

[Report 1893] / Medical Officer of Health, Hastings County Borough.

Contributors

Hastings (England). County Borough Council.

Publication/Creation

1893

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THE
ANNUAL REPORT
ON
THE HEALTH,
SANITARY CONDITION,
ETC., ETC., OF THE
Borough of Hastings,
FOR THE YEAR
1893,

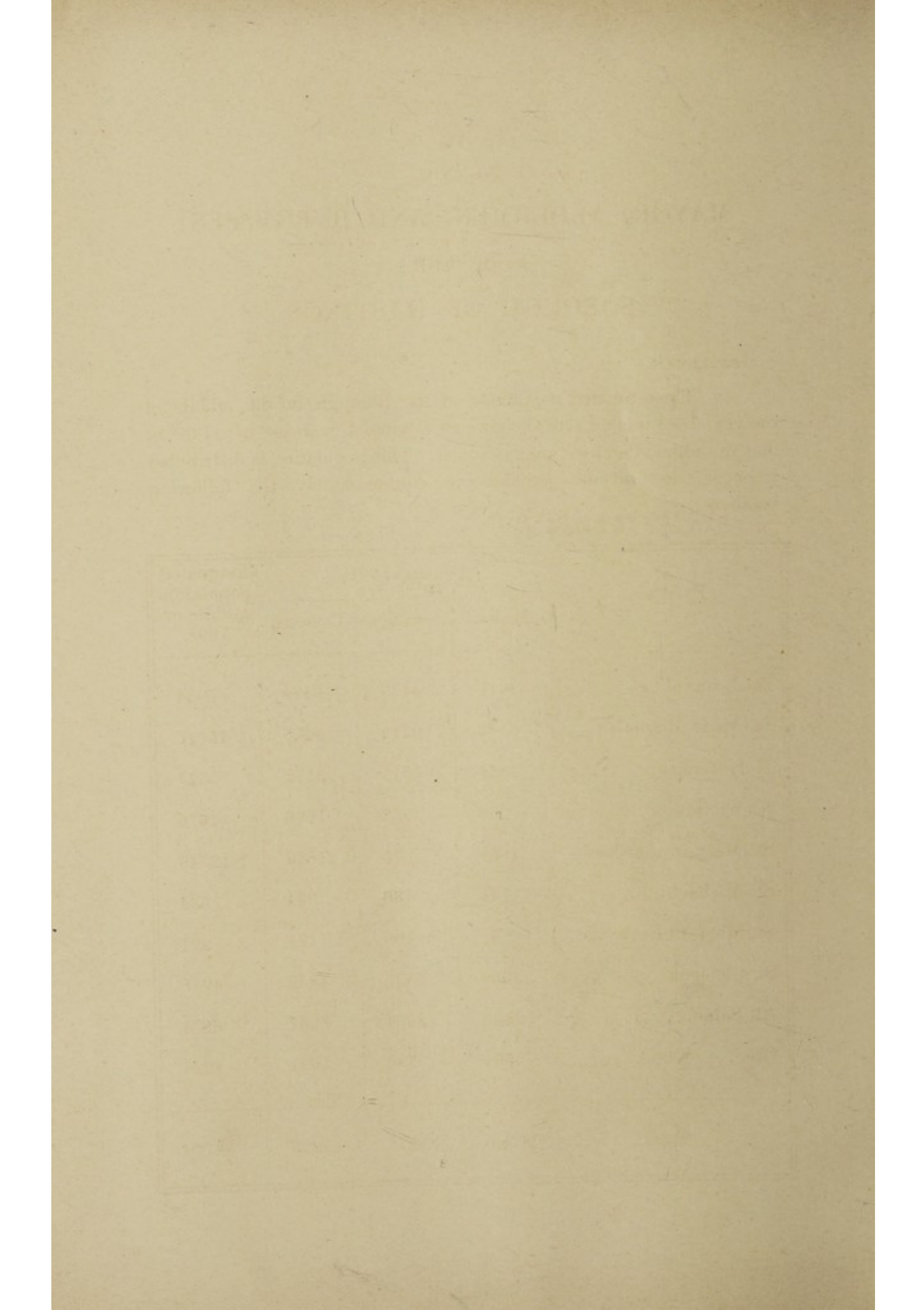
BY
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OFFICERS OF HEALTH.

HASTINGS:

PRINTED BY BURFIELD AND PENNELLS, CAMBRIDGE ROAD, HASTINGS.

MDCCCXCIV.



TO THE
MAYOR, ALDERMEN, AND BURGESSES
OF THE
BOROUGH OF HASTINGS.

