

entrusted to put them on the file, and partly by my own frequent absence from home, so that I was not able to make up all the yearly bills, and was fain to be content with those I have here entered, not knowing where to supply my want of the rest in all Dublin.

1st. *Upon the Bills of Mortality and Increase of People.*—I cannot pursue a better method than what was begun by the learned author of this new way of observing, Sir William Petty; therefore comparing the mortality of those seven years I have collected, I find that at a middle rate the yearly mortality of Dublin to be 2236, which exceeds his middle rate, and bears proportion to it almost as eleven to eight, from whence we may reasonably conclude the people of Dublin to have increased since that time almost a third. This was otherwise sufficiently visible in the great increase of buildings, for a third part of the whole having been erected since the year '60, were filled with inhabitants as soon as finished, without any decrease of rent. I find the year 1688, the bills of mortality sink near a fifth of what they had amounted to in former years, whereas the three proceeding years came so near each other, that the two greatest, which were equal, did not exceed the least by more than four persons, and the fourth, which differs most, fell but forty-two short of the largest, a small difference when our whole consists of so many hundreds. This I impute to the flight of so many English Protestants as were frighted out of town, as well as the rest of the kingdom, by the Lord Tyrconnell's being put into the government.

2ndly. *Of the Small-pox.*—The Small-pox had raged for some years when I began to collect my bills, and in the first of my collection it seemed to be in the last of its fury, sinking from 871, the very next year after to 353. And by comparing the first six years together, a middle standard may be collected of 472 for each year. But this last year the malignity of it seems to be well nigh quite extinct, not above forty-seven dying of it in the whole year; and indeed the whole mortality decreased near a sixth part of what it had been the year before, though the fever, (of which we shall say more presently,) kept its usual pitch, and the bloody flux and looseness (of which there has been a great silence in former bills,) were above treble of what they had been before, an argument that the *mortality* was not lessened, but the number of inhabitants.

3rdly. *Of the Fever.*—'Tis observable upon the abating of the Small-pox that there came amongst us anomalous fever, which Dublin seldom wants, unless in those years when a contagious air impregnates all inflamed bloods with a variolous ferment. This makes me be of opinion that a medium for these seven years, being 661, may pass for a general standard for fevers, as long as the place shall continue in its present populousness. I find that in the year 1688, the dispeopling of the town appeared in the decrease of the fever, small-pox, and whole mortality in general, which was sufficiently repaired by the mortality of the following year; for, notwithstanding the great thinness of people, which left some whole streets uninhabited, a fever that began first at the camp, and afterwards with the army removed into the city, made the bill increase to almost treble some of the former years, and above one half as much as the middle standard.

4thly. *Of those above Sixteen and under Sixteen.*—This fever, as it came in with the army, so it continued amongst them; for in that time the numbers of those above sixteen outstript those under sixteen, contrary to what may be observed in former years, which seems to me a clear argument that it was an infection that mostly seized the adult. This appeared in two quarterly bills since last June, and in the yearly bill of '90, for until that time the odds run on those under sixteen.

I once thought it might have been instructive to compare the list of the aged with that of the infants, until I observed that the aged did mightily outnumber the infants, whereas it is certain in Nature that more die in their infancy than live to an old age; and then I concluded no inferences could be made of the proportion of aged to infants from any thing that appears upon our bills, since such only were put upon the style of infants as died without any distemper known to the women about them; whereas all those that died of teeth, convulsion fits, worms, or other children's diseases, are put upon those styles, and not upon that of infants.

(To be continued.)

MEDICAL INTELLIGENCE.

Her Majesty the Queen has conferred the honour of Knighthood on Doctor John Richardson, R.N., F.R.S., Medical Inspector of Hospitals and Fleets.

ROYAL COLLEGE OF SURGEONS.

Gentlemen admitted Members, on Friday, February 6th, 1846:—J. H. May; V. Devey; W. Bannister; J. Webber; G. E. Nicholas; E. Whately.

SOCIETY OF APOTHECARIES.

Gentlemen admitted licentiates, Thursday, February 5th:—Charles Husband, London; James Eastwood Taylor, Whitworth, Lancashire; Henry Birkett, Kelloe; Arthur Prince May, Maldon.

OBITUARY.

Died, January 23rd, at Maidstone, Trevanion Vernon Oates, Esq., Surgeon to the Maidstone Infirmary.

TO CORRESPONDENTS.

Communications have been received from W. A. G.; Dr. Carson; Dr. Fife; Dr. Black.

It is requested that all letters and communications be sent to Dr. Streeten, Foregate Street, Worcester. Parcels, and books for review, may be addressed to the Editor of the Provincial Medical and Surgical Journal, care of Mr. Churchill, Princess Street, Soho.