

## **King's College Hospital : report for 1842 / with remarks.**

### **Contributors**

Guy, William A. 1810-1885.  
Simon, John, Sir, 1816-1904

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# KING'S COLLEGE HOSPITAL

## Report

FOR 1842:

WITH REMARKS.

By WILLIAM AUGUSTUS GUY, M.B. CANTAB.

PROFESSOR OF FORENSIC MEDICINE, KING'S COLLEGE, LONDON; AND  
PHYSICIAN TO KING'S COLLEGE HOSPITAL.

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*From the London Medical Gazette, March 10, 1843.*





THE report for the year 1842 is, in more than one respect, more complete than that of the two former years. The registration of the in-patients, commenced in the present year, embraces more than two-thirds of the entire number, so that the report more nearly represents the prevalent diseases of the district in which the hospital is situate. The number of cases analysed also exceeds, by more than 2,000, that of the year 1841. As the number of cases is so considerable, it has been thought advisable to distinguish the periods at which the several diseases have occurred; accordingly, a table is added, in which this distinction is made in respect to the larger groups of disease. Another table is given, illustrating the influence of sex on disease. Similar tables for each year, and for the sum of the preceding years, will be given in each future report.

The total number of patients registered on the books of the hospital, for the year 1842, is as follows:—

In-patients . . . . .	1383
Out-patients. . . . .	11138
Total. . . . .	12521

This number, which is exclusive of casualties, comprises 180 midwifery cases\*.

Of the 1383 in-patients 93 died, being as nearly as possible 1 in 15, or 6·72 per cent. which, considering the high proportion that the number of patients bears to the size of the hospital, and the number of urgent cases admitted, is a very low mortality.

Some slight alterations have been made in the arrangement of the first table, and in the general abstract. In the reports of 1840 and 1841 pleurodynia was classed with rheumatic affections, inasmuch as it has its seat in the muscular fibre. But as the pain in the left side, which is so common an accompaniment of the functional disorders of the female, though it has its

seat in the muscles, is obviously neuralgic, it has been transferred to the group of neuralgic affections; whilst the cases of pleurodynia occurring in the male being merely a form of local muscular rheumatism, have been placed under that head. The cases of whooping-cough, too, which, in the former reports, were placed among the epidemic diseases, have been grouped, in the present report, with diseases of the chest, and delirium tremens with mental disorders. With these exceptions, the alterations in the first table are not such as to require comment. In the general abstract, catarrh and intestinal worms have been made separate headings, instead of being merged, the one in febrile affections, and the other in diseases of the intestines. These alterations will be carefully attended to when any use is made of the reports of the years 1840 and 1841.

*Analysis of 10,438 Registered Cases of Disease, treated at King's College Hospital, during the year 1842.*

	Male.	Fem.	Tot.
Febris continua . . . . .	17	7	24
— intermittens . . . . .	3	4	7
— ephemera . . . . .	3	2	5
— dentitionis . . . . .	6	7	13
— infantum remittens . . . . .	136	159	295
Catarrhus . . . . .	137	248	385
Variola . . . . .	6	2	8
Varicella . . . . .	14	5	19
Rubeola . . . . .	10	14	24
— sequelæ . . . . .	2	0	2
Scarlatina . . . . .	14	16	30
— sequelæ . . . . .	3	1	4
Erysipelas . . . . .	15	19	34
Struma . . . . .	73	61	134
Cachexia . . . . .	3	4	7
Mollities ossium . . . . .	10	5	15
Debilitas . . . . .	46	158	204
Purpura . . . . .	2	1	3
Plethora . . . . .	3	3	6
Podagra . . . . .	31	9	40
Anasarca . . . . .	4	10	14
Ascites . . . . .	4	2	6
Œdema . . . . .	7	14	21
Muscular Rheumatism . . . . .	252	188	440
Articular Rheumatism . . . . .	50	44	94

\* The midwifery department is of comparatively recent establishment, which accounts for the comparative smallness of the number.



