109,633 97,022

says:—"Several fatal cases of typhus and scarlatina have occurred in the parish of Ramsey, which is situate a few miles from Harwich. I consider Ramsey to be the most unhealthy parish in this district. There is a large tract of marsh land surrounding the village, and, as far as I can learn, a great want of drainage exists. Some sanatory measures ought to be at once put in motion, otherwise the inhabitants must continue to suffer from a disease, which is so prevalent in almost every cottager's residence in the parish." At Sudbury only 54 deaths occurred in six months out of about 8000 people. The population are fully employed. The improvement in the health of Rattlesden (Stow district) is ascribed to "sanatory regulations."

In the South Western Counties the deaths (8342) were below the average. Scarlatina was, however, fatal in several districts; so was fever. In St. Keverne, in Cornwall, the excess of deaths (121 to 29 births) was the consequence of the wreck of the barque "John" on the Manacles, when the bodies of 93 emigrants were cast on shore. The diminished mortality of Edington (Westbury) is referred to the works of the sanatory inspector. The poor of Heavitree, near Exeter, suffer much from the high price of food; but soup kitchens afford some relief.

The West Midland Counties (Gloucester, Hereford, Salop, Stafford, Worcester, and Warwick) experienced a rate of mortality much below their average. The deaths were 12,594 in 1853, 13,587 in 1854, and 11,169 in 1855. The decrease is most striking in the great towns; thus, in the last quarters of 1853 and 1855 the deaths in Bristol and Clifton were 904 and 726, in Wolverhampton 858 and 694, in Dudley 1032 and 747, in Birmingham and Aston 1888 and 1440. In Coventry the deaths showed little decrease. Of the 93 deaths in the Holy Trinity subdistrict "54 are those of children under 3 years old, the causes of death being generally either 'natural weakness,' 'diarrhæa,' or 'convulsions.'"

The deaths (5678), except in Rutland, were below the average in the North Midland Counties; namely, in Leicester, Lincoln, Nottingham, and

Derby.

In Cheshire and Lancashire the improvement is less extensive than it is in other counties. The deaths were 16,926. The deaths in Liverpool

TABLE XVIII.—ENGLAND. Annual Rate per Cent. of Marriage, Birth, and Death, during each Quarter of the Years 1838-1855.

		7	IARRIA	GE RATE	g.		BIRTH	RATE.			DEATH	RATE.			
YEARS.		In	the Quar	rters end day of	ing	In	the Quar	ters endi	ng	In	the Quar the last	uarters ending last day of			
		March.	June.	Sept.	Dec.	March.	June.	Sept.	Dec.	March.	June.	Sept.	Dec.		
1838 1839 1840 1841 1842 1843 1844 1845 1846 1847 1848 1849 1850 1851 1851	TILLY TITLE TELLS	618 649 677 626 654 632 644 721 757 655 661 661 702 742 730	*783 *812 *787 *822 *749 *767 *834 *849 *882 *826 *805 *822 *888 *844 *885	719 764 787 781 671 701 760 822 751 755 766 840 822 836	963 949 911 895 874 934 955 1038 983 940 961 986 1010 1000 1000	3.032 3.248 3.395 3.424 3.431 3.420 3.507 3.491 3.498 3.488 3.252 3.575 3.321 3.567 3.321	3 198 3 388 3 301 3 278 3 344 3 234 3 234 3 551 3 551 3 526 3 474 3 523 3 550 3 557 3 557	2:970 3:069 3:021 3:082 3:082 3:114 3:123 3:140 3:251 2:945 3:211 3:056 3:281 3:317 3:291	2 · 928 3 · 059 3 · 044 3 · 092 3 · 058 3 · 174 3 · 1103 3 · 256 2 · 938 3 · 053 3 · 253 3 · 253 3 · 226 3 · 298	2:615 2:359 2:538 2:537 2:486 2:373 2:467 2:467 2:157 2:850 2:794 2:462 2:261 2:388 2:354	2:387 2:280 2:310 2:174 2:158 2:149 2:077 2:144 2:506 2:313 2:341 2:107 2:224 2:224	1:887 1:949 2:038 1:877 2:025 1:866 1:913 1:776 2:382 2:163 2:005 3:057 1:917 2:015 2:185	2:086 2:164 2:252 2:063 2:067 2:119 2:175 1:908 2:545 2:389 2:108 2:108 2:108 2:108 2:106 2:116		
1853 1854 1855	- 1-1	·778 ·728 ·633	·883 ·875 ·824	·859 ·813 ·787	1.053 1.015 .989	3.578 3.520 3.603	3·464 3·722 3·534	3·177 3·294 3·261	3·100 3·111 3·128	2·613 2·449 2·916	2·355 2·214 2·277	1.985 2.423 1.848	2:214 2:329 2:039		
Mean	-	*682	*831	•776	'971	3*341	3.414	3.146	3.115	2.507	2.243	2.073	2.168		

