

[Report 1898] / Medical Officer of Health, Barton Regis R.D.C.

Contributors

Barton Regis (England). Rural District Council.

Publication/Creation

1898

Persistent URL

<https://wellcomecollection.org/works/jd3rxqe7>

License and attribution

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

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

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



Wellcome Collection
183 Euston Road
London NW1 2BE UK
T +44 (0)20 7611 8722
E library@wellcomecollection.org
<https://wellcomecollection.org>

ANNUAL REPORT for 1898 of the MEDICAL OFFICER of HEALTH
to the BARTON REGIS RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL.

January 1899.

Gentlemen.

The Barton Regis Board of Guardians and Rural District Council seem now to have settled into their permanent position and will soon no doubt be located in a workhouse of their own.

After much doubt and uncertainty the Sanitary District remains as the rural district immediately adjoining the great City of Bristol on this its northern side and consists of the parishes of Filton, Henbury, Shirehampton, Stoke Gifford, Westbury on Trym and Winterbourne - that portion of the parish of Horfield situated with the district of the Horfield Local Board forming a part of the Union for Poor Law but not for Sanitary purposes.

The area of the Sanitary district is 19,280 acres - the population according to estimate 13,270 and the rateable value £86,288 in the following proportions :

	Acreage	Population	Rateable Value.
Filton	1,025	338	£3,374
Henbury	8,552	2,166	20,136
Shirehampton	1,181	1,891	8,479
Stoke Gifford	2,397	352	4,703
Westbury on Trym	2,894	4,774	38,314
Winterbourne	3,030	3,748	11,292

ANNUAL REPORT FOR 1908 OF THE MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH
TO THE BARROW RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL

January 1909

Gentlemen

The Barrow Rural Board of Guardians and Rural District Council seem now to have settled into their permanent position and will soon no doubt be located in a workshop of their own.

After much doubt and uncertainty the Sanitary District remains as the rural district immediately adjoining the Great City of Bristol on this its northern side and consists of the parishes of Pitton, Henbury, Shirehampton, Stoke Gifford, Westbury on Tyre and Winterbourne - that portion of the parish of Hoxfield situated with the district of the Hoxfield local Board forming a part of the Union for Poor Law but not for Sanitary purposes.

The area of the Sanitary district is 19,280 acres - the population according to estimates 13,270 and the rateable value £82,288 in the following proportions:

Parish	Average	Population	Rateable Value
Pitton	1,082	288	22,374
Henbury	8,282	2,186	20,156
Shirehampton	1,181	1,861	8,479
Stoke Gifford	2,297	382	4,708
Westbury on Tyre	2,044	4,744	28,214
Winterbourne	2,030	2,748	11,292

FILTON.

Taking the parishes in their alphabetical order Filton comes first. The area of Filton is 1,025 acres and the population 338 with a rateable value of £3,334 being the smallest parish in every respect in the Union. The land is chiefly agricultural and the occupation of the people principally husbandry but in the Village there is a large laundry employing many female hands which came under the provisions of the Factory and Workshops Act 1895 and was carefully inspected and reported on by your Inspector and myself in 1896.

Filton also has several dairies sending Milk to Bristol which are kept under observation and inspection.

Water Supply.

The Village used to be remarkable for its want of water but that difficulty was overcome a few years since by your Board becoming guarantors to the Bristol Water Company which now supplies the place and there should nowhere be any lack.

Housing of the Working Classes.

The inhabitants are fairly well provided with house accommodation - notwithstanding the influx of population brought by the new Railway works but some years ago the cottages were very scarce and primitive in structure and it became my duty to report some as definitely injurious to health and others as unfit for human habitation. Of the latter 2 cottages remain unoccupied at the present time because the owners will not put them into a state in my opinion fit for human habitation.

Drainage.

The situation of Filton on a high eminence makes surface drainage easily accomplished. In former years we had complaints that the drainage of the Laundry running by the side of the road caused a nuisance. This was remedied

Taking the periods in their alphabetical order
 Wilton comes first. The area of Wilton is 1,025 acres and
 the population 388 with a rateable value of £2,384 being the
 smallest parish in every respect in the Union. The land
 is chiefly agricultural and the occupation of the people
 principally husbandry but in the village there is a large
 laundry employing many female hands which came under the
 provisions of the Factory and Workshops Act 1892 and was
 carefully inspected and reported on by your Inspector and
 myself in 1898.

Wilton also has several dairies ranging from 20
 to 100 cows which are kept under observation and inspection.
 The village used to be remarkable for the want
 of water but that difficulty was overcome a few years since
 by your Board becoming purchasers of the Bristol Water
 Company which now supplies the place and there should be
 no want of any kind.

Water
Supply.

The inhabitants are fairly
 well provided with house accommodation - notwithstanding
 the influx of population brought by the new Railway works
 but some years ago the cottages were very scarce and
 primitive in structure and it became my duty to report some
 as definitely injurious to health and others as unfit for
 human habitation. Of the latter 2 cottages remain
 unoccupied at the present time because the owners will not
 put them into a state in my opinion fit for human habitation.

