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Contributors

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REPORT

OF THE

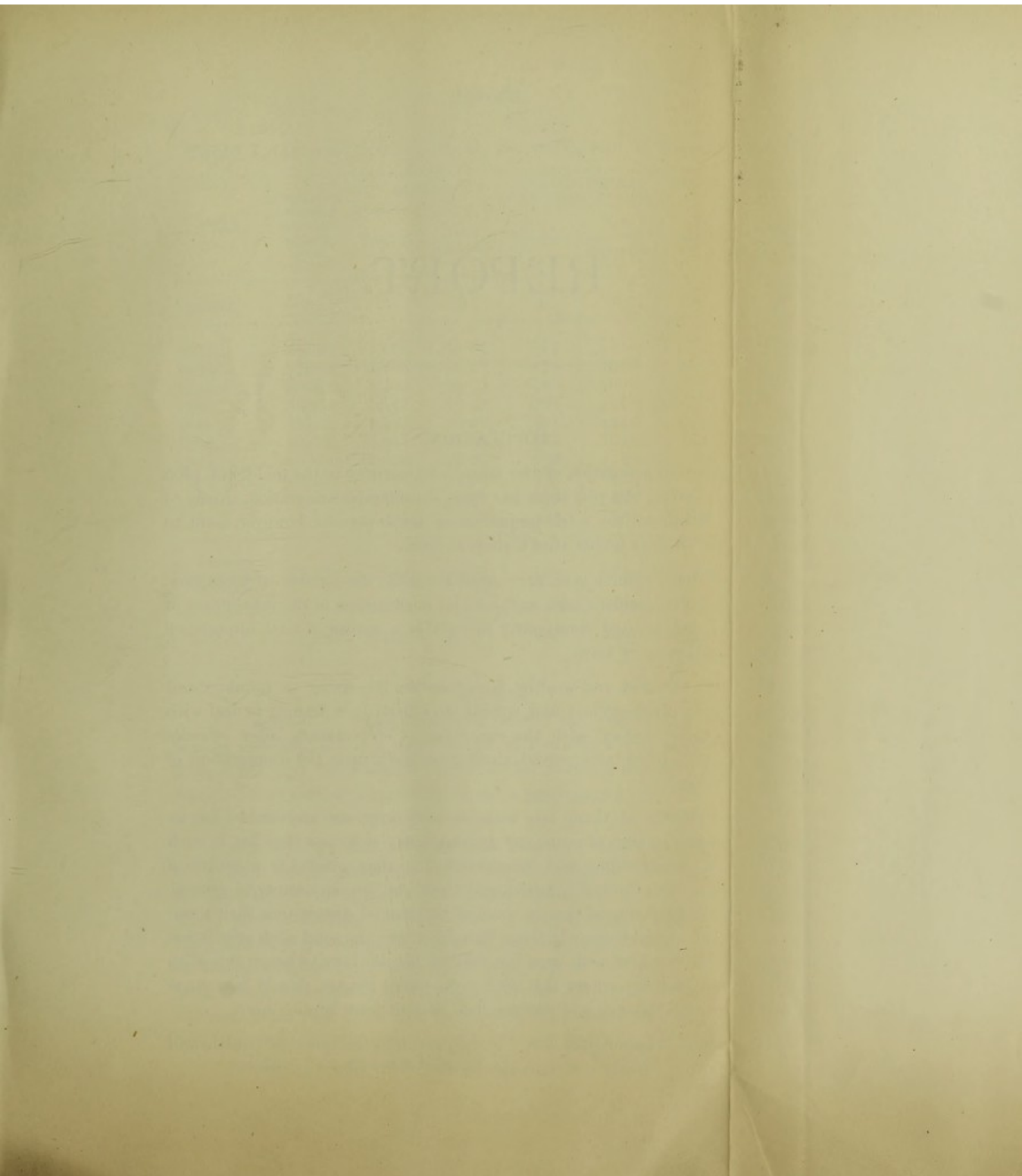
MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

FOR THE YEAR 1905.

GUERNSEY:

RICHARD'S PRINTING AND PUBLISHING COMPANY, LTD.,
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1906.



REPORT.

POPULATION.

The estimated population of the island of Guernsey in the middle of 1905 was 42,220. During the year there has been considerable emigration, chiefly to Canada and South Africa; a fair proportion of these persons, however, seem to have returned to their homes after a short absence.

I regret that I cannot give, even approximately, the number of foreigners, chiefly Frenchmen, resident here, as the racial constitution of the inhabitants of such a small and isolated community as ours is a matter of vital importance from a national point of view.

That the cultured and wealthy foreigners are increasing in numbers and landed property is self-evident, and special laws have been framed to deal with them; but, unfortunately, with the exception of deportation, after offences against the laws have been proved, there is no check upon the immigration of undesirable aliens.

Large numbers of them are with us, and they are answerable for an altogether undue amount of crime and drunkenness; as a class they live in such conditions of overcrowding and insanitation that they constitute a source of great danger to both the bodily health and morals of the community in general. It must also be remembered that in times of continental disturbance their numbers would quickly increase. If Great Britain, where the total alien population is insignificant compared with ours, has framed special laws to lessen this alien influx, surely Guernsey, where the need is so much greater, should take some steps to cope with this evil and prevent such persons from landing here.

"Prevention is better than cure" is the maxim of the Board of Health, and in this matter particularly it should also be that of the Island generally.

Table I. (INCORP. SOC. OF M. O. H., 1900), FOR WHOLE DISTRICT.

YEAR.	Population estimated to middle of each year.	BIRTHS.		DEATHS UNDER ONE YEAR OF AGE.		DEATHS AT ALL AGES.	
		Number.	Rate per 1,000.	Number.	Rate per 1,000 registered.	Number.	Rate per 1,000.
Column ...	1	2	3	4	5	6	7
1895.....	36,741	1,126	30·62	175	155·4	712	19·38
1896.....	37,245	1,228	32·97	129	105·0	547	14·68
1897.....	37,801	1,157	30·60	193	166·8	708	18·73
1898.....	38,415	1,161	30·22	194	167·0	705	18·35
1899.....	39,072	1,121	28·69	151	134·7	666	17·04
1900.....	39,703	1,011	25·46	145	143·4	624	15·72
1901.....	40,390	1,096	27·20	190	171·3	699	17·34
1902.....	40,550	1,128	27·80	161	142·7	657	16·20
1903.....	41,050	1,120	27·28	112	100·0	597	14·54
1904.....	41,710	1,144	27·42	181	158·2	690	16·54
Averages for ten years, 1895-1904.	39,258	1,144	28·82	163	144·4	660	16·85
1905.....	42,220	1,129	27·1	155	135·0	644	15·2

BIRTHS.

The number of births registered during the year was 1,148, 559 being females and 589 males; a birth rate of 27·1, which is very slightly lower than that of last year, but much the same as that recorded during the previous four years. There were 47 illegitimate births, a percentage to the total of 4·1. This is not a high rate, five being the average.

I should judge that the alien birth rate here must be a low one, as many of the adult foreign population are members of religious orders, but even if it be low it is chiefly amongst the undesirable classes. In London, where in some of the poorest districts the population is almost entirely composed of foreign Jews, Russians and Germans, the birth rate for 1904 in one of these districts, St. George's-in-the-East, reached the high rate of 60·8 per 1,000, the highest birth rate ever recorded in England. As the birth rate varies so much with different races (the Jews having a particularly high one) it is a matter for congratulation that the French birth rate, the one with which we are chiefly concerned, is an exceptionally low one.

DEATHS.

There were 660 deaths during the year, equal to a death rate of 15·2 per 1,000, contrasting with the average of the ten previous years of 16·8.

Statistics are only readily available since the year 1894, and dividing this period up into two parts, the years 1894 to 1899, prior to the formation of the Board of Health, show an average death rate of 17·5; in the later years 1900-1905 the average death rate had dropped to 15·9. I think this decrease may reasonably be attributed to the extensive drainage works lately carried out and the operations of the Board of Health. The death rate however is not so low as it should be, and I hope we may with confidence predict that in the future it will be materially lowered.

The following is the record of deaths which took place in public institutions:—

Town Hospital	...	...	...	...	...	...	44
Town Asylum	...	...	...	...	...	...	2
Country Hospital...	...	...	...	...	...	...	8
Country Asylum	...	...	...	...	...	...	1
Victoria Cottage Hospital	...	...	...	...	...	...	8
King Edward Sanatorium	...	...	...	...	...	...	5

No less than 181 out of the 660 deaths were those of persons of 65 years and upwards. The infantile death rate is 135, which is 9 less than the average of the preceding ten years.

The following are the rates for the different districts:—St. Peter-Port, 127; St. Sampson's, 150; Vale, 121; Country Parishes, 111. St. Sampson's has again the highest and the Country Parishes the lowest rate, whilst the Town and the Vale are in the same proportion as last year.

In 1905 there were no deaths from Whooping Cough and fewer from Epidemic Diarrhoea than in 1904, but 8 deaths are attributed to Measles in children under 1 year of age. The summer was, generally speaking, not so warm and dry as that of 1904.

MARRIAGES.

The number of Marriages during the year was 249, equal to a rate of 10·6 per 1,000 persons living. This is very much lower than last year when the rate was 15·6.

Table A.

RETURN OF DEATHS REGISTERED DURING THE YEAR 1905.

GENERAL DISEASES AND INJURIES.

Diseases of the Blood.

PARISH	A	B	C	D	E	F	G	H	I	K	Tl.
Diabetes	1	...	-	...	-	...	-	...	-	...	1
Gout	-	...	-	...	-	...	1	...	-	...	1
Leuchæmia	-	...	-	...	-	...	-	...	1	...	1
Leucocytosis	1	...	-	...	-	...	-	...	-	...	1
Rachitis	-	...	-	...	1	...	-	...	-	...	1

Epidemic.

Diarrhœa	9	...	4	...	2	...	1	...	-	...	-	...	2	...	1	...	19
Diphtheria	-	...	-	...	-	...	3	...	-	...	-	...	-	...	-	...	3
Enteric	1	...	-	...	-	...	1	...	-	...	-	...	-	...	-	...	2
Influenza	1	...	1	...	1	...	-	...	-	...	-	...	1	...	-	...	4
Measles	8	...	3	...	6	...	-	...	1	...	-	...	-	...	3	...	21

Ill-defined.