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 618 marriages, 3,032 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.

and West Derby, where scarlatina was epidemic, were 3487, or 273 more than in the last quarter of 1853. The deaths in Manchester and Salford, on the other hand, were 2396, or 371 less than in 1853. Many deaths from scarlatina occurred in Runcorn. In Knott Lane, Ashton, several deaths occurred among persons who were attended by an unqualified practitioner.

The decrease in the mortality of Yorkshire is considerable; the deaths in the last three months of 1853 were 10,670, in the last three months of the year 1855 they were 9361. Bradford, Leeds, Sheffield, York, and

Hull exhibit a great diminution in the number of deaths.

The deaths in the Northern Counties, Durham, Northumberland, Cumberland, and Westmorland, were 5499, and below the average. Scarlatina has been very fatal. It prevailed with much severity in the colliery districts of Durham. The two villages in Easington, in which it was most fatal, are situated very low, on a marshy, damp, badly-drained soil. In South Shields district, where many men are employed on the construction of an extensive dock, scarlatina and typhus have prevailed. At Bedlington, Morpeth, small-pox has been raging among all classes, affecting both young and old. Those who had not been vaccinated were great sufferers. 14 persons died of Asiatic cholera, 7 of diarrhæa, in Sunderland East—the seat of the first outbreak in 1831.

In Monmouthshire and Wales 5833 persons died. Scarlatina and typhus attacked some districts; but the mortality was less than in the

two previous years.

Upon the whole, the health of England and Wales exhibits evidences of improvement.

TABLE XIX.—ENGLAND. Annual Rate of Mortality per Cent. in Town and Country Districts in each Quarter of the Years 1850-1855.

the second and the second		POPULATION enumerated. Qu		Annual Rate of Mortality per Cent. in each Quarter of the Years						
hagaret Lui selojak e	1841	1851	ending	1850	1851	1852	1853	1854	1855	Mean 1850-55
In 117 Districts comprising the CHIEF TOWNS }	6,612,958	7,886,473	March June - Sept Dec Year -	2·401 2·222 2·206 2·323 2·288	2.675 2.443 2.349 2.503 2.493	2.651 2.436 2.590 2.514 2.548	2.888 2.606 2.390 2.778 2.666	2·847 2·520 3·121 2·777 2•816	3·199 2·503 2·165 2·380 2·562	2°777 2°455 2°470 2°546 2°562
. The same of the		S 12 15 15 15 15 15 15 15 15 15 15 15 15 15	Year -	1.888	1.968	2.018	2.062	2.026	2.046	2.001
In 508 Districts comprising chiefly SMALL TOWNS and COUNTRY PARISHES	9,301,190	10,041,136	March June – Sept. – Dec. –	2:067 1:967 1:693 1:824	2:065 2:049 1:793 1:963	2:128 2:052 1:908 1:982	2·397 2·196 1·744 1·911	2:183 1:972 1:927 2:020	2:632 2:097 1:643 1:811	2:245 2:056 1:785 1:919

