

Henry Wm DuRochet - 15

**REPORT**

OF

**THE COMMITTEE**

OF

**THE PHYSICO-MEDICAL SOCIETY**

**OF NEW-ORLEANS,**

ON THE

**EPIDEMIC OF 1820.**

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PUBLISHED BY ORDER OF THE SOCIETY.

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**NEW-ORLEANS:**

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C. W. DUHY, printer.

**1821.**

REPORT

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THE COMMITTEE

RESOLVED, by the Physico-Medical Society, New-Orleans, that a Committee be appointed, to write on the History and Treatment of the Epidemic of 1820.

RESOLVED, by the Physico-Medical Society of New Orleans, that the Report presented by their Committee on the History and Treatment of the Epidemic of the late season, be adopted; and that the same be considered as the expression of the Opinions of the Society on that subject.

RESOLVED FURTHER, That the said report be published in a Pamphlet.—The same Committee (consisting of Doctors Randolph, Davidson, and Marshall,) to procure and superintend its publication.

1821

# REPORT.

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Gentlemen,

IN conformity with the resolution of the Society, your Committee submit for consideration, the following concise account of the late epidemic.

In discharging this duty, they are sensible of their inability to contribute much interesting information on a subject that has already attracted so much observation. Yet they are, nevertheless, persuaded, that, while the anomalous aspect of the malady, and its still formidable character, indicates the necessity of additional notice, an apology is offered for all attempts grounded on the desire of benefiting humanity.

Previous to a consideration of the disease, the local peculiarities of the city, evidently demand some consideration. Though the causes which excite an epidemic among a people, or a nation, have hitherto eluded human research; yet those causes which operate locally, come more immediately within the cognizance of our senses, and such are to be seen in the situation, the police, and manners and customs of the inhabitants of the place or country.

New-Orleans is situated on an alluvial plain, in lat. 30 N. long. 90 W. and surrounded by marshes to the extent of many miles. The streets are narrow, and supplied with wooden sewers; the houses for the most part are badly constructed; subjecting the inhabitants, from their low and crowded situation, to the direct influence of noxious effluvia. The burial grounds are situated in the immediate vicinity of the city, and a pernicious practice prevails of entombing many of the dead in vaults erected above the ground. Owing to a general neglect of police laws, quar-

tities of filth are either thrown on the banks of the river, or in the rear of the city; and in addition to those sources of vitiated atmosphere, the total want of trees, or the higher orders of vegetable growth, are circumstances which we deem worthy of notice.

The climate of this city, like that of the intertropical latitudes, is characterized, during the winter months, by frequent transitions of temperature. The thermometer usually ranges at that season from 20 to 70 degrees, while the temperature of the summer season is steadily above 80, and frequently, for successive days, as high as high 90 and 93 degrees.

Opposed to the natural and artificial evils of our situation, we, with pleasure remark, that the manners and customs of the inhabitants are in many respects good. Notwithstanding the obloquy with which the natives have been treated by many of those who have professed to delineate their habits, it is yet obvious to unprejudiced individuals, that, with the exception of their city police, the modes of living and manners of the Louisianians are, in truth, such as would rather gain than loose by a comparison with those of their northern and western brethren. Habitually indifferent to the use of ardent spirits, intoxication among them is consequently extremely rare: nor can they be accused of partaking of the amusements of the ball-room and theatre in any degree beyond what is sanctioned by the customs of moral and enlightened people. The reverse of this, however, is generally the case, with those who annually migrate to New-Orleans, and *these* are the persons most obnoxious to the endemic.

Placed in a situation bearing a strong resemblance to many of the most unhealthy parts of the world, it cannot be a source of surprise that, in like manner, we are annually subjected to the destructive CAUSES. The limits of this report will not permit your committee to dwell on the probable causes of that fever and its mutation in this city during every

summer ; we can only observe on this part of our subject, that the diversity of sentiment is as much dependant on incorrect conclusions and tenacious opinions, as from a deficiency of data and other general difficulties attendant on enquiries into the operations of nature.\*

On refering to the relative degrees of heat for the last four years, we are of opinion that no information can be derived from that source, in explanation of the uncommon malignity, which characterized the epidemic of the present year. With regard to the pressure of the atmosphere, we have to regret that the want of good instruments has prevented due attention to a source, whence there was reason to anticipate important results. The fall of rain, though great, did not appear to exceed, in frequency or quantity, that of the preceding year, during the same period. The prevailing winds were from the southward, but about the period of disease, they changed to the north and northwest, and such variations were immediately followed by an increase of the malady.

The fruits of the earth were promising and abundant, which together with the popular anticipation of a healthy season, indicated, by the absence of mental sources, an immunity from pestilence.

The vernal fevers also, were uncommonly mild in character, and finally from every view of this subject, the result of the past season has shown that the premonitory signs of pestilence, are of a nature equally without the reach of the physician, as of the inquisitive citizen.

As in former years, the earliest and latest instances of the fever were observed on board the steam-boats and shipping. While reflecting on this fact, the circumstances of the peculiar construction of vessels, and their notoriously polluted state, in many instances, together with a proximity to the accumulated filth of the city, are considerations, in the opinion of the Committee, intimately associated with the cau-

\*It was determined by a resolution of the Society that the committee should avoid the controversy on contagion and non-contagion.

ses of such election. We would also remind the society, of an evident co-incidence existing, between the enclosure of the batture, and the recent unusual consecution of epidemic fever in this city.

