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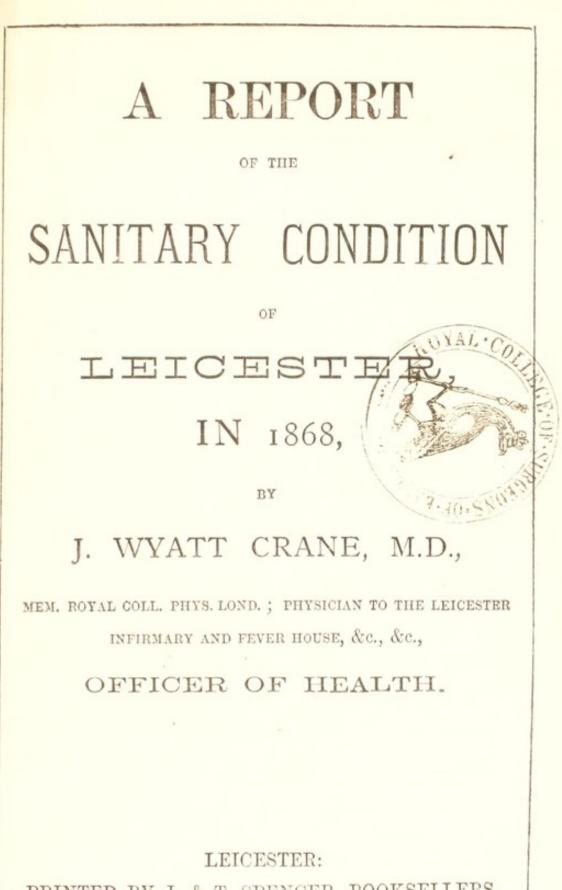
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TO THE

LOCAL BOARD OF HEALTH.

GENTLEMEN,

I regret to have to announce to you a considerable increase in the mortality of the year 1868, as compared with 1867. The total deaths in 1867 having been 2119, and in 1868, 2507.

These figures include 36 deaths in the Infirmary of persons who came from different localities in the County, and 26 in the Lunatic Asylum, from the County also, thus reducing the true mortality of the Borough to 2445 deaths. Estimating, notwithstanding the mortality at 2507, for the reasons stated in my last report, and allowing for the increase of population, which we calculate now at 90,000, the ratio of deaths per 1000 living will be 27.855: and for the preceding five years as follows—

1863	 	 31.179
1864	 	 27.007
1865	 	 25.279
1866	 	 23.433
1867	 	 24.426

The number of deaths in 1866 and 1867 having been exceptionally small, from the absence of any severe in-

fantile epidemics, it will be seen that the mortality of 1868, however high it may appear numerically, when the increase of population is taken into account, is not unfavourable, as compared with the mortality of the preceding years.

The cause of the increased mortality of 1868 was the prevalence of an unusually severe epidemic of Measles, which lasted through the two first quarters of the year, and of an equally severe epidemic of Diarrhœa in the third quarter of the year ; the fourth quarter of the year being free from any epidemic. The respective total mortality of these four quarters were, March quarter 629, June 597, September 788, December 493 : total 2507; and of the mortality of whole year, 1434 deaths, of the 2507, were those of children under five years of age. Deducting then this infantile mortality from the estimated population, and from the gross mortality, the ratio of mortality per 1000 for the whole population above five years of age, will only be 12.115. From these figures, therefore, I infer that if the town had been in an insanitary condition, we could not have had a death rate of so favourable a character as we have had for the whole population of above five years of age, and that the inference that the large mortality from Measles and Diarrhœa has arisen from the impurity of the air of the town is incorrect.

The birth rate for the four quarters of the year was, for the March quarter 918, June 925, September 880, December 866, making a total of 3589 births, or 39.37 per 1000 of the whole population ; shewing a natural increase by the excess of births over deaths of 1144, excluding the deaths of persons who came from a distance and died in the Infirmary and Lunatic Asylum.

The causes of death, classified according to the Registrar General, were as follows :—

CLASS 1. From Zymotic Diseases.
Orders 1, 2, 3, & 4, including Fever, Measles, Diarrhœa, &c. 1st quarter 185, 2nd quarter 134, 3rd quarter 354, 4th quarter, 51. Total, 724.

CLASS 2. From Constitutional Diseases.

- Order 1. Diathetic Diseases, including Cancer, Dropsy,
 &c.—1st quarter 17, 2nd quarter 18, 3rd quarter 18.
 4th quarter 17. Total, 70. Shewing a surprising equability of mortality in each quarter.
- Order 2. Tubercular Diseases, including Consumption, Hydrocephalus, Scrofula—1st quarter 61, 2nd quarter 82, 3rd quarter 89, 4th quarter 63. Total of the two Orders, 295

CLASS 3. Diseases of the Nervous System.

- Order 1, including Diseases of the Brain and Spine, Apoplexy, Paralysis, Convulsions, &c.—1st quarter 90, 2nd quarter 81, 3rd quarter 66, 4th quarter 83. Total, 320.
- Order 2. Diseases of the Circulation, including Diseases of the Heart and Blood Vessels—1st quarter 24, 2nd quarter 24, 3rd quarter 15, 4th quarter 35. Total, 98.

- Order 3. Diseases of the Respiratory Organs, including Bronchitis, Inflammation of the Lungs, Pleurisy, &c. 1st quarter 84, 2nd, quarter 88, 3rd quarter 26, 4th quarter 78. Total, 276.
- Order 4. Diseases of the Digestive Organs, including Peritonitis, Inflammation of Stomach and Bowels, Diseases of the Liver, &c.—1st quarter 24, 2nd quarter 21, 3rd quarter 25, 4th quarter 22, Total, 92.
- Orders 5 and 6. Diseases of the Urinary Organs, Kidneys, Bladder, &c.—1st quarter 13, 2nd quarter 12, 3rd quarter 6, 4th quarter 8. Total 39.
- Orders 7 and 8. Locomotive and Integumentary Systems. Total 5.

CLASS 4. Diseases of Children.

- Order 1. including Premature Birth, Teething, &c.—1st quarter 26, 2nd quarter 34, 3rd quarter 27, 4th quarter 19. Total. 106.
- Orders 2 and 3. Adults and Old Age.—1st quarter 34, 2nd quarter 39, third quarter 35, 4th quarter 42. Total, 150.
- Order 4. Diseases of Nutrition, including Atrophy and Debility—1st quarter 48, 2nd quarter 39, third quarter 100, 4th quarter 54. Total 241.

CLASS 5. Violent Deaths. Total, 60. Causes not specified, or ill defined. Total, 31.

