Years,	1833	1834	1835	1836	1837	1838	1839	1840	1841	1842
Average Population,	88500	90500	92500	94500	96500	98500	100500	102500	104500	106500
Total Deaths,	2405	2747	2050	2373	2714	2691	2431	2236	2448	2655

PRINCIPAL FATAL DISEASES, &c.

Cholera Infant.,	146	201	89	191	131	199	135	114	191	198
Scarlet Fever,	141	143	13	30	134	141	112	71	74	27
Croup,	41	46	35	47	59	45	51	31	26	42
Convulsions,	109	93	89	86	85	89	65	55	84	83
Measles,	12	77	5	1	141	4	59	32	6	103
Whooping Cough,	134	12	1	43	69	18	75	9	35	63
Marasmus,	27	17	30	27	32	30	18	3	5	5
Catarrhal Fever,	53	74	76	77	74	67	70	44	49	117
Infant. unknown,	426	449	391	478	516	535	515	418	487	490
Consumption,	394	419	344	316	396	410	397	359	454	480
Bilious Fever,	59	86	85	83	32	37	46	49	38	68
Malignant or Yellow Fever,										
Asiatic Cholera,		71		1	52	71	2	9	1	1
Small Pox,	32	71	2		35	47	30	35	29	18
Intemperance,	25	34	41	50	7	4	5	20	17	29
Organic Disease of Heart,	7	1	10	6	93	94	118	96	98	98
Old Age,	87	126	120	137						

In the preceding table, the diseases of children have been grouped together for the purpose of directing your attention to the heaviest item in our bills of mortality; and it may not be irrelevant to add, that the interments of children under 5 years, for the past twelve months, amount to 1,422; which being deducted from 2,655, the total of interments during the same period, leave a balance of only 1,133 to account for all fatal diseases, casualities &c., of adults and children over the fifth year. Hence it is a natural inference, that the disproportionate mortality of children under the age specified, should be referred to causes other than a climate and locality, so propitious to all ages over the fifth year. My personal observation and experience, and the opinions of medical friends, would ascribe this disproportionate mortality to an absence of rational attention to suitable clothing, air and exercise; to food ill adapted to their tender age and powers; to the heterogeneous sweetened trash so abundant in cities—and last tho' not least, to the credulous and pernicious use of nostrums. These causes must produce their morbid effects upon the digestive apparatus, exciting a number of diseases into immediate action, laying the foundation for others to be developed by the heats of summer, and disabling the little novice from passing safely through the inevitable gauntlet of infantile diseases. Whilst on this subject, allow me to submit to your consideration the long list of deaths reported under the caption of *infantile unknown.* During the past year, these amounted to 490, and during the last seven years, more than 3,600 children have died from unreported diseases; and we might truly say, have been "buried without a name." My last annual report made strong allusions to this subject, and although these cases are for the most part traceable to the free coloured population, and are measurably attributable to diseases of the alimentary canal resulting from causes just alluded to, I consider it my duty to suggest the propriety of enforcing the accuracy of obituary reports by effective ordinances.

Having noted, in general terms, the principal drawback on our population, I pass over without comment or specification certain obvious disorders incident to growing cities, which although prolific sources of disease, casualties and violence, and respectable contributors to our annual list of interments, call for civil rather than medical legislation. The next subjects offered to your consideration, are the means of protecting the city against the introduction and propagation of contagious and malignant diseases. Of these, the small pox and yellow fever are more especially under the control of a judicious and efficient medical police. In relation to variola or small pox, the present excellent arrangement consists of an isolated small pox hospital, served for a term of years by the Washington University of Maryland, and provided with nurses and a suitable vehicle for the exclusive use of the infected,—a vaccine committee of seven physicians, annually elected and controlled by the board of health,—and the valuable aid of the port physician or health officer,