During the first week in July, several cases of yellow-fever were known to have occurred, but it was not epidemic until late in August. From that period the range of the malady continued with diminished fatality, until the 10th of October, when it was apparently arrested by the recurrence of cold weather. Thus was this city, after becoming unexpectedly a theatre of deep distress, suddenly restored to the enjoyment of comparative health.

### SUBJECTS AND SYMPTOMS.

On this part of our subject, we have little, perhaps nothing new to publish. Few epidemic diseases present generally such uniform features in the great outline of their character, as yellow fever in its malignant form. Climate and local circumstances, age, sex, and temperament, throw shades of variety or diversity into the comparatively unimportant symptoms, while the great characteristics of the disease appear to be essentially the same in all countries and in all subjects. It is only for the purpose, therefore, of noticing these shades of difference, that it becomes necessary to give a description of the character and symptoms of our late epidemic.

In no season within the late years, have its ravages been more exclusively confined to strangers; by this term however, we would be understood to designate all persons not inured to the atmosphere of the city, by nativity or by residence in it during one or more epidemic seasons.

Creoles of Louisiana, residing but a few miles in the country, who had the temerity to venture into the city during its reign, were liable (though in a less degree than northern strangers) to the disease in its milder form: the same remark will apply to persons, who had resided in the city many years, during the healthy months, but were in the habit of leaving in the latter part of summer and autumn.

No instances are known of immunity in consequence of the pursuit of a particular trade or occupation, or the use of prophylacticks. A few remarkable instances occurred this season, as well as in 1817 and 1819, of the exemption of females in a state of pregnancy.

As in former epidemics, old persons, females, children and negroes, had the disease in its mildest form, and most frequently recovered. No difference was observable in the malignity with which it assailed northern Americans and Europeans. The mortality was equally great among our northern sailors, western country boatmen, and the German redemptioners, recently brought into this country.

Relapses from fever in its high grade, rarely occurred; when they did, it was from great imprudence or exposure, and very early in the commencement of convalescence. From the milder attacks they were more frequent.

Premonitory symptoms, were, in general, so vague, and so common to every description of our population, as to lead to no certain or useful anticipation. Persons who fell victims to the disease; those who had it in its mildest forms, and those who escaped it altogether, were alike subject to loss of appetite, a dull heavy pain in the head, and sometimes in the back, with occasional rigors, night sweats, slight catarrhs, giddiness, anxieties and low spirits. We believe that there were very few, even among the creoles and assimilated foreigners, who were not conscious of the presence of one or more of these symptoms, during the greater part of the time the fever prevailed epidemically. Many persons who were in doubt of their insusceptibility from having had the disease before, or from residence in the city, remained the greater part of the season, under the frightful apprehension that the next day, or perhaps the next hour would bring on other symptoms of a less equivocal character, and confine them to their beds. It was under the feelings thus excited, that many fled the city for safety.

It would seem from this, that the stimulus of the febrile poison exhausted its force on the assimilated system, with-

out producing other effects than those just enumerated, while, upon the unacclimated, and on those who had not previously been exposed to its influence, and particularly those of this description, from high latitudes, in the vigour and bloom of health and youth, it rarely or never failed to excite the usual symptoms constituting yellow-fever.

Pains in the head, back, and lower extremities, preceded or accompanied by a chill, generally announced its onset ; both of these symptoms, varied much in their intensity and duration, and often served as useful criteria of the grade, and tolerably correct prognostics of the issue of the disease. In proportion to the violence, and sometimes to the duration of the chill, and the intensity of the pains, was the attack in its subsequent character mild, and its termination favorable.

The REACTION from the general, or partial chill which ushered in the disease, presented in most cases, a flush on the face, neck and breast, with a throbbing in the temporal and carotid arteries ; an increase of pain in the head, watery suffused eye ; great heat on the surface of the body, while the extremities remained cold ; shortened respiration, attended sometimes with sighing and deep inspirations, an irritable stomach, ejecting, first, its ingesta, and then a fluid tinged with yellow bile ; the pulse, at the wrist, varying in its force and frequency, as the chillness or reaction happened to predominate, but always indicating a high degree of inflammatory action in the arteries, while the patient frequently complained of great prostration of strength. The tongue, if changed at all from its natural appearance, slightly overcast, particularly about its centre, with a light buff, or pale yellow hue, and sometimes slightly swollen. The urine high colored, frequently discharged, but in small quantities. The countenance under the influence of the patient's apprehensions, and sufferings, together with the peculiar expression given to it, by the suffused eyes, and flushed face, conveyed to a critical observer impressions, which cannot be described, and are only



to be imparted by the presence of the disease. To the foregoing symptoms, particularly after the continuance for a short time, may be added, oppression about the præcordia, a sensation of great heat and burning in the stomach, soreness or a fatigued feeling in the muscles of the extremities, with anxiety and restlessness.

These symptoms in most cases would remit and recur, with aggravated or diminished force, according to the violence of the disease, or the efficacy of the remedies used for their relief; but were generally followed by others that marked the destructive march of the malady; such as delirium, great soreness to the touch of the epigastrium, deficient secretion of urine, eyes heavy and of a muddy cast, face changed from a lively flush, to a slightly livid or light mahogany color; the tongue contracted in size and partially inflamed, particularly at its edges, an increase of gastric irritability & vomiting of whatever drinks were given, throwing off yellow or green bile, sometimes of a dark flaky substance, which has often been mistaken for black vomit.