Epilepsy . . . . .	21	23	44	Inflammation of the ab-			
Chorea . . . . .	5	16	21	sorbents . . . . .	1	0	1
Hysteria . . . . .	0	39	39	Dysphagia . . . . .	2	1	3
Catalepsy . . . . .	2	0	2	Dyspepsia . . . . .	74	163	237
Convulsions . . . . .	6	3	9	Gastritis mucosa . . . . .	23	97	120
Syncope . . . . .	1	0	1	Gastrodynia . . . . .	4	7	11
Hemiplegia . . . . .	6	3	9	Hæmatemesis . . . . .	7	12	19
Paraplegia . . . . .	1	2	3	Organic disease of stomach	3	2	5
Paralysis (general and par-				Gastro-enteritis mucosa .	14	24	38
tial) . . . . .	21	6	27	Diarrhœa . . . . .	133	173	306
———agitans . . . . .	1	0	1	Melæna . . . . .	2	1	3
Weakness of the limbs . .	1	3	4	Tabes mesenterica . . . .	2	1	3
Spinal irritation . . . .	0	32	32	Dysentery . . . . .	2	2	4
Pleurcodynia . . . . .	0	87	87	Constipation . . . . .	86	263	349
Muscular pain of abdomen	0	10	10	Colic, tympanites . . . .	5	8	13
Neuralgia . . . . .	19	28	47	Colica pictonum . . . . .	19	0	19
Hemicrania . . . . .	2	5	7	Tormina . . . . .	3	3	6
Sciatica . . . . .	7	4	11	Hæmorrhoids. . . . .	26	20	46
Pain in the feet . . . .	3	3	6	Prolapsus ani . . . . .	3	15	18
——in the hands . . . .	0	4	4	Stricture of the rectum .	0	3	3
Melancholia . . . . .	4	3	7	Enlarged spleen . . . .	0	1	1
Hypochondriasis . . . .	2	1	3	Peritonitis . . . . .	3	3	6
Mania . . . . .	0	4	4	Intestinal worms (unnamed)	22	31	53
Dementia . . . . .	1	0	1	Ascaris vermicularis . .	25	29	54
Delirium tremens . . . .	13	5	18	——— lumbricoides . . .	1	1	2
Drunkenness . . . . .	1	1	2	Tænia . . . . .	6	9	15
Determination of blood to				Diseases of the liver . .	4	2	6
the head . . . . .	8	6	14	Icterus . . . . .	14	11	25
Apoplexy . . . . .	1	0	1	Gall stones . . . . .	0	1	1
Vertigo . . . . .	8	11	19	Diseases of the kidney .	9	5	14
Cephalæa . . . . .	66	121	187	Hæmaturia . . . . .	5	3	8
Hydrocephalus . . . . .	7	8	15	Diabetes . . . . .	3	0	3
Phrenitis . . . . .	3	1	4	Cystitis . . . . .	3	1	4
Other diseases of brain .	2	8	10	Irritable bladder . . . .	3	2	5
Cynanche tonsillaris . .	43	71	114	Dysuria . . . . .	6	11	17
Tonsillitis . . . . .	22	33	55	Incontinence of urine . .	6	1	7
Relaxed uvula . . . . .	2	0	2	Retention of urine . . .	2	0	2
Laryngitis, acute & chronic	0	6	6	Calculus . . . . .	11	1	12
Laryngismus stridulus .	1	0	1	Gravel . . . . .	5	0	5
Cynanche pharyngea . .	3	1	4	Syphilis . . . . .	156	65	221
——— parotidea . . . .	5	7	12	Gonorrhœa and gleet . .	545	210	755
——— thyroidea . . . .	0	3	3	Bubo . . . . .	58	34	92
——— trachealis . . . .	2	1	3	Swelled testicle . . . .	53	(—)	53
Ulcer of tongue . . . . .	1	1	2	Excoriations . . . . .	25	10	35
Diseases of the salivary glands	3	2	5	Condylomata . . . . .	17	25	42
Bronchitis . . . . .	137	238	375	Secondary syphilis . . .	62	74	136
Pneumonia . . . . .	9	1	10	Hydrocele . . . . .	18	(—)	18
Pleuritis . . . . .	1	2	3	Varicocele . . . . .	5	(—)	5
Dyspnœa . . . . .	1	3	4	Stricture . . . . .	39	(—)	39
Tussis . . . . .	83	130	213	Other diseases of male			
Pertussis . . . . .	10	11	21	organs of generation .	36	(—)	36
Phthisis . . . . .	312	137	449	Periostitis . . . . .	13	20	33
Hæmoptysis . . . . .	14	17	31	Diseases of bone . . . .	12	5	17
Emphysema . . . . .	9	3	12	——— teeth and gums .	6	10	16
Gangrene of the lungs . .	1	0	1	——— joints . . . . .	51	70	121
Pericarditis . . . . .	1	0	1	Diseases of the eye and its			
Hypertrophy . . . . .	4	1	5	appendages . . . . .	134	125	259
Palpitation . . . . .	10	16	26	——— ear . . . . .	12	18	30
Other diseases of the heart	10	14	24	——— nose . . . . .	3	6	9
Cyanosis . . . . .	1	0	1				
Phlebitis . . . . .	1	1	2				