Names of the 117 Districts:—All the Districts of London (36), and Maidstone, Brighton, Isle of Wight, Portsea Island, Winchester, Windsor, St. Alban's, Wycombe, Oxford, Northampton, Bedford, Cambridge, Colchester, Ipswich, Norwich, Yarmouth, Devizes, Dorchester, Exeter (St. Thomas), Plymouth, Redruth, Penzance, Bath, Bristol, Clifton, Stroud, Cheltenham, Hereford, Shrewsbury, Worcester, Kidderminster, Dudley, Walsall, Wolverhampton, Wolstanton, Birmingham, Aston, Coventry, Leicester, Lincoln, Nottingham, Basford, Derby, Stockport, Macelesfield, Great Boughton, Liverpool, West Derby, Blackburn, Preston, Rochdale, Bury, Bolton, Wigan, Prescot, Chorlton, Manchester, Salford, Ashton and Oldham, Sheffield, Huddersfield, Hallfax, Bradford, Leeds and Hunslet, Hull, York, Sunderland, Gateshead, Tynemouth, Newcastle-on-Tyne, Carlisle, Cockermouth, Kendal, Abergavenny, Pontypool, Merthyr Tydfil, New Town, Wrexham, Holywell, Anglesea.

TABLE XX.—METEOROLOGY of GREENWICH in the Seven Years 1849-1855.

YEARS. Wee	Mean Weekly Movement	Fall of Rain in	Mean Dryness of	Mean Temperature			ature of the A	
	of the Air in Miles.	Inches.	Atmosphere.	the Air.	March.	June.	Sept.	Dec.
1849 -	Miles.	Inches.	6.4	49.9	41.9	51.7	61.0	44.8
1850 - 1851 -	761 684	19.6	6.4	49·3 49·2	39.4 41.9	53:5 51:5	59.6 59.8	44.7
1852 - 1853 - 1854 -	724 596 687	34·4 29·0 18·7	7*3 6:0 5:7	50'6 47'7 49'0	41.4 38.1 40.8	51.2 51.8 51.7	61.8 58.5 59.8	48·1 42·3 43·7
1855 -	638	21.1	5.3	46.9	34.1	50.5	60.4	42.7

GREAT BRITAIN.

The annual report of the Registrar-General for Scotland now supplies us with the births, deaths, and marriages of that portion of the United Kingdom; and in Table XXII. the rates of marriage, birth, and death in Great Britain are given for the first time. It will be seen that they are all lower than the corresponding rates in England; but as Scotland contains about one-seventh part of the population of Great Britain, its numbers only go to that extent into the general results.

The returns of Ireland are still required, to enable us to compare the marriages, births, and deaths of the United Kingdom, with the returns of France and of the other great states of Europe; which, although they are not called *United Kingdoms*, embody the statistics of all their old pro-

vinces in their annual reports.*

Ireland is not the least important, nor the least interesting part of the United Kingdom in the present day; and it is much to be desired that the Registrar-General of Ireland should be enabled, by an extension of the Irish Registration Act to secure the registration of all the births, deaths, and marriages, and thus complete the annual population statistics of the United Kingdom. Ireland in this respect is alone in Europe; it is the only

TABLE XXI.—The AVERAGE PRICES of CONSOLS, of WHEAT, of MEAT, and of POTATOES; also the AVERAGE QUANTITY of WHEAT sold and imported Weekly, in each of the Years, and in each Quarter of the Years 1852–1855.