GENTLEMEN,

The estimated population of the Borough in the middle of the year 1893 was 54,770, showing an estimated increase of 1146 on that in the middle of the previous year. This population is distributed amongst the several parishes in approximately the following numbers :—

Parishes.	Census, 1891.			Estimated population middle of 1893.
	Males.	Females.	Persons.	
St. Leonard	2410	4179	6589	6934
St. Mary Magdalen....	5196	9219	14415	15015
Holy Trinity.....	1861	3311	5172	5527
St. Andrew	708	958	1666	1676
St. Mary-in-the-Castle	4894	6975	11869	12549
St. Michael	148	186	334	334
St. Mary Bulverhythe..	91	100	191	221
St. Clement	2300	2556	4856	4916
All Saints	2833	3204	6037	6374
Ore.....	504	590	1094	1224
Total.....	20945	31278	52223	54770

A glance at the above census table will at once show one striking peculiarity in the composition of the population—a peculiarity common as I find to this place and to other towns of a like character; I mean the remarkable preponderance in the population of females over males, amounting (in a total population of 52,223 persons) to 10,333.

The proportion of females to 1000 males in England and Wales is 1063, in Sussex it is 1171, while in Hastings it is no less than 1493.

This proportion varies immensely in the different parishes, as the following table illustrates.

Parish.	Females to 1000 males.
St. Leonard	1730
St. Mary Magdalen	1774
Holy Trinity.....	1779
St. Andrew	1353
St. Mary-in-the-Castle..	1425
St. Michael	1256
St. Mary Bulverhythe..	1098
St. Clement	1111
All Saints	1130
Ore.....	1160

Further, up to the age of 15, the males and females are almost exactly evenly balanced, and this of course makes the disproportion between the sexes at later ages all the greater, so that, above the age of 15 the males to females are as 1000 to 1767.

This disparity between the sexes appears to be intimately associated with the remarkably low birth-rate. Thus in the Old Town which contains a population where the sexes are fairly normally

proportioned in number, the birth-rate is tolerably high, whereas in parishes such as Holy Trinity, St. Mary Magdalen, and St. Leonard, in which the females excessively outnumber the males, the birth-rate is abnormally low.

Parish.	Estimated population.	Births.	Birth-rate.	Females to 1000 males.
St. Leonard	6934	109	15·71	1730
St. Mary Magdalen..	15015	239	15·91	1774
Holy Trinity	5527	57	10·31	1779
St. Andrew	1676	43	25·65	1353
St. Mary-in-the-Castle	12549	264	21·03	1425
St. Michael	334	7	20·95	1256
St. Mary Bulverhythe	221	9	40·73	1098
St. Clement	4916	116	23·59	1111
All Saints	6374	189	29·65	1130
Ore	1224	26	21·24	1160
Total	54770	1059	19·33	1493

In the determination of the birth-rate, death-rate, &c., it is of paramount importance to have a correct estimate of the population. The Registrar General assumes that the rate of increase of population observed during one inter-censal decade will continue during the following decade, and in arriving at the above estimate of the population for the purpose of this report, this method is of course adopted. It is found however, that this is fallacious in practice, inasmuch as the rate of increase throughout the country is steadily diminishing.

To ensure greater accuracy the census should be taken at shorter intervals.

To some extent, however, the error may be rectified by other methods.

For instance, in 1881 the population numbered 42,258, and occupied 6369 inhabited houses, or 6·6 persons per inhabited house. In 1891 the population was 52,223, and 8,165 inhabited houses, or 6·4 persons per house. Probably therefore the number of inhabited houses multiplied by 6·4 will approximately represent the real population of the Borough at any given time.

Birth-rate.—During 1893 there were registered 1059 births (555 males, 504 females).

This number is 11 less than in 1892, and the birth-rate is only 19·33 as against 19·95 last year.

Years.	Total Births.	Illegitimate Births.	Total Birth-rate.	Illegitimate Births per cent. of Total Births.
1888	1077	34	21·85	3·15
1889	1117	34	22·19	3·04
1890	1003	33	19·53	3·19
1891	1089	46	20·74	4·22
1892	1070	46	19·95	4·29
1893	1059	37	19·33	3·49

The natural increase of births over deaths was 281.

There were registered during the year 778 deaths in the Borough.

Three hundred and eighty-one of these were of males, three hundred and ninety-seven of females.

The number last year was 925 deaths, thus there is the satisfactory decrease of 147 in 1893 as compared with 1892.

Eighteen non-residents died in Public Institutions within the district, viz., 7 in the East Sussex Hospital, 6 in the Eversfield Hospital, 3 in the Hertfordshire Convalescent Home, and 2 in the Children's Convalescent Home. These are to be deducted from the total number of deaths.

There are to be added however, the deaths of 23 parishioners which occurred in Public Institutions outside the Borough, of these 15 occurred in the Workhouse Infirmary, and 8 in the Borough Sanatorium.

The total thus arrived at is 783 deaths, showing a death-rate for the year of 14·29, compared with 17·49 in the previous year.

A lower death-rate than this has only once been recorded during the past 12 years.

