

in this regard than any other city.

Small-pox still lingers in Sorel and St. Hyacinthe, in each of which towns there were four deaths from this disease in June.

THE MORTALITY IN JULY.

For this month we are confronted with a mortality which, in many of the cities, is really dreadful. Annexed is a table for the month, from which the reader can see for himself the mortality in the different cities and towns, and we need not extend our comments thereon to such length as we have done in relation to the mortality for June.

It is proposed to give a similar table for each month, regularly, in future numbers of the Journal.

A few points in relation to the returns for July demand notice. The most notable point perhaps is that, the mortality in the Capital of the Dominion during the month was at the rate of 55 per 1,000 of population per annum; much higher than in many other of the cities or towns making returns, and doubtless higher than any other place in Canada. The rate has been unusually high here for the last three or four months, although during the past year, as shown in the following table, it was not much above that of Toronto. During the last three months it has been about the same as that of Montreal. The mortality in Toronto too was unusually high during the month under notice, more than 25 per cent. above the average of the year. What but the effects of heat, with the advance of summer, on waste organic matters, could increase the mortality about 50 per cent. or more in a month? Then the mortality in July of this year was in Toronto about 30 per cent. higher than in the corresponding month of last year, and in Ottawa, over 70 per cent. higher. It is owing chiefly to the greater mortality in these two cities, that the total mortality in the twenty-two cities is greater in July of this year by one per 1,000 than it was in July of last year.

There were no deaths from small-pox in July of this year in any of the cities or towns under notice, the first month since the monthly statements were first issued, June 1885, in which no deaths from this disease were recorded. It is to

be presumed therefore that the Dominion is once more free from the disease.

From diphtheria there were 67 deaths during the month. In June, 14 places gave a record of one death or more each from the disease; in July only 12 gave such record.

The large number of deaths from diarrhoeal affections, over five per 1,000 of population, per annum, is strongly indicative of insanitary evils and sanitary wants, as well as of much existing ignorance in regard to the proper feeding and management of infants. In 27 chief English towns, comprising about five millions of people, the mortality from these affections for the same month was only 1.4; though in London it was 3.9.

From all zymotic diseases (including diarrhoea) the mortality was at the rate of 13 per 1,000, in the 23 Canadian cities. In the 28 English towns it was only 4 per 1,000; though in London it was over 5; on the whole about one-third that in Canada.

THE MORTALITY FOR THE YEAR.

In looking over the mortality in the 22 principal cities and towns of the Dominion for the year ending 30th June 1886, as reported in the mortality statements to the Department, many points of interest come up. We can not now however dwell on them and shall only touch upon one or two. The death-rate of 30 per 1,000 of estimated population would be reduced to not more than 25 per 1,000 if the deaths from the small-pox epidemic were eliminated. There is no reason however why these should be eliminated. But excepting the centre of this, the largest of 22 cities—Montreal, the mortality in the other 21 places was only about 25 per 1,000: while if we also except Quebec, Sorel and St. Hyacinthe, the mortality in the other cities and towns was less than 24 per 1,000. In the "Queen City," of the west, Toronto, the death rate was more than 20 per cent. greater than in the 28 large towns in England, and more than 25 per cent. greater than in London with its 4,140,000 people; while in the healthily situated Capital of the Dominion it was yet considerably higher than this.

In reference to the low rate of mortality for the year in Guelph (the lowest