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Still greater pecuniary interest has been involved in the catastrophes embraced in the following details:—

FIRES IN OCTOBER.—The month just closed has been very remarkable for the number of destructive fires which have occurred in the different sections of the country, which have consumed property, as will be seen by the following table, to the amount of over a million and a half of dollars, exclusive of all fires where the loss sustained was less than twenty thousand dollars:—

Oct. 5—Buffalo.....	\$20,000	Oct 25—Milledgeville, Ga.	\$60,000
" 10—Providence.....	20,000	" 26—Pr. vidence.....	300,000
" 15—Milwaukee.....	50,000	" 28—Lockport.....	125,000
" 21—Louisville.....	200,000	" 30—New York.....	400,000
" 22—Cincinnati.....	200,000	" 30—Brooklyn.....	90,000
" 23—Fittsburg.....	30,000		
" 24—St. Hamilton.....	50,000		
		Total.....	\$1,555,000

And now come we to one of yet more sorrowful import. The existence of the Yellow Fever having been mentioned several times in these notes, this appears a fitting place to preserve, for future reference, a condensed statement of that fearful mortality, (as near as can be ascertained,) up to the 8th inst., inclusive, at which time it was generally conceded to have ceased, as an epidemic. On the 14th, the Board of Health formally announced such as the fact.

The Daily Crescent of that place states "that in no previous year, at this particular date, has the mortality been so great as at present. The horrors of 1847 were as mildness in comparison thereto!"

The following statistics, published about the middle of the month, tell, indeed, a mournful story.

NEW ORLEANS.—At our last accounts the health of New Orleans was rapidly improving. Nevertheless, it will be seen by the following table, that the mortality since the 28th of May has been terrible indeed:

	Total.	Yellow Fever.
May 28,	140	1
June 4,	142	1
June 11,	154	4
June 18,	147	7
June 25,	167	9
July 2,	177	25
July 9,	183	59
July 16,	344	204
July 23,	817	429
July 30,	723	555
August 6,	1134	947
August 13,	1494	1262
August 20,	1544	1302
August 27,	1628	1365
September 3,	955	749
September 10,	576	421
September 17,	365	221
September 24,	263	125
October 1,	219	85
October 8,	133	42
Total,	11,100	7813

Cases in which causes of death were not stated in the last ten weeks of this table, 450
Of these six-sevenths for yellow fever, 385
Total deaths by the fever since May, 8198

The noble, self-sacrificing deeds of the "Howard Association," of New Orleans, have often justly claimed our attention and admiration—how much more must their labors have been appreciated, where the work of devastation has been going on. It is an incorporated body, numbering but thirty-five members; only actively heard of when an epidemic appears. Then, as promptly as possible, the city is divided into districts, Physicians, Nurses, &c., are obtained, and the work of humanity proceeds.

It now has from three to four hundred orphans under its care, to which they are to be indebted for

arrangements for their future maintenance! Noble Christians, may they have their reward! 18-2

[NOTE.—Since this article was prepared for the press, the following information has been obtained from a recently prepared Report of the Association, viz:

The total receipts into the Treasury amounted to \$223,927 00
Of which the City of Philadelphia contributed 22,123 00
and that the Association had under its care 11,038 patients, of whom 8146 were discharged cured, leaving the number of deaths 2942. They also established three Orphan Asylums, in which were received 241 children, left totally destitute by the death of their parents. They had also in charge of wet-nurses throughout the city, 97 children at the breast. At the close of the epidemic, all the orphans remaining on their hands, were transferred from the temporary Asylums to those regularly established in the city, and in each case the sum of \$100 was transmitted with each child.]

The total number of deaths by yellow fever reported for this city, during the present season, has been in the eighth month (August,) 6; ninth month (September,) 11; tenth month (October,) 10—total, 27.

The first occurring during the week ending ninth month, 17th, and the last during that ending 3d inst.

During these three weeks, reports were rife and believed by many that a large number of fatal cases of bona fide Yellow Fever were smuggled by Physicians and the Board of Health into the weekly reports of deaths as Malignant or Bilious.

The writer disbelieving these rumors, carefully preserved the accounts as published, from which he gleaned the following totals, viz:—

	Malignant.	Bilious.
Deaths during 8th mo. (Aug.)	16	9
" " 9th " (Sep.)	23	11
" " 10th " (Oct.)	14	14

The first named class includes various forms of Malignant Fever, and not merely that supposed by many to have been Yellow, and the account proves "Madame Rumor" to have been, once more, incorrect in her assertions, although it is possible a few of the malignant did approximate very closely to the Yellow.

Rain the present mo. per Pa. Hospital, 3.47 In.
Mean Temperature " 53.48 Deg.

