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Contributors

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THE GREAT YARMOUTH

Urban & Port Sanitary Authority.

THE

ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE

Medical Officer of Health

FOR 1895.

—:O:—

PRINTED BY ORDER OF THE SANITARY AUTHORITY.

—:O:—

Great Yarmouth:

J. BUCKLE, STEAM PRINTER, 36, KING STREET.

1896.



URBAN REPORT.

TO THE GREAT YARMOUTH URBAN SANITARY
AUTHORITY.

GENTLEMEN,

The following I respectfully submit for your consideration as my Annual Report for 1895.

The estimated population of this Borough stood, on the 1st of last July, at 50,401, and by the end of the year it had probably increased to 50,528.

The vital statistics I have to call your attention to refer to the fifty-three weeks ending with the 4th of last January, and during that time there were registered, as occurring within the limits of your district,

1,473 BIRTHS and 960 DEATHS.

By applying these figures to the estimated population as given for the middle of last year, there evolves a

BIRTH RATE of 29·22 and a

DEATH RATE of 19·04 per 1,000.

Of all the births 6·1 per cent. were illegitimate. Rather over 18 per cent. of the baby population of last year died before it was a twelvemonth old; children born in wedlock going at the rate of 17·8 per cent., whilst those of questionable parentage went at the rate of 24·1 per cent. The national mortality of infants under one year was 16·1 per cent.

The increase of births over deaths were in the North District, 132; in the South District, 148; in Gorleston and Southtown, 214; and in Runham Vauxhall, 19; making a total of 513. We know from the figures revealed to us by recent censuses that no such increase is permanently added to our population; in fact, we cannot calculate upon even so much as half that number staying with us.

The estimated population I have apportioned to each of the three registration districts within this borough is given in the official table on page 9, and the death rates arising in the same localities were as under:—

20·51	per	1,000	in	the	Northern	District,
20·44	„	„	„	Southern	„	and
14·57	„	„	„	Gorleston	and	Southtown.

At the Workhouse, in the Northern District, there were 80 deaths of townspeople and two strangers. At the Royal Naval Asylum, in the Southern, there were 15 deaths of men belonging to the Royal Navy, and at the Public Hospital, in the same district, there were 33 deaths. How many strangers or visitors were included in the Yarmouth death roll of last year I am unable to say, as my information in this particular is very fragmentary. Only the Registrar of the North District obliged me by noting on his weekly death return the fact of any of the deceased being “strangers” to Yarmouth, and he indicated 9 such. The majority of these were visitors.

The table of deaths on pages 6 and 7 is in accordance with the Local Government Board's direction, and exhibits many particulars as to ages and causes of death within your sanitary district during 1895. I have supplemented it by giving the totals of like particulars for several years past, so that comparison of the various years may be made.

Of those Zymotic diseases the Registrar General takes special cognizance of as indicative of insanitary conditions, and which he quotes against us, there were within the Borough during last year 140 deaths, producing a death rate of 2·77 per 1,000 of the persons then living here. These figures, with the chief of those given on previous pages, I here tabulate, so as to bring them into contrast with the averages of the ten years last past.

Periods.	Births.	Rate.	Deaths.	Rate.	Zymotic Deaths.	Rate.
During 1895	1473	29·22	960	19·04	140	2·77
Average of ten } years, 1885-94 }	1538	31·14	967	19·58	122	2·48

It would be exceedingly interesting to know how the above rates compare with those of other towns of similar size to Yarmouth, but the Registrar General, in his Quarterly Reports, does not now give the birth or death rates for each of the towns he groups with Yarmouth. He, however, gives certain death rates for large aggregates of population, which enables me to place before you the following table.

Annual death rates per 1,000 from all causes, and from the principal Zymotic diseases during 1895 :—

	All Causes.	Princpl. Zymotic Disease	Small-pox.	Measles	Scarlet Fever.	Diphtheria.	Whoop- ing Cough.	Fever.	Diarrhoea
England and Wales	18·7	2·12	0·00	0·36	0·14	0·25	0·30	0·17	0·88
33 Great Towns ..	20·6	2·83	0·01	0·53	0·18	0·35	0·36	0·20	1·19
67 other Towns (including Yarmouth)	18·8	2·41	0·00	0·37	0·15	0·23	0·31	0·21	1·12
England & Wales } less the 100 Towns }	17·4	1·61	0·00	0·25	0·12	0·19	0·25	0·15	0·63
Yarmouth (alone)	19·04	2·77	0·00	0·41	0·11	0·11	0·09	0·33	1·68