Housing of the Working Classes.
 The attention of Wilton on a high embankment takes
 surface drainage easily accomplished. In former years we
 had complaints that the drainage of the laundry running by
 the side of the road caused a nuisance. This was remedied

Nuisance.

and I am glad to say this year there have been no complaints and I believe there is no cause.

Notifications. There have been 4 cases of infectious disease notified to me in the parish during the year namely one of diphtheria and three of scarlatina. The case of diphtheria was only notified after it had been received into the Children's Hospital in Bristol. The three cases of Scarlatina were in one family and occurred during the early summer.

HENBURY has the largest Area in the Union, having an acreage of 8,552. In population it stands third, the number of inhabitants being 2,166 while the rateable value is £20,166 - or second largest. Henbury is essentially an aristocratic residential centre, the Village and its neighbourhood being tenanted by wealthy Bristol families in large and commodious residences. The agricultural land covers a considerable space of upland but also extends through the marsh level to the River Severn, - and consequent upon this that portion of the parish is naturally difficult to drain or keep salubrious. The agricultural land is largely used for dairy purposes, the milk being taken daily to Bristol involving careful supervision on the part of your Inspector, but we have not had any serious causes of complaint during the year.

Water Supply. The Bristol Water Company's Mains pass through the Village and there should therefore be no difficulty about water but these mains do not extend to every part of

and I am glad to say this year there have been no complaints
and I believe there is no cause.

Notifications. There have been 4 cases of infectious diseases
notified to me in the parish during the year namely one of
diphtheria and three of scarlatina. The case of diphtheria
was only notified after it had been received into the
Children's Hospital in Bristol. The three cases of
scarlatina were in one family and occurred during the
early summer.

WATER SUPPLY

has the largest area in the Union, having an average of
8,225. In population it stands third, the number of
inhabitants being 2,166 while the rateable value is
£30,166 - or second largest. The water supply is essentially an
artificial residential centre, the Village and its
neighbourhood being supplied by wealthy Bristol families
in large and commodious residences. The agricultural land
covers a considerable space of upland but also extends through
the parish level to the River Severn, - and consequently upon
this that portion of the parish is naturally difficult to
drain or keep saturated. The agricultural land is largely
used for dairy purposes, the milk being taken daily to
Bristol involving careful supervision on the part of your
Inspector, but we have not had any serious cases of con-
plaint during the year.

Water Supply. The Bristol Water Company's mains pass through
the Village and there should therefore be no difficulty
about water but these mains do not extend to every part of

the parish and the water is not everywhere plentiful. At Lawrence Weston and Brentry the natural supply is meagre and on the flats near the Severn, water is very scarce, the pumping from the Severn Tunnel having affected the springs on this side of the River as well as on the Monmouthshire side - so that where drainage is the most difficult, there the water supply is most deficient.

Housing of the Working Classes.

In years past we have had much to do in abolishing houses unfit for human habitation and improving those so dilapidated as to be injurious to health but this year there has been less occasion to interfere and I have not many times had my attention called to faults of this nature.

Drainage.

The drainage of Henbury speaking generally is the Cess Pit System - the common system throughout the parish but there are several notable exceptions - thus the principal houses in the Village turn their sewage into old stone gongs which eventually reach the stream. At Hallen which is situated on the Marsh not many feet above the level of the Severn - some years ago your Authority established a system of dry earth or ash closets in consequence of the impossibility of digging Cess Pits which did not fill spontaneously with water. Again I may say that I have not had any serious complaints or become aware of any serious cause of complaint during the year.

Notification.

Only one case of Scarlatina has been notified during the year and no other case of any of the more serious infectious diseases.

In October a serious alarm arose from a young farmer at Lawrence Weston - a Milk seller - having developed

the parish and the water is not everywhere plentiful. At
Lawrence Weston and Brently the natural supply is meagre
and on the flats near the Severn, water is very scarce, the
pumping from the Severn Tunnel having affected the springs
on this side of the River as well as on the Monmouthshire
side - so that where drainage is the most difficult, there
the water supply is most deficient.

Housing of the Working Classes. In years past we have had much
to do in abolishing houses unfit for human habitation and
improving those so dilapidated as to be injurious to health
but this year there has been less occasion for interference and
I have not many times had my attention called to tenements of
this nature.

The drainage of Hambury speaking generally is the
sewerage. Gas Pit System - the common system throughout the parish
but there are several notable exceptions - thus the Green-
field houses in the Village turn their sewage into old stone
gullies which eventually reach the stream. At Hallon
which is situated on the Marsh not many feet above the level
of the Severn - some years ago your Authority established
a system of dry earth or ash closets in consequence of the
inoperability of digging Gas Pits which did not fill
spontaneously with water. Again I may say that I have
not had any serious complaints or become aware of any serious
cause of complaint during the year.