The deaths among visitors were again numerous, amounting to 156, or more than 20 per cent. of the total number.

It is unfortunate that some correction cannot be made which should give the true death-rate of the town as apart from its visitors but this is impossible in the absence of any statistics as to the number of visitors present in the town.

One hundred and sixteen deaths of children under 1 year of age were registered, being 109 per 1000 of the total births, and 148 per 1000 of the total deaths.

The deaths of children under 5 years inclusive of the above were 192, equal to 245 per 1000 of the total deaths.

The deaths of persons above 60 years of age number 275 ; more than a third of the total registered.

Age.	Population at age period.	Deaths.	Death-rate per 1000 of the population at age period.
Under 1 year.....	1006	116	115·3
One and under 5 ..	4030	76	18·8
Total under 5 years	5036	192	38·1
Five to 15	10760	41	3·8
Fifteen to 25.....	11570	41	3·5
Twenty-five to 45 ..	15471	122	7·8
Forty-five to 65,...	8893	161	18·1
Sixty-five & upwards	3040	226	74·3
Total.....	54770	783	14·29

In the Appendix to this report will be found the table of deaths and of new cases of sickness required by the Local Government Board, with various other tables.

The deaths from the 7 principal Zymotic diseases during the year numbered 73, yielding a Zymotic death-rate of 1·33 per 1000.

The particular Zymotic diseases will be severally referred to in detail later on.

The following table shows the number of deaths from the 7 principal Zymotic diseases during the year 1893, and the preceding 10 years with the Zymotic death-rates.

Disease.	1883	1884	1885	1886	1887	1888	1889	1890	1891	1892	Annual Average of 10 years. 1883—1892.	Total Deaths in 1893.
Small-pox .. ..	..	2	6	1	..	..	..	..	..	..	0.9	—
Measles.. ..	2	15	25	16	16	..	6	18	..	25	12.3	8
Scarlet Fever ..	4	..	1	1	4	3	..	2	..	..	1.5	12
Diphtheria	3	5	11	3	3	4	6	6	23	32	9.6	32
Whooping Cough..	9	28	2	11	27	5	5	14	26	5	13.2	6
Fever { Typhus Enteric Simple contnd.	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	—	—
	1	3	4	3	8	2	3	4	4	4	3.6	4
	—	—
Diarrhoea	16	31	14	40	21	11	16	7	7	15	17.8	11
Totals	35	84	63	75	79	25	36	51	60	81	58.9	73
Zymotic Death-rate	0.79	1.85	1.36	1.58	1.63	0.50	0.71	0.99	1.14	1.51	1.21	1.33

Scarlet Fever.—Great difficulty was experienced during the past year in dealing with this disease; the number of cases actually reported was 552 with 12 deaths. Of these, 400 with 8 deaths were removed to the Isolation Hospital, while 152 with 9 deaths were treated at home. The disease began to be prevalent towards the end of February, from which time it increased to a maximum in July and August, diminishing again as the year wore on.

The majority of cases were of mild type, so much so that, in the acute stage in the absence of medical advice, it frequently passed unrecognised.

Infectious convalescents were thus permitted to expose themselves in schools and other public places, to the danger of all with whom they were brought in contact. In this way the fever spread widely in poor neighbourhoods.

I spent much time during the summer in paying frequent visits to the Elementary Schools of the Borough, so soon as special incidence of the disease was noticed amongst the scholars attending any of them.

The whole number of children present were examined, and any presenting suspicious appearances were sent home for further examination and scrutiny. In this way I was enabled to detect many unisolated infectious persons, and by ensuring their isolation at home or in the Sanatorium, to greatly limit the spread of the disease.

Much help was afforded me by the School Teachers and Attendance Officers in this work, who reported any suspicious case which came to their knowledge.

From various other sources, moreover, I received information leading me to detect in the homes of the poorer classes cases of the disease unnotified and medically unattended. Although in most instances those who allowed their children while infectious to mix with others, were doubtless acting in complete ignorance, I cannot but think that some were not so innocent in the matter.

That there might be less excuse for this real or assumed want of knowledge, I drew up and caused to be circulated amongst the parents of children in the Elementary Schools a leaflet, detailing the chief symptoms of the disease which should arouse their suspicions, urging them at once to summon medical aid, and explaining the dangers to which they exposed the community and themselves, in failing to recognize the nature of the complaint. This step proved of real advantage.

In the case of one school, compulsory closure for one month was found necessary, which immediately checked the spread of the disease in the neighbourhood. In three other schools the like proceeding was adopted for a few days, during which disinfection and airing were carried out.

During the month of November, at a time when the prevalence of Scarlatina was rapidly on the wane, a sudden temporary increase affecting one portion of the district was observed. This was due as I believe to infected Milk supply. Within this period 18 out of 26 houses invaded, were supplied from one dairy, while in 2 more houses with this milk supply, throat illness suggesting the throat appearances of Scarlet Fever appeared.

