

Inquiry into the treatment, condition and mortality of infant children in the workhouse of the North Dublin Union.

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I N Q U I R Y

INTO THE

TREATMENT, CONDITION, AND MORTALITY,

OF

INFANT CHILDREN,

IN THE WORKHOUSE OF THE

NORTH DUBLIN UNION.

Presented to both Houses of Parliament by Command of Her Majesty.

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1842.

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LETTER from GEORGE NICHOLLS, *Esq.*, *Poor Law Commissioner*, to SIR JAMES
GRAHAM, *Bart.*, *Secretary of State for the Home Department*, &c., &c., &c.

Poor Law Commission Office, Dublin,
19th January, 1842.

SIR,

I HAVE the honor to forward for your information, a Copy of the Evidence taken, and also Copies of the Reports of Mr. Hall and Mr. Phelan, and of Drs. Kennedy and Corrigan, in reference to the Treatment, Condition, and Mortality of the Infant Children in the North Dublin Union Workhouse.

I venture to hope that the result of this Inquiry will be satisfactory: and I have the honor to remain,

SIR,

Your very obedient

Faithful Servant,

GEORGE NICHOLLS.

To the Right Honorable

SIR JAMES GRAHAM, BART.,

&c., &c., &c.

REPORT to the POOR LAW COMMISSIONERS.—By RICHARD HALL, Esq.,
Assistant Poor Law Commissioner.

Dublin, 20th January, 1842.

GENTLEMEN,

It appeared expedient, in consequence of statements published early in December last, relative to the Mortality which had occurred among the infant children in the North Dublin Union Workhouse, that an Investigation should be made into the accuracy of those statements, and into the real circumstances of the case.

It was accordingly determined that I should publicly examine such persons as were competent to give evidence on the facts, and on the accommodation and treatment of the children; and that, as the Inquiry would necessarily touch upon many points of a medical character, Mr. Phelan should give me his assistance.

On the 10th December we commenced our examination of witnesses, and closed it on the evening of the 18th, having been engaged in it the greater part of seven days, and having examined the Master, Matron, Assistant Master, and Medical Officers of the Workhouse, as well as several Members of the Board of Guardians.

I carried on the Investigation in the Board Room of the Workhouse; and in order to obtain a faithful report of the proceedings, I engaged a professional short-hand writer, who was instructed to take down every question and answer, verbatim. Reporters for Newspapers were also in attendance; and I interposed no obstacle to their admission, or to that of any other person who might wish to be present, only making it a condition that the publication of the Evidence should not commence until the Investigation should be closed.

The Investigation was protracted to a length which I did not anticipate; but I thought it right to allow it to take as extensive a range as other persons might consider to be desirable (so that it did not become an Inquiry into other Institutions, with which I conceived we had nothing to do) and to permit any Member of the Board of Guardians freely to question the witnesses; and I did not terminate the Investigation until I was assured that I had given "every fair latitude in the examination of witnesses that could possibly have been expected from me in my official capacity."—(See *Minutes of Evidence, December, 18.*)

The following observations are drawn up with reference to the document which accompanies them, containing all the questions and answers, as taken down by the short-hand writer engaged for that purpose; the queries are numbered throughout, and I have referred to them by that means.

The circumstances that more immediately gave rise to the Investigation were as follows:—In pursuance of a resolution (928*) passed by the Board of Guardians on the 24th November, upon the motion of Mr. Roper, an inquiry was instituted by the Board into the facts alleged. In that resolution it was asserted and assumed, that of 100 infants admitted into the Workhouse between the 11th May, 1840, and the 1st May, 1841, 94 were in good health at the time of their admission, which assertion or assumption was, notwithstanding the subsequent Inquiry, brought before the public and commented on as matter of fact. It was stated in the course of the Inquiry by Dr. Duncan, one of the Medical Officers of the Workhouse, and his statement was supported by arithmetical computations, that the mortality among the children under two years of age, in the Workhouse, had been for one year upwards of 63 per cent. (848 to 860, 862 to 865). This statement not being disproved upon the Inquiry, as it might have been, was also received as matter of fact, and coupling it with the assertion before mentioned, concerning the health of the children, it was currently said, that of 100 children admitted into the Workhouse, of whom only 6 were unhealthy upon their admission, 63 had died in the course of a year. This result was at once perceived by those who were conversant with the facts, to be so wide a variation from the true state of the case, that it was felt to be absolutely necessary to prosecute the Inquiry, beyond the point to which the Guardians had conducted it.

But besides these, several other statements were reported in the Newspapers to have been made in the course of the same Inquiry, in order to account for the assumed excessive mortality, the incorrectness of which was immediately apparent to such persons as are acquainted with the Workhouse, but could not be so to the public at large;—such as, that the day-room occupied by the mothers and infants was "perfectly without light," (494, 495, 496), and "under the level of the ground," (497, 498); that the new day-rooms were "not fit for any purposes of human beings," (678 to 688). As an instance of the improper crowding of the dormitories, it was stated that on a certain night, 113 persons, nurses and infants, had slept in one room. From what was elicited on the same occasion, it was inferred by some of the Guardians that children could not be reared in the Workhouse at all, and that the only safe and proper mode of relieving destitute children, was to send them to nurse in the country. Mr. Arkins is reported to have stated, in support of this view, that out of 64 orphan children sent into the country by a Charitable Society, of which he was a member, only two had died. These statements, circulated by the Newspapers, could not but tend to produce a very erroneous impression as to the system adopted in the Workhouse, and as to the suitableness and sufficiency of the relief provided by Law for destitute children; and it

* The figures within brackets refer to the Numbers of the Queries in the Evidence.

Mr. HALL'S REPORT. appeared absolutely necessary, when the Inquiry on the part of the Guardians was closed, to take further steps, with the view of enabling the Poor Law Commissioners to make, whenever called upon, a full and correct statement of the facts, corroborated by evidence publicly taken and accurately reported.

Subsequently to the Investigation conducted by me, you requested two Medical Gentlemen, of great experience and unquestionable competency, to visit the Workhouse, "for the purpose of examining into the accommodation provided therein for the pauper children under two years of age, and into their general condition and treatment." Dr. Evory Kennedy and Dr. Corrigan have bestowed great pains in complying with your wishes, and their Report is before you. It contains some very interesting and valuable statements of comparative mortality among children in various places, and under different circumstances. As regards the present condition of the mothers and children in the Workhouses, and the way in which they are lodged, clothed, and dieted, it is on the whole satisfactory; and it distinctly brings out the fact that the mortality of the children under two years of age, calculated upon the only intelligible and practical principle, has been, in the North and South Dublin Workhouses, less per cent. than the mortality of the children sent to be nursed in the country by the Dublin Metropolitan Police Commissioners, or by the Governors of the Dublin Foundling Hospital, or by the Overseers of any parish in Dublin, from which a Return could be procured. It is also stated by Dr. Kennedy and Dr. Corrigan to be considerably below the average rate of mortality of children under two years of age, of all conditions, in the Cities of London, Vienna, and Berlin, as given in M'Culloch's Mortality Tables. For the details I must refer you to the Report, pages 22 and 23; only giving here the following summary of the calculations and statements. The rate of mortality of children under the age of two years, is stated in that Report to be:—

In London,	- - - - -	45	per cent.
Vienna,	- - - - -	52	"
Berlin,	- - - - -	47	"
Of Foundlings supported by the Parish of St. George's,	- - - - -	75 $\frac{1}{4}$	"
" " St. Michan's,	- - - - -	75	"
" " St. Nicholas Within	- - - - -	75	"
" " St. Michael's,	- - - - -	60	"
" " St. Mary's,	- - - - -	56 $\frac{1}{4}$	"
" " the Police Commissioners,	- - - - -	56	"
" " the Parish of St. Mark's,	- - - - -	51 $\frac{1}{2}$	"
" " St. Peter's,	- - - - -	49 $\frac{1}{2}$	"
" " the Foundling Ho'. (at nurse in the country),	- - - - -	39 $\frac{1}{2}$	"
Mortality in the North Dublin Workhouse,	- - - - -	35 $\frac{3}{8}$	"
" South Dublin Workhouse,	- - - - -	35 $\frac{1}{2}$	"

And among 1000 children of between 200 and 300 women who happened to be in the Workhouses, the Lying-in Hospital, and the Mendicity Institution, and who were examined on the point, the mortality is stated to have been 34 per cent.

The points upon which evidence was taken, are so numerous, that merely to touch upon them all would swell these observations to an inconvenient bulk; but on some of them, especially the rate of mortality, and the state of health of the infants on admission, it is necessary to enter rather fully.

First, as to the rate of mortality:—Dr. Duncan has stated (848 to 865, 1741 to 1747,) the mortality to be 63 and a fraction per cent., adopting the method of M'Culloch, (858, 865) namely, that of constant residence. This method of calculation is as follows:—The number of days that each individual has remained in the Institution having been ascertained, the whole are added together, the aggregate is divided by 365, and the quotient is the number which may be assumed as the number of constant residents:—For instance, if 100 persons have been admitted during the year, and have lived in the Workhouse for periods averaging 150 days, the whole number will have remained 15000 days; divide 15000 by 365 and the quotient 41, (omitting the fraction,) will be the number of constant residents in the Workhouse for the year. In ascertaining the rate of Mortality, the actual number of deaths that may have occurred during the same period is to be compared to the number 41; so that if of the 100 individuals admitted, 10 have died, the rate of Mortality will, upon this method, be shown to have been as 10 to 41, or (omitting the fraction) 25 per cent.

Now it is not difficult to perceive that this method is fallacious, for it assumes that the same proportion of those who were not constant residents would have died had they all remained in the Workhouse, as did die of the ascertained number of constant residents; that is as 10 died of the 41 constant residents, so 15 of the other 59 would have died had they also remained. But this ought not to be assumed, for the 10 who are known to have died may have been the only persons out of the 100 who were diseased, or an epidemic of rare occurrence may have carried them off.

It might also happen in this case, that of the 100 persons admitted, all might be alive at the end of the year, excepting the 10 who had died in the Workhouse; so that while the statement that the mortality among these 100 persons in the Workhouse had been 25 per cent., would certainly lead to the assertion that 25 of them had died, leaving 75 survivors; the facts would be that only 10 per cent. had died, and that 90, instead of 75, of the 100 persons, were still alive.

But further, upon this method the rate of mortality may advance far beyond 100 per cent., or in other words, it may be made to appear, that from a given number more than the whole may

be subtracted. The aggregate number of days passed in the Workhouse by the 100 persons admitted, might have been 3650, in which case the rate of mortality would be stated as 100 per cent., although only 10 of the 100 had actually died; or to take a possible case by way of illustration, the 100 persons may have remained in the Workhouse in the aggregate, 365 days; in which case the number of constant residents would appear upon this method to be 1, and the rate of mortality 10 to 1 or 1000 per cent.; but the absurd proposition, that of 100 persons admitted, 1000 had died in the Workhouse, would of course never be stated; although the proposition that 63 out of 100 had died, which results from a process of computation exactly similar, appears to have been received, and to have obtained credence at once.

It seems, however, that Dr. Duncan in calculating the rate of mortality among the infants, did not adhere strictly to M'Culloch's method; had he adhered to it he would, I believe, have produced as a result that the rate of mortality was 116 per cent.; but in calculating the number of constant residents, he excluded the number of days which those who died had passed in the Workhouse, and added the gross number of deaths, to the number of constant residents, calculated only upon the number of those who had been discharged, or who remained alive. By this departure from M'Culloch's method (a departure for which I am at a loss to account,) the dividend, and consequently the quotient, were greatly increased; the result of the process was reduced to an amount which has in the face of it nothing absurd or extremely improbable, and the manifest absurdity of the statement that 116 per cent. had died, or that of 100 infants 116 had died, was avoided.

The truth is that, the object in view being a comparison of the mortality of infants in the Workhouse with the mortality of infants belonging to the same class out of it, other considerations than those involved in M'Culloch's method are necessary. As a mode of comparison between the mortality in the Workhouse and out of it, that method is not sufficient. The population of a Workhouse is so fluctuating and so peculiar, that the absolute number of persons received into it during a given period, as well as their condition on admission, the duration of their actual residence, and the proximate cause of death in each case must be taken into account. The worst conditioned part of the community seek and obtain relief in the Workhouse, (372, 273, 382,) and the worst of those received remain there.

The following passage, translated from Quetelet's "Physique Sociale,"* is exactly in point:—"To ascertain the laws of mortality in establishments of which the population is fluctuating, it is not sufficient to compare the number of deaths with the number of days of residence; attention must also be paid to the number of individuals over which this number of days must be spread. As the number of individuals increases, especially in the asylums of wretchedness and human infirmities, in the same proportion would it appear that the chances of mortality must be multiplied."

The case of the Workhouse approximates to that of an Hospital, and a ratio of deaths to admissions, is a more fair, more intelligible, and more useful form of stating the rate of mortality than that which has been adopted. In this way, as is shown in the Report of Dr. Corrigan and Dr. Kennedy, the rate of mortality of infants has been, in the North Dublin Workhouse, 35½ per cent., in the South Dublin Workhouse 35½ per cent.

The assertion or assumption that 94 per cent. of the infants admitted were in a healthy state upon their admission, rests upon a return, extracted from the Workhouse Register, (400, 401, 928, 1765,) in which there is a column headed, "If disabled, description of disability." The object of this column is to secure an accurate record of the number of paupers who are admitted, and classed either as able-bodied or as disabled paupers; that is to guard against any able-bodied pauper being placed in a class which is exempted from hard labour, by requiring that where a statement of disability is made, a specific description of the disability should be entered. This seems to have been contemplated, and nothing more. It has however been understood, that the state of health of every pauper on admission was to be registered in this column; and it appears that in most instances of children, where it was not considered by the Medical Officer inspecting the child on admission, that it was in a state of actual disease, and should be at once placed in the Hospital, or where the Board of Guardians did not notice the state of health, an entry of "good health" has been made by the Assistant Master, upon whom devolved the duty of registering the paupers. Such an entry having been made in the great majority of cases of infants, and it having been assumed that the entries were according to fact, it was of primary importance to ascertain how they had been made, by whom, after what inquiry, and with what means of forming a correct judgment. With this object the evidence of the Master, Assistant-Master, and several Members of the Board of Guardians was taken, (1 to 342).

It appeared that in some cases entries were made of the state of health by Guardians, presiding at a weekly Board for the admission of Paupers; that where this was done, the Assistant Master copied such entries into the Register; that in cases where no entries had been made, he ascertained the state of health, and entered it according to his own judgment, (142); in no case did he have recourse to the Medical Officer, (129), but either formed his own opinion by observation of the child, or he adopted the statement of the parent where the child was not an orphan, (179). The evidence of the Assistant Master was confused and

* The original passage is as follows:—"Pour trouver les lois de la mortalité dans les établissements dont la population est mobile, il ne suffit pas de comparer les décès au nombre de journées d'entretien; mais qu'il faut aussi faire attention au nombre d'invidus sur lequel ce nombre de journées doit être reparti. Plus ce dernier nombre est grand, surtout dans les asyles de la misère et des infirmités humaines, plus les chances de la mortalité semblent devoir se multiplier."—Vol. I. page 262.

Mr. HALL'S REPORT. contradictory on several points; he stated (163, 200, 202,) that the mothers were inclined to represent the health of their children to be worse than it really was, and that in making the entry he took the statement of the mother, (173-189), and still the fact (196) is, that nearly all the infants are entered by him as in good health, and that too contrary to his own opinion at the time (169, 189, to 192) in many cases. He accounts for this (201-204) by admitting that he made the enquiries in a careless manner, not being competent to arrive at a knowledge of the case. With respect to the entries made, or the omission of entries by the Board of Guardians, it appears that they generally presumed that the pauper would be examined, and his state of health recorded by the Medical Officer subsequently to his admission (236, 237, 248, 273, 291, 292, 297).

The result of the Investigation on this point was an impression that the return could not be relied on as accurate; this was distinctly admitted by Mr. Roper, (943, 946,) it is affirmed by Guardians, (926, 965,) and by Dr. Duncan, (424, 425, 565, 1763).

It would be superfluous to attempt to prove that destitute infants when they were admitted into the Workhouse were not for the most part in good health, had it not been assumed and commented on as a fact, that only 6 per cent. of them were in bad health at that period. Under the circumstances, however, I thought it right to collect the opinions on this point of the Guardians, the Medical Officers and the Officers of the Workhouse; they will be found plainly expressed in the Minutes of Evidence.

The Assistant Master states concerning the children, (167), that they and their mothers generally presented themselves for admission in a very bad state, meaning (185) a state of emaciation and delicacy caused by destitution; in his opinion many infants were admitted in a good state of health, (213), but the majority were in a bad state of health, (218).

Mr. Barlow, the chairman of the Board of Guardians, states (249,) that the great proportion of the paupers, who presented themselves for admission, particularly the children, were in an emaciated, miserable state, in a far worse state than the adults (255); miserable in appearance from want of food, proper care, and the nourishment which young children should receive (263).

Mr. O'Gorman states, that the mothers and children were seldom presented before the Board except in the utmost state of destitution, (274); that in many instances, the cases of the very young children presented for admission seemed to be quite hopeless, (286); that they were very weak, wretched, and worn out (287); and that if he saw his own children in such a state he would be very much alarmed for their safety.

Captain Lindsay states, that, without expressing any positive opinion as to any disease under which the children laboured, his general impression was that a great majority of them came into the Workhouse with death written in their faces, (296).

Mr. Swan states, that a majority of the children on admission were in a bad state, a state in which one might expect to find them, (325); a weak, low, bad state, approximating to disease, (326).

The evidence given by Mr. Arkins is of a very different tenor to the depositions of other Members of the Board, and those of the Medical Officers, on this point. He considers that the majority of the children under two years old were healthy upon their admission into the Workhouse, (348, 361, 385).

Dr. Duncan, one of the Medical Officers was examined at great length as to the state of health of the children on their admission; he states his opinion to be that about one half of the children were healthy at that time, others in a delicate state, and others actually far gone in disease, (420, 421); that not many of the mothers were actually diseased, but generally speaking their health as nurses was deteriorated, and their constitutions not in a sound and healthy state. He could not speak positively as to the relative proportion of those children who were delicate, and those who were actually diseased, (556) nor had he any record to supply the information, (404, 558, 559, 562); he considered that 6 of the 100 children were in such a state that it was impossible for them to recover, that the recovery of others was a question; but that they were not labouring under actual maladies which would necessarily prove fatal, (565). At a later period of the examination Dr. Duncan stated that not more than 20, nor so many, of the children were in a hopeless condition upon their admission, (870).

Dr. Kirkpatrick, another Medical Officer, states that he has no record of the state of the paupers when he examined them on their admission (1008); that according to his present impression, some of the children were in good health, others in a hopeless state of health, and others in that state of disease as caused him to doubt the propriety of vaccinating them, (1019); he thought that one half were healthy (1010,) 25 of the 100 being in first rate health, (1011); 6 or 8 were in the last stage of existence, and a good many more too delicate to be vaccinated (1012; 50 were in a diseased state, broken down in health (1015); the majority of the children admitted were bad subjects for any Epidemic (1018).

The Matron of the Workhouse gives it as her opinion that the children were in a state of natural delicacy upon their admission (1202), that some were in a very emaciated state (1204), and that the healthy children bore a very small proportion to the others.

Such is the summary of the evidence bearing directly on this point. With the exception of that given by Mr. Arkins, it is all to the same effect, and discloses precisely the state of things that would be expected by any one who had considered the nature of the relief afforded in the Workhouse, and the condition and circumstances of that class of persons who in the City of Dublin would be likely to avail themselves of it. Upon reviewing the evidence, and reflecting on the facts of the case, one cannot but be astonished that any person

in this City would be so credulous as to believe, or would venture to repeat, in the hope of being believed, the assertion, that of 100 children received into the Workhouse, 94 were in good health at the time of their admission.

The question then may fairly be asked, whether the mortality of the children has been, under such circumstances, excessive? The Chairman of the Board of Guardians replies to that question, that he does not consider it to have been so (975); and states his belief, that the opinion on the part of the public that the mortality has been excessive, has originated in a report unfortunately (976) and erroneously (977) spread abroad in the City.

The evidence given by Mr. Arkins bears on this question, inasmuch as he described scenes of destitution that he had witnessed as a Trustee of the Roomkeepers' Society, and which he stated to surpass any cases of wretchedness that have lately come before the notice of the Guardians, or that can now be seen in Dublin (356, 357, 369). These instances occurred before the opening of the Workhouse (371), and Mr. Arkins is not now aware of any persons being in a more destitute state than those that apply for relief (372). He accounts for the fact of parties who now apply for relief being in less urgent destitution than formerly, by stating that "the Workhouse has weeded the City of those destitute cases" (382). Such circumstances, while they afford testimony to the efficacious operation of the Poor Law, at the same time would account for a far higher rate of mortality in the Workhouse to which the persons who were previously existing in such misery resorted, than out of it; for they must constitute a much larger proportion of the inmates of the Workhouse, than they had before borne to that class of the community from which they were taken, and their constitutions and those of their children must have been irretrievably impaired by the wretchedness and privations of their previous existence (377, 379). And yet the rate of mortality in the North Dublin Union Workhouse is, as compared with the rate in similar Institutions, remarkably low. Dr. Duncan is reported to have stated in his examination before the Board of Guardians, that it is $17\frac{1}{2}$ per cent., while in ten Metropolitan Workhouses the mortality as ascertained by McCulloch in the year 1837, was 29 per cent.

It is satisfactory to be able to state, that the notion of excessive mortality has not extended beyond the class of infants under two years old in the Workhouse. In a note which I received from Dr. Duncan on the 15th May, 1841, he gives his opinion respecting the children above two years old, from personal examination of them, that "their general state of health was highly satisfactory (540)," and when questioned by me on the subject, during the recent Investigation, he stated his belief that the children from two years upwards have improved in health since their admission into the Workhouse (541). Dr. Corrigan, in a note accompanying a copy of his and Dr. Kennedy's Report, writes thus:—"There is a part of the Workhouse statistics we had an intention of noticing, but want of space prevented us, the state of the children from two to five years of age, who are all so remarkably healthy and fine looking." I may here notice the opinions, recorded from time to time since the opening of the Workhouse, of the several Visiting Committees of Guardians appointed for the purpose of inspecting the Workhouse and its inmates. It is prescribed by your regulations that a series of questions referring to the condition of the Paupers, and various matters connected with the discipline and management of the Workhouse, should be periodically answered in writing by a Committee of the Guardians, (1559 to 1561). One of these questions is, "Are the young children properly nursed and taken care of; and do they appear in a clean and healthy state?" There are 61 answers to this question in the Visiting Committee's Book, entered at different dates, between 29th May, 1840, and 15th December, 1841. These answers will be found in full in the Appendix to the Minutes of Evidence, No. 3, page 98. I will only state here that 40 of the answers are in the affirmative without qualification; 8 are qualified affirmatives; 5 state that there are no complaints, or no reason to think otherwise; 2 notice that the children, or some of them, are delicate in appearance; 2 mention the prevalence of measles, and 1, the last, implies a deficiency of accommodation in the Nursery and Day-room; 3 answers are stated not to relate to children under 2 years of age.

It is impossible to give anything like a fair analysis of the evidence taken on the several points involved in this Investigation. Those persons who believed the mortality among the the infants to have been excessive, attempted, as was natural, to account for the excess by alleging numerous defects in the system, and instances of mismanagement. The overcrowding of the dormitories, the unsuitableness of the day-rooms, the scantiness of the clothing, the want of air and exercise, and other circumstances incidental to these, were adduced as the concurrent causes of the excessive mortality, which, though not proved, was assumed to have taken place. Especially it was to be expected that the Medical Officers would be anxious to show that the mortality was connected with circumstances over which they could have no control, or which they could not control with sufficient promptness; and thus it has occurred that their evidence appears to be somewhat criminatory of the Board of Guardians, whose peculiar province it is to govern and manage the Workhouse in all matters of detail, and to direct the Officers in the execution of their duties. Possibly the recommendations of the Medical Officers were not always attended to by the Guardians, as implicitly, or carried into effect as immediately, as these Officers might have considered that they should have been; but I think the evidence shows a constant desire on the part of the Board of Guardians to act upon the advice and opinion of their Medical Officers, as far as was possible, without surrendering their own opinion in matters on which they, as men of sense, were as competent to judge as Professional persons; and from my own observation I believe the Guardians are disposed to concede to the Medical Officers, more discretionary

Mr. HALDANE'S REPORT.

authority over the details of the management of the Workhouse, than is altogether consistent with the responsibility which the Commissioners have, by their regulations, imposed upon the Master and Matron of the Establishment.

Whether such defective arrangements have been made or allowed to continue in the Workhouse, as would conduce to an excessive mortality, may be collected from the Minutes of Evidence. Certain it is that most exaggerated and untrue statements have been circulated in this respect. I have already mentioned that the day-room occupied by the mothers and children was reported to be under the level of the ground; whereas it appears that the room being built on a slope, the floor is in fact a few inches below the level of the ground on the one side, and a few inches above it on the other, (497, 498.) It was also reported of this room that it was totally destitute of light; whereas all that could have been truly said is, that it has a northern aspect, so that the sun at no time shines directly into it, (494, 495, 496.) In the report of Dr. Corrigan and Dr. Kennedy, the situation of this room is correctly described (page 18), and they say of it, "the room had been without a fire and unoccupied for some days before our visit—the floor and walls were perfectly free from damp."

I have also mentioned that Dr. Duncan is reported to have given his opinion before the Board of Guardians that the new day-rooms are not fit for any purposes for human beings; upon being examined by me on this point he made a more qualified statement (678); but he did not know the dimensions of the rooms, nor the number and size of the windows in any of them (684, 685, 686). In the Appendix to the Minutes of Evidence, No. 4, will be found the exact dimensions of each of these rooms, the number and size of the windows in each, and of the ventilators. I will here describe the smallest of them, selecting it as the one which on that account might be considered most objectionable.

It is 64 feet long, and 15 feet 3 inches wide; its height at the sides is 8 feet 6 inches, and in the middle 12 feet 3 inches; it has six windows of which three are 5 feet 3 inches by 2 feet 6 inches, and 3 are 3 feet by 2 feet 6 inches; and it has 2 Louvre boarded ventilators, each 3 feet square, and 2 feet 6 inches high.

A want of means of enjoying air and exercise has been alleged as tending to the ill health and excessive mortality of the infants. The evidence of the Matron is conclusive as to the existence of any just ground of complaint in this respect (1357 to 1376). It is shown that so soon as it was reported to the Board of Guardians that such recreation was advisable, it was signified to the Matron that the infants were to be taken into the garden by their mothers. This order of the Board the Matron found it difficult to carry into effect, owing to the indolent habits of the parents; she was obliged to enforce their going upon fine days as a point of discipline; and so far from their expressing a wish to go into the garden, "it was rather a compulsory thing to get them into it." (1374).

As to the spaciousness and the ventilation of the Wards in which the women with their infants have been at different times put to sleep, it is impossible to condense the evidence given on these points. Doubtless the ventilation of many of the Wards is susceptible of these improvements which modern science has effected elsewhere; in some parts of the Workhouse alterations in this respect have been made as recommended by the Medical Officers; but the greater part of the establishment has now only the same means and contrivances for ventilation that were in use when the Workhouse formed a portion of the House of Industry, and which were then deemed sufficient. It must not however be forgotten that by the erection of Halls in which the Paupers take their food, and Day-rooms, the accommodation has been greatly extended and improved, under the orders of the Commissioners; and every sleeping ward, excepting those occupied by the classes of sick or bedridden paupers, may now be thoroughly cleansed and aired during the absence of the inmates every day.

With respect to the statement before alluded to, that on the 17th of February, 1841, 53 infants and 60 mothers and nurses, were sleeping in one room, which statement was adduced as an instance of the improper way in which the sleeping Wards were permitted to be crowded, it was satisfactorily proved by the Matron that only 90 persons, not 113 as stated, had slept in the room on that occasion; the Matron produced in support of her assertion documentary proof, which being verified by a special Committee of the Board of Guardians, satisfied them that the report as to the 113, was incorrect, and the person who had made it, then being present, admitted its incorrectness.

Without entering into minute considerations as to whether this or that arrangement in the Workhouse is defective, or capable of improvement, and as to the parties on whom rests the responsibility of making or declining to make alterations, I must content myself with declaring that I know of no step suggested as an improvement by any person whom I examined, that might not have been taken at any time since the Workhouse was opened, in perfect consistency with the regulations of the Commissioners; nor am I aware of any measure which has been, or might have been adopted, with the view of promoting the healthiness of the Workhouse, to which any of the regulations issued by the Commissioners has been an obstacle. The infants are now placed with their mothers in Wards, of which Dr. Kennedy and Dr. Corrigan express their decided approbation; they might have been placed there at any time, had it been apparent that a necessity existed for removing them from the other Wards. At any time the change might have been effected with equal facility as now, for the Workhouse has never contained so many inmates as at present. So also as regards their food and clothing, and that of their mothers, they were left to be dieted, clothed, and treated by the Board of Guardians in all respects as the Medical Officers may advise. In accordance with this, is the fact, that it was never implied, in the course of the Investigation, that the alleged

defects and instances of management arose out of, or were at all connected with the general rules under which the Institution is governed, except that in one instance an alleged want of promptness in extending the accommodation of one class of Paupers was attributed to a mistaken notion of system and order (475), and in another the Matron expressed her apprehension that a certain proposed change would "interfere with classification." (1301).

I have found it difficult in drawing up these observations to guard against the use of language implying an admission on my part that there has been an excess of mortality among the infant children, and that such irregularities and defects have existed, as are adduced by other persons to account for what they assume to have been the case. I must therefore distinctly express my opinion, that there has been much less to find fault with than could have been expected, considering how novel were the duties of both Guardians and paid Officers, and how rapid was the influx of paupers, upon the opening of the Workhouse. None know better than the Commissioners what evils are to be apprehended under such circumstances, and I think they cannot be more clearly pointed out than they were in your letter addressed to the Board of Guardians on the 31st March, 1840, upon the declaration of the Workhouse, and on the 19th May, 1840, when the admission of paupers had commenced and was rapidly proceeding.—(*See Appendix to the Minutes of Evidence, Nos. 1 and 2*). The timely warning then given was not disregarded; and I can now, after the lapse of 18 months, reviewing the past circumstances, and looking to the present state of the Workhouse, congratulate the Commissioners and the Guardians on the almost total absence of the evils indicated in those letters.

It is, I think, apparent upon a perusal of the Minutes of Evidence, that the charge of excessive mortality among the infant paupers, together with the statement of facts adduced to account for it, is the result in a great degree, of a preconceived opinion, that destitute children cannot be satisfactorily maintained in the Workhouse, and that the Legislature ought to recal into existence, for the purpose of relieving them, the extinct system of Foundling Hospitals. I am not required to state here the moral and social evils, which being inseparable from Foundling Hospitals, have in most places led to their suppression. The additional expense that would ensue, if Boards of Guardians were empowered to pay for the sustenance of every infant child represented to be either deserted, or in want, would be almost without limitation; for a Board of Guardians could hardly ever refrain from exercising their power of granting this description of out-door relief, when appealed to; and the test of the Workhouse being removed, such appeals would be innumerable. But the chief consideration, with reference to the recent Investigation, is the fact thereby established—that the chances of life among a given number of infants relieved in the Workhouse, are greater than among an equal number entrusted to hiring nurses in the country. The Return from the Dublin Foundling Hospital shows that of 51,527 infants received from the year 1798 to 1831 inclusive, 38,674 were sent to be nursed in the country, of which last number 15,252 died under two years of age; and it further appears, that those who were sent to nurse were the more healthy infants of those received, for 12,153 died in the Hospital before they could be removed from it to country nurses, the balance of 700 having been returned to their parents; the mortality of the country-nursed infants was 39½ per cent. The returns from the Police Commissioners, and those from the Dublin Parish Officers, exhibit a much larger proportion, that of the former being 56 per cent., and the most favourable of the latter, the return from St. Peter's Parish, giving 49½ per cent; while the mortality of infants in the two Dublin Workhouses has been shown to have been respectively no more than 35⅓ and 35½ per cent.

I have the honor to be, Gentlemen, your obedient servant,

RICHARD HALL,

Assistant Poor Law Commissioner.

To the Poor Law Commissioners.

REPORT to the POOR LAW COMMISSIONERS.—By DENIS PHELAN, Esq., M. R. C. S. L.,
Assistant Poor Law Commissioner.

Rathmines, January 23rd, 1842.

GENTLEMEN,

HAVING, as directed, attended the Inquiry held at the North Dublin Workhouse, relative to the condition and state of health of the infant children in that Institution, I have the honor to offer a few observations on the Medical portion of the evidence given on that occasion.

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The points chiefly insisted on were—1stly. That the mortality of the class in question, namely, infants under two years of age, was excessive.

2ndly. That this excessive mortality was, in a great degree, caused by the infants being placed in ill-ventilated, dark, and over-crowded day rooms and dormitories.

3rdly. That being so placed, a delicacy of constitution was induced, which, in many instances, terminated fatally in consumption, or which rendered the infants bad subjects to contend with such attacks of Epidemic or other diseases as occurred amongst them.

The mortality which takes place in Hospitals, is usually calculated by comparing the deaths with the admissions. From a former Report of mine on the state of the North Dublin Union Workhouse, it appears that, of 4,171 destitute persons admitted into it from the 4th of May, 1840, to the 31st of August, 1841, 2,550 were received into Hospital, and that many beside were under Medical treatment. The proportion admitted into the Hospital of the South Dublin Workhouse was still greater.

It would, therefore, appear that the mortality in this Workhouse may be fairly calculated on the same principle as in Hospitals, and that this particularly applies to children under

two years of age, as I find that of 274 of this class admitted into the North Dublin Union Workhouse, 218 had been under Medical treatment, and that the remaining 56 might have required Medical assistance occasionally.—[See *Mr. Browne's evidence, Query 1689.*]—An additional reason for calculating the mortality of this class in the same manner as in Hospitals is, that the majority of the children were in bad health on admission, and that they were all exposed after admission to the influence of Measles, Scarlatina, and Hooping Cough.

By this mode of calculation the actual mortality which takes place can be accurately ascertained. On the 245 first admitted—those on whom Dr. Duncan's calculation was made, and of whom 87 died, it was $35\frac{1}{2}$ per cent. Up to the 31st of December last, the admissions of this class amounted to 275, the deaths to 98; the mortality was therefore $35\frac{1}{2}$ per cent. on these admissions. During the same period it was $35\frac{1}{2}$ in the South Dublin Workhouse.

Doctor Duncan, one of the Medical Officers of the North Dublin Workhouse, estimated the mortality which took place amongst the class in question, to be 63 per cent., and stated that he calculated it to be so on the principle of constant residence in the same manner as Mr. McCulloch calculates it in the English Prisons.—[See *Queries 857, 858, 859, and 860, of the printed Evidence.*]—But this mode of calculation is liable to two fatal objections. 1stly. The relative mortality which takes place in a fluctuating population cannot be accurately ascertained by any such process; and 2ndly, it assumes that those who have been discharged, and those that remain, would die in an equal time and number as those that have actually died. But experience proves the contrary to be the case, as it is found that such as, on admission, are much enfeebled from the want of the necessaries of life, or who labor under chronic disorders, die in Workhouses as elsewhere, in far greater proportion than such as are differently circumstanced; and that, as might reasonably be expected, the number discharged, in any given time, contains a far greater proportion of those who were healthy, than of those who were sickly on admission. Any results, therefore, which are derived from this mode of calculation, must, on close examination, be fallacious. In fact, the two Medical Officers of the Institution differ widely on this point. Doctor Duncan states, in answer to Query (1751.) that 63 per cent. of the infant class died in that establishment, whilst the Surgeon, in answer to Query (1693): “Is it a fact that 63 per cent. of the children admitted into the Workhouse under two years of age have died?” replied “I think not;” and Dr. Kirkpatrick observes, “If Dr. Duncan's calculation went before the public alone,” meaning unaccompanied by Mr. Phelan's, “it would be misunderstood, and persons would suppose that 63 out of 100 admitted into the house were consigned to their graves.”

To judge whether the mortality in the North Dublin Workhouse amongst the class under consideration (namely, infants under two years old.) has been excessive, it appears to me that we should, if possible, ascertain the actual mortality amongst all infants of the same age in a given population. 2. What proportion the mortality of the infants of the poor—such as are likely to be subjects for Workhouse relief—bears to the total mortality which takes place amongst the infants of all classes of society in the same locality. 3. The condition and state of health of the infants admitted into the Workhouse; and, from the information so afforded, estimate whether any, or what higher rate of mortality might reasonably be expected to take place amongst the latter.

Until a correct registration of births and deaths exists, every accurate information on the first point is not to be obtained, but there are some *data* which may perhaps be sufficient for our present purpose. It appears from returns obtained by the Census Commissioners, that in Drogheda and Tullamore the *mean* mortality of all infants under two years of age, during a period of five years, has been 27* per cent., compared with the total population of children of that age. Assuming this to be the amount of mortality which takes place amongst children of the same age in the City and County of Dublin, we are enabled to use it in our inquiry on the second point.

When we consider the numerous privations that are endured by the class which constitutes the objects for Workhouse Relief, the insufficiency and the unwholesomeness of their food, their want of adequate clothing and fuel, the state of their lodgings, and their habits, in a word, their entire condition,—it may naturally be inferred that their children must be far more liable to disease, and that a considerably greater portion of them would die, than those of persons in a more comfortable condition. Numerous proofs to this effect could be adduced, but the circumstances are so universally known that it is needless for me to dwell on them.

If the total mortality of infants under two years of age in the three portions of society,—the wealthy, the middle class, and the poor,—to be taken at 27 per cent., it will, I think, be considered moderate to estimate that of the children of the very poor to be, at least, one-third higher, which would make it 36, that is, about $\frac{1}{2}$ per cent. above the mortality which has actually taken place amongst the infant class in each of the Dublin Workhouses.

Although no Medical record exists with respect to the state of health of these infants, when admitted, sufficient information has been obtained to enable us to form a tolerably correct opinion on the subject.

The Deputy Master, who registered the names, and who spoke with the mothers, or with such as had charge of the children; the Guardians, who were Chairmen of the Admission Boards, and the two Medical Officers, gave the following evidence in reference to the health of the children on admission:—“I think the majority were in a bad state of health.” “The great proportion were in an emaciated state.” “The children appeared to me to be in a

*The mortality amongst the same class is stated to be $25\frac{1}{2}$ per cent. in Sweden, and $32\frac{1}{2}$ in France

miserable state, a wretched miserable state." "As to the young children, in many instances, their case seemed to be quite hopeless." "My general impression was that a great majority of them came in with death written in their faces." "The majority of them came in what I conceive to be a bad state." "The majority of them came in a state of disease, or in such a weak, low, bad state, as to approximate to disease."

Dr. Duncan said "I should think about one half of those admitted are healthy. The cases were principally Consumption that came in actually diseased."

Dr. Kirkpatrick, "some in good health, others in a hopeless state, and others in that state of disease that I would doubt the propriety of vaccinating them."

"In 100, 25 were in good health, 50 in delicate health, and 25 not so remarkable for perfect genuine health, but still not diseased; 50 were in a diseased state, in broken health."

Here we have it established on the evidence of one of the Officers of the house, of four Members of the Board of Guardians, and of the two Medical Officers, that at least one-half these infants were in bad health when admitted. It now becomes necessary to inquire whether, subsequently, they are unavoidably exposed to any influences tending to act injuriously on them.

It may be right to observe that mothers occasionally come with their children into Workhouses, not merely to obtain food and lodging, but with the additional view of placing them in the Hospital. A poor woman, who is in a state of destitution, but in good health, and who has a sick child, will not be admitted into any of the City Hospitals; but she knows that by becoming an inmate of the Workhouse, her child, if seriously ill, will be taken into the Hospital of that Establishment. That this not unfrequently occurs may be inferred from Dr. Duncan's reply to the following Query (1750). "Will it not be an inducement for a woman who has a sick child to apply for Workhouse relief, when she knows that it will be provided with Hospital and Medical attendance?"—"Certainly."

Considering the evidence given respecting the health of these children, it will, I think, be admitted that a large proportion of them must be bad subjects to contend with an attack of any serious epidemic. On this point Dr. Kirkpatrick's evidence is conclusive. His answers to Queries, (1017 and 1018,) are:—"The great majority of those who were previously delicate, would be the more unfit to struggle against an epidemic disease, as Measles, Scarlatina, or Hooping Cough." "The majority of the children admitted are bad subjects for an epidemic."

It is established on the same Gentleman's authority that there would be a liability of an Epidemic spreading; frequent admissions from time to time will always supply us with contagion from disease, and once the disease is admitted, it will be always difficult to prevent it from spreading amongst the young class of children. "I think our infants will be always liable to run through the danger of the Epidemic within their first two years." See answer to Query (1520). And Dr. Duncan, in reply to Query (527), shows that such Epidemics have occurred in the House,—that Measles, Scarlatina, Pneumonia,* and Hooping Cough have prevailed there.

Considering all these circumstances, it is my decided opinion that the mortality of the Infants in the Workhouse has not been excessive; on the contrary, it appears matter of surprise, that it should be only 8½ per cent. higher than that which takes place in children of the same age, belonging to all classes of Society outside the Workhouse.

I now proceed to enquire what share the day-rooms and dormitories may be supposed to have had in influencing the health or mortality of the children. In reply to Query (882.) Dr. Duncan answered, "the over-crowding of the day rooms is a main cause of the mortality." In this Dr. Kirkpatrick concurred, and stated in addition that "he thinks the dormitories too crowded." It is however to be recollected, that Dr. Kirkpatrick when he gave this opinion acknowledged that he did not know how many slept in the dormitory to which he so objected, see Query (1033); and that Dr. Duncan thought there were 113 in the dormitory No. 50, when in reality it appeared that for two nights only 90 slept there, the average being from 50 to 60.

I have repeatedly examined these Wards, and I believe that they are sufficiently capacious for the number of nurses and infants who were usually placed in them. It is my opinion that the dormitory No. 42 complained of, considering its construction and the number of its windows, must at all times have contained an adequate supply of good air for all its inmates. It is true this Ward is somewhat less lightsome than many of the other Wards in the Workhouse, but I cannot understand what valid objection can be made to it on that account, or why very strong light is so necessary for a mere sleeping room. Its distance from other buildings, and the number of its windows, must admit of very perfect perfation.

I feel some hesitation in opposing my opinion respecting the salubrity of these rooms, to that of Doctors Duncan and Kirkpatrick, the Medical Officers, who are men of much information and intelligence; but it appears to me that they have, in a great measure, overlooked the real causes of such mortality as did occur, namely, the condition of the infants on admission, and their unavoidable exposure subsequently to epidemic diseases.

It is the almost universal opinion of the Medical Profession, that in ill-ventilated and over-crowded rooms, fever is likely to occur. The absence of it amongst the Nurses placed in the rooms which are stated to be in that condition is, however, a very remarkable feature. One of the Medical Officers was asked, see Queries (1636 to 1640), "When

* Dr. Duncan considers Pneumonia to have been of an Epidemic character in the house,

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Wards are over-crowded, is fever a disease that ensues?" and his answer is "occasionally." "Have the Nurses attending the Children had fever?"—"No." "Has fever occurred amongst the Infants?"—"No." "As it has not occurred amongst the Nurses, how do you explain the circumstance of their being so free from it in Wards which are represented to be ill-ventilated, unwholesome, and injurious to the lives of Infants?"—"I explain it by the fact, that this establishment has not been at all subject to fever." "Is it not the opinion of most Medical authorities that fever is generated under certain circumstances, such as want of ventilation, crowded rooms, &c.?"—"The causes of fever which you mention are thought to produce it." "As fever has not prevailed in this establishment, is it not *primâ facie* evidence of the healthfulness of the Wards?"—"Many of the women lost their health in these Wards. It is *primâ facie* evidence that they were exempt from fever, and that the crowded state of the rooms did not produce fever." "Is fever found to be the particular disease which is generally generated by crowded and unwholesome dwellings?"—"Not generally, but frequently it is; crowded dwellings frequently produce fever."

I consider that this evidence goes far to disprove the insalubrity of these Wards; for, were they such as to affect the Infants to the extent alluded to, I am of opinion that some of the Nurses would have been affected with fever.

The Medical Officers assert, that the over-crowded and ill-ventilated state of the Rooms in which the Infants were placed produced Scrofula; and to this they attribute much of the mortality that occurred. But their evidence to this effect is, I think, far from being conclusive.

Dr. Kirkpatrick says "I have not the slightest doubt upon my mind of Scrofula being largely engendered in this establishment;" and a similar opinion was given by Dr. Duncan. In proof of the correctness of this view, the former, referring to *post mortem* examinations observes,—"I remember no case in which there were not Scrofulous Tubercles in some part of the system." But in answer to a previous question—(1087,) he replied: "I observed that there were no Tubercles in four or five cases." This evidence is so much at variance that it is difficult to found any conclusion on it. But admitting that most of those who died, were scrofulous, such a condition must, I think, be expected from the class known to be admitted. The evidence given respecting them, by the same Gentleman is: "Scrofula in Dublin is very prevalent among the lower classes, and no matter what disease carried off the child, Scrofulous Tubercles prevailed in the system."

When a large number of the children admitted into the House are known to be tainted with Scrofula, it being very prevalent amongst the class from whence they are taken, it may be reasonably expected, that as the parties so affected are usually the most liable to serious illness, and, of course, to die under such attacks, Tubercles will be found on making *post mortem* examinations on them. This constitutional affection or taint is shown to have existed in many previous to admission, a fact which is clearly proved from the return of deaths supplied by the Medical Officers; for I find that no less than 21 of the Infant class died within one month, some within a week after admission. Scrofula would, surely, not have been so fully and so rapidly developed, within so short a period, that their deaths could be mainly owing to it. But whatever share such constitutional affection may have had in causing death, it cannot be denied that in those, and in many others, Scrofula must have existed before their admission into the establishment.

I now feel it necessary to notice the evidence given relative to the diseases which immediately caused death. Both the Medical Officers stated, that the children who died between the 5th and 9th days, in Measles, died, not of that, but of some other disease. Doctor Kirkpatrick's answers on this head, to Queries (1650 to 1686,) and Dr. Duncan's to Queries (1729 to 1736,) is the evidence to which I allude, and is in substance to this effect—that if a person who labours under Measles dies, during its progress, with symptoms which denote that serious inflammation of the substance or of the Mucous Membrane of the Lungs exists, the disease of which the patient dies is not Measles, but Pneumonia or Bronchitis; and that when, in the progress of Fever, the Brain, or Peritoneum (the lining Membrane of the intestines,) becomes dangerously inflamed, and death ensues, the disease of which the patient dies cannot be called Fever, but Inflammation of the Organ which has become so affected. In each of these cases, the fatal event is referred by the Medical Officers to the secondary, not to the primary disease.

This is not, in my opinion, a correct mode of designating the cause of death, nor is it the usual practice of the Profession. In support of this opinion, I beg to refer to the Registrar General's first Report, page 94, in which Mr. Farr observes—"In fixing the Tabular List of Diseases, the following principles have been attended to—when, after Hooping Cough," (which disease is given as an instance,) "it was stated that the patient died of Pneumonia, the case has been referred to the primary disease; and the same principle has been referred to in similar instances." As Mr. Farr is a very high authority on this subject, I feel it my duty to show that the view taken by Drs. Duncan and Kirkpatrick, in marking complicated diseases, is at variance with the principles laid down by him, and, as far as I am aware, by all other Medical authorities of eminence.

Finally, I beg to give it as my opinion,

1stly. That the mortality of the Infants in the North Dublin Workhouse was not extensive, but rather under that which, considering all the circumstances, might have been expected.

2ndly. That such mortality as did take place was not caused by the state of the Day-rooms or Dormitories, but,

3rdly. That it was owing to causes beyond the control of the Poor Law Commissioners, the Guardians, or the Medical Officers, namely, the emaciated and unhealthy state of a large portion of the Infants when admitted, and the unavoidable exposure of all to attacks of Measles, Scarlatina, and Hooping Cough.

I have the honor to remain, Gentlemen, your very obedient, humble servant,

DENIS PHELAN, M.R.C.S., Lond.

Assistant Poor Law Commissioner.

To the Poor Law Commissioners.

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REPORT to the POOR LAW COMMISSIONERS.—By EVORY KENNEDY, Esq., M. D., &c.,
and D. J. CORRIGAN, Esq., M. D., &c.

Merrion-square, Dublin, 12th January, 1842.

GENTLEMEN,

In compliance with your request of December 20th, that we should visit the North Dublin Union Workhouse, "for the purpose of examining into the accommodation provided therein for the Pauper Children under two years of age, and into their general condition and treatment," we beg to say that we have made our Inspection, and we submit to you the following Report:—We may premise it by observing, that the Workhouse is well situated, being in the extreme North Western boundary of the City, the ground on which it stands possessing an elevation of 10 feet 8 inches above the level of Stephen's Green, and being only 2 feet 2 inches below the level of Mountjoy-square.

Lying-in Ward, No. 61.—We deemed it necessary to visit this Ward, as the management of mother and infant in it must have considerable influence on the health of both afterwards. This Ward contains eleven beds. The number of occupants necessarily varies very much. On the night preceding our visit, including nurse-tenders and attendants, nine women and five infants slept in it. It is 43 feet 4 inches long, 19 feet 1 inch wide, and 13 feet 5 inches high; containing 10,929 cubic feet. It afforded to each individual of the number that slept in it the preceding night, 780 cubic feet of air, undergoing, by its ventilators, &c., a continual change. The floor is boarded. The light and supply of air are amply sufficient. The bed clothes for each bed consist of a thick cotton rug, a double blanket, and a pair of linen sheets, which appeared to be an adequate supply. The sheets and dresses are changed once a-week. The diet varies according to the nature and wants of each particular case; but, as a general rule, half a pound of bread and half a pint of milk are allowed daily to each infant from the time of its birth, and one and a half pints of milk, one pint of tea, one quart of whey, and from one to one and a quarter pound of bread daily, with gruel occasionally to the mother. Both mothers and infants appeared to be doing well, and the bedding and all the furniture of the Ward were cleanly and in good order.

