

[Report of the Medical Officer of Health for Wandsworth District, The Board of Works (Clapham, Putney, Streatham, Tooting & Wandsworth)].

Contributors

Wandsworth (London, England). Board of works.
McDonogh, John.

Publication/Creation

1863.

Persistent URL

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SANITARY DEPARTMENT.

REPORT

ON THE

SANITARY CONDITION

OF THE SEVERAL PARISHES COMPRISED IN THE

WANDSWORTH DISTRICT,

FOR 1862.

By the Medical Officers of Health.

LONDON:
M^cCORQUODALE & CO., UNION HALL, BOROUGH, S.E.
WORKS, NEWTON.
1863.

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REPORT.

To the Board of Works for the Wandsworth District.

GENTLEMEN,

WE have the honour of submitting to your notice our respective contributions to the Annual Report for 1862 (the seventh year of our exertions under the Metropolis Local Management Act), together with the usual summary of the Health of the entire District, during the same period.

The Tables, both in the Local Summaries and in the Appendix, being constructed on forms that admit of ready comparison with those employed in previous years, it is unnecessary to say more in this place, than that the statistics embodied in these Tables have furnished us with materials for a Report, the reverse of discouraging.

We have the honour to remain,

GENTLEMEN,

Your very obedient Servants,

THE MEDICAL OFFICERS OF HEALTH
OF THE WANDSWORTH DISTRICT.

HEALTH AND SANITARY CONDITION OF THE ENTIRE DISTRICT.

THE deaths registered in the entire district during 1862, were 50 less than during 1861, the numbers being respectively 1,343 and 1,393.

Building operations are rapidly progressing throughout the district, and the number of new houses erected since the census of 1861 must have been very considerable. The increase of population, therefore, by immigration alone, may be assumed to have been correspondingly large.

If, however, the population has increased only in the same proportion as it was found to have done in the interval of 1851-61, which was 38·64 per 1,000 annually, it would, in the middle of the year 1862, (the year under consideration) amount to 72,832, or to an increase, since the last census, of 2,451 persons.

MORTALITY.

The death-rate for the past year calculated upon the above basis, is 18·43 per 1,000 living; the birth-rate, 30·89 per 1,000; and the rate of natural increase, 12·46 per 1,000.

Comparing the death-rate for the past year with that of the average of the 10 preceding years, (which was 19·57 per 1,000 living) it is found that there was, in round numbers, less mortality by one in every 1,000, in favour of 1862.

In February, 1863, in an Annual Report of that date, the Registrar General writes:—"The south districts have achieved for themselves a marked improvement." This

is valuable testimony; and since the Wandsworth District is of the number of those referred to, it cannot be otherwise than gratifying to find, that whilst the mean annual rate of mortality of the southern districts collectively is 22·5 in every 1,000 living, that of this district individually, is, as above stated, only 18·43 in the same number.

A comparison of the mortality tables accompanying the present local summaries with those for 1861, show, with one exception, a considerable decrease in the death-rate from the principal Zymotic diseases, and a very notable one, throughout the entire district, as regards the number of fatal cases amongst infants and children under 10 years of age.

SICKNESS.

By assuming the proportion which the deaths bear to the cases of sickness amongst the poor, as a measure of the proportion which the total deaths bear to the total cases of sickness amongst all classes, it is estimated that the amount of sickness *under treatment*, throughout the district, during the past year, was 58 per cent. on the population, and that one in every thirty attacks of sickness terminated fatally.

SANITATION.

As may be seen by referring to Table VI. in the Appendix, a large amount of sanitary work has, as usual, been accomplished during the past year, the good effects of which it is hardly necessary to point out have been most apparent in those parishes in which the greatest extent of drainage, water supply, scavengering, paving, and other desirable sanitary measures have been made to reach the abodes of

the poor. It is hoped therefore the Special Reports about to be submitted by each of the local surveyors touching the application of a certain section of the Amended Metropolis Local Management Act to the bye-ways, courts and alleys of the several sub-districts, will lead to such an improvement in them all as to obviate the necessity of a reference to their general unhealthy condition in future reports.

In order to facilitate the carrying out of these and other sanitary improvements, and to enable the Medical Officers of Health to accurately assign or bring home the local effects of disease to their local causes, it is extremely desirable that every part of the district should be permanently named, and every house numbered. Such a proceeding is strongly indicated by considerations of mere convenience, but to ensure a complete fulfilment of the requirements of sanitation it becomes a necessity.

The prevalence of small-pox throughout the Metropolis has lately called for the adoption of stringent measures in reference to vaccination. The associated Medical Officers of Health of the Wandsworth District, have, in almost every one of their annual reports, ventured to offer some suggestions in reference to this important subject, and amongst the number, that of requiring the production of medical certificates of successful vaccination, by all parents seeking to obtain for their children admission into the public schools, has been specially dwelt upon. They offer no apology therefore for again calling the attention of the Board to this most necessary precaution, and they would beg to express an earnest hope that the authorities will assist in insuring its more general adoption.

LOCAL SUMMARIES.

WANDSWORTH.

An examination of the Public Mortuary Returns and the Parochial Record of Sickness and Mortality, discloses a somewhat less satisfactory condition of the health of this sub-district during the year 1862 than has prevailed on an average since the existence of the Board of Works. The mortality was higher than usual; and the excess was, unhappily, due to a greater fatality from those diseases which it is the especial province of sanitation to prevent.

DEATH-RATE.

The total deaths which were registered as having occurred during the past year numbered 273; 136 were of males and 137 of females. The average number during the preceding 10 years, corrected for increase of population, was, exclusive of the cholera year (1854), 318; inclusive of that year, 328. From the foregoing figures, the mortality of the past year would appear to have been much below the average; but, as has been explained in previous Reports, the death-register taken alone cannot be accepted as a trustworthy exponent of the health of this parish, in consequence of being unduly augmented by the mortality of the Surrey County Lunatic Asylum, whose inmates are derived from the whole county of

Surrey, and are sufficiently numerous to cause, by the fluctuations in their mortality, a notable disturbance of the death-register. Thus the mortality of the Asylum may be high, and the death-register consequently high, although the actual mortality proper to this parish may be low. The converse of this obtained last year. The mortality of the Asylum, as in the previous year, formed, in consequence of correspondingly fewer admissions, about one-sixth part of all deaths, in the place of about one-third which it averaged before that period; and it is this circumstance which causes the apparent lowness of the mortality of last year. The register also fails to show the deaths of Wandsworth parishioners who die in the workhouse; which, on account of the workhouse being situated in Battersea, are registered in that parish. In consequence of the foregoing conditions, the plan which has been adopted in determining the natural death-rate of this parish has been to exclude from the calculation the population and mortality of the Asylum, except such as is due to Wandsworth, and to add to it the deaths of Wandsworth parishioners which have occurred in the Workhouse. The death-rate for the past year, calculated in the manner just explained, was 18·61 per 1,000 persons living, or 1 per 1000 (nearly) higher than the average of the previous ten years.

BIRTH-RATE—RATE OF NATURAL INCREASE.

The total births registered during the past year numbered 393, consisting of 197 males, and 196 females. The average of the preceding 10 years was 383. The birth-rate was 31 per 1,000, and the rate of natural increase, 12·67 per 1,000 of the entire population.

CAUSES OF DEATH.

The following Table contains a summary of all the causes of death, arranged in accordance with the classification of the Registrar-General, shewing the sex, social position, and age at death at 8 periods, and particularising the several diseases of the Zymotic class.

WANDSWORTH.		SEX.		AGE.								SOCIAL POSITION.				
Population in 1861—13,346. Area in Acres—2,478.																
DISEASES, And other Causes of Death.		Total Deaths from each Class of Disease, &c. in the Sub-District.	Males	Females.	Under 1 year.	From 1 to 5 years.	From 5 to 10 years.	Under 20 years, including all under 10 years.	At 20, and under 40 years of age.	At 40, and under 60 years of Age.	At 60, and under 80 years of age.	80 years and upwards.	Nobility and Gentry.	Professional Class, Mer- chants, Bankers, &c.	Middle & Trading Class, Shopmen, Clerks, &c.	Industrial & Labouring Classes.
Diseases Classified.																
Classes:—																
Zymotic	Small Pox .....	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
	Measles	28	15	13	6	19	3	23	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	27
	Scarlatina	2	1	1	...	1	1	2	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	2
	Diphtheria	5	2	3	2	3	...	5	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	4
	Quinsy .....	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
	Croup .....	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
	Whooping Cough.....	11	4	7	6	5	...	11	...	...	...	...	...	...	2	9
	Fever	11	8	3	...	1	2	5	3	3	...	...	...	...	1	10
	Erysipelas.....	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
	Metria, Childbirth }	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
	Carbuncle .....	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
	Influenza .....	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
	Diarrhoea & Dysentery }	5	2	3	2	2	...	4	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	5
	Cholera .....	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Totals of Zymotic Class ..		62	32	30	16	31	6	55	3	4	...	...	...	...	5	57
2. Tubercular		46	21	25	8	6	1	18	16	11	1	...	2	2	5	37
3. Of Brain, Nerves, &c. ...		45	26	19	5	5	1	12	8	15	10	...	1	2	9	33
4. Of the Heart, &c.		17	8	9	...	1	1	2	2	5	8	...	...	1	4	12
5. Of Respiratory Organs...		30	20	10	9	7	...	16	...	8	6	...	...	1	1	28
6. Of Digestive Organs.....		18	6	12	4	1	...	6	2	6	3	1	1	1	6	10
7. Of the Kidneys, &c.		3	1	2	...	...	...	...	...	3	...	...	...	1	1	1
8. Of the Uterus, &c.		5	...	5	...	...	...	...	1	2	2	...	...	1	...	4
9. Of Joints, Bones, &c. ....		...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
10. Of Skin.....		...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
11. Premature Birth, Low Vitality, Malforma- tion, &c.		9	4	5	9	...	...	9	...	...	...	...	1	1	...	7
12. Of Uncertain Seat		13	4	9	2	1	...	3	1	2	7	...	3	...	3	7
13. Age		14	7	7	...	...	...	...	...	4	10	...	...	...	3	11
14. Violence		11	7	4	1	1	3	7	2	1	1	...	...	...	...	11
15. Not Specified .....		...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
TOTALS		273	136	137	54	53	12	128	35	54	45	11	8	10	37	218