Thus 70 per cent. of houses invaded were supplied from this one dairy, while of the whole number of houses receiving milk from this supply 30 per cent. were in a brief period infected with Scarlatina, or suspicious illness.

It further transpired that in these houses the persons affected were in many cases large milk consumers. I at once visited the dairy which was situated in the Borough, and which I found to be scrupulously clean, well drained, and free from any suspicion, nor could I find suspicious appearances about any of those employed on the farm, nor was there any history of illness in their families. The dairyman gave me all the assistance in his power, and by the courtesy of the Medical Officer of Health of the district in which they were situated, I was enabled, in company with Mr. Woodroffe Hill, veterinary surgeon, to visit the cowsheds, and to examine the cows. The cows, 12 in number, although there was nothing noticeable in their appearance, were found to be all more or less suffering from febrile disturbance, evidenced by rise of temperature, rapidity of breathing, and heightened pulse rate, probably due to the imperfect sanitary surroundings which have since been considerably improved. There were no morbid skin appearances, such as ulcerations, sores, or denuded patches of skin. I suggested that samples of the milk of each cow should be taken separately, with a view to careful analysis, and bacteriological examination. This suggestion was, I regret to say, not acted upon, but Bacteria were detected by the Analyst to whom one sample of the mixed milks was submitted. The case was one of public interest, and was in my opinion worthy of thorough investigation, especially as evidence is accumulating to demonstrate the communicability of certain diseases to mankind from the lower animals.

If in some way the infective principle gained entrance to the milk, whether from bovine disease causing Scarlatina in man, or from some undiscovered source of human origin, the milk was free from any suspicion at the end of the month and has since remained so.

In addition to these sources of infection arising in the Borough, there was another difficulty arising from without in dealing with which we were placed at great disadvantage. I mean the repeated introduction of the disease by visitors from London and other places where it was epidemic. Some of these visitors were discovered in an infectious condition and isolated; but there were doubtless many who escaped detection and who, perhaps in all innocence, caused outbreak in this district.

As I have previously stated there was rapid and most satisfactory decrease in the number of cases towards the close of the year.

Smallpox.—For the first time for $7\frac{1}{2}$ years cases of smallpox were reported in the Borough. The disease had been prevalent in the Northern Counties spreading southwards for some months previously, and a number of cases had occurred in London, when a case in this district was at last notified on June, 19th.

The patient had been ill for some days before seeking medical advice; he was resident in a small beershop in the Old Town frequented by tramps—to all intents and purposes a common lodging house. The infection was probably introduced by some vagrant lodger, who could not however be traced. I at once organized a camp hospital in an isolated spot, to which the patient was removed. Some outbreak from this case which had been for days unrecognized and unattended, was inevitable. A fortnight later a second case, doubtless infected from the first was notified, and on the same day, July 3rd, a tramp from London walked into the town with the rash upon him. Within the next two days four cases were reported from the beerhouse whence the first patient had been removed. There was no further spread from these sources. Six weeks later, a female tramp was found in a common lodging house suffering from the disease, she had just arrived in the town from Eastbourne. On August 14th, a German tailor from London who had been here only a week was notified as suffering from smallpox. On August 15th, two men, brothers, infected from some unknown source, were attacked. All the cases notified were immediately removed to the camp, and in no case, except the first, as mentioned above, was there any spread of the infection.

Looking at the fact that five distinct importations of infection into the Borough must have taken place, the successful stamping out of the disease may be looked on as very satisfactory. The only death that occurred was that of the tramp who came from London, and who reached this place with the disease in an advanced stage, much exhausted and half-starved. He had no vaccination marks.

The camp was finally broken up at the termination of the last case early in October.

It will be noticed that three out of the five introductions of infection were traceable to tramps—an irresponsible class of the community—over whom it is desirable that more efficient control should be exercised during epidemic periods. At the least when smallpox is prevalent in the country, re-vaccination of the tramp class should be enforced. To the close of the year the town remained free.

Appended are the Vaccination Returns for 1892, for which I am indebted to the kindness of Mr. A. D. Womersley, Vaccination Officer for the District.

VACCINATION RETURNS FOR 1892.

FROM THE SUPPLEMENTAL RETURN TO THE LOCAL GOVERNMENT BOARD.

Registration Sub-District.	Number of Births registered.	Successfully vaccinated.	Insusceptible of vaccination.	Had small-pox.	Dead unvaccinated.	Postponed by Medical Officer of Certificate.	Removal to districts the Vaccination Officer of which has been duly apprized.	Removal to Places unknown or which cannot be reached, and cases not having been found.	Unaccounted for.
Ore, Fairlight ..	215	143	0	0	22	10	0	16	24
St. Clement	330	235	0	0	37	12	0	26	20
St. Mary-in-the-Castle	836	555	4	0	64	36	0	77	100
Total	1381	933	4	0	123	58	0	119	144

Diphtheria.—The disease was again unduly prevalent, 92 notifications being received, with 26 fatal cases. As I have already submitted to you, at the request of the Local Government Board, two reports on this disease earlier in the year, it will not be necessary for me to enter now very fully into details on this subject.

