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APPENDIX.

CONTENTS.

	Page
LETTER to the REGISTRAR GENERAL on the CAUSES of DEATH in ENGLAND in 1859, by WILLIAM FARR, Esq., M.D., F.R.S., D.C.L.	183-195

LETTER to the REGISTRAR GENERAL on the CAUSES of DEATH in ENGLAND, by WILLIAM FARR, Esq., M.D., F.R.S., D.C.L.

YEAR 1859.

SIR,

I BEG to submit to you the returns of the causes of the deaths which have occurred during the year 1859 in England and Wales.

Few men live the natural lifetime of a hundred years; and as their bodies live, so they also die, by the action and reaction of their elements and of the elements of the external world.

The types of diseases have probably undergone as many changes as the human species, which according to the great hypothesis of Darwin, is itself the crowning offshoot of simpler forms; but the evidence of pathologic origins is rarely attainable, as species of disease are merely passing and necessarily fleeting states of the human organism. They do not offer the same unity of form as an animal or a plant; and are in every way less sharply defined. Yet the new species are generated by the same law; they are at first as varieties confounded with old types, and are only recognized as distinct species when they have existed for some time; so it is impossible to fix on the precise point of origin. Diphtheria is an example. It obtains a distinct line in the Tables of this year for the first time. Yet many indications of the previous appearances of a disease of the kind are found in medical history. Nay, epidemics of diphtheria are clearly described in the seventeenth century by Italian and Spanish writers. Some obscurity, however, hung round its history; and in Fothergill's account, which Sprengel properly designates classical, the symptoms are confused by the introduction of the eruption of scarlatina into his description. With that disease, with quinsy, and with other phlegmonous affections of the throat, as well as with croup, diphtheria, which is a better name than angina membranacea, was often confounded; and its frequent association with scarlatina in epidemics, justifies the inference that the *diphtherine*, its materies morbi, is some modification of *scarlatinine*.

It is evident from the annexed Table that diphtheria was confounded down to 1858 with cynanche, and to get an approximation to the actual deaths from the epidemic, the two forms must be put together. And when this is done the rapid and regular progress of the great epidemic becomes evident. In 1859 diphtheria (including cynanche) was fatal to 10,184; scarlatina to 19,310 persons. Both diphtheria and scarlatina attack young children; but the relative fatality of the two diseases

TABLE (1)—DEATHS in ENGLAND and WALES from SCARLATINA, CYNANCHE MALIGNA, and DIPHTHERIA, for each of the Years 1855 to 1859.

YEARS.	Total.	Scarlatina.	Cynanche Maligna, and Diphtheria.*	Cynanche Maligna.	Diphtheria.
1855 - -	17,314	16,929	385	190	186
1856 - -	14,160	13,557	603	374	229
1857 - -	14,229	12,646	1,583	1,273	310
1858 - -	30,317	23,711	6,606	1,770	4,836
1859 - -	29,494	19,310	10,184	597	9,587
Total - -	105,514	86,153	19,361	4,213	15,148

* Column 4 is the total of Columns 5 and 6.

differs at different ages. Scarlatina as a general rule does not recur. But the law of recurrence for diphtheria has to be discovered, and the extent to which it interferes with other diseases.

The fertility of nature in the production of new diseases, is only a proof of the necessity of perpetual vigilance in observing and combating them to the utmost of our ability at their sources; for in its zymotic diseases the solidarity of the human race is unquestionable.

TABLE (2)—ENGLAND AND WALES. DEATHS and AVERAGE ANNUAL RATE of MORTALITY from DIPHTHERIA with CYNANCHE MALIGNA, and from SCARLATINA, during the Five Years 1855-59.

AGES.	Deaths in Five Years, 1855-59, from		Average Annual Deaths to 100,000 persons living.	
	Diphtheria and Cynanche Maligna.	Scarlatina.	Diphtheria and Cynanche Maligna.	Scarlatina.
All ages	19,361	86,153	20	90
Under 1 year	1,639	5,709	62	215
1 -	2,115	12,318	82	477
2 -	2,060	13,935	82	554
3 -	2,062	13,240	84	540
4 -	1,966	10,327	82	432
Under 5 years	9,842	55,529	78	441
5 -	5,419	22,291	48	199
10 -	2,083	5,019	20	49
15 -	1,036	2,117	6	12
25 -	394	653	3	4
35 -	239	315	2	3
45 -	147	138	2	2
55 -	109	54	2	1
65 -	67	27	2	1
75 -	19	10	2	1
85 -	6	-	4	-
95 and upwards	-	-	-	-

NOTE.—In calculating the rate of Mortality in the above Table the population in the middle of the Five Years 1855-59 (1857) has been obtained on the assumption that the annual rate of increase of population was uniform between 1851 and 1861, and at the same rate at all ages.

TABLE (3)—DEATHS in ENGLAND and WALES from DIPHTHERIA and CYNANCHE MALIGNA, in each of the five Years 1855-59.

YEARS.	ALL AGES.	Under 1 Year.					Under 5 Years.																	95 and upwards.			
			1	2	3	4		5-	10-	15-	25-	35-	45-	55-	65-	75-	85-										
1855	385	56	52	47	45	33	233	84	17	20	8	7	8	7	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
1856	603	44	62	81	54	57	298	175	65	33	8	11	6	4	3	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
1857	1583	109	138	137	152	160	696	512	224	86	31	19	8	6	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
1858	6606	552	741	692	695	635	3315	1897	686	361	134	80	56	42	26	7	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
1859	10184	878	1122	1103	1116	1081	5300	2751	1091	536	213	122	69	50	37	11	4	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Total	19361	1639	2115	2060	2062	1966	9842	5419	2083	1036	394	239	147	109	67	19	6	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-

TABLE (4)—DEATHS in ENGLAND and WALES from SCARLATINA, in each of the five Years 1855-59.

