

**Report on the mortality bills of the city of Glasgow and suburbs, for 1852,
with illustrative social statistics / by John Strang.**

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R E P O R T

ON

THE MORTALITY BILLS

OF

THE CITY OF GLASGOW AND SUBURBS,

FOR 1852.

WITH

ILLUSTRATIVE SOCIAL STATISTICS.


BY

JOHN STRANG, LL.D.

GLASGOW:

PRINTED BY JAMES MACNAB, 11 MILLER STREET.

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TO THE
LORD PROVOST, MAGISTRATES, AND COUNCIL,
Of Glasgow.

MY LORD AND GENTLEMEN,

After the very lengthy Report which I had last year the honour of submitting to you, founded on the valuable Bills of Births, Marriages, and Deaths, so ably drawn up by my friend, Mr. WILLIAM PATRICK, I intended to have allowed the subject for some time to drop ; but as there exists in this year's document some curious facts connected with matters which have been as yet but slightly adverted to—and moreover, when it will be allowed, that as the mean population, and the mean mortality cannot possibly be again better, if so well ascertained, as at this moment, I have once more taken the liberty of calling your attention to some of the more important facts, which these Tabular Statements furnish.

Before entering, however, on the consideration of the Mortality Bills, &c., for 1852, I think it only right to recal attention to the late improvements made on this annual document, when compared with those of former years, and to the necessarily increased labour which its preparation has entailed on Mr. PATRICK, the gentleman who has so happily undertaken, and so ably executed, this important duty. The Mortality Bills have been, during the last year, issued regularly every month with the list of diseases, made in perfect con-

formity with that adopted by the Registrar-General of England ; and hence, the Bills of Glasgow are now comparable, in every particular, with those of the English metropolis.

While the Authorities thus owe a debt of gratitude to the Gentleman who so ably arranges and classifies the multifarious Returns which are put every month into his hands, it must not be forgotten, that similar obligations are likewise due to the Medical Gentlemen who have so kindly and so ably assisted in the Reform of our Medical Statistics. During the last twelve months a very important addition, too, was made to these monthly movements of our population, in the shape of Meteorological Tables, which were gratuitously drawn up by Dr. R. D. THOMSON, from data furnished him by several scientific parties in this City and neighbourhood ; and although these important alternations of the atmosphere, so intimately connected as they are with the state of health, have been for a few months in abeyance, on account of Dr. THOMSON having lately gone to reside in London, it is satisfactory to know, that they will be again continued this year by Dr. ANDERSON, the newly-elected Professor of Chemistry in our University.

With these prefatory remarks, let us at once proceed to state the leading results of last year's Tables ; and first, let us turn as usual to the Tables of

MORTALITY.

From the Table of 1852, it will be observed, that the Burials in Glasgow and Suburbs amount to 11,691—the deaths being 10,675, and the still-born 1016,—showing a decrease in the burials of 1851 of 138, and of deaths of 71. The rate of burials to the assumed population in 1852, being 370,000, is as 1 to 31.64, and the rate of deaths is as 1 to 34.66. Such is the figure of this year's mortality, founded on a certain, but necessarily assumed, increase of population, and which increase has been made, not as formerly, on a progressive annual $3\frac{3}{8}$ per centage of the population, but on the known increase of the number of separate

dwellings, as furnished to me by our intelligent Surveyor, Mr. DONALDSON.

While the foregoing results might probably be deemed sufficiently accurate for all practical purposes, still, as we have this year data of a far more specific kind within our reach, for arriving at the more correct annual figure of Glasgow Mortality, we have resolved to take advantage of the circumstances in which we are at present placed to accomplish this desirable object. By the Census Returns we find that the population, within the boundaries of our Bill, amounted in 1851, to 360,138; and we find during the last three years, of which 1851 forms the mean, that the whole deaths were as follows:—

1850,	9,477
1851,	10,746
1852,	10,675

Or exhibiting a mean of mortality of 10,299. It hence appears, that the real average figure of mortality in Glasgow in proportion to the living, is as 1 to 34.8.

If it be recollected, what we formerly stated with regard to the deaths in other large towns, not only in England but on the Continent, it is quite plain, that were we to exclude our great infantile mortality from our calculation (which we much fear arises more from moral than from physical causes), we would arrive at the to us important fact, that there are few places to be found in any quarter of the globe, where an adult population has a better chance of long life than in the City of Glasgow.*

This important characteristic of our City we endeavoured to show last year by a Table, which was constructed to exhibit at a glance the precise proportion which the deaths at each particular age, during 1851, bore to the living at the same age on the day of the Census. And, in order now to bring out these important facts more correctly, we here present a similar Table, founded upon the mean of the deaths at all ages, for the last

* See Report 1851, page 9, for Rates of Mortality in England and on the Continent.

three years, and contrasted with the population of all ages of 1851, which forms the mean of these three years:—

A G E S.	Population Living at these Ages in 1851.	Average Deaths at each Age, exclusive of Still- born, for 1850-52.	Deaths at each Age to the Popu- lation at each Age, 1 to	Per Cent. of mean Deaths for 3 years to the whole po- pulation living in Mar. 1851.
Under 1 Year,.....	11,655	2,204	5.29	0.61
1 and under 5 Years,...	33,179	2,866	11.58	0.80
5 — 10 — ...	37,782	532	71.01	0.15
10 — 15 — ...	36,507	263	139.	0.08
15 — 20 — ...	40,536	314	129.09	0.09
20 — 30 — ...	78,641	787	99.91	0.22
30 — 40 — ...	51,328	764	67.18	0.21
40 — 50 — ...	34,269	686	49.95	0.19
50 — 60 — ...	20,458	635	32.22	0.18
60 — 70 — ...	10,886	568	19.16	0.15
70 — 80 — ...	3,986	478	8.34	0.13
80 — 90 — ...	832	176	4.78	0.05
90 — 100 — ...	75	24	3.12	0.00
100 and upwards,.....	4	2	2.	0.00
TOTAL,.....	360,138	10,299		2.86

From the above Table it will be found, that while the whole average deaths is 2.86 per cent. of the whole average population, the average deaths under five years is 1.41 per cent.; or, putting it perhaps in a more striking point of view, it may be stated that, taking the average of the last three years, there are only 0.09 per cent. fewer children who have died under five years of age than of the whole population above that age. It

is consolatory to think, that these figures indicate an improvement in the health of children, when compared with last year,—the per centage of deaths being then to the whole mortality 50.85, or to the living 1.52 per cent.