The etiology of this disease and its steady increase over England offer a most puzzling problem. Although many arguments have been advanced against the theory my own experience leads me to believe that the disease depends largely on defective house sanitation; while an important part is played by direct transmission of the disease from person to person.

I have had no reason during the past year to suspect conveyance of infection by milk. Several cases of the disease seem to have been intimately associated with the occurrence in the same household of Scarlatina.

In some such instances the return of scarlet fever convalescents has been closely followed by outbreak of diphtheria in some other member or members of the family although no similar throat symptoms may have been observed in the scarlet fever patient at any period of his illness. The infection was also several times brought into the Borough from other districts, five fatal cases thus originating. Owing to the large number of scarlatina patients occupying our Isolation Hospital wards but few diphtheria patients were admitted; the majority being treated at home.

It is therefore satisfactory to record that second cases in affected houses were rare. Seeing that the disease frequently occurs in so mild a form as to be scarcely recognizable, I should be glad always to hear of any case which gives ground for the least suspicion, and to carry out the required disinfection, and inspection of premises.

In a considerable number of cases—in spite of close enquiry and investigation—the occurrence of the disease could not be accounted for.

The sanitary condition of some of the houses seemed perfect, no evidence of personal or of milk infection was forthcoming, and the cause of the disease remained shrouded in mystery.

Typhoid Fever.—The number of cases of typhoid fever notified was only 20, with which must be included a further case of continued fever. Of these 21 cases, 6 were imported, and 15 were developed in the district, giving an attack-rate of only 0·27 per 1000 of the population, and a death-rate (4 fatal cases) of no more than 0·07 per 1000.

The cases were distributed fairly evenly through the year, and there was no special incidence in any district. The cause was in almost every instance traced to sanitary defects in houses or to work connected with opening of drains. Where found, sanitary defects were remedied under notice.

Measles.—There were only 8 deaths registered from this disease during the year, of which number, 7 occurred during the first quarter.

The disease had been prevalent during the latter months of 1892, and these deaths marked the end of the epidemic.

Whooping Cough.—The deaths from this disease only numbered 6, or less than half the average recorded during recent years; and the cases coming to my knowledge were few.

Diarrhœa.—The deaths from this disease numbered 11, of which 9 were deaths of infants under 1 year of age. Such a low death-rate from this disease as is hereby indicated is a cause for much satisfaction, especially when we consider the long continued hot weather of 1893.

The death-rates from diarrhœa for the past 6 years are worthy of notice.

1888	..	0·22	per thousand
1889	..	0·31	„ „
1890	..	0·13	„ „
1891	..	0·11	„ „
1892	..	0·28	„ „
1893	..	0·20	„ „

The death-rate for the 33 large towns of England from this cause was 1·21 in 1893.

Other Zymotic Diseases caused 8 deaths, of which 3 were due to Syphilis, 3 to Erysipelas, and 2 to Pyæmia.

To Dietic Diseases there were referred 4 deaths, all due to Alcoholism, acute or chronic.

One hundred and ninety-nine deaths were caused by Constitutional Diseases, 115 from Phthisis, (45 visitors), 39 from Cancer or Malignant Disease, 25 from various Tubercular Diseases, and 11 from Diabetes.

Of Developmental Diseases which caused 66 deaths, 45 were referred to old age, 16 to premature birth, 4 to Congenital Malformations, and 1 to Atelectasis.

To Local Diseases nearly half the total number of deaths were ascribed. Eighty-one deaths were registered from Bronchitis, 42 from Pneumonia, 10 from Influenza, and 5 from Croup. The deaths from Respiratory Diseases numbered 153 in all.

Diseases of the Nervous System caused 70 deaths, 42 being from Apoplexy.

Diseases of the Circulatory System were responsible for 70 deaths.

From Diseases of the Digestive System there were 39 deaths.

From Diseases of the Urinary System 24 deaths, and of the Reproductive System 4 deaths.

The 38 deaths from ill-defined and not specified causes include 32 deaths of infants under one year from Atrophy.

There were 25 deaths from Violence; 6 Suicides, and 19 Accidental.

Included in this class are the deaths of persons Found Dead or Found Drowned.

On all these Inquests were held.