YEARS.	ALL AGES.	Under 1 Year.					Under 5 Years.																	95 and upwards.				
			1	2	3	4		5-	10-	15-	25-	35-	45-	55-	65-	75-	85-											
1855	16929	1131	2306	2700	2537	1957	10631	4523	1078	438	128	71	36	15	8	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
1856	13557	985	1930	2161	2085	1669	8830	3419	800	332	88	55	20	10	3	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
1857	12646	855	1790	2032	1988	1462	8127	3252	766	321	104	40	23	7	3	3	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
1858	23711	1444	3468	3980	3638	2860	15390	6160	1325	557	159	69	33	10	6	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
1859	19310	1294	2824	3062	2992	2379	12551	4937	1050	469	174	80	26	12	7	4	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Total	86153	5709	12318	13935	13240	10327	55529	22291	5019	2117	653	315	138	54	27	10	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-

The discrimination of diseases at one time confounded, leads necessarily to the recognition of new types, and to new names. Thus under dropsy, diseases of the heart and kidneys were masked; and heart diseases of various kinds, as well as nephria, are recognized as the seat and origin of diseases which were called simply dropsy in former times. The rise of the specified deaths by nephria (Bright's disease), from 430 in 1850 to 1258 in 1859, is due to recent medical discoveries; some of the cases which were then classed under dropsy are now distinguished. The increase of deaths by cancer and heart disease is due to similar causes. Ideas have changed, but this must not be confounded with any corresponding change of natural phenomena. Nature changes, but our ideas of her processes change still more frequently. An alteration of nomenclature will necessarily occur with every new interpretation of nature; so it should be kept within strict limits, and be borne perpetually in mind by the student in comparing the morbid phenomena of distant ages and localities.

The meteorology of the year, and the prices of provisions in their bearing on public health, have been already discussed in your Report. But I submit below a supplementary Table of prices, to illustrate the decimal system of money.

In all statistical calculations of a scientific character, the decimal system is employed; as it would be impossible on the system of 4 farthings to a penny, 12d. to a shilling, 20s. to 1l., to perform the various calculations, giving the value of annuities, the premiums of life insurance, and other results, in any moderate time. Additional clerks would have to be employed; and much time would be wasted. The same waste of time occurs in the ordinary system of accounts; it is therefore desirable to familiarize people with the units decimally related, which suffice for the expression of all prices and values. These units are three. (1.) The 1l. sterling, which requires no explanation; (2.) the florin or two-shilling piece, of which ten make 1l.; and (3.) the mil, of which 100 make a florin. The mil differs but slightly from a farthing; for 25 mils and 24 farthings

TABLE (5)—PRICE of WHEAT, MEAT, and POTATOES in the Years 1852 to 1859.

(Prices in Shillings, Pence, and Vulgar Fractions of a Penny).

	Average Prices of				Average Price of Wheat per Quarter in the Market Towns of England.				
	Meat per lb. at Leadenhall and Newgate Markets.		Potatoes (York Regents) per Ton at Waterside Market, Southwark.		Year.	Quarters ending the last Day of			
	Beef.	Mutton.	s.	d.		March.	June.	September.	December.
1852	4 $\frac{1}{8}$	4 $\frac{7}{8}$	91	0	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.
1853	4 $\frac{3}{8}$	5 $\frac{1}{8}$	130	6	40 10	40 10	41 2	40 5	40 5
1854	5 $\frac{1}{8}$	5 $\frac{7}{8}$	119	0	72 5	45 7	44 6	51 10	69 10
1855	5 $\frac{3}{8}$	5 $\frac{1}{2}$	100	6	74 8	79 6	78 4	63 10	68 0
1856	5 $\frac{5}{8}$	5 $\frac{3}{4}$	85	6	69 2	69 11	73 4	76 1	79 4
1857	5 $\frac{7}{8}$	5 $\frac{7}{8}$	120	8	56 5	72 4	68 8	72 3	63 4
1858	5 $\frac{1}{2}$	5 $\frac{1}{2}$	120	0	44 3	56 10	56 9	59 11	52 0
1859	5 $\frac{1}{2}$	5 $\frac{1}{2}$	94	0	43 10	44 5	44 1	44 7	41 9
					43 10	40 8	47 3	44 0	43 4

(Prices in Florins and Mils, on the Decimal System).

	Mils.	Mils.	Flor. mils.	Flor. mils.	Flor. mils.	Flor. mils.	Flor. mils.	Flor. mils.
1852	17	20	45 50	20 42	20 42	20 42	20 58	20 21
1853	20	24	65 25	26 46	22 79	22 25	25 92	34 92
1854	23	24	59 50	36 21	39 75	39 17	31 92	34 0
1855	23	24	50 25	37 33	34 96	36 67	38 4	39 67
1856	22	24	42 75	34 58	36 17	34 33	36 13	31 67
1857	22	24	60 33	28 21	28 42	28 38	29 96	26 0
1858	22	23	60 00	22 13	23 21	22 04	22 29	20 88
1859	23	24	47 00	21 92	20 33	23 63	22 0	21 67

are of the same value as 6d. : and no further change would be required in our coinage than by a simple legislative enactment, to make after a certain date the halfpenny 2 mils, the penny 4 mils, and 25 halfpence change for a shilling, 25 pence change for a florin.

The decimal system, it will be observed, expresses the prices of the common articles of food intelligibly ; thus mutton was 24 mils (farthings, nearly) per lb., potatoes 47 florins a ton, and wheat 21 florins 92 mils per quarter, in 1859.

CLASSIFIED CAUSES OF DEATH.

The causes of death were declared in 432,476 instances ; in 2821 cases death was sudden but was not ascertained, and of the causes of 5484 deaths no information was supplied.

I. ZYMOTIC DISEASES.

106,645 deaths were referred to this class of causes, which were fatal to 5 in 1000 of the population, and produced one fourth of the total deaths. *Small-pox* destroyed 3848 people, chiefly children, who had not been vaccinated. It is an instance of the rigor with which the infringement of sanitary laws is visited ; for the children perish, and the parents lose their offspring, by the neglect of a precaution of the simplest kind. 19,907, children chiefly, died of scarlatina ; 9587 of diphtheria. In the previous year 30,317 deaths are referred to the head of scarlatina ; but they included 4836 deaths stated to be by diphtheria, and 1770 deaths declared to be by cyanche maligna or by some of the indefinite forms of sore throat.

The progress of these three forms of disease, of quinsy and of croup, is shown in the Tables.

Whooping-cough was fatal in 8976 cases. The fever which was fatal in 15,877 cases, includes the three forms of continued fever : typhus generated and diffusible by the exhalations of people living in crowds ; typhoid fever (typhia) diffused apparently by the faeces of the sick, and relapsing fever (typhinia), all of which have been so well defined by Dr. Jenner. The diffusion of medical knowledge will render their analysis in the national tables practicable. Erysipelas is still of frequent occurrence ; in a recent outbreak at the Winchester Infirmary, its fatal effects were traceable to a cesspool. Metria (puerperal fever) an allied disease, was unusually fatal ; the deaths of 1238 women were caused by that disease ; and 2258 by the other diseases incidental to child-bearing ; which will be referred to subsequently. Carbuncle is less prevalent and fatal than it was ; and happily influenza has not prevailed epidemically. Dysentery was fatal to 1379 persons ; diarrhoea to 18,331, cholera to 887. Cholera and more particularly diarrhoea were more fatal than they were in the previous year. This is partly accounted for by the high temperature of the summer quarter, acting on the impurities of the air and water. The temperature was 3° above the average of the season. Ague was more, remittent fever less than usually prevalent ; to rheumatism 2124 deaths were referred.

