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Contributors

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County Borough of Devonport.

ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

AND

Sanitary Inspector's Report

FOR THE YEAR 1896.

DEVONPORT (URBAN) SANITARY AUTHORITY.

DEVONPORT :

PRINTED BY HIORNS & MILLER, 107 FORE STREET.

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TABLE A.

COMPARATIVE TABLE OF BIRTHS AND DEATHS FOR THE PAST TEN YEARS.

Year.	Births.	Deaths.	Natural Increase.	Deaths from Zymotic Diseases.	Measles.	Scarlatina.	Diphtheria and Membranous Croup.	Whooping Cough.	Enteric Fever.	Diarrhoea.	Phthisis and Tubercular Disease.	Respiratory Diseases.	Rheumatic Diseases.	Death rate per 1000.	Birth rate per 1000.	Zymotic Death rate.	Deaths under 5 years.	Death rate per 1000 births, under 1 year.
1896	1595	1033	562	104	31	3	22	7	10	27	132	213	2	17.5	27.	1.7	365	136.6
5	1509	1003	506	51	26	1	7	3	11	3	123	206	6	18.5	27.9	.9	301	
4	1466	920	546	79	19	9	6	31	9	4	141	161	1	17.	27.1	1.4	303	
3	1620	985	645	55	4	11	9	26	5	9	120	222	7	18.2	30.	1.	367	
2	1438	995	443	52	28	9	9	—	6	—	123	229	3	18.2	26.6	.9	344	
1	1570	1080	490	63	10	5	4	40	4	—	134	230	4	20.	29.	1.	358	
90	1570	992	578	89	32	24	10	15	8	1	140	190	4	18.5	28.	1.6	343	
89	1572	979	593	89	19	32	2	31	5	—	159	137	3	17.7	28.9	1.6	371	
8	1624	1018	606	69	13	15	31	4	4	4	142	175	16	20.3	30.7	1.2	355	
7	1599	1004	595	91	29	18	6	21	8	9	127	184	12	20.8	29.6	1.6	335	

TABLE B.

District.	Total Deaths.	Per 1000.	Population in 1891.	Area in acres.	Population to acre.
Tamar	247	18.3	13,477	194	69
St. Aubyn	317	20.1	15,796	211	75
Morice	183*	25.1	7,267	56	129
Stoke	286*	20.6	13,837	1299	10

In Morice District *33 Deaths were in the Royal Albert Hospital.

In Stoke	16	"	"	Military Hospital.
	32	"	"	Workhouse Infirmary.
	3	"	"	Borough Hospital.

*The Death rate in Morice without these 33 would be 20.6

"	Stoke	"	51	"	16.9
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1896.

TABLE C.

Deaths in different Wards at various ages from different diseases.

	Under 1 year.	Between 1 and 5	5 and 15	15 and 25	25 and 60	60 and upward	Scarlatina	Diphtheria	Membranous Croup	Enteric Fever	Puerperal Fever	Measles	Whooping Cough.	Diarrhoea	Phthisis	Respiratory	Heart & Circulation	Injuries
Tamar } Ward }	43	37	7	16	60	84	—	2	—	1	1	14	4	3	17	55	45	4
St. Aubyn	80	50	13	16	79	79	—	1	2	2	—	10	1	12	28	69	35	3
Morice	37	27	11	8	58	42	2	7	2	3	1	4	1	1	8	35	29	11
Stoke	58	33	9	19	74	92	1	4	4	4	1	3	1	11	29	54	32	5

TABLE D.

New cases of Sickness certified. Cases sent to Borough Hospital.

	Small Pox.	Scarlatina.	Diphtheria.	Enteric Fever.	Puerperal Fever.	Erysipelas.	Small Pox.	Scarlatina.	Diphtheria.	Enteric Fever.	Erysipelas.
Tamar Ward	—	15	3	6	1	10	—	5	—	2	2
St. Aubyn	—	10	8	9	—	10	—	8	1	3	1
Morice	—	4	3	8	1	6	—	3	—	—	—
Stoke	2	19	15	10	—	17	2	7	3	—	1

CLIMATOLOGICAL OBSERVATIONS

1896.	Temperature-Fahrenheit.									Barom.	
	Mean Temp. Dry Bulb.	Mean Temp. Wet Bulb.	Max. Temp.	Min. Temp.	Mean Temp.	Ditto for like month, 1895.	Greatest daily range.	Least daily range.	Mean daily range.	Monthly means corrected.	
January ...	44.30	41.90	52.9	30.5	43.90	37.10	15.1	2.3	6.50	30.36	30
February ...	43.16	41.64	54.5	27.9	44.39	33.30	20.9	4.0	9.24	30.32	30
March ...	48.40	46.20	56.2	34.0	47.70	42.70	16.7	3.2	9.00	29.88	30
April ...	51.90	49.00	62.0	37.8	50.00	47.20	18.7	8.2	11.70	30.22	30
May ...	59.30	53.40	74.8	37.0	56.20	53.90	21.6	7.2	16.20	30.24	30
June ...	63.10	58.80	81.4	44.1	61.00	58.40	23.0	3.4	12.50	29.36	30
July ...	64.30	60.50	77.2	47.9	61.20	59.00	25.6	4.6	12.60	30.04	30
August ...	61.00	57.80	71.7	46.8	59.20	59.00	19.6	5.9	13.20	30.08	30
September	58.80	56.30	65.9	42.2	57.70	61.00	16.0	3.1	8.00	29.78	30
October ...	48.00	45.60	62.9	30.0	47.70	49.40	19.1	2.1	10.80	29.11	30
November	45.50	40.60	52.4	29.5	42.20	50.30	20.9	3.5	11.50	30.14	30
December	43.40	40.00	53.4	28.8	43.40	44.90	15.0	1.8	8.40	29.78	30

I am indebted to the courtesy of the Chairman, Cornwall Co

READINGS TAKEN DAILY AT 9 A.M.