The deaths not medically certified numbered 12, or 1·5 per cent. of total deaths. In these the cause of death was assigned as follows :

Phthisis	..	..	..	3
Heart Disease	..	..	..	2
Whooping Cough	..	..	..	1
Epilepsy	..	..	..	1
Spasmodic Croup	..	..	..	1
Bronchitis	..	..	..	1
Prematurity	..	..	..	1
Cancer ..	..	..	..	1
Syncope	..	..	..	1
				—
Total	..	..	..	12
				—

In the Public Institutions of the Borough, 70 deaths were registered being 87·39 per 1000 of total deaths.

Included in the list of Public Institutions are the following : East Sussex Hospital, Eversfield Hospital, Hertfordshire Convalescent Home, Convalescent Home for Poor Children within the Borough, and the Workhouse Infirmary and Borough Sanatorium outside the District.

The deaths in these Institutions were from the following causes :

	<i>Under 5 Years.</i>	<i>5 and under 60</i>	<i>60 and upwards.</i>
Phthisis	0	14	0
Diseases of Nervous System ..	2	4	1
„ „ Respiratory „ ..	1	2	3
„ „ Circulatory „ ..	0	4	4
„ „ Digestive „ ..	0	3	1
„ „ Urinary „ ..	0	3	2
Cancer	0	2	1
Diphtheria	3	3	0
Disease of Ear	0	1	0
„ „ Uterus	0	1	0
Tubercular Disease	0	1	0
Dietic „	0	1	0
Constitutional „	0	0	1
Accident	1	4	0
Exhaustion, Debility	0	0	1
Old Age	0	0	2
Congenital Malformation ..	1	0	0
Scarlatina	1	2	0
	9	45	16
Total	70		

Thirty-eight Inquests were held on 19 males and 19 females. The causes of death were returned as follows :

Heart Disease	4
Accidentally run over	1
Congestion of Lungs	5
Convulsions	1
Found Dead	5
Accident	8
Accidentally suffocated in fire or scalded	2
Rupture of Varicose Vein.. ..	1
Meningitis	1
Found Drowned	3
Nephritis	1
Suicide (Fracture, Fall, &c). ..	4
„ (Strangulation)	1
„ (Cut Throat)	1
	<hr/>
	38
	<hr/>

The Sanatorium.—The number of cases isolated in the Sanatorium during the past year has been unprecedentedly large. From the Borough there were admitted 400 cases of Scarlet Fever, 8 of Diphtheria; and 11 of Smallpox (into a special camp).

From the Rural District there were 35 Scarlet Fever admittances and 2 Diphtheria. The cases of Scarlet Fever were on the whole of a very mild type. Of the 435 cases admitted for this disease, 10 in all proved fatal, and these for the most part not from the severity of the fever, but from unfortunate complications and sequelæ.

The per centage mortality was only 2·3 as compared with 5·9 amongst cases treated at home. Amongst 10 cases admitted for Diphtheria, only 1 was fatal, while there was one death as before stated among the Smallpox patients. During the height of the Scarlet Fever outbreak, that is in the month of July, owing to the inadequate accommodation which is provided in the Scarlet Fever block, it was found necessary to fill the Iron Building with fever patients, and to run up additional temporary accommodation for 40 patients as well. Considering the very large amount of work that was thus thrown upon the nursing staff and the difficulties under which the duties were carried out, the low rate of mortality is gratifying. It is to be hoped that ere we are called upon to deal with a like contingency again, a Sanatorium more worthy of the Borough may have been provided. It must be remembered that when the present Sanatorium was acquired some 20 years ago, the population of the district was less than it is at the present time by more than 20,000 persons.

There has been also in recent years a much more universal demand for hospital isolation than there was formerly, both from the popular appreciation of its advantages, and from the more extended knowledge of occurrence of cases which is conferred by the adoption of the Notification Act.

Elementary Schools.—Many of the Elementary Schools of the District were inspected, and suggestions for various improvements carried out.

Common-Lodging Houses.—These are only two in number and are under the supervision of the Police. The sanitary arrangements in one of these were improved last year, and the other is now being dealt with.

Slaughter-Houses.—New By-laws closely following the Model By-laws came into force during the year. The slaughter-houses in the Borough number but five, and only one gave cause for complaint during the year. It is hoped that under the new regulations they may be conducted in an altogether satisfactory manner. Several inspections of them have been carried out during the year.

The following account summarises some part of the Sanitary work of the year 1893, carried out by, and under the supervision of the Inspector of Nuisances, Mr. W. C. Inskipp.

1681 Houses and premises inspected, most of which were situated in the parishes of St. Mary-in-the-Castle, St. Mary Magdalen, All Saints, St. Clement, Holy Trinity, and St. Leonard.

123 Houses provided with new stoneware pipe drains, with water-tight joints, a large number of the drains being embedded in six inches of good cement concrete all round.

57 Drains cleansed and amended and obstructions in them removed.

125 Stoneware intercepting traps, and about 181 gully, or surface traps fixed.

108 Four-inch iron or lead soil pipes, fixed outside and carried well above the highest windows, to act as vent pipes to house drains, also many inlet ventilators provided.