Abscess ..	-	...	-	...	1	...	-	...	-	...	-	...	-	...	-	...	1
Brain Fever	1	...	-	...	-	...	-	...	-	...	-	...	-	...	-	...	1
Dropsy ...	4	...	1	...	2	...	1	...	-	...	1	...	-	...	-	...	9
Exhaustion	1	...	-	...	-	...	1	...	-	...	-	...	-	...	1	...	3
General Debility	-	...	-	...	-	...	-	...	-	...	1	...	-	...	-	...	1
Hæmorrhage	2	...	2	...	-	...	-	...	-	...	-	...	-	...	-	...	4
Inflammation	-	...	-	...	-	...	-	...	-	...	1	...	-	...	-	...	1
Natural Causes.....	1	...	-	...	-	...	1	...	-	...	-	...	1	...	-	...	3
Other Ill-Defined.....	-	...	-	...	1	...	-	...	-	...	-	...	-	...	-	...	1
Parturition	-	...	-	...	1	...	-	...	-	...	-	...	-	...	-	...	1
Teething	-	...	-	...	-	...	-	...	-	...	-	...	1	...	-	...	1
Weakness	-	...	-	...	-	...	-	...	1	...	-	...	-	...	-	...	1

Infancy and Old Age.

Asthenia	-	...	3	...	2	...	-	...	-	...	-	...	-	...	1	...	6
Convulsions	20	...	9	...	2	...	4	...	-	...	4	...	-	...	2	...	42
Debility at Birth	6	...	1	...	1	...	4	...	-	...	-	...	-	...	1	...	15
Marasmus.....	8	...	7	...	5	...	3	...	-	...	-	...	-	...	3	...	30
Premature Birth	10	...	3	...	1	...	4	...	-	...	-	...	-	...	-	...	18
Senile Decay	36	...	7	...	12	...	6	...	2	...	2	...	3	...	3	...	76

Carried forward110 ...41 ...37 ...29 .. 4 ... 9 .. 4 ... 5 ...14 ...15 ...268

	PARISH	A	B	C	D	E	F	G	H	I	K	Tl.
Brought forward	110	...	41	37	29	4	9	4	5	14	15	268
<i>Infective.</i>												
Infective Jaundice	1	...	-	...	-	...	-	...	-	...	-	1
Phthisis.....	15	...	5	...	4	...	5	...	1	...	6	42
Other Tubercular.....	9	...	-	...	1	...	-	...	-	...	-	11
Tubercular Undefined.....	3	...	-	...	1	...	-	...	-	...	-	4
Syphilis.....	-	...	-	...	-	...	-	...	-	...	1	1
Tetanus	-	...	-	...	-	...	1	...	-	...	-	1
<i>Intemperance.</i>												
Alcoholism ..	2	...	-	...	-	...	-	...	-	...	-	2
<i>Septic.</i>												
Septicæmia	1	...	-	...	-	...	2	...	-	...	-	4
<i>Tumour.</i>												
Malignant.....	25	...	5	...	5	...	4	...	-	...	-	43
Non-Malignant.....	-	...	-	...	-	...	-	...	-	...	1	1
Undefined	2	...	-	...	1	...	-	...	1	...	-	4
<i>Violence.</i>												
Accident	1	...	-	...	-	...	-	...	-	...	-	1
Accidentally Shot	-	...	-	...	-	...	-	...	-	...	1	1
Blow from Stone	-	...	1	...	-	...	-	...	-	...	-	1
Burns.....	1	...	-	...	-	...	-	...	-	...	-	1
Crushed.....	-	...	1	...	-	...	-	...	-	...	-	1
Drowning	4	...	-	...	1	...	1	...	-	...	-	7
Fall	2	...	-	...	-	...	-	...	-	...	-	2
Fractured Skull	1	...	-	...	-	...	-	...	-	...	-	1
Hanging	1	...	-	...	-	...	-	...	-	...	-	1
Poisoning	-	...	-	...	-	...	-	...	-	...	1	1
Suicide	-	...	-	...	-	...	-	...	1	...	-	1
Suffocation	-	...	-	...	1	...	-	...	-	...	-	1
DISEASES OF SPECIAL ORGANS.												
<i>Alimentary.</i>												
Appendicitis.....	3	...	-	...	-	...	-	...	-	...	1	4
Gastritis												
Intestines	6	...	4	...	1	...	1	...	-	...	-	12
Liver	3	...	-	...	1	...	-	...	-	...	-	4
Carried forward	190	...	57	...	52	...	44	...	5	...	17	421

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	PARISH	A	B	C	D	E	F	G	H	I	K	Tl.
Brought forward	190	...	57	52	44	5	17	6	9	24	17	421
Peritonitis	-	...	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1
Stomach Ulcer.....	1	...	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1
Stomach	5	...	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	6

Circulatory.

Aneurism	-	...	-	...	-	...	1	...	-	...	-	...	-	...	-	...	-	...	-	...	1
Apoplexy	11	...	1	...	3	...	1	...	1	...	1	...	-	...	-	...	-	...	1	...	19
Embolism	1	...	-	...	-	...	-	...	-	...	-	...	-	...	-	...	-	...	-	...	1
Gangrene	1	...	-	...	-	...	-	...	-	...	-	...	-	...	-	...	-	...	-	...	1
Heart Disease	23	...	6	...	1	...	3	...	1	...	2	...	1	...	-	...	7	...	3	...	47
Morbus Cordis		...		...		...		...		...		...		...		...		...		...	
Thrombosis	3	...	-	...	-	...	-	...	-	...	-	...	-	...	-	...	-	...	-	...	3

Nervous.

Bulbar Paralysis	-	...	1	...	1	...	-	...	-	...	-	...	-	...	-	...	-	...	-	...	2
Disseminated Sclerosis	1	...	-	...	-	...	-	...	-	...	-	...	-	...	-	...	-	...	-	...	1
Epilepsy	2	...	1	...	-	...	-	...	-	...	-	...	-	...	-	...	-	...	-	...	3
Hydrocephalus	-	...	-	...	-	...	1	...	-	...	-	...	-	...	-	...	-	...	-	...	1
Meningitis.....	-	...	1	...	-	...	2	...	-	...	1	...	-	...	-	...	-	...	-	...	4
Paralysis ..	8	...	1	...	1	...	4	...	1	...	1	...	1	...	2	...	-	...	2	...	21
Senile Dementia	1	...	-	...	-	...	-	...	-	...	-	...	-	...	-	...	-	...	-	...	1
Tabes Dorsalis	2	...	-	...	-	...	-	...	-	...	-	...	-	...	-	...	-	...	-	...	2

Respiratory.

Acute laryngitis	-	...	-	...	-	...	-	...	-	...	-	...	-	...	1	...	-	...	-	...	1
Asthma	-	...	-	...	-	...	1	...	1	...	-	...	-	...	-	...	-	...	-	...	2
Broncho-Pneumonia	3	...	-	...	1	...	-	...	-	...	-	...	-	...	-	...	-	...	-	...	4
Bronchitis	28	...	6	...	3	...	4	...	1	...	3	...	1	...	1	...	2	...	1	...	50
Pneumonia	9	...	1	...	6	...	-	...	1	...	4	...	-	...	1	...	2	...	1	...	25

Urinary.

Bladder Disease	1	...	-	...	-	...	-	...	-	...	-	...	-	...	-	...	-	...	-	...	1
Bright's Disease		...		...		...		...		...		...		...		...		...		...	
Diabetes	1	...	-	...	-	...	-	...	-	...	-	...	-	...	-	...	-	...	-	...	2
Nephritis	12	...	-	...	4	...	1	...	1	...	-	...	1	...	2	...	1	...	1	...	23

Total 303 ... 77 ... 72 ... 62 ... 12 ... 29 ... 10 ... 15 ... 37 ... 27 ... 644

REPORT.

Table
(INCORP. SOC.)

Names of Parishes.	ST. PETER-POR.				ST. SAMPSON'S.				THE VALE.				CASTEL.				ST. SAVIOUR'S.			
YEAR.	Population estimated to middle of each year.	Births registered.	Deaths at all ages.	Deaths under 1 year.	Population estimated to middle of each year.	Births registered.	Deaths at all ages.	Deaths under 1 year.	Population estimated to middle of each year.	Births registered.	Deaths at all ages.	Deaths under 1 year.	Population estimated to middle of each year.	Births registered.	Deaths at all ages.	Deaths under 1 year.	Population estimated to middle of each year.	Births registered.	Deaths at all ages.	Deaths under 1 year.
Column ...	A	B	C	D	A	B	C	D	A	B	C	D	A	B	C	D	A	B	C	D
1895.....	17402	499	350	61	4813	156	93	41	4269	154	81	24	2547	71	44	9	958	31	22	8
1896.....	17514	520	242	55	4921	202	70	19	4377	169	67	20	2586	75	56	4	972	33	23	7
1897.....	17637	481	353	81	5042	179	79	38	4496	172	80	29	2627	69	47	11	988	33	15	2
1898.....	17770	467	335	78	5177	185	78	36	4626	161	78	25	2670	87	75	14	1007	24	15	4
1899.....	17914	469	298	47	5317	177	90	30	4768	166	72	28	2717	71	62	11	1027	24	19	6
1900.....	18044	436	302	65	5452	178	62	19	4921	170	82	25	2761	70	64	11	1045	30	17	4
1901.....	18162	440	303	66	5573	166	95	31	5082	167	101	45	2802	69	64	11	1062	27	14	3
1902.....	18240	459	302	60	5622	175	83	25	5133	168	77	28	2812	65	60	10	1067	27	16	2
1903.....	18464	421	264	38	5681	200	85	26	5196	173	72	25	2846	87	55	6	1080	26	15	1
1904.....	18760	461	321	77	5773	165	87	37	5280	164	71	26	2890	104	46	9	1097	29	30	4
Average of 10 years to 1904.	17990	465	307	62	5337	178	82	33	4814	166	78	28	2725	76	57	9	1030	28	18	4
1905.....	18996	461	302	59	5844	180	77	17	5344	173	72	21	2914	90	62	16	1109	29	12	1

II.

OF M.O.H., 1900.)