Sea Level.		Rainfall.								Sun.	Wind.
Bar. lowest.	Relative Humidity.	Total during month.	Ditto. for like month, 1895.	Total rainfall From 1st Jan. 1896.	Ditto for like period, 1895.	Height above sea.	Greatest one day.	Days on which 0'01 or more fell.	Total during 1895.	Total hours bright sunshine.	Prevailing Direction.
		inches.				feet.					
58	88	1.24	5.57	1.14	5.71	117	0.48	16	37.73	55	N.E.
61	88	.73	0.03	1.97	5.60	—	0.24	7	—	63	N.E.
96	84	3.87	2.94	5.84	8.84	—	1.00	24	—	109	N.W.
81	81	0.28	2.44	6.12	10.98	—	0.09	10	—	164	N.N.W.
00	67	0.01	1.00	6.14	11.98	—	0.01	1	—	313	N.E.
42	76	1.68	2.59	7.82	14.57	—	0.64	8	—	277	S.W. N.W.
64	79	1.64	3.36	9.46	17.93	—	0.96	14	—	231	S.W.
75	86	1.83	3.58	11.29	21.51	—	0.42	14	—	188	N.W.
94	86	5.28	0.43	16.57	21.94	—	1.40	26	—	99	S.W.
18	83	2.96	3.78	19.53	25.72	—	0.50	21	—	—	S.W.
56	87	1.03	6.25	20.56	31.97	—	0.55	12	—	80	N.E.
50	91	8.51	5.76	29.07	37.73	—	1.03	26	—	46	N.W. E.

Facil for these Tables, from the Observatory of Mr. H. V. Prigg.

TABLE F.
Total Deaths from Zymotic Diseases in the Four Wards.

	TAMAR.	ST. AUBYN.	MORICE.	STOKE.	TOTAL.
Scarlatina	—	—	2	1	3
Diphtheria	2	1	7	4	14
Membranous Croup	—	2	2	4	8
Enteric Fever	1	2	3	4	10
Puerperal Fever	1	—	1	1	3
Measles	14	10	4	3	31
Whooping Cough .	4	1	1	1	7
Diarrhoea	3	12	1	11	27
DEATHS FROM OTHER DISEASES SPECIFIED.					
Phthisis	17	28	8	29	82
Respiratory	55	69	35	54	113
Circulatory	45	35	29	32	141
Injuries	4	3	11	5	23

TABLE G.

Deaths at various ages—in various Wards.

WARD.	Under 1 year.	Between 1 & 5 years	5-15.	15-25.	25-60.	60 and upwards.
Tamar	43	37	7	16	60	84
St. Aubyn ...	80	50	13	16	79	79
Morice	37	27	11	8	58	42
Stoke	58	33	9	19	74	92

ANNUAL REPORT

FOR

1896.

THE total number of deaths during the year was 1,033: which gives a death rate of 17·5 per 1,000.

The basis of calculation of inhabitants has been taken at 59,000, instead of 54,000 which the population was in 1891 census.

This number is fairly approximate, indeed probably rather under than over, considering the known factors of natural increase of births over deaths during the period, and the importation of new inhabitants depending upon the increase of work in the Royal Dockyards and the Extension Works at Keyham.

The total number of births was 1,595, or 27 per 1,000: a natural increase of 567 on the 1,033 deaths.

The death rate of Infants under 1 year was 136·6 per 1,000

Of the total deaths from all causes

247	were in	Tamar Ward
317	„	St Aubyn „
183	„	Morice „
286	„	Stoke „

Of these deaths

218	were under	1 year.
147	„	between 1 and 5 years.
40	„	„ 5 „ 15 „
59	„	„ 15 „ 25 „
271	„	„ 25 „ 60 „
297	„	of 60 and upwards.

The Zymotic deaths were 104, or 1·7 per 1,000.

The average number of *deaths* for the last 10 years is 1,000 annually, or 16·9 per 1,000 inhabitants.

Of *births*, 1,556, or 26·3 per 1,000 inhabitants.

The *Zymotic* average was 64, or 1·08 per 1,000.

More persons died in 1896 than in any year of the 10, except 1891.

The increase in the number of deaths in 1896 was in *Zymotic diseases*, which numbered 104, or, excluding *Diarrhœa*, which is unfortunately classed among Zymotics, 77.

DIARRHŒA is often returned as the cause of deaths of Infants, and is not due so much to Zymotic causes as general intestinal conditions

connected with teething, or muco-enteritis of a reflex character. The average for 10 years of diarrhœa was 64·2

From DIPHTHERIA the deaths were more numerous than in any year since 1888, being 22. The average for 10 years being 10·3.

From ENTERIC FEVER there were 10 deaths: average for 10 years being 7.

From MEASLES, 31 deaths: average 21·1.

From SCARLATINA, 3 deaths: average 12·7.

From WHOOPING COUGH, 7 deaths: average 17·8, so that the average was greater from Diphtheria, Enteric Fever, and Measles; less from Scarlatina and Whooping Cough.

From TUBERCULAR DISEASES the deaths were 132: average 134·1.

From RESPIRATORY DISEASES 113 deaths: average 184·7.

From RHEUMATIC DISEASES 2 deaths; average 5·8.

From Deaths under 5 years 365: average 344·1.

The *Birth rate* was 26: average 26.

The deaths from *Tubercular diseases* were nearly the same as the average for 10 years.

They were pretty evenly distributed over all the months of the year; being least in June, 7; most in February and May, 14.

