

BIRTHS AND DEATHS IN LONDON.

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WEEK ENDING SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 26.

[No. 48.

HEALTH OF LONDON DURING THE WEEK.

THE MORTALITY of the metropolitan districts has risen considerably during the week. In the preceding week the deaths registered were 1162; in the week that ended on Saturday last they were 1339. The mean weekly temperature has suffered a great fall. In the last week of October it was 55.5°, in the 4 weeks that followed it was 48.9°, 45.7°, 38.5°, and (last week) 36.7°.

In the ten corresponding weeks of the years 1843-52 the average number of deaths was 1093, which, raised in proportion to increase of population, becomes 1202. There is an excess in last week's return, amounting to 137.

Diseases of the respiratory organs have suddenly become more fatal; they rose from 180 in the preceding to 297 in the last week; in this class bronchitis rose from 68 to 134, pneumonia from 92 to 124. Phthisis was fatal in the two weeks respectively in 133 and 166 cases. Cholera, it is gratifying to observe, subsides, and last week was fatal to only 46 persons. In the first 14 weeks of the epidemic of 1848-49 (reckoning from 1st October), it destroyed 529 persons; in the same number of weeks of the present attack, commencing 21st August, it has carried off 744, or 215 persons more than in the former. But the epidemic beginning at an earlier season in 1853, the mean temperature has been on an average 5° higher, and making allowance for this circumstance, there does not appear any sufficient ground to conclude that the distemper now prevailing is of a more virulent character than that of 1848.

MORTALITY FROM CHOLERA IN DISTRICTS SUPPLIED BY WATER COMPANIES.

Water Companies.	Sources of Supply.	Aggregate of Districts supplied chiefly by the respective Water Companies.			Deaths to 100,000 Inhabitants.
		Elevation in feet above Trinity High-water Mark.	Population.	Deaths from Cholera in 13 Weeks ending Nov. 19.	
LONDON	- - - - -	39	2362236	698	30
* (1) Hampstead and (2) New River.	Springs at Hampstead and Kenwood, two artesian wells, and New River.	80	166956	8	5
New River	At Chadwell Springs in Hertfordshire, from river Lee, and four wells in Middlesex and Herts.	76	634468	55	9
Grand Junction	The Thames, 360 yards above Kew Bridge.	38	109636	14	13
Chelsea	The Thames, at Battersea	7	122147	22	18
Kent	The Ravensbourne in Kent	18	134200	30	22
West Middlesex	The Thames, at Barnes	72	277700	84	30
East London	The river Lee, at Lee Bridge.	26	434694	144	33
* (1) Lambeth and (2) Southwark.	The Thames, at Thames Ditton and at Battersea.	1	346363	211	61
Southwark	The Thames at Battersea	8	118267	111	94
* (1) Southwark and (2) Kent.*	The Thames, at Battersea, the Ravensbourne in Kent, and ditches and wells.	0	17805	19	107

* In three cases (marked with an asterisk) the same districts are supplied by two companies.