To these symptoms which are considered as constituting the first stage of the disease, and which generally continued to to the third, but sometimes not longer than to the second or or first day, succeeded an entire remission of the febrile, and most other unfavorable appearances—"The temperature of the skin sunk below its natural state, and the pulse below its natural force; in point of frequency, the pulse did not now deviate much from its healthy state; the patient often fancied himself well." And the unexperienced practitioner might find himself under the same mistake. "But this flattering delusion was of transitory duration—a more melancholy train of symptoms was soon to succeed: It was now that the mind became the sport and wreck of an unconquerable delirium; sleep was exchanged for perpetual watchfulness, or for broken slumbers, more distressing than watchfulness itself; the eyes became yellow—a yellowness also appeared, first, about the angle of the

lower jaw, and on the neck, and spread gradually over the body. Petechiæ appeared on the skin, which was moistened with a cold clammy sweat; the pulse small, feeble and irregular, and often, for many hours before death, absent from the wrist; hiccough, suppression of urine without pain, hemorrhagy from the nose, gums, bowels, &c. &c.”\* A slight convulsion of the stomach announced the approach of black vomit, the certain harbinger of death.

Such was the usual course and progress of the disease, when it terminated fatally, from the third to the fifth day, and we had very few deaths within a shorter period, but many cases were protracted to the seventh, and from that to the tenth and twelfth day. In these cases the patient lingered in the secondary, and not in the inflammatory stage of the fever. Many patients recovered, where all of the preceding symptoms were present, except the ever fatal one of the black vomit. Happy for the interest of our city and of humanity, the disease raged with destructive sway but a very short period.

Of the persons afflicted, the proportion of deaths, according to our own experience, was one out of every six of adult whites, and one of every ten, of the various descriptions of persons, women, children and blacks.

Examinations *post-mortem*, exhibited appearances which differed in no respect, from those already detailed in the works of eminent authors. The strongest marks of disorganization were observed in the alimentary canal. The stomach was reduced in size, and contained that black matter resembling coffee grounds. Its lower or right orifice, together with the duodenum, was effused with black blood. The remainder of the *primæ viæ*, together with the lungs, spleen, kidneys, liver and biliary ducts, indicated no alterations in the structure of parts. From the symptoms already detailed, and these observations, we considered the primary injury as seated in the *sensorium commune*, and our efforts (as will be seen in the sequel) were princi-

\*Docter Caldwell.

pally directed against the consequences of irregular organic action.

### MODES OF TREATMENT.

From the difficulties with which this part of our subject is invested, we approach it with diffidence. As the inferences hitherto drawn from the experience of the most skilful physicians on the treatment of yellow-fever, are of a nature altogether depressing ; so in the late epidemic malady, we must freely acknowledge, that all methods of practice were frequently incapable of mitigating the disease, much less, of preventing a fatal termination.

In detailing the remedies which have gained some reputation for the cure of this fever, we have endeavoured to arrange them according to their relative value, and order of exhibition. It is evident, however, that such an arrangement can only be useful in a general sense, as the administration, or total neglect of many of them, were necessarily influenced by the varying character of the disease.

BLOOD LETTING was generally indicated in the first stage of the disease, and in most cases, was carried to a very great extent with the happiest effects. But we are apprehensive that, in some instances, too much reliance was reposed in this, to the neglect of other remedies. The good effects of a judicious use of the lancet, were evidenced in the removal or alleviation of pain, heat and restlessness. Sometimes a gentle perspiration ensued ; and it seldom failed to predispose to catharsis.

In that form of the disease, wherein the pulse is sluggish from the commencement, we found a previous use of the TEPID BATH and FRICTIONS, as advised by Doctor Jackson, highly beneficial. Under other circumstances, the warm bath was useless, if not pernicious. As the season advanced, blood letting became less proper, or at least, to the same extent. This fact was also observed in the years, 1817, and 1819.

No physician in this place has ever doubted the utility of CATHARTIC medicines, in the treatment of yellow-fever; but of the species best adapted to this disease, a variety of opinions continue to prevail. Those of a drastic nature were not generally proper after the formative stage. We are aware that a different view of this subject influenced a large number of our practitioners, at the commencement of the epidemic. But lenient purges, frequently repeated, were afterwards found effectual in removing obstructions from the *primæ viæ*; and of equalizing excitement, by an indirect operation on the skin. The purgatives most used were *Calomel*, *Jalap*, the *Sulphats* of *Soda* and *Magnesia*, *Castor Oil*, *Calcined Magnesia*; and *Turpentine*.

COLD WATER, if not entitled to the rank of a primary remedy, was at least a very powerful auxiliary in the treatment of yellow fever. In some instances, the fever was arrested by a copious bleeding, followed by the affusion of cold water. It seldom failed, when repeatedly applied, to remove preternatural heat, alleviate thirst, lessen the frequency of the pulse, and induce a disposition to sleep. Often when applied to the region of the stomach, it averted vomiting. This last mentioned symptom, was occasionally removed by large and repeated draughts of cold water.

With the view of exciting the action of purgative medicines, CLYSTERS of cold water, deserve commendation. Clysters of emolient, stimulent and anodyne qualities were found well adapted to the several stages of yellow fever; like cathartic medicines, their operation was frequently extended to the skin, as indicated by the usual diminution of heat and thirst.

