### [Report of the Medical Officer of Health for Camberwell, St. Giles].

### **Contributors**

St. Giles Camberwell (Parish: Surrey, England)

### **Publication/Creation**

[1867]

### **Persistent URL**

https://wellcomecollection.org/works/hbstj95g

#### License and attribution

You have permission to make copies of this work under a Creative Commons, Attribution, Non-commercial license.

Non-commercial use includes private study, academic research, teaching, and other activities that are not primarily intended for, or directed towards, commercial advantage or private monetary compensation. See the Legal Code for further information.

Image source should be attributed as specified in the full catalogue record. If no source is given the image should be attributed to Wellcome Collection.





1866-7.

## MEDICAL OFFICER'S

REPORT.



## MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH'S

### ANNUAL REPORT

BY

J. S. BRISTOWE, M.D., Lond., Fellow of the Royal College of

Physicians, Physician to St. Thomas's Hospital.

Gentlemen,

During the 52 weeks ending Saturday, December 29th, 1866, 3321 births and 2050 deaths were registered in the Parish of Camberwell, and as nearly as I can ascertain the erection of 1509 new houses was completed. (Tables I., II. and III.)

These numbers are all higher than those to which they correspond in former years. But latterly, indeed, an annual increase has been invariable, as the following table framed for the last 6 years will shew:—

104 005	No. of Weeks.	Births.	Deaths.	New Houses erected.
1861	52	2391	1419	202
1862	52	2488	1553	374
1863	53	2688	1731	535
1864	52	2982	1843	528
1865	52	3036	1907	775
1866	52	3321	2050	1509
Total in 6	years	16,906	10,503	3923

The progressive increase of the annual mortality might be supposed, and has been assumed, to shew progressive deterioration of the health of the Parish; and no doubt if, while the mortality had thus increased, the number of the population had remained stationary, the correctness of this inference could not be disputed. It is clear however from the above table, that the progressive increase in the annual number of deaths has proceeded pari passu with a similar increase in the annual number of births, and with yearly additions to the number of houses, and inferentially therefore with a progressive annual increase of the population. But since, under similar conditions of healthiness, the number of deaths occurring within a given time will depend upon the number of the population among which they occur (in other words, the larger the population the larger will be the

number of deaths) it not only does not follow that in a shifting population an increase in the number of deaths shews an increase of unhealthiness in that population, but the deaths may increase even while the healthiness of the population is improving. In order then to determine the relation which the annual mortality in a locality bears to the healthiness of that locality, it is essential first of all to ascertain the number of the population among whom the mortality occurs. So that before we are competent to form, from the mortality of our Parish in 1866, any kind of opinion as to its healthiness in that year, the population of the Parish during that year must be ascertained. I have shewn on many former occasions how difficult it is to form, for any year, except census-years, any, even reasonably accurate, estimate of our population.

The natural increase of a population is that which depends on the excess of births over deaths. This the tables, which I publish annually, supply us with an easy method of determining for our own Parish. It may be got also from the preceding table, which shews that the addition to our population from this source, during the six years which have elapsed since the commencement of 1861, should be 6403. It need scarcely be said however that, while our increase of population depends largely no doubt upon this natural increase, it depends quite as largely, perhaps even more largely, on the excess of immigration into the Parish, over emigration out of it. If this excess could be determined with accuracy the problem before us would be solved.

The population of our Parish increased between 1851 and 1861 (at which latter period it amounted to 71488) by 30.77 per cent. or at the annual rate of 2.72 per cent. Supposing the annual increase to have continued the same during the period which has elapsed since the census was last taken, the population in

the middle of 1866, (in other words the mean population for the year 1866) must have been as nearly as possible \* 82304. The death-rate for the year on this estimate of the population amounts to 2.49 per cent. But as I have shewn before, we have every reason to believe that the population has increased at a much greater rate than this. The increase in the number of houses, the increase in the number of births, all shew this. There can scarcely have been added, during the last 6 years, nearly 4000 houses to the 12768 already existing at the commencement of that period, without a somewhat corresponding addition to the number of the population; the births again can scarcely have increased from 2391 in the year 1861 to 3321, in the year 1866 (an increase of nearly 1000) excepting in dependence on a pretty nearly proportionate increase of the population yielding them. Now the Registrar General has shewn that in England the mean birth-rate is 3.318 per cent. of the population; that is to say that for every 100 persons living 3.318 children are on an average born per annum; and if we assume, and there seems no very good reason why we should not assume it, that this was the proportion last year in our own Parish between children born and population, the mean population of the Parish must then have amounted to no less than 100090 persons. The following are estimates of our population derived from the birth-rate for the last 6 years :-

1861	 72061	1864	 89873
1862	 74975	1865	 91500
1863	 79505	1866	 100090

<sup>\*</sup> There is a trivial difference between this estimate of mine, and the estimate quoted from the Registrar General, which I have given in my Report on Cholera.

It is well to point out, as tending to shew that these estimates are not altogether fanciful, that in the spring of 1861, when the census was taken, the population of the Parish was ascertained to be 71488, and that in the middle of that year, supposing it to have been still progressive at the same rate by which it had been increasing during the preceding 10 years, it must have amounted to 71967, a number which differs by less than 100 from the number estimated upon the births. I may add that the Registrar General calculates that, for every 100 persons living in London in 1861, 3.448 children were born, and that according even to this proportion the population would still have amounted in the middle of 1866 to 96316. Now if the population was 100090, the death-rate of the year was 2.048; if it was 96316 the death-rate was still only 2.13; and even if we assume the population to have been 90000, the death-rate did not exceed 2.28.

The annual rates of mortality during 1866 for London and the 5 groups of districts into which it is divided were, according to the Registrar General's calculations, as follows:—

London. West. North. Central. East. South. 2.647. 2.295 2.531. 2.675 3.396. 2.410.

and he shews that although (owing mainly to the presence of cholera) the mortality of London, and of most of its groups of districts, was above the average of former years; the mortality of the Western and of the Southern districts was actually (not-withstanding the presence of that disease) below the average.

In Dulwich there were 66 births and 32 deaths; in Camberwell 852 births and 673 deaths; in Peckham 1318 births and 740 deaths; and in St. George's 1085 births and 605 deaths. In the sub-district of Camberwell however are contained the Workhouse, in which 119 deaths took place, and two

Lunatic Asylums, in which the deaths were 99. These make a total of 218 deaths, which are attributed by accident only, as it were, to this sub-district of the Parish. For the purpose of instituting a fair comparison between the several sub-districts these deaths should be subtracted from the mortality of the sub-district of Camberwell; but in order that the comparison may be fair between our sub-districts and other parts of the metropolis, they should not only be subtracted from the mortality of Camberwell, but should then be divided in fair proportion among all our sub-districts.\* If such a distribution of these deaths be made, the annual mortality becomes for Dulwich 36, for Camberwell 509, for Peckham 828, and for St. George's 677.

All these numbers again are in advance of the corresponding numbers of former years, as will be seen by the subjoined table:—

		wich. Deaths.		Deaths.	-	cham.  Deaths.	St. Ge	eorge's.
	-				***************************************	Doutins.	Dirtiis.	Deaths
1861	42	28	668	486†	972	536	709	369
1862	40	25	681	552	1002	587	765	389
1863	46	22	711	560	1108	699	823	450
1864	53	24	774	632	1156	673	999	514
1865	49	31	791	649	1174	706	1022	521
1866	66	32	852	673	1318	740	1085	605

<sup>\*</sup> This has been done by first subtracting from the mortality of the subdistrict of Camberwell the number of deaths occurring in the Workhouse and Asylums, and by then dividing this number among the sub-districts in proportion to their respective mortalities.

† The deaths in this column, include the deaths in the Workhouse and Lunatic Asylums.

The most obvious inference to be derived from the above table is that there has been generally throughout the Parish (though less distinctly in Dulwich then elsewhere) a progressive and marked increase of the population. The significance, I need scarcely repeat, of the respective mortalities of the sub-districts depends very largely indeed upon the share these sub-districts have respectively taken in producing this increase.

During the ten years ending 8th April, 1861, the increase of the population of Dulwich had been 5.57 per cent.; that of Camberwell 20.037; that of Peckham 44.69; and that of St. George's 28.29; and the annual rates of increase of these subdistricts had been respectively, .54, 1.84, 3.76 and 2.52 per cent. If the increase has been still progressive at the same rate the populations of the sub-districts in the middle of 1866 were :of Dulwich 1772, of Camberwell 23437, of Peckham 34153, and of St. George's 23172; and the death-rates for the year were respectively 2.03, 2.17, 2.42 and 2.92. But, as I have already shewn, the above cannot have been the actual rates of increase; and in two at least of the sub-districts it must have been very much larger. To judge again from the births, it would appear that if these have occurred in the general average proportion to population, the populations of the sub-districts were in the middle of 1866, as follows:-

Dulwich 1989, Camberwell 25678, Peckham 39723 and St. George's 32700:

that if they have occurred in that larger proportion to population deduced for London itself the populations were as follows:—

Dulwich 1914, Camberwell 24710, Peckham 38225 and St. George's 31467.

In the former case the respective death-rates were 1.81, 1.98 2.08 and 2.07; in the latter 1.88, 2.06, 2.17 and 2.15. It will be observed that the above three estimates are least divergent in the cases of Dulwich and of Camberwell, which have always hitherto been, as regards population, the most stationary parts of the Parish; but that they diverge widely in the case of Peckham, and especially in that of St. George's, which have always hitherto grown the most rapidly. The comparative correctness of the latter two estimates, and especially of the last estimate, over those derived simply from the experience of former years, is confirmed by table III. which shews the distribution of new houses in the Parish, and that until the last year (in which there has been a large addition to the houses in the Dulwich district) the chief increase in houses has been in wards 1, 4 and 5-wards which are comprised in the registration districts of St. George's and Peckham.

I am quite satisfied then that so far as we can judge by proportion of deaths to population, by death-rate in fact, Camberwell and all its sub-divisions enjoyed last year a period of comparative healthiness—of healthiness compared with many former years, of healthiness compared with many other districts.

The infantile mortality was as usual large. 550 children died in their first year, and 335 between the ages of one and five. Thus no less than 885 children were cut off during the first 5 years of life. It should be added however that, of this number, 166 died either in consequence of premature birth, or of feeble vitality continuing from the time of birth. The mortality also at the other term of life was considerable; 203 persons died between 70 and 80, 71 between 80 and 90, and 11 who were upwards of 90.

Among the chief causes of death, which are given in detail

in tables I and II, may be included:—acute inflammatory affections of the respiratory organs, to which were attributed 308 deaths, comprising 141 among children under 5 years of age; tubercular diseases, which caused 294 deaths, of which 223 were due to phthisis; hydrocephalus and convulsions of infancy, which caused 176 deaths; premature birth and conditions related to this, which (as before pointed out) accounted for 166 deaths; violence, poison or accident, which caused 45 deaths; and lastly, the various so-called "zymotic' diseases. 11 women died in child-birth, 10 persons of erysipelas, 7 children of inherited syphilis, and 4 persons of delirium tremens.

In regard to "zymotic" diseases it is necessary to go a little more into detail.