Syphilis is every year increasing in frequency ; it is congenital. There can be no doubt that parents who have suffered from secondary syphilis often transmit the seeds of disease and death to their offspring.

Hydrophobia is happily much less fatal than it was in former years ; 4 persons died of the disease. In the last four years 14 persons died of hydrophobia ; whereas 56 persons died of the same disease in the four years ending in 1855. Of glanders 3 persons died.

Passing to another order of facts, diseases directly referrible to defective nutrition, it will be seen in the Table that 52 deaths are said to have resulted from privation, 1017 from the want of breastmilk, 342 from purpura or scurvy. The feeding of children, whose mothers do not supply them with milk, is undoubtedly defective, and deserves the attention which it is now attracting from enlightened philanthropists.

We have but an imperfect conception of the number of deaths from excessive drinking ; but 545 deaths were directly ascribed to delirium tremens, and 345 to intemperance. The deaths in the year from the two forms of alcoholism were 890 ; exceeding by 178 the deaths, 712, in the previous year. The high temperature probably increases thirst, and at the same time renders the action of alcoholic liquors more dangerous. For *delirium tremens* is much more fatal in the hot than in the cold months of the year. Thus in the twenty years, 1840-59, while the deaths ascribed to intemperance were equally distributed, the 2,546 deaths by delirium tremens were distributed over the four quarters unequally : 563, 655, 725, 603 ; the smallest number occurring in winter (563), the greatest in summer, giving 1,166 in the cold, 1,380 in the hot half of the year. During the last three years, 1858-60, we have this result : in the cold months from October to March, the deaths of 140 persons by delirium tremens were registered in London ; in the hot months, from April to September, the deaths by the same disease were 204. The effect of the alcohol and the heat in producing delirium tremens is greatest at the age from 40 to 60 ; but it is also apparent at the earlier age of 20-40.

1858-60. Seasons.	Deaths ascribed to Delirium Tremens in London.					
	ALL AGES.	0-	20-	40-	60-	80-
ALL SEASONS	344	-	149	170	23	2
Jan., Feb., March	71	-	26	39	5	1
April, May, June	101	-	48	49	4	-
July, Aug., Sept.	103	-	41	54	7	1
Oct., Nov., Dec.	69	-	34	28	7	-
<i>Cold Season.</i> Jan., Feb., March, Oct., Nov., Dec.	140	-	60	67	12	1
<i>Hot Season.</i> April, May, June, July, Aug., Sept.	204	-	89	103	11	1

In the tropics, the combined action of spirits and sun-heat often apparently produce what is called sunstroke or apoplexy.

Of the parasitic diseases thrush is the most fatal ; and a great majority of the deaths were of infants under one year of age. The ova of worms must be derived generally from impure river waters into which the refuse of towns is poured ; and although they do not frequently prove fatal, they are troublesome and nauseous, and often the cause of disturbance in the system. Scabies, and other skin diseases attended with parasites, require constant attention.

II. CONSTITUTIONAL DISEASES.

Constitutional diseases killed 81,788 persons, chiefly in the middle and advanced periods of life ; 16,433 of diathetic, 65,355 of tuberculous diseases.

Gout is nearly stationary. Thanks to the more intelligent system of dining which the wealthier classes, wearied of this racking disease, will probably introduce, we may hope to see it rapidly decline. Dropsy and cancer exhibit changes which have been already ascribed to the progress of medical diagnosis.

Tuberculous diseases, including phthisis or consumption, the most fatal of all, increased from the year 1850 to 1853, and since that year have again decreased, and most decidedly if we take the increase of population into account. More than 3 in 1000 of the population died of these diseases, which caused 15 out of every 100 deaths. Phthisis was the cause of 12 out of the 15 deaths.

found besides the deaths from neuralgia and disease of the spinal marrow, those from softening of the brain. 23 deaths are referred to eye diseases; 67 to ear diseases, the ear organs being in almost immediate contact with the membranes of the brain. It is questionable whether the deaths of 34 males and of 20 females are due to idiopathic tetanus; for it is not improbable that the informant neglected to discover or to report the external cause in some instances. Only one death, of a young woman, by catalepsy is recorded.

Heart diseases, and diseases of the large blood vessels destroyed 8508 males, and 8625 females. Of aneurism 268 males, and 103 females died.

The most fatal diseases of the respiratory organs are bronchitis and pneumonia; and these inflammations of the tubes and cells of the lungs, running into each other, are not always accurately distinguished. It is worthy of remark that while the deaths by pneumonia have risen in nine years from 20,303 to 24,514, the deaths from bronchitis rose from

TABLE (8).—ENGLAND. CAUSES OF DEATH in the Year 1859, arranged in the order of Mortality.