Since the publication of our last year's Report—in which we reiterated the melancholy fact of the then increasing mortality among our infant population—we have studied, with some care and no little interest, the valuable Statistical Tables illustrative of the City of Boston, in the United States, prepared by M. Lemuel Stuttuck; and in these we find that there, as in our own City, the deaths, up to 1845, under five years of age, had been progressively on the increase. For example,—During the years 1811–1820, the deaths under five years were 33.64 per cent. of the whole deaths; in 1821–30, 37.04 per cent.; in 1831–40, 43.13 per cent.; and in 1841–45, no less than 46.62 per cent. This alarming increase of infantile mortality having there excited great attention, an attempt was made to investigate its cause. On examining the records, it was very soon discovered that it was among the children of the labouring classes that the mortality mainly existed; and, as in Boston, the Roman Catholic portion of the population belong principally to that class, and are, moreover, interred in burying-grounds apart from Protestants, an inquiry was thus easily instituted whether mortality pressed upon them with greater force than upon others. The result of the investigation was, that of the 1987 Catholic burials, during the years 1833 to 1838, comprising 1028 males and 958 females, 61.39 per cent. were under five years of age. The still-born during the same period and in the same class, not included in the above, was 125, or 5.77 per cent. of the whole burials. Again, during the year 1838, there were 439 burials, of whom 303, or 171 males and 132 females, were under five, and 136, or 57 males and 79 females, were over five. This was a mortality among those under five of 75 per cent. of the whole male deaths, and 60 per cent. of the whole female deaths. An almost similar result followed the investigation into the years 1841–45, connected with this class of the population, the proportion of deaths under five to the whole deaths being 61.66 per cent.!

As there exists in Glasgow a population similarly circumstanced to that of Boston, in belonging chiefly to the labouring classes, and having likewise separate and distinct cemeteries, I thought it might be useful as well as instructive to discover whether or not the same results were to be found amongst us as in America. In selecting this class of our citizens, let it not be once imagined that we have done so from any wish to foster prejudice; on the contrary, it is rather in the hope that their peculiar condition should excite sympathy. As Mr. Stuttuck has said of the Catholics of Boston, I may also repeat of the same body in Glasgow—that they are the only parties, unfortunately, who can be selected as a distinct class, and that they are mentioned only to show the influence of circumstances; while it may fairly be presumed that any other classes, similarly selected, would show the same results. Let us see, then, how this matter stands in Glasgow.

By referring to the Mortality Bills of the year, it will be found that there were buried in the two cemeteries belonging exclusively to the Catholics, 1869 persons; and, deducting therefrom the still-born, amounting to 95, there remains 1774 deaths to be accounted for. On analysing the ages of these deaths, we find that there were 948 under five years of age, which shows the mortality among the children of this class to have been 53.43 per cent. of the whole deaths connected with these burying-grounds. Although this figure does not express so high an infantile mortality as in Boston, among this particular class of citizens, it nevertheless exhibits that among the children of the labouring Catholics, there exists the elements of a greater mortality among the young, than throughout the children of the whole community. The whole mortality of the city and suburbs, under five years, to the whole deaths, being this year 47 per cent., whereas the infantile mortality among the class who bury in the Catholic cemeteries, is 53.43 per cent. of the whole deaths.

While the above high figure of infantile mortality among this class of our citizens is sufficiently sad to contemplate, it is still sadder to know that it arises, in some degree, from unjustifiable carelessness. For, on looking narrowly into the causes

of deaths connected with the burials of children in St. Mary's and Dalbeth Cemeteries, we find that out of the 968 who had died under five years of age, not fewer than 257 had been cut off by small-pox, being 3.4 of the whole infantile deaths arising from all other diseases, and 45.5 per cent. of the whole deaths from small-pox throughout the entire City and Suburbs.* Here, indeed, is a state of things brought out, to which public attention ought to be immediately directed, in order that measures may be adopted to save the innocent victims of such gross neglect. Why is it that Roman Catholic parents in Glasgow should be less disposed to avail themselves of that safeguard against infant death and infant disfiguration, than they do in Paris, where, out of a population of a million, not more than 364 died of small-pox in 1851?

But of these 364, only 143 were under five years of age, or only about *one-half* of the children that were buried from the effects of this disease in the Roman Catholic Cemeteries of Glasgow; while the respective deaths from all diseases were—Paris 27,585; Catholic Cemeteries 1,774! It may be interesting to some to mention that the ages of the whole of those dying of small-pox in Paris were as follows:—From birth to 5 years—143; from 5 to 15—17; from 15 to 55—204. This shows that infant vaccination is sedulously attended to in the French capital.

How long this crying evil, which may be well termed the “Murder of the Innocents,” will remain unmitigated in this City, it is impossible to say; but assuredly there is no field of inquiry more needful to be entered on by the philosophical and the philanthropic, than that of our great infantile mortality.

