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### **Contributors**

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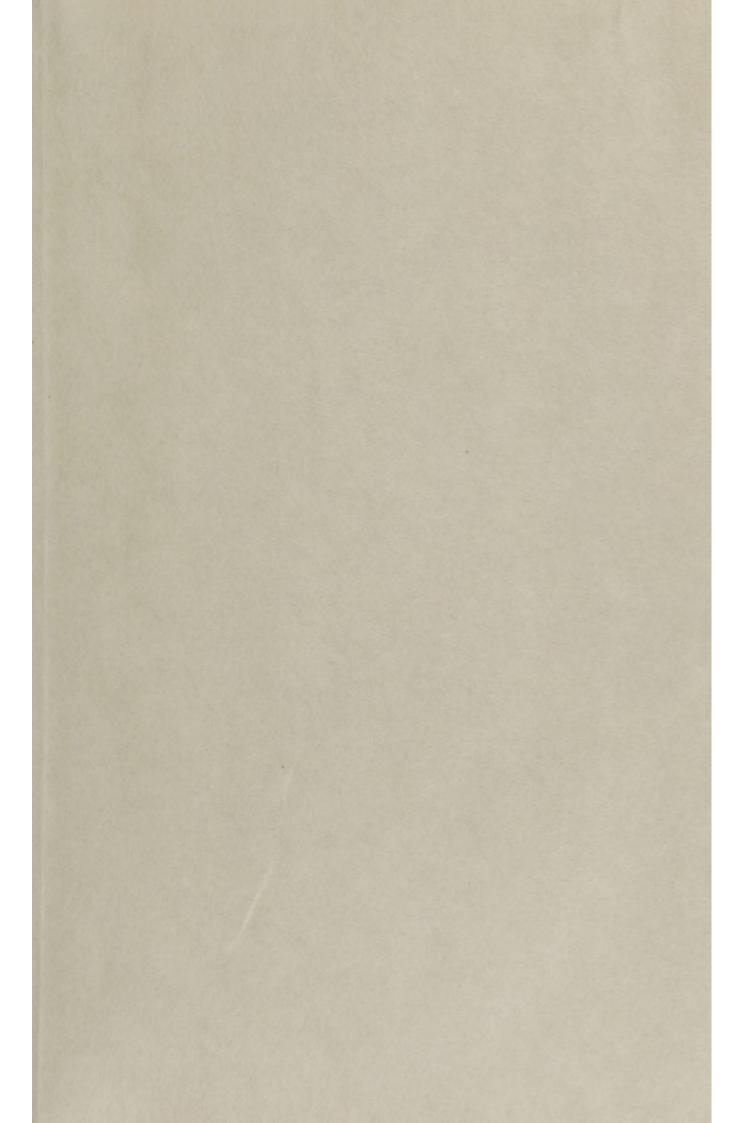
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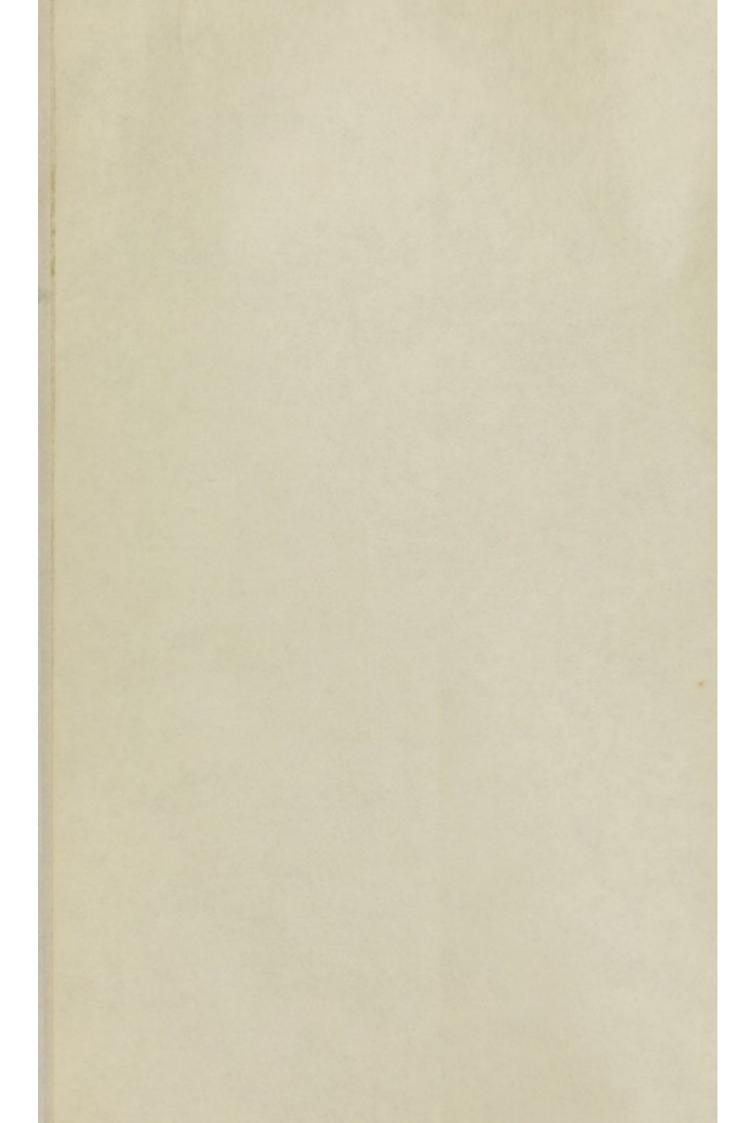
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# MEDICAL STATISTICS;