Suggestions.—We beg to offer the following suggestions for improvement in the management of this Ward:—1st. The door of the Ward opens into the hall, so very near to the outside door opening into the yard, that some of the beds, and a portion of the Ward nearest the fire, where the infants are washed, are unavoidably exposed to draughts of cold air. We would suggest a continuation of the present screen, converting it into a box-screen, with a second door and spring-keeper, or some similar contrivance which would remove this defect.

2ndly. There is no want of a sufficient supply of fresh straw for the beds, whenever called for, but, in some, its short and broken state showed that it had not been changed for many weeks. The Nursetender, Daly, admitted that it had not been changed under one of the patients for five weeks. Neither is fresh straw always supplied to each patient on admission, its distribution being left to the discretion of the nurse of the Ward. It should be a regulation of the Ward to supply every bed with fresh straw on some appointed day in every fortnight, as well as on the reception of each patient, and with more frequent changes whenever required.

3rdly. There appears to be some irregularity, and occasionally deficiency in the supply of gruel to the lying-in women. Women in their confinement should have an ample supply of such nourishment.

4thly. We would strongly enforce the necessity of having an educated Midwife in charge of the Lying-in Wards instead of the present Nursetender, Catherine Daly, who is not qualified to undertake as much of the duty as falls to her share.

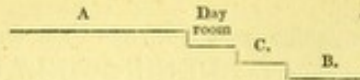
5thly. At the extremity of the Lying-in Ward is a small Ward appropriated to Patients after Surgical operations, and although there is a second door to it, the ordinary passage is through the Lying-in Ward. For obvious reasons, the connexion between these Wards is objectionable.

Day Rooms.—(Ward No. 52.)—This is the original Day-room, which had been occupied by nursing mothers with their children under two years of age, from the opening of the Workhouse in May, 1840, to the 24th December, 1841, with the exception of about four months spent by them in another Day-room. The number of Nurses in this room when occupied was generally about 30, and of children from 34 to 37. This room is 66 feet 7 inches long, by 14 feet 6 inches wide, by 13 feet 8 inches high, and contains about 12,009 cubic feet of atmospheric air, or about 180 cubic feet to each occupant. The house, of which this room forms a part, is built upon sloping ground, the floor of the room being one foot below the level of the yard (A) on the higher or North side, and 10 inches above the level

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of the yard (B) on the South or lower side, from which it is separated by the able-bodied women's Work-room (C), the floor of which is six inches above the level of the yard on the South side.



The room had been without a fire and unoccupied for some days before our visit—the floor and walls were perfectly free from damp.

This room has a Northern aspect, is badly lighted, and there are no means of affording sufficient ventilation without exposing the inmates to injurious currents of air. Another circumstance renders this room objectionable: in the upper part of the wall separating it from the able-bodied women's work-room, there are four permanently open ventilators, measuring 3 feet 6 inches by 3 feet. The work-room was very much crowded, and according to accidental circumstances of the door and windows being shut or open, portions of the vitiated atmosphere of this room must flow through the ventilators into the children's Day-room. Any communication between the atmosphere of the women's work-room and the room appropriated to the Nurses and children is objectionable.

For the reasons specified we cannot recommend Ward 52 as a Day-room.

On the opposite side of the yard, and with a Southern aspect, is the room (now converted into a Chapel,) which had been occupied by the Nurses and children as a Day-room for the period of four months already alluded to, viz:—From February to June last.

The floor of this room is flagged, and is slightly raised above the level of the ground immediately close to it, but it is four inches below the level of the old Day-room, No. 52. This room is 105 feet 8 inches long, 15 feet 3 inches wide, 8 feet 2 inches to eaves and 12 feet 3 inches to ridge of roof, and contains 16,260 cubic feet of atmospheric air, or about 242½ cubic feet to each occupant.

It is better lighted and ventilated than Ward 52, but a flagged floor is occasionally damp on the surface. The building is only one story high, and lies against the main building of the Workhouse, which rises three stories over it. From these and other objections, which it shares in common with Ward No. 52, we do not recommend it as a Day-room for the Nurses and infant children.

Dormitories.—*Ward No. 50.*—Occupied by nursing mothers and their children under two years of age, from the opening of the house to 6th of last November, runs North and South, and is two feet above the ground level and boarded. It has 14 windows, 12 of them 5 feet 7 inches in height, by 3 feet 6 inches in width, and 2 windows 3 feet 6 inches in height, by 2 feet 10 inches wide; seven of them with the upper sashes opening downwards, and four of them provided with ventilators the full breadth of the windows, and 6 inches wide; there are two fire-places and one door. This Ward is 62 feet 3 inches long, 20 feet 3 inches wide, and 12 feet high. It contains 31 double beds, with lateral inter spaces between the beds of about 6 inches. The number of Nurses sleeping in it averaged about 30 with as many Infants; on the occasion of a press for room in the house, 46 women and 35 children slept in this room for two nights.

This room contains 15,126 cubic feet of air, and supposing it to accommodate on an average 30 Nurses and 30 Infants, would afford to each individual 252 cubic feet of air undergoing a change through ventilators, windows, and fire-places.

We found the bedding of this Ward (reported to us to have been the same used by the nurses and children,) amply sufficient and clean.

In November the children were removed to Ward No. 42, where they remained for about five weeks. This Ward is two stories high, built over the rooms of the female Lunatics; on one side is a wing of the Workhouse 13 feet distant from it, and on the other side, at about a distance of 78 feet is the district Lunatic Asylum. The Ward itself is 76 feet 7 inches long, 17 feet 9 inches wide, and 16 feet 11 inches to ridge of roof. There are 12 windows 3 feet 6 inches, by 2 feet 6 inches wide, and one fire-place.

The same number of Nurses and Children being accommodated in it, this Ward would afford to each individual about 308 cubic feet of air. In respect to supply of air, this Ward is superior to Ward "50," but its contiguity to the Lunatic Asylum, its being lower than the buildings on both sides of it, and its distance from any room that could be used as a day-room, render it, in our opinion, not the most suitable for a Dormitory for the Infants.

On the 24th December the children were removed from this Ward, (No. 42,) to the Wards appropriated to infirm people, where they remained for only four nights. It is only necessary to notice this distribution of Infants among the infirm and aged, as one that should not be repeated. The Infants were removed on the 28th December to Ward No. 48, which they now occupy.

Present Dormitory.—(*Ward, No. 48.*)—This Ward has both Northern and Southern aspect. It is in the highest wing and in the highest story of the building, being 39 feet 2 inches to eaves, and having most free and open circulation of air on both sides. It has 14 windows, with the upper sashes coming down, the lower ledge of open part of window being 9 feet above the level of the floor. This Ward is in length 96 feet 10 inches, in breadth 19 feet 11 inches, and in height 12 feet 6 inches. At our visit it contained 29 nurses and 30 Infants. There is a separate bed allotted to each Nurse with her Infant. There were 16 able-bodied women sleeping in it, exclusive of the nurses in the Ward. The able-bodied women should be removed. Supposing this room to be appropriated solely to the Nurses

and children, and the average number to be the same, viz., 30 Nurses and 30 Infants, this room measuring 24,065 cubic feet would afford to each individual 401 cubic feet of air. The Ward on this point alone has great advantage over the two Wards we have previously noticed, independently of its enjoying on both sides a most free circulation of air. We have, therefore, no hesitation in expressing our decided approbation of this Ward, as the Dormitory for the Infants.

We have here to repeat what we have already noticed, with regard to the necessity of some certain day being appointed for a change of straw in every bed.

It may be well to give at one view the space allowed to each individual in these Dormitories:—

The allowance to each individual is in the Lying-in Ward,	No. 61,.....	780	Cubic Feet.
In Dormitory,	-	50,.....	252 "
"	-	42,.....	308 "
"	-	48,.....	401 "
In Soldiers' Sleeping Rooms at Royal Barracks, containing Accoutrements, Clothes, Arms, Tables, Forms, &c.,	-	378	"

In more modern Barracks somewhat more room is allowed.

The temperature of several of the Dormitories was taken at 12 o'clock at night, on the 4th January.

			Fahrenheit.
Closet,.....	40,	-	55°
Ward,.....	40,	-	55°
Hospital Wards, No. 63,	-	-	54
"	64,	-	52°
"	65 & 66,	-	55°

Suggestions.—The Ward No. 48, is at present occupied by the Infants and Nurses both as a Day-room and Dormitory, an arrangement which is not conducive to health or cleanliness. One of the most necessary means of preserving health in both old and young is by allowing a free and unobstructed circulation of air through their sleeping room for several hours every day. To insure this, the Nurses when sent out of the Dormitory in the morning, ought not to be allowed again to enter it before retiring for the night; and as some of the Infants require to sleep during the day, a bed with a screen may be appropriated for them in the Day-room, or what would be preferable, the small room connected with the proposed Day-room, would afford this accommodation.

There may be some difficulty in selecting a fitting Day-room for the Infants; more especially as we cannot, for reasons already specified, recommend either of the Rooms heretofore occupied for this purpose; they are at too great a distance from the present Dormitory, and in the morning and evening transit to either of those Day-rooms the Infants must be occasionally exposed to cold and wet. We would beg leave to suggest that Ward No. 43, directly under 48, and nearly equal in size, should be appropriated for that purpose. This room is well lighted, and possesses considerable elevation, the advantage of a double row of windows, and a Southern aspect.

The small rooms at the end of both Dormitory and proposed Day-room are useful appendages through which a communication may be opened between the Wards; and they can also be made useful in facilitating the adoption of arrangements for ensuring cleanliness.

Under the proposed arrangement, the Infant department would be self-contained, and the daily changes of the Infants from the one to the other Ward, unattended by risk of exposure to rain or cold; should any insurmountable objection exist to this arrangement, we would then propose Ward 54 to be substituted for Ward 53, but the greater dimensions of the former render it preferable.

Health of Nurses.—The Nurses appeared in good health, although deficient in their capabilities, as Wet-nurses. Three of them were in Hospital, one for an affection of the Lungs, the second for Hernia, and the third for a slight Febrile affection.

Food.—As the children up to 2 years of age are all at their mothers' breasts, the dietary of the Nurse attracted our attention equally with that of the Infants.

Each Nurse is supplied with two meals daily; breakfast at 10 and dinner at 4, the former consisting of 2lbs. and a quarter of thick Stirabout, and a pint of Sweet Milk; the latter of 3½lbs. of Potatoes, and a pint of Buttermilk. We examined the Milk, Potatoes, and Stirabout, and they appeared of excellent quality. A few of the Nurses are allowed Bread and Milk, under Medical direction, and they get a pint of Soup at dinner, every Monday and Thursday. These meals are taken in the common dining hall, after the other occupants have dined, the children in the mean time, being left in charge of some of the able-bodied females. No Nurse is allowed to carry away with her, from the dining-hall, any portion of her food. From 5 P.M. to 10 A.M. is too long a period for Wet-nurses to be without food, and we are of opinion that giving an evening meal of Milk Gruel about 9 o'clock P.M., is necessary to the health of mother and child; or what might be a better arrangement, the Nurses to have their morning meal at half past 8 or 9, their mid-day meal at 2 P.M., and their evening meal at 8 or 9 P.M., instead of the present hours. This arrangement, independently of its promoting a better supply of parent's milk for the Infant, would secure the Bread and Milk given out for the Children, being devoted to their own use.

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Children.—The Children up to 2 years of age are not separated from their mothers. We first examined the 28 Children in the Day-room. They were generally pale, with a soft flaccid state of the limbs, and the majority attenuated. A few, however, were comparatively more thriving, and more particularly two out of the five shown to us as having been born in the Workhouse, (one of seven, the other of eight months' old). Five of the Children had slight enlargement of the glands of the neck, the majority had been ailing and in Hospital once or twice since their admission. Of the 23 who came into the Workhouse, the mothers state that 15 were in good health on their admission, that the other eight were labouring under disease, and two of them stated that their Children had improved since admission. Of 42 Children in the Workhouse under 2 years of age, on our visit, 14 were in Hospital, 6 labouring under Affections of the Chest, some of them Phthisical, two had Diarrhoea, and 2 had Hooping Cough; one was suffering under disease of the Brain; one had slight Ophthalmia, one Tabes Mesenterica, and one had a slight Febrile attack.

The Hospital arrangements for the Children are defective. The Children labouring under contagious diseases, are not separated from other Children who may happen to be in Hospital at the same time; some cases illustrative of the inconvenience resulting from this came under our observation. This is a defect requiring to be remedied. Should severe epidemics make their appearance, it will be difficult to prevent them from spreading through adults as well as Children. The immediate insulation of a contagious disease, on its appearance among Infants, is peculiarly necessary, from the greater mortality occurring in the early periods of life.

Morbidity and Mortality of the Children under two years of age.—We found it impossible to arrive at satisfactory conclusions as to the actual amount of sickness that had occurred in the House; the want of separate Wards for the Children, and the difficulties necessarily attendant on the opening and formation of so large an Establishment, together with the Hospital Books returning frequently the names of both Nurse and child, where only one of them was under treatment, prevented our getting precise information on the amount of morbidity that actually occurred among the Children. We give however the following Hospital Report furnished to us, for twelve months, commencing May, 1840, the only period for which we could obtain a Return:—

Hooping Cough,	16	Herpes,	1
„ Complicated with Pneumonia,	6	Teething,	3
Consumption,	3	Scrofula,	1
Pneumonia and Consumption,	2	Small Pox,	3
Pemphigus,	1	Chicken Pock,	3
Do. and Consumption,	1	Ophthalmia,	10
Convulsions,	1	Hydrocephalus,	6
Small Pox,	1	„ with Consumption,	2
Bronchitis,	11	Remittent Fever,	4
Pneumonia,	6	Marasmus,	2
„ Complicated with Consumption,	1	Abscess,	1
Diarrhoea,	3	Convulsions,	5
Consumption,	8	Febricula,	1
Measles,	1	Worms,	1
„ with Convulsions,	1	Diarrhoea,	8
Scarlatina,	9	Cholic,	3
Itch,	1	Diseases not specified,	30
Pemphigus Gangrenosus,	1		

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The Tables of Mortality have however been accurately kept, and the following is the Report handed to us:—

Total Admissions from opening of House, 11th May, 1840, to	
1st January, 1842,	275
Discharged,	129
Died,	98
Remaining in House,	48

Which makes the proportion of those admitted, that died in the Workhouse, 35½ per cent.

It is difficult to form a perfectly accurate estimate whether this Mortality is above or below the mean mortality of Children under exactly similar circumstances; for, with the exception of the Report of the South Dublin Union Workhouse, we are not in possession of Returns from any similar Institution, where a constantly changing population under two years of age, the duration of residence varying from one day up to 19 months, forms an element of the question; and the difficulty is still further increased, by the Workhouse Reports not furnishing a statement of the health of the Children on admission. To afford all the means in our power of coming to a conclusion on the amount of Mortality in the North Dublin Union Workhouse, we subjoin the following data and calculations, derived from various sources, of the mortality of children under two years of age.

By the Report of the South Dublin Union Workhouse from its opening in April, 1840, to the present January 1842, it appears that there were—

Admitted,	208
Discharged,	86
Died,	74
Remaining in the house,	48

Which gives a mortality of 35½ per cent. on the admissions.

The Registrar-General's Reports for England have not yet extended over a sufficient period to enable us to draw any accurate conclusion from them.

The last Census for Ireland is not sufficiently advanced to afford us the necessary information. The Commissioners have, however, handed to us the only Returns made out, viz: from Drogheda and Tullamore, giving the ratio of deaths in relation, not to the births, but to the existing Population, under 2 years of age, for an average of 5 years: their Return gives a mortality—

In Drogheda of 26 per cent.
In Tullamore of 28 per cent.

M'Culloch in his Mortality Tables gives the following as the mortality of infant life in the Cities of London, Vienna, and Berlin. Of 1000 Children born at the same period in those Cities there will be alive at the end of two years in

London, 548, Vienna, 471, Berlin, 528,

giving 48 per cent. as the mortality of Children under two years of age in those three great Cities.

With the view of ascertaining as nearly as possible the rate of mortality among the children under two years of age in the poorest classes of our own country, we questioned the married women of the Workhouse, as to the total number of their Children, and the proportion that died under two years of age, before their admission into the Workhouse; we had the same enquiries made of the women who happened to be in the Lying-in Hospital, and of the women in the Mendicity. Our examination included from 200 to 300 women. Of 1000 Children born, 340 died within two years, being a mortality of 34 per cent. In Sweden the mortality of Children under two years of age including all classes of Society, is 25½ per cent.; in France 32½ per cent. The mortality of Children varies much in the different classes of society, being far greater among the poor than the rich, the want of food and of the necessary comforts having a serious effect in destroying infant life. The mortality of the Children sent from the Foundling Hospital of Vienna to be nursed in the surrounding country has been found to fluctuate according to the plenty or scarcity of the current season. In Paris the mortality among the Children of the arrondissements inhabited by the poorer classes is at the lowest calculation twice the mortality occurring in the arrondissements inhabited by the wealthier classes. The same has been observed throughout France; in the poorer departments one-fourth of the Children die within the 1st year, in the richer departments only the same number die within 5 years.

But the mortality still increases in deserted children, who with their other deprivations suffer the loss of the mother's care. The reports of the Foundling Hospital of Dublin are before us for 34 years, (its improved period) including from 1798 to 1831. Of 51,527 Children received into the house there died in the interval before being sent to nurse 12,153, being a ratio of 23 per cent. 700 were returned to their parents, and of the remaining 38,674 sent to nurse in the country, there died under two years of age 15,252, being a mortality of 39½ per cent. on the Children sent to nurse, the average annual mortality on the total number for the period of 34 years being 53.8-10ths per cent.

The Records of Foreign Foundling Hospitals, with very few exceptions, exhibit a much higher rate of mortality than even this.

The Police Commissioners have placed in our hands the Returns of deserted children found by the Police in the City of Dublin from the establishment of the Force in 1838, to the present time. In three of the Divisions the average time which the Children remained in charge of the Police being 4 days, is too short to permit us to draw any conclusion from their tables, and as the returns of the Fourth Division do not specify the time the Children remained in their charge we are also precluded from using them. The table of D Division gives us however very full information.

The number of Deserted Children found in this division from January, 1838, to January, 1842, amounted to 75, who varied in age from 1 day to 21 months, with the exception of one child, aged 2½ years; of the whole number 34 were reported healthy. The children were, on an average, about 5 months supported at nurse, out of the Police Fund. Of the 75, 42 are dead, being a mortality of 56 per cent.

We have applied to all the parishes of Dublin for returns of the Deserted Children, the number received and sent to nurse, the number that died each year, &c. In some of the parishes the books are either so badly kept as to be useless, or there are no books at all. The reply sent us, in one instance, was, that "the Overseers do not keep either a record of their proceedings, or a registry of the Children under their care. They trust to memory for the number and names of the children placed at nurse, &c." Similar answers have been received from others. The following are the parochial returns, we have succeeded in obtaining, of the mortality of Deserted Children under 2 years of age:

<i>St. Catherine's Parish.</i>					
Year.	Found.	Died.	Year.	Found.	Died.
1832,	4	—	Brought forward	14	1
1833,	2	—	1838,	2	2
1834,	4	—	1839,	2	1
1835,	1	—	1840,	6	3
1836,	2	—	1841	6	3
1837,	1	1			
	—	—		30	10
	14	1			

Mortality, 36 per Cent.

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<i>St. George's.</i>		
Year.	Found.	Died.
1836,	8	4
1837,	8	5
1838,	1	2
1839,	2	2
1840,	7	8
1841,	3	1
	<u>29</u>	<u>22</u>

Mortality, 75½ per Cent.

<i>St. Mary's.</i>		
Year.	Found.	Died.
1834,	22	12
1835,	18	14
1836,	19	14
1837,	23	6
1838,	21	8
1839,	30	13
1840,	7	8
1841,	8	8
	<u>148</u>	<u>83</u>

Mortality, 56½ per Cent.

<i>St. Peter's Parish.</i>		
Year.	Found.	Died.
1831,	5	—
1832,	16	4
1833,	9	9
1834,	32	8
1835,	25	14
1836,	20	17
1837,	24	13
1838,	19	13
1839,	17	8
1840,	20	8
1841,	20	9
	<u>207</u>	<u>103</u>

Mortality, 49½ per Cent.

<i>St. Mark's.</i>		
Year.	Found.	Died.
1836,	14	6
1837,	2	1
1838,	5	3
1839,	10	6
1840,	5	3
1841,	3	1
	<u>39</u>	<u>20</u>

Mortality, 51½ per Cent.

<i>St. Michael's.</i>		
Year.	Found.	Died.
1836,	—	—
to	5	3
1841,	—	—
	<u>5</u>	<u>3</u>

Mortality, 60 per Cent.

St. Michan's.

No Assessment.

Deserted Children given in charge to a Woman in Hammond-lane, until got into Workhouse, three out of four died in her charge.

Mortality, 75 per Cent.

St. Nicholas Within.

	Found.	Died.
Since 1834,	4	3

Mortality, 75 per Cent.

Ventilation.—We consider the modes of ventilation at present in use in all the rooms appropriated to the Children defective.

To render ventilation efficient, there should be 1st, abundant space; 2nd, the air should be ever changing; and 3rd, the room should be as free as possible from draughts. To secure the first we have recommended the exclusive appropriation of the large Wards, No. 48 as a Dormitory, and 43 as a Day-room. Although convinced of the advantages derivable from the number of occupants being strictly apportioned to the size of the chamber, yet as a favourable opportunity existed of testing the accuracy of the principle, we visited the Hibernian School in the Phoenix Park, and obtained its Medical Statistics for several years from Dr. Elkington.

These Returns give for the years 1828, 1829, and 1830, the proportion of 262 per cent. as having passed through Hospital, when the number of pupils amounted to 600, its full compliment, while only 187 per cent. passed through Hospital in the year 1832, 1833, and 1834, when the number of inmates, by a reduction of the Establishment, was diminished to about one half.

The decrease of deaths of the Infants of the Dublin Lying-in Hospital from 1 in 6 to 1 in 20 that followed the diminution of the number of occupants in the Wards, and introduction of improved ventilation, effected by the late Doctor Joseph Clarke, confirm the advantages of ventilation and the necessity of not permitting the number of occupants in the Infants' room of the Workhouse to exceed that at present accommodated. But no matter how large the chamber, or what number of cubic feet of air each person is allowed, unless its continual change be provided for, the air must become vitiated and injurious to health. Arrangements must therefore be made for securing a constant change or circulation of air, where so many individuals occupy the same chamber.

The ventilation at present is dependent on windows, doors, and chimnies, but as Dr. Birekbeck has very properly observed, "doors are for passages, windows are for light, and there should be apertures for ventilation." The windows constitute an excellent means of ventilation when the occupants are out of the Wards, and should then all be kept open; but the worst means when the occupants are within the Wards, as in the latter case it is impossible to prevent the inmates shutting them, and if left open, particularly unprotected as they generally are by any contrivance calculated to direct the currents from those within, it is doubtful whether they do not produce a greater degree of mischief than of good. The supply of so vital a necessary to human life as air, should be so provided for as to render it impossible that it could be interrupted by any accidental interference, whilst its introduction should be so regulated as to guard against converting one of the prime necessities of life into an active cause of disease.

Pending the institution of a more comprehensive system of ventilation, we would recom-

mend provision to be made for securing the supply and escape of 360 feet of air per minute, in each of the Infant Wards. The arrangements for effecting this should be independent of windows and doors, which may thus be kept closed, when the rooms are occupied.

The simplest and safest expedient for effecting this object will be the leading up several funnels or air-tubes from different parts of the ceiling in each Ward, to communicate with the external atmosphere, either by opening into the space between the upper ceiling and the roof, from which the impure air can be discharged through louvred windows, or these tubes may open directly through the roof itself, terminating with a cap, to prevent down-draughts. This object will be further accomplished, and the portion of air next the ceiling, which is usually the most impure, will be drawn into the tubes in horizontal currents, by placing at a few inches from the mouth of the air-tube within the room, a circular disc, spreading some distance beyond the aperture. Having provided for the exit of the vitiated air, some modification of the following plan should be adopted, in order to afford an equal supply of pure air. Several openings may be made through the sides of the Wards, at different points, on a level with the floor, over which perforated zinc plates should be secured, to regulate the admission of the air; the amount of air to be admitted through them being equivalent to that which escapes.

We would recommend the zinc plates to be perforated with holes of not more than one-eighth of an inch in diameter, and about one inch asunder. The air passing through will then enter the room in streams so fine and so far asunder from one another, that it will almost immediately, by its intimate mixture with the internal air, acquire a mean temperature.

Each ventilator may be a cast metal funnel let into the wall, slightly curved to prevent the lodgment of rain, with the wider or inner end one foot square, covered with the zinc plate perforated as described, and the outer or smaller end diminishing to an opening of two inches square.

Food for Infants.—Each Nurse receives for the daily use of her child, $\frac{3}{4}$ lb. of bread, and $\frac{1}{2}$ a pint of milk, both of excellent quality.

We are of opinion that for *very young Infants* a less solid food than bread and milk would answer better, such as barley or grot gruel, carefully made and fresh, with a greater or less proportion of milk according to their ages. Under the most favourable circumstances, the practice of mothers continuing Children at their breasts after the first year is questionable, but under the circumstances in which mothers in a Workhouse are generally placed, we look upon the practice as highly injurious, and one on which the prejudices of the parent however strong should yield. We doubt not therefore that taking the Children from their mother's breast at a year old at farthest, and at a more early period where a necessity is indicated, would tend considerably towards securing good constitutional health in Children at this period.

As a further means of effecting this object and preventing the occurrence of disease, an extra allowance of milk, animal soups, or at a more advanced age, even a small quantity of animal food should be allowed to those Children who are not thriving, although not fit subjects for Hospital.

Clothing.—Each Infant is provided with a calico shift, a flannel waistcoat, a linsey petticoat, and a check calico frock, and shoes; some of them also had socks and calico pinafores. The material of which the clothes are made is excellent, but the arms and chest are too much exposed; it would be conducive to the Children's health to have sleeves added to their present dresses, and to have them altered in conformity with those of the children from 2 to 5 years of age at present in the Workhouse. The clothing of the Children generally is in a more cleanly state than is usual with Children in similar walks of life in their own homes; but still not as cleanly in many particulars as it might be. No provision exists for guarding the Infant from cold on going up and down stairs from one part to another of the building, or even on going into the yards; but we were informed that when the Nurses and Children were occasionally brought out to the garden they have lately been allowed to wear their blankets for this purpose.

The Nurses ought each to be furnished, in addition to their present dress, with about two yards of wide druggel or baize, which they can wrap round their Children and themselves on their being exposed to changes of temperature: a precaution quite as necessary to preserve the health of the nursing mother as the Infant, and one which will deprive her of the only excuse she at present has for not being in the open air as much as her own and her child's health require.

Ablution.—The prejudice of the mothers against the use of the bath for their Infants was such that we were informed they had rebelled *en masse* against its employment; in fact, we found but one out of the 30 who gave her child the advantage of this adjunct to health—most of the others rested satisfied with washing the face, some the limbs, and a few the hands and arms of their Infants, but none of them washed the whole body. The health of the child depends so much on the proper performance of the functions of the skin, which can only be secured in infancy by the daily use of the bath, that this prejudice should be immediately overcome and a regular and safe system of Ablution introduced and persisted in; these observations would apply with equal justice to mothers and Children.

The Superintendent immediately in charge of the nursery and responsible to the Matron, is one of the Paupers themselves; she possesses no influence to enforce attention to the rules. There is a want of a fitting person to be placed over the nursery department, whose superior station and decision would give her sufficient weight and influence to introduce better habits in the nursery in this as well as in other particulars.

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Exercise in the open air.—There does not seem to be sufficient strictness in enforcing the rules upon this subject, yet upon their observance depends very much of the health of both Nurse and Child. We were informed that in this matter the Nurses were most intractable, many of them remaining with their Children confined to the Wards for weeks, despite the repeated solicitations of those placed in charge of them. Exercise in the open air, however, is so vitally essential to parent and Infant that it should not be left optional. In fact there should be an established order, for the Day-rooms to be vacated, and if necessary locked for several hours in each day throughout the summer, and for at least 2 hours every day, the weather at all permitting it, in winter. The Garden as being more open to fresh air and light, is much better adapted as a place for exercise than the Courts. In summer, benches ought to be placed in it. In winter it is safer not to have seats, as the more the Nurses move about whilst in the open air the better, but a shed should be erected in the Garden to afford them shelter when required; and in order to correct their indolent and sedentary life some light occupation ought to be imposed on them.

We have the honor to remain,

Gentlemen, your obedient servants,

EVORY KENNEDY, M.D.E., & T.C.D.,

Fellow of the College of Physicians, &c., late Master
of the Dublin Lying-in Hospital, &c.

D. J. CORRIGAN, M.D.,

Physician to the Hardwick Fever, and Whitworth
Hospitals, Lecturer on the Theory and Practice
of Medicine in the Dublin School of Medicine,
&c., &c.

To the Poor Law Commissioners.

MINUTES OF EVIDENCE.

Workhouse, Friday, 10th December, 1841.

Mr. Reid, Master of Workhouse, called in and examined by Mr. Hall.

1. Are you in attendance at the Board of Guardians when Paupers apply to be admitted?—10th December, 1841.
No, Sir; but the Assistant Master is.
2. Who makes the entries in the Registry Book?—The Assistant Master made them since I came here. Mr. Reid.
3. How long have you been here?—I think from the 30th of October, 1840.
4. How soon does your duty require you to see Paupers after their admission into the Workhouse?—Immediately after, Sir.
5. But you have nothing to do with making any entries as to the condition of the Paupers, or any other entry connected with the Paupers?—No, Sir; the Assistant Master does that.
6. You see the Paupers immediately after their admission?—I do, Sir, in mostly every case, on the evening of the day on which the Paupers are admitted.
7. Where are they when you see them?—In the Probationary Ward.
8. When you see them have the entries been made respecting the Paupers in the Registry?—No, Sir.
9. What is the course taken with the Paupers when you see them in the Probationary Ward?—There is a Ward Master who attends to undress the Paupers and have them washed and cleansed, and the House Clothing is issued to him, and he sees them clothed. I see what Male Paupers there are; the Matron sees what Female Paupers there are upon her side, and I see that man, woman, and child are clothed.
10. Do you supply any information as to the circumstances of the Paupers, which is to be entered in the Registry?—I do not, but the Assistant Master does.
11. When you see the Paupers in the Probationary Ward, do you examine them by asking them questions as to their bodily health, their cleanliness, freedom from disease, or the contrary—do you make any examination of that kind when you see Paupers in the Probationary Ward?—I cannot say that I do; I am no judge except of the cleanliness of them.
12. Are you in any way cognizant of the entry made in the Registry, or any other Book, as to the state of health of the Paupers upon admission?—I never make the entry; the Assistant Master always makes the entry.
13. Do you inquire when you see the Pauper in the Probationary Ward, with a view of ascertaining whether he or she has been seen by the Medical Officer or not?—Indeed I do not; there are many cases in which I did not make the inquiry, thinking that the Medical Officers might be in attendance themselves.
14. Have you in your possession the Rules of the Commissioners for the Government of the House?—Yes.
15. Are you aware that this is one of the Regulations, "*as soon as a Pauper is admitted, his or her name shall be duly entered in the Register, and he or she shall be placed in the Probationary Ward, or in some room to be exclusively appropriated for the purpose, and shall there remain until examined by the Medical Officer of the Workhouse?*" are you also aware of the following duty of the Master of the Workhouse, which is to be found in the 31st Section and 2nd Article:—"*To duly register the Paupers admitted into the Workhouse, and to cause them to be examined by the Medical Officer?*"—I am aware that these are the Orders of the Commissioners; the Assistant Master attends; but I am obliged upon the admission day to visit the House, which takes me till the admission of the Paupers is all over, and I am not ready to go near the Paupers till sometimes five o'clock in the evening.
16. Am I to understand that you consider the Assistant Master discharging the duty of the Master; that he sees the Paupers placed in the Probationary Wards; sees them examined by the Medical Officer, and superintends their cleansing?—He is supposed to do my duty during my absence.
17. But you are aware that it is prescribed by the Commissioners that no Pauper shall be admitted into the Workhouse till he has been examined by the Medical Officers; these are the instructions of the Commissioners—are they not?—Yes.
18. You say you see every Pauper after admission?—At the Male side of the House I see every Pauper; I see every Pauper admitted into the House after the Board breaks up in the evening.
19. Do all the Paupers enter the House at the same time the day of admission?—No; there are some of them I don't see that evening.
20. Do you see the other Paupers that come in, upon the same day, before they are sent to their Wards?—In many instances I do; and there is no Pauper sent to a Ward without the Ward Master letting me know. He asks me what vacancy there is, I ask him how he can accommodate the Pauper, and we consult together upon the subject.
21. Do you give directions that a Pauper is to be put into such or such a Ward, or do you leave it to the Ward Master to do so?—In many cases I leave it to him.

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Mr. Reid.

22. Does he see the Paupers washed or cleansed?—He is supposed to see them washed and cleansed, but he may not be present when the washing is going on; he may be drawing clothes out of the store at the time the Paupers are preparing to be dressed.

23. *Mr. Roper.*—The extent of your evidence would go to this, that you see the Paupers in general in the Probationary Ward, upon the evening of their admission?—In many cases it is so.

24. Is not seeing them in very many cases, seeing them in general? Is not your evidence this, that in general you see the Paupers in the Probationary Ward upon the evening of their admission?—There are so many Paupers that I cannot give an answer. There is not a Monday I do not visit them, but they may not be all there at the time.

25. I only ask you with regard to those in the Probationary Ward; you generally see them upon the Monday evening?—There may be some Mondays I don't even see them in the Probationary Ward, but there is no Monday I don't visit the Ward, sometime in the evening.

26. There may be some days that you do not see them in the Probationary Ward?—Not the whole of them, not the entire.

27. There never occurs a Monday evening that you do not go into the Ward?—As near as my recollection leads me there is not.

28. Could you go into the Ward without seeing them if they were there?—That is according to the time I may go round the House, at 9 or 5 o'clock. It is according to the time.

29. Are we to assume from your evidence that you look upon the Assistant Master as discharging all your duties, with regard to the admission and inspection of the Paupers, on the day they are admitted?—I expect that he does.

30. That being the case, what you have said as to the washing of the Paupers, and the general remarks that you make as to their cleanliness, is derived from the Assistant Master?—It is he who makes the entries. It is from him I take it.

31. What you have said regarding the inspection of the Paupers when washing, and their cleanliness, has been said from information derived from the Assistant Master?—Yes, Sir.

32. The Matron, you said, you believed, sees the Paupers at her side, you see those at your side, and you issue the clothing to the Matron?—I do, Sir.

33. Upon admission days?—Yes.

34. To the Females, also?—Yes, Sir.

35. Do you see the Females upon whose admission you issue the clothing?—No, Sir.

36. What did you state in this room last Wednesday week, after the Medical Officers had left the room, as to their examination of the Children and the other Paupers upon their admission?—I stated that I considered the Medical Officers did not examine any Pauper upon the days of admission.

37. You stated that you considered that Medical Officers did not inspect the Paupers upon the admission days?—No; I said that they did not inspect any Pauper upon the admission days.

38. *Mr. Hall.*—Did you mean to convey by that answer that you did not consider they inspected the Paupers that were admitted on Monday?—No, Sir, I did not. My reason for saying so is this, that I did not consider they inspected every Pauper upon admission days. Several of the Paupers admitted by the Monday's Board, get Passes to go out and come in again upon Tuesday, but the greater part remain here upon the day on which they are admitted.

39. Did you mean to convey by the answer you have repeated, that the Medical Officers did not inspect the Paupers who remained here upon the day of their admission?—I did not, Sir; I mean part of them; but I did not intend to convey that they did inspect any of them; I did not intend to convey that implication.

40. *Mr. Roper.*—Were you giving an opinion by guess, or stating a fact upon your own knowledge?—It is a fact upon my own knowledge.

41. Then you are quite sure the Medical Officers did not inspect the Paupers—every Pauper—the day on which they were admitted?—I do say they did not inspect every Pauper the day they were admitted; I do state so.

42. Were you in the habit of making any enquiry, whether it was necessary for the Medical Officers to see the Paupers in any cases?—In many instances I did, and in some instances I did not.

43. You have said that you are aware of the contents of the Commissioners' Orders, and that part of those Orders is, that all the Paupers should be inspected by the Medical Officers before they were cleansed and removed to their respective Wards. Have you not so stated?—I am aware that such are the Orders of the Commissioners.

44. And have you, knowing that the Paupers were not inspected by the Medical Officers, gone on classing, clothing, and mixing them with the other Paupers?—I confess that I did not.

45. Yes or No to the question; it is not a commentary upon it that I want?—I did not get the Medical Officers to inspect every Pauper. I did not.

46. In other words you classed, clothed, and mixed them with other Paupers, knowing that they were not inspected. Could they have been inspected without your knowing it?—They might after or before, but in many instances they did inspect them. They might be inspected without my knowing it in several cases—Yes they might, the following day.

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Mr. Reid.

47. But not upon the day of admission?—I am confident some Paupers were not inspected upon the day of admission, and if I did state that they were inspected, I would state what was not true.

48. Your obedience then to the Commissioners' Orders as to whether they were examined by the Medical Officers or not, was merely a matter of accident?—*No Answer.*

49. *Dr. Brady.*—What evidence have you to show that the Doctor did not see the Paupers after their admission. You stated in some cases that they did not see them?—There is one case when two or three individuals were admitted very late; I think after 6 o'clock, and I issued clothing to them.

50. What evidence have you that the Medical Officer did not see the Paupers?—They were sent to the Probationary Ward, and immediately clothed, so he could not have seen them; the Medical Officers were not in the house for hours before the admission of the Paupers; I certainly confess they might have seen and inspected them the day after.

51. And have you reason to think it was likely that they did or did not see them?—I cannot answer that question.

52. *Mr. Roper.*—If Paupers are admitted after hours—the Medical Officers not living in the house, unless they are informed of the admission of those Paupers the day after, how are they to know the fact, or get at the Paupers to examine them?—I suppose it would be my duty to send for them.

53. You take a long time to find out your duty.—[*Mr. Hall objected to the observation.*]—This observation is objected to by Mr. Hall; so then I will put it in the shape of a question. Don't you think you took a long time to give me that last answer?—Why I cannot exactly say that I did.

54. Did you ever apply to the Medical Officers to inspect Paupers when they refused to do so?—Never, they were always very attentive.

55. *Mr. Hall.*—Can you say what number of Paupers, admitted upon Monday, go out and remain out?—I cannot say.

56. Do a third?—I would think not.

57. Did I understand you aright when you stated that upon the day of admission, several of the Paupers were not seen by the Medical Officers, but that they saw them the next day?—Yes.

58. *Mr. Roper.*—Do the Medical Officers visit the Probationary Ward upon a Monday?—They do.

59. And see the Paupers?—I believe they do.

60. Is not the Probationary Ward Master to be as precise as possible in asking questions before the Paupers are mixed with the others?—Yes.

61. What means has the Doctor of knowing when an admission takes place at an unseasonable hour, except from your information?—The Apothecary generally sends in word if there is any case requiring his attendance.

62. Is it your duty or the Apothecary's?—It is mine.

63. *To Mr. Arkins.*—Did you not in answer to a question from Dr. Phelan, on last day, state positively, after a good deal of precaution, that the Doctor did not see the Paupers upon the day of their admission?—Not every Pauper.

64. Did you not state that day that they did not see the Paupers upon their admission—you did not qualify it at all; but did you not in answer to a question from Dr. Phelan, state that the Medical Officers did not see the Paupers upon the day of their admission?—I did not say every Pauper; I did not state that every Pauper was not inspected.

Mr. Beatty, called in and examined by Mr. Hall.

65. You are the Assistant Master?—Yes, I am.

66. Are you in attendance upon the Board when Paupers are admitted?—Generally.

Mr. Beatty.

67. Not always?—Indeed, I may say, I am there during the course of the day backwards and forwards; I don't know any day upon which I have been absent.

68. Is it your duty to see the Paupers immediately upon their passing the Board, upon their being admitted into the Workhouse?—I see them after they are admitted into the Probationary Ward.

69. When they are in the Probationary Ward, do you superintend their cleansing?—No, Sir, I do not.

70. Who does that?—So far as I know, it is done under the superintendence of the Ward Master, and two Paupers confidentially appointed for the purpose.

71. Does it form part of your duty to ask the Paupers upon their admission, as to the state of their health and cleanliness?—As to the state of their health, I do not think it falls upon me to make any enquiries, but an enquiry as to their cleanliness or appearance, I think does.

72. Is it part of your duty to see the Paupers in the Probationary Ward are visited and examined by the Medical Officer before they leave that Ward?—I never knew it was part of my duty to see that that was done.

73. You make the entries in the Registry?—I do, Sir.

74. Since when did you make the entries?—I think since August, 1840, with very little exception.

75. Tell me whether this is your handwriting in the Registry Book?—It is, Sir.

76. You see in column 8, under the head of "if disabled, description of disability," an entry made of the health of the Paupers?—Yes, Sir.

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Mr. Beatty.

77. I have taken at random the page beginning with No. 4081; in the first six cases, "good health," is entered in this column, then come "paralytic," "good health," "bad health," "rheumatism," "delicate." Now tell me, from what source do you derive your information as to the state of the Paupers' health, to enable you to make those entries?—From the Application and Report Book generally, entered by the Receiving Board.

78. Then what I see here in the Registry Book has been previously entered in the Application and Report Book?—Yes.

79. So you do not make yourself responsible for the accuracy of the descriptions in the Book?—The Guardians may have entered a Cripple in a good state of health, without specifying that he was a Cripple, I would add in the entry that he was a Cripple, in order that if he were discharged, I would know him the better again. I would make a remark also, if a man who wanted a finger were merely entered as in good health, that he wanted a finger, in order that I might know him more accurately, if I saw him again.

80. Am I to understand that in general you copy the entry in the Application and Report Book, but you make any addition to that entry which you think you are called upon to make?—Yes, that it might guide me to know the man upon his application for a discharge.

81. *Dr. Duncan.*—Do you know has there been any Board order that no Pauper admitted upon a Monday is to get a Pass till after he or she has been inspected by the Medical Officer?—I have heard it frequently said by the Receiving Board, not to allow any man out until he was inspected by the Medical Officer.

82. That, in fact, if any Pauper does leave the house before he has been inspected, he does so contrary to the stated agreement between the Board and the Medical Attendants?—For a length of time it was not allowed to be done. I gave particular orders to the woman, Mary Anne, not to let one Pauper out of the house till he or she was inspected by the Medical Officer, and it was the same at the other side of the house.

83. Do you believe that the Medical Officers are in the habit of going to the Probationary Ward upon a Monday to make the inspection?—Yes.

84. You think they usually do so?—Yes.

85. *Mr. Hall.*—Then your entry in the Registry is not made from any report of the Medical Officer, but merely from the Admission Book?—Yes.

86. And the entry made by the Guardians?—Yes.

87. In all the entries you have made in the Registry Book, you have left no blanks for the entry of health—the column for health is filled up?—Yes.

88. In case you found omissions in the Admission Book, with regard to the health of the Pauper, which, I understand are observable, what have you done; how have you got materials for filling up the column for health?—I do not know that there are any omissions by the Guardians.

89. I believe that No. 3030 is entered in the Register in your handwriting?—It is.

90. There is no note made in that case by the Board of Guardians, as to the state of the Pauper's health; but I find an entry made in the Registry Book respecting that Pauper in your handwriting, that the party was in good health?—In that case, when there is no entry by the Board, I act from my own observation, and from enquiry from the Pauper.

91. Do you question the Pauper?—I do.

92. Then we are to understand from you, and if I am wrong in my impression, you will correct me, that where the Board of Guardians make an entry of the health of the Pauper you copy that entry, and where you find no entry made, you question each Pauper personally before you make one?—I do.

93. *Mr. Roper.*—Did Mr. Reid at any time tell you it was your duty, upon the admission of a Pauper to see that the Medical Officer duly inspected him?—I don't think he did; because it was such a general rule, and so well understood that the Medical Officers did so, that I don't recollect he said it to me particularly.

94. Are you under the impression that your duty was to see that the inspection was made?—I did not suppose that it was my duty to see that it was done; I did not indeed.

95. You did not suppose it was your duty; you never got any instruction from the Master, or any order from him, to take care that it should be done?—I never did; but I always, as far as my observation went, inserted the entry, but did not know that I was absolutely responsible for it.

96. Did you conceive you received instruction from the Master regarding the inspection of the Paupers?—I stated, I believe, that the Admission Board invariably when a Pauper applied for indulgence to go out till the following day, said that he should be inspected by the Doctor before he got leave.

97. *Mr. Hall.*—Did you ever read the Commissioners' Orders for the conduct of a Master of a Workhouse?—I did.

98. Did you conceive they applied to you as Assistant Master?—I conceived it to be my duty to assist the Master upon all occasions.

99. *Mr. Roper.*—You say that you did not yourself superintend the cleansing of the Paupers, but that it was done by a Ward Master, and two confidential Paupers?—Yes.

100. How did you report upon the cleansing, if you were not by at it; how did you make up your mind as to their state?—From their general appearance—their ragged state.

101. Before or after they were washed?—Yes, before they were washed.

102. What do you mean by confidential Paupers?—There are several of them employed about the house, doing useful works, cleaning out the wash-room, for instance.

103. But surely all the Paupers employed are not confidential?—I don't know. Perhaps I have applied the term wrongly. They are well behaved Paupers. 10th December, 1841.

104. Who is the Ward Master, whose duty it is to superintend the washing of the Paupers?—There are such a variety of them, I cannot immediately say. I know Mr. Murphy had the duty. Mr. Beatty.

105. Whose duty was it last Monday?—It falls upon Mr. Murphy now.

106. Don't you think the inspection of washing was a duty of the Master or Assistant Master, or you were to report on it?—I believe, properly speaking, the Master or Assistant Master might superintend it, but when a Ward Master or Officer of the House is placed in that situation, I did not think myself responsible for it.

107. How soon is a Pauper who has been admitted, we will say upon a Monday, washed and clothed?—He is put into the Probationary Ward and not washed or clothed till after he has been inspected by the Doctor.

108. Then nobody is washed or clothed till after he has been inspected by the Doctor?—No.

109. How long is the practice of washing and clothing the Paupers upon the same day observed?—About eight months. Formerly the Paupers remained all night in the Ward—man, woman, and child—but all not in the same Ward. It was considered that they could not be washed and clothed properly till next day; but then the Board came to the decision that the place was crowded, that it was improper to have them in it, and that they should be clothed and washed as soon as possible.

110. Are all the Paupers washed upon being admitted into the house?—They are all washed before they are clothed.

111. You are sure of that?—I have not been present in the washing-room, but I am of opinion that they are all washed before they are clothed.

112. As you cannot speak positively, give us your belief?—I believe it to be the case.

113. That they are all washed?—Yes.

114. You don't wash them till after they have been inspected by the Doctor?—No, I think not; I am pretty sure not.

115. Does it not follow that if they are all washed, they are all inspected?—To the best of my opinion they are all inspected by the Doctor.

116. Does the washing begin before the Board terminates?—The Master is engaged during the day, and I am engaged till the Board breaks up, but immediately upon admission, the Paupers are sent in to the Probationary Ward, in the charge of two men.

117. Does the washing commence before the meeting is over?—No; I think not.

118. Have you observed the Guardians pay attention to the health of the Paupers?—They are, in general, very particular in interrogating the Pauper upon the state of his health.

119. Do they examine into the state of health in which the Infants are?—Yes, and they question the Mothers.

120. The general practice is to look to the Infant?—Yes, and the Doctor in general is more particular in looking to the Infant, to see if he has been inoculated or not. The Board examine the Mother also most minutely.

121. How does it happen that upon several occasions, I will show you from day to day, that not a single entry of the state of health in which man, woman, or child was upon the day of their admission, has been entered in the Book? What is the object of the Guardians in asking questions regarding the health of the Paupers?—To enter it in the book.

122. Don't you understand that it is the duty of the Master, or your duty, to see that every Pauper is inspected by the Medical Officer?—I did not consider it imperative upon me to do so.

123. Did you consider it imperative upon the Master to do so?—I cannot say that I considered it so; no, I did not consider it imperative either upon him, because his other avocations and duties led him away upon the day of admission, so that he was seldom there.

124. How do you know that the Paupers are actually examined by the Medical Officers?—I see the Medical Officers go into the Probationary Ward after the Paupers have been admitted.

125. Every day?—Yes, I see them attend the Board Room and follow Paupers out, if the case be a particular one.

126. Do you think that every Pauper who comes into this house, must have been inspected by the Medical Officers?—I cannot swear it, but to the best of my opinion they have been: the Doctors are always very angry if any man is let out without inspection; I remember one or two instances when a Pauper got a Pass to go out, the Doctors were very angry that any person should be permitted to go out through the house or get a Pass without their inspection.

127. Then if any person did so get a Pass, it was without their approbation?—Oh certainly.

128. *Mr. Hall.*—You have been questioned as to the omissions of Guardians; you are not responsible for their omissions, but let me ask if they omitted to fill up the column of health, how did you fill up that column in the Registry Book?—I did it from my own observation, and from questioning the Pauper.

129. When you found in the Board Book no entry as to the health of the Pauper, and when therefore it devolved upon you to make the statement regarding it in the Registry Book, had you recourse to the Medical Officer to know the state of health of the Pauper?—I had not.

130. You have stated that there was a Board order to the effect that Paupers admitted and allowed to go out when passed, should not go out till they had been inspected by the Medical Officer?—Yes.