The prevalence of a severe epidemic of Measles, and the occurrence of a larger amount of Whooping-cough and Fever than usual, cause the Zymotic class of diseases (epidemic, endemic, contagious,) to stand foremost in the causation of the mortality of the past year, constituting upwards of $22\frac{1}{2}$ per cent. of all deaths. Next in order of fatality was the Tubercular class, which includes Consumption and Scrofula, forming 16·8 per cent.; this class exceeded by one death only diseases of the Brain and Nervous system. Diseases of the respiratory organs (exclusive of consumption) formed about the same as last year, 10 per cent., which is considerably below the average. Diseases of the heart formed 6 per cent.; Consumption was the most fatal of any individual disease, and caused 11 per cent., or upwards of $\frac{1}{8}$ th of all deaths; next to it was Measles.

The unusual number of 11 deaths were the result of violence; 7 of these accidental, 3 suicidal, and 1 homicidal. Twenty inquests were held during the year. In 11 instances the cause of death was not certified by medical testimony; in reference to which it may be well to reiterate the observation made in my last and previous reports, to the effect that, as in any of these cases death *may* have resulted from other than natural causes, the employment of medical investigation in all cases where the cause of death has not been certified by a registered medical practitioner would be extremely desirable, in order to prevent the possibility of secret crime escaping detection, and consequently be the means of deterring evil doers from its perpetration.

AGE AT DEATH.

Upwards of 46 per cent. of all deaths occurred under 20 years of age; 39 per cent. under 5 years of age; and nearly 20 per cent. died during the first year of life.

SOCIAL POSITION.

Nearly four-fifths of all deaths occurred amongst the labouring and industrial classes; and of the 62 deaths from epidemic diseases, 57 took place amongst them.

On looking in the foregoing Table for an explanation of the higher death-rate of the past year, it is at once seen that such was due to a greater fatality from Zymotic diseases; hence it will be desirable to examine them more in detail, to ascertain the relation which they bore to each other as well as to the total deaths,

EPIDEMIC DISEASES—PREVALENCE AND FATALITY OF.

The following Table exhibits the deaths which resulted from the principal epidemic diseases during the past and six preceding years, and the relation which they bore to the deaths from all causes.

YEARS.	Small Pox.	Measles.	Scarlet Fever.	Diphtheria.	Whooping Cough.	Diarrhea.	Fever— Typhus and Typhoid.	Total Deaths from Epidemics	Total Deaths from all causes.	Per centage of deaths from Epi- demics to deaths from all causes.
1856	9	2	4	0	12	4	12	43	314	13·6
1857	0	1	2	0	1	14	11	29	248	11·2
1858	0	0	10	0	4	1	7	22	289	7·6
1859	2	7	43	3	2	3	0	60	311	19·2
1860	0	5	4	1	4	4	4	22	308	7·1
1861	1	1	12	1	4	8	3	30	246	12·1
1862	0	28	2	5	11	5	11	62	273	22·7

From this table it is seen that the proportion of deaths from Zymotic diseases to the deaths from all causes was nearly double the average of the preceding six years. It is unsatisfactory to find so large an increase in the mortality from these diseases, inasmuch as it is against the occurrence and extension of them that the preventive measures of the Sanitarian are most confidently projected. The excess is seen to have been produced principally by Measles, and partly by a greater fatality than usual from Fever and Whooping cough. Measles prevailed as a virulent epidemic during the latter six months of the year, and was attended with great fatality in the months of October and November. Whooping cough, Fever, and Diarrhœa, prevailed during the whole year—The first of these diseases was attended with fatality in February, March, April, May, November and December: the second in each of the first five months, July and August: and the third in February, August, September and October. Scarlatina prevailed during the first six months and the last, and was fatal in March and December. Diphtheria occurred to a slight extent in the first five months and the tenth, and was attended with fatality in March, April and October. No death resulted from Small-pox during the year. In the present year Small-pox has prevailed epidemically, and in common with the rest of the Metropolis this sub-district has not escaped its effects. As a very general alarm has existed in consequence of the prevalence of this pest, a tabular statement is here subjoined, showing the extent to which it has occurred during the past seven years.

Table showing the total deaths which have taken place from Small-pox, in the sub-district of Wandsworth, during the seven years 1856—62; also the number of attacks

from that disease, with the resulting deaths which have occurred amongst the parochial poor during the same period:—

SUB-DISTRICT OF WANDSWORTH.			
AREA IN ACRES, 2,478.		POPULATION IN 1861, 13,346.	
Years.	Number of deaths from Small-Pox amongst all classes.	Amongst the Parochial Poor.	
		Attacks.	Deaths.
1856	9	61	2
1857	0	0	0
1858	0	1	0
1859	2	16	2
1860	0	26	0
1861	1	23	1
1862	0	3	0

During the present year up to this date (May 30th, 1863,) there have occurred two deaths; and seven cases, two of which were modified by vaccination. The deaths were of persons *unvaccinated*. From the foregoing statement it is seen that Wandsworth has enjoyed comparative immunity from the disease. It should be added that vaccination is being extensively adopted, and that among the poor there is an increasing desire to avail themselves of its protective influence.

SICKNESS AND MORTALITY AMONGST THE PAROCHIAL POOR.

GENERAL SICKNESS—AMOUNT AND INTENSITY OF.

Table V., in the Appendix, exhibits the total cases of sickness which came under treatment amongst the poor during the past year, the number of deaths which occurred, and the classes of disease which produced them. The information afforded by this record fully confirms

that which is conveyed by the death-register. The mortality amongst the poor was greater, the excess being due to a greater fatality from epidemic diseases. The total number of cases of sickness was 1410, and closely corresponded with the average of the preceding seven years. The deaths numbered 56, or 4 per cent. nearly (3·99) and exceeded the average by one third. Epidemic diseases numbered 419, or upwards of 29 per cent. of all the cases of sickness, the average being 358; and the deaths from these diseases 20, or about double the average. From the figures in this table, also, the amount and intensity of disease which has prevailed generally may be approximately estimated, by assuming the proportion of deaths to the cases of sickness amongst the poor as a measure of the proportion which the deaths bore to the cases of sickness amongst the inhabitants generally. From which calculation it appears that the cases of sickness (under treatment) must have been not less than 5891 during the past year, and that one death resulted from every 25 attacks: by a similar estimate, the average proportion of deaths to cases of sickness during the preceding six years, was 1 death in 34 attacks.

SANITARY PROCEEDINGS.

A summary of the sanitary proceedings which have been carried on during the year is contained in Table VI. of the Appendix. In addition to which a considerable amount of work, consisting in the removal of nuisances, has been done through the Surveyor, without the intervention of the Board. All the slaughter-houses and cow-houses were examined and reported on, previously to the procuring of licenses by their owners. These measures

have been carried on in the same way as heretofore, and, with one exception, without the aid of the law. The following proceeding was successfully adopted last year: Whenever infectious diseases were present, and particularly when death had resulted from them, the rooms of the houses in which such occurred were lime-whited, and when needing it, otherwise cleansed. Much benefit must result from this measure being thoroughly enforced; and the carrying out of it would be materially assisted if the landlords of small house property would adopt the more cleanly plan of distempering the walls of rooms in the place of papering them. Observation has afforded me ground for suspicion that the size and paste employed in papering rooms, when the walls are liable to dampness from without, or from within from the condensed exhalations arising from too many inmates, undergo decomposition, and become the means of sustaining the activity of any contagion which may have been present. In order that sanitary measures should be as efficient as possible in their ultimate application, it is desirable that they should be carried out in single detail. The circumstances and sanitary conditions associated with the occurrence of every death from infectious disease, and as far as possible with every attack of such like disease, require to be ascertained, and, if noxious, remedied. Hence it is necessary to know not only the locality, but the house and the room in which infection has presented itself. For the full attainment of the objects indicated it is imperatively necessary that every locality should have a fixed name, and that every house should be numbered; so that then a reference to the death register will exactly shew the house in which a death from infectious disease has occurred, and furnish the first trustworthy step in pro-

ceeding, from a knowledge of the local effects, to a clear investigation of the local causes of disease.