OR A

# COMPARATIVE VIEW OF THE MORTALITY

IN

## NEW-YORK, PHILADELPHIA, BALTIMORE, AND BOSTON.

FOR A SERIES OF YEARS:

INCLUDING

COMPARISONS OF THE MORTALITY OF WHITES AND BLACKS IN THE TWO FORMER CITIES; AND OF WHITES, FREE BLACKS, AND SLAVES, IN BALTIMORE.

BY NATHANIEL NILES, Jun. M. D.

JOHN D. RUSS, M. D.

NEW-YORK:

PUBLISHED BY ELAM BLISS, 128 BROADWAY.

J. SEYMOUR, PRINTER, JOHN-ST. 1827.

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Southern District of New-York, ss.

BE IT REMEMBERED, That on the nineteenth day of July, in the year of our Lord one thousand eight hundred and twenty-seven, and in the fifty-second year of the Independence of the United States of America, Nathaniel Niles, jun. and John D. Russ, of the said District, hath deposited in this office the title of a book, the right whereof they claim as authors and proprietors, in the words following, to wit:

"Medical Statistics; or a Comparative View of the Mortality in New-York, Philadelphia, Baltimore, and Boston, for a series of years, including Comparisons of the Mortality of Whites and Blacks in the two former Cities, and of Whites, Free Blacks, and Slaves, in Baltimore. By Nathaniel Niles, jun. M. D. and John D. Russ, M. D."

In conformity to the Act of Congress of the United States, entitled, "An Act for the encouragement of Learning, by securing the copies of Maps, Charts, and Books, to the authors and proprietors of such copies, during the times therein mentioned" And also to an Act entitled, "An Act supplementary to an Act entitled, An Act for the encouragement of Learning, by securing the copies of Maps, Charts, and Books, to the authors and proprietors of such copies, during the times therein mentioned, and extending the benefits thereof to the arts of designing, engraving, and etching historical and other prints."

FRED. J. BETTS,

Clerk of the Southern District of New-York.

# REMARKS.

THE matter contained in the following Tables has been taken from authentic bills of mortality; and so far as comparisons have been instituted, diseases of the same general character have been included under the same head for each of the cities.

The most recent censuses which have been taken in each of the several cities have served as a basis for estimating the population, on the supposition that the increase has been regularly progressive from one of those periods to the other.

In New-York, (being under the official superintendence of a medical gentleman,) the returns on which we found our present calculations, are made with greater regularity than in the neighbouring cities. This will account for the apparent deficiencies in the Tables relating to Baltimore and Boston.

Would not the ends of justice, as well as the cause of science, be promoted by the appointment of a medical officer in every city, whose duty it should be to examine the circumstances attending the death of every individual, and to make a return of the age, sex, profession, disease and its duration, as well as the time and place of death; regard being always paid to the circumstances of colour, and of freedom or slavery?

A uniform method might be adopted for reporting these facts in a tabular form, so as greatly to facilitate future investigations and comparisons. In this way the chances of life in one city could be readily compared with those in another—the comparative advantages of town and country residence, under similar latitudes, determined. The influence of various causes of death, which are now unseen and unknown, could thus be measured and comprehended. But these investigations should be accompanied by topographical descriptions and meteorological observations.

