

Ching Chau, and *Sam Ching Chau*—together with the knowledge from inspection that only sound materials are used in the *samshu* distilleries, is sufficient to justify our opinion that the effect of drinking these Chinese liquors is practically the same as that produced by whiskey of the same strength. The high proportion of compound ethers in *samshu* will afford a means of ascertaining its presence in liquors should it be suspected from its odour. Although *samshu* is the national drink of the Chinese, drunkenness amongst them is conspicuous by its absence.

7. It appears that a few years ago it was customary for beach-combers to frequent a place at the corner of Upper Lascar Row known as "Samshu Corner," and there to drink *samshu*, but no drinking in this quarter in recent years has been noticed.

8. There appear to be no grounds for dissatisfaction either with the general conduct of Hongkong public-houses or with the Police supervision of these houses. Drunkenness in this Colony amongst the European population is not in excess of the amount found in other ports and cities. The analysis of thirty-one samples of the cheapest liquors has shown that such liquors are not crude, inferior, or adulterated,* so that we fail to find that any evil whatever exists as regards the conduct of the liquor traffic of the Colony.

* Since the evidence of the Government Analyst was taken a number of samples have been submitted for analysis and four prosecutions have been instituted for adulteration (deficiency of strength).

9. It does not appear to us to be compatible with the public safety that *The Food and Drugs Ordinance, No. 18 of 1896*, should be a dead letter, and we recommend that steps be taken in order that largely increased numbers of samples may be examined in the Government Laboratory, so that as much as possible may be done to prevent the sale of any adulterated or deleterious liquors.

10. As all the evidence collected has shown that the drunkenness here is due to the quantity and not to the quality of the liquor consumed, we are of opinion that the cheapness of liquor is conducive to the increase of drunkenness. As *samshu* is very cheap, legislation should be undertaken so that this liquor or any liquor containing *samshu* may not be sold either directly or indirectly to Europeans.

11. It is essential that the holders of public-house licences should be persons of good character, and as cases have occurred in which householders have been guarantors for a person wholly unfit to hold a licence, it is desirable that the fullest information should be obtained as to the character of the applicant for such a licence.

12. We are of opinion that the number (twenty-three) of public-houses now licensed in the Colony is amply sufficient for present needs.

We have the honour to be,

Sir,

Your most obedient Servants,

WM. C. H. HASTINGS,
Chairman.

JNO. J. FRANCIS, q.c. (*I desire to call special attention to Mr. Browne's evidence, p. 17 and the first sixteen lines of p. 18—another Analyst or Apothecary is sorely needed.*)

R. F. COBBOLD, M.A.

F. O. STEDMAN, M.D., B.S., London.

His Excellency Major-General WILSONE BLACK, C.B.,
Acting Governor,
HONGKONG.

GOVERNMENT NOTIFICATION.—No. 467.

The following Returns of Deaths are published.

By Command,

T. SERCOMBE SMITH,
Acting Colonial Secretary.

Colonial Secretary's Office, Hongkong, 15th October, 1898.

A SUMMARY OF DEATHS AND THEIR CAUSES SHOWN IN THE ATTACHED RETURN AS

DISEASE.	EUROPEAN AND FOREIGN COMMUNITY.			CHINESE COMMUNITY.										
	Civil.—Estimated Population.	Army.—Estimated Strength.	Navy.—Estimated Strength.	VICTORIA DISTRICT.—										
				No. 1.	No. 2.	No. 3.	No. 4.	No. 5.	No. 6.	No. 7.	No. 8.	No. 9.	No. 10.	
	8,740			Estimated Population,										
Infantile Convulsive Diseases, {														
Convulsions, .....	...	...	...	...	10	6	1	...	1	...	4	1	...
Trismus Nascentium, .....	...	...	...	...	49	9	...	1	...	...	...	1	...
Throat Affections, {														
Acute, .....	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Chronic, .....	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Chest Affections, {														
Acute,	1	...	...	1	...	...	1	1	2	2	2	5	1
Chronic,	1	...	...	5	3	11	...	9	1	1	5	6	2
Bowel Complaints, {														
Cholera, .....	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Diarrhoea,	2	...	...	1	2	1	1	3	...	3	4	3	...
" Choleraic, .....	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Dysentery, .....	...	...	1	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...
Colic, .....	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Malarial, {														
Remittent, ...	...	1	...	3	3	...	1	...	2	1	2	4	...
Intermittent, ...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	1	...	...	1	...
Simple Continued, .....	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Puerperal, .....	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	1	...	1
Fevers {														
Influenza, .....	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Exanthematous, {														
Typhoid,	1	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Measles, .....	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Small-pox, .....	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Bubonic Plague, ...	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Marasmus, .....	...	...	...	...	11	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Other Causes,	12	...	3	5	26	3	4	6	5	2	3	4	6	
TOTAL,	17	2	4	16	106	31	8	20	13	9	21	26	10	

SANITARY BOARD ROOM,
HONGKONG, 8th October, 1898.

HAVING BEEN REGISTERED DURING THE MONTH ENDED 30th SEPTEMBER, 1898.