SMALL Pox.—Referring now to those particular diseases in each class which require a more minute notice, and beginning with Zymotic Diseases, I may state as a gratify-

ing fact, that during the past year we have had only a single death from Small Pox, (a child of two months old): a few cases occurred in the town, but in those of which I heard, every precaution was taken by the medical men in attendance, by vaccination of the unvaccinated, isolation as much as practicable, and proper ventilation and disinfectants, to prevent the spread of the disease, and their efforts were crowned with The deaths from Small Pox during the five success. past years have been, 1864, 104; 1865, 10; 1866, 3; 1867, 2; 1868, 1. I think we may justly point to these facts as a proof of what vaccination has effected, in the almost complete extinction of this formidable disease; but although we may congratulate ourselves on the results which have been obtained, what we have gained is only to be maintained by a steady perseverance in the vaccination of the young children continually added to the population, for as many escape from absurd prejudices on the part of the parents ; and as the new Compulsory Act has not yet been generally put in force, a nucleus of unprotected children is constantly increasing which may at some future time prove the fuel of a new epidemic. To show how Small Pox may be successfully combated in a locality which permits the stringent application of protective measures, I may mention that a Quarantine Law was passed in the Island of Dominica, in the year 1848, (previous to which several fatal epidemics of Small Pox of great severity had occurred), since which there has

been no death from Small Pox. Notwithstanding the quarantine, however, the disease has been introduced on several occasions from abroad, but by isolation of the patient, and the persistent attention to vaccination among the population, it was prevented from spreading, with the result I have mentioned, that there has been no death from Small Pox in the Island for the last twenty years.

MEASLES.—The next Zymotic Disease which I have to notice, is Measles, of which we have had one of the most severe outbreaks in our annals. The first death occurred at the end of January, and from that time the epidemic continued to increase for eleven weeks, until the 21st April, after which it rapidly decreased, and may be said to have ceased altogether on the 22nd July, only one death having taken place since then (on the 21st Oct.) The deaths in each quarter were as follows : 1st quarter 151, 2nd quarter 91, 3rd quarter 4, 4th quarter 1. Total 249. I find on referring backwards to the period when the principal epidemic occurred, which preceded the present one, that it was in 1861, when there were 124 deaths ; the deaths in the intermediate years having been in 1862, 6; 1868, 91; 1864, 3; 1865, 86; 1866, 13; 1867, 2; 1868, 249.

If we now take the number of births from 1862 to 1868, we shall find that

In the year	1862	there were	2765	births
22	1863	33	3015	>>
"	1864	"	3115	29

In the year	1865	there	were	3226	"
>>	1866		"	3412	,,
**	1867		"	3500	"
				19,033	
				19,033	

And in these six years, only 201 deaths having occurred from Measles among these 19,000 children, it is evident that the number of unprotected cases, that is of children who had not had Measles, must have been very considerable indeed; in some diseases in which the ratio of mortality to cases is pretty well ascertained, it is not difficult to ascertain the one from the proportion of the other, but in Measles I am not aware that this proportion has been laid down ; we can only speak generally therefore, and when in connection with this number of unprotected children we take into consideration the fact, that scarcely an individual in the whole population reaches middle age without having had Measles, we shall have a clue to the severity of the epidemic with which we have lately been visited, viz., the great number of cases that must have occurred from the extreme contagiousness of the disease, and the number of unprotected children which had accumulated.

The extreme contagiousness of the disease can be but imperfectly appreciated in towns which are in constant communication with each other, for the disease, if it dies out in one, is constantly re-imported from others where it prevails, so that it may be said never to be really absent,

but, like a latent fire, is always present-smoulders until a sufficient quantify of fuel is provided, then bursts into a flame, which rages until the fuel is nearly consumed, when it subsides until fresh fuel is again collected-again to follow the same course as before. To understand the manner in which the disease is propagated, it must be studied under other aspects than those which it presents in our thickly peopled island, and such observations forming a record, unique in its character, and of great interest, exist in the archives Generales de Medecine for April, 1851, in a paper from the pen of Dr. Panum, which I have not been able to procure and consult in the original, but am indebted to an abstract published by Sir Thomas Watson, for an acquaintance with its contents; and as I believe that a correct knowledge of the true mode of propagation of contagious diseases is of great importance and interest to the puplic, as well as to the profession, I venture to think that it will not be irrevelant, or unacceptable, if I give a short account of the facts as ascertained by Dr. Panum in the epidemic of Measles, which occurred in the Feroe Islands in 1846, of which he has given the history in the paper to which I have just alluded. 1 may mention, that the Feroe Islands form a group of twenty-two, situated to the north of the Shetland Isles, and belong to Denmark; seventeen of these are inhabited, and they are seperated from each other by rapid currents, so that the intercourse betweeen them, on account of the danger of the navigation, is very re-

stricted, and still more so with the mainland. In these islands Measles had been unknown until the year 1781, when an outbreak of the disease took place, from which period, for sixty-five years, up to 1846, no other case occurred. On the 28th of March a man, who had quitted Copenhagen on the 20th, arrived at Thorshavn, one of the islands, and on the 1st of April he became ill, and it was found that he was suffering from an attack of Measles. From that one case the disease rapidly extended itself, so that in a short time, in a village of 100 inhabitants, 80 were laid up with it at one time, and it assumed so much the character of a pestilence, that the Danish Government thought it their duty to despatch two Physicians from Copenhagen to the assistance of the sufferers ; their names were Dr. Manicus and Dr. Panum : and it is to the pen of the latter, as I have stated, that we are indebted for an account of the epidemic which raged for about six months; and during that time, of 7782 inhabitants of the seventeen islands, 6000 took the disease : of those who escaped some were old men who had had the disease in 1781, and not one of these suffered from a second attack ; others, in number about 1500, isolated themselves and kept up a strict quarantine, and thus escaped. On the other hand, some old men who had been born previous to 1781, and had not been exposed to the contagion, in number about 100, all took the disease, while some few young people, who took no precaution, escaped altogether. In one of the islands called le Grand

Dimon, there were only 18 inhabitants, all of the same family; a few of these went in a boat to another of the islands called Tveraa, where the disease was very prevalent, they only stayed for a few hours, but whether they came in contact with, or entered any house where the disease existed, is not stated. After their return they remained well for ten days; on the 14th the eruption showed itself in all, and fourteen days after that in the remaining members of the family who had not left home; and Dr. Panum found in other cases that the period, of from thirteen to fourteen days was the constant interval between exposure to the disease, and the appearance of the The deductions from these facts are so obvious, eruption. that it will be unnecessary for me to dwell upon them at any length. I shall therefore briefly note the extreme contagiousness of the disease, to which circumstance, and to its almost constant presence among us, we owe the opinion that Measles is exclusively a disease of childhood, simply because from these combined causes almost every one has it in infancy, and there are consequently scarcely any adults left who have not had it, not that they are insusceptible of taking it at any age, young men as well as old, as is shown by the number of unprotected old ones who took it in the Feroe Islands.

