

DISEASES OF THE DIGESTIVE SYSTEM.

In this subdivision are included sixty-nine cases of diarrhoea, generally of a mild description, which were in nearly every instance due to excessive heat or to "leave" in places where the sanitary arrangements were bad. Bahia, Bermuda, Manila, Hong Kong, and Yokohama were the places where the majority of cases occurred. Three cases of dysentery also occurred, two at Sydney where the exciting cause was probably contaminated water, and one at Ascension where, notwithstanding the most careful attention to sanitary measures, the disease is endemic, being probably due to climatic influence.

POISONING.

Two deaths arose from this cause, one from alcohol and the other (suicidal) from chloral hydrate.

WOUNDS AND ACCIDENTS.

Two deaths were caused by drowning, and one by fatal injury of the head in a boy who was caught by the dredging rope, which broke as he was stepping across it and dashed him violently against the hammock nettings. He sustained a fracture of the skull and severe injury of the brain, and lived only a few hours afterwards. One dislocation of the shoulder, one fracture of the fore-arm, and one of the lower jaw complete the list of more serious injuries that occurred.

Besides the diseases, &c., herein specified there were many cases of a trifling nature which it is unnecessary to particularise, the foregoing enumeration embracing all cases of any interest which occurred during the Commission.