CAUSES OF DEATH.	Number of Deaths registered in the Year 1859.	Proportional Number from each Cause to 1,000,000 Deaths from All Causes.	CAUSES OF DEATH.	Number of Deaths registered in the Year 1859.	Proportional Number from each Cause to 1,000,000 Deaths from All Causes.
Phthisis - - - - -	50,149	115,206	Suffocation (Accident) - - -	952	2,187
Atrophy and Debility - - -	27,990	64,801	Uterus Disease, &c. - - -	922	2,118
Old Age - - - - -	27,104	62,267	Pleurisy - - - - -	916	2,104
Bronchitis - - - - -	25,998	59,724	Cholera - - - - -	887	2,038
Convulsions - - - - -	25,954	59,624	Gastritis - - - - -	827	1,900
Pneumonia - - - - -	24,514	56,315	Ulceration of Intestines - - -	776	1,783
Scarlatina - - - - -	19,907	45,732	Ascites - - - - -	766	1,760
Diarrhoea - - - - -	18,351	42,111	Hernia - - - - -	762	1,751
Heart Disease - - - - -	16,146	37,092	Otherwise (Accident) - - -	692	1,590
Typhus - - - - -	15,877	36,474	Pericarditis - - - - -	616	1,415
Diphtheria - - - - -	9,587	22,024	Delirium Tremens - - - - -	545	1,252
Measles - - - - -	9,548	21,934	Hanging (Suicide) - - - - -	540	1,241
Paralysis - - - - -	9,189	21,110	Diabetes - - - - -	480	1,103
Whooping-cough - - - - -	8,976	20,620	Phlegmon - - - - -	466	1,071
Apoplexy - - - - -	8,631	19,828	Insanity - - - - -	446	1,025
Dropsy - - - - -	8,119	18,652	Quinsy - - - - -	426	979
Premature Birth - - - - -	7,432	17,073	Cyanosis - - - - -	403	926
Hydrocephalus - - - - -	7,229	16,607	Remittent Fever - - - - -	400	919
Cancer - - - - -	6,676	15,337	Other Malformations - - - - -	379	871
Croup - - - - -	5,636	12,947	Aneurism - - - - -	371	852
Fractures and Contusions } (Accident) - - - - -	5,482	12,594	Ulcer - - - - -	364	836
Tabes Mesenterica - - - - -	4,982	11,445	Spina Bifida - - - - -	356	818
Brain Disease - - - - -	4,586	10,535	Intemperance - - - - -	345	793
Liver Disease, &c. - - - - -	4,417	10,147	Purpura and Scurvy - - - - -	342	786
Asthma - - - - -	4,224	9,704	Murder and Manslaughter - - -	338	776
Small-pox - - - - -	3,848	8,840	Stricture of Intestines - - -	289	664
Teething - - - - -	3,730	8,569	Nephritis - - - - -	284	652
Childbirth and Metria - - -	3,496	8,031	Poison (Accident) - - - - -	279	641
Cephalitis - - - - -	3,451	7,928	Ovarian Dropsy - - - - -	277	636
Enteritis - - - - -	3,416	7,847	Skin Disease, &c. - - - - -	277	636
Scrofula - - - - -	2,995	6,841	Cystitis - - - - -	276	634
Burns and Scalds (Accident) -	2,978	6,884	Intussusception - - - - -	271	628
Lung Disease - - - - -	2,882	6,621	Cut, Stab (Suicide) - - - - -	270	620
Sudden Deaths (Cause unas- } certain) - - - - -	2,821	6,481	Gout - - - - -	238	547
Stomach Disease, &c. - - - - -	2,698	6,198	Carbuncle - - - - -	236	542
Drowning (Accident) - - - - -	2,494	5,729	Ague - - - - -	233	535
Epilepsy - - - - -	2,219	5,098	Drowning (Suicide) - - - - -	208	478
Kidney Disease, &c. - - - - -	2,144	4,925	Stone - - - - -	191	439
Rheumatism - - - - -	2,124	4,879	Stricture of Urethra - - - - -	177	407
Erysipelas - - - - -	1,954	4,489	Noma - - - - -	159	365
Peritonitis - - - - -	1,555	3,572	Worms - - - - -	155	356
Hepatitis - - - - -	1,488	3,418	Poison (Suicide) - - - - -	112	257
Dysentery - - - - -	1,379	3,168	Gunshot (Accident) - - - - -	104	239
Laryngitis - - - - -	1,319	3,030	Ischuria - - - - -	103	237
Nephria - - - - -	1,258	2,990	Fistula - - - - -	99	227
Jaundice - - - - -	1,255	2,883	Arthritis - - - - -	81	186
Mortification - - - - -	1,241	2,851	Cut, Stab (Accident) - - - - -	75	172
Thrush - - - - -	1,217	2,796	Otherwise (Suicide) - - - - -	64	147
Joint Disease, &c. - - - - -	1,204	2,766	Spleen Disease, &c. - - - - -	62	142
Ileus - - - - -	1,139	2,617	Privation - - - - -	52	119
Influenza - - - - -	1,112	2,555	Paramenia - - - - -	56	129
Syphilis - - - - -	1,089	2,502	Chorea - - - - -	55	126
Want of Breast Milk - - - - -	1,017	2,336	Gunshot Wounds (Suicide) - - -	54	124
			Pancreas Disease, &c. - - - - -	22	51
			Hanging (Execution) - - - - -	7	16
			Hydrophobia - - - - -	4	9
			Glanders - - - - -	3	7

14,611 to 25,998. And there is no corresponding or countervailing change either from consumption, or from the other pulmonary diseases.

The digestive organs are elaborate and subject to various kinds of disorders, which, however, are not so frequently fatal as those already mentioned. 19,842 persons died of diseases of the digestive organs; including 12,598 from the diseases of the stomach and intestinal canal, 22 from disease of the pancreas, 7160 from liver disease, and 62 from spleen disease.

Diseases of the urinary organs were the causes of 4736 deaths. The deaths by the various forms of these diseases are shown in the Tables.

The deaths by the diseases of each of the next three orders of disease were nearly equal.

The diseases of the organs of generation caused 1199 deaths; exclusive of deaths by childbirth and syphilis, appearing under other heads.

The diseases of the organs of locomotion, chiefly affecting the joints, produced 1285 deaths; including 6 from exostosis, 4 from mollities ossium, and 55 from necrosis, which occurred in 37 men and 18 women.

The diseases of the integumentary system induced 1107 deaths, including those by phlegmon, ulcer, and several curious varieties of skin diseases.

IV. DEVELOPMENTAL DISEASES.

We now enter upon a new order of diseases. They are attendant on the growth, nutrition, and development of the body, and are known as developmental diseases—of children (12,300), including premature birth, malformation, and teething; paramenia and childbirth follow (2314), both incidental to women in the procreative age; and then senescence, the decay of old age, to which 27,104 deaths are referred.

Atrophy, or an apparent cessation of nutrition, and debility, are the only facts to which the deaths of 27,990 persons, chiefly children, are referred. In Table 6. it will be observed that the deaths by debility of infants were classed with those from premature birth up to 1857, and since that year with atrophy.

The deaths of mothers in childbirth have been analysed, and the results are exhibited in the Tables 9, 10, and 11.

TABLE (9).—MORTALITY OF WOMEN BEARING CHILDREN at different Ages in the Five Years 1855-1859.