The mortality from *Whooping Cough* was low compared with preceding years, though higher than in 1895, being 7 and 3 in that year.

Diarrhœa was the cause given for 27 deaths; this was higher than for many years, most of them were of Infants, and occurred in July and August, the hottest months.

The deaths from *Respiratory disease* were about as usual, 213, and generally varied from 6 in September to 34 in December. They were low in June, 7, as might be expected; but it is somewhat surprising to note that the mortality in August was the same, 16, as in February and March.

Subjoined is a table, which gives the mortality per month:—

	Jan.	Feb.	Mar.	April	May	June	July	Aug.	Sept.	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.
Phthisis	11	14	9	13	14	7	13	13	10	10	7	14
Respiratory Diseases	17	16	16	13	17	7	10	16	6	9	32	34

Deaths from *Scarlatina* give a favorable comparison, being only 3: 48 cases were notified, of which 23, or nearly one-half, were treated in the Borough Hospital, which circumstance probably accounts for the limited mortality.

The *Dairies and Milk Shops* have been duly inspected by me: they may be divided into 4 classes—1st, shops in which milk alone is sold:—2nd, milk and farm produce:—3rd, milk and general provisions, groceries, bread, etc.:—4th shops fitted as refreshment houses, as well as for the retailing of milk.

Of Class 1,	there are	15
„ 2,	„	22
„ 3,	„	44
„ 4,	„	7

The number of shops in which milk is scalded is 30,—of those from which milk is supplied in carts, 46.

Classes 1, 2, and 4 are as a rule clean and well-fitted: in class 3, the amount sold is so small, and the time it is stored so short, that there is practically no objection to be made to an arrangement which would become inadvisable if these two conditions of amount and time were different: the absorbent powers of milk makes it always advisable that it should be kept by itself, and so run no risk of deterioration or contamination.

Three methods of *Scalding* are in use: in 1, the milk is poured into shallow pans, at the bottom of which, inside, are coils of pipe which contain hot water sent on from a central boiler, usually heated by gas: in 2, the pan of milk is put to stand in an ordinary kitchen copper full of water, and heated

by a fire underneath : in 3, the milk is treated on a common kitchen range or gas stove. The larger Dairies adopt plans 1 and 2, of which 1 seems the better; though it would perhaps be better to adopt a coal fire, as nearly all gas fires give out a peculiar smell; though it is only fair to say that there is no complaint of this affecting the milk.

The *Isolation Hospital* continues to be of great assistance in maintaining the health of the Town. During the year, 36 cases have been treated in it, viz. : 2 of Small Pox; 23 Scarlatina; 4 Diphtheria; 5 Enteric Fever; 2 Erysipelas.

No arrangement has yet been come to with regard to the provision elsewhere of a Small Pox Hospital, which will have to be done before money can be borrowed for necessary additions to the present Hospital for general infectious cases. These comprise especially proper washing and laundry buildings, and a mortuary—as well as some rearrangement and additions for accommodation of the nursing staff; and means of classification of cases.

A small bath room and disinfecting chamber has been added, for hospital use; but the other matters are urgently needed.

By agreement, patients are received of infectious cases of all kinds, except Small Pox, from the Stonehouse and Plympton Sanitary Authorities.

The Authority of Plymouth have offered to take Small Pox cases from Devonport on board their Hospital Ship moored in Plymouth Sound; but I have already given my reasons for not advising that this offer should be accepted, on the ground of the inadvisability of exposing patients to the risk of a considerable journey by sea; indeed I have been obliged to keep a patient in his home until the weather moderated, on one occasion.

This view of the inadvisability of sending patients on board ships for treatment is borne out by the practice in the Royal Navy: where all such are replaced, where possible, by shore hospitals, the ships being used as makeshifts only. This practice on the part of such an authority afford a strong argument against the adoption of ship-hospitals by civilian Boards.

The *Hospital* arrangements have worked satisfactorily under the care of the Master and Matron, on whom so much depends for making the Institution popular. The best proof of this is the readiness of the public to avail themselves of the accommodation, compared with the prejudice met with originally. Expressions of gratitude for the care taken of the sick are by no means infrequent.

The situation makes the hospital a real sanatorium, many a child has left it much improved in health and mien owing to its being kept for some

weeks under conditions impossible in their own houses. We are indebted to the kindness of some friends for presents of toys, books, and clothes, and such are always welcome, and do much to enliven the stay in a place where many are not suffering, but merely kept isolated for the good of others. Although there have not been wanting cases which have tried the strength and attention of the nurses, who have always done their duty under severe strain cheerfully and well.

The nursing staff has been put on a more permanent footing, as it was found inadvisable and prejudicial to smooth working to have constant changes inseparable from an attempt to keep the staff always rigidly in accordance with the actual numbers under treatment. The usual staff consists of three, and as they act not only as nurses, but also carry out the duties of washing the clothing and bedding, a considerable item in such a place, and the general cleaning of the wards, this cannot be considered an excessive number.

As regards the *Small Pox Hospital*, it is to be hoped that there may be united action with other sanitary authorities. This is fortunately so rare a disease that a multiplication of hospitals for its treatment is as unnecessary as it is undesirable, and yet it is of the utmost importance that there should be always ready some place where the first cases

occurring may be isolated. The value of such a place was strikingly shown in the early part of last year, when the disease was imported by a man from South Africa, and spread to three other persons, whose connection with him was clearly traced, as is seen in the annexed report, which was drawn up at the time.

The sanitary authorities being already associated with ours for this treatment of all infectious cases except small pox, there seems no reason why there should not be equally united action for the reception of these cases also.

The military authorities have already approached ours, with a view to availing themselves of our accommodation as regards other infectious cases, and it seems likely they would also avail themselves of the opportunity afforded by a small pox hospital, when such is provided in the district.

