

The fact that we yield up only 12 in each 1000 to the old Archer is not the only proof that ours is an exceptionally healthy country. A greater number in proportion to population reach old age, than in any other country of which the death registration is given. In Great Britain, 15 in each 100, get beyond their 70th, and 6 in each 100 beyond their 80th year. In Massachusetts the proportion is nearly the same. In Nova Scotia, 19 in each 100 get over 70, and 8 in each 100 over 80 years of age. One in each 28,000 of Nova Scotians reach 100 years while in England only one in each 276,000 reach the same period, and in New England one in each 97,000.

Nova Scotia mothers have a strong partiality for boys. It is quite remarkable that while in England, there are born 104 boys to 100 girls, and in Scotland and Massachusetts about 107 boys to 100 girls, in Nova Scotia the proportion should be 114½ boys to 100 girls, the proportion does not continue. The mortality among male infants is fully one-fifth greater than among female infants. Death among us is partial to the male sex. In 1871 we lost 111 males to every 100 females, and this, although females considerably exceed males in the aggregate population. Up to 5 years of age, 114 boys die for every 100 girls, from 5 to 10 the mortality is nearly equal, from 10 to 40 the deaths of females is in excess; but after 40 the men drop off, in much larger numbers than the women. From 40 to 50, 119 males die for every 100 females; and from 50 to 60 the proportion is still larger in favor of women, 136 men dying for every 100 women. The women reaching 100 years of age are nearly twice as numerous as the men. The period of greatest deaths (beyond the infantile stage,) is, in Nova Scotia, from 60 to 70. In most other countries it comes ten years earlier. We raise over 100 pairs of twins every year; and we occasionally boast of trios and quartettes.

If one seeks the pathetic, the tragic, and the mournful in figures, just let him look at 126 drownings, 7 suicides, 55 deaths in child birth, 60 deaths of cancer, 97 of dropsy, 91 of whooping cough, or the 840 deaths from consumption. How many homes were darkened with the shadow of death? How many hearts broken by separation for which there is no remedy on earth? It is the old story, but it never ceases to interest the human heart while clouds and thick darkness hang over our destiny.

We are a sea-going people; we love the barren and billowy