Age of Mother.	Estimated Number of Women bearing Children, 1851.	Deaths distinguished in the Five Years 1855-1859.				Annual Rate of Mortality.			
		Placenta Prævia and Flooding.	Puerperal Mania.	Puerperal Convulsions.	Rupture of Uterus.	Placenta Prævia and Flooding.	Puerperal Mania.	Puerperal Convulsions.	Rupture of Uterus.
15-25	107,440	220	102	481	16	*074	*035	*163	*005
25-35	328,720	806	215	342	78	*097	*026	*041	*009
35-45	166,140	1,014	80	183	61	*237	*019	*043	*014
45-55	7,545	61	4	11	3	*307	*020	*055	*015
15-55	609,845	2,101	401	1,017	158	*133	*025	*064	*010

In calculating the annual mortality a correction has been made for increase of population. The annual rate of increase (females aged 15-55) 1841-51, was .01200, and it has been assumed that the number of women bearing children increased at a uniform rate at each of the ages in the Table. At the age 15-55 there were 9,992 deaths from childbirth and 5,288 from metria in the 5 years 1855-59. Of the 9,992 deaths from childbirth only 4,824 were designated under any of the definite headings of the class (see Supplemental Table of Causes of Death); and the deaths under each of the headings in the above Table are assumed to have been understated in the same ratio, and raised accordingly in calculating the mortality. A similar correction has been made for each age in the Table.

* Exclusive of one death at age fourteen, in the year 1859.

V. VIOLENT DEATHS.

14,649 persons were killed by violence in the year. This is a sad confession for a nation humane, civilized, and skilled in all the arts, to make. It is exclusive of any deaths in warfare abroad. 13,056 of the deaths are ascribed to accident or negligence; 338 to homicide by coroners' juries; 1248 to suicide, and 7 to public execution.

Of the deaths by accident or negligence 5482 were brought about by fractures and contusions, 2978 by burns and scalds, 2494 by drowning, 104 by gunshot wounds, 75 by cuts and stabs, 279 by poison, 952 by suffocation.

Of 100,000 persons 75 die of violence annually.

I referred in my nineteenth letter to the imperfect investigation of violent deaths arising from the unsatisfactory state of the coroner's office; and a subsequent inquiry has led to an improved arrangement for paying the coroners by salaries. We shall hope now to see great improvements in the returns of violent and sudden deaths; so that the information may throw new light on their causes and form the basis of a thorough and searching inquiry into the subject.

DEATHS BY LIGHTNING.

The electric force is distributed over the whole face of the country, and it differs in tension not only in different times, but at different places. We have no accounts of the trees, plants, or animals which it destroys by violent discharges in the several parts of the country; and it is only since the act for registration that any complete account of the deaths by lightning in England and Wales, has been obtainable.

TABLE (10).—MORTALITY FROM METRIA at different AGES, in the Five Years 1855-1859.

Ages of Mothers.	Estimated Number of Women bearing Children, 1851.	Deaths from Metria in 1855-59.	Annual Number of Deaths from Metria to 100 Mothers living.
15-25	107,440	1,502	*260
25-35	328,720	2,362	*134
35-45	166,140	1,380	*152
45-55	7,545	64	*158
15-55	609,845	5,288	*161

In calculating the annual rate of mortality, a correction has been made for increase of population.

TABLE (11).—DEATHS OF WOMEN IN CHILDBIRTH in the Thirteen Years 1847-59.

YEARS.	Number of Deaths from			Deaths of Mothers to 10,000 Children born alive.
	Metria and Childbirth.	Metria.	Accidents of Childbirth.	
1847	3226	784	2442	60
1848	3445	1365	2080	61
1849	3339	1165	2174	58
1850	3252	1113	2139	55
1851	3290	1009	2281	53
1852	3247	972	2275	52
1853	3063	795	2268	50
1854	3009	954	2055	47
1855	2979	1079	1900	47
1856	2888	1067	1821	44
1857	2787	836	1951	42
1858	3131	1068	2063	48
1859	3496	1238	2258	51
13 years 1847-59	41,152	13,445	27,707	51

From the annexed Table it will be seen that 18 persons were killed by lightning in the year 1857; 26 in the year 1858; and 17 in the year 1859. They were nearly all persons in out-of-door occupations. 52 were males, 9 were females. 54 were of the age of 15 and upwards; one only was a female child under 5 years of age.

Persons are therefore much less likely to be struck by lightning indoors than out in the fields, and under trees.

With better observations, which we expect from the coroners, exacter rules may be laid down.

I have the honour to be,

Sir,

Your obedient Servant,

WILLIAM FARR.

To
The Registrar-General.

TABLE (12).—DEATHS BY LIGHTNING in the Three Years 1857, 1858, 1859.

DIVISION.	DISTRICT.	DATE.	SEX.	OCCUPATION.	AGES.												
					0-5	5-10	10-15	15-20	20-25	25-35	35-45	45-55	55 and upwards				
2	Hungerford	16 June	Male	Labourer												1	
2	Hungerford	16 June	Male	Labourer													
2	South Stoneham	13 Aug.	Female	Widow												1	
5	Sturminster	19 June	Male	Labourer													
5	Pewsey	6 July	Male	Labourer													
5	Truro	5 July	Male														
6	Tewkesbury	30 June	Male	Labourer													
6	Lichfield	6 Sept.	Male	Labourer												1	
6	Penkridge	2 July	Male	Labourer												1	
7	Barrow-on-Soar	13 Aug.	Male	Labourer													1
7	Barrow-on-Soar	13 Aug.	Male	Labourer													
7	Gainsboro'	7 Aug.	Male	Labourer													1
7	Boston	13 Aug.	Male	Labourer													
8	Ormskirk	8 Aug.	Male	Butcher													
10	Sunderland	5 July	Male														
10	Cockermouth	4 Sept.	Male	Shoemaker													
11	Wrexham	14 May	Female	Daughter of Joiner													
11	Newtown	14 May	Male	Agricultural Labourer													1
					1858.												
2	Hartley Wintney	3 April	Male	Labourer													
3	Potterspurty	18 June	Female														
3	St. Neots	16 May	Male	Miller													
3	Chesterton	12 June	Male	Labourer													
4	Blything	16 May	Male	Labourer													
2	Elham	14 Aug.	Male	Labourer													
2	Ware	13 Aug.	Male	Labourer													
3	Hatfield	12 Aug.	Male	Labourer													
5	Sturminster	14 May	Male	Labourer													
3	Bedford	11 Aug.	Male	Labourer													
5	Bideford	8 July	Female														
6	Wheatenhurst	22 May	Male	Carter													
7	Bakewell	12 Aug.	Male														
6	Stroud	12 June	Male	Labourer													
8	Macclesfield	3 June	Male														
6	Madeley	8 June	Male	Railway Labourer													
9	Bradford	3 June	Male														
6	Meriden	12 June	Male	Farm Labourer													
9	Leeds	16 June	Male	Dyer													
6	Atherstone	8 July	Male	Farm Labourer													
9	Goole	17 June	Male	Farmer													
6	Clun	8 July	Female	Dau. of Rag Collector													
9	Tadcaster	17 June	Male	Woodman													
9	Wortley	12 Aug.	Male	Miner													
10	Penrith	14 May	Male	Farmer													
11	Carnarvon	12 June	Male	Quarryman													
					1859.												
1	Wandsworth	26 June	Male	Domestic Servant													
3	Ely	30 May	Male	Labourer													
4	Thingoe	30 May	Male	Agricultural Labourer													
8	Rochdale	7 June	Male	Labourer													
8	West Derby	18 July	Female	Daughter of Farmer													
8	Hastingden	18 July	Female	Wife of Weaver													
9	Wortley	20 July	Male	Quarryman													
9	Easingwold	19 July	Male	Agricultural Labourer													
9	Todmorden	8 Mar.	Male	Carter													
9	Todmorden	5 June	Male	Warehouseman													
9	Bradford	6 June	Female	Daughter of Comber													
9	Bradford	6 June	Female	Wife of Comber													
10	Alnwick	1 Dec.	Male	Collier													
11	Holywell	30 May	Male	Baptist Minister													
11	Chepstow	23 July	Male	Labourer													
11	Chepstow	23 July	Male	Son of a Labourer													
11	Merthyr Tydfil	23 July	Male	Collier													
TOTAL					1	3	3	7	5	15	8	7	8				4