	Average	Average Price	WHEAT sold in the	WHEAT and Wheat Flour	entra en actiones		Average	Prices o	f	e consiste of	
Adapati 	Price of	of WHEAT per	290 Cities and Towns in England and Wales	and Towns in England and Wales making Home Consumption at Chief Ports		MEAT idenhall ets (by	per lb. and New the Carca	gate se).	POTATOES (York Regents) per Ton at Waterside		
	Consols (for	Quarter in	Returns.	BEEF.		MUTTON.		Market, Southwark.			
verine Descriptions	Money).	England and Wales.	Average N Quarters	Range of Prices.	Mean.	Range of Prices.	Mean.	Range of Prices.	Mean.		
YEARS.				.0081 ,nim	4				1		
TEARS.	£	s. d.	Qrs.	Qrs.	d.	d.	d.	d.	8.	s.d.	
1852 - 1853 - 1854 - 1855 -	$\begin{array}{c c} 99\frac{3}{8} \\ 97\frac{6}{8} \\ 91\frac{7}{8} \\ 90\frac{3}{8} \end{array}$	40°10 52°11 72°5 74°8	93,354 86,191 75,259 101,057	55,749 89,450 68,625 46,190	$\begin{vmatrix} 3\frac{1}{4} - 5\\ 4 - 5\frac{3}{4}\\ 4\frac{1}{2} - 6\frac{1}{2}\\ 4\frac{6}{8} - 6\frac{5}{8} \end{vmatrix}$	457 457 558 558	$\begin{array}{c ccccccccccccccccccccccccccccccccccc$	4787 5787 5783 534	79—103 116—145 107—131 94—107	91 131 119 101	
QUARTERS ending	48/2	\$ 6000°	1 1051	2007		to the	1 1 2 0 10 - 20				
1852 :— March - June - Sept, - Dec	$\begin{array}{c} 97\frac{1}{4} \\ 99\frac{6}{8} \\ 100 \\ 100\frac{5}{8} \end{array}$	40°10 40°10 41°2 40°5	95,532 87,949 78,712 111,224	27,540 54,675 67,912 72,870	$\begin{vmatrix} 3\frac{1}{4} - 5 \\ 3\frac{1}{4} - 4\frac{3}{4} \\ 3\frac{1}{4} - 5 \\ 3 - 5 \end{vmatrix}$	4	$ \begin{array}{c ccccccccccccccccccccccccccccccccccc$	434 412 5 514	60— 80 85—110 80—100 90—120	70 97.6 90 105	
1853:— March - June - Sept Dec	$\begin{array}{c} 99\frac{5}{8} \\ 100\frac{4}{8} \\ 97 \\ 93\frac{6}{8} \end{array}$	45.7 44.6 51.10 69.10	95,115 84,559 86,087 79,002	63,530 82,623 120,020 91,627	$ \begin{array}{c ccccccccccccccccccccccccccccccccccc$	4½ 4½ 4½ 5½ 5	$ \begin{array}{r} 4\frac{3}{4} - 6\frac{3}{4} \\ 5 - 6\frac{3}{4} \\ 5 - 7\frac{1}{4} \\ 4\frac{1}{4} - 7 \end{array} $	5 4 7 8 1 8 3 8 5 5 5 5	110—145 110—145 110—125 135—165	127.6 127.6 117.6 150	
1854:— March - June - Sept Dec	91 885 937 936 936	79.6 78.4 63.10 68.0	60,022 55,842 56,389 128,783	103,519 103,331 48,135 19,513	$\begin{array}{c} 4\frac{1}{4} - 6\frac{1}{4} \\ 4\frac{1}{2} - 6\frac{1}{4} \\ 4\frac{3}{4} - 6\frac{3}{4} \\ 4\frac{1}{2} - 6\frac{3}{4} \end{array}$	14 sjonjuga	$ \begin{array}{r} 4\frac{1}{2} - 7 \\ 4\frac{3}{4} - 6\frac{3}{4} \\ 5 - 7 \\ 5 - 7 \end{array} $	534554 56 6	120—160 137—172 75— 85 95—105	140 155 80 100	
1855:— March - June - Sept Dec	9178 9088 9088 9088 8814	69:11 73:4 76:1 79:4	88,000 94,791 94,545 126,893	33,821 57,068 51,511 42,358	$\begin{array}{c} 4\frac{3}{4} - 6\frac{1}{2} \\ 4\frac{1}{2} - 6\frac{1}{2} \\ 5 - 6\frac{3}{4} \\ 4\frac{3}{4} - 6\frac{3}{4} \end{array}$	55555555555555555555555555555555555555	$\begin{array}{c} 4\frac{3}{4} - 6\frac{1}{2} \\ 4\frac{3}{4} - 6\frac{3}{4} \\ 5 - 7 \\ 4\frac{3}{4} - 6\frac{3}{4} \end{array}$	55834 54 6 54	105—120 110—130 69— 79 90—100	112.6 120 74 95	

