

in a tabular form, the mode of arrangement being found to vary in different cities. In the London bills of mortality a subdivision of the diseases is first effected into two classes: 1. Zymotic or epidemic, endemic and contagious; and 2d—Sporadic. These may be subsequently subdivided into sections. The first class is not usually further extended, but the second is, the sections of it referring the diseases to their seats, whether of the nervous centres, the thoracic viscera, the abdominal viscera, of uncertain seat, or specific. The diseases are not usually specified, unless they appertain to one of the two last sections; but in this manner a general view is given of the causes of mortality, the number of deaths referred to each section, being expressed opposite the respective heads. In the London reports, however, the ages are not given; which seems to be a great desideratum, and deprives them of a great portion of their value for minute statistical purposes.

For the city and county of New York the bills of mortality differ considerably from those of the British metropolis. The diseases are all distinctly specified, and the number of deaths from each disease placed opposite. The report is concluded by a summary of the mortality at the different ages. The minuteness of detail conspicuous in these reports, renders them of great value.

In the execution of a similar measure in this and the other corporate towns of this Province, we do not think that any obstacles can exist which could not be easily surmounted. The required information, as to the age and disease of the deceased, might be easily obtained by the clerks of the different cemeteries from the friends any time before the interment has taken place, the latter information being furnished by the medical attendant to the friends for the purpose. The duty, which would thus be entailed upon the clerks of the burial-grounds, should be rendered compulsory, and they should make stated returns to an officer of the corporation, appointed to receive and embody them into a report.

While thus alluding to the mortality of this city, and the measures which should be forthwith adopted for estimating its extent and its causes, we cannot forbear recording our opinion of its increasing salubrity, and consequent diminishing mortality. This fact may be gleaned from its vital statistics since the year 1831. In that year a census of its population was taken, allotting to it 27279 inhabitants. Another census was taken in 1842, its population then being 40,536. A third was taken last year, when it was found to be 44,093. It thus appears, that in eleven years, from 1831 to 1842, the numerical increase of its population may be represented by 13,257. As no census was taken between the years just mentioned, we have apportioned, in order to arrive at an annual average population, the increase equally to each intervening year, and although an objection may lay

against the correctness of this procedure, in consequence of the enormous mortality of 1832 and 1834, which should effect a reduction of population proportionate to the ravages which the cholera then produced, and which we have not taken into account, we yet think that the results will not be very materially influenced by the omission.

Year.	Males.	Females.	Total.	Population.	Rate of Mortality to Population.
1831,	27,279	...
1832,	2239	1192	3131	28,484	1 a 8.30
1833,	740	638	1378	29,689	1 a 21.54
1834,	1044	1030	2074	30,894	1 a 14.89
1835,	511	452	963	32,099	1 a 33.33
1836,	591	534	1125	33,304	1 a 28.71
1837,	849	771	1620	34,509	1 a 21.30
1838,	589	578	1167	35,714	1 a 30.60
1839,	872	798	1670	36,919	1 a 22.10
1840,	812	680	1492	38,124	1 a 25.55
1841,	950	932	1882	39,329	1 a 20.89
1842,	1048	1037	2085	40,536	1 a 19.44
1843,	1040	955	1995	42,314	1 a 21.21
1844,	929	850	1779	44,093	1 a 24.78

It is evident from an inspection of the foregoing table, that since 1842, the year subsequent to that in which the city was incorporated, there has been a steady decrease in the mortality of its inhabitants. The increase in 1842, was probably owing to the opening of the old sewers, and the necessary operations connected with an extensive system of drainage, which was that year in active progress, and which is scarcely yet completed. It is to the perfect system of drainage, coupled with a more thorough ventilation of the city, and the strictness with which the police regulations as to cleanliness, are carried out—points in which this city may now vie with any other in America or Europe—that such beneficial results are to be attributed; and although much still remains to be done, yet it cannot but be a matter of congratulation, that the labours of our civic authorities have been in the meanwhile crowned with such a signal and happy result. In this result we witness the effect of an enlightened and liberal policy. The advantage is not one which strikes the eye, and excites the wonder and admiration of the many; and though the regulations necessary may often have met with a thankless acquiescence, or even active opposition, it ought to be a matter of satisfaction to the civic authorities themselves, and ought to call forth a pleasing expression of satisfaction from those so signally benefitted, that the life and happiness of the inhabitants of this prosperous city, have been protected year after year with an increasing success.

STRICTURES ON THE MEDICAL BILL.

Passing over the first clause of the Medical Bill, which provides for the abolition or repeal of the Provincial Statutes now in force, in both Canada East and West, for regulating the *Practice of Physic, &c.*, we arrive at the second and third clauses, which involve