

VITAL STATISTICS OF JEWS IN THE UNITED STATES.

A highly interesting bulletin devoted to vital statistics of Jews in the United States has been issued by the superintendent of the late census. Their excellent home sanitation is shown in the statistics of birth and survival of children. Of children under five years the proportion is less among the Jews than among the other population of the country in the ratio of 9 to 13, but between the ages of five to fifteen it is greater, in the ratio of 29 to 23, indicating their success in averting infant mortality. For the past five years 2,062 deaths were reported; giving an annual death rate of only 7.11 per thousand, probably not one-half of the actual annual death rate in the United States. This astonishing figure is discussed in the bulletin, and the conclusion reached is that there is every ground for trusting its accuracy. If the deaths for the year 1889 only are taken, a death rate of about 10 per thousand is given, which is exceedingly low. The life tables show great powers of survival to old age. Thus out of 100,000 individuals there are of survivors at the age of 85 over 20,000 Jews, against an average of 4,000, general population by English life tables, and nearly 7,000 by the Massachusetts five years' life tables. These figures for the Jews are based on the year 1889 only. For the five years 1884-1889 the record is still more favorable. The expectancy of life therefore is on the average much higher, ranging for some ages up to thirty per cent. more than that given by the general English and American life tables. In causes of death the mortality from tubercular and scrofulous complaints is less relatively than from diseases of the respiratory, digestive, circulatory, and nervous systems. The marriage rate and birth rate appear to be less for this class than for the average population. This coincides with the latest summary of rates in Europe. With prolonged residence in this country the death rate seems to increase, and the birth rate to diminish. As regards the defective classes, deaf and dumb, blind, idiotic, etc., the returns indicate so few among them that the figures are doubted by the census experts. The bulletin is only a preliminary one.

A POWER OF WOMEN—GREATER THAN THE FRANCHISE.

Oh, this grand world, filled with millions of humanity, made after "God's own image," capable of the highest degree of strength, what could we not attain under the influence of robust health! But from out these millions of people there are thousands standing on the brink of a precipice, which means premature death, to promising men, lovely women. Mothers are childless; children are motherless;—broken homes; heartaches untold. The cause? Impure drinking water, poor drainage, damp cellars, unventilated houses, over-excitement, intoxicants, tobacco, the correct fashions folly, over-fed stomachs, adulterated food, etc., etc. Can we study this list and yet fail to understand why so many find untimely graves? Our work, not God's. Oh! women, you have a power greater than franchise. You forget that you hold a reformation in your hands. You can mold the physical, mental and moral forces of your children and thus make them strong men and women. In your clamor after the ballot you forget the influence you already possess. You call yourselves down-trodden. American women down-trodden? You have a power, if prudently used, that will settle "woman's rights" most effectually. The first care of mankind has been given to woman. The babe was placed in her arms. From her it learns the first lessons of life; to her it looks for protection in its helplessness. She can make or mar its life, plant the seed that will send it to a premature grave, or field it for a long and useful life.... It is safe to believe that nine-tenths of the crime with which the world is cursed comes from the reaction of a diseased mind (in a diseased body). We all know how differently the world and people appear to us under the balm of health, how then every thing seems well. The true elixir-of-life is not to make decrepit old men young, but to teach them how to remain young. And when old age does appear it will come so happily through the consciousness of a life well spent, and be crowned with so much glory, that the change from life to death will be a blissful step. Thus writes Mrs. Cary Ebner, of Wordsworth, Ohio.