ELEVENTH MONTH, (NOVEMBER.)

8th.—A few snow flakes—believed to be the first of the season.

9th.—After a tremendously heavy rain, from 10 A. M. until late in the afternoon, there was an unusually splendid rainbow about half past 5 o'clock.

12th.—Very heavy rain in evening and night, continuing more or less all next day and evening, with a perfect hurricane in the night. This storm, from various accounts, must have extended over the country to a considerable distance. On the 14th, a terrible freshet occurred in Maine, tearing up railroads in numerous places, destroying 20 or 30 bridges, submerging the lower stories of buildings, and drowning several persons.

17th.—Destructive fire in New York, destroying nearly one million of dollars worth of property.

17th.—Continued mild weather. Picked 12 or 14 bunches of second crop grapes, a great proportion of which, though devoid of their accustomed sweetness and something smaller than the first crop, appeared to have fully matured.

25th.—Cold enough now—great change in weather—twenty-nine degrees in 24 hours, viz: from 9 o'clock A. M. yesterday; thermometer 55 deg. then, and only 26 deg. this morning at same time.

30th.—The "Milford Beacon" states that several shad and herring have been caught in that neighborhood.

A pamphlet has recently been published in New Orleans containing the names of all persons who died in that place between the 1st of Fifth month, (May) and the 1st of the present month, with their place of nativity, &c., from which it appears that the total number who died within the dates mentioned, was 12,151; of which 1102 were natives of Louisiana; 661 of other parts of the United States; 3,532 of Ireland; 2,344 of Germany; 1,280 of other foreign countries; and 3,232 whose place of birth is unknown.

The average temperature of the present month (per Pennsylvania Hospital) has been 47 deg., 9 min., which is 4 degrees above the average for the last twenty-six years. The highest temperature during the month was 68 deg., and the lowest 23. Quantity of rain for the month, 2.32 inches.

TWELFTH MONTH, (DECEMBER.)

9th.—A shad caught at Savannah, said to be the first of "the season," it weighed four pounds, and "was sold for thirty dollars." (?)

10th.—Great fire in New York. The extensive establishment of the Messrs. Harpers, occupying ten or twelve buildings, the "Walton House," an old time-honored building of Revolutionary memory, the "Franklin Square Hotel," and two other buildings destroyed, with four or five other houses more or less injured. It has been estimated that the property exposed to the devouring element, belonging to the Harpers alone, including their ten buildings, amounted to about \$1,655,000 00
Of which was saved about 450,000 00
Amount insured, \$1,205,000 00
Leaving the net loss nearly a million of dollars!

11th.—It is stated in the Wheeling Argus, that their citizens "were entertained" with a shower of meteors this morning. They are said to have fallen thick and fast, and that "for a moment it seemed as if the heavens, suddenly shaken by a mighty wind, were about to drop their stars as an aeronaut, to maintain a certain altitude, does his ballast."

19th.—First Snow of the season, sufficient to cover the pavements.

21st.—Disastrous fire in Third below Callowhill street. Two lives lost, and several persons seriously injured.

23d.—Terrible blow in the night—with great change in temperature.

24th and 25th.—Steamship San Francisco, totally lost, only 36 hours out from New York, having on board from 650 to 700 persons, out of which, it is believed from one hundred and sixty five to two hundred were lost. The sufferings of the passengers and crew, and the heroic conduct of many of these as well as the deeds of daring of these noble men who so earnestly and courageously toiled for their rescue from a thrilling and heart-rending narrative.

28th.—Snow in evening and night—making the first sleighing of the season.

29th.—Coldest day the present winter thus far—Mean temperature of Extremes, 23.7 degrees. J. M. E.

*This estimate is supposed to include all who subsequently died on board the vessels after having been rescued from death by drowning, as a subsequent account herein inserted gives the number as 150.

Fairmount Water Works.—The annual report of the Watering Committee, recently issued, contains many interesting facts and matters of reference, connected with Fairmount Water Works. The great importance of these works to this city are well known, and their usefulness, as models for other cities, has been and will continue to be appreciated for years to come. The following are some of the most important events connected with the introduction and supply of water in this city:

April 10, 1792, Delaware and Schuylkill Canal Company, incorporated, with right to supply the city with water.

1797, First petition handed to Council, asking for the introduction of water into the city.

Jan. 31, 1798, Councils ordered \$50,000, for one-half of the water of Delaware and Schuylkill Canals.

July, 1798, Latrobe surveyed Spring Mill Creek, reported to Councils.

Jan. 1799, Latrobe's plan for the Centre Square and Schuylkill Chestnut Street Works—adopted.

Feb. 7, 1799, Ordinance passed, authorizing loan of \$150,000, for the purpose of supplying the city with water.

