

**Annual report, by the City Registrar, of the births, marriages, and deaths, in the City of Boston, for the year 1873.**

**Contributors**

Boston. Registry Department.  
Royal College of Surgeons of England

**Publication/Creation**

Boston : Rockwell & Churchill, city printers, 1874.

**Persistent URL**

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BY THE

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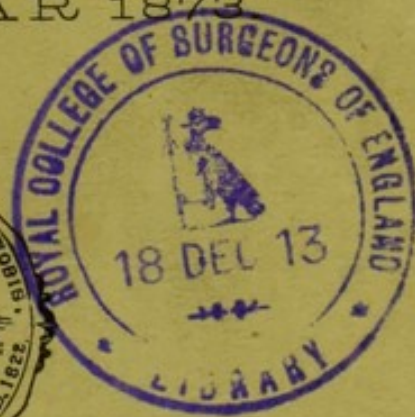
OF THE

BIRTHS, MARRIAGES, AND DEATHS,

IN THE

CITY OF BOSTON,

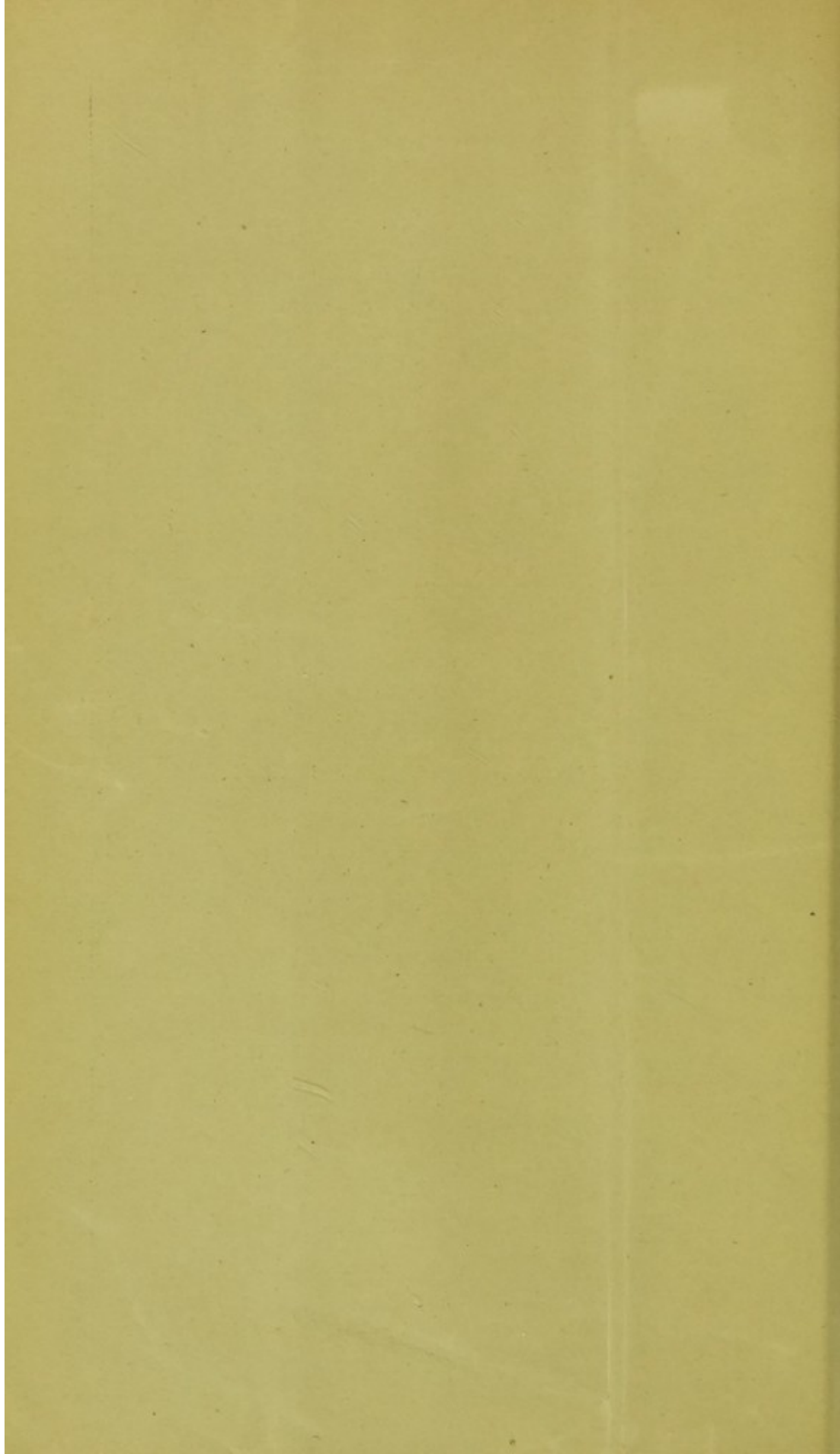
FOR THE YEAR 1873



BOSTON:

ROCKWELL & CHURCHILL, CITY PRINTERS,  
122 WASHINGTON STREET.

1874.



*City Document.* — No. 48.

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CITY OF BOSTON.

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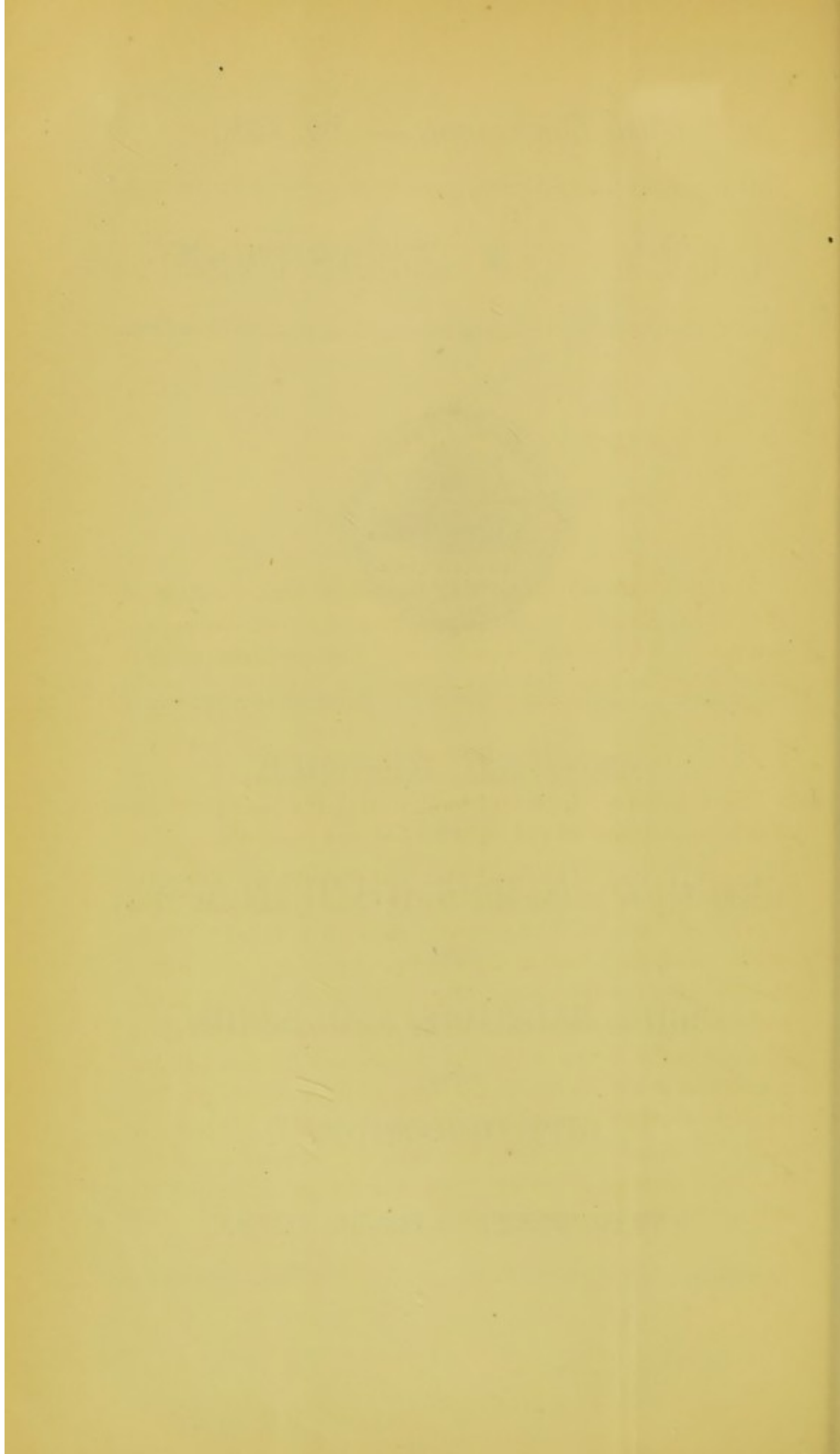
CITY OF BOSTON,

FOR THE YEAR 1873.

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## CITY OF BOSTON.

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*To the City Council:—*

The undersigned begs leave to submit his Annual Report of the Births, Marriages and Deaths in the City of Boston, accompanied with illustrative tables and such remarks as have seemed to him deserving of consideration.

### BIRTHS.

The number of births registered during the year 1873 was 9,688, an increase of 418, or 4.51 per cent. over the number recorded in the preceding year. This is a fair increase, and is in the ratio of one birth in 28.55 of the population. The number of births in 1872 exceeded those in 1871 by 8.36 per cent., which were double the number of any one year within the previous twenty years. The ratio of the births in the State at large is one birth to 36.50 of the whole population. The number of births in the city to each one thousand of the population was 35, while in the State at large it was 28. The number of still-births during the year was 515; if these are added to those born alive, the ratio will appear as 36.89. The daily average of living births was 26.54; including the still-births, the average was 28.

## I. BIRTHS IN 1873. PARENTAGE.

	Number.	Per cent.
Both parents born in the United States . . . . .	2,314	23.89
“ “ “ “ England . . . . .	214	2.21
“ “ “ “ Ireland . . . . .	3,262	33.67
“ “ “ “ Scotland . . . . .	64	.66
“ “ “ “ British A. Provinces . . . . .	470	4.85
“ “ “ “ Germany and N. Europe . . . . .	509	5.25
“ “ Unmixed foreign* . . . . .	201	2.08
“ “ Mixed foreign † . . . . .	813	8.39
Father born in United States, mother foreign . . . . .	568	5.86
“ foreign, mother born in United States . . . . .	851	8.78
“ born in United States, mother unknown . . . . .	4	.04
“ unknown, mother born in United States . . . . .	190	1.96
“ foreign, mother unknown . . . . .	1	.01
“ unknown, mother foreign . . . . .	179	1.85
Both parents unknown . . . . .	48	.50
	9,688	100.00

The most noticeable feature in the above table is the small number of children of native parentage compared with those of Irish nativity. The latter exceed the former by 948, an excess of 40 per cent. The whole number of children of American parentage, including half of those recorded as unknown, was 2,338, or 24.13 per cent. of all the births. The number of native fathers was 3,094, or 31.94 per cent. of the whole number. The number of instances in which one or both parents were native born, including half of those whose nativity was unknown, was 4,040, or 41.70 per cent. of the entire number. It will thus be seen that 58.30 per cent. of the children are of foreign parentage. With the exception of those of native and of Irish parents, in each of which cases there was a decrease of more than one per cent. compared

\* Both parents of the same nativity.

† The parents, in each instance, born in different countries.



with the preceding year, the same relative proportions are exhibited.

The births in each month are given in the following table, nearly 28 per cent. of which occurred in the last quarter, and 54.36 per cent. in the last half of the year.