The study of diseases under their general classifications, in relation to topography and the influence of climate, as heat and cold, drought and dampness, sunshine and shade, exposure to winds, &c. is of great interest; and these investigations become more important as our inquiries extend to the influence of occupations, poverty and wealth, political superiority or subordination, prevailing vices, &c. upon the longevity of man, and his reproductive capacites, intellectual and physical perfection, under the more or less varying effects of these several causes. A sufficient number of observations, embracing all these conditions, would afford a sure basis for a comparative estimate of the value or length of life, under the dominant influence of each.

The combining and comparing the great facts in the natural and civil history of every individual, offers, in this country at least, a wide and unoccupied field for interesting research.

A record of all births, and the ages of the father and mother at the time of the birth of each of their children, would furnish the means for ascer taining the duration of successive generations, and of instituting inquiries as to the influence of climate, the greater or less degree of refinement in society, &c. upon the development of the human body into a state of perfect manhood.

To pursue our remarks, we will venture to call the public attention to the importance of having annual returns made of the amount of political crimes in each State; so that they may be classified, and compared with crimes of a similar character in other States of the Union, in proportion to their population, and also with those of other countries. By these means the influence of climate, laws, manners, systems of religion, occupations, slavery, &c. would be rendered comprehensible, and enable us to appreciate the perfection of our own country and its institutions, in comparison with others.

Let similar investigations be instituted in relation to all the evidences of public prosperity and distress, and the whole elements of society will be disclosed to our contemplation, and lead us directly to a knowledge of the defects and their causes, which exist in our system of social and legal order. In this extended sense, statistics furnish the true lights to the philosopher and legislator.

Summary of Deaths per year, in the City of New-York, for a series of eleven years, by the following Diseases.

Years.	Population.	Whole No. of Deaths.	Consumption.	Acute Diseases of the Lungs.	Whole No. of Deaths by Diseases of Lungs.	Fevers.	Dropsies.	Dysentery.	Cholera Infantun, (for	Croup.	Tabes Mescnterica.	Gastro Enteritis.	Whooping Cough.	Apoplexy.	Measles.	Intemperance.	Diseases of the Liver.	Palsy.	Smallpox.	Suicido.
1816	111830	2739	678	188		129		71		87	47	53	44	53	19	30	30	22	179	15
1817	114660	2527	574	137	711			71		69	39	61	11	46		40				15
1818	117560	3265	591	175			E COM CONTRACTOR	-	68	78	111	61	123	46		38		2000		24
	120550				703	286	223	219	133	78	137	47	55	67		35			-	
1820	123606	3515	625	147	772	346	289	242	169	104	113	64	19	54		28			00	
	131120				870	339	287	142	114				92	1000	109				00	10 70
	139100								115			(200)		60		44				No.
1823	147580	3444	683	181	864					102		100000	31	777	117				1000	18
1824	156530	4341	736	210					102		100000	123	116	52		10000	1		394	
1825	166087	5018	843	295	1138	435	343	138	151		143		69	147	100000	84	10000	1000		14
1826	176190	4973	820	290	1110	335	350	193	222	161	132	114	196	69		55	10000		1	29
-						000	000	100	~~~	101	100	11.4	120	09	31	00	04	**	38	23

In this Table, under the head Acute Diseases of the Lungs, we have included Pleurisy; for although in its commencement it may be a distinct disease, it rarely, if ever occasions death, without affecting the body of the

Every description of Fever as returned, except Scarlet and Hectic, are included under the general head of Fevers. The Typhoid character of Puerperal Fever appears so evident from its general prevalence at the same epochs with Typhus, that we have taken the liberty to include it also under the same head.

Under Dropsies, all forms of that disease are included.

TABLE II.

