

"no change of linen, and were therefore obliged to lie either without shirts, or in their foul every-day clothes."

ATTACKS and DEATHS among the Populations of Valetta and Floriana from the 5th of May, when Plague was declared, to the end of October 1813.

Places of Attacks and Deaths.	May.		June.		July.		August.		Sept.		October.		Total.	
	Attacked.	Died.	Attacked.	Died.	Attacked.	Died.	Attacked.	Died.	Attacked.	Died.	Attacked.	Died.	Attacked.	Died.
In Houses in Valetta .	72	41	344	160	463	326	207	105	35	7	8	2	1455	641
In Houses in Floriana .	2	2	122	83	281	194	58	27	20	3	9	4	492	313
In Fort Manoel	16	35	23	234	16	26	.	.	.	.	1	.	56	295
In Barrache at Fort Manoel	.	1	5	49	51	18	42	.	16	.	4	.	118	68
In Barrache at Floriana .	.	.	26	5	76	12	60	12	53	4	5	1	220	34
Plague Hospital of Valetta (in the ditch).	.	.	.	28	6	262	8	149	3	39	.	1	17	481
Plague Hospital at Floriana (in the ditch)	.	.	13	48	2	263	5	115	5	76	3	21	28	523
In Lazaretto .	2	3	4	6	7	5	.	22	13	24	20	26	68	86
In Hospital of Observation (in the ditch)	6	13	50	20	13	2	13	.	6	.	.	.	88	35
In Maltese Hospital in Valetta . .	.	.	.	2	1	2	4	1	.	.	.	.	5	5
Total . .	98	95	587	635	916	1110	397	431	151	153	51	55	2568	2481*

The impossibility of preventing the extension of the disease by the best organized system of quarantine, both in Malta and Corfu, showed that the calculation and foresight of the most vigilant were at fault; and that something more than segregation was required to stay its progress. Dr. Tully (p. 102), after describing the very complete arrangements for arresting the disease in the district of Leftimo, in Corfu, says, "Nevertheless the great object was yet unattained, as the extension of the contagion hitherto baffled all our efforts. The vigilance of the public authorities was excited in the strongest manner; and I immediately repaired to every place where disease broke out

\* The difference in numbers between one Return and another in this Report arises from discrepancies in the Bulletins which it would be in vain attempting to adjust.

"anew; but all was ineffectual; for, at the very moment we had formed the best grounded hopes of success, some unfortunate event occurred to subvert the whole; and it not unfrequently happened, when we had reason to be certain that every danger was securely confined, it would suddenly start upon us, mocking all ordinary efforts; and not because it was invincible, but (as I have before said) because we could not thus early arrive at anything like perfection, more especially on the part of our subordinate agents; at this very period, when we supposed we had grasped the disease with Herculean force, it escaped with all the changes of a Proteus."

All who have visited the villages of Corfu, and seen the squalid, aguish aspect of the inhabitants, and their small dark, filthy cabins, will be able to appreciate the probable effects of the following means of arresting a febrile disease. "The character of the people we had to contend with," says Dr. Tully (p. 112), "left us still in the most anxious doubt; for although sentries were placed everywhere, both day and night, assisted by frequent patrols, we still apprehended that attempts at clandestine communication would be made; and learning, for the first time, from His Excellency, that a similar infatuation to incur disease existed in Casal Curmi, in Malta, where the inhabitants were not only walled in, but locked within their respective dwellings, I determined upon having recourse to the latter method; and in addition to the security granted by the presence of the guards, I caused each house to be locked every evening, *previous* to sunset, and the key of each door placed in a contiguous secure situation, where it remained until *after sunrise*, when the doors were opened for the purpose of general ventilation and for receiving the daily supplies; so jealous was I of this duty that it was invariably executed in the presence of an officer of health; and further, when the nature of the building led me to apprehend danger by means of the windows, I then caused them to be barred; nor was I satisfied with the execution of these orders, but the whole came almost daily under my own inspection; thus it might be said that the plague was hermetically sealed."

According to Sir Thomas Maitland, a zealous perseverance in these means, during four months, sufficed for the extermination of a malady of which Dr. Tully says, (p. 90)—

"Reflecting upon the nature of the disease, which presented itself for our examination, the poverty of the inhabitants amounting almost to absolute want, the natural unhealthiness of the whole district during the autumn; considering also that these people had but recently recovered from the effects of a remittent fever, which had been most severely felt in every part of the district; the village, although elevated, being nearly surrounded by marshes, inhabited by a peasantry wholly unconnected with commerce, removed from the sea-shore, and

"in the very heart of the district, no disease having been discovered in any other part of the island, all combined to impress upon our minds that the disease before us was the offspring of the soil; nevertheless, conceiving that it was not only of a malignant, but also of a contagious nature, we considered that it was that particular description of disease which demanded the strictest measures of precaution."

Sir Thomas Maitland states "it was almost a proscribed idea that plague existed there at all," as well with the inhabitants as the physician of the infected district, and it never seems to have occurred to him that four months might well comprise the whole existence of an epidemic.