Names of Parishes.	ST. PETER-IN-THE- WOOD.				TORTEVAL.				FOREST.				ST. MARTIN'S.				ST. ANDREW'S.			
YEAR.	Population estimated to middle of each year.	Births registered.	Deaths at all ages.	Deaths under 1 year.	Population estimated to middle of each year.	Births registered.	Deaths at all ages.	Deaths under 1 year.	Population estimated to middle of each year.	Births registered.	Deaths at all ages.	Deaths under 1 year.	Population estimated to middle of each year.	Births registered.	Deaths at all ages.	Deaths under 1 year.	Population estimated to middle of each year.	Births registered.	Deaths at all ages.	Deaths under 1 year.
Column ...	A	B	C	D	A	B	C	D	A	B	C	D	A	B	C	D	A	B	C	D
1895.....	1394	54	29	7	446	9	10	2	716	18	14	0	2819	82	45	12	1377	52	24	11
1896.....	1420	56	20	6	446	14	10	0	733	27	7	6	2874	90	32	8	1402	42	20	4
1897.....	1449	57	27	6	446	15	9	1	751	25	14	8	2935	106	56	16	1430	40	12	1
1898.....	1481	57	29	16	446	13	5	0	775	29	12	3	3002	101	48	13	1461	37	30	5
1899.....	1516	50	32	10	446	6	9	1	800	22	19	6	3073	89	45	6	1494	47	20	6
1900.....	1548	57	25	9	446	19	8	2	822	23	19	4	3140	100	39	6	1524	38	17	2
1901.....	1577	57	23	8	446	6	6	2	842	27	20	7	3201	88	46	10	1552	49	27	6
1902.....	1587	53	31	11	447	14	12	4	851	30	13	4	3226	93	43	14	1564	44	20	3
1903.....	1619	56	16	4	453	8	12	1	862	22	13	3	3265	90	38	4	1584	37	27	4
1904.....	1646	52	35	8	461	10	6	0	877	27	20	5	3317	91	51	10	1609	41	23	5
Average of 10 years to 1904.	1523	52	26	8	448	11	8	1	802	25	15	4	3180	93	44	10	1429	42	22	4
1905.....	1672	56	29	4	467	22	10	0	889	19	15	0	3351	86	43	10	1634	40	22	7

CAUSES OF DEATH.	WHOLE ISLAND.							
	All Ages.	Under 1.	1-5.	6-15.	16-25.	26-65.	66 and upw'ds.	
Brought forward.....	144	79	32	2	4	17	10	
Marasmus	30	27	3	—	—	—	—	
Premature Birth.....	18	18	—	—	—	—	—	
Senile Decay	76	—	—	—	—	2	74	
<i>Infective.</i>								
Infective Jaundice.....	1	—	—	—	—	1	—	
Phthisis	42	2	4	2	15	18	1	
Other Tubercular	11	2	5	2	1	1	—	
Tubercular Undefined	4	—	2	—	2	—	—	
Syphilis	1	1	—	—	—	—	—	
Tetanus	1	—	—	—	—	1	—	
<i>Intemperance.</i>								
Alcoholism	2	—	—	—	—	2	—	
<i>Septic.</i>								
Septicæmia	4	1	—	1	1	1	—	
<i>Tumour.</i>								
Malignant	43	—	—	—	—	31	12	
Non-Malignant	1	—	—	—	—	1	—	
Undefined	4	—	—	—	—	3	1	
<i>Violence.</i>								
Accident ..	1	—	—	—	—	1	—	
Accidentally Shot	1	—	—	—	—	1	—	
Blow from Stone	1	—	—	—	—	1	—	
Burns ..	1	—	—	—	—	—	1	
Crushed	1	—	—	—	—	1	—	
Drowning	7	—	—	1	1	5	—	
Fall	2	—	—	—	—	2	—	
Fractured Skull	1	—	—	—	1	—	—	
Hanging	1	—	—	—	1	—	—	
Poisoning.....	1	—	—	—	—	1	—	
Suicide.....	1	—	—	—	—	—	1	
Suffocation	1	—	—	—	—	1	—	
DISEASES OF SPECIAL ORGANS.								
<i>Alimentary.</i>								
Appendicitis ..	4	—	—	2	—	1	1	
Intestines	12	4	—	—	—	5	3	
Carried forward	417	134	46	10	26	97	104	

KING EDWARD SANATORIUM.

Sixty-two cases were under treatment at this Sanatorium during the year; they were classed as follows: Diphtheria, 40; Scarlet Fever, 7; Enteric Fever, 5; Doubtful Cases, 10. There were five deaths, four being due to Diphtheria and one to Enteric Fever. The doubtful cases were all voluntarily removed, the doubt as to their nature being fully explained to the patients or their parents before removal.

Five of them, all members of the same family, suffered severely from Rotheln, the rash in every case being unusually well marked. One suffered from Rotheln and Scarlet Fever. One was subsequently notified as having Enteric Fever, and the other three proved to be cases of Scarlet Fever, Diphtheria and Tonsillitis respectively. The average duration of isolation was 34 days.

The detached block system is an ideal one for an Infectious Hospital as far as the patients are concerned, but in an elevated and open situation the exposure to all weathers, night and day, makes it a rather trying one for the staff employed. Two of the Staff suffered from Diphtheria during the year.

The managers of such a building as the Sanatorium are in a rather difficult position as regards the public, if but few cases be admitted, one section considers the fact a proof that such a building is not required. If the number of cases be large the other section considers that it is useless as a means of controlling infectious diseases. There is a well-known saying that an Infectious Hospital should be regarded as an insurance against epidemics of infectious disease, and such should be the opinion of a community with an enormous export trade, who would suffer severely if a big epidemic of disease occurred in their midst.

I would add that the better the repute of the institution with the general public, the fewer will be the concealed cases, which are so dangerous to the community.

A sum of £65 3s. was received during the year for the board of paying patients, disinfecting work, and sale of Antitoxin and Vaccine.

SANITARY INSPECTOR.

The following are the details of Mr. Le Brun's work for the year:—

ARTICLES DISINFECTED.

Blankets, Sheets and Counterpanes	558
Bolsters and Pillows	251
Feather and Flock Beds	73
Mattresses	137
Sundry Articles.....	2,599

Rooms for non-notifiable cases	23
Rooms for notifiable cases	68
Wards at the Sanatorium.....	17
Houses visited and re-visited	232
Cases removed under observation to the Sanatorium	10
Two cubicles and 807 Militia Blankets.	
Four cells and 49 pads from the Town Asylum.	

A.—NOTIFIABLE SPECIFIC DISEASES.

DIPHTHERIA.

There have been only 42 cases with 3 deaths notified during the year, equal to a death rate of 7·1 per cent. One patient, although suffering from Diphtheria, died from Pyæmia the result of previous bone disease.

I have before called attention to the incidence of Diphtheria in damp houses, and those receiving only a small amount of sunlight, and my records shew that in fifteen instances the houses affected are described as being damp.

Thirty-one cases occurred in the autumn and winter months, and eleven in the spring and summer.

Sixty-nine cultures were examined in the States Laboratory for the Klebs Loëffler Bacillus, fifty-four with negative results. The large number of negative cultures is due to the fact that no patient is discharged from the Sanatorium until the throat is found to be Bacteriologically free from specific organisms.

TABLE B.

DIPHTHERIA CASES DURING 1905.

Parish.	Jan.	Feb.	Mar.	April	May	June	July	Aug.	Sept.	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.	Tl.
St. Peter-Port	2	...	1	...	1	2	...	1	1	1	1	1	11
St. Sampson's	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	2	3	...	7
Vale	2	...	1	...	...	...	1	...	...	2	1	...	7
Castel	...	...	...	...	...	...	2	...	...	2	2	2	8
St. Saviour's.....	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	0
St. Peter-in-the-Wood...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	0
Torteval	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	0
Forest	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	3	4
St. Martin's	1	1	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	4
St. Andrew's	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	1
Total.....	5	2	2	0	2	3	3	1	2	8	8	6	42
Deaths—In Town	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	0
„ Country ...	...	...	1	...	1	...	...	...	...	1	...	1	4

The Four Deaths were at the Sanatorium.

SCARLET FEVER.

During six of the months of the year no cases were notified and the total number of cases is only 10. Three adults were affected about the same time, all women who had recently bought new ready-made clothing, and were probably infected by it. Another case resulted from wearing clothes obtained from a theatrical costumier. A school teacher owed her attack to a scholar whose illness was at first unrecognised. The cause of the other cases could not be definitely traced.

ENTERIC FEVER.

During the year eight cases were reported, of which number, two were fatal. One was contracted in Brittany and one was due to eating unboiled molluscs.

In three cases (two in one family) the water supply was found to be badly contaminated; the wells were condemned and have since been disused.

In another instance a defective D trap closet adjoining the patient's room, only separated from it by a wooden partition, the leaden soil pipe was also badly perforated, and the escape of sewer gas was unpleasantly obvious. These defects were promptly and thoroughly set right.

At the instance of the Worshipful Company of Fishmongers, some very interesting and elaborate experiments have lately been carried out by Dr. Klein, with regard to specific pollution of oysters and other molluscs. These experiments have proved that if oysters infected with enormous numbers of the *Bacillus Typhosus* were kept in clean sea water, changed daily for a week, they were able to clear themselves and thus become harmless. Even if kept dry this cleansing occurred to a limited extent, so that it must depend upon some innate power of the oyster to give battle to its undesirable hosts, and under suitable conditions to completely destroy them.

Cockles and mussels possess no such properties however, and to be eaten with safety should be steamed under pressure for at least four minutes. There are no local sources of supply for any of the above, the market depending upon importations.

TABLE 3.
CASES REPORTED TO M. O. H. DURING 1905.
CLASSIFIED ACCORDING TO AGES, 1905.

	0—1	1—5	5—15	15—25	25—65	Total.	Isolated in own homes.
Diphtheria	...	14	15	4	9	42	2
Scarlet Fever.....	...	2	5	1	2	10	3
Enteric Fever	...	—	1	4	3	8	2
Doubtful Cases	...	1	1	7	0	9	—
Total	...	17	22	16	14	69	7

The remaining 62 cases were treated at the King Edward Sanatorium.

CASES TREATED AT THE SANATORIUM AND AT HOME.

	St. Peter-Port.	St. Sampson's.	Vale.	Castel.	St. Saviour's.	St. Peter-in-the Wood.	Torteval.	Forest.	St. Martin's.	St. Andrew's.	Total.
DIPHTHERIA.											
At the Sanatorium ...	10	7	7	7	0	0	0	4	4	1	40
At Home	1	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	2
Total	11	7	7	7	0	0	0	4	4	1	42
SCARLET FEVER.											
At the Sanatorium ...	5	0	0	2	0	0	0	0	0	0	7
At Home	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	2	0	3
Total	6	0	0	2	0	0	0	0	2	0	10
ENTERIC FEVER.											
At the Sanatorium ...	4	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	6
At Home	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	2
Total	5	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	1	8
Doubtful cases removed to the Sanatorium ...	2	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	5	1	9
											69

Five of the doubtful cases are from one family.

B.—NON-NOTIFIABLE DISEASES.

TUBERCULOSIS.

The death rate from this cause for the year was fortunately a low one.

There were 57 deaths, and of these 42 were due to Pulmonary Phthisis. The average for the preceding five years is : Tuberculosis, 83, and Phthisis, 59 ; so that the decline is a very marked one.

In a report to you I mentioned that Phthisis had in many places been included amongst the Notifiable Infectious Diseases, such notification being sometimes compulsory, sometimes voluntary.