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r. Beatty.

131. You allude to the case in which a Pauper being admitted into the Workhouse, is allowed immediately to go out?—Yes.

132. When that Pauper returned again at the expiration of two or three days to become a permanent inmate of the house, was he again put into the Probationary Ward, washed, clothed, and again inspected by the Medical Officer or not?—Upon his return he was put into the Probationary Ward, washed, and clothed, but I cannot say if a second time he was inspected by the Medical Officer.

133. Paupers let out upon Pass are, I believe, let out upon condition that they will come in at 10 o'clock the following day?—Some don't come in till 12 o'clock, but they come in upon the following day, because upon Tuesday the Registry must be prepared to be laid before the Guardians upon Wednesday morning.

134. In stating you believe that the Doctors see Paupers, are we to understand you as giving an opinion, or that you speak from personal observation, having been present when the examination was made?—I have not been always present when the examination was made, but I am generally there.

135. Are you usually present? Are you present generally?—I am not present generally.

136. And it frequently happens that the Medical Officers are in attendance upon the Board?—Frequently, at all Receiving Boards I have seen the Doctors present.

137. You have seen the Doctors present at all Receiving Boards?—Yes.

138. *Mr. Sinnott.*—Do you recollect the Medical Officers coming into the Board Room, and requesting that no Paupers should be allowed out of the gate till after their inspection?—I have said so.

139. *Mr. Hall.*—When do you make the entries of the admission of Paupers?—Upon the following morning; I commence the Registry at 10 o'clock.

140. When those Paupers are examined in the Probationary Ward, are they passed into the Wards at once?—No, not till clothed.

141. And is not that generally the case the same evening?—Yes, with those who remain in the house.

142. In those cases in which no entries have been made, do you go amongst the Paupers and ask them their state of health?—No, when they come to be registered in the Office, I endeavour to ascertain their state of health as well as my judgment will allow me.

143. When do you do this?—Upon the following morning after the admission of the Paupers, the Book must be always prepared upon Tuesday, and ready for the Board on Wednesday.

144. Do I understand you to say that in inserting the entries as to the state of the health of Paupers, in the Registry Book, you solely take the opinion of the Chairman or your own, but never that of the Medical Officer?—I never had anything to do with them.

145. I turn to No. 3314 in the Registry Book, and I find that the case so numbered, and the 13 following ones making 14 in all, are cases of children; and I see that in the Book you have entered in every case "good health" under the column of health, but upon looking to the Application and Report Book I find that the health of the children is in every case omitted; you therefore in those cases got no guidance from the Board?—No I did not.

146. You have stated that you do not apply to the Medical Officers for their opinion—what course did you take in those 14 cases to form your opinion?—The general appearance of the boys at the time of being Registered.

147. Their healthy appearance or otherwise? The persons to whom I allude are boys and girls?—Boys and girls whatever they were.

148. So you make your entry solely upon your own view of the child, and guided by such questions as you have asked the Mother?—Yes, the parents or the child; I take all the pains I can; they are not infant children, they are all deserted children and orphans.

149. This you did when making up the Book upon Tuesday, to be presented to the Board on Wednesday?—Yes.

150. *Mr. Roper.*—If any of those children, at the time when you were making up your Registry Book (after the washing, and clothing, and inspection of those children by the Medical Officers, which inspection according to your former evidence must have taken place before they were washed and clothed), were in such a state of health as to require them to be sent to Hospital, do you think you would have been informed of it?—I would, Sir.

151. *Captain Lindsay.*—You stated that the Guardians upon admission days were very particular as to the examination of the state of the health of the Infant Paupers?—Yes.

152. How comes it then to pass that page after page no notice whatever is taken of the state of the children's health?—I cannot say, but I invariably see them questioning the children and Mothers as to their state of health.

153. Are you capable of judging of the health of an Infant upon its admission?—I am not, Sir.

154. You might be deceived?—Yes, any Gentleman except a Medical Gentleman might be misled.

155. *Mr. Roper.*—Any person but a Medical man might be mistaken, certainly—you say you are not capable of judging of an Infant's health, are you capable of understanding plain English?—I believe so, Sir.

156. If you asked a woman whether her children were sick or in good health, would you understand her answer?—I think I would.

157. You think you would?—I am sure I would.

158. And have you when you put a question to a woman touching the health or otherwise of her children, truly and honestly recorded her answer in the Book?—I have.

159. You are quite sure of that?—I will swear that I am.

160. Did you ever know of any instance of a woman saying her child was sick when it was well, or well when it was sick?—No.

161. Did you ever see it pining when the Mother said it was well?—No.

162. If there was anything the matter with the children did the Mothers tell you truly that they were ill?—I think so, they generally make it appear that the children are in a bad state of health, to get more allowance from the Doctor.

163. Then they are more inclined to make the health of the children appear worse than better?—Yes.

164. You have truly and honestly recorded the answers you so received?—I have.

165. *Dr. Brady.*—Do you believe the women when they answer you—do you think they are answering you fairly?—I think they answer fairly, but I think they are inclined to make it appear that the health of the children is delicate more than otherwise.

166. Do you from your own knowledge of the past year, suppose the state of the Infants' health to be good or bad?—I have generally recorded the state of their health as good.

167. In such cases, not only when the Guardians made their observations but when you made yours in a general way, what is your belief within the last year, as to the state of the children's health?—I think they were generally presented in a bad state, and the Mothers in a very bad state, the children too, were presented in a very bad state.

168. Still you put them down in very good health, and you have taken the Mother's answer that they were in good health?—Yes.

169. When you have seen them in bad health, you have taken the Mother's answer rather than your own impression?—I have generally asked the Mother the question, and I think I have been more guided by the Mother's answer than my own opinion.

170. Does it not strike you that a Mother would suppose if she said the child was ill that it would be taken away from her to Hospital?—I don't know whether that would strike her or not, because she would accompany her child.

171. Are the Mothers upon their admission to the Workhouse, aware of those advantages?—I cannot say.

172. *Mr. Hall.*—Do you believe that the women upon their coming in are so well aware that a better allowance will be given by pretending their children are sick, that they make the children appear ill?—I think the generality of the women who come in here know the regulations of the House as well as the Officers.

173. You stated, that, according to your observation, a great many children were presented in a bad state of health; I then asked you how it came to pass that these children were entered in good health. Now supposing that a great number of Infants are presented for admission in bad health, according to your observation, I ask how it happens that they are entered in good health?—From the statement of the Mother.

174. I follow up that question by asking, if the Mother represented her child to be in good health, how could you reconcile that statement with your opinion, that the Mother generally wished to make out her child in worse health?—I cannot say, Sir.

175. *Mr. Barlow.*—You have stated, that when you had the Book to refer to, you have taken your entry from it, that is, where you found that the Guardians had made a proper entry; and where that was not the case, you interrogated the Mother; now let me ask you what you did in the case of orphans?—I brought the orphan into the Office and questioned it there.

176. What! question a child of 6 months old?—I do not recollect that any orphan who could not come to the Office was not recorded in the Book.

176*. I will show you some cases in which no entries have been made?—Suppose such were the case, I do not think that I would record the orphan in the Book without having seen that orphan.

177. In the case of an orphan 12 or 18 months' old, what course would you take to record the state of health of that Child?—From the appearance of the Child.

178. Then you go in quest of that Child if you find no entry in the Book regarding it, and from your own observation make the entry?—I do.

179. *Mr. Roper.*—Are we to understand that the Book is made up of three ingredients, namely—where orphans are unable to speak or give any account of themselves, you enter them according to your own opinion; where proper entries are made by the Guardians you adopt them; and where they are not made you take the answers from the Mothers?—I enter from the Guardians' Book if there be an entry; I enter from the appearance which the orphan presents to myself; or if the child has a Mother, I enter from her statement.

180. Are you aware how many Orphans there were in the first return of 100 Children?—I believe there were six.

181. Is not the fact of a child's being sent to Hospital, some test of its health?—Yes.

182. If you knew that a child had been sent to Hospital, would you have entered it in good health?—No, I would not.

183. Have you when you are making the entries upon Tuesday, any knowledge of the cases that have been sent to Hospital?—Yes, I have a knowledge of such cases, if the persons be sent direct to the Hospital, and are not able to come to the Office.

184. *Mr. Simot.*—Have you known a Child whom you have entered as being in good health upon Tuesday, sent to Hospital upon Wednesday?—I cannot well answer the question. I do not know.

185. *Mr. Arkins.*—You stated a few minutes ago, that to Mothers and Children who

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were in a bad state or a bad state of health; I ask you, did I understand you to say that they were in a bad state of health, or in a bad state from want and destitution?—Oh, I think from want and destitution, and from their emaciated and petty appearance.

186. But not in a bad state of health?—No.

187. *Mr. Hall.*—Don't you consider that a child who is in an emaciated and destitute state is in a sickly state?—As far as my observation goes, I think what led to the delicacy of the child, was the want of nourishment, or destitution of the Mother.

188. I ask you whether you do not believe that a child who is in a state of emaciation caused by want and destitution, is in a bad state of health?—Oh, certainly.

189. You stated some time ago that you asked the Mother, in certain cases, what the state of the health of the child was; that, while your opinion was that the child was in a bad state of health, you took the report of the Mother in preference to your own opinion, and entered the child as in good health?—I did.

190. Then am I to understand that you have done so?—Yes.

191. Did this occur in many cases?—I don't doubt but it did.

192. Then am I to understand that you did, in many cases, enter as being in good health, Children whom you yourself would have decided to have been in bad health, emaciated and weakly?—I considered myself not capable of judging as to the health of a child, and I preferred the answers of the Mother to my own opinion.

193. Have you had any reason to suppose that the Mother imagined your questions regarding the health of her child to refer to infectious diseases?—I cannot say.

194. When you ask a Mother "is anything the matter with your child," which, in all probability, is the form of questioning used by you, have you ever had reason to believe that the Mother thought you were asking whether the child was labouring under an infectious disease?—I cannot say; I think the general way was, when I asked what state of health the child was in, she replied "good" or "bad," as the case might be. I was not very minute, only from the appearance of the child, and I preferred the statement of the Mother to my own opinion, not being capable of judging.

195. Don't you consider it exceedingly probable that a Mother bringing a child into an establishment of this kind, where there were other children, might apprehend that her child would be refused if it had any infectious disease?—No. I don't think Mothers ever laboured under that opinion, because I have seen this happen at the admissions below when the children came in—a child was brought in with measles or some other infectious disease; the Board immediately sent for the Doctor to have that child examined and sent to Hospital; so I cannot say that the Mother laboured under any impression of the child being refused if it laboured under an infectious disease.

196. *Captain Lindsay.*—I want to know how you can reconcile the fact that children are entered in the Registry generally as in good health, if the Mothers said they were sick?—I take the statement from the Mother.

197. I understand you to say that the Mothers generally represent their children to be sickly, in order that they might get a greater allowance; how does it almost always come to pass that the children are entered in good health?—It either proceeds from the statement of the Mother to me, or from the Application and Report Book.

198. *Mr. Hall.*—How then have you detected the inclination on the part of the Mothers generally to make it appear that their children are in bad health, rather than good; what led you to form your opinion with regard to the Mothers?—From their being under the impression that they would get more allowance, and be better taken care of.

199. Then it is your own surmise that they wished to represent their children in a worse state. I do not see, from your own evidence, upon what ground you have formed your opinion that the Mothers wished to make their children out sick when they are not so?—It is only a matter of opinion.

200. How have you detected the Mother's disposition to conceal the real state of the child's health, and make it appear that it was worse than it was in fact?—When I came to question the Mother as to the state of her child's health, I might say to her,—“What is the child's state of health,” she would reply that it was in “good” or “bad” health, as the case might be. I would then ask her what inducement she had for saying that the child was in such or such a state of health, and in some instances she would say, “Oh, that it would be better taken care of if she said it was ill.”

201. Then this is a case precisely the reverse of the other, in which a Mother represented her child to be in bad health when it was in good. You have questioned her, and brought her to confess that her child was in good health?—I was not particular in taking down the state of the child's health from my own personal knowledge; perhaps I did it in a very careless way from not being a competent judge.

202. I think that is exceedingly likely, but I wish you to understand the question. The fact of the Parents of sickly children, or the children themselves, being better off than those who were healthy, might be known to you, and you might consider that the Mothers of the children were also aware of it, and that it was an inducement for them to say the children were sickly when they were well; but you said you perceived a disposition upon their part to say that they were sickly when they were in good health. Now, I wish to know whether you have actually perceived that disposition so to misrepresent the facts?—I think I have perceived a disposition upon the part of the Mothers to state that the child was delicate or sickly.

203. Then how does it happen that with this disposition upon the part of the Mothers

to state that the children were sickly, with your opinion that for the most part they were emaciated and delicate, the ultimate result in general was that they were entered as in good health?—I cannot satisfactorily answer that question, except that I must have entered them in a careless manner.

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204. Then I understand you to account for there being such a large number of instances in which the children are entered in good health, by rather a striking circumstance, namely, by the admission that you made the inquiries in a careless manner, not being competent to arrive at a knowledge of the case?—That is the fact.

205. *Dr. Duncan.*—Do you know that any child has been admitted into the house in good health? To the best of your knowledge do you think any child has been so admitted?—I think there has.

206. Can you give any comparative estimate of the number of the children who appeared in delicate or good health, except by guess at the moment?—No, I cannot.

207. Do you think the entries in the Book have been fairly made, without the wish to go either to one side or the other?—(No Answer.)

208. *Mr. Roper.*—Have you made those entries with an honest intent?—They have been recorded as fairly, to the best of my judgment, as they could possibly be.

209. *Dr. Duncan.*—Do you mean to say you think yourself chargeable either with carelessness or want of veracity in making those entries?—I have entered them, as I stated before, according to the Mother's statement, and according to the Application and Report Book; in some cases, I may have exercised my own judgment, but not very particularly. Not being a competent judge, I might have made an error in recording a child in good health when it was in bad; or I might have recorded it in bad health when it was in good.

210. Have you made such an error frequently?—I cannot say I have, but I would not do it intentionally.

211. Can you now, judging from your memory, give a more accurate account of the average state of health of the Infants admitted into the house, or would a reference to the Book help you in giving an answer?—I cannot either from memory or a reference to the Book give a satisfactory account of the state of the health of the children upon admission; I cannot do it.

212. So we will get no information from you upon the subject?—I might refer to the Book, but when the case is past me a month or two, I can have no more recollection of it than the Commissioners themselves have.

213. Do you think there have been many Infants admitted in a good state of health—we are not asking you the question as a medical authority, but what is your opinion on the subject?—I think there have been many Infants admitted in a good state of health.

214. *Mr. Arkins.*—You have stated that the women and children appeared to be in a bad state from want and destitution? You of course saw them in the house in a few days afterwards?—I may or I may not have seen them.

215. But if you had seen them, did their condition appear to have been improved after their being cleansed, given clothes, and comfortable diet?—In appearance they did.

216. Their destitution appeared to be improved?—Yes, they improved when clothed.

217. These are the class that come into the house in a very bad state of destitution?—Yes.

218. According to the best of your opinion from any view you took of the situation of the children at the time they were presented for admission till they were two years of age, were the majority in a good or a bad state of health?—I think that the majority were in a bad state of health.

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Mr. Beatty, re-called.

219. *Guardians.*—You stated to us that when the entries were not made by the Admitting Board, regarding the children's state of health, you made them yourself, according to the best of your ability, from the representation of the Mother and your own observation of the Infants?—Precisely.

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Mr. Beatty.

220. And you seem to have arrived at an extraordinary conclusion, that you entered them often in good health, although the representation of the Mother was that they were in bad health?—[This question was objected to.]

221. When you passed the Infants, was it before or after they were inspected by the Medical Gentlemen?—I should imagine that I have passed them after they have been first admitted by the Reception Board. I was not exactly present when the Doctors inspected them, but they are shown into the Probationary Ward, and I understand are there inspected by the Doctor.

222. Was the inspection by the Doctor before or after they were cleansed—recollect, because I understood you to say that it was after you took down whatever entry was made, that they were inspected by the Medical men?—Oh! no, it is before they go into the Probationary Ward, because they go into the Female Ward, into which I do not go, where the Infant Children are.

223. Although you might have entered in the Book that the state of the children's health was good, either from your observation or the representation of the Mother; have you ever

11th December, 1841. known whether any of those Infants were sent to Hospital or not?—I cannot say what time they were sent to Hospital.

Mr. Beatty.

224. From the state in which they appeared to you to be or were represented to be by the Mother, what was your opinion with regard to the propriety or non-propriety of sending them to the Hospital?—I should imagine that if the Doctor found them in a bad state of health he would have removed them to the Hospital.

225. Which do you think the Mother of the child or yourself the better judge of the state of health in which that child is?—The Mother, I would say.

226. Do you believe the Mother?—that is a plain question—why hesitate?—I am inclined to believe the Mother's statement of the child's health; I don't know that there is anything to induce me to believe otherwise.

Witness.—Would it be any harm, Mr. Chairman, for me to amend an answer I gave yesterday?

[*Mr. Hall.*—No.] Captain Lindsay asked me a question upon my stating that Mothers represented their children to be in a worse state of health than they really were, as an inducement to the Doctor to give them better allowance. I mean to say by my answer that the Mothers held out these inducements two or three days after the admission of the children. Captain Lindsay asked me why I recorded the children in a good state of health if the Mothers represented them as in a bad state?—There are two classes of Infants, the first class get three quarters of a pound of bread and a pint of milk per day; the second class get a naggin of milk and a quarter of a pound of bread for breakfast, and the same for dinner; and Mothers have made it appear that their children were sick in order that their children might get upon the higher class allowance.

227. *Mr. Hall.*—Are we to understand you have not observed in Mothers, upon their admission, a tendency to make the state of health of their children appear worse than it really was?—No, it was after their admission, and it was done then to induce the Doctors to remove the children from one diet to another.

228. Then do you think that Mothers make out that the state of their Infants' health is better on admission than after it?—I cannot state whether they meant to represent it as better or not, but upon recollection I found that Mothers made it appear that their Infants were worse two or three days after they had been admitted.

Mr. Roper, examined.

Mr. Roper.

229. *Mr. Hall.*—Are the entries in this Book in your handwriting, as Chairman of the Board for the admission of Paupers?—Yes, as Chairman of the Board of Guardians then sitting for the admission of Paupers, and very great care is apparent in making the entries, for a variety of denominations are put down.

230. Here are twenty-one cases, for every one of which there is some entry made with reference to the health of the Paupers; are you prepared at this distance of time, to describe the precise way in which that information was gained?—I am prepared to state that it was from personal inquiry from Paupers upon admission, and from anything that struck us with regard to the child's health, which induced us to ask, "Is not so and so the matter with you." Here in this Book is one case entered as "cancer," another as "asthmatic," another as "disabled," and some as "delicate." Here a child of 21 months old is entered as delicate; here a girl of 24 years is entered as delicate; Fanny Roe, 11 years old, is entered as delicate. I think you would almost suppose I was a Medical Officer from the very great variety of diseases which I have detailed. Here is an entry for "cancer," then "good health," "asthma," "infirm," "disabled," "delicate," and a great variety of such headings, representing the state of the Pauper's health.

231. These entries were made without any reference to the Medical Officer?—Certainly without any reference to the Medical Officer.

232. I turn to the entries of the 9th December, 1840; are these entries also in your handwriting?—They are.

233. In the same capacity as Chairman of the Board?—In the same capacity as Chairman of the Board of Guardians.

234. Did you take the same trouble to record those entries as in the other case?—No, I did not.

235. Here are a number of cases; they took place on the 10th of January, 1841. Here are 15 cases admitted by the Board at which you presided, and I find that in no instance upon that day, is any entry made of the state of the Paupers' health upon admission?—I see none.

236. Can you give any account of the apparently different mode of proceeding upon these occasions, from that pursued in former instances?—The Deputy Master stated in the Board Room, that when he was filling up the Registry, he would make the entries all critically, according as the Doctor stated them; and I have more than once heard the same thing stated.

237. Then I am to understand from that answer that you omitted to make the entries, considering that more correct and accurate entries would be made by the Officers after an examination of the Paupers by the Medical Officers?—Yes, after the Paupers were stripped and examined, the entries regarding their state of health could be much more accurately made than we could make them.

238. Of course you are not aware of the practice of the Assistant Master to enter the

state of the Pauper's health without reference to the Medical Officer?—If I had been a Commissioner I would have seen that my orders were better complied with than they have been in this house. 11th December, 1841.

Mr. Roper.

239. Is that your answer?—Yes, I took it for granted that the orders had been complied with.

240. You are aware that the Board of Guardians is constituted for the express purpose of managing the house according to the orders of the Commissioners?—I really don't consider the Board of Guardians to be the menial servants of the Commissioners, nor bound to see the Paupers washed, stripped, and cleansed.

241. These are the words of the 27th section of the Act: "*And such Boards of Guardians shall have power to govern and manage the Workhouses of their respective Unions, and to direct the Officers of such Unions in the execution of their duties, subject to the orders of the Commissioners.*" Do you conceive the Commissioners are wrong in contenting themselves with issuing orders for the management of the Workhouse to the Board of Guardians, and relying upon them to see them carried into effect?—I think when power is so divided, as amongst a Board of Guardians, that the strictest superintendence of the Commissioners is a very necessary thing.

242. That is an opinion?—I was asked an opinion.

243. Is it consistent with your answer, that the Board of Guardians were not the menial servants of the Commissioners, to state that you conceived a more strict superintendence over the Board to be necessary?—I beg to explain. I state that with reference to the general superintendence of the Commissioners over the general management of the house, the same as a zealous, active Guardian would himself exercise. The Commissioner is armed with more power than the whole of the Guardians collectively, and he has a power to visit neglect upon the Officers in a way that, I conceive in many cases, would be much more effectual than any judgment that is likely to come upon them by a majority of the Board being obtained to agree to it.

244. I now ask you, whether in your opinion, it is more consistent with the principles on which the Board is elected, that the Commissioners should act through them and by them, over subordinate Officers, or pass them by always, and bring their own authority to bear upon the Officers without reference to the authority of the Board?—I think that if circumstances come to their knowledge of misconduct or neglect upon the part of the Officers of the Establishment, there would be a courtesy exhibited in bringing these circumstances before the Board of Guardians; but at the same time I think, if the Board did not concur with the Commissioners with regard to the punishment of the parties for the neglect complained of, they would be perfectly right in acting independently of the Board.

245. Do you mean to say, that the case in point was one which called for the Commissioners to act independently of the Board? was it one in which the Commissioners were to presume that the Board of Guardians were ignorant of the duties to be performed by the Officers, and the regulations for the discharge of those duties, or that the Board were neglecting to enforce them?—I do not think there is any entry or any account in all the Poor Law Books so necessary to be kept with accuracy, as a true account of the state of the Paupers' health upon admission; and for this reason, that the probability of an enquiry such as this is, becoming necessary, was anticipated before the law was put in force; and now that the enquiry has taken place, we find that a great impediment is thrown in the way of it, by not having a report which could be implicitly relied upon as to the health in which the Paupers were admitted. Does not that prove that which I say was necessary.

246. *A Guardian.*—After the 11th of January, it would appear that you omitted to record the state of health in which the children were, from the idea that the Assistant Master would record it more correctly; did you continue to adopt that course?—I am not aware that I ever sat as an admitting Guardian afterwards.

247. The inference is that if you had so sat, you would have continued to adopt that course?—I would not say I followed it strictly through.

Mr. Barlow, examined by Mr. Hall.

248. These entries in the Application and Report Book, (May 1840) appear to have been made by you as Chairman of the Admission Board. In looking over the entries I find a great number to which your initials are affixed. In four of the five first cases there is an entry made of the state of health in which the Pauper was when admitted. The first is "old age," the second, "Epilepsy," the third, "weak intellect," the fourth, "leg broken," but after these entries there are none at all for the remainder of the day when you presided. Can you account to us for the omission of the entries?—The only way is as follows—in the first place, on the occasion to which you refer there was a great deal to be done. I did conceive that the Medical Gentlemen always examined the Paupers after their admission; and I did not think myself competent to form any judgment as to the state of the Paupers' health; I did not conceive myself competent, further than to ask the questions of the Paupers and take down their answers. I knew a proper judgment would be formed upon the cases afterwards, at the same time, I think I was wrong in taking that course. I very seldom attended the Admission Board: there certainly is a great deal to be done there; and I must add, that as far as my own observation went, I examined the Paupers from whom I got answers; but it was not my practice to examine any of the children as to their state of health; nor did I pay particular attention to a child, unless there was something so striking about its appearance as to excite it. Mr. Barlow.

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Mr. Barlow.

249. Did you ever feel that Mothers strove to excite the commiseration of the Guardians to whom they applied, by stating that their children were unhealthy, when they were not so?—No, I never did. The extremity of distress and destitution upon view, always claimed a preference with us for admission, and if there was any leaning in the parents as to themselves or their children it certainly was not to represent their state as better than it really was. My own observation leads me to say that the great proportion of the Paupers who presented themselves for admission, particularly the children, were in an emaciated miserable state.

250. Was it your opinion, from your own observation, that the children for the most part presented themselves for admission in such a state of emaciation and destitution as to constitute a sufficient claim for admission, without the additional reason of positive bad health?—Undoubtedly, I would say so. I cannot conceive any Gentleman, being much in the City of Dublin, who has seen as I have, a number of unfortunate objects presenting themselves at the Workhouse for admission, would doubt the state in which in general they come into the house.

251. *Mr. Arkins.*—You recollect the opening of the House?—I do.

252. Did you attend frequently the Admission Board during the first 6 or 8 months?—Much oftener than afterwards.

253. I believe you very seldom attended the Admission Boards at the opening of the House?—No; I say I much more frequently attended it then, I think, than afterwards; but the Attendance Book will show that. Although I say that, I scarcely ever passed the Admission Board by. I generally waited in that room and attended to what was going forward, for half an hour or an hour; it may have been more or less, but I was every Monday more or less in that room; and if anything particular occurred, my attention was attracted to the case by the members of the Board.

254. Might I ask you was the state of destitution in which the children appeared, the consequence of cold and want of clothing, or did it arise from bad health and disease?—I would say destitution arising from poverty, and probably from the same cause there was disease; but I will not say that positively. In general the child had the appearance of being in a very miserable state; I will not say however that this state was from disease, for I am no judge in that respect.

255. Did you perceive the female paupers or adults coming into the Workhouse upon their first admission, to be in a proportionate degree of destitution to the children?—I think the children were in a far worse state.

256. Is that from destitution or ill health?—Of course a child must suffer more or less from ill health if in a state of destitution. A young child will suffer more from sharing in the destitution and misery suffered by its mother, than she will. That is all I want to say.

257. I asked you did you not see the adults, particularly the females, appear in as great a state of wretchedness and destitution, as you could see any where?—Undoubtedly, I have seen a great deal of misery and destitution.

258. That was upon their admission?—I think in general.

259. Did you not, in the course of 8 or 10 days after their admission, perceive the visible change in those people, when they have got warm clean clothing, bedding and food?—No; I would not say I observed any change in so short a space of time, but I have seen a change in two or three months.

260. Then the answer is, that the adult paupers, after receiving proper treatment in the Workhouse, in the course of two or three months, became improved in their condition and appearance?—That is my opinion; but I would also observe, that I can very well understand that the shock which a child's constitution has sustained will not be recovered by its being brought in here, in the same time and in the same proportion, if ever recovered, as the constitution of an adult pauper.

261. Now that we are upon this question, do you think that delicate children are likely to be restored to health, by 130 or 180 of them, being placed in one room together, under the care of a single pauper? [*Mr. Hall objected to this Question.*]

262. *Mr. Phelan.* What was your general impression as to the state of a child under two years old, upon admission?—I think I have answered that.

263. I want to ask it in a plain way, so that every one will understand it. I want your general view of the state of a child's health under two years of age?—As far as my observation went, but I did not pay particular attention to any class of paupers; but as far as my observation went, I would say that they came into the Workhouse just as I would have expected them to have come in, miserable in appearance from want of food, proper care, and the nourishment which young children should receive.

264. But do you not mean to say that this miserable appearance proceeded from disease?—I did not say disease; but I said the state of health in which they were.

265. I don't want to pin you to the word disease; but I ask you their state of health—whether good or bad, so far as you are capable of judging?—I can give no other answer, and I am very anxious to give another if I could. My answer is, that the children in general appear to me to be in a very miserable state—a wretched miserable state; but I account for it entirely from the places from which they were taken, the class from which they came, and the utter destitution in which they were, and in which young children suffer more than adults.

266. Am I to understand that the children were not labouring under ill health, but their parents were, from destitution?—I cannot say so. I must refer this question to the Medical Officer.

267. You have described the child as being in a certain condition, destitute, emaciated and

wretched; is not such a condition very likely to be productive of bad health; and is not the transition from that state to bad health imperceptible?—How far good food and good clothing and lodging may remove that appearance I cannot say, but I can conceive it might be removed; and I might also conceive that no food and no lodging could do it; but I am not a competent judge.

268. *Mr. Roper.*—Don't you think that their filthy and dirty condition when brought in would aggravate the appearance of their misery; and that if they were washed and cleansed you might have thought better of them?—I do.

269. How soon after a child was admitted, did you know it to be in the Hospital?—I cannot tell.

270. *Mr. Hall.*—How soon after admission are children placed in their proper Wards?—I would say very soon after.

271. Had you then an opportunity of forming any opinion as to their state of health, or to their bodily condition?—Yes, I had to a certain extent. The children I saw in this situation were children who were removed to Hospital for being in an ill state of health, and they were placed there because they appeared to be in a bad state of health, but what portion they bore to the entire children of the house I cannot say.

272. There are a certain number of children not supposed to be sick enough to go to Hospital?—I saw those also, and I thought they were looking very delicately; but how long they were in the house I cannot say.

Mr. O'Gorman, examined by Mr. Hall.

273. I see your initials here as Chairman of the Admission Board—In some of these cases there are entries of the health of the Paupers, "bad health" for 4 together, "good health" for 6 together, will you state to me what your impression now is as to the correctness and accuracy of those entries?—I did not annex my initials to the entries of the state of health in which some Paupers were, because I conceived that the Medical Officers were the proper persons to judge of the fact, and that our entries upon the subject would necessarily be incorrect—at least imperfect. I felt that these cases were to be decided by a more competent authority than I was, unless the case before me was a palpable one, and the creatures who presented themselves for admission seemed to be labouring under absolute disease, I did not make entries: we were very frequently hurried in the course we took, so I regarded those entries as of very little consequence.

Mr. O'Gorman.

274. As you have had some experience in these matters, I would ask you to give us your impression of the general bodily condition of the children seen by you in the House, soon after their admission into it?—I conceive that the Mothers and children are seldom presented before us, except in the utmost state of destitution; I don't think they like to be confined at all, and will not come to the House till they are reduced to the lowest pitch of human misery. I did see great wretchedness amongst them from time to time, and when we were told that the House was too full we were placed in this position—first, that if we turned them from the door they might perish outside; secondly, if we took them in, there was danger of contagion; that was a dilemma in which we were frequently placed.

275. *Mr. Roper.*—In short it was better for them to die in the House than in the street?—I considered from the crowded state of the house that there was great risk to life in taking them in.

276. Were not many children whom you thought great objects of distress, refused admission from want of room in this house?—Yes, from time to time, there were.

277. You say that women did not present themselves for admission here till the last moment?—I say that was my opinion.

278. You say they did not like to be confined?—I say that was my opinion, too.

279. Do you think the confinement has agreed with them?—With the women?

280. No, the children?—Why, the women and adult I think look a little better than when they came in.

281. Is there a proportionate improvement as regards the children?—If I am to judge from the number of deaths, I should think there was not a proportionate improvement in the children. Though I say this, I was very frequently surprised at the improvement I observed in some of the children after being here for a period of two or three Months.

282. Don't you think it very possible, taking them as two classes, that what may answer very well for the adult is very injurious to children?—I do.

283. You are just after stating that the Board frequently came to the determination that there was no room in the House, and it became a choice of evils either to let them die of destitution in the streets, or take them into the House and endanger contagion at the risk of contagion; now, I ask you can that observation apply to the first Twelve Months after the opening of this House?—Oh, certainly not, because we had abundance of room then.

284. *Mr. Hall.*—Did you pay particular attention to the state of the Paupers, who presented themselves?—The impression upon my mind always was, that they were exceedingly wretched; when I went into the Board Room, the impression upon my mind always was, that I was to see nothing but wretchedness. I mean when admitting a family—a father, mother, and child, for instance.

285. Did you conceive it to be a part of your duty to pay particular attention to the person of each Pauper?—Yes, consistent with the answer I gave you, namely, that I thought

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an account of the child's health would be given more perfectly, and with less risk of error by a Physician or Surgeon than by me.

286. *Mr. Roper.*—When you said you observed a great improvement in a child after being here two or three months, do you refer to the children in the School Room?—I mean the children that were running about; as to the very young children, whom I saw at the Board, in many instances, their cases seemed to be quite hopeless, and if I were to see my own child in the same situation in which many of those children were from want, I would think his case hopeless.

287. *Mr. Hall.*—When you state that you considered the cases of the children hopeless, you mean, when they were presented for admission?—Yes; they were very weak, wretched, and worn out.

288. You considered them hopeless?—I would say that if my own children were in such a situation, I would be very much alarmed for their safety.

289. *Mr. Arkins.*—You mentioned that in the first twelve months of the existence of the Institution, the crowding of the Nurseries did not occur, because there was sufficient room to accommodate the children?—My answer related to the period in which there was abundance of room; it did not relate to any period when the Institution was crowded.

290. Are you not aware that during the first twelve months some of the Nurseries were as crowded as they have ever been since?—As well as my recollection serves me, I think they were, in some instances; my answer alluded to a period when the House was not crowded.

Captain Lindsay, examined by Mr. Hall.

Captain Lindsay.

291. I perceive that there were several occasions on which you presided, as Chairman of the Board, will you state what degree of reliance you think ought to be placed upon those entries, all of which are, I believe, in your hand-writing?—I attached very little importance to that column at all; I thought that the Registry would be filled from the Report of the Medical Officers; and I think that I would never have filled that column at all, if I had not been occasionally reminded to do so by my brother Guardians, who were sitting near me.

292. So, in short, you relied upon the subsequent examination of the Paupers, and the Records taken of the result of that examination?—I did.

293. Did you, as Chairman of the Admission Board, make any entry as to the health of the children?—I did.

294. When you made it, you made it truly?—As I gathered the facts from the Paupers.

295. Did you pay any particular attention to the state of the poor people?—I observed their general appearance.

296. But did you look at the poor people with a view of entering in the Book the exact state of health in which they were when they came in?—I did not feel myself competent to fill up that column; I could not express any positive belief or opinion as to any disease under which the children laboured, but my general impression was that a great majority of them came in with death written in their faces.

297. *Mr. Simot.*—I think you stated a fortnight or three weeks ago to Mr. Swan, that it was a matter of no consequence to fill up the column at all, and you desired him not to do so?—I have a perfect recollection of the circumstance. I did not venture to tell Mr. Swan not to fill up the column, but I asked him, now that we all know that the Registries were filled incorrectly, whether he would persist in filling up that column, it appearing to me that no Guardian was competent to do it.

298. *Mr. Roper.*—Was this after the enquiry, or my motion?—I think it was after it.

299. Since you got the Return made out?—Yes.

300. You have stated that in your opinion, the children came into the Workhouse with death written in their faces?—The majority of them I said.

301. Do you consider the system that we are of necessity obliged by the Law to follow, with regard to children of so tender an age, the best mode of obliterating the traces of death from their faces?—I don't feel quite competent to give an answer.

302. What induced you to suggest the course to Mr. Swan, of not entering the state of health of the Infant Pauper?—Because I found that the Registry was filled at that time from the Chairman's Report, and I considered that the Guardians were not competent to form their opinion upon the subject; and I was anxious that an erroneous account should not be inserted in the Registry.

303. Do you not think that the parents of the children ought to be fully conversant with the state of their children's health?—I am perfectly convinced they are not.

304. When a child who is so young as to be incapable of speaking or explaining its own ailment is taken to the Medical Officer, how is he to get information as to the child's ailment?—I think the Medical Man should examine the child, and form a fair opinion as to his or her state of health.

305. Do you think he should question the Nurses or the Mother?—I think he should, but I don't think he should be guided entirely by their opinions.

306. *Mr. Hall.*—Do you think he should question them as to their opinion respecting the health of the children, or as to certain facts connected with the habit of body of the child, and draw his inference therefrom?—I should think he would most likely ask questions as to the habits of the child.

307. Supposing the Mother to be able to give satisfactory information, which you say you

don't believe her to be, as to the state of her children's health; but supposing her to be capable of giving this information, do the circumstances of the Admission Board render it possible for them to ascertain from the Mother by a sufficiently long examination, asking a number of questions, and taking down her replies with accuracy, the Mother's real opinion with regard to the child—are the Board in a condition to ascertain and state that opinion?—I think we are not all in a condition, and I think that Mothers generally will persuade themselves that their children are in a better state of health than they really are. They will flatter themselves regarding the matter, and I think they are very bad judges in such cases.

308. *Mr. Roper.*—Are not some persons more inclined to indulge themselves in the pleasures of hope than others?—Perhaps so, but I think human nature generally is inclined to hope.

309. Generally?—Yes.

310. Therefore if a Mother were inclined to hope she would make the best of her child's case?—I think so.

311. Do you think the circumstances under which a Pauper presents himself at our gate, being reduced to the lowest state of human misery, is likely to encourage false hope very much?—I think, generally speaking, human nature is anxious to hope for something better.

312. Are there not some situations so bad as to forbid hope?—Not of bodily ailment.

313. *Mr. Hall.*—However desperate and destitute the condition of the Pauper may have been before coming to the Board, is it unreasonable to suppose that at that time she may entertain some hope?—I think so.

314. *Mr. Sinnot.*—Have you ever known the Board to receive a child in the arms of its Mother without asking the state of health in which it was at the time of its admission?—For my own part I do not recollect any enquiry as to the state of a child's health.

315. Have you any recollection of any isolated case?—Not generally speaking. My impression is, that the Guardians do not examine minutely into the state of the child's health.

316. But you generally ask the parent?—Yes; I have seen a woman coming with three or four children, and I have heard a Guardian asking if they were in good health, she replied yes; but I do not recollect any minute enquiry upon the subject being instituted.

317. I don't mean a minute enquiry; did you ever know an instance in which a child was admitted without the question being asked?—I think, generally, it is asked.

Mr. Swan, examined by Mr. Hall.

318. In all the entries in the Application and Report Book signed by you, a statement is made of the health of the Pauper; will you be so good as to say how far these entries can be relied upon as accurate?—So far as strictly taken down; in most cases, not in all, from the answers given to me by the Paupers.

319. I gather from that, that when a Mother came to the Workhouse with a child in her arms, your practice has been to question her as to the health of her child?—Certainly.

320. And would you rely upon her statement?—In most cases I would, but not in all; but if I had a doubt as to the health of the child, I would make the remark to the Mother, and mention the circumstance publicly in the Board Room to my brother Guardians; if they agreed in opinion with me, I would put down my idea in the Book.

321. Has it been your custom to look at the state of health of the child?—So far as looking at the creature in its Mother's arms; I have seldom or never omitted doing this.

322. Have you in any instance been misled by a Mother's statement?—Sometimes.

323. Have you observed amongst Mothers any general disposition to represent the health of the child as better or worse than you supposed it to be?—I would rather say that they were inclined to make it appear worse; that was my impression.

324. Under what impression do you think they make this representation?—In order that they might succeed in getting the child to be at once received into the Institution; or, if received, that it might get better treatment.

325. What is your impression as to the state of health of the children brought here by the Mothers, or others?—The majority of them are in, what I conceive, a bad state; and, as I before stated, considering the destitution of the parents, and their wretched state, it was a state in which one might expect to find them.

326. Do you consider that the majority of the children were in a state of disease when they came in, or were in such a weak, low, bad state, as approximated to disease?—That is rather my impression.

327. Have you had any opportunity of remarking upon the condition of those children at any period subsequent to their admission?—I have occasionally. I have not paid much attention to the Visiting Committee; my attention was occupied here, where I thought I could be most useful.

328. *Mr. Arkins.*—Does it not frequently happen that there are four or five, (may be more,) Gentlemen at the Reception Board on a Monday to receive the children?—I don't think I ever sat at a Board composed of so few.

329. Is there not a great variety of opinion with regard to the reception of those destitute children?—Occasionally; sometimes; I don't say frequently.

330. Does it not happen that discussions arise in the presence of those wretched women and children as to the propriety of receiving or rejecting them?—Why, it does; but I

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think, generally speaking, for the sake of sparing the feelings of those people, they were asked to retire while such observations regarding them were being made.

331. Does it not often happen, that when a poor woman, with four or five children, whose husband is gone to the country to look for work, or has deserted her, comes to the Workhouse, she makes out the strongest case of disease and destitution, both for herself and her children, in order to obtain admission?—I don't think they have said diseases; but they have made a pitiable story about their destitution, so far as absolute want of food went.

332. You cannot say that they said disease, but they made out as good a case as they could in describing their want and destitution?—Yes.

333. Are you of opinion if they had disease or debility of constitution, that those wretched women who are so anxious to get admission into the Workhouse, would conceal it?—I do not. I do not see any cause that they would have to conceal it.

334. *Mr. Simnot.*—You have stated from the appearance of the child upon admission, that it was generally squalid and wretched, did you allude to its health, or the wretched state of its appearance?—I alluded to what I may call the personal appearance of the child.

335. And from that you inferred what the state of its health was?—Yes; that it could be but poor.

336. Do you know the gate through which the Paupers are admitted?—I do.

337. Did you ever remark a child kept sitting there from 12 o'clock to 3 o'clock, so famished with cold that it could scarcely walk into the Room?—Yes; there was one day upon which we took in 72 Paupers, and they were in a wretched state, certainly.

338. Have you ever gone over to a woman when she came in with a child, removed her cloak, and observed the state of the child?—I have.

339. And you think the state of the Pauper suffering from cold, naturally caused a squalidness of appearance, chillness, and coldness, indicating disease?—I do think that a child would look squalid after being exposed three or four hours to the blast that comes in at the gate.

340. *Mr. Hall.*—Have you often observed that to be the case?—No, not often.

341. *Mr. Roper.* Do you think the cold makes a child of 3 or 4 years old look better or worse?—I think it makes it look worse.

342. Have you frequently stated at the Admission Board that adults looked in a miserable state from cold?—Oh, yes, perhaps I did. I think I have answered that question already.

Mr. Arkins, examined by Mr. Phelan.

Mr. Arkins.

343. You have sometimes been Chairman of the Admission Board?—No? I was never Chairman. I was present at the Board frequently when the Institution commenced, but latterly not.

344. Did you see the Chairman in the habit of recording the health of the child admitted?—I never paid any attention to it.

345. Then you are unable to state whether the health of the child was accurately entered, or pains were taken to ascertain it?—Except from my own observation at the gate.

346. You were occasionally in the Admission Room when children were admitted?—Yes, I was.

347. What is the impression upon your mind with regard to the state of health of the children under two years of age, upon admission?—I would say that the majority of them were in a better state of health.

348. Would you say they were healthy?—Yes; that the majority of them were healthy.

349. Was that from your personal observation?—Yes, personal observation.

350. *Mr. Hall.*—Did you generally examine the Mothers, and enquire from them the state of the child's health, in order to satisfy yourself regarding it?—I did; and I was generally acquainted with a vast number of the Mothers and children previously to their coming here. I was Trustee to the Sick and Indigent Roomkeepers' Society; and upon their application for money to that Institution, I, in most cases, advised them to go to the Workhouse; and the Gentlemen of the Board of Guardians remember full well, that in very many instances the letters of recommendation, by which those poor people sought to get into the Workhouse, were generally directed to me.

351. *Mr. Phelan.*—Your opinion being, that the majority of the children were healthy; are you able to satisfy the meeting as to whether the state of the Paupers' health was accurately recorded?—I know nothing at all about that; not one word about that.

352. *Mr. Roper.*—You have been concerned in the management of some Orphan Society?—Yes; I was interested in the management of an Orphan Society.

353. I did not ask you what you were interested in; but I asked you have you been concerned in the management of an Orphan Society?—Yes, in many of them.

354. Have you seen the children taken up by that Society. [*Mr. Phelan objected to the question as irrelevant.*]

355. Have you had an opportunity of seeing many children in a low reduced state?—I have had more opportunities than any other man in Dublin.

356. Do you consider that the children who appeared here for admission, were by very many degrees worse than any lot of destitute and poor children you ever saw before in your

life?—I have seen a great many destitute and poor children coming here for admission, as destitute as I ever saw in my life, but the majority of them were not so destitute as children whom I have visited.

357. Have you ever seen the destitution which presents itself here, equalled?—I have, considerably more.

358. Have you had any opportunity of knowing anything about destitute children, besides those children who were taken in here?—I have had great experience in the Orphan Society.

359. In equal numbers, did you ever know equal deaths?—Certainly not; I never did.

360. What do you mean by saying that the children whom you saw here were very destitute; did you mean that they were very destitute from want of clothing, want of cleanliness, and want of food? Do you refer to their being emaciated or otherwise?—I think quite the contrary; for, unless in some cases, the great majority of the unfortunate Mothers attend more to their children than themselves; they attend to them and neglect themselves.

361. Do you think the great majority of the children who came in here in a destitute condition were healthy?—Yes I do.

362. Have you attended those Admission Boards often?—Yes, for the first year, oftener than any man upon the Board.

363. And have you not been instrumental in bringing many destitute persons to the Institution?—So much so, that the Board said I had the house filled with my friends.

364. Have you not often pressed upon the Board the necessity of taking in the children, so as to obtain their admission more effectually?—I don't think in the case of children there was any necessity to press the Board to admit them; but I have pressed the Board in the cases of unfortunate young women.

365. You spoke of women coming in with Infants in their arms, when you pressed upon the Board the necessity of taking them in, and not refusing them admission?—I never did. I never recollect any circumstances of the kind, although I procured the admission of more women and children than any other member of the Board.

366. Have you brought Paupers in upon a Wednesday, and requested, though the hour was late, that they should be taken in?—They did not happen to be women or children; I don't recollect a single case; but a case might happen. I don't remember having brought a case here of a woman and a child.

367. It is not unlikely?—It is not unlikely if it came in the general way.

368. *Mr. Hall.*—You have stated I think that the women who presented themselves for admission, were not so destitute as the women and children who availed themselves of Charitable Institutions elsewhere?—I said so; but allow me to explain my meaning.

369. How can you account for the most destitute cases not presenting themselves for admission here, while other persons not in such an extremity of destitution did so present themselves?—I will explain; previously to the opening of this house, when I was Trustee of the Roomkeepers' Society, I have gone into a house in Bull-lane or Church-street, and have seen in a room not more than 15 feet by 10 or 12, a family lying together heads and points, there being but one common place for nuisance in the centre of the floor. I have gone into waste rooms in the windows of which there was no glass or sash to prevent the snow from entering, and I have seen 2 or 3 or 4 creatures lying without a single pennyworth of covering, without a single particle of fire, a single article of furniture in the wretched room; on one occasion I visited in a place in Church-street, a person who had been recommended by the Roman Catholic Curate of the parish as worthy of assistance from her state of destitution; when I went to the house I found that her mother had died the day before, she had been taken out in a parish coffin, and was left outside the door to make way for her husband who was after expiring, and she herself was sent an hour before to the Lying-in Hospital, and the 3 children who remained in the place were literally naked, and sporting over the dead body of their father.

370. In what year was that?—I can give you a report of the case in which the facts are accurately detailed by the Preacher; I gave these children all the attention I could in my humble way, I assisted the Mother, I gave her relief, and from bettering the condition of the children, though they were then literally naked, they grew up and are in a healthful state. I know the woman to this day, she sells little matters about town.

371. Am I to understand that the cases which you describe as having been so much worse than those presenting themselves to the notice of the Guardians, occurred before the opening of the Workhouse?—Oh of course.

372. So you are not now aware of persons who are in a greater degree of destitution than those who present themselves here?—No, because I make it a rule in the Society, whenever persons applying for relief cannot better their conditions with the money by turning it or dealing upon it, not to procure them the money for the purpose of merely eating it; but I recommend them to seek admission in the Workhouse.

373. Then we may consider that the Paupers, children, and parents, who present themselves for admission, are a fair sample of the destitute class of persons in the City of Dublin?—They are a fair sample, but I don't by any means agree with the other Gentlemen who have gone before me, and who have less experience in mixing and coming in contact with that class of persons than I have, that the children are in an unhealthy state, notwithstanding their filth and dirt.

374. Are we to understand that persons are not now to be found in the crowded state you describe?—At night merely, in the day time they are begging, selling fish or turf, or employed in other avocations.

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375. *Mr. Phelan.*—The parties you allude to are without clothing or firing, do you suppose they are without food, when they are without the other necessaries of life?—At that time I think they were not so badly off for food.

376. Do you suppose that parties without clothing or firing, generally have a sufficiency of food?—I think they were scarce in food; those parties so situated who could not get out to look for food were badly off.

377. You described parties without clothing or firing, and in other circumstances of distress—I then put the question generally to you, does it generally follow that parties so situated are also without a sufficiency of food?—They are generally speaking very badly off—I think they were generally very badly off, but previous to the opening of this House, the kindness of those poor people towards each other was very great, for instance, the poor creatures selling apples through the streets have divided their little earnings with the destitute poor in their neighbourhood, who were unable to go out and gather anything themselves.

378. Yes; I am sure of that; but does not want of clothing and firing imply a proportionate want of food?—It does, to a great extent, but with the qualifications I have mentioned.