January . . . . .	805	April . . . . .	641	July . . . . .	818	October . . . . .	862
February . . . . .	703	May . . . . .	801	August . . . . .	869	November . . . . .	915
March . . . . .	761	June . . . . .	711	September . . . . .	875	December . . . . .	927

The following table shows the number and percentage of the births in each ward, compared with a similar exhibit of the preceding year:—

WARDS.	1873.		1872.		WARDS.	1873.		1872.	
	Births.	Per Ct.	Births.	Per Ct.		Births.	Per Ct.	Births.	Per Ct.
1 . . . . .	1,013	10.46	964	10.40	9 . . . . .	420	4.34	397	4.28
2 . . . . .	958	9.89	999	10.77	10 . . . . .	419	4.33	490	5.28
3 . . . . .	624	6.44	494	5.33	11 . . . . .	523	5.40	420	4.53
4 . . . . .	203	2.10	265	2.86	12 . . . . .	1,099	11.34	1,038	11.20
5 . . . . .	213	2.11	214	2.30	13 . . . . .	380	3.92	363	3.91
6 . . . . .	292	3.02	306	3.30	14 . . . . .	452	4.67	417	4.55
7 . . . . .	1,505	15.54	1,370	14.77	15 . . . . .	883	9.12	790	8.52
8 . . . . .	263	2.77	342	3.68	16 . . . . .	441	4.55	401	4.32
						9,688	100.00	9,270	100.00

It will be seen by the above table that 56.34 per cent. of the births occurred in Wards 1, 2, 7, 12 and 15, which wards contain about 46 per cent. of the entire population. No less than 23.36 per cent. of the births occurred in South Boston, which embraces Ward 12 and a part of Ward 7. A little over 10 per cent. of the births occurred in Wards 4, 5, 6 and



8, which contain nearly 19 per cent. of the population. There was an increase of 686 births, 53.64 per cent. of which occurred in Wards 3, 7 and 11. There was a decrease of 268 births in Wards 2, 4, 5, 6, 8 and 10. Only 23.48 per cent. of the births occurred in the six last-named wards, which contain upwards of 34 per cent. of the population of the entire city. The decrease in Ward 2 (41) is a legitimate one, and is owing to the rapidly diminishing population in that locality; but the large decrease in each of Wards 4, 8 and 10 is not to be accounted for on similar grounds.

The number of colored children born was 132, being in the ratio of one birth in 27.27 of the colored population, or 36.66 births to each 1,000 of that class. The births of white children were in the ratio of 28.57 to the white population, or 35 in each 1,000. The colored births were 113 less than the colored decedents. In the preceding year the deaths exceeded the births by 47. This interesting result is not an exceptional one, but is witnessed every year, and plainly shows that the African race is an exotic one in northern latitudes.

II. TWIN BIRTHS. 1873.

NATIVITY OF PARENTS.	Both males.	Both females.	Male and female.	Totals.
Both parents born in the United States . . . . .	3	3	8	14
“ “ Ireland . . . . .	9	10	14	33
“ “ Scotland . . . . .	.	.	1	1
“ “ British American Provinces . . . . .	1	2	.	3
“ “ Germany . . . . .	1	1	1	3
“ Mixed foreign . . . . .	2	1	.	3
“ Unmixed foreign . . . . .	1	.	1	2
Father foreign, mother United States . . . . .	1	5	1	7
“ United States, mother foreign . . . . .	2	.	.	2
“ unknown, mother United States . . . . .	1	3	2	6
Totals . . . . .	21	25	28	74

There was an increase of 10 plural births over the number reported in the preceding year, embracing one instance of triplets. The number of cases in which both parents were foreign-born was 46; and including those instances in which one or both parents were of foreign nativity was 59, making 78.66 per cent. of all the plural births. This statement includes the triplets (of Irish parentage), which is not contained in the above table. The ratio of plural to single births was 1 in 130.92.

## III. STILL-BIRTHS. 1873.

	Males.	Females.	Sex unk'wn.		Males.	Females.	Sex unk'wn.
January . . . . .	23	23	.	July . . . . .	31	15	.
February . . . . .	26	4	.	August . . . . .	29	12	.
March . . . . .	35	22	.	September . . . . .	23	20	.
April . . . . .	30	15	1	October . . . . .	17	16	.
May . . . . .	22	13	.	November . . . . .	23	19	.
June . . . . .	27	12	.	December . . . . .	32	25	.
					318	196	1

There was a decrease of 45 still-births compared with the preceding year. The ratio of these births to those born alive was one in 18.81. In the preceding year the rate was 1 in 16.55. It will be observed that the males exceeded the females by no less than 122 or 23.69 per cent. There were three twin births among the number. Their parentage is seen in the following table:—

	Births.	Ratio to Population.		Births.	Ratio to Population.		Births.
Native . . . . .	157	1 in 893.00	English . . . . .	26	1 in 234.00	Other for'n.	50
Irish . . . . .	202	1 in 231.68	Germany . . . . .	30	1 in 215.53	Unknown . . . . .	50



It will be seen by the above, that the highest ratio of still-births was of children of German parentage, and the lowest of children of native parents. The difference in favor of the latter, over either of those tabulated, is very large.

#### MARRIAGES.

The number of marriages during the year was 3,883, an increase of 121, or an advance of 3.22 per cent. over the preceding year. This is a fair increase, and equals the probable growth of the population during the same period. The rate is 28 marriages in each 1,000 of the population, or one person married to each 35.61 of the whole population. Throughout the State at large, the marriage rate cannot be far from 22 in a thousand, showing a difference between town and country of six in a thousand in favor of the latter. Perhaps any attempt to account for this discrepancy would be barren of any satisfactory result; but the fact is no less important, nevertheless. There can be, however, but two valid reasons assigned, viz. : inability to support a family, or an unwillingness to do it. That the first is not the true reason is evident from the fact, that the most indigent and improvident of the community, and the least calculated to support a family, furnish by far the largest number of candidates for matrimony. The remaining reason is an unwillingness to assume the marriage relation.

It is safe to say that the human nature of to-day is, in no essential particular, different from that of generations back, and that it would, if not subjected to repressive influences, be likely to manifest its chief characteristic in the only way in which it can be legitimately shown. Where this natural tendency is interrupted, a positive loss results, which is none the less real or vital because it does not appear on the surface, and, as a consequence, escapes the notice of the superficial. This is not confined to the individual, but affects the

whole community. This subject is an important one, and is a prime factor in every branch of vital statistics. To those who are able to read numerical results, the picture, which is here only suggested, is an unpleasant one, and exhibits humanity in its weakest condition.

MONTHS.	Marriages.	Per cent.	MONTHS.	Marriages.	Per cent.
January . . . . .	365	9.40	July . . . . .	299	7.70
February . . . . .	354	9.12	August . . . . .	270	6.95
March . . . . .	135	3.48	September . . . . .	364	9.37
April . . . . .	290	7.47	October . . . . .	402	10.35
May . . . . .	345	8.89	November . . . . .	442	11.38
June . . . . .	386	9.94	December . . . . .	231	5.95
				3,883	100.00

Nearly 22 per cent. of the marriages occurred during the months of October and November. The fewest in any one month took place, as usual, in March, those in that month making only 3.47 of the whole number. The daily average of marriages was 10.64.



## IV. MARRIAGES.—BIRTHPLACES OF THE PARTIES.

BIRTHPLACES OF GROOMS.	BIRTHPLACES OF BRIDES.										Totals.	Per cent.
	Boston.	Mass.	Other States.	England and Wales.	Ireland.	Scotland.	British Am. Provinces.	Germany	Other foreign places.	Unknown.		
Boston . . . . .	214	90	81	13	50	2	31	2	5	.	488	12.57
Other places in the State . . . . .	136	146	124	15	28	3	37	2	.	.	491	12.64
Other States . . . . .	170	104	364	17	43	5	84	5	7	1	800	20.60
England and Wales .	26	17	18	61	38	4	33	1	5	.	203	5.23
Ireland . . . . .	93	32	20	18	772	7	54	.	2	.	998	25.70
Scotland . . . . .	8	2	4	8	15	12	15	.	.	1	65	1.67
British Am. Provinces	49	29	41	9	48	2	209	.	.	.	387	9.97
Germany . . . . .	19	6	10	10	21	.	10	149	10	.	235	6.05
Other foreign places .	21	4	18	6	14	.	10	11	132	.	216	5.57
Totals . . . . .	736	430	680	157	1029	35	483	170	161	2	3,883	. . .
Per cent. . . . .	18.96	11.07	17.51	4.04	26.50	.90	12.44	4.38	4.15	.05	. . .	100.00

It will be seen by the above table, that 54.18 per cent. of the grooms, and 52.43 of the brides, were foreign-born; and that 25.70 per cent. of the grooms, and 26.50 of the brides, were born in Ireland. The number of marriages, in which both parties were native-born, was only 1,429, or 36.80 per cent. of the whole number.

Of the native grooms, 19.66 per cent. married foreign brides; while 17.19 per cent. of the latter married native grooms. The number of marriages in which one or both parties were foreign-born was 2,454, making 63.20 per cent. of the whole number.

It will also be noticed that while the Irish population makes only about 23 per cent. of the whole population, the grooms of that nativity make about 26 per cent. of all the grooms.

## V. MARRIAGES.—AGES OF THE PARTIES.

AGES OF GROOMS.	AGES OF BRIDES.						Totals.	Per cent.
	Under 20.	20 to 25.	25 to 30.	30 to 40.	40 to 50.	50 to 60.		
Under 21 . . . . .	37	20	6	1	..	..	64	1.65
21 to 25 . . . . .	372	803	103	25	..	..	1,303	33.56
25 to 30 . . . . .	127	655	467	76	1	..	1,326	34.15
30 to 40 . . . . .	49	211	318	271	23	..	872	22.46
40 to 50 . . . . .	1	8	44	119	55	1	228	5.87
50 to 60 . . . . .	..	5	9	21	31	9	75	1.93
60 to 70 . . . . .	1	..	..	2	4	6	13	.33
Over 70 . . . . .	..	..	..	1	..	1	2	.05
Totals . . . . .	587	1,702	947	516	114	17	3,883	..
Per cent. . . . .	15.12	43.83	24.39	13.29	2.93	.44	..	100.00

It will be observed that 64 of the grooms (1.65 per cent.) were under 21 years of age. Six of these were united to brides between 25 and 30; and another married a bride who had passed her 30th year a considerable distance. Another groom, between 25 and 30, chose for his companion a bride who was rapidly nearing her half-centennial period.

The predilections of some of the older grooms are no less noteworthy than those of their juniors. It will be seen, that one venerable candidate for matrimony, of the ripe age of 63, married a maiden who lacked some months of reaching her 18th year. Another veteran, who was a considerable distance beyond his threescore years and ten, united himself to a bride between 30 and 40; while another, of the same mature age, contented himself with a wife who had passed the sober and sedate age of 50.

Eight minor grooms were united to minor brides — two of the former being 20, and two of the latter 15 years of age.



Another youth, of 17, married a spinster of 25; and still another, of the same age, was united to a bride of 21.

Of the grooms, two were 17 years of age; 27 of 19 years; and 35 of 20 years. Of the brides, one was only 14 years of age; 3 were 15; 21 of 16; and 69 of 17.

Of the grooms, 8.18 per cent. were above 40 years of age at the time of their marriage; and of the brides, 18.20 per cent. were above 30 years.

In 361 instances (9.30 per cent. of the whole number) the brides were older than the grooms.

VI. NUMBER OF TIMES MARRIED.

GROOMS.	BRIDES.			
	First.	Second.	Third.	Totals.
First marriage . . . . .	3,074	231	7	3,312
Second marriage . . . . .	313	203	6	522
Third marriage . . . . .	28	17	2	47
Fourth marriage . . . . .	1	1	..	2
Totals . . . . .	3,416	452	15	3,883

It will be seen, from this table, that seven inexperienced grooms had the courage to marry brides who had been twice widowed. No less than 28 grooms chose for their third wives spinsters; another, who had been three times bereaved, married a maiden; while still another, of like experience, contented himself with one who had but once before appeared in the matrimonial market.

The first marriages of males, and the first marriages of females, make 85.29 and 87.97 per cent. respectively of all the marriages.

The number of marriages of which both parties were colored was 82. The number of instances in which the grooms

were colored, and the brides white, was 26, making the whole number of colored grooms to be 108. It will thus be seen that the marriage rate of the colored population was 40.56 in a thousand; and, if the mixed marriages be considered as colored ones, the rate is 60 in a thousand.

The following table shows the occupations of 47.80 per cent. of all the grooms. It will be seen that seven or eight occupations or trades furnish nearly half of the whole number of grooms. Laborers, as usual, comprise by far the largest class, making 18.10 per cent. of all the grooms.

Laborers . . . . . 703	Machinists and B'smiths 161	Carpenters . . . . . 199
Clerks . . . . . 354	Mariners . . . . . 151	—
Merchants and Traders, 173	Teamsters . . . . . 115	1,856

Among the grooms were 20 physicians, 12 clergymen, and 7 lawyers. The residences of the grooms were: Boston, 3,317; other towns in the State, 380; other States, 186. Residences of brides: Boston, 3,522; other towns in the State, 218; other States, 143.

The number of certificates of Intentions of Marriage issued during the year was 4,549, an increase of 125, or 2.82 per cent. compared with the preceding year. It will be seen that the number of certificates issued exceeded the number of marriages recorded by 666. The largest portion of these missing certificates are doubtless recorded in other towns, where the marriages were solemnized; while some, used in other States, will, perhaps, escape registration altogether. A considerable number, however, do not appear in this report, on account of the culpable negligence of clergymen. Although the law requires that marriage returns shall be made to recording officers monthly, and notwithstanding this requirement is printed on each certificate, where it cannot escape notice, a large number of marriages are not sent



in for months after the time prescribed by statute. Of course these marriages do not appear on the returns furnished to the Secretary of State, which fact renders the State Registration Report, which is made up from such returns, defective to the extent of these omissions.