The next fact is the complete immunity which was, given by having previously had the disease, not one instance of a second attack having been noticed. In this country, it happens occasionally that instances are cited where Measles are said to have occurred twice. It is probable, therefore, that this is not correct, but that there has been an error in diagnosis in one attack or the other.

A most important fact is the effect of isolation, and quarantine in preventing the occurrence of a disease, which is perhaps the most contagious of all diseases. And not less extraordinary is it that a few young people who were fully exposed to the contagion did not take the disease at all; of which, a similar instance occurred in my own family. One of my daughters having been in constant communication with some of her sisters and brothers who were suffering from Measles, at two periods, separated by an interval of years from each other, and yet on neither occasion did she take the disease, but took it when of the age of 21, without our being able to trace the source from whence she had taken it. These cases prove that immunity is due to exceptional causes, and that, that immunity is not constant.

SCARLATINA.—The number of deaths from Scarlatina in 1868 were only 9; in 1867, 40; in 1866, 9; in 1865, 8; in 1864, 47; and in 1863, 236. This disease has been very fatal in London, and in many other parts of the country during the last year, and it is like Measles, exceedingly contagious. The number of unprotected children here must now be very great, it is to be feared therefore, that should we be visited by it in an epidemic form, the outbreak would, like the one of Measles, from which we have lately suffered, be a severe one. Dr. Budd

has lately published a paper on the subject of the prevention of contagion from Scarlatina. Besides the use of disinfectants he recommends the anointing of the body with oil, followed after a time by a warm bath, with a view of of preventing the diffusion in the air of the infectious excreta from the skin. His paper has been followed by one from Dr. C. T. Thomson, who advises in preference the continued use of the warm bath alone from the commencement of the disease to its termination ; the bath being repeated as often as the strength of the patient will allow, or the severity of the attack may require ; and he finds the bath a valuable curative agent as well, in connection with the medical treatment. It is of course necessary that the medical attendant should judge of the propriety of administering the bath in individual cases, and also of the frequency with which they should be administered. Dr. Thomson states, that on coming out of the bath, the patient should be enveloped in a wrapper sufficiently large to envelope the whole body, and be "dabbed dry," as the excitement from friction of the skin often produces great mischief. As a great number of the cases would occur among persons who could not afford the use of oil to anoint the whole body twice every day, and as I believe that the warm bath alone would be equally effectual, should the disease unfortunately break out among us, I should prefer Dr. Thomson's plan, combined with isolation, disinfectants to purify the air, dirty linen, and excreta, and a constant supply of fresh

air; and at the termination of the case, the disinfection of the beds, curtains, &c., in the hot chamber.

DIPTHERIA.—The number of deaths from Diptheria is ten, which is in excess of the deaths from that cause for the last four years, or at any former time. In some parts of the kingdom the disease is very prevalent and very fatal, so that it is a subject of congratulation, that although the number of deaths here is in excess of previous years, it is in reality, as compared with other towns, very small.

The deaths from Croup too are a little in excess of previous years, they amount to fourteen.

WHOOPING COUGH.—Whooping Cough has only caused six deaths in 1868; in 1867 there were sixty-two; and in 1866, forty-six.

FEVER.——The deaths in 1868 from every kind of Fever were sixty-three; in 1865, fifty-six, 1866, fifty-six, 1867, forty-six. Of the sixty-three deaths this year, sixteen died in the Infirmary, nine of these were from the country, and thirteen were children under five years of age. Several of the deaths reported as Fever are entered by unregistered practioners. In one house which I visited, in order to examine whether there were any local causes to account for the occurrence of the disease, which in this case was entered in the register as Synochus, (a now obsolete term for a form of fever), I found, on enquiry, that the child had died of Cynanche, or sore throat; and no doubt other similar mistakes have been made, still further reducing the number of deaths from true Fever. As considerable confusion has arisen from the similarity of the names Typhoid and Typhus Fever, two diseases now recognized as essentially distinct, the Registrar General issued a request in the newspapers to the medical practitioners of the kingdom, that in compliance with the nomenclature of the College of Physicans, Typhoid Fever should for the future be designated Enteric Fever, and as your Board thought it expedient to have the request of the Registrar General printed, and a copy sent to every registered medical man in Leicester, lest the notice in the newspapers should have been overlooked. this was accordingly done.

I may take this opportunity of observing, that Typhus Fever, although very prevalent and fatal in almost every town in the kingdom, is of very rare occurrence in Leicester. I have never yet seen a case in private practice, and the very few cases which I have seen in the Feverhouse have been in individuals who had contracted the disease in other towns, and in whom it broke out while residing here in the common lodging houses.

The form of Fever which occurs here almost exclusively, is what was formerly called Typhoid Fever, and is now designated as Enteric Fever. As this form of Fever is considered to arise either from breathing air or drinking water contaminated with fœcal emanations and sewerage gases, 1 will take this opportunity of stating, that the sewerage system, without the adoption of *extraordinary* precautions against the admission into houses of the gases generated in them, is fraught with danger, but that when these precautions are adopted, it is doubtless the best which can be applied to large towns, and almost perfect, especially when combined with a well devised plan for the utilization of the sewage. To believe, however, that when the sewers are trapped every thing that is necessary for protection has been accomplished, is most delusive, the most sedulous watchfulness is insufficient at all moments to guard against the negligence of servants in kitchens and sculleries leaving off the traps and thus admitting the gases into houses, and thousands of dwellings are occupied by persons who cannot be convinced of the dangers they incur from inattention to the traps. The only way in which this negligence or scepticism can be guarded against, is by adopting the plan to which I drew attention in my last report, that of breaking the connection of pipes from the interior of houses, outside, and making them deliver upon a short surface drain connected with the main sewer by a **D** trap, and either to construct water closets outside the house, or to have the soil pipe continued upwards and made to open in the external air.

DIARRHEA.—The deaths from Diarrheea for the year amounted to 349, and four preceding years were as follows :

1864	 180	Summer quarter	141
1865	 226	"	172
1866	 147	33	87
1867	 209	>>	154
1868	 349	22	317

This very unusual mortality, not only as respects Leicester, but as compared with some other towns, naturally excited the attention of the Registrar General, who remarked that "there must exist conditions in Leicester exceptionally favourable to the diffusion of Diarrhœa. The Board of Health therefore considered it their duty (as you are aware) to investigate the matter, and a committee was formed for the purpose. A meeting was also convened of the Medical Book Society, comprising almost all the registered practitioners of the town, where the question was discussed, but the opinions of the members were diverse and conflicting, and no resolution was put to the meeting.