2 Wells closed, the water being found unfit for domestic purposes.

34 Accumulations of manure, &c., ordered to be removed.

212 Houses and rooms cleansed and lime-washed.

8 Bakehouses and 1 store-room lime-washed, under the Bakehouse Regulation Act.

156 Animals ordered to be kept in a more cleanly state.

Nuisance from 3 chimneys sending forth black smoke abated.

3 Urinals provided with a good flush of water, re-drained, ventilated, and cleansed.

1 House pulled down and re-built on account of defective sanitary condition.

Overcrowding in 6 houses and rooms abated.

175 Old closets cleansed or removed, and replaced by modern ones.

101 Flushing boxes and many cisterns provided.

2 Cesspools cleansed and filled up and the houses re-drained.

150 Drains tested, and many house-drains altered.

Many ashpits have been supplied, besides other sanitary improvements, such as air-tight inspecting chambers, and better ventilation provided, &c.

398 Cases of Scarlet Fever, and 8 of Diphtheria removed by the Inspectors to the Sanatorium, and 11 cases of Smallpox; also 5 cases of Scarlet Fever removed to a private Sanatorium.

664 Houses and rooms fumigated by the Inspector of Nuisances and his Assistant-Inspector, also 5 schoolrooms and 10 classrooms.

891 Sets of bedding and clothing disinfected at the Disinfecting Chamber of the Hastings County Council, and disinfectants supplied by the Inspector for flushing drains and for use in other parts of houses.

A large number of workrooms were inspected, under the new Factory and Workshops Act, and overcrowding therein discontinued and ventilation enforced in some cases where needed. The walls and ceilings of several of the workshops were cleansed and lime-washed. Inspection of the district has also been made under the Shop Hours Regulation Act.

Dairies, Cow Sheds and Milk Shops.—The premises occupied by purveyors of milk have been visited during the year, and the owners of unregistered premises compelled to register, as required by the Act. The periodical visitation of these premises is part of the routine work of the Inspectors, and has been steadily carried out since the order of 1885 was issued. Great care is taken to see that the premises of purveyors of milk are cleanly, and in good sanitary condition. The cowsheds have also been inspected.

Inspection of Food.—As the result of Inspection of Food, the following articles found in a state unfit for human consumption were condemned and destroyed.

June 1st.—2 large Turbots from Billingsgate Market
 „ 12th.—1 box of Mullet from „ „
 Aug. 17th.—1 box of Shrimps from Lydd
 „ 18th.—4 baskets of Plums from Covent Garden
 „ 21st.—1 bag of Whelks from Wallsend
 „ 21st.—6 gallons of Whelks
 „ 21st.—1 bag of Whelks from Billingsgate Market
 Sept. 21st.—Quantity of Grapes
 „ 26th.—1 bag of Whelks from Wallsend
 „ 30th.—11 baskets of Bananas from Covent Garden

The Inspector has, in addition, taken under the Sale of Food and Drugs Act, 21 samples of milk, 3 samples of spirits, 1 sample of vinegar, and 2 samples of lard; also 5 samples of butter, under the Margarine Act, and submitted them to the Public Analyst.

Sale of Food and Drugs Act.—Statement as to cases in which legal proceedings were taken with respect to samples reported by the Public Analyst as adulterated.

Date of Proceedings,	Adulterated articles in respect of which proceedings were taken.	Result of proceedings showing penalty inflicted exclusive of costs.
1893.		
April 20th.	Sample of Whiskey ..	Defendant convicted and fined 10s.
July 7th.	Sample of Milk.....	Defendant convicted and fined 10s.
Jan. 11, 1894.	Sample of Milk.....	Defendant convicted and fined 5s.

The following Meteorological Report was kindly supplied to me by the Borough Meteorologist.

The *Mean Temperature* of the past year (1893) at the elevation of 170 feet above the sea was 51·1. This is considered to be as much as 2·5° above the mean temperature of this locality. The coldest month was January, with a mean of 36·3, and the warmest month was August, with a mean of 64·4. The entire range of shade temperature from 18·9 on January 3rd, to 82·4 on August 18th, was 4·5 more than the usual fluctuation, and the daily range of 12·7 was almost 2 degrees in excess of the mean amount. There is no other instance of the daily range having been so great, the extreme dryness of the ground and the generally sunny character of the weather being the cause.

The *Rainfall* was, on the whole, very deficient, being as much as 2·77 inches less than the average, and the number of days on which rain was measured, was 36 less. During the months of March, April, May and June, there were only 24 days on which rain fell, and the amounts collected were extremely small, no fall being more than ·27 of an inch. During the whole of April, rain was measured on one day only (16th), and this month is the driest I can find any record of in Hastings. The rainfall of the last 4 months of the year was, however, in excess of the average, and the month of October was as usual the wettest month of all.