Diphtheria caused 11 deaths, small-pox 35, measles 38, fever 53, scarlet fever 59, hooping cough 72, diarrhœa and dysentery 76 and cholera 44.

The following table shews the comparative prevalence of these diseases in 1866 and 5 previous years:—

	Diphtheria.	Small-Pox.	Measles,	Fever.	Scarlet Fever,	Hooping Cough.	Diarrhœa. Cholera
1861	25	2	8	25	13	72	_
1862	40	0	32	64	101	53	54
1863	29	14	32	41	124	57	61
1864	16	10	29	51	83	61	69
1865	14	12	39	31	55	52	112 6
1866	11	35	38	53	59	72	76 44

Zymotic diseases it will be seen have thus been on the whole more than usually fatal. Deaths from small-pox especially show a considerable increase. There has also, it should be remarked, been a general increase of small-pox throughout London during the last year. It is worth while to point out that, notwithstanding the presence of a cholera-epidemic in 1866, the total mortality for the year from cholera and diarrhœa was only greater by two than the whole mortality from the same diseases in the previous year Their collective mortality however was, roughly speaking, about twice the average. A reference to table I. will shew that, excepting Dulwich, in which were 3 deaths from hooping-cough and 2 from fever, zymotic diseases were distributed pretty uniformly throughout the Parish. In proportion to population however hooping-cough was least fatal in St. George's, diphtheria in Peckham, and small-pox was much most fatal in Camberwell.

In almost all years (see table II) the mortality is greatest in the first and last quarters of the year, and least in the third quarter. The same rule prevailed last year, notwithstanding that it was during the third quarter that cholera and diarrhœa almost exclusively prevailed. 570 deaths were registered in the first three months of the year, 492 in the second, 444 in the third, and 544 in the fourth.

The sanitary works (table IV) executed during the year terminating March 31st, 1867, have been unprecedentedly numerous The chief cause of this lies in the fact that during a considerable portion of this period two additional inspectors have been engaged in the sanitary duties of the Parish. In anticipation of cholera Mr. Cooper was appointed, and commenced to act as inspector, at the latter part of last June; and on the 13th of August another inspector, Mr. Waters, was appointed by the

ward committee of No. 5 ward. From the time of that appointment four inspectors have been in constant work, one acting as inspector for wards 3 and 6, one for ward 1, one for wards 2 and 4, and one for ward 5. It should be added however that, until the latter end of 1866, much of that work, which does not consist in mere inspection, for wards 2, 4 and 5, which had been assigned to the two new inspectors, was still performed for these wards by the two old inspectors, in addition to the work they were expected to do for the wards which were then specially assigned to them.

It will be seen from the table that, during the 12 months, 5594 houses, 105 bake-houses, 60 cow-houses and 52 slaughter-houses were systematically inspected, and that 1330 complaints of nuisances were dealt with. In relation to these, 1244 notices (each one in many cases having reference to several matters) were served; of which 203 had to be repeated, and 15 to be followed up by summonses. The following is a list of works executed: -886 drains cleansed and amended, 1035 trapped, 980 cesspools emptied, 882 filled up and abolished, 825 water-closets supplied and 22 closets repaired; 74 yards paved; 312 dust-bins provided; 78 water-butts cleansed, 394 provided with covers, 115 new butts supplied, and in 72 cases water laid on to houses; 261 houses repaired and 541 whitewashed and cleansed. Of the 1330 miscellaneous matters, some related to trades'-nuisances, some to accumulations of dust and manure, and some to pigs and other animals kept in an uncleanly condition. At the end of the year there were 117 orders not yet complied with.

I may add that I have continued to test periodically the gas provided by the South Metropolitan Gas Company, and have invariably found it good according to the requirements of the Act of Parliament; and that with the assistance of Dr. Bernays, of St. Thomas's Hospital, I have also tested periodically the waters of the Lambeth, Southwark and Kent Water Companies, and generally with a satisfactory result.

During the last year, in the course of the discussions to which the measures which had to be taken in consequence of cholera, and of the condition of property in the Parish (as revealed by more extensive inspections) gave rise, much blame was attributed to the two old inspectors, and much misapprehension was shewn, both as to the kind and amount of work which they had effected, and as to the management generally of the sanitary business of the Vestry. It seems to me desirable, for the sake both of the sanitary officers of the Vestry, and of the Vestry itself, that the Vestry, and through the Vestry the Parish, should be correctly informed upon these matters.

The duties which the inspectors have had to perform have been very multifarious, and not wholly connected with sanitary matters; additions too have been made to them from time to time. The following is an enumeration of these duties:—

1st.—to examine into, and to report upon, all nuisances which are the subject of complaint:

2nd.—to report upon all nuisances which come under their notice during their perambulations:

3rd.—to inspect and report upon all houses in which deaths from certain zymotic diseases (such as small-pox, typhus, &c.) occur:

4th.—to make systematic house to house visitations, and to report in detail upon the sanitary condition of all houses thus visited:

5th.—to make out and to serve all notices for abatement or

removal of nuisances, or for execution of sanitary works ordered by the Vestry or by the Sewers' and Sanitary Committee, and also to send notices to the Dust-Contractor whenever accumulations of dust are discovered or are complained of:

6th.—to follow up these notices, and to see that all the works, thus required to be done, are done to the satisfaction of the Vestry. This includes the attending to the laying down of drain-pipes on premises, whether the laying down be ordered by the Vestry, or merely sanctioned by the Vestry at the request of owners of property. It includes also the seeing to, or the superintendence of, the removal or abatement of many nuisances, which have to be dealt with summarily:

7th.—in all cases when persons are ordered by the Vestry or Committee to be summoned in respect of sanitary matters, to take out the summonses, and subsequently to get up evidence and to give evidence; also to take out summonses, orders and warrants, under the police acts (as well as under the Nuisances' Removal and Local Management Acts) for obstructions in the public way, illegal removal of dust, payment of road apportionments, &c. From June 1st, 1861, up to March 25th, 1867, the inspectors have attended at the police court for the above purposes 920 times:

8th.—in all cases in which new houses are being erected, to inquire at the Surveyor's Office, whether the notice required by the Act of Parliament has been given, and if not to serve notice. Further, to report to the Surveyor any case in which a new building appears to be commenced beyond the regular line:

9th.—to attend in all cases, where required to do so by the Surveyor, in reference to any building, crossing, &c., interfering in any way with the Parish-boundary; to take dimensions defining the line, to superintend the fixing of plates on walls,

&c., for this purpose, and to report completion to Surveyor.

Besides the above duties which they have had to perform from the very commencement of their appointment, they have had added to them:

10th.—from the year 1857, to inspect, and report periodically upon, all slaughter-houses in the Parish; and from the year 1862, upon all cow-houses and bake-houses as well. In reference to cow-houses and slaughter-houses they have also to attend annually before the Justices of the Peace, to oppose any licence which the Vestry may have determined to oppose, and prior to the day for granting licences, to serve notices for information on this point to all the butchers and bakers in the Parish.

Further, there are certain duties which the Inspectors have had to perform, but from which they are now relieved, or have to perform to a more limited extent than formerly:

11th.—from March to September of each year to observe the watering of the various roads, and to report thereon to the Surveyor; and to keep a register of the number of wet and dry days during the contract; these daties commenced in March, 1856, and terminated in September, 1864:

12th.—to superintend and see to the connection of the junctions with sewres. (This of course relates to works executed outside private premises, and is not therefore to be confounded with the works enumerated under head 6.) This duty was performed up to end of 1865:

13th.—in cases in which roads are about to be taken by the Parish, to give notice to owners and occupiers along such roads, to serve notices of apportionment on owners, and if necessary to summon (this is also included under head 7) to serve Magistrates' orders and to follow up the cases until all monies have been obtainne. This duty was discharged from 1863 to

March 1865, and was performed in respect of the following roads—James Street Lothian Road, Lothian Road, Langton Road, Bishop's Road, D'Eynsford Road, Harvey Road, Kimpton Road, Brook's Road, Talfourd Road, Lyndhurst Grove, Edmond Street, Stafford Street Peckham Road, Marlborough Road, Basing Road, Crab-Tree-Shot Road, Willow-Brook Road, Marlborough Road Old Kent Road, Green-Hundred Road, Emily Road, and Mawby Road. Since March, 1865, the Inspectors have been relieved of much of this duty, but have still to take out all summonses, and to attend to all subsequent proceedings.

14th.—It should be added that in the autumn of 1865, a good deal of the Inspectors time was occupied with matters relating to the Cattle Plague.

I have added to this list of duties, a table (table V) which shews the number of slaughter-houses, bake-houses, and cowhouses under supervision in each year, the number of miscellaneous nuisances attended to in each year, the number of houses systematically inspected annually, and the works which have been carried out in consequence of these inspections, during the 11 years in which the Vestry has been in operation.

It will be seen, I think, from all that has just been stated, that the Inspectors have not been idle; that the systematic house to house inspections have been continuous and beneficial in a high degree to the Parish; but that the actual inspections form only a very small portion of the duties which these officers have to perform; and that, if they be compared with the number of houses in the Parish, to inspect the Parish thoroughly would at the rate at which inspection has been going on require a period of several years. But it should be explained that systematic inspections are for the most part limited to the poorer

houses and poorer localities of the Parish, and to those houses of whatever class they may be which lie along the lines of newly constructed sewers, and that much of the worst property is really inspected pretty frequently. There is no doubt however that a staff of two inspectors was quite inadequate to keep a constant supervision over the whole of the poorer parts of the Parish, even at the time of their first appointment, when the Parish contained a total of not more probably than 11500 houses; and that as the Parish has gradually been growing, until at the end of last year it contained over 16000 houses, such a staff has become more and more unequal to the task which it is evident that many persons supposed it was their duty to perform. As population grows, and as new and increased powers in reference to sanitary matters are conferred upon the Vestry, it is evident that to maintain efficiency a commensurate increase in the sanitary staff must be made. The appointment of two additional Inspectors last year, whose services will I hope be permanently retained, was therefore a most important and beneficial step. I suspect however that before long it will be found advisable, if not absolutely necessary, to appoint such an officer for each separate ward into which the Parish is divided. I may here point out one or two disadvantages under which our Inspectors in common with those of some other districts labour; these are, in the first place the very great superficial extent of the Parish, which makes it a considerable part of a day's labour to get from one extremity of it to the other, as our old Inspectors had not unfrequently to do; in the second place, the fact that the policecourt is not only not within our Parish but at a considerable distance from it, an arrangement which necessarily leads to a very considerable sacrifice of the Inspectors' time.

There was also evidently an impression on the part of many

Members of the Vestry that the general business of the sanitary department was done, if not in a slovenly way, at all events in a way that led to many complaints of nuisances being disregarded, and to matters which had once been taken in hand being lost sight of before they had been brought to a satisfactory termination. That neither of these eventualities should occasionally have happened I do not presume to say. Indeed there is no doubt that they have happened, and there is no doubt, I fear, that even with the greatest care they must still occasionally happen. At the same time, that very considerable precautions are taken to prevent mistakes will appear I hope from the brief statement of our mode of precedure which I am about to give, and from the forms and tables which are in use, of the more important of which I append copies.

A complaint book (form A) is kept in the Clerk's Office, in which all complaints, whether made personally or by letter, are at once entered. Some of these complaints relate to matters which can be summarily dealt with, some relate to non-removal of dust, some to matters belonging to the Surveyor's Department, some to more important sanitary matters which have in some form or other to be brought under the consideration of the Vestry or Sewers and Sanitary Committee. In all cases where the complaint has been dealt with, the result and the date of entry of the result are entered in this complaint book; and in all cases where the matter has to be handed over to the Surveyor's department, or has to be brought specially before the Vestry or Committee, and thus comes to be recorded elsewhere in a more exact form, the date of this transference is appended to the complaint.

All complaints of non-removal of dust, whether they be made directly or only in consequence of house to house visitations, are

immediately followed by a notice sent by the Inspector to the Dust-Contractor, and a record of them is preserved in the counterfoils of the notice books.

The details of house to house inspections are given by the Inspectors on form B, as also are the details of inspections of houses in which small-pox and such like diseases have proved fatal, or in relation to which some special complaint has been made. Upon the same forms also are placed the facts of all those sanitary complaints which have not been summarily disposed of.

Upon form C are written by the Medical Officer his recommendations upon the various sanitary matters recorded on form B. Corresponding series of forms B and C relating to the inspections made in the interval between two consecutive meetings of the Vestry, are placed before the latter of these meetings as a part of the Medical Officer's Report, and as a rule are referred by the Vestry to the Sewers' and Sanitary Committee to be dealt with.

At the ensuing meeting of the Sewers' and Sanitary Committee the Inspectors' reports and the recommendations of the Medical Officer are considered; and the latter, either wholly or partially or in a modified form, are then directed to be carried out. Thereupon notices are made out in accordance with the directions of the Committee, and served on the owners or occupiers of the property upon which sanitary defects calling for remedy have been discovered. Moreover the effect of all these notices and the matters to which they severally relate are entered in detail in a book (form D); and in this book, which is brought periodically before the Sewers and Sanitary Committee, all subsequent proceedings, and the final result of each case, are systematically recorded.

In most cases, the serving of a single notice written on a special form (which it is needless to reproduce) is followed by the desired result; and generally, before legal proceedings are taken against persons for non-compliance with the orders of the Vestry, a second or more peremptory form of notice is served.

Thanking you in conclusion, as I have had to do on so many former occasions, for the uniform kindness and consideration which I receive from you, and which are so great an encouragement to me in the performance of the duties of my appointment,

I remain, Gentlemen,

Your obedient Servant,

JOHN S. BRISTOWE, M.D.

May, 1867.

### RETURNS OF BIRTHS AND DEATHS IN CAMBERWELL, FOR THE FIFTY-TWO WEEKS ENDING SATURDAY, DECEMBER 29th, 1866.

### TABLE I.—According to Districts

Names	BI	RTI	IS						ACCO	RDIN	O T	) A	GE.					DE.	ATE	s.								ACC	ORDI	NG :	ro I	DISEA	SES.						
of Sub-Districts	М	F	MF	М	F	MF	Under One year-	From One to 5.	From 5 to 10.	From 10 to 20.	Prem 20 to 30	From 30 to 40.	From 40 to 50.	From 50 to 60.	From 60 to 70.	From 70 to 80.	From 80 to 90.	From 90 upwds.	Violence, Poison, and Accident.	Pressature Birch.	Perer.	Other Causes.	Erysipolas, Pysemia, &c.	Porus Bronchi 2 cars-			Over so	Cholera.	Hooping Cough.	Measler.	Creap.	Diplotteries	Scarlet Fever.	Fever.	San il. Pox.	Bydrocephalus, and Convalidons or Insancy.	Teteros Diseas		Other Discuses
Dulwich	31	35	66	14	18	32	4	5	1	2	2	3	2	4	8	4	0	2	0	2	0	0	1	1	8	0	0	0	3	0	0	0	0	2	0	2	2	0	10
Camberwell	417	435	852	327	346	673	126	94	18	15	44	68	70	57	55	97	27	4	8	42	2	0	5	44	51	11	7	10	19	9	3	5	10	15	18	36	82	15	28
Peckham	659	659	1318	351	389	740	229	124	31	41	32	48	46	44	55	57	30	3	12	74	0	6	3	46	55	27	3	20	34	16	6	1	26	17	9	71	81	34	19
St. George's	580	505	1085	303	302	605	191	112	35	19	26	47	37	29	48	45	14	2	25	48	1	2	1	52	48	24	4	14	16	13	13	5	23	19	8	67	58	22	14
Total	1687	1634	3321	995	1055	2050	550	335	85	77	104	166	155	134	159	203	71	11	45	166	3	8	10	141	167	62	14	44	72	38	22	11	59	53	35	176	223	71	64

#### TABLE II.—According to Seasons.

1st Quarter	42	8 4	12 8	70	267	303	570	143	92	14	23	27	49	35	41	47	71	26	2	13	54	2	3	2	28	. 70	8	1	0	36	11	3	4	11	13	3	51	65	16	176
2nd Quarter	44	9 3	79 8	28	243	249	492	121	83	17	25	21	35	53	22	44	52	17	2	11	32	1	0	5	43	32	9	2	0	18	3	4	1	5	12	20	55	50	16	173
3rd Quarter	37	6 3	32 7	58	238	206	444	150	62	22	12	31	39	33	21	27	33	11	3	14	45	0	2	1	5	18	41	5	36	18	3	7	4	9	10	6	42	52	16	115
4th Quarter	43	4 4	31 8	65	247	297	544	136	98	32	17	25	43	34	50	41	47	17	4	7	35	0	3	2	65	47	4	6	8	5	21	8	2	34	18	6	28	56	23	176
Total	168	37 16	34 33	21	995	1055	2050	550	335	85	77	104	166	155	134	159	203	71	11	45	166	3	8	10	141	167	62	14	44	72	38	22	11	59	53	35	176	223	71	640

Population of Camberwell in 1861, 71488. Dulwich, 1723; Camberwell, 21297; Peckham, 28135; St. George's, 20333. The Deaths returned for the Sub-District of Camberwell include 119 occurring in the Workhouse, and 99 in two Lunatic Asylums.

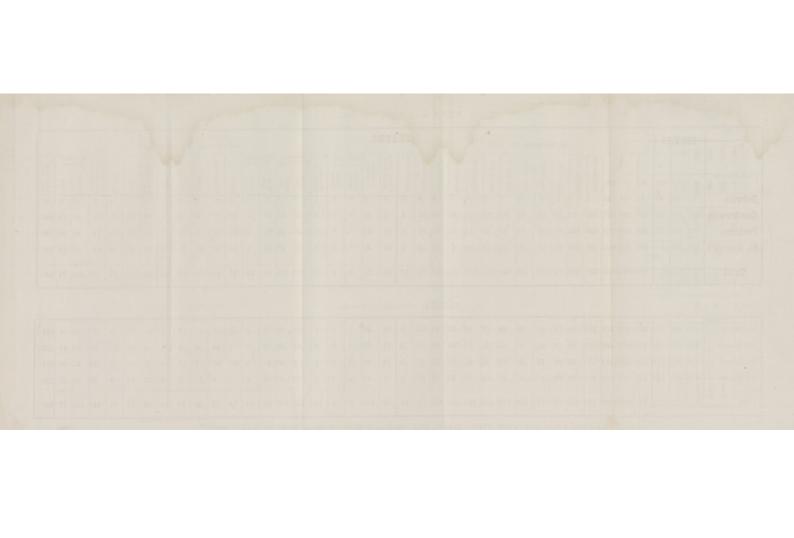
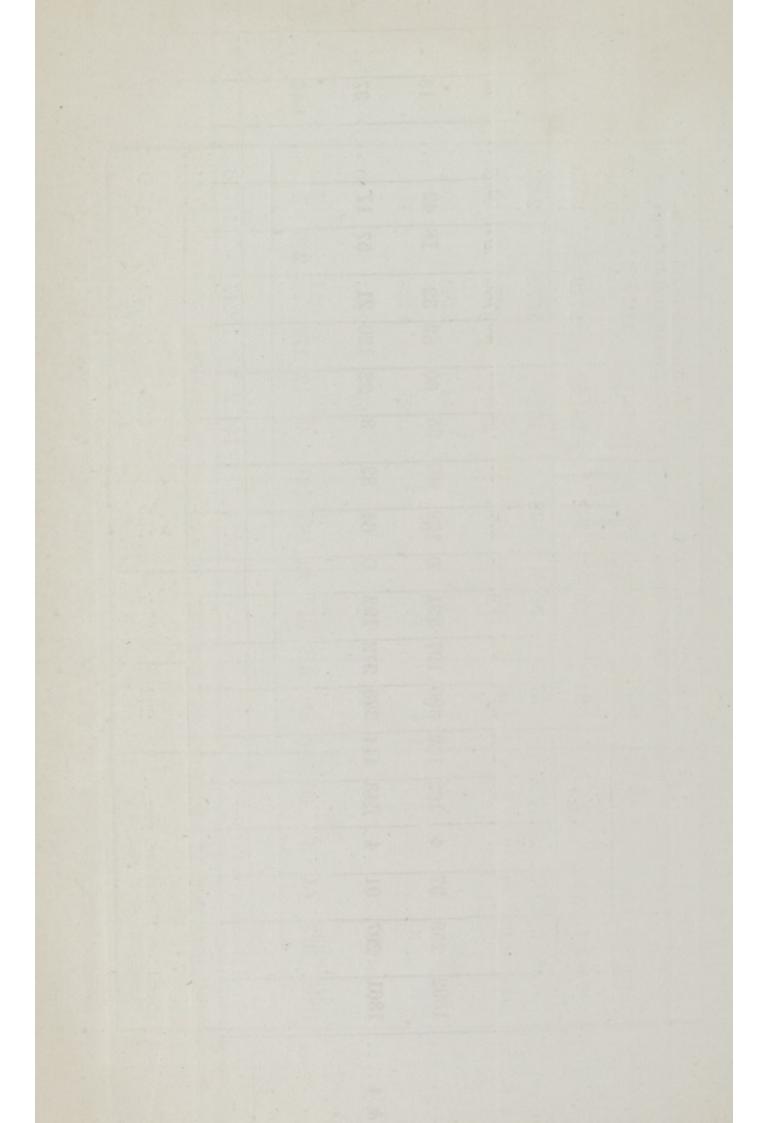


TABLE III,

		Houses erec			number of Hourwell, at end of	
	1861.	1862.	1863.	1864.	1865.	1866.
Ward 1	34	25	182	2412	2712	3073
Ward 2	37	57	38	1978	1972	2051
Ward 3	38	132	76	2654	2724	2808
Ward 4	)	***	(	3343	3486	3950
Ward 5	} 54	116	124	1222	1436	1600
Ward 6	36	22	90	2259	2275	2480
Dulwich	3	22	25	604	642	799
				,		
Total Houses at end of year				14472	15247	16756
Total New Houses each year	202	374	535	528	775	1509