The higher death-rate of the past year, resulting as has been shewn from an excess of contagious disease, strongly urges the necessity for a renewed and persevering application of measures adapted for the removal of those many and various conditions which are found by all experience to extend and intensify disease of that nature, and which consist principally of those causes which prejudicially affect the healthfulness of dwellings. The fact that nearly four-fifths of all deaths—and, out of the 62 deaths from epidemic diseases, 57 occurred amongst the labouring classes—sufficiently marks out where these proceedings are most radically needed; while the very considerable improvement which has taken place in the health of this sub-district since the existence of the Board of Works, furnishes sufficient evidence for the conviction that such measures, if efficiently and perseveringly conducted, must be eventually attended with success.

GEORGE EDWARD NICHOLAS, M.D.,

Medical Officer of Health for Wandsworth.

CLAPHAM.

THE Table of Marriages, Births, and Deaths, with which I commenced my last annual report, and which I consider of much statistical import, I here reproduce, adding to it the figures relating to the year 1862.

MARRIAGES, BIRTHS, AND DEATHS.

YEARS.	1856	1857	1858	1859	1860	1861	1862
Marriages ...	154	151	150	156	183	182	175
Births	527	550	533	594	608	624	622
Deaths...	286	321	344	328	429	390	343
Excess of Births over Deaths...	241	229	189	266	179	234	279

By this Table it will be seen that the excess of births over deaths has been much greater in the past year than in any year since 1856, notwithstanding the marriages were fewer in number than in the two preceding years. To account for this last circumstance is somewhat difficult, but possibly the unhappy differences that have sprung up between employers and the employed may have had some influence in reducing the number of marriages, as it is everywhere found that such a result follows want of employment and diminished wages.

STATISTICS OF MORTALITY, ETC.

The excess of births over deaths will, of course, give the natural increase of population; and if the increase by immigration could be as correctly determined, a very just estimate might be formed of the present number of inhabitants, and a very accurate death-rate be at once deduced.

The difficulty, however, of determining the increase which has taken place by immigration in such a fluctuating population as that of Clapham, necessarily obliges us to assume a good deal in calculating such death-rate. The population of this sub-district, at the census of 1861, was 20,890. The addition alone of the numbers representing the natural increase for the year, viz.—279, will bring the population up to 21,170. The deaths, then, being 343, it follows that the death-rate per 1000, without making any allowance for increase by immigration, will be under 17. With the lowest possible estimate for increase by immigration, the actual death-rate for the year cannot greatly exceed 16 per 1000.

The deaths in 1861 were 390, or 47 more than in the past year, which is all the more satisfactory seeing that a very considerable proportion of this decrease in favour of the past year is due to a less fatality attendant upon zymotic diseases.

The mortality table which follows shews that 63 deaths only took place as the result of epidemic maladies during 1862, whilst in the previous year the deaths from the same class of diseases amounted to as many as 86.

Constructed as this Table is, with a view to shew the causes of death as well as the sex, ages, and social position of the deceased persons, it cannot fail of proving instruc-

tive beyond any verbal description of the same facts I might attempt to give in this place, and I therefore submit it with confidence as the best indication it is in my power to afford of the improving condition of this sub-district.

CLAPHAM.		SEX.		AGE.								SOCIAL POSITION.							
Population in 1861—20,890. Area in Acres—1,233.				Total Deaths from each Class of Disease, &c. in the entire District.		Males	Females.	Under 1 year.	From 1 to 5 years.	From 5 to 10 years.	Under 20 years, including all under 10 years.	At 20, and under 40 years of age.	At 40, and under 60 years of Age.	At 60, and under 80 years of age.	80 years and upwards.	Nobility and Gentry.	Professional Class, Merchants, Bankers, &c.	Middle & Trading Class, Shopmen, Clerks, &c.	Industrial & Labouring Classes.
DISEASES, And other Causes of Death.																			
Classes:—																			
1. Zymotic	Small Pox	1	..	1	1	1	1	...	
	Measles	6	3	3	4	2	...	6	6	
	Scarlatina	13	6	7	2	5	3	11	2	2	11	
	Diphtheria	3	...	3	...	3	...	3	2	1	
	Quinsy	2	...	2	1	1	...	2	1	...	1	
	Croup	5	4	1	...	4	1	5	1	4	
	Whooping Cough.....	14	8	6	6	6	1	14	2	...	12	
	Typhus and Infantile Fever ...	8	5	3	...	5	...	6	1	...	1	5	3	
	Erysipelas ..	1	...	1	1	1	
	Metria, Childbirth. }	2	...	2	1	1	2	
	Carbuncle	
	Influenza	1	...	1	1	1	
	Diarrhoea & Dysentery }	7	2	5	3	1	...	4	1	2	1	6	
Cholera .....	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Totals of Zymotic Class ...		63	31	32	16	27	6	52	5	4	2	...	...	...	3	12	48
2. Tubercular		54	27	27	5	3	...	13	25	13	3	...	...	...	5	11	38
3. Of Brain and Nerves ...		31	14	17	5	4	3	15	2	6	8	..	...	...	1	13	17
4. Of Heart		16	5	11	1	...	...	1	3	7	5	...	...	...	1	4	11
5. Of Respiratory Organs		38	20	18	14	4	1	20	1	3	12	2	...	...	3	9	26
6. Of Digestive Organs ..		32	15	17	10	3	1	14	3	9	6	...	...	...	5	11	16
7. Of Urinary Organs ...		6	4	2	...	...	...	1	1	3	1	...	...	...	1	3	2
8. Of Organs of Generation		2	1	1	...	...	..	...	...	1	1	...	...	...	1	1	...
9. Of Joints, Bones, &c. ...		3	...	3	...	1	1	3	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	2	1
10. Of Skin ...		3	1	2	...	1	1	2	...	1	...	...	...	...	1	1	1
11. Premature Birth, Low Vitality, Malformation, &c.....		22	11	11	22	...	...	22	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	3	18
12. Of Uncertain Seat		4	1	3	1	...	...	1	1	1	1	...	...	...	1	1	2
13. Age		33	12	21	...	...	...	...	...	7	12	14	...	...	5	12	16
14. Violence		6	5	1	...	1	1	3	1	2	...	...	...	...	1	2	3
15. Not Specified		30	18	12	12	...	1	13	6	8	3	...	...	...	4	10	16
TOTALS		343	165	178	86	44	15	160	48	65	54	16	...	...	33	95	215

ZYMOTIC DISEASES—THEIR PREVALENCE AND INTENSITY.

By a reference to the above Table it will be seen that fever of a low type proved fatal in 8 cases, shewing that it must have prevailed extensively during the year; but happily the mortality—as was the case likewise with measles, scarlatina, diphtheria, whooping-cough, and diarrhœa—was comparatively light, taking into consideration the number of cases treated.

From each of the above-named diseases, constituting the Registrar General's seven principal zymotic maladies, the resulting mortality was much less in the past than in any of the four preceding years; and this I consider a very encouraging circumstance, seeing how large has been the amount of epidemic disease noted during the year throughout the kingdom.

SMALL POX AND VACCINATION.

During the year 1862 I successfully vaccinated 206 individuals. The total number of births registered was 622; but I have good grounds for believing that scarcely the same number vaccinated by myself as the public vaccinator of the sub-district, could have been protected by the other medical practitioners in the neighbourhood.

If, therefore, I am correct in my estimate, about a third of the children born during the year must have remained, at the termination of it, unprotected. Of course, some allowance is to be made for those infants who died within the three months, at or before the expiration of which the law enjoins the performance of the operation; but as these amounted to 37 only in the entire year, it will not very greatly affect the calculation.

In the years 1859 and 1861, the sub-district was severely visited by small-pox, and in the present year (1863) it is again unhappily the prevailing epidemic; promising to visit us still more severely, and to attack alike all classes and conditions of life, as well as all ages. The oldest patient under my care, a lady in affluent circumstances, was 57 years. A female of 50, a male of 32, and several between those ages, have also been assigned to my care, suffering more or less severely from this loathsome malady.

I continue to supply most of my medical brethren in the neighbourhood with vaccine lymph, by which means I am kept tolerably well informed of the progress of the disease, and of vaccination in the parish. Most of my medical friends agree with me in the opinion that re-vaccination has become an absolute necessity. The neglect of vaccination in infant life I still have to deplore as a most serious evil, and when I mention the fact of having lately, by dint of great persuasion, brought under vaccination several adults, and sometimes as many as two, three, and four grown-up children in a family, who were previously unprotected, I cannot do otherwise than approve of the recommendation which emanated a short time ago from one of my colleagues (Dr. Whiteman), to the effect that your honourable Board and the Board of Guardians should unite in issuing cautionary notices as to vaccination. The manner in which this has been done by both Boards I have good grounds for stating has already resulted in giving a considerable check to the progress of small-pox in this populous locality.

ACCIDENTAL, VIOLENT, AND SUDDEN DEATHS.

In the past year twelve inquests were held in this parish, and verdicts returned of three cases of "accidental or violent death," two of "sudden death," and seven of "natural or natural and sudden death;" but, as usual, medical testimony, (the chief element in enquiries of this kind) was dispensed with in the majority of instances, thereby setting at naught one of the statute laws of the land—the Registration Act, which enacts that the true cause of death should be ascertained in every case. It is strange that a desire on the part of the county magistrates to save a few medical fees to the county, (and instances have been known of their having disallowed such fees to coroners, even after they had been actually advanced by them to medical witnesses), should place our law administrators so justly under the imputation of being law breakers in every sense of the term!