CHINESE COMMUNITY.												TOTAL.	GRAND TOTAL.
DIVISION.				Kaulung District.		Sháukiwán District.		Aberdeen District.		Stanley District.			
Non-Residents.	Unknown.	Peak.	Harbour. Estimated Population.	Estimated Population.		Estimated Population.		Estimated Population.		Estimated Population.			
				Land.	Boat.	Land.	Boat.	Land.	Boat.	Land.	Boat.		
171,017			16,142	28,602	6,000	8,129	3,950	3,421	4,900	1,044	760		
...	1	...	...	2	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	27	88
...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	61	
...
...
...	5	4	2	...	...	1	1	...	...	29	92
...	1	3	6	1	4	...	1	3	...	63	
...
...	4	3	3	2	2	...	...	...	...	34	40
...	
...	3	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	6	...
...
...	2	3	...	2	1	...	...	...	...	25	17
...	1	2	4	2	1	2	2	...	...	17	
...
...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	4	49
...	
...	2	...
...
...	1	...
...	12	12
...	3	...	7	5	4	2	1	2	3	...	...	106	106
...	4	...	23	24	19	10	9	5	7	3	...	387	387

FRANCIS W. CLARK,
Acting Secretary.

RETURN SHOWING THE NUMBER OF DEATHS REGISTERED DURING THE

CAUSES.	BRITISH AND FOREIGN COMMUNITY.			CHINESE COMMUNITY.												
				VICTORIA DISTRICT.												
				DIVISION.												
	Civil.	Army.	Navy.	No. 1.	No. 2.	No. 3.	No. 4.	No. 5.	No. 6.	No. 7.	No. 8.	No. 9.	No. 10.	Unknown.	Peak.	Harbour.
I.—General Diseases.																
<i>A.—Specific Febrile Diseases.</i>																
<i>Zymotic.</i>																
Fever, Typhoid, (Enteric)...	1	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Diarrhœa,	2	...	...	1	2	1	1	3	...	3	4	3	...	...	...	4
Dysentery, .....	...	...	1	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	3
Bubonic Fever, (Plague), ...	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
<i>Malarial.</i>																
Fever, Intermittent, .....	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	1	...	...	1	...	...	...	1
„ Remittent, .....	...	1	...	3	3	...	1	...	2	1	2	4	...	...	...	2
„ (Undefined),	1	...	...	...	14	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Beri-Beri, .....	...	...	...	...	1	...	1	...	...	...	...	1	1	...	...	...
<i>Septic.</i>																
Puerperal Fever, .....	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	1	...	1	...	...	...
<i>B.—Diseases dependent on Specific External Agents.</i>																
<i>Effects of Injuries.</i>																
Burns, .....	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1
Heat-apoplexy,	2	...	2	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Hæmorrhage, Rupture of Arteries of calf, .....	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	...
Fracture of Skull, .....	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	...
Shock from fall, .....	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Shock following injuries, ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Shock, Splenectomy, .....	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1
Shock, Operation, .....	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	...
<i>Errors of Diet.</i>																
Alcoholism,	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
„ Acute, Delirium Tremens,	2	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
<i>C.—Developmental Diseases.</i>																
Immaturity at Birth,	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Debility,	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	1	...	...	...
Old Age, .....	...	...	...	2	1	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...
Marasmus, .....	...	...	...	...	11	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Inanition, .....	...	...	...	...	1	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
<i>D.—Miscellaneous Diseases.</i>																
Cancer of upper jaw, .....	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1
Scrofula, .....	...	...	...	...	...	2	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
General Tuberculosis, .....	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	...
Rupture of Spleen, .....	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1
Gout, .....	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
II.—Local Diseases.																
<i>A.—The Nervous System.</i>																
Apoplexy, .....	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	1	...	...	1	...	...
Paralysis, Hemiplegia, .....	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Paralysis, Paraplegia, .....	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Infantile Convulsions, .....	...	...	...	...	10	6	1	...	...	...	4	...	...	...	...	...
Tetanus, (Traumatic), .....	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...
Tetanus, .....	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	1	...	...	...	...
Trismus, .....	...	...	...	...	49	9	...	1	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	...
Carried forward, ...	11	2	3	7	94	19	6	6	7	5	13	14	4	2	...	14