#### DEATHS.

There were 7,869 deaths in Boston during the year, — a decrease of 221 from the mortality of the preceding year. If the difference between the number of deaths from small-pox in 1872, and the number that occurred in 1873 (436) be considered in connection with the diminished mortality of the latter year, there will be the difference between 221 and 436 (215 deaths) in favor of the general mortality of 1872, compared with that of 1873.

According to the rate of increase of the population of the city, as shown by the State and National censuses of 1855, '60, '65, and '70, the population of Boston proper (including East and South Boston), January 1st, 1874, was 220,045; Roxbury, 42,775; Dorchester, 13,759; making an aggregate of 276,579. According to this estimate, the death-rate was 28.45 in a thousand, — a reduction in the general result of two in a thousand from that of the preceding year; but still sufficiently large to awaken concern. The death-rate throughout the Commonwealth is about 23 in a thousand. Although it is to be expected that large cities will exhibit a higher death-rate than is seen in small towns, it is evident that the present rate in Boston is excessive; and, with two or three exceptions, contrasts unfavorably with those of the last twenty years. Any conclusions, however, arrived at from comparisons between the mortality of populous cities and that of small towns would be far from satisfactory; as the circumstances in the one case would not be found in the other. In the first-named case, the mere aggregation of numbers involves unfavorable conditions from which the other is exempt. Besides



this, locality, soil, climate, etc., must be taken into the account in any consideration of the subject, and without which, no accurate results need be expected.

The average age of the male decedents during the past year was 23 years 10 months; that of the females, 25 years 2 months. The following table gives the average ages of eight classes of the population, and presents the facts in an interesting light:—

	Years.	Months.		Years.	Months.
Native, males . . . . .	26	11	B. A. Provinces, males .	11	4
“ females . . . . .	31	7	“ females	13	9
Irish, males . . . . .	23	6	German, males . . . . .	21	2
“ females . . . . .	19	3	“ females . . . . .	18	8
English, males . . . . .	25	. .	Other for. pl's, males .	21	1
“ females . . . . .	24	6	“ females	13	5
Scotch, males . . . . .	29	9	Colored, males . . . . .	22	4
“ females . . . . .	25	2	“ females . . . . .	27	11

It will be seen that the average age of the Scotch males exceeds that of any other class. The average age of native females was four and a half years higher than that of the native males. The average age of the colored females exceeds that of the males by five and a half years; and the average age of the females born in the British Provinces exceeds that of the males by nearly two years and a half. In each of the other five classes the average age of the males exceeds that of the females. It will also be noticed that the average age of the male decedents who were born in the British American Provinces was 11 years and 4 months, and of the females, 13 years and 9 months.

Another noticeable feature in the present report is the large number of colored decedents. There were 245 deaths from this class, an increase of 73 over the number of the pre-

ceding year. The colored population is not far from 3,600. According to this estimate there was 1 death to each 14.69 of the colored population, or at the rate of 68 in a thousand. In contrast with this is the mortality among the whites, which was in the ratio of 27.93 deaths in a thousand, or 1 death in each 35.80 persons living. Several interesting facts will be seen in the following: —

	Population.	Births.	Marriages.	Deaths.
		No living to one Birth.	No. living to one Marriage.	No. living to one Death.
White . . . . .	272,979	28.57	36.16	35.80
Colored . . . . .	3,600	27.27	16.66	14.69

There were 26 couples married, the grooms being colored, and the brides white, which are embraced among the colored marriages in the above table. The low birth-rate, together with the high rate of the marriages and deaths of the colored population, compared with those of the whites, are striking. It will be seen that among that class there was one marriage to every 16.66 persons, and that one in every 14.69 died.

Of the male decedents, 1,139 were married at the time of death, and 93 were widowers. Of the former, 689, and of the latter, 47, were foreign-born. Of the female decedents, 930 were married, and 549 were widows. Of the former, 610, and of the latter, 324, were foreign-born. It will thus be seen, that 30 per cent. of the male decedents, and 39.23 per cent. of the female were, or had been, married at the time of their decease. It will be further noticed, that while only 2.27 per cent. of the males were widowers, no less than 14.32 per cent. of the female decedents were widows.

The number and percentage of the deaths in each quarter, compared with a similar statement of the preceding year, are given in the following: —



QUARTERS.	1873.				1872.			
	Males.	Females.	Totals.	Per cent.	Males.	Females.	Totals.	Per cent.
January—March . . . . .	1,127	988	2,115	26.88	839	858	20.97	. .
April—June . . . . .	906	820	1,726	21.93	928	849	21.97	. .
July—September . . . . .	1,203	1,075	2,278	28.95	1,335	1,176	31.04	. .
October—December . . . . .	863	887	1,750	22.24	1,115	990	26.02	. .
	4,099	3,770	7,869	100.00	4,217	3,873	100.00	. .

It will be seen that the mortality during the first quarter was nearly 6 per cent. greater than that of the same period of the preceding year. The percentage during the second quarter was nearly the same in both years; while in the third and fourth quarters the mortality of 1872 exceeded that of 1873 by about 2 per cent. in the first-named period, and 4 per cent. in the last.

## VII. BIRTHPLACES OF DECEDENTS.

	Males.	Females.	Totals.	Per Cent.
Boston . . . . .	2,026	1,855	3,881	49.32
Other places in the State . . . . .	386	321	707	8.98
Remainder of New England . . . . .	312	278	590	7.50
Other States] . . . . .	117	103	220	2.80
England and Wales . . . . .	99	77	176	2.24
Ireland . . . . .	782	836	1,618	20.56
Scotland . . . . .	25	13	38	.48
British American Provinces . . . . .	165	180	345	4.38
Germany and North Europe . . . . .	113	64	177	2.25
Other foreign places . . . . .	55	32	87	1.11
Unknown . . . . .	19	11	30	.38
Totals . . . . .	4,099	3,770	7,869	100.00



The above table shows that 68.79 per cent. of the decedents (including half of those whose birthplaces were unknown) were native-born, an increase of nearly one per cent. Those born in Ireland make nearly 66 per cent. of all who were foreign-born, an increase of nearly two per cent. The female decedents of Irish birth, and those born in the British Provinces, exceed the males in each instance, — in the first by 54, and in the latter by 15. In each of the other classes the male decedents exceed the female.

## VIII. DEATHS. — PARENTAGE.

BIRTHPLACES OF PARENTS.	1873.		1872.	
	Deaths.	Per Cent.	Deaths.	Per Cent.
Boston . . . . .	440	5.59	425	5.25
Other places in the State . . . . .	645	8.19	680	8.40
Remainder of New England . . . . .	742	9.43	752	9.30
Other States . . . . .	257	3.26	252	3.12
England and Wales . . . . .	353	4.49	328	4.05
Ireland . . . . .	3,808	48.39	3,875	47.89
Scotland . . . . .	126	1.60	128	1.58
British Provinces . . . . .	453	5.76	484	6.00
Germany and North Europe . . . . .	446	5.67	412	5.09
Other foreign places . . . . .	207	2.64	319	3.94
Unknown . . . . .	392	4.98	435	5.38
Totals . . . . .	7,869	100.00	8,090	100.00

It will be seen by the above table, that a little less than 29 per cent. of the decedents (including half of those of unknown parentage) were of native parentage. Those of Irish parentage make 48.39 per cent. of the whole number, and 68.13 per cent. of all of foreign parentage. The table also shows that the same preponderance of the foreign element existed in the preceding year. Indeed, the same result has been

presented for a series of years past, and indicates very plainly the nature and extent of the transformation that is taking place in the character of the population. It is very easy to understand what would have been the feeling, nay, consternation, of the native Bostonian of a generation back, if he had been told of the great change that would take place in his idol city in a single generation, a change which statistical tables make very familiar, though in the most unemotional manner.

In this connection, the following comparative statement of the births and deaths will be found interesting: —

	1873.				1872.			
	Births.	Per Ct.	Deaths.	Per Ct.	Births.	Per Ct.	Deaths.	Per Ct.
Foreign fathers . .	6,593	68.05	5,589	71.03	6,224	67.14	5,764	71.25
American fathers .	3,095	31.95	2,280	28.97	3,046	32.86	2,326	28.75
	9,688	100.00	7,869	100.00	9,270	100.00	8,090	100.00

The nativity of the fathers recorded as unknown in Table I. is equally divided in the above table. It will be seen that the records of both years are nearly identical.

The facts above exhibited are the same as those always witnessed, viz., that a high birth-rate is invariably followed by a corresponding death-rate. On such a subject, it is easy to speculate; and while it may be deemed satisfactory to some that it is affirmed that of a given number added to the living population a certain part will inevitably die, there are others who hesitate to admit the *necessity* of the fact. There may be no such necessity, indeed, except that depending on local or easily ascertained causes; but the *fact* itself is no less true and obvious.

It will be seen that the decedents of foreign parentage were 3 per cent. in excess of the births of the same nativity; and that the births of children of native parentage were 2 per cent. in excess of the deaths of that class.



IX. DEATHS IN EACH MONTH. — SEX AND AGE.

MONTHS.	Under 1.		1 to 5.		5 to 10.		10 to 15.		15 to 20.		20 to 30.		30 to 40.		40 to 50.		50 to 60.		60 to 70.		70 to 80.		80 to 90.		Over 90.		Total.		
	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	
January . . . . .	81	58	53	48	19	17	9	7	18	26	104	48	69	36	38	33	22	26	24	26	11	20	1	6	1	6	3	450	354
February . . . . .	69	69	38	60	14	15	5	7	17	7	55	23	32	29	19	20	20	16	15	21	14	18	10	10	4	4	3	312	298
March . . . . .	89	63	61	49	18	21	11	13	16	17	45	46	29	35	30	20	30	30	12	18	17	11	4	12	3	1	365	336	
April . . . . .	71	68	47	52	16	18	6	4	10	11	40	45	33	34	24	22	27	25	13	17	13	11	7	9	1	.	308	316	
May . . . . .	70	48	48	39	15	10	8	6	7	9	39	31	33	29	33	25	25	19	12	8	11	8	6	8	.	.	311	253	
June . . . . .	68	61	41	37	9	12	4	10	11	10	38	26	33	24	18	14	32	20	14	15	14	14	5	5	.	3	287	251	
July . . . . .	176	123	54	71	19	8	8	7	16	9	35	28	22	37	23	26	24	19	22	13	8	18	4	10	1	.	412	369	
August . . . . .	190	151	76	62	15	4	1	6	13	11	34	24	29	27	27	30	19	22	19	18	12	18	7	15	1	1	443	389	
September . . . . .	115	110	62	49	14	7	5	4	10	9	46	30	22	27	31	27	13	14	13	20	12	11	5	6	.	3	348	317	
October . . . . .	77	61	42	45	6	6	1	9	9	15	26	39	37	36	25	27	17	17	20	11	11	16	2	4	.	2	273	238	
November . . . . .	57	59	53	41	17	12	3	5	6	10	41	37	29	22	21	23	24	18	25	20	14	23	6	10	.	2	296	282	
December . . . . .	62	70	50	45	9	17	5	5	8	9	31	39	33	33	24	29	26	20	25	25	16	15	4	10	1	.	294	317	
Totals . . . . .	1125	941	625	598	171	147	66	83	141	143	534	416	401	369	313	296	279	252	221	216	150	186	61	105	12	18	4099	3770	
Per Cent. . . . .	27.45	25.00	15.25	15.86	4.17	3.90	1.61	2.20	3.44	3.80	13.03	11.00	9.78	9.79	7.64	7.85	6.80	6.68	6.39	5.73	3.66	4.93	1.49	2.78	.63	.48	100.00		

It will be seen by the above, that more than half of the decedents (26.25 per cent.) were under one year, and that 41.80 per cent. did not reach their fifth year. The small number that died between 5 and 10 (467 — 5.94 per cent.), — as is always the case, — is indicative of open air and exercise. The number of decedents under 20 years of age made 51.34 per cent. of all who died, the same as the preceding year. It will be noticed that only in five of the divisional periods, the female decedents exceeded the male, viz., between 10 and 15, 15 and 20, 70 and 80, 80 and 90, and over the latter age. Between 70 and 100, the excess was 86. There were 184 more male decedents under one year than female; 118 more between 20 and 30, and 57 between 50 and 60. There was one female who was over 100 years at the time of death. The whole number of decedents over 50 years of age was 1,500, 19 per cent. of all who died.