The use of BLISTERS in yellow fever, claims attention, as well from their former character, as from their intrinsic worth. It is a frequent source of regret, that there are but few remedies, which have sustained the test of successive epidemics. Whether from unqualified praise on the one hand, or the intemperate opposition on the other, thus much is

evident, that the labours of the physicians are greatly increased, from the uncertainties with which each class of writers have enveloped the most obvious facts. Your committee had ample experience of the correctness of Doctor Rush's observations on the use of blisters within the first thirty-six hours of aggravated fever. When applied to the head, on the alienation of mind, which characterized the approach of the secondary stage of fever, their operation was often surprisingly beneficial.

With the view of affirming the exact merit of blisters in yellow fever, we must remark, that, like all other medicines, they entirely failed in the worst form of the malady—though, when applied under the circumstances already noticed, we believe they were not found to be in any instance pernicious.

From the celebrity which the preparations of MERCURY have obtained, in the treatment of yellow fever, most of our physicians, have at one period or other, resorted to their use with the most flattering anticipation. And, indeed, it was not until the late epidemic, that the general confidence in what is termed the MERCURIAL TREATMENT, became greatly impaired. That treatment was, no doubt, in many instances successful, but in the most aggravated form (or that character of the disease which is emphatically termed oppressed) Ptyalism was seldom induced, and when it actually occurred the patient did not always recover.

Many of those who were said to have been saved by this method, had a long and tedious convalescence; but this consequence, we believe, was more owing to its indiscriminate use at all stages of the malady, than to the occasional ill effects of mercury on many constitutions. When exhibited in yellow fever, on rational principals, we still think it a medicine of much worth.

EMETICS.—The pernicious tendency of this class of medicines in yellow-fever, is now generally admitted. The

obstinate irritability of the stomach, which usually attends this disease sooner or later, is almost uniformly aggravated by the use of antimonial preparations. Far from prescribing such medicines, the physicians of this city consider it an imperious duty, to provide as much as possible against distressing vomiting. And even in the selection of cathartics, to administer such as are least likely to disturb the tranquility of the stomach. In arriving at this conclusion on the use of emetics, we are much influenced from experience, as any principles we may have on the subject. Instances of the exhibition of emetics, without medical advice were common, and we may say, that the result of such practice was unequivocally pernicious.

The discordance of opinions on the use of OPIUM in yellow-fever, is an evident proof of the inefficacy of general rules for its administration. Though the collective testimony of medical writers, is against the use of this article, at any stage of the disease, yet we have seen many instances, where its operation was highly beneficial. If required to point out the most proper time for its exhibition, we would say, at that stage of the disease, wherein, notwithstanding copious depletion, the approach of disorganization was indicated by a tremulous pulse, great restlessness, and tossing on the bed. When exhibited at an earlier period, or very late in the disease, we are of opinion that it was uniformly pernicious.

CINCHONA and the MINERAL ACIDS, were exhibited, without, however, any manifest benefit. Generally speaking tonic medicines were far less useful in this disease, than diffusible stimulants. Of this last class *Capsicum*, *Ammonia*, *Camphor*, *Champaigne Wine*, *Brandy*, etc. were preferred.

It now remains to notice certain ANCEPEDIA REMEDIA, which, in the absence of hope from the ordinary methods, acquired the confidence of many of our physicians. When the

most approved articles are found unavailing, it is surely commendable to seek additional chances for the alleviation of human misery.

We shall therefore first take a view of *Turpentine*. Several physicians relied much on its efficacy in all stages of the disease. In the epidemic of 1817, it was exhibited from two drachms to half an ounce, every two hours; in those doses it was said to allay the irritability of the stomach, and increase the urinary secretion; it was also thought to have a good effect in hiccough and black vomit. No instances came under our observation wherein any positive benefit resulted from its use, and as a convincing proof of its inefficacy, if not its injurious effects in the primary stage of the disease, it is understood, that those who relied on its use in 1817, abandoned it after repeated trials in the subsequent epidemics of 1819 and 1820.

With regard to the internal use of *CANTHARIDES*, in the late epidemic, our experience was too limited to authorise any thing like a conclusion. From the *occasional* effects of turpentine, in the last stages of the disorder, we may by parity of reasoning, anticipate from the use of the *lytta*, similar, or more beneficial results.

*ACETILE* of *LEAD*, recently brought into notice by Doct. Irvine, as a remedy in yellow-fever, was several times exhibited without any decided benefit. But further observation and experiment is wanting, before we would pronounce against its efficacy.

*CHARCOAL*.—In the latter part of the season, this article was proclaimed by a respectable practitioner, as an agent of importance in malignant symptoms. We can only testify to its efficacy as a remedy in restraining Hemorrhagy, and in correcting the acrimony of morbid secretions.

From the general inefficacy of the usual modes of practice in the secondary stages of yellow-fever, a spirit of innovation led some of our physicians to the use of the *COBWEB* during the late season. It was then perceived to be an article of much character. In a case which we have prefixed

to this report, it decidedly arrested morbid action, and produced a tranquility of body and mind, which we do not recollect to have witnessed from the use of any other article.

The inferences deduced from the above narration, are necessarily brief, and in many respects humiliating. Notwithstanding the extended and meritorious labours of the last fifty years, and the confident assertions of certain medical authors, the yellow fever must still be considered an opprobrium to the science. Hence the propriety of "recurring to first principles," and of restricting our duties as a committee, exclusively to the relation of important facts.