The resolution which the sub-committee of the Board of Health passed and reported to the Board was,—" That in the opinion of the committee, the main causes of the special Diarrhœa mortality last summer in Leicester were the existence of open privy cesspools in the town, and the fact of the dwellings of a large number of the inhabitants being placed upon a damp subsoil; other causes are also recognized by this sub-committee, as for example, the use of impure water, and domestic ignorance and neglect of infants, the administration of improper food, and want of medical assistance at the early stage of the disease."

The sub-committee having been re-appointed by the Board, in order to enquire into, and decide upon the best means of remedying the evils to which they had drawn attention, especially the nuisance of the existence of open

privy cesspools, they will doubtless succeed in devising some practical expedient for the purpose, (as well as in remedying any other insanitary causes which may be discovered); and although I do not coincide entirely with the opinion of the committee that they are the main cause of the special Diarrheal mortality, no one is more conscious than myself of their deleterious influence upon health generally, or more anxious to effect their abolition, and I believe that the mode of doing so will present but little difficulty, now that Mr. Rowlett has practically demonstrated that Moule's principle may be easily applied by any one who has a small plot of ground at the back of his house, and that it is equally efficacious without the sifting and drying of the earth, which is doubtless essential where the system is carried out on a large scale, and where the earth has to be supplied to houses destitute of gardens or ground at the back.

Having just stated that I do not entirely agree with the resolution of the Sub-Committee as to the cause of the Autumnal Diarrhœa, I feel bound to say with great diffidence that the facts which I have myself observed, and the deductions which I have made from them, have led me to the belief that Summer Diarrhœa does *not* arise from Zymotic causes (although an impure air doubtless has an additional influence in the extension of the disease and its intractibility) and that its *fatality* does not depend upon any exceptional virulence of the *disease* itself, or its causa-

tive agent, but upon the want of vital resisting power or stamina in the patient attacked by it. I cannot of course prove the negative of the proposition, but I may say that the arguments adduced to prove the affirmative, that Diarrhœa is a Zymotic Disease, have never appeared to me sufficiently conclusive and free from ambiguity to carry conviction to my mind, whilst the arguments on the other side are, in my estimation, of a much more convincing character. That the fatality of the disease did not depend upon an exceptional virulence of its causative agent, is demonstrated by the fact, that although Diarrhœa was, so to speak, universal during the summer quarter, affecting equally persons of all ages, the deaths in the whole population, from three years old to forty (that is in the robust period of life), amounted to only three in the entire year, 327 of the remaining deaths being those of children under three years of age, and 19 of individuals from 40 to 80, and upwards, that is to say, those in the weakest periods of life.

A reference to the Table of Deaths at *All* Ages, will show that from *all* causes during the summer quarter, the deaths in the whole population, from five years of age to sixty, only amounted to 148, being the *lowest* mortality of the four quarters, the other three quarters, within those limits of age, being March quarter 169, June quarter 163, December quarter 182. With such a comparatively and absolutely small mortality in the summer quarter from all diseases, to contend that the town was *then* in a more insanitary condition, is, I think, to convert the question into a reductio ad absurdum. Deploring, as I do, the existence, among us, of privy cesspools, with all their attendant evils both to the senses and to health, and waging an incessant war against them, it may, I think, prove a source of some satisfaction to find that many of the towns which suffered less than ourselves from Summer Diarrhœa are not so favourably situated as we are in the number of water-closets they possess, and consequently exceed us in their comparative preponderance of privy cesspools.

I have been favoured with a most valuable return, including, among other particulars, the number of Inhabitants to each water-closet in several of the principal Country Towns in England, for the year 1867, extracts from which I will now lay before you, from which you will perceive that Leicester stands at the head of the list and possesses more water-closets to the number of Inhabitants, and consequently *fewer* cesspools, than any of the towns reported on.

In Leicester there is one water-closet to 11. 48 of the Inhabitants

"	Derby		 		12.40
,,	Norwich		 	••••	24.42
"	Liverpool		 		24
,,	Nottinghan	m	 		26
	Newcastle		 		33. 78

,, Sunderlan	d and	South S	shields		50	
" Mancheste	er				53	
, Leeds					74	
" Bristol					77.	52
" Norwich				•••	91	
" Sheffield					141	
" Preston					126	
" Salford (Corpora	water	from N	Ianchest	ter]	80.	76
" Salford (water	from N	Ianchest	$\operatorname{ter} \left\{ 1 \right\}$	180.	76

430.

Having thus stated the grounds upon which I differ from the Report of the sub-committee, it will doubtless be expected that I should offer some opinion of my own, on the cause of the excessive mortality from Diarrhœa in the summer quarters. It is a very complex problem, which I have not the vanity to imagine that I can solve completely, but I think that we shall advance a step towards it by considering what circumstances are exceptional. There is one which stands out prominently before all others, and that is the high temperature. As a matter of fact, the Registrar General has observed that when the temperature falls below 40 the deaths from Bronchitis increase, when it rises above 60 the deaths from Diarrhœa. We acquiesce at once that it is natural that Bronchitis should be caused by cold, but seem to feel an utter repugnance to apply the same assent to the effects of a rise in the temperature that we do to a fall; and that strikes me as the more remarkable with the fact before us of the effect of heat upon infant life ; in India it is notorious that

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it is almost impossible to rear European Children, and while suffering from Diarrhœa in India, they may be removed to places *in the plains* far removed from towns and where no impurity of air, from any cause, exists, but the Diarrhœa still continues, until sent on board ship, and until the vessel arrives in more cool latitudes, when the disease, formerly so intractable, yields at once to the simplest medical and dietetic means ; they are consequently sent to England to preserve their lives.

I believe then that simple heat is the cause of Summer Diarrhoea in this country; that all ages are affected by it; that in the strong and robust it easily yields to treatment, or even to diet, but in weakly children it runs a different and a longer course, and that in them the strong recover and the weak succumb. The mode in which heat acts in predisposing to the occurrence of Diarrhœa and in keeping it up in the weak is, I conceive, by inducing a relaxation and atony of the whole system and of the digestive organs in particular, so that the stomach is unable to digest certain articles of food, which at other times in a lower temperature would be digested without difficulty, that these articles of food, passing from the stomach in an undigested state, set up irritation in the mucous membrane of the bowels, and consequent Diarrhœa (an effort of nature to expel them). That in weakly children this irritation of the mucous membrane of the intestine once induced, is kept up even by the simplest food, so that it cannot be digested, and the child dies from weakness, the result of want of nourishment and of the diarrhoeal discharges.

