N.B.—A certificate of death is a document of great importance. More than 10,000 copies of such certificates are issued annually from this office, for use here and abroad as legal proof of death. It is essential, therefore, that the particulars called for shall be given correctly, legibly, and as fully as possible.

## TO PHYSICIANS.

- 1. The attending physician must furnish a certificate within 36 hours after death (Sanitary Code, Section 180).
- 2. All physicians practicing in the City of New York (including those in public institutions) must be registered in the Bureau of Records (Sanitary Code, Section 5).
- 3. If a person dies from criminal violence, or by a casualty, or suddenly while in apparent health, or when unattended by a physician, or in prison, or in any suspicious or unusual manner, the case must be referred to the Coroners' office (Chapter 410, Section 1773, Laws of 1882).
- 4. Certificates will be returned for additional information, which give any of the following diseases, without explanation, as the sole cause of death:

Abortion, Gangrene, Necrosis, Abscess, Gastritis. Peritonitis, Cellulitis. Erysipelas, Phlebitis. Childbirth. Meningitis. Pyæmia, Convulsions. Metritis. Septicæmia, Hemorrhage. Miscarriage, Tetanus.

(Any one of these may be the result of an injury, and thus be a subject for investigation by a Coroner. If it is not, the certificate should make that fact plain.)

5. No certificate giving "Heart failure," "Bropsy," or other mere symptom, as the sole cause of death, will be accepted, unless accompanied by a satisfactory written explanation.

## TO UNDERTAKERS.

- 1. No burial permit can be obtained without a proper certificate
- 2. Certificates must be written throughout in black ink.
- 3. No certificate will be accepted which is mutilated, illegible, inaccurate, or any portion of which has been erased, interlined, corrected or altered, as all such changes impair its value as a public record.