I did not advocate either plan under present conditions, as the long duration of the disease, often years, has to be considered, and the fact of notification would make it difficult for the sufferers from this disease who are already heavily handicapped by its exhausting effects, to obtain work or lodging.

In addition a large number of cases would probably not be notified to the authorities at all.

One great aim we should have in view is the thorough disinfection of rooms occupied by Phthisical persons, and in case of death this disinfection should be carried out if possible after the funeral and before the necessary cleansing of the room has been done, in order to avoid disturbing the infected dust.

With this end in view I proposed that the death of a person from Phthisis should be notified to the Board, but it was considered advisable to defer the question until the new Law for the Registration of Deaths was adopted.

MEASLES.

A severe epidemic of Measles has prevailed during the year, and 21 deaths are attributed to it. I do not, however, think that this represents the total death rate, large as it is, and some cases were probably registered as due to the concomitant lung complications.

Measles unfortunately is highly infectious for some days before the rash appears, and amongst the poorer classes whose attitude towards it is perhaps naturally a somewhat fatalistic one, it is seldom that medical aid is obtained unless the case be very severe, if it be sought at all.

Some methods of dealing with its terrible mortality should be adopted, and these should be the examination of schools, and the isolation as far as possible of infected children at the beginning of an epidemic.

The 1905 outbreak began in the upper parishes and gradually spread through the Town parish to the north end of the island.

MEDICAL INSPECTION OF SCHOOLS.

The medical inspection of children attending State-aided Schools has of late years received considerable attention in England and on the Continent; and in the United States of America the system has been brought to a higher degree of efficiency than in any other country.

It seems inconsistent, to put it mildly, that a Board of Health should only take official cognizance of the Notifiable Infectious Diseases, viz.: Diphtheria,

Scarlet and Enteric Fevers and Small Pox, whilst such contagious and infectious diseases as Measles, Whooping Cough, Chicken Pox, Ringworm, Conjunctivitis, Itch, etc., are outside the sphere of its work, and no special measures are taken to prevent their spread, beyond the unskilled but willing efforts of the teachers.

During 1905 twenty-one deaths were due to Measles and, excluding adults, there were only three deaths from Notifiable Infectious Diseases.

The aggregation of large numbers of children of susceptible ages in school buildings must, of course, increase the spread of these diseases, and the children of careful and considerate parents who take a pride in the health and cleanliness of their children are side by side with those of the neglectful and dirty. As school attendance is compulsory this is a danger from which they should be shielded in the most efficient way possible.

The appointment of a Medical Officer is very desirable and, in addition to special visits when circumstances demanded, he should at intervals visit each school and examine the children for these and other complaints.

Children of defective intelligence should have their standard of education fixed; cases of defective eyesight, enlarged tonsils, post nasal growth, spinal, lung and joint diseases, and badly nourished children, to name a few instances, should be specially noted and the results of such examination be communicated to the parents, who, in very many cases, are quite ignorant of such defects in their children.

At the present time, when so much is heard of the physical degeneration of our race, surely such a plan as this should be the foundation of our efforts to cope with this evil.

Experience has shown that in the case of neglected and half-starved children, the knowledge that the School Board Medical Officer is keeping a watchful eye upon them, has had a very stimulating effect upon the parents in making them realise their responsibilities and in ameliorating the condition of their children.

I should like here to refer to the school hours of young infants, which seem to me unduly long. In many cases they are taken to and from the school by older children of the same family or near neighbours, an arrangement with which no one would wish to interfere, but their hours of work with its constrained attitudes might with advantage be shortened, and more time given them for play and mental and bodily relaxation.

Children are often sent to school (in many cases as a matter of convenience to their parents) at too tender an age, sometimes at 4 or $4\frac{1}{2}$ years.

For many reasons one would wish to see the minimum age for school attendance raised to 6 years.

WATER SUPPLY.

The proposed enlarged scheme of the Guernsey Waterworks Company is still being considered by the States, and should it be adopted, it is to be hoped that the Company will be able to maintain a constant supply of water and greatly enlarge the present area of distribution.

The question of the water supply of rural districts is a difficult one anywhere, but is especially so here, where greenhouses which require various manures for the production of crops, and dwelling houses with, in many cases, badly constructed cesspits, have multiplied to such an enormous extent of late years.

The difficulty is also increased by the high level of the groundwater, due to the rock being near to the surface in many parts of the island.

Most of the wells are shallow ones, and although when they were originally sunk they may have been free from sources of pollution, many are now actually within greenhouses or exposed to some obvious source of contamination. They are usually lined with open stonework, merely with a view to preventing the falling in of their sides, and in some cases long lengths of lead piping, which may become perforated and so suck in noxious matters, connect them with pumps. The mouth of the well is also often unsealed and badly protected, without any raised coping around it. If the upper portion of a well be rendered watertight, and surface water by this means cut off, the filtering and purifying action of the soil may render the water it supplies drinkable, where without this precaution it would not be so.

In some districts, however, the only way to provide an adequate supply of good drinking water is to bring it from a safe source at a distance.

CEMETERIES AND BURIAL GROUNDS.

In the early part of the year the Board addressed a circular to the various Douzaines dealing with the general conditions of cemeteries and burial grounds, which in many instances were far from satisfactory.

The question of further cemetery accommodation seems an urgent one in some parishes, if not in all.

The cremation of the dead, in spite of its very manifest advantages, is making but slow progress, and where it is adopted, special and stringent methods of Death Registration are imperatively necessary to prevent possible crime.

The sentiment attached to the disposal of the dead is so natural and deep seated, that we must for a long time to come look upon burial as the ordinary method of dealing with dead bodies, and so meet the necessity in the way best calculated to safeguard the health of the living.

The Military Authorities have selected an ideal situation for a cemetery, remote from water supplies and dwellings and with natural drainage towards the sea.

This example might with advantage be imitated, and the island divided into districts with burial grounds on the sea coast, to serve for the needs of each district.

It may be argued that they would be inaccessible, but in such a densely populated island as Guernsey, this difficulty should be subordinated to the well-being of the public.

The presence of Cholera in the Baltic Ports during the summer months rendered it advisable for the Board to approach H.E. the Lieut.-Governor with a view to having the special Ordinance dealing with Cholera put in force.

This suggestion was adopted, but during the time it was in operation only one vessel arrived here from an infected port. This vessel was, however, ordered to pump out her ballast and drinking water tanks before entering the Harbour, as they had been filled during her passage through the Kiel Canal.

During the year the Board endeavoured to circulate amongst dairy farmers and milk vendors a pamphlet published by the Board of Agriculture, entitled "Cleanliness in the Dairy"; these efforts unfortunately were not very successful and the same must also be said of the pamphlet dealing with the feeding of infants. A large number of them both are still on hand for distribution.

I think the Board must have been much impressed by the cordial co-operation and valuable assistance of the whole of the Press of the Island as regards Public Health matters in this and past years: in acknowledging the great debt we owe them in this matter, we may, I trust, look forward to the same assistance in the future.

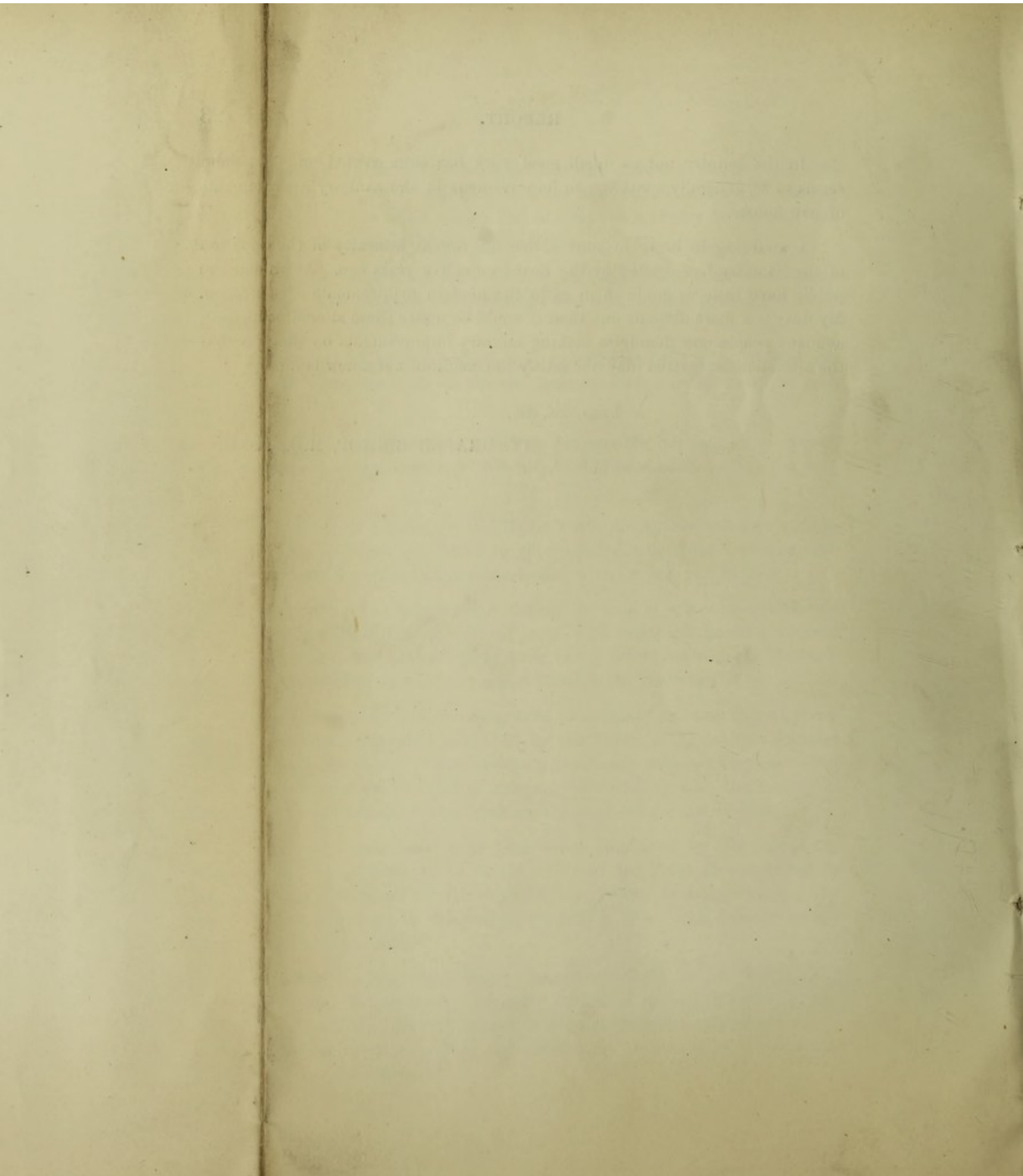
In addition to the sanitary defects brought to light by the incidence of infectious disease, I have been frequently consulted during the year by the Constables of St. Peter-Port with regard to insanitary conditions, and as a result of their subsequent action, prompt and satisfactory treatment of the nuisance has in every case been adopted.