To account for the greater prevalence of the disease and greater mortality in some towns than in others, we must, I think, take into consideration two circumstances, the situation of the town and the vigour of its infantile inhabitants. As heat is presumed to be the predisposing cause, the cases will be fewer in towns which are spacious, airy situated in hilly districts, or by the sea side, and still more so where the infants are robust, as in the country ; on the other hand the cases will be more numerous, and the mortality greater, in thickly peopled towns with a debilitated population, as in most of our large seats of manufacturing industry.

In Class 2, Constitutional Diseases, there is a great diminution in the number of deaths from Scrofula, the number being only nine, and for the last five years as follows:

1864	 	 	77
1865	 	 	79
1866	 	 	73
1867	 	 	61
1868	 	 	9

The deaths from Hydrocephalus, which is included in the same class as the above, likewise show a diminution, the number being 17.

For 1864	 	 	15
1865	 	 	17
1866	 	 	19
1867	 	 	20
1868	 	 	17

If the increase of the population between 1864 and 1868 be taken into consideration, the improvement is of a very marked character.

The deaths from Consumption likewise show a diminution, as compared with 1867, the number being for

1864	 	 	203
1865	 	 	232
1866	 	 	220
1867	 	 	249
1868	 	 	244

And even these figures I believe to be greatly in excess of the real number of deaths from true Consumption.

I am persuaded that many deaths are entered as Consumption, which should have been recorded as Atrophy and Debility. On reference to the table of ages at death, from Consumption, it will be seen that 22 deaths *under* 6 *months* are stated to arise from Consumption, 7 from 6 months to 12, and 25 from 1 year to 5, making a total of 54 deaths under five years of age; I think it in the highest degree improbable that 54 deaths should have so arisen.

The Local Registrars have been kind enough, at my request, to extract from the Registers the number of entries which were certified by Herbalists, Quacks, and the like unqualified practitioners, and they actually amounted to 309 in the year 1868, can we wonder then that the value of the Registers is most seriously impaired for statistical purposes, but the Registrar General has shown that the imperfection of our system of Registration has still more serious

results, that in consequence of its defects, the evidence which it ought to afford in cases of succession to property is vitiated, a Registrar's certificate of death having been refused as evidence by a Lord Chancellor, and such a certificate is also refused by the Bank of England ; and also, that owing to these imperfections, the protection which a proper system of Registration ought to afford against crimes affecting life, is nullified, and he cites numerous instances of murders entered on the Register as natural deaths. Only last month, a case occurred in this town where a person had brought a child once or twice to the house of a Surgeon for advice, called some time afterwards to say that the child was dead, and asked for a Certificate, which was given to her, she then proceeded to the office of the Registrar, and the death was duly registered as having occured from Fever, with the number of the house and street where the child had died. When the books came into my possession for the purpose of making up the weekly list of mortality, I noticed the case which was entered as Fever, and being in the habit of visiting every house where a death from Fever had taken place, in order to inspect the premises to see whether any local causes existed to account for the occurence of the disease, that if so they might be remedied, I proceeded to the address given, when I was told by the tenant that

no person of that name had resided there or in the street, and that no funeral of a child had taken place. On enquiry, I heard that there was another street of the same name in the town, and the assistant Inspector was immediately sent there to make similar enquiries, but with the same result, and to this day the mystery has not been cleared up. There was no reason to suspect foul play in this case, but I cite it to show with what facility false entries may be made in the Books of Registration, as the deception was only discovered in consequence of my habit of visiting houses where Fever had existed.

In corroboration of the above, at the very time that I am writing, I find it recorded in the "Lancet" that DR. LANKESTER has lately stated, that a case had come under his observation in which a woman had obtained, at different times, no less than *three* certificates of the death of her husband from various medical men, on the strength of which she had obtained contributions to meet the expenses of his funeral.

The remedy which DR. FARR proposes to correct the defects of the present system, is to require that the medical man in attendance should not give a certificate of death without having seen the body subsequently for identification, and that he should receive a fee for his certificate, to which no one can deny that he would be most fully entitled, not only for the additional visit and time in writing the particulars required in the certificate, but for the exercise of his professional knowledge in the diagnosis of the disease. Where no medical man has been in attendance, as sometimes happens, it would be the duty of the Officer of Health, or, in towns where there was no such Officer, of a medical man specially appointed, to be called "The Registration Medical Officer" to visit the house where the body lay, make enquiries of the inmates and neighbours, inspect the corpse, and if all was clear, send his medical certificate to the Registrar, but if any doubt hung over the case it would be his duty to refuse his certificate until an inquest should be held; and the Registrar would be forbidden to register any death without the certificate, either of the Medical Man in attendance, or of the Officer of health, or Registration Medical Officer. The adoption of this plan would meet all the objections to the present system.

SERGEANT WRIGHT, the Sanitary Inspector, reports that the number of Notices served in the year 1868, were 455, namely,

Dilapidated and offensive Privy Ce	sspools,	 119
Foul and offensive Drains,		 65
Defective Water-closets,		 20
Deficient Privy Accomodation,		 3
To cleanse Unwholesome Dwelling	s,	 101
To remove Swine,		 123
Accumulation of Manure and Offal	l,	 24
		455

COMMON LODGING HOUSES.—These have been regularly inspected by night and by day, and, upon the whole, have been well conducted. One person only has been summoned before the Magistrates and fined 40s. for allowing opposite sexes, and excess of numbers, to sleep in the same Room.

SLAUGHTER HOUSES.—These, which are 89 in number, have been frequently inspected, and the Bye Laws, with regard to lime washing, cleansing, removal of the offal, have, in most cases, been strictly attended to.

SMOKE NUISANCE.—Twenty Stokers have been summoned before the Local Board, for infringement of the Bye Laws, which after hearing their statements, cautioned them respecting the future management of their furnaces.

DAME SCHOOLS.—These have been visited during the year, and have been well conducted, there having only been two persons complained of, for having more children than were allowed. The offenders were summoned before the Local Board and cautioned. A great reduction in the number of these Schools has taken place during the year, owing principally to the restrictions they are under.

DEFICIENT SUPPLY OF WATER.—The owners of Sixty houses have been served with orders to provide water for the tenants.

SWINE.—Four persons have been summoned before the Magistrates for non-compliance with orders of the Board for the removal of Swine. Three were fined 40s. each and one 20s.

WATER CLOSETS.—Two persons have been summoned before the Magistrates for neglecting to comply with orders of the Board for the proper construction of water closets. One was fined 40s. and the other 10s.