Summary of Deaths per Month in the City of New-York, for a serie's of eleven years, by the following Diseases, viz:

DISEASES.	January.	February.	March.	April.	May.	June.	July.	August.	September.	October.	November.	December.	Total.
Consumption	660	659	644	664	616	510	591	663	579	585	645	650	7466
Acute Diseases of Lungs.													
Fevers	178	137	158	186	211	245	262	374	497	441	305	211	3205
Dropsies	244	257	241	245	259	242	272	308	269	259	210	245	3044
Dysentery	22	14	29	7	16	28	233	489	378	203	79	36	1544
Cholera Infantum(10y'rs)	2	2	2	1	5	32	246	527	288	108	14	18	1245
Croup	137	106			91	66	69	67	84	140	139	122	1239
Tabes Mesenterica	68	66	85	95	79	69	80	126	139	135	89	84	1115
Gastro Enteritis	48	54	56	60	60	76	121	97	94	69	67	59	861
Whooping Cough	53	66	42	33	37	31	73	105	105	71	56	49	721
Apoplexy	49	59	56	47	57	45	109	59	45	59	55	57	697
Measles	48	42	46	45	32	44	65	77	45	39	24	45	552
Intemperance	49	32	33	31	49	47		43	44	47	63	47	531
Diseases of the Liver	48	46	34	35	34	39	57	44	36	64	41	50	528
Palsy	42	42	44	31	28	28	31	38	25	41	34	44	428

This Table presents an interesting view of the influence of season upon different diseases. Consumptions, Dropsies, Diseases of the Liver, and Palsy, being chronic forms of disease, are not, in their termination, particularly under the influence of season: On the contrary, its effect is strikingly manifested in all acute forms of disease.

Table showing the proportion of Deaths in New-York, by the following Diseases, to the whole number of Deaths, and the proportion of Deaths (stillborn excluded) to the Population.

	2		,									-	1 70	.00
Years.	Population.	Whole No. of Deaths, (stillborn excluded.)	Deaths to Population, (stillborn excluded) as one in	By Consumption, as	By Acute Diseases of the Lungs, as one in	By Diseases of the Lungs, as one in	By Fevers, as one in	By Dropsies, as one in	By Dysentery, as one in	By Cholera Infantum, as one in	By Croup, as one in	By Apoplexy, as one	By Intemperance, as	By Palsy, as one in
1817   1818   1819   1820   1821   1822   1823   1824   1825	111830 114660 117560 120550 123606 131120 139100 147580 156530 166087 176190	2651 2409 3106 3008 3326 3368 2974 3221 4091	42 18 47 59 37 84 40 07 37 10 38 93 46 77 45 81 38 26	3 91 4 19 5 26 5 21 5 32 4 71 4 76 4 71 5 55 5 .66	14.10 17.58 17.74 23.89 22.62 21.72 18.02 17.79 19.48 16.18	3.38 4.05 4.28 4.30 3.87 3.77 3.73 4.32	10 90 8.95 10 51 9 61 9 93 7 47 16 95 22 86 10.97	12.88 13.48 11.50 11.73 12.14 11.07 10.85 13.91	33.93 22.02 13.73 13.71 23.71 27.28 32.86 34.09 34.59	45 67 22.62 19.63 29.54 25.89 21.47 40.10 31.61	39.81 38.56 31.98 24.05 23.79 31.57 26.56 33.86	52.37 67.52 44.89 61.59 74.84 49.56 55.53 78.67 32.47	60.22 81 74 85 94 118.78 52 62 67.59 74 90 58.44 56.83	102.27

The Census of 1810, 1820, and 1825, have served us as a basis for estimating the population of the intermediate years, on the supposition that the increase has been regularly progressive from one of those epochs to the other.

TABLE IV.

This Table shows the proportion of Deaths, among the Blacks, to their Population, in the City of New-York, for the following years.

Years.	Black Population.	Whole Number of Deaths.	Proportion of Deaths among the Blacks, to Population is as 1 in	It is worthy of remark, that the rate of increase among the Blacks of the city of New-York, is about 2 per cent. per annum less than that of the Whites, for the last eight years. It is to be regretted that the Diseases which have swept off the Blacks in such
			19.50	disproportionate numbers, have not been reported.
			26.85	* The Deaths were not returned for the year 1822.
1824	12070	718	16.81	
1825	12559	875	14.35	
1826	13060	743	17.53	

TABLE V.

Summary of Deaths in the City of Philadelphia, for a series of seven years, by the following Diseases, viz.