[The following Index furnishes a reference to the *Number* of each DISTRICT in the topographical arrangement adopted in the Tables of Abstracts contained in the Report, the numbers running consecutively from 1 to 623.* In forming the alphabetical arrangement the principle is adopted of placing compound names in the order in which they are pronounced: thus, East Ashford will be found under the letter E, and not under A, as Ashford, East.]

- | | | | | | |
|---|---|---|--|---|--|
| <p>Aberayron, 596.
Abergavenny, 578.
Aberystwith, 597.
Abingdon, 123.
Alcester, 405.
Alderbury, 263.
Alnwick, 559.
Alresford, 113.
Alston, 564.
Alton, 114.
Altrincham, 454.
Alverstoake, 97.
Amersham, 148.
Amesbury, 262.
Amphill, 181.
Andover, 118.
Anglesey, 623.
Ashborne, 447.
Ashby-de-la-Zouch, 414.
Ashton-under-Lyne, 474.
Askrigg, 537.
Aston, 395.
Atcham, 359.
Atherstone, 397.
Auckland, 542.
Axbridge, 324.
Axminster, 279.
Aylesbury, 151.
Aylsham, 232.</p> | <p>Bakewell, 449.
Bala, 616.
Banbury, 163.
Bangor, 621.
Barnet, 136.
Barnsley, 505.
Barnstaple, 295.
Barrow-on-Soar, 416.
Barton-upon-Irwell, 470.
Basford, 438.
Basingstoke, 116.
Bath, 326.
Battle, 77.
Beaminster, 277.
Bedale, 535.
Bedford, 179.
Bedminster, 328.
Belford, 560.
Bellingham, 557.
Belper, 446.
Berkhampstead, 147.
Bermundsey, 28.
Berwick, 561.
Bethnal Green, 21.</p> | <p>Beverley, 518.
Bicester, 159.
Bideford, 297.
Biggleswade, 180.
Billericay, 199.
Billesdon, 410.
Bingham, 443.
Birmingham, 394.
Bishop Stortford, 139.
Blaby, 411.
Blackburn, 480.
Blandford, 270.
Blean, 66.
Blofield, 237.
Blything, 225.
Bodmin, 304.
Bolton, 468.
Bootle, 572.
Bosmere, 220.
Boston, 425.
Bourn, 422.
Brackley, 164.
Bradfield, 126.
Bradford (Wilts.), 258.
Bradford (York.), 499.
Braintree, 208.
Brampton, 566.
Brecknock, 600.
Brentford, 134.
Bridge, 64.
Bridgend, 583.
Bridgnorth, 356.
Bridgwater, 316.
Bridlington, 524.
Bridport, 278.
Brighton, 85.
Bristol, 329.
Brixworth, 170.
Bromley, 49.
Bromsgrove, 392.
Bromyard, 350.
Buckingham, 154.
Builth, 599.
Burnley, 478.
Burton-upon-Trent, 375.
Bury, 469.
Bury St. Edmunds, 215.</p> | <p>Caistor, 432.
Calne, 254.
Camberwell, 33.
Cambridge, 187.
Camelford, 300.</p> | <p>Canterbury, 65.
Cardiff, 581.
Cardigan, 593.
Carlisle, 568.
Carmarthen, 589.
Carnarvon, 620.
Castle Ward, 554.
Catherington, 111.
Caxton, 185.
Chapel-en-le-Frith, 450.
Chard, 318.
Cheadle, 373.
Chelmsford, 200.
Chelsea, 2.
Cheltenham, 344.
Chepstow, 576.
Chertsey, 38.
Chesterfield, 448.
Chester-le-Street, 548.
Chesterton, 186.
Chichester, 92.
Chippenhams, 253.
Chipping Norton, 162.
Chipping Sodbury, 331.
Chorley, 481.
Chorlton, 471.
Christchurch, 101.
Church Stretton, 354.
Cirencester, 340.
Clebury Mortimer, 355.
Clerkenwell, 15.
Clifton, 330.
Clitheroe, 479.
Clun, 353.
Clutton, 325.
Cockermouth, 570.
Colchester, 204.
Congleton, 457.
Conway, 622.
Cookham, 129.
Corwen, 615.
Cosford, 213.
Coventry, 400.
Cranbrook, 60.
Crediton, 292.
Crickhowell, 601.
Cricklade, 251.
Croydon, 46.
Cuckfield, 83.</p> | <p>Darlington, 540.
Dartford, 50.
Daventry, 169.</p> |
|---|---|---|--|---|--|

* Thus, the number of Marriages in the Aberayron District may at once be ascertained by referring, in the "Abstract of Marriages," to the District numbered 596 (see page 24); and in like manner the number of Births and Deaths, of Deaths at different Ages, &c. will be found by referring to the same district number in the appropriate Tables.

Depwade, 239.
 Derby, 445.
 Devizes, 256.
 Dewsbury, 502.
 Docking, 244.
 Dolgelly, 617.
 Doncaster, 510.
 Dorchester, 175.
 Dorking, 43.
 Dover, 72.
 Downham, 247.
 Driffild, 523.
 Droitwich, 391.
 Droxford, 110.
 Dudley, 382.
 Dulverton, 313 *b*.
 Dunmow, 209.
 Durham, 545.
 Dursley, 333.