With a view of better illustrating the health in different places, and comparing these with one another, we have constructed the following Table, in which we have divided the living and the deaths of the several populations into three divisions, which may be termed the *dependent*, the *productive*, and the *aged*. That is to say, the first class in all the places mentioned being represented by those under 15; the second class

* In addition to those who died of small-pox under five years, there were 19 who died above that age—making in all 276.

being from 15 to 60; and the last class being from 60 and upwards. The English figures have been extracted from the Registrar-General's Eighth Annual Report, and are applicable to the years 1838-44. Those of America for the years 1844-45, and those of Glasgow for the years 1850-53:—

PLACES.	Number of the Living.				Number of the Deaths.			
	Under 15.	15 to 60.	Over 60.	Total.	Under 15.	15 to 60.	Over 60.	Total.
Glasgow,	119,123	225,232	15,783	360,138	5,865	3,186	1,248	10,299
London,	602,517	1,305,655	42,354	1,950,526	23,090	20,333	5,441	48,864
All England,	5,746,117	9,718,990	464,727	15,929,834	164,294	132,715	50,532	347,541
Birmingham,	49,332	85,881	2,561	137,774	1,996	1,293	315	3,604
Manchester,	65,242	123,867	2,995	192,104	3,639	2,254	396	6,289
Liverpool,	72,113	147,407	3,108	222,628	4,424	2,604	452	7,480
Boston, U.S.,	35,442	75,284	3,640	114,366	1,253	863	224	2,340
Lowell, U.S.,	6,595	18,137	397	25,129	192	156	15	363
In each 100 Living, there Died in					Of all the Living, there was one Death in			
Glasgow,	4.92	1.41	7.90	2.86	20.31	70.69	12.64	34.96
London,	3.83	1.56	12.84	2.50	26.09	64.21	7.78	39.91
All England,	2.86	1.36	10.87	2.18	34.97	73.23	9.19	48.71
Birmingham,	4.05	1.50	12.30	2.64	24.71	66.42	8.13	38.22
Manchester,	5.57	1.83	13.22	3.27	17.92	54.95	7.56	30.54
Liverpool,	6.13	1.76	14.54	3.36	16.30	56.60	6.87	29.76
Boston, U.S.,	3.53	1.14	6.15	2.04	28.28	87.23	16.25	48.87
Lowell, U.S.,	2.91	.86	3.77	1.44	34.35	116.26	24.46	69.00

On examining with care the foregoing Table, it will be at once seen where the greatest mortality really exists, and it also

will show what to us at least must be a source of comfort, that Glasgow, in spite of its low average age at death, is in a far more favourable position in regard to health than many of the places mentioned on all ages, excepting those under 15.

There is another peculiarity connected with the Mortality Bills of Glasgow, which, for some years, has also attracted my attention, I mean the large figure of *still-born*—a peculiarity which, it is to be feared, arises, like that of infantile death, more from moral than physical causes. On consulting the Tables for the last ten years prior to 1852, I find that there has been no less than an annual average of 824.2 inserted among the list of burials as still-born, and which, when compared with the average of deaths during the same period, shows these to have been as 1 to every 13 deaths. This is indeed a large figure; but restricting our inquiry to the last three years, we find it to be still greater. The following is the number:—

1850, . . .	984, or 1 for every 9.63 deaths.
1851, . . .	1,083, „ 1 „ 9.92 „
1852, . . .	1,016, „ 1 „ 10.5 „

or, on an average of three years, 1 still-born to 10 deaths.

I am aware that, for the purpose of throwing the best light on this peculiarity of our Mortality Bills, it would have been more satisfactory to have compared the still-born with the living births, rather than with the deaths; but, unfortunately for Glasgow, we have no account of births upon which any reliance can be placed. In the absence of such a record, however, it may perhaps be remembered, that last year we arrived, by several calculations, at the probability of there being then about 13,000 births within the four parishes of which our statistical bounds are composed. On this assumption, therefore, the still-born, on the average of the last three years to the mean births of the same period, have been as 1 to 12.

With a view of seeing whether this figure of still-born coincided in any degree with that of London, Liverpool, and Manchester, I lately addressed a letter to the Registrar-General of England on the subject, and I had for answer that no note is taken of the still-born in England. In the absence of all record

of such matters in our own country, I naturally turned to the statistics of France, and here I found the following results, which are certainly curious:—

Throughout the whole of France, in 1850, the still-born to the deaths were as	1 to 31.28
In Paris alone, the still-born to the deaths were as	1 to 10.69
Throughout the whole of France, the still-born to the living births were as	1 to 31.7
In Paris alone, the still-born to the living births as	1 to 12.6

It appears, therefore, that Glasgow, during the last three years, has had a greater proportion of still-born, when compared with either deaths or births, than even the French capital has exhibited, and three times as many, in proportion to the deaths and births throughout the whole of France. We think that, had we been able to procure reliable data for the whole of England and Wales, and for Scotland, that similar differences would have been shown as existing between the large cities, and the country at large. This is indeed a curious subject, and is well worthy of the investigation of the medical and moral inquirer.

In looking into the Mortality Bill of Paris, I find that the deaths occurring in that city are given under the following heads:—Those dying at home—in the General Hospitals—in the Military Hospitals—in Prisons—and those found drowned in the river, or dead on the streets,—the two last being always exposed for identification at the Morgue. Observing, from a late discussion, that the

DROWNINGS IN THE CLYDE,

within the boundaries of the City, had created some interest, it occurred to me that a correct statement of the Accidents and Deaths arising from the River, might be no uninteresting addition to the Mortality Bill of Glasgow; while the amount of these might form some comparison with those occurring in the French Capital, which in point of situation is somewhat similar to our own City, with about three times as many inhabitants as Glasgow. The following Table was therefore con-

structed, from returns kindly made me by Dr. David Gibson, the Secretary of the Humane Society, and Mr. Macfarlane, Superintendent of Police at the Harbour:—

TABLE OF ACCIDENTS, SUICIDES, &c., WHICH HAVE OCCURRED CONNECTED WITH THE RIVER CLYDE, FROM RUTHERGLEN BRIDGE TO THE WEST END OF THE HARBOUR OF GLASGOW, FROM 1ST JANUARY TILL 31ST DECEMBER, 1852.

	Accidents.	Suicides.	Saved.	Found Drowned.	Drowned.	Males.	Females.
Between Rutherglen and Victoria Bridges,	30	31	50	5	16	47	19
Victoria Bridge and West End of Harbour,	69	2	43	15	28	78	8
	99	33	93	20	44	125	27

From the above Table it appears, that out of the 132 cases of accidents and attempts at suicide, there were 93 saved, and 39 drowned; and, in addition to these, there were found drowned 20—making the whole drowned in the River to be 59. Of the 33 attempts at suicide, consisting of 14 males and 19 females, 9 males and 17 females were saved, and only 5 males and 2 females drowned.