May 2, 1799, Centre Square and Schuylkill Works commenced at Councils.

Jan. 21, 1801, the first water was supplied from them.

1803, Public hydrant pumps and iron fire-plugs first introduced. The first iron pipes laid as an experiment in Water street.

1809, Expense of keeping steam-engines going, was, for Schuylkill Engine, \$2,254 36, and Centre Engine, \$7,532 57, together, \$13,807 23.

Oct. 24, 1811, Councils directed the Watering Committee to inquire for a better method of supplying the city.

Dec. 18, 1811, Frederick Grant and John Davis made surveys of Wissahickon and Spring Mill Creeks, and the east side of the Schuylkill, from Upper Ferry Bridge to the Falls, and reported in favor of steam-works at Fairmount, which report was adopted—and

June 25, 1812, The steam works at Fairmount for \$16,666 67.

Aug. 1812, The steam works at Fairmount were commenced.

Feb. 16, 1815, Bill authorizing City to lay pipes through the streets of the District, passed Legislature. The cost of keeping the engines going was, for Schuylkill engine, \$11,906 07; for Centre Square engine, \$15,740 83; together, \$27,646 90, to raise 733,329 gallons per day.

Sept. 7, 1815, Started steam-works at Fairmount, and finished Reservoir, No. 1, when Centre Square Works were discontinued.

1817, First iron pipes, similar to those now in use, were laid, imported from England.

1818, Committee resolved to lay iron pipes in future. Charles street work shop erected.

June 25, 1819, The boiler of Oliver Evans' engine burst.

Jan. 26, 1819, Committee approved of the plan of distribution of iron pipes as devised by Frederick Grant.

April 8, 1819, Councils resolved to erect water-power works at Fairmount.

April 19, 1819, Building of the dam was commenced.

July 20, 1819, Authority to raise the dam 15 inches higher than was first contemplated, was obtained.

June 25, 1820, First iron main laid, 22 and 30 inch diameter.

July 23, 1821, First water-curb sunk.

Jan. 23, 1821, Water flowed over dam first time.

July 1, 1821, Corner-stone of Mill Building laid on Saturday.

Oct. 25, 1822, First water-wheel started to supply city, Monday.

Jan. 14, 1822, Use of steam works at Fairmount discontinued.

1824, Extra water-power purchased from Navigation Company, for \$20,000.

April, 26, 1826, Contracted to supply Spring Garden.

Jan. 6, 1826, " " " Northern Liberties.

Jan. 1, 1826, " " " Southwark.

Nov. 10, 1827, Wheel No. 4 started, Reservoir No. 3 finished.

1829, Second main laid from Fairmount, to Centre Square.

1829, Centre Square engine building taken down.

Feb. 13, 1829, Bill to prevent passage of streets through Fairmount, passed Legislature.

Oct. 10, 1831, Second contract to supply western part of Spring Garden.

June 6, 1832, Contract to supply Moyamensing.

March 26, 1832, Building guard pier.

April 5, 1834, Wheel No. 5 started. Twenty-two inch main taken up, and relaid on the Railroad.

Oct. 5, 1833, Contract to supply Kensington signed.

Nov. 5, 1834, Wheel No. 6 started.

Dec. 20, 1834, Bill for protection of purity of Schuylkill water, passed.

Nov. 4, 1835, First section of Reservoir No. 4 finished.

1836, Pavilion at end of dam built, and old engine building altered to a public saloon.

1837, Retaining wall on Fairmount street, built.

1840, New set Fireday Head gates put in.

May 3, 1842, Re-building the dam from low-tide up, commenced.

Dec. 7, 1843, Re-building the dam from low-tide finished, cost \$56,216 85.

Aug. 24, 1844, Started wheels No. 7 and No. 8. Put in new set of Head Gates to all the looms.

Dec. 31, 1844, Supply of water discontinued to Spring Garden, Northern Liberties and Kensington.

Jan. 1, 1845, New contract to supply Moyamensing and Southwark for ten years, from this date.

July 14, 1846, Started wheels Nos. 1, 2, 3, which had been rebuilt, with their pumps.

1846, Took up 3 inch pipes in Water street, and relaid it with 6 inch per Strada's will.

July 5, 1849, Councils authorized the laying of 30 inch main.

Aug. 30, 1849, Councils agreed to purchase lot for new reservoir.

1850, Thirty inch main laid.

April 21, 1851, New reservoir commenced. Cleaned Reservoir Nos. 1 and 2, and also section No. 4.

Dec. 15, 1851, Turbine started. Cleaned reservoir No. 2.

Dec. 23, 1851, Water admitted to new reservoir.

Reduction of City Water Works at School Buildings.