The *Report of the Sanitary Inspector* gives evidence of the satisfactory character of the work done in the health office. The assistant inspectors act as enquiry officers in the case of all infectious diseases notified, and superintend the removal of all cases to hospital, and subsequent disinfection of premises. This is frequently elsewhere done by a separate official. In addition, hitherto the testing of all drains laid in new houses has been carried

out by them, but of this they will in future be relieved, as it will fall to the care of a special official under the surveyor. It is so important to have the town under constant supervision, that there is equal reason for the continuation of these two officials for the purpose for which they were originally appointed, house to house inspection. It is only by this means that a proper knowledge of the cases requiring attention can be gained. By this daily inspection, which is carefully registered, dilapidated buildings are reported and repaired, defects regarding cleanliness, closet accommodation, ash-bins, drainage etc. are discovered and remedied, which otherwise would remain unknown, if left to the chance of being reported. Whether we shall ever elevate the town above all need for inspection and interference remains to be seen; this much-to-be-desired end has not yet been accomplished, though much has been done by way of improvement: the record of the work done by the inspectors is a sufficient justification of their appointment and continuance. They have all shown much care and intelligence in carrying out their duties. The chief sanitary inspector is qualified by examination, and has shown especial care in carrying out the provisions of the Food and Drugs Act, as well as his ordinary duties of supervision.

My personal inspection of the piggeries greatly bears out what is said of them by the inspector.

Indeed, it is in my opinion most inadvisable that the keeping of pigs should be allowed in any place where cows are kept also. In very few instances are pigs kept as they should be, and it is highly undesirable that such an absorbent article as milk should run any risk of contamination from the neighbourhood of unsavoury styes.

The municipalization of milk is a subject which might well engage attention. It would be an excellent thing that all cow sheds, etc., should be the property of the corporation, built according to the most approved plans, and not of the makeshift character seen at present, the result of insecurity of tenure in many cases.

The report as to *Food and Drugs* is satisfactory, two adulterations of milk, by water, being found out of 16 samples, and these are the only cases out of a total of 49 taken of samples of other kinds of foods.

In connection with the removal of house refuse occurs the question of *road cleansing*. The present staff is insufficient for proper performance of this necessary process. Not only is it advisable that horse dung should be removed, and not allowed to be soaked into the road in wet weather and blown about in dry, but it is apt, with the paper washed and blown from the too-numerous advertising hoardings with which the Borough is at present orna-

mented, especially on the Stonehouse bridge, to be washed into the gutters, and thence into the street gullies, which thus are apt to become choked and offensive.

If the scavenging were carried out more frequently and at an earlier hour, by a larger staff, the men would then be available for general road sweeping duties during the day. All removal of house refuse should be concluded for the day by 9 or 10 a.m., before the main business hours commence. The presence of the cart full of offensive rubbish, constantly stirred up by additions, being a very unseemly and indeed deleterious accompaniment to the daily commercial routine of a town. Daily removal need not perhaps be practised except in the more crowded parts, and it would get rid of what is a constant source of difficulty, the provision of proper ash-bins in such places: the law requires a covered receptacle. This is often of a flimsy construction, which becomes insufficient when used by many tenants for several days. If it were obligatory to provide a Sanitary bin, which might be kept clean and in good repair by daily emptying and cleansing, this difficulty would be at an end.

In some towns the inhabitants are required to bring out their bins and place them where they can be readily removed; an excellent arrangement.

The Table annexed, for which I am indebted to the Chief Constable, is a list of all *Public Houses* which have tenants other than the landlord.

Out of the 235 Public Houses in the Borough, 73 are sub-let: of these 25 are full-licensed, and 48 Beer houses: 44 have one tenant, besides the landlord: 20 have 2: 6 have 3: 3 have 4 tenants.

The principle of sub-letting is bad from any point of view: *Sanitary, Police, and Domestic*: from the first, owing to the risk of spreading any Zymotic disease which may occur in any family in the house: though this of course is shared equally with all shops.

As a matter of *Police*, it makes it very difficult to carry out the regulations with regard to hours of closing and serving drink; and opens a door for illicit drinking, customers becoming for the nonce friends of one or other of the parties. The back doors are always open, and in at least one case, the water taps in the court were used by neighbours who had none of their own.

From a *Domestic* point of view it is bad, as giving facilities to all in the house to have drink at any time.

The objections in a *Sanitary* point of view hold good equally in all shops: from the risk of spreading infectious disease inseparable from its

presence in any house of public resort, whether it occurred in the family of the shop-keeper or of a tenant, owing to the difficulty of keeping up efficient isolation, which difficulty of course increases with the number of separate families mixed up together in the different rooms of the house, as they usually are: the same family often having rooms on more than one floor.

The custom bears witness to two facts; first that *house accommodation is very much in defect* of the demand; secondly, that there are many more public houses than are required, seeing that those landlords who sub-let, do so presumably to eke out the insufficient profits of their business.

In the present dearth of house-room, it would be hard to call upon the licensing bodies to refuse a license to all such houses; but considering the grave evils involved, it may not be too much to expect that such a restriction should be enforced when the house accommodation may meet the requirements of the population, as it may be hoped will be the case in time.

DEVONPORT COUNTY BOROUGH
POLICE.

—o—
Head Constable's Office.

List of Licensed Houses with number of Tenants.

