

into ashpits, or sewers, or buried in gardens, or burned. (See Return.) A painful feature brought out is, that the number of interments in certain large towns is very great. Thus in Lancashire, Blackburn had 298 such interments; Bolton 262; Burnley 197; Preston 150; Rochdale 130; Warrington 113; Oldham 285; Walsall 154; Hanley 148; Newcastle 267; Liverpool 383; London 2,121; Salford 294; and Manchester 299. These figures do not include all interred, as there are burial grounds in Manchester other than burial board cemeteries. Of all burials in the above, 1 in every 13.8 buried was a still-born child. The above figures give us but a glimpse as to the number interred. Farr, when giving evidence before the committee on the protection of infant life, in 1871, estimated that there were from 30,000 to 40,000 stillbirths in England each year. With our present population, the number cannot be less than 60,000. Had the ages of the stillbirths been given in the Return, I venture to say it would have shown that almost all interred had reached the full term of 9 months. If children under the 7th month of pregnancy and abortions were included, then at least 178,164 must be added to the total—that is, supposing, as I have tried to show in my work on “the Causes and Treatment of Abortion,” the number of abortions to the total births is 1 in 5. An instructive addition to this Return would have been statements showing what proportion of illegitimate children had been stillborn. It is well known, the illegitimate child, from its very conception onward, has to run the gauntlet of many attempts upon its life, which the legitimate child has not to encounter. Statistics prove that the number of stillbirths among illegitimate births is much greater than among the legitimate. In the *British and Foreign Medical Review*, No. 7, it is stated that the proportion of stillbirths among legitimate children—basing the

calculation upon 8,000,000 of births, is 1 in 18 or 1 in 20; while among the illegitimate and immature it is 1 in 8 to 1 in 10. Bertillon states that the chance of an illegitimate child being stillborn, when compared with the legitimate, is as 193 to 100. In Denmark, “its Medical Organization and Hygiene,” it is stated that of 100 legitimate births, 2.6 per cent. are stillborn; and of the illegitimate 4.1 are stillborn. It may also be stated that in 1st labors 1 in 11 are stillborn, and in other labors 1 in 32, and more males than females in the proportion of 56 to 44. I have mentioned these facts because any certificate of stillbirths should state the age and sex of the child, and whether its mother was single or married. Referring next to the number of stillbirths, I may say that in

Country.	Year.	Stillborn.	Total births.	Proportion to population.
Prussia.	1889.	42,084.	1,094,668.	1 in 26.01.
France.	1875.	43,834.	880,579.	1 in 20.08.
Netherlands.	1890.	7,374.	150,529.	1 in 20.4.
Switzerland.	1890.	3,072.	73,548.	1 in 22.2
Sweden.	1890.	3,557.	132,066.	1 in 37.4.
Denmark.	1889.	1,933.	66,239.	1 in 34.2.

It will be readily seen the total number of stillbirths must vary in each country, according to the *legal* definition of “stillbirth,” as, if one country enacts that all stillbirths over 6 months be registered, while another fixes the age at 7 months, or at 8 months, a great difference will be shown in the figures. It is to be remembered that in France, all children, liveborn, and *others*, who die before being registered, are entered as “stillborn.” The custom in Denmark, until 1860, was that all those dying within 24 hours after birth were registered as stillborn. A reference to the laws regulating the compulsory registration of stillbirths in European countries shews that this country is very far behind. In the Netherlands, registration is made compulsory by Article 32 of the Civil Code. In Switzerland, Section 14 of the Federal Law, Dec. 24th, 1874, regulates the practice. Only those concep-