The following Table, showing the number of attacks and deaths by Plague in Malta from the 18th May to the 30th of October 1813—after which date no more bulletins were issued—is an accurate transcript from these documents.

Day of the Month.	May.		June.		July.		August.		September.		October.	
	Attacks.	Deaths.	Attacks.	Deaths.	Attacks.	Deaths.	Attacks.	Deaths.	Attacks.	Deaths.	Attacks.	Deaths.
1	..	..	13	18	43	42	27	50	13	37	11	12
2	..	..	17	13	34	44	41	48	53	33	10	16
3	..	..	11	19	46	53	39	27	23	32	4	15
4	..	..	31	16	53	43	22	47	15	28	9	7
5	..	..	22	24	57	49	24	43	33	33	9	6
6	..	..	14	19	54	58	20	35	32	34	9	14
7	..	..	11	28	37	55	25	37	14	37	1	13
8	..	..	16	24	51	51	28	14	15	31	3	9
9	..	..	23	32	30	52	28	16	14	29	3	8
10	..	..	36	27	56	56	24	28	22	25	4	5
11	..	..	40	33	60	63	26	16	14	17	8	3
12	..	..	14	33	54	59	26	31	7	26	3	5
13	..	..	17	36	51	55	29	31	18	17	2	4
14	..	..	15	19	30	65	36	29	14	17	3	3
15	..	..	16	19	32	67	28	34	22	30	5	5
16	..	..	30	23	37	36	28	29	8	23	3	5
17	..	..	25	28	47	50	28	32	20	12	8	5
18	3	8	24	21	29	41	25	38	16	20	6	4
19	11	10	23	18	47	43	27	27	19	24	6	7
20	5	6	34	24	41	41	19	32	9	21	5	10
21	5	6	19	24	30	55	23	32	7	12	4	2
22	3	4	30	29	39	48	17	34	6	12	6	4
23	3	7	42	35	43	45	23	33	12	16	4	7
24	4	4	36	23	41	44	30	34	14	11	7	6
25	10	5	36	34	51	53	12	31	9	11	1	2
26	17	5	39	39	61	47	18	38	10	19	2	3
27	10	7	46	37	36	64	17	27	19	12	5	5
28	12	16	50	44	50	49	25	25	13	15	4	1
29	15	10	48	47	49	53	15	29	9	14	..	5
30	16	12	44	53	38	63	20	28	11	16	..	5
31	11	18	..	..	41	58	32	26	..	..	..	..
	125	118	822	829	1,368	1,602	782	981	491	664	145	196

The excess of the deaths over the attacks in this table shows, that, notwithstanding the severest penalties were enforced against persons concealing the illness of themselves or others, yet many cases of plague must have escaped the vigilance of the Committee of Health; for, upwards of one-seventh of the fatal cases became known only after the death of the patient; yet, in the most mortal epidemics, some of the plague-stricken recover. It would hence appear that neither the fear of punishment, nor the instinct of self-preservation in a population thoroughly imbued with the doctrine of contagion, could enable the authorities of Malta either to trace every case of plague, or to carry fully into effect the separation of the sick from the healthy; thus proving, in the very stronghold of quarantine faith, the utter failure of restrictive measures to exterminate pestilential disease.

I would direct attention in the following table to the deaths of four surgeons, so late as August and September, indicating that an epidemic, which for several months had been resisted by the husbands, or brothers, in daily intercourse with the sick, had almost simultaneously attacked their wives or sisters.

Except with surgeons and the better classes, the designation or employment of persons is not stated in the bulletins till the later months of the epidemic. It is, in consequence, impossible before this to discover how far the disease attacked those having direct intercourse with the sick. The deaths of six criminals at Fort Manoel in May and June, in addition to those attacked in the Grand Prison, are noticed, but whether employed as beccamorti does not appear.

TABLE showing Attacks among Persons supposed to be more peculiarly exposed by immediate intercourse with the Sick.

\* Those marked with an asterisk do not appear a second time in the Bulletins, and therefore probably recovered.

NAME.	Employment.	Date of Attack.	Date of Death, or Result.	Street or Place.
Dr. G. Scifo -	Surgeon -	16 June	Recovered	S. Teatro.
Carlo Grech -	Do.	22 "	22d June	Maltese hospital.
Salv. Bardon -	Do.	4 July	Recovered	Fort Manoel.
Salverio Musci -	Do.	14 "	16 July	Plague hospital.
Samuale Caruana -	Do.	18 " *	Unknown	S. S. Lucia.
Salv. Pisani -	Do.	" "	21 July	Vittoriosa.
F. Cortesi -	Do.	27 "	6 Aug.	Plague hospital.
O. Luca -	Do.	28 " *	Unknown	Do.
Onorato Deluca -	Do.	—	1 Aug.	Do.
Franc. Castellana -	Do.	—	5 "	Do.
V. Marciretto -	Do.	5 Aug.	10 "	Do.
E. Santilli -	Do.	8 " *	Unknown	Do.
Luigi Mazzei -	Do.	10 "	Do.	Do.
Felice Brignone -	Do.	" "	13 Aug.	C. Zebbug.
Domenica Brignone -	His sister -	" "	" "	Do.