By a Statement made by the Borough Surveyor, I find that 550 new houses have been built, 20 pulled down, and that 55 are empty.

> J. WYATT CRANE, M.D., Officer of Health.

TABLE, No. 1.

Shewing the causes of Death during the year 1868, of the Principal Diseases.

Zymotic Diseases,					
Small Pox					 1
Measles					 247
Scarlatina					 9
Diptheria					 10
Croup					 14
Whooping Coug	h	••			 6
Fever					 63
Diarrheea and L	ysentery				 349
Rheumatism					 3
Other Diseases i	in this C	lass			 18
Enthetic Diseases					 2
Parasitic Diseases					 2
Diathetic Diseases					
Dropsy					 31
Cancer					 30
Other Diseases i	n this C	lass			 9
Tubercular Diseases					
Scrofula					 9
Consumption					 244
Hydrocephalus					 17
Other Diseases i	n this C	lass			 25
Diseases of the Nerve	ous Syste	3m			
Inflammation of	the Bra	in, Spine,	or Meml	oranes	 37
Apoplexy					 21
Paralysis					 45
Convulsions					 147
Other Diseases in	n this C	lass			 70
Diseases of the Hear	t and Bl	ood Vessel	8		 98

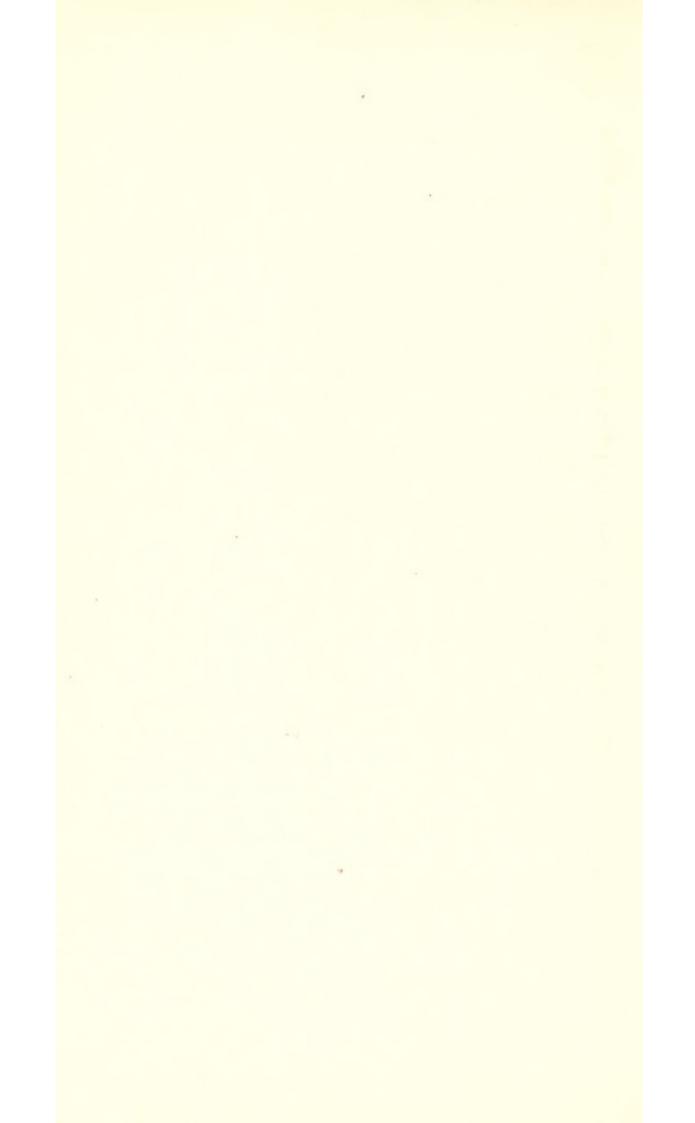
TABLE, No. 1, CONTINUED.

Diseases of the Respin	atory	Organs			
Laryngitis					 5
Bronchitis					 130
Pneumonia					 107
Pleurisy					 4
Asthma					 21
Other Diseases of	f this	Class			 9
Diseases of the Digest	tive O	rgans			
Peritonitis					 23
Inflammation of	Stoma	ich and Boy	wels		 5
Diseases of the L	iver				 17
Jaundice					 9
Other Diseases of	this	Class			 38
Diseases of the Urinar	y Org	ans, &c.			
Albuminuria					 16
Diabetes					 3
Other Diseases of	this (Class			 15
Diseases of the Organ	s of C	Feneration			 5
Discases of Child Bir	th				 15
Premature Birth					 79
Teething					 26
Atrophy and Debility					 241
Old Age					 135
Violence					
Accidental					 52
Wilful					 2
Suicide					 7
Other Causes					 31
			All Caus	es	 2507

						uary			Fel	ruai	y			arch	
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6 months	23	1	year	1	1	3	1	5	6	3	4	9	4	10	9
l year	22	5	years	2	3	5	7	1	16	11	26	28	15	16	24
5 years	22	15	22	1		3	3		2	2	4	2		1	3
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30 ",	"	90	57	2	3	2	1		1	2				3	
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Age not ki	IOW	n				•••		••••					••••		
		Tot	als	34	42	42	40	32	42	47	53	63	49	57	58

TABLE, No. 2. Shewing Ages at time of Death, from All Causes.

-	_												
April 1.	Total	April 8. 15. 22. 29.	May 6. 13. 20. 27.	June July 3. 10. 17. 24. 1.	Total	July 8. 15. 22, 29	August 5. 12. 19. 26.	September 2. 9. 16. 23. 30.	Total 7	October 7. 14. 21. 21. 4. 11. 18. 25	December 2. 9. 16. 23. 30.	Total Year Total	
:4154819161133 : : :	10 20 17 63 70 182 22 13 37 41 30 26 42 38 14 4 				$\begin{array}{cccccccccccccccccccccccccccccccccccc$	1	$\begin{array}{cccccccccccccccccccccccccccccccccccc$	$\begin{array}{cccccccccccccccccccccccccccccccccccc$	$\begin{array}{cccccccccccccccccccccccccccccccccccc$	$\begin{array}{cccccccccccccccccccccccccccccccccccc$	$\begin{array}{cccccccccccccccccccccccccccccccccccc$	$\begin{array}{c ccccccccccccccccccccccccccccccccccc$	Under 1 day 1 day to 1 week 1 week to 1 month 1 month to 6 months 6 months to 1 year 1 year to 5 years 5 , 15 15 , 20 20 , 30 30 , 40 40 , 50 50 , 60 60 , 70 70 , 80 80 , 90 90 years and upwards Age not known
70	629	76 61 70 55	50 48 36 30	26 37 32 38 38	597 4	48 67 69 110	0 81 62 61 57	54 57 41 37 44		29 27 41 48 30 34 50 39		493 2507	Totals



TABLE, No. 3.