^{*} According to an estimate, necessarily loose, by the Irish Census Commissioners, the rate of birth was 3.226, of death 2.222 per cent. in Ireland. The rates for the United Kingdom were, therefore, births 3.317, deaths 2.234 per cent, in the year 1855.

civilized country which is without a system of registration of births, deaths, and marriages.

ENGLAND AND FRANCE.

I have thought it might be interesting at the present time to compare the returns of France and the returns of England with the view of exhibiting the relative condition of the populations of the two countries.

The lucid annual report of M. Legoyt for the year 1853 has just appeared; and I have selected, for the purposes of comparison with England, the corresponding figures for that year, relating to education, marriage, birth, and mortality in France.

There can be no doubt that the analysis of the relative numbers that sign the marriage registers with marks and that write their names in the national returns, throws more light on the permanent results of elementary education than any other test that has yet been devised. That view of the matter is now taken by foreign statists; and this interesting item appears for the first time in the French returns.

It is a remarkable fact that, exclusive of the metropolitan cities, in England and France nearly the same proportion, 34 in every 100 of the men who marry, do not write their names in signing the marriage register; the exact proportion of the ignorant men in France is 33.70, in England it is rather more, or 33.93 in 100. The French women are even less

Table XXII.—Estimated Population, Marriages, Births, and Deaths in Great Britain, 1855.

William I was			Estimated Population in the middle of the Year 1855.	Marriages.	Persons Married.	Births.	Deaths.
England and Wales -	-		18,786,914 3,012,636	152,113 19,639	304,226 39,278	635,043 93,498	425,703 62,154
GREAT BRITAIN	-	-	21,799,550	171,752	343,504	728,541	487,857

Proportion per Cent. of Marriages, Births, and Deaths to the Population of Great Britain, 1855.

			1	To 100 Per	sons living.	
			Marriages.	Persons Married.	Births.	Deaths.
England and Wales	-	-	*810 *652	1.620 1.304	3°380 3°104	2·266 2·063
GREAT BRITAIN	-	-	•788	1*576	3:342	2.238

TABLE XXIII.—MARRIAGES in ENGLAND and FRANCE, 1853. Comparative Number and Proportion of Men and Women who signed their Names in Writing, and who declared themselves unable to write their Names, in England and France (exclusive of the Metropolitan Cities).

	Numbers	Numbers stating	Proportion to	100 Marriages.
	writing their Names in the Marriage Registers.	that they were unable to write their Names.	Writing their Names.	Not writing their Names
MEN.—ENGLAND (Exclusive of London).	90,550	46,508	66.07	33.93
FRANCE (Exclusive of the Departments of the Seine, Manche, Creuse, and Vaucluse).	170,172	86,491	66.30	83*70
WOMENENGLAND	70,990	66,068	51.80	48*20
(Exclusive of London). FRANCE (Exclusive of the Departments of the Seine, Manche, Creuse, and Vaucluse).	116,133	140,530	45*25	54.75

versed in writing than English women; for of French women 55 in 100 did not write their names, of English women 48 did not write their names, but made their marks. Both the proportions are deplorably high, and show how much has to be done to convey the first rudiments of instruction to the great body of the people in two of the most enlightened nations of the world.

As the returns for France, through some accident, do not include the facts for Paris in the department of the Seine, I have excluded the marriages in London from the English returns, as in the capitals the numbers who can write are disproportionately great.

The ages of the French population are distinguished for the first time in the census of 1851; and from the census and the other report, Table (A.) has been compiled, showing the estimated population and the deaths at various ages in the year 1853. (See Appendix, p. 188.)