Years.	Population.	Whole Number of Deaths.	Consumption.	Acute Discases of the Lungs.	Whole Number of Deaths by Diseas- es of the Lungs.	Fevers.	Dropsies.	Measles.	Intemperance.	Diseases of Liver.	Whooping Cough.	Palsy.	Smallpox.	Suicide.	
1820 1821	114410 116810	3374	446	141	CACREN	525 402		-					00	4	
1822	119260	3591	488	124	612	498	243	00	66	36	38	28	00	7 6	
1824	121760 124320	4399	576	178	754	647	241 221	156	65	42	79	39	160	6	
1825	126930 129600	3812	519	145	664	362	270	38	95	146	40	49	6		

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the two former eities; and oputition (Medical statistics; or a compara tive rien of the mortality in Newfree Stacks, and shower, in Bultimone, 10 pp. 18. 4° Arm-York, & Bliss, 1824. Wiles (Northaniel) is & Huss Galm D.



Table showing the proportion of Deaths in Philadelphia by the following Diseases, to the whole number of Deaths—and the proportion of Deaths (stillborn excluded) to the Population.

-								
Years.	Population.	Whole Number of Deaths (still- born excluded.)	Deaths to Population (stillborn exc.) as one in	By Consumption, as one in	By Diseases of Lungs, as one in	By Fevers, as one in	By Dropsies, as one in	By Intemperance, as one in
1820	114410	3189	35.87	7.15	5.44	6.07	15.25	151 85
1821	116810	2961	39.45	6.76	5.17	7.36	15.26	65.80
1822	119260	3334	35 77	6.83	5.44	6.69	13.72	50.51
1823	121760	4372	27.84	8 15	6.45	5.87	18.14	67.26
	124320							
	126930							
1826	129600	3845	33.70	6 55	4.75	9 13	15.38	75.39

In this Table the rate of increase, as determined by the census of 1810 and of 1820, have served as a basis for making out the population for the subsequent years, there having been no census taken in 1825.

TABLE VII.

Proportion of Deaths among the Blacks, in Philadelphia, to their Population.

Years.	Population.	Whole Number of Deaths.	Proportion of Deaths to Popu- lation as one in
1820	10994		
1821	11220	686	16.35
1822	11460	560	20.46
1823	11700	800	14.62
1824	11940	703	16.98
1825	12190	495	24.62
1826	12450	529	23.53

TABLE VIII.

Summary of Deaths per year in the City of Baltimore, for a series of eight years, by the following Diseases, viz.

Years.	Population.	Whole Number of Deaths.	Consumption.	Acute Diseases of the Lungs.	Whole No of Deaths by Dis eases of Lungs.	Fevers.	Dropsies.	Measles.	Intemperance.	Whoop'g Cough	Diseases of Liver	Palsy.	Smallpox.	Suicide.
1819 1820 1821 1822 1823 1824 1825	60900 62738 64630 66590 68600 70670 72810 74990	1625 2015 2319 2108 1468 1545	320 336 296 236 188 295	42 33 46 66 47 44	302 235 339	521 158 395 429 303 185 135 164	58 70 88 75 47 68	2 4 175 14 9	29 47 47 25 25 21	27 28 17 31 14 13	15 21 48 18 18 33 29	18 19 11 9 11	1 00 21 122 2 2 3 4	3 4 2 3 5 5 7 4

Table showing the proportion of Deaths in Baltimore, by the following Diseases, to the whole number of Deaths—and the proportion of Deaths (stillborn excluded) to Population.

			-					
Years.	Population.	Whole Number of Deaths (still-born excluded.)	Deaths to Population (stillborn excluded.)	By Consumption, as one in	By Diseases of Lungs, as one in	By Fevers, as one in	By Dropsies, as one in	By Intemperance as one in
	60900		27.91	8 45	6.65	4.18	32.68	47.43
1820	62738	1527	41.08	4.65	4.12	9 66	26.32	52.65
1821	64630	1910	33 83	5 68	5.17	4.83	27.28	40.63
1822	66590	Control of the Contro	30.29		200000		24.97	46.76
1823	68600		34.30				26.66	
	70670		51 74			-		
	72810		50.114					
1826	74990		41.09					

### TABLE X.

This Table shows the proportion of Deaths among the Blacks, (slaves included) and among the Slaves exclusively, in Baltimore, to their Population, for the following years.

-		10000	-			
Years.	Population of the Blacks (slaves included.)	Whole Number of Deaths among the Blacks.	Deaths among the Blacks, to their Popu. as one in	Population of the Slaves.	Whole Number of Deaths among the Slaves.	Deaths among the Slaves, to their Popu. as one in
1820	14651	488	30.02			
1821	15090	423	35 67			
1822	15550	100000000000000000000000000000000000000	26 71			
1823	16020	659	24.30	4760	39	66.19
1824	16510		39.68		48	102.29
1825	17010		43.72		57	88.73
1826	17520	526	33.32	5210	97	53.92
		THE RESERVE OF THE PERSON NAMED IN	-	-	-	

TABLE XI.