Only one case of Scarcitine has been notified.
during the year and no other case of any of the more serious
infectious diseases.
In October a serious alarm arose from a young
farmer at Lawrence Weston - a Milk seller - having developed

symptoms simulating those of Typhus Fever. Dr. Ormerod who was in attendance wrote me thereon and I arranged a consultation with Dr. Davies, Medical Officer of Health of Bristol, but before our meeting could take place, death occurred and a post mortem examination satisfied us that the disease was not Typhus Fever but an obscure form of Heart disease.

Drainage. The natural drainage of Shirshampton is good -
SHIREHAMPTON is the parish in the Union altered by the first Bristol Boundaries Extension Bill, when it lost the portion of Avonmouth immediately surrounding and connected with the Docks. The area now remaining is 1,181 acres; the population 1,891, with a rateable value of £8,479.

Shirshampton Shirshampton was originally a Village gathered round the Ferry of the River Avon - the parish consisting of agricultural land, but the building of Docks at Avonmouth changed its character which has now become a workman's residential district and in the near future this characteristic will in all probability largely increase.

Water Supply. Shirshampton is well supplied by the Bristol Water Company which extends its mains to Avonmouth, and as the population is chiefly gathered together in the two Villages there are few who do not benefit by the presence of a plentiful supply.

Housing of the Working Classes. In the old part of the Village many of the workmen's houses are old and dilapidated and in former years we have had frequent occasion to require their improvement but during the present year we have had no serious cause of complaint. At Avonmouth the cottages

symptoms resembling those of Typhus Fever. Dr. Greenough
who was in attendance wrote me thereon and I arranged a
consultation with Dr. Davies, Medical Officer of Health
of Bristol, but before our meeting could take place, death
occurred and a post-mortem examination established us that
the disease was not Typhus Fever but an obscure form of
Heart disease.

SHIRESHAPTON is the parish in the Union named by the first
Statute for the Extension Bill, when it lost the por-
tion of Avonmouth immediately surrounding and connected
with the docks. The area now remaining is 1,101 acres;
the population 1,801, with a rateable value of £3,478.
Shireshapton was originally a village gathered
round the Ferry of the River Avon - the parish consisting
of agricultural land, but the building of docks at Avon-
mouth changed its character which has now become a workmen's
residential district and in the near future this character-
istic will in all probability largely increase.

Water Supply. Shireshapton is well supplied by the Bristol
Water Company which extends its mains to Avonmouth, and as
the population is largely gathered together in the two
villages there are few who do not benefit by the presence
of a plentiful supply.

Housing of the Working Classes. In the old part of the village
many of the workmen's houses are old and dilapidated and in
former years we have had frequent occasion to repair their
improvement, but during the present year we have had no
serious cause of complaint. At Avonmouth the cottages

were built on the flat alluvial clay - the foundations being consequently unhealthily damp, but under our new Bye Laws this is provided against and the houses built of late are far superior in this respect to those which originally created Avonmouth into a workmen's dwelling place.

Drainage.

The natural drainage of Shirehampton is good - the situation being some 100 ft. above the sea level while that portion which constitutes Avonmouth has no fall at all except that created by the tide. At ordinary high tide the river is a very few feet below the level of the soil and at very high tides is frequently above it. Both Shirehampton and Avonmouth are well provided with sewers which discharge into the River Avon and most of the houses are connected. A portion of Lower Shirehampton in former years gave me much trouble in consequence of its being situated below the level of the main sewer but during this year I have heard of no complaint and the mechanical arrangement made seems to have the desired effect.

Notification.

Measles and Whooping Cough have, I understand, been prevalent in Shirehampton but these infectious diseases being unnotified I only speak from hearsay. The notifiable Zymotics have been 10 cases of Scarlatina and 5 of Erysipelas. Ten cases of Scarlatina is a large proportion of the total 25 registered in the district but without an Isolation Hospital we have very little control over such an infectious disease where the population is confined to small houses in close proximity.

were built on the first alluvial clay - the foundations
being consequently immediately damp, but under our new
eye laws this is provided against and the houses built of
late are far superior in this respect to those which
originally created Avonmouth into a workman's dwelling
place.

The natural drainage of Shirehampton is good -
the situation being some 100 ft. above the sea level while
that portion which constitutes Avonmouth has no fall at
all except that created by the tide. At ordinary high
tide the river is a very few feet below the level of the
soil and at very high tides is frequently above it. Both
Shirehampton and Avonmouth are well provided with sewers
which discharge into the River Avon and most of the houses
are connected. A portion of lower Shirehampton in
former years gave me much trouble in consequence of its
being situated below the level of the main sewer but during
this year I have heard of no complaint and the mechanical
arrangement made seems to have the desired effect.

Measles and Whooping Cough have, I understand,
been prevalent in Shirehampton but these infectious diseases
being unnotified I only speak from hearsay. The
notifiable symptoms have been 10 cases of Scarlatina and
5 of Erysipelas. Ten cases of Scarlatina is a large
proportion of the total 33 registered in the district but
without an Isolation Hospital we have very little control
over such an infectious disease where the population is
confined to small houses in close proximity.