In the country not so much good work has been carried out, but there seems to be, generally speaking, an improvement in the sanitary arrangements of new houses.

I would again bring to your notice the urgent necessity of the adoption of the Sanitary Law drafted by the Board some five years ago. At present the public have little to guide them as to the modern requirements of sanitation. My duty is a more difficult one than it would be under these altered conditions, as many people now demur to making sanitary improvements on the plea that the alterations suggested may not satisfy the conditions of a new law.

I am, &c., &c.,

HY. DRAPER BISHOP, M.D., M.O.H.



APPENDICE.

No. II.

RAPPORT DE L'OFFICIER DE SANTÉ.

**REPORT OF THE MEDICAL OFFICER
OF HEALTH
FOR THE YEAR 1904.**

Letter from the President of the Board.

Board of Health, Guernsey, 15th May, 1905.

SIR,

I have the honour to present the Sixth Annual Report of the Medical Officer of Health for the year 1904.

This Report was approved by the Board of Health at its meeting held on the 14th April last, when it was resolved that, with your permission, it should be printed as an Appendix to the "Billet d'État," and that a certain number of copies (say 100) be struck off, for distribution in the usual way.

I am, &c., &c.,

JOHN N. BROUARD,
President of the Board of Health.

To Sir Henry A. Giffard, K.C., Bailiff, and
President of the States of Guernsey.

BOARD OF HEALTH, GUERNSEY.

President :

J. N. BROUARD, Esq., States Supervisor.

Members :

G. E. KINNERSLY, Esq., Jurat. DR. F. E. CAREY.

COL. G. H. LE MOTTÉE, Jurat. A. COLLENETTE, Esq.

E. VALPIED, Esq.

D. C. LE PELLEY, Esq.

W. J. HELMAN, Esq.

W. H. FOOTE, Esq.

BOARD OF HEALTH, CHESTER.

1891.

REPORT

OF THE BOARD OF HEALTH, CHESTER.

1891.

THE BOARD OF HEALTH, CHESTER.

THE BOARD OF HEALTH, CHESTER.

THE BOARD OF HEALTH, CHESTER.

THE BOARD OF HEALTH, CHESTER.

REPORT.

POPULATION.

For statistical purposes, the population of the island for the middle of 1904 is reckoned as 41,710, allowance having been made for the French "religieuses" who have settled here in considerable numbers during the year.

It is difficult to make any estimate of the average numbers of visitors and the duration of their visits, but some allowance should be made for these persons, when sufficient data are obtained for the purpose. Many of them, the summer visitors, are of such ages and social condition that they would not seriously affect the death rates, but it must not be forgotten that a large number of people in delicate health are attracted to Guernsey on account of its great climatic advantages, and that amongst the native population, a considerable number, after spending the working years of life elsewhere, return to the island in advanced life. These last two classes, however, add considerably to the death rate.

Table I. (INCORP. SOC. OF M. O. H., 1900), FOR WHOLE DISTRICT.

YEAR.	Population estimated to middle of each year.	BIRTHS.		DEATHS UNDER ONE YEAR OF AGE.		DEATHS AT ALL AGES.	
		Number.	Rate per 1,000.	Number.	Rate per 1,000 registered.	Number.	Rate per 1,000.
Column...	1	2	3	4	5	6	7
1894	36,289	1,093	30·12	135	123·5	632	17·41
1895	36,741	1,126	30·62	175	155·4	712	19·38
1896	37,245	1,228	32·97	129	105·0	547	14·68
1897	37,801	1,157	30·60	193	166·8	708	18·73
1898	38,415	1,161	30·22	194	167·0	705	18·35
1899	39,072	1,121	28·69	151	134·7	666	17·04
1900	39,703	1,011	25·46	145	143·4	624	15·72
1901	40,300	1,096	27·20	190	171·3	699	17·34
1902	40,550	1,128	27·80	161	142·7	657	16·20
1903	41,050	1,120	27·28	112	100·0	597	14·54
Averages for ten years, 1894-1903	38,716	1,124	29·09	158	140·9	654	16·93
1904	41,710	1,144	27·42	181	158·2	690	16·54

BIRTHS.

The number of births during the year was 1,144, 582 being females and 562 males, a birth rate of 27·42 per 1,000. This, though slightly higher than that of last year, is very nearly the same as that of the three previous years. The lowest record in the island was in 1900 when the rate was only 25·46. During the years 1891 to 1898 inclusive the birth rate was over 30 per 1,000. This diminishing birth rate seems common to all countries with two exceptions, and is a matter of grave concern.

In New South Wales the rate in a quarter of a century has dropped from 39 to 25·3 and in France, where it is now the lowest of any country, it has fallen to 21·1 per 1,000. In Russia the rate remains stationary though it is still very high, 49, but the death rate is also high, 31 per 1,000, a figure double that of England and Wales. On the other hand in Japan, the birth rate has steadily risen from 24·4 in 1879 to 32·7 in 1901, and the death rate in 10 years has fallen from 22·7 to 20·3.

DEATHS.

There were 690 deaths during the year equal to a death rate of 16·54. This is exactly 2 per 1,000 higher than that of 1903, but is still lower than the average of the preceding ten years, which works out at 16·93.

In the extremes of life the rate during the year has been heavy, no fewer than 212 deaths being those of persons of 65 years or over. Sixty-three were between 80 and 90, and 10 of over 90 years of age.

The infantile death rate is high, namely, 158·2, contrasting with 100 in the previous year, and the average of the previous ten years, 140·9.

The rates in the Town, St. Sampson's and Vale parishes, are respectively 167, 224, and 158, while that of the remaining country parishes is only 115.

It would of course be expected that the country infantile death rate would be lower than that of urban districts, but the death rate of St. Sampson's is exceedingly high, being higher than that of the poorest and most densely populated part of Liverpool. Probably a larger percentage of mothers from this parish go out to work during the whole day than in any other, and the children therefore suffer more from neglect through this reason. The larger number of deaths were due to Epidemic Enteritis (summer diarrhœa) and Whooping Cough with lung complications. The latter, especially, having been exceedingly prevalent.

The "normal" infantile mortality, if such an expression be allowable, should not exceed 100, but this figure can only be attained under very
VII.—1905.

The number of deaths returned as due to heart and circulatory diseases, 86, seems large, but 46 were those of persons over 65 years of age and may therefore have been due also to a general decay. The laborious work, however, of a large proportion of the inhabitants of the island would naturally tend towards a high death rate from these causes.

Accurate returns of causes can hardly be expected whilst the present loose system of registration prevails. Such a system constitutes a real danger and is an indirect incentive to crime and neglect, especially where the lives of young children are concerned. The sooner the new law comes into force the better it will be for the whole community.

The marriages solemnized during the year numbered 326. This is a rate of 15·6 per 1,000 and is ·3 above the average rate of England and Wales for the last 20 years.

RETURN OF DEATHS REGISTERED DURING THE YEAR 1904.

	PARISH	A	B	C	D	E	F	G	H	I	K	TL.	
GENERAL DISEASES AND INJURIES.													
<i>Diseases of the Blood.</i>													
Addison's Disease.....	-	...	-	...	1	...	-	...	-	...	-	...	1
Exophthalmic Goitre	-	...	1	...	-	...	-	...	-	...	-	...	1
Leucocytois	1	...	-	...	-	...	-	...	-	...	-	...	1
<i>Epidemic.</i>													
Croup	-	...	1	...	-	...	-	...	-	...	-	...	1
Diarrhœa	2	...	1	...	-	...	-	...	-	...	-	...	3
Diphtheria	-	...	-	...	-	...	-	...	-	...	1	...	1
Enteritis	-	...	-	...	-	...	-	...	-	...	-	...	0
Enteric	-	...	-	...	-	1	...	-	...	-	...	-	1
Erysypelas	1	...	-	...	-	...	-	...	-	...	-	...	1
Infantile Diarrhœa	20	...	4	...	5	...	-	...	-	...	1	...	31
Influenza	2	...	1	...	1	...	-	...	-	...	-	...	4
Whooping Cough.....	6	...	2	...	6	...	-	1	...	3	...	-	19
VII.—1905.													

PARISH	A	B	C	D	E	F	G	H	I	K	Tl.
--------	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	-----

Infancy and Old Age.

Asthenia	-	...	1	...	-	...	-	...	-	...	-	...	1
Convulsions	19	...	12	...	6	...	1	...	1	...	3	...	49
Debility at Birth	2	...	2	...	2	...	1	...	-	...	-	...	8
Exhaustion	1	...	-	...	-	...	-	...	-	...	-	...	1
Marasmus	11	...	6	...	7	...	2	...	1	...	1	...	33
Premature Birth	8	...	2	...	5	...	-	...	-	...	1	...	17
Senile Decay.....	33	...	8	...	6	...	12	...	6	...	2	...	80

Infective.

Phthisis	22	...	6	...	4	...	1	...	4	...	6	...	2	...	1	...	9	...	1	...	56
Other Tubercular.....	12	...	-	...	3	...	2	...	-	...	1	...	-	...	-	...	2	...	-	...	20
Tubercular Undefined.....	2	...	-	...	-	...	-	...	-	...	-	...	-	...	-	...	-	...	-	...	2

Intemperance.

Alcoholism	-	...	-	...	-	...	-	...	-	...	1	...	-	...	1	...	-	...	-	...	2
------------------	---	-----	---	-----	---	-----	---	-----	---	-----	---	-----	---	-----	---	-----	---	-----	---	-----	---

Ill-defined.