Summary of Deaths in the City of Boston, for a series of seven years, by the following Diseases, viz.

1824 55080 1302 244 84 328 86 59 45 2 26 13 16 12 6 9 2 5 1825 58281 1450 220 73 293 68 69 56 77 30 97 15 15 15 15 15 15 15 15 15 15 15 15 15	1821 1822 1823	43940 46490 49190 52050	1420 1203 1154	216 166 184	31 46 42	212 226	76 57 49	34	60 31 25	00	36 25	26 5	10	10	8	7 6	00 00 00	2 5
	1823 1824	52050 55080	1154 1302	184 244	42	212 226	57 49	34	31 25	3 00	25 17	5	5 15	10	7 9	6	00	5

Table showing the proportion of Deaths in Boston, by the following Diseases, to the whole number of Deaths—and the proportion of Deaths, (stillborn excluded) to the Population.

				1755		-		
Years.	Population.	Whole Number of Deaths (still-born excluded.)	Proportion of Deaths to Popu- lation, as one in	By Consumption, as one in	By Diseases of Lungs, as one in	By Fevers, as one in	By Dropsics, as one in	ByIntemperance,
1821 1822 1823 1824 1825	43940 46490 49190 52050 55080 58281 61620	1319 1088 1045 1213 1362	49 80 45.40 42.79	6.10 6.55 5.67 4.97 6.19	5.34 5.13 4.62 3.69 4.64	17.35 19.08 21.32 14.22 20.03	32.97 24.72 30.73 20.55 19.73	36.66 43.52

### TABLE XIII.

This Table shows the relative proportion of Deaths among the Whites and Blacks, to their Population, in the Cities of New-York, Philadelphia, and Baltimore.

	Years.	Deaths among Slaves in Baltimore, to Population (Whites and free Blacks exc.) as one in	Deaths among Free Blacks in Baltimore, to Pop. (Whites and Slaves exc.) as one in	Deaths among Blacks in Baltimore, to Population (Whites excluded) as one in	Deaths among Whites in Baltimore, to Population (Blacks excluded) as one in	Deaths among Blacks in Philadelphia, to Pop. (Whites excluded) as one in	Deaths among Whites in Philadelphia, to Pop. (Blacks excluded) as one in	Deaths among Blacks in New-York, to Pop. (Whites excluded) as one in	Deaths among Whites in New-York, to Pop. (Blacks excluded) as one in
	1820				42.29				
	1821					16.35		19.50	40.23
1	1822					20.46			
1	1823	66.19				14.62	28.96	26.85	45.14
1	1824	102 29		39.68				16.81	
	1825	88.73	36.03	43.72					
1	1826		28.69		E. C.			17.53	
Average		77.78	32.08	,33.34	39 99	19.42	34.05	19.01	40 17

This Table presents several important facts: 1st. The striking difference in the proportion of Deaths among the Whites and Blacks. 2d. The still more striking difference between the deaths of the Free Blacks and Slaves in the city of Baltimore. 3d. The disproportionate number of deaths among the Blacks in the cities of New-York and Philadelphia, compared with Baltimore. The relative physical incapacity of Negroes to sustain the influence of a severe climate, and the increased effect of poverty to diminish the chances of life in cold climates, are the most active causes in producing this result. It is probable that the disparity of deaths among the Blacks in New-York and Philadelphia to the Whites, is owing to the effects of poverty upon that degraded race. The same results from similar causes, but to a more limited extent, have been observed between the poor and wealthy sections of the city of Paris. The disproportion of deaths between the Free Blacks and Slaves in Baltimore, is worthy of particular notice, and probably arises from the care bestowed on the slaves by their masters, their comparative temperance, and the more regular course of their lives, contrasted with the idleness, intemperance, and improvidence of the free blacks.

This comparative view of the Whites and Blacks evinces clearly that so far as regards the personal condition of the slaves, their situation is by no means so deplorable as has been generally imagined. It is desirable that comparative researches should be continued and extended; and we regret that circumstances require our putting these Tables to press without being able (as we had contemplated) to submit the result of investigations in the large Southern and Western slave-holding Cities.