STOKE GIFFORD has an area of 2,397 acres with a population of 352: its rateable value being £4,703. Hitherto it has been a quiet agricultural parish but the advent of the new railway had changed its character. The soil is mostly a heavy clay situated over the Blue Leas and new red sand stone.

The land is used largely for dairy produce and much milk is daily conveyed to Bristol while on the northern side of the parish the land is mostly in tillage.

Water. The water supply comes chiefly from shallow wells but the West Gloucester Company having laid pipes to Stoke Park on the extreme southern side of the parish - if necessity arose these could easily be extended to the centres of population which are at Stoke Village and Harris Stoke. Hitherto there has been no call for it, the water having been plentiful and fairly good.

Housing of the Working Classes. In 1881 Stoke contained 84 houses and these have not since materially increased. The labour employed came from Winterbourne - but with the advent of the new Railway the pressure on these houses has been great and the crowding severe. Hitherto we have not had occasion to interfere but during the continuance of the Railway construction, careful supervision will be constantly needed. Brick works in connection with the railway have been erected and in the near future various permanent railway industries will follow which will involve a supply of workmen's dwellings. This has not yet commenced - only one or two houses having been built during the year.

STONE GILFORD has an area of 3,397 acres with a population of 222

its rateable value being £4,703. Hitherto it has been

a quiet agricultural parish but the advent of the new railway has changed its character. The soil is mostly

a heavy clay situated over the Blue liess and new red sandstone.

The land is used largely for dairy produce and much milk is daily conveyed to Bristol while on the northern side of the parish the land is mostly in tillage.

The water supply comes chiefly from shallow wells

but the West Gloucester Company having laid pipes to Stone Park on the extreme southern side of the parish - it

necessity arose these could easily be extended to the centres of population which are at Stone Village and Harris Stone. Hitherto there has been no call for it, the water

having been plentiful and fairly good.

Housing of the Working Classes. In 1881 Stone contained 84 houses

and these have not since materially increased. The labour employed came from Wintonbourne - but with the advent of

the new Railway the pressure on these houses has been great and the growing severe. Hitherto we have not had

occasion to interfere but during the continuance of the Railway construction, careful supervision will be constantly

needed. Brick works in connection with the railway

have been erected and in the near future various permanent railway industries will follow which will involve a supply

of workmen's dwellings. This has not yet commenced - only one or two houses having been built during the year.

Drainage.

The natural drainage of the surface is towards Stoke Brook, a large water course running through the Parish, becoming Bradley Brook when it reaches Winterbourne and eventually forming a large tributary to the River Frome at Hambrook. The house drainage is chiefly into Cess Pits and as the centres of population are not near the course of the Brook there is at present little danger of the water becoming contaminated. I have had no complaints of nuisance from Stoke this year.

Notifications.

One case of Diphtheria has been notified from the parish and one case of Scarlatina but the health of Stoke Gifford has been through the year unmistakeably good.

WESTBURY

is the most populous and altogether the most important parish in the Union. It has an area of 2,694 acres with an estimated population of 4,774 inhabitants and its rateable value is £38,314. It stands chiefly on the lime stone but some portion of its subsoil is old red sand stone. The natural drainage is towards the River Trym which runs through the centre of the old village. It is the seat of several large Laundries which were visited and reported upon by your Inspector and myself when they came under the provisions of the Factories and Workshops' Act 1895. They are situated all together at Southmead and employ a large number of female hands, their work coming from Clifton and Bristol.

Building is advancing rapidly especially in the neighbourhood of Durdham Down more particularly so since the boundaries of the City of Bristol have been permanently

The natural drainage of the surface is towards
Stoke Brook, a large water course running through the
Parish, becoming Bradley Brook when it reaches Winterbourne
and eventually forming a large tributary to the River Frome
at Harebrook. The house drainage is chiefly into cess
pits and as the centres of population are not near the
course of the Brook there is at present little danger of
the water becoming contaminated. I have had no com-
plaints of diseases from Stoke this year.

Notifiable Diseases. One case of Diphtheria has been notified from
the parish and one case of Scarlatina but the health of
Stoke Gifford has been through the year unobscuredly
good.

WESTBURY is the most populous and altogether the most important
parish in the Union. It has an area of 2,694 acres with
an estimated population of 4,774 inhabitants and its
rateable value is £38,314. It stands chiefly on the
lime stone but some portion of its surface is old red sand
stone. The natural drainage is towards the River Frome
which runs through the centre of the old village. It
is the seat of several large laundries which were visited
and reported upon by your Inspector and myself when they
came under the provisions of the Factories and Workshops
Act 1893. They are situated all together at Southward
and employ a large number of female hands, their work
coming from Gifford and Bristol.