Shewing Deaths from Diarrhea and Dysentery, at different Ages, for the year 1868.

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Shewing Deaths from Consumption, at different Ages, in the Year 1868.

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Shewing Deaths from Fever, at different Ages, during the Year 1868.

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TABLE, No. 6.

Localities of Deaths from Diarrhœa 1868, and number in each.

Abbey-street	3	Chatham-street	1
Abbey-gate	1	Chesnut-street	i
Albert-street	1	Chester-street	1
Albion-street	2	Church-gate, Upper and Lower	5
Alexander-street	2	Clarence-street	1
All Saints' Open	1	Clipstone-street	3
Andrew-street	2	Cobden-street	1
Archdeacon-lane	2	Colton-street	1
Asylum-street	1	Conduit-street	i
Atkin-street	1	Constitution-hill	i
Aylestone-road	1	Corah-street	i
Asylum, Lunatic	3	Coventry-street	1
Baker-street	1	Crafton-street	2
Bath-lane	1	Craven-street	2
Bedford-street	3	Curzon-street	2
Belgrave-gate	5	Coleman's-buildings	1
Belgrave-road	2	Deacon-street	2
Benford-street	2	De Montfort-square	ĩ
Black Friars-street	1	Denman-street	5
Blake-street	1	Denmark street	1
Bond-street	5	Devonshire-street	3
Bonner's-lane	2	Dryden-street	1
Braunstone-gate	5	Duke-street	2
Breedon's-yard	1	East-street	ĩ
Britannia-street	2	Eaton-street	2
Brook-street	6	Erskine-street	ĩ
Brudnell-street	1	Fleet-street	4
Brunswick-street	5	Framland-street	1
Burgess-street	2	Free-lane	i
Burley's-lane	2	Friday-street	ī
Birstall-street	7	T. ·	2
Canning street	1	Friars-road	ĩ
Canning-place	1	Frog-island	2
Cardinal-street	3	Farmerley's square	2 1 2 1 1
Charley-street	4	Garden-street	1
Charles-street			4
			-

TABLE, No. 6, CONTINUED.

Garton-street	1	Midland-street	1
George-street	1	Middle-street	1
Gladstone-street		Melville-street	2
Glebe-street	1	Milton-street	1
Goodacre-street	$\hat{2}$	Morledge-street	1
Grange-lane	4		1
Gravel-street	1	New Bridge-street	10
Gray-street	$\hat{2}$	New Park-street	$\frac{2}{1}$
Green-street	1		1
Grosvenor-street	1	Northgate-street	7
Grove-street	ĩ	Northampton-street	2
Hampden-street	î	Oxford-street	3
Harding-street			0
Harvey-lane	î		1
Havelock-street	$\hat{2}$	Orton-street	1
Heanor-street	2		1
High Cross-street	$\overline{2}$	Palmerston-street	5
Hinckley-road	ī	Paynes-row	1
Holme-street, Great and		Paradise-place	1
Humberstone-gate	1	Paradise-row	1
Humberstone-road	$\hat{2}$	Parliament-street	$\frac{1}{2}$
Jarrom-street	$\tilde{3}$	Pasture-lane	
Jewry Wall-street	2	Peel-street	$2 \\ 1$
Johnson-street	1	Pike-street	3
Joseph-street	î	Pocklington's Walk	1
Junction-road	î	Providence-place	3
Junior-street	2	Penton-villa	1
Kent-street	3	Peter's-lane	i
King-street	1	Red Cross-street	3
Knighton-street	4	Regent-street	1
Lancaster-street	1	Rodney-street	3
Laxton-street	1	Royal Kent-street	1
Lee-street	2	Ruding-street	2
Lewin-street	$\overline{2}$	Russell-street and square	6
Liverpool-street	1	Rutland-street	
Luke-street	2	Rayns-street	2
Mansfield-street	2	Samuel-street	$ \begin{array}{c} 1 \\ 2 \\ 1 \\ 2 \\ 2 \end{array} $
Marlborough-street	1	Sanvey-gate	2
Melton-street	1	Simpson-street	2
Metcalf-street	3	Silver-street	1

TABLE No. 6, CONTINUED.

Southampton-street	1	Warrington-street	1
South-gates	1	Watling-street	2
St. George-street	2	Welford-place	ĩ
St. James'-place	2	Welford-road	ĩ
Stanley-street	2	Wellington-street	î
Syston-street	5	West-street	2
Talbot-lane	1	Wharf-street	ĩ
Talbot-square	1	Wheat-street	8
Taylor-street	1	White-street	1
Thames-street		Willow-street	5
Thornton-lane	1	Wood Boy-street	5
Thorpe-street	1	Wyggeston's Hospital	1
Tower-street	1	Yeoman-street	2
Union Workhouse	3	York street	1
Victoria-street	1		
Vine-street	1	Total	349

Table No. 7.

List of Streets in which Deaths from Measles have occurred and number in each.

Alexander-street	1	Colton-street	1
All Saints' Open	1		1
Ann-street	3	Cromwell-street	1
Asylum-street	3	Curzon-street	2
Atkin-street	1	Dawes's-yard	1
Aylestone-street	1	Deacon-street	1
Bakehouse-lane	1	Denman-street	1
Baker-street	3	Denmark-street	2
Barston-street	1		2
Bath-street	1		2 2 1
Bedford-street	3	Durham-street	1
Belgrave-gate	4	Eaton-street	$\hat{2}$
Belgrave road	1	Elbow-lane	1
Benford-street	1	Fleet-street	$\overline{2}$
Bond-street	2	Foundry-lane	ī
Bonner's-lane	1	Friars'-place	î
Bow-street	1	Gosling-street	2
Bread-street	2	Grafton-place	ĩ
Britannia-street	2	Graham-street	1
Brook-street	6	Granby-street	î
Brown-street	1	Grange-lane	$\hat{4}$
Brunswick-street	3	Gravel-street	1
Burgess-street	1	Gray-street	î
Burley's-lane	1	Green-street	
Birstall-street	5	Grosvenor-street	ĩ
Cardigan-street	1	Grove-street	$2 \\ 1 \\ 2 \\ 2$
Carley-street	1	Harding-street	2
Caroline-street	1	Havelock-street	3
Charlotte-street	1	Hill-street	1
Charles-street	1	Hobson's-yard	1
Chester-street		Holme-street	2
Christow-street		Hutchinson-street	ĩ
Church-gate		Infirmary-square	2
Clarence-street		Jarrom-street	$2 \\ 1 \\ 2 \\ 2 \\ 1 \\ 1 \\ 1$
Clay's-yard		Jewry Wall-street	ĩ
Clipstone-street		Kent-street	î
1	- 1	1.0110.001.000	-

TABLE No. 7, CONTINUED.

