

drawing of the left cheek on smiling, and, according to Dr. Jeffries, "dynamic divergent strabismus" of the right eye, with a high degree of myopia.

In the case first mentioned, there is no doubt organic disease of the brain, of the exact nature or the precise location of which I have nothing to say on a single examination. In the second case, there may also have been, years ago, some slight lesion, but there seems to be no evidence of progressive cerebral disease.

MORTALITY STATISTICS OF THE THREE LEARNED PROFESSIONS.

By J. M. TONER, M.D., Washington, D. C.

HAVING had an opportunity a few days since to examine some of the advance sheets of the forthcoming U. S. Census report for 1870, I have compiled the following statements there given of the number of deaths returned as occurring among the three learned professions of our country—theology, medicine and law—for the year ending June 30, 1870, and send it to you as possessing some interest to the medical profession at large. I have been unable to obtain the number returned as engaged in each of these professions for the year 1870.

For the year 1850 there were returned 28,842 clergymen; 40,564 physicians; and 23,939 lawyers. For the year 1860 there were returned 37,529 clergymen; 54,543 physicians; and 33,193 lawyers.

It is perhaps fair to presume that each retains about the same proportion to each other in the census of 1870.

The following is the number of deaths reported among clergymen, physicians and lawyers in each State and Territory of the United States for 1870:—

	C.	P.	L.		C.	P.	L.
Alabama,	19	30	14	Nebraska,	2	1	2
Arkansas,	2	11	9	Nevada,		1	2
California,	17	28	29	New Hamp.,	10	20	10
Colorado,		4	3	New Jersey,	15	20	13
Connecticut,	10	14	9	New Mexico,			1
Delaware,	4		1	New York,	74	136	114
Dist. Columbin,		1	6	N. Carolina,	16	15	10
Florida,	7	4	5	Ohio,	46	66	31
Georgia,	15	30	12	Oregon,		3	5
Illinois,	33	45	31	Pennsylv.,	57	94	50
Indiana,	27	35	17	Rhode Island,	2	5	1
Iowa,	19	29	8	S. Carolina,	13	10	7
Kansas,	9	10	6	Tennessee,	13	23	17
Kentucky,	10	32	20	Texas,		9	33
Louisiana,	8	20	13	Utah,		1	
Maine,	12	13	12	Vermont,		9	9
Maryland,	13	23	16	Virginia,	23	25	15
Mass.,	41	42	30	Washington,			1
Michigan,	17	23	23	West Virginia,	7	4	3
Minnesota,	10	2	2	Wisconsin,	18	22	12
Mississippi,	7	20	14	Wyoming,		1	
Missouri,	30	40	13				
Montana,		1	1				
					629	947	595

CAUSES OF DEATH ASSIGNED.

	C.	P.	L.
Unknown,	10	15	7
General diseases,	212	344	234
Diseases of the nervous system,	77	143	98
“ “ circulatory system,	51	73	45
“ “ respiratory system,	84	130	58
“ “ digestive system,	76	105	61
“ “ urinary and generative organs,	32	37	19
Diseases of the organs of locomotion,	3	4	
“ “ integumentary system,	1	1	3
Condition not necessarily associated with general or local diseases,	39	31	19
Poison,	2	18	13
Accidents and injuries,	9	46	43

Reports of Medical Societies.

BOSTON SOCIETY OF MEDICAL SCIENCES.

EDWARD WIGGLESWORTH, JR., M.D., SECRETARY.

FEB. 27th, 1872.—The Society met at the house of Dr. Richardson, Dr. Ellis in the Chair.

Elimination of Alcohol by the Kidneys and Breath.—Dr. Edes read a paper upon the elimination of alcohol by the kidneys and breath as determined by the chromic acid test. He found that the elimination by the breath was the more constant and continued longest at its maximum, but that after large doses, which had a perceptible narcotic effect [40 c.c. of strong alcohol], the urine, for the first two hours, and more especially the first hour, excreted a considerably larger amount. After five or six hours, the amount already eliminated is very small [say 1.5 c.c. when 40 c.c. had been taken], and the rate has fallen so low that several weeks would be required to complete the removal from the system.

With smaller doses [20 c.c. and 5 c.c.], the elimination by the kidneys is hardly perceptible, much less so than that by the breath. Lieben [Annalen der Chemie et Pharmacie, 7 Suppl. Band 1870] was able to collect from the urine of persons who had taken 22.5 c.c. of alcohol in the form of light wine less than 0.1 c.c. alcohol. It is probable that these results are much modified by the addition of other ingredients, as in wine or beer, by dilution, temperature, habit or idiosyncrasy.

Dr. White mentioned that in his experiments of a similar nature, made for the Legislature under Gov. Andrew, he had taken wine in large doses, but had taken it *with food* and at 10 o'clock in the evening, so that sleep intervened before any urine could be examined. In two cases, he had found that it was not until 4, P.M., the day following, that the kidneys ceased