SANITARY WORKS ACCOMPLISHED DURING THE YEAR— CONCLUSION.

During the past year, as may be seen by a reference to Table VI. Appendix, a somewhat large amount of sanitary work has been designed and executed, and it will be acknowledged that your able surveyor has been more than usually energetic in the removal of nuisances, and in the accomplishment of that sanitation which we may reasonably hope is fast laying the foundation, so to speak, of a high sanitary status for this rapidly increasing sub-district.

Apart from the number of houses and premises inspected by your surveyor and myself, there has taken

place the usual sanitary supervision of all the slaughter-houses within the parish; and this year, for the first time, of all the cow-houses of those proprietors who have desired to hold licenses under the amended Metropolis Local Management Act.

The length of new sewers executed, and the extent of open ditches, &c., cleansed, has been during the past year something considerable; and this, taken with the fact of preparations having been made to extend the high level main sewer through certain parts of the sub-district, which have long stood in need of this great work, cannot fail to reassure those of the inhabitants who were beginning to despair of the realization of this grand sanitary measure, that the authorities under whose direction the sewer is to be constructed, are now really in earnest in carrying out the important undertaking referred to.

The progress of a work so greatly calculated to benefit this parish will, no doubt, be watched with deep interest by many a local sanitarian; but by no one with deeper interest than myself.

JOHN MACDONOGH,

Medical Officer of Health for Clapham.

BATTERSEA.

The total number of deaths from disease and other causes registered in this sub-district during the year 1862, numbered 491; 250 males and 241 females—being 14 less than in the previous year.

Of the 491 deaths enumerated in the appended table, 109 occurred in the workhouse situated in this sub-district, the infirmary of which continues to be the recipient of a large number both of acute and chronic cases befalling the poor in the seven parishes comprising the Wandsworth and Clapham Union. A large proportion of the cases admitted are of persons in an exhausted and hopeless condition.

Of the 109 deaths registered as having taken place in the workhouse, 80 were of individuals in no way connected with the parish of Battersea. Deducting, then, these deaths from the gross number it would reduce the number proper to the parish to 411, which, in comparison with that of former years, will not be found to be a very large per centage in a population, estimated as being now considerably over 20,000.

By what is called the *natural* increase, as shown by the excess of births over deaths, the population of Battersea would amount to 20,146. What the increase by immigration may have been during the year it would be difficult to determine with accuracy; but assuming it to have been one-half less than the natural increase, it would, when also added to the population of the census of 1861, bring the number of inhabitants up to 20,292,

or in round numbers 20,300. The deaths proper to the parish having numbered 411, it would place the rate of mortality for the year at about 20 in every thousand living.

The following table gives the number of deaths that have been registered during the year 1862 from all causes, and amongst all classes, specifying the sex, age, and social position of the deceased:—

BATTERSEA.		SEX.		AGE.								SOCIAL POSITION.				
Population in 1861—19,852. Area in Statute Acres—2,343.																
DISEASES, And other Causes of Death.		Total Deaths from each Class of Disease, &c. in the Sub-District.	Males.	Females.	Under 1 year.	From 1 to 5 years.	From 5 to 10 years.	Under 20 years including all under 10 years.	At 20, and under 40 years of age.	At 40, and under 60 years of age.	At 60, and under 80 years of age.	80 years and upwards.	Nobility and Gentry.	Professional Class, Mer- chants, Bankers, &c.	Middle & Trading Class, Shopmen, Clerks, &c.	Industrial & Labouring Classes.
Classes:—																
1. Zymotic	Small Pox	2	1	1	...	...	...	2	...	...	...	...	...	...	2	...
	Measles	16	6	10	3	11	1	16	...	...	...	...	...	2	4	10
	Scarlatina	15	8	7	2	8	4	15	...	...	...	...	...	2	5	8
	Diphtheria ...	8	6	2	2	3	...	6	...	1	1	...	...	1	3	4
	Quinsy .....	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
	Croup .....	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
	Whooping Cough.....	25	8	17	7	18	...	25	...	...	...	...	...	...	8	17
	Typhus and Infantile Fever	17	8	9	...	5	5	12	1	1	2	1	...	1	2	14
	Erysipelas.....	7	2	5	1	...	...	2	3	...	1	1	...	...	...	7
	Metria, Childbirth }	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
	Carbuncle .....	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
	Influenza .....	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Diarrhoea & Dysentery }	22	12	10	11	5	...	16	...	2	4	...	...	4	4	14	
Cholera	1	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	1	...	
Totals of Zymotic Class ...		113	51	62	26	50	10	92	6	5	8	2	...	8	27	78
2. Tubercular		58	31	27	5	3	1	15	25	16	2	...	3	4	9	42
3. Of Brain and Nerves ...		81	42	39	25	13	...	38	10	8	22	3	...	4	15	62
4. Of Heart		10	8	2	...	...	...	1	2	2	5	...	...	2	2	6
5. Of Respiratory Organs...		83	42	41	20	26	...	46	8	12	14	3	1	1	20	61
6. Of Digestive Organs...		29	19	10	9	4	1	14	4	4	7	...	1	1	6	21
7. Of Urinary Organs		2	2	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	1	...	...	...	1	1
8. Of Organs of Generation		3	...	3	...	...	...	...	2	1	...	...	...	...	...	3
9. Of Joints, Bones, &c.....		2	1	1	...	...	...	...	2	...	...	...	...	...	1	1
10. Of Skin.....		...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
11. Premature Birth, Low Vitality, Malforma- tion, &c.....		42	23	19	39	2	...	41	1	...	...	...	...	2	4	36
12. Of Uncertain Seat .....		...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
13. Age		33	11	22	...	...	...	...	...	16	17	1	1	2	2	29
14. Violence		12	10	2	2	...	1	4	2	3	3	...	...	...	1	11
15. Not Specified		23	10	13	7	1	...	9	1	9	4	...	1	2	3	17
TOTALS		491	250	241	133	99	13	260	59	63	83	26	7	25	91	368

PREVALENCE AND FATALITY OF ZYMOTIC DISEASES.

Diseases of this class have been somewhat less fatal during the past year than during 1861, the numbers being respectively 113 and 116. Scarlatina, diarrhœa, and fever have been less fatal. The deaths from measles and whooping cough have slightly increased; but two deaths from small pox were registered during the year.

MORTALITY IN THE WORKHOUSE.

Of the 491 registered deaths in the sub-district, 109 as before stated died in the workhouse: 21 between the ages of 70 and 80, 12 between 80 and 90, and 2 between 90 and 100, the oldest having reached the age of 93.

INFANT MORTALITY—PROPORTION OF BIRTHS TO DEATHS.

The mortality of children between birth and 10 years of age has considerably decreased, 150 being the number registered in the past year, against 269 in the preceding one; and this I take to be a good indication of advancing and well-directed sanitation. There have been 785 births during the year—384 males and 400 females, presenting an excess of 293 births over deaths; which excess gives, of course, the natural increase of the population. The excess noted is much larger than the average of three years 1859—61, which is only 188. This large natural increase also favours the view taken of the sanitation carried out in this sub-district, having exercised a very great influence in promoting the health and comfort of the inhabitants.

SICKNESS AND MORTALITY AMONGST THE OUT-DOOR POOR.

The Table No. V. in the Appendix, exhibits the nature

and amount of sickness amongst the pauper population of the sub-district, (exclusive of that treated in the work-house), as well as the deaths that have resulted from disease and other causes. Of the 747 cases of sickness, accidents, &c., treated, and being registered in the medical relief book during the past year, 10 only are noted as having terminated fatally; being a rate of mortality very considerably less than has appeared in corresponding tables for many years past, a circumstance which strengthens the remark made in my last Report, that this particular class (the out-door poor) must have benefited considerably by the sanitary improvements that have been effected within the last few years.

PREVENTIVE MEASURES ADOPTED DURING THE YEAR—
AMOUNT OF SANITARY WORKS PERFORMED.

The amount and kind of sanitary work executed within the sub-district during the year, may be gathered from a perusal of Table VI., Appendix. It will be manifest by a reference to the column of this table applying to this parish, that there has been no abatement of the energy with which sanitary improvements have been carried out in former years; indeed it must be conceded to this sub-district that, seeing the many drawbacks which every large manufacturing population always presents to the attainment of a high sanitary status, it has, during the seven years of the operation of the Metropolis Local Management Act, made great advances towards that which legislation has sought to accomplish.

WILLIAM CONNOR,

Medical Officer of Health for the Sub-district of Battersea.

STREATHAM,

INCLUDING

TOOTING AND BALHAM.