The following table gives the number, parentage, and percentage of the decedents under 15 years of age: —

PARENTAGE.	1 day.		1 d. to 6 m.		6m. to 12m.		1 to 5 yrs.		5 to 10.		10 to 15.		Per Cent.	
	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.
Native . . . .	23	16	233	170	99	76	141	140	46	29	15	18	28.03	25.38
Foreign . . . .	52	44	443	398	275	237	484	458	125	118	51	65	71.97	74.62
Totals . . . .	75	60	676	568	374	313	625	598	171	147	66	83		
Per Cent. . . .	3.78	3.39	34.02	32.11	18.82	17.70	31.45	33.80	8.61	8.31	3.32	4.69	100.00	100.00

The number of decedents under 15 years of age was 3,756, making 47.73 per cent. of the whole number who died. No less than 135, 3.59 per cent., died on the day of their birth; 1,244, 33.12 per cent., were between one day and six



months; 687, 18.29 per cent., between six months and one year; 1,223, 32.56 per cent., between one year and five. The children of foreign parentage number 2,750, making 73.22 per cent. of all the decedents under 15 years of age. According to sex, 71.97 per cent. of the males, and 74.62 per cent. of the females, were of foreign parentage.

## X. FOREIGN-BORN DECEDENTS ABOVE FIFTEEN YEARS OF AGE.

AGES.	Total Deaths.	BIRTHPLACES.						Totals.	Per Ct.
		Ireland.	England & Wales.	Scotland.	British Am. Provinces.	Germany.	Other foreign places.		
15 to 20 . . . . .	284	43	25	1	37	10	9	125	44.00
20 to 30 . . . . .	950	298	35	8	114	30	27	482	50.74
30 to 40 . . . . .	770	317	35	6	78	27	21	484	62.86
40 to 50 . . . . .	609	278	26	9	40	31	7	391	64.20
50 to 60 . . . . .	531	258	18	6	19	27	4	332	62.52
60 to 70 . . . . .	437	179	21	5	15	20	6	246	56.29
70 to 80 . . . . .	336	135	7	2	5	14	2	165	49.11
80 to 90 . . . . .	166	45	3	.	2	6	3	59	35.54
Over 90 . . . . .	30	14	.	.	.	1	.	15	50.00
Totals . . . . .	4,113	1,537	170	37	310	166	79	2,299	
Per Cent. . . . .	52.27	37.83	4.18	.91	7.63	4.08	1.94	55.90	

The first column of figures gives the total number of decedents above fifteen years of age; the last column but one the number of those who were foreign-born. The last two horizontal columns give the number and percentage of the deaths according to nativity. It will be seen that in only three of the divisional periods embraced in the above table (those between 15 and 20, 70 and 80, and 80 and 90, was the percentage of the foreign-born decedents less than that

of the native-born. In the three decennial periods between 30 and 60, the difference in favor of the native element was very great. Of the thirty who were over 90 years of age at the time of death, half were native-born, while fourteen of the remainder were born in Ireland.



XI. CAUSES OF DEATH.

Totals.	MALES.												FEMALES.													
	Dec.	Nov.	October.	Sept.	August.	July.	June.	May.	April.	March.	Feb.	Jan.	Jan.	Feb.	March.	April.	May.	June.	July.	August.	Sept.	October.	Nov.	Dec.	Totals.	
	CAUSES OF DEATH.																									
15	3	1	2	1	1	1	1	2	2	2	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	8
170	11	19	14	16	15	18	14	23	9	9	10	12	5	3	4	2	1	5	6	2	3	2	4	4	35	
11	2	2	..	..	2	2	1	..	..	1	..	1	1	1	..	1	2	1	1	1	..	..	..	..	8	
32	3	..	7	..	1	7	4	7	1	..	1	1	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	..	..	1	1	..	3	
1	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	..	..	..	..	1	1	1	2	1	..	2	..	..	1	..	..	9	
4	2	..	..	..	..	..	1	..	..	..	..	1	1	..	..	..	1	1	1	1	..	..	..	..	4	
54	6	7	3	3	5	5	4	3	3	7	4	4	6	6	6	6	4	3	5	4	4	6	6	9	65	
5	..	2	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	1	..	1	1	1	1	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	..	1	4	
10	2	1	1	3	1	1	1	1	..	..	..	..	1	..	..	1	1	..	..	1	..	..	..	1	5	
180	10	13	8	20	22	20	16	18	13	19	13	17	15	19	17	14	11	12	14	7	6	13	7	17	152	
41	3	4	2	3	3	3	3	3	4	1	8	4	2	7	2	2	4	..	4	1	1	..	3	2	28	
104	16	8	12	5	4	7	8	7	8	14	6	9	6	7	9	10	12	7	3	5	2	4	11	16	92	
9	..	1	1	..	2	1	2	1	..	1	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	
50	6	6	2	3	5	5	3	7	3	2	1	7	11	4	10	8	5	9	5	9	7	7	7	9	91	
..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	
3	..	..	..	..	1	1	1	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	
320	2	4	21	55	141	96	6	2	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	13	72	121	60	16	3	1	287		

















*Accidents.* — The number of deaths from casualties, it will be seen, was 268, or 3.40 per cent. of the whole mortality. The deaths from the same causes, during the preceding year, made 3.53 per cent. of the mortality of the same period. The reported forms and nature of the casualties, so far as they could be readily obtained, are seen in the following: —

	No. of Deaths.		No. of Deaths.
On railroads . . . . .	42	Run over by vehicles . . . . .	6
“ horse railroads . . . . .	6	Caught in machinery . . . . .	5
Drowned . . . . .	35	Gunshots . . . . .	3
Scalded . . . . .	12	Poisoned by laudanum . . . . .	2
Sunstroke . . . . .	8	“ “ arsenic . . . . .	3
Burned . . . . .	7	“ “ liquid ammonia . . . . .	1
Fell from buildings . . . . .	11	“ “ tincture of iodine . . . . .	1
“ “ windows . . . . .	10	“ “ vitriol . . . . .	1
“ “ stagings . . . . .	6	“ “ chloroform . . . . .	1
“ down stairs . . . . .	5	Suffocated by gas . . . . .	2
“ on sidewalk . . . . .	3	“ “ bean in throat . . . . .	1
“ from ladders . . . . .	3	“ “ bedclothes . . . . .	1
“ “ teams . . . . .	2	“ in burning house . . . . .	1
“ “ railroad cars . . . . .	2	“ overlaid . . . . .	1
“ “ elevator . . . . .	2	“ unknown . . . . .	1
“ “ barber's pole . . . . .	1	From blasting . . . . .	2
“ “ vessel's rigging . . . . .	1	“ frostbite . . . . .	2
“ into “ hold . . . . .	1	“ wrestling . . . . .	1
“ “ well . . . . .	1	“ exposure . . . . .	1
“ on head . . . . .	1	“ bursting of grindstone . . . . .	1
“ through scuttle . . . . .	1	“ “ “ fly-wheel . . . . .	1
“ “ hatchway . . . . .	1	“ explosion of boiler . . . . .	1
“ “ skylight . . . . .	1	Crushed by iron post . . . . .	1
By fall of buildings . . . . .	2	“ “ driving under a shed . . . . .	1
“ “ “ earth . . . . .	2	Hæm., from bite of tongue . . . . .	1
“ “ “ plank . . . . .	2	Thrown from buggy . . . . .	1
“ “ “ walls . . . . .	4	Struck by wagon . . . . .	1
“ “ “ stone . . . . .	2	Fractures of limbs, spine, etc. . . . .	21
“ “ “ bale of cotton . . . . .	1	Various . . . . .	26
“ “ “ beam . . . . .	1		
“ “ “ brick . . . . .	1		
			268

It will be seen that 17.90 per cent. of the deaths from accidental causes occurred on railroads (including six on horse railroads), and 13 per cent. of them were from drowning.

*Brain, Diseases of.*—The number of deaths thus designated, was 410, 5.21 per cent. of the whole mortality. Those reported as "meningitis" and "congestion of brain," are embraced in the enumeration.

*Bronchitis.*—The number of deaths thus designated was 196, a decrease of 4, making 2.49 per cent. of the whole mortality. The following table exhibits the number of deaths from bronchitis in each of 16 years, beginning with 1854. There were no deaths reported from this cause in 1855. This may be accounted for from the fact that physicians' certificates were not then required, and this particular disease may not have readily suggested itself to those making the returns. In 1860 and 1861, the City Registrar was unable, from want of time, to issue his annual report. It will be seen that the mortality from this cause during the first five years offers a strong contrast to that of the following eleven:—

1854 . . . . . 10	1859 . . . . . 18	1865 . . . . . 96	1869 . . . . . 146
1856 . . . . . 7	1862 . . . . . 104	1866 . . . . . 116	1870 . . . . . 163
1857 . . . . . 20	1863 . . . . . 110	1867 . . . . . 134	1871 . . . . . 156
1858 . . . . . 9	1864 . . . . . 122	1868 . . . . . 153	1872 . . . . . 200

*Cancer.*—There were 141 deaths reported from this cause, an increase of 34 compared with the preceding year. The ages of the decedents, with the local manifestations of the disease, so far as they could be ascertained, are given in the following:—



	Age.		Age.		Age.		Age.
<i>Males.</i>		Not ascertained	61	Breast . . . .	46	Stomach . . . .	67
Back . . . . .	50	"	58	" . . . .	47	" . . . .	53
Bladder . . . . .	56	"	65	" . . . .	51	" . . . .	49
" . . . . .	54	"	42	" . . . .	46	" . . . .	53
" . . . . .	65	"	43	Breast & bow'ls	68	Uterus . . . . .	39
Bowels . . . . .	46	"	68	Chest . . . . .	50	" . . . . .	54
" . . . . .	57	"	63	" . . . . .	58	" . . . . .	50
" . . . . .	51	"	70	Face . . . . .	77	" . . . . .	37
" . . . . .	67	"	63	" . . . . .	54	" . . . . .	46
Brain . . . . .	55	"	67	Jaw . . . . .	58	" . . . . .	44
Head and face .	20	"	62	Jaw & eye . . .	51	" . . . . .	39
Jaw . . . . .	70	"	67	Liver . . . . .	75	" . . . . .	43
Liver . . . . .	40	"	47	" . . . . .	73	" . . . . .	46
" . . . . .	50	"	49	" & bowels	56	" . . . . .	57
" . . . . .	52			" & uterus	51	" . . . . .	41
" . . . . .	11	Total males .	50	Mouth . . . . .	81	" . . . . .	44
" . . . . .	62	<i>Females.</i>		Ovary . . . . .	68	" . . . . .	45
" . . . . .	48	Arm . . . . .	55	Pelvis . . . . .	38	" . . . . .	40
" . . . . .	65	Bowels . . . . .	62	Rectum . . . . .	57	" . . . . .	47
" . . . . .	36	" . . . . .	20	" . . . . .	61	" . . . . .	60
Lung . . . . .	9	" . . . . .	28	" . . . . .	37	" . . . . .	71
Mouth . . . . .	69	" . . . . .	63	" . . . . .	66	" . . . . .	27
" . . . . .	74	" . . . . .	34	Side . . . . .	40	" . . . . .	40
" . . . . .	73	" . . . . .	68	Stomach . . . . .	62	" . . . . .	61
Neck . . . . .	67	" . . . . .	64	" . . . . .	56	" . . . . .	40
" . . . . .	35	Breast . . . . .	52	" . . . . .	54	" . . . . .	66
Stomach . . . . .	64	" . . . . .	76	" . . . . .	38	Not ascertained	58
" . . . . .	54	" . . . . .	44	" . . . . .	73	" . . . . .	41
" . . . . .	69	" . . . . .	50	" . . . . .	48	" . . . . .	64
" . . . . .	55	" . . . . .	51	" . . . . .	46	" . . . . .	68
" . . . . .	36	" . . . . .	60	" . . . . .	43	" . . . . .	60
Testes . . . . .	56	" . . . . .	62	" . . . . .	75	" . . . . .	46
Throat . . . . .	63	" . . . . .	35	" . . . . .	55	" . . . . .	72
" . . . . .	27	" . . . . .	54	" . . . . .	58	" . . . . .	24
Tongue . . . . .	35	" . . . . .	44	" . . . . .	60	" . . . . .	69
" . . . . .	51	" . . . . .	33	" . . . . .	68	Total females	91
Not ascertained	59						

*Chol. Infantum, Diarrhœa, Dysentery.* — There were 801 deaths from these causes during the year, making 10.18 per cent. of the whole mortality, but showing a decrease of 170 deaths compared with the preceding year. The number of deaths from cholera infantum was 126 less than that of the year before. There were 262 deaths from this disease in the month of August, showing a daily average of 8.45 deaths. In the month of July, 1872, there were 327 deaths from the same cause, exhibiting a daily average of 10.55 deaths. Nearly 57 per cent. of the mortality from these diseases, occurred in Wards 1, 2, 7, 12 and 15. Of the 97 deaths in ward 7, 74 were in that part of the ward lying in South Boston, which, with the deaths in ward 12, make the percentage in that portion of the city to be 21.35. There were 12 deaths at No. 102 Portland street. This house is known as a boarding-place for children, and those brought there are of that class who, of all others, are the least able to resist disease.