Skin diseases (unnamed).	61	48	109	Purulent discharge from the vagina of children . . . . .	2		
Strophulus . . . . .	0	3	3	Pregnancy . . . . .	8		
Lichen . . . . .	11	11	22	Abortus . . . . .	13		
Prurigo . . . . .	1	11	12	Diseases of the vagina . . . . .	6		
Lepra vulgaris . . . . .	13	47	60	Inflammation of the pudenda . . . . .	4		
— syphilitica . . . . .	9	15	24	Prolapsus uteri . . . . .	29		
Psoriasis . . . . .	18	29	47	Organic diseases of uterus and ovary . . . . .	16		
Pityriasis . . . . .	2	0	2	Diseases of the mammæ . . . . .	34		
Urticaria . . . . .	17	22	39	Ovarian dropsy . . . . .	1		
Roseola . . . . .	1	1	2	Change of life . . . . .	35		
Erythema . . . . .	4	18	22	<i>General Abstract.</i>			
— nodosum . . . . .	1	2	3	Febrile affections . . . . .	165	179	344
Pemphigus . . . . .	3	3	6	Catarrh . . . . .	137	248	385
Pompholyx . . . . .	1	0	1	Contagious exanthemata . . . . .	64	57	121
Impetigo . . . . .	7	5	12	Struma, gout, &c. . . . .	168	241	409
Porrigo . . . . .	116	92	208	Dropsies . . . . .	15	26	41
Ecthyma . . . . .	6	5	11	Rheumatic affections . . . . .	302	232	534
Scabies . . . . .	77	79	156	Convulsive diseases, &c. . . . .	35	81	116
Herpes . . . . .	28	20	48	Paralytic affections . . . . .	30	14	44
Rupia . . . . .	2	0	2	Neuralgic affections . . . . .	31	173	204
— syphilitica . . . . .	0	1	1	Mental disorders . . . . .	21	14	35
Miliaria . . . . .	1	0	1	Diseases of the brain . . . . .	95	155	250
Eczema . . . . .	54	39	93	— throat, . . . . .			
Aphthæ . . . . .	12	17	29	larynx, &c. . . . .	82	125	207
Acne . . . . .	7	6	13	— lungs . . . . .	577	542	1119
Lupus . . . . .	1	0	1	— heart and . . . . .			
Sycosis . . . . .	4	0	4	arteries . . . . .	28	32	60
Nævus . . . . .	0	1	1	— stomach . . . . .	113	281	394
Phlegmon . . . . .	107	104	211	— intestines . . . . .	295	514	809
Abscess . . . . .	86	57	143	Intestinal worms . . . . .	54	70	124
Anthrax . . . . .	19	5	24	Diseases of the abdominal . . . . .			
Ulcers of the leg . . . . .	113	108	221	cavity . . . . .	3	3	6
— other parts . . . . .	53	51	104	— liver . . . . .	18	14	32
Fistula in ano . . . . .	7	5	12	— urinary . . . . .			
— perineo . . . . .	1	0	1	organs . . . . .	53	24	77
Varicose veins . . . . .	6	8	14	Syphilitic diseases . . . . .	916	418	1334
Tumors . . . . .	21	24	45	Other diseases of male . . . . .			
Malignant tumors . . . . .	3	4	7	organs of generation . . . . .	98	(—)	98
Glandular enlargements . . . . .	25	10	35	Diseases of bones, joints, . . . . .			
Enlarged and inflamed . . . . .				teeth, &c. . . . .	82	105	187
bursæ . . . . .	14	34	48	— the organs of . . . . .			
Hernia . . . . .	21	13	34	sense . . . . .	149	149	298
Malformations . . . . .	23	18	41	Skin diseases . . . . .	457	475	932
Wounds . . . . .	84	33	117	Inflammation and its con- . . . . .			
Burns and scalds . . . . .	40	35	75	sequences . . . . .	386	330	716
Contusions and sprains . . . . .	249	157	406	Tumors, &c. . . . .	113	111	224
Concussion . . . . .	4	1	5	Accidents and external . . . . .			
Dislocations . . . . .	7	3	10	injuries . . . . .	453	271	724
Fractures . . . . .	64	30	94	Attempts at suicide . . . . .	1	6	7
Other accidents . . . . .	5	12	17	Diseases of females . . . . .	(—)	606	606
Attempts at suicide . . . . .	1	6	7	Total, 4941 5497 10438			
				As the number of cases registered during the past year is so considerable, and as the cases themselves may be			

*Diseases of Females.*

Anæmia, chlorosis . . . . .	33
Hyperlactatio, mimosi inquieta . . . . .	97
Amenorrhœa . . . . .	83
Irregular menstruation . . . . .	9
Dysmenorrhœa . . . . .	29
Menorrhagia . . . . .	106
Leucorrhœa . . . . .	101

As the number of cases registered during the past year is so considerable, and as the cases themselves may be fairly assumed to present a tolerably correct view of the sickness prevalent in the most central districts of the metropolis, I have prepared a table showing the number of the several diseases, or classes of disease, which occurred in the several months and quarters of the year 1842. (Table I.)



TABLE I.