Kenyon-street	. 2	Ruding-street	1
King-street	1	Rudkin-street	1
Knighton-street	1	Russell-square	1
Leadenhall-street	2	Russell-street	4
Lee-street	2	Sanvey-gate	3
Lewin's-yard	1	Short-street	1
Lewin's-street	1	St. John-street	1
Mansfield-street	2	St. Margaret's-street	2
Marston-street	1	St. Nicholas-street	1
Melton-street	1	St. Peter's-lane	2
Metcalf-street	4	Stanley-street	1
Millstone-lane	1	Swan-street	3
Mill-lane	1	Syston-street	3
Milton-street	5	Talbot-lane	1
Morledge-street	1	Thompson's-yard	1
Navigation-street	1	Thornton-lane	1
Neale-street	1	Thorpe-street	1
Nelson-place	1	Union-street	2
New Parks-street	1	Vauxhall-street	1
Northgate-street	5	Vine-street	1
Oxford-street	3	Wanlip-street	1
Oliver-street	1	Warrington-street	1
Orchard-street	1	Watling-street	1-
Osborne-street	1	Welford-road	1
Palmerston-street	2	Wellington-street	1
Pares'-street	1	Wharf-street	4
Pasture-lane	1	Wheat-street	2
Percy-street	2	Willow-street	1
Piccadilly	1	Wood-street	1
Pike-street	2	Wood Boy-street	$\frac{1}{3}$
Pingle-street	3	Workhouse	16
Providence-place	1	York-street	3
Penton-villa	2		
Red Cross-street	1	Total	247
Royal East-street	2		

TABLE No. 8.

Localities of Deaths from Fever, and number in each.

All Saint's open	1	Jarrom street	1
Braunstone gate	1	Liverpool street	1
Bath lane	1	Milton street	2
Upper Brown street	1	New Town street	1
Blake street	1	Osborne street	ī
Burley's lane		Peel street	î
Conduit street	1		î
Craven street	1	Parliament street	1
Chester street	1	Pingle street	1
Clarence street	1	Palmerston street	1
Chatham street	1	Rodney street	1
De Montfort street	1	Stoughton street	3
Dover street	2	Sanvey gate	1
Evington street	1	St. John street	1
Fleet street		Union Workhouse	1
Guthlaxton street		West bridge	1
Gartree street		Wharf street	1
Garden street (Lower)	1	Willow street	2
Hastings street	1	Warrington street	1
Highfield House	1	Sector Sector	
Humberstone gate	2	Total	63
Infirmary	16		

TABLE No. 9.

Localities of Deaths from Consumption, and number in each.

Abbey street	1	Clinton street	1
Albion hill	1	Colton street	1
Albion street	2	Conduit street	3
Alfred place	1	Constitution hill	1
All Saints' Open	1	Cook's yard	1
Andrew street		Corah street	1
Ann street	1	Crafton street	
Archdeacon lane	2	Craven street	$\frac{2}{2}$
Arnold street		Cromwell street	1
Baker street	2	Crown street	
Bedford street	4	Curzon street	2 5
Belgrave gate	5	County gaol	1
Belgrave road	1	Dane hills	I
Bell lane	1	Duke street	
Belvoir street	1	Dysart street	11
Bond street	3	Eaton street	1
Braunstone gate	1	Erskine street	1
Bright street	1	Evington street	1
Britannia street	2	Farmerley's square	1
Brougham street	1	Fleet street	3
Brook street	3	Fox street	1
Brunswick street		Free lane	2
Burgess street	1	Free School lane	1
Burley's lane	1	Frog island	2
Birstall street	3	Freeman's common	21
Butt Close lane	1	Garden street	1
Calais street	2	Gartree street	1
Canning place	1	Garton street	1
Carlton street	1	Gladstone street	2
Castle street	1	Gower street	ĩ
Causeway lane	1	Granby street	
Chancery street	3	Grange lane	2
Chatham street	1	Gravel street	3
Chester street	3	Gray street	2
Church gate	5	Grove street	123231
Church street	1	Halford street	1
Clarence street	1'	Hanover street	i
			-

TABLE No. 9, CONTINUED.

Havelock street	1	Peel street	1
Henry street	1		3
Higginson's yard		Regent street	0
High Cross street	2	Royal East street	1
High street	2	Ruding street	2
Hill street	1	Russell street	$2 \\ 2 \\ 1$
Hinckley road	1	Russell square	
Holme street		Sandacre street	1
Holy Bones		Sanva cate	2
Humberstone road	3	Sanvy gate Sheldon street	$2 \\ 1 \\ 2$
Infirmary square		Slawson street	2
Infirmary	7		2
Jarrom street		Spittlehouse street	1
Jewry Wall street	1	Sparkenhoe street	1
Joseph street		St. George street	1
Kent street		St. Mary's Field house	1
Laxton street	3	St. Nicholas street	1
Lee street		St Peter's lane	1
Lewin's square		Stamford street	1
London road	1	Stanley street	1
Luke street	1	Syston street	1
Lunatic asylum		Swan's mill	1
Mansfield street	3	Union Workhouse	4
Melton street	2	Vauxhall street	1
Metcalf street	1	Victoria street	1
Midland street	1	Waring street	1
Millstone lane	1	Wellington street	3
Mill lane	1	West street	3
Morledge street	2	Wheat street	1
Navigation street	1	Wigston's street	1
Neale street	2	William street	$\frac{2}{1}$
Noble street	1	Willow street	1
Northgate street	1	Wood gate	2 4 1
Oxford street	1	Wood street	4
Orton street	2	York square	
Painter street	1	York street, London road	1
Palmovstone street		York street	2
Palmerstone street	1		
Parliament street Pasture lane	1		241
asture lane	2 '		

Localities of 3 Deaths omitted to be noted,

TABLE, No. 10.

Shewing the Increase of Births over Deaths for the last 10 Years.

Year.		Births.		Deaths.	Births over Deaths		
1859		2519		1684		835	
1860		2530		1418	•••	1112	
1861		2600		1785		815	
1862		2765		1720		1045	
1863		3015		2249		766	
1864		3115		2113		1002	
1865		3226		2035		1191	
1866		3412		1945		1467	
1867		3500		2119		1381	
1868		3589		2507		1144	



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