379. Is it your opinion that the constitution could long continue unimpaired, I don't want a Medical opinion but merely a common sense one—If the Paupers wanted clothing and firing, and were exposed to all the other circumstances of distress you have mentioned, the snow penetrating into the window with the broken panes, the room crowded, and the place in filth and dirt, is it your opinion that the constitution of the Pauper would suffer from circumstances such as I detail?—No doubt if this were continued, but allow me to add that the cases I drew occurred in the winter months; the summer coming on, and a variety of little favourable circumstances have enabled them to get out of their difficulties in some degree.

380. *Mr. Hall.*—Are you not of opinion that there are in the City every day in the year many persons similarly situated?—There have been days that I think the poor who stay out of the Workhouse are worse off than those who go into it.

381. Consequently those who come to the Workhouse will come in that condition?—I think that since the opening of the Workhouse, persons are indisposed to give charity at the doors.

382. How do you account for the fact of parties applying for relief being now in a less urgent state of destitution than heretofore?—Because the Workhouse has weeded the City of those destitute cases; heretofore the Sick and Indigent Roomkeepers' Society were obliged to give charity indiscriminately; they were obliged to give larger sums to the most destitute persons. The Society now, I speak in reference to my own division, as I cannot answer for any other, are anxious to recommend those persons who cannot make a good use of the money, to go to the Workhouse, and enable those who are doing a little for themselves to go on with their business.

383. *A Guardian.*—Do you recollect any occasion when a Guardian, at the Board Meeting on Monday or Wednesday, brought in a number of Children for admission, without having ascertained the state in which they were?—I never did. I visited the Night Asylum at the suggestion of a Gentleman; I saw a great deal of distress there; I advised the poor creatures to present themselves to the Board.

384. Do you remember a Pauper woman bringing in two or four children, taken into the Night Asylum the night before, and saying they were in a bad state, no matter whether they belonged to this Union or not, and should perish if they were not continued in the Workhouse?—I have more than fifty times gone into the midst of a crowd of Paupers, without any previous knowledge of particular cases, or any previous arrangement, I went to the gate-way where they were in cold and hardship from the severity of the day, and I selected the most destitute, of course the women and children were the first objects of my consideration; I questioned them as to their state; they told me their story; and I merely came before the Board, and repeated the story the Paupers told me, without giving any addition from myself.

385. You have stated that the majority of children received into this House were, in your opinion, in good health; how do you consider that a majority of Children admitted, in the Mothers' arms, were in good health?—I do, certainly. I have seen some as fine Children as ever I laid my eyes upon, admitted into this Workhouse.

386. *Captain Lindsay.*—If you had a child that required a wet nurse, would you consider it safe to hire those women to act in that capacity?—Certainly not.

387. *Mr. Roper.*—If you took one of those women out of this house, and gave her air and exercise, would you then entrust your Child to her?—I would, certainly.

388. Have you ever known children as well as adults appear emaciated from want of food, clothing and fire, who have, with care and attention, recovered?—I remember a child, two years' old who was taken from under a butcher's block in Bull-alley. He was covered with ulcers; I never saw anything to equal his state. I sent him to the County Wicklow, about three months previous to the day on which I paid the Nurses their annual salary, and at the end of the three months he came back as healthy a Child as I ever saw in my life.

389. *Mr. Roper.*—It is clear you have had a good deal of experience regarding the poverty of this Town; do you consider, although we must all admit that the Parent of the Child is very much depressed from the misery which she has endured, the majority of those cases to be beyond the reach of proper care and nourishment?—Certainly not.

390. Would your experience with regard to destitute Children maintained by Charities, previous to the establishment of Poor Laws, support you in this opinion?—Certainly. Comparatively few of the Children sent into the Country to nurse, died.

391. You said in reference to the health of the Children, that you thought a majority of them were in good health; are you guided altogether by your own judgment, unaided by any enquiry from the Mother?—By my own judgment and enquiries from the Mother. 11th December, 1841.
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392. But not altogether from your own judgment?—Not altogether.

393. You were aided by the Mother?—Yes, and I am also a tolerably good judge of the state of a Child, for my wife had 13 Children.

394. *Mr. O'Gorman*.—You have stated that there were many cases in which persons relieved others though they were themselves very little removed from the state of destitution in which they were?—Yes.

395. Was not that state of society calculated to reduce to beggary those creatures who thus relieved their neighbours?—They could not be worse off than they were.

396. The creatures whom you mentioned had failed to get any relief from the higher classes?—Quite so.

397. Then they were obliged to resort for relief to those who were but little removed from them in poverty?—Precisely.

398. Did not that tend to bring to poverty and destitution those who were relieving them?—I cannot say that it did.

399. You cannot say that persons who supported others in destitution, being themselves little removed from that destitution, were not borne down by the burden; and that this practice did not tend to reduce them to the same state of misery?—At that time Father Mathew did not exist, and I think it was better for them to give a little of their earnings to their poor neighbours than to spend it in liquor. There was a kind of reciprocal charity amongst themselves. I admit that the Poor Rate done a great deal of good in removing the poverty of the City, but it does not follow that there are not a great many evils in the Law to be remedied.

Mr. Crean, examined by Mr. Hall.

400. You made out the Return upon which *Mr. Roper's* motion was founded?—I gave instructions to have it made out. Mr. Crean.

401. Did you ascertain that the Return was a correct one?—The Return agrees with the entries in the Registry Book.

Dr. Duncan, examined by Mr. Hall.

402. Do you consider yourself responsible as to the entries in the Book relative to the health of the Children?—Certainly not. Dr. Duncan.

Dr. Kirkpatrick, examined by Mr. Hall.

403. Do you consider yourself responsible for those entries?—Certainly not. Dr. Kirkpatrick.

Dr. Duncan, examined.

404. Have you any Registry as to the health of the Children?—No. Dr. Duncan.

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Dr. Duncan, called in and examined by Mr. Hall.

Dr. Duncan, before he was examined, said he wished to make one or two observations. In justice to himself and *Dr. Kirkpatrick*, it should be entered as a matter of evidence that they were not answerable for the unpleasant form in which that matter had gone before the Public. They had brought the matter before the notice of the Board several times, but they thought that they were making arrangements to remedy it, and that it would be remedied in due course, without the unpleasantness that had taken place. Certain Returns were moved for without their concurrence or knowledge; and it was intimated to them that they would be required to give an explanation concerning the state of health of certain inmates in that house. He believed that evils still existed in the working of the Law, and it would be well that they should be corrected. 14th December, 1841
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405. Be so good as to inform us how you and *Dr. Kirkpatrick* divide the duties of the house between you?—It is divided as nearly equally as possible. We have our own Wards and our own cases; as a general rule in the Hospital, *Dr. Kirkpatrick* takes charge of the Surgical cases, and I of the Medical; but if it should happen that any case is improperly sent to the Surgeon when it should be sent to the Physician, or to the Physician when it should be sent to the Surgeon, the mistake is rectified, and the case is sent to either, as the case may be. The duties of attending the inmates of the house are thus divided: the male children above two years of age go to one side of the house for a time—a couple of months say—and the females, Nurses, and Infants go to the other for the same time, and then they are changed alternately.

406. So that the same description of cases is attended either by you or *Dr. Kirkpatrick*?—Just so.

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407. What is your practice with regard to the duty of examining into the Paupers' health?—We take it turn about, each alternate Monday.

408. So that you know, of your own knowledge, the state of the Paupers, every alternate Monday?—Yes. At first, I should mention, this duty was very negligently performed, in consequence of the manner in which the Paupers came into the house. They were not submitted to our inspection regularly, and they came in at very irregular hours. Some were entered upon a Monday—some upon a Tuesday—at all periods—and some so late as Wednesday morning. In consequence of a remonstrance on my part, there was an order made that no Pauper should be let out upon a Pass after having been regularly admitted, till they were first inspected; since that time the business has been more regularly carried on.

409. At what period was the complaint made?—I find from my Report Book that the complaint was made on the 23rd of December, 1840.

410. *Captain Lindsay*.—Am I to understand that since that period you had facilities and opportunities of acquainting yourself with the state of health and condition of the Paupers?—I believe so. I should mention that I do not consider myself responsible for inspecting any Pauper that is not regularly brought under my notice—in fact it is not my duty to go and enquire what Paupers are admitted; it is the Master's duty, and if all the Paupers admitted upon a Monday were not present at the hour assigned for the examination, I was not accountable for their absence.

411. *Mr. Hall*.—Upon the whole, do you consider that you have examined all the Paupers?—I do not think we have actually done so; but I think the view we took of our duty was simply this, to ascertain the state of health, or rather the state of sickness of the Pauper; and if any Paupers were sick we should have an opportunity of knowing it immediately, and sending them to Hospital.

412. Do you make any record of the state of the Paupers?—No. I make no regular minute, further than to take a note of any Paupers who have not been Vaccinated, in order to have them Vaccinated.

413. *Mr. Phelan*.—Do you make any note of the sickly?—No, further than to send them immediately to Hospital.

414. *Mr. Hall*.—But if a Pauper were pronounced to be suffering acute disease, he would at once be admitted, would he not?—Yes, it is always done.

415. And then entered?—Yes.

416. Might not some or several Paupers be in a delicate state of health, who have not been sent to Hospital?—The cases of that description which we omitted, were rather cases of Chronic ailment, and are not the subject of Medical treatment; such cases are sent to the Infirmary Wards, and have occurred amongst the aged classes.

417. *Mr. Phelan*.—It would not occur with regard to children?—No.

418. *Mr. Hall*.—So I understand you to say that you have no record now of the condition and state of health of any children except such children as were sick enough to be sent by you at once into the Hospital?—None.

419. Have you a distinct impression now as to the condition of the children whom you have seen?—I have a perfectly distinct impression.

420. Let us know what it is?—I think there were a good many children very healthy, others were in a delicate state, and others were actually far gone in disease.

421. What proportion do you suppose the healthy children bear to the others?—Do you mean of those admitted? I am speaking always of those admitted. I should think about one-half.

422. I am speaking of children under two years of age, and my questions should be understood in that sense, otherwise we shall travel into irrelevant inquiries. Have you any impression as to the state of health of the Mothers who brought those children in?—There were not many of the Mothers actually diseased, but their health as Nurses was certainly deteriorated, and their constitutions were not in a sound and healthy state. I speak generally. There were exceptions. Some of the Mothers were healthy.

423. Did you observe any particular form of disease to prevail amongst those children who were pronounced by you to be diseased?—The cases were principally Consumption that came in actually diseased.

424. Do you think that any inference that was drawn from the fact that 94 out of 100 children were in health at the time of their admission would be correct?—I should think that would not be a fair inference.

425. Do you consider it incorrect?—I think it is incorrect if it mean that the 94 were in good health. [Mr. Hall read an extract from a newspaper, in which the words appeared to have been used on a previous examination on the same subject.] I should suppose (continued the witness) that the 6 children were actually labouring under disease, and that a number of others were not in what I should call good health, but in delicate health, not actually diseased.

426. *Mr. Hall*.—Do you at present recollect how long the children generally had remained in the Workhouse before they were brought under your care?—At various times; it depended a good deal upon the season of the year. Some got cold, I might say, immediately after the process of purification was submitted to. These instances were not very numerous.

427. *Mr. Phelan*.—Do you mean to say that the process itself was the means of giving the Infant cold?—Not the process itself, but the manner in which it was conducted.

428. *Mr. Hall*.—Then as the Infant Children came to be patients of yours from time to time, did you observe that they were labouring under particular classes of disease. I mean

whether many laboured under any disease which could be fairly referable to the same cause?— I think so; generally children who were in the house some time were seized with inflammation of the lungs, which in a great many instances passed, without any other obvious cause, into Consumption. No matter what the primary form of the disease was, it ended in Consumption. 14th December, 1841.

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429. Do you mean also that a majority of the fatal cases were Consumption cases?—Yes, a great number of them were so.

430. Will you state to which of the arrangements of the House, or to what circumstances connected with the children in the House, you are disposed to attribute the prevalence of consumptive diseases?—To a combination of causes; the crowding of the children together at night in particular, the want of a proper day-room, the want of sufficient clothing, and a system which has been corrected since, but which prevailed for a considerable time, viz. of not allowing the Infants to be laid upon a bed in the nursery during the day, by which they were deprived of their natural rest.

431. Have you ever made representations of the evils that you anticipated, or saw resulting from the circumstances you now enumerate?—I have.

432. Would you tell me the extent and dates of those representations?—Upon the 14th October, 1840, we complained that the clothing was too light for the season of the year; we spoke of the clothing of the Females in general, as we thought that if their clothing was not attended to, the clothing of the Infants would not be attended to. The Children were intended to be included in the representations, but it was not specifically stated that such was our motive. [Witness then read the Report which was as follows:] “One very bad case of Inflammation of the Lungs which has occurred in a Male Pauper, together with some of a less alarming nature through the house, lead the Medical Officers to think that the clothing in general is found too light as the season advances.”

433. There is no mention made of Children specifically in that Report?—No, there is not, but it was intended to apply to the whole House. We were not long appointed, and we thought that the dress of the inmates was fixed in such a way as that it was not likely to be altered. So we made verbal representations of the matter from time to time to the Board.

434. Will you turn to another Report?—[Witness then read the following:]—“Upon the 6th January, 1841, we state that the following causes have made the amount of illness, and consequently of mortality, even greater than it would have been:—1st, opening the Workhouse before adequate provision had been made for the reception of the inmates;—2nd, the difficulty of getting a supply of clothing in the proper time;—3rd, the impossibility of separating the Children from each other;—4th, the crowded state of the Children’s Dormitories;—5th, the want of proper modes of giving the Child due exercise in the open air;—6th, the severity of the season and the prevalence of several dangerous epidemics.”

435. Does that Report refer to the state of the Workhouse at the time that it was made?—It does. The next Report is dated the 27th of January: It is as follows:—“The Children in the Dormitory, Ward 45, are too much crowded; we think it very desirable in consequence of it, in the case of Scarletina, to have small Wards appropriated immediately for convalescent cases to prevent the danger of their infecting others.” This Report refers to the Infants as well as to others—The next is the 3rd of March, in which “They regret that the health of the Infant children under the care of their Mothers has not been in a satisfactory state of late, consisting rather of a general delicacy of constitution than of any prevailing acute disease. They consider this attributable to the following causes: the crowded state of the sleeping Ward. This besides being too small to accommodate the number of Nurses, suffers from several women who have no children, being permitted to sleep there, contrary to the express and repeated representations.”

436. These being “repeated representations” to the Matron—not to the Board?—Not to the Board.

437. Do you mean contrary to the Board’s repeated representations?—No, contrary to our repeated representations to the Matron. Perhaps I should mention in explanation of a circumstance, the reason why we did not make our Ward Reports more frequent and more pointed. A very unpleasant circumstance had occurred calculated to injure the Institution in the eyes of the Public, and we did not wish in our Reports to give any handle to such a purpose. Preferring by private representations to get the evils remedied, which we considered arose rather from the accumulated business of the Board not having time to attend to them than anything else, and with this view I made the representations to the Matron principally; but occasionally I brought the Chairman and other Members of the Visiting Committee into the Wards, and I called their attention particularly to the matters of which I complained. The second statement in the Report is “the very unsuitable Work Room in which the children are kept during the day; it is dark, ill ventilated, and the air is loaded with the minute particles of oakum; the want of a quiet and refreshing sleep during the day, which is prevented by the Mothers nursing the Infants while at their work,” (and which was also prevented by the Nursery being locked during the day, so that they could not leave them there if they wished.)

438. What do you mean by the Nursery?—I mean the Dormitory. The Report goes on to say: “to remedy these evils they make the following suggestions. To have an additional Sleeping Ward provided, and to remove from the Nursery every woman who is not nursing; to have single beds laid down in them instead of those at present in use, it is very inconvenient and unhealthy to have two women and two Infants sleeping in one bed.

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To have the Infants kept in the Nursery, not in the Work Room during the day; to allow the Mothers to bring the Infants into the Garden half an hour at a time, twice daily, when the Weather is fine."

439. Is there any other Report?—There is one in July last—the 14th of July, 1841—It is as follows. "The arrangements relative to the Nursery Ward No. 50, recommended several months ago, have not been carried into effect, namely, that each Nurse and Infant should have a separate bed, and that another Ward should be provided for their accommodation: there are at present 51 Mothers and Infants in the House, and in this warm weather the air of the Nursery soon becomes vitiated after it is occupied at night."

440. *Mr. Phelan*.—Was that in the Day Room?—No, the Sleeping Room. There have been repeated applications with regard to clothing which referred to children generally, but were not entered in the Book, especially with regard to Infants. I have passed over two or three of them; here is one—upon the 1st September, "The Medical Officers request that the Board will make arrangements to have their orders with regard to Clothing attended to with promptitude."

441. *Mr. Hall*.—What orders and whose orders? Were they from the Board or the Medical Officers?—The Medical Officers, and it refers to the children who are not allowed shoes and stockings during the Summer, except in such cases as we ordered them. I do not mean Infants, but even some Infants get stockings, that are under two years of age; a year and nine months old for instance.

442. But does that request to the Board refer to children under two?—No. The fact is the distinction between the two classes was not kept up.

443. *Mr. Roper*.—You speak of children generally?—Yes. Upon the 22nd of September there is another Report. "The Medical Officers beg to call the attention of the Board of Guardians to the state of health of the class of Infants, with which they are not at all satisfied, and which they consider as essentially owing to defective arrangements, they trust the importance of the subject will appear a sufficient excuse for so often bringing the matter under the notice of the Board; but they consider it due to their own professional character, as well as to the interesting objects of their care, to say that the evils complained of are not rectified." The next part of this Report is founded on somewhat a mistake, and I think it is as well to omit it. The second fact is "that upon the *post mortem* examination of all those children who have died of acute diseases, such as Measles, Scarletina, &c., the lungs have been found almost without exception loaded with tubercles in various stages of their progress, showing that their death was caused by the unhealthy character of the inflammation, and that had they survived the immediate effects of the disease, they would inevitably have sunk beneath the wasting influence of Consumption." This has really happened in a vast number of cases.

444. Have you a record of them?—No, I am speaking generally from memory; we have examined almost all the cases that died after death.

445. *Mr. Phelan*.—Have you no record of the cases in which tubercles appeared?—They are entered in our private Memorandums.

446. You can refer to them if necessary?—I think I can. "This shows that the state of the Infants' constitutions was radically impaired, so as to be unable to resist acute diseases, which diseases do not present the same symptoms in them as they would do in healthy Infants, but rapidly assumes an unhealthy character. The question for the Board to consider is, whether anything could be done to remove, or at least to mitigate that state, your Medical Officers think that there could; they suggest the following measures: the emptying the Nursery Ward of a number of its present occupants—it is much too crowded at night; to prepare a dry, lightsome and airy day room for their use, the present one being dark and damp. In addition to their own opinion frequently expressed, they are authorised to say that Doctor Phelan, who examined it lately, has likewise disapproved of it; the permitting the Mothers under proper superintendence to bring their Infants out to the Garden daily when the weather is fine. This practice, formerly sanctioned by the Board, has been discontinued, they know not by whose orders."

447. *Mr. Hall*.—It appears from those Reports of the Medical Officers, that your opinion never varied as to the causes producing that low state of disease amongst the Infant children?—No, the first time it appeared, it was in some months after the Institution opened.

448. It appears also you were always of opinion that what you term the defective arrangements constituted the remote cause of the disease to which you allude?—Yes.

449. And you are of the same opinion now, that there are still existing in the Institution the same causes of disease?—Yes, somewhat modified, but still that they exist.

450. *Mr. Phelan*.—By modified you mean mitigated?—Yes.

451. *Mr. Hall*.—So that I am to understand at any rate that these representations made by you with regard to the defective arrangements of which you speak, have not been disregarded by the Board?—Not entirely.

452. When you made these different representations to the Board of Guardians, were they in the habit of conversing with you upon the subject?—Generally.

453. Did they request you upon the occasion of these conferences to point out any course by which it appeared to you these defective arrangements might be remedied?—Yes they did upon the 22nd of September.

454. Do you mean to say it was not till the 22nd of September, that the Board of Guardians requested you to point out the way in which, for instance, the crowded state of the Dormitory, might be obviated, or the large rooms might be divided into small ones?—That

was the first time they spoke upon the subject of the Dormitories, if my memory serves me, upon which occasion another room was appropriated for the purpose, which seemed somewhat larger.

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455. You state that the defective arrangements were, to a certain extent, removed and the evils mitigated—are you able to inform us how those ameliorations were brought about; have you reason to believe it was in consequence of your representations to the Board of Guardians?—I believe it was. Verbally from time to time we spoke of the crowded state of the different apartments of the house, amongst others, the Nursery; and it was at my especial request that the Matron furnished a list to the Admitting Board each Monday, of the state of the house, to prevent the system of over crowding it, from being carried further; and the point which has tended in some respect to relieve this burden is, that we have kept a number of Infants in the Hospital, more as a preventive against illness than as a means of treatment for any illness under which they were labouring.

456. That was a course taken by yourself to palliate the defects in the Rooms?—It was. We have repeatedly seen infants that have been in the Hospital, for some time convalescent from Measles, who have been kept there for three weeks or a month, and were in perfect health, in three or four days after they were removed from the Hospital to the Nursery, take Pneumonia, which led to Consumption.

457. *Mr. Phelan.*—How do you infer that Pneumonia was the foundation of the Consumption instead of the Measles, that being a disease in which the lungs are always engaged? is not Measles intimately connected more or less with affections of the lungs?—With an affection of the mucous membrane of the lung it is.

458. But are not the lungs engaged in Measles? Is there not more or less inflammation prevailing?—I would say that there are often Measles without inflammation of the lungs.

459. Is it at all likely in cases predisposed to Pthisis, or in which Tubercles exist, that Measles is likely to excite or produce Consumption?—Every acute disease is so.

460. Particularly Measles?—Not so much as many others of the Exanthemata.

461. *Mr. Hall.*—Have you good reason to believe, that in these particular cases, Consumption was not the consequence of the Measles, but was the consequence of sudden alteration of temperature?—Certainly.

462. *Mr. Phelan.*—Have you any recollection of Patients removed from the Hospital after recovery from the Measles, taking inflammation of the lungs?—They remained in the Hospital for a month or six weeks after the termination of the Measles. They were convalescent during that period without any symptom of Consumption or affection of the lungs; at the close of that period they were sent out, and in four or five days afterwards returned with Pneumonia.

463. You spoke of the air of the Hospital as being better air than where the children usually were?—I do not think it was the air of the Hospital, but that it was their freedom from exposure to cold.

464. Are you of opinion that it was within a few days after the removal of the Patients from Hospital that Scarletina was generated—No, certainly not. I think they took inflammation of the lungs, which assumed in its progress the unhealthy character of Consumption.

465. Have you any record of the length of time during which those cases laboured under that inflammation of the lungs till death?—I can answer that question in another way. I brought under the notice of some of the Medical Societies of Dublin, cases of this description.

466. I would prefer that you gave me a plain answer to the question: What I want to know is, if you have a record of the period during which those cases were under your care?—I only keep a record of those cases which I consider sufficiently interesting to myself, and which can be made available for the purposes of Science.

467. *Mr. Hall.*—Have you not an Hospital Book in which you enter the date of the admissions of the Pauper, and the time you take charge of him, till either he is discharged or he dies?—We have.

468. Would not that furnish the Record if necessary?—It is not sufficiently minute. For instance: a case is entered as Measles or Scarletina, in that Book; it may assume in its course some other form of disease. Now there is no provision made in the Book for entering the change in the disease, the space allotted for the purpose of making the entry is so small.

469. Did you inform the Guardians at any time, specifically, of the number of children you found lodged in any room, and of the dimensions of the room?—I have never, specifically, informed the Board of it, for the reasons that I have already mentioned, namely, that I did not wish our Reports to be made an unfair use of.

470. Now, at the time when upon the 14th of October, 1840, you complained of want of Clothing: and upon the 6th of January, 1841, when you reported again as to the want of Clothing; and you reported also, want of accommodation, means of separation, air and exercise, did you suppose that any obstacle existed to those different wants being supplied?—I did; but it was a supposition merely.

471. Were you aware, for instance, whether there was or was not at that time in the Workhouse, room that was not occupied, so that additional accommodation could have been supplied?—With respect to the Nursery, I again and again spoke to the Matron in reference to it, and I told her to send the Nurses, when there were too many of them in one Ward, to another, but she never complied with my wishes.

472. Did you point out the Ward to which they might have been sent?—I pointed out a Ward which would have answered equally well. I spoke of Ward 40; that Ward might have been used as an additional Nursery, and the persons occupying that, might have been sent somewhere else.

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473. Have you reason to believe that at any period when you made this representation about the crowded state of the children's rooms, the house was so crowded that additional accommodation could not be provided?—Not at that time.

474. Am I to understand you as stating that you believed always there was spare accommodation which might have been appropriated to the children or some of them?—Certainly, there was. I cannot however speak of all the time.

475. Are you aware of any reason why the Board did not appropriate additional room when you reported to them that the rooms then occupied by the Paupers were insufficient?—I believe it was from a mistaken notion of system and order, on the part of the Matron.

476. But is it your opinion now that at those several periods when mischief was apprehended upon account of the crowded state of the rooms, a means of separating the children did exist—a means of placing them in less crowded rooms?—It is my impression; certainly some of the time there was. I do not say but the house may have subsequently become so crowded as to render it impracticable.

477. Do you think it has ever been so crowded as to render it impracticable?—I think it has been as full as it could hold. In other words, I think in an Establishment of this kind there ought always to be a good deal of spare room.

478. But the application of persons for admission being as you have formerly said so numerous and urgent, do you not consider it necessary to reduce that spare room to the least space?—I think the health of the Paupers already in the house is a matter of much more importance than making provision for more cases—that in fact it is a greater charity to preserve those who are in the Institution in good health, than to endanger both parties by crowding the house.

479. Has there been any difficulty in the way of your other suggestions, for instance, increasing the quantity of clothing, being carried into effect?—I made, upon my own responsibility, an order that the children should have two petticoats; and that order was, after some time, without any application to the Board, complied with, but the petticoats and the other articles of dress were formed upon the smallest possible dimensions. They were not sufficiently long, neither were the arms properly covered. I find a memorandum of mine, dated the 20th of October; it was as follows:—"A few Infants have been attacked during the past week with very severe inflammation of the lungs. A suggestion was made to the Matron sometime ago; and orders were given to her, to request that the Infants should have two petticoats each, and long sleeves to their frocks, as it is most important to prevent their being exposed in their present thin clothing, to the present severe weather." Early in Spring, I gave an order to have two petticoats; they were procured sometime after. The petticoats being cut short did not make much matter during the summer months, but when the winter was approaching I spoke to the Matron to furnish us with larger ones, and this report which I have read, was merely written for the purpose of having our orders complied with.

480. From time to time, when you made these reports about the crowded state of the rooms, were alterations made in the number of children placed in them, or not?—There were alterations made; but not exactly in compliance with our wishes. The alterations were made by the child's going to Hospital, or something of that kind being done. I wish to state in reference to persons being sent to the Nursery who had no right to be there, that this practice, after a remonstrance with the Matron, was given up. For instance, upon the 17th of February, I have a note of persons being in the Nursery Wards who had no right to be there. I took that note, because I had repeatedly spoken to the Matron previously upon the subject, and got no satisfaction, so I was determined to have a little memorandum as to the time when the matter occurred; and I find here that in my report of the 3rd of March to the Board, we complained of the practice of persons being sent to the Nursery who had no right to be there.

481. But after you complained to the Board of the practice was it not discontinued?—Yes.

482. *Mr. Barlow.*—Is there any memorandum of the Board upon that subject?—Yes; it is as follows: "The Medical Officer to consult with the Matron as to how far these alterations can be carried into effect." The women were removed from the Nursery.

483. *Mr. Hall.*—Can you tell me at what period the women and children were placed in the Day-room, about which you say you made repeated representations?—I cannot say exactly, but I think immediately after the opening of the house. I have no distinct recollection, but I think very shortly after the house was opened.

484. You are not aware then whether any discussion took place as to whether it was a fit place to appropriate for the purpose?—No. I am not.

485. What specific objection have you taken from time to time against that room?—I think it is cold, dark, and badly ventilated.

486. Do you know the dimensions of it?—I do not know them exactly.

487. Do you know the number of windows?—I do not know exactly, about five or six, I believe.

488. Do you know the size of No. 4 Room?—I do not know its exact dimensions.

489. You mentioned that you suggested an alteration with regard to this place, verbally?—A Sub-Committee was appointed with us. Mr. Law, as well as I remember, was one of them. Upon the 6th of October we were appointed to consider what arrangements should be made with regard to this matter, and I suggested a plan that the two rooms should be divided transversely across, in order to give a thorough air and solar light, and the apartment at present occupied by one of the Ward Masters would have made a good Work-room.

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490. If this arrangement were made, would you consider the day accommodation of the women and children sufficient?—Yes, provided the space divided off were larger; I would very much prefer giving them the use of the Work-room altogether, as it stands.

491. Do you think that the removing of the children from the Day-room which they have been inhabiting, into the Work-room would cause an important improvement in their health?—Certainly.

492. Is there anything in the Work-room would make it an unsuitable Room for that purpose?—I suppose you allude to the floor, but I look upon that as an advantage.

493. I was not alluding to anything in particular?—Then my answer is, No. I find from our Report Book that our representations to the Board respecting the Clothing of the children, were made upon the 20th October. The further directions to the Matron were given upon the 18th November; but I certainly spoke to her upon several occasions previously. The entry is as follows: "The petticoats for the children are much too short." The Matron's reply was, "there is a reason for it."

494. You are reported to have asserted upon a former occasion, when asked about the Day-room, to a suggestion from Mr. Roper, that the Day-room is completely without light?—The question had reference to solar light. The answer was, "it is perfectly without solar light, its aspect is to the North."

495. Will you explain what you mean when you say it is without solar light?—I mean that the direct rays of the Sun cannot reach it.

496. I believe you mean to say that the Room has a Northern aspect, and that the Sun at no time shines directly into it?—Yes.

497. You are reported to have said that it is under the level of the ground?—The level of the Room is under it.

498. How low is the level of the Room below the level of the ground?—Eight inches.

499. Do you think that we maintain the children here in the same state of health in which they come into the Workhouse, or in which the children in the City are maintained, and that they require warmer Clothing here than those who are living out of the House?—I should think they do not require warmer Clothing in one sense; but I think an Institution of this kind should be better provided.

500. As a matter of fact, do you think the children are better clothed after than before their admission?—I do not.

501. Do you think for the most part, that a child presented for admission is as well clothed on admission as after it?—I think a great deal of the want of Clothing for the child is compensated for by the Mothers' Cloak.

502. That is, at the moment when the child is brought here for admission?—Yes; and under circumstances. For instance, when the child is taken out by its Mother, there is a great deal of warmth and protection for it in her Cloak.

503. But do you think the children themselves are better clothed?—I think many of them are better clothed outside; some are a great deal worse.

504. But do you think it frequently occurs that the Pauper Infant, upon being brought into the House, and the Workhouse Clothes substituted for its own, changes for the worse?—The quality of Clothing is perhaps generally as good as it is outside the doors.

505. You are aware that the quantity of Clothing has been increased?—Yes.

506. And you think it only now reaches the point at which the children outside the Workhouse are clothed?—I think so.

507. You speak with regard to warmth?—Yes; I mean articles for the purpose of Clothing. It must be remembered that the Infants, every day of their lives, have to be brought twice, if not more frequently, from the Dormitory to the Day-room, where they are exposed in all kinds of weather; now, the same thing would not occur outside these walls; therefore I say, the Infants inside these walls are more liable to take cold, and require warmer clothing than those outside these doors.

508. Do you think the Clothing is now as warm as it should be?—The Board at their last Meeting ordered Cloaks to be provided for the Nurses, and I think when those articles are procured, the Clothing will be sufficient.

509. Do you mean Cloaks for the Mothers?—The Board have not stated that, but they have said that our wishes upon the subject are to be complied with.

510. Do you consider that the Children inside the House are more exposed to inclement weather than those outside?—In consequence of the reasons I have just given, I think they are.

511. *Mr. Phelan.*—Are the children brought from the Dormitory to the Day-room in the hands, or are they covered?—There was nothing to cover them in the hands.

512. *Mr. Hall.*—How far must they be brought?—Formerly they had to cross one yard; they have now to cross two yards. It is in reference to that exposure I meant to say that the quantity of clothing here was comparatively less than what children have outside of these walls.

513. Are the Dormitories in which the children sleep here, well adapted for the purpose?—The present Dormitory is not well adapted.

514. In what is it defective?—It is low ceiled, and the windows, though there can be a thorough ventilation, are not, I think, very suitable for the purpose. It is not near large enough.

515. When you say that it is not large enough, you mean in reference to the number that are in it?—Certainly.

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516. Are you aware that there is at present any other room in which the children could be kept?—The impression upon my mind is, that there is not.

517. Have you recently made any representation to the Board that there were more children in it than you thought could be properly disposed of?—The Matron is quite aware of my opinion, and she coincides with me that there are too many Infants in the room for the accommodation which is afforded.

518. How many persons of the Pauper class do you think the Workhouse is adapted for? Have you ever taken any pains to form an accurate opinion on that point?—I have not; I thought that at the time the Workhouse was opened, that it was arranged by the Commissioners themselves.

519. I do not mean to say that it was your duty to do so?—I have only considered the subject in detail, since the investigation commenced, and therefore I have only made myself acquainted with a few Wards, particularly the Children's Wards.

520. How many Paupers are in the Wards now?—There are, I think, 17 or 1800.

Mr. Barlow.—There are 1950; up to Saturday night there were 1894.

521. *Mr. Hall.*—Probably you are not now aware that there is any spare room?—I should think not.

522. Are you aware that the Commissioners considered the house capable of containing 2000?—Yes.

523. Are you aware that they made this estimate, allowing a certain proportion for each class in the house?—Yes; but I was not aware what that proportion was, nor was I aware that they had been actually laid down for the guidance of the Board.

524. Do you mean you were not aware that particular rooms had been appropriated to particular classes?—No relative proportion allotted to the Paupers.

525. Are you aware of any rule or regulation which would be an obstacle in the way of those recommendations of yours being carried into effect?—I do not know of any, so far as our particular recommendations.

526. Do you consider that the crowded state of the Rooms—the insufficient Clothing—the want of Classification, or any other of those defective arrangements of which you speak, were the consequence of any rules or regulations?—No.

527. *Mr. Phelan.*—How many Epidemics have occurred in this Workhouse since you have been connected with it?—One of Measles, Scarletina twice, Pneumonia, which is considered an Epidemic, Inflammation of the Lungs, and Hooping Cough.

528. To make a fair comparison of the mortality here and elsewhere, you should take equal numbers of children of the same age, children as nearly as you could take them from the class to which the children in this Workhouse belong, before their admission, and you should then consider the prevalence of the Epidemics in one quarter during the period which you took for your calculation. Then you ought to ascertain, if you could, what has been the rate of mortality in the two places. Do you think, taking all these circumstances into consideration, you are able to make any comparison between the rate of mortality here and outside?—Not taking those things into consideration, I cannot.

529. *Mr. Hall.*—But are you not persuaded that in order to make a correct comparison, it is necessary to take all those circumstances into consideration, for instance, if you were comparing the mortality of two places in one year, and you asserted that it was greater in one place than in the other, would not that greater mortality be sufficiently accounted for by the circumstance that there had been four Epidemics in the one place?—It would account in some way for it—in a great way I would say.

530. *Mr. Phelan.*—Would it not also be necessary that the comparison should be made between the same classes to enable you to form a correct diagnosis?—I merely made the comparison because I was asked for the result of my experience upon the subject; but I do not take it as a correct mode of calculation.

531. *Mr. Hall.*—Are you aware of the number that were in the House at the time that you represented its crowded state?—I believe that the House was not full at the time, but the adjustment I wished for was not made; one class was too crowded.

532. But you state that you are not aware of any rule of the Commissioners by which that portion was fixed?—No but I think the adjustment to which I allude should have been made by the Commissioners or the Board.

533. Are you aware of any rule or regulation made by the Commissioners, or the Board, of which the defective arrangements to which you refer, may fairly be termed a consequence?—No, I am not aware.

534. I believe you have already stated your opinion that if the suggestions which you have made from time to time, had been promptly and thoroughly attended to, a very improved state of health amongst the Pauper Infants would have been effected?—Yes.

535. Do you also think that the amount of mortality amongst the children would have been diminished?—I do, decidedly.

536. Do you consider that this Workhouse affords as much, or more, or less facility, as similar Establishments, for maintaining children in a good state of health?—Do you speak of Workhouses or Orphan Societies?

537. I speak of any Establishment, Foundling Hospitals, for instance, which may have come within the scope of your experience?—I have seen some Workhouses in this country, and I believe all are upon the same plan. I think that we have in this House greater facilities for having the children in this House in good health than perhaps in other Institutions.

I don't speak of the Foundling Hospital except with regard to Infant Children, where they are very far inferior to us. 14th December, 1841.

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538. You mean under the present arrangements?—Yes, under the present arrangements. There is an Institution with which I am familiar, the Deaf and Dumb; the ages of the children there, to be sure, exceed those of the children here, but they greatly excel us in this respect, that the children are not near so much crowded there as here, that the Institution is in the Country, and that they get what some persons would call better food.

539. My question regards the premises; I allude particularly to the elevation, drainage, and general aspect of the place?—I think we have many very great advantages here, for we have always the best air.

540. You recollect sending me this note, (handing a note to witness). You state in this letter, which is dated the 15th of May, 1841, that you thought "*from personal examination of the children, that their general state of health was highly satisfactory?*"—Yes, but I alluded to children who were above two years old.

541. I find from the postscript that you particularly examined the children from two to five?—Yes. The fact is, I believe, that the children from two years upwards have improved in health since their admission into the Workhouse; I believe at least that they have improved from five upwards, but I think I may say from two.

542. Do you think, then, it being your opinion, that the children from two years upwards have improved in health, that by making alterations such as you suggested from time to time to the Board, a corresponding improvement in the health of the children below two years of age might be effected?—Yes.

543. *Mr. Phelan.*—Do you attribute the bad health of the children in any degree to the present practice of washing out the Dormitories?—I think so.

544. Is that one of the immediate causes in giving the children Pneumonia? What is the practice of washing, let me ask you first?—The Wards are washed out every morning, sometimes so late, that in some instances, the Bed-rooms are not dry at night!

545. And during that time are any of the children allowed to remain in the Dormitory?—I believe but very few do remain there.

546. Their remaining there is not a matter of necessity, it is merely a matter of choice?—Yes, certainly it is choice upon the part of the Mothers.

547. The doors and windows are opened to dry the rooms?—Yes.

548. The doors and windows are opened, you say?—Yes.

549. And you would include that amongst your other objections?—Certainly; I am anxious that the Day-room should be occupied by the Infants during the day, and that the Dormitory should, in their absence, be thoroughly ventilated, and the windows opened.

550. Do you know what the practice is with the Wet Nurses regarding their diet?—They got their diet at the same hour as others, and then they fasted from 10 o'clock till 5, but some of the Infants get an allowance of bread, which is used, I believe, by the Mothers.

551. Do you approve of Nurses fasting from 10 in the morning to 5?—Certainly not.

552. Would you attribute a good deal of the ill health of the children to that cause?—It has not struck me as a cause, the Nurses have not complained of it, how they manage it I cannot say.

553. Would you think 7 hours too long for a child to fast?—They do not fast so long.

554. Is not the circumstance of the Mothers' taking the child's allowance capable of being remedied?—I think so.

555. *Mr. Roper.*—You have classified the children into those that were in good health, delicate health, and far gone in disease; of those you say the half were in good health, do you mean to say that a quarter each of the remaining half were delicate and far gone in disease?—Certainly not.

556. What proportion did they bear to each other?—I cannot say.

557. You have hazarded the opinion you know about one half being in good health, now cannot you form another opinion upon this subject?—I am almost certain of the one half, but I cannot speak positively of the others.

558. *Mr. Phelan.*—But you have no record to refer to with regard to the positive health of that one half?—No.

559. Nor with regard to the delicate and far gone?—No.

560. Therefore what you now say is all your impression of certain facts?—Yes.

561. *Mr. Barlow.*—You said, I believe, in answer to the question put to you relative to the state of health in which the Infants were upon admission, that six of them were in a diseased state; and I would infer from the statement that six were far gone in disease?—I should think that you would not be far astray.

562. *Mr. Phelan.*—Can you give us your impression of the number of children who were labouring under disease at the time of their admission?—I have no such record.

563. *Mr. Hall.*—But you said you thought that one half of the children came in in good health, another portion delicate, and a third portion suffering from disease, can you now say how many of those children were in a state of disease?—I think of children under 2 years of age actually diseased, that would be very nearly the proportion.

564. Which would be?—Six out of the hundred, actually diseased, and who would, we would say, die.

565. *Mr. Barlow.*—You did not rely upon the statement so often alluded to here, as being correct?—I certainly would not consider it a correct statement, because it states that

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all the rest of the children were in good health; I think some of the children were delicate. When I speak of the children I mean to say that six of them were labouring under such disease, that it was impossible for them to recover; that the recovery of the others was a question, but that they were not labouring under actual maladies which would necessarily prove fatal.

566. Then, they were not entitled to be considered in good health?—Certainly not.

567. I wish to know whether the practice of cleansing the children, of which you complained was reported to the Board?—No. My impression is, that the Board, and perhaps I might say, the Commissioners, did not form the same opinion of the importance of these matters that I did, and, therefore they might have lain over till they had leisure to consider them.

568. Did you, upon any occasion, find any unwillingness in the Board to attend to your representation regarding the children, or any class of Paupers?—I never found any unwillingness about them.

569. Do you recollect making a verbal communication to me?—I do.

570. Do you also remember that I recommended you when there was any matter of importance, to report it to the Board?—I remember the occasions upon which you spoke, and you said that the crowded state of the Nursery could not be helped or remedied immediately.

571. Was that my answer to you?—That was the substance of it.

572. I distinctly state that to the best of my recollection, I never gave you such an answer. My question to you was, whether I did not tell you to report to the Board any circumstance of importance connected with the management of the Workhouse?—I admit that you did, but not on the occasions to which I allude.

573. Nor do I attempt to recollect particular occasions, but I ask you were not my recommendations, or if I may say so, directions, to report to the Board, any matter of consequence in your Book?—And I have explained my reasons why I did not report to the Board.

574. *Mr. Hall.*—Do you consider it possible to separate the children from each other in this Workhouse? Do you consider it possible to do so in any Institution like this?—I think there ought to be a possibility.

575. Do you mean a possibility of isolating any particular child from the rest?—Yes. Perhaps *Mr. Barlow* will recollect a suggestion made, and abandoned at the time, because I saw there were evident inconveniencies in realising them, but I made the suggestion thinking it the best that could be done, under the circumstances, namely, to raise the sheds at the lower part of the house, at the other side, and divide them into 3 rooms.

576. *Mr. Barlow.*—I recollect a suggestion of my own that we should raise those buildings?—I stated so to you, but there was a good deal of hurry at the Board at the time, and you might forget it.

577. I wish to know whether you were ever told by any member of the Board, or by myself, as Chairman of it, that we had too much business, and were too hurried to attend to the recommendations of the Medical Officers, or is it your own impression only?—It is my own impression only.

578. You never were told that there was so much business to be done, that what you suggested should be left undone?—My impression was founded upon the circumstance that many of our suggestions were not carried into effect till long after we made them.

579. Have you seen the Matron brought in here and told that your directions were to be attended to?—I have occasionally.

580. Do you recollect a particular occasion when the Matron was brought in here to consult with you whether any better arrangements about the children could be made?—That occurred months after.

581. It was not upon the occasion of a report?—It was upon the occasion of a report; it was in reference to a suggestion that we had made months before.

582. I cannot admit upon the part of the Board that there was ever anything of the kind neglected, but I remember perfectly well calling the Matron and requesting her to consult with you in reference to the children?—Our reports show, *Mr. Barlow*, that our previous suggestions had not been carried into effect.

583. *Mr. Phelan.*—Do you consider that Measles frequently leaves its dregs in the constitution of a child, so that the child dies ultimately?—Certainly.

584. Did you ever object to the Board as to the Form of your Medical Books, with a view to having other Books procured which would be better adapted to the purposes for which you required them?—I never did, because I considered it would be useless to do so: they were prescribed by Law, or what was tantamount to Law.

585. *Mr. Barlow.*—Do you recollect that we immediately ordered you other Books which we thought necessary, without any reference to the Commissioners?—I am quite aware of that, but the Books thus ordered were simply those Books which were absolutely necessary for the management of our Hospital Department. When the Board appointed me Physician to the Workhouse, they did not desire me to keep notes of any case that occurred.

586. *Mr. Hall.*—When you speak of Books as not being adapted to your purpose, do you allude to the three Books which the Commissioners prescribed for the Medical Officers to keep?—Those Books are probably well adapted for the purpose for which they were intended. We had no object in registering any particular cases, except for our own advan-

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tage. We took notes of cases, but simply for our own purposes. I will give you an illustration of my meaning regarding the Books: a girl was admitted here, who was labouring under a Syphilitic affection; while under treatment for that disease, she took a bad form of Fever, and she was transferred from the Surgical Ward to mine; but there was no entry made in the Book relative to the case.

587. But is there anything in the form of the Books to prevent such a case being recorded?—The only way the difficulty could have been obviated would have been to have discharged the girl at the time she took the new disease and enter her in the Books afresh, as labouring under fever.

588. I wish to ask you if you have found those Books insufficient for the purposes for which they were put into your hands, namely, as a record of the sickness and mortality in the Workhouse?—I think they are not perfectly sufficient. There is a practical difficulty, which however can be obviated.

589. *Mr. Phelan.*—Did you make any application to Mr. Hall, to the Poor Law Commissioners, or to the Board of Guardians, in reference to the matter?—No; I did not.

590. *Mr. Barlow.*—With respect to children, allow me to ask you if you considered that you had power to order additional clothing for the Infants, without reporting the matter to the Board?—As a class, I believe I had not such a power, but I took the liberty of making such an order when I thought the occasion justified it.

591. Do you remember ever been told, that whenever you thought it necessary, as a Medical Officer, to order additional clothing, you had the power to do so?—Yes, in particular cases.

592. Then if you found 10 children for instance, all of whom required additional clothing, would you not have considered yourself justified in ordering them clothing?—Certainly; but I never thought that ordering such a thing as a Cloak was within my province; but I have ordered a Cloak.

593. You stated in your Report, and the Board heard it with surprise, the course the Matron took in ordering women into the nursery as a punishment?—Yes.

594. Was not that immediately redressed by the Board?—Yes. Upon our application to them.

595. Was it not redressed as soon as it came to the knowledge of the Board?—Yes, but it had escaped their notice for a considerable time before.

596. But the Board were entirely ignorant of it, were they not?—Yes.

597. With respect to the Day-room do you recollect the Infant children being placed in another room?—Yes, they were placed in the Chapel at my suggestion.

598. Was it not also at your suggestion that they were removed to the room in which they are at present?—They were removed from the room in which they now are, to the Chapel; when alterations were being made in the Chapel they were sent back to the room in which they had previously been, with the understanding, that their stay in that room would be but temporary; the alterations have been completed, but they would not be allowed back again; and you may remember I spoke to you upon the subject of giving them permission to go back again.

599. Do you consider the upper room, used as a Chapel, is a proper room?—No, but it is better than where they are.

600. I ask you was not Wednesday last the first time you applied for additional clothing for the Nurses and the children, in consequence of their being obliged to cross the yard?—It was the first time we applied for cloaks for them.

601. *Captain Lindsay.*—Do you consider the Claremont Institution one with which you can compare this or any other Workhouse?—I think for the particular class of cases they would receive the same kind of treatment here, I think the health of the children would be as good here.

602. *Mr. Barlow.*—You have been asked a question as to the practice of washing out the rooms, is it not the practice in damp and bad weather to light fires in the Wards?—I believe it is.

603. *Mr. Roper.*—You have stated in answer to Mr. Hall that there was a Board's Order that no Pauper should be permitted to go out upon a Pass till after inspection by the Medical Officer, at whose suggestion was that order made?—At mine.

604. Why did you make it?—Because it was impossible for me to be accountable for the examination of the Paupers otherwise.

605. Do you know are Paupers ever admitted upon any Board day except upon Monday?—I believe they are, sometimes upon Wednesday.

606. Are you ever called upon to examine such cases?—Not usually, perhaps I may have been once, but I do not remember more than once.

607. If such Paupers had been admitted without your having been informed of it, do you consider yourself chargeable with neglect of duty?—Certainly not, I think that it is the Master's duty to apprise us of such cases.

608. Do you believe cases have occurred of Paupers being admitted upon a Wednesday, when you were not called upon to inspect them?—I believe there have; last Wednesday I was told there were Paupers admitted; I never heard anything of it till the Inquiry.

609. For what purpose is a Medical Inspection by you required?—I believe it is to ascertain whether any of the Paupers then admitted were labouring under Fever or other diseases requiring them to be sent to Hospital, and to see whether the children are Vaccinated.

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610. Are you in the habit of sending any Paupers from the Probationary Ward direct to the Hospital?—Yes, we are, such cases as require it.

611. Do you make any memorandum of the state of health of a Pauper upon admission?—No, we do not, unless there are very urgent cases; I have occasionally made some remarks upon cases, but I don't make a practice of it.

612. Do you know that there is a column in the Application Book which has been assumed by the presiding Chairman to refer to the state of health of the Paupers?—I learned it by accident; I was in the admission room and heard Mr. Swan questioning the Paupers, which was the first information I had upon the subject.

613. Do you know there is a similar column in the Registry?—I have heard so.

614. If it were your duty to fill up those columns, don't you think you should have been informed of it before this?—I do.

615. Were you ever told it was your duty?—Never.

616. Do you believe now it is your duty?—I never received any directions on the subject.

617. Were you ever told it was your duty?—Never.

618. You are quite certain and clear upon that point?—Certainly.

619. How long are you generally in attendance each day in this house?—Upon an average about three hours; sometimes more, seldom less than three hours daily.