TABLE OF

During the year 1895, in the Urban Sanitary District of Great Yarmouth,

Names of Localities adopted for the purposes of these Statistics. (a)	Mortality from all causes, at subjoined ages.						
	At all ages. (b)	Under 1 year. (c)	1 and under 5. (d)	5 and under 15. (e)	15 and under 25 (f)	25 and under 65. (g)	65 and upwards. (h)
NORTHERN DISTRICT	440	96	44	13	17	122	148
SOUTHERN DISTRICT	324	110	28	10	10	83	83
GORLESTON & SOUTHTOWN	182	56	11	3	5	50	57
RUNHAM VAUXHALL	14	7	—	—	—	3	4
TOTALS ..	960	269	83	26	32	258	292
During the Year 1894 ..	790	189	77	38	37	213	236
Ditto 1893 ..	980	249	98	51	43	297	242
Ditto 1892 ..	1030	231	122	29	48	290	310
Ditto 1891 ..	1042	248	133	52	36	260	295
Ditto 1890 ..	986	271	90	50	42	222	311
Ditto 1889 ..	875	249	79	37	48	197	265
Ditto 1888 ..	1002	290	82	28	43	258	301
Ditto 1887 ..	986	265	129	31	57	214	290
Ditto 1886 ..	1087	348	123	25	42	221	328

DEATHS,

classified according to Diseases, Ages and Localities.

Mortality from subjoined causes, distinguishing Deaths of Children under Five Years of age.

(i)	Smallpox.	Scarlatina.	Diphtheria.	Membranous Croup.	Fevers.				Typhus	Enteric or Typhoid.	Continued.	Relapsing.	Puerperal.	Cholera.	Erysipelas.	Measles.	Whooping Cough	Diarrhoea and Dysentery.	Rheumatic Fever	Phthisis.	Bronchitis, Pneumonia & Pleurisy.	Heart Disease.	Influenza.	Injuries.	All other Diseases	Total.
					5	6	7	8																		
Under 5	—	1	2	1	—	0	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	0	10	4	22	0	2	21	0	0	2	75	140	
5 upwds	—	2	1	0	—	7	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	2	0	5	2	24	39	39	15	6	157	300	
Under 5	—	2	0	1	—	1	—	—	0	—	—	0	—	0	7	1	40	—	0	13	0	1	2	70	138	
5 upwds	—	0	2	0	—	3	—	—	2	—	—	2	—	1	1	0	3	—	18	18	27	7	12	92	186	
Under 5	—	1	1	—	—	0	—	—	0	—	—	0	—	0	1	—	14	0	0	11	0	0	3	36	67	
5 upwds	—	0	0	—	—	3	—	—	1	—	—	1	—	1	0	—	0	1	4	20	16	5	11	53	115	
Under 5	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	2	0	—	—	4	7	
5 upwds	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	0	—	—	0	3	—	—	4	7	
Under 5	—	4	3	2	—	1	—	—	0	—	—	0	—	0	18	5	77	0	2	47	0	1	7	185	352	
5 upwds	—	2	3	0	—	13	—	—	3	—	—	3	—	3	3	0	8	3	46	77	85	27	29	306	608	
Under 5	—	5	11	2	—	0	—	—	0	—	—	0	—	1	5	17	10	0	1	61	0	—	9	144	266	
5 upwds	—	2	3	2	—	11	—	—	1	—	—	1	—	2	0	0	2	4	44	66	71	—	26	290	524	
Under 5	—	4	7	3	—	3	0	—	0	0	—	0	—	1	10	16	54	0	2	64	0	—	8	175	347	
5 upwds	—	7	8	0	—	15	2	—	3	3	—	3	—	6	3	0	16	5	50	98	65	—	24	328	433	
Under 5	2	7	3	3	—	1	—	—	0	—	—	0	—	0	5	36	32	—	2	71	0	—	13	178	353	
5 upwds	2	3	5	0	—	18	—	—	1	—	—	2	—	2	0	1	7	—	63	142	59	—	29	344	677	
Under 5	—	10	9	3	—	2	0	—	0	—	—	0	—	1	18	22	38	0	1	78	0	—	6	193	381	
5 upwds	—	1	10	0	—	28	3	—	3	—	—	3	—	3	1	0	8	3	69	97	56	—	33	328	643	
Under 5	—	1	3	2	—	1	1	—	0	—	—	0	—	0	2	21	46	0	9	60	0	—	6	209	361	
5 upwds	—	0	0	1	—	32	2	—	4	—	—	4	—	3	0	2	12	2	63	96	51	—	26	331	625	
Under 5	—	—	1	3	—	4	—	—	0	—	—	0	—	3	18	1	53	0	10	56	0	—	8	174	328	
5 upwds	—	—	1	2	—	21	—	—	2	—	—	2	—	0	2	0	5	2	59	55	54	—	31	310	574	
Under 5	1	—	1	7	0	0	0	—	0	—	—	0	—	2	1	11	65	0	9	55	1	—	5	214	372	
5 upwds	0	—	1	0	1	19	3	—	3	—	—	3	—	1	0	0	6	2	60	108	62	—	35	330	630	
Under 5	—	4	2	8	—	4	—	—	0	0	—	0	—	1	25	14	42	0	1	92	1	—	6	194	394	
5 upwds	—	3	0	3	—	18	—	—	5	1	—	5	—	3	0	2	1	1	64	87	66	—	42	295	592	
Under 5	—	14	2	5	—	0	0	—	0	—	—	0	—	1	11	28	89	2	2	54	1	—	12	250	471	
5 upwds	—	4	1	0	—	14	1	—	2	—	—	2	—	4	1	0	6	3	54	102	49	—	23	352	616	