*Cholera Morbus.* — The number of deaths thus designated was 39, including three reported as cholera, — 19 males and 20 females. The wards, streets, and numbers where the deaths occurred are given in the following table. Those marked with an asterisk (\*) were reported as cholera; those marked † indicate two deaths in the house.

Ward 1.	63 Brighton.	83 Seventh.	33 Dove.
191 Marion st.	10 Bridge-st. ct.†	2 Utica pl.	103 “
160 Saratoga.	81 Brighton.	Lally's bl'k, 3d st.	Cor. I and First.
145 Chelsea.	Ward 4.	Ward 8.	Ward 13.
Ward 2.	37 Travers.	97 Albany.	20 Webber.
354 Commercial.	20 Crescent pl.	13 Pleasant.	Ward 14.
516 “	Ward 5.	Ward 9.	18 Belmont.
119 North.	5 Wharf.*	24 Wheeler.	666 Shawmut av.
174 North.*	136 Kingston.	Ward 11.	Ward 15.
162 Endicott.	Ward 6.	581 Shawmut av.	45 Heath.* †
5 Carter place.	4 Mt. Vernon.	8 E. Lenox.	15 Mindora.
Ward 3.	Ward 7.	Ward 12.	4 Amory.
42 Auburn.	27 Oneida.†	517 Eighth.	



*Consumption.* — The number of deaths from this disease was 1,194, — 568 males, and 626 females, — an increase of 33 compared with the preceding year, and making 15.17 per cent. of the entire mortality. This is in the ratio of one death from this cause to 6.59 deaths from all other causes, and exhibits a daily average of 3.27 deaths. There was an increase of deaths in the first and third quarters, the percentage in the first-named period being 27.64, and the last, 24.12. The percentages in the second and fourth were 24.54 and 23.70, respectively.

The birthplaces of the decedents are seen in the following :

Birthplaces.	Males.	Females.	Totals.	Per cent.
United States . . . . .	209	229	438	36.68
England . . . . .	18	10	28	2.34
Ireland . . . . .	199	229	428	35.85
Scotland . . . . .	3	2	5	.42
British American Provinces . . . . .	29	51	80	6.70
Germany . . . . .	29	14	43	3.60
Other foreign places . . . . .	7	6	13	1.09
Children of foreign parents . . . . .	74	85	159	13.32
	568	626	1,194	100.00

It will be seen by the above, that 63.32 per cent. of the decedents from consumption (including children of foreign parentage under 15 years of age) were foreign-born. This is an increase of 2.32 per cent. in the mortality compared with the year before. Those born in Ireland make nearly 36 per cent. of the whole number, and 56.61 per cent. of those who were foreign-born. The number of deaths in each ward, and in the various hospitals, are seen in the following table : —

Wards.	Deaths.	Per Ct.	Wards.	Deaths.	Per Ct.	Public Institutions.	Deaths.	Per Ct.
1 . . .	91	7.62	9 . . .	43	3.60	Consumptives' Home	69	5.78
2 . . .	121	10.13	10 . . .	73	6.11	City Hospital . . .	37	3.10
3 . . .	59	4.94	11 . . .	47	3.94	Mass. Gen. Hospital	20	1.68
4 . . .	37	3.10	12 . . .	80	6.70	Carney Hospital . .	18	1.51
5 . . .	40	3.35	13 . . .	27	2.26	St. Ann's Inf. Asyl'm	15	1.26
6 . . .	32	2.68	14 . . .	30	2.51	Deer Island . . . .	8	.67
7 . . .	161	13.48	15 . . .	53	4.44	Rainsford Island . .	7	.59
8 . . .	42	3.52	16 . . .	49	4.10	Other places . . . .	35	2.93
				985	82.48		209	17.52

As usual, the largest mortality from this disease occurred in Ward 7, no less than 13.48 per cent. of the deaths falling to the share of that ward. Ward 2 furnishes the next largest number, the mortality in the two localities making 23.62 per cent. of all the deaths from this disease. In 1872, 26.62 per cent. of the deaths occurred in those wards. Of the 161 deaths in Ward 7, 123 were in the South Boston portion of the ward; these, added to the deaths in Ward 12, make the deaths from consumption in South Boston to be 17 per cent. of the whole number. It will also be seen that 72 per cent. of the deaths from this disease, in South Boston, occurred in streets south of Broadway, embracing the territory beginning at Dorchester avenue, and extending to Dorchester street. The deaths in the various hospitals make 17.52 per cent. of the whole mortality from consumption. These cases properly belong to the various wards, and would, if they were thus distributed, affect the percentage in those localities to that extent.

The ages of the decedents from consumption, with the percentages in each division of ages, are seen in the following:—



Ages.	Under 1.		1 to 5.		5 to 15.		15 to 20.		20 to 30.		30 to 40.		40 to 50.		Over 50.	
	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.
Deaths. . . .	22	25	20	20	10	26	48	59	164	188	134	128	76	98	94	82
Per Cent. . . .	3.87	4.00	3.52	3.18	1.76	4.15	8.45	9.43	28.88	30.03	23.59	20.45	13.38	15.06	16.55	13.10

From the above it appears that 52.46 per cent. of the male and 50.48 per cent. of the female decedents died between 20 and 40 years of age. Between 40 and 50, the females exceeded the males by nearly 2 per cent., and over 50, the males exceed the females by nearly 2 1-2 per cent.

The following table gives only those instances in which there were more than one male decedent of the same occupation. There were 86 others of as many different occupations, and 83 with none, embracing 52 children under 15 years of age.

Laborers. . . . .	120	Waiters. . . . .	8	Blacksmiths . . . .	3	Clergymen . . . . .	2
Clerks . . . . .	35	Painters . . . . .	6	Plumbers . . . . .	3	Hostlers . . . . .	2
Carpenters . . . .	21	Physicians . . . . .	5	Coachmen . . . . .	3	Engineers. . . . .	2
Traders . . . . .	20	Porters . . . . .	5	Barbers . . . . .	3	Bookbinders . . . .	2
Mariners . . . . .	19	Bartenders . . . . .	5	Bdg-housekeepers	3	Organ builders . . .	2
Teamsters . . . . .	18	Marbleworkers . . .	5	Carvers . . . . .	3	Policemen . . . . .	2
Tailors . . . . .	12	Farmers, etc. . . . .	5	Moulders . . . . .	2	Druggists. . . . .	2
Shoemakers . . . .	12	Masons . . . . .	4	Expressmen . . . . .	2	Saloonkeepers . . .	2
Machinists. . . . .	10	Brass-finishers . . .	4	Butchers. . . . .	2	Stewards . . . . .	2
Printers . . . . .	9	Upholsterers . . . .	4	Glasscutters . . . .	2	Cigarmakers . . . .	2
Coopers . . . . .	8	Merchants . . . . .	3	Hackmen . . . . .	2		—
Cabinetmakers. . .	8	Stonecutters . . . .	3	Musicians . . . . .	2		399

The class who stand at the head of the above list make no less than 21.13 per cent. of the whole number of male decedents from consumption. When it is remembered that the employments of this numerous class lead them to the



most unfavorable localities, and that they are compelled to occupy the most unsuitable habitations, superadded to which are improper diet and insufficient clothing, accompanied by a characteristic absence of personal prudence and carefulness, it cannot be a matter of surprise that this class should furnish so large a number of victims to consumption.

Clerks form the next numerous class, furnishing 6.16 per cent. of all the male consumptives. Carpenters, mariners, and teamsters severally exceed shoemakers and tailors, two numerous classes, who, from their sedentary employments, might be supposed to be peculiarly liable to attacks from phthisis.

*Croup and Diphtheria.* — The number of deaths reported from these causes, was 119, — 59 from the former, and 60 from the latter, — an increase of 25 compared with the preceding year.

*Diarrhœa and Dysentery.* — The number of deaths thus reported was 185 (128 of the first and 57 of the last named disease), making 2.35 per cent. of all the deaths. The mortality in the several wards and hospitals is given below: —

Wards.	Deaths.	Wards.	Deaths.	Wards.	Deaths.	Wards.	Deaths.
1 . . . . .	12	5 . . . . .	7	9 . . . . .	6	13 . . . . .	6
2 . . . . .	17	6 . . . . .	4	10 . . . . .	10	14 . . . . .	2
3 . . . . .	8	7 . . . . .	37	11 . . . . .	8	15 . . . . .	13
4 . . . . .	3	8 . . . . .	6	12 . . . . .	20	16 . . . . .	2

There were 5 deaths in the City Hospital; 4 in the Massachusetts; 3 at Deer Island; and 12 in other institutions. It will be observed that 59 per cent. of the deaths occurred in Wards 1, 2, 7, 10, 12 and 15. Of the number who died in Ward 7 (20 per cent. of the decedents from these causes) 29 died in the South Boston portion of the ward. Over 26.48 per cent. of the deaths from these causes occurred in South Boston.



*Fever, Scarlet.* — The present record shows that this disease was very prevalent during the year. The number that died was 474, an increase of 216 over the number recorded in the preceding year. The deaths from this cause make 6 per cent. of the entire mortality. The birthplaces of the decedents were: United States, 444 (337 of these were children of foreign parentage); 9 born in Ireland; 12 in England; 4 in the British Provinces; 1 in Germany, and 4 in other foreign places. The ages of the decedents are given in the following: —

	Under 1.	1 to 2.	2 to 3.	3 to 5.	5 to 10.	10 to 15.	15 to 20.	20 to 30.	30 to 40.	50 to 60.	Total.
Males . . . . .	17	39	41	70	52	9	. .	4	2	2	236
Females . . . . .	15	43	41	72	50	11	2	2	2	. .	238

No less than 59.70 per cent. of the deaths from this cause occurred in Wards 2, 7, 12 and 15. Only 14 per cent. of the deaths took place in Wards 4, 5, 8, 9, 13 and 16. Of the whole number of deaths in Ward 7 all but 14 were in South Boston. The mortality in this part of the city, therefore, makes 26.79 per cent. of the whole mortality from this disease. The locality where each death occurred will be seen in Table XIV.

*Fever, Typhoid.* — The number of deaths reported from this cause was 243, an increase of 14 over the number recorded in 1872, making a little over 3 per cent. of the whole mortality. The number of deaths in Wards 1, 2, 7, 12 and 15, make 48.15 per cent. of the whole number of deaths from this disease. All but two deaths in Ward 7 occurred in the South Boston portion of that ward, which, with those occurring in Ward 12, make 17.69 per cent. of the whole number of deaths from this cause. There were but three



deaths in each of Wards 3, 5 and 6; 5 in Ward 4; 6 in Ward 14; 10 in each of Wards 11 and 16; and 11 in each of Wards 9, 10 and 13. There were 24 deaths in the City Hospital, and half that number in the Massachusetts General Hospital. The number of decedents in the various hospitals make 18.10 per cent. of the entire number. If these were distributed in the several wards, where they undoubtedly contracted the disease, the percentage in those places would be changed to that extent. Table XV. exhibits the localities in which the deaths occurred.