620. How long is your attendance upon a Monday?—Every alternate Monday about five hours.

621. If you are to be required to fill up those columns in the Registry with Medical accuracy and precision, would it not increase your labours very much?—Yes, an hour and a-half or two hours.

Mr. Hall said that he never intended to throw blame upon the Medical Officers for not making the entries in the Application and Report Book and Registries.

622. *Mr. Roper*.—Are you aware of the quantity of air necessary to support the life of one person and keep him in a healthy state?—Yes. The most exact calculation that I can make is that 666 cubic feet of air are required to sustain an adult for the twenty-four hours.

*622. Are you aware of the quantity of air allowed by the Inspectors of Prisons?—Yes.

623. Do Infants or Adults require the purest atmosphere?—Infants certainly require a purer atmosphere, they cannot bear to be confined long.

624. They will exhibit the injury they receive from an impure atmosphere sooner than Adults, will they not?—Yes.

625. Do you know the size of the Dormitory?—I have measured a good many of them.

626. Mention the dimensions of the Dormitories, and the accommodation provided for the Paupers?—The present Dormitory is 81½ feet long, 17 feet 3 inches wide, and 14 feet high, there are 37 beds in it.

627. How many human beings are there in it?—74; which would give about 245 cubic feet for each, the total quantity of air actually consumed by an Adult would be 340 cubic feet, an Infant should have as much because it breathes faster than an Adult, and although the capacity of its lungs is less they are filled much more frequently.

628. Then your opinion is, that a Dormitory for 100 Adults and a Dormitory for 100 Infants under one year old, should be of the same capacity?—I think for health's sake it should.

629. *Mr. Hall*.—But for ordinary purposes would you say that a Dormitory in a Work-house should be of the same size for Infants as Adults?—I do.

630. Do you think it would be right in a private family to put as many Adults into a room as children would without hesitation be placed in it?—We never come near the limits.

631. *Mr. Roper*.—Are not Nurseries much more crowded in private families, even of easy circumstances, than they ought to be?—Yes, I think they are.

632. When you come near the quantity actually consumed by a person, you ought to hesitate how far you would push it?—They have each 245 cubic feet of air now.

633. And you think 340 cubic feet is what they ought to have?—Yes.

634. *Mr. Hall*.—Could not a greater or a less quantity of air be supplied to persons in a room according to the means of ventilation afforded?—I think there might.

635. Therefore it does not depend exactly upon dimensions whether the inmates have a sufficiently airy room or not—it depends upon the dimensions of a room coupled with its ventilation?—Yes.

636. Do you consider the ventilation in this room might be improved?—Yes.

637. And you recommend that to be done?—Yes.

638. *Mr. Roper*.—When you agreed to the removal of the Nurses into the room, did you entirely approve of it?—No.

639. Did you, as it were, make certain conditions upon their going into it?—Yes, there were to be ventilators put into the room, and it was not to be too much crowded.

640. Are there any other Nurses in the house, except those sleeping in the room?—There are.

641. How are they accommodated?—They are in Hospital.

642. Why?—Some of them from the illness of the Mothers and some from the illness of the children.

643. Where is the Nurses' Dormitory placed?—It is outside the limit of the present building, next the lane going up to the garden.

644. Is it not in the lane?—One wall of it is the boundary of the lane.

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645. Is it not flanked up on one side, within a few feet, by the wall of our large main building and at a greater distance by, I believe, the Lunatic Asylum?—Yes.

646. Are there not walls of other buildings sufficiently close to that building in which the Nurses' Dormitory is situated, so as to render ventilation of that building more difficult than the ventilation of our general Dormitories here?—The ventilation is somewhat imperfect.

647. In consequence of the wall?—Yes.

648. *Mr. Hall.*—Is there not sufficient ventilation for that Dormitory?—There is not the same access for a current of air to it.

649. *Mr. Roper.*—Are you aware how the under part of this House is occupied?—By a class of Lunatics.

650. Are not this class immediately under where the Nurses' sleeping room is?—Yes.

651. *Mr. Hall.*—Did you make that objection to this apartment?—No, I did not.

652. *Mr. Roper.*—Was it by the direction of the Guardians they were put there?—I believe it was.

653. What Ward did the Nurses occupy as a sleeping-room before they were removed to this Ward?—No. 50.

654. Is not that in every respect a more desirable apartment than they now occupy?—Indeed I think it was, if it had not been too much crowded.

655. What diseases do you consider are caused by over crowding the children?—Scrofulous diseases in particular; you may have Fever.

656. What disease have you principally observed in this House to be the result of the over crowding, and to have proved most fatal to the children here?—Consumption is looked upon as a Scrofulous disease.

657. Do you account for the prevalence of the Scrofula here to the over crowding of the House?—In a great measure.

658. Have any Infants, previously healthy upon their admission, died here?—They have.

659. You have known several Infants die in the House who were previously healthy on their admission?—Several.

660. Did you dissect any of them?—I did.

661. What did you discover in them after death?—I discovered Tubercles in the lungs of a great majority of them.

662. *Mr. Phelan.*—Are not these children under two years of age?—Yes.

663. Is it usual for Scrofulous Tubercles to be developed in children of that early age?—I believe it is—I believe not only that, but that they have existed in children before they were born.

664. *Mr. Roper.*—I believe the development of Scrofulous symptoms amongst the children of this Workhouse has attracted the observations of Medical men?—It has.

665. Are you aware it is more particularly in reference to the South Dublin Union?—Yes.

666. Are you aware that the health of the children who were maintained in the House of Industry was the subject of a Medical Inquiry?—I have seen it so stated.

667. Have you any doubt of it?—I have not.

668. *Mr. Phelan.*—Do you hand in any Record, Mr. Roper?

Mr. Roper referred to an Extract from a Lecture of Surgeon Carmichael in reference to Scrofulous diseases.

Examination of Witness continued.

669. *Mr. Roper.*—Were you ever consulted by the Commissioners or our Board as to any of the buildings or alterations in the House?—No, I was not.

670. Do you consider the low Sheds called Day Rooms calculated either for the health or comfort of the children or Adults in the Workhouse—I mean by comfort only so far as relates to the health of the Paupers?—No I think they are very badly planned.

671. Have the walls and the new buildings erected by the Commissioners increased or diminished the ventilation of the premises?—The cross walls have decidedly diminished the ventilation.

672. *Mr. Hall.*—Are you aware of the changes that have been made here since the old House of Industry was in existence?—I am aware of the old House of Industry since 1835; it was previous to that not so much obstructed as it is now, for there were improvements made, walls were thrown down, the passage was cleared up in front, and the place was materially improved; but since that period the walls of the present Building have been built up.

673. Are you aware there were walls there before?—Yes, but not so high as now.

674. *Mr. Roper.*—If the Nurses, Infants and other children were fairly accommodated now in the House with a view to their health, what room would be left for the Adults?—Before I could answer that question you must tell me how many Nurses there are in the House, and then you must give the measurement of every Room in the House.

675. Do you think any improvement that is likely to be adopted here would reduce our mortality to that amount which takes place amongst Orphan Charity children who are supported by Voluntary Contributions, and sent to the Country?—The question you ask me is whether we can have them as healthy here as in the Country.

676. No, I am talking of a class of miserable destitute children who have been taken up by Societies and sent to the Country?—I believe the children reared in the Country will

14th December, 1841. have a smaller mortality, and be in better health than those reared in this house, or any where else in the City.

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677. Can you produce me six Infants under two years old, in perfect health, that have been six months in this house?—Dr. Kirkpatrick attends this month and he can answer the question better than I can.

678. *Mr. Hall.*—You have been questioned about the new Day Rooms which the Commissioners built; upon a former day you are reported to have said you do not think they are fit for any purposes for human beings?—That was not the answer I gave; the answer was that I did not think they were suitable for any purposes for human beings to live in.

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No. 4.

679. Are you aware of the dimensions of those rooms?—I am not aware of the length or breadth of them, but I know with regard to one of them that the crowd of people in it is enormous.

680. But are you not aware that any room, if crowded, is unfit for the purposes for which you require it.—It is.

681. What strikes you as an objection to the room?—It is low and dark, and there is no possibility of opening the windows without injury to the health of some of the persons in the rooms.

682. How is the Paupers' health injured by opening the windows?—Because they are too low.

683. Where is the bench upon which the Paupers sit if they wish?—All round the room, but particularly under the window, the only thing that would obviate the objection would be to raise the wall 3 feet, and put the windows higher up.

684. What is the height of the walls at the side?—Perhaps about 7 feet.

685. What is the height in the centre?—It may be 13 feet.

686. What is the number and size of the windows?—I don't exactly know.

687. Do you consider that the windows are sufficiently large?—I think their position prevents them from giving a proper quantity of light, they are too low.

688. *Mr. Hooper.*—Are you aware how the benches are placed in this room for the Paupers to sit on? If the windows are open when the Paupers are so situated, will not the draft of air coming in prove injurious to the Paupers? Will it not have an effect upon the backs of their necks?—It will; It will give them Rheumatism.

689. *Mr. Barlow.*—Would it not have been much more satisfactory, if it could have been so arranged that all the Infants that had been born in the house had died or remained here, could you not then have arrived at a more satisfactory account as to the diseases which attack them?—Yes.

690. Can you tell me how many Infants have been born in the house?—27 I think.

691. I believe you are mistaken, I think the number is 35. What portion of these Infants have died or been discharged?—I do not know, but I know that some of the finest and healthiest children I have ever seen are those born in this House and have died here.

692. *Captain Lindsay.*—As you have no Record of the state of the children's health upon admission, how can you state that the Infants would have died?—You have repeated opportunities of seeing them in the Day Room, and when the Mothers came down occasionally labouring under some trifling complaints, have you formed any opinion as to whether the children could be reared in the house or not?—Perhaps I should begin by answering the first question: when a child who had entered the House 2 or 3 months previously, was sent to the Hospital labouring under some acute disease, without coming under my notice before that period, my presumption was that the Mother's statement regarding the child's previous good health was correct, not only from her statement, but from the nature of the disease with which the child was affected.

693. Have you formed any opinion as to whether children can be reared in health here?—I believe they can, provided you make the necessary arrangements.

694. *Mr. Arkins.*—What distance is the Dormitory in which the Nurses and the Infants sleep from the Day Room?—I don't exactly know, it is across two of the yards.

695. Do the Nurses bring the Infant children in their arms without any covering, from the bed in which they sleep to the Day Room?—They do.

696. With their legs and arms bare?—Yes.

697. At what hour do the Nurses leave the Day Room and proceed to the Dormitory?—I believe about 7 o'clock.

698. And do they proceed there with the Infants in their arms with their legs and arms bare at night?—I believe they might have left the Day Room at an earlier hour if they pleased.

699. But at any rate they should bring them across the yard?—Yes.

700. *Mr. Hall.*—Admitting that the case is as your answer would represent it to be, and that such a proceeding is objectionable, is it not the easiest thing in the world to obviate it?—It is.

701. Would there be the slightest difficulty in transferring to the Wards that the children and Mothers now occupy, as many able-bodied women as could be properly put to sleep there, and produce accommodation for the Nurses and children elsewhere?—Yes.

702. *Mr. Arkins.*—To what reports did you allude as injurious to the Institution, which you said prevented you from giving your Reports in writing, lest any improper use should be made of them?—It was a fact, that I understood, that a particular Guardian, instead of bringing his complaints to the Board, went to another place first.

703. Might I ask you who that particular Guardian was?—*Mr. Arkins.*

704. Do you remember my consulting you with regard to the Dormitories, before those complaints were brought before the Board?—I remember a conversation with you subsequent to it, but not before it. 14th December, 1841.
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705. Then you are aware that I brought the matter before the Board, and got some of the Gentlemen to accompany me to the Dormitory?—I am not.

706. *Mr. Roper.*—Mr. Hall asked you, whether several things here are not capable of being remedied, and you have stated that they are. I now ask you has not loss of life been caused by their not having been remedied before this?—I believe there has.

707. If the children here cost 2s. a-week each, what expense is caused for the Hospital accommodation for them on an average?—I cannot answer the question, but if I am to judge from the number in Hospital, it must be considerable.

708. Then the children are a considerable part of the Hospital establishment?—Yes.

709. You have stated in a former enquiry that you consider the mortality here greater than in the Liberty and Church-street, amongst the destitute Poor?—I believe so.

710. *Mr. Hall.*—Do you mean you believe it to have been the case?—I believe it to have been the case.

711. *Mr. Roper.*—Are not these localities the St. Giles' of Dublin?—They are.

712. If the mortality in this Workhouse cannot be reduced below that which takes place in the class of persons that exist in the lowest stage of existence, outside, is not a Poor Rate a useless imposition?—I believe that it can be reduced. I have been several years Physician to a Dispensary, embracing almost as low a class, if not fully as low, as are maintained in this Workhouse, I mean the Poor in the neighbourhood of Townsend-street and Poolbeg-street; and from that I form my opinion, that I believe the mortality in this house can be reduced below that of the lowest class outside these doors.

713. You stated upon a former enquiry, that we had considerable advantages in this House with regard to air and the building, the sewerage, and other things—do you say that we have advantages as compared with the new Workhouses built by the Commissioners?—I do.

714. Then it would follow, it is as well for us that this house was built before their Architect came over?—I say it is well that this house is built upon another plan from those I have seen.

715. Did you ever recommend a Gymnasium for the children to be set up here?—I did.

716. Don't you think it ought to have been prepared before they were sent into the House?—I think it would have been very well if it had been adopted.

717. In the first return, there appears to be 5 Orphan children, how are they marked off as being disposed of?—I mean the first return, including those Infants who were under one year of age?—They are all dead I believe.

718. Will you give the Commissioners your conscientious, honest opinion, of the chance of life which you consider a healthy Orphan child has in coming into this Workhouse; I mean a child about 2 or 3 months, under 12 months, requiring a Wet Nurse?—I think it has a very bad chance. I think any Orphan coming in at that age, must necessarily be spoon-fed, and with all the other disadvantages, it will here stand a very bad chance.

719. What class of persons do you think have the greatest claim upon the Poor Law for support? Who are the most destitute of human beings, from the time they come into this world of troubles?—I would say Orphans are.

720. Do you consider that any being, formed of life, can have a greater claim upon a Poor Law than an Orphan?—No; an Orphan who has lost father and mother.

721. What would you think of a system of Poor Law which precludes Orphans from admission, without providing relief from them any where else?—I think Orphans, without any natural relative, are the greatest objects that can be.

722. And you think they have very little chance of living, taken in in that way?—Yes.

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Dr. Duncan, examined.

723. *Mr. Roper.*—There was some difference of opinion yesterday, between you and Doctor Phelan; do you consider the occurrence of Consumption as a consequence of Measles, common in healthy children?—Not in healthy. 15th December 1841.
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724. Then you would infer from the frequency of its occurrence here, that there was a disposition for disease amongst the children before they received the infection of Measles?—I would.

725. Are not Measles one of the commonest disorders to which children are subject in these countries?—Yes.

726. It is very common in Schools as well as in private houses?—Certainly.

727. Do you consider the Mortality which follows Measles in private houses or Schools greater than what generally takes place under other circumstances in this Workhouse?—It is much greater here.

728. Much?—Yes.

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729. *Mr. Hall.*—Does not Measles prevail sometimes as an Epidemic in poor and distressed neighbourhoods?—It does.

730. Do you expect the mortality in such a neighbourhood to be greater, or considerably greater, than what follows Measles in Schools?—It depends more upon the character of the Epidemic usually, than upon the locality.

731. Is not the character of the Epidemic modified by the situation of the locality?—Not always, sometimes it is.

732. I mean, taking the circumstances of the locality into account, supposing the character of the disease to be of the same virulence—do you suppose Mortality would be as great where Measles appeared in a School or private family as if it broke out in a poor and densely inhabited neighbourhood?—I think, generally speaking, you always expect, under the unfavorable circumstances of which you speak, that the Mortality is greater, but the severity of the disease depends upon the character of the Epidemic; in one year it is more severe and fatal than in another.

733. Take the same year and the same character of Epidemic, and then judge?—There is no perceptible difference, owing to the circumstances of the person.—We judge of the unhealthiness of an Epidemic by the symptoms it produces; those symptoms will be produced equally as often in the upper as the lower classes. It does not seem to draw a distinction in that way.

734. Then you would not expect Mortality to depend so much upon the circumstances of the patient suffering under the malady, as upon the character of the disease itself?—Certainly.

735. Therefore if a certain amount of Mortality was produced at one time, and another amount of Mortality at another time, you would consider this rather an indication of a more or less virulent character of the disease itself, than of circumstances more or less favourable?—Certainly, but then we must judge of the Epidemic here, it is not enough to say that there have been more deaths from this Epidemic, but that the symptoms that have been produced by it are of a peculiarly malignant nature.

736. But still it appears to me the question comes round to the original point, namely, whether an Epidemic disease, producing the same symptoms, and thereby giving signs of being the same sort of disease, would produce in a School or private family, the same amount of Mortality as in a neighbourhood inhabited by the destitute classes of Society?—Certainly not, I would consider the Mortality greater amongst the Poor.

737. Then would you think it fair to institute a comparison between the case of Paupers attacked by Measles here, and of children attacked by it in a private family, or at School?—Certainly not; it would not be fair to expect that the same results would follow in one case as in the other.

738. *Mr. Roper.*—Was your answer to me, in which you stated the Mortality from Measles here, made with a view to classes of persons?—We have been asking and answering abstract questions, the fact is, the mode in which the disease terminates is the criterion by which we properly judge of it—for instance, in this house, when Measles have terminated fatally, it has been by producing Consumption.

739. You have stated that an Orphan has a very bad chance here?—I have.

740. An Orphan Infant requiring a Wet Nurse?—Yes.

741. From your opinion as to chance of Orphans here, do you not think that, if it be desirable to preserve their lives, some course different from the present should be adopted?—I do, if you want to preserve their lives.

742. I am going upon the supposition that it is worth while preserving their lives?—They ought to be wet-nursed.

743. There have been attempts made to have them wet-nursed—have there not?—I only remember one instance.

744. Has not an Orphan child sometimes been given to a woman to nurse who has a child of her own?—I know of one, there probably have been others. I have known Orphans given to a Mother, who had another child to take care of, but I believe they were spoon-fed.

745. Have you ever known an Orphan Infant “twinned” by a woman who had a child of her own?—The instance I alluded to was one.

746. Don't you think a Pauper woman in this house, from all the circumstances attending her situation here; her diet, confinement, and every thing else, would not be able to suckle a second child, and do justice to the first?—Certainly not.

747. Don't you think the best chance a Mother, under such circumstances would have of saving her own child, would be to starve the other?—It would.

748. Have you known any cases occur, where Mothers dying, left their Infants not yet weaned?—The case I speak of was one.

749. You have known an instance then?—I have; the Mother died, and the child lived.

750. Then that child was under the same circumstances as if it were brought in here a foundling?—It was.

751. Have you known other instances of children being left half nursed by the deaths of their Mothers; or have you known Mothers from disease and broken down health, unable to nurse their own children?—I have; in all the instances of twins, one of the children died, I think from insufficient food. From the Mothers not having sufficient milk; there have been two or three instances of twins dying. There were two women, named Lindsay and Bailey, one in each Ward, who had twins; Bailey's child did not die immediately, but it was delicate: it had a Spinal disease, which showed its weakness, and it subsequently died.

752. You don't think it likely that a Pauper Mother having twins is a bit more likely to suckle them than a Mother having a single child of her own is able to suckle another child in addition?—I don't understand the question.

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753. Is any woman in this house able to suckle two children whether they be her own twins or not?—Generally speaking, the women here are not able to do so.

754. *Mr. Barlow.*—Do you consider a poor woman any where else could do it?—I think under other circumstances she would; I don't speak of her being able to do it in the City, but in the Country.

755. Do you think the poor people outside these walls, in the City, would be better able to rear twins than those within the walls?—No, I think not.

756. *Mr. Roper.*—Is it usual to ask or expect them to do it—is it usual, except in a Workhouse, to put a strong child upon a woman's breast, in addition to her own, without any remuneration for doing so?—No.

757. *Mr. Barlow.*—In a case where a second child is given to nurse, do you feel yourself at liberty to order extra nourishment for her?—The child was under the care of Dr. Kirkpatrick.

758. But would you not feel yourself at liberty to order extra nourishment if it were under your care?—I would.

759. And are you not sure it was done?—I am.

760. *Mr. Hall.*—You have stated cases of women having twins—I think you mentioned two instances?—Yes, I mentioned two cases; in both of these the children were delicate; one of them died of Consumption; the other was delicate, and after being a good while in the house, got an attack of Measles, from which it fell into Consumption.

761. Is it not an exceedingly common circumstance in all ranks of life for women to be unable to suckle twins?—Yes.

762. Is it not common for twin-children to be born weakly, and grow up worse?—Almost all.

763. And is it not particularly the case amongst the class to which the Pauper women who come in here belong?—It is.

764. *Mr. Roper.*—In the first Return of 100 children the 5 Orphans are marked as dead?—They are.

765. Does it appear that the result was the same, whether the children were given to a woman in addition to her own to nurse, or whether it was attempted to spoon-feed them?—The Return does not specify the difference in the management of the children.

766. Was there any other way of rearing the children except by spoon-feeding or giving them to a woman to nurse?—There was no other way.

767. There are 5 Orphans entered as having died, and as there is no other way of rearing children except what I have stated, does it not follow that the spoon-feeding was not more successful than the nursing?—I have no reason to suppose there would be a difference in the result.

768. From your knowledge of the vicissitudes of life amongst our peasantry, is it not probable that Orphans as well as Widows will be a numerous class of applicants for admission into this House?—Certainly, I suppose they would.

769. Is there any paid Nurse allowed in this House for attending to the Infant children or superintending them?—There is one paid Nurse, but I believe she is properly the Hospital Cook; it is the only duty she discharges.

770. Was she intended for the children?—No, she was intended for the Hospital.

771. Is there any paid Nurse in the House for superintending or taking care of the children?—No. I speak of the Infants? None, except Miss Ireland.

772. Do you consider Miss Ireland in charge of the Infant children?—She is.

773. Do you not think some reasonable, intelligent woman, who had been a Mother herself, and had some experience, should be appointed in such an Establishment as the present, to look after the Infant children?—I think it would be a very great advantage if the persons who had charge of them had been a Mother.

774. Is the Matron of this House a Spinster; is she unmarried?—Yes.

775. Is the Assistant Matron unmarried?—Yes.

776. Is the Superintendent and Caretaker of children unmarried?—Yes.

777. Do you not think that some reasonable, intelligent woman, who is a Mother herself, and has some experience as to a woman's natural occupation, should be appointed in such an Establishment as this is, to superintend the children?—I think it would be a very great advantage if the Matron were a married woman.

778. I did not ask you whether the Matron should be a married woman or not; my question was, whether some intelligent and sensible woman should not be appointed to superintend the children?—I think the Head of the Establishment should be married, because she has to take charge of the whole of the children, including of course the Infants as well as others.

779. Don't you think the Matron has a great many other duties to discharge besides looking after the children here?—Yes.

780. Don't you think there would be full occupation for her to look after the children who are in the House and those who are likely to be in it?—Yes.

781. Would it not be advisable that one of the three women should be married?—Certainly.

782. Do you think that the person who would be answerable to look after the children, if

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such an appointment were made, ought to be very much under the control of the Medical Men of the House—Certainly.

783. *Mr. Hall.*—Do you know when the present Superintendent of the children was appointed?—Not very long since.

784. Do you recollect her predecessor?—She was a married woman and gave very great satisfaction.

785. Did you make any representation to the Board at the time her successor was appointed, as to its being desirable to have a married woman appointed Superintendent?—I did not; I did not think myself called upon to make such a representation. I did not know what kind of person might be appointed.

786. *Mr. Roper.*—Are you of opinion that there was any and what difference in the 50 children, out of the 100 in the first Return, who left this house with their Mothers, and those who remained in it?—I cannot speak with reference to that point without looking to the Return and making a long search; the women left the house without our knowing anything about it.

787. Did you ever hear any woman assign any reason for leaving this House with her children?—Some left the House in consequence of the delicate state of health in which their children were, having already lost some, they were afraid of losing others.

788. Did they express that fear?—They did.

789. Can you reckon or calculate upon our ever being in such an Establishment as this is, free from Measles, Scarletina, Hooping Cough, and other diseases of that kind?—No, never.

790. Do you know that this Board made a unanimous application to the Commissioners, upon the subject of Hospital accommodation?—No, I do not.

791. Then you do not know that we were refused?—No.

792. Do you recollect any of the women who went out with their children, fearing that they would catch infection, seeking re-admission and obtaining it?—I remember persons who left the House coming back again, but I don't remember any instance to my own knowledge, of a person leaving the House from an apprehension that her child would fall into sickness, coming back again.

793. *Mr. Hall.*—When women left the House with their children, fearing the evil consequences might ensue if they remained in it, were Epidemics prevailing in the House?—The cases were generally irrespective of such an occurrence; some of the children might have left the House in good health, from the fear of an Epidemic, but the cases to which I allude, were cases in which the children got over the Epidemic prevailing in the House, and their Mothers were afraid that they would fall into Consumption.

794. Did you ever recommend them to take their children to the country?—I have done so, but in the instances to which I allude, the Mothers, in consequence of their poverty, could not leave the House.

795. *Mr. Phelan.*—Did you ever know a private family to remove from a locality because one or more members of that family were sick?—I have.

796. *Mr. Hall.*—You were asked by Dr. Phelan whether, from your experience, you would expect that Orphans would be frequently brought for admission into the Workhouse, and you answered in the affirmative?—I did.

797. Are you aware of any legal provision that is made for Infant Orphans which would diminish the probability of their being brought into this House?—There is, I believe, a provision by Parochial Assessment, for deserted children, but these are not the class of Orphans in this House, I believe.

798. The Orphans to which the Examination has reference, are those mentioned in the Return. And you understand them to be, do you not, Orphans without father or mother?—I do.

799. Do you know all the circumstances under which they were brought into the House?—I do not.

800. Do you know of any deserted children being brought into the House?—I do not, those questions were settled by the Board, We were not concerned in them.

801. Do you consider the probability of such Orphans being brought into the House would be diminished by the circumstances that there is a legal provision by which they might be supported elsewhere?—No, for I am not aware that the Parishes have refused to take charge of such children.

802. Upon what ground do you think the Parishes have refused?—From what I have seen in the Newspapers.

803. What do you suppose was the reason?—The provision of the Poor Rates.

804. Do you know are there any Orphan children in the House that have been brought in Infants?—I don't know.

805. *Mr. Roper.*—Might not the dirty appearance of a child, and the cold to which it was exposed, have misled Guardians who were not Medical Men, judging from a mere superficial view of it, as to its state of health?—I think they might have considered the child was in a worse state of health than it really was.

806. Might not a child have a generally sound constitution though it presented the appearance of hardship and cold?—Yes, a child may be teething and weakly—it might appear to be very ill while nothing very serious may be the matter with it.

807. You have said, in answer to Mr. Hall, and I fully agree with it, that you considered there might be a great improvement made here, and the mortality amongst the children

reduced; you have also, as I believe, stated here, that you do not expect us to reduce our mortality, by the best arrangement within these walls, to what it would be amongst the class of Infants sent to the country?—No, I do not expect the mortality would be reduced to the same. 15th December, 1841.

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808. You have made several calculations; have you made any as to what extra expenditure of Infant life we should go to in order to support the application of the Workhouse test to Infants?—It would be very hard to answer that question but I can give an answer certainly—the answer I will give to that question is, that I consider the mortality in this House, under proper management, might be made less than what it is in a certain class of persons outside.

809. Then don't you think it is a great hardship upon the Country Paupers to be exposed to disease by bringing them into a City Workhouse, in other words, would you not consider a Workhouse in the Country, well managed, more favourable to Infant life than this is?—Certainly.

810. And is it not a hardship upon the rural districts to have the Infants sent into the foul air of a City Workhouse?—It would be better, of course, if they were nursed in the Country.

811. *Mr. Hall.*—Is it your opinion receiving the destitute children into this House may be fairly termed the application of the Workhouse test?—It is the application of the Workhouse test to their Mothers; it is not to their Infants, because they are not voluntary agents in coming in here.

812. The question then is, is it advisable to give relief to the Mothers apart from the Infants, and the Infants apart from the Mothers?—There are practical difficulties in the way of Mr. Roper's suggestions.

813. *Mr. Roper.*—Has the experiment of rearing children in a Workhouse of this sort been successfully tried any where else that you are aware of?—Not that I am aware of.

814. *Mr. Hall* put a question to you yesterday upon the subject of ventilation from which he would infer that ventilation in small apartments can be regulated by the admission of currents of air, if that doctrine be fully admitted, would not the question of Workhouse accommodation amount to mere stowage, like the hold of a ship; would not this be the case if the quantity of air depended upon the mechanical regulations of ventilation, instead of the construction of the apartments themselves?—This cannot be admitted without limitation.

815. *Mr. Hall.*—The question was not asked without limitation—the question was, whether the calculation of the quantity of cubic feet of air supplied, did not depend upon the size of the room, and the extent of the means afforded for ventilation.

816. *Mr. Roper.*—Are you aware that it is a matter of public record, that great mortality prevailed in the Lying-in Hospital some years ago, in consequence of the want of ventilation?—I am.

817. Has not the mortality been greatly reduced by the improvement in the ventilation of the house?—It has been enormously reduced.

818. Are you aware of the principle upon which this improved ventilation is conducted?—Yes, flues are fastened through the roof.

819. Has any similar plan been introduced by the Poor Law Architects of this House?—Yes, there has been; there are communications through the floor with the apertures there; under the Hospital Department; but I believe they are perfectly useless.

820. Is the ventilation of this House carried on upon the same scientific plan as it now is in the Lying-in Hospital?—It is not.

821. Don't you think it would be well that the English Architect was to get a little Irish advice upon the subject?—I think it would be well if the plan of ventilation were improved.

822. *Mr. Hall.*—Is there any obstacle in the way of that improvement taking place?—None that I am aware of.

823. Is that one of the Suggestions you would make as being important for the improvement of the house?—Yes.

Witness, at the suggestion of Mr. Barlow, read the following Extract from the Medical Report Book:—

July, 15th, 1840.

“Ventilators are required in all the Windows of the Wards in the entire house, for the air, during the night, when the inmates are in bed, is most offensive and unwholesome. During the day, the Windows can be let down, but this would be accompanied with danger at night.”

Mr. Barlow read an entry in the Minute Book of the Board, which was as follows:—

July, 15th, 1840.

“Ventilators to be placed in the Windows of the Wards, under the direction of the Medical Officers.”

824. *Mr. Barlow.*—May I ask you if that was done under your direction?—It was done under the direction of the Medical Officers.

825. In all the Wards?—No.

826. Was it done in the Nursery?—It was.

827. Was it done in every Ward you thought necessary?—No; the reason why we did not recommend Ventilators to be put communicating with the roof, was in consequence of a communication with the Contractor, who spoke of the expense.

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828. Your recommendation was, that Ventilators should be placed in the Windows?—Yes.

829. Did you ever report the circumstance to the Board that the Ventilators were not provided?—No.

830. Then the facts are, that the Medical Officers recommended to put the Ventilators in the Windows; The order of the Board that followed was, that it should be done by their directions; your answer is that it has not been done in all the Wards, but that you never reported further to the Board?—We never reported that it was not done. Witness corrected himself, by saying he believed he was in error, for he thought he had reported. He then read the following Extract from the Medical Report Book:—

Sept. 23rd, 1840.

“The Ventilators have been put up very badly in the different Wards, a large space of about an inch having been left at the bottom of each, by which a draft of cold air constantly falls upon the Patients, that would not be the case were the vent solely at the top.

NOTE.—The Ventilators to be made air-tight at bottom.”

831. Did you not consider that you had the power to have those Ventilators placed in the Windows?—Certainly, and our directions were given so; but for a long time, I was not aware that the matter had not been corrected.

832. Did you not, when the matter was left to your direction, think it necessary to see would it be done?—We complained about it over and over again to the Contractor.

833. My object is, to show the Board did their duty fully?—Certainly they did.

834. And that if there is any neglect, it rests with the Medical Officers?—I have no objection to say so; I think I have exonerated the Board.

835. To whom did you give directions to have these things done?—I gave the directions to Mr Whelan, the Contractor. I may mention that the Ventilators as put up did not answer the purpose, and we have adopted a plan which has answered as well, in the Wards where no Ventilators were put up; that is, having a small portion of the windows open in each Ward.

836. Do you consider having a small portion of the windows open in rooms in which Infants are placed, is a sufficient ventilation?—No, but the Ventilators were ordered some time ago, and have not been yet put up.

837. Why not order necessary ventilation without applying to the Board, if you thought opening the windows sufficient?—We considered the ventilation we recommended would answer the purpose better.

838. *Mr. Hall.*—In what respect has the ventilation provided by the Commissioners proved a failure?—I don't think the cold air comes up sufficiently through the space provided for the purpose; I don't think there is a sufficient supply of it.

839. Can you account for this?—The opening not being large enough.

840. Do you think the principle on which the ventilation is formed is objectionable?—I do not see why the principle should not answer.

841. *Mr. Roper.*—You had some communication with the Contractor upon the subject of flues, like the Lying-in-Hospital, through the roof, and what answer did you get from him?—He said it would be very expensive.

842. We understood from a former answer of yours that the arrangement of Ventilators is not upon the same scientific principle as it is now in the Lying-in-Hospital?—I don't think it is exactly so necessary here.

843. Is our ventilation perfect and sufficiently good?—I don't think it perfect or sufficiently good.

844. Is it desirable to assimilate our plan to that of the Lying-in-Hospital?—I don't think it necessary to have the same perfect system of ventilation here as there.

845. Have you not found that it was much easier to get an order from the Board to have it done, than to have that order executed?—Yes, in repeated instances; not in this instance only, but in others.

846. You have stated that you complained to the Matron of the insufficiency of the clothing of the Infants, that they were too small and scanty. Do you consider the Board gave any directions as to the curtailment of the materials for making clothes?—No.

847. You don't suppose it was from any wish upon the part of the Board to stint them, that the clothes were made too short?—No.

848. The figures given in the resolution agreed to by this Board, as the ground of an enquiry, a fortnight ago, are calculated, although it was not intended, to mislead persons not in the habit of looking to such calculations. Some persons have taken the Mortality upon the first return, at 90 per cent.; is not this a great exaggeration?—It is, certainly, a very great exaggeration.

849. You have stated that the Mortality in this Workhouse, taking all the circumstances into consideration, is extreme?—I think we have had more deaths here than we should have had.

850. Will you state to the Commissioner, what you do really consider the rate of Mortality here, amongst the Infants under one year of age, to have been per cent., and also be pleased to state how you made your calculations with reference to the accredited tables of Mortality?—I have made no calculation of Infants under one year of age; my calculation applies to Infants under two.

851. The principle upon which you went, was that death should be considered with the average number of constant residents, and not with the admissions?—Yes.

852. *Mr. Phelan*.—I think you gave us to understand the other day that the mortality should be taken on the gross admissions, without taking into account the discharges, or the length of time those who were discharged remained in the House; you stated that it is the usual mode in which it is done in other Hospitals, did you not?—Witness gave no answer.

15th December, 1841.

Dr. Duncan.

853. *Mr. Roper*.—Did you consider from what passed at the Board on this day week that *Mr. Phelan* considered that was the manner in which the calculation of the mortality in the Workhouse should be made out?—Yes, I did.

854. Is such a mode of calculation in your opinion correct?—Not in reference to a Workhouse.

855. Does it agree with the mode adopted by *Mr. M'Culloch*?—He gives tables which I think are correct.

856. And that his mode does not agree with the mode of Hospital calculation mentioned by *Mr. Phelan*?—*Mr. M'Culloch's* tables are reckoned to be good authority; I believe they are the best.

857. Do you recollect how *Mr. M'Culloch* calculates the mortality in the Gaols of England?—Yes, upon the same principle I calculate, namely, constant residence.

858. This mode of calculation has been applied by you to the Workhouse?—It has.

859. And the result of your calculation by that mode made the mortality of children under two to be what?—The correct number is about 63 per cent. There is a correction which I must just make; 63 per cent. is what I give as the mortality in the cases, including of course a number of children that came into the house in a dying state. I do not mean to say that the mortality of healthy children in this house was 63 per cent.

860. But in the cases as they stood, the calculation was 63 per cent.?—Yes.

861. I questioned you yesterday as to your general attendance in this House. Does the *Porter's Book* afford the means from the opening of the House to the present time, of accurately testing the number of hours you have spent within these walls each day?—No.

862. *Mr. Hall*.—With regard to the mode of calculation which you consider to be the proper mode of calculation, let me ask you, do you admit *Mr. Phelan's* plan is the usual mode of calculating mortality in an Institution of this kind?—In Hospitals it is.

863. Why has that mode been adopted in Hospitals?—Because the persons admitted there are labouring under disease, they come there to be cured, at least to be the subject of Medical treatment; therefore the number of deaths is a fair criterion in comparison with the admission. No person thinks of remaining longer there than is necessary to have him cured, when he is cured he leaves the place.

864. But that mode of calculation might have been a proper one to adopt here, provided the object in view had been a comparison with any other Institution where the same mode of calculation was adopted?—In any other Workhouse it might be fair, but I have not seen any Workhouse calculated upon that plan.

865. You have stated the actual amount of mortality upon your own or *Mr. M'Culloch's* calculation?—I have.

866. Have you arrived at any opinion as to what the amount of mortality might have been in this House under such improved circumstances as you from time to time have suggested, or are now prepared to suggest?—I have made no calculation upon that point.

Mr. Barlow said that he had a Return of deserted children maintained by the Metropolitan Police; it struck him that would be a very fair document to contrast with the Return of mortality of that house. The children sustained by the Police were all under one year old. The course taken by the Commissioners of the Police was to send those children out to the Country to be Nursed, and he applied to the Commissioners for a Return. He told them that he wished to make use of it for a public purpose. He had it in his possession, and if it were permitted, he would produce it.

Mr. Hall asked in whose handwriting the document was.

Mr. Barlow said it was in the handwriting of the Secretary, *Mr. Bowles*.

Mr. Roper said that he was quite satisfied that the document should be received as authentic.

Mr. Barlow then read from the Return as follows:

"The number of children sent to nurse in the Country by the Commissioners of the Police and supported by them was 71, from 1st January, 1838, to October, 1841. The account of those children is as follows:—died 50, taken charge of by private individuals 10; the number at present in charge of the Police is 11. The number found altogether was 252. Out of that number 140 were supported by different Parishes; received by the Poor Law Guardians 13, delivered to their mothers 17. Expenses of the 71 incurred by the Police £284 5s. 9½d."

See Appendix.
No. 8.

Mr. Barlow added that the children at nurse were visited every week.

Examination of *Dr. Duncan* resumed.

867. *Mr. O'Gorman*.—How many deaths are the Board chargeable with?—I make the return from the 10th of May, 1840, to 10th of May, 1841, to be 56.

868. I think you stated there were 5 in a hopeless situation?—There were more than that; there were 5 or 6.

869. I ask you with relation to any neglect attributable to the Board, would it not be fair to deduct the number of children who entered the house in an unhealthy state from the 56?—Yes, to account for the actual deaths of healthy children.

16th December, 1841.

Dr. Duncan.

870. Of the number that came in, what number did you conceive to be in a hopeless situation?—I am sure there were not more than 20, nor so many.

871. I ask you when we are charged with so great a mortality in this house is it not fair to deduct 20 from the 56, the numbers with which we are fairly chargeable, should be I think 36?—Yes, 36.

872. In your professional capacity have you had much intercourse with the poor?—I have had a good deal.

873. In what part of the town have you had the experience?—In Townsend-street and Poolbeg-street.

874. In answer to a question put to you by me, you said you thought the mortality outside the house not so great as inside it?—I think not, they were liable in that house to take Epidemic diseases from the difficulties of separating the Paupers, to which persons outside would not have been liable.

875. Give me leave to ask you if you ever had any experience amongst the Poor in Cork-street, Purcil's Alley or Church-street?—I have seen in a house in High-street, 168 human beings of all sexes, in disease, dirt and filth; would you think that state of Society more favourable to human life than the state of the Paupers in the Workhouse?—Less favourable I would say.

876. Would you be so good as to state what you think is the period most fatal to Infancy, is it not from the time a child is born till it reaches its second year?—Yes.

877. From your knowledge of the Poor outside this house, how many of the 36 with whose death the Board is said to be chargeable, do you think would survive?—It is a very difficult question to answer, do you mean how many deaths would occur amongst the Poor outside the house.

878. Yes, amongst the lowest classes of the Poor?—I think the evil in the Poor House is exposing the children to diseases, and therefore I look to an improved arrangement to be beneficial in this respect, as useful to prevent disease and not as affording a greater facility to cure it.

879. Supposing that 36 were inmates of Church-street, living in cellars, and labouring under all the disadvantages attending the children of the Poor, how many do you think taking the children under 2 years of age, would have survived?—The mortality inside the house excluding hopeless cases, I make according to my principle, 52 per cent., and I say that of the same class outside the house, the rate of mortality ought not to exceed 30 per cent.

880. You said that, taking into consideration the number of infirm, hopeless cases, the mortality would be 52 per cent., excluding them, what do you think the mortality would be upon 100 cases outside?—I should suppose 30 per cent.

881. Then according to that calculation the mortality with which this Board would be chargeable would be 22 per cent.?—Yes.

882. Do you think the overcrowding the rooms, the main cause of mortality?—I think it is a very main cause.

883. *Mr. Roper.*—Will not the public expect if a proper system of Poor Laws be adopted, there should be a much greater economy of life in this Workhouse than amongst the most destitute class outside of it?—Certainly.

884. *Mr. Law.*—I wish to ask you, did you take into consideration what the number of deaths would have been outside this house during the prevalence of Epidemics when you estimated the mortality in the house at 30 per cent.?—I think they would not be so much exposed to those Epidemics.

885. Still you think the prevalence of Epidemics would increase the rate of mortality?—Certainly.

886. But I think taking the mortality of this house at 30 per cent., is very wide?—It is a very liberal allowance for the mortality.

887. *Mr. Phelan.*—Have you seen the Return of Mortality of the children in the South Union Workhouse?—I have seen a Return.

888. Did you see such a Return in this room?—There has been such a Return but I don't know whether it was a perfect one or not.

889. If that Return be correct, do you consider the amount of Mortality is greater here than there?—I had not the means of making any accurate estimate of the rate of mortality in the South Dublin Union; but my general impression is, that it is as great there as here, if not greater.

890. *Mr. Hall.*—Did you read the particulars of that Return?—I have not examined to make calculation with reference to our own rate of mortality, but taking *Mr. Phelan's* principle to be correct, which is the readiest principle, the rate of mortality in both Unions is the same.

891. *Mr. O'Gorman.*—You said a good deal about air and solar light, are all these things attended to in the children of the higher classes?—Perhaps not sufficiently, but certainly more than here.

892. Are they attended to in the middling order?—Less still than in the upper.

893. And what is your opinion with regard to the lower?—That these things are still less attended to in that class.

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16th December, 1841.

Dr. Duncan's examination continued.

Dr. Duncan.

894. *Mr. Roper.*—Does the Lunatic Cell being under the Nursery interfere with the quiet of the Nursery?—Certainly it does.

895. *Mr. Hall.*—Were not the Lunatics there when you recommended a change?—We did not recommend the change.

896. But then you consented to it?—Certainly, but we expected at the time, as we do still, that some other arrangements would be made with regard to it.

897. *Mr. Phelan.*—You have had experience that the noise made by the Lunatics at night interferes with the rest of the children and the Nurses?—I know they make a good deal of noise.

898. Do you know of yourself that the noise interferes with the Nurses and children?—I know from the reports of the persons placed in charge of those Lunatics that there is a constant noise at night, and it must interfere with the children.

899. *Mr. Hall.*—Have you heard the Mothers complain of the noise?—No, I have not.

900. Then your evidence is, you have had reports upon the subject from persons placed in charge of those Lunatics, and that you have not heard the Mothers complain?—Yes.

901. *Mr. Roper.*—Is it not possible that the Nurses might consider any complaints of theirs useless?—I think so with regard to the alteration of their Dormitory.

902. *Mr. Barlow.*—Don't you think it was the duty of the Nurses to report to you anything of the kind taking place?—Certainly.

903. Then if the Nurses had so reported, don't you think it would have been your duty to report it to the Board?—Yes.

904. Do you believe it is useless for the Nurses or Paupers to report anything that you consider injurious?—No, certainly not. There are some things I am sure they would complain of. But I do not think they would consider themselves called upon to make a remark as to the precise Room assigned for a particular purpose.

905. *Mr. Hall.*—Do you think if the Mothers suffered serious inconvenience from the noise of the Lunatics underneath the room in which their children slept, they would have been restrained from stating the circumstance, by considering that any representation upon their part would be useless?—I do not know what answer to give.

906. *Dr. Brady.*—Do you think a Pauper in general feels a delicacy in making a complaint?—I would feel a delicacy.

907. *Mr. Hall to Mr. Barlow.*—Have you a document which you wish to put in?—Yes. I met Dr. Labatt, and I asked him his experience upon such subjects as the present, and he sent me this Report. But before I put it in I wish to ask Dr. Duncan a few questions respecting it.

908. *Mr. Barlow.*—Don't you think it would be satisfactory, Dr. Duncan, to have extracts taken from our Books to show the number of children born in the house with their future fate, the dates of their birth and death, or discharge, with the number remaining in the house?—I do think it would be very desirable.

909. Do you think it would get rid of the question as to the state of destitution in which the children came into the house?—I think it is a fair way of judging.

910. Then we would only have to contend with the diseases in the Mothers' constitution at the time the child was born, either from destitution or from fixed disease. You might have a weekly state of the Infants—But the practice of the Workhouse would be so fairly tested would it not?—Certainly.

Mr. Barlow desired the Master to have a statement of the number of children born since the opening of the Workhouse, the dates of their births, and a column showing when they were discharged, when they died, or how many are remaining in the house; I have it in my hand, I have not had time to make any calculation upon it, but the result is as follows: 33 have been born in the house, 11 have died, 16 have been discharged, and 8 remain in the house.

See Appendix.

Mr. Barlow, examined by Mr. Roper.

911. You have acted as Chairman here since the opening of the house?—Yes, I have.

Mr. Barlow.

912. And I believe we had a good many difficulties to contend with?—No doubt we had, they were all expected.

913. It was the wish of the majority of this Board, as well as the Commissioners, owing to the state of the Mendicity, that the house should be opened as soon as possible?—It certainly was the wish of the Commissioners.

914. There was a division of the Board about it, was there not?—I don't think there was. There was no question about it, but many of the Board would have been opposed to it. However, I would wish to add that I know from very good authority that the Government was anxious that the House should be opened as soon as possible, and I can very well understand the reason of it. There was therefore a pressure upon the Commissioners and Board to open the House without delay.

915. Was this House in a finished state when we opened it?—I think not.

916. Were the Contractors in any degree under the control of the Board of Guardians either before or after the opening of the House?—No, I think not.

917. Had you or any other Member of the Board much experience in Workhouse matters before we came here?—I had not.

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Dr. Duncan.

918. Do you think any other Member of the Board had?—I think in general they had not; but I cannot say particularly.

919. You do not know of any who had?—No, I do not.

920. Like myself and other Guardians, I believe you omitted or discontinued filling up the columns regarding health?—I very seldom acted as Chairman at the Admission Board, but sometimes when I did act, I omitted the entry—I omitted filling up the columns.

921. Was that from an idea that the columns would be filled up after Medical Inspection, or that it was of no consequence whether it was filled up or not?—I was aware it was the duty of the Medical Officers to register the state of health of the children; I knew they were to examine them. I will show you in our Minute Book in my own handwriting a Minute four or five months after the opening of the House, requesting the Medical Officers to attend upon all admission days to examine the Paupers, which gave me the idea that previous to that time it had not been done.

922. Were you under the impression, when you discontinued filling up the column, that it would be filled up elsewhere?—Yes.

923. You considered the filling of the column necessary?—I did, in fact I knew it was filled afterwards; but how I could not tell.

924. You knew the entries would be made with greater accuracy elsewhere?—Yes.

925. Was there anything extraordinary in a Guardian's supposing that a Return copied from our Books and furnished by our Clerk, in compliance with the Board's order, was correct?—Certainly not. I think it ought to be presumed to be correct; but I don't mean to say it is correct. I would not have given the same answer as a Guardian, if the question had been put to me. I do not believe that the Books were correct. I mean to say that any Member of the Board—take Mr Thompson for instance, who had never attended, would have said, if asked the question, that he presumed the Book to be correct; but for myself, from what had occurred at that Board, I would have given a different reply.

926. Did you not consider, when the filling of the Return was discontinued by the Admission Board that it was more accurately filled elsewhere?—I did; but I have since ascertained that it was not accurately kept.

927. Did the wording of the resolution which I brought before this Board, assert or assume anything more than that the Return furnished by our Clerk, by the Board's orders was correct—I must get you to read your resolution, for I do not remember it. [*Mr. Hall* read the resolution as follows:—]

“That as it appears by our Books, out of 100 Infants admitted into this House, from 11th May, 1840, to 1st May, 1841, 50 have been discharged at different periods, having been on an average, of 3 months and 18 days in the House—that 45 have died here, having been on an average of 4 months in the House—that but 6 children out of the 100 appeared by our Books to have been in bad health at the time of their admission—and that but 5 out of the 50 not discharged are now alive in the House, it is the duty of the Board to have a full investigation as to the cause of this mortality, whether it arise from any neglect or want of management in the House, or whether it arise from the system directed by the Poor Law Act.”

928. Does the resolution assert or assume anything more than that the Return furnished by our Clerk in compliance with the Board's orders, was correct?—No; as returned by the Clerk.

929. Are you aware that under the old House of Industry System, children were kept in this House?—I have heard so.

930. Are you aware, or have you heard anything of the state of health of the children?—No, in fact I never knew there were children kept in this house until this Examination took place.

