

Statistics of Accidents—Returns from Europe and the United States. Mons. A. Legoy, the head of the General Statistical Department of France, and Secretary of the Statistical Society of Paris, has recently concluded researches concerning "Accidents in Europe and the United States."

The proportion of fatal accidents to the population varies between the maximum in England, Norway, and the United States, and the co-efficient minima of 201, 202, and 222 of Russia, Spain and Denmark.

M. Legoy has been able to compare only a small number of countries, within the immediate causes or nature of accidents are considered. With the exception of England, where contusions and injuries (classified under "crushing") are the most numerous of the United States, where burns and scalds occur the first place amongst accidents, "submersion" is the cause of the greatest number of deaths.

It is with respect to burns and scalds that the ratio of fatal accidents is higher amongst women than amongst men. M. Legoy's researches tend to show that accidental deaths nearly everywhere increase more rapidly than they do in the population. In France for example, the following successive and increasing ratio has taken place: 15 fatal accidents to 100,000 inhabitants from 1827 to 1830; 22 ditto from 1831 to 1834; 25 ditto from 1835 to 1838; 25 ditto from 1839 to 1842; 25 ditto from 1843 to 1846; 25 ditto from 1847 to 1850; 25 ditto from 1851 to 1855; and 25 ditto from 1856 to 1859.

The ratio of females to males as regards accidents tends to increase, probably with the participation of the former in industrial occupations. In Bavaria and Saxony the ratio is highest during early infancy, and in the former state lowest between forty and fifty years of age. At present it attains its maximum through "burns," which in Bavaria are more common during summer than in winter. Women more frequently succumb to burns in consequence of their subordination and poisoning. Fatal accidents are of much more frequent occurrence in summer than during the other three seasons of the year. This is especially true of the former season being the chief one for outdoor operations, navigation, etc. It is a fair presumption, also, that the smaller number of fatal accidents is due to the greater vigilance of authority, and the more exact surveillance of parents, generally put in both illustrations, this conclusion very notably, from 1832 to 1854 Paris likewise was in the same category; but from 1855 to 1861 it occupied the opposite position.

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