### TABLE IV.

Wards	Number of Houses inspected,	Notices issued	Notices issued 2nd.	Summonses,	Drains cleansed and amended.	Drains trapped.	Cess ools emptied.	Gesspools filled up.	Closets provided.	Closets repaired.	Houses cleansed.	Houses repaired.	Water supplied to premises.	Water receptacles provided.	Butts and cisterns covered.	Butts and cisterns cleansed	Dust-bins provided.	Yards paved.	Miscellaneous nuisances attended to.	Notices outstanding at end of year.	Cow-houses inspected.	Slaughter- houses inspected	Bake-houses inspected,
3 & 6	1373	313	11	2	51	103	115	94	94	0	160	58	4	21	20	25	31	8		21			27
1	1592	259	37	4	162	162	306	197	221	0	128	40	65	60	82	32	18	42		13			20
2 & 4	1361	297	91	4	643	444	223	272	192	0	64	32	3	22	120	21	57	17		37			38
5	1268	375	64	5	30	326	336	319	318	22	189	131	0	12	172		206	7		46			20
Total	5594	1244	203	15	886	1035	980	882	825	22	541	261	72	115	394	78	312	74	1330	117	60	52	105

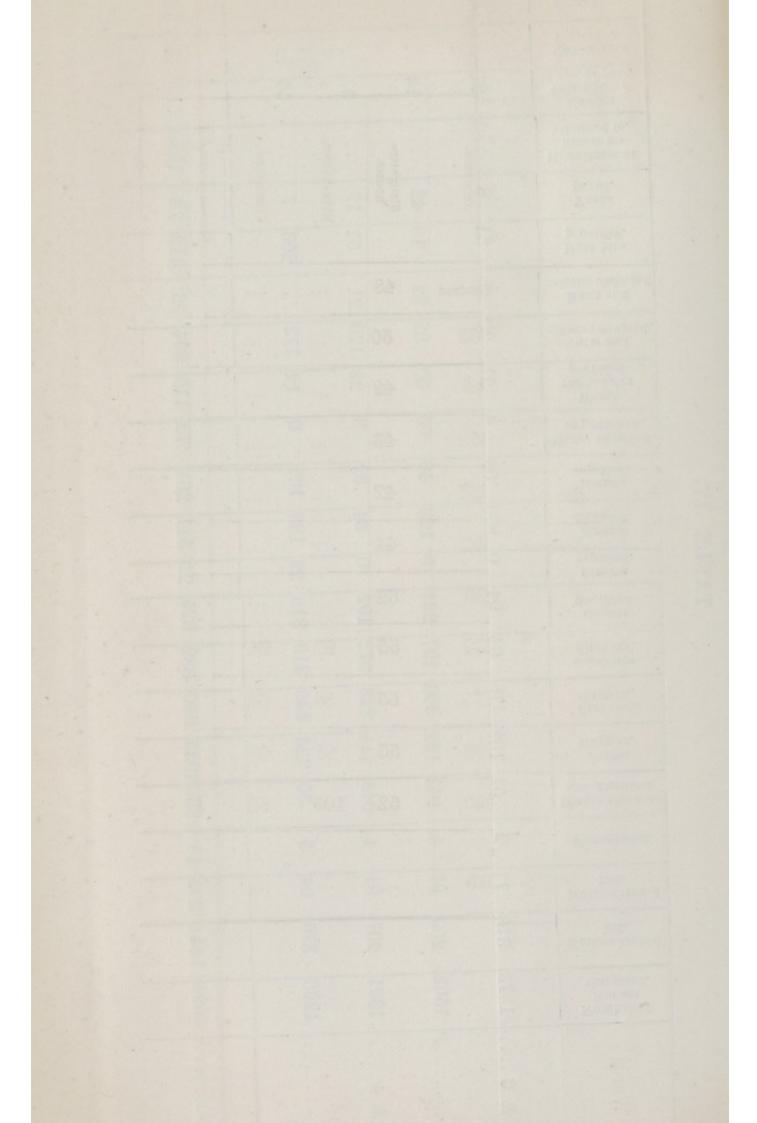
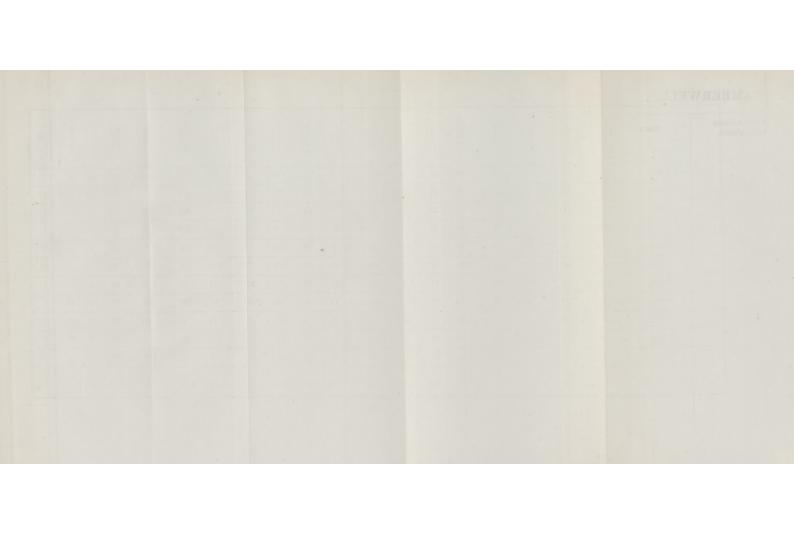


TABLE V.

		Houses Inspected.	1st Notice.	2nd Notice.	Summons	Houses eleansed and whitewashed,	Houses repaired,	Water supplied.	Butta provided, cleansed or covered.	Yards, &c., pared.	Dust-bins provided.	Drains cleaned, trapped, &c.,	Cesspools emptiod.	Cesspools abolished,	Water-Closets provided.	Miscellanous numbers	Shughter- houses.	Bake-bouses.	Cow-houses.	Notices outstanding at end of year.
(15 n	onths) 1856-7	2313	Not recorded-	116	3	278	27	49	Not recorded	172	not recorded.	895	135	531	704	Not recorded	48			10
	1857-8	2594	596	82	Not recorded.	171	21	148	ditto	74	41	635	228	336	324	755	50			- 8
46	1858-9	2557	512	17	ditto	286	51	86	ditto	62	85	189	888	188	177	567	49			2
0	1859-60	2374	382	25	6	280	79	140	ditto	50	56	307	274	120	118	1358	43			8
	1860-1	2100	404	20	5	237	48	201	ditto	40	48	425	495	179	145	1623	42			1
	1861-2	1953	362	22	13	268	29	180	ditto	42	25	232	427	149	102	1402	44			1
	1862-3	1374	309	87	22	241	78	140	ditto	61	20	473	309	114	93	1280	52			1
	1863-4	1393	274	19	13	134	41	80	ditto	52	8	229	281	68	137	983	55	82	64	1
	1864-5	1454	306	13	8	193	88	166	ditto	97	0	132	281	62	45	874	55	84	64	
	1865-6	1467	372	24	12	189	54	99	ditto	74	5	625	492	324	290	893	55	88	68	4
N.	1866-7	5594	1244	203	15	541	261	72	587	74	812	1921	980	882	825	1330	52	105	60	1
	Total	25178	over 4761	578	over 97	2818	717	1361		798	over 600	6063	4184	2953	2960	over 11,015	11.	***		



Form A

# PARISH OF ST. GILES, CAMBERWELL.

No.	Date.	Situation and Nature of Nuisance.	Name and Address of Complainant.	Remarks.



										St. G	liles,	_ We	ekly I	Return	of Sa	nitary	Inspe	ctions.									
Disce				General St	tate of Ho	1000.	Y	ards and			ter Roos				Sale and D	_		Complaints.		Ventilation			Lodgmen	of Ismates,			Remarks.
No of House.	NAME O	F PLAC	E.	Clessificas ?	Repair ?	Removal of Dust.	Dry?	Clean !	Pared P	What?	Where?	Condition	Cempool	Offensive smell, or obstruction	Deficiency of Water	Untrapped sinks or drains?	Of externa sulsances	al Of nuisano 7 in house	Windows.	Whether room for lower for top landing?	No. of inhabited rooms?	No. of separate holdings	In which holding, we recent deat or illness)	No. of pre- sentiameter of such holding?	Henr.	Owner.	Occupio

Form B.



### St. Giles, Camberwell.-List of Orders recommended for Issue.

Houses or Premises.	Clean Lime	se and -wash ;	rubbish,	Pave yard, cellar, or open space.	needful	o premises, th all apparatus;	Fill craspool, complete works of drain- age and water	trap drains or	Conduct waste-water to underground	Water to privies, with all needful apparatus and with all required amendment of privirs and drainage;	Ventilate passage, room, or staircase.	Miscellancous.	Number of days allowed.
	partly	wholly	refuse.		provide.	re-instate.	supply.	sinks.	drains.	provide. re-instate.	Autresse.		
								1					



	anoptetor's Repor	rt under Nuisance Removal Act,	1000, and metropolitan Local	Manager	nent Act 18 &	19 Vic., cap.	. 120, a	nd Amen	dment, 1862.	
o. of Notice.	Impretor's Report.	Situation.	Defects needing remedy.	Date,	Notice to whom addressed.	No. of Days allowed,	Denins trapped. Closets	Hoses cleaned.	emptired, Water supplited. Dreitse Cleaned and Amended.	Final disposal of



# REPORT

ON

# CHOLERA.

# SPECIAL REPORT ON CHOLERA.

Gentlemen,

It is now matter of history, that Asiatic cholera, which had for some time been threatening us, appeared in London in the early part of last July, and prevailed in London in an epidemic form from that time until the latter part of November.

The gradual convergence of this disease from various parts of the continent towards this country, during the earlier part of the year 1865, and especially its appearance in the autumn of that year in Southampton and the neighbourhood, followed by a small but pecularly intense outbreak in the vicinity of the metropolis itself, rendered it exceedingly probable that, even if we escaped a visitation of the disease in 1865, we should still experience one in the course of the year immediately following.

In the winter of 1865-66, cholera appeared to have entirely disappeared from this country; but its poison had been introduced into it, and might still be here, though in a quiescent condition; further, the disease still prevailed on the continent, and still threatened us from all sides. Early in the year 1866, it was again introduced into

England. It was brought by emigrants (en route from Germany to America) into Liverpool, and by shipping into Southampton, Llanelly, and other seaport towns. The details of these and other cases it is not my purpose now to discuss: but the successive outbreaks of cholera in various seaport towns, rendered it more and more probable that London (also a seaport town) would not long escape.

I think it may be certainly said that, with the exception of a few cases of persons coming from infected places abroad with the choleraic poison in their system, few if any cases of genuine epidemic cholera were met with in London in the course of the year 1865. Diarrhœa it is true was unusually fatal during the summer months, but the excess of mortality from this disease was probably due alone to the excessive heat of the season. During the first 6 months too of the year 1866, there was nothing whatever in the mortuary returns of the metropolis, to create alarm In June, indeed, diarrhœa was far less fatal than it had been in the June of 1865, and deaths ascribed to cholera were also less numerous by nearly one-half.