RETURN SHOWING THE NUMBER OF DEATHS REGISTERED DURING THE

CAUSES.	BRITISH AND FOREIGN COMMUNITY.			CHINESE COMMUNITY.												
				VICTORIA DISTRICT.												
				DIVISION.												
	Civil.	Army.	Navy.	No. 1.	No. 2.	No. 3.	No. 4.	No. 5.	No. 6.	No. 7.	No. 8.	No. 9.	No. 10.	Unknown.	Peak.	Harbour.
<i>Brought forward,...</i>	11	2	3	7	94	19	6	6	7	5	13	14	4	2	...	14
Local Diseases,—Contd.																
<i>B.—The Circulatory System.</i>																
Heart Disease,.....	1	...	1	1	...	...	...	3	1	...	1	...	...	2	...	2
Pericarditis,.....	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
<i>C.—The Respiratory System.</i>																
Bronchitis,.....	...	...	...	1	...	...	1	1	2	...	1	5	...	...	...	5
Pneumonia,.....	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	2	1	...	1	...	...	...	...
Phthisis,.....	1	...	...	5	3	11	...	9	1	1	5	6	2	...	...	1
Asthma,.....	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Broncho-Pneumonia,.....	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
<i>D.—The Digestive System.</i>																
Cirrhosis of Liver,.....	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Peritonitis,.....	1	...	...	...	1	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Hernia, Strangulated,.....	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	...
<i>E.—The Urinary System.</i>																
Nephritis,.....	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Bright's Disease,.....	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	...
Calculus, Vesical,.....	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	...
<i>H.—Affections connected with Parturition.</i>																
Child-birth,.....	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	1	...	...	...	...
<i>I.—The Skin.</i>																
Boils,.....	...	...	...	...	7	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
III.—Undefined.																
Dropsy,.....	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Undiagnosed,.....	1	...	...	1	1	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	1
Total,.....	17	2	4	16	106	31	8	20	13	9	21	26	10	4	...	23

REMARKS.

The Govt. Civil Hospitals.

Causes.	No.
Dysentery,.....	1
Burns,.....	1
Hæmorrhage, Rupture of Arteries of calf,.....	1
Shock, Splenectomy,.....	1
Alcoholism,.....	1
Delirium Tremens,.....	2
Heart Disease,.....	1
Bright's Disease,.....	1
Total ,.....	9

The Tung Wa Hospital.

Causes.	No.
Diarrhoea,.....	10
Dysentery,.....	4
Intermittent Fever,.....	1
Remittent Fever,.....	18
Beri-beri,.....	3
Puerperal Fever,.....	1
Shock from fall,.....	1
Old Age,.....	1
Cancer of upper jaw,.....	1
Apoplexy,.....	2
Hemiplegia,.....	1
Tetanus (Traumatic),.....	1
Trismus,.....	1
Heart Disease,.....	7
Phthisis,.....	14
Pneumonia,.....	1
Peritonitis,.....	3
Total ,.....	70

Mortuary.

Causes.	No.
Diarrhoea,.....	4
Intermittent Fever,.....	1
Remittent Fever,.....	3
Beri-beri,.....	1
Puerperal Fever,.....	1
Tuberculosis,.....	1
Convulsions,.....	3
Tetanus,.....	1
Trismus,.....	2
Bronchitis,.....	1
Phthisis,.....	3
Pneumonia,.....	1
Nephritis,.....	1
Total ,.....	23

MONTH ENDED THE 30TH DAY OF SEPTEMBER, 1898, AND THEIR CAUSES,—Continued.

CHINESE COMMUNITY.								TOTAL AT THE DIFFERENT AGE PERIODS.																GRAND TOTAL.		
KAULUNG DISTRICT.		SHAUKI-WAN DISTRICT.		ABERDEEN DISTRICT.		STANLEY DISTRICT.		Under 1 Month.		1 month and under 12 months.		1 year and under 5 years.		5 years and under 15 years.		15 years and under 25 years.		25 years and under 45 years.		45 years and under 60 years.		60 years and over.			Age Unknown.	
Land Population.	Boat Population.	Land Population.	Boat Population.	Land Population.	Boat Population.	Land Population.	Boat Population.	Non-Chinese.	Chinese.	Non-Chinese.	Chinese.	Non-Chinese.	Chinese.	Non-Chinese.	Chinese.	Non-Chinese.	Chinese.	Non-Chinese.	Chinese.	Non-Chinese.	Chinese.	Non-Chinese.	Chinese.		Non-Chinese.	Chinese.
16	10	8	5	4	5	...	...	2	64	2	33	...	36	...	7	1	15	10	41	...	17	1	26	...	...	255
...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	4	...	5	...	1	...	...	12
...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	1
4	2	...	...	1	1	...	...	...	1	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	7	...	7	...	7	...	...	24
...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	1	...	1	...	...	...	1	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	5
3	6	1	2	...	1	3	...	...	...	...	8	...	2	...	...	...	5	...	23	1	12	...	10	...	...	61
...	...	...	2	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	2	...	...	2
...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1
...	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	3	...	...	...	1	...	...	1
...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	1
...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1
...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	2
...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	6	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	7
...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	2	...	...	...	2
1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	2	...	3	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	6
24	19	10	9	5	7	3	...	2	65	3	51	1	43	...	8	1	23	13	82	2	45	1	47	...	...	387

REMARKS.

The Alice Memorial and Nethersole Hospitals.

Causes.	No.
Puerperal Fever,	1
Shock, Operation,	1
Vesical Calculus,	1
Child Birth,	1
	4

The Italian Convent.

Causes.	No.
Fever,	1
Marasmus,	1
Scrofula,	1
Convulsions,	4
Trismus,	9
Phthisis,	7
Dropsy,	1
	24

The Asile de la Ste. Enfance.

Causes.	No.
Diarrhea,	2
Dysentery,	1
Fever,	14
Marasmus,	11
Old Age,	1
Convulsions,	10
Trismus,	49
Boils,	7
	95

J. DYER BALL,
Acting Registrar General.