### TABLE XIV.

Proportion of Deaths (stillborn included) to the entire Population, in New-York, Philadelphia, Baltimore, and Boston.

		-		
Years.	beaths in New-York to Population, are as one in	Deaths in Philadel- phia, to Population, are as one in	Deaths in Baltimore to Population, are as one in	Deaths in Boston, to Population, are as one in
1816	40.82			
	45.37			
	36.00			
1819	37.95		26.62	
1820	35 16	33.90	38.60	39.83
	37.01			
1822	43 04	33.21	28.71	40.88
	42.85			
	36.05			
	33.09			
1826	35 42	31.22	39.01	49.13
				-

### TABLE XV.

This Table shows the average proportion of Deaths in every 1000 Inhabitants, per annum, for a series of years.

	By Consumption, in every 1000	By all Diseases of the Lungs, in eve- ry 1000	By Fevers, in every 1000	By Dropsies, in every 1000	By Dysentery, in every 1000			
In New-York In Philadelphia In Baltimore In Boston	4.96 4.20 4.12 4.03	6.34 5.47 5.86 4.99	2.12 4.21 4.22 1.25	2.02 1.89 1.02 0.902	1.02			

### TABLE XVI.

A Comparative View of Mortality in New-York, Philadelphia, Baltimore, and Boston, by the following Diseases.

	Ву	LB	8	0 =	1 10		-	-	_		-
	Consumption, as one in	ByDiseases of the	y Fevers, as one	By Dropsies, as	y Intemperance as one in	By Palsy, as one in  By Intemperance as one in		itude.	Longitude.		
In New-York In Baltimore	5.03 6.46	3 94 5.47	11 73	12.35	70.80	87.84	40	42 20	74	0	45
In Boston	5.52	4.47		25.91 24.79	55.40 39.46	136.42 93 27	39	17 0 22 23	76	36 58	
In Philadelphia	7.10	5.46	7.09	15.75	61.06	97 04	39 .		75		0
	0.03	4.83	10.65	17.20	54.58	103.64					

Table XVII.

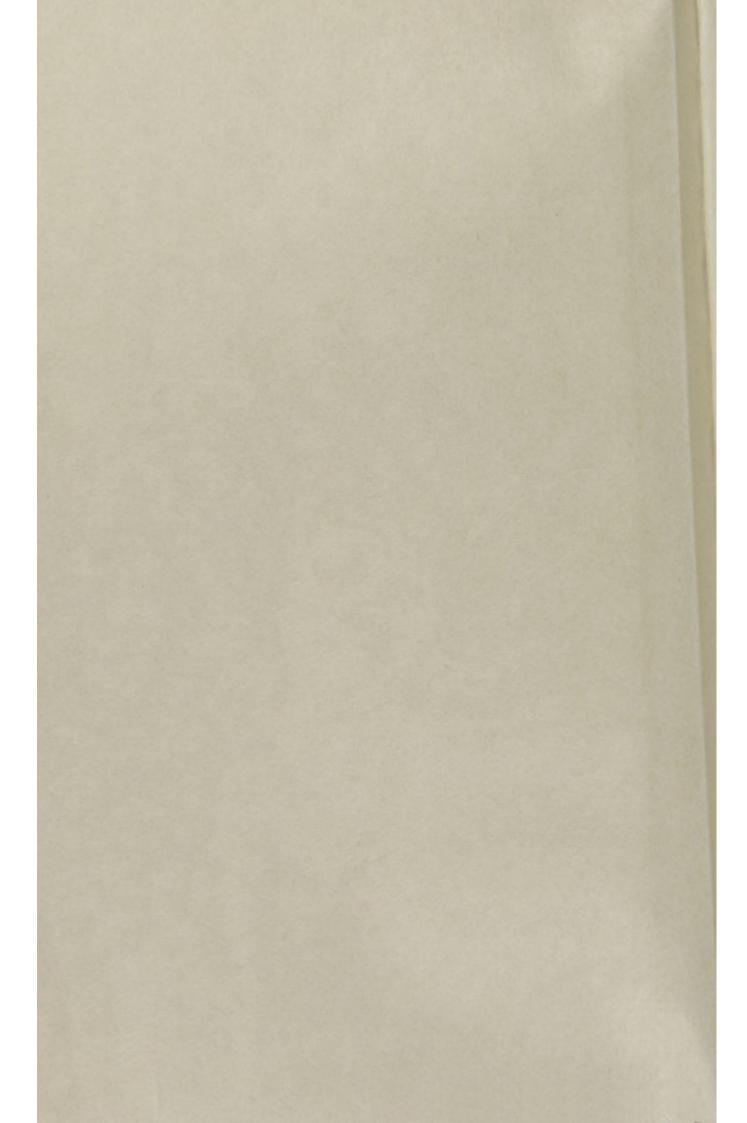
Average proportion of Deaths to Population in the following Cities.