*Showing the Number of Cases belonging to the different classes of Disease, which occurred in the several Months and Quarters of the year 1842\*.*

Diseases.	January.	February.	March.	First Quarter.	April.	May.	June.	Second Quarter.	July.	August.	September.	Third Quarter.	October.	November.	December.	Fourth Quarter.
Febrile affections . . . . .	17	14	14	45	29	25	40	94	35	53	50	138	27	29	25	81
Catarrh . . . . .	40	41	22	103	34	34	24	92	11	32	45	88	48	29	33	110
Contagious exanthemata . . . . .	1	4	6	11	9	9	17	35	15	14	15	44	18	5	8	31
Rheumatic affections . . . . .	29	31	28	88	50	43	59	152	50	47	55	152	46	52	56	154
Disorders of the nervous system . . . . .	31	44	61	136	60	63	71	194	44	62	57	163	59	51	47	157
Disorders of the respiratory system . . . . .	149	146	124	419	97	106	87	290	88	81	104	273	136	121	85	342
Disorders of the circulating system . . . . .	3	4	2	9	4	5	4	13	6	3	8	17	3	8	5	16
Disorders of the organs of digestion . . . . .	64	93	91	248	93	108	144	345	150	216	148	514	82	102	83	267
Disorders of the urinary organs . . . . .	4	2	7	13	3	4	8	15	8	6	10	24	7	10	8	25
Skin diseases . . . . .	36	82	67	185	89	89	113	291	86	103	75	264	64	81	72	217
Inflammation, and its consequences . . . . .	54	64	67	185	58	63	58	179	56	67	75	198	53	56	57	166
Struma, goit, dropsy, &c. . . . .	21	20	22	63	29	46	57	132	43	68	62	173	33	19	34	86
Syphilitic disorders . . . . .	91	127	86	304	89	112	131	332	125	164	147	436	127	136	124	387
Diseases of the osseous system . . . . .	16	11	13	40	16	17	22	55	15	12	15	42	8	22	20	50
Diseases of the organs of sense . . . . .	18	29	27	74	17	41	35	93	19	26	24	69	26	19	21	66
Accidents, tumors, malformations, &c. . . . .	60	66	72	198	65	85	96	246	104	117	90	311	73	73	82	228
Diseases of females . . . . .	32	41	43	116	44	64	75	183	63	59	42	164	62	47	34	143
General Total . . . . .	666	819	752	2237	786	914	1041	2741	918	1130	1022	3070	872	860	794	2526

\* The months are all supposed to consist of 31 days, and additions have been made to those containing a less number; so that the Table presents a somewhat larger number of cases than actually occurred.



This table presents some points of interest. It will be seen that the febrile affections, the contagious exanthemata, the disorders of the organs of digestion, and the group of diseases of uncertain seat, comprising struma, gout, debility, &c. agree in the order of their frequency; the greatest number of cases of each class occurring in the third, and the least in the first quarter; and that the quarters come in the following order, beginning with that in which the fewest cases occurred:—*first, fourth, second, third*. The order of frequency in the case of catarrh is different, but if cases reported as debility, and of which the greater number may be fairly considered to fall under the head of catarrh, be included in that class, the same order of frequency will be found to obtain with catarrh as with the diseases already enumerated. If, moreover, the cases of debility be taken from those of the mixed group with which they are classed in the first table, the remainder of that group will be found to follow in the order 1, 4, 2, 3. The class of febrile affections, the contagious exanthemata, catarrh, diseases of the organs of digestion, and the mixed group, including struma, gout, plethora, &c. resemble each other, therefore, in the order of frequency.

All these diseases may be fairly supposed to acknowledge the influence of the seasons; but as the same order is observed to obtain in the case of a totally different group, viz. that of accidents, tumors, malformations, &c. in which the influence of the seasons is indirect and remote, it will be necessary to be very guarded in forming any estimate of the influence of the seasons upon health from these data, and to suspend the judgment till the reports of future years shall have confirmed or invalidated the conclusions drawn from the present report. It will be observed that the total number corresponds with the order of the classes now referred to; and that, taking diseases and accidents together, the quarters follow in the order 1, 4, 2, 3. The same order also obtains when the accidents are subtracted. It seems, therefore, safe to conclude that sickness is least prevalent in the months of January, February, and March; somewhat more prevalent in October, November, and December; still more rife in April, May, and June; and that there is most sickness in the

months of July, August, and September. The months come in the following order:—January, March, April, December, February, November, October, May, July, September, June, August.

The affections of the organs of respiration follow the inverse order of the classes just mentioned; the greatest number of cases occurring in the first quarter, and the least in the third. The quarters, therefore, stand as follows, beginning, as before, with that in which there is the smallest number of cases:—*third, second, fourth, first*.