Building is advancing rapidly especially in the
neighbourhood of Durdham Down more particularly so since
the boundaries of the City of Bristol have been permanently

settled. The population centres at Westbury, Stoke Bishop and Sneyd Park on the high ground overlooking the valley of the Trym.

Water Supply. The Bristol Water Company's mains run through the district forming an efficient means of supply and large numbers of the houses make use of it.

Housing of the Working Classes. New houses are constantly being built but the accommodation is not so much for the working class as for those a step above them in the social scale, and Westbury cannot be described as a working man's locality. The houses being built under your Bye Laws afford suitable accommodation to those for whom they are intended but the old workmen's dwellings in the vicinity of the Trym as it passes through the old village are very bad, some of them hardly fit for occupation and we are frequently called upon to interfere and remedy them. In August I had to report three houses in Chalk Lane so dirty and dilapidated as to be injurious to health, one of the same being dangerously overcrowded. In October I visited three cottages in Chapel Yard and reported one dirty, ill ventilated and overcrowded and the other two so dirty and ill ventilated as to be injurious to health.

Drainage. The parish is well sewered - part of the sewage being conducted to the Sewage Farm at Canford - that from the high ground at Sneyd Park and Stoke Bishop running directly to the River Avon at Sea Mills.

The disposal of this sewage is a matter which has given rise to much discussion and trouble. The Sewage Farm

settled. The population centres at Westbury, Stone Bishop
and Sneyd Park on the high ground overlooking the valley of
the Tyne.

Water Supply. The Bristol Water Company's mains run through the
district forming an efficient means of supply and large
numbers of the houses make use of it.

Housing of the Working Classes. New houses are constantly being
built but the accommodation is not so much for the working
class as for those a step above them in the social scale,
and Westbury cannot be described as a working man's locality.
The houses being built under your bye laws afford suitable
accommodation for those for whom they are intended but the old
workmen's dwellings in the vicinity of the Tyne as it passes
through the old village are very bad, some of them hardly
fit for occupation and we are frequently called upon to
inspect and remedy them. In August I had to report
three houses in Chain Lane as dirty and dilapidated as to
be injurious to health, one of the same being dangerously
overcrowded. In October I visited three cottages in
Chapel Yard and reported one dirty, ill ventilated and over-
crowded and the other two as dirty and ill ventilated as to
be injurious to health.

Drainage. The parish is well served - part of the sewage
being conducted to the Sewage Farm at Carlisle - that from
the high ground at Sneyd Park and Stone Bishop running
directly to the River Avon at Bar Mills.
The disposal of this sewage is a matter which has
given rise to much discussion and trouble. The Sewage Farm

to sanction the conveyance of crude sewage into the river however much it may have answered its purpose when first established is acknowledged now to be a failure and at times a nuisance, the soil having become super-saturated with sewage solids and having no further capacity of absorption. On the 4th August a Local Government Board enquiry was held by C.Roulnois Esq. to consider the last new plan proposed for the disposal of the Sewage which has hitherto passed on to the Sewage Farm. The Local Government Board has been loath to consent to the condemnation of an institution which it sanctioned some 20 years ago and had refused its approval of any of the alternatives hitherto proposed in its place. On the 3rd November 1897 an enquiry had been held by Inspector Meade-King in reference to a proposed plan of taking the Sewage to Sea Mills and discharging it into the River Avon by the same outlet as the existing sewer from Stoke Bishop and Sneyd Park - this was strongly opposed by Bristol on the ground that passing crude sewage into the Avon would dangerously pollute that river and constitute a new nuisance. Bristol was obliged to acknowledge that it passed the whole of its own sewage of 500,000 inhabitants in a crude state into the same river higher up in its course and consequently in a more objectionable part but contended that this would soon be remedied, the whole taken out of the river and carried out to sea, and that under these circumstances Westbury ought not to be allowed to start a new pollution of the river.

The decision of the Local Government Board was announced in a letter dated March 5th 1898 in which the L.G.B. referring to Inspector Meade-King's report declined

however much it may have answered its purpose when first established is acknowledged now to be a failure and at times a nuisance, the soil having become super-saturated with sewage solids and having no further capacity of absorption. On the 4th August a local Government Board enquiry was held by G. Housman Esq. to consider the last new plan proposed for the disposal of the sewage which has hitherto passed on to the sewage farm. The local Government Board has been asked to consent to the construction of an installation which is mentioned some 20 years ago and had refused its approval of any of the alternatives hitherto proposed in its place. On the 2nd November 1897 an enquiry had been held by Inspector Meade-King in reference to a proposed plan of taking the sewage to Sea Mills and discharging it into the River Avon by the same outlet as the existing sewer from Stoke Bishop and Sneyd Park - this was strongly opposed by Bristol on the ground that passing crude sewage into the Avon would dangerously pollute that river and constitute a great nuisance. Bristol was obliged to acknowledge that it passed the whole of its own sewage of 300,000 inhabitants in a crude state into the same river higher up in its course and consequently in a more objectionable part but contended that this would soon be remedied, the whole taken out of the river and carried out to sea, and that under these circumstances Westbury ought not to be allowed to start a new pollution of the river.