931. Are you aware that a Medical Inquiry relative to the children of the House of Industry was ordered by the Government?—No.

932. If it were a fact that there was a Medical Inquiry into the state of the children of the House of Industry some time ago, do you not conceive that the Poor Law Commissioners should have made themselves acquainted with it?—I do not know whether the fact was known to them or not, they might have been as ignorant of it as I was; I think if they had known of it, it would have been as well for them to have ascertained all the facts.

933. Have you heard, and don't you believe that inquiries have taken place, as to the state of health of the Inmates of other Workhouses, in England?—I have no doubt of it, that is I have heard it and I believe it.

934. Would not an accurate account of the state of health of the children upon admission into the English Workhouses be of great use in this Inquiry?—Yes, I think it would.

935. You think it would?—I do.

936. Do you consider the want of it an obstacle to a full satisfactory investigation now?—Yes, I do. But I am not supposed to give an answer that if the Commissioners' orders were obeyed, that want would have existed because my own opinion is to the contrary.

937. You heard the Commissioner say, he did not attach any blame to the Medical Officers for not filling up the column in the Book?—Yes.

938. Have you heard the Assistant Master account in his evidence here, for the entries made by him in the Book, that he either filled up the Registry from the Mother's statement, or the Return made by the presiding Guardians, and when those were wanting, he filled up the Book from his own observation?—Yes.

939. Is not the Assistant Master as capable of filling up the column from the answers

given to him as any other Officer excepting the Medical ones?—Yes, I think he is, excepting the Medical Officers. 16th December, 1841.

940. You don't mean to include the Board of Guardians amongst the Officers?—No, I allude to the Paid Officers. Mr. Barlow.

941. The Commissioner has stated that this duty ought not to have been imposed upon the Medical Officers?—Yes.

942. I mean the duty of filling up the columns in these two Books?—Yes.

943. Now unless some new regulation be made, what chance has any Guardian of being able, twelve months hence, to get a more accurate return of the Infants on their admission, than our Clerk has furnished to me?—I believe that it was not only the duty but the practice of the Medical Officers to have a written record of their examination in the Probationary Ward, and if I had not so believed I would again and again have brought the question before the Board.

944. Then don't you agree with me in thinking that some new regulation upon the subject is necessary?—I cannot say whether the regulation exists or not.

945. I mean whether, if the Commissioners' orders had been complied with, the Medical Officers would not have kept a written record?—I answer the question without knowing how the fact is.

946. It appears that we have no authentic Medical Record of the health of the Infants upon their admission?—I think so.

947. Don't you think we ought to have such a record?—I do.

948. And if there be no order in existence to enforce such a return, steps should be taken in future to ensure it?—Certainly.

949. If the returns are not made out with accuracy don't you consider it is useless to insert such columns in our Books?—I do.

950. There are a variety of tables, half yearly tables, laid down by the Commissioners, giving a most minute and satisfactory account of our receipts and expenditure are there not?—Yes, I think so.

951. Is there any half yearly account of our mortality as minute?—I don't know that it is made up, but admitting that our Books are correct it is very easy to tot it up.

952. It can be made out then?—I think so.

953. But is there any half yearly table laid down, giving an equally minute account of our mortality with our other accounts?—I am not aware that there is any table made up in the same form as the other accounts.

954. Do you not think that the mortality shown from week to week might escape observation, while if it were shown every six or eight months in a mass, it might attract observation?—Any person anxious to have information might have it at any time, he might have it for the last six months.

955. Might not an excessive mortality in one class be covered in some degree by another class in a gross statement?—Yes, if you were to give the number of deaths without distinguishing the classes, it would be impossible to see where a greater number of deaths took place in a particular class, but I do not mean to say that it is the state of our Books.

956. Would not the large number of girls in the prime of life in this house help to keep down the appearance of mortality being so heavy as it does appear to be in one particular class, when the account of that class is taken separately?—Yes, there are much fewer deaths amongst that class of persons.

957. If it be established that the present test is so severe, that women do not bring their Infants to the Workhouse till death is stamped upon them, would you not say that that test is rather strict?—I don't think that is a fair way to put the question, for I will not admit that there is that indisposition outside this House amongst Mothers, to present their children here till they are in a dying state; there is no unwillingness at all amongst the Paupers to allow their children to come here for support.

958. Are you aware that Mr. Nicholls has paid this Board the compliment of mentioning their zeal and assiduity in his Report?—I believe he did, but really I am not quite sure.

959. You, as Chairman of this Board, drew up a representation as to our Hospital accommodation, which was unanimously agreed to by the Board, and was not that representation rejected by the Commissioners; whether would you, as Chairman of the Board, and of course, jealous of our privileges, consider the refusal of such a request to this pattern Board, or the dismissal and punishment of a Paid Officer, for neglecting to pay attention to the Board's instructions, the greater want of courtesy to the Board upon the part of the Commissioners?—I don't think I can answer the question in that shape, I recollect the circumstance to which you allude, we reported upon the entire of the Establishment, amongst the rest we recommended a detached Fever Hospital, I thought that the Hospital was necessary, and I think so still, but I am quite sure that the Commissioners thought otherwise; but with respect to mixing the matter up with the dismissal of a Paid Officer I think that if the Commissioners thought that if we required Hospital accommodation they would have given it, and if they considered any Officer deserved to be dismissed they would dismiss him.

960. I stated the other evening, that I thought the Commissioners would give rise to neglect on the part of their Officers unless they exercised a more summary jurisdiction over them, and did not leave such matters to be fought and battled out with this Board; and I was asked by Mr. Hall whether I would consider his exercising such an authority as courteous towards the Board?—I would not look upon the Commissioners as exercising a proper courtesy towards the Board, if they acted in that manner independently of them; I would

16th December, 1841.

Mr. Barlow.

think they were wrong, and I have stated a case where I thought they were wrong; I allude to Sunday work here, when they wrote a letter to the Board in reference to the misconduct of the Officers, it being the province of the Board of Guardians to correct the matter. I also think they would be wrong in dismissing an Officer, without previously communicating the circumstance to the Board, I would think that if they did not do so they would make mere cyphers of us.

961. Don't you think it was the duty of the Commissioners to strike out a table and insert in it their Annual Half-yearly Report, setting forth the number of deaths in the House, and specifying the number of Infants and Adults who had died in the House? don't you think such a table as that is necessary for the information of the Board?—I do not; we have had such information when any individual required it. If you ask me if it were necessary, my reply is, that I think it was not; I don't think it was desirable. It is, however, very wrong to keep any knowledge of the kind from the Board.

962. Would you think it right to keep it from the Public?—I don't think it would be desirable to give it.

963. *Mr. Arkins.*—You say that any member of the Board can, at any one time, have the information he required?—I mean from our Books.

964. You heard me accused yesterday of want of education; don't you think it would be a difficult thing for me, or any uneducated tradesman, being a bad judge of figures, to go over the Books if I wanted to obtain information from them, with so much facility as you would give me to understand I could?—I don't think there is a Member of the Board would get information more easily than yourself. I think an uneducated tradesman would not sit at this Board; and I think you are as competent to act as any Member of the Board; I think you are perfectly competent to act as a Poor Law Guardian.

965. *Captain Lindsay.*—Do you think that any Guardian, having a practical knowledge of this Workhouse, would have taken the Return furnished to Mr. Roper as correct, which stated that 94 children were in good health?—I do not; but I don't mean to say he took it as correct; it would have startled me to see such a return.

966. *Mr. Phelan.*—When you were about to put before the Public such a Return as that furnished to Mr. Roper, would you have considered it your duty to have applied to the Medical Officers to ascertain if it was correct?—It would not have occurred to me to put such a Return before the Public; but if I had done so, I would have got my information from the most correct source.

967. Would you have considered it important to get the information from the Medical Officer?—I would have expected to have had it correct.

968. Would you have asked the Clerk whether the Return was medically correct?—Undoubtedly.

969. Supposing that the Poor Law Commissioners considered that Hospital accommodation could be had as easily and more economically, would they not be justified in the course which they took?—Yes; it would have been their bounden duty to have acted so.

970. *Mr. Roper.*—Did the Commissioners, in their reply, refusing our application for Hospital accommodation, inform us of any accommodation which could be had upon more favourable terms outside this House than in it?—I don't think they did.

971. Don't you think, in common civility, they ought to have informed us of it if they had it in view?—I am quite sure they did not intend to act in any way which was not civil; but if they had such a project in view, we ought to have known it.

972. *Mr. Hall.*—Did not your application relate solely to a Fever Hospital?—Yes.

973. And did not the answers of the Commissioners relate solely to a Fever Hospital?—Yes.

974. *Mr. Roper.*—Whether the Return furnished by the Clerk, and upon which I have acted, was practically or medically correct or not; don't you think from what you have heard that this Inquiry was necessary?—If you mean in the form in which the Inquiry has taken place, I think the Inquiry was not necessary.

975. Do you believe the evidence you have heard here, stating that the mortality in this House has been excessive; do you believe it has been so amongst the children?—Considering the state in which the children came into the House, I do not; but, I am not a Medical Man. I believe that the treatment of the children has been, in general, as fair towards them as could be expected in Workhouses; but I have already said, that I have no experience in Workhouses.

976. Do you not consider that this Inquiry was necessary, if the mortality in the Workhouse was as excessive as the Public supposed it to have been?—I understand that the Public consider the mortality amongst the children to have been excessive, but I think that opinion has originated in a report spread, and unfortunately spread, abroad in the City.

977. *Mr. Phelan.*—Do you mean that the report was erroneously spread?—I do; but that is merely my own opinion; but I can conceive other Guardians to entertain a different opinion.

Mr. Roper, examined by Mr. Hall.

Mr. Roper.

978. Am I right in supposing your opinion to be, that there is not an account kept of the deaths which take place in the Workhouse?—Yes.

979. Or do you think there is not a sufficient account kept?—The account is kept, but it is not put forward in the proper form.

980. Then, I am to understand you as being of opinion that the account of the deaths that occur in the Workhouse, is not laid before the Public and the Board of Guardians with sufficient minuteness and frequency?—The account is laid upon the table weekly, but I am of opinion that it should be made out half-yearly, and with the same minute accuracy as the other accounts, in order to show the mortality of every class.

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Mr. Roper.

981. Do you consider that there is any difficulty thrown in the way of your Officer making out that account?—I do not.

982. Are you aware that the Medical Officer is obliged by his duties to ascertain and report to the Board of Guardians, the probable cause and circumstances of every death that may take place in the Workhouse?—I suppose he is; but I cannot say to my own knowledge that he is.

983. You are not aware this was one of the regulations of the Commissioners?—Of necessity I would suppose it to have been one of the regulations.

984. Are you aware also that he is required to keep a Record of sickness and mortality, in which shall be inserted the name of every Pauper Patient under his care, the name of the disease, and so on?—I am not aware of the minutiae of the duties of the Medical Officers in the House, I always considered that to be most particularly under the superintendence of the Commissioners.

985. Did you always consider the minutiae of the details of the House were also under the superintendence of the Commissioners?—I considered that our accounts and Books, being audited half-yearly, every thing relating to the minute point of figures and all matters requisite to be reported should be looked after at the same time.

986. Are you aware that the Master of the Workhouse is required to keep a Record, in which he inserts the name and age of the deceased Pauper?—Of course.

987. Then, being aware of these facts, are you of opinion that sufficient means were not given to the Board to ascertain the cause of the death of Paupers?—The means are perfectly accessible to every Member of the Board. But when every other transaction is brought before the Board, in a correct and minute form half-yearly, I think the return of the mortality of the children in the House should be equally correct and minute.

988. You are aware there is a return in the abstract every half year?—Yes, there is a lump return, but it should be, in my opinion, a return of classes.

989. Are you aware that a return is laid before the Board every week of the number of deaths which have occurred in each class of inmates, separately?—Yes.

Captain Lindsay, examined by Mr. Barlow.

990. Allow me to ask you whether you have any recollection of my having had a conversation with you many months since, long before the Inquiry was thought of, upon the subject of the Poor Law Act?—Certainly.

Captain Lindsay.

991. Do you remember my asking you if it were your opinion that the way to effect our purpose was, from time to time, to take memorandums, and when the proper period arrived to give the suggestions to the Government for their consideration, in order that they might, if they thought it necessary, amend the Poor Law Bill?—Yes.

992. Months ago?—Yes.

993. Do you recollect my stating to you that I thought the class of children in this House, particularly Infants, required great consideration?—I do.

994. It was one of those matters which we did not think ourselves competent to remedy, feeling its difficulty?—Yes.

995. *Mr. Law.*—Do you remember Mr. Law, what I have recalled to Captain Lindsay's memory?—Yes, I answer the questions put to Captain Lindsay, each and all as he has done.

Mr. Barlow, examined by Mr. Roper.

996. *Mr. Roper.*—Mr. Barlow has assigned as a reason for this inquiry not being useful, that he, Mr. Law, and Captain Lindsay, had a consultation, and agreed that certain amendments to the Poor Law Act were necessary, that they considered some alteration should be made with regard to the class of Infants, but being aware of the difficulties surrounding the matter, they would not themselves suggest any change?—I thought that there was a better way of doing it than the present mode; I thought your mode would disturb the public mind, and would not lead to a satisfactory result.

Mr. Barlow.

997. Did you inform this Board of your opinion?—Yes; I have stated at this Board what I now state in substance.

998. Did you state at this Board that you thought any alteration necessary with regard to the class of Infants in this house?—I think I did; and Dr. Brady will, I am sure, bear me out in the statement.

999. Did you ever state to this Board that you thought any alteration with regard to the class of Infants necessary and desirable?—I don't think, as Chairman, I ever did, but I have no hesitation in saying that I did consider it necessary.

1000. Did you ever state to this Board the substance of your communication with Mr. Lucas?—I never did; and I did not think it necessary to do it until the time came for laying the suggestions before the Board.

1001. Do you consider that any Member of this Board was precluded from following the

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Mr. Barlow.

course which he in his judgment, however erroneous, might regard as the right one, being ignorant of your intentions and opinions upon the subject?—I do not consider that he was precluded; I do not blame any person for adopting a course different from mine; all I want to show is, that the subject was not lost sight of by the Board, and I think I mentioned to you, Mr. Roper, the same thing that I stated to Mr. Law and Captain Lindsay; I do not impute any improper motive to you, and I am quite sure you brought forward your motion in the best spirit.

Dr. Kirkpatrick, examined by Mr. Hall.

Dr. Kirkpatrick.

1002. *Mr. Hall.*—Will you tell me how you and Dr. Duncan have divided the duty of examining the children?—We have taken it week about.

1003. So that your answers to my questions will relate to about one-half of the children?—Yes, as to the first day of admission.

1004. Under what circumstances were you required to examine those children?—at what time after their admission did you do so—was it before they were cleansed?—Before they were cleansed and dressed, always before it, with a few exceptions.

1005. Has it been a regular and constant practice with you to examine the children before they were cleansed upon those days, when, according to your agreement with Dr. Duncan, it was your duty to examine them?—Yes, principally with reference to Vaccination, we thought that most important; upon a few days when I did not examine them I got Mr. Browne to do so.

1006. Your examination had special reference to the fact of their having been Vaccinated or not?—Yes.

1007. But did you also carefully examine the state of health of those children?—Not with any intention of recording them, or with any idea of its being very important; we merely examined them to see if there were any case requiring Vaccination or admission to Hospital, those were the two things regarded by me as important.

1008. Have you kept any record of the results of your examination of the children?—I did not know that there was a column for the recording of the health of the children upon their admission; I was not aware of the fact till I heard it here.

1009. Have you a tolerably good impression now of what was the general state of health or constitution of the Infants under two years, admitted into the Workhouse?—I can only answer it by guess. I remember distinctly some of the children being in good health, others in a hopeless state of health, and others in that state of disease, that I would doubt the propriety of vaccinating them.

1010. Can you state, from all you remember what proportion the children in health bore to the rest?—I think one half were healthy, some remarkably so.

1011. When you state you think one half were healthy, do you mean they were free from disease, and were healthy, flourishing Infants?—I think they were in very fair respectable health. I have made the remark, that I wondered how a poor Mother could have a child in such good health; 25 of the 100 children were in first rate health.

1012. What do you think was the proportion of those who were in what you call a hopeless condition?—I can only call to mind a very small proportion who were in that wretched condition, that it was useless to think of their recovery, I can call to mind some 6 or 8 children who were in the last stage, death being in their faces, I can call to mind a good many more who were too delicate to be Vaccinated, I am sure a dozen or more.

1013. Must not a child whom you hesitate to Vaccinate be in an unusually delicate state of health?—No, I would object to Vaccinate a child who was in a feverish condition, for instance; I always hesitate to Vaccinate a child unless it is in good health. If a child has Diarrhoea I would not Vaccinate it, I think 50 out of 100 children were in a delicate state of health. I find in 28 cases admitted in one month, 15 were in a delicate state of health upon their admission, and 13 in good health, and I form my opinion upon that calculation; my answers to the first questions may be influenced by seeing the present state of the Nursery, and then making a guess calculation by looking back to its state on another occasion.

1014. Then all the information you give is from mere recollection?—Yes.

1015. But your recollection seems to be to this extent. That of the 100 children admitted, 25 were in good health?—Yes, 25 I think were in first rate health, 50 were in delicate health, I would say that the other 25 were not so remarkable for perfect genuine health, but still not diseased; I think 50 were in a diseased state, but whether from starvation or not I cannot say, but I think 50 were broken down in health.

1016. *Mr. Phelan.*—Do you mean that would leave the remaining 25 in a doubtful state?—I cannot state they were diseased, but I have a doubt upon my mind as to whether I would admit them into Hospital or Vaccinate them. I think that care and good food would make those children healthy in a few weeks.

1017. *Mr. Hall.*—Do you think that the great majority of the Infant children who were admitted into the house were admitted in such a state as would render them peculiarly unfit to struggle against any Epidemic with which they might be seized such as Measles, Scarletina, or Hooping Cough?—The great majority, those of course who were previously delicate, would be the more unfit to struggle against an Epidemic than those who had been admitted in good health.

1018. I ask you whether you would consider the great majority to be bad subjects?—The majority of the children admitted here are bad subjects for any Epidemic.

1019. Would it be your expectation upon the breaking out of an Epidemic, such as Measles, Scarletina or Hooping Cough that the mortality amongst the children whom it attacked would be greater than the mortality would be amongst any equal number of children elsewhere?—Decidedly.

1020. And is that opinion of yours derived from your knowledge of the state of constitution and health in which those children were, or do you found your opinion upon circumstances that occurred?—I found it upon my sad experience of the fatality of those Epidemics.

1021. But before you had any experience of the effects of these Epidemics, would you apprehend that mortality would be great amongst such children?—I did not apprehend it till I had experience. I must apprehend it in future.

1022. Do you think that the treatment which those children met with in this House has been calculated to restore the health of those who came in diseased and sickly, and had delicate constitutions, or was it the reverse. I mean the circumstances under which the children were kept in the House, with reference to their nourishment, clothing, and lodging?—I think the nourishment was decidedly good and sufficient. I think the lodging and clothing, considering the period at which those children were in the House, were bad and insufficient; their lodging was bad, and their clothing was insufficient.

1023. You say, considering the period in which those children were in the House. To which period do you exactly allude?—I allude to the early period, the first 6 or 8 months.

1024. Have there been any material improvements since?—With respect to clothing there have been.

1025. With respect to lodging, what was the case?—It was not satisfactory.

1026. Have you made joint Reports to the Board of Guardians upon these points from time to time, with Dr. Duncan?—Yes.

1027. So that whatever statements are to be found in the Medical Officers' Report Book, are to be considered as yours?—Yes, or as agreed to by me.

1028. I would infer, from your statement, that the present state and condition of the children is not exactly what you would wish them to be?—I have stated so.

1029. Do you consider material improvements may be made in this Establishment?—Not as the Establishment is at present constituted; but I think material improvements may be made in it. I don't think we have accommodation exactly to improve the condition of the children much at present, but I think improvements may be made in the circumstances of the Infant Paupers.

1030. What do you conceive to be the nature of those improvements?—A better Dormitory, a better Day-room, and additional clothing.

1031. Will you state what are your objections to the present Dormitory?—It is too small for the number in it; it is too low and dark; it is sheltered upon one side by the main building; it is not lit well from above.

1032. Have you a memorandum of the dimensions of that Room?—No; I have trusted with regard to that, to Dr. Duncan's measurement.

1033. Do you know the number of Infants and Mothers who are put to sleep in that Room?—I do not know the total number there at present.

1034. Still you state that the Room is too small for the number in it at present?—I have taken Dr Duncan's calculation with respect to its dimensions.

1035. Then your knowledge of the dimensions of the Room, or the number of persons in it, is derived from Dr Duncan's calculation?—Yes.

1036. And upon his statement of the measurement of the Room, and the number of Persons in it, you found your opinion that it is too small?—I consider it is too small at present; I am not aware myself of the exact number in the House; but from the state of the children, I fancy they are too crowded. I know they have been too crowded, for I have been in the Dormitory at night, and I have found them much too crowded.

1037. Have you not an arrangement with Dr. Duncan as to dividing the attendance upon the children?—Yes; we divide the attendance upon them.

1038. In what way do you divide it?—We take Month or two Months about; this Month is mine; it began about the 3rd or 4th of December.

1039. For how many Mothers and children do you think the Dormitory calculated?—I don't like it as a Dormitory; we merely selected that in preference to the last one, but it is not at all fit. I do not think it would be fit for any number to rear them healthy.

1040. Upon what ground do you support your opinion that it would be unfit for any number of children?—I have stated already that it is sheltered by one side of the Building, it is not lit from above.

1041. Is not the Building due East of it?—It is.

1042. Is it any objection that it should be sheltered towards the East?—I think so; it prevents thorough ventilation.

1043. Do you think an Infant cannot be properly put to sleep in a building which is not isolated from other buildings?—I will not make so wide a statement as that; but I think free air necessary.

1044. Does that Building impede the air?—I think so.

1045. Do you mean to say that children cannot properly be put to sleep in a Building because upon one side, and that side the east, it is within twenty feet of another Building?—At the other side it is sheltered by walls and the Lunatic Asylum.

1046. How far is that?—50 or 60 yards.

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1047. Do you consider the darkness of the room an objection to it as a Dormitory?—I do.

1048. Does that objection apply to a Dormitory?—Indeed I think it is, for a dark room is always badly ventilated.

1049. Is the deficiency of ventilation in the room your principal objection to it?—Yes it is.

1050. Upon the whole you think the preference is to be given to the room in which the Mothers and children were lodged before?—I do.

1051. Do you think the present Dormitory superior in situation and ventilation as well as in size?—I do not, I think for a limited number I would sooner have the old one; the present is a very vault-like apartment.

1052. Were you consulted when the children were removed from the one room to the other?—It was done very much at our suggestion, I yielded to Dr Duncan's opinion.

1053. But did you yield so far as to consent to the children being removed to a room less ventilated and in a worse situation merely because it was larger?—I did not like the room, upon the whole I think the two rooms were nearly equal.

1054. Do you mean that one was as good as the other for an equal number of children?—No, I think one is as bad as the other, but I think the present room would hold more children.

1055. Do you think the former a bad room, supposing that no more children were put into it than it would contain?—I think a limited number would get on very well there.

1056. So that you would prefer the old room for a smaller number of children?—Yes.

1057. Do you know of other rooms in the house which are similarly constructed to the room in which those children were before?—Yes.

1058. In which there is as good ventilation?—In which there is better.

1059. And situated upon that side of the house where the females are?—Yes.

1060. By what class are they occupied at present?—By the able-bodied.

1061. Do you consider the present room where the women and children lodge would be a bad room for a certain number of able-bodied Paupers?—I do.

1062. Would it be a bad room for a number suited to its capacity?—I think it is a damp room.

1063. *Mr. Barlow.*—Did you ever report your objections to the Board?—No, I did not.

1064. *Mr. Hall.*—I think you have stated that you altogether disapproved of the room, but gave up your opinion upon the subject to Dr. Duncan, and agreed with him that the Mothers and children should be removed to it?—At that time I think that it was by way of experiment, it was done.

1065. Do you know any reason why, at that time, the Mothers and children were not disposed of in other rooms?—The reason, I suppose was, that it would have interfered with classification.

1066. Was there any reason that would have prevented you from placing the Mothers and children in rooms thoroughly fit for their reception?—I know of no reason.

1067. Do you know of any reason existing at this moment, why the Mothers and children should not be transferred from the room of which you disapprove, to a room which would meet with your approval?—I do not.

1068. Do you consider that the health of the children has suffered from their sleeping in the room where they are now lodged?—I think they are suffering from sleeping in that room at night, and spending their day in the Day-room.

1069. Do you think that a material change in the health of the children would be produced, by transferring them to one of those other sleeping rooms?—I do, if there was also a proper Day-room.

1070. What objection do you urge against the present Day-room?—It is dark.

1071. When you say it is dark, do you mean it is pitch dark?—I mean that the Sun's rays cannot get at it. It is badly ventilated, and too small for the number that are in it. It is very close when you go into it in the day time.

1072. Don't you observe that the women, especially those who have children under their care in the Workhouse, are particularly reluctant to have the windows open to admit fresh air; so that it is a difficult point in the management of that class of Inmates, to keep the room well ventilated?—Yes, it is very difficult.

1073. Did you ever know the Mothers and Infants placed in any other room in this House, as a Day-room?—Yes.

1074. Which room was that?—The room at the top of the yard near the present Female School.

1075. Do you consider that a superior room, to the one in which they now are?—I do not sufficiently remember the room; I think it was a better room.

1076. Do you know why they were placed in that room?—I do not.

1077. Do you know why they were removed from that to the other?—I think for some arrangements, that room being wanted for some other purpose.

1078. Were you consulted upon the subject?—I was not.

1079. There has been disease among the Infants which has terminated in death?—A vast amount of it.

1080. Has a great number of the sick children fallen under your care, as one of the Medical Officers?—Yes.

1081. Have you observed that the children have been affected with any particular disorder?—They have been affected by various Epidemics and diseases, such as Measles Scarlatina, Hooping Cough, Pneumonia, Diarrhœa, and Water on the Brain.

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1082. Have you found any want of facility, means, or opportunity afforded to you, to treat those children?—I experienced a want of Hospital accommodation very frequently, but I have always been allowed proper Medicines and proper nourishment.

1083. Do you consider that the directions and orders that you have given for the treatment of the children, during the intervals, between your visits, have been properly attended to and carried into effect?—Indeed, generally they are carried into effect, but I have known frequent omissions upon the part of the Nurses, but I think generally my orders have been as well carried into effect, as they have been in other places where I have had the management of children amongst the poor.

1084. Have you made post mortem examinations of the children who have died here?—Yes.

1085. Have you observed any similarity in the appearance of the bodies upon post mortem examination?—Almost invariably, no matter what disease carried off the child, Scrofulous Tubercles prevailed in the system.

1086. That you say occurred almost invariably; did it occur in the cases of children dying soon after admission, as well as in the cases of children who were long here?—Yes; in some cases I remember children attacked by disease soon after admission, almost immediately after admission, I have found the lungs of children admitted only a few days, full of consumptive Tubercles.

1087. You stated that you had a distinct recollection of a number of cases of children in a hopeless state of disease when admitted, and there was no hope of their restoration to health?—Yes. I observed there were no Tubercles in some four or five cases.

1088. Have you reason to believe children have died in the Workhouse who were amongst those who came in good health?—Yes.

1089. Were Scrofulous Tubercles observed in those cases?—They were; I remember no case in which there were not Scrofulous Tubercles in some part of the system.

1090. Have you had much experience amongst the Children of the Poor?—I have had previously a great deal.

1091. Have you had an opportunity of forming an opinion, or rather have you formed an opinion as to the prevalence of Scrofulous disorders amongst them?—I have.

1092. What is that opinion?—I think Scrofula in Dublin is very prevalent amongst the lower classes.

1093. Would you think it highly probable that in a given number of children admitted into this Workhouse, a large proportion would come in with their constitutions tainted with Scrofula?—I think a large number would; I won't say a large proportion. I think a number do come in affected with Scrofula.

1094. Do you think a majority do come in affected with Scrofula?—I am sure not.

1095. Do you think, taking an equal number of children at any time in this Workhouse, and an equal number of the same class from the Streets and Lanes in the City, there would be a larger proportion of Scrofulous children in or out of the House?—I think in the class, speaking of children under 2 years old there would be a vastly larger proportion in this house.

1096. Do you mean a larger proportion upon making a post mortem examination?—Yes, if the children when dead were inspected by a skilful eye, Scrofula would be detected in their systems.

1097. Take 100 Infants dying in the House, and 100 Infants from the same class of persons dying out of the House, would there be a larger proportion per cent. of Scrofulous cases of the children living inside or outside of the House?—I think the cases in the House would have a larger proportion.

1098. Then do you think that there has been in the circumstances in which the children have been treated in this House a tendency to develope Scrofula?—I think so most decidedly. I have not the slightest doubt upon my mind of Scrofula being largely engendered in this Establishment.

1099. To what causes do you attribute it?—Principally to children sleeping in a crowded apartment, and to the windows being all closed at night by the Nurses, for our Ventilators are so constructed that the Nurses can close them, by which means free ventilation is not allowed; I think that the children being kept in a state of perspiration during the night, is another cause.

1100. When you say the Nurses do you mean their Mothers; you don't mean Nurses placed to superintend them?—No. I know that the evil has been made worse by the Mothers' folly of closing the Ventilators, and that the Dormitories have been in a very bad state, for want of air at night.

1101. Then you attribute the fact of Scrofula being engendered in the Workhouse, to the crowded state of the Room and to the closing of the Windows?—Yes.

1102. Have you any other reason?—Yes; the children being moved out of the Room in all weathers with insufficient clothing, being thus exposed to drafts of air and damp, particularly from being kept all day in such an unfit place as the Day Room. They are also exposed to cold from their Mothers holding them in door-ways and carrying them across the yard.

1103. Are they taken to the Garden?—They have been ordered there but I do not know whether they have been taken there or not.

1104. Are you aware of any orders being given to prevent their being taken to the Garden?—I remember their being prevented from going in consequence of their Mothers pulling vegetables and eating bad fruit.

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1105. By whom were they prevented?—By the Master. I remember the Master prevented them, because their Mothers eat bad fruit and pulled vegetables, but I am not aware of the Board having desired that they should not be allowed, I heard that the Master prevented them and not the Board.—I should also mention as another cause of the delicacy of children, the facts of their Mothers not having cloaks to cover them, in carrying them about the house, and also their giving them solid food and suckling them at the same time. I would also add as a reason the Mothers being in a bad state of health themselves from depression of mind.

1106. Do they spoon-feed them to make amends for want of nourishment on their part?—Yes, they do it through mistaken kindness.

1107. But is it not the custom of Mothers to do so?—They always do so.

1108. Have you given all the reasons that you think tend to the diseased state of children in the Workhouse?—I should also mention their being exposed to infection from others as a reason. I should also add that continued exposure to infection makes the children get one disease after another; before they get recovered from one, they get a second disease.

1109. Now, from your knowledge of the capabilities of the Establishment, do you suppose the greater number of those defects in the management of it are or are not capable of being removed?—I think that some of them can be removed. But I confess I am not sanguine myself as to any very remarkable result being obtained in this Establishment. I know that there has always been a great mortality amongst children who have been kept in a Workhouse, I know this from reading and from experience. I know as an established fact the great difficulty of rearing children healthily in an Establishment of this kind.

1110. You state that crowded Rooms are one of the causes that leads to the state of disease amongst the children?—I have.

1111. Do you know any obstacle to those causes being entirely removed in this House?—I do. The obstacle is that there are so many applications for admission, and a desire to put so many into the House, for if it were to contain 2000, it is impossible to have the Infants healthy.

1112. You consider the desire to admit so many is the great obstacle in the way of their being removed?—Precisely.

1113. But don't you think that a proper representation as to what the Rooms will really hold, and the consequences that will inevitably ensue from over filling them would have its weight with the Board whose province it is to admit Paupers?—Judging from past experience I would not; it has been frequently brought before the Board.

1114. At any rate do you not consider that it is an obstacle of such a nature that it ought to be surmounted?—I think it ought to be surmounted.

1115. Another of the causes of the bad health of the children is the closing of the Windows by their Mothers?—Yes.

1116. You also stated that the Ventilators were badly constructed, in as much as the Mothers could get at them and close them; supposing those to be the causes of disease would there be any difficulty in removing them?—There would be a great difficulty in this Establishment. The Windows would have to be enlarged; there are several Rooms in this House that cannot be properly ventilated without enlarging them.

1117. But are there not a great many that can be very easily ventilated?—There are, and by some such means as would take from the Mothers the power of closing the Windows. The Wards at present occupied by the able-bodied Paupers would do for the purpose.

1118. You are not prepared to give an accurate comparison of the relative amount of mortality between cases in this house and out of it?—I am not able to do so with accuracy.

1119. *Mr. Arkins.*—Did you not state upon a former occasion, that there was no chance of the 20 children surviving except they were removed from the house and sent to the Country?—I stated that I considered if they remained in the house they would all perish, and I say so still.

1120. There have been 4 Epidemics in the house since its opening, do not those Epidemics attack children over two years of age, as well as children under two?—In a less proportion in this House, with the exception of Measles.

1121. You were the Physician to the house for the first 6 months after it opened?—Yes.

1122. Don't you think that the children received into the Workhouse during the first six months, were a tolerably fair specimen of destitution of the children received into the house since?—Indeed I think so.

1123. Don't you think they were in a worse condition than the children since received into the Workhouse?—I cannot say whether they were worse or better, I have not observed such a remarkable change between the children admitted at that time and now.

1124. Don't you suppose it most likely, that the Mothers of the most destitute classes, rushed to the Workhouse at the opening of it?—It was likely.

1125. You stated a few minutes ago to Mr. Hall, that several children have died since they came into the Workhouse, and that upon examining them after death you found Tubercles in their lungs; may I ask you, were those children who died, in a healthy state when they were admitted?—Yes.

1126. How then do you account for this fact that for the first 5 or 6 months scarcely a death at all occurred in this house in this class of children; I believe you said one or two died?—I would account for it by the fact of those Epidemics not having occurred.

1127. Would you account for it in any other way?—I think the circumstances I have before mentioned as being injurious to the children, would more affect the children the longer they continued.

1128. Do you remember the first 5 or 6 months after this house was opened, and if so, have you any recollection of the number of deaths that have occurred amongst Infants under two years of age?—I have not a statement of the number of deaths of the Infants who died within the first few months; there is a statement of the number of Infants who died during the entire time, and it would be very easy to make a calculation for a limited period, or any period.

1129. Don't you suppose that the children who were admitted in the first 6 months had a better chance of surviving, from the house not being so crowded, than those who were admitted after that period?—I do.

1130. What proportion do the Infants who died in the Workhouse within 6 months, bear to those children whose ages varied from 2 to 5?—A great deal of sickness prevailed amongst the children from 2 to 5, and many deaths have occurred amongst that class; a great many of them are at present in a diseased state; a vast deal of them are so.

1131. *Mr. Barlow.*—The House was opened in May, and I ask you whether the circumstance of the six months being summer months would not to a certain extent account for the small mortality during that period, and whether you consider it likely that children would be presented for admission in a diseased or wretched state during that time as in the months that follow?—Of course they come in in a better state during the summer months than the winter.

1132. Do you think that the children born in the house when compared with other children who have been taken into the House, were more or less healthy?—More healthy.

1133. Then so far you think the system was favourable?—The children were born more healthy in the House, but they have not continued so. Those children who were born in the House are highly scrofulous, and cannot recover, their cases are perfectly hopeless.

1134. How many children have been born in the House?—35.

1135. How many deaths were there?—I think one half the number, 17 I think.

1136. Did you consider you had authority to order any clothing you pleased for the Infants?—Not all through, we considered that we should report to the Board when there was additional clothing required for a class.

1137. Do you not consider that you had authority to order clothing for ten persons for instance?—I considered that our power related to individuals but not to classes.

1138. Did you not consider yourself authorized without coming to the Board, to put down the names of ten persons, for instance, as requiring clothing?—I think we should come to the Board.

1139. Did you ever report to the Board that clothing was required when it was refused by them?—We reported three or four times to the Board upon the subject, our applications were not refused, but time was lost before they were complied with. We reported to the Board on the 14th, 21st, and 28th of October, respecting the want of clothing.

1140. Are you aware of any children who left the House, returning to it?—I am.

1141. Did you ever report the fact to the Board that the present Dormitory was quite unfit for the Infants?—Not to my knowledge.

1142. Do you recollect making a report to the Board upon the subject of Ventilators?—I do.

1143. What was the order made?—That the Medical Officers should be consulted upon the subject, that it should be done under the direction of the Medical Officers.

1144. Do you think that the carrying the children to and from the Day-room, exposes them more than the children of a similar class outside this House?—The crowded state of the Nurseries at night induces such a delicacy amongst the children by keeping them in perspiration, the risk is greater than it is outside.

1145. Did you report that the Mothers required cloaks?—I did.

1146. When?—Very lately.

1147. Did you ever report that the Wards required enlargement?—I think so. I think we did, we reported that many of the Wards required enlargement, and the Nurseries were included in it.

1148. When you reported to the Board were your reports attended to by them?—In general they were.

1149. I am asking you whether the Board complied with your request?—In general they did, but frequently there was a delay in the Board's orders being executed.

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Miss Esmond, called in and examined.

1150. *Mr. Hall.*—How long have you been Matron?—Since the first time the House was opened. 17th December, 1841.

1151. Has the superintendence of the Infants been a part of your duty?—There was an Inspector appointed by the Board, independent of my duties. Miss Esmond:

1152. Do you suppose it has, at any time since your appointment, ceased to be a part of your duty to superintend and take care of the Infant children?—I have done so.

1153. Do you mean you have considered that the Superintendent relieved you from any responsibility?—Yes.

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1154. Have you considered that the appointment of an Officer called the Superintendent of children, has removed from you the duty of superintending and taking care of them?—I suppose it has, in some degree.

1155. You have read that portion of the Regulations of the Commissioners that relates to the Matron?—Yes, Sir.

1156. Then you have read the article which is intended to point out one of your duties, namely—“*To take care, with the assistance of the Nurses, of the sick Paupers and young children in the Workhouse; to see that they are clean in their persons,*”—and so on?—Yes, Sir.

1157. Has there been a Superintendent of children in this House since you have been Matron?—Yes, Sir; since the 4th of June, 1840.

1158. Have you seen any of the instructions given to the Superintendent of children, for her guidance?—Yes, Sir.

1159. Do you find anything in these instructions to remove her from under your control and superintendence?—No, Sir.

1160. From what circumstance have you been led to suppose that the superintendence and care of the children has devolved from you upon any other person?—She was elected by the Board for the purpose of superintending the children; she had no other duty to perform but that; she was under my control, but her duties were defined by the Board.

1161. But I understand you to state that you were aware what those duties were, and that you know of nothing to empower her to act independently of you?—I should suppose not, Sir.

1162. Therefore would you not have inferred from that, that you were still responsible for the children being properly taken care of and attended to, although the Superintendent was appointed by the Board?—Yes, Sir.

1163. Have you ever made any Report to the Board, relating to the state of children, since the Superintendent was appointed?—No. I think not.

1164. Have you exercised any control over the Infants since the Superintendent was appointed?—Have you ever interfered with the management?—I see the children every day.

1165. For what purpose?—To see that they are cared for, although the Superintendent is there, I see after them myself.

1166. You understand that the questions I am asking you relate to children under two years of age?—Yes, to the Infant class.

1167. Is not the general superintendence of these children under two years of age under your care?—I think they are more under the Mothers' care than mine.

1168. In the Regulations of the Commissioners for Workhouses there are several rules relating to Infants, as to the mode in which they are to be managed, and relaxations of the stricter rules are made in favour of that class?—Yes, that has been always observed.

1169. By whom do you conceive those arrangements ought to be carried into effect? Do you not conceive you are the Officer who ought to have made the necessary arrangements for taking care of the Infirm Paupers, and Infant children?—Yes.

—1170. You conceive you are the Officer?—Yes.

1171. There is a Regulation of the Commissioners, prescribing that different classes of Paupers shall remain in their respective Wards; and there are exceptions to that Regulation, for instance:—“*That any able-bodied women or girls above 13, may be taken out of their respective classes, and employed in the care of Infants; that the children under 5 years old shall be placed either in a Ward by themselves, or in such of the Wards appropriated to the Female Paupers as the Board of Guardians shall direct; and that the Mothers of such children shall have access to them at all reasonable times.*”—Do you suppose you are empowered, as Matron of the Workhouse, to act upon those exceptions?—I was.

1172. And all arrangements of that description you suppose were placed under your control?—Yes.

1173. You consider the Infant children to be mostly under the care of their Mothers?—Decidedly so; they have never been apart from them.

1174. Do you suppose that the circumstance of their being with their own Mothers, and to a certain extent under their control, precludes you from making any arrangement for the children that you might deem to be necessary?—In some degree I would.

1175. Were the Mothers themselves under your superintendence and management?—Yes, but the Mothers have a way of caring their own children, and they will not allow the interference of any body else.

1176. Have you ever doubted that you were empowered to place the Mothers and their Infants in such Dormitories or Day-rooms as you thought were suited to them?—They were a distinct class from any in the House, they associated together, slept together, and occupied the same Day-room together; they held the same apartment allotted to them, and I was authorized, of course, to see them in their places.

1177. Did you doubt you could exercise such a degree of control over these parents and children as would ensure their remaining in such apartment as you thought they should occupy?—It is not in my power to allot a particular portion of the house to them.

1178. Did you not conceive that both Mothers and children were under your care?—Most decidedly, but I feel more exonerated from the charge of the Infants, in consequence of their being more under the care of their Mothers, more than if they were in my own Ward as they call them, each Infant was in the care of its own Mother.

1179. Supposing that the Mothers and the children were not put into a proper Dormitory

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or Day-room, and that they were not properly clothed, do you conceive that the circumstance of their being under their Mothers' care, precluded you from seeing that they were properly accommodated?—I conceive that all these things have been done.

1180. Supposing it was stated or proved that it had not been done, could you allege that the fact of the children having been with their parents prevented you from doing it?—[Witness did not understand this question] she was then asked,

1181. Who do you conceive is the Officer, or who are the Officers of this House, to whom the Board of Guardians should look for the superintending lodging, clothing, and dieting of the Infant children?—I think that the Medical Officers are the persons.

1182. Do you think that the circumstance of there being Medical Officers appointed, who were to prescribe for the sick children, exonerated you from taking care of them—looking after the mode in which they were lodged, clothed, and generally taken care of?—No.

1183. Do you think that the Medical Officers are the Officers who had the power of regulating the clothing and dietary of the Pauper children?—Yes; I had not the power of doing so.

1184. *Mr. Phelan.*—Is there not a certain dietary for the children, as a class?—Yes.

1185. Is it not when the Doctor sees it necessary to change the dietary of an individual child that he has any power to do so?—Yes.

1186. The Doctors have not the power to make any change in the dietary of the children as a class; does not his power consist only in the cases of individual children who require it?—Yes.

1187. Did you consider that the Doctors generally were the persons who were to control the dietary of the children?—Yes, because it is not in my power to do so.

1188. *Mr. Hall.*—When you speak of the Medical Officers controlling the dietary, do you mean laying down a regulation as to it?—I mean that it is in the Doctor's power to change the food; he may order more or less.

1189. Whose office is it to see that the children receive their [food, whether under the Regulations of the Commissioners or of the Board?—The Matron's.

1190. If the Medical Officers have the power of which you speak, are not you the Officer to whom it is entrusted to see that their orders are carried into effect?—Yes; but I have it not in my power to make any alteration in their food.

1191. Have you been in the habit of entering into your Report Book any fact or circumstance relating to the health of the Infant children?—No.

1192. As to their condition or state?—No.

1193. Have you ever suggested to the Board any way of improving their condition by means of any regulation of the House?—No.

1194. Have you been in the habit of seeing the Infant children upon their admission into the Workhouse?—Yes, Sir.

1195. You are aware that the first duty of the Matron, as entered in the Regulations of the Commissioners is to cleanse and clothe the female Paupers, the girls, and children, and place them in proper Wards?—Yes, Sir.

1196. You have in the discharge of that duty, seen the Infant children upon their admission into the Workhouse?—I have; I see all of them; I class them, and put them into the Wards appropriated for them.

1197. Have you been in the habit of taking notes as to the state of health and bodily condition of the Infant children upon their admission?—Yes, to remark it to myself.

1198. Have you yourself observed the condition and state of health of the children?—I have.

1199. Have you made any notes from your observation of the children at the time?—In one or two instances I think I have.

1200. You have those notes to refer to now, have you?—Yes, in a few instances I have.

1201. Have you got them here?—No, not here.

1202. What is your impression of the state of health in which the children under 2 years of age entered this Workhouse?—I would say that natural delicacy was their state.

1203. Do you think the term "natural delicacy" describes the state of all the children or of most of the children, at the period of their admission?—There are exceptions.

1204. To what kind of exceptions do you allude?—Some of the children were in a very emaciated state.

1205. What proportion do you think the healthy children would bear to the rest, upon their admission?—A very small proportion.

1206. You have been in the constant habit of seeing the children after their admission into the Workhouse, have you not?—Yes, directly, when they are dressed.

1207. But you have seen them continually after their admission into the Workhouse?—Yes, every day.

1208. What have been your daily observations as to the health of the children after they have been in the Workhouse? have you observed any improvement in the health of those who came into the house in the delicate state of health you have described?—No, I have not.

1209. Do you consider that the circumstances under which the children have been kept in the house, have been favourable or unfavourable to their health?—I cannot answer that question.

1210. Do you think generally speaking that the health of the Infant children in the Workhouse has been good?—Why, I think it has.

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1211. Do you mean to say that they have continued while they remained in this house in the same good state of health in which they were when they entered it?—In some cases they have, and in others they have not. If attacked by disease, it was progressing; if they came into the house with disease, it was progressing; some of them came in so far gone that there could not be any remedy for them.

1212. Have you had any opportunity of knowing what was the opinion of the Medical Officers as to the state of health of the children?—About last May I heard them express an opinion.

1213. Do you mean that from time to time up to May, you heard them express their opinion, or that you once heard them express their opinion, and that was in May?—Yes, about May, after the Epidemic broke out.

1214. But up to May, between the opening of the house and that Month, have you heard the Medical Officers express any opinion as to the healthy or unhealthy state of the children?—I think it was in April or May, in either of these months, that the opinion was expressed.

1215. Have you at any time received any instructions, directions, or advice from the Medical Officers with reference to the management of the children?—I have had a conversation with Dr. Kirkpatrick respecting them.

1216. Did you ever observe anything in the circumstance of the children, that is in their state of health and condition which made you think it necessary to consult the Medical Officers?—The sick children were placed immediately under the Doctor's care, and were sent to Hospital directly.

1217. By whose direction were the sick children transferred to Hospital?—By the Medical Officer's.

1218. Who first informed the Medical Officers that the children were sick?—I report for the Doctors every day.

1219. Therefore I may infer that you every day inquire into the state of health of the children, to ascertain who are sick—who are well?—Decidedly.

1220. Did you ever observe any circumstance in the general health and condition of the children, which made it necessary in your opinion to ask the advice of the Medical Officers as to the management of those children?—No, I did not.

1221. For instance, did you ever observe amongst the children a general liability to sickness, did you ever observe that it was necessary to send in more children to the Hospital than you would have expected should have been the case?—No, when a child is sick, it is removed immediately to Hospital to prevent infection.

1222. Did the Medical Officers ever give you an opinion as to anything necessary for the general health of the children?—Yes, Dr. Duncan spoke about a tepid bath.

1223. Did the Medical Officers ever inform you that the clothing of the children was too scanty?—Yes, and it was increased.

1224. Did they ever inform you that children were placed to sleep at night in rooms too small for their number? did they ever signify to you that the Dormitories were too crowded?—Yes.

1225. Did they ever express any opinion as to the suitableness of the Day-room?—I have heard them remark it.

1226. Did they ever state to you that the children did not get enough of air and exercise?—No, they did not.

1227. It appears they have made statements to you with respect to the clothing of the children—the unsuitableness of the Dormitory, and Day rooms?—Occasionally.

1228. How came it when the Medical Officers spoke to you upon those points, suggesting that the Dormitory, the Day-room and clothing were not what they ought to be, you did not report the circumstance to the Board and ask for instructions from them as to the manner in which you were to proceed?—I think it was more their duty than mine to do so.

1229. *Mr. Phelan.*—Whom do you mean?—I mean the Doctors—the Medical Officers.

1230. *Mr. Hall.*—Were you under the impression that the Medical Officers themselves reported upon these matters to the Board of Guardians?—Yes, I was.

1231. Did you not from time to time receive directions from the Board upon these and similar points?—I did.

1232. Would not the circumstance of your being called in by the Board and directed upon certain subjects, lead you to suppose that somebody, probably the Medical Officers, had reported upon those points to the Board—did not the Board in fact often tell you that the Medical Officers had reported upon the subject?—Yes.

1233. And then they gave you directions how to act?—Yes.

1234. All which would lead you to form the opinion that the Medical Officers did report upon all those points to the Board?—Yes.

1235. Whence you inferred that it was not necessary for you to report?—Yes.

1236. When the Medical Officers reported to you that they did not consider the Dormitory and Day-room, the clothing, the dietary, or any of such matters, what it ought to be, did your opinion coincide with theirs?—In some cases it did, in others it did not.

1237. Do you think, for instance, that the mode in which the Mothers and their children have been lodged at night, has been such as was conducive to the healthfulness of the children?—I don't think it would injure them in any one degree.

1238. Therefore if the Medical Officers should entertain a different opinion you would not

agree with them?—I would not; upon that point we differ: the Wards were visited every night by myself and my assistant, and we found them to be not in too crowded a state, nor the temperature of them too high.

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1239. Do you recollect the occasion upon which you visited the Wards and found the temperature satisfactory?—They are visited every night.