Rheumatic affections, and diseases of the urinary organs, follow in the order 1, 2, 3, 4; diseases of the nervous system, of the skin, and those of females, follow the order 1, 4, 3, 2; those of the circulating system are represented by 1, 2, 4, 3; and this is the order of the syphilitic disorders. The great excess of this latter class of affections in the months of August and September, and in the third quarter, deserves a passing notice. In the group of which accidents, especially bruises and sprains, form by far the majority of cases, it will be seen that there is the same excess during the third quarter. It will be recollected that it is during the summer months that the greater number of crimes are committed against the person, that the greatest number of suicides take place, at least in most nations, and that the liability to attacks of insanity is at a maximum\*. If future reports correspond with the present, we shall have, in the excess of syphilitic disease, during the hottest season of the year, an incidental confirmation of the facts which tend to prove the great activity of the passions during these seasons.

The foregoing remarks apply to the prevalence of *sickness*, in the widest acceptance of the term, and not to the *mortality*. On referring to the Registrar-General's table of mortality for the metropolis for 1842, I find that sickness is at a minimum and the mortality at a maximum in January; whilst the third quarter, which is the most sickly, ranks only third in point of mortality. In the bills of mortality, diseases of the respiratory organs, which chiefly determine the total mortality, are fatal in the following order, beginning with the quarter in which the deaths are fewest

\* See Quetelet sur l'Homme, Book 3.



—3, 2, 4, 1—and this is the order of the frequency of those affections. The third quarter is not only more sickly, but also more fatal to life than the second, in consequence of the predominance of almost every severe disease except those of the organs of respiration.

The interest which attaches to this part of the report will be greatly increased by a comparison with the results of future years.

I have prepared another table, which exhibits the number of cases of the several diseases, or classes of disease, occurring in both sexes; to which I have added their per-centage proportions for either sex. By presenting a similar table in each year's report, and adding the result of the current year to those of the preceding years, I hope to be able to give a tolerably correct view of the liability of either sex to the several forms of disease. Some observations yet remain to be made on this subject in relation to individual diseases.

**REMARKS.**—I have brought together, in this, as in former reports, a few observations entered in the column of remarks, to which I add some comments on the relative frequency of those diseases which are most liable to vary year by year.

*Febris continua.*—The number of cases of continued fever entered in this, as in the two preceding reports, is very inconsiderable. There has, indeed, been a remarkable freedom from fever during the years 1840, 1841, and 1842, with every indication of an approaching epidemic in the present year. Already a larger number of cases of fever have come under my notice during the present than during the whole of last year.

*Febris infantum remittens.*—Cases of infantile fever were greatly in excess in the third quarter of the year; 119 out of 295 cases, or two-fifths, having been registered during the months of July, August, and September. There was also a great excess of cases of debility occurring in children during the months of May, September, and October, and it is remarkable that a very large majority of these were females.

*Catarrhus.*—In the report for 1841, a distinction was made between catarrh and influenza, in consequence of the marked epidemic character which the

disease assumed during the months of February and March; no less than 11 cases having been entered on each of two days. In the year 1842, catarrh could scarcely be said to be epidemic, for when the cases registered as debility, during the month of August, and which are too much in excess to be explained on any other supposition than that they were true cases of catarrh, are added in, there results a slight excess in the months of July, August, and September; but the numbers in the several quarters are so nearly the same as to preclude all idea of an epidemic. The total number of cases of catarrh and influenza registered in 1841 was 415 in 8029 patients, or about 1 in 19; the number registered in 1842 was 385, or 1 in 27 patients.

*Erysipelas.*—In one case of erysipelas faciei, occurring in a female, æt. 30, the menses were suppressed on the second day by cold, and the eruption made its appearance immediately after. In another case, a female, æt. 54, drank 8 pints of cold water, which was followed by shivering, and the eruption appeared on the third day.

*Podagra.*—One patient stated that his attacks had been always preceded by an extensive eruption of herpes labialis.

*Muscular Rheumatism.*—This disease, which was most prevalent in the last two quarters of the year, was comparatively rare during the months of January, February, and March; the smallest number having occurred in the month of March. The largest number occurred in the month of December, and on the 15th of that month, after a sudden change from severe cold to the mild temperature of spring, 4 cases were registered.

*Epilepsy.*—One case of this disease always commenced with a coppery taste in the mouth, which was soon followed by an impediment in the speech, and that by the fit.

Another case, which may perhaps be designated as imperfect epilepsy, came on at intervals of about three months, with a sensation of numbness in the left little finger, gradually extending along the arm, and accompanied by a sort of catching. It then extended to the mouth and lips, and the side of the face, the speech becoming affected so that he could not make himself understood. After these



TABLE II.

Showing the total number of cases belonging to the several classes of disease in both sexes; and the proportion per cent. which each class bears to the entire number of cases.