The first line of figures relates to England and Wales as a whole, *i.e.*, all urban and rural districts massed together; the second line relates to London and the great centres of trade and commerce, wherein the conditions of health in the aggregate are generally considered most unfavourable; the third line relates to the large urban districts; while the fourth line relates to all the small towns and rural districts in which the conditions of health are most favourable; the fifth line, relating to Yarmouth alone, is from my own data.

From the above table it will be seen that the Yarmouth gross death rate last year was higher than the average of the urban districts the Registrar General associates our town with, but it was not higher than the average of the previous ten years of Yarmouth itself. The death rate of 1894 was unprecedentedly low throughout the Kingdom, and here in Yarmouth it was 15·75, the lowest I have ever recorded. In the natural course of events a sub-normal mortality cannot be maintained for long; and if the subsequent rise is moderate and does not exceed the average rate, all that we can reasonably hope for is obtained. It may be interesting to note that 331 of the deaths were those of persons well advanced in years, *viz.* :—

117	Were	between	60	and	70
136	,,	,,	70	,,	80
67	,,	,,	80	,,	90
and 11 were over 90.					

From considering our last year's record of deaths, we now pass to our record of illnesses caused by infectious diseases, and made known to us through the operation of the Notification Act. The following table of the numbers, nature and locality of such illnesses, is prepared by direction of the Local Government Board, and it also indicates

the numbers of such cases treated at the Isolation Hospital. Of the 376 cases reported, 101 were received into your Hospital, *i.e.* nearly 26 per cent. This is the largest total number and also the largest proportion of the cases notified ever received into your hospital in any one year. Evidently the public are appreciating the benefits of the institution, which is now free to all residents in the borough. Apparently the day is fast approaching when not a proportion only, but a vast majority of cases of infectious disease will have to be provided for at the public expense. Several times during the year we have had the hospital quite full, and further accommodation both in wards and administrative building must be soon provided.

By the table I have placed hereunder, you may see the monthly record of notified cases of each of the infectious diseases, and the deaths resulting throughout the year.

MONTH.	Diphtheria.		Membranous Croup		Erysipelas.		Scarlet Fever.		Typhoid.		Continued.		Puerperal.	
	Sickness	Deaths	Sickness	Deaths	Sickness	Deaths	Sickness	Deaths	Sickness	Deaths	Sickness	Deaths	Sickness	Deaths
JANUARY	4	2	1	..	7	1	13	3	10	2	1	..	..	..
FEBRUARY	1	..	..	..	3	..	10	..	5	..	2	..	..	..
MARCH	1	1	1	1	4	1	8	..	6	4	2	..	..	..
APRIL	1	..	..	..	..	..	5	1	1	..	..	..	1	1
MAY	1	..	..	..	..	..	3	..	6	..	..	..	..	..
JUNE	4	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	5	..	..	..	..	1
JULY	6	..	..	..	2	..	12	..	7	1	..	..	..	..
AUGUST	..	..	..	..	1	..	15	1	10	..	5	..	..	..
SEPTEMBER	4	..	1	1	5	..	10	..	31	1	14	..	1	..
OCTOBER	2	1	..	..	1	..	10	..	28	1	4	..	..	1
NOVEMBER	10	2	..	..	4	1	18	1	21	3	4	..	..	..
DECEMBER	..	..	..	..	2	..	17	..	20	2	5	..	..	..
Totals	34	6	3	2	29	3	121	6	150	14	37	..	2	3