Brain Fever	-	...	-	...	-	...	-	...	-	...	-	...	-	...	-	...	1	...	-	...	1
Congestion of the Brain	1	...	-	...	-	...	-	...	-	...	-	...	-	...	-	...	-	...	-	...	1
Disease of the Brain	1	...	-	...	-	...	-	...	-	...	-	...	-	...	-	...	-	...	1	...	2
Dropsy	3	...	-	...	-	...	-	...	-	...	-	...	-	...	1	...	1	...	-	...	5
Eczema	-	...	-	...	-	...	1	...	-	...	1	...	-	...	-	...	-	...	-	...	2
Exhaustion	1	...	-	...	-	...	1	...	-	...	-	...	-	...	-	...	-	...	-	...	2
General Debility	-	...	-	...	-	...	-	...	-	...	-	...	-	...	-	...	-	...	1	...	1
Hæmorrhage	1	...	-	...	-	...	1	...	-	...	-	...	-	...	-	...	-	...	-	...	2
Janudice	2	...	-	...	-	...	-	...	-	...	-	...	-	...	-	...	-	...	1	...	3
Natural Causes.....	2	...	-	...	-	...	-	...	-	...	-	...	-	...	-	...	-	...	-	...	2
Neurasthenia	-	...	-	...	-	...	-	...	-	...	1	...	-	...	-	...	-	...	-	...	1
Other Ill-defined	-	...	-	...	1	...	1	...	-	...	-	...	-	...	-	...	-	...	-	...	2
Softening of the Brain.....	1	...	-	...	-	...	-	...	-	...	-	...	-	...	-	...	-	...	1	...	2
Weakness	-	...	-	...	-	...	-	...	-	...	1	...	-	...	-	...	-	...	1	...	2

Septic.

Acute Yellow Atrophy.....	1	...	-	...	-	...	-	...	-	...	-	...	-	...	-	...	-	...	-	...	1
Pyæmia	-	...	-	...	1	...	-	...	-	...	-	...	-	...	-	...	-	...	-	...	1
Septicæmia	9	...	-	...	-	...	-	...	-	...	-	...	-	...	-	...	-	...	-	...	9
Ulcerative Endocarditis	1	...	-	...	-	...	-	...	-	...	-	...	-	...	1	...	-	...	-	...	2

Tumour.

Malignant	16	...	3	...	3	...	3	...	-	...	-	...	1	...	1	...	2	...	3	...	32
Undefined.....	3	...	-	...	-	...	-	...	1	...	2	...	-	...	1	...	-	...	-	...	7

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APPENDICE.

9

	PARISH	A	B	C	D	E	F	G	H	I	K	Tl.
<i>Violence.</i>												
Accident	-	...	-	...	1	...	-	...	-	...	-	1
Blow	1	...	-	...	-	...	-	...	-	...	-	1
Crushed... ..	-	...	1	...	1	...	-	...	-	...	-	2
Drowning	3	...	1	...	2	...	1	...	-	...	-	8
Fall	1	...	-	...	-	...	-	...	-	...	-	1
Run Over	1	...	-	...	-	...	-	...	-	...	-	1
Suffocation	-	...	2	...	1	...	-	...	-	...	-	3
Suicide	-	...	-	...	1	...	1	...	-	...	-	2

DISEASES OF SPECIAL ORGANS.

Alimentary.

Appendicitis.....	1	...	-	...	-	...	2	...	-	...	-	3
Intestines	1	...	1	...	1	...	2	...	-	...	-	5
Liver	1	...	-	...	-	...	-	...	1	...	-	3
Stomach	-	...	-	...	-	...	-	...	1	...	-	1

Circulatory.

Aneurism	1	...	-	...	-	...	-	...	-	...	-	1
Apoplexy	10	...	2	...	4	...	1	...	-	...	1	22
Atheroma	-	...	-	...	-	...	1	...	-	...	1	2
Cerebro Spinal Sclerosis.....	-	...	1	...	-	...	-	...	-	...	-	1
Heart Disease	34	...	3	...	5	...	4	...	3	...	4	58
Thrombosis	2	...	1	...	-	...	-	...	-	...	-	3

Nervous.

Dementia	1	...	-	...	-	...	-	...	-	...	-	1
Disseminated Sclerosis	1	...	-	...	-	...	-	...	-	...	-	1
Epilepsy	1	...	-	...	-	...	1	...	-	...	-	3
Meningitis.....	2	...	1	...	1	...	-	...	-	...	1	5
Muscular Atrophy	1	...	-	...	-	...	-	...	-	...	-	1
Paralysis	12	...	2	...	3	...	2	...	2	...	2	23

Respiratory.

Bronchitis.....	28	...	11	...	1	...	1	...	2	...	2	54
Broncho Pneumonia	7	...	4	...	1	...	1	...	6	...	-	19
Chronic Bronchitis	-	...	-	...	-	...	-	...	1	...	-	1
Pleurisy	4	...	-	...	-	...	-	...	-	...	-	4
Pleuro Pneumonia	1	...	-	...	-	...	-	...	-	...	-	1
Pneumonia ..	17	...	5	...	-	...	1	...	-	...	3	32

Urinary.

Diabetes	-	...	-	...	-	...	-	...	-	...	1	2
Nephritis	7	...	1	...	-	...	-	...	1	...	2	12

322 86 71 46 30 35 6 20 51 23 690

NOTE.—Explanation of Parish Letters: *A*—St. Peter-Port; *B*—St. Sampson's; *C*—Vale; *D*—Castel; *E*—St. Saviour's; *F*—St. Pierre-du-Bois; *G*—Torteval; *H*—The Forest; *I*—St. Martin's; *K*—St. Andrew's.

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Table
(INCORP. SOC.

Names of Parishes.	ST. PETER-PORT.				ST. SAMPSON'S.				THE VALE.				CASTEL.				ST. SAVIOUR'S.			
YEAR.	Population estimated to middle of each year.	Births registered.	Deaths at all ages.	Deaths under 1 year.	Population estimated to middle of each year.	Births registered.	Deaths at all ages.	Deaths under 1 year.	Population estimated to middle of each year.	Births registered.	Deaths at all ages.	Deaths under 1 year.	Population estimated to middle of each year.	Births registered.	Deaths at all ages.	Deaths under 1 year.	Population estimated to middle of each year.	Births registered.	Deaths at all ages.	Deaths under 1 year.
Column ...	A	B	C	D	A	B	C	D	A	B	C	D	A	B	C	D	A	B	C	D
1894.....	17301	477	310	67	4717	183	71	19	4172	145	56	12	2511	71	56	11	946	26	14	3
1895.....	17402	499	350	61	4813	156	93	41	4269	154	81	24	2547	71	44	9	958	31	22	8
1896.....	17514	520	242	55	4921	202	70	19	4377	169	67	20	2586	75	56	4	972	33	23	7
1897.....	17637	481	353	81	5042	179	79	38	4496	172	80	29	2627	69	47	11	988	33	15	2
1898.....	17770	467	335	78	5177	185	78	36	4626	161	78	25	2670	87	75	14	1007	24	15	4
1899.....	17914	469	298	47	5317	177	90	30	4768	166	72	28	2717	71	62	11	1027	24	19	6
1900.....	18044	436	302	65	5452	178	62	19	4921	170	82	25	2761	70	64	11	1045	30	17	4
1901.....	18162	440	303	66	5573	166	95	31	5082	167	101	45	2802	69	64	11	1062	27	14	3
1902.....	18240	459	302	60	5622	175	83	25	5133	168	77	28	2812	65	60	10	1067	27	16	2
1903.....	18464	421	264	38	5681	200	85	26	5196	173	72	25	2846	87	55	6	1080	26	15	1
Average of 10 years to 1903.	17844	466	305	61	5231	180	80	28	4704	164	76	26	2687	73	58	9	1015	28	17	4
1904.....	18760	461	321	77	5773	165	87	37	5280	164	71	26	2890	104	46	9	1097	29	30	4

II.

OF M.O.H., 1900.)

Names of Parishes.	ST. PETER-IN-THE- WOOD.				TORTEVAL.				FOREST.				ST. MARTIN'S.				ST. ANDREW'S.			
YEAR.	Population estimated to middle of each year.	Births registered.	Deaths at all ages.	Deaths under 1 year.	Population estimated to middle of each year.	Births registered.	Deaths at all ages.	Deaths under 1 year.	Population estimated to middle of each year.	Births registered.	Deaths at all ages.	Deaths under 1 year.	Population estimated to middle of each year.	Births registered.	Deaths at all ages.	Deaths under 1 year.	Population estimated to middle of each year.	Births registered.	Deaths at all ages.	Deaths under 1 year.
Column ...	A	B	C	D	A	B	C	D	A	B	C	D	A	B	C	D	A	B	C	D
1894.....	1371	44	26	7	446	8	7	1	701	21	10	2	2770	79	66	10	1354	39	18	3
1895.....	1394	54	29	7	446	9	10	2	716	18	14	0	2819	82	45	12	1377	52	24	11
1896.....	1420	56	20	6	446	14	10	0	733	27	7	6	2874	90	32	8	1402	42	20	4
1897.....	1449	37	27	6	446	15	9	1	751	25	14	8	2935	106	56	16	1430	40	12	1
1898.....	1481	57	29	16	446	13	5	0	775	29	12	3	3002	101	48	13	1461	37	30	5
1899.....	1516	50	32	10	446	6	9	1	800	22	19	6	3073	89	45	6	1494	47	20	6
1900.....	1548	57	25	9	446	19	8	2	822	23	19	4	3140	100	39	6	1524	38	17	2
1901.....	1577	57	23	8	446	6	6	2	842	27	20	7	3201	88	46	10	1552	49	27	6
1902.....	1587	53	31	11	447	14	12	4	851	30	13	4	3226	93	43	14	1564	44	20	3
1903.....	1619	56	16	4	453	8	12	1	862	22	13	3	3265	90	38	4	1584	37	27	4
Average of 10 years to 1903.	1496	52	25	8	446	11	8	1	785	24	14	4	3030	91	45	9	1474	42	21	4
1904.....	1646	52	35	8	461	10	6	0	877	27	20	5	3317	91	51	10	1609	41	23	5

Table IV. (INCORP. SOC. OF M.O.H., 1903).
CAUSE OF, AND AGES AT, DEATH OF THE DEATHS REGISTERED
DURING YEAR 1904.