## APPENDIX.

### CASES. NO. I.

AUGUST 21, 1820. J. P. C. SAMPSON, Esqr. aged twenty-six years, of a sanguine temperament, was seized this MORNING with pain in the head, down the back and throughout the extremities. He also complained of complete prostration of strength; and there was preternatural heat of skin; pulse sluggish; tongue of a leaden color, and eyes suffused with blood. M. M. Bled immediately to the extent of twenty ounces; placed in a tepid bath and scrubbed with brushes—after which, fifteen grains of calomel and twenty of jalap was exhibited, with direction to use rice water for common drink. NOON—The cathartic has operated partially; pain of the head more severe; pulse full and sluggish. Tepid bath and the applications of brushes repeated—while in the bath two pounds of blood abstracted; then administered twenty grains jalap and a half a drachm of the super tartrite of potass. EVENING. Medicine operated copiously; head painful; preternatural heat of the skin and no thirst. Tepid bath and frictions; bled to the extent of two pounds and a half; after which he was lifted from the bath and four buckets of cold water thrown over him. Left him much relieved. Common drink at this period, tamarind water.

August 22. Had a restless night; some pain over the eyes, and dry skin: Enema, tepid bath and cold effusions, followed by frictions with Cologne water. NOON. Pulse soft and natural; an absence of thirst. Exhibited: Calomel, twenty grains; and two hours afterwards, castor oil, an ounce and a half. EVENING. Medicine produced copious green foetid stools. Common drink through the night, lemonade.

August 23. Pain over the eyes, nausea. Applied blister to the forehead and epigastrium. Calomel exhibited in doses of five grains every two hours, and frictions of mercurial ointment throughout the day. EVENING. Deficiency of urine. A tea spoonful of turpentine every hour through the night. Enema and mercurial frictions.

August 24. Pulse small and sluggish; eyes suffused with yellow. Infusions of serpentaria and chincona; calomel and turpentine at short intervals. EVENING. Hiccough and black vomit. Calomel and musk with Champagne wine for common drink. Mercurial frictions.

August 25. Every bad symptom aggravated. Medicine last prescribed not exhibited; the patient resolutely refusing compl-

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ance. He continued throughout in the possession of his mental faculties, and died between one and two o'clock, P. M. on this day.

### No. 2.

MR. BROWN, aged 22, of a delicate habit, was seized on the morning of the 31st of August, with rigor, succeeded by severe pains of the head and prostration of strength. Pulse expansive, tongue natural, eyes suffused with blood. Bled to the extent of four pounds—syncope, frictions of Cologne water, and lemonade for common drink. Noon: preternatural heat of body, with pain of the extremities: Cathartic and tepid bath. Night, better; medicine operated freely, stools fœtid and of a greenish appearance.

September 1. Severe pains: bled to 12 ounces: enema and frictions with Cologne water. AFTERNOON: still pains of the head, skin moist: blister to the forehead, enema, lemonade for common drink.

September 2. Tremor: had a restless night: pulse small and intermetting. In attempting to rise, he was seized with a spasmodic paroxysm. Exhibited cobweb, 3 grains every two hours, and frictions of Vol. Linament: common drink, chicken broth. AFTERNOON, much better: enema and cobweb continued.

September 4. Better night than heretofore: complains of nausea Cobweb and porter. September 5, convalescent. Discharged, cured, on the 10th instant.

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### No. 3.

Monday, Aug. 28. Rev. SYLVESTER LARNED, aged 24, of sanguine temperament and plethoric habit, was seized at 2 o'clock, A. M. with a chill and pains in the head, back and lower extremities—visited at 6 o'clock, A. M. chill continues, pains in the back intense, eyes suffused and watery, stomach unaffected, pulse small: complains of great prostration of strength.

M. M. Pul. Jal. and Crem. Tart. and diluent drink. Noon, same day, Cathartic operated partially, stools lequid, great heat about the neck and breast, countenance flushed, throbbing of the temporal and caroted arteries, eyes more inflamed,, took 16 ounces blood and gave a mercurial cathartic, to be followed by castor oil: commenced mercuria' frictions in the afternoon and continued them throughout the night.

Tuesday, 29th. Symptoms continue with little variation. Skin on the extremities cool, with increase of heat about the head, neck and body: Pulse small, great prostration of muscular strength, tongue slightly discolored, no foecal evacuation. Medicine continued, with the addition of 5 grains calomel, every two hours enemata.

Wednesday, 30th. Passed a restless night, mild delirium and frequent liquid stools, great anxiety and restlessness, tongue red about its edges, gums swollen, pain of the head somewhat abated, slight irritability of the stomach and soreness of the Epigastrium, coldness of the extremities continues, with dull pain in the muscles of the legs: Castor oil has passed through the bowels unaccompanied by foecal discharges. medicines and drinks occasionally rejected by the stomach, without bile—paucity of urine. Mercurial frictions and medicine continued, with mustard to the feet, blisters to the extremities and epigastrium—and stimulant injections

Thursday, 31st. Delirium through the night, without sleep: stomach rejects every thing taken into it, and black vomit occurred at 10 o'clock—no discharge of urine. Fever and pains entirely abated, skin cold and moist, tongue inflamed and contracted, haemorrhage from the nose, pulse small and feeble, face and neck slightly tinged with yellow, black vomit continued throughout. Blisters had drawn well and were dressed with mercurial ointment, stimulant injections frequently repeated, diffusible stimulant and animal broths were exhibited with the use of the hot bath: Arterial action rapidly declined, difficult respiration supervened, pulsation at the wrists ceased at 6 o'clock, and at 10 he expired.