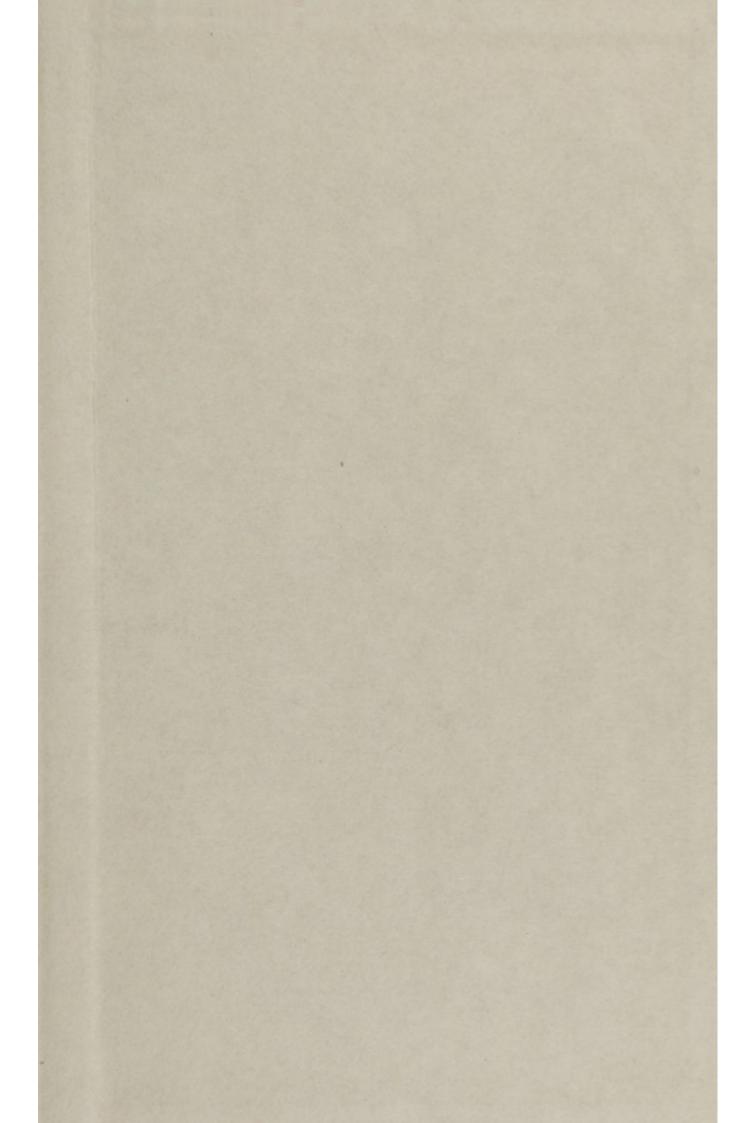
	Stillborn included, as one in	Stillborn excluded, as one in
Boston	41.26	44.66
New-York	37.83	40.02
Baltimore	35.44	37.47
Philadelphia	31.48	33.41
General Average	36.50	38.89

TABLE XVIII.

Summary of Deaths in the following Cities for a series of seven years, ending the first of January, 1827.

	Under one year of age (stillborn exc.)	Between 1 and 2.	Between 2 and 5.	Between 5 and 10.	Between 10 and 20.	Between 20 and 30.	Between 30 and 40.	Between 40 and 50.	Between 50 and 60.	Between 60 and 70.	Between 70 and 80.	Between 80 and 90.	Between 90 and 100.	Between 100 and 110	Between 110 and 120
New-York		2568						2932				421		19	
Philadelphia	5438	2180	1907	1020											
Baltimore	2464	967	938	553	987	1350	1654	1275		559		244	61	20	
Boston	1322			282	17500000	CONTRACTOR.		C-11/20100000	100						_
Total	14414	6599	5379	2801	3913	8962	9377	7620	5050	3465	2365	1338	342	6ŏ	4





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