The decision of the local Government Board was announced in a letter dated March 25th 1898 in which the I.G.B. referring to Inspector Meade-King's report declined

to sanction the conveyance of crude sewage into the river at all states of the tide and required that if its sanction was given to the abolition of the Sewage Farm all the sewage taken to Sea Mills should before being discharged into the river be chemically treated and purified of its solids.

The clarified effluent being discharged into the river only on the ebb tide and not later than an hour and a half before low water, the L.G.B. further required that sufficient land should be secured at Sea Mills in a suitable situation to erect precipitation tanks and storage tanks of capacity sufficient to store the sewage during the time it was not allowed to pass into the river.

The plans submitted on the 4th of August embodied these views of the L.G.B. and practically no opposition was raised so that we may look forward at no distant period to the Canford Farm being no longer a Sewage Farm and the nuisance arising therefrom no longer being an incubus upon the Village of Westbury.

The L.G. Board very wisely require that the land at Canford shall not be used as a site for Building under three years from the time it ceases to be a Sewage Farm, during which time it shall again be deep drained and the surface thoroughly broken up and deeply ploughed.

Notifications. Five cases of Scarlatina have been registered during the year which is a great improvement on the past few years, also four cases of Erysipelas.

Complaint was made to me in August that many children at Stoke Bishop had measles and that no proper care was taken to prevent their spreading it. I could

to sanction the conveyance of crude sewage into the river
at all stages of the tide and required that if the sanction
was given to the abolition of the Sewage Farm all the sewage
taken to Sea Mills should be discharged into the
river be chemically treated and purified of the solids.
The clarified effluent being discharged into the river only
on the ebb tide and not later than an hour and a half before
low water, the L.G.B. further required that sufficient land
should be secured at Sea Mills in a suitable situation to
erect precipitation tanks and storage tanks of capacity
sufficient to store the sewage during the time it was not
allowed to pass into the river.

The plans submitted on the 4th of August embodied
these views of the L.G.B. and practically no opposition
was raised so that we may look forward at no distant period
to the Sewage Farm being no longer a Sewage Farm and the
nuisance existing therefrom no longer being an incumbrance upon
the Village of Westbury.

The L.G. Board very wisely require that the land
at Gurnford shall not be used as a site for building under
three years from the time it ceases to be a Sewage Farm,
during which time it shall again be deep drained and the
surface thoroughly broken up and deeply ploughed.

Notifications. Five cases of Scabies have been registered
during the year which is a great improvement on the past
few years, also four cases of Erysipelas.

Complaint was made to me in August that many
children at Stoke Bishop had measles and that no proper
care was taken to prevent their spreading it. I could

only reply that since the notification of Measles had been abolished I had no means of knowing of its existence and without knowing of its existence could not take steps to prevent its dissemination.

WINTERBOURNE has an area of 3,030 acres. It is the second largest parish in the Union. It also stands second in number, having an estimated population of 3,740 but its rateable value £11,290 is third. Westbury being first, Henbury second, and Winterbourne third.

Although an Agricultural parish the occupation of its labourers is by no means confined to husbandry. Stone quarrying and Coal mining employ many of its hands while a large number of its men are daily engaged in Bristol. There are a few large Dairy Farms but the land is mostly in tillage.

Laundry work is extensively carried on in private houses and there is one large laundry employing many female hands.

Tailoring slop work is also an extensive industry and there is one Factory connected with Bristol which utilizes many females.

Winterbourne is chiefly situated over the Pennant Coal Measures - one part of Hambrook being on the new red sand stone - the soil is consequently light and porous - the surface being undulating, varying from 250 feet to about 100 ft. above the sea level. It is well drained by the River Frome and its tributaries.

Water Supply. It is well provided with water by the West Gloucester Water Company which now supplies nearly every house in the parish.

only reply that since the notification of leases had been
abolished I had no means of knowing of its existence and
without knowing of its existence could not take steps to
prevent its dissemination.

WINTERBURN has an area of 3,030 acres. It is the second largest
parish in the Union. It also stands second in number,
having an estimated population of 3,740 but its rateable
value £11,390 is third. Westbury being first, Hambury
second, and Winterburne third.

Although an agricultural parish the occupation of
its laborers is by no means confined to husbandry. Stone
quarrying and coal mining employ many of its hands while a
large number of its men are daily engaged in Bristol. There
are a few large dairy farms but the land is mostly in
tillage.

Laundry work is extensively carried on in private
houses and there is one large laundry employing many female
hands.

Tailoring also work is also an extensive industry
and there is one factory connected with Bristol which
utilizes many females.

Winterburne is chiefly situated over the Pennine
Coal Measures - one part of Harrook being on the new red
sand stone - the soil is consequently light and porous - the
surface being undulating, varying from 250 feet to about
100 ft. above the sea level. It is well drained by the
River Frome and its tributaries.