House.	Street.	No. of Rooms.	No. of Tenants.	No. of Persons.
Adelaide Inn	Mutton Cove	3	1	5
Carpenters' Arms	Prospect Row	3	2	5
Castle and Keys	"	4	—	7
Naval Reserve	Pembroke Street	1	1	2
George Inn	"	2	1	3
Royal Sovereign	"	2	1	3
Rose and Crown	"	1	1	1
Royal Oak	"	2	2	4
Phelp's Tavern	"	2	1	1
Bird in Hand	"	2	1	5
Himalaya Inn	"	2	2	5
Prince Alfred	"	6	2	9
Musketry Arms	"	3	3	9
Apollo	Fort Street	2	2	3
Clowance Tavern	Clowance Street	2	1	2
Navy and Army	Stanley Street	2	2	6
United Service	George Street	1	1	3
White Swan	"	4	1	3
Navy Inn	Mount Street	2	1	2
Shamrock Inn	James Street	2	1	4
Shipwrights' Arms	"	1	1	3
Brewers' Arms	Duke Street	1	1	2
Foresters' Arms	"	2	1	5
Duke Street Inn	"	2	1	2
7 Cumberland Street	7 Cumberland Street	2	1	3

List of Licensed Houses, &c.—*continued.*

Houses.	Street.	No. of Rooms.	No. of Tenants	No. of Persons.
Exeter Arms	Cumberland Street	2	1	4
Army and Navy	Chapel Street	3	2	8
Golden Ball	St. Aubyn Street	4	2	6
Carlton Inn	"	4	2	9
Red Cow	Barrack Street	1	1	3
Newport Inn	Edinburgh Road	5	3	9
Stopford Arms	Stopford Place	2	1	2
Barnstaple Inn	Princes Street	7	4	16
Robin Hood	"	6	3	7
Granby Arms	Granby Street	5	3	8
Stokers' Arms	"	5	2	7
Dolphin Inn	"	3	3	4
London Spirit Vaults	Princes Street	3	1	4
Plume of Feathers	Albany Street	4	2	7
Sailors' Return	Cornwall Street	2	1	4
Queen's Arms	Queen Street	5	4	13
Standard Inn	"	4	2	10
Ordnance Inn	"	2	1	2
Gunwharf Inn	"	2	2	9
Friendship Inn	Cannon Street	2	1	5
Prince Albert	Marlborough Street	2	1	3
Steam Bridge Inn	Ferry Road	3	1	5
Crown Inn	Tamar Street	4	1	4
Bank of England	John Street	2	1	6
Freemasons' Arms	"	3	2	4
Keyham Tavern	"	4	2	10
Morice town Spirit vaults	William Street	2	1	7
Builders' Arms	Gloster Street	2	1	4
Victory Inn	"	2	1	4
Gloster Arms	"	2	1	3

List of Licensed Houses, &c.—*continued*,

Houses.	Street.	No. of Rooms.	No. of Tenants	No. of Persons
Lord Raglan	Gloster Street	1	1	1
Pym Arms	Pym Street	5	2	9
Stonemasons' Arms	Albert Road	4	2	8
Foresters' Arms	"	1	1	1
Wheat Sheaf	Garden Street	2	1	2
Douglas Castle	Charlotte Street	1	1	2
Grapes Tavern	"	Half house	use Grocer's shop	
Queen's Dock	"	2	1	4
Gashouse Inn	Keat Street	2	1	3
New Park Inn	Camperdown Street	2	1	5
York Inn	Keppel Street	2	1	3
Pear Tree Inn	Tavistock Road	4	2	4
Ringers' Arms	"	2	1	4
Blockhouse Inn	"	3	2	3
Masonic Inn	"	4	3	12
Richmond Walk Inn	Richmond Walk	5	2	9
Wilton House	55 Wilton Street	2	1	1
Which You Please	Keyham Road	4	1	5
Shakespeare Hotel	Ker Street	6	4	11

COUNTY BOROUGH OF DEVONPORT.

List of New Dwelling Houses erected within the years:

Situation.	1891. (From April).	'92	'93	'94	'95	'96
Rocky Hill Estate, lower end and East of Rocky Hill ...			32	25		63
St. George's Terrace, lower end and East of Rocky Hill ...						11
Rectory Estate ...			25	34	14	
Littleton Place, (back of Alcester Street) .						13
Camperdown Street, and District North of Pasley Street ...	5	29	17	5	6	4
Back of Alcester Street, South of Pasley Street ...			17			
Pasley Street ...	1					
Park Lodge Estate, Molesworth Road &c.				11	11	6
Molesworth Road ...		1				
Ann's Place ...						3
St. Hilary Terrace ...	3					
Back of Brunswick Cottages ...		2	1			
Back of Penlee ...			2			
Molyneaux Street, back of Pym Street ...				16		
Jackson Place, East of Rocky Hill ...						13
Pellowe Place, Do. Do. ...						11
Spencer Street ...						17
Admiralty Street ...						2
Avondale Terrace ...			5	4		6
Johnston Terrace ...		1	1			4
Carried forward ...	9	33	100	111	31	153

List of Dwelling Houses, &c.—*continued.*

Situation.	'91	'92	'93	'94	'95	'96
Brought forward ...	9	33	100	111	31	153
St. Levan Road ...			3			1
Back of 11 Gloucester Street ...	1					
Back of 10 Albert Road ...		1				
Moon Street ..						1
Stuart Road ...	8	3	3		5	4
Wilton Street ...		1	3			
Palmerston Street ...	2					
Wake Street ...		4		3		1
Alma Road, (near Earl's Acre) ...				1		
Valletort Road ...			2		1	2
Edgecuube Place ...	2					
Providence place ...						1
Wellington Street ...	1					
Waterloo Street ...		1	1			
Back of Tamar Terrace ...					5	
Back of Beyrout Place ...		2				
Belmont Villas ...					1	1
Back of 4 Tavistock Road ...					1	
Back of 65 Albert Road ...			1			
Back of 1 and 2 Tavistock Road ...			2			
74 Tavistock Road ...						
Carried forward ...	23	45	115	115	44	164