I subjoin a Table (XXIV.) in which the mortality of the population of the two countries is shown in juxta-position. It will be observed that the mortality of France is rather less than the mortality of England in this year; but that the rate of mortality bears differently on different periods of life in the two countries.

Another Table (XXV.) is inserted, which was constructed from the estimated population, and from the deaths at different ages in the ten years 1840-49 as given in the Annuaire de l'Economie Politique. In this Table the mortality of France is higher than the mortality of England and Wales; but at certain ages, in the middle periods of life, the mortality of the English people considerably exceeds the mortality of the French. This is due, it is believed, to the bad sanitary condition of all the English towns in the years 1840-49, and especially to the greater proportion of town population in England. For the same reason the mortality of England and Wales is greater than the mortality of Scotland, and also greater than the mortality of Ireland, as estimated by the Irish Census Commissioners.

In years of scarcity, however, the population of France suffers more from privation than the population of England. France has no system of insurance against death by starvation extending over the whole population, such as is now imperfectly provided in England, Scotland, and Ireland by the Poor Laws; and the failures of crops fall heavily upon the small proprietors, who can draw the means of living from no other source than their small parcels of land.

The water supply in the French towns is bad, and their cesspool system is abominable; hence they suffered severely from cholera in 1854.

Table XXIV.—1853. England and France.—Annual Rate of Mortality per Cent. of Males and Females at different Ages.

					Annu	al Rate of M	Iortality per	Cent.
	AGES	١.			Ma	les.	Fem	ales.
					England and Wales.	France.	England and Wales.	France.
All Ages	-	-	-	-	2*379	2.203	2.201	2.189
0- 5-		-		4.5	7:346 :847	7*355 *82 2	6:362	6°383 °882
10-		-	_	-	*506	*518	•540	.630
15-			-	-	*828	*889	*861	*848
25-		-	-	-	1.013 1.316	*874 *985	1.064 1.251	1.007
35— 45—				-	1.958	1.474	1.596	1.339
55-					3.528	2.893	2.845	2.732
65-		_	-	-	6.912	6.21	6.133	6.598
75-		-	-	-	15.897	16.022	14.106	15.376
85-		-	-	-	31.297	29.273	28.968	29.371
	lupwar	ds	-		47.305	38*422	45.770	35.966

The mortality of the population of France in 1854 was 2:746 per cent. while the mortality of the population of England in the same year was 2.352 per cent. The deaths in France exceeded the births by 60,318. The deaths by cholera are estimated at 150,000; the deaths by the scarcity, which began in 1852, was sensibly felt in 1853, and prevailed with much

intensity in 1854, M. Legovt sets down at 60,000.

Under the ofth article of the Code Napoleon, information of the death of every French soldier who dies out of France should be sent home by the regimental authorities, and entered on the civil registers of his last known place of residence in France. This law had been laxly executed until the last war, when upon a representation made to the War Minister at its commencement he replied : qu'il allait prendre les dispositions nécessaires pour que tous les décès militaires fussent inscrits, autant que possible, au dernier domicile connu en France. Under these regulations about 20,000 deaths of French soldiers and sailors were registered.

The present arrangements for the civil registration of the deaths of soldiers and seamen in foreign parts are unsatisfactory both in France and in England. The deaths of French soldiers abroad are improperly confounded with the deaths in France; whereas they should appear in the general register under a separate heading, and be compared with the strength of the army abroad; at the same time the aggregate deaths should be taken into account, and set off against the aggregate births.