In the week ending July 7th, 14 deaths from cholera and choleraic diarrhœa were registered; but that number was scarcely ominous. In the corresponding week of the previous year 12 choleraic deaths had been registered. From this week however to that ending August 4th, cholera increased with terrible rapidity; the deaths from cholera in the 5 weeks embraced within this period

being successively 14, 32, 346, 904, and 1053. The epidemic had then attained its height; and during the next 5 weeks it diminished almost as remarkably as it had previously increased; the weekly deaths from it being consecutively 781, 455, 265, 198, 157. During the next 7 weeks (including the last 3 weeks of September, and the 4 weeks of October) the mortality from cholera presented but little weekly variation, the deaths for each successive week being respectively 182, 150, 177, 182, 207, 144, and 112. In the course of November the epidemic gradually left us; during the four weeks terminating within this month the deaths fell from 73 to 67, from 67 to 32, and from 32 to 8. A few cholera-deaths were still registered throughout December; but the numbers were so trifling as to render it extremely doubtful whether any of them were dependent on the influence of the true choleraic poison.

Altogether 5563 persons died of cholera in London, from the commencement of June until the end of December. During the same period 2861 persons were cut off by diarrhea. (See Tables I. and II.)

The late epidemic pressed with very different degrees of severity on the different parts of the metropolis. Indeed, it can only be said to have been really severe in the Eastern districts In them it originated as an epidemic disease, and it attained in them gigantic proportions, while there was still but little of it elsewhere in London; of the total number of cholera deaths given above, no less than 3925 occurred in this section of the metropolis. Indeed

had it not been for the remarkable outburst of the disease in these districts, lasting with intensity for a period of 5 or 6 weeks, the weekly mortality in London from cholera would scarcely in any week of the epidemic have exceeded 200, and would in most weeks have been considerably less. (See Tables I. and II.)

The deaths from cholera and from diarrhæa, from the beginning of June until the end of December, in the several groups of districts into which London is divided, were as follows:—

*West (wi	th a	population	estimated at	511258)	Cholera 187	Diar. 404	Total. 591
North (	17	"	11	686021)	413	579	992
Central (	11		и	359219)	328	390	718
East (	u		и	607945)	3925	861	4786
South (	lt.		e	873548)	710	627	1337

It will be seen from this table, that more persons died from cholera in the Southern districts, than died in any other of the groups of districts, with the exception of the Eastern; but the mortality of the Southern districts in proportion to population was less than that of the Central districts, and not much in excess of that of the Northern. The cholera death-rate however for South London would have been considerably less, had the Greenwich district (including Greenwich, Deptford and Woolwich) been excluded from computation; for in this district no less than 282 deaths from cholera occur-

<sup>\*</sup> The estimates of population, which are for the middle of 1866, are taken from the Registrar General's returns.

red, leaving for the rest of the Southern districts a total cholera-mortality of 428 only.

The following is a list of the Southern districts of London, with their respective total choleraic and diarrheal mortalities.

*	Estimated Population in middle of 1866.	Deaths from Cholera.	Deaths from Diarrhœa	Total.	Proportion of combined Deaths in 10,000 Population.
St. Saviour's	36422	31	37	68	. 18.7
St. Olave's	18914	20	17	37	19.6
Bermondsey	64310	33	75	108	16.8
St. George's	57498	38	39	77	13.4
Newington	92680	26	45	71	7.7
Lambeth	174904	113	158	271	15.5
Wandsworth	82979	40	59	99	11.9
Camberwell	81818	46	54	100	12.2
Rotherhithe	28767	26	13	39	13.6
Greenwich	144836	282	91	373	25.7
Lewisham	90420	55	34	89	9.8

The above figures shew that while, as regards mortality from cholera, Newington holds very decidedly the lowest place, and Greenwich even more decidedly the highest

<sup>\*</sup> The estimates of population, which are for the middle of 1866, are taken from the Registrar General's returns.

place, Camberwell, occupies an intermediate, but comparatively low, position. The same holds good of the combined mortality from cholera and diarrhœa.

The first fatal case of cholera in the Parish of Camberwell occurred on the 13th July, at 60, Waterloo Street. This was in the week ending Saturday, July 14th, when the number of cholera-deaths in London amounted to 32. In the next week (that ending July 21st) 7 deaths were ascribed to cholera in Camberwell. This was the week in which the cholera-mortality in London amounted to 346. In the week ending July 28th, the deaths from cholera in Camberwell, were 9 in number. During the same week there were 904 cholera-deaths registered in the whole of London. In the next week, during which cholera attained its height in London, there were only 3 deaths from this disease in our Parish. And in the next 3 weeks severally one only. In the week ending September the 1st, there were 5 deaths from cholera; in that ending September 8th, 4; in that ending September, 15th, 4; in that ending September 29th, 2; in that ending October 6th, 3; in that ending October 13th, 1; in that ending November 3rd, 1; in that ending November 10th, 2; and in that ending November 17th, 1. Since which time there have been no deaths from cholera. (See Tables III and IV.

It is not presented that the above enumeration represents all the cases of cholera which occurred in the Parish; but it is as accurate a list as possible of all the cases that proved fatal. Yet even in this sense it must not be taken

as expressing the exact truth; for on the one hand it includes all cases returned as English cholera, summer cholera, and choleraic diarrhœa, which may or may not have been cases of the epidemic disease; while on the other hand it is by no means improbable that some of the deaths ascribed to diarrhœa may have been really due to the influence of the choleraic poison. This consideration is not altogether unimportant, for I have reason to believe that some of the comparatively numerous deaths ascribed to cholera in our parish, during the earlier weeks of the epidemic, were not really due to epidemic cholera.

Of most of the cases which occurred prior to the 28th July, and of a few that occurred subsequently to this date, I heard nothing until I received information through the Registrar General's returns. And in consequence of this want of information, most of the early cases were insufficiently investigated, and little was done to arrest the spread of disease from them.

Most of the cases which occurred in this Parish were more or less isolated cases with little or no disposition to spread. (See Table VIII.) But there were also several groups of cases, which in a medical point of view were highly interesting and significant. The first of these groups occurred in the family of a fishmonger, living at 175, Camberwell Road. In this case, 3 children died of cholera, 2 on the 14th, and 1 on the 21st July. The premises had been kept, we were told, in an uncleanly state: but when they were inspected, they were perfectly clean, and their drainage and water supply were in

proper condition. The second group occurred at No. 6, Charles Street, Melon Ground. Here a baker, his wife and child, died of cholera on the 23rd, 25th and 27th July respectively. In this case the premises were not drained, the portion of the Parish in which they are situated not being at that time sewered; water however was supplied by one of the water companies. The third group of cases was that which occurred in Stockwell Street. The first case of this series was that of a boy who died on the 16th August, at 9, Little Stockwell Street. The second fatal case (that of a garden labourer, aged 31) occurred at 10, Stockwell Street, on the 24th. On the 26th and 27th respectively a woman and her child (who had removed since the 24th from No. 10) died at 14, Stockwell Street; and on the 30th, another death took place at No 10. On the 29th and 31st respectively, 2 deaths took place at 9, Stockwell Street. On September 5th, a woman died at 2, Little Stockwell Street; on the 8th, a child died at 7, Stockwell Street; and on the same day, one at No 9; lastly, on the 18th, a woman died at No. 2. Stockwell Street comprises about 40 four-roomed houses, occupied and for the most part over-crowded, by Irish labourers and their families. The houses were generally in bad sanitary condition, but they were all more or less perfectly drained, and were all supplied with water from the Kent Water Works. It will be observed that the disease, and the mortality which it occasioned, were limited almost exclusively to the occupants of some 3 or 4 houses. The fourth group occurred at Foster's Buildings, Neate

Street. There had been several cases of diarrhœa (of which one had proved fatal) in this locality; and on the 1st and 7th November respectively, two children of one family died of cholera at No. 6. The houses in Foster's Buildings had water laid on, were well drained, and in fair sanitary condition. The fifth group was that of which one case only appears in our own returns. It occurred at 5, Oxford Terrace, Lyndhurst Road, in a house perfectly well drained, and supplied with water, situated in a salubrious part of the Parish, and in the neighbourhood of which there had not been any previous appearance of cholera. On the morning of the 12th November, a baby which had been ailing with diarrhœa was found dead in its bed. It had died of cholera. During the next 2 or 3 days the mother and 2 of her children were attacked with the same disease, and removed to Guy's Hospital, where on the 17th and 18th November they all died. Four surviving children were, on the 15th, removed to the Workhouse, where in the course of a day or two, 2 were seized with symptoms of cholera, from which however they recovered.

Of the total number of cholera-deaths registered in Camberwell, 11 occurred in the Camberwell sub-district, 15 in that of St. George's, and 20 in that of Peckham. Dulwich escaped. I may add that of 54 fatal cases of diarrhæa, 8 were returned from Camberwell, 22 from St. George's, and 24 from Peckham. (See Tables III. and 1V)

In my report to the Vestry on the 6th of June, in anticipation of the advent of cholera, I recommended that an additional inspector should be temporarily appointed.

This recommendation was adopted, and the appointment of Mr. Cooper to the post was confirmed at the ensuing vestry meeting.

On Saturday, the 21st July, the Privy Council, in virtue of the powers vested in them by the 5th clause of the Diseases' Prevention Act, 1855, issued directions to the Vestries and Boards of the Metropolis. The fact that the order in council had been issued was first made known to the Vestry and to myself by means of the daily papers early in the following week; but already I had, after consultation with the Vestry Clerk, got a Special Meeting of the Sewers and Sanitary Committee called for the evening of the 27th. The order in council was fully discussed at that meeting, and a scheme of action, in accordance with the directions contained in that order, was drawn up to be presented to a Special Meeting of the Vestry, convened for the purpose of considering it on the 31st.

At this meeting it was determined, with the object of carrying out the order in council:—first, that a printed bill, giving brief hygienic directions with regard to cholera and diarrhea, should be extensively circulated:—2nd, that a circular letter (together with a sufficient number of printed forms and stamped envelopes) which had already been prepared, should be sent to all the Medical Practitioners living in the Parish, requesting them to give daily information in regard to the occurrence of cholera and of diarrhea: 3rd, that the vestrymen of each ward should act as a committee for their own ward, in order to

carry out therein the sanitary requirements of the order in council. The Vestry thus divided itself into 6 ward-committees.

On the 2nd and 3rd August these committees met at the Vestry Hall, and arranged as far as possible their plans of action. The committees decided to meet as often as circumstances might require, to take upon themselves for the time being the supervision of all the sanitary work of their respective districts, and to have their head quarters at conveniently situated places, at each of which a special complaint book was to be kept.

No. 1 Committee met at the National Schools, New Church Road.

No. 2 " the British Schools, at the rear of Oakley Terrace, Old Kent Road.

No. 3 " the Vestry Hall.

No. 4 " the Infant Schools, Arthur Street, Old Kent Road,

No. 5 " the British Schools, High Street, Peckham.

No. 6 " the Vestry Hall.