*Heart, Disease of.* — The number of deaths thus reported was 144, — 124 males and 120 females, — showing a decrease of 126 from the number reported in 1872. The instances in which the specific forms of the disease were given by physicians are exhibited in the following: —

Hypertrophy . . . 13	Valvular . . . . 10	Fatty degeneration 2	Carditis . . . . . 1
Pericarditis . . . 13	Angino Pectoris . 7	Enlargement . . . 1	Endocarditis . . . 1

*Malformations.* — The number of instances thus reported was 50, — 29 males and 21 females. The character of the malformations is indicated in the following: —

Cyanosis . . . . . 31	Spina Bifida . . . . 4	Inperf. Anus . . . 2	Urinary Organs . . . 1
Of heart . . . . . 4	Intestinal . . . . . 3	Of throat . . . . . 1	Unknown . . . . . 4

*Meningitis, Cerebro-sp.* — There were 216 deaths reported from this cause (2.75 per cent. of the whole mortality), an increase of 156 compared with the preceding year. The sexes of the decedents were equally divided. During the year 1872 the deaths from this cause were pretty evenly distributed throughout the year; but, in the past year, 67.59 per cent. of the mortality from this cause occurred in the months of March, April and May. It will be seen by Table



XVI. that 32.40 per cent. of the mortality from this disease occurred in Wards 1, 2 and 7, and only 16.66 per cent. in Wards 5, 6, 8, 9 and 16. The ages of the decedents are given below : —

	Under 5.	5 to 10.	10 to 15.	15 to 20.	20 to 30.	30 to 40.	40 to 50.	50 to 60.	60 to 70.	70 to 80.
Males . . . . .	47	16	11	6	11	10	3	4	..	..
Females . . . . .	40	21	8	8	11	8	1	7	3	1

*Small-Pox.* — The number of deaths from this disease was 302, a decrease of 436 compared with the preceding year. There were but 36 deaths from this cause subsequent to February, the last one occurring on the 15th of July. The deaths from this disease make 5.54 per cent. of the whole mortality. In the preceding year the percentage was 9.11. The following table gives the number of deaths in each ward. Those that occurred in the small-pox hospitals (147) are omitted : —

Wards.	Deaths.	Wards.	Deaths.	Wards.	Deaths.	Wards.	Deaths.
1 . . . . .	16	5 . . . . .	2	9 . . . . .	1	13 . . . . .	2
2 . . . . .	64	6 . . . . .	14	10 . . . . .	5	14 . . . . .	1
3 . . . . .	5	7 . . . . .	15	11 . . . . .	3	15 . . . . .	1
4 . . . . .	5	8 . . . . .	1	12 . . . . .	17	16 . . . . .	1

To Ward 2 is credited 14.68 per cent. of the deaths from this disease. The small number occurring in some of the other wards is doubtless accounted for by the removal of persons attacked by the disease to the hospitals.

*Pneumonia.* — There was a marked decrease in the mortality from this disease recorded in the preceding year. The

number of deaths was 463, making 5.88 per cent. of the whole number. In 1872, the deaths from pneumonia made 8 per cent. of the entire mortality. If those reported as congestion of the lungs (108) be embraced with the others, the combined mortality will make 7.26 per cent. of all the deaths.

*Premature Birth.* — The number of instances thus reported was 121,—an increase of 21. Regarding some of these cases, there was some doubt whether they should not be regarded as still-births, and omitted from the table; but as they were born alive, though respiring but a brief space, they were finally regarded as having formed a part of the living population and designated accordingly.

*Puerperal Diseases.* — The number of deaths from diseases attendant on childbirth was 100,—an increase of 28 compared with the year before. It is elsewhere stated in this report that of the whole number of females who died, 930 were married at the time of their deaths. It will thus be seen that one in 9.30 of this number died in childbirth, or from diseases incident to that condition. The specific forms of the diseases, and the ages of the decedents, were thus reported:—

	AGES.					
	18 to 20.	20 to 25.	25 to 30.	30 to 35.	35 to 40.	40 to 42.
Convulsions . . . . .	..	3	4	6	2	1
Exhaustion . . . . .	..	..	..	1	..	..
Hæmorrhage (uterine) ..	1	..	..	..	1	..
Metria . . . . .	1	2	13	10	6	..
Metritis . . . . .	1	5	15	9	7	2
Phlegmasia dolens . . . .	..	..	..	1	..	..
Rupture of uterus . . . .	..	1	..	..	..	..
Not ascertained . . . . .	..	1	2	2	3	..

*Suicides.* — The number of deaths thus reported was 32, — an increase of three, — 26 males and 6 females. The



modes adopted by the decedents to produce death are seen in the following table: —

Chloroform . . . . . 1	Hanging . . . . . 4	Poisoned . . . . . 7
Cut throat . . . . . 3	Jumped from window . . . 1	Shooting . . . . . 12
Crushed by R. R. cars . . . 1	Drowned . . . . . 2	Severed femoral artery . . 1

*Tumors.* — There were 27 deaths thus classed, — five males and 22 females. Their locations, with the ages of the decedents, are designated in the following: —

	Under 2 yrs.	13 to 15.	15 to 20.	20 to 25.	25 to 30.	30 to 35.	35 to 40.	40 to 45.	45 to 50.	50 to 55.	55 to 60.	70 to 75.
Abdominal . . . . .	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1
Brain . . . . .				1								
Breast . . . . .											1	
Eye . . . . .	1		1									
Jaw . . . . .					1							
Liver . . . . .					1							
Neck . . . . .			1									
Ovarian . . . . .					1	2			2	1		1
Stomach . . . . .		1										
Uterine . . . . .							1	1	2	1	1	1

*Tabes Mesenterica and Marasmus.* — The number of deaths designated by these two terms was 305 (265 of the former, and 40 of the latter), making 3.88 per cent of the whole mortality. There is too much reason to believe that the term "marasmus" is very frequently made to do duty as a sort of medical packhorse for all the doubtful diseases that cannot be readily disposed of otherwise, when convenience renders it advisable to impose the burden.

The death in the wards and public institutions are given in the following : —

Wards.	Deaths.	Per Ct.	Wards.	Deaths.	Per Ct.	Hospitals.	Deaths.	Per Ct.
1 . . .	610	7.75	9 . .	296	3.76	City Hospital . . . .	304	} 13.79
2 . . .	923	11.73	10 . .	335	4.26	Mass. Gen. Hospital .	188	
3 . . .	389	4.94	11 . .	333	4.23	St. Ann's Inf. Asylum	168	
4 . . .	218	2.77	12 . .	655	8.32	Consumptives' Home	69	
5 . . .	215	2.73	13 . .	231	2.94	Carney Hospital . . .	45	
6 . . .	289	3.67	14 . .	255	3.24	Deer Island . . . . .	42	
7 . . .	998	12.68	15 . .	527	6.70	House of Correction .	10	
8 . . .	243	3.09	16 . .	267	3.40	Other Institutions . .	259	
				6,784	86.21		1,085	

As usual, the largest mortality of any two wards occurred in Wards 2 and 7, though there was a diminished percentage compared with the preceding year. Wards 12, 1, and 15 follow in the order in which they are named, making the mortality in the five wards, which contain 45 per cent. of the population of the city, 47.19 per cent. of all the deaths. A strong contrast is offered to this statement by the mortality in Wards 4, 5, 8, 13, 14, 16. These last-named wards contain 27 per cent. of the population, while the deaths in those localities make only 18.16 per cent. of the entire mortality. The deaths in the hospitals make 13.79 per cent. of the whole number, an increase of nearly 3 per cent. It will be observed that there were no less than 168 deaths in St. Ann's Infant Asylum, an institution connected with the Carney Hospital. The decedents were mostly children under six months. These deaths make 2.14 per cent. of the whole mortality.



The following recapitulatory table gives the percentage of deaths from various classes of diseases : —

Deaths from.	Per Cent.	Deaths from.	Per Cent.
Accidents . . . . .	3.40	Dis. of organs of circulation . .	3.20
Miasmatic Diseases . . . . .	27.81	Diathetic Diseases . . . . .	2.83
Tubercular " . . . . .	21.58	Dis. of Urinary Organs . . . . .	2.16
Dis. of nervous system . . . . .	13.81	Puerperal Diseases . . . . .	1.30
" " respiratory organs . . . . .	10.34		
" " digestive " . . . . .	3.84		86.40

## XIII. DEATHS ON EACH DAY OF THE YEAR.

DAYS.	Jan.	Feb.	Mar.	Apr.	May.	June.	July.	Aug.	Sept.	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.
1 . . . .	36	16	28	31	19	16	23	36	22	21	22	20
2 . . . .	27	17	17	16	23	10	28	40	18	22	17	22
3 . . . .	35	22	19	22	15	17	28	40	19	23	14	19
4 . . . .	35	31	17	21	16	19	29	26	25	16	24	27
5 . . . .	25	20	18	19	26	30	19	29	37	26	20	23
6 . . . .	35	26	23	21	17	26	14	24	22	15	18	17
7 . . . .	21	26	29	21	24	16	19	25	18	14	19	17
8 . . . .	33	20	29	15	12	22	22	25	22	18	18	23
9 . . . .	26	19	26	23	16	16	15	36	17	16	17	29
10 . . . .	33	19	14	16	22	22	21	23	18	14	16	21
11 . . . .	28	24	21	24	18	21	15	24	22	19	21	19
12 . . . .	20	28	31	24	26	20	21	32	26	23	19	22
13 . . . .	21	14	25	28	18	16	23	25	22	18	17	18
14 . . . .	29	23	33	22	17	14	35	36	14	15	19	20
15 . . . .	24	27	20	17	8	10	39	24	24	22	21	14
16 . . . .	28	19	24	21	19	17	21	27	21	14	22	16
17 . . . .	31	27	26	23	21	19	26	22	30	22	24	17
18 . . . .	16	20	30	18	20	18	26	17	25	20	20	23
19 . . . .	20	17	24	26	16	19	23	19	18	25	16	11
20 . . . .	20	12	23	13	19	26	21	24	19	13	16	11
21 . . . .	24	25	22	16	14	19	26	28	21	16	19	19
22 . . . .	24	25	23	20	14	19	28	25	20	14	23	16
23 . . . .	24	26	16	15	19	11	21	28	25	18	18	15
24 . . . .	18	22	14	19	17	14	36	34	23	20	23	20
25 . . . .	20	8	18	22	14	13	31	18	26	21	31	21
26 . . . .	27	29	27	33	18	15	38	19	15	11	28	29
27 . . . .	30	22	28	23	15	16	29	24	21	16	11	12
28 . . . .	26	16	24	15	24	17	25	21	27	22	14	25
29 . . . .	19	..	16	15	21	25	18	23	27	11	14	23
30 . . . .	26	..	20	25	24	15	31	30	21	15	17	20
31 . . . .	23	..	16	..	12	..	30	28	..	21	..	22
	804	610	701	624	564	538	781	832	665	561	578	611



## XIV. SHOWING THE LOCALITIES OF THE DEATHS FROM SCARLATINA.

The figures enclosed in parentheses, in this and following tables, indicate the number of deaths in that house.

WARD 1.	60 Endicott.	42 Fleet.	406 Commercial.
155 Saratoga (2).	7 Stillman.	120 Prince.	5 Snowhill.
252 Havre.	170 Salem.	26 Webster avenue.	414 Commercial.
205 Saratoga.	42 Cross.	44 Fleet (2).	
6 Wilbur ct.	19 Clark, rear.	71 Salem.	WARD 3.
326 Border.	322 North.	45 Cross.	3 Elder.
1 Erin alley.	61 Charter.	9 Endicott ct.	30 Nashua.
157 Saratoga.	28 Prince.	282 Causeway.	4 Lovett pl.
3 Chelsea.	57 Snowhill.	42 Webster avenue.	4 Bridge ct.
107 Everett.	43 Fleet.	Hanover.	19 Sullivan.
25 Everett.	7 Unity (2).	164 Endicott.	57 Billerica.
107 Putnam.	6 Salutation.	100 Charlestown.	62 Nashua (2).
69 Cottage.	75 Charter.	462 Commercial.	8 Barton.
353 Princeton.	75 Prince.	282 Causeway.	50 Lowell.
6 Highland pl.	9 Salutation.	408 Commercial (2).	374 Charles.
Mav'k & Lamson.	2 Page's yard.	538 Commercial.	38 Billerica.
207 London.	62 No. Margin.	98 No. Margin.	211 Cambridge.
107 Brooks.	17 Clark.	7 Cleveland pl.	27 N. Anderson.
2 Paris ct.	149 Endicott.	1 Thacher.	28 Staniford pl.
184 Webster.	2 Keef's alley.	66 Prince.	79 Brighton.
49 Maverick.	420 Commercial.	2 Unity ct.	12 Eaton.
161 Paris.	7 Henschman.	4 Phipps pl.	12 Minot.
	338 Commercial.	16 Cross, rear (3).	27 N. Anderson.
WARD 2.	15 Langdon pl.	381 Hanover.	
157 North.	41 No. Margin.	55 Hull (2).	WARD 4.
41 Sheafe.	26 Battery.	2 Jenkins pl.	88 Merrimac.
412 Hanover.	374 North.	62 Nashua.	88 Chardon.
23 Morton.	341 North.	187 North.	50 S. Margin.
244 North.	342 North.	1 No. Margin.	80 Chardon.
30 Fleet.	63 Prince, rear.	2 Lombard pl.	67 Pitts.
350 Hanover.	31 Tileston.	160 Endicott.	59 S. Margin (2).
6 Chessman pl.	164 Prince (3).	2 Jenkins pl.	7 Merrimac.
9 Bennet pl.	562 Commercial.	21 Prince.	1 Cusson pl.
18 Moon, rear.	65 Charter.	196 Salem.	88 Chardon.