In England the deaths of soldiers abroad are never inscribed upon the civil registers; and I have no means of ascertaining either the actual mortality or the causes of death of the whole of the English population, including the army and navy, until some permanent arrangement be made by the Legislature. I wrote to the Secretary of State for War in 1854, calling his attention to the subject. In 1855 I addressed the Secretary for War in a second letter, which is, with a few omissions, subjoined, as it shows the present unsatisfactory state of the question.*

TABLE XXV.-1840-49. ENGLAND and FRANCE.-DEATHS. Average Annual Rate of Mortality per Cent. of Males and Females at different Ages in the Ten Years

rn lled odknad	esta com vitves	el that i	Average	Annual Rate	of Mortality)-49.	per Cent.	the Poot prietors.
	AGES.	8. m. A 3	Ma	les	Fem	ales.	men Henze
	in a majoris r	rout of	England and Wales.	France.	England and Wales.	France.	aleacely of
	All Ages	leEnn L	2*338	2°380	2.180	2.319	K.Z. SHEAT
	0		7*224	8.455	6°187	7.545	San San San San San San San San
	5	1010101	*947 *520 *834 1*009 1*292 1*849 3*205 6*805 14*904 30*836 47*305	1.049 .536 1.034 1.002 1.096 1.476 2.919 6.069 16.166 32.027 46.240	*941 *539 *862 1.067 1.291 1.605 2.867 6.133 13.694 28.686 46.384	1'104 '641 '841 '969 1'103 1'488 2'727 6'349 14'484 27'194 35'793	

^{*} Copy of a Letter from the REGISTRAR GENERAL to LORD PANMURE.

General Register Office,

February 10th, 1855. The 26th Section of 6 & 7 Will. 4. c. 86. provides for the registration of the deaths of British Seamen; but no provision is made for recording, in this department, the deaths which occur in the British army abroad.

I am aware that, upon inquiry at the War Office, relations may obtain information as to the last returns received respecting soldiers; but the enclosed Form shows that few facilities are given to the public in making these inquiries, and that precautions are

I cannot now state, as the French civil department does, the numbers of deaths in the army and navy. But if we compare the mortality of the female population of the two countries, France lost 2.721 per cent. England 2 273 per cent. of the female population at home in the year 1854.

Fecundity of the French population.—The temporary decrease of the population of France has naturally attracted attention, as it has occurred for the first time, M. Legovt states, in the last fifty-four years. In considering its causes, the diminishing number of births, to which I have before adverted in my Reports, has attracted attention, and given rise to

TABLE XXVI.-1853-54. ENGLAND and FRANCE. ESTIMATED POPULATION, MAR-RIAGES, BIRTHS, and DEATHS, in each of the Years 1853-54.

(AEV)	Estimated 1	Population.	Marri	ages.	Bir	ths.	Deaths.		
with the form of the	1853	1854	1853	1854	1853	1854	1853	1854	
England and Wales - France	18,403,313 36,225,000	18,618,760 36,155,682		159,727 270,906	612,391 936,967	634,405 923,461	421,097 795,607	437,905 992,779	

The Population of England and Wales for 1853 and 1854 has been deduced by taking the excess of births over deaths since 1851, when the population was enumerated. The Population of France for 1853 is obtained from the "Statistique de la France, deuxième sèrie. Tome III. (1re partie)," and for 1854 by making a deduction for the decrease of births as compared with deaths in that year.

1853-54.—Proportion of Marriages, Births, and Deaths to the Population of England and France.

TO THE BEST TOWN	77 30 15	To 100 Persons living,										
rogary manus Proport	Marr	riages.	Persons	Married.	Births.		Deaths.					
	1853	1854	1853	1854	1853	1854	1853	1854				
England and Wales - France	*894 *775	*858 *749	1°788 1°550	1.716 1.498	3°328 2°587	3°407 2°554	2·288 2·196	2°352 2°746				

The rate of mortality of females during the year 1853 was, in England 2.201, and in France 2.189 per cent. In 1854 the female rate of mortality in England was 2°273, and in France 2°721 per cent.

considered necessary to prevent unnecessary queries, and to limit the investigation to the nearest relatives or representatives of the party.

It appears to me very desirable that in this central office which contains the record of 20,000,000 deaths, marriages, and births, which have occurred in England and Wales since 1836, a record should also be kept of the deaths of all soldiers who die abroad.