List of Dwelling Houses &c.—*continued.*

Situation.		'91	'92	'93	'94	'95	'96	
Brought forward		...	23	45	115	115	44	164
5 and 6 Nelson Terrace		...	2					
FORD.	Adelaide Street, Alexandra Road	...						7
	Seaton Cottages	...	4					
	Alfred Road	...			1			1
	Alexandra Road	...		4				
	Auckland Road	...		2				
	18 Bedford Street	...			1			
(DEVONPORT PROPER) Within the Fortifications.	33 Marlborough Street	...		1				
	James Street	...			8			
	Granby Street	...			2			
	St. John Street	...		2				1
	Morice Street	...			1			
	9 back of Cornwall Street	...			1			
	49a Cannon Street	...				1		
	16 St. Stephen Street	...	1					
Chapel Street	...	2						
Totals		...	32	50	131	118	44	173

Grand total for 5 years : 548 houses.

COUNTY BOROUGH OF DEVONPORT
List of Dwelling Houses re-erected within the year.

Situation.	1891. (From April.)	'92	'93	'94	'95	'96	
Within the Fortifications. (DEVONPORT PROPER.)	George Street ...	1					
	Ordnance Street ...	1					
	Ordnance Lane ...			3			
	Queen Street ..		2				
	Catherine Street ...		1	2			
	Fort Street ...		2				
	St. Stephen Street ...		1				
	Cumberland Street ...			6		1	
	Duke Street ...			1			
	Princes Street ...			1	2	1	
	King Street ...			4		1	
	Morice Street ...				5		
	Back of Cornwall Street ...				2		
	Fore Street ...				2		
	Granby Street ...				1		
	Monument Street ...					2	
	James Street ...						1
	Barrack Street ...						1
	Marlborough Street ...						2
	STOKE.—Belmont Place ...		3				
Totals ...	2	9	17	12	4	6	
Grand Total - - - - -		50.					

I am indebted to Mr. H. L. Damerell, Clerk in the Surveyor's Office, for these particulars, which he has got out for me with much care at my request. It will always be an interesting and useful record of the progress of the Borough at a time of exceptional activity.

The Returns of *Vaccination* cannot be considered satisfactory. Taking a period of 8 months as an example in our District, I find from the Vaccination Officer's book that there were 237 births registered. Of these, 20 died, 25 were vaccinated at the Public Station, 80 privately, and 46 were imperfectly done, by one insertion only, in Plymouth: leaving 66, or 27 per cent., unvaccinated, all of which were of an age to be done.

I have already in a previous report commented on the fact of 80 having been done imperfectly: which is almost worse than not being done at all: as it is considered by the competent authority of the Local Government Board that four insertions are required to give efficient protection against the infection of Small Pox, such a small number as one is at once therefore an evasion of the law, and an injustice to both children and the parents, which latter are deceived into a belief in the safety of the former, which their exposure at any time to the infection of Small Pox would probably rudely dispel.

It is to be desired that Boards of Guardians generally will take advantage of the permission of the Local Government Board, which has been given in some instances, to authorise the use of calf lymph by Public Vaccinators; this, although not necessary, would be a politic yeilding to the sentiment which leads many persons to dislike arm to arm vaccina-

tion ; and would take away from ignorant agitators one of their favourite arguments against vaccination generally.

In conclusion I would draw attention to the matters which require early action, and which are indeed absolutely necessary in order that the Sanitary arrangements may be really efficient.

These are: 1st. The provision of a *Mortuary* and Inquest Room with subsidiary offices.

2nd. A *Lavatory and Disinfecting Room* for the Sanitary officials concerned in the dealing with infectious cases.

3rd. A *Disinfecting Apparatus* for dealing with clothing, bedding, etc., for the use of the Town.

4th. Some re-arrangement of the *Hospital*, with provision of proper laundry and dead-house.

5th. The removal of the present *Small Pox Wards* to another site.

None of these plans involve any large expenditure: they are all under consideration, and there now seems a reasonable hope of their being brought to a practical issue.

AUGUST, 1896.

*Report of Cases of Small Pox treated in the
Borough Hospital.*

The total number of Small Pox cases received into Hospital since May, 1893, is 22.

From that date to now there have been 3 outbreaks.

In 1893. May 12th, 30th and June 6th—
3 cases

In 1894. April, 1 case: August, 6 cases:
September, 4 cases: October, 2 cases—Total, *16 cases.*

In 1896. March, 1 case: April, 2 cases—
Total, *3 cases.*

Considering the intervals between the cases in some instances it would be quite fair to count more than 3 outbreaks; but what is specially to be remarked, is the extreme value of prompt removal of each case as it occurs, not only for the efficient nursing of the case, but also in preventing its becoming a fresh centre of infection. ·

In May, 1893, 2 cases were of a mother and daughter, in Morice Town; no other occurred: the third was a doubtful one, a child in Queen Street.

In 1894, 1 case occurred in April in Jessamine Lane: no other occurred until July 21st, a

child of an artizan in Canterbury Street: no connection traceable with that in April. 3 other children were attacked consecutively: 1 in July, 2 in August. Besides this outbreak, 1 was in Chapel Street, another in York Street, no connection being traceable between any of these. 2 others were in Edinburgh Road, in August, another in Ker Street. In September 1 case was imported from London, 1 in Fort Street, another in Chapel Street, and 1 in Clowance Street, this last laid out the body of a case which died at home, being reported as Scarlatina, but probably being latent Small Pox. In October 2 cases occurred which were traced indirectly to this last case.

No case was reported in the Town in 1895.