SCARLATINA. — *Continued.*

WARD 5.	185 Third.	5 Cove pl.	352 Tremont.
56 Lincoln (2).	91 Silver.	16 Second.	15 Eliot.
4 Utica.	288 Federal.	79 Cove.	7 Lawrence.
222 Federal.	154 Dorchester av.	131 Silver.	15 Wheeler.
12 East, rear.	8 Cove pl.	186 W. Athens.	5 Asylum.
146 Essex.	118 Eighth.	30 C.	12 Indiana.
285 Federal.	9 Chestnut pl.	117 Second.	4 Waterford (2).
244 Federal.	103 Fourth.	4 Washington pl.	4 Cazenove pl.
Lincoln building.	8 Genesee.	37 Sixth.	82 Pleasant.
37 Edinboro'.	3 Rochester (4).	59 Gold.	WARD 10.
268 Federal.	10 Baldwin.	141 Beach.	4 Norwich (3).
313 Federal.	98 Bowen.	11 Athens.	21 Dover pl.
WARD 6.	12 Troy.	111 Seventh.	18 Norwich (2).
31 Anderson.	114 Cove.	49 Sixth.	75 W. Dedham, rear
144½ Cambridge.	19 Fifth.	190 Ninth.	94 E. Brookline.
25 Hancock.	62 Silver.	6 Sixth-st. pl.	653 Harrison av.
10 Grove.	115 Fifth.	22 Athens.	6 Fabin.
12 River.	10 A.	143 Seventh.	1123 Washington.
2 Revere (2).	195 Silver (2).	189 Silver.	20 So. May.
9 Brimmer.	94 Broadway.	72 A.	21 Hamburg.
39 Ridgeway lane.	162 Silver.	118 Third (2).	1195 Washington.
118 Mt. Vernon.	111 Third.	30 Bolton.	21 Norwich.
46 W. Cedar.	Third, near A.	74 Broadway.	4 Garland.
82 Revere.	122 D.	WARD 8.	9 Bradford.
13 S. Russell.	Cor. Sixth & Fed'l	74 Carver.	WARD 11.
6 Lime.	15 Swan.	74 Carver.	214 W. Newton.
66 W. Cedar.	154 Third.	135 Hudson.	2 Wirth pl.
67 W. Cedar.	Third.	89 Hudson.	72 Northfield.
36 W. Cedar.	125 Gold.	81 Beach.	48 Rutland.
6 Grove sq.	62 Gold.	8 Seaver pl.	3 E. Lenox.
82 Revere.	348 Harrison av.	18 Dix pl.	19 Sawyer.
3 Irving, rear.	122 Cove.	27 Common.	581 Shawmut av. (2.)
WARD 7.	224 Federal.	Floral pl.	20 Clifton pl. (2).
274 Third.	319 D.	162 Warrenton.	1449 Washington.
61 Third.	198 W. Broadway.	WARD 9.	9 Camden pl. (2).
270 Third.	150 Albany.	17 Winchester.	48 Sharon.
	20 B.		



SCARLATINA. — *Continued.*

156 W. Concord.	11 Middle.	WARD 13.	109 Cabot.
City Hospital.	4 K.	1 Dearborn.	787 Shawmut av.
R.C.Orp's Home	38 I, rear.	93 Shirley.	2033 Washington.
“ “	8 Linden.	48 Hampden.	4 Putnam pl.
“ “	57 I (2).	6 Chadwick ct.	150 Cabot.
19	60 Telegraph.	Fellows.	
WARD 12.	65 Middle.	1042 Harrison av.	WARD 15.
158 Dorchester.	208 Eighth.	986 Harrison av.	18 Coventry (2).
698 Fifth.	7 Gifford pl.	871 Albany.	6 Burke.
622 Fifth.	631 Dorchester av.	93 Hampden.	107 Day.
178 Eighth.	545 Fourth.	Adams&Yeoman	37 Smith (2).
O.	72 I.	31 Chadwick.	25 Russell ct.
85 P.	16 Grimes.	989 Harrison av.	12 Russell ct.
207 F.	569 Third.	948 Harrison av.	156 Ward.
Eighth.	39 I (2).		500 Parker.
60 Telegraph.	Second.	WARD 14.	Smith.
270 Third.	219 Eighth.	13 Weston (2).	259 Heath.
378 Second (2).	485 First.	16 Sherman.	596 Parker.
758 Sixth.	231 Bolton.	83 Munroe.	47 Vale.
Old Harbor.	623 Second.	60 Lansing.	Bickford.
267 Bolton.	34 I (2).	58 Cabot.	Rogers av.
758 Sixth.	526 Third.	32 Forest.	Rogers av.
43 R.	208 Eighth.	Rand.	19 Russell ct.
578 Third (2).	85 F.	Rand.	Ward.
611 Second.	219 E.	Rand.	Rogers av.
605 Second.	40 Middle.	Circuit.	Ward.
E and Bolton.	H.	Rand.	Phillips.
946 Fourth.	158 I.	Circuit.	56 Russell ct. (2).
37 K.	77 Preble.	44 Woodbine.	1515 Tremont (2).
477 Third.	242 Sixth.	20 Ball.	Clay & Simmons
551 Third.	181 Ninth.	7 Regent Ct.	Phillips.
615 Second.	327 Eighth.	10 Belmont.	Phillips.
258 Bowen (4).	3 Leeds.	665 Shawmut av.	Phillips.
534 Sixth.	285 Eighth.	1188 Tremont.	Hampshire.
Third and I.	219 Fourth.	8 Rockingham pl.	23 Conant (2).
597 Concord.		21 Belmont (2).	14 Centre.
134 Ninth.		262 Cabot.	20 Mechanic.

SCARLATINA. — *Continued.*

38 Cunard.	502 Parker.	4 Blanchard pl.	3 Dexter ct.
1 Oriental ct.	663 Parker.	22 Day.	Commercial pt.
3 Conant-st. pl.	1232 Tremont.	71 Conant (2).	Washington.
Longwood av.	14 Cottage pl.	WARD 16.	Green.
8 Burke.	606 Parker.	Dorchester av.	Minot.
13 Gardner av. (2).	27 Mindora.	Shamrock.	Dorchester av.
38 Coventry.	71 Conant.	Shelton.	708 Dorchester av.

## XV. TYPHOID FEVER.

WARD 1.		WARD 3.	
371 Summer.	85 Everett.	37 Wall.	10 Fifth.
1 Chaucer.	29 Liverpool.	374 Charles.	50 Utica.
Eutaw ct.	8 Houghton ct.	73 Brighton.	44 A.
47 Trenton.	Rainsford Island.		152 Silver.
41 Bennington.	Deer Island.	WARD 4.	361 Federal.
370 Chelsea.		148 Court.	38 W.B'dway, rear.
Bennet pl.	WARD 2.	14 Montgomery.	355 Fourth.
184 Havre.	430 Hanover.	102 Portland.	45 C.
124 " "	300 " rear.	36 Temple.	28 Fifth.
198 Marion.	18 No. Bennett.	2 Crescent pl.	18 Ontario.
1 Rockingham pl.	15 Cross.	WARD 5.	154 Sixth.
302 Summer.	2 Jackson av.	17 Essex.	200 Silver.
19 Everett.	31 Webster av.	27 Temple pl.	10 Silver.
544 Bennington.	97 Salem.	256 Broad.	WARD 8.
82 Chelsea.	2 Tileston pl.		14 Burroughs pl.(2)
58 Bennington.	4 Cross.	WARD 6.	106 Warrenton.
96 Cottage.	7 Morton.	38 Phillips, rear.	22 Eliot.
199 Maverick.	63 Endicott.	3 River-st. pl.	7 Kneeland pl.
115 Porter.	59 " "	140 Beacon.	134 Hudson.
Cottage & Mav'k.	448 Commercial.		148 Hudson.
20 Moore.	28 Charter.	WARD 7.	470 Washington.
4 Border.	30 Thacher.	142 Third.	78 Hudson.
135 Maverick.	471 Commercial.	200 Fourth.	
103 Saratoga.	73 Endicott (2).	2 Swan.	WARD 9.
121 Maverick.	3 Carter.	9 Silver (2).	57 Carver.
27 White.	347 North.	119 Ninth.	2 Granville pl.
	48 Charter.	1 Payson ct.	Notre Dame.



TYPHOID FEVER. — *Continued.*

9 Fayette.	1593 Washington.	WARD 13.	20 Tremont pl.
13 Edgerly pl.	8 Sharon.	127 Eustis.	4 Malbon pl.
17 Gray.		Norfolk av.	43 Milford pl.
56 Fayette.	WARD 12.	Taber.	Nawn ct.
16 Winchester.	890 Second.	19 Island.	25 Avon pl.
12 Com'wealth av.	251 Fifth.	91 Norfolk av.	Parker st. milld'm
1 Columbus av.	40 G.	1032 Harrison av.	9 Highland.
52 Middlesex.	2 Wiggins.	4 Mall-st ct.	21 Prentiss.
WARD 10.	250 Third.	1018 Harrison av.	13 Burke.
11 W. Dedham.	368 Athens.	11 Palmer.	238 Cabot.
18 Milford.	65 Middle.	Reed.	8 Phillips.
116 E. Canton.	309 Bolton.	Chadwick.	1187 Tremont.
5 Dartmouth pl.	257 Gold.	WARD 14.	King, Folsom bl'k
Shawmut av.	627 Second.	138 Cabot.	WARD 16.
415 Harrison av.	391 Second.	238 "	Cottage.
112 E. Canton.	654 Sixth.	1 Belmont.	Commercial.
18 Bradford.	229 Bolton.	17 Forest.	Elm, D. D.
6 Fabin.	263 Bowen.	10 Codman.	Dorchester av.
1 Bush.	25 Dove.	3 Winslow pl.	Adams.
46 Malden.	266 Third.	WARD 15.	"
WARD 11.	47 Old Harbor.	1097 Tremont.	Everett.
484 Col'm bus ave (2)	397 First.	1238 "	Commercial pt.
4 Clifton pl.	77 Emerson.	18 Gardner.	Hudson, D. D.
2 Camden pl., col'd.	6 Spring ct.	17 Prentiss.	21 Ellery.
5 Chester pl.	594 Sixth.	10 Simmons.	HOSPITALS.
8 E. Lenox.	555 Second.	44 Berlin.	City Hospital (24).
24 Arnold.	68 Telegraph.	238 Centre.	Mass. Hopsital (12).
28 Prescott pl.	527 E. Sixth.	Waldon pl.	Carney Hospital (4).
	Eighth.	31 Prentiss.	Other hospitals (3).

## XVI. CEREBRO-SPINAL MENINGITIS.

WARD 1.	160 Chelsea.	120 Havre.	122 Sumner.
33 Cottage.	17 Maverick.	239 Trenton.	23 Maverick sq.
22 Liverpool.	320 Sumner.	36 Cottage.	41 Haynes.
155 Saratoga.	200 Marion.	Maverick.	90 Langdon.

CEREBRO-SPINAL MENINGITIS. — *Continued.*

20 Havre, rear.	18 Minot.	WARD 7.	WARD 10.
4 Percival pl.	65 Brighton.	17 Rochester.	11 Franks ct.
3 Meridian pl.	31 Billerica.	254 Fourth.	21 Hanson.
325 Chelsea.	4 Hope.	58 Baxter.	98 E. Brookline.
154 Bremen.	10 Bridge st. ct.	90 Fifth (2).	39 E. Dedham.
91 Chelsea.	30 Allen.	199 Silver.	19 Meander.
5 Saxon ct.	27 Billerica.	29 Cove pl.	21 "
Breed's Island.	5 Breen pl.	6 Gold. /	635 Harrison av.
WARD 2.	70 Nashua.	144 Third.	40 Union Park.
22 Ferry.	WARD 4.	10 Genesee.	986 Harrison av.
234 Hanover.	15 Gouch.	47 Oswego.	609 "
19 Margaret.	12 Beacon.	27 Oneida.	246 Shawmut av.
91 Charter.	144 Portland.	45 Athens.	249 "
2 Clifford pl.	26 Travers.	270 "	11 Malden.
83 N. Margin.	Tremont House.	Broadway ct.	WARD 11.
59 Endicott.	39 Gouch.	396 Harrison av.	453 Shawmut av.
183 "	37 Merrimac.	74 Fifth st.	1618 Washington.
Mass. Hotel.	49 Pitts.	35 Rochester.	100 Kendall.
42 Tileston.	183 Friend.	291 Fourth.	45 Sharon (2).
4 Buttrick pl.	102 Portland.	126 Broadway.	581 Shawmut av.
31 North sq., rear.	WARD 5.	20 Geneva.	25 Sharon.
15 Clark.	9 Oxford pl. (2).	63 Athens.	2 Clifton pl.
144 Prince.	18 Norfolk pl.	WARD 8.	3 Rutland pl.
41 N. Margin.	237 Federal.	693 Washington.	7 Francis' ct.
10 Bennet pl.	284 "	100 Hudson.	1494 Washington.
Prince.	243 "	2 Carver pl.	111 Worcester.
119 Charlestown.	290 "	145 Harrison av.	10 E. Lenox.
15 Bennet.	WARD 6.	7 Lowell ct.	14 Plympton ct.
372 Hanover.	59 Anderson.	250 Harrison av.	WARD 12.
40 Webster av.	138 Mt. Vernon.	238 "	253 Eighth.
70 Charter.	3 Irving pl.	63 Albany.	6 Lark (2).
42 Snowhill.	124 Mt. Vernon.	12 Hollis pl.	89 Sixth.
13 Noyes pl.	5 River.	WARD 9.	141 Eighth.
8 Lothrop.	98 Revere.	36 Lawrence.	39 Ellery.
WARD 3.	7 Holden pl., col.	37 Fayette.	Morni ct.
44 Parkman.		26 Greenville pl.	5 K.
40 Billerica.		46 Piedmont.	3 Wadleigh
		28 Kirkland.	