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### No. 4.

Thursday, August 24th. J. LEACH, aged 21, recently from the state of Massachusetts, of phlegmatic temperament, light hair and blue eyes, but in full health. Was taken in the forenoon with a chill, pains in the head and back, and frequent vomiting, eyes suffused and watery, pulse small and very frequent, great depression of mind and sighing. M. M. Cathartic, sub. mur. merc. et. pul. jal. tepid drinks: mercurial frictions on the breast, abdomen, and lower extremities every two hours.

Friday, 26th. bowels freely evacuated, stools dark and consistent, pains in the head and back more severe, pulse more full and tense, great heat on the surface, and countenance flushed, hamorr-

lage from the nose, tongue coated: frictions continued, and alternated with cold affusions—5 grains sub. mur. merc. every two hours.

Thursday, 26th. Passed a restless night, great anxiety about the præcordia with frequent reaching, several copious evacuations of dark bilious matter from the bowels towards morning, tongue thickly coated and of a buff color, gums spongy, pulse full but less tense. Prescriptions continued.

Friday, 27th. A gentle ptyalism came on during the night, heat on the skin diminished and pains ceased—frictions and the use of calomel discontinued—cathartic of manna and crem. tart. exhibited.

Saturday, 28th. Convalescent.—And in a few days he was able to resume his business in a Counting-House.

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No. 5.

Le 21 Août 1820, j'ai visité sur le soir Mr. L . . . , capitaine du bâtiment Alexandre, en cette ville depuis 15 jours, ayant beaucoup fréquenté les ports des Antilles, âgé de 53 ans, français, d'un tempérament sanguin et ayant la figure très-haute en couleur. Je l'ai trouvé se promenant avec beaucoup d'agitation et de loquacité dans sa chambre, pouls febril, langue blanchâtre et humide, éprouvant des lassitudes et des douleurs dans les genoux, avec un très-violent mal de tête : perte d'appétit : " mais cela n'était rien, " disait-il, en comparaison des peines morales qu'il éprouvait, et " qu'il n'avait d'ailleurs besoin d'aucun remède." J'ai conseillé néanmoins une boisson acidulée, bain de jambes synapisés et des lavemens émolliens.

Le second jour de la maladie, même lassitude et douleur très-intense à la tête, rougeur des yeux et de la face, douleur au dos et à l'épigastre, nausées, pouls grand, mou, intermittent et accéléré, langue blanchâtre, peau brûlante et un peu humide, point de soif: consultation d'après laquelle saignée dubras d'environ 14 onces, et pour boisson, crème de tartre soluble 3 j. nitrale de potasse 8 j. dans une bouteille d'eau sucrée.

Le troisième, mêmes symptômes et vomissemens fréquens, d'un liquide d'abord grisâtre et ensuite noir. Le soir pouls plus mou et plus lent. J'apprends que le malade annonçait que dans trois jours il serait mort. Potion anti-Émetique avec la carbonate de potasse et l'acide du citron, cataplasmes synapisés sur les jambes.

Le quatrième jour, au matin : nuit sans sommeil, mal de tête diminué, "facies," d'étonnement, yeux rouges, langue et surtout les alentours des lèvres jaunes, l'épigastre est douloureux surtout

par le toucher, pouls grand, irrégulier et très-bas, urines supprimées, vomissemens et selles noirâtes.

Le soir, grande douleur de l'abdomen qui ne présente rien d'extraordinaire au tact, hoccoquet. efforts inutiles du malade pour pouvoir rendre des urines: quelques selles sanguinolentes.

Le cinquième, nuit très-agitée, le malade a rendu plusieurs selles contenant beaucoup de sang pur et liquide: il conserve néanmoins ses forces et sa présence d'esprit: ventre douloureux, soif, hoccoquet, leypotimie et mort à 4 heures de l'après-midi, le 25 Aout 1820. Il m'a été impossible d'en faire l'ouverture cadavérique.

### No. 6.

September 3d. Mr. M'GEE, aged 24, of a sanguine temperament, was seized with a pain in the head and back, prostration of strength pulse expansive, great thirst, skin hot and dry, and hurried respiration. M. M. abstracted 20 ounces of blood, which alleviated the pain and induced perspiration: directed him to drink copiously of *limonade cuite* containing crem. of tart. and sulphat. of magnesia.

September 4. Medicine operated copiously, skin still dry, thirst excessive, slight pain in head and loins. Applied cold water by affusion, afterwards exhibited calomel 1 scruple, and 2 ounces of castor oil—*limonade cuite* continued.

September 5th. Irritability of stomach. Stimulating clysters, cold water to the head and epigastrium—administered 2 drachms calcined magnesia.

September 6th. Symptoms alleviated—continued the medicines of yesterday.

September 7th. Convalescent.

TABLE I.

An abstract of deaths in the city of New-Orleans, from August 1817, to December 1820.