Although no case of small pox was reported any time last year, it seems desirable to note how far vaccination has been carried out in this borough in recent years, so that you may the more readily estimate the danger we

stand in relation to that disease. The following table is compiled from figures given in the successive reports of the Medical Officer of the Local Government Board.

Years.	Births.	Successfully Vaccinated.	Insusceptible of Vaccination.	Had Small pox.	Died Unvaccinated.	Vaccination postponed.	Remaining.	Children not finally accounted for (including cases postponed) per cent. of births.
1885	1189	993	∴	∴	123	31	42	6.1
1886	1314	1031	1	∴	180	46	56	7.8
1887	1190	939	3	∴	137	39	72	9.3
1888	1237	896	2	∴	150	38	151	15.3
1889	1172	900	2	∴	132	29	109	11.8
1890	1525	1176	6	∴	177	33	133	10.9
1891	1528	1191	5	∴	166	32	134	10.9

Attached to the figures for 1888 the Medical Officer gives others of a significant character. "Children remaining unaccounted for when the returns for the several years were received.

Total number for the years 1883-87 - 408

Average per centage for the years 1883-87 - 6.6"

It is much to be regretted so many children have been allowed to escape vaccination, for unquestionably, small pox is still the same virulent and fatal disease it ever was amongst the unprotected. Why such an essentially hygienic precaution as vaccination should have been so long left in the hands of the Poor Law authorities one cannot possibly imagine, as it is for the benefit of the whole community and not paupers only. Surely the Sanitary Authorities would be the more energetic administrators of the Vaccination Laws which are generally considered the first of all sanitary enactments.

That Typhoid should continue, notwithstanding the vast improvements of recent years in public and private sanitation, is somewhat disheartening, and realizing the

frequent intimate connexion of this disease with the drinking water, you naturally feel concern for the purity of the Company's supply. On this account you recently caused samples to be analysed by Professor Duprè and Mr. A. Winter Blyth, and the reports of those gentleman were laid before you and considered satisfactory. Indeed, Mr. Blyth says "I have no hesitation in stating that the water supply of the town is perfectly wholesome and that it has been well filtered."

Much of the Scarlet Fever was brought us by convalescents from other towns, for no sooner had we apparently got rid of the infection than the influx of summer visitors lit up the disease afresh. This is the experiences of other health resorts, and until people recognise their duty of being careful for the health of others we can have no surety against damage of this kind. The redeeming feature is the greater willingness patients are now showing for removal to the Isolation Hospital.





SANITARY WORK.

NUISANCE REMOVAL.

The total number of notices issued from the Town Clerk's Office last year for the suppression of nuisances were	...	...	923
Of these the number arising upon			
Inspector Crane's work were	...	..	745
Inspector Hassell's	„	..	178

As mentioned in my last annual report, your sanitary district is now served by two Inspectors of Nuisances, each having a definite portion of the borough under his charge. Inspector Crane has all the town north of St. Peter's Road and St. Peter's Paved Rows, together with the locality over the Bure known as Runham Vauxhall. Inspector Hassall has all the rest of the town, with Gorleston and Southtown and Cobholm Island. This division seems the best possible to make in view of the long stragling district of Gorleston and Southtown, and the importance of the Inspector having charge of this locality living in the midst of it. They are appointed "each of them an Inspector under the acts and orders hereinafter mentioned with power to exercise and take such steps and proceedings as an Inspector may lawfully exercise and take under the Public Health Acts; the

Sale of Foods and Drugs Acts; the Dairies, Cowsheds and Milkshops Orders; the Margarine Act, 1887; the Sale of Horse Flesh, &c., Regulation Act, 1889; the Factory and Workshops Acts; the Housing of Working Classes Acts; and the Shop Hours Acts.”

