

Deaths reported 2,672; under five years of age 880; principal infectious diseases (small-pox, measles, diphtheria and croup, whooping-cough, erysipelas, fevers, and diarrhoeal diseases) 898, lung diseases 516, consumption 415, diphtheria and croup 145, scarlet fever 65, measles 38, typhoid fever 35, diarrhoeal diseases 27, cerebro-spinal meningitis 27, malarial fevers 18, erysipelas 17, whooping-cough 16, puerperal fever 10. From typhoid fever, Philadelphia 17, Baltimore and Lowell five each, St. Louis two, New York, Brooklyn, Providence, Charleston, New Bedford, and Gloucester one each. From diarrhoeal diseases, New York 10, Brooklyn eight, Boston two, St. Louis, Buffalo, District of Columbia, Providence, Lowell, Holyoke, and Chelsea one each. From cerebro-spinal meningitis, New York 10, St. Louis seven, Buffalo four, Nashville, Fall River, Somerville, Taunton, Brockton, and Waltham one each. From malarial fevers, New York six, Brooklyn four, Buffalo three, St. Louis two, Philadelphia, Baltimore, and Fall River one each. From erysipelas, New York and Brooklyn four each, Philadelphia three, Baltimore two, Providence, Worcester, Fall River, and Lynn one each. From whooping-cough, New York seven, Brooklyn three, Philadelphia and Lawrence two each, District of Columbia and New Bedford one each. From puerperal fever, New York, Brooklyn, and District of Columbia two each, Boston, Baltimore, St. Louis, and New Haven one each.

In 114 cities and towns of Massachusetts, with an estimated population of 1,458,096 (estimated population of the State 1,955,104), the total death-rate for the week was 19.48 against 17.75 and 20.76 for the two preceding weeks.

In the 28 greater towns of England and Wales, with an estimated population of 8,906,446, for the week ending February 28th the death-rate was 21.4. Deaths reported 3,660; infants under one year of age 850; acute diseases of the respiratory organs (London) 384, whooping-cough 113, measles 102, scarlet fever 44, fever 32, diphtheria 31, small-pox (London 18, Birmingham and Sunderland two each, Brighton and Liverpool one each) 24. The death-rates ranged from 13.9 in Portsmouth to 32.2 in Preston; Birmingham 19.4; Blackburn 21.3; Bradford 18.7; Hull 15.7; Leeds 19.7; Leicester 18.4; Liverpool 25.7; London 20.0; Manchester 24.6; Nottingham 23.9; Sheffield 21.8; Sunderland 29.6. In Edinburgh 16.0; Glasgow 29.1; Dublin 30.3.

For the week ending February 28th in the Swiss towns there were 37 deaths from consumption, lung diseases 29, diarrhoeal diseases 14, diphtheria and croup 12, puerperal fever 5, typhoid fever 4, measles 3, whooping-cough 3, scarlet fever 1, small-pox 2. The death-rates were: at Geneva 15.2; Zürich 13.6; Basle 20.4; Berne 37.1.

The meteorological record for the week ending March 14th, in Boston, was as follows, according to observations furnished by Sergeant O. B. Cole, of the United States Signal Corps:—

Date.	Barometer.	Thermometer.			Relative Humidity.				Direction of Wind.			Velocity of Wind.			State of Weather. ¹			Rainfall.	
		Daily Mean.	Maximum.	Minimum.	7.23 A. M.	3.23 P. M.	11.23 P. M.	Daily Mean.	7.23 A. M.	3.23 P. M.	11.23 P. M.	7.23 A. M.	3.23 P. M.	11.23 P. M.	7.23 A. M.	3.23 P. M.	11.23 P. M.	Duration, Hrs. & Min.	Amount in Inches.
March, 1885,																			
Sunday, 8	29.939	21.2	30.2	11.0	83	72	61	72.0	N	N	N W	7	14	19	N	O	C	—	—
Monday, 9	29.928	20.7	27.5	9.2	56	69	100	75.0	W	W	S W	14	12	18	N	O	C	—	—
Tuesday, 10	29.839	24.7	32.2	18.0	75	69	76	73.3	W	W	W	24	25	17	N	O	C	—	—
Wednesday, 11	30.209	19.3	24.0	11.4	59	44	65	56.0	W	W	W	12	14	14	N	O	C	—	—
Thursday, 12	30.125	20.6	31.3	9.0	63	55	55	57.7	W	N W	N	10	12	15	N	O	C	—	—
Friday, 13	30.207	18.6	23.0	3.9	71	76	73	73.3	N	N E	E	15	12	11	N	O	C	—	—
Saturday, 14	29.957	26.8	34.5	13.0	84	62	54	66.7	N W	N W	N W	12	12	2	N	O	C	—	—
Mean, the Week.	30.029	21.4	28.9	12.2				67.7										31.0	0.10

¹ O., cloudy; C., clear; F., fair; G., fog; H., hazy; S., smoky; R., rain; T., threatening; N., snow.

EFFECTS OF CONSANGUINEOUS MARRIAGES UPON OFFSPRING.

255 WARREN ST., ROXBURY, BOSTON, MASS.
March 23, 1885.

Mr. Editor, — Desiring to collect some recent data regarding the effects of consanguineous marriages upon offspring, I wish to ask through the columns of the JOURNAL the co-operation of the medical profession. Any physician, having personal or professional cognizance of any marriages within the sixth degree of kinship (second cousins), will confer a great favor by forwarding brief notes thereof to the above address. The following facts are desired: (1) *date of marriage* (approximate); (2) *name*, whenever there is no objection (this is merely to guard against duplication of cases); (3) degree of relationship between husband and wife; (4) nationality of each; (5) occupation of husband; (6) number of children born; (7) number living at present; (8) number of children healthy; (9) diseases or defects of children not healthy; (10) any other facts of interest in the case.

It is particularly wished that no selection of cases be made, but that all consanguineous marriages (including those not made especially conspicuous by reason of unfortunate results in the offspring) be impartially recorded.

Very truly yours,

C. F. WITHERINGTON, M.D.

OFFICIAL LIST OF CHANGES OF STATIONS AND DUTIES OF MEDICAL OFFICERS OF THE UNITED STATES MARINE-HOSPITAL SERVICE, FOR THE WEEK ENDED MARCH 14, 1885.

BAILHACHE, P. H., surgeon. Detailed as President, Board of Examiners. March 10, 1885.

PURVIANCE, GEORGE, surgeon. Detailed as member, Board of Examiners. March 10, 1885.

AUSTIN, H. W., surgeon. Detailed as Recorder, Board of Examiners. March 10, 1885.

THE CARTWRIGHT PRIZE.

ESSAYS in competition for the CARTWRIGHT PRIZE must be handed in to some member of the committee on or before April 1, 1885. The committee consists of Robert Abbe, M.D., 32 East 20th Street; Walter Mendelson, M.D., 209 West 46th Street, and R. W. Amidon, M.D., Chairman, 18 West 21st Street, New York.

CORRECTION.

In the case reported by Dr. Lyman, in the Improvement report of last week, page 274, seventh line, first word, read "right" for "left."

E. M. BUCKINGHAM, Secretary.

BOOKS AND PAMPHLETS RECEIVED.

N. W. Ayer & Son's American Newspaper Annual, containing a Catalogue of American Newspapers. Philadelphia: N. W. Ayer & Son. 1884.

Typhoid Fever and Low Water in Wells. By Henry B. Baker, M.D. (Reprint.)

The Forty-second Annual Report of the Mount Hope Retreat for the Year 1884. By William H. Stokes, M.D. Baltimore. 1885.