Notwithstanding the increase of population of this sub-district since the last annual report, the mortality was one less in the past year than it was in 1861. The natural increase of the population, as shewn by the excess of births over deaths in the year 1862, is 137. If then, we add to this only about a third of that number as the increase by new residents since the census of 1861, it may be safely assumed that the inhabitants now number 10,250, at the very least. The registered deaths of the past year having amounted to 129, it follows that the death-rate for the year, under review, must have been only a fraction above 12 in every 1,000 living. This is all the more satisfactory, seeing that amongst the labouring classes the deaths have, for some years past, been gradually diminishing, thus confirming the inference that the sanitation carried out under the direction of your Board—especially the sewerage—must have been of no small benefit to those who always suffer the most from preventible diseases. In the past year, 10 less of the labouring class have succumbed to disease, accident, &c., than in 1861, and 14 less than in 1860.

The appended Table of mortality embodies, as usual, a large amount of information in a concise form; and as it exhibits the classified causes of death, as well as the sex, age, and social position of the deceased persons, it

may be studied with great advantage, in connection with the Tables in former annual reports, by such as desire to mark the progress which this sub-district is making towards the realization of the best hopes of sanitarians, from the operation of the Metropolis Local Management Act.

STREATHAM, INCLUDING TOOTING AND BALHAM.		SEX.		AGE.								SOCIAL POSITION.						
Population in 1861—10,082. Area in Statute Acres—3,465.				Total Deaths from each Class of Disease, &c. in the Sub-District.		Under 1 year.		From 1 to 5 years.	From 5 to 10 years.	Under 20 years, including all under 10 years.	At 20, and under 40 years of age.	At 40, and under 60 years of age.	At 60, and under 80 years of age.	80 years and upwards.	Nobility and Gentry.	Professional Class, Mer- chants, Bankers, &c.	Middle & Trading Class, Shopmen, Clerks, &c.	Industrial & Labouring Classes.
DISEASES, And other Causes of Death.		Males.	Females.															
Classes:—																		
1. Zymotic	Small Pox .....	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
	Measles .....	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
	Scarlatina	6	4	2	1	5	...	6	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	6
	Diphtheria	2	...	2	...	1	...	2	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	2	...	...
	Quinsy	1	1	...	...	1	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1
	Croup	2	1	1	1	1	...	2	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	1
	Whooping Cough.....	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
	Typhus and Infantile Fever	5	2	3	...	1	1	2	2	1	...	...	...	...	2	1	2	2
	Erysipelas.....	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
	Metria, Childbirth }	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
	Carbuncle .....	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
	Influenza .....	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
	Diarrhoea & Dysentery }	3	...	3	...	1	...	2	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	2
Cholera .....	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Totals of Zymotic Class ..		19	8	11	2	10	1	15	3	1	...	...	...	4	3	12	12	12
2. Tubercular		14	6	8	1	2	...	5	4	2	3	...	...	2	7	5	5	5
3. Of Brain and Nerves ...		16	5	11	3	2	...	5	3	1	6	1	...	6	6	4	4	4
4. Of Heart ...		19	10	9	2	...	1	3	2	2	12	...	...	6	7	6	6	6
5. Of Respiratory Organs...		14	6	8	4	3	...	7	...	2	5	...	...	2	4	8	8	8
6. Of Digestive Organs.....		12	5	7	1	...	...	1	3	4	3	1	2	2	2	6	6	6
7. Of Urinary Organs		6	4	2	...	...	...	...	...	3	3	...	...	...	3	3	3	3
8. Of Organs of Generation		3	...	3	...	...	...	...	...	...	3	...	...	1	...	2	2	2
9. Of Joints, Bones, &c.....		1	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	...
10. Of Skin.....		...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
11. Premature Birth, Low Vitality, Malforma- tion, &c.....		6	4	2	6	...	...	6	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	5	5	5
12. Of Uncertain Seat		2	2	...	...	...	...	...	1	1	...	...	...	...	2	...	...	...
13. Age		12	4	8	...	...	...	...	...	3	9	1	1	6	4	4	4	4
14. Violence		2	1	1	...	...	...	1	...	1	...	...	...	...	2	...	...	...
15. Not Specified ...		3	2	1	...	...	...	...	1	2	...	...	1	1	1	1	1	1
TOTALS		129	58	71	19	17	2	42	16	18	42	11	4	25	42	58	58	58

ZYMOTIC DISEASES.

If we except scarlatina and diphtheria, to which diseases 8 persons have succumbed during the past year, it will not be found that the sub-district has suffered very greatly from the epidemic class of maladies; indeed, the above Table exhibits one death less, under this head, than in 1861, the numbers being respectively 19 and 20.

Although small-pox has, since the termination of 1862, become very rife throughout the metropolis and suburbs, not a death from this disease was registered in the past year in the several parishes constituting this sub-district; and it is with no small regret that it is now found to be spreading somewhat alarmingly amongst all classes. The neglect of vaccination is, I believe, the main cause of this; and it is a question whether re-vaccination ought not to be generally practised, seeing how many exceptions there are to the general rule of vaccination in infancy protecting the individual throughout life. The isolation of patients, especially those of the poorer classes, suffering from small-pox, is another point in every way deserving the consideration of the authorities. Until the Compulsory Vaccination Act is properly carried out, and local infirmaries established in every union, it is feared this highly infectious disease will spread, in spite of every other care and precaution.

INFANT MORTALITY.—MORTALITY AMONGST THE AGED.

It is most gratifying to be able to refer to the diminished number of fatal cases of sickness amongst infants and

young persons, from birth to 10 years of age. During 1862, 19 infants under 1 year succumbed, against 25 in the year preceding. From 1 to 5 years, the decrease is in the proportion of 17 to 21 in favour of the past year, whilst the deaths between 5 and 10 are the same in both years, viz., 2. In the aggregate, *i.e.*, from birth to 10 years of age, there is a saving of life to the extent of 8 in favour of 1862.

A somewhat large number of aged persons have succumbed during the year. The number registered as being between 80 and 100 years was 11, and between 60 and 80 as many as 42. The oldest (a female) had reached the advanced age of 95. There are two others registered at 87, and one at 88. The average age of the 11 persons dying above 80 years is 84 and a fraction, and their united ages amounts to no less than 928 years. The sub-district has long been noted for the longevity of its inhabitants, and affords, I think, another proof of its salubrity and high sanitary status.

SICKNESS AND MORTALITY AMONGST THE UNION POOR.

Table V., Appendix, exhibits as usual, the number of cases and the general character of the sickness amongst the out-door poor of this sub-district, compiled from the relief books of the Union Medical Officers. Compared with the numbers in the Table appended to the Report of 1861, there is shewn a very considerable decrease in the number of cases, and a slight one in the number of deaths. In the cases treated, there is a decrease of 75—the numbers being respectively 194 and 269. In the deaths, there is a decrease of 1—the numbers being 9 in 1862, against

10 in the preceding year. In 1860, the deaths amongst the union poor were 20 in 247 cases treated, so that there can be but little doubt that sanitation, amongst the poor more particularly, is exercising some good influences in this sub-district.

SANITARY OPERATIONS DURING THE YEAR.

By a reference to Table VI., Appendix, it will be noticed that great exertions are being continued to sustain in all their efficiency the sanitary improvements already executed under the authority of your Board. The addition made during the year to the sewerage of the sub-district has been to the extent of 1,106 feet. In the year preceding the one under review, 2,590 feet of new sewers were completed. Whilst the drains constructed and connected with the main sewers have been numerous, very many houses have been supplied with water, a large number of nuisances abolished, and many improvements of a most beneficial character secured to the neighbourhood.

In addition to the usual inspection of, and report on, the slaughter houses—the cow houses within the sub-district have, during the past year, received attention, and under the Amended Metropolis Local Management Act, have all been regulated, in accordance with the requirements of the law.

I have much pleasure in stating that all these places are now in a good sanitary condition, and that it will, under the Act, be the duty of the proprietors to keep them so, in order to maintain their licences from year to year.

I can only add, that I shall continue to use my best exertions to maintain the good sanitary status which this sub-district has acquired; and I venture to predict a still more favourable condition of the public health of the locality than even appears in this report, when other contemplated reforms shall have been matured and successfully carried out.

D. C. NÖEL,

Medical Officer of Health for Streatham, Tooting, and Balham.

PUTNEY & ROEHAMPTON.

It is with much satisfaction that I present the following favourable report of the sanitary condition of this sub-district for the year 1862.

Not only does the appended table of mortality exhibit a manifest decrease in the number of deaths from all causes, but it furnishes additional evidence of a fact frequently referred to in former reports,—that zymotic diseases, which it is the more immediate object of sanitation to control, are now attended with much less suffering, and as a consequence, with much less fatality than was formerly the case, before any really systematic efforts were made to oppose their invasion or to deprive them of their virulence.

Another, and a no less important feature of the table referred to, is the record of much less mortality amongst the infant and youthful portion of the population than has been presented in former tables for several years past.

MORTALITY AND CAUSES OF DEATH.

The present table is constructed, as usual, with the view to shew, not only the causes of death, but the sex, age, and social position of the deceased persons, and is here referred to with much satisfaction as evidencing a most manifest improvement in the public health of the locality,

so far as the mortality test can be brought to bear upon the question.

