

examined by Dr. Buchanan, one of the visiting medical officers a few years since, it was found that "in some of these towns (through sanitary administration), the general death rate had been lowered over 20 per cent; while in nine of them the number of deaths from enteric or typhoid fever was diminished over 10 per cent., and in ten others, from 33 to 50 per cent."

Calcutta also exhibits a remarkable diminution in the rate of mortality in its sanitary returns for 1871-1873. Five years ago the deaths were 20,000 per annum; they are now said to be reduced one-half. This astonishing improvement is attributed to strict attention to sanitary measures which have converted the city from an undrained and pestilential hole into a well-drained place, with a water supply far better than that of London, and as good as that of Glasgow. Strong measures were taken in the city to make the *registration of deaths* compulsory, and the mortuary returns are now properly and regularly supplied.

In the State of Massachusetts there has been a reduction in the death-rate of 15 per cent., attributable to wise legislative enactments. Nor is Massachusetts alone. In Michigan, as far back as ten years ago, the same course of legislation led to the gratifying result of 16 per cent. diminution in the death-rate in those years. Other States are following the same example.

Colorado, for instance, a few years since agitated this subject by addressing circulars to all the leading medical men in the United States and Canada, embodying a set of sanitary queries, and showing the comparative advantages of that territory for healthy settlement. This had the effect of attracting emigrants and settlers from all quarters of the country, including Canada, thus peopling it, greatly to the detriment and cost of Canada. By means such as these, the Government Health Officer or statist would be enabled to tabulate all mortality statistics in such a manner as would show the connection between the death-rate and the sanitary or unsanitary conditions of various parts of the country, the prevalence of any particular diseases in certain areas, and so on,

These data, fragmentary though they be, will suffice to show not only the necessity of constant and systematic attention on