In order, however, to institute a proper comparison between Glasgow and Paris, I found that those who had died on the streets, or were drowned in our canals, were wanting. I therefore applied to our excellent Superintendent of Police, Mr. Smart, for information on the subject, and the following is his Return, which we have thrown into the annexed—

TABLE OF ALL PERSONS WHO HAVE BEEN FOUND DEAD ON THE STREETS, OR WHO DIED OUT OF DOORS, WITHIN THE BOUNDS OF THE MUNICIPALITY OF GLASGOW, DURING THE YEAR 1852:—

	Males.	Females.	DROWNED.		Died on Streets	Total.
			Canals.	Kelvin.		
Eastern District,	3	1	...	...	4	4
Western Do.	7	2	3	2	4	9
Southern Do.	4	3	...	...	7	7
Central Do.	19	5	10	...	14	24
	33	11	13	2	29	44

Taking, then, those who have been drowned in the Clyde, within the Municipality, and adding them to those found dead on the streets, and drowned in the Canals and Kelvin, we have a gross of 103—in precisely similar circumstances to those exposed for identification at the Parisian Morgue. From the *Annuaire*, which I have just received, I find that, in 1851, there were placed in the Morgue 296 males and 39 females, making a total of 335—which, contrasted with the whole deaths in the French Capital for the same year, being 27,585, gives 1 to 82.3; and applying the same rule to Glasgow, where the deaths by drowning, &c., amount to 103, and contrasting them with the whole deaths, amounting to 10,675, the result is 1 to 103.3; or contrasted with the population, they show—Paris, 1 out of 3000; Glasgow, 1 out of 3600.

With respect to the Tables of

DISEASES,

Annexed to the Mortality Bill of 1852, it is perhaps only necessary to state that, with the exception of Typhus Fever having for a few weeks lately been more than usually prevalent, but which has now happily subsided, the other Epidemic Diseases have been proportionally less. The whole deaths from Typhus during the year, have been 504, which, when compared with 1851, show an increase of 122. It will be observed from the following Table, that the Infectious Diseases causing death to the young, have, with the exception of Scarlatina, been less than during the preceding twelve months:—

Years.	Small-Pox.	Measles.	Hooping Cough.	Scarlatina.
1851...	618	551	753	165
1852...	584	241	639	481

The Mortality Bill of 1852 again exhibits a most striking decrease in what may be called

INTRAMURAL BURIALS.

During the last year, the reduction of Burials within the City Church-yards amounts to no less than 784; and it seems now plain that these will, every succeeding year, exhibit a growing taste on the part of the living to imitate the civilized nations of antiquity, by carrying forth their dead beyond the boundaries of the City. Within these six months, the Catholics have shown an excellent example in this respect, by having opened up a Cemetery at Dalbeth, which makes now twenty-two places of sepulture connected with our Bills of Mortality.

In connection with the Mortality Bill for this year, I have much pleasure in stating that a very considerable reduction has taken place in

PAUPER BURIALS.

The following is a comparative view of this very important proof of the improved condition of the poor population, for the last two years :—

	1851.	1852.
City Parish,	1513 . . .	1297
Barony, &c.	801 . . .	779
Gorbals,	77 . . .	68
Govan,	158 . . .	181
Infirmery,	253 . . .	278
	<hr/>	<hr/>
	2802	2603
	<hr/>	<hr/>

The above figures show a reduction of 199 in one year, or about 7.1 per cent.

In looking at the Tables of

BIRTHS,

It is perhaps scarcely necessary to repeat, that the figures therein given are of but little value to the Statist, except as a means of comparing Glasgow in the past year with Glasgow in the present. This will appear palpable, when it is stated that while, according to the present population, there could not have been fewer than 13,000 births last year in the city, the whole

that appear on the face of the Parochial and Catholic Registers, are only 7,920. In the former there are 3,806, and in the latter 4,114.* With regard to the Table of

MARRIAGES,

Although not quite correct, it is far more so than the other. We shall give a tabular view of both Births and Marriages, during the last five years, for future reference:—

Years.	Births.	Marriages.
1848,	6,076	3,010
1849,	6,097	3,564
1850,	6,836	3,778
1851,	7,561	3,929
1852,	7,920	4,160

It may, perhaps, be in the recollection of some, when last year commenting on the Mortality Tables, I then threw out the idea that, from all the concurrent circumstances connected with the social condition of Glasgow, the coming twelve months would be illustrative of the existence of greater health and greater social comfort among the inhabitants; and it is satisfactory to find that these anticipations have been realised. To be convinced that Glasgow, during the last year, has been particularly healthy, requires only a glance at the ratio of the deaths to the population; and that it has also improved in its social as well as physical condition, the following facts, selected from many others in our possession, will best illustrate.

The first fact I find is another increase in the consumpt of fresh butcher meat in Glasgow over that of even the great consumpt of the year 1851. The following is a statement of the number of cattle slaughtered in our abattoirs during the two years respectively:—

	1851.	1852.
Oxen,	29,569	31,238
Calves,	4,443	3,667
Sheep,	72,589	80,205
Lambs,	50,499	48,252
Goats,	50	38
Pigs,	5,157	5,212

* On this subject see Report for 1851, page 15.

It here appears that there has been an increase of Oxen of 1,669, of Sheep of 7,616, and of Pigs of 55; while there has been a decrease of 776 Calves, 2,247 Lambs, and 12 Goats.* While these figures of themselves at once exhibit that there must have been a great increase in the number of pounds weight of fresh butcher meat going into consumption they do not, however, fully bring out the extent of that increase. In addition to the number slaughtered must also be added the annually increasing weight, not only of the Oxen, but of the Sheep brought to market. The folly of supposing that the number of cattle slaughtered represents the quantity of food consumed, has led several Statists into serious errors, and to conclusions altogether fallacious.

The second fact that we would allude to, is the increase in the consumption of

TEA, SUGAR, AND MOLASSES,

Taken out of Bond at the Ports of the Clyde and Leith for home consumption, as published in the very able and instructive Circular of Messrs. W. Connal & Co., and of which the following is an abstract:—

	1851.	1852.	Increase.
Tea, . . .	2,448,902 lbs.	2,570,744 lbs.	121,842 lbs.
Sugar, . . .	37,595 tons	41,664 tons	4,069 tons
Molasses, . .	19,672 tons	20,506 tons	834 tons

The next facts we would adduce in support of our social progress, are the comparative position of

THE CUSTOM DUTIES AND POST-OFFICE, DURING THE YEARS 1850, 1851, AND 1852.