PUTNEY AND ROEHAMPTON.		SEX.		AGE.								SOCIAL POSITION.					
Population in 1861—6,481. Area in Statute Acres—2,176.		Total Deaths from each Class of Disease, &c. in the Sub-District.															
DISEASES, And other Causes of Death.		Males.	Females.	Under 1 year.	From 1 to 5 years.	From 5 to 10 years.	Under 20 years including all under 10 years.	At 20, and under 40 years of age.	At 40, and under 60 years of Age.	At 60, and under 80 years of age.	80 years and upwards.	Nobility and Gentry.	Professional Class, Mer- chants, Bankers, &c.	Middle & Trading Class, Shopmen, Clerks, &c.	Industrial & Labouring Classes.		
Classes:—																	
1. Zymotic	Small Pox.....	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
	Measles .....	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
	Scarlatina	2	2	1	1	2	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	2
	Diphtheria ...	3	2	2	2	3	...	...	...	...	...	1	1	...	1
	Quinsy .....	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
	Croup.....	3	2	...	3	3	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	2	1
	Whooping Cough.....	1	1	1	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1
	Typhus and Infantile Fever.....	2	1	...	...	...	1	1	...	...	...	1	...	1	...
	Erysipelas.....	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
	Metria, Childbirth }	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
	Carbuncle .....	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
	Influenza .....	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
	Diarrhoea & Dysentery }	5	4	3	...	3	...	1	1	...	...	2	...	3	
	Cholera .....	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Totals of Zymotic Class ...		16	12	5	6	1	12	1	2	1	...	2	3	3	8		
2. Tubercular		13	7	1	2	...	5	7	1	...	...	2	...	3	8
3. Of Brain and Nerves ...		10	5	...	...	1	1	1	1	6	1	2	2	3	3
4. Of Heart ...		7	4	3	...	...	3	2	2	...	...	...	3	4	...
5. Of Respiratory Organs...		16	8	3	1	...	4	2	2	7	1	4	1	6	5		
6. Of Digestive Organs.....		11	3	2	...	1	3	1	4	3	...	...	2	2	7
7. Of Urinary Organs		4	3	...	...	...	1	1	2	...	...	1	3	...	...
8. Of Organs of Generation		1	1	1	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...
9. Of Joints, Bones, &c.....		3	3	...	...	...	...	...	2	1	...	1	...	2	...
10. Of Skin.....		2	1	1	...	1	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	2	...
11. Premature Birth, Low Vitality, Malforma- tion, &c.....		4	3	4	...	4	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	3	...
12. Of Uncertain Seat		6	6	...	...	...	...	4	2	...	...	1	...	4	1
13. Age		7	3	...	...	...	...	...	4	3	...	...	...	2	5
14. Violence		4	1	1	...	3	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	2	2
15. Not Specified		3	2	1	...	1	...	1	1	...	...	1	...	...	2
TOTALS		107	66	17	11	3	35	18	18	30	6	12	10	32	53		

As the above table has been constructed in such a manner as to admit of ready comparison with those of previous years, and as most of the points upon which

such statistics specially bear have been very fully discussed in former reports, it is unnecessary to do more than very briefly refer in this place to the leading results of the comparison that has been made of the present table with that of 1861. These are:—1. That less deaths by 17 occurred in the sub-district in 1862 than in the previous year. 2. That the deaths resulting from the seven principal zymotic diseases, viz., small pox, scarlatina, measles, diphtheria, whooping cough, fever, and diarrhœa, were less in the past than in the previous year in the proportion of 13 to 21. 3. That the deaths of infants and young persons between birth and 10 years of age have diminished more than one half—67 having succumbed in 1861, and only 31 in the year under review.

The deaths registered in the past year from infirmity of age, were seven; from violence, four; and from premature birth, low vitality, and malformation, four. Deducting then the 15 deaths under the above three heads as the result of causes considered to fall more strictly under the denomination of accidental, the mortality from disease alone in the year under consideration will be reduced to 92, or 13 below that which was noted in 1861, after a similar deduction had been made.

In the Royal Hospital for Incurables there were 12 deaths in the past year against seven in the previous one. As the mortality in this public institution, receiving as it does incurable cases from all parts of the kingdom, has to be duly considered in estimating the rate of mortality proper to the locality, these last named deaths may, as in former years, be fairly placed as a set-off against those of inhabitants taking place out of the parish, viz., in the Union Infirmary, and in the London and other Hospitals.

There is every reason, however, to believe that the deaths in the above-named institution, during 1862, somewhat exceeded those of the inhabitants away from the parish; still, if the same calculation be made from year to year, the average will, it is believed, give a very close approximation to a fair balance in the particular referred to.

RATE OF MORTALITY.

The population of this locality as a suburban parish is fast increasing, especially by immigration, so that to ascertain accurately its rate of increase, or the exact number of its inhabitants at a given period, would be next to impossible, unless a local census were periodically and systematically taken.

It appears that 42 new houses have been completed within the past year, and that several others are in the course of erection. Scarcely any of these dwellings, however, have been designed for the poorer classes, and overcrowding amongst them must, as a consequence, be greatly on the increase. These circumstances considered, the difficulty of estimating by how much the population has increased, and is still increasing, by the influx alone of new residents, must be apparent.

Making the calculation upon an assumed population of 6,559 only, or 78 above what it was estimated in 1861, (which is the natural increase of the year, as shewn by the excess of births over deaths), the rate of mortality is found to be 16·4 per 1,000 living. If due correction be made for increase by immigration as well as for natural increase, the death-rate would, of course, be considerably under the above figures. So long, however, as a town or metropolitan locality keeps

its rate of mortality below 17 per 1,000, so long may it feel justly proud of its relative sanitary position; inasmuch as but few rural parishes can boast of a much lower rate than that above-named.

PROGRESS OF MORTALITY.

The Table which follows exhibits the mortality within the registration district of Putney during the four quarters of 1862, viewed in connexion with four of the principal meteorological readings of those periods, thus affording the means of judging how far temperature, humidity, amount of rain, &c., may have influenced the fatality that has attended the different classes of disease at different seasons of the past year.

REGISTERED CAUSES OF DEATH.		NUMBER OF DEATHS.				
		1st Quarter.	2nd Quarter.	3rd Quarter.	4th Quarter.	The Year.
Zymotic Diseases (epidemic, endemic, and contagious) ...		2	0	6	8	16
Diseases of the Respiratory organs, including Phthisis...		9	8	7	4	28
Other Diseases		17	7	14	9	47
Accidental and violent deaths, and deaths from malformation, premature birth, &c....		4	4	1	0	9
Old Age [natural decay] ...		4	2	1	0	7
TOTALS		36	21	29	21	107
Meteorological Readings.	Mean temperature of air ...	41°1	53°3	58°7	45°0	49°5
	„ Degree of Humidity...	85°	80°	81°	89°	84°
	„ Readings of Barometer	29·770	29·902	29·729	29·792	29·798
	Amount of Rain	4·5 in.	4·5 in.	4·3 in.	7·4 in.	20·7 in.

This Table will also point out the relative number of deaths in each quarter from each classified cause.

PREVALENCE AND FATALITY OF ZYMOTIC DISEASES.

With reference to zymotic diseases, it is satisfactory to note a considerable decrease in the number of deaths, (from 24 to 16), in favour of 1862, compared with 1861. Whilst scarlatina numbered 15 victims in 1861, there were but 2 deaths registered from this cause in the past year. From neither small-pox nor measles were there registered any deaths whatever, though the latter disease prevailed extensively at the decline of the year. Small-pox began to shew itself in December, in the year under review, and resulted in death in one instance at the Small-Pox Hospital, where the case was, of course, registered, and hence is not noted in the mortality table appended to this Report. Since this period, the disease has unfortunately spread to some extent amongst all classes of inhabitants; but less amongst the parish poor than any other class. Only one fatal case has happily been registered in the present year, and down to the time of presenting this Report. It is also satisfactory to be able to state, that in no case within my own knowledge has the disease proved fatal, or caused disfigurement in those who had been previously and successfully vaccinated. In both the fatal cases it should be noted, the sufferers were wholly without this protection.

In a series of local reports on small-pox emanating from the Metropolitan Medical Officers of Health, and recently published in the *Medical Times and Gazette*, the practice of re-vaccination is very generally advocated. I have myself a strong opinion that vaccination performed even simultaneously with the first appearance of the small-pox eruption will, in the majority of persons, not only greatly modify the disease, but arrest its fatal

tendency; and I am confirmed in such opinion by the cases noted in the following extract from my own contribution (June 13th, 1863,) to the series of papers above referred to—

“ Until December of last year, small-pox had for a long series of years been absent from this parish and adjoining hamlet. The first of about a dozen cases noted between the latter part of 1862 and the present time, occurred to an unvaccinated labouring man, who had just before removed into the parish. This case proved fatal in the Small-Pox Hospital, to which institution the patient was removed shortly after the appearance of the disease, and the death was, of course, registered there. The remains of the poor man, however, were brought from the Hospital to be buried in this neighbourhood. A brother of the deceased living in Putney attended the funeral, and contracted the disease; but having accidentally heard that this man was also unvaccinated, I persuaded him, although symptoms of the malady were then plainly visible, to submit himself at once to the operation, and a more decided proof of its protective power I could not have received. The two diseases—the vaccine and the varioloid—went through their course together, and presented all the characteristic phenomena of each, but the one so modified the other that the patient recovered without a bad symptom.