1240. At what hour?—At 9 o'clock, when I lock the doors.

1241. Are the Mothers and children then in bed?—Yes, Sir.

1242. Did your opinion coincide with that of the Medical Officers, respecting the Day-room in which the Mothers and children have been placed?—During the Summer months they were not in the Day-room.

1243. Have their Mothers and their children always had a separate Day-room—a Day-room distinct from the rest?—Yes, totally distinct from the other class—the Infants in care of their Mothers.

1244. Have the children been with them?—Oh Yes, they are never removed from them.

1245. Have they ever since the opening of the Workhouse been placed in the same Day-room—have they always inhabited the same Day-room?—No Sir, they were in another.

1246. In what Day-room were they placed originally?—That which is now the Catholic Chapel; when it was built, the Mothers were put in there, and did not leave it till, I think the 29th of May last, as well as I can call to mind.

1247. What led to their being removed from the Day-room and placed in another?—The wall was thrown down, and a piece was added to it, so that they could not remain in it.

1248. To what Room were they transferred when they were taken from that?—To the one they at present occupy.

1249. Who selected the Room in which they are at present, as being the proper one in which they should be placed?—It was the Room which they first occupied.

1250. Then I am to understand that when the Workhouse was first opened they inhabited their present Room, that when a new room was built they were placed in it, and when alterations were made in that Room to prepare for a Chapel, they were transferred to the Room originally inhabited by them, and in which they now remain?—Yes.

1251. Was the attention of the Visiting Committee called to the necessity of providing another Room for the Mothers and their children when the new Day-room was interfered with?—I understood they were about to do so.

1252. When it was necessary to remove the children out of that Day-room into any other, were the Visiting Committee consulted as to what was the proper Room for them?—I cannot say.

1253. Did you make any representation to them?—No, Sir.

1254. Did you know that they had taken the subject into their consideration?—I have heard them make remarks as to the matter.

1255. But did you know they took into their consideration what would be a fit Room to which the children should be transferred?—I have heard them speak of making alterations with regard to raising the floor.

1256. Was the removal of the children originally effected under the direction of the Commissioners, or under whose direction was it done?—I suppose I did it myself, unless I got an order from the Master; I had no place else to put them, but in the Room which they previously occupied.

1257. Did you consult the Master about it?—Perhaps I did, but I do not recollect; I cannot exactly say whether I did or not, but it was natural for me to have put them into the same Room which they occupied before.

1258. *Mr. Phelan.*—You have no recollection of having had any directions from the Visiting Committee upon the subject?—No.

1259. *Mr. Roper.*—Nor a Board Order in reference to it?—No.

1260. *Mr. Hall.*—Did you know why the women and children were originally removed from that Room to the upper?—I think I got an Order for that; the upper Room was intended as a Day-room for the Nurses, and the dining Room was found not sufficiently large to hold the Congregation; but it was intended by the Board to be occupied by the Mothers.

1261. You mean the upper Day-room?—Yes; and there was not sufficient room in the dining Room to hold the Congregation; there was an addition built; it was originally the intention of the Board to have them placed in the Day-room.

1262. When the work necessary for providing a suitable place of Worship was concluded, how did it happen that the Mothers and children were not placed back again in the other Day-room?—I got no orders to that effect.

1263. And you would not move them without orders?—No.

1264. But you don't recollect getting an order to remove them to the Room which they at present inhabit?—I did of myself I think, and that I got no order upon the subject.

1265. Do you recollect why they were originally removed from the Room into the other Day-room?—I suppose it was to better them.

1266. But do you recollect any representation being made that the Room in which they were then, and are now, was unsuitable, and that they were removed from that room in consequence of those representations?—I rather think so.

1267. By whom were those representations made?—I would presume, the Board.

1268. Were they made by yourself?—No, I was given to understand that the Room was appropriated by the Board, for the Nurses and children.

1269. Do you mean the upper Room?—Yes.

1270. Do you know any reason why they should not be again removed to the upper Room?—It is used as a place of Worship now.

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1271. Is it used more as a place of Worship than the dining Room?—Oh Yes; the Catholic Clergyman has occupied it entirely this week.

1272. *Mr. Phelan.*—Do you mean he has occupied it in celebrating mass?—No, in hearing confessions.

1273. Are you a Roman Catholic?—I am.

1274. As a Roman Catholic do you believe that a sick person will be heard confession by the Clergyman in any Room?—Certainly.

1275. *Mr. Hall.*—The reason why the children were not transferred back again to the upper Room was, because it was used as a Roman Catholic Chapel?—Yes.

1276. What is your opinion as to the suitability of the Room in which the Mothers and their children now are in the day time?—I suppose I must give way to the Doctors; they say injurious; I think the upper Room is preferable to that which they at present occupy.

1277. What is your impression of the suitability of the Room they at present occupy; is it a good or bad Room for the purpose?—I cannot answer that question; I can form no opinion, my judgment may be very wrong.

1278. But I want your opinion upon the subject?—Well then, I think it is exceedingly good.

1279. That is your own opinion of the Day-room which the Mothers and children occupy?—I think it is a good one, but I think the other is preferable.

1280. Have the Mothers with children always been put into separate Wards in the Workhouse?—Yes, always; the Mothers nursing were placed in separate Wards.

1281. Have they always been in the same sleeping room which they now occupy?—No, the one they at present occupy was changed this day fortnight or three weeks.

1282. At any time since the Workhouse opened, have the Women and Infants occupied the same room that they now occupy?—They only occupy the room in which they are at present, for three weeks or a month.

1283. In what room were they before they were changed?—In No. 51.

1284. What is the situation of that room?—It is situated upon the ground floor.

1285. What reason was assigned for changing them from that Ward to their present place of habitation?—It was done by order of the Doctors.

1286. How were the orders communicated to you?—They were communicated through Mr. Reid.

1287. Was it in consequence of any recommendation of yours?—No.

1288. Do you know what reason was assigned why they should be removed from the Ward?—They considered it to be more airy, and there were single beds in it.

1289. Had you formed any opinion as to the suitability of the Ward in which they were?—I thought it was a very suitable one for the purpose.

1290. Did you consider at the time when they were removed there were more Women and children there, than could be comfortably accommodated there?—Not at the time.

1291. Do you think that the change was unnecessary?—I cannot say that; I think it was for the better.

1292. Do you know how many Women and Infants were in the Ward before the change took place?—They varied; sometimes there were 15, sometimes 25, sometimes 33.

1293. How many beds were there?—31 beds.

1294. Were all the beds occupied?—No.

1295. At the time when the change was made, were all the beds occupied?—No.

1296. How many were occupied?—I think about 20.

1297. How many persons were in each bed?—I got an order for them to sleep separate; I cannot call to mind when I got it, but since I got the order they have slept separately. The sleeping of the Paupers together depends upon the health of the children; there may be 60 in the house; 30 of those may be in Hospital.

1298. But are you able to state how many Mothers and Infants slept in that room at the time when the change was made?—Not at this moment.

1299. Are you able to ascertain it?—I will be able to ascertain it.

1300. Could you, in case the Board were of opinion that the room which the Women and children occupy at present was not a suitable one, remove them into another room, which might be decided upon by the Board as a more suitable room?—All the Wards are nearly full at present.

1301. Could you not put a certain number of the able-bodied Women into the Ward which the children occupy, and remove the children to their place of sleeping?—I suppose it could be done; but I think it would interfere with classification.

1302. Don't you think that accommodation might be provided for the Mothers and children, in what I may call the best part of the house, without interfering with classification?—No, I think not.

1303. Are not the doors of the Wards locked at night?—Yes.

1304. Therefore, what inconvenience could you apprehend from the Mothers and children being placed in one of the rooms now appropriated to the able-bodied Paupers?—It would interfere with the present occupants.

1305. But do you think that alone is a sufficient objection to giving them a portion of the best accommodation?—I think they formerly occupied very good Wards.

1306. I ask you whether the interference with classification would prevent you putting them into a better part of the Establishment?—If I were to consult my own wishes, I would say it would.

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1307. Would it interfere with the health of the females?—It would.
1308. What bad effect would it produce, do you think?—I think they would be all alike; there would not be sufficient classification.
1309. How many Mothers and children are there in the Wards of which you at present speak?—Perhaps there may be 30 to-night—26 to-morrow, perhaps; the number varies.
1310. Suppose the whole Ward were full, how many would be in it?—It only contains 38.
1311. Do you see any objection to 38 Mothers and children being put into beds in the able-bodied Wards, and 38 able-bodied females being removed to the room now occupied by them?—I see a great objection, it interferes with classification; they would be thrown entirely back upon the able-bodied class.
1312. Is not the house so constructed, that you could cut off one or more rooms from the others?—Yes, by locking the doors.
1313. Don't you lock the doors?—Yes, I do.
1314. Don't the Mothers and children now use the same Ward as the able-bodied?—Yes.
1315. Is not the classification so far departed from, by them?—No.
1316. Was the clothing for the Infants made in the house?—Yes.
1317. Under your superintendence?—Yes.
1318. When you became aware that the clothing was not considered sufficient, did you make any alteration in it?—Yes.
1319. Did you consider you had a discretionary power to have such clothing made for the Infants as you or the Medical Officers thought fit?—When I got the order from the Doctors to increase the Infants' clothing, it was done.
1320. Do you consider you have a discretionary power to make the Infants' clothing in any way you think suitable; may you not cut their frocks and petticoats in any way you think proper?—Yes.
1321. Is there anything to prevent you from doing this?—No.
1322. Who cuts out the frocks?—My sister, myself, and one or two of the Paupers.
1323. Is it not the wish of the Board that the children should have their clothes made in the most advisable way, with a sufficiency of them, and cut as you think proper?—Yes.
1324. Don't they abstain from interfering with you in these matters, because they understand that you have the discretionary power to clothe the Infants exactly as you think Infants ought to be clothed?—Yes.
1325. And you may clothe them exactly as the children require?—Yes, I clothe them according to their state and necessity, I give them what I conceive to be a sufficiency of clothing.
1326. *Mr. Phelan.*—That is, if they come in wanting clothing you supply them with it?—Yes, the moment they come in they are supplied.
1327. *Mr. Hall.*—But if it were represented to you that the Infants ought to have long sleeves, that their clothes should be longer in the skirts and cut in a different way, is there anything to prevent your doing so?—No, there is not; Dr. Duncan spoke to me about lengthening the children's petticoats, but I had a decided objection to it.
1328. That was one of the cases in which your opinion did not coincide with the Doctor's?—Yes, we differed upon that point.
1329. But did you not consider that if you had agreed with Dr. Duncan on the matter, you had authority to make the required alteration in the clothes?—Yes, there was no one to interfere with us.
1330. Do you consider that the frocks and petticoats with which you have from time to time supplied the Infants, have been sufficient to shelter them from the cold?—I would say so, they are sufficiently large to fit a child two years old, and the Mothers very frequently take them in.
1331. From your own observation of the state of the children, do you consider that they have been clothed sufficiently?—Yes.
1332. Do you think they have suffered from cold in consequence of the insufficiency of clothing?—Not in my opinion.
1333. You have stated that the general regulation of the food of the Paupers was not under your control; that certain dietaries had been laid down, and that you were aware the Medical Officers had the power of ordering any departure from the general rule regulating the diet?—Yes, I thought they had the power of adding to or taking from the diet.
1334. Do you consider that the distribution of food to the children, at certain hours and times was under your control?—I have ordered the Nurses to feed them at stated times, that is, three times a-day.
1335. A certain quantity of food was allotted by the Board, with the advice of the Medical Officers for those children, was it or was it not your duty to see that they received it?—Yes, the Mothers give the food to the Infants twice a-day.
1336. Did you consider it to be your duty to give directions upon that head?—Yes, I did.
1337. So that if you thought the allowance of food to the Children should be given in 2, 3, 4, or half a dozen meals, it was your duty to see how often in the day the Children received their food?—The Mothers have the food in their own power, but I gave them my opinion that three times in the day was quite enough to feed them.
1338. Then you did not consider it your duty to see that the Children were fed a certain number of times in the day?—No, when they were in the care of their Mothers, I did not consider it so.
1339. Do you consider when they were under the care of their own Mothers, the Mothers

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could best regulate the times and periods at which they should be fed?—Yes, but I gave them my opinion as to what I thought ought to be done, and I left them to follow that opinion, without any compulsion whatever.

1340. Were there any Infants under your care without Mothers?—Yes, Orphans.

1341. To whose charge did you entrust those children?—To persons I thought would best care them, those who had children of their own, and had been married.

1342. But had those persons children nursing at the time?—No, I never gave an Orphan in care to a woman who had her own child to nurse at the same time; but I gave an Orphan child to a woman who had been married.

1343. And did you give food to those persons, and leave the distribution of it to their discretion, as you would to the Mother of the child?—I was more particular in the cases of Orphan Children, I saw that they got, if necessary, an increase of milk, I sent the children down to the Doctor, and if he thought it necessary, he increased the quantity of milk.

1344. What steps did you take to see that the children had the food which the Guardians said they should have?—I made choice of the best person I could get to nurse the child, and I depended upon her to give the food to the child.

1345. Did you give a certain portion of food to the Nurse in order that she might give it to the child if she thought proper?—Yes.

1346. Did you understand that it was your duty to see that the food of the children was properly provided for them?—I saw them get their food from the Dining Hall, each woman came with her vessel to receive the quantity allowed, she got half a pint of milk, she crumbled the bread into it, and fed the child at any hour she pleased, at half past ten, or any time she wished; they all received the food from the Dining-Room.

1347. Was it your intention that the children should be fed upon boiled milk and bread?—That is the usual way of feeding children.

1348. But did you feel it your duty to give the children boiled bread and milk three times a day?—No, Sir; but they had it, they received it from the Dining Hall boiled, and they had the privilege of warming it themselves when they liked.

1349. Has that been the plan adopted?—That has been the plan adopted from the very commencement of the house.

1350. Was it ever represented to you that it was desirable there should be placed in the Day-room, beds or cradles, in order that the Infant children might be put to sleep there?—Yes.

1351. Was a representation ever made to you from the Medical Officers to the effect that there should be beds or cradles provided, or did you receive any instructions from the Board, or the Master of the Workhouse upon the subject? Did it ever occur to you that it was necessary to provide the means of putting those Infants to sleep?—I did, the beds were laid down in the Wards.

1352. Could they get to those beds during the day?—Yes, there were women appointed to take care of them, and if the Mother thought right, she placed the Infant in the bed.

1353. Did you observe that the Mothers generally availed themselves of the privilege?—In some cases they did, in others they did not.

1354. Did the Mothers make use of the privilege more than the women who had the care of the Orphans?—I made no observation of that kind.

1355. *Mr. Phelan.*—Did the Mothers in general prefer that the children should sleep in their own arms?—They appeared to do so.

1356. *Mr. Hall.*—Was the Dormitory always open for the women in which they could put the children to sleep?—Yes, the general practice has been to leave the Dormitory open.

1357. Was it not reported to you that it would be beneficial to the health of the children if they were taken into the Garden?—Yes.

1358. Did the Board ever give an order to that effect?—Yes.

1359. Were they ever let into the Garden in consequence?—Yes, and it was very difficult to get them out.

1360. *Mr. Phelan.*—What was difficult?—To induce the women to go into the Garden.

1361. *Mr. Hall.*—Were you obliged to use means to enforce that order of the Board?—Yes.

1362. You are obliged to make it a point of discipline with the Mothers?—Yes, the order was that they should attend to it.

1363. Upon fine days?—Yes.

1364. Did you ever receive orders to discontinue that practice?—No.

1365. *Mr. Sinnott.*—How comes it then that the practice has been discontinued?—Owing to the state of the weather.

1366. *Mr. Hall.*—Is it a fact that it has been discontinued?—No, the last fine day—last Tuesday week—they were out.

1367. *Mr. Sinnott.*—Would you not consider this a fine day?—No, I would call this a very cold day.

1368. *Mr. Hall.*—When were they out before last Tuesday week?—When the weather permitted, but I cannot exactly call to mind the day.

1369. Have you ever endeavoured to prevent them from going into the Garden when they expressed a desire to go into it?—No, I did not; it was not in my power to let them into the Garden, until I got the order; It has been acted on ever since.

1370. How often did they go into the Garden?—It entirely depended on the state of the weather.

1371. You cannot tell how often they have been in the Garden?—No.

1372. Have they generally shown a disposition to go into the Garden?—Some wish to go in, others do not, and I have known an instance where a Mother gave her child to another woman to take it into the Garden.

1373. Has there been any obstacle thrown in the way of those who wished to go into the Garden?—No, not since the order was given.

1374. Have any of them expressed a wish to go into the Garden when you thought the weather not sufficiently fine for them?—I never heard them express a wish to go into the Garden; It was rather a compulsory thing to get them into it.

1375. When they were in the Garden, were they under any restraint, to make it disagreeable for them to be in it?—There were two men walking after them—that was all.

1376. *Mr. Roper.*—Were those men Officers of the House?—No, there were men working in the Garden at the time, and that was the reason that these persons were placed in it.

1377. *Mr. Hall.*—What is your opinion of the state of health of the Children under two years of age, at present in the Workhouse?—They are in a very delicate state of health.

1378. Is there anything of a general character in their delicacy; are many of them suffering under any particular disorder or delicacy?—I think they are consumptive.

1379. From any experience you may have had of the management of children, do you think there is anything in the circumstance in which the children live here that would make them generally unhealthy?—I would say no.

1380. Suppose the children came into the House in the state which you describe, and that they were not attacked when here by any Epidemic, such as Measles, Scarletina, or Hooping Cough, would you expect that they would continue in that delicate state?—I would.

1381. Do you think it is the case, that children who came in healthy, and are not attacked by any Epidemic, continue in as healthy a state as when they came into the house?—I do.

1382. Do you think that the management of the children in any department here is capable of being improved?—I cannot say that, I think it is.

1383. Do you think there is any necessity for attempting to improve the condition of the Infant children by night?—No, I don't think there is.

1384. Do you think it necessary to set about improving their accommodation during the day?—Yes, if it could be done.

1385. You think the accommodation by day is capable of being improved?—Yes.

1386. Do you think that any alteration is called for in their food as to the quality, quantity of it, or way in which it is given to them?—No, I do not.

1387. Do you think their clothing at present is as good as it ought to be?—I would say it was; for in some cases I found it difficult to get the Mothers to put sufficient clothing on the children.

1388. *Mr. Phelan.*—Do you apply that observation to the Mothers or to the women who take care of the Orphans?—To the Mothers.

1389. Have you observed that any injury arose to the children from want of sufficient covering when they are removed from the Dormitory to the Day-room and back again?—I have not observed anything material, I have heard that it does exist.

1390. You have heard the women complain?—No, but the Doctors.

1391. *Mr. Hall.*—Have you ever heard women complain that the children are improperly exposed?—No, I have given my answer that they say they are too warmly clothed, which relaxes them.

1392. Have you ever heard the women complain that they have not sufficient means for protecting the children from the weather when carrying them from the Sleeping-room to the Day-room and back again?—No, the women have not complained to me of it.

1393. Have you ever heard that the women complained to any one else?—Yes, to the Doctors.

1394. Did the Medical Officers ever say to you that the women complained?—No, but I saw from the Reports that they did.

1395. When you heard that the Medical Officers had reported to the Board about cloaks, did you make any enquiry amongst the women as to whether they required cloaks, or thought them necessary?—No.

1396. Did you from your own observation, think that the children should get clothing to protect them in being brought from the Sleeping-room to the Day-room?—No.

1397. Do you at present consider it necessary to supply the Mothers with cloaks in order that they may cover their children?—I would say not.

1398. Do you think the children are more warmly clad in the House than they were before they were brought into it, or than they were when brought into it?—Yes, they have, for instance, been brought in with a piece of rug rolled about them.

1399. Is the clothing made of better material, more abundant in its quantity, and altogether better than when their Mothers brought them into the House?—In some cases, it is, in others it is much the same.

1400. The material is much the same?—Yes.

1401. But do you think there is as much of it, and that it is as well made, and as warm as that which they had before they were brought into the House?—Much more.

1402. You think that the clothing which the Infant children wear in the House is better calculated to keep them warm and healthy, than their clothing when they are brought in?—Yes, than when they are brought in.

1403. Do you think that has always been the case?—They first had the Linsey petticoats; when the order came they got the woollen.

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1404. Were the flannel petticoats ordered before last Winter?—They had flannel petticoats on, last Winter.

1405. But as far as you recollect did the Infants get the flannel clothes before last Winter?—I cannot say they got them before last Winter.

1406. Do you consider that the clothing they had on, before the flannel things were ordered, was sufficient?—Yes, I did.

1407. Then the change in the clothing from linsey woolsey to flannel did not originate with you?—No.

1408. *Mr. Phelan*.—It originated with the Medical Officers?—Yes.

1409.—Do you consider the Superintendent your assistant in looking after those Infant children?—Yes.

1410. In as much as you have the general supervision of the Establishment, you cannot give that minute attention to the Nurses and Infant children that would be necessary, she discharges the immediate duties and you supervise the whole?—Yes, still not leaving it to her to do.

1411. *Mr. Hall*.—Have you any record of the time at which you made the flannel petticoats for the children?—They had flannel vests in October, 1840, but I cannot speak distinctly about the petticoats.*

1412. *Mr. Roper*.—Did all the children receive flannel vests, or only such children as the Doctors ordered the vests for?—Generally.

1413. They all had them?—I cannot exactly say all.

1414. Did the children get flannel vests as a class?—They got them as a class.

1415. *Mr. Hall*.—Is there any other Female Officer who knows more of the state and treatment of the children than you do yourself?—No, Sir, I think not.

1416. *Captain Lindsay*.—Did you ever visit the Wards at night accompanied by the Medical Officers?—I have.

1417. Did they, or either of them, complain of the over-crowding or want of ventilation?—Yes.

1418. Did you report the circumstance to the Board?—No, I did not, Sir.

1419. You have stated that you considered the temperature of the Dormitory good?—Yes.

1420. Do you know about what temperature, generally speaking, it ought to be?—I know by my own feeling.

1421. You stated that the Mothers of the children complained to the Medical Officers of the want of cloaks?—I drew that conclusion from the Report of the Medical Officers.

1422. *Mr. Roper*.—Why did not the Mothers complain to you?—I cannot say.

1423. You have stated that you sometimes differ in opinion with the Medical Officers; then I suppose we are to understand that when you visited the Dormitories at night, and the Medical Officers complained of excessive heat, that you differed with them?—I cannot say that I differed with them upon that head.

1424. At what hour at night do you generally visit the Wards?—At 9 o'clock.

1425. At what hour do the Nurses go to bed?—It depends upon the season of the Year.

1426. At what hour in Summer do they go to bed?—At half-past 7 o'clock, up to a quarter after, or half-past 8 o'clock.

1427. What is the hour in Winter?—From 6 up to 7 o'clock.

1428. Then you did not differ with the Doctors upon the temperature of the Dormitory, as you did upon some other points?—No.

1429. Then allow me to ask you if you agree with the Doctors with regard to the temperature of the Dormitory at 7 or 8 o'clock in the Evening—what temperature do you think would prevail in the room at 7 o'clock in the Morning?—Sometimes I have not.

1430. When you did agree with them that the temperature was excessive at 8 or 9 o'clock at Night, would it be better or worse at 6 o'clock in the Morning?—Surely, worse.

1431. Would any regulation make the temperature of the room as good at 6 o'clock in the Morning as at 9 at Night?—That is a difficult question to answer.

1432. You have stated to *Mr. Hall*, that you consider the present Day-room was an exceedingly good room. You did not then entirely agree with the Doctors as to the present Day-room being so bad as they said it was?—No.

1433. Then you differed with the Doctors upon that point?—Yes.

1434. I think you have also said that you differed with the Doctors as to the Clothing—you said that you considered the frocks and petticoats for the Infants sufficiently long and large?—I did.

1435. Have the Doctors differed with you upon that subject?—Upon the length of the petticoats they have, but upon no other point.

1436. There was an application made by the Doctors to you in writing, about the length of the Infants' petticoats; and you made an observation to the effect that there was a reason for it?—Yes.

1437. Don't you think that warmth as well as cleanliness, is, in some degree to be attended to in an Infant?—Yes.

1438. You say there were some Orphans under your care, and they were given in charge to the women who had been Mothers?—Yes, except in one case.

* The Witness subsequently stated, after referring to a Memorandum Book that the Petticoats were given out for the Infants on the 9th February, 1841.

1439. What was done in that case?—A woman named Clarke died in her confinement, her child was kept in the Hospital, when fit, it was discharged, and I gave it to a kindly young person to take care of, the child was taken by its Father, and after taking cold, was brought back here again where it died. 17th December, 1841.
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1440. You were very particular in selecting the most careful women for the Orphans?—Yes.

1441. Were they nursed at the breast of the women, or spoon-fed?—Spoon-fed.

1442. In the first 100 children that came into the House under one year old, are you aware that there were but five Orphans?—I am.

1443. Are any of those five Orphans now alive?—Yes.

1444. I mean of the five in the list of 100 that came in here, under one year old, and were spoon-fed?—I believe there is not.

1445. Then notwithstanding your care in selecting the kindest and best women you could find in this House to spoon-feed them, they have all died in one year?—Yes.

1446. Of course the Pauper Mothers who are suckling their own children would very justly object to taking another child to suckle?—Oh, she would not be allowed to do so—she would not have sufficient support for the children; when I get an Orphan she might suckle it one night, but she would not do it any more.

1447. Was there any period of time since the opening of this House that the Mothers suckling their Infants were without the means of putting them to bed in the Day-room at any one time?—No.

1448. They had always access to the Dormitories?—Yes.

1449. *Mr. Simot.*—Have there been any instances when Mothers were obliged to suckle children independently of their own?—No; they would not do it.

1450. Have you not occasionally given an Orphan child to a woman who had another child, to suckle it?—No, not for more than one night.

1451. *Mr. Phelan.*—Are you aware how many Orphans have been received into this House from the first day to the present period?—No.

1452. Have you any knowledge how many of them died in this House?—I think five or six.

1453. Have you any knowledge of the state in which they were, or are described to have been, upon their admission?—No.

1454. From your own observation, did any or many of them appear to be in delicate health?—Certainly they were sickly.

1455. How many were in good health?—I don't think there was one Orphan child in good health.

1456. Is there any Orphan now in the House who came in here during the first year the House was opened, being at the time under the age of one year?—There is.

1457. Who is she?—Fanny Adams.

1458. *Mr. Roper.*—Do you recollect an Orphan named Isabella Smith?—No.

1459. Do you consider that an Orphan child coming into this House to be spoon-fed, has a fair chance of life, under the care of even the best Pauper Nurse?—I think it has, for the Nurses are in general kindly.

1460. How comes it then that so many have died?—Because they came into the House in such a wretched state; there may be an exception.

1461. Can you show us six children under two years of age, who have been six months in the House, in perfect health?—I should look into the Registry; I would not venture to answer the question without a search.

1462. I believe you have had the Lord Lieutenant to look at the House?—Yes.

1463. Was he brought through all the place?—Yes.

1464. Did he see the children?—He did.

1465. Did he admire the two year old?—I cannot say.

1466. He saw every child?—He did.

1467. Were you sent to England to look after the system of Workhouse management before the House opened?—I was.

1468. What experience had you in the management of children before you were elected Matron of this House?—None.

1469. And notwithstanding that, you have differed with the Doctors with regard to the lodging of the children, by day and by night, and the Clothing they received?—I see the children day and night: I see them twice a-day; I had an experienced person over them; Doherty knows all about them. I have an opportunity of hearing the opinion of a great many persons in the House respecting the children, and I see them, perhaps, twice or three times a-day.

1470. Do you think that the opinions you hear from different persons in the House are worth more than the opinions of the Medical Officers, who are entrusted with the Hospital arrangements for those children?—No, I do not; I suppose their opinions are superior to mine.

1471. What Assistant had you in the management of the details of your department?—My Sister.

1472. What experience has she had in the management of children?—She conducted the Luxembourg Institution for 11 years previous to her coming here.

1473. That was a Boy's Boarding School, I believe?—Yes.

1474. There were no Infants there?—No.

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1475. No Nursery superintendence was required there, I believe?—There were head Nurses and Doctors there.

1476. What was the age of the boys?—From 6 years and a half to 14 and a half, or 16 years old.

1477. That was the extent of her experience as to the Nursery arrangements?—Yes.

1478. She is an unmarried lady I believe?—Yes, she is.

1479. In addition to your Sister, I believe your only Assistant in your arduous duties was a lady called a Superintendent of children?—Yes.

1480. Have the Superintendents been married?—One was married—the other was single.

1481. Is the present Superintendent married?—No, she is unmarried.

1482. What was her experience as to children before she came here?—Indeed I believe she has very little experience of anything.

1483. Of course you would naturally look to the Superintendent of Children for very material assistance in carrying on the affairs of this House?—I would expect her to give me assistance, if I had not an efficient person to assist me, the labour would be thrown entirely upon me.

1484. Do you remember an enquiry before the Board in the month of February, 1840, upon the subject of children?—I recollect being here once in attendance upon the Board, but I cannot exactly recollect the month or time.

1485. There was some objection made at that time to the management of the children, by some members of the Board?—There was.

1486. Do you recollect its being proved at that time and admitted, that the boys of from 2 to 5 years old had no female attendant sleeping in the room with them?—Yes.

1487. Do you recollect being then asked by the Board to how many children of that age, a Pauper woman could attend?—I do, Sir.

1488. Do you recollect the answer you gave?—I said 20, and the Board said 10.

1489. At night?—Yes. Then the boys were all drafted over to me.

1490. At the time the enquiry took place you did not consider, I believe, that the boys of such tender ages were under your care?—No, I did not, till I got the order.

1491. They were previously left to the care of the male Paupers?—Yes.

1492. From subsequent experience which do you think you or the Board were right?—Some women may be able to attend more children—others less, it depends upon the disposition of the person.

1493. Do you know what male attendant was provided for the children between 2 and 5 years old?—A man named Ford.

1494. Don't you think it would be a great improvement in the arrangements of this house, and a great assistance to the carrying on the business, if you had a steady, respectable married woman, or rather if the Doctors had such a person to superintend the children generally?—Oh, yes, Sir, that is what is wanted.

1495. *Mr. Hall.*—You state that the last Superintendent of children was entirely inefficient?—Yes.

1496. Did you ever report her inefficiency to the Board?—Not in writing.

1497. Have you stated verbally to the Visiting Committee her inefficiency?—Once. *Mr. Law, Captain Lindsay, Mr Barlow, and another Gentleman—Mr Sinnot* I believe—were the Visiting Committee.

1498. Has she been dismissed?—No, she sent in her resignation 3 weeks ago, and one of the Paupers did her duty for her.

1499. *Captain Lindsay.*—How long ago is it since you reported that to the Visiting Committee?—You came up to me one day and asked me what was I speaking so loudly about; but I cannot remember the time.

1500. *Mr. Hall.*—Have you been in the habit of reporting to the Board that admit Paupers what vacancies there were?—Every Monday.

1501. Have you reported what vacancies there were for the Infant children?—Within these 8 weeks I reported that there was no room for Nurses.

1502. You mean Mothers with children?—Yes.

1503. Have you for the last 8 weeks reported that there was no room for Nurses or children?—I think it is 8 weeks.

1504. Have your reports been attended to by the Admission Board?—Yes.

1505. Have Mothers with their Infants been admitted into the house when you had stated at the Admission Board that there was no room for them?—Yes.

1506. Have you found it difficult to accommodate those Infants as they ought to have been accommodated?—There was not room for them; no inconvenience, however, arose; I was only fearful of the Paupers being returned from the Hospital.

1507. But at any rate your report to the Board that there was no room, did not prevent them from admitting still more Paupers?—On Monday they admitted them.

1508. How many children have been admitted during the last 8 weeks?—Eleven were admitted in a week.

1509. Were they admitted in a week, as you say, when you had reported to the Board that there was no room for the children?—Yes.

1510. *Mr. Sinnot.*—You stated that you had several times reported to the Board that you had no room for the Nurses? did you ever hear what the Commissioners stated as to the average number that the house will hold?—I heard that they estimate the number at 2,000.

1511. Has there ever been above 1,950?—No.

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1512. Could not arrangements have been made by which Nurses could be provided for the very destitute, to whom the Board would not refuse admission, and by which the number which the Commissioners say could be accommodated in the house, might be relieved?—Not with the accommodation that was afforded.

1513. But could not accommodation be procured?—Not without mixing them with others; they would have been mixed with persons who had no children.

1514. But if the house could hold two thousand, could not accommodation be provided for them?—Not upon the side of the house appropriated to the females.

1515. *Mr. Roper.*—Do you recollect being asked by our Chairman, at the time of the Investigation in February, whether you could suggest any improvement in the House, with regard to the children?—Yes.

1516. Do you recollect your answer?—I think it was that there could not.

1517. Are you aware that the Medical Officers have stated that they considered many and very great improvements necessary?—No, I am not aware of it.

1518. *Mr. O'Gorman.*—You stated that the Clothing at present upon the Infants is sufficient to protect them from the cold?—Yes.

1519. What is the description of it?—A flannel and linsey petticoat; a flannel vest; a check pinafore; and a calico cap and tucker.

1520. What kind of flannel is used?—Galway flannel. There is a calico body on the linsey petticoat.

1521. Did or did not the Medical Officers desire that the Clothes should be made longer for the children?—Yes, the flannel petticoats.

1522. Did they desire that the children's arms should be covered?—They did not give an order to that effect to me.

1523. I think you stated that, before you came here, you had very little experience of children of that description?—Yes.

1524. Then when you say that the Clothing was sufficient for them, upon what do you found your opinion?—Upon the class of people.

1525. Do you found it upon the opinion of the Mothers?—I found it upon the opinion of experienced persons—from the experience of some Mothers in the House, but I cannot say I ever consulted them.

1526. If you had no experience in the management of children, how could you say that the Clothing was sufficiently warm and good?—I judge from my own observation.

1527. Is not a person of common sense, who never was married, capable of forming an opinion as to the quantity of Clothing which should be given to a child?—Yes, she should be a stupid person, if she could not form an opinion upon the subject. I had a very experienced person to direct me—one who had been sixteen years in the House of Industry.

1528. Do you consider it part of your duty, or consistent with it, to differ with the Doctors upon the subject of Clothing for the children?—My opinion would have no weight with the Board, when the opinion of the Medical Officers was different from mine. The Board would, of course, be led by their opinion.

1529. Do you consider it consistent with your duty to differ with the Doctors upon the points of clothing, lodging, and feeding the children?—I do not think it is a matter of duty, either to differ or agree with them.

1530. You say there is a person who was connected with the House of Industry, and who has great experience, and from whom you derive your information?—Oh! No. I might take an opinion from her.

1531. Is it from any opinion of hers that you suppose the clothing of the children sufficiently warm?—In many cases the women have refused to increase their Infants' clothing, stating, as a reason, that when they left the House they would not have the same comforts for them, and they did not like to expose them to the cold. Sometimes the Mothers carried the petticoats of their children upon their arms, in consequence of their being too long. When they became wet they did so.

1532. Your reason for not wishing the petticoats long is to prevent the necessity of the Nurses taking them off?—Yes.

1533. Why do the Mothers tuck up the petticoats?—To keep the children clean.

1534. How many petticoats has each child?—Two petticoats.

1535. *Mr. Arkins.*—Then, if they have two, what difficulty could there be, when one was wet, to put on another?—They are not allowed to retain any clothing, except what is upon the child. When a change of clothes is required, they call upon the Superintendent for it. I make an inspection, and I see that the children are clean.

1536. Do you know how many petticoats a tradesman's child has—a tradesman with 30 shillings or 1 guinea per week?—The number never exceeds two.

1537. What is the custom pursued by the tradesman's wife, with regard to cleanliness?—She must wait till she washes the second petticoat.

1538. How many clean petticoats would she give the child in the week?—They should be shifted every week.

1539. Should they not be shifted every day? Is it not usual for a poor woman to give a clean petticoat to her child every night and morning?—I cannot say.

1540. Is it not usual with the poor women nursing children, as soon as they soil their petticoats, to put them into the beds or cradles, till they dry them?—Yes, if they had the means to do so.

17th December, 1841.

Miss Esmond.

1541. How often in the day had you an opportunity of seeing the children?—Sometimes twice a-day—sometimes three times.

1542. Do you happen to know how often the Doctors used to see them?—Witness did not give an answer.

1543. What opportunity have the Nurses to wash themselves or their children?—They wash themselves in the Oakum Room every day. They are allowed a particular portion of soap, which is served out to them once a-week.

1544. What sort of vessel have they for procuring water?—A bucket, with a handle.

1545. How long has that arrangement been carried on amongst the Nurses in the Nursery?—I suppose a long time.

1546. How long?—I cannot exactly state the particular time.

Mr. Roper, examined by Mr. Hall.

Mr. Roper.

1547. You have been a Member of the Board from the beginning?—I have.

1548. Then you are able to inform me by whom the Matron was appointed?—The Guardians elected her.

1549. Who elected the Assistant?—The Guardians—all were elected by them.

1550. What course did they take when they elected those persons?—Most votes carried the Election—and the Commissioners did not make any objection, that I am aware of, to any of the Elections.

1551. What course did the Guardians take to ascertain that they were electing fit and proper persons to fill the Offices?—They examined, of course, the testimonials that were produced. I do believe, that at the opening of the House, none of us was aware of the very heavy Nursery charge that would be imposed upon the Matron of the House, or such Assistant as she might be allowed under her charge.

1552. How long is it since the last Superintendent was appointed?—I was not present at the Election, but I have never known any Election at which, individually, I was so much dissatisfied, as the Election of the Superintendent of children. I think Miss Esmond is a most suitable person to superintend and manage every part of her share in the Concern, except the management of the children.—I will except the children.

1553. How long ago is it since the last Superintendent of children was appointed?—I do not know. I was prevented by circumstances from attending the Board at that time, and being present at that Election.

1554. Were not the Board of Guardians aware, at the time, of the Election of the Female Officers, that they were unmarried women?—Yes; and if they were not they ought to have informed themselves on the subject.

1555. *Mr. Arkins.*—Do you think that Miss Esmond or any other Matron, having to attend the Workhouse department, and all the rest of the Establishment, including the management of 960 women, and 4 or 5 hundred children, could pay the requisite attention to the Infant Paupers?—I have always thought and said, that there ought to be a steady matronly woman for that department, and that she should be almost exclusively under the control of the Doctors.

Saturday, 18th December, 1841.

18th December, 1841.

See Appendix
No. 9.

Mr. Hall said, he had a Return, procured at the request of *Mr. Roper* from the present Superintendent of the Foundling Hospital, showing the number of Infants admitted each year, from the year 1798 to 1831 inclusive, the number of those Infants who died before they were sent to nurse, the number who were sent to be nursed in the Country, and the number who died at nurse in the Country; showing also the age at which these children died, from the first to the thirteenth year inclusive. He had also another Document, which was a Return prepared in the Office of the Architect of the Poor Law Commissioners, showing the dimensions of the new Day-rooms built by the directions of the Commissioners for the North Dublin Union, the number of windows in each, and the size of the windows.

See Appendix
No. 4.

Mr. Crean, called in and examined by Mr. Hall.

Mr. Crean.

1556. You were Clerk to the Board from the commencement of the Union?—Yes, from August, 1839.

1557. Do you recollect two Letters of the Poor Law Commissioners, addressed to the Board of Guardians, one of which was dated the 25th of March, 1840, containing instructions upon the opening of the Workhouse, as to the mode in which Paupers should be admitted?—Yes.

1558. Do you recollect another Letter of the 29th of May, 1840, containing observations of the Commissioners as to the disposition of the Paupers when they were admitted?—Yes.

[*Mr. Hall* requested the Witness to procure him copies of the Letters in question.]

1559. You have a Book in your custody, a Visiting Committee Book?—Yes.

1560. In which certain questions prescribed by the Commissioners are printed, and answers are from time to time inserted by the Guardians, respecting the Workhouse?—Yes.

1561. You are aware that the 9th question is, "are the young children properly nursed and taken care of; and do they appear in a clean and healthy state?"—Yes.

[*Mr. Hall* requested the Witness to furnish him with copies of all the answers to that question, that had been inserted in the Visiting Book.]

See Appendix
No. 3.

Doctor Kirkpatrick, called in and examined.

18th December, 1841.

Dr. Kirkpatrick.

1562. *Dr. Brady.*—In stating the proportion of sick and healthy children in the House, you classified them into delicate, healthy, and diseased; you said half the children were delicate on their admission; you were positive as to half been delicate; you said at a rough guess that 25 were healthy, and you also said that the remainder were in tolerable health; could you state what part of the 50 were delicate, and what part diseased?—As far as I can remember, by making a guess, I think twelve of those children, were in a diseased state, so diseased as that I did not Vaccinate them, many of them were not admitted into Hospital, and many of them died in the Nursery. I dare say we are wrong in having guessed so much, but I wish to answer the question put to me.

1563. *Mr. Simot.*—You said that 6 or 8 came into the Workhouse in a dying state, do you include that number in the twelve?—I do.

1564. *Dr. Brady.*—This occurred from May, 1840, to May, 1841, would you say that the same calculation would hold good, if made up to the present time?—I have made a second calculation referring back to the last three or four months of which I can give a more certain opinion.

1565. Would it materially alter your calculation if it were to be brought up to the present period?—It would materially alter it, my answers refer to May, the children admitted since are in a more delicate condition than they were first.

1566. I ask you whether in a general way we should attribute the Infants' aptitude for disease to their state of health upon admission, or to the system that follows?—In a general way we should attribute their bad health to their state upon admission, backed by the system; to being admitted to the Workhouse in bad health, and the system of this House being calculated to make it still worse.

1567. Do you think the effect is produced half by the state of disease of the child upon admission, and half by the system?—I would not say so, I say both lead to it.

1568. Do you think giving the Wet Nurses additional diet would enable them to suckle their children with a fairer chance of their succeeding?—I think it would improve their condition, but we previously had the authority of the Board to give extra milk, and we have given it, but not in a general way.

1569. *Mr. Simot.*—Do you think a change of the diet is absolutely necessary for the benefit of the health, not only of the adults but of the Infants?—We should change it from stirabout and potatoes to bread and milk, and we do change it every day, in some particular instances.

1570. Would you prefer that improved mode to the present, of allowing milk to the Infants?—It is drawn for the Infant but it is given to the Parent.

1571. *Mr. Phelan.*—What proportion of the 76 children, who you said were attacked with Measles, 24 of whom died in Hospital, and 20 of whom were in a hopeless condition, were under two years of age—were any of those 76 children born in the House?—Yes, two were.

1572. Were there more than two?—Yes, three I think.

1573. And were any of the 20 now reputed to be in a hopeless state, born in the House?—Some of them were born in the House, two were born in the House.

1574. Did the 11 out of 35, reported to have died in the house, die during an Epidemic?—In general I think they did, either during or after an Epidemic.

1575. *Mr. Roper.*—Would you approve of the appointment of a Head Nurse whose exclusive duty would be, to watch over the Nurses and report accordingly?—I should strongly recommend it, but the Superintendent is the person to whom we look.

1576. That is not her exclusive duty to look after wet-nursed children?—We wished it to be so.

1577. Do you think, as far as you have seen, that we possess machinery within our reach to rear healthy children within the Workhouse, or do you think we are incapable of rearing them?—We will be always in unfavourable circumstances to rear healthy Infants in this House.

1578. Would you suppose that under the most favourable circumstances the mortality here would be excessive?—I think it would be still greater than amongst the class outside the House.

1579. Do you mean the class labouring under the same sort of destitution?—I do.

1580. *Mr. Phelan.*—What are your reasons?—My principal reason is that children being collected together, there would be a liability of an Epidemic spreading; frequent admissions, from time to time, will always supply us with contagious disease, and once the disease is admitted, it will be always difficult to prevent it from spreading amongst the young class of children; it is a most usual circumstance for children outside this House to escape that disease until after they have got strong, whereas here I think our Infants will always be liable to run through the danger of Epidemics within their first two years, and we have had the melancholy results of that fact.

1581. *Mr. Roper.*—Do you think that the state of health of the children generally upon their admission into this House, would account for the mortality that has taken place amongst them?—Certainly not.

1582. Could you ever calculate upon an Establishment of this kind being twelve months free from an Epidemic?—I think not.

1583. Is it not possible to rear a child or any other animal so as to provide the means of

18th December, 1841.

Dr. Kirkpatrick.

temporary existence, and at the same time sow the seeds of premature decay and death?—I think so.

1584. *Mr. Hall.*—May I ask you whether it is impossible in an Establishment of this kind, to provide the means of sustaining the life of an Infant, without incurring the evil of premature decay and death?—I think it is possible.

1585. *Mr. Phelan.*—When you examine the Paupers every alternate Monday, do you make any record with regard to the state of health of the individual whom you have examined?—No, except with regard to Vaccination.

1586. What direction do you give a person who appears to you to be in such ill health as to require to be sent to Hospital?—I tell the Nurse to send the person up at once to Hospital, or I write the name of the person on a bit of paper, with the number of the Ward.

1587. Suppose there were a Book in the Probationary Ward, in which the names of those who were admitted by the Admission Board were entered for you, to save time, and in which Book you should record the disease of each person, who should appear to you to be ill, as a permanent record, omitting the name of any person who was not ill, would you consider it to be a good and sufficient mode of entry?—From what I have heard upon the investigation, I think such a Book necessary, but I think it would be a better plan to record the health of each person.

1588. If 20 be admitted upon a day, and 8 of that number were in ill health, would it not be a sufficient document to guide the Deputy Master to enter all those in good health who were not specified by you as in bad, and then leave him to adopt your entry of the persons who were in bad health?—I think it would not be sufficient.

1589. You think the Medical man ought to mention every case whether the Pauper should be in good or bad health?—I think he should be particular in entering the species of disease.

1590. *Mr. Barlow.*—I ask you whether you think it would be desirable if the column now supposed to be filled up by the Guardians were left in blank, and we were to send the Book into the Probationary Ward, and when you commenced your Medical examinations, fill it up in the proper form?—That would answer.

1591. *Mr. Phelan.*—Have you examined the Record of Sickness and Mortality?—Not very lately, I have looked over it.

1592. Do you consider that a correct Document, such as was intended by the Poor Law Commissioners?—I do not think it fully correct.

1593. Do you think it nearly correct?—I do not think it is near being correct.

1594. Are you in the habit of keeping that Book? do you make the entries in the Book in the cases of your own Patients?—Not all.

1595. Do you make many of them?—I make many of them, but I don't enter the name, the name is entered by another person. The disease is entered by us.

1596. Show me your hand-writing in this [a Book handed to Witness.]. From your examination of this Book, and the knowledge of its contents, do you think it is a correct Record?—As far as I can see, it is.

1597. Are you able to state of your own knowledge, if that is a correct Record?—I will not vouch for its correctness, I do not know of myself that it is correct; but I know of no inaccuracy in it.

1598. *Mr. Hall.*—Are you aware of this regulation of the Poor Law Commissioners, "*that the Medical Officers shall enter and accurately keep the Record of Sickness and Mortality, in which shall be inserted the name of every Pauper Patient under his care; the name of the disease, its date and termination; and make such other observation as he shall think fit to make?*"

1599. Have the Medical Officers understood that; have you satisfied yourself that the Book is kept in accordance with the instructions received?—I have not filled it up myself in all particulars, I will explain the way in which I kept the Book, if asked.

1600. How is the Book kept?—One of the Paupers enters the name of the person upon admission, he brings the Book to us and we state the Patient's disease. *Mr. Phelan* stated that the column of disease was perfectly useless.

1601. *Mr. Phelan.*—Did I desire you to discontinue it upon my authority?—You did not.

1602. Did you conceive I had authority to give you that direction?—I thought your's a very good opinion; I was heartily sick of the column before, and when backed by your opinion, I felt myself justified in not much attending to it.

1603. Did you copy the column correctly?—Correctly, I did. It is a difficult thing with one Book to make entries correctly, when I wanted the Book, *Dr. Duncan* had it, and when we both wanted it, it was in the Board-room. I would account for the omissions in the Book in some way by the difficulty of carrying about the Book.

1604. Do you think there should be two Books?—It would be a facility.

1605. Did you ask for a second Book?—No, and my reason was, I did not think it important.

1606. You alluded to the Column of Treatment. Do you think it important that the Column of Disease should be filled? Was that Column filled?—In most cases, if it could be done, it was filled.

1607. Suppose I was to show you, that out of 87 cases, (that being given as the number of deaths of Children under two,) the diseases of a great number were not entered at all; that out of 87, 42 only were entered, while 45 were not entered; would you say the Book was kept correctly?—No, but I would fill up the inaccuracies in 24 hours.

1608. But should not the Book be an accurate Record, so that from week to week, the Board or any authority might view it?—It is not accurate; the more important duties of our situation prevent it from being accurate.

1609. *Mr. Hall.*—Have not the Board of Guardians remarked upon the insufficiency and inaccuracy of the Book?—Yes. 18th December, 1841.

1610. They communicated it to you?—Yes. Dr. Kirkpatrick.

1611. How long ago?—Four or five months.

1612. You state that you could now supply the inaccuracies in the Book, from what source could you supply them?—From the Medical Prescription Books.

1613. Would there be any difficulty in filling up the Book as you went along?—No, but immense loss of time.

1614. Is there anything very voluminous in it?—Why, it would be very difficult to enter the cases of 350 Patients.

1615. Is not the name of the Patient filled up by somebody else?—Yes. I am free to admit the Book has not been filled up properly, and there are several omissions.

1616. Is there any other Book which gives a record of the patients?—There is another Book, in some degree similar, which enumerates the names of the persons in Hospital.

1617. Is not this the only Book to which the Board can look for the number of Patients in Hospital, or the nature of the diseases under which they labour, the treatment or the result of the disease?—It is the only Book to which the Guardians can look; but we can look to a great many others.