Either at these preliminary meetings, or very shortly afterwards, the ward-committees nominated gentlemen to act, if they should be called upon to do so, as Medical Visitors within their respective wards. The gentlemen thus nominated were:—for No. 1 ward, Mr. Hague: for No. 2, ward, Dr. Johnson: for No. 3 ward, Mr. F. Chabôt: for No. 4 ward, Dr. Simpson: for No. 5 ward, Dr. Blomfield and Mr. Philp: and for No. 6 ward, Dr. Pinder, Dr. Sinclair, and Dr. Ray. It was determined that their being called upon to act in each ward should depend on the character of the daily returns of health for that ward. Each ward-

committee also entered into arrangements with certain gentlemen having surgeries, to provide at their surgeries cholera-medicines and disinfectants, to be dispensed gratuitously night and day to all applicants. For the most part the gentlemen nominated to act as visitors, were appointed also to provide medicines, &c. gratuitously; an exception being made in the case of Dr. Johnson, whose surgery was not within the district for which he had been nominated visitor. Mr. Baker's shop was therefore selected for the purpose in place of Dr. Johnson's surgery. As soon as the latter appointments had been accepted, printed bills were extensively circulated and posted stating where and on what terms astringent medicines and disinfectants were to be obtained. And these dispensaries were kept open for a period of 10 weeks, which expired on the 23rd October. It should be added that several of the gentlemen, who kept these open dispensaries, attended also cholera and diarrheal patients who applied to them in virtue of their appointment, and that for this extra work extra remuneration was subsequently accorded to them.

The scale of remuneration which was adopted, was as follows:—for Medical Visitor, £1 1s. per diem; for Assistant Medical Visitor, 10s. 6d. per diem; for keeping open dispensary, a retaining fee of £1 1s. per week, with payment for medicine supplied at the rate of from 10s. to 12s. per dozen bottles.

It was not considered necessary to appoint Medical Visitors, excepting in one ward. It is true that early in the epidemic the number of cholera-deaths registered was sufficiently large to excite the fear that an epidemic of the disease was impending over the Parish But this period had already elapsed before the Vestry Meeting (convened in obedience to the directions of the order in council) had taken place. And indeed by the time the committees had assumed active duties, the daily returns of cholera and diarrhea shewed clearly that there was little diarrhea and less cholera in any part of the Parish; and the visits of the Inspectors of Nuisances had proved that, even in the localities in which deaths from cholera had occurred, there was no tendency to spread of disease.

The outbreak of cholera in Stockwell Street rendered it necessary to request Dr. Simpson, who had already been nominated, to assume active duties as Medica Visitor for No. 4 ward. His services commenced on August 16th, before the disease had become epidemic in the Street, and were continued until October 8th, a considerable time after the epidemic had disappeared. Further, since, while cholera was prevailing in Stockwell Street, 2 or 3 other isolated cases of the disease appeared in some of the lower neighbourhoods of the same ward, an assistant visitor was appointed whose services were continued for a period of three weeks.

Shortly after the formation of the committees, the committee of No. 5 Ward appointed (as all the committees had been empowered to do by the Vestry) a special inspector for the sanitary purposes of their own ward. There were thus from the 13th August four Inspectors of Nuisances,

whose duties were thus divided:—one acted for No. 5 ward, one for wards No. 2 and No. 4, one for wards No. 1 and No 6, and one for ward No. 3. The time of the Inspectors was chiefly employed in making house to house inspections, and in seeing that the works ordered to be done in consequence of their reports were efficiently carried out. But they had also much work of another kind to perform. They saw to the disinfection of premises in which cholera had occurred; in fact such disinfection, together with the destruction of soiled bedding and articles of dress, and in many cases the removal and arrangements for the burial of dead bodies, were effected under their supervision. I should add that the services of four Inspectors have been retained for at least another twelve months.

With regard to the measures taken to relieve the sick and the families of the sick, and to prevent the spread of disease, I may state:-1st. that in all our efforts we were warmly seconded and assisted by the Board of Guardians and their employés: -2nd. that in all cases (with the exception of several that occurred during the first two weeks of the epidemic, and a few exceptional ones at a later period) the houses in which deaths from cholera had occurred were disinfected, and the soiled bedding, &c., were burnt, and promptly replaced, or the value of them paid to the survivors; and that in all cases also in which it came to our knowledge that non-fatal cases of cholera had occurred, similar measures were adopted:-3rd. that nourishment, stimulants and other assistance were freely afforded, in many cases not only to the sick but also to the healthy who were living with the sick, and that in one

or two cases nurses were supplied. I may state, in the 4th. place, that one of our earliest efforts was to obtain the use of a suitable building in a central part of the Parish for a Cholera Hospital. There were many difficulties in our way; but at length we found two buildings that might have been available; and I believe that had the necessity arisen we should certainly have obtained permission to use one of them. When however the local epidemic broke out in Stockwell Street, a street which lies at the very border of our Parish, we were anxious to acquire, in the immediate neighbourhood of that Street, a house into which the living might be removed from the infected houses, and a second house which might be used as a small Hospital. But we were unable to obtain one for either purpose. Subsequently a small building connected with a factory was fitted up as a Hospital for 2 or 3 patients; and a railway arch was boarded up and converted into a comfortable habitation capable of holding several families. The former building was never called into use; and into the latter there was some difficulty in persuading the inmates of the infected houses to take up their abode for even a short space of time. When however the last death from cholera took place in Stockwell Street, all the remaining inmates of the infected house were removed there, and (I believe in consequence of their removal) no further case of cholera occurred among them.

The returns of cholera and diarrhea, before referred to, were sent daily to the Vestry Hall by many of the Medical Men of the Parish. And it is right to add that

they proved exceedingly valuable, both in pointing out where cholera had made its appearance, and in convincing us that throughout the whole period of the prevalence of cholera, there was never anything that could be regarded as an epidemic of diarrhea. There were only two or three gentlemen's returns indeed which afforded any evidence at all of unusual prevalence of diarrhœa; and these were returns from practitioners who were either Parish Surgeons, or whose Surgeries were advertised for the gratuitous distribution of medicines, or who served at the same time in both of those capacities, and who therefore especially had those additional cases to deal with, in which the dread of cholera had rendered persons attentive to slight diarrhœal affections which at other times would have been regarded as wholly unimportant.

It is impossible not to compare the late epidemic of cholera in London with former epidemics, and to speculate on the causes which have rendered it so much less fatal than they were, and which have so much modified the distribution of its fatal outbreaks.

It has always happened heretofore, as regards London, that on each occasion when cholera has appeared, there have been two outbreaks occurring in two successive years: of which the first outbreak in the epidemic of 1832-33, the last outbreak in the epidemics of 1848-49 and 1853-54 were the most severe. It has been considered therefore

by many, that this reduplication of the outbreak is a kind of law of the disease, and that hence the same phenomenon will mark the late epidemic, and a recurrence of the outbreak is to be looked for during the present year. There is however no reason that I know of, beyond that derived from our own limited metropolitan experience, why an epidemic of cholera should prevail intermittingly over a period of two years, rather than why it should prevail over a period of one year only, or over a period of three or even four years; and, indeed, in other European countries and capitals, the disease has presented all the above varieties of duration. While therefore I think it quite possible that we may have a renewal of the epidemic this Summer, I think it by no means improbable that we shall escape.

Taking the past year as the equivalent of that year of each of the former epidemics in which the disease was most fatal, it will be seen that the epidemic of last year was much less severe than any which has preceded it. (See Tables V., VI. and VII.) The actual number of fatal cases of cholera recorded in 1832, was, it is true, less by some 300 than the number of such cases recorded last year; but that smaller number was furnished by a very much smaller population, and represents in reality a far heavier mortuary rate. In 1849 and 1854 the mortality was not only relatively but actually much greater than that of 1866. But further, not only was the relative mortality from cholera less in 1866 than in former years, but the cholera field (to use the Registrar General's

expression) had changed. In all former epidemics the South of the metropolis had suffered with disproportionate severity; in this, the Southern districts, with the exception of Greenwich, suffered very slightly; while the Eastern districts alone seemed exposed to the full violence of the epidemic, and experienced a far heavier visitation of the disease than they had ever previously known.

How are these phenomena to be explained? The natural response to this question would doubtless be, that the important sanitary works, which have been in constant progress throughout the metropolis since the beginning of 1856, have placed the metropolis in a better condition generally to repel the attacks of epidemics, and that the machinery of the metropolitan vestries is more successful than that of former bodies in dealing with these epidemics when they do appear among us.

But before a perfectly satisfactory answer can be given to this question, the mode in which the cholera poison is conveyed from the sick to the healthy, so as to impart the disease to the healthy, must be understood. This is not the place to discuss the various theories which have been entertained with regard to the propagation of cholera; but I may call your attention briefly to certain views on this subject which are gaining ground amongst well-informed Physicians, and in which I am disposed to concur.

Observations made during the epidemic of 1854, which were referred to by me in my first annual report, tended to shew that cholera is in a very large degree dependent on the use of water impregnated with sewage; a series of very interesting investigations proved that the distribution of cholera in the South of London particularly was, in a very unmistakable manner, coincident with the distribution by the water companies of highly impure water, and that a very remarkable outbreak of cholera in the neighbourhood of Golden Square was almost entirely dependent on the use of the impure-water of a highly esteemed pump—the Broad Street Pump. Again, it is a very remarkable fact, to which the Registrar General has called special attention, that the outbreak in the East of London, which alone gave to the prevalence of Cholera in London last year the dignity of an epidemic, coincided as nearly as possible with the area supplied by the East London Water Company, and as nearly as can now be ascertained with a time at which that Company improperly distributed water derived from an impure and sewage-infected source. Further, investigations (aided by experiments on some of the lower animals) which were made originally in Germany, and were during the late epidemic repeated and extended in this metropolis, seem to shew almost conclusively that the poison which causes the spread of cholera is contained in the evacuations discharged from the bowels of cholera patients, and that this (little if at all active at the moment when the evacuations are discharged) soon assumes so marvellous a degree of virulence that mere traces of it, mixed with large volumes of water, are capable of rendering that water choler-ific in a very high degree; these investigations seem also to confirm, what had already been suspected by many Physicians, that the infection of cholera is not, like that of typhus and many of the typical forms of infectious

diseases, conveyed by the atmosphere and inhaled into the lungs, but is conveyed by the food and taken into the stomach, upon which and on the bowels it acts as a violent poison.

If these views be correct it is easy to understand many facts about cholera, which have hitherto seemed anomalous and inexplicable; it is easy to understand how it is that Physicians and nurses, and others in attendance on cholera-patients, in cleanly Hospitals, houses and other institutions, so constantly escape the disease, although constantly inhaling their breath and other exhalations: it is easy to understand how, from the accidental admixture of cholera-poison with their water, the disease may be limited to the area which a single Water Company supplies; it is easy to understand how by means of a single pump, which has become by chance infected, an outbreak limited to a house or two only may occur; it is easy to understand how in houses which are overcrowded and uncleanly and among uncleanly persons, especially therefore among the poor, the evacuations from a single case of cholera which has occurred among them may poison their pots and their pans, their persons and their clothes, may thus become mixed with their water and their food, and keep up among them such a continuance of the disease as was experienced in Stockwell Street.

Again, if these views be correct, it shews us that the main reasons why cholera proved so much less serious last year then on former occasions, especially why it proved so much less serious amongst us on the South of the River,

are that our Water Companies derive their water now from a much purer source than they formerly did, from a source infinitely less liable to contain the germs of cholera; and that our sewage, into which the cholera poison of our cholera patients is chiefly thrown, is now carried for the most part to a distance from London, and in a far less degree than formerly is allowed to stagnate in our cesspools and to percolate into our wells. I cannot however doubt that the close attention which was paid in our own Parish and elsewhere in London to all the cases of cholera which came to our knowledge, which enabled us to disinfect evacuations, and to disinfect or destroy articles impregnated with them, and to advise with those who were chiefly exposed to danger, had a very important influence in preventing the spread of the disease.