“ The only other fatal case of which I am cognizant occurred to an unvaccinated nurse-child, nine months old, who it appears was not born in the parish, and whose unprotected condition was therefore unknown and unsuspected until too late to remedy the evil. Two other persons residing in the same house in which this infant died, viz., a boy of 12 and a girl of 16, shortly afterwards took the disease. Whilst attending the infant, I noticed this boy and girl looking very ill, and, suspecting the cause, I urged the performance of vaccination on them both. The boy submitted, being then unprotected, and he had the varioloid disease very slightly, and made a good and speedy recovery. Not so, however, the girl; who, relying on the efficiency of her vaccination in infancy (though I had great doubts whether the operation had ever been performed), was much opposed to its performance, and the consequence has been she has experienced a prolonged and painful convalescence; and will, doubtless, carry about with her to her latest hour the most unmistakeable facial indications of the virulence of the malady from which she has suffered.

“ I could cite many cases of a like kind from the records of a practice of nearly thirty years, during the greater part of which time I have performed the functions of a public vaccinator; but the above are referred to as having recently afforded to my own mind strong evidence that vaccination, submitted to even at the eleventh hour, does largely protect against the virulence and fatality of small-pox, if it accomplishes nothing more. My own experience is that, when properly performed, carefully inspected on the eighth day, and pronounced by a skilled

operator to have put on all the characteristic appearances of the true vaccine vesicle, as described by Jenner, it may be relied on as a perfect protection through life, *in a large majority of cases*; but since there are so many exceptions, and as it is an undoubted fact that many persons do take small-pox, though the most efficient vaccination has been accomplished in infancy, the question of re-vaccination becomes one of serious import to medical men, to whom the public are just now looking for advice and direction upon so debateable a point.

“ The absolute infallibility of primary vaccination few practical men of the present day will be found to maintain, any more than they will the uniform action of the best established remedial agents. Persons of particular habits or idiosyncrasies there always will be in whom the most careful administration of well-known drugs will be followed by the most extraordinary and unlooked-for results, and it is not likely that cow-pock inoculation will be found uniformly exempt from all departures from its ordinary issues.

“ Whenever appealed to by the sceptical or the hesitating as to the desirability of re-vaccination, my reply is, that as the occasional introduction of genuine and well-selected vaccine lymph into the arms of young persons and adults is, with very few exceptions, attended by no other inconvenience than a slight and bearable irritation, and the most trifling constitutional disturbance, most medical men are disposed to look upon it as a very simple, but at the same time very valuable test of the efficiency, or otherwise, of previous vaccinations; for should such re-vaccination fail to produce a perfect vesicle, what, I usually ask, can be more satisfactory than to feel assured that the protection afforded by the operation in infancy remains, in all probability, unimpaired? On the contrary, should it result in the production of the perfect vesicle, is it not something to feel more secure than before against the virulence of the disease, and the fatality so frequently attending it when occurring in the unprotected? This kind of reasoning I generally find suffices to remove the scruples of those of my patients who are really capable of being reasoned with on such a subject. I am pleased to add that the authorities of this district are fully alive to the necessity of adopting measures for the isolation of the poor suffering from small pox, and that suitable conveyances have been placed at the disposal of the public to secure the easy and speedy removal of all desiring such isolation.”

SICKNESS AND MORTALITY AMONGST THE UNION POOR.

Table IV., Appendix, concisely exhibits both the nature and amount of sickness which prevailed during the past year amongst the out-door poor of this parish, as well as its resulting mortality. Of 450 cases of sickness, accident, &c., that came under treatment, 16 deaths only appear to have resulted, which is a fraction over $5\frac{1}{2}$

per cent. This not only represents a less amount of sickness than appeared in the table of last year, but a less mortality by 8; the numbers being in 1861—cases, 599, and deaths, 24. It is most gratifying to note so manifest and persistent a result of sanitation. The steadily progressive improvement observable in the health of the Union poor of this sub-district, since sanitary regulations have found their way into and about their dwelling places, inspires a confident belief that well sustained efforts in the same direction will still further reduce the rate of mortality amongst them.

SANITATION OF THE PAST YEAR—ITS AMOUNT AND EFFICIENCY.

A reference to Table VI, in the Appendix, will show that much was accomplished during the year, in the way of the most beneficial sanitation, and that a large number of nuisances of various kinds were abated or removed. The Table also indicates that there were as many as 2,340 feet of new sewers constructed during the year, and many necessary repairs accomplished and improvements introduced into existing drains, water-courses, and the like; the combined effects of which, it is believed, cannot prove otherwise than most beneficial to the neighbourhood. It should be stated that the construction of new sewers in this parish, during the past year, has been principally for the purpose of effecting the surface drainage of new roads on the Roehampton Park Estate, and that the drains, gullies, &c., have been there laid down, at the cost of the owners of that property. A portion of the old sewer in High-street, Roehampton, having been found in a defective condition, was taken up and reinstated by a twelve-inch pipe drain. A new sewer in Roehampton Lane, is about to be commenced by the Conservative Land Society, and in addition to which a sewer of 200 feet in length, as sanctioned by your Board, is to be reconstructed there at the expense of the parish. To effect the back drainage of certain new houses on the north side of the Upper Richmond-road,

200 feet of pipe sewer have been laid down at the expense of the owners, and numerous private drains throughout the parish have been connected with the main sewer. On the whole, then, a somewhat large amount of the most effective drainage will have been accomplished in this parish, before the issue of the next Annual Report.

Apart from what has been set forth in the table above referred to, it may be mentioned that all the slaughter houses within the sub-district were, as usual, carefully supervised and reported on to the Board, and that the cow houses likewise, under the Amended Metropolis Local Management Act, were similarly inspected, prior to their proprietors receiving for the first time licenses for their continuance. Improvements of various kinds were suggested in several of these places with the view of rendering them better adapted for the purposes for which they were erected, and it is satisfactory to state that in every instance these suggestions were fully acted upon, and the improvements adopted.

Lastly, it is gratifying to be able to say that all the sanitation noted in the table referred to, was this year brought about without the necessity of a single appeal to magisterial interference—indeed many improvements were accomplished without even an appeal to the District Board—private recommendations, in numerous instances, having sufficed to effect all that was required.

Before leaving this subject I ought to refer to two other important measures that have been carried out during the year, but not noted in the table, viz.: the completion by the Board of the permanent pavement of the High-street, and the erection by the Parish authorities, on the site of the old pest houses on the Lower Common, of a number of model cottages for respectable labourers. Both these measures (frequently urged in these reports) may be said to supply requirements long considered necessary by the inhabitants, the one giving to the principal thoroughfare of the town an aspect of cleanliness and comfort, which before it did not nor could not possess, and the other affording some relief to overcrowded

neighbourhoods, by offering to a few of the more industrious and provident families the means of isolating themselves from the pauperizing influences which unfortunately abound in most localities occupied by the very poor. The cottages referred to, are, in point of domestic arrangements and sanitary appliances, all that can be desired, and it is hoped efforts will be made to supply more of them. It may be hardly necessary to remark, it is by such efforts as these to encourage cleanliness and provident habits amongst the industrious classes, that the benefits derivable from sanitation are greatly enhanced, and the moral and social well-being of a community the more effectually secured.

R. HARLAND WHITEMAN,

Medical Officer of Health for Putney and Roehampton.

APPENDIX OF STATISTICAL TABLES.

TABLE I.

Summary of Deaths and their Causes, registered in the Entire District during 1862, classified according to Sex, Age, and Social Position; and showing also the relative Numbers in each Sub-District.