Water Supply. It is well provided with water by the West
Gloucester Water Company which now supplies nearly every
house in the parish.

Housing of the Working Classes.

The character and condition

of the Cottages in Winterbourne have greatly improved of late years where formerly they were small, badly constructed and ill cared for - they are now fairly commodious and in good repair.

The population gathers at several centres at which the house accommodation varies considerably. Frenchay contains a number of large residences

but the cottage accommodation is bad, the houses being small and inconvenient. In Hambrook and Pie Corner the cottages are more plentiful and better kept.

Winterbourne Street has good working class accommodation while at Walleys End and Winterbourne Down there are a number of small badly constructed and inconvenient dwellings.

I have had during the year to report 5 houses at Walleys End and Winterbourne Down as overcrowded or unfit for human habitation and this has not been in consequence of the advent of strangers. The commencement of the new Railway from Patchway to Wootton Bassett which runs through the centre of the parish has introduced a large temporary addition to its working population, but we have not so far had much cause to complain of overcrowding on this account. In the early part of the year the Barton Regis and Sodbury Rural District Council held several meetings and drew up a code of instruction to be observed in building navvies huts which have proved efficacious in preventing any nuisance and overcrowding has not come seriously to my notice.

Drainage.

The drainage of Winterbourne is poor. Some houses have efficient cess pools but many have little better than holes in the ground in consequence of the permanent stone being

Housing of the Working Classes. The character and condition

of the Cottages in Winterbourne have greatly improved of late years where formerly they were small, badly constructed and ill cared for - they are now fairly commodious and in good repair. The population gathers at several centres at which the house accommodation varies considerably. Frenchay contains a number of large residences but the cottage accommodation is bad, the houses being small and inconvenient. In Hambrook and the Cornet the cottages are more plentiful and better kept. Winterbourne Street has good working class accommodation while at Waijays End and Winterbourne Down there are a number of small badly constructed and inconvenient dwellings. I have had during the year to report 5 houses at Waijays End and Winterbourne Down as overcrowded or unfit for human habitation and this has not been in consequence of the advent of strangers. The commencement of the new Railway from Tisbury to Wootton Bassett which runs through the centre of the parish has introduced a large temporary addition to its working population, but we have not so far had such cause to complain of overcrowding on this account. In the early part of the year the Harlow Regis and Godney Rural District Council held several meetings and drew up a code of instruction to be observed in building navvies huts which have proved efficacious in preventing any nuisance and overcrowding has not come seriously to my notice.

Drainage. The drainage of Winterbourne is poor. Some houses

have efficient cess pools but many have little better than holes in the ground in consequence of the ground being

so near the surface. Frenchay is especially badly off in this respect as the houses rise one above another on the side of a steep hill. Winterbourne Down is in the same predicament, but as Company's water is now universally supplied, the danger of well water contamination is absent. The River Frome and its tributaries Bradley Brook and Ham Brook are fairly free from pollution, and as the Cottages have mostly a good surrounding of Garden ground, there seems no need of further provision for the disposal of excrement than at present exists.

Notification. Five cases of Scarlatina have been notified during the year - four of Erysipelas and two of Typhoid Fever, but in no case has there been evidence of special insanitary cause.

Vital Statistics. Upon the whole, the year 1898 may be regarded as having been a healthy season in this district; the second quarter of the year was exceptionally healthy - the death rate being as low as 6.6 per 1000 per annum, and no death from Zymotic disease being registered. Through the year there was no epidemic anywhere of either of the notifiable infectious diseases. Measles was said to be prevalent at various places but as this is no longer a notifiable disease, I am unable to say to what extent it prevailed. The Death Register which is my only correct means of information recorded 4 deaths attributed to it and these are the only deaths from Zymotics registered if we exclude the very uncertain diseases registered under the head of Infantile Diarrhoea.

no near the surface, Frenchay is especially badly off in this respect as the houses rise one above another on the side of a steep hill. Winterton Down is in the same predicament, but as Company's water is now universally supplied, the danger of well water contamination is absent. The River Frome and the tributaries Frenchay Brook and Han Brook are fairly free from pollution, and as the cottages have nearly a good surrounding of garden ground, there seems no need of further provision for the disposal of excrement than at present exists.

Notification. Five cases of Scaphitis have been notified during the year - four of Erysipelas and two of Typhoid Fever, but in no case has there been evidence of special insanitary cause.

Vital Statistics. Upon the whole, the year 1898 may be regarded as having been a healthy season in this district; the second quarter of the year was exceptionally healthy - the death rate being as low as 0.5 per 1000 per annum, and no death from Typhoid disease being registered. Through the year there was no epidemic anywhere of either of the notifiable infectious diseases. Measles was said to be prevalent at various places but as this is no longer a notifiable disease, I am unable to say to what extent it prevailed. The Death Register which is my only correct means of information recorded 4 deaths attributed to it and these are the only deaths from Typhoid registered if we exclude the very uncertain diseases registered under the head of Infantile Diarrhoea.

