

jectural. As regards influenza, the most important source of error, it may be asserted that no error can arise in the figures which we have quoted for 1878-1889 inclusive, as influenza had not then re-invaded this country.

If we take the two decades 1871-80 and 1881-90, we find that in the former period one out of every twenty-one, and in the latter period, one out of every eighteen deaths from all causes, was registered as due to pneumonia. The somewhat higher proportion in the second decade may be partially due to influenzal pneumonia in 1890. The actual death-rates in the two decades were 1,004 and 1,066 per million persons living, so that the difference is not caused simply by lowering of the death-rate under other headings, in which pneumonia did not share.

*Age-incidence of Pneumonia.*—The following table (Supplement to the 55th Annual Report of the Receiver-General, Part I., p. cxiii.) shows the relative age-incidence of the death-rate from pneumonia, comparing 1861-70 with 1881-90.

ANNUAL DEATH-RATE FROM PNEUMONIA PER MILLION PERSONS LIVING AT ALL AGES, AND AT ELEVEN GROUPS OF AGES.

Periods.	All ages	0-	5-	10-	15-	20-	25-	35-	45-	55-	65-	75 and upwards.
1861-70	1,089	5,345	271	103	157	218	302	447	627	1,035	1,574	2,062
1881-90	1,066	3,668	299	119	201	301	494	833	1,157	1,762	2,596	3,187

Thus, taking the figures as they stand, it is clear that the heaviest rate of mortality from pneumonia falls in the earliest, the next heaviest mortality in the latest years of life. The tremendous excess in early life is still more strikingly shown when the death-rates in the first five years of life are separately given. Thus (*loc. cit.*, p. xxxiii.):

DEATH-RATES PER MILLION LIVING AT EACH YEAR OF AGE UNDER FIVE.

Periods.	YEARS OF AGE.					
	Under 1.	1-	2-	3-	4-	Total under 5 years.
1861-70	12,658	7,779	2,889	1,421	818	5,345
1881-90	7,892	5,922	2,224	1,201	782	3,668

Thus in the earlier decade, approximately 13 out of every 1,000 infants, and in the more recent decade, 8 out of every 1,000 infants died of pneumonia, the death-rate from this cause