POPULATION OF ENTIRE DISTRICT, In 1861—70,381. Area in Statute Acres, 11,695.		SUB-DISTRICTS.						SEX.		AGE.							SOCIAL POSITION					
		Total Death from each class of Disease, &c., in the Entire District						Males.	Females.	Under 1 year.	From 1 to 5 years.	From 5 to 10 years.	Under 20 years, including all under 10 years.	At 20, and under 40 years of age.	At 40, and under 60 years of age.	At 60, and under 80 years of age.	80 years and upwards.	Nobility and Gentry.	Professional Class, Merchants, Bankers, &c.	Middle and Trading Class, Shopmen, Clerks, &c.	Industrial and Labouring Classes.	
DISEASES, And other Causes of Death.		Captham—Population in 1861, 20,890; area in acres, 1,233.	Wandsworth—Population in 1861, 13,345; area in acres, 2,478	Battersea—Population in 1861, 19,582; area in acres, 2,343.	Putney and Roehampton—Population in 1861, 6,481; area in acres, 2,176	Streatham, Tooting, & Balham—Popu- lation 1861, 10,082; area in acres, 3,455																
Classes :—																						
1. Zymotic	Small Pox ..	3	1	..	2	..	1	2	..	..	1	1	2	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	2
	Measles	50	6	28	16	..	24	26	13	32	4	50	..	..	..	..	..	..	2	5	43
	Scarlatina ..	38	13	2	15	2	19	19	5	21	9	36	2	..	..	..	..	..	3	7	28
	Diphtheria ..	21	3	5	8	3	2	9	12	4	12	1	19	..	1	1	..	1	4	6	10	
	Quinsy ..	3	2	..	..	..	1	3	..	1	2	..	3	..	..	..	..	..	1	..	2
	Croup	10	5	..	..	3	2	6	4	1	8	1	10	..	..	..	..	..	..	4	6
	Whooping Cough ..	51	14	11	25	1	..	20	31	20	29	1	51	..	..	..	..	..	2	10	39
	Typhus and Infantile Fever	43	8	11	17	2	5	24	19	..	12	8	25	8	6	3	1	1	3	10	29	
	Erysipelas ..	8	1	..	7	..	..	3	5	1	..	..	2	3	1	1	1	..	..	..	8
	Metritis, Childbirth, Carbuncle	2	2	..	..	..	..	..	2	..	..	..	..	1	1	..	..	..	..	..	2
	Influenza ..	1	1	..	..	..	..	1	..	..	..	..	..	1	..	..	..	..	..	1	
	Diarrhoea & Dysentery	42	7	5	22	5	17	25	19	9	..	29	2	6	5	..	..	6	6	30	
	Cholera	1	..	..	1	..	..	1	..	..	..	..	..	1	..	..	..	..	1	..	
Totals of Zymotic Class		273	63	62	113	16	19	126	147	65	124	24	226	18	17	10	2	2	18	50	203	
2.	Tubercular	185	54	46	58	13	14	91	94	20	16	2	56	77	43	9	..	7	13	35	130	
3.	Of Brain and Nerves ..	183	31	45	81	10	16	92	91	38	24	5	71	24	31	52	5	3	15	46	119	
4.	Of Heart	69	16	17	10	7	19	35	34	3	1	2	7	12	18	32	..	..	10	20	39
5.	Of Respiratory Organs ..	181	38	30	83	16	14	96	85	50	41	1	93	11	27	44	6	5	8	40	118	
6.	Of Digestive Organs ..	103	32	18	29	11	12	48	54	26	8	3	38	13	27	22	2	4	11	27	60	
7.	Of Urinary Organs	21	6	3	2	4	6	12	9	..	..	..	1	2	7	10	1	..	3	11	7
8.	Of Organs of Genera- tion	14	2	5	3	1	3	1	13	..	1	..	1	1	5	7	..	..	3	1	10
9.	Of Joints, Bones, &c.	9	3	..	2	3	1	2	7	..	1	1	3	..	3	2	1	1	1	3	4	
10.	Of Skin	5	3	..	..	2	..	2	3	1	1	1	3	1	1	..	..	..	1	1	3
11.	Premature Birth, Low Vitality, Mal- formation, &c.	83	22	9	42	4	6	44	39	80	2	..	82	1	..	..	..	1	4	9	69
12.	Of Uncertain Seat	25	4	13	..	6	2	7	18	3	1	..	4	2	8	11	..	4	1	10	10	
13.	Age	99	33	14	33	7	12	42	57	..	..	..	..	..	7	39	53	2	7	25	65
14.	Violence	35	6	11	12	4	2	26	9	3	3	5	17	7	6	5	..	..	1	5	29
15.	Not Specified	59	30	..	23	3	3	31	28	20	1	1	23	7	19	10	..	2	7	14	36	
Totals		1343	343	273	491	107	129	655	658	309	224	45	625	76	219	253	70	31	103	297	912	

TABLE II.

BIRTHS registered during the year ending 31st December, 1862.

SUB-DISTRICTS.	Males.	Females.	Total.
Clapham	308	314	622
Wandsworth	197	196	393
Battersea	384	400	784
Putney and Roehampton	84	101	185
Streatham, including Tooting & Balham	139	127	266
TOTAL	1112	1138	2250

* * The excess of Births over Deaths in the entire district is 907.

TABLE III.

METEOROLOGICAL MEANS for 1862, from Observations taken at Greenwich.

	Jan., Feb., and March.	April, May, and June.	July, Aug., and September.	Oct., Nov., and December.	The Year.
Temperature of } the Air }	41·1	53·3	58·7	45·0	49·5
Evaporation	39·2	50·4	55·6	43·7	47·2
Dew Point	36·9	47·5	52·8	42·1	44·8
Weight of Vapour } in a cubic foot } of Air }	2·5 grs.	3·7 grs.	4·5 grs.	3·1 grs.	3·4 grs.
Degree of Humi- } dity (Sat ⁿ 100) }	85	80	81	89	84
Reading of Barometer	29·703	29·763	29·802	29·795	29·766
Weight of a cubic } foot of Air ... }	549 grs.	537 grs.	532 grs.	547 grs.	541 grs.
Rain (amount of) ...	6·1 in.	7·4 in.	6·3 in.	6·6 in.	26·24 in.

TABLE IV.

Showing the total Deaths from the principal Epidemic Diseases registered in each Sub-District, and in the entire District, and the relation which they bore to the total Mortality in the several years 1855-62.

YEARS.	DEATHS FROM EPIDEMICS IN EACH SUB-DISTRICT.					ENTIRE DISTRICT.		
	Clapham.	Battersea.	Wandsworth.	Putney.	Streatham.	Total Deaths from Epidemics.	Total Deaths Registered.	Per centage of Deaths from Epidemics to Total Deaths.
1855	41	39	50	4	16	150	1144	13.1
1856	39	45	44	13	15	156	1144	13.6
1857	55	46	28	7	14	150	1097	13.6
1858	85	100	22	20	15	241	1264	19.0
1859	63	96	60	26	38	283	1322	21.4
1860	90	62	22	2	11	187	1374	13.6
1861	76	112	30	21	18	257	1393	18.4
1862	52	106	62	13	16	233	1343	17.3

* * The Diseases included in the above Table are seven in number, and constitute, as in the Registrar-General's Return, the principal maladies of the Zymotic class, viz.: Small Pox, Measles, Scarlatina, Diphtheria, Whooping Cough, Diarrhoea, and Fever.

TABLE V.

Cases of Sickness amongst the Out-door Poor under the treatment of the Union Medical Officers, and the Deaths from each class of Disease, &c., during the Year that ended 31st December, 1862.—Compiled from the District Medical Relief Books.

SUB-DISTRICTS.	Total Cases of Sickness treated in each Sub-District.		1—Small Pox.		2—Measles.		3—Scarlatina & Malignant Sore Throat.		4—Whooping Cough.		5—Diarrhoea & Dysentery.		6—Cholera.		7—Fever.		8—Erysipelas.		9—Puerperal Fever.		10—Lung Diseases, except Phthisis.		11—Phthisis.		12—Hydrocephalus, Atrophy, Scrofula, and Convulsions of Children.		13—Other Diseases.		14—Violence, Privation, and Premature Birth.		Total Deaths in each Sub-District.
	Cases.	Deaths.	Cases.	Deaths.	Cases.	Deaths.	Cases.	Deaths.	Cases.	Deaths.	Cases.	Deaths.	Cases.	Deaths.	Cases.	Deaths.	Cases.	Deaths.	Cases.	Deaths.	Cases.	Deaths.	Cases.	Deaths.	Cases.	Deaths.	Cases.	Deaths.			
Clapham	11	...	34	2	37	3	28	3	108	...	...	...	203	2	8	...	4	...	185	7	30	7	15	...	489	15	74	2	41
Wandsworth.....	3	...	75	10	15	2	26	5	107	...	...	...	180	3	13	...	...	...	170	9	14	4	16	4	719	17	72	2	56
Battersea	3	1	9	...	7	1	11	2	28	1	...	...	32	1	7	1	...	...	46	2	...	...	...	...	597	1	10	...	10
Putney & Roehampton	1	...	18	...	7	...	4	0	18	...	...	...	27	...	4	...	1	...	64	4	2	...	10	3	264	9	30	...	16
Streatham, including Tooting & Balham }	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	8	...	...	...	6	...	...	...	...	...	24	1	5	2	...	...	137	6	14	...	9
Totals	18	1	136	12	66	6	69	10	269	1	...	...	448	6	32	1	5	...	489	23	51	13	41	7	2206	48	200	4	132

TABLE VI.

SUMMARY of the Sanitary Operations in the entire District during the year 1862.

	Clapham.	Battersea.	Wandsworth.	Putney and Roehampton.	Streatham, including Tooting & Balham	Totals.
Number of Houses and Premises inspected ...	850	600	530	192	110	1517
1st Notices served	28	23	73	19	40	} 211
2nd Notices served	12	3	8	5	...	
Cesspools emptied and cleansed.....	26	50	24	25	177	302
Cesspools abolished.....	4	...	2	25	4	35
Water-closets constructed	59	477	59	30	54	679
Houses supplied with Water	63	477	59	41	46	686
Drains constructed or connected with Sewer	13	36	10	39	44	142
No. of Feet of New Sewers, &c.	1840	160	...	2340	1106	5446
Drains repaired or trap- ped, or obstructions removed	17	2	11	20	56	106
Open Ditches, Ponds &c., cleansed.....	7180 ft.	6	600 ft.	2650 ft.	57	...
Dust-bins provided.....	53	477	59	...	47	636
Pig Nuisances removed ...	14	...	3	5	2	24
Accumulations of Offal, Manure, &c., removed	27	10	7	6	8	58
Unwholesome and dilap- idated Houses cleansed or repaired .....	...	...	34	3	...	37
Cases investigated by Magistrates	2	...	1	...	...	3
Compulsory Orders ob- tained	1	...	1	...	...	2
Compulsory Works ex- ecuted .....	...	...	1	...	...	1
Works remaining in abeyance from various causes .....	...	...	...	1	3	4