In 1896, 3 cases were admitted, 1 in March, which was clearly traced through one other person who had it very slightly to a case which landed at Plymouth from the Cape, and after being at large for a few days, was ultimately taken on board the Pique: the second was the wife of the first, admitted into the Borough Hospital: the third came from Stonehouse, and no history was obtainable connecting it with any other.

What is to be remarked about this, is the readiness with which all these outbreaks were stopped, and the comparatively few cases attached to each: in the last severe epidemic there was no

Hospital ready to receive the earliest cases, and the disease then spread rapidly: it seems only fair then to conclude that the fact that there is now such a provision is the cause of the different course of the disorder.

Prior to the first date, May, 1893, when cases were first sent to the Borough Hospital, other cases had occurred, 12 in all, which were sent to the Pique: of these 2 died. No deaths have occurred of the 22 sent to the Borough Hospital: (though one case was sent in moribund, believed to be Scarlatina, which from appearance and the subsequent history of some persons who were in contact with it, there is reason to believe was really suppressed Small Pox).

Experience in the working of the two methods has only more and more convinced me of the superiority of a Hospital on Shore to the one on the Water, especially at an anchorage so far away from Devonport as the Sound: the difficulties of transport, the frequent changes, the long journey in possibly rough and cold weather in a steam launch, make an objection from which the other method is free: so much was I impressed with this, that on one occasion I delayed the removal of a case on account of the weather, not feeling justified in risking its removal under the circumstances: by such a procedure the safety of the individual has to be purchased at the risk of danger to the community:

every house in which a case of Small Pox remains undisturbed increases the risk of spread in its neighbourhood. The days on which, on the other hand, it would be a risk to remove a case to a Hospital on Shore, owing to weather, are few indeed: there being in this case only 2 changes, and the journey being in a warm Ambulance, along more or less protected roads, instead of the 3 changes, including a Sea-voyage in an almost open Boat.

The practical lessons deducted from this experience are: 1st—The absolute necessity of a Small Pox Hospital to check the spread of disease; and, 2nd,—in my opinion, the superiority of a Hospital on Shore to one on board Ship.

Sanitary Inspector's Report.

Municipal Offices,
Devonport.

TO THE SANITARY COMMITTEE.

GENTLEMEN,

I beg to submit for your consideration and approval my Annual Report for the year ending 1896, during which 3,900 visits to premises were made and 1,758 Sanitary amendments effected.

During the year 170 new houses have been erected; this number greatly exceeds that of the year 1895, when the number was 57; six of those houses have been erected on the sites of old houses, the remainder are new additions to, and are situated at all parts of the Borough.

The question has been asked by members of the Committee as to the supervision over the laying of the drains of new houses. I would beg to inform them that for the past four years the drains of all new houses have been examined and tested with the Smoke Test from the Interceptor near the Sewer to the highest point of the drain by your Inspectors, and every care taken to make them perfect before the Surveyor grants his certificate.

This work takes up a deal of our time, as in most cases the Smoke Test has to be applied twice to each drain, as in the case of Glenmore Avenue, where there are 62 houses; the number of tests applied were 124, or for the 170 houses the total number of tests were 308.

LIST OF NEW HOUSES ERECTED WITHIN THE
BOROUGH DURING THE YEAR.

Adelaide Place 8; Avondale Terrace, 5; Admiralty Street, 2; Ann's Place, 3; Alfred Road, 1; Belmont Villas, 2; Barrack Street, 2; Molesworth Road, 5; Glenmore Avenue, 62; Jackson Place, 13; James Street, 1; Littleton Place, 12; Marlborough Street, 2; Pellowe Place, 13; Stuart Road, 1; Spencer Street, 17; St. George's Terrace, 10; Tavistock Road, 1; Valletort Road, 3; Wake Street, 1; Providence Place, 1; Johnston Terrace, 4; Moon Street, 1. Total 170.

TABLE SHEWING SANITARY AMENDMENTS MADE AND GENERAL
NUISANCES ABATED DURING THE YEAR 1896.

Number of new drains laid	...	...	...	196
„ pipe drains repaired...	...	...	...	359
„ pipe drains intercepted	...	...	...	208
„ pipe drains ventilated...	...	...	...	49
„ choked drains cleared	...	...	...	116
„ W.C.'s repaired, including pans, flooring &c	...	...	...	238
„ courtyards repaired	...	...	...	195
„ houses cleansed and limewashed	...	...	...	47
„ refuse receptacles provided	...	...	...	137

Number of disused wells destroyed	...	...	4
„ shutes repaired	...	...	54
„ cellar coverings repaired	...	...	13
„ stoneware gullies provided	...	...	109
„ legal notices served	...	...	476
„ informal notices served	...	...	34
Total number of amendments made	...	...	<u>1758</u>

SMOKE TEST APPLIED.

Tests applied to new houses before granting Surveyor's certificate	...	...	308
Test applied after Infectious Diseases	...	...	49
Tests applied before and after workmen, and from applications	...	...	<u>256</u>
Total number of Tests	...	...	613

INFECTIOUS DISEASES.

160 cases of Infectious Diseases were notified to the Medical Officer of Health, this being 6 cases less than in the year 1895. Each case has, under the direction of the Medical of Health, been visited, warnings given, all necessary information obtained, isolation enforced, and the houses thoroughly disinfected when the cases were finished with.

There were two cases of Small Pox reported from Seaton Place, Ford; they were promptly removed to the Borough Hospital and the house thoroughly disinfected and cleansed, hence no further cases occurred.

Total number of cases reported	...	160
„ „ removed to Hospital	...	38
„ „ ☼ houses disinfected	...	193
„ „ notices sent to Schools, Libraries and Employers		480
„ „ drains tested	... ..	49
„ „ ☼ visits made under the Act		460

☼ This includes Forty-nine cases of Measles and Whooping Cough.