In conclusion, I should fail I think in my duty if I (who perhaps more than any one else have been in the position to judge of the matter) were not to bear testimony, first, to the admirable way in which the members of the ward-committees performed the important and laborious duties which they had undertaken; second, to the uniform zeal and efficiency displayed by your Inspectors of Nuisances (both the old Inspectors and those more recently appointed) during the whole period of the prevalence of cholera; and lastly, to the valuable assistance so kindly given by the medical practitioners named in the body of this report.

I remain, Gentlemen,

Your obedient Servant,

JOHN S. BRISTOWE, M.D.

January, 1867.



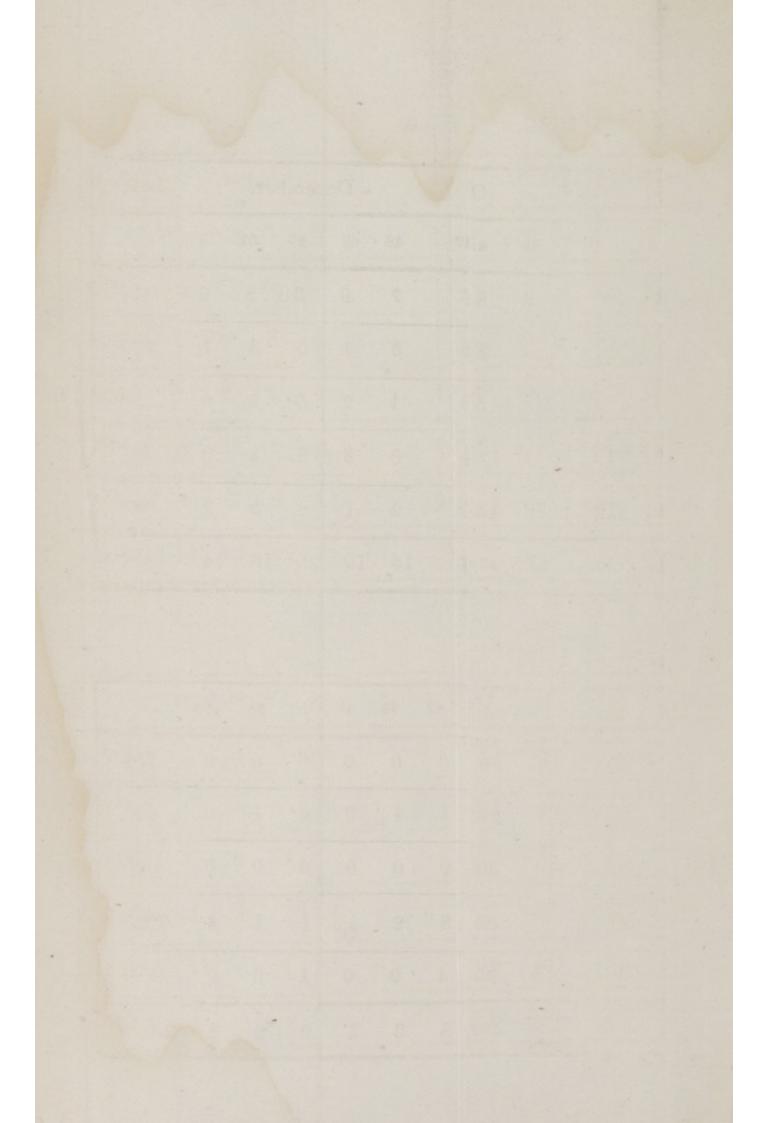


TABLE I.

#### Diarrhœa in London in the last 31 weeks of 1866.

			Ju	ne.				July.			41	Augus	t		S	eptem	ber.			0	tobe	r.		No	vembe	er.		De	cemb	oet.		Total
Number of Week	22	23	34	25	26	27	28	20	30	31	32	33	34	35	36	37	38	39	40	41	42	43	44	45	46	47	48	49	50	51	52	
West Districts	2	7	5	10	11	16	18	37	48	46	31	28	15	12	18	14	11	9	8	8	6	3	4	7	3	6	7	0	3	5	6	404
North Districts	5	6	1	6	20	23	37	54	78	79	51	40	21	24	19	11	19	11	8	3	13	8	5	5	9	5	5	4	5	3	1	579
Central Districts	5	1	4	6	5	18	28	31	44	42	81	22	13	18	14	15	17	17	18	5	8	4	5	3	2	3	1	2	6	2	0	390
East Districts	4	5	6	14	14	26	37	60	123	125	101	63	41	43	44	35	24	18	17	17	11	7	7	7	3	2	0	8	3	1	0	861
South Districts	3	3	4	7	17	19	30	39	56	62	50	41	39	18	37	35	27	12	18	14	17	10	7	11	5	10	2	1	8	5	7	627
London	19	22	20	43	67	102	150	221	349	354	264	194	129	128	132	110	98	67	69	47	55	32	28	33	22	26	15	10	25	16	14	2861

-				_			_					-								-		_			-			-		133.77	-	
Number of Week	22	33	24	25	26	27	28	29	30.	31	32	33	34	33	36	37	38	39	40	41	42	43	44	45	45	47	48	49	50	51	52	
West Districts	0.	2	0	0	2	3	2	11	12	12	8	7	3	6	12	10	14	12	16	30	13	8	3	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	187
North Districts	0	L	0	0	1	1	4	6	20	46	38	15	12	15	20	27	28	86	37	38	35	14	8	7	1	1	1	0	0	1	0	413
Central Districts	0	0	0	0	0	1	3	1	15	32	22	16	18	9	12	20	19	28	81	39	27	14	11	10	5	0	0	0	0	0	0	328
East Districts	1	0	2	0	3	5	20	308	818	916	674	369	198	122	7.4	77	56	55	50	65	84.	26	13	16	14	8	2	1	1	1	1	392
South Districts	1	0	1	1	0	4	3	20	39	47	39	48	39	46	39	48	33	46	48	35	85	50	38	33	12	4	0	0	1	0	0	710
London	2	3	3	1	6	14	32	346	904	1053	781	455	265	198	157	182	150	177	182	207	144	112	78	67	32	8	3	1	2	2	1	556

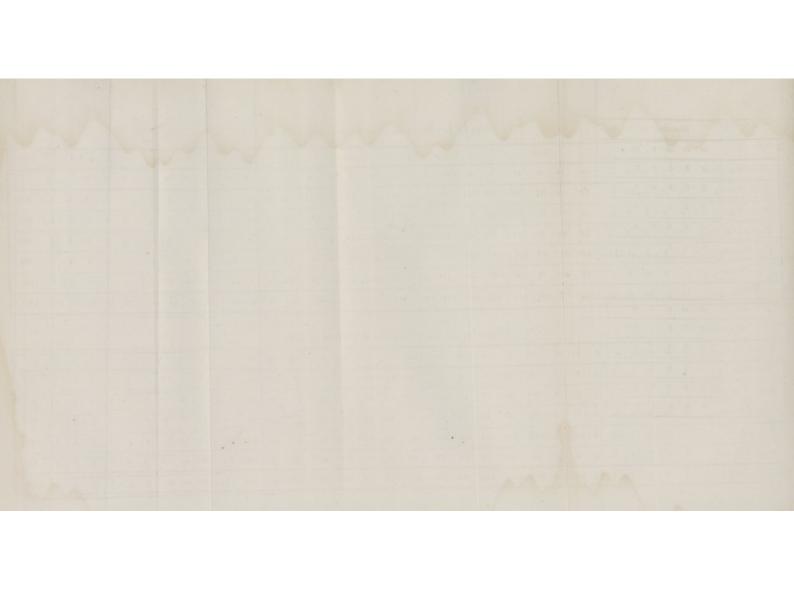


TABLE III.

Diarrhœa in Camberwell in the last 31 weeks of 1866.

		J	une.	T			Ju	ly.			Augu	ıst.			Sept	embe	r.			Octo	ber.		2	Voven	iber.	14		Dec	embe	er.		Total
Number of Week	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	29	30	31	38	33	34	35	36	37	38	39	40	41	42	43	44	45	46	47	48	49	50	51	52	
Dalwich	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Camberwell (Sub-district)	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	2	3	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	8
Peckham	0	0	0	0	0	1	3	1	2	3	1	0	2	1	2	1	1	0	1	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	1	1	1	1	24
St. George's	0	1	0	1	1	1	1	2	4	1	0	1	3	0	1	2	0	0	1	0	0	1	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	22
Camberwell	0	1	0	1	2	2	4	5	9	5	1	1	5	1	3	3	2	0	2	0	0	1	1	1	0	0	0	1	1	1	1	54

TABLE IV.						(	Chol	lera	in C	ambe	erwe	ll in	the	last	t 31	we	eks	of 18	66.													
Number of Week	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	29	30	31	32	33	34	35	36	37	38	39	40	41	42	43	44	45	46	47	48	49	50	51	52	
Dulwich	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Camberwell (Sub-district)	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	3	2	2	0	0	0	0	0	1	.0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	11
Peckham	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	4	0	0	1	. 1	5	4	3	0	0	1	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	20
St. George's	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	4	3	1	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	2	2	0	0	0	1	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	15
Camberwell	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	7	9	8	1	1	1	5	4	4	0	2	3	1	0	0	1	2	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	46

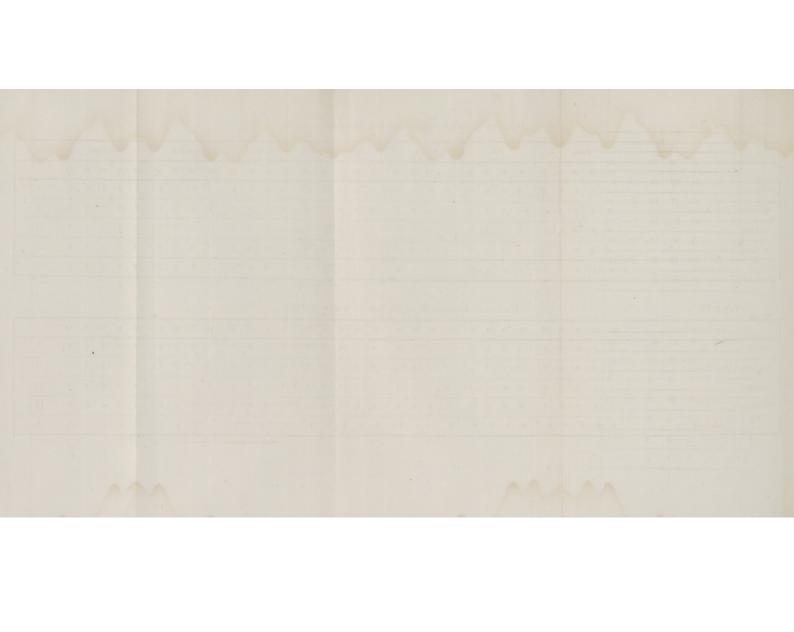


TABLE V.