Births. The Births number 332. Males 184. Females 148.

The average of the three preceding years being 318.

332 births is a rate of increase of 28.1 per 1000 of the population.

Deaths. The number of deaths registered is 153 or a rate

of decrease of 11.5 per 1000 of the population, - the mean increase therefore being in round numbers 17 per 1000.

It is worth noticing in this connection that the population does not increase in this district in this rate - and must therefore emigrate elsewhere, probably to the adjacent great City of Bristol. The average number of deaths in

the three preceding years was 170 so that this year stands out favorably. In the second quarter the death rate was remarkably low, being only 6.6. per 1000 per annum, and this reduces the average of the whole year - for in the first quarter the rate was 15.4 : in the third quarter 14.2 and in the fourth quarter 10.5.

**Deaths of
Infants
under
1 year.**

The number of deaths of children under 1 year of age is 44 - a mortality of 132.5 per 1000 registered births, the average of the three preceding years being 52. Thus in 1895 the deaths were 57, or a rate of 162.3 per 1000 registered births - in 1896, 57 or a rate of 199.3 per 1000 births, and in 1897, 42 or 132.4 per 1000 births, the same exactly as in the year just passed.

Old Age. The deaths from Old Age number 26, the average of the three preceding years being 30.

Institutions. There were 6 deaths in the Workhouse and in Hambrook Village Hospital - viz., 1 in the Hospital and 5 in

Births. The Births number 333. Males 184. Females 149.
 The average of the three preceding years being 318.
 333 births is a rate of increase of 33.1 per 1000 of the population.

Deaths. The number of deaths registered is 153 or a rate of decrease of 11.5 per 1000 of the population, - the mean increase therefore being in round numbers 14 per 1000. It is worth noticing in this connection that the population does not increase in this district in this rate - and must therefore exist elsewhere, probably to the adjacent Great City of Bristol. The average number of deaths in the three preceding years was 170 so that this year stands out favorably. In the second quarter the death rate was remarkably low, being only 6.6 per 1000 per annum, and this reduces the average of the whole year - for in the first quarter the rate was 15.4 : in the third quarter 14.8 and in the fourth quarter 10.5.

Deaths of Infants under 1 year. The number of deaths of children under 1 year of age is 44 - a mortality of 135.5 per 1000 registered births. The average of the three preceding years being 32. Thus in 1895 the deaths were 57, or a rate of 181.5 per 1000 registered births - in 1896, 57 or a rate of 192.3 per 1000 births, and in 1897, 43 or 132.4 per 1000 births, the same exactly as in the year just passed.

Old Age. The deaths from Old Age number 26, the average of the three preceding years being 30.

Institutions. There were 8 deaths in the Workhouse and in Hancock Village Hospital - viz., 1 in the Hospital and 3 in

the Workhouse. 3 of these were from old age and two over 60 years.

Notifications. The number of Infectious cases notified is only 43 while the average of the three preceding years is 90 This is in a great measure due to the diminished number of cases of Scarlatina of which in 1895 there were 26. In 1896, 99 and in 1897, 55, while this year there have only been 25 cases. These have been spread over the whole District. In Filton 3 cases : In Henbury 1 case : in Shirehampton 10 : in Stoke Gifford 1 : in Westbury 5 : and in Winterbourne 5, so that there has been no monopoly of the disease in any quarter and nothing like an epidemic.

There were only 2 cases of Diphtheria, one at Filton and one at Stoke Gifford. The case at Filton being only recognized as Diphtheric when it reached the Children's Hospital in Bristol.

The 14 cases of Erysipelas are spread pretty much over the whole district. The 2 cases of Typhoid Fever occurred in Winterbourne Parish but apparently had no connection and were in opposite sides of the parish. I could not find upon inspection that either case was traceable to a remediable cause.

EDWARD CROSSMAN

The Yorkhouse. 3 of these were from old age and two over 80 years.

Medicine. The number of infectious cases notified is only

48 while the average of the three preceding years is 90

This is in a great measure due to the diminished number of

cases of scarlatina of which in 1898 there were 28. In

1896, 99 and in 1897, 52, while this year there have only

been 25 cases. These have been spread over the whole

district. In Milton 3 cases; in Newbury 1 case; in

Sturminster Newton 10; in Stoke Gifford 4 in Westbury 2;

and in Winterborne 2, so that there has been no monopoly

of the disease in any quarter and nothing like an epidemic.

There were only 2 cases of Diphtheria, one at

Milton and one at Stoke Gifford. The case at Milton being

only recognised as Diphtheria when it reached the Children's

Hospital in Bristol.

The 14 cases of Erysipelas are spread pretty much

over the whole district. The 2 cases of Typhoid fever

occurred in Winterborne Bishop but apparently had no

connection and were in opposite sides of the parish. I could

not find upon inspection that either case was traceable to

a remediable cause.

EDWARD GROSSMAN