

VITAL STATISTICS—DEATH-RATE, &c.—We purpose in this and future numbers to give the death and birth rate of the cities in Canada, so far as can be ascertained, from the Registrar's returns and other sources, and shall make an effort to classify more or less. We hope to be able to make this department interesting and instructive; and to obtain information so far as possible as to the working and the advantages and disadvantages of the present system of registration.

The Registrar of one city writes, that a large number of deaths are not registered, because of the long distance some are from the office of Registration, and division offices are suggested. Another, the Hamilton Registrar, has no doubt he gets all deaths, as he gets a weekly return from the cemeteries, and compares; but does not get all births. The death rate of Hamilton seems low.

Below are the returns for the first quarter of 1877—ending 31st March, so far as known:—

TORONTO.—Deaths, 371; births, 514; marriages, 252. Deaths from inflammation and congestion of lungs and bronchitis, 67; consumption, 53; scarlet-fever and effects, 43; head and brain diseases, 23; heart disease, 10; old age, 7.

LONDON.—Deaths, 93, births, 132; marriages, 69. Infants under one year, 27; old age, 13; no epidemics. Division Registrar believes not 50 per cent. of deaths and births are registered.

OTTAWA.—Deaths, 37; births, 116; marriages, 71. Zymotics, 3; croup, 3; inflammation of lungs, 3.

KINGSTON.—Deaths, 48; births, 47; marriages, 29. Zymotics, 7; inflammation of lungs, 4; bronchitis, 5.

HAMILTON.—Deaths, 162; births, 265; marriages, 72.

Dr. Mapother defines Sanitary science as 'an application of the laws of physiology and general pathology to the maintenance of the health and life of communities, by the means of those agencies which are in common and constant use.'

THE ARTICLE on the Public Schools of Toronto, the Editor has not yet been able to complete; it will appear in next number—that on experience of an invalid has not come to hand as expected.

NOTICES OF BOOKS RECEIVED.

ON COUGHS, CONSUMPTION, AND DIET IN DISEASE. By Horace Dobell, M.D., F.R.M.C.S.; Consulting Physician to the Royal Hospital for Diseases of the Chest, etc., etc. Philadelphia, D. G. Brinton, 1877. Cloth. Illustrated. pp. 222. Price \$2.25.

Dr. Dobell is very favorably known in Great Britain for his various works on thoracic disease.

A valuable chapter is given on the diagnosis of *early* phthisis—how to recognize the disease in its incipency—often a vital point in saving the life of a patient.

Winter-cough, ear-cough, and post-nasal catarrh are discussed. Much stress is laid on early treatment and the *avoidance* of colds and coughs. His therapeutics is singularly clear and definite—a great relief after perusing the vague generalities of so many writers on practice. The third part is entitled "Some Principles of Diet in disease," and gives with brevity the principles and rules which should