MONTHS.	Catholic Burying Ground.*				Protestant Burying Ground.				Grand Total									
	WHITE.		COLOUR'D.		WHITE.		COLOUR'D.											
	Men	Women	Children	Total	Men	Women	Children	Total										
August†	312	8	5		9	14	9		112	7	3		6	3			489	
September	71	16	19		12	11	34		113	10	5		6	4	3		304	
October	36	13	18		10	10	19		52	5	5		2	1	1		172	
November	16	2	4		19	5	18		30	2	2				2		91	
December	10	3	1		12	10	19		8		1		6	3	2		94	
1818																		
January	7	4	4		12	7	16		5				2	3	1			
February	14	3	5		10	10	15		5	1					1		57	
March	9	4	3		12	12	16		18	2	2		2	3			73	
April	14	6	5		21	13	19		4	2			2	1	3		37	
May	9	7	7		12	19	18		10	4	2		3	2	1		93	
June	7	7	12		14	18	27		8	1			5	2	5		194	
July	11	3	7		17	10	40		10		3		7	3	2		14	
August	11	5	5		22	9	29		22	4	4		3	1	5		112	
September	23	7	5		22	15	29		51	4	1		6	3			166	
October	16	7	9		11	9	15		22	3	2		3	1	5		100	
November	20	5	4		11	9	18		13	1	1		3	1	2		88	
December	6	1	5		20	9	11		9	1	1		2	2			67	
1819																		
January	23	2	3		9	6	13		6		3		1	1	3		70	
February	18		10		7	17	17		2	21	2		2	3	3		83	
March	16	4	5		9	15	24		8	2	3		3	3	5		97	
April	22	1	5		9	9	24		6	1	2		7				78	
May	21	4	2		19		24		18	2	10		6	3	3		120	
June	19	6	11		18	10	29		20	3	4		2	5	3		130	
July	31	6	5		9	14	22		25	2	6		8	1	1		135	
August	108	11	12		13	16	32		84	10	8		6	1	1		292	
September	208	31	19		13	19	29		205	41	18		3	6	2		594	
October	118	18	14		12	12	24		80	12	8		6	6	3		313	
November	44	6	15		7	10	19		21	3	5		4		1		126	
December	32	5	6		11	17	17		8	3	3		2	2	3		100	
1820																		
January	22	3	5		12	10	15		6	2	2		3	1	2		83	
February	24	2	7		6	5	19		14	1	4		1				83	
March	21	5	4		12	10	14		7	2	4		2				82	
April					1				7	1			3	1	2		15	
May	24	4	13		13	7	82		12		6		2		2		115	
June	25	4	5			1	1		24	3	12		18	9	10		122	
July	61	8	7		16	5	16		25	2	3		2	1	2		260	
August	116	6	10			13	17		93	11	8		2	4	4		289	
September	152	9	19		13	6	22		153	11	7		5	5			402	
October	70	5	7		14	14	11		37	5	9		4	1			177	
November	25	1	1		5	7	9		10	1	8			3	2		72	
December	25	5			6	7	1		8	2	3		2	4	2		65	

\* All deaths that occurred in the Charity and Marine Hospitals, are embraced in the Catholic burying ground—not more, perhaps, than one out of a hundred was inured to the climate.

† 277 of those men were interred from the charity hospital.

## TABLE II.

A detail of Deaths, and state of the weather for August,  
1820

<i>Catholic Burying Ground.</i>		<i>Protestant Burying Ground.</i>		METEOROLOGICAL.											
White.	Color'd.	White.	Color'd.	tempe- rature.		} <i>State of the weather</i>									
August	Men.	Women	Children	Men	Women	Children	Men	Women	Children	S A M	Noon	S P M	S A M	Noon	S P M
1	2		1							79	86	78	cloudy	rain	clear
2	5			1				1		77	81	79	do	clear	do
3	4		1							79	82	79	clear	thund.	do
4	1									78	82	82	o'ercast	cloudy	do
5	1									81	87	82	rain	do	do
6	1			1					1	86	83	81	o'ercast	sultry	light'ng
7	4								1	80	85	81	clear	clear	clear
8	2	1	1							80	83	82	do	do	do
9	2		1					1		81	84	82	do	do	do
10	1			1	2	2				81	84	82	do	do	do
11	3			1	1	2				82	85	82	do	do	do
12	1			1	1	3				82	86	83	do	rain	do
13				1		1				82	85	82	do	th. & ra.	do
14	3	1	1			1				81	80	80	th. & ra.	rain	do
15	1					2	1			79	84	80	cloudy	sho'rs	do
16	3			1		4				79	83	81	clear	cloudy	do
17	2			1	2	4			1	81	83	81	do	rain	cloudy
18	7		1	1	1	3				80	82	82	sho'rs	clear	clear
19	3					2	1			81	85	82	clear	do	do
20	3			1		5	1			82	86	82	do	do	do
21	3			1		1			1	82	86	83	do	do	do
22	2					3				82	86	85	do	do	do
23	5		1	2		2		2		84	83	84	do	do	do
24	3					8	2			84	86	84	do	cloudy	light'ng
25	4					3	2			85	87	84	do	clear	clear
26	11	1				5	1	1		84	85	82	do	o'ercast	do
27	8			1	1	7		2		82	84	82	do	clear	do
28	10					7			1	82	84	82	do	do	do
29	10	1		1		4		1	1	80	84	81	do	do	do
30	5		1			8	2	1		81	95	81	do	do	do
31	11	1	2			3	2			80	85	82	do	do	do

