Plagues and Peoples

“A book of the first importance, a truly revolutionary work.”

THE NEW YORKER

BY THE AUTHOR OF The Rise of the West

William H. McNeill
1. Wooden Sheds on Shore for the Passengers of Quarantined Ships.
2. Ahl El M, an Egyptian Resident at El Tor, Told Off to Wait Upon the English Sojourners.
3. Interior of the Ladies' Quarantine Shed.
4. El Tor, from the Sea.

S.S. "MIRA" IN QUARANTINE AT EL TOR ON THE ARABIAN COAST
Reconstructed Temperature

Medieval Warm Period

Little Ice Age

Temperature Anomaly (°C)

2004
Estimated sea surface temperature from Station S annual averages and from *Globigerinoides ruber* shell oxygen isotopes averaged at 50-year intervals. Note that the range of sea surface temperature variability on longer time scales is much larger than what has been observed since 1954 at Station S.
A general Bill for this present year, ending the 19 of December 1665, according to the Report made to the KING's most Excellent Majesty.

By the Company of Parish Clerks of London, etc.

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The Total of all the Bills this year: 9,969
Whereof, of the Plague: 6,925

The Deaths and Casualties this year:
- Executed: 13
- Flux and Small Pox: 65
- Found dead in streets, fields, &c.: 42
- French Pox: 82
- Frigidity: 68
- Gout and Sciatica: 54
- Grief: 44
- Bloody Flux, Scoffing & Flux: 75
- Blinded and Scarred: 10
- Castration and Tubercles: 95
- Cancer, Gangrene and Fistula: 50
- Comfort and Throat: 115
- Childbed: 143
- Children and Infants: 113
- Cold and Cough: 68
- Colliqued and Winds: 132
- Consumptions and Ulcers: 90
- Convulsions and Malignant: 306
- Distracted: 50
- Dysentery and Impotence: 147
- Evisceration and Stomach: 45

Males: 4,816
Females: 481
Buried: 3,272
Of the Plague: 1,906

In all: 9,969

Increased in the Burials in the 132 Parishes and at the Pest-House this year: 27,665
Increased of the Plague in the 550 Parishes and at the Pest-House this year: 88,654
FIGURE 13: Indexed daily real wage of an unskilled building worker and GDP per capita (10-year moving averages, 1700=100, log scale)

Sources: Allen (2001); Clark (2005); see text.
LA PESTE DANS LA VILLE
DE MARSEILLE EN 1720
Detail from Hartmann Schedel, Liber chronicarum cum figuris et imaginibus ab inicio mundi [the Nuremberg Chronicle] (Nuremberg, 1493), fo. 230v, Sp. Coll. Euing BD9-a2. By permission of the Librarian, Department of Special Collections, Glasgow University Library.
Marseille en 1720
Propagation de la peste
"LORD HAVE MERCY UPON US"
GEOGRAPHICAL DISTRIBUTION OF THE GREAT PLAGUE

All Sources Based on the Bills of Mortality

Note: The map is a representation of the geographical distribution of the Great Plague in London. The shaded areas indicate regions where the plague was prevalent, with darker shades representing areas with higher mortality rates. The map is based on the Bills of Mortality, which recorded the number of deaths in London during the plague epidemic of 1665.
The Chinese must go.
1899 - BUBONIC PLAGUE OUTBREAK
CONTAMINATED BUILDINGS DESTROYED BY FIRE WHICH ACCIDENTALLY SPREAD, DESTROYING MOST OF "CHINATOWN"
ROUGH ON RATS

CLEAR IT OUT

RATS
MICE
BED BUGS
FLIES
ROACHES

15¢ PER BOX.