	1842.					1840-1-2.				
	Per centage.					Per centage.				
	M.	F.	M. & F.	M.	F.	M. & F.	M.	F.	M. & F.	
Febrile affections . . . . .	165	179	344	3.76	3.87	3.82	395	421	816	4.53
Catarrh . . . . .	137	248	385	3.12	5.37	4.27	309	554	863	3.39
Contagious Exanthemata . . . . .	64	57	121	1.46	1.23	1.34	137	158	295	1.50
Struma, Gout, &c . . . . .	168	241	409	3.83	5.22	4.54	351	407	758	3.85
Dropsies . . . . .	15	26	41	0.34	0.56	0.46	33	68	101	0.36
Rheumatic affections . . . . .	302	232	534	6.88	5.02	5.93	681	552	1233	7.46
Convulsive diseases, &c. . . . .	35	81	116	0.80	1.75	1.29	99	221	320	1.08
Paralytic affections . . . . .	30	14	44	0.68	0.30	0.49	84	55	139	0.92
Neuralgic affections . . . . .	31	173	204	0.71	3.74	2.26	55	301	356	0.60
Mental disorders (including attempts at suicide)	22	20	42	0.50	0.43	0.46	47	40	87	0.52
Cerebral affections . . . . .	95	155	250	2.16	3.35	2.77	201	355	556	2.20
Diseases of the throat, larynx, &c. . . . .	82	125	207	1.87	2.71	2.30	152	246	398	1.67
— lungs . . . . .	577	542	1119	13.14	11.73	12.42	1251	1227	2478	13.71
— heart and arteries . . . . .	28	32	60	0.64	0.69	0.67	66	68	134	0.72
— stomach . . . . .	113	281	394	2.57	6.08	4.37	249	763	1012	2.73
— intestines . . . . .	295	514	809	6.72	11.13	8.98	604	1114	1718	6.62
Intestinal worms . . . . .	54	70	124	1.23	1.52	1.38	102	159	261	1.12
Diseases of the liver . . . . .	18	14	32	0.41	0.30	0.36	35	24	59	0.38
— urinary organs . . . . .	53	24	77	1.21	0.52	0.85	89	50	139	0.98
Syphilitic disorders . . . . .	916	418	1334	20.90	9.05	14.81	1617	785	2402	17.72
Diseases of the osseous system . . . . .	82	105	187	1.87	2.27	2.08	216	222	438	2.37
— organs of sense . . . . .	149	149	298	3.39	3.23	3.31	298	298	596	3.27
Skin diseases . . . . .	457	475	932	10.41	10.29	10.34	933	1055	1988	10.22
Inflammation, and its consequences . . . . .	386	330	716	8.79	7.14	7.95	887	818	1705	9.72
Tumors, &c. . . . .	113	111	224	2.57	2.40	2.49	235	281	516	2.58
Total.	4390	4619	9009				9126	10242	19368	



sensations had continued about half an hour, a severe and diffused headache supervened, which lasted for some hours. The patient, in other respects, enjoyed good health.

A third case presented that anomalous character which renders it difficult to refer it to any distinct head. It was that of a widow, æt. 55, who stated that, two or three times a week, and sometimes as often as twice daily, she was seized with a fit which, on her first attendance, presented the following characters. The right side of the face was affected with violent twitchings, and the right side of the body by shiverings. She retained her senses during the fit, but lost her voice. Aperient medicines were administered, which brought away some ascarides, and her fits in consequence became less frequent. She again presented herself at the hospital about a fortnight after her first application, in a fit which assumed a different character, consisting of incoherence, and rapid utterance of indistinct oral sounds. She was lost sight of.

*Hysteria.*—The small number of cases of hysteria entered in the table will excite attention. The reason that they are so few is, that the term has been used in a stricter sense than that in which it is commonly employed. Many cases, commonly classed with hysteria, will be found under the more definite head of spinal irritation, or *mimosis inquieta*; those cases only having been entered as hysteria in which fits commonly designated as hysterical were present. In one case of well-marked hysteria, I counted, during the paroxysm, 56 sobbing respirations and 160 pulses.

A case belonging to the class of spasmodic affections was interesting for the speedy relief afforded by simple purgatives. It was one of rigid contraction of the fingers, the thumb being forcibly drawn into the palm of the hand. The contraction was so strong as to resist a considerable force. The disease disappeared after free evacuation of the bowels, and recurred after renewed constipation. It was again removed by the same simple remedies.

*Spinal irritation, pleurodynia, muscular pain of the abdomen.*—In the report for 1841 some remarks were made on the diagnosis of muscular pains of the chest and abdomen, on the connection of those pains with spinal ten-

derness, and on the dependence of this latter condition on irritation of the mucous membranes. During the past year short notes have been taken of the observed causes of this tenderness of the spine, and of the reflected pain of the muscles or abdomen which accompanies it. I have found this spinal tenderness to be generally accompanied by pain in the abdominal parietes, more rarely by acute pleurodynia, and in other cases by pain in both these situations. The pain in the abdominal parietes, like that in the side, is generally confined to the left side; and when it extends to both sides, is more acute on the left. The pain is often so acute as to make the patient cry; and this has doubtless often caused such cases to be designated as hysteria. In some instances, it is true, genuine hysterical paroxysms co-exist with these pains; but such cases form the exception to the rule. Perhaps there is no suffering which so often makes the patient cry as that produced by muscular pains; and I have so generally observed this, that I look for muscular pain rather than for any deeper-seated mischief, whenever females present themselves in tears. In the diagnosis of pain this fact is worthy of attention, as pain, connected with more severe disease, rarely expresses itself by tears.

The ascertained causes of spinal irritation, in connection with muscular pain of the abdomen or chest, in 33 cases, were as follows. Constipation in 4; diarrhœa in 4, of which 1 was complicated with hysteria; dyspepsia in 4, of which 1 also was combined with hysteria; gastritis in 1; gastroenteritis in 1; leucorrhœa in 4, of which 1 was combined with prolapsus uteri; dysmenorrhœa in 1, in which dry cough was present; gonorrhœa in 1; and cystitis in 1. Constipation and leucorrhœa were jointly present in two cases, in one of which there was scanty menstruation; constipation and menorrhagia in 1 case, and here hysteria was also present; constipation and amenorrhœa in 1; constipation and dysmenorrhœa in 1; constipation and gastritis in 2; constipation and dysuria in 1. Diarrhœa and leucorrhœa were combined in 2 cases, in 1 of which there was dry cough; gastritis and menorrhagia in 1; gastritis and dysmenorrhœa in 1. In two cases there was no assigned cause.



In one case, in which spinal irritation was accompanied by dry cough, leucorrhœa was present; and in one case epilepsy was found in combination with spinal irritation and leucorrhœa. This short statement may serve to show the cases in which spinal irritation may be looked for. Whenever a female presents herself, complaining of acute pain in the chest or abdomen, and, as often happens, expressing her suffering by tears, the spine should be examined, when tenderness will generally be discovered in some part or other of the vertebral column, and most commonly in the dorsal region. The connection of this spinal tenderness with the pain will appear on striking the tender portion of the spine, when pain will be felt not only in the tender spot, but darting towards the affected muscle. When cough is present, it will be produced in like manner by striking the tender portions of the spine. These pains will be often found in combination with that peculiar state of nervous system described under the name of *mimosis inquieta*; in which case it will be necessary to combine the treatment proper to that condition of system with the counter-irritation to the spine, the local applications to the seat of the pain, and the remedies adapted to remove the cause of both.

*Neuralgia*.—One recent case of *tic douloureux*, occurring in an anemic female, recovered in six days under the use of Ferri Sulph. gr. v., Ext. Conii, Ext. Gentianæ, aa. gr. iiss. t. d. with gentle aperients.

*Hemicrania*.—In a female, æt. 34, pain in the side of the face, occurring at irregular intervals, and lasting for variable periods, was followed by shivering accompanied by perspiration. She had had the ague 20 years before. Cured by quinine.

*Dementia*.—One marked case of dementia occurred in a boy, æt. 10, in consequence of the earthquake panic. A second case in an errand-boy, æt. 16, followed fright. A case of melancholia in a female, æt. 43, also came on, after slight premonitory symptoms, in consequence of the earthquake panic.

*Delirium tremens*.—The close resemblance which this disease sometimes bears to dreaming was well illustrated in the case of a clerk, æt. 40, who had formerly been intemperate. He came into the out-patients' room

shedding tears profusely, and looking about him in a timid suspicious way, but perfectly quiet, and with a manner quite free from excitement. He was scarcely seated before he rose to examine the stove, which he said was hissing at him. He then took the arm of the chair for a scorpion, and began to scratch with a view to dislodge and kill it, complaining that it had crept into its hole. He next began pinching his thigh, saying that something was biting him. On the porter who had not previously spoken to him, coming into the room, he enquired whether he had not threatened to kill him. Every thing that he did was as quiet and methodical as if it did not concern him in any way, and he put his question to the porter as if it were of no sort of consequence whether he killed him or not. On being questioned he said that the room seemed to him to be full of lobsters. He complained that he could not sleep at night, and was desirous of having some one to sleep in his room. This man recovered under the use of large doses of laudanum and stimulants. Another case of *delirium tremens* occurred in a female, æt. 28, who stated that during the last week she had, for the first time, drank to excess, and that since that time every thing she thought of seemed to be spoken in her ears, her words were repeated after her, and she heard persons as she went along saying that she was mad. She thought she had been robbed, looked suspicious, but was withal perfectly tranquil. Her hand trembled, and she said that she had not slept for two nights.

This coincidence of imaginations calculated strongly to excite the feelings and passions, with a manner perfectly free from all excitement, is a very remarkable feature of many cases of *delirium tremens*.