I am aware that it is far from desirable to make any addition to the numerous periodical returns made by all officers commanding regiments, and I am also aware of the difficulties in time of war of obtaining the exact information as to the date and cause of death, when so many die on board transports and in distant hospitals; but I submit to your Lordship that these difficulties may be easily surmounted, and that it will be a great boon to the public if arrangements can be made that I be furnished, as soon as possible. with a nominal return from each regiment in Her Majesty's service of every soldier whose death has taken place in 1854; arrangements being at the same time made that similar information should be sent to me in future at such periods as may be considered

best, either monthly, quarterly, or yearly.

Here the names would be indexed alphabetically, and information at once be afforded to the public.

I take the liberty of enclosing a Form which might be used, but if your Lordship is disposed to entertain the application which I thus venture to make to you, the authorities under your Lordship's direction will probably be able to prepare a better description of

> I have, &c., (Signed) GEORGE GRAHAM. Registrar General.

After a lapse of six months, the Registrar-General was officially informed (Aug. 10th 1855) that Lord Panmure, after considering the subject, found that the proposal would impose much trouble in the Offices at home, and upon Commanding Officers abroad, and was "of opinion that for the present the consideration of the question had better be

controversy. It is, undoubtedly, a remarkable fact that, while the births in England go on rapidly increasing, the births of French children are not increasing, but are actually decreasing. 981,614 children were annually born (alive) in France on an average in the five years 1824–8, and 957,894 annually on an average in the years 1850–4.* In 1854 the births were 923,461 out of a population of 36,155,682 in France, and 634,405 out of 18,618,760 in England and Wales.

Thus in France to 1000 of the population 26 children were born; in England and Wales the same population gave birth to 34 children in the

year 1854.

A great portion of this difference is not referable to unusual abstinence from marriage in France, as some speculators have supposed, but to the difference in the fecundity of the married women at puerperal ages in the two countries. This is shown in the annexed Table (XXVII.)

The causes of death in England and Wales in the year 1855 are discussed by Dr. Farr in a letter addressed to me, which will be found in the Appendix (p. 179).

I have the honour to be,
Sir,
Your faithful servant,
GEORGE GRAHAM,
Registrar-General.

TABLE XXVII.—England and France. 1849-53.—Number of Wives; and Spinsters and Widows enumerated in 1851; the Number of Births in Wedlock and out of Wedlock registered in the Five Years 1849-53; and the Average Annual Proportion of Births in Wedlock to Wives, and Births out of Wedlock to Spinsters and Widows.

		Enumera	ted in 185	1.	BIR	THS	2 (10) (1) (10) (10) (10)	Annual	Average Annual Proportion of		
		WIVES of the Ages		SPINSTERS and WIDOWS of the Ages		REGISTERED in the Five Years 1849-53.		Proportion of Births IN Wedlock to 100 Wives of the Ages		Births OUT of Wedlock to 100 Spinsters and Widows of the Ages	
	15-40	15-55	20-40	15-55	In Wedlock	Out of Wedlock	15–40	15-55	20-40	15-55	
England and Wales France	1,630,456 3,252,746	2,553,894 5,603,781	1,248,182 2,382,824	2,449,669 4,779,896		203,885 349,123	34·591 27·615	22°084 16°029	3°267 2°930	1.665 1.461	

The Mothers of all the children born are included in the Women of the ages 15-55, and a large proportion—about seven-eighths—of the mothers, are 15 and under 40 years of age. Hence the number of children born alive has been divided by the numbers of women of those ages.

The last four columns of the Table may be read thus:—To every 100 WIVES in England and Wales of 15 and under 40 years of age the proportional number of all children born alive annually was nearly 35, in France nearly 28; or every 100 wives of the ages 15-55 gave birth to 22 children in England and Wales, and to only 16 in France. To every 100 SPINSTERS AND WIDOWS of the age 20-40 there were 3 267 children born alive out of Wedlock in England and Wales, and 2 930 in France.

^{*} Article by M. Legoyt in Annuaire de l'Economie Politique, 1857.