# TABLE III.

A detail of Deaths, and state of the weather, for September.  
1820

<i>Catholic Burying Ground.</i>		<i>Protestant Burying Ground.</i>		METEOROLOGICAL.								
White.	Color'd.	White	Color'd.	} <i>tempe- rature.</i>		} <i>State of the weather</i>						
Men.	Women.	Men.	Women.	M. n.	W. ometh.	Children.	S. A. M.	N. oon.	S. P. M.	S. A. M.	Noon.	8 P. M.
1	11			6		1	81	85	82	clear	clear	clear
2	8		1	1		1	83	85	82	do	do.	do.
3	6	1		5			82	85	82	do	do.	do.
4	8	2	1	9	1	1	79	85	81	do	do.	do.
5	8	1		13			79	85	81	do	do.	do.
6	10	1	1	7			80	84	80	do	do.	do.
7	9			7			80	80	83	do	do.	do.
8	11		2	15		8	82	87	82	do	rain	do.
9	9		3	9			79	84	81	o'ercast	do.	do.
10	6	1		8		1	79	85	81	clear	clear	do.
11	9	1		8	2		81	86	82	do	do.	do.
12	2		2	2			78	80	70	do	do.	do.
13	7		1	1	3	3	67	86	72	do	do.	do.
14	8	1		10		1	69	78	67	do	do.	do.
15	5	1	1	1		1	74	81	74	do	do.	do.
16	3	1		2			74	84	76	o'ercast	rain	cloudy
17	4	1	2	11	1	1	76	80	75	do	o'ercast	o'ercast
18	6			4			76	80	75	cloudy	clear	cloudy
19	5		1	4	2	1						
20	3	1		1		2	75	77	74	do	cloudy	do.
21	2	1	1	2			74	77	74	do	rain	rain
22	2	1	2	1	2		71	75	72	do	cloudy	cloudy
23	1	1		3	4		70	74	72	do	do.	clear
24	4	1		3	2		71	75	74	clear	clear	do.
25	6	1	1	4			69	79	76	do	do.	do.
26				1	1		72	78	74	do	cloudy	do.
27	2	1	1	1	3	2	70	79	74	cloudy	clear	do.
28	2			2	3		71	78	72	clear	rain	thund.
29	2			3	1		71	78	75	cloudy	clear	clear
30	3						71	78	75	clear	cloudy	do.



TABLE IV.

A detail of deaths and state of the weather, for October.  
1820.

Catholic Burying Ground.			Protestant Burying Ground.			METEOROLOGICAL.					
White.		Color'd.	White.		Color'd.	temp- erature.	State of the weather				
Men	Women	Children	Men	Women	Children		8 A. M.	Noon.	8 P. M.		
1	3	1	1	1	1	71	78	75	clear	clear	clear
2	2		1		1	71	78	72	do.	do.	do.
3	2				3	72	79	75	foggy	do.	do.
4	5		1		3	70	70	75	clear	do.	rain
5	5	1			1	71	80	74	do.	do.	clear
6	4			1		72	77	73	do.	do.	do.
7	3				2	67	78	75	do.	rain	do.
8	5	1	1		3	74	75	72	do.	clear	do.
9			2	1	1	69	78	75	rain	do.	do.
10	1	1	1	1	3	70	73	70	clear	do.	do.
11	2				2	57	65	50	rain	do.	do.
12	3		1	1	1	56	78	66	clear	do.	do.
13	2	1	1	2	2	69	81	72	do.	do.	do.
14	3			2	1	68	63	55	o'ercast	do.	do.
15				1	4	46	56	55	rain	do.	do.
16	3		1	1	1	46	54	50	clear	do.	do.
17			1			50	60	60	do.	do.	do.
18	2	1	1	1		57	63	60	do.	do.	do.
19	3		1	1	1	55	64	60	do.	do.	do.
20				2	1	55	67	60	do.	do.	do.
21	3			2	1	53	60	50	do.	do.	do.
22	3	1				46	59	50	do.	do.	do.
23	1		1	1	1	49	64	50	do.	do.	do.
24	2		1		1	55	70	65	do.	do.	do.
25	1			1		53	55	51	do.	do.	do.
26	2	1				45	57	48	do.	do.	do.
27	2					49	61	56	do.	do.	do.
28	1	1			2	48	59	50	do.	do.	do.
29	1			1	2	49	62	55	do.	do.	do.
30	3		1		1	55	65	63	do.	o'ercast	rain
31					3	63	65	64	cloudy	do.	dark.

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# CENSUS

## OF THE CITY AND SUBURBS OF NEW-ORLEANS:

For the year 1820,

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White Men	- - - -	6589
White Women	- - - -	3618
White Children	- - - -	3397

Total 13,584

Coloured Men	- - - -	2774
Coloured Women	- - - -	6106
Coloured Children	- - - -	4712

Total 13,592  
13,584

Grand total of White and Coloured 27,176

*The above statement embraces the incorporated City and its former Suburbs. The aggregate population of the New Suburbs, is 18,810; making the entire Census of the City and its Environs, 45,986.*

UNIVERS

OF THE CITY AND PORT OF NEW ORLEANS

1850

White Male  
White Female  
Total

Colored Male  
Colored Female  
Total

Total  
Grand Total of White and Colored

The above statistics embrace the population of the  
City and Port of New Orleans, Louisiana, in the year  
1850, as ascertained by the Census of the  
United States.