1618. Is it not important that the Board should have information whenever they please?—I did not deny that the keeping such a Book was useful.

1619. Were you not aware it was a prescribed duty of the Medical Officers to keep that Book?—I was.

1620. Then ought it not to have been kept?—I think it ought.

1621. Did you ever make any representation to the Board or the Commissioners that there was any serious impediment in the way of that Book being kept?—Verbally I did.

1622. What led you to form an opinion that the Book was not important?—When I was appointed a Surgeon to this house, I went to England to visit some of the English Workhouses for the purpose of ascertaining the precise duties which I was called upon to perform. I there asked some questions with regard to the Medical Books in Workhouses, and I found that, so far from their being accurately kept, in some instances there were no entries at all.

1623. *Mr. Phelan.*—And do you justify your not having kept the Books by the circumstance of such Books not having been kept in other places correctly?—No, but I give as a reason, that we had no communication from the Commissioners with regard to the importance of these Books when they were sent to us.

1624. Is not this the only Book in this Establishment by which the Guardians could know, not only the numbers sick, but their illness and their deaths?—Yes.

1625. Then the Guardians, not having that Book filled before them, would be unable to have the information which they might require, unless they applied to you to give it to them from private Books?—They would.

1626. Do you think your private Books the proper record?—I think there should be a Book of that kind.

1627. Don't you think it would give you more trouble to go over your notes and describe the Diseases for the Guardians than to keep a record of that kind from week to week?—I do.

Dr. Browne, called in and examined.

1628. *Mr. Phelan.*—I asked you for a return of the number of children prescribed for, from the commencement; have you made it out?—I have. Dr. Browne.

1629. Have you made out the return from looking over the Books?—In the first part of the account I made a great deal of it out from memory, for I had no record of the children, but they were so frequently coming to me that I knew their names. There were 218 children under treatment; 56 not. Those 56 might have required Medical assistance occasionally, but they were not under what I call "treatment." See Appendix No. 5.

Dr. Kirkpatrick, again examined.

1630. *Mr. Phelan.*—Have you had much Fever in the Workhouse?—No, very little. Dr. Kirkpatrick.

1631. Have the Nurses attending the children had Fever?—No.

1632. When Wards are crowded, is Fever a Disease that ensues—is it a Disease that follows from the over-crowding of Day-rooms or Dormitories?—Occasionally it does, but not invariably.

1633. Did Fever, not being connected with Measles or Hooping-cough, occur in the cases of one or many of those children under two years of age?—If you mean contagious Fever, I consider Infants are exempt from Fever.

1634. Do you consider Infants exempt from Fever?—Yes.

1635. Has Fever occurred amongst them?—No.

1636. As it has not occurred amongst the Nurses, how do you explain the circumstance of their being so free from it in Wards which are represented by you to be unwholesome, unventilated, and injurious to the lives of the Infants?—I explain it by the fact that this Establishment has not been at all subject or exposed to Fever.

1637. Is it not the opinion of many respectable Medical men that Fever is generated under certain circumstances, such as want of ventilation, crowded Rooms, and several other causes?—The causes of Fever which you mention are thought to produce it, by several Medical men.

18th December, 1841.

Dr. Kirkpatrick.

1638. As Fever has not prevailed in the Nurseries of this Establishment, is it not *prima facie* evidence in favour of the healthfulness of the Wards?—Many of the women lost their health in these Wards. It is *prima facie* evidence that they were exempt from Fever, and that the crowded state of the Room did not produce Fever.

1639. *Mr. Hall.*—Is Fever found to be the particular Disease which is generally generated by crowded and unwholesome dwellings?—Not generally, but frequently it is.

1640. Is it not in that particular way that crowded dwellings are supposed to be unwholesome, namely, their tendency to produce Fever?—Crowded dwellings frequently produce Fever, but there are other Diseases which they produce even more frequently.

1641. Have you found that Diseases prevail amongst the Mothers of those children that inhabit the Dormitories, stated to be so crowded?—We find that several of them lose their health from diarrhoea, hectic Fever, and other affections. Their health became impaired, and they were obliged to cease from Nursing.

1642. *Mr. Barlow.*—You have stated that you consider the Infants exempt from Fever?—I do.

1643. Which do you consider the Infants or Adults are most injured by bad atmosphere?—I think Infants are.

1644. Have any of the Mothers, in your opinion, suffered from living in the Dormitories, where their children are?—I do not remember.

1645. *Mr. Roper.*—Are Scrofulous Diseases ever produced from over-crowding?—They are.

1646. Is it possible to produce Scrofula without Fever?—I think so.

1647. Then it does not follow that Scrofula cannot be produced, because Fever has not been produced?—Decidedly not.

1648. Which is Scrofula or Fever more injurious to public health?—I think that Scrofula is far more destructive to human life.

1649. You think that the crowding together of persons tends to spread Scrofula?—Yes, it is an impression upon my mind that the sleeping together of Scrofulous persons spreads the disease.

1650. *Mr. Phelan.*—In answer to a former question, you said that out of 76 Patients who took Measles, 24 died?—I stated so.

1651. You stated that only one of them died of Measles connected with Croup, and that the remaining 23 died of Consumption?—Not a Patient died of Measles alone.

1652. Do you mean to imply that those 24 died not from Measles, but from Consumption?—I mean that the 24 died in consequence of the delicate state of health in which they were, when attacked by the Measles.

1653. Do you consider that an answer to my question?—I do not mean to imply that the Measles had no share in hurrying the death of the child.

1654. When a child is taken ill of Measles, and dies within 10 days or a fortnight, of what is that child, in the ordinary acceptation of the word, said to die?—What do you mean by the ordinary acceptation of the word?

1655. I mean, for instance, when a child takes Measles, and dies in a few days, what is it said by the public to have died of?—Of Measles.

1656. How soon did the children who were attacked with Measles, come under your observation and treatment after they were attacked?—Immediately.

1657. Then you had them upon the 1st or 2nd day?—I had them upon the 1st or 2nd day after the eruption.

1658. At what time do you think the eruption subsides, and the Patient may be said to have passed through the disease?—In an ordinary case, the eruption commences upon the 4th or 5th day, and subsides by the 12th or 13th day.

1659. Would you say that the child goes through the Measles on the 13th day?—No, a Feverish condition of body remains, accompanied with a Cough.

1660. Is not that Feverish condition produced by the Measles?—I think so.

1661. You stated in your answer that the children who died, did not die of Measles, but of Consumption?—My answer was, that no child died of Measles alone, that is, Measles unaccompanied with other diseases.

1662. Is it usual for children to die of Measles without a complication of diseases?—It frequently happens.

1663. Of what disease do they then die?—Of Measles when it is of a bad nature.

1664. With what symptoms?—The whole symptoms of Fever succeed. When they have had Measles they often die before their chests are much affected; I have from you a Return of the 24 cases alluded to—24 deaths from Measles; upon examining the Return and comparing it with that made by the Clerk, I find that 14 died within a period of from 5 to 9 days; the average duration of their illness being $7\frac{1}{3}$ days.

1665. Do you consider that those died of any other disease than Measles?—They died in consequence of a previous Scrofulous condition of the body.

1666. That is, they had bad constitutions and they sunk under the Measles?—I consider that they were diseased before they were attacked by Measles.

1667. Do you consider they died of Measles from having been previously of bad condition of body?—They sunk under the Measles, having been previously in an actually diseased state of body.

1668. Would you or any other Medical, or unprofessional person say that the children died from any disease except Measles?—I would.

1669. Of what disease would you say that they died?—I would say that they died in

consequence of their consumptive state of body: there are two causes tending to produce death, one was primitive, namely, Consumption, the other exciting, being Measles. 18th December, 1841.

1670. Were the children in Consumption before they took the Measles?—I think so.

Dr. Kirkpatrick.

1671. Were they under your care for Consumption before the Measles?—Many of them were not.

1672. How did it happen that many were not under your care?—The disease was latent, and had not attracted the attention of the Nurses who were taking care of the children whom the disease had attacked.

1673. Did not you, or your Colleague, see them upon coming into the Establishment?—We did.

1674. And if they were in Consumption would you not have put them under treatment?—Some of them were healthy upon their admission.

1675. Could you give a return of those who were healthy, and those who were not?—Yes, I could.

1676. Will you say, upon further consideration respecting a Patient who comes under your care in Measles, no matter whether he was in delicate or sound health previously, and dies within a period of from 5 to 9 days afterwards, that any other disease but Measles has caused his death?—I would wish to enquire into all the causes of death, and would attribute the death to the united causes.

1677. Are you of opinion that the 14 children you have mentioned died from any disease but Measles?—They died in consequence of a previous Scrofulous condition of body.

1678. Will you state of what other diseases they died—did they not die within the period during which a Patient is suffering under Measles?—They did; they died during the period of Measles.

1679. Were they affected with the symptoms of Consumption?—They had all the symptoms of Inflammation of the Lungs.

1680. Of what disease did those ten Patients die within the tenth day?—They died from a complication of diseases. They had Measles, Inflammation of the Lungs, and Scrofula.

1681. Contrasting the two classes of cases, would it not appear that the ten passed into Consumption, while the former fourteen died in active Measles?—It is by no means evident, it merely shows that the disease progressed.

1682. Did you mark in a Book the cases of those who died in a short period?—I marked the result of the post mortem examination in my Book.

1683. But before you made the examination, did you enter it in a Book?—No, and I never do so.

1684. Suppose you had no opportunity of making a post mortem examination could you give an opinion accurately?—No.

1685. Have you ever stated the cause of a person's death without a post mortem examination?—I have, and I have been wrong.

1686. Would you, if you attended a Private Family, and one of its Members died, refuse to give, if asked, your opinion of the cause of that individual's death?—No, I think not.

1687. Having made the post mortem examination, did you enter in your Book, the disease of which the Patient died?—I find that persons have died of Tubercles in the Lungs or Ulcerations in the Intestines, but in all the cases the entry is made of Tubercles.

1688. *Mr. Hall.*—In any one of those cases, do you recollect what entry is made as to the cause of death, or the nature of the disease?—I have not made a single observation in the Record upon the subject. The Clerk that *Mr. Browne* employed merely made the entry as to the day of the person's death; the disease is entered in all these cases accurately.

1689. When the disease is entered as Measles upon the Pauper's admission, and a new disease afterwards sets in, do you allow the original disease to remain, as the disease of which the Patient died?—That Record is most imperfect for giving information on the subject.

1690. Have you suggested any more perfect one to be prepared for you, and your Colleague?—No.

1691. Are you not aware that this Record, if properly kept, would give the requisite information?—It would give some, but not upon the points at present investigated; it would be very insufficient indeed upon those points.

1692. *Mr. Phelan.*—You have given in your Return, that some Patients suffered from Hooping Cough, others from Pneumonia, were those recent cases, or of long standing?—Some were recent, some were of long standing, the greater number were recent.

Dr. Kirkpatrick at the conclusion of his Evidence said he wished to make an explanation in reference to a portion of Evidence given by him. *Dr. Phelan* had asked him whether he preferred his or *Dr. Duncan's* calculation. He said he preferred that both should go before the Public, and he gave his reason at the time, but he feared he did so too indistinctly for the Gentlemen of the Press to understand him, he therefore wished to repeat his reason, which was, that if *Dr. Duncan's* calculation went before the Public, alone, it would be misunderstood, and persons would suppose that 63 out of 100 admitted into the House were consigned to their graves, that he was right in supposing that many of his friends misunderstood *Dr. Duncan's* calculation.

1693. *Mr. Phelan.*—Is it a fact that 63 per cent. of the children admitted into the Workhouse under 2 years of age have died in the House?—I think not.

18th December, 1841.

Dr. Kirkpatrick.

1694. Have you calculated what proportion to the number admitted, have died in the House?—No.

1695. *Mr. Roper.*—Are you aware of the principle upon which Dr. Duncan made that calculation?—Yes, he explained it to me.

1696. Have you ever taken the trouble to know Mr. M'Culloch's mode of calculation?—Never.

1697. Then you cannot inform me whether Dr. Duncan's principle and Mr. M'Culloch's principle are the same?—I believe they are.

Dr. Duncan, again called in and examined, by Mr. Phelan.

Dr. Duncan.

1698. Have you examined the Record of Sickness and Mortality lately?—I have.

1699. Is it kept in accordance with the headings of the columns?—I think not latterly.

1700. Within what time do you make it?—A good many months.

1701. Have you examined it lately?—I was looking over it the other day.

1702. Are all the cases treated by you, entered in it, disease and period of death?—Not all of the early ones.

1703. Are you aware that a great many of the cases have not the necessary entry in the column with regard to the disease?—Generally speaking of my cases, they have with very few exceptions.

1704. When a Patient dies, how is his death notified to the Board by the Medical Officers?—There has been no regular notification to the Board.

1705. What authority has the Deputy Master who copies the Record for entering the name of the Patient?—None from us, he sends round and enquires.

1706. Are you aware that the entry of death in the Record Book, and in the Return made by the Clerk, is in several instances different?—Yes, I believe so.

1707. Is not that a circumstance that should not happen; should there not be a certain mode of communicating to the Board the death of the Paupers, so that all the Records should agree?—No mode was prescribed to us for making such a communication to any body.

1708. Would it not occur to yourself that some Memorandum would be necessary?—I have always entered it as of the time when the case occurred, except when a case takes place at night, between the period of one visit and another, it may occasionally be set down as having occurred on the evening of one day or the morning of the other.

1709. *Mr. Hall.*—Are you aware that it is your duty, under a regulation of the Commissioners, "to ascertain and report to the Board of Guardians, the probable cause and circumstances of every death which may take place in the Workhouse?"—Yes, I was.

1710. What course have you taken in compliance with the regulation of the Commissioners?—We applied to the Board to be permitted to make a return weekly. Upon the 6th of January, 1841, we entered in our Report the following observations:—"It would be very satisfactory to the Medical Officers, as well as, they imagine, to the Board, to have a weekly return of the cause of death in each instance, appended to the Report; but for many reasons it would not be advisable to have that return published in a Newspaper."—By which, we meant that there should be a written statement, that such and such a person died of Consumption, or any other disease of which he or she might have died; that was my reason for not taking any further steps about the matter. We reported to the Board to have those things notified to the Board regularly from week to week, and they said that whenever they required the information they would apply to us for it. We made application to the Board, stating our readiness to communicate the death and circumstances attendant upon the death of each Pauper, but their answer was, that when they wanted the information from us, they would apply to us for it.

1711. Would not the more direct course have been to have complied with the regulations of the Commissioners, and have made the Report which they required, and to have continued to make such Reports till the Board informed you they considered them objectionable?—We were never required to keep a Record of the deaths that occur in the Workhouse, further than our own Record of sickness. The Record of deaths is kept by the Assistant Master.

1712. I am not speaking of that, but of one of the regulations laid down for the Medical Officers, namely, "to ascertain and report to the Board the probable cause and circumstances of every death."—What steps have you taken to comply with this regulation?—We made application upon the 6th January, 1840, and got an answer.

1713. What steps had you previously taken?—Not any; partly from not being aware of our duties.

1714. So there has not been any authentic report of the probable causes of deaths?—No.

1715. *Mr. Phelan.*—Is it your opinion that it is desirable this should be done?—Certainly.

1716. *Mr. Barlow.*—Did I understand you to say the Board did not wish you to report the cause of deaths in particular, or not report at all?—We reported.

1717. You advised all the cases to be inserted—they recommended that it should not be done; but did you understand them to direct that there should not be any entry of the deaths made, or reported to the Board?—Certainly not.

1718. *Mr. Phelan.*—Are you in the habit of treating the lighter cases in the Wards, without sending them to Hospital?—We prescribe for some children in the Nursery.

1719. But where a Patient becomes so ill as to require to be sent to Hospital, you transfer the Patient to it?—Yes.

18th December, 1841.

Dr. Duncan.

1720. Has the Hospital ever been so crowded as to prevent your doing so?—Oh! yes.

1721. You leave the Patient in the Dormitory, then?—We are obliged to do so.

1722. How many such cases have you had?—Very few. Scarcely any.

1723. Has Fever ever occurred amongst the Nurses in charge of those children?—There was one case, and only one, that I now remember. That was a very bad case indeed.

1724. Should you expect that Fever would occur under the circumstances, namely, crowding of rooms, and want of ventilation in the Dormitory and Day-room?—I would.

1725. Yet it has not occurred frequently?—Not frequently.

1726. Fever is of rare occurrence amongst Infant children, is it not?—It is.

1727. *Mr. Hall.*—You mention one case of Fever—how many more occurred?—There may have been more, but I will not charge my memory distinctly with it.

1728. *Mr. Phelan.*—But the number was very few, was it not?—Yes.

1729. I find by a return which you have sent me, that of 50 deaths which took place in Patients under your care, 27 were cases of a more or less acute character, and 23 of a chronic nature; the deaths are thus classed:—12 of Consumption; 5 of Hooping Cough; 5 of Inflammation of the Lungs, connected with Consumption; 3 of Scarletina; 9 of Water in the Head; 2 of Small Pox; 2 of Convulsions; 3 of Inflammation of the mucous membrane of the Lungs; 4 of Measles. You stated that the Patients who got colds, died slowly of Consumption, or of affection of the Lungs; I find here a case of Measles, which terminated fatally upon the 6th day after you began to treat it; I find that another died upon the 6th day of Croup and Measles; another died upon the 6th day; a fourth upon the 11th day; a fifth upon the 17th day. Now of what disease do you consider the two first Patients in the list died?—Of acute Pneumonia, the Tubercles were very small, and had not made much progress, but they were sufficiently distinct to be observed.

1730. Would you not have said in ordinary language that was a death from Measles?—No, I would have said it was a death from Pneumonia, and that had the child lived, she would have fallen into Consumption.

1731. Did she not die within the period during which Measles is an active disease?—No, I think not, it was the Consumption, and not the disease which killed her.

1732. If you attended a person's child for Measles, and it died within the 6th, 9th, or 10th day, and he asked you did it die from Measles, would you, or would you not say it had died from that disease?—I believe a child may die of Measles without any complication of diseases, but I believe that the child of whom I speak did not die in this way.

1733. What I want to know is, if a certain number of children take Measles upon the 1st of January, and die within six days, no matter what complication of diseases may have affected them, will not the community regard the cases to have been cases of Measles?—I think it right to speak correctly of a disease.

1734. Will the community understand that correct phraseology?—I think they will.

1735. You then will not consider the Public justified in saying that a Child died of Measles, if she or he happened to have an affection of the lungs, or a complication of diseases previously?—We would assign the proper cause of every disease.

1736. Do you think they would understand a person who said this was the cause of the death?—I think that if a Medical Man said that was the cause of death they would understand him.

1737. You have the admission of a Child into Hospital on the 30th September, and its death on the 1st of October—Is it usual to transfer a person from the Nursery to Hospital in Consumption?—[No answer].

1738. You stated that the number of cubic feet of air necessary for an individual was 666 in the 24 hours?—Yes.

1739. Are you still of that opinion?—I am.

Mr. Phelan.—I have here an authority, Sir H. Davy, that concurs with the space afforded in the Dormitories here, and which computes the number of cubic feet of air necessary for the respiration of a person during 24 hours to be 500 feet, that is 250 feet for the 12 hours.

Dr. Duncan.—I can also bring Mr. Phelan the authority of Dr. Alison of Edinburgh, upon the subject.

Mr. Phelan.—He is very good authority upon any subject.

1740. You allow as much air for an Infant as for an Adult?—I do, because an Infant respire more frequently than an Adult.

1741. When you spoke of your calculation respecting the mortality of Infants, did you mean that 63 per cent. of the Infants had died in this Workhouse?—I did; within the first year, and amongst that class.

1742. Have you calculated what the mortality has been amongst that class, for a longer period?—No, I have not, but I expect it would be more favourable.

1743. If you had expected it, why did you not supply the information to Mr. Roper?—Because I had not time to do so.

1744. Did it not occur to you, that if it was not your duty to prepare a return which would correct an excessive computation of mortality at one period, that at least such a return would be a desirable one, for the Board and the Commissioners to possess?—I am quite willing to make a return of the most favourable year, in reference to the mortality of the Children.

1745. Why not make it from the 1st of May, 1840, to the 1st of December, 1841?—I have no objection to do it, if you give me time to make the calculation. I have no wish to conceal or exaggerate any fact.

1746. *Mr. Hall.*—Was the mortality of 63 per cent. amongst children under 2 years old?—Yes.

1747. *Mr. Phelan.*—But you are aware that if you made the computation from the 1st.

18th December, 1841.

Dr. Duncan.

of May, 1840, to the 1st of December, 1841, it would be more favourable?—I suspect it may be more favourable—I do not know exactly.

1748. In this list of diseases which represents 50 Patients to have died, are there not many of the natural causes which lead to the death of children in other places as well as in this Workhouse, such as Measles, Inflammation of the lungs, Small Pox, Scarletina, and so on?—There are; but it was the mode and circumstance under which these cases terminated fatally which led me to form the opinion which I did.

1749. Are not children who are congregated together in a place like this Workhouse, much more liable to be attacked by contagious diseases than the community at large?—They are.

1750. Will it not be an inducement for a woman who has a sick child to apply to the Workhouse for relief, when she knows that it will be provided with Hospital and Medical attendance?—Certainly.

1751. There have been several cases of water on the head, at what age does that Disease generally occur?—It generally occurs in the case of young children, at the period of dentition which is about the 8th month.

1752. There are 9 cases here, all of which are under a year old, several under 6 months; have you found water on the head of more frequent occurrence amongst an equal number of children in the House, than outside of the House?—I think it is more frequent inside the Institution, but we have had several cases that have been cured.

1753. Have you any recollection whether the children who have been discharged from this House have been, comparatively speaking, in worse or better health than those children who remained in the House?—I cannot speak with regard to the children who have been discharged, because I have no record respecting them, and they left the House rather suddenly, without our previous knowledge.

1754. Would you consider the fact of their having gone from the House as an indication that their health was good or bad?—I don't think the circumstance, taken in the abstract, is any evidence of the fact; many that left the House left it, I think, in consequence of the children falling into a bad state of health; I have known cases of that nature.

1755. Will you have the kindness to look to that paper—is it written by you, (handing a number of the "Medical Press" to witness)?—It is written by me.

Mr. Phelan then read the following paragraph from the Publication:—"I think it due to my Colleague, Dr. Kirkpatrick and myself, to correct a statement reported to have been made by Mr. Phelan, and the Master of the North Dublin Workhouse, at the meeting of the Board of Guardians last Wednesday, after we had retired from the Room, namely, that we are not in the habit of inspecting the Paupers until several days after their admission."

1756. Did you ask me if I had so stated?—No.

1757. Would you not upon consideration have thought it more desirable to have asked me about the fact, instead of inserting it in a Publication without consulting me upon the subject?—The statement to which I alluded went forward before the Public, it was not contradicted, and I think it was calculated to injure me and my Colleague in the eyes of the Public and the Profession.

1758. Would it not have been a more regular mode of proceeding if you had consulted me before you published such a letter?—It would have been more satisfactory if I had first asked you had you made use of the observation, and then written the letter, but I considered it necessary to correct a public misstatement.

1759. When you saw the misstatement in the papers that 6 of the Children were in bad health and 94 in good, upon their admission, did you take any step as one of the Medical Officers of the Institution to correct it?—I corrected a statement made by Mr. Roper, at the Board of Guardians.

1760. Did you take any step to correct the misstatement to which I refer?—I think I am at liberty to correct any statement which is calculated to injure my own character, and I leave the defence of the Board of Guardians to themselves.

1761. Don't you consider it your duty as a Medical Officer to correct any misrepresentation that occurs?—Not through the Public Press.

1762. Did you place any document before the Board or any of the Authorities of the Institution, correcting the misstatement?—I did not see the misstatement till after the meeting of the Board when the subject was discussed, and then I took the opportunity of disclosing my mind freely, particularly as I was asked to do so.

1763. *Mr. Roper.*—How far do you consider that the statement contained in the resolution I brought forward, was erroneous?—In stating that all the hundred children were in good health upon their admission except six.

1764. Does it not appear by our Books that they were so?—I cannot say—I have not seen it.

1765. From whom do you believe I obtained the Return upon which I founded that resolution?—From the Clerk of the Board.

1766. Do you believe that the condition in which those children came into the Workhouse was sufficient to account for the Mortality that has taken place amongst them?—No, I do not.

1767. Do you think that the Mortality which has taken place was sufficient to call for the Investigation that has been carried on in reference to it?—I do, quite sufficient.

1768. Have you made any calculation as to the rate of Mortality amongst the Children born in this House since its opening?—I have made a calculation, it is here.

1769. Have you made it the same way in which you made the other calculation?—Not exactly. I think this is a more favourable way to the Institution.

1770. Is it equally correct?—I don't know that it is, because it refers only to a certain period of time, and the rate of Mortality outside the House is not inserted. "The total Births from the opening of the Workhouse up to December 15th, 1841, were 35. Of these only 5 were delicate Children, the rest were strong and healthy. The Deaths were 11; 1 was dying when discharged, and is since dead; 2 died since re-admission; 11 have left the House, and have not since been heard of. Of those remaining in the House, 1 twelve months old, is very delicate; 2 under twelve months, are delicate; and 7 are in good health. The average time spent by each of the Survivors now in the House, and those discharged, but not heard of, is 88 days. To ascertain the rate of Mortality per cent. for one year it is necessary to calculate the probable number of deaths in these 20 children for the remaining portion of a year, viz. 257 days. This, at the most favourable calculation, of 18 per cent. per Annum, which is about that of London, for children under 1 year, of all classes, would give 2.57 to be added to 14, the actual number of deaths as above shown, which would make the rate of Mortality to be 47.2 per cent. per Annum."

1771. *Mr. Barlow.*—Did the 11 children specified in the Return, die of an Epidemic?—No, they did not; they died of different diseases.

[Witness then referred to a Table, for which see Appendix.]

1772. *Mr. Roper.*—Have the Infants born in the House any advantages over other Infants received here?—They have; for a considerable time they are kept in a fine airy room; they are not at all crowded.

1773. In what state were they born?—They were fine healthy children.

1774. Do you think if this class of inmates were deprived of their airy room, and heated like the rest, the mortality amongst them would be greater or less?—I think it would be greater if they were sent out early from the Lying-in Ward.

1775. *Mr. Sinnot.*—Do you think are many of the Mothers labouring under depression of spirits?—No, I would think not.

1776. *Mr. Roper.*—Have you been in the habit of attending the Workhouse more than once a-day?—I have.

1777. What is the greatest number of times you visited a Patient in the 24 hours?—I repeatedly visited the Workhouse three times a-day; sometimes four times.

1778. How can you prove this?—From the testimony of the Nurses, and that of Mr. Browne, the Apothecary.

1779. What is the earliest or the latest hour at which you have visited this Workhouse?—Between 7 and 8 o'clock in the morning, and 11 and 12 o'clock at night.

1780. Are you aware of Mr. Phelan's Report upon the Medical department of the Workhouse?—I read it.

1781. What did he say of the way in which the Medical and Surgical duties are performed in this Establishment?—He said they were faithfully discharged.

1782. Had he made an examination of this House previously, so as to enable himself to form an opinion on the subject?—I believe so, but I cannot speak accurately upon the matter, as I was not in town at the time.

1783. *Dr. Brady (to Witness).*—In the absence of Dr. Kirkpatrick, I wish to know if what you have said in reference to your visits to this Institution, equally applies to him or to yourself?—He has been here repeatedly at night.

Dr. Duncan then tendered as Witnesses, many of the Mothers of children who had died in the House, to be examined.

Mr. Hall stated that he did not consider it at all necessary to examine the Witnesses tendered by *Dr. Duncan*, in order to corroborate his testimony; but added, that if pressed to examine them, he would do so.

Dr. Duncan did not press the point.

Mr. Roper, at the conclusion of the Investigation, said that some of his brother Guardians had considered that the Investigation was unnecessary, others regarded it as too long; but there was one point upon which he made no doubt they should all agree, namely, that nothing could exceed the fair and gentlemanly manner in which it had been conducted by *Mr. Hall*; and that he had given every fair latitude in the Examination of Witnesses that could possibly be expected from him, in his official capacity. Whether he himself had been right or wrong in the course that he had taken, should be decided by a more extended circle than the North Dublin Board of Guardians. None of them were infallible; but he had acted upon full deliberation in pursuing the course he had done; and with every good feeling and respect for the opinion of his brother Guardians, he should always assert his right as an independent member of the Board, to act as his own conscience might direct, without reference to any agreement or disagreement with others, as to the means or the mode of redressing grievances which he believed existed.

Dr. Brady said that he fully concurred in anything which had fallen from *Mr. Roper*, in reference to the courteous, fair, and gentlemanly manner in which the Investigation had been carried on; and he was equally satisfied that *Mr. Roper* was actuated in bringing forward his resolution, by the most honourable motives; but at the same time, he felt satisfied that they possessed sufficient machinery within the walls of the Institution to remedy the evils complained of, and he looked forward to the time when they would be able to make that machinery effective.

CLOSE OF THE INQUIRY.

By order of the Board
W. STANLEY, Assistant Secretary.

18th December, 1841.

Dr. Duncan.

APPENDIX.

No. 1.

Extract of a Letter from the Poor Law Commissioners to the Clerk of the North Dublin Union.

POOR LAW COMMISSION OFFICE, DUBLIN,
31st March, 1840.

SIR,—The Poor Law Commissioners having, by their Order under Seal, bearing date the 23rd instant, declared the House of Industry of Dublin, the Workhouse of the North Dublin Union, fit for the reception of Destitute Poor, wish to direct the Guardians' attention to certain points requiring their especial consideration in administering the relief provided by Law.

Great caution will be necessary at the outset in granting admissions to the Workhouse, even to those poor persons of whose destitution the Guardians entertain no doubt; for a large influx at first, before due preparation has been made, and before the Union Functionaries have been properly trained and prepared, might not only cause much suffering, but also bring discredit on the Workhouse system of relief.

The number of admissions should therefore be regulated according to the means of accommodation actually existing in the Workhouse, and all the inmates should be duly classified, clothed, and provisioned, in accordance with the Workhouse Regulations; for unless the organization of the Establishment be strictly enforced in every department, as prescribed by the Regulations, the Workhouse will not be effective as a medium of relief, or as a test of destitution. Too much care cannot be given to this subject, and more especially at the outset.

By order of the Board,

W. STANLEY, *Assistant Secretary.*

To the Clerk of the North Dublin Union.

No 2.

Copy of a Letter from the Poor Law Commissioners to the Clerk of the North Dublin Union.

POOR LAW COMMISSION OFFICE, DUBLIN,
19th May, 1840.

SIR,—As the Guardians of the North Dublin Union are now rapidly proceeding with the admission of destitute poor persons into the Workhouse, the Poor Law Commissioners are desirous of directing their immediate and careful attention to certain points, on which the future well-working of the Union will mainly depend.

The Commissioners consider it of great importance that the Guardians should select for admission from among the numerous applicants for relief, only such a moderate number at any one sitting of the Board, as can be conveniently cleaned, classified, placed in their proper wards, and registered, in course of that and the following day. And the Commissioners are of opinion that it would tend materially to the efficiency of the Workhouse, if, previously to the admission of Paupers on any day fixed for that purpose, the Board of Guardians were to receive from their Visiting Committee, a report as to the condition of the Paupers already in the House, stating whether they had all been disposed of in accordance with the Regulations.

The Guardians are aware that all the Officers of the Workhouse are bound to observe and enforce the Regulations in every particular; this can be readily done if no undue pressure is brought upon them by the admission of the Paupers in large numbers at a time, but if the Paupers are admitted in unmanageable numbers, and without due precaution, great evil must ensue.

The Regulations will be disregarded, and disorderly practices will be introduced into the Establishment, which it will be extremely difficult afterwards to eradicate.

The Workhouse, in the absence of strict discipline, will become a place to which the idle will resort, to the exclusion of those who are real objects of charity.

The Officers of the House will be discredited, and incur the consequences of incapacity, or an apparent necessity will arise for a staff of Officers and servants more numerous than would be otherwise required: the Registry will be imperfectly kept, the Admissions and Discharges incorrectly entered, and the Accounts of the Union will consequently become confused; and finally, the system of relief which the Guardians have to administer will appear (what when properly administered it is not) insufficient for the object in view.

These mischiefs are obviously most likely to arise upon the first opening of the Workhouse, when the importunate claims of so many poor persons will be urged either by themselves, or in their behalf, upon the Guardians' attention; and it is the more to be apprehended in the case of the Dublin Unions, from the circumstance that their Workhouses being opened while no relief under the Poor Law is given in the neighbourhood, are attracting from all parts of the surrounding country those poor persons who need, or who profess to need, such relief.

The only way of guarding against the evils apprehended, is for the Guardians to be vigilant and wary at the outset; to take care that from the very first step the system of management prescribed by the Regulations be scrupulously maintained; that cleanliness, order, and discipline, be at once enforced, as well as the two important particulars of classification and employment, and that the Accounts and Registries required to be kept, be never suffered to fall into arrear.

It is incumbent on the Board of Guardians so to restrict the admission of Paupers as to secure these objects, and also to see that the Visiting Committee, the Finance Committee, and every other Committee appointed to superintend any special department of the administration, perform its functions diligently and punctually.

The Poor Law Commissioners will at all times be ready to aid the Guardians in acting upon the foregoing suggestions, and in carrying out the system in all respects.

By order of the Board,

W. STANLEY, *Assistant Secretary.*

To the Clerk of the North Dublin Union.

No. 3.

ANSWERS TO QUERY No. 9, IN GUARDIANS' VISITING COMMITTEE BOOK.

QUERY 9.—Are the Young Children properly Nursed and taken care of, and do they appear in a clean and healthy state?

DATE.	ANSWERS.
1840,—May 29.	Tolerably so.
July 4.	Properly nursed and cared, but not separated from the able-bodied women.
11.	We believe they are properly taken care of.
" 18.	Many of the Children (Females) have sore eyes, and are in their beds.
25.	Yes. In general they are.
Aug. 24.	Properly taken care of, and the general appearance is healthy.
" 31.	Several Children suffering from Ophthalmia.
Sept. 9.	The Children are clean, and appear to be healthy.
16.	We think so.
28.	They are.
Oct. 5.	They appear to be in a healthy state.
12.	The Children in general appear to be in a healthy and cleanly state
19.	Yes.
26.	They appear to be in health and cleanly.
Nov. 2.	We believe they are well taken care of, and appear healthy.
9.	They are, but the floor of the Room is in a sad state.
15.	Yes.
23.	Yes.
30.	Yes.
Dec. 9.	Yes.
16.	The young Children are taken proper care of, we believe.
23.	No complaint.
30.	We believe so.
1841,—Jan. 11.	We believe so.
18.	Improving.
Feb. 1.	Yes.
8.	We consider that they are taken good care of.
15.	They appear to be well cared.
March 1.	They are properly nursed and well cared, but have not a very healthy appearance.
7.	They appear so.
April 5.	Yes, the Ward or Day-room not well ventilated.
12.	Yes.
19.	Yes.
" 26.	Two Nurses, Paupers, were dismissed for inattention, and for purloining the food of the Children.
May 5.	Yes,—an alteration in the care of the Infant Children has been recommended.
10.	They appear to be properly taken care of.
17.	The answer of last week applicable to this week.
26.	Yes.
" "	Yes.
June 23.	They are and they do. No reason to think otherwise. Yes.
July 20.	They appear to be so.
26.	Yes. Yes.
Aug. 16.	Yes.
23.	No complaints.
30.	Yes.
Sept. 6.	Yes.
13.	They are cleanly and seem improved in health, from my former visit.
20.	Several Children in Measles, and some with sore eyes.
Oct. 6.	Many have been suffering from Measles, and consequent illness.
" "	As well as can be reasonably expected.
" "	So far as we can know.
Nov. 1.	We believe they are. Such Children as have been attacked with Measles, &c. are delicate in appearance.
15.	We see no cause for complaining.
24.	We heard no complaints, and in general we found the Children clean in their persons.
Dec. 1.	They are.
" "	As well as can be expected, under the circumstances.
" "	They are much crowded in the Nursery, the Day-room should be altered.

20th December, 1841.

* These Answers do not apply to Children under 2 years of Age, but to those from 2 to 5.

J. H. CREAN.

N

No. 4.

DIMENSIONS OF ROOMS IN THE NORTH DUBLIN UNION WORKHOUSE.

Day-room in able-bodied Women's Yard.

103 feet long,
15 feet 3 inches wide,
8 feet 6 inches high at side,
12 feet 3 inches high at middle,
No. 9, Windows in the Room, 5 size of 5 feet 3 inches by 3 feet 9 inches; and 4 size of 3 feet 9 inches by 3 feet,
No. 2, Louvre boarded Ventilators, 3 feet square and 2 feet 6 inches high.

Day-room in able-bodied Men's Yard.

105 feet long,
15 feet 3 inches wide,
8 feet 6 inches high at side,
12 feet 3 inches in middle,
No. 9, Windows in the Room, 5 size of 5 feet 3 inches by 3 feet 9 inches; and 4 size of 3 feet 9 inches by 3 feet.
No. 2, Louvre boarded Ventilators, 3 feet square and 2 feet 6 inches high.

Day-room in aged Men's Yard.

88 feet long,
15 feet 3 inches wide,
8 feet 6 inches high, side,
12 feet 3 inches in middle,
No. 7, Windows, 3 size of 5 feet 3 inches by 2 feet 6 inches, and 4 size of 3 feet by 2 feet 6 inches.
No. 2, Louvre boarded Ventilators, 3 feet square and 2 feet 6 inches high, each.

Day-room in aged Women's Yard.

64 feet long,
15 feet 3 inches wide,
8 feet 6 inches high at side,
12 feet 3 inches high in middle,
No. 6, Windows, 3 size of 5 feet 3 inches by 2 feet 6 inches, and 3 size of 3 feet by 2 feet 6 inches.
No. 2, Louvre boarded Ventilators, 3 feet square and 2 feet 6 inches high.

No. 5.

RETURN made by Mr. BROWN, Apothecary to the Workhouse.

From the opening of the House, Infants under Medical treatment from time to time, ... 218
Infants not under treatment, 56

No. 6.

ABSTRACT of 50 fatal cases of Disease in Children under 2 years of Age, treated by Dr. Duncan from the opening of the Workhouse up to December, 1841.

Hooping Cough succeeded by Pneumonia,	1	Measles terminated by Croup,	3
Hooping Cough succeeded by Consumption,	4	Measles terminated by Pneumonia and Tubercles,	1
Pneumonia succeeded by a fit,	2	Small Pox,	2
Pneumonia succeeded by Consumption,	3	Congestive Bronchitis,	2
Consumption,	13	Pneumonia,	1
Diphtherite,	1	Pemphigus Gangrenosus,	2
Scarletina succeeded by Diphtherite,	2	Convulsions,	3
Scarletina succeeded by Odenia of the Glottis,	1		
Hydrocephalus,	9		50

No. 7.

A RETURN of Infants born in the North Dublin Union Workhouse from the 2nd Sept., 1840, to the 15th Dec., 1841.

No. on Register.	Names of Infants.	Date of Birth.	No. of Deaths.	No. of Discharges.	No. Remaining.	(Date of each Death, or Discharge.	Age of each Infant at Death, or Discharge.	Total Number.	OBSERVATIONS.
1698	Ryan, Thomas,	2nd Sept., 1840.	1			10th Dec., 1840.	3 months & 8 days.	1	Delicate, left in bad health, died since.
1699	Tynan, Michael,	5th Sept., 1840.	2			10th October, 1840.	1 month & 5 days.	2	
1959	Thompson, Mary,	7th Oct., 1840.	1			20th Feb., 1841.	4 months & 13 days.	3	Delicate from birth.
2175	Martin, Mary Anne,	9th Nov., 1840.	1		1	remaining in House.		4	Healthy at birth.
2180	Dug, Eliza,	11th Nov., 1840.	2			19th April, 1841.	5 months & 8 days.	5	Healthy, took Hydrocephalus.
2343	Wright, Mary,	7th Dec., 1840.	3			6th February, 1841.	2 months.	6	Healthy.
2448	King, Eliza,	21st Dec., 1840.	3			29th Jan., 1841.	1 month & 8 days.	7	Fine child, Measles, fit.
2485	Ryan, Stephen,	28th Dec., 1840.	4			22nd March, 1841.	2 months & 22 days.	8	Bronchitis, fit.
2769	Gordon, Patrick,	20th Jan., 1841.	4			14th April, 1841.	2 months & 25 days.	9	Healthy.
2770	Quinlan, Eliza,	22nd Jan., 1841.	5			3rd March, 1841.	31 days.	10	Healthy, subsequently received, now delicate.
2967	Doolan, Patrick,	12th Feb., 1841.	5			1st October, 1841.	7 months & 17 days.	11	Healthy.
2968	Curry, Mary,	15th Feb., 1841.	6			18th Sept., 1841.	7 months & 3 days.	12	Healthy till she took the Measles.
2969	Hall, Edward,	15th Feb., 1841.	6			24th July, 1841.	5 months & 9 days.	13	
3046	Whiteside, William,	24th Feb., 1841.	7			14th June, 1841.	3 months & 18 days.	14	Healthy on Discharge.
3233	Clarke, Ellen,	29th March, 1841.	8			24th June, 1841.	2 months & 25 days.	15	Healthy on Discharge, died since.
3234	Kavanagh, Catherine,	29th March, 1841.	7			14th June, 1841.	2 months & 15 days.	16	Delicate.
3280	Donnelly, Patrick,	14th April, 1841.			2	remaining in House.		17	Healthy.
3408	Cavanagh, Mary,	3rd May, 1841.			3	remaining in House.		18	Named <i>Fallow</i> , Healthy.
3523	Clelland, Alexander,	31st May, 1841.	8			19th August, 1841.	2 months & 19 days.	19	Healthy at birth.
3559	Flynn, Ellen,	2nd June, 1841.	9			30th June, 1841.	28 days.	20	Healthy on Discharge.
3560	Benner, Mary Anne,	2nd June, 1841.	9			22nd October, 1841.	4 months & 20 days.	21	Healthy, died Strumous.
3706	Ellis, Peter,	27th June, 1841.	10			7th Dec., 1841.	5 months & 10 days.	22	Delicate.
3819	Dillon, Michael,	18th July, 1841.			4	remaining in House.		23	Healthy.
3882	Jemima Sorton Curry,	24th July, 1841.	10			13th October, 1841.	20 days.	24	Healthy on Discharge.
3950	Horan, James,	26th July, 1841.			5	remaining in House.		25	Healthy.
4109	Finn, John,	15th Aug., 1841.	11			28th August, 1841.	14 days.	26	Left in good Health.
4110	Hutchings, John,	15th Aug., 1841.	12			27th August, 1841.	13 days.	27	Healthy.
4210	Callaghan, Mary,	7th Sept., 1841.	13			30th Sept., 1841.	24 days.	28	Healthy.
4211	Egan, John,	7th Sept., 1841.	14			1st October, 1841.	25 days.	29	Healthy, re-admitted, since dead.
4285	Monks, Mary,	22nd Sept., 1841.	15			1st October, 1841.	10 days.	30	Healthy.
4286	Fleming, Susan,	22nd Sept., 1841.	16			30th Sept., 1841.	11 days.	31	Healthy, re-admitted.
4327	Hayes, Leonora,	2nd Oct., 1841.			6	remaining in House.		32	Healthy.
4729	Cusack, Eliza,	22nd Nov., 1841.			7	remaining in House.		33	Healthy.
4730	Shaw, Mary,	22nd Nov., 1841.	11			9th Dec., 1841.	18 days.	34	Delicate, Fit.
4851	Green, Andrew,	8th Dec., 1841,			8	remaining in House.		35	Healthy.

No. 8.

RETURN of Deserted Children found by the Dublin Metropolitan Police from 1st January, 1838, to October 1841.

Number Found.	No. sent to nurse by, and supported at the expense of the Police.	No. received by Parishes.	No. received by Poor Law Guardians.	Delivered to their Mothers.	Taken charge of by private individuals.	Died.	No. at present in charge of Police.	Total expense to the Police Fund since 1st Jan. 1838.		
								£	s.	d.
250	71	139	12	17	10	50	11	284	5	9½

No. 9.

A RETURN of the Number of Children admitted into the Foundling Hospital from the years 1798 to 1831, inclusive, showing also the Annual Mortality up to the 13th year, and the Mortality per Cent. of those Children under 2 years of Age.

YEAR.	Number of Infants admitted each Year.	Died in Nursery, before they were sent to Nurse.	Sent to be Nursed in the Country.	Died at Nurse in the Country.	A TABLE showing the Periods of the Deaths of Children at Nurse in the Country.													Mortality per Cent. of Children under 2 years of Age.				
					Died at																	
					1st year.	2nd year.	3rd year.	4th year.	5th year.	6th year.	7th year.	8th year.	9th year.	10th year.	11th year.	12th year.	13th year.					
1798	1,570	807	723	357	283	46	16	6	3	2	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	72
1799	1,701	455	1,215	525	389	94	23	8	5	1	5	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	55
1800	2,074	493	1,560	669	528	97	15	7	2	14	6	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	54
1801	1,648	433	1,193	518	395	62	24	6	8	4	5	6	5	3	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	54
1802	1,693	555	1,101	473	321	90	25	11	8	8	4	1	2	3	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	57
1803	2,146	713	1,397	633	452	114	29	11	4	6	2	4	6	5	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	59
1804	1,926	333	1,572	737	546	120	37	11	7	2	1	6	2	5	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	52
1805	2,102	440	1,637	755	575	117	21	10	2	11	4	5	6	4	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	53
1806	2,146	460	1,664	816	625	110	31	16	9	3	6	3	4	9	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	55
1807	2,192	514	1,637	875	679	118	38	10	5	6	5	3	2	9	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	59
1808	2,390	561	1,783	831	641	129	15	12	7	7	2	1	5	12	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	55
1809	2,205	545	1,640	748	473	214	27	6	4	5	-	5	2	12	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	56
1810	2,326	691	1,592	669	503	103	17	8	11	6	2	4	5	10	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	55
1811	2,359	835	1,478	627	489	85	13	11	8	7	5	1	1	7	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	60
1812	2,670	931	1,702	732	560	70	58	21	5	3	4	3	3	5	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	58
1813	2,257	805	1,414	602	451	87	29	12	5	9	3	2	-	4	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	59
1814	2,929	729	1,455	641	448	109	35	23	5	5	3	2	4	7	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	57
1815	1,842	238	1,585	780	532	152	48	9	13	5	5	3	1	12	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	50
1816	1,912	239	1,655	749	586	107	16	13	5	4	2	4	7	-	4	1	-	-	-	-	-	48
1817	2,210	331	1,849	798	625	103	26	7	5	1	8	4	5	7	5	2	-	-	-	-	-	48
1818	1,602	225	1,359	583	420	89	21	6	4	8	7	10	6	6	4	-	2	-	-	-	-	45½
1819	1,788	203	1,574	651	487	81	15	15	10	12	6	7	2	4	5	3	4	-	-	-	-	43
1820	1,648	218	1,419	655	502	68	22	7	10	5	10	7	8	3	4	2	7	-	-	-	-	47½
1821	874	104	761	297	203	33	12	8	7	7	3	8	5	3	2	5	1	-	-	-	-	38½
1822	418	39	373	137	84	22	5	9	6	2	3	-	-	-	-	6	-	-	-	-	-	34½
1823	489	18	469	196	136	30	3	7	4	2	1	2	-	1	4	-	6	-	-	-	-	37½
1824	511	54	453	210	140	34	7	6	2	6	4	1	1	3	1	1	4	-	-	-	-	44½
1825	450	36	414	162	103	25	9	5	2	3	1	3	-	2	-	5	4	-	-	-	-	36½
1826	471	25	444	159	94	20	12	5	5	7	3	6	-	3	1	-	3	-	-	-	-	27½
1827	476	54	421	159	94	35	4	3	4	7	1	1	2	-	2	4	2	-	-	-	-	38½
1828	451	31	420	163	103	24	8	5	5	8	-	4	4	1	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	35
1829	555	22	533	181	107	34	11	5	6	4	2	4	3	2	1	2	-	-	-	-	-	29½
1830	148	11	137	56	42	3	4	4	-	-	2	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	37½
1831	48	2	45	13	7	4	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	27
Total.	51,527*	12,153	38,674	17,157	12,623	2,629	678	303	186	180	111	116	91	142	33	26	39	-	-	-	-	

In the latter part of the year 1821, the admissions were reduced in consequence of an Assessment of £5 having been levied on the several Parishes from whence Children were sent into the Hospital for admission.

In 1830 and 1831 the admissions were limited to Parishes within the City of Dublin.

* 700 of these Children were returned to their Parents.

J. AICKIN.

Foundling Hospital, Dublin, 16th December, 1841.

No. 10.

From the observations I have made in Dublin and its immediate neighbourhood, I should say that of all the children born, taking rich and poor, 85 per cent. attain the 2nd, and 80 per cent. the 3rd year.

If we except the children of hiring nurses, among whom I have observed a frightful mortality, the proportional mortality among the children of the lower orders, with all the disadvantages of bad food, bad lodging, deficient clothing, and want of cleanliness, compared with that observed among the rich who are more favourably circumstanced, is much less than one would suppose.

I have no personal knowledge of the mortality in the Foundling Hospital or Workhouses.

SAMUEL B. LABATT, M.D.

December 15, 1841.

PRINTED BY JAMES JOHNSON, ST. PAULS CHURCH-YARD.

AND BY T. BARNES, 10, N. BROADWAY.

INQUIRY
INTO THE
TREATMENT, CONDITION,
AND
MORTALITY,
OF
INFANT CHILDREN,
IN THE
WORKHOUSE
OF THE
NORTH DUBLIN UNION.

Presented to both Houses of Parliament by Command
of Her Majesty.

DUBLIN;
PRINTED BY ALEXANDER THOM, 26, ABBEY-STREET,
For Her Majesty's Stationery Office.

1842.