Easington, 546.
 Easingwold, 527.
 East Ashford, 63.
 Eastbourne, 78.
 East Grinstead, 82.
 Easthampstead, 130.
 East London, 17.
 East Retford, 435.
 Eastry, 71.
 East Stonehouse, 288.
 East Ward, 573.
 Ecelesall Bierlow, 507.
 Edmonton, 137.
 Elham, 73.
 Ellesmere, 362.
 Ely, 190.
 Epping, 195.
 Epsom, 37.
 Erpingham, 231.
 Eton, 149.
 Evesham, 389.
 Exeter, 282.

Falmouth, 308.
 Fareham, 98.
 Faringdon, 122.
 Farnborough, 41.
 Farnham, 40.
 Faversham, 67.
 Festiniog, 618.
 Flegg, 229.
 Foleshill, 399.
 Fordingbridge, 103.
 Forehoe, 235.
 Freebridge Lynn, 245.
 Frome, 321.
 Fylde, 483.

Gainsborough, 434.
 Garstang, 484.
 Gateshead, 551.
 Glanford Brigg, 433.
 Glendale, 562.
 Gloucester, 336.
 Godstone, 45.
 Goole, 512.
 Gower, 585 *b*.
 Grantham, 427.
 Gravesend, 51.
 Great Boughton (Chester), 459.

Great Ouseburn, 492 *a*.
 Greenwich, 35.
 Guildford, 39.
 Guiltcross, 240.
 Guisbrough, 532.

Hackney, 11.
 Hailsham, 79.
 Halifax, 498.
 Halstead, 207.
 Haltwhistle, 556.
 Hambledon, 42.
 Hampstead, 8.
 Hardingstone, 167.
 Hartismere, 218.
 Hartlepool, 541 *b*.
 Hartley Wintney, 115.
 Haslingden, 477.
 Hastings, 76.
 Hatfield, 143.
 Havant, 95.
 Haverfordwest, 592.
 Hay, 602.
 Hayfield, 451.
 Headington, 157.
 Helmsley, 529.
 Helston, 309.
 Hemel Hempstead, 146.
 Hemsworth, 504 *b*.
 Hendon, 135.
 Henley, 155.
 Henstead, 236.
 Hereford, 348.
 Hertford, 142.
 Hexham, 555.
 Highworth, 250.
 Hinckley, 412.
 Hitchin, 141.
 Holbeach, 424.
 Holborn, 14.
 Hollingbourn, 59.
 Holsworthy, 298.
 Holywell, 610.
 Honiton, 280.
 Hoo, 53.
 Horncastle, 429.
 Horsham, 87.
 Houghton-le-Spring, 547.
 Howden, 517.
 Hoxne, 219.
 Huddersfield, 497.
 Hull, 520.
 Hungerford, 121.
 Hunslet, 500.
 Huntingdon, 176.

Ipswich, 222.
 Isle of Wight, 99.
 Islington, 10.

Keighley, 494.
 Kendal, 575.
 Kensington, 1.
 Kettering, 172.
 Keynsham, 327.
 Kidderminster, 384.
 Kingsbridge, 285.
 Kingsclere, 119.
 Kings Lynn, 246.
 Kings Norton, 393.

Kingston, 47.
 Knaresborough, 492 *b*.
 Knighton, 604.

Lambeth, 31.
 Lampeter, 595.
 Lancaster, 485.
 Langport, 317.
 Launceston, 301.
 Ledbury, 346.
 Leeds, 501.
 Leek, 372.
 Leicester, 417.
 Leigh, 467.
 Leighton Buzzard, 183.
 Leominster, 351.
 Lewes, 84.
 Lewisham, 36.
 Lexden, 205.
 Leyburn, 536.
 Lichfield, 377.
 Lincoln, 428.
 Linton, 188.
 Liskeard, 303.
 Liverpool, 461.
 Llandilofawr, 588.
 Llandovery, 587.
 Llanelly, 586.
 Llanfyllin, 609.
 Llanrwst, 614.
 Loddon, 238.
 London City, 19.
 Longtown, 567.
 Loughborough, 415.
 Louth, 431.
 Ludlow, 352.
 Luton, 184.
 Lutterworth, 408.
 Lymington, 100.

Macclesfield, 453.
 Machynlleth, 606.
 Madeley, 358.
 Maidstone, 58.
 Maldon, 202.
 Malling, 55.
 Malmesbury, 252.
 Malton, 526.
 Manchester, 473.
 Mansfield, 437.
 Market Bosworth, 413.
 Market Drayton, 364.
 Market Harborough, 09.
 Marlborough, 255.
 Martley, 386.
 Marylebone, 7.
 Medway, 54.
 Melksham, 257.
 Melton Mowbray, 418.
 Mere, 267.
 Meriden, 396.
 Merthyr Tydfil, 582.
 Midhurst, 93.
 Mildenhall, 216.
 Mile End Old Town, 24 *b*.
 Milton, 68.
 Mitford, 242.
 Monmouth, 577.
 Montgomery, 608.
 Morpeth, 558.
 Mutford, 227.

Nantwich, 458.
 Narberth, 590.
 Neath, 584.
 Newark, 442.
 Newbury, 120.
 Newcastle-in-Emlyn, 594.
 Newcastle-under-Lyme, 369.
 Newcastle-upon-Tyne, 552.
 Newent, 335.
 New Forest, 104.
 Newington, 30.
 Newmarket, 189.
 Newport (Monmouth), 580.
 Newport (Salop), 366.
 Newport Pagnell, 153.
 Newton Abbot, 283.
 Newtown, 607.
 Northallerton, 534.
 Northampton, 168.
 North Aylesford, 52.
 Northleach, 341.
 Northwich, 456.
 North Witchford, 191.
 Norwich, 234.
 Nottingham, 440.
 Nuneaton, 398.

Oakhams, 419.
 Okehampton, 291.
 Oldham, 475.
 Ongar, 196.
 Ormskirk, 464.
 Orsett, 198.
 Oswestry, 361.
 Otley, 493.
 Oundle, 174.
 Oxford, 158.