CAUSE OF DEATH.	WHOLE ISLAND.						
	All Ages.	Under 1.	1-5.	6-15.	16-25.	26-65	66 and upw'ds.
GENERAL DISEASES & INJURIES.							
<i>Diseases of the Blood.</i>							
Addison's Disease	1	...	—	...	—	...	1 ... —
Exophthalmic Goitre	1	...	—	...	—	1	...
Leucocytosis	1	...	—	...	—	...	1 ... —
<i>Epidemic.</i>							
Croup	1	...	—	...	1	...	...
Diarrhoea.....	3	...	2	...	1	...	...
Diphtheria	1	...	—	1	...	...	...
Enteric.....	1	...	—	...	...	1	...
Erysipelas	1	...	1	...	...	...	...
Infantile Diarrhoea.....	31	...	25	...	6	...	...
Influenza.....	4	...	3	...	...	...	1
Whooping Cough	19	...	5	...	14	...	...
<i>Infancy and Old Age.</i>							
Asthenia	1	...	1	...	...	...	...
Convulsions.....	49	...	33	...	16	...	...
Debility at Birth	8	...	8	...	...	...	...
Exhaustion	1	...	1	...	...	...	...
Marasmus	33	...	33	...	...	...	...
Premature Birth.....	17	...	17	...	...	...	...
Senile Decay ..	80	...	—	...	...	...	1 ... 79*
<i>Infective.</i>							
Phthisis	56	...	—	1	...	3	19 ... 32 ... 1
Other Tubercular	20	...	12	...	—	...	8 ... —
Tubercular Undefined	2	...	—	1	...	—	...
<i>Intemperance.</i>							
Alcoholism	2	...	—	...	...	...	2 ... —
<i>Ill-Defined.</i>							
Brain Fever.....	1	...	—	...	...	...	1
Congestion of the Brain ...	1	...	—	...	...	...	1
Disease of the Brain	2	...	—	...	...	...	2
Dropsy.....	5	...	—	...	...	...	1 ... 4
Eczema	2	...	—	...	...	...	1 ... 1

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CAUSE OF DEATH.	All Ages.	Under 1.	1-5.	6-15.	16-25.	26-65	66 and upw'ds.
Exhaustion	2	—	—	—	—	—	2
General Debility.....	1	—	—	—	—	1	—
Hæmorrhage	2	—	—	—	—	1	1
Jaundice	3	—	—	—	—	1	2
Natural Causes	2	1	—	—	—	1	—
Neurasthenia	1	—	—	—	1	—	—
Other Ill-Defined	2	—	—	—	—	2	—
Softening of the Brain	2	—	—	—	—	2	—
Weakness	2	—	1	—	—	—	1
<i>Septic.</i>							
Acute Yellow Atrophy	1	—	—	—	—	1	—
Pyæmia	1	—	1	—	—	—	—
Septicæmia	9	—	—	3	—	5	1
Ulcerative Endocarditis..	2	—	—	—	1	1	—
<i>Tumour.</i>							
Malignant	32	—	—	—	—	24	8
Undefined	7	—	1	—	—	3	3
<i>Violence.</i>							
Accident	1	—	—	—	—	1	—
Blow	1	—	—	—	—	1	—
Crushed	2	—	—	—	1	1	—
Drowning	8	—	—	2	2	3	1
Fall	1	—	—	—	—	1	—
Run Over	1	—	—	—	—	—	1
Suffocation	3	—	—	—	1	1	1
Suicide.....	2	—	—	—	—	1	1
DISEASES OF SPECIAL ORGANS.							
<i>Alimentary.</i>							
Appendicitis	3	—	1	—	1	1	—
Intestines	5	4	—	—	1	—	—
Liver	3	—	—	—	—	3	—
Stomach	1	—	—	—	—	1	—
<i>Circulatory.</i>							
Aneurism.....	1	—	—	—	—	1	—
Apoplexy.....	22	—	—	—	—	8	14
Atheroma	2	—	—	—	—	1	1
Heart Disease	58	—	—	—	4	26	28
Thrombosis.....	3	—	—	—	—	—	3
<i>Nervous.</i>							
Cerebro Spinal Schlerosis ...	1	1	—	—	—	—	—
Dementia.....	1	—	—	—	—	—	—
Disseminated Sclerosis	1	—	—	—	—	1	—

CAUSE OF DEATH.	All Ages.	Under 1.	1-5.	6-15.	16-25.	26-65	66 and upw'ds.
Epilepsy	3	—	—	—	2	—	1
Meningitis	5	2	—	2	1	—	—
Muscular Atrophy	1	—	—	—	—	1	—
Paralysis	23	—	—	—	—	5	18

Respiratory.

Bronchitis	54	16	14	—	—	1	23
Broncho Pneumonia	19	10	8	—	—	1	—
Chronic Bronchitis.....	1	—	—	—	—	—	1
Pleurisy	4	—	—	—	—	2	2
Pleuro Pneumonia	1	—	—	—	—	—	1
Pneumonia	32	6	9	2	1	12	2

Urinary.

Diabetes	2	—	—	—	—	2	—
Nephritis.....	12	—	—	—	1	6	5
	690	181	75	13	46	163	212

* Senile Decay. Under 65, 1; Between 70-80, 28; 80-90, 39; Over 90, 12. Total, 80.

A.—NOTIFIABLE SPECIFIC DISEASES.

DIPHThERIA.

Fifty-five cases of this disease were notified, September furnishing the greater number of them, viz.: 17.

Fifty of these were treated at the Sanatorium and five at their own homes, one of the latter dying, the only death from this cause during 1904.

Most of the cases were isolated ones, the only outbreak occurring amongst the boys at the Town Hospital.

The first case was that of a boy who had a short time before been apprenticed to a plasterer, returning to the hospital to sleep. A few days after he was taken ill, two other boys sickened with the disease, and the whole of the boys were then immunized with Anti-toxin. When two more cases occurred it was decided to remove all the boys to the Sanatorium, and this being done, it was found that five more were also affected. This unfortunate result, namely, that ten out of the sixteen lads suffered with Diphtheria must, I think, be attributed to the facts that although they had no occasion to do so, they were in the habit of drinking water by applying their mouths to a tap in the basement, and that they had also no dread of the Sanatorium, as might be expected, but were all anxious to be removed there.

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The previous immunization prevented them suffering from severe attacks, but was too late to stop the development of the disease in them all, as it must have been done in some of the cases, during the late incubation period.

A nurse in attendance upon these boys for a short time only contracted the disease, and when visiting her home before its full development, also infected her son. Both these cases were severe ones. One patient aged 86 was admitted to the Sanatorium, and although he suffered from Paralysis of the palate, afterwards made a good recovery. I believe this to be almost a record case as regards age.

One hundred and thirty-nine cultures were examined in the States Laboratory for the Klebs Loëffler Bacillus, and in 59 instances it was found to be present.

Table B.

DIPHTHERIA.—CASES DURING 1904.

Parishes.	Jan.	Feb.	Mar.	April	May	June	July	Aug.	Sept.	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.	Tl.
St. Peter-Port.....	-	...	1	...	2	...	1	...	5	...	2	...	33
St. Sampson's.....	-	...	-	...	-	...	1	...	-	...	1	...	5
Vale.....	-	...	-	...	-	...	-	...	-	...	1	...	1
Castel	-	...	-	...	-	...	-	...	1	...	1	...	3
St. Saviour's	-	...	-	...	-	...	-	...	-	...	-	...	0
St. Peter-in-the-Wood .	-	...	-	...	-	...	-	...	1	...	-	...	1
Torteval	-	...	-	...	-	...	-	...	-	...	-	...	0
Forest	-	...	-	...	-	...	-	...	-	...	-	...	0
St. Martin's..	1	...	-	...	3	...	-	...	-	...	1	...	9
St. Andrew's	-	...	-	...	-	...	-	...	1	...	-	...	3
Total	1	...	1	...	5	...	1	...	6	...	2	...	55
Deaths—In Town	-	...	-	...	-	...	-	...	-	...	-	...	0
„ Country ...	1	...	-	...	-	...	-	...	-	...	-	...	1

SCARLET FEVER.

Fourteen cases were notified in 1904, the majority of them being of a mild type. No deaths occurred amongst these patients. An epidemic at St. Andrew's School was probably prevented by the prompt action of the head mistress, who discovered two children from one family "peeling" freely. These children had been away from school for a fortnight, but their condition was discovered the first morning of their attendance. I was at once notified, and all the children were sent home until the school premises had been disinfected. Fortunately there were no further cases.

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Table C.

SCARLET FEVER.—CASES DURING 1904

Parishes.	Jan.	Feb.	Mar.	April	May	June	July	Aug.	Sept.	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.	Tl.
St. Peter-Port	1	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	1	—	—	3
St. Sampson's	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	0
Vale	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	1	—	2
Castel	—	—	3	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	3
St. Saviour's.....	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	0
St. Peter-in-the-Wood.....	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	1
Torteval	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	0
Forest	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	0
St. Martin's	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	1
St. Andrew's.....	—	2	—	—	—	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	4
Total	1	2	3	0	0	4	0	0	0	3	1	0	14

Deaths—None.

ENTERIC FEVER.

Six cases of this disease were reported to me during the year, one of which proved fatal. The figures for the preceding five years were 5, 6, 3, 11 and 11 respectively.

One of the cases was certainly due to eating uncooked shellfish, which had been collected in the vicinity of the Piette Sewer Outfall, and a child of this patient was infected by being fed from the same basin and with the same unwashed spoon that the father had been using.

As a result of these cases, notices were put in the papers warning people of the danger of eating shellfish without having previously thoroughly cooked them.

Another patient was admitted to the Town Hospital from a vessel in the harbour, and although his sickness was promptly diagnosed, he was too ill to be removed to the Sanatorium, having in his delirium thrown himself into the harbour and been rescued with difficulty. He however eventually made a good recovery, a striking proof of the care and attention which had been bestowed upon him at the Town Hospital.

In two other cases the cause of their illness could not be stated with certainty and the sixth case was infected during a visit to Jersey.

A warning should be given as to the necessity for well washing before use vegetables which are eaten without cooking, such as watercress, onions,

endive, radishes, celery, mustard and cress. If these be grown in a manured soil specifically contaminated, they may give rise to Enteric Fever unless every precaution be taken.

Table D.

ENTERIC FEVER.—CASES DURING 1904.

Parishes.	Jan.	Feb.	Mar.	April	May	June	July	Aug.	Sept.	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.	Tl.
St. Peter-Port	—	1	1	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	1	4
St. Sampson's	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	0
Vale	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	0
Castel	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	0
St. Saviour's.....	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	0
St. Peter-in-the-Wood .	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	0
Torteval	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	0
Forest	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	0
St. Martin's	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1
St. Andrew's.....	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	1
Total	0	1	2	0	0	0	2	0	0	0	0	1	6
Deaths—In Town	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	1
„ Country ...	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1

Table III.

CLASSIFIED ACCORDING TO AGES, 1905.

	0—1	1—5	5—15	15—25	25—65	85
Diphtheria	...	6	25	11	12	1
Scarlet Fever	1	3	9	1	...	...
Enteric Fever.....	...	1	...	1	4	...
Total	1	10	34	13	16	1

CASES TREATED AT THE SANATORIUM AND AT HOME.

	St. Peter-Port.	St. Sampson's.	Vale.	Castel.	St. Saviour's.	St. Peter-in-the-Wood.	Torteval.	Forest.	St. Martin's.	St. Andrew's.	Total.
DIPHTHERIA—											
At the Sanatorium.....	33	5	1	2	...	1	...	..	6	2	50
At Home.....	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	..	3	1	5
Total	33	5	1	3	...	1	...	...	9	3	55
SCARLET FEVER—											
At the Sanatorium.....	3	...	2	3	...	1	...	...	1	4	14
At Home.....	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Total	3	...	2	3	...	1	...	...	1	4	14
ENTERIC FEVER—											
At the Sanatorium.....	2	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	1	4
At Home.....	2	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	2
Total	4	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	1	6

B.—NON-NOTIFIABLE DISEASES.