SLAUGHTER HOUSES.

The Slaughter Houses in the Borough are inspected once every week, and are kept as far as possible in good condition, no complaints having been received during the year.

SLAUGHTER HOUSES.

Total number on Register	... ..	14
„ „ of complaints	... ..	0
„ „ notices served	... ..	0
„ „ visits for year	... ..	52

OFFENSIVE TRADES.

The Factories wherein those trades are carried on have been regularly inspected and kept in good condition.

OFFENSIVE TRADES.

Blood burning Factory	...	1
Bone boiling	„ ...	1
Gut scraping	„ ...	1
Tripe	„ ...	1
Number of visits during year		21

DISEASES OF ANIMALS ACT, 1894,
COMMITTEE.

GENTLEMEN,

I have the honour to submit for your approval my Annual Report as Inspector under the above Act.

During the year, two cases of suspected swine Fever were reported, one from Mr. W. Maddock's Farm at the back of Ann's Place, and the other from Admiralty House, Mount Wise. In the first case it was found by the Board of Agriculture to be a *bona fide* case; they ordered the destruction of the whole of the Pigs, and compensated the owner. The second case was found not to be Swine Fever.

I am pleased to be able to state that no other cases of Diseases among Animals within the Borough have occurred during the year.

Some time since I was desired by the Committee to make a report on the Piggeries within the Borough. In doing so I would beg to inform you that throughout the Borough there are 45 Piggeries, of which 34 are kept by Cowkeepers, the others are kept by Pig feeders and other individuals.

There are very few of those places adapted for the proper keeping of Pigs, and out of the whole number there are not more than 8 efficiently paved,

drained, and ventilated; with the others, some are paved and not drained or *vice versa*, whilst others are neither drained or paved satisfactorily. In most cases the structural condition of the sheds is bad.

DAIRIES, COWSHEDS, AND MILKSHOPS.

The Dairies, Cowsheds and Milkshops within the Borough have been regularly inspected, and kept in good condition. As I have before pointed out, several of the Cowsheds which are constructed of wood are gradually falling into decay.

DAIRIES, COWSHEDS, AND MILKSHOPS.

	Dairies.	Cowsheds.	Milkshops	Total.
Number on Register	36	45	57	138
„ in good condition ...	34	43	57	135
„ in fair condition ...	2	1	0	3
„ in bad condition ...	0	1	0	1
„ transferred ...	1	1	4	6
„ closed ...	5	3	5	13
„ registered ...	2	1	4	7
„ visits during year ...	12	12	12	

TO THE FOOD AND DRUGS ACT
COMMITTEE.

GENTLEMEN,

I beg to submit for your approval my Annual Report as Inspector under the Acts. During the year, 49 samples were purchased, of these 46 were submitted to the Analyst, with the result that 2 samples were found to be adulterated. Proceedings were taken against the defendants, with the result that they were fined £5 and £1 respectively.

FOOD AND DRUGS TABLE.

No. of Samples.	Description of Articles submitted.	Number Genuine.	Number Adulterated
16	Milk ...	14	2
9	Butter ...	9	
12	Cream ...	12	
3	Whisky ...	3	
3	Brandy ...	3	
3	Gin ...	3	
3	Rum ...	3	
49		47	

I have the honour to remain,

Gentlemen,

Your obedient servant,

GEORGE THOMAS GEATON,

Inspector.

TO THE BOARD AND JURORS AT THE
 COURT OF COMMONS
 GEORGE THOMAS GLETON

I beg to inform the Court and the Jurors that the Report as prepared under the Act, during the year 1864, was submitted to the Board, and that the same were found to be satisfactory. I have the honor to remain,
 Sir, your obedient servant,
 GEORGE THOMAS GLETON

No. of Reports	Respectively in the Year	Number of Reports Submitted
1	1864	1
2	1865	2
3	1866	3
4	1867	4
5	1868	5
6	1869	6
7	1870	7
8	1871	8
9	1872	9
10	1873	10
11	1874	11
12	1875	12
13	1876	13
14	1877	14
15	1878	15
16	1879	16
17	1880	17
18	1881	18
19	1882	19
20	1883	20
21	1884	21
22	1885	22
23	1886	23
24	1887	24
25	1888	25
26	1889	26
27	1890	27
28	1891	28
29	1892	29
30	1893	30
31	1894	31
32	1895	32
33	1896	33
34	1897	34
35	1898	35
36	1899	36
37	1900	37
38	1901	38
39	1902	39
40	1903	40
41	1904	41
42	1905	42
43	1906	43
44	1907	44
45	1908	45
46	1909	46
47	1910	47
48	1911	48
49	1912	49
50	1913	50
51	1914	51
52	1915	52
53	1916	53
54	1917	54
55	1918	55
56	1919	56
57	1920	57
58	1921	58
59	1922	59
60	1923	60
61	1924	61
62	1925	62
63	1926	63
64	1927	64
65	1928	65
66	1929	66
67	1930	67
68	1931	68
69	1932	69
70	1933	70
71	1934	71
72	1935	72
73	1936	73
74	1937	74
75	1938	75
76	1939	76
77	1940	77
78	1941	78
79	1942	79
80	1943	80
81	1944	81
82	1945	82
83	1946	83
84	1947	84
85	1948	85
86	1949	86
87	1950	87
88	1951	88
89	1952	89
90	1953	90
91	1954	91
92	1955	92
93	1956	93
94	1957	94
95	1958	95
96	1959	96
97	1960	97
98	1961	98
99	1962	99
100	1963	100

I have the honor to remain,
 Sir, your obedient servant,
 GEORGE THOMAS GLETON
 Inspector