The work both officers have been engaged upon is set out in there respective reports which follow :—

Report of Inspector Crane for the year ending December 31st, 1895.

“The following Table give the particulars of works for the abatement of Nuisances during the above period. The work in connection with the Row district is shown separately :—

	General Work.	Row District.	Total.
Offensive privies converted into w.c's.	81	143	224
Gullies fixed in yards ..	24	155	179
Yards repaved	32	55	87
Sink pipes disconnected from drains	24	—	24
Drains cleansed	38	—	38
New drains laid	3	5	8
Defective drains repaired ..	34	—	34
Defective gullies removed ..	25	—	25
w.c's. provided with flushing apparatus	19	—	19
Soil pipes ventilated	10	—	10
Polluted wells closed	15	12	27
Privies removed or repaired ..	5	10	15
Disused cisterns filled up ..	11	8	19
Houses cleansed	10	—	10
Defective w.c's. removed or repaired	29	—	29
Slaughter houses and cow sheds repaired	7	—	7
Water supply provided	6	—	6
Houses closed	—	6	6
	397	404	801

“ For the carrying out of the above work 382 notices have been issued from the Town Clerk's Office ; 311 have been complied with, leaving 71 outstanding at the end of the year.

“ Much of my time during the early part of the year was given to the work of cleansing and drying the houses invaded by the flood of Christmas 1894, and although many persons acted upon my verbal instruction several hundred had formal orders from the Town Clerk's Office.

“ The common lodging houses have had my frequent attention, and considerable improvements have been made in the sanitary arrangements at these houses, one license has been cancelled during the year, there are now eight houses licensed with accommodation for 207 persons.

“ The slaughter houses, cow sheds, milk shops and fish shops have been frequently visited, and, with one or two exceptions, found in fair condition.

“ 98 houses in which infectious disease was notified were inspected, and 53 patients removed to hospital, also 61 houses have been disinfected.

“ The Sale of Foods and Drugs Act. Under this Act 25 samples have been taken for analysis, 19 were pure and 6 adulterated. Prosecutions were instituted in these cases and convictions obtained each case.

JOSEPH CRANE, *Inspector of Nuisances.*”

*Report of Inspector Hassall for the seven months ending
December 31st, 1895.*

“ My duty commenced on June 1st, since when to the end of the year the following work passed through my hands.

GENERAL WORK.

Sanitary notices issued from Town Clerk's Office			
by order of Committee	...	...	186
Sanitary notices complied with	...	...	151
Ditto	in Tradesmen's hands for completion	...	7
Ditto	unattended to	...	28
Works carried out and nuisances abated by informal and verbal orders	...	...	120
Number of visits investigating complaints	...	...	69
Ditto	and revisits in order to secure completion of work	...	476

PARTICULARS OF WORK.

Visits to premises upon notification of infectious diseases	...	...	...	130
Patients removed to Isolation Hospital	...	...	...	56
Houses disinfected after infectious disease and articles of bedding and clothing disinfected	...	...	...	47
Privies abolished and replaced with w.c.'s.	...	...	...	51
New drains laid entirely	...	...	...	17
Drains partly relaid	...	...	...	46
Earthenware gullies fixed in yards	...	...	...	106
Repairs to defective and cleanse choked drains	...	...	...	49
Closets provided with flushing cisterns	...	...	...	6
Filthy houses cleansed on certificate of M.O.H.	...	...	...	2
Ditto	do.	informal notices	...	4
Offensive accumulations removed	...	...	...	15
Overcrowding abated	...	...	...	4
Keeping of pigs and other animals prohibited	...	...	...	5
Smoke nuisance abated	...	...	...	1
Polluted wells closed and Company's water laid on houses	...	...	...	16
Privies removed, reconstructed and repaired	...	...	...	19

Sink and lavatory waste pipes trapped and made to discharge outside houses	...	...	14
Yards and passages relaid or concreted	...	...	51
Defective brick and iron gullies removed	...	...	22
Soil pipes of internal w.c.'s. and drains ventilated and repaired	...	...	9
New soil pipes erected outside houses	...	...	2
Rain water cisterns (underground) filled up	...	...	5
Roofs and eaves spouting repaired	...	...	10
Slaughter houses repaired and cleansed	...	...	4
Ventilation provided under floor spaces	...	...	10
Urinals screened, drained and repaired	...	...	5
Cowsheds and dairies cleansed, drained ventilated and repaired	...	...	6
Bakehouses cleansed	...	...	6
Rain water pipes cut off from foul drains	...	...	17
Defective walls repaired	...	...	12
Water closets repaired and pan closets abolished	...	...	13
Smoke test applied to house drains	...	...	11
Samples of well water submitted by M.O.H.	...	...	7
		Total	<u>545</u>

DAIRIES, COWSHEDS AND MILK SHOPS.