*Phthisis*.—A similar marked disproportion in the number of cases of this disease, occurring in the two sexes, which was observed in former years, occurs in 1842; the number of males being 312, and that of females 137. In 1840 the numbers were, of males 101, of females 43; in 1841, there were 237 males to 122 females. The per centage proportions, calculated as in Table II. for males and females respectively, was, in the year 1842, males 7.11, females 2.97, both sexes 4.91. In the three years, 1840-1-2, the total numbers



were—males 650, females 302; and the per centage proportions, 7.12 for males, 2.95 for females, and 4.92 for both sexes. The close correspondence between the single year, and the sum of the three years, renders it probable that the proportions now given are near the truth. It would appear, then, that the liability to pulmonary consumption, for the two sexes, as far as it can be estimated by the attendance at an hospital, is in the proportion of about 7 to 3; that in males, consumptive cases form about a fourteenth of the whole number of cases, in females about a thirty-third, and in the two sexes jointly, about a twentieth. The number of cases of phthisis was greatest in the first quarter, and least in the last, the numbers for the four quarters respectively being 135, 124, 109, 85. The number of applications was greatest in January and May, and least in November and December. The number both in January and June was 47, in November 27, and in December 17. The males were in excess in the first quarter, and the females in the third.

The value of the pulse as suggestive of phthisis was well shown in one case, where the patient's only complaint was headache. The pulse, though only 68 in the sitting posture, was extremely small and quick, and the long interval existing between the beats caused it to be estimated much lower in point of frequency. This led to an examination of the chest, when there was found great dulness on percussion under both clavicles, with tubular respiration under the right, and crepitus and prolonged expiratory murmur above and beneath the left. The small and quick pulse, with or without increased frequency, should always lead to an examination of the chest, even when no other symptom of phthisis is present. If to these characters there be added great increase of frequency, there is the strongest probability of phthisis. These observations of course apply only to the male, as the pulse is naturally more frequent in the female, and is increased in frequency by almost every complaint, functional or organic, to which she is subject.

*Gastrodynia.*—A case of intermittent neuralgic pain in the pit of the stomach is recorded as occurring in a bricklayer, æt. 69. The pain came on every morn-

ing about half-past 10 o'clock, and continued 6 hours. It was not confined to the pit of the stomach, but extended downwards towards the umbilicus. He was ordered two grains of quinine three times a day. After taking the medicine two days, the pain, instead of coming on at half-past 10, was postponed till 1 o'clock. At the end of 9 days he reported that he had had no pain since the day before, when it lasted one hour instead of six. He continued free from pain, and was discharged cured on the 18th day.

*Mimosis inquieta.*—This term aptly expresses that restless, uneasy, nervous state into which females are apt to be thrown by sudden shocks, by long-continued anxiety, or by slow drains upon the system. In the report it is classed with hyperlactatio, which is one of its most common causes, but it might perhaps be more correct to separate them. This term has been used in preference to the cause itself, in those cases where the cause is not of the nature of a disease, as well as in those where the state of system is more remarkable than the cause which has produced it.

The group of symptoms which characterise this state of system in its most marked form are—palpitation, with a small, quick, and frequent pulse; dyspnoea; tremblings, shiverings, occasional flushings of the face, sudden perspirations, wandering pains, fixed pain at the top or back of the head, a sensation of cold water dripping on the back of the head and down the spine; giddiness, loss of recollection, low spirits, ill-founded apprehensions (sometimes a fear of committing some great crime), sleep disturbed by hideous dreams, from which the patient wakes startled, starting at the slightest noise; anorexia, flatulence, constipation.

All these symptoms are not present in all cases, but many of them are usually combined. There is sometimes tenderness of the spine, with reflected muscular pains, and sometimes, though rarely, well-marked hysteria.

The principal causes of this state are the following:—fright; long-continued anxiety or grief; great fatigue; long watching; change of life; suppression of the menstrual discharge in persons of middle age; debilitating discharges, as hyperlactatio, leucorrhœa, menorrhagia, diarrhœa; repeated loss of blood. It is also frequently present



during convalescence from debilitating diseases. In one case of a female, æt. 39, the disease came on after a walk of 77 miles in three days. The treatment of this disease, in addition to the removal of the ascertained cause, and the regulation of the functions of the alimentary canal, consists in a combination of tonics and sedatives. I have found the following mixture extremely beneficial.

Acidi Sulph. dil. ℥x.—xx.; Tinct. Opii, ℥v.; Tinct. Digitalis, ℥x.; Infus. Quassia, ʒj.—ʒiss. ter in die.

This mixture may perhaps owe part of its efficacy, when the disease is caused

by debilitating discharges, to the mineral acid.

Nearly all the symptoms now described under the title of "mimosis inquieta," occurred in two young men who had injured their constitutions by sexual and other excesses. The same treatment was adopted with the best effect.

The Report for 1843 will be more complete than the present one, inasmuch as the registration of in-patients will be complete, instead of embracing, as in the present Report, only about two-thirds of the cases. I shall also hope to introduce into the Report other points of interest.