Pancras, 9.
 Pateley Bridge, 490.
 Patrington, 521.
 Pembroke, 591.
 Penkridge, 378.
 Penrith, 565.
 Penzance, 311.
 Pershore, 390.
 Peterborough, 175.
 Petersfield, 112.
 Petworth, 88.
 Pewsey, 261.
 Pickering, 530.
 Plomesgate, 224.
 Plymouth, 287.
 Plympton St. Mary, 286.
 Pocklington, 516.
 Pontefract, 504 *a*.
 Pontypool, 579.
 Poole, 272.
 Poplar, 25.
 Portsea Island, 96.
 Pottersbury, 166.
 Prescott, 463.
 Presteigne, 603.
 Preston, 482.
 Pwllheli, 619.

Radford, 439.
 Reading, 127.
 Redruth, 310.

Reeth, 538.
 Reigate, 44.
 Rhayader, 605.
 Richmond (Surrey), 48.
 Richmond (York.), 539.
 Ringwood, 102.
 Ripon, 491.
 Risbridge, 211.
 Rochdale, 476.
 Rochford, 201.
 Romford, 197.
 Romney Marsh, 74.
 Romsey, 107.
 Ross, 347.
 Rothbury, 563.
 Rotherham, 509.
 Rotherhithe, 34.
 Royston, 140.
 Rugby, 401.
 Runcorn, 455.
 Ruthin, 612.
 Rye, 75.

Saddleworth, 496.
 Saffron Walden, 210.
 St. Albans, 144.
 St. Asaph, 613.
 St. Austell, 306.
 St. Columb, 305.
 St. Faiths, 233.
 St. George Hanover Sq., 3.
 St. George-in-the-East, 23.
 St. George Southwark, 29.
 St. Germans, 302.
 St. Giles, 12.
 St. Ives, 177.
 St. James Westminster, 6.
 St. Luke, 16.
 St. Martin-in-the-Fields, 5.
 St. Neots, 178.
 St. Olave, 27.
 St. Saviour, 26.
 St. Thomas, 281.
 Salford, 472.
 Salisbury, 264.
 Samford, 221.
 Scarborough, 525.
 Scilly Islands, 312.
 Sculcoates, 519.
 Sedbergh, 487.
 Selby, 513.
 Settle, 488.
 Sevenoaks, 56.
 Shaftesbury, 268.
 Shardlow, 444.
 Sheffield, 508.
 Sheppey, 69.
 Shepton Mallet, 322.
 Sherborne, 276.
 Shiffnal, 357.
 Shipston-on-Stour, 406.
 Shoreditch, 20.
 Shrewsbury, 360.
 Skipton, 489.
 Skirlaugh, 522.
 Sleaford, 426.
 Solihull, 402.
 Southam, 407.
 Southampton, 105.
 South Molton, 294.

South Shields, 550.
 South Stoneham, 106.
 Southwell, 441.
 Spalding, 423.
 Spilsby, 430.
 Stafford, 367.
 Staines, 132.
 Stamford, 421.
 Stepney, 24 *a*.
 Steyning, 86.
 Stockbridge, 108.
 Stockport, 452.
 Stockton, 541.
 Stoke Damerel, 289.
 Stokesley, 533.
 Stoke-upon-Trent, 371.
 Stone, 368.
 Stourbridge, 383.
 Stow, 217.
 Stow-on-the-Wold, 342.
 Strand, 13.
 Stratford-on-Avon, 404.
 Stratton, 299.
 Stroud, 338.
 Sturminster, 269.
 Sudbury, 212.
 Sunderland, 549.
 Swaffham, 248.
 Swansea, 585 *a*.

Tadcaster, 514.
 Tamworth, 376.
 Taunton, 315.
 Tavistock, 290.
 Teesdale, 543.
 Tenbury, 385.
 Tendring, 203.
 Tenterden, 61.
 Tetbury, 339.
 Tewkesbury, 345.
 Thakeham, 89.
 Thame, 156.
 Thanet, 70.
 Thetford, 249.
 Thingoe, 214.
 Thirsk, 528.
 Thornbury, 332.
 Thorne, 511.
 Thrapston, 173.
 Ticehurst, 80.
 Tisbury, 266.
 Tiverton, 293.
 Todmorden, 495.
 Torrington, 296.
 Totnes, 284.
 Trowcester, 165.
 Tregaron, 598.
 Truro, 307.
 Tunbridge, 57.
 Tunstead, 230.
 Tynemouth, 553.

Uckfield, 81.
 Ulverstone, 486.
 Uppingham, 420.
 Upton-on-Severn, 388.
 Uttoxeter, 374.
 Uxbridge, 133.

- | | | |
|-----------------------------|----------------------------|---------------------|
| Wakefield, 503. | Westbury, 259. | Winchester, 109. |
| Wallingford, 125. | Westbury-on-Severn, 334. | Windsor, 131. |
| Walsall, 380. | West Derby, 462. | Winslow, 152. |
| Walsingham, 243. | West Ham, 194. | Wirral, 460. |
| Wandsworth, 32. | Westhampnett, 91. | Wisbeach, 193. |
| Wangford, 226. | West London, 18. | Witham, 206. |
| Wantage, 124. | Westminster, 4. | Witney, 161. |
| Ware, 138. | West Ward, 574. | Woburn, 182. |
| Wareham, 273. | Wetherby, 492 c. | Wokingham, 128. |
| Warminster, 260. | Weymouth, 274. | Wolstanton, 370. |
| Warrington, 466. | Wheatenurst, 337. | Wolverhampton, 379. |
| Warwick, 403. | Whitby, 531. | Woodbridge, 223. |
| Watford, 145. | Whitchurch (Hants), 117. | Woodstock, 160. |
| Wayland, 241. | Whitchurch (Salop), 363 b. | Worcester, 387. |
| Weardale, 544. | Whitechapel, 22. | Worksop, 436. |
| Wellingborough, 171. | Whitehaven, 571. | Worthing, 90. |
| Wellington (Salop), 365. | Whittlesey, 192. | Wortley, 506. |
| Wellington (Somerset), 314. | Wigan, 465. | Wrexham, 611. |
| Wells, 323. | Wigton, 569. | Wycombe, 150. |
| Wem, 363 a. | Williton, 313 a. | |
| Weobly, 349. | Wilton, 265. | |
| West Ashford, 62. | Wimborne, 271. | Yarmouth, 228. |
| Westbourne, 94. | Wincanton, 320. | Yeovil, 319. |
| West Bromwich, 381. | Winchcomb, 343. | York, 515. |

LONDON:

Printed by GEORGE E. EYRE and WILLIAM SPOTTISWOODE,
 Printers to the Queen's most Excellent Majesty.
 For Her Majesty's Stationery Office.

4 JUN 1962 P.T.

REFER