EPIDEMIC ENTERITIS.

(INFANTILE DIARRHŒA.)

The incidence of this disease has been heavy in the summer and autumn months, in marked contrast to 1903, a year remarkably free from it. It will be remembered that 1903 was a very wet and cool summer, so that the temperature was not favourable for the development of this affection, and the heavy rains kept down the dust, washed away organic matter and kept the drains well flushed. In 1904 the opposite conditions have prevailed and thirty-one deaths are recorded.

This disease is almost entirely confined to the poorer classes, but children brought up on the breast suffer very much less than others, a significant fact.

In small houses and especially in crowded neighbourhoods, one of the greatest drawbacks is the absence of any proper and suitable larder accommodation. When, in the heat of the summer, food is kept in small living

rooms with uncleanly surroundings and water is often scarce, the disease is apt to develop, and is spread to a large extent by the agency of house flies.

The preventive measures therefore are: the removal of all organic matter and refuse from the vicinity of dwellings, with proper flushing of the drains. All soiled linen should be at once covered and removed from the house to be washed as soon as possible, and preferably soaked from the first with an efficient disinfecting solution. All milk should be boiled as soon as received, kept in vessels which have been well scalded out, and it, as well as all other foods, should be covered carefully and kept in as cool a place as possible. Flies should be destroyed, and strict cleanliness of the house and person are necessary. In periods of prevalence of this disease the local authorities should pay particular attention to the watering and sweeping of the streets.

In many large towns the authorities enforce the paving or cementing of all yards in connection with the smaller houses, a measure in itself admirable and rendered still more efficacious by the road staff washing down these courts with a fire hose at regular intervals during the hot and dry weather.

TUBERCULOSIS.

There has been a marked decline in the number of deaths from Tuberculosis, as compared with the previous year, the figures being 78 and 102 respectively, and those of "Pulmonary Tuberculosis" 56 and 73. In addition to the leaflets "Hints to Consumptive Patients" previously issued by the Board, a poster dealing with the prevention of Consumption in brief and plain language was published during the year. Over 400 of these have been put upon public places, bakehouses, inns, shops and workshops during the year, H.M. Government taking 100 copies for use on Government premises. Practically no difficulty was experienced in getting people to display these notices, only in one or two instances were objections raised.

Rooms in thirteen houses have been disinfected during the year after deaths from "Tuberculosis" had taken place in them.

This house disinfection is one of the most valuable practical measures for the control of the disease at our disposal, and too much publicity cannot be given to the fact that the Board will disinfect such premises free of charge when application is made to them.

My proposal to treat a limited number of patients suffering from Phthisis at the Sanatorium, at certain times of the year when there was least pressure upon the wards, was fully discussed by the Board.

It was only suggested that quite early and curable cases should be accepted, and that if the wards they occupied were required for other

patients they should be at once sent home and the wards disinfected before again being used.

Such a course would not only have benefited the individual, but those with whom he came in contact with afterwards, by reason of the details of the "open air" treatment being more widely made known and appreciated.

There were reasons however against this scheme being adopted, and it was therefore rejected by the Board.

Possibly in the future tents or small Chalêts might be utilized for the reception of Consumptive patients in connection with the present administrative block of the Sanatorium.

THE KING EDWARD SANATORIUM.

Seventy-nine patients were admitted to the Sanatorium during the year, 50 being Diphtheria, 14 Scarlet Fever, 4 Enteric Fever, and 11 as doubtful or non-notifiable cases. There was one death only, that of a patient suffering from Typhoid Fever.

The average time in hospital was 35 days, this figure being considerably reduced by the number of patients under observation whose stay is a comparatively short one.

The new laundry was opened in April and has proved very satisfactory as regards economy, capacity, and quality of the work turned out by it.

No disinfectants have to be used in it or indeed in the Sanatorium generally, as disinfection of clothes is carried out by the use of high pressure steam and other infected matter is destroyed in the refuse destructor. These methods result in a considerable saving being effected in this way.

Of the eleven cases, three were admitted from the Victoria Cottage Hospital, two with septic rashes and one with Measles. A boy with Measles was also removed from the Baubigny Arsenal. No fresh cases occurred there after these removals.

An adult was admitted from a hotel in the town on suspicion of her illness being Scarlet Fever, but as it did not prove to be so she was discharged in a week's time.

Eleven cases were admitted together for observation (from the Town Hospital) and five of these proved to be Diphtheria.

SANITARY INSPECTOR.

The following are the details of Mr. Le Brun's work for the year :—

ARTICLES DISINFECTED.

Blankets, Sheets and Counterpanes.....	551
Bolsters and pillows	274
Feather and flock beds	67
Mattresses.....	181
Sundry Articles	1,622
Rooms for non-notifiable cases.....	25
Wards at the Sanatorium	33
Rooms disinfected	81
St. Andrew's School	1
Sailing Vessels.....	2
Houses visited and re-visited	148
Cases removed under observation to the Sanatorium	16

A sum of 4s. 6d. was paid for dyeing a woman's jacket which had become spotted during the process of disinfection, this damage being probably due to some chemical used to make the cloth heavy, and not to any carelessness on the part of the Board's employees.

For the two previous years nothing had been damaged.

The Disinfector is not only of a thoroughly efficient type, but was overhauled and refitted when removed to the Sanatorium.

REFUSE DESTRUCTION.

In August the destructor of the Guernsey Railway Company commenced working, with results that must be considered exceedingly satisfactory.

The temperature maintained in the furnaces and flues has been so high and the arrangements for the combustion of the gases have worked so well that there has been no cause for complaint on the part of the public, nor indeed have any complaints been made.

The Company has not, for economic reasons, destroyed the whole of the refuse collected, but has sorted out and left to accumulate in their yard, such articles as old tins, iron vessels, etc., which, as many of them contain organic matter, cannot fail to become a nuisance when the warmer weather sets in. In my opinion the smaller and lighter of these articles, at least, should be passed through the destructor and be rendered innocuous.

The Town Parish, however, is the only one which has utilized this valuable factor for the preservation of the public health, and it is a matter for regret that

the township comprising parts of the Vale and St. Sampson's do not follow its example.

Unfortunately the working of the States Destructor on the Castle Walk has not proved so satisfactory, and many complaints were made during the summer months by residents in the neighbourhood.

It is a small apparatus of a portable type, and only suitable for destroying small quantities of the lighter kinds of refuse. It is unable to efficiently deal with meat or fish which has been condemned, as instead of quickly consuming such matter, it slowly chars it, and the gases resulting are not properly consumed.

For this reason during the summer months meat and fish condemned as unfit for food, having been previously stained with a strong solution of Methylene blue, has been taken out to sea and thrown overboard. Provided it be taken so far out to sea that it cannot be carried by tides to the Islands this is a better plan of dealing with it, but it would be much more satisfactory if an arrangement could be made with the Railway Company to destroy the whole of it.

The system of collection of household refuse is still bad, as often for hours it is dumped upon the pavements or roads in uncovered baskets, wooden boxes or any unsuitable receptacle that is near at hand for the purpose, to await the arrival of the dust cart.

It is then often scattered by the wind, and exposed to the scrutiny of children and dogs, besides giving off objectionable odours to the detriment of the public. If galvanized covered containers (which are not expensive) be not enforced by law, a general display of them in ironmongers' windows, with an announcement that they were approved by the Board, would probably lead to their more general adoption.

DRAINAGE.

No extensions of the drainage system have been undertaken during 1904, but several old drains have been reconstructed, amongst them those situated in Truchot Street.

Speaking generally, it does not appear to one that many of the main sewers are sufficiently ventilated. In parts of the town where the houses are high and situated at different levels, it may be in places difficult but not impossible to carry this out efficiently. At least the dead ends and upper portions of the sewers should be well supplied with air shafts (particularly when sewers discharge into the sea, and are exposed to the pressure of the rising tide).

The main sewer between Longstore and Salerie seems to be in a very bad state, and to require immediate reconstruction, as many complaints have been made to me from residents in that neighbourhood, and from repeated personal observations I can testify to the abominable smells which at times pervade these houses.

Doubtless the nuisance is aggravated by defective and ill or untrapped branch drains, but the bad odours complained of seemed to be due also to some effluent from the Gas Works which was discharged into the sewers, as it was especially bad for short periods only, and independent of the condition of the wind and tide.

If the condition of the main sewer were satisfactory the waste products from the Gas Works would not cause any nuisance of which reasonable complaint could be made.

A large ventilating shaft at the junction of the Bouët and Banks at the Longstore should be erected to relieve both parts of the drain.

The Vale parish has not commenced drainage operations yet, and a considerable portion of St. Sampson's parish has yet to receive attention in this respect.

A part of the area mentioned is low lying, and in parts if not at sea level is but little above it.

A large sewer requires only a slight fall, but if its course be a long one and the necessary fall be provided, it follows that the proximal end must be placed at a considerable depth.

In addition to the expense attending such deep excavation, which applies not only to the main sewer but to every branch drain connecting with it, there is the difficulty of dealing with the sub-soil water encountered during construction, and the scouring action of the tide around the sewer, which is an important and of course constant factor, and may cause more or less subsidence of the sewer. The best means of draining such an area seems to be by Shone's Pneumatic or some similar system, in which the sewers are arranged in suitable sections and drain into one or more closed underground tanks by gravitation. From these tanks the sewage is then forced by atmospheric pressure and an arrangement of automatic valves into a reservoir situated at a height giving a sufficient fall, and then discharged by gravitation in the ordinary way. If preferred the sewage could instead be dealt with by pumping.

Either of these plans if adopted would allow of the main sewer and branch drains being laid close to the surface and therefore more economically and easily constructed.

I imagine that it would be possible to utilize windmills for the pumping at times, and when the wind would not serve, electric motors for the pumps, if adopted, would be immediately available when required, and would probably be the cheapest form of power available.

As regards the routine work of the Board over houses and house drains, in the town, a great part of it consists in seeing that iron lip and bell traps, which are generally of small and often of no efficiency whatever, are replaced by stoneware ones having a good water seal. Even if this appears a small matter, it is a most important one, but it must be borne in mind that no trap, however good, will be efficient against a high pressure of sewer gas in a drain.

In the country the great difficulty is in getting suitable privies or cesspits provided, and if an illustrated and fully detailed plan of a combined privy and ash-pit were drawn up and issued for general guidance, I think this difficulty would be materially lessened.

HY. DRAPER BISHOP,
M.D., M.O.H.