NAME.	Employment.	Date of Attack.	Date of Death or Result.	Street or Place.
Leone Gravagna -	Surgeon -	—	16 "	148 S. Mercanti
Emm Micallef -	Do.	—	29 "	C. Curmi
Anna Micallef -	His wife -	29 Aug.	2 Sept.	Do.
Giov. Briffa -	Surgeon -	" "	30 "	Do.
Vin. Briffa -	His wife -	" "	—	Do.
Car. Ebeir -	Beccamorto	8 Sept.	11 Sept.	Rabbato.
Gio. Tr. Falzon -	Surgeon -	—	16 "	Do.
Ant. Falzon -	His sister -	17 Sept.	18 "	Do.
Gaet. Zammit -	Beccamorto	16 "	18 "	Do.
Car. Madrenza -	Surgeon -	17 "	19 "	8 St. Guiseppe
Pietro Soliman -	Beccamorto	20 " *	Unknown	Lazaretto
Akæ Imhammet -	Servant -	—	3 Oct.	Plague hospital.
Guis. Portelli -	Beccamorto	—	4 "	Rabbato
Lorenz. Corradi -	Do.	4 Oct. *	Unknown	Barrac.
Mar. Spiteri -	Do.	12 "	16 Oct.	C. Siggieui.
Elia Adatt -	Servant -	15 "	17 "	Lazaretto, servant to Jewish surgeon.
Sal. Gauci -	Beccamorto	16 " *	Unknown	Lazaretto.
Fran. Pace -	Do.	—	18 Oct.	Do.
Guis. Martino -	Cook -	17 Oct.	19 "	In Lazaretto
Francesco -	Servant -	—	8 Sept.	Plague hospital, Siggieui.
Vin. Micallef -	Do.	—	5 "	Do.
Carlo -	Beccamorto	5 Sept.	8 "	Musta.

In this table I have given the names and dates of attack of all I can find who may be supposed to have been peculiarly exposed to contagion from the sick.

The lateness of attack of more than two-thirds of the surgeons and of all the beccamorti will not escape notice. The deaths of six surgeons in the Plague hospitals—a large proportion, probably—will also attract attention. But it may save hasty conclusion to keep in mind the long resistance to the disease of those individuals; the number of surgeons attacked in other places; the few altogether of the profession who suffered, compared with the great number employed—upwards of 100; also the unfavourable situation of these hospitals (in the ditches) as well as their crowded state and want of cleanliness; and the complete exemption of all the surgeons and servants in the military pest hospital, though, as Sir Brook Faulkner observes, the latter were "*necessarily in contact with the individuals who had the Plague.*"

It is impossible to ascertain how many medical practitioners attended cases of plague; but of thirteen in Valetta and Floriana who report the recovery of patients under their care in July—five were attacked, of whom three recovered and two died. The subject of one of these deaths was Dr. Leone Gravagna, who

attended Borg's family; and it is stated by several most respectable contemporaries of his own rank, that he contracted the disease through money received from a carman, as he never visited any sick after Mrs. Borg's death.

Dr. Gravagna lived at 148 Strada Mercanti, near to the most infected part of the town; another in Strada St. Lucia, a street remarkable for the disease; a fourth, in a small shop and house 68 Strada Teatro. The second fatal case, Mr. Madrenza, had attended a case on the 10th, and died on the 18th of September. He resided in the same street (St. Giuseppe) as his patient, in which "towards the middle of September," says Dr. Calvert, "the contagion appeared to revive," and "several of the guards" and others were attacked.\* By reference to the maps the situation of Strada St. Giuseppe will be seen to afford reasonable grounds for suspicion, that locality was not unconcerned in the revival of the disease.

Only three villages seem to have had medical men attacked, namely, Curmi, Zebug, and Rabbato. The first lost two at the end of August; the second, one on the 13th of that month; and the third, one on the 16th of September. Of three medical men in Vittoriosa, one was ascertained to have been attacked and died.

There can be no doubt that many others were employed in a population amounting to about 45,000. But whatever construction we put upon those cases, it may be well to consider the localities in which they resided as well as the mere circumstance of communication with the sick. The influence of the former probably manifests itself in the fewer attacks and deaths among those living in Valetta and Floriana than in the hospitals; but it becomes more apparent by the fact, that in fifteen other infected places, towns, and villages, containing about the same amount of population, and having each, probably, from one to three medical men, no attack is recorded among them. Nor should we lose sight in any comparison of the aggregate accidents in the medical section of the population, of the amount of fatigue, anxiety, and exhaustion, suffered by those in towns, hospitals, and villages respectively.

Again, we find from twenty to thirty cases of plague treated in the Military Pest Hospital, and not one attendant suffered. This hospital is a detached, airy, and commodious structure, and was for several years afterwards the hospital of the regiment

\* Med. Ch. Trans., vol. vi.