Total number of Dairies, Cowsheds and Milk Shops on register	...	...	48
Total number inspections made	...	...	229
Ditto found in good condition	...	...	23
Ditto do. fair do.	...	...	14
Ditto do. bad (since remedied)	...	...	4

SLAUGHTER HOUSES.

Number on register	...	...	6
Number visits made	...	...	29

BAKE HOUSES.

Number on register	...	...	...	33
Inspections made	...	...	...	72
Number found in good condition	...	...	...	15
Ditto do. fair	do.	...	...	10
Ditto do. dirty	do.	(since cleansed)		6

OFFENSIVE TRADES.

Number on register	...	...	...	2
Do. visits made	...	...	...	19

FISH SHOPS.

Number on register	...	...	...	15
Do. visits made	...	...	...	113

HOUSING OF THE WORKING CLASSES ACT, 1890.

Notices served	...	...	...	4
Closing orders served by order of Justices	...	...	...	1
Houses made habitable	...	...	...	3

“It is satisfactory to state that proceedings have only had to be taken in two cases to abate nuisances.

“The scavenging for Gorleston, Southtown and Cobholm Island, as you are aware, is done by contract. 51 notices have been served to empty and cleanse privies, remove domestic refuse and accumulations of filth, etc., and it is gratifying for me to report that my instructions have been carried out and the scavenging done in a satisfactory manner, only on one occasion have I had to recommend you to fine the contractor for neglect.

SAMUEL HASSALL, *Inspector of Nuisances.*”

The Inspector of Fish reports that during last year he seized and caused to be destroyed the following quantities of unwholesome fish:—

	Tons cwt. qrs.		
95 Boxes of Trawl Fish estimated to weigh	3	11	2
5 Swills of Mackerel	„	„	10 0
2 Bags of Winkles	„	„	1 2
2 Bags of Cockles	„	„	2 0
105 Swills of Herrings	„	„	10 10 0
			—————
			14 15 0
			—————

—:0:—

The increasing demands Public Health Work has made upon my time now for several years past has practically drawn me off from private practice altogether. A daily attendance at the Sanitary Office, to direct and advise the Inspectors, frequent visits to houses and localities in which they have sanitary matters on hand, a personal inspection of very many of the houses in which infectious cases occur, a superintendance and direction of the Isolation Hospital, attendances at evening committees generally once a week, besides others for special purposes, and much else of public service, leaves one but little time for other professional work.





PORT SANITARY AFFAIRS.

TO THE GREAT YARMOUTH PORT SANITARY AUTHORITY.
GENTLEMEN,

By the courtesy of the Customs Authorities, I am informed there were upon the Register of this Port on the 31st of last December,

74 Merchant Vessels and 583 Fishing Vessels.

Apparently no information is forthcoming as to the number of men forming the crews of the Merchant vessels, and it is suggested those sailing in the Fishing vessels would probably number 3500.

The number of arrivals during last year were 1,044 coming coastwise, and 287 coming over sea. Many of these arrivals, especially those coastwise, are periodical traders to this port, and in the above figures some such vessels are re-counted as many as 52 times.

In point of fact, including foreigners, we had here about 407 vessels from other ports, and they brought crews numbering 2754 persons.

No case of infectious sickness was brought us from foreign. Two cases of Typhoid were landed from the fishing fleet, and one case of scarlet fever came here by a vessel from London.

During the year several smacks were lost at sea with all hands, thus taking 36 lives ; 48 other lives were lost singly by the men being washed overboard, or killed by accident. In all 84 deaths at sea were reported at the Custom House.

