

calculated number; and shows an average of only 37 above the estimate. If the South Eastern and North Western Divisions were not affected by the migration of the people, and if London gained by immigration the same proportion of population in the above years, as in the 10 years included in the Census of 1861; and without taking into account the greater value of the lives of the immigrants, (an element in the calculation which may be balanced by the greater number of births among the immigrants) then the number of deaths in London was greater than the number in the South Eastern and North Western Divisions, and all England, by 727, 327 and 604 in each 100,000 of the population. Dr. Letheby in his annual report for the year 1859, for the City of London, says that the death-rate was below the average and only 1 per 1000 higher than all England. But no allowance is made for the low birth-rate and immigration. The above table shows that the deaths in the Metropolis were in excess of all England by 6 per 1000. If a change has taken place in the seeming rate of mortality, it will have been caused, chiefly, by a decline in the birth rate, and an increase of immigrants.

If the birth rate gives the death rate for the whole of life, it must give the rate for any part of it.

Let us test the proposition, by the facts recorded in Montreal where the deaths of children are said to be fearfully excessive. Dr. Letheby, in his report for 1859, says: "The mortality of children in the first year of their age, has been very severe, for it has amounted to nearly one fifth of all the births; in fact, out of 3,260 children born in the year, 608 have died. This is somewhat more than the average (3,504 and 574) for the last 10 years. **** Dark, however, as this picture may seem to be, it is far lighter than it once was, and is brighter than that which is still drawn of the chief towns of England* and the large cities of Europe." From the report it appears that *the birth-rate is only about 2.5 per cent.*, so that the deaths are few, not because the people are so very healthy, and the city so very clean, but because the births are few. The writer has not all the figures necessary to make a correct estimate, but the following are sufficient to illustrate the principle. In the Metropolis in the 3 years ending with June, 1841, the birth-rate was 2.966 per cent., to an equal number of males and females. Dr. Letheby shows that the death-rate in the first year, on an average of 10 years, was 16.381 per cent. *of the births*. The number of births in Montreal is not known, *but the baptisms* during 14 years were 4.882 per cent. No deduction will be made for the large number of illegitimate children sent to the city (about one-fifth per cent. of the population) *who though baptised are of very little value, in this estimate, compared with legitimate children*. If in London

*See table IV and page 29.