CEREBRO-SPINAL MENINGITIS. — *Continued.*

352 Third.	Fellows.	WARD 15.	60 Cabot.
377 Second.	40 Yeoman.	987 Tremont.	WARD 16.
59 Dove.		Heath.	Fulton.
3 Watti ct.	WARD 14.	Rogers av.	Franklin.
	70 Warren.	Tremont.	Shamrock.
WARD 13.	61 Bower.	3 Texas ct.	Dorchester av.
101 Norfolk av.	57 Williams.	2059 Shawmut av.	Neponset av.
976 Harrison av.	1094 Shawmut av.	10 Cottage pl.	Bowdoin sq.
54 Chadwick.	48 Williams.	49 Cedar.	Forest Hills av.
Swett.	5 Myrtle pl.	11 Riverside.	Charles.
45 Warren.	Rockingham pl.	7 Tremont pl.	HOSPITALS.
980 Harrison av.	7 Quincy.	28 King.	City Hospital (8).
129 Hampden.	1102 Tremont.	17 Dell av.	Mass. " (2).
35 Adams.	1981 Washington.	46 Berlin.	Deer Island, (2).
28 Yeoman.		16 Simmons.	St. Ann's Inf't Asy. (1).

## GENERAL REMARKS.

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From an examination of the foregoing tables, it is evident that Boston cannot be congratulated on its sanitary condition. Without the presence of any epidemic, except scarlatina and small-pox, the former existing to no greater extent than for a number of years past, and the latter disappearing in July last, the death-rate appears in the ratio of 28.45 in a thousand. In two years only (1853 and 1854) within the last 25 has the rate reached the present one. In 1851 and 1864 it was 27 in a thousand, and in 1859 it had fallen to 21.4. For the 10 years ending with the last-named year, the average rate was 25.2; and in the 10 years ending with 1869, it was 23.7. In 1870, it was 24.3; in 1871, it was 23.5; and in 1872 it jumped to 30.5. The prevalence of small-pox in the past year, the only unusual disease noticeable during that period, will account for a portion of the large mortality; but it will be seen that, with the subsidence of that disease, the death-rate still remained at an unpleasant altitude. To those who are familiar with vital statistics, and are able to read their meaning, the sudden increase of the death-rate from 23.5 in a thousand in 1871, which was preceded by a similar condition for a series of years, to 30.5 in 1872, and this in turn followed by the rate of 28.4 in 1873, the subject assumes a very serious aspect.

The question very naturally arises, what is the cause of this remarkable change in the sanitary condition of Boston? The prevalence of epidemics does not account for it. There does not appear to be any defect in the machinery employed



to carry forward the sanitary police of the city, or any friction in its operation. This is energetically and intelligently used, as streets, and lanes, and tenements, with all their surroundings, abundantly show. There has been a manifest improvement in this direction, although Boston has always compared favorably with other cities. The question can only be answered by scientific inquiry, which will reveal the abnormal condition of the material elements on which human life is dependent. The task of doing this will be a difficult, and, in some respects, an unsatisfactory one; for the method of determining the results, and the results themselves, rest so entirely on scientific analysis and subjective reasoning, as never to leave the subject free from doubt.

#### DRAINAGE AND SEWAGE.

To what extent the present death-rate of the city of Boston is chargeable to defective drainage, it is not possible, perhaps, to determine. Every one, however, is ready to admit the importance of thorough drainage, and the evils to which a community is exposed where this is lacking. These evils are vast, and can hardly be overestimated. Unfortunately, they are of such a nature as almost to escape the notice of those who are exposed to their effects.

It is not long since that any just appreciation of the importance of this subject first became apparent, at least so as to lead to any practical result. It was readily admitted, indeed, that refuse matter must be got rid of; but as long as it found its way into the nearest subterranean receptacle, the vehicle of its transmission, and the method by which it reached its destination, were matters of little or no concern. The evils of such a system, if system it may be called, were not so great when Boston was comparatively a small town. Then, when its territorial limits did not embrace 800 acres, the incoming tides were able to dispose of all the deleterious substances consigned to the channels then constructed for



the purpose. The growth of the population, necessitating a corresponding increase of the territory by encroaching on the sea, has resulted in the formation of a large area of land necessarily difficult of drainage. But the responsibility of providing a remedy is binding on the body corporate, which assures to all, by its very existence, exemption from the evils growing out of such condition. Surely no less can be expected by the citizen than that he shall be secured, so far as this matter is concerned, immunity from those maladies induced by defective drainage. With all the light that science has thrown upon this subject, there can be no question concerning the ability to guarantee this right. The exclusion of air, or the total neglect of ventilation, depends upon the will of the individual owner of a tenement. He may, if he choose, claim that he contracts to furnish only so much space to his tenants; and, having done this, his responsibility ends. Apart from this, he stands resolutely guarded by so-called vested rights, which he is unwilling to surrender, or even submit to arbitrament. Philanthropy, pure and simple, will not induce a hair-breadth departure from the written bond; a *quid pro quo*, measured by one-sided balances, being all that entrenched prerogative will allow.

#### WATER.

There may be no reason to distrust the purity of the water we drink; but no scientific fact is better attested than that the most minute portions of organic poison are readily diffused through this agency. There are a thousand channels in which this can be done. Decomposed animal and vegetable matter, and putrescent materials of all kinds, lie around in profusion, quietly awaiting the period when their poisons, evolved by chemical agencies, shall be sent on their deadly errand. There may be no ground, however, for apprehension in this particular; but it surely is not unwise that every supposable cause for the present mortality rate should be



considered, and a re-survey made of the present condition of the water, and an examination of the methods of its conveyance here.

#### AIR, LIGHT, AND VENTILATION.

The statement, that human beings cannot live without air, seems to be a very simple one. But when another step is taken, to determine the nature and amount of this element that is needed for the human organism, the subject assumes a more important aspect. That the air used in respiration is composed of 80 parts of nitrogen and 20 of oxygen, and that any variation of these proportions is dangerous to health, is formulated in every school-room, and comprises the theoretical part of the subject. When it is set forth in plain terms, that in a large number of populous tenements in this city this equilibrium of the vital gases is constantly disturbed, and that sooner or later death will result, unless the lost balance is restored, the practical and more important side of the question is exhibited. But what is passing strange is the fact, that while the lesson of the school is ineffacably fastened on the mind from infancy to old age, the experimental and vital part fades away like a dissolving view, and almost escapes recognition.

All residences, whether containing two or two hundred occupants, that are so situated or constructed as to interfere with or interrupt the free ingress of pure air, or retain the impure, are to a greater or less extent hurtful. Buildings in which such defects exist usually occupy the most unfortunate localities, selected, perhaps, for their cheapness. In such cases it will be found that every inch of ground has been carefully utilized, every structure erected from the most inexpensive materials, and exterior and interior so arranged as to bring in to their owners the largest returns for the capital expended. If any provision appears to have been made for the health of the occupants, it seems either altogether in-



adequate for the purpose, or it has been made without method or judgment. Such places are the harvest-fields of death, and, as might be expected, children are especially the victims.

What is true of air is measurably true of light. There may be life, indeed, in the absence of light; but it will be a weak and puny one. In the dwellings alluded to, that which causes a pollution of the air, at the same time shuts out the light. It is something more than instinct that leads one to select a residence accessible to the rays of the sun, and to make a sitting-room of that situated on the sunny side of the house. Apartments unvisited by the sun should be avoided as pestilential. In such places physical degeneracy inevitably ensues — an inability to resist disease. Here epidemics of all characters find ready entrance, and prove the most fatal. Every human being brought forth or nurtured in the midst of such surroundings can scarcely be free from physical disorganization, and thus they invite the attacks of death in its multiform shapes. The result may be slowly reached, but it is certain. The case is no less sad because the victims appear insensible to their condition. Perhaps stern necessity, if a glimmer of the truth should chance to dawn on their apprehensions, would not allow of escape. Necessity is a hard taskmaster, and, in a hand-to-hand conflict with self-interest, the chance is that there will be a surrender at discretion.

The foregoing remarks suggest what may be some of the causes of the present mortality of the city of Boston. Investigation may demonstrate the existence of other causes; but it will hardly fail to show that the matters alluded to do not have some bearing on the subject.

#### CERTIFICATES OF DEATH.

Prior to 1860, physicians were not required to certify to the cause of death. Returns were made by undertakers and others, who reported the diseases as they received them,



sometimes undoubtedly from the most unreliable sources. Returns thus made, it is evident, were deserving of but little credit. In the year above-named, the Registration Act was amended by the Legislature, so that physicians were thereafter required to certify to the cause of death in all cases under their charge. This provision of the law has been complied with in all instances where physicians were in attendance at the time of death. In cases where there was no medical attendance, a city ordinance requires the City Physician to view the body before burial, and, from the information he may obtain, certify to the cause of death to the best of his knowledge and belief. Of course this return is not considered to be absolutely correct; indeed, it may be far otherwise; but it is fair to presume, that in many cases, from inquiries that he may make, he may be able to specify the *probable* cause of death. While a certificate of this character may be of no great statistical value, certainly one giving the cause of death as unknown would be worth no more. Besides, such post-mortem visitations would be likely to prevent the concealment of crime.

It may be interesting to some to learn to what extent the registered causes of death may be regarded as correct. This information can be easily imparted. There are, as may be supposed, a large number in every year who die without any medical attendance whatever. Others, considered incurable, are found to have relinquished treatment for a longer or shorter period before death. This fact is of frequent occurrence in all cities, as may be readily seen. No laws or ordinances can improve such a condition. If people will choose to die without medical attendance, there is no help for it, nor for the uncertainty that may exist as to the cause of death. It is in such instances, mainly, that the services of the City Physician are called into requisition. In the past year these cases make about 3.80 per cent. of the whole number of certified causes. In a large portion of the in-



stances here alluded to, that official was probably correct in his returns. But for the purpose of ascertaining what proportion of the returns possess any value the instances on which the above percentage is rated will be classed as "unknown," and therefore worthless.

By reference to Table XI. it can be easily ascertained which of the reported causes of death possess any value. Those of a doubtful character are similarly designated in all mortality reports, and there is no ground for believing that they will ever be reported otherwise. For instance, the deaths reported from "convulsions" make 2.35 per cent. of the whole mortality; "debility," 2.38 per cent., and "marasmus," 3.37 per cent. These comprise nearly all that can be regarded valueless as statistical facts. The rest were certified to by regular physicians, and are entitled to the same credit that other physicians are entitled to in other cities. It will thus be seen that about 12 per cent. of the registered causes of death are of an uncertain character. There can be no more doubt of the accuracy of the remaining 88 per cent. than of the same proportion of all other mortality reports. Physicians certify in all cases, and, so far as can be known, they are all deserving of like credit.

It may not be improper to say here, that the reported causes of death do not in all cases appear in Table XI. as they are entered on the records. For instance, deaths from "meningitis" appear under the head of "diseases of the brain;" "carditis," "pericarditis," etc., as "diseases of the heart." And so in reference to other specified causes. Therefore, so far as accuracy and the statistical value that may belong to the registered causes of death are concerned, it is not too much to say that Boston will compare favorably with any other city.

Respectfully submitted,

N. A. APOLLONIO.

CITY REGISTRAR'S OFFICE, May 18, 1874.



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 government has been successful in  
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 This is a very important  
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