Under my supervision the Port Sanitary Inspector has done his work systematically, and I believe, efficiently. He has reported his proceedings by his journal and diary to your Sub-Sanitary Committee twice each month, and has informed me daily of his action and every matter of any moment coming under his cognizance. He has also frequently had my advice and direction, and, sometimes with him, and at others without him, I have checked his work by visiting vessels and seeing that his orders were necessary and properly carried out. His annual Report, which gives details of the duty he performed during 1895 is as follows :—

“ I inspected 1258 vessels in all, viz :—

407 Steamers and Merchant Vessels.
657 Smacks and Fishing Boats, and
194 Yachts and Wherries.

“ Of these I found 661 satisfactorily clean, and 597 requiring cleansing in some one or more particulars. Of these latter I saw that my directions were carried out on board of 581 vessels, and on the 31st of last December on 16 vessels was work still in progress, or the vessel had gone on voyage. In superintending the cleansing work I directed on the above-mentioned vessels I made second and third visits to many, so that after the 1258 inspections I made 1004 subsequent visits, in all I made 2262 visits during the year.

“ The nature of my directions were as under :—

To cleanse generally cabin or forecastle	...	121
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To cleanse and whitewash bunks	381
To wash clothes or bedding	2
To cleanse biscuit lockers or meat casks	43
To empty foul or suspected drinking water over board, and to cleanse tanks or casks	...	...	67
To pump out and cleanse bilges	...	...	21
To cleanse closets (w.c.)	...	...	37
Vessels supplied with fresh water in lieu of that thrown overboard as coming from suspected ports, as per Local Government Board order			39
Vessels supplied with disinfectants by reason of offensive cargoes	...	...	16
			—
“ Total number of orders given			727
			—

“ The nationalities of the stranger vessels arriving here last year, specifying the numbers of them I found dirty in some one or more particulars, and the number of seamen those vessels carried, I give hereunder :—

No. and Nationality of Vessels.	No. of Vessels found more or less dirty.	No. of Seamen.
223 English (of other Ports than Yarmouth)	...	60
57 Norwegian	...	9
35 Swedish	...	8
20 Danish	...	1
14 Russian	...	8
15 German	...	2
3 French	...	—
35 Dutch	...	5
5 Belgian	...	—
		1246
		469
		284
		118
		140
		131
		61
		264
		41

“ The above figures clearly show that of the countries bordering on the Baltic and North Sea, vessels hailing from Germany and Denmark were the cleanest, while those

from Russia were the dirtiest. And this is true, not only in the proportionate number of nuisances, but also in the relative degree of filthiness. As far as my observation goes, British vessels in the matter of cleanliness are very disappointing, and might, with advantage, be kept much cleaner and more wholesome than I have generally found them. Of thirteen Welch vessels coming to this port last year only three were satisfactorily clean.

“My routine work has been a daily round of the Harbour visiting vessels, and a daily intercourse with Custom Officers, pilots and others, from whom I might gather information to aid me in my duty. I have also given much attention to wherries and other river craft, and in order to place myself more in touch with the owners of all such as are used for pleasure purposes upon the rivers and broads during the summer months, *i.e.*, used as dwellings, I made several journeys last May to the chief places on the rivers where pleasure craft were fitting out for the summer season, and carefully inspected all such vessels. Generally I found them satisfactory, and in the few instances I suggested improvements, the owners very willingly did them. During August I went up the river Bure as far as Stalham and Potter Heigham, and my inspection of pleasure craft in actual occupation was welcomed and appreciated by the people on board those vessels.

“As custodian of the mortuary at Gorleston Pier, I have to report nine bodies were received there during last year.

“The difficulty I spoke of last year in obtaining an immediate supply of fresh drinking water for vessels from oversea, has since been remedied, and I have now two water taps conveniently placed and under my charge

whence I can draw water direct from the Company's mains at any moment. Also the Company has placed a plug at each of two Quays where foreign vessels usually moor, so that now vessels can fill their tanks with the least possible inconvenience.

“In concluding this my second annual report, I may again refer to the smooth and steady progress I have made with the sanitation of vessels using this port. Nothing of any difficulty arose last year, and no one really withstood my orders or directions.

HENRY DENTON, *Port Sanitary Inspector.*”

The Inspector is doing good work for the benefit of the seamen and fishermen of this port, they live in more healthy condition afloat than formerly. The vigilance created here by the cholera scare three years ago is still maintained, but it is a matter for regret this is not the case at all English ports. One can hardly be surprised, inasmuch as practically no encouragement is given the ports to do a duty which is national in importance although only local in operation.

I respectfully submit the foregoing for your consideration,

And am Gentlemen,

Yours obediently,

JOHN BATELY, M.D.,

Medical Officer of Health.