The following is the amount of Custom Duties collected, and Ships registered (Glasgow property):—

	Duties Paid.	No. of Ships Registered.	Tonnage.
Year, 1850, . . .	£645,669	512	140,741
„ 1851, . . .	675,044	508	145,684
„ 1852, . . .	653,283	500	156,064

* This is by no means the only butcher meat consumed by the inhabitants of Glasgow. In last Report, we showed that, in 1851, not less than 44,347,520 lbs. of fresh and salted provisions were brought into Glasgow.

Although there is a slight falling off in the Customs for the last year, when compared with 1851, it is attributed, not to a reduction of the consumpt of the articles on which duties are leviabie, but to the reduction of the duties on Sugar and Molasses.

The following is a statement of the number of Letters delivered by the Glasgow Post-Office, during one week, ending 21st July, in these respective years :—

In 1850,	111,504.
„ 1851,	132,873.
„ 1852,	144,062.

But if we make the comparison between the week at the close of December, we find the number to stand thus :—

On week in Dec., 1851,	145,601.
„ „ 1852,	166,444.

Money Orders issued and paid during the quarters ending 30th June, 1850, 1851, and 1852, are as follows :—

1850,—Issued,	16,708	£29,752	9	0
„ Paid,	17,517	33,851	0	2
	<u>34,225</u>	<u>£63,603</u>	<u>9</u>	<u>2</u>
1851,—Issued,	17,648	£31,267	10	1
„ Paid,	17,922	34,174	3	6
	<u>35,570</u>	<u>£65,441</u>	<u>13</u>	<u>7</u>
1852,—Issued,	18,014	£32,413	10	11
„ Paid,	19,394	37,638	13	3
	<u>37,408</u>	<u>£70,052</u>	<u>4</u>	<u>2</u>

Perhaps there is no better proof can be adduced of the regularly increasing social progress of the people, than the advancing state of the Post-Office; and if arguments were awanting to prove the necessity of erecting forthwith a building capable of carrying on the business of this important establishment with com-

fort to the officers and to the inhabitants of this great and growing city, it would be found in the above comparative figures. In these figures we find, that through the Post-Office of Glasgow there are at present no less than 27,740 letters delivered daily, while there are on an average no less than 478 money transactions made daily. The increase of letters daily delivered, between 1850 and 1852, being 9,156, and of money orders 41 daily. It is to be hoped that no such parsimony as that which was so lately followed in the erection of our Custom-House, and which is found already unfit for the present business of the Port, will be pursued in our proposed new Post-Office.

The next fact illustrative of our City's social progress, may be drawn from the operations and condition of

THE NATIONAL SAVINGS' BANK.

For here we find that, in spite of all the Emigration from our City, whereby an unusual sum was withdrawn from the Bank by old depositors, the increase at the credit of the depositors was, on the 2d November last, £56,832 11s.; while, although 7,477 old depositors closed their accounts, there were 9,067 new ones to take their place. The following is a comparative view of the working of the establishment during the last three years:—

	1850.	1851.	1852.
Amount of Deposits, -	£235,591 10 1	£260,712 3 9	£257,796 16 5
„ Payments, -	198,021 10 8	202,145 6 9	216,744 19 0
Interest added, - - -	12,615 13 1	14,057 19 1	15,780 13 7
Transactions, - - - -	103,756	109,363	119,836
Total Depositors, - -	27,650	29,548	31,899
Total Funds, - - - -	£457,586 7 8	£517,620 13 4	£565,691 2 10

The last fact I shall at present adduce, in illustration of the improving social position of Glasgow, may be gathered from the annual reducing

PAUPERISM

In our city, when contrasted with the fact of an increasing population. The following are the answers made to queries sent to the several Inspectors of the Poor within our Bills of Mortality:—

PARISH OF GLASGOW:—

	1849.	1850.	1851.	1852.
Persons receiving In-door Relief, 1st Jan.	1,390	947	1,133	1,213
" " Out-door do. do.	4,839	4,857	4,414	4,100
Insane Poor,.....	171	125	124	119
	<u>6,400</u>	<u>5,929</u>	<u>5,671</u>	<u>5,432</u>

PARISH OF GORBALS:—

	1849.	1850.	1851.	1852.
Persons receiving In-door Relief, 31st Jan. ...	—	283	283	78
Insane Poor,.....	—	7	7	—
		<u>290</u>	<u>290</u>	<u>78</u>

PARISH OF BARONY:—

	1848-49.	1849-50.	1850-51.	1851-2.
Persons receiving In-door Relief, 31st Dec. ...	385	407	517	955
" " Out-door do.	4,080	3,779	3,104	2,530
Insane Poor,.....	—	—	130	102
	<u>4,415</u>	<u>4,186</u>	<u>3,751</u>	<u>3,587</u>

PARISH OF GOVAN:—

	1849.	1850.	1851.	1852.
Persons receiving In-door Relief, 1st Jan. ...	129	449	254	290
" " Out-door do. do.	1,811	1,318	817	734
	<u>1,940</u>	<u>1,767</u>	<u>1,071</u>	<u>1,024</u>

Comparative Cost of maintaining the Poor in the above Parishes, irrespectively of New Buildings:—

PARISH.	1848-49.			1849-50.			1850-51.			1851-52.		
	£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.
Glasgow, ending Nov. 30,	60,596	1	7	49,605	5	10	45,638	4	6	40,299	13	4
Gorbals, do. May 15,	2,032	17	8	1,853	8	9	1,488	6	6	1,596	8	1
Barony do. do.	32,838	1	2	28,324	7	3	23,485	15	5	20,860	5	10
Govan do. do.	9,799	8	11	7,855	8	9	8,191	9	0	9,009	0	9
	<u>105,266</u>	<u>9</u>	<u>4</u>	<u>87,638</u>	<u>10</u>	<u>7</u>	<u>78,733</u>	<u>15</u>	<u>5</u>	<u>71,765</u>	<u>8</u>	<u>0</u>

Of our present commercial and manufacturing condition, it is almost unnecessary to say a word, unless to present you with the following salient points, which may be taken as proofs of our prosperity. The first is the great increase in the consumpt of

COTTON WOOL

in Scotland, which is chiefly connected with the business of this City. It is stated by one of our first authorities on the subject, that "the apparent consumption last year has been 116,700 bales, being an increase, when compared with the year 1851, of 25,000 bales.