#### Diarrhœa in London in last 31 weeks of the following years of Cholera-epidemics.

			June				Ju	ly.				August,				Septer	nber.			Oct	ober.			Nov	ember.				Decer	nber.	
Number of Week	23	23	94	25	26	27	28	29	30	31	32	33	34	35	36	37	38	39	40	41	49	43	44	45	46	47	48	49	50	51	52
1848	15	17	21	35	42	57	64	94	173	141	110	81	63	79	61	42	46	44	47	37	23	38	38	26	26	27	24	20	24	15	30
1849	16	20	36	17	30	46	89	131	224	179	173	188	240	234	272	280	238	163	135	91	51	42	31	25	21	16	17	17	14	13	9
1853	21	23	24	33	28	34	54	73	81	110	139	126	137	152	131	78	89	69	71	51	45	41	38	45	36	30	30	31	34	27	18
1854	22	31	31	38	25	32	46	58	84	142	195	192	214	243	276	232	190	165	98	102	78	46	33	35	31	21	19	19	25	20	16
1865	38	44	93	187	184	301	267	280	252	207	201	116	115	89	90	85	83	92	81	51	62	48	61	37	32	28	24	17	27	17	12
1866	19	22	20	43	67	102	150	221	349	354	264	194	129	128	132	110	98	67	69	47	55	32	28	33	22	26	15	10	25	16	14

Table VI. Cholera in London in last 31 weeks of the following years of Cholera-epidemics.

Number of Week.	22	23	24	25	28	97	28	29	30	31	32	33	84	35	36	37	38	39	40	41	42	43	44	45	46	47	48	49	50	51	52
1848	1	2	5	0	3	7	9	21	26	21	19	17	7	7	7	6	7	4	13	30	45	34	65	62	54	34	20	21	29	31	30
1849	9	22	42	49	124	152	339	678	783	926	823	1230	1272	1663	2026	1682	839	434	288	110	41	25	11	6	8	2	1	0	1	1	0
1853	1	0	0	3	0	0	3	6	9	4	19	10	18	16	7	16	29	48	66	45	83	96	102	98	72	46	46	28	13	11	10
1854	2	1	1	1	0	1	5	26	133	399	644	729	847	1287	2050	1549	1284	754	411	249	163	66	31	23	12	8	7	5	2	3	2
1865	1	1	3	11	11	12	11	18	23	19	11	12	6	4	9	4	3	4	5	2	4	4	2	2	0	0	2	0	0	0	1
1866	2	3	3	1	6	14	32	346	904	1053	781	455	265	198	157	182	150	177	I82	207	144	112	73	67	32	8	3	1	2	2	1

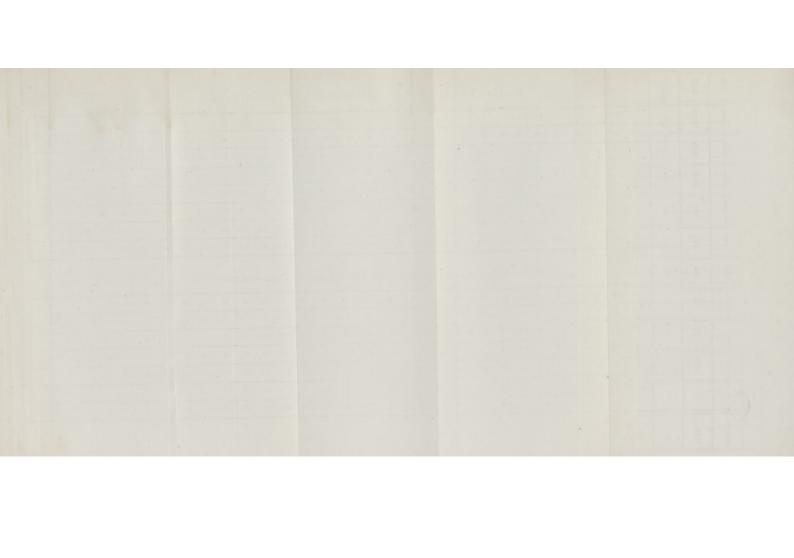


TABLE VII.

Cholera in London, in its 5 Groups of Districts, and in Camberwell, in the Cholera-Epidemic years 1832-3, 1849, 1854 and 1866.

	Dulwich.	Camberwell Sub-District.	Peckham.	St. George's.	Camberwell.	West Dist.	North.	Central.	East.	South.	London.
*1832-3	?	P	?	2	107	848	632	1140	1720	2196	6536
1849	1	235	176	92	504	1223	956	1724	3097	7137	14137
1854	0	245	133	175	553	2051	779	644	1509	<b>57</b> 55	10738
1866	0	11	20		46	188	417	329	3931	712	5577

<sup>\*</sup>Note.—The figures in this line are derived from Mr. Grainger's Report to the General Board of Health, on the epidemic Cholera of 1848 and 1849. The returns for the epidemic of 1832-33 are neither accurate nor consistent. It would seem that the total number of Cholera-deaths during the two years was 6729, of which 5272 occurred in 1832, and 1454 in 1833.

### TABLE VIII

## FATAL CHOLERA-CASES IN CAMBERWELL,

Registered in week ending:

July 7th ....

July 14th

July '21st

Nil.

- 60, Waterloo Street, July 13th, a Carrier, aged 47 years, "Cholera (18 hours)"
- 25, Providence Place, Wyndham Road, July 13th, Widow of Brewer's Servant, aged 72 years, "Summer Cholera or Diarrhoea (12 hours)"
- 269, Camberwell New Road, July 19th, a Freeholder, aged 74 years, "English Cholera (exhaustion) (27 hours)"
- 32, New Church Road, July 20th, Son of Carpenter, aged 5 years "Cholera, (10 hours)"
- 151, Camberwell Road, July 14th, Widow of Cabinetmaker, aged 76 years, "Cholera (25 hours)"
- 175, Camberwell Road, July 14th, Son of Fishmonger, aged 2½ years, "Cholera (36 hours)"
- 175, Camberwell Road, July 14th, Daughter of Fishmonger, aged 7 years, "Cholera (10 hours)"
- 2, Victoria Place, Old Kent Road, July 18th, Son of Labourer, aged 1 year, "Choleraic Diarrhœa"
- 10, Champion Terrace, Grove Lane, July 25th, Wife of Builder, aged 55 years, "Malignant Cholera (48 hours)"
- Hanover House, Brunswick Road, July 28th, Commercial Clerk, aged 26 years "Cholera (112 hours)"
- 6, Charles Street, Peckham, July 23rd, Son of Baker, aged 11 years, "Cholera."
- 6, Charles Street, Peckham, July 25th, Wife of Baker aged 47 years, "Cholera."
- 6, Charles Street, Peckham, July 27th, Baker, aged 48 years, "Cholera"

July 28th ..

July 28th ..

- 6, Acorn Terrace, Meeting-house Lane, July 26th, Son of Coffee-house Keeper, aged 4 months, "Choleraic-Diarrhœa"
- 175, Camberwell Road, July 21st. Daughter of Fishmonger, aged 6 years "Cholera (24 hours) secondary Fever (8 days)"
- 3, Thomas Street, Wyndham Road, July 22nd, Son of Bricklayer's Labourer, aged 5 months, "Choleraic Diarrhœa and vomiting (8 days) collapse (3 days)"
- 14A, John Street, Albany Road, July 27th, Wife of Grocer, aged 66 years, "Diarrhoea (1 day) Cholera Asiatica (2 days)"

8, York Place, Denmark Street, July 20th, Wife of Mercantile Clerk, aged 55 years, "Cholera (30 hours)"

- 2, Little Queen Street, August 3rd, Son of General Labourer, 7 years, "Spasmodic Cholera (12 hours)"
- 51, Neste Street, August 3rd, Copper-plate Printer, 27 years, "Diarrhœa (2 days) Cholera Maligna (12 hours)"
- 1, Nelson Street, Wyndham Road, August 8th, Female 6 months, "Choleraic Diarrhoea"
- 9, Little Stockwell Street, Old Kent Road, August 16th, Son of Railway-coach-maker, 6 years, "Cholera (8 hours)"
- Stockwell Street, Old Kent Road. August 24th, Gardenlabourer, 31 years, "Cholera (39 hours)"
- 14, Stockwell Street, Old Kent Road, August 26th, Wife of Garden-labourer, 30 years, "Malignant Cholera"
- 14, Stockwell Street, Old Kent Road, August 27th,
  Daughter of Labourer, 11 weeks, "Cholera (16
  hours)"
- 9, Stockwell Street, Old Kent Road, August 29th, Female, 6 months, "Cholera (36 hours)"
- 10, Stockwell Street, Old Kent Road, August 30th, Son of Garden-labourer, 7 years, "Cholera (48 hours)"
- 9, Stockwell Street, Old Kent Road, August 31st, Bricklayer's Labourer, 35 years, "Cholera (14 hours)"
- 10, Alpha Street, September 3rd, Bricklayer's Labourer, 24 years, "Cholera (24 hours)"
- 2, Little Stockwell Street, Old Kent Road, September 5th, Wife of Engineer's Labourer, 44 years, "Cholera (3 days)"

August 4th ..

August 11th ..

August 18th..

August 25th .

Sept. 1st....

Sept. 8th ..

Sept. 8th	9, Grove Place, Bell-garden Road, September 6th, Navvy, 22 years, "Cholera (60 hours)"
	7, Stockwell Street, Old Kent Road, September 8th, Son of Navvy, 3 months, "Cholera"
Sept. 15th	3, Christiana Place, Victoria Road, September 12th, Wife of Plumber, 62 years, "Cholera"
	9, Stockwell Street, Old Kent Road, September 8th, Daughter of Labourer, 10 years, "Cholera (4 days)"
	Amwell Cottage, Park Road, September 9th, Son of Merchant, 8 years, "Derangement of Liver, term- inating in Cholera (5 days)"
	2, Stockwell Street, Old Kent Road, September 15th, Widow of Labourer, 40 years "Chelera (11 hours)"
Sept. 22nd	Nil.
Sept. 29th	5, Southampton Street, September 21st, Wife of Fund- holder, 74 years, "Choleraic Diarrhoea (6 days)"
	119, New Church Road, September 23rd, Dock-clerk, 26 years, "Cholera (8 hours) Diarrhoea (3 days)"
October 6th.	3, Pitt Street, October 2nd, Daughter of Wine-cooper, 11 years, "Cholera (10 hours)"
	11, Boyton Place, New Church Road, September 30th, Son of Painter and Glazier, 5 years, "Cholera (18 hours)
	13, Alfred Terrace, Rotherhithe New Road, September 29th, Labourer, 57 years, "Cholera"
October 13th .	2, Woodbine Cottages, Middle Street, Navvy, 25 years "Cholera"
October 20th .	Nil.
October 27th .	Nel.
Nov. 3rd	6, Foster's Buildings, Neate Street, November 1st, Daughter of Twine-spinner, 4 years, "Cholera (18 hours)"
Nov. 10th	16, Picton Street, November 5th, Daughter of Lamplighter, 3 years, "Cholera (30 hours)"
	6, Foster's Buildings, Neate Street, November 7th, Son of Twine-spinner, 10 months, "Cholera (3 days)"
Nov. 17th	5, Oxford Terrace. Lyndhurst Road, November 12th, Daughter of Flour-salesman, 14 months, "Choleraic Diarrhœa"