

These effluvia and the microscopic germs or seeds of these minute vegetable growths, moulds, mildews, etc., pervade the air, and attach themselves to the foods we eat, and are absorbed by the drinks we use; especially are they absorbed by milk, the universal food of the young. They take root and grow upon fruits, and indeed more or less upon all sorts of alimentary substances. And not only are they, hence, taken into the body with the food we eat, but they are drawn into the lungs and blood with the air we breathe. In the body they interfere greatly with healthy nutrition, and give rise to general debility and intestinal diseases; the more readily and more severely affecting those who had passed the previous winter housed in unventilated apartments, but who, with perhaps better developed lungs than digestive organs, escaped

the effects of, or lived through, the cold damp blasts of March,

“There is abundant evidence on record in proof of the above. Indeed the facts are well recognized. But it must be observed, and should ever be borne in mind, that it is not the weather, *per se*, that is responsible for the high rate of mortality at these particular periods.”

Were the number of deaths in each week made up, we should find between these two high points, on either hand, smaller weekly ups and downs in the wave ripples, as it rippled over the slighter causes of death; while on the whole it gradually rises higher and higher to its highest point, or sinks lower and lower to its lowest level.

Frequently the higher of the two points is that of March or April; sometimes the August or summer high point is the higher of the two.

MONTHLY RETURN OF DEATHS FOR JANUARY.

City or Town.	Population according to last assessor's return	Total No. deaths registered for the month.	Diphtheria.	Dysentery.	Diarrhoea.	Typhoid fever.	Scarlet fever.	Other fevers.	Phthisis (Consumption).	Brain disease.	Heart disease.	Pneumonia.	Lung disease.	Old age.	Other causes.	Total No. deaths per 1,000 living per annum.
Toronto	77,034	83	6	.....	.....	2	.....	1	11	4	5	3	7	4	.....	13
Ottawa	25,000	14	1	1	.....	.....	.....	.....	11	1	1	.....	.....	.....	.....	7
Hamilton	3,509	58	1	.....	.....	1	.....	.....	8	.....	3	3	3	3	.....	18
London, Ont.	19,941	20	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	4	.....	1	.....	2	1	12	12
“ for Feb.	.....	21	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	4	2	.....	.....	2	1	.....	12
Kingston about	14,000	14	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	5	2	1	1	1	2	.....	12
Guelph	10,100	5	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	2	.....	.....	.....	.....	1	.....	6
Belleville	9,987	19	1	1	3	3	.....	1	3	1	1	2	2	1	.....	23
St. Catharines	9,384	14	2	1	.....	.....	1	.....	4	.....	3	.....	2	1	.....	18
Stratford	8,702	11	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	4	16
St. Thomas	8,063	6	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	1	.....	.....	1	1	3	9
Brockville	7,441	12	3	1	.....	1	.....	1	3	1	.....	.....	.....	1	1	19
Chatham	7,572	9	1	.....	.....	1	.....	.....	2	.....	.....	.....	2	1	.....	13
Windsor	6,500	3	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	1	.....	6
Peterborough	6,800	5	.....	.....	.....	.....	1	.....	2	.....	.....	.....	.....	1	1	7
Lindsay	5,371	5	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	1	.....	1	3	12
Woodstock	5,282	5	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	1	.....	.....	1	3	12
Cobourg	5,118	6	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	2	1	.....	1	.....	1	1	14
Port Hope	5,324	3	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	3	.....	7
Barrie	4,818	5	.....	.....	.....	1	.....	.....	2	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	12
Totals	246000	318	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	18

REMARKS.—From Toronto the returns for January must be incomplete; some January deaths will doubtless be returned in February. More promptness should be enforced. From Ottawa the returns are as usual, very imperfect. From Hamilton, Belleville, St. Catharines, Stratford, and Brockville the returns are probably about perfect for the month. Guelph, Windsor, and Port Hope are far behind, while Peterborough and St. Thomas are but little better