Let us turn next to our

HARBOUR DUES,

and here also we have another proof of increased commercial activity—the dues for 1850-51 being £68,875 4s. 9d., while those of 1851-52 are £76,077 9s. 4d., showing an increase of £7,134 4s. 7d. And when we examine the

RAILWAY TRAFFIC

connected with Glasgow, which is perhaps the very best index to our commercial and manufacturing activity, we find, from the comparison of the last week's traffic of the years 1851 and 1852, the following great increase:—

NAME OF RAILWAY.	1852.	1851.	Increase.	Decrs.
	£	£	£	£
Caledonian,	8,918	7,981	937	...
South-Western,	4,111	3,786	325	...
Edinburgh & Glasgow,	3,581	3,279	302	...

And last of all, we find that while, during the last twelve months, no great commercial failures have occurred, the number of small

BANKRUPTCIES

Connected with Glasgow have decreased by twenty, compared with the year 1851.

MONTH.	1841.	1851.	1852.
January, . . .	6	4	12
February, . . .	7	10	11
March, . . .	8	9	10
April, . . .	12	7	9
May, . . .	11	10	9
June, . . .	9	6	12
July, . . .	11	11	10
August, . . .	11	8	7
September, . .	12	4	6
October, . . .	5	16	4
November, . .	7	17	5
December, . .	15	16	3
	114	118	98

The following Table, like that of last year, gives the occupations of the various Bankrupts:—

PROFESSIONS.	1841.	1851.	1852.	PROFESSIONS.	1841.	1851.	1852.
Accountants,.....	1	2		Brought forward,...	36	37	41
Auctioneer,.....	1			Horse Dealer,		1	
Architect,.....		1		Ironfounders,.....	2	1	1
Builders,.....	2		5	Ironmongers,.....		3	2
Brassfounders,.....	1		1	Jewellers,.....	2	1	2
Brewer,.....	1			Joiners,.....	3	1	2
Bakers,.....		1	3	Manufacturers,.....	18	16	7
Commission Agents,..	5	12	10	Merchants,.....	19	16	8
Currier,.....	1			Music-sellers,.....		2	
Cotton Brokers,.....	2			Optician,.....	1		
Calico Printers,.....	6	1	2	Pianoforte Maker,....	1		
Clothier,.....	1			Printers,.....	1		1
Contractors,.....	2	2	6	Painters,.....	1		
Calenderers,.....	1		2	Ropemaker,.....		1	
Coal Dealers,.....	1		1	Stationers & Bookbds.	6	1	
Cardmakers,.....	1		1	Smiths,.....	1		1
Coach Proprietors,...		1	1	Shoemakers,.....	1	1	3
Cabinetmaker,.....			1	Stock Brokers,.....		2	3
Carver and Gilder,...			1	Soapmakers,.....		4	
Drapers,.....	2	3		Saddler,.....		1	
Druggists,.....	2	1	1	Ship Chandler,.....			1
Dyers,.....	1		2	Tobacconists,.....		1	1
Drysalters,.....		2	1	Tailors,.....		2	1
Earthenware Mercht.	1			Tea Merchants,.....			2
Engineers,.....		6	2	Victuallers & Grocers,	8	20	6
Fleshers,.....	2	3	1	Writers,.....	6	1	2
Grain Merchants,....	1	2		Wine & Spirit Merchs.	8	6	13
Hatter,.....	1			Warehouseman,.....			1
Carried forward,...	36	37	41		114	118	98

In bringing these rather desultory remarks to a

CONCLUSION,

I may perhaps be allowed to suggest, that although Glasgow, for these some years back, has given the most ample and striking proofs of physical, social, moral, and commercial progress that can be found anywhere—some of which proofs it has been my own happiness from time to time to bring under your notice—still it should never be forgotten, that there is yet much to be done in the way of further improving the circumstances and condition of many of her citizens. From what we see around us, there is little doubt that during the last twelve months the great majority of those engaged in commercial and manufacturing pursuits have been generally successful; that the labouring man has been constantly employed, and well remunerated for his labour; and that while the wages of the latter have been high, his food, and even luxuries, have been moderate in price; that, in short, there has been, on all men and on all things, the palpable impress of a prosperity such as has rarely pervaded, at any one time, the various classes of the community. There is no doubt, too, that, emanating from these circumstances, the figure of Glasgow Mortality has been this year somewhat reduced; but, with all its diminution, it is still much above that of many other cities. And although our city has been for some time little afflicted with any very destructive epidemic, it must be recollected that there nevertheless still lurks, amid many of the dank and dismal recesses of our densely-crowded habitations, the ready materials, if not for occasioning, at least for disseminating disease and death.

According to certain Statists, the proportion constantly sick in a population, is double the annual proportion per cent. which the deaths bear to the living. Assuming this formula, the proportion per cent. of the deaths in Glasgow, for the average of the last three years, was 2.86, which being doubled is 5.72; and 5.72 per cent. of 360,138, the amount of the mean of the population, would show that there has been

constantly sick in the City and Suburbs, about 20,600.* Although I am inclined to believe that this is a very exaggerated figure of sickness, especially in a city where infantile death is so prevalent, and where, consequently, the days of sickness must be quickly and fatally terminated, still I have no doubt there are always many amongst us who are laid on beds of distress, but whose numbers might be diminished through means within our reach.† But, it may be asked, how is this evil, which presses so peculiarly on the labouring portion of the community, to be mitigated? Why, by as far and as fast as possible getting rid of the already known causes which create and perpetuate diseases. While, therefore, it is the duty of every citizen to aid in any good work which may tend to the amelioration of the great family of which he forms a component part, it is the peculiar province of you, my Lord and Gentlemen, who have been called to rule over this community, to carry the benevolent will of the people into execution. Endeavour, then, as the guardians of the public weal, to remove, as you have been so worthily doing, those plague-spots from the older part of the Town, which have so long proved the haunts of the idle and the profligate, and also from henceforth to prevent new localities from becoming the dens of similar demoralization. Try, by every means in your power, to open up densely-peopled quarters to more light and air than they now possess, and to preserve open spaces in the Suburbs, capable of ere long becoming the lungs of a

* The calculation made by certain Insurance Offices in England connected with sickness, is as follows:—

“ At 21 years of age, term of sickness during year, 4 days 16 minutes.		
At 30	„	1 week, 5 hours, and 3 minutes.
At 60	„	2 weeks, 2 days, 9 hours, and 34 minutes.”

By consulting the Table of the living in Glasgow, it will be easy to see at least how sickness, according to this formula, is likely to affect those at these ages.

† Dr. Lyon Playfair, in a late investigation into the great mortality of Lancashire, states, that in that county there were at that period 398,000 cases of sickness, and 14,000 deaths, which might have been prevented. Of these deaths, 11,000 were adults, engaged in profitable labour. “ The annual slaughter from typhus alone,” he says, “ in England and Wales, is greater than the loss sustained by the Allied Armies at Waterloo ! What would be thought of a war, in which 5000 of the able-bodied men in one county fell every year in battle ? And yet this is only *one-half* of the number annually slaughtered in the county of Lancaster by *removeable* epidemics ! ”

future city. Endeavour also to control, as much as is consistent with the rights of property, the construction of Dwelling-houses, School-rooms, and Workshops, with a view of affording better ventilation, purer air, and greater comfort to their occupants; to extend the already great improvements made in our Sewerage and Drainage; and to control still further the cess-pools and other noxious agencies which affect the public health and public comfort—endeavour, in fine, to procure for this growing community that indispensable element of internal and external cleanliness—a constant and an abundant supply of pure water, coupled with every one of the other acknowledged sanatory improvements which the wise and the philanthropic have of late years advocated. With these objects ever in view and carefully attended to, it is plain that our City will be found always prepared to meet any epidemical emergency which may unfortunately occur; and although all human efforts may prove ineffectual for altogether warding off the poisonous influences of the “unseen pestilence that walketh by noon-day,” still, these will most assuredly be found at least fully calculated to mitigate many of the miseries that would otherwise follow the utter neglect of such precautionary measures. Trusting to your well-known advocacy of every practical sanatory measure, and knowing your anxious wish to extend the blessings of sound education and intellectual advancement, it assuredly requires no great prescience to predict, that Glasgow is destined ere long to take even a higher physical, social, and moral position than she now does among the cities of the world.

I am,

My LORD and GENTLEMEN,

Your most obedient Servant,

JOHN STRANG, LL.D.

CITY CHAMBERS,
GLASGOW, 11th January, 1853.

ABSTRACT

OF

THE GLASGOW MORTALITY BILL,

FOR 1852.

POPULATION BY CENSUS 1851,.....370,000.

TABLE I.

ABSTRACT OF THE NUMBER OF BURIALS IN THE CITY AND SUBURBAN DISTRICTS.

DISTRICTS.	BURYING PLACES.	In each Burying Place in 1852.	Total in each District in 1852.	In each Burying Place in 1851.	Total in each District in 1851.	Increase in 1852.	Decrease in 1852.	Increase in Districts in 1852.	Decrease in Districts in 1852.
CITY,.....	Cathedral,	709		638		71			
	Blackfriars & St. David's,.....	96		100			4		
	St. Andrews' Episcopal Chapel,	1		3			2		
	St. Mary's Catholic Chapel,.....	1,337		1,860			523		
	Sighthill,.....	3,031		3,102			71		
	Total in City,.....		5,174		5,703			71	600
GORBALS, {	Gorbals,	741		678		63			
	Southern Necropolis,.....	2,317		2,259		58			
	Total in Gorbals,.....		3,058		2,937			121	
BARONY, {	Merchants' House Necropolis, ..	566		615			49		
	Calton,	399		509			110		
	Bridgeton,	159		187			28		
	Christ's Church Epis. Chapel, ..	44		43		1			
	Eastern Necropolis,.....	910		989			79		
	Shettleston,	36		51			15		
	Tollcross,	200		217			17		
	Dalbeth,.....	532				532			
	Anderston Relief Chapel.....	97		104			7		
	Do. St. Mark's,.....	44		58			14		
	North Woodside,.....	119		127			8		
	South Woodside,.....	118		135			17		
	Maryhill,.....	77		58		19			
	Wellington Street Crypt,	9		6		3			
	Total in Barony,.....		3,310		3,099			555	344
GOVAN,..... {	Govan,.....	149		90		59			
	Total in Govan,.....		149		90			59	
Total Burials in the City & Subs. in 1852.									
Males,		6,079							
Females,.....		5,612							
Total Burials in the City and			11,691					806	944
Suburbs, 1851,.....			11,829						
Decrease of Burials in 1852,.....			138						138
						Deduct Incr.			806

TABLE II.—DISEASES.

I. ZYMOTIC:			Carried forward,.....	338	
Small-pox,.....	584		Peritonitis,.....	29	
Measles,.....	241		Ascites,.....	14	
Scarlatina (Scarlet Fever),....	481		Ulceration of Intestines,.....	2	
Whooping Cough,.....	639		Hernia (Rupture),.....	9	
Croup,.....	204		Ileus,.....	4	
Thrush,.....	91		Stricture of Intestinal Canal,	3	
Diarrhœa (Bowel Complaint)	750		Stomach, Disease of.....	36	
Dysentery,.....	103		Pancreas, Disease of.....	2	
Cholera,.....	8		Hepatitis,.....	3	
Influenza,.....	52		Jaundice,.....	15	
Purpura and Scurvy,.....	6		Liver, Disease of,.....	54	
Remittent Fever,.....	86		Spleen, Disease of.....	4	
Infantile Fever,.....	54				513
Typhus,.....	504		VIII. KIDNEYS, &c.:		
Metria (Puerperal Fever),....	12		Nephritis,.....	1	
Rheumatic Fever,.....	8		Nephria (Bright's Disease),...	4	
Erysipelas (Rose),.....	21		Ischuria,.....	1	
Syphilis,.....	5		Diabetes,.....	3	
Noma (Canker),.....	8		Stone,.....	6	
		3857	Cystitis,.....	6	
II. DROPSY, &c.			Stricture of Urethra,.....	2	
Hæmorrhage (Bleeding),....	17		Kidneys, Disease of.....	12	
Dropsy,.....	312				35
Abscess (Gathering),.....	14		IX. CHILDBIRTH, &c.:		
Ulcer,.....	9		Paramenia,.....	4	
Fistula,.....	4		Ovarium Dropsy,.....	7	
Mortification,.....	137		Childbirth (See Metria),....	74	
Cancer,.....	41		Uterus, Disease of.....	11	
Gout,.....	1				96
		535	X. JOINTS:		
III. TUBERCULAR:			Rheumatism,.....	3	
Scrofula,.....	27		Joints, Disease of.....	8	
Tabes Mysterica,.....	119				11
Phthisis (Consumption),....	1983		XI. SKIN, &c.:		
Hydrocephalus (Water on the			Carbuncle,.....	1	
Brain),.....	393		Phlegmon,.....	1	
		2522	Skin Disease,.....	1	
IV. BRAIN AND NERVES:					3
Cephalitis,.....	36		XII. MALFORMATIONS:		
Apoplexy,.....	131		Spina Bifida,.....	12	
Paralysis (Palsy),.....	108		Other Malformations,.....	1	
Delirium Tremens,.....	8				13
Chorea,.....	2		XIII. PREMATURE BIRTHS,&c.	115	
Epilepsy,.....	17				115
Tetanus (Locked Jaw),.....	8		XIV. ATROPHY,.....	13	
Insanity,.....	11				13
Convulsions,.....	83		XV. AGE,.....	589	
Brain, Disease of.....	142				589
		546	XVI. SUDDEN,.....	67	
V. HEART, &c.:					67
Pericarditis,.....	6		XVII. VIOLENT:		
Aneurism,.....	8		Intemperance,.....	5	
Heart, Disease of.....	153		Privation of Food,.....	4	
		167	Cold,.....	14	
VI. LUNGS, &c.:			Poison,.....	3	
Laryngitis,.....	36		Burns and Scalds,.....	21	
Bronchitis,.....	433		Hanging and Suffocation,....	4	
Pleurisy,.....	7		Drowning,.....	79	
Pneumonia,.....	145		Fractures,.....	32	
Asthma,.....	202		Wounds,.....	3	
Lungs, Disease of.....	144		Other Violent Causes,.....	79	
		967			244
VII. STOMACH, &c.:			NOT SPECIFIED,.....	382	
Teething,.....	276				382
Quinsey,.....	5				10675
Gastritis,.....	22		STILL-BORN,.....		1016
Enteritis,.....	35				11691
Carry forward,.....	338				

TABLE III.—AGES.

Under 3 months, 451				Brought forward, . . . 8,227			
3 months and	„	6	„	501	45 and under	50	Years, 362
6	„	„	1	Year, 968	50	„	„ 418
1	Year,	„	2	„ 1,561	55	„	„ 337
2	„	„	3	„ 752	60	„	„ 333
3	„	„	4	„ 461	65	„	„ 267
4	„	„	5	„ 321	70	„	„ 290
5	„	„	10	„ 523	75	„	„ 208
10	„	„	15	„ 284	80	„	„ 127
15	„	„	20	„ 297	85	„	„ 64
20	„	„	25	„ 426	90	„	„ 24
25	„	„	30	„ 409	95	„	„ 15
30	„	„	35	„ 475	100 and upwards, 3		
35	„	„	40	„ 404	10,675		
40	„	„	45	„ 394	Still-born, 1,016		
Carry forward, . . . 8,227				11,691			

TABLE IV.

PROCLAMATION OF MARRIAGES, AS RECORDED IN THE CITY AND SUBURBS
IN 1852.

	Both Parties in Parish.	Males only.	Females only.	Total in 1852.	Total in 1851.
In City Parish, . . .	1,340	142	153	1,635	1,547
In Barony Parish, . .	1,294	172	143	1,609	1,496
In Gorbals Parish, . .	576	75	47	698	708
In Govan Parish, . .	160	35	23	218	178
Total in 1852, . . .	...	...	...	4,160	3,929
Total in 1851, . . .	...	...	...	3,929	
Increase in 1852, . .	...	...	...	231	

TABLE V.

ABSTRACT OF BAPTISMS, AS RECORDED IN THE REGISTERS OF THE CITY AND SUBURBS, WHERE RETURNS HAVE BEEN MADE.

	Males.	Females.	Total.	Total in each district in 1852.	Total in 1851.	Total in each district in 1851.
In the City Parish Register,.....	824	696	1,520		1,510	
In the City Catholic Registers,...	1,517	1,308	2,825		2,859	
Total in City.....	...	...		4,345		4,369
In the Barony Parish Register,	695	646	1,341		1,152	
In the Barony Catholic Register,	322	340	662		608	
Total in Barony, .....	...	...		2,003		1,760
In the Gorbals Parish Register,	407	359	766		703	
In the Gorbals Catholic Register,	329	298	627		597	
Total in Gorbals,.....	...	...		1,393		1,300
In the Govan Parish Register,...	94	85	179		132	
Total in Govan,.....	...	...		179		132
Total in City and Suburbs } in 1852,..... }	...	...	...	7,920		7,561
Total in City and Suburbs } in 1851,..... }	...	...	...	7,561		
Increase in 1852,.....	...	...	...	359		

The preceding Tables, drawn up by me, were this day, (13th Jan., 1853), submitted to a Committee of the Magistrates and Council, who approved of and authorised their publication.

W M. PATRICK,

Warden of the Corporation Burying Grounds.