It is again, however, in the record of *Bright Sunshine* that the whole year's results are most important and interesting. The extraordinary number of 2024·6 hours were registered by the Sunshine Recorder. This amount exceeds that of any of the previous years during the registrations of the instrument which were begun in 1882. The mean amount of Bright Sunshine registered during the past year over the whole of the south of England by the Sunshine Recorders belonging to the Meteorological Office, was 1875 hours, thus it will be seen that the total registered in Hastings is as much as 149·6 hours above that amount.

SUMMARY OF METEOROLOGICAL OBSERVATIONS.

Taken at St. Leonards, Sussex, during the year 1893.

TEMPERATURE.

		Mean Max.	Mean Min.	Absolute Max.	Absolute Min.
January	....	40.2	32.4	50.0	18.9
February	....	47.4	37.2	53.7	32.1
March	....	53.2	39.9	61.5	29.6
April	....	60.6	43.9	73.9	35.0
May	....	62.8	48.0	73.4	40.4
June	....	67.5	52.4	81.8	43.3
July	....	68.7	55.9	78.7	48.1
August	....	71.4	57.4	82.4	48.8
September	....	64.5	50.0	73.7	37.3
October	....	58.4	47.2	62.8	32.2
November	....	47.2	37.5	56.5	30.0
December	....	47.6	36.2	56.4	27.5
Means	....	57.5	44.8	82.4 (Max).	18.9 (Min).

RAINFALL.

	Inches	Greatest amount on one day	Date.	No. of days of '005 or more.
January	1.94	.54	17th	18
February	4.36	.80	20th	18
March	0.38	.13	1st	7
April	0.02	.02	16th	1
May	0.63	.27	29th	7
June	0.91	.19	24th	9
July	4.06	1.29	16th	16
August	0.82	.18	23rd	10
September	4.10	.96	28th	17
October	5.31	1.16	11th	17
November	2.60	.37	1st	19
December	2.06	.40	8th	11
Total	27.19			150

BRIGHT SUNSHINE.

	Hours.	Greatest amount on one day.	Date.	No. of days on which no sunshine was registered.
January	39.9	7.2	27th	14
February	77.6	8.0	4th	8
March	207.6	11.9	31st	4
April	282.3	13.6	25th	—
May	240.5	14.0	6th	—
June	280.5	15.1	18th	1
July	227.2	14.3	6th & 7th	3
August	262.7	13.3	9th	—
September	158.4	11.5	5th & 12th	—
October	126.4	9.5	12th	6
November	64.7	8.0	12th	10
December	56.8	5.9	30th	8
Total	2024.6			54

H. COLBORNE, *Borough Meteorologist.*

Borough Surveyor's Department.—Works carried out during year ending March 25th, 1894.

Works of Private Street Improvements :

Cornwallis Estate, De Cham, Cloudesley and Southwater Roads.

New Groynes : Marina No. 44

„ East of Baths

„ “Royal Oak.”

Alterations and additions to Public Convenience, Queen's Road.

Protective Railings, Carlisle Parade.

New Sewers, Maze Hill (Upper).

„ West Ascent.

„ Stanhope Place.

Extension of Sewer, Edmund Road.

New Water Main, St. Peter's Road.

„ „ Victoria Mews.

Experimental Borings, &c., for Water at Brede, Westfield, Fore Wood, Crowhurst, Pebsham and Filsham.

Additional Water supplies from Crowhurst.

Increased Polarite Filtering accommodation.

Erection of various Sewer Ventilating Shafts.

All new Drains inspected and twice tested.

Various Properties re-drained, under Notices.

Water Supply, Borough Cemetery.

Temporary Sanatorium Encampment near Cemetery.

The year 1893 has been one of hard work in all Departments. The Sanitary Inspectors in addition to much labour expended in combating infectious disease have been active, as the Inspectors Summary shows, in remedying sanitary defects which came to their knowledge as the outcome of their frequent house inspections.

The Water Committee with the Borough Surveyor have worked vigorously at the solution of the question of increased water supply to meet the needs of the increasing population, and from the Crowhurst district there is now already a new daily supply of a quarter of a million gallons and it is hoped that results in other borings will prove even more abundant.

In conclusion, I must acknowledge my indebtedness to all those who have kindly furnished me with information in compiling this Report; to many Medical men in the Town for assistance readily given, in dealing with infectious sickness; to the Chairman of the Sanitary Committee for much help and support in carrying out my duties, and for acting as my substitute during a week's absence; and to the Sanitary Aid Association whose assistance has been of much advantage to me and to the community.

I am, Gentlemen,

Yours obediently,

A. SCARLYN WILSON, D.P.H.,

Medical Officer of Health.



APPENDIX.

TABLE I.

TABLE OF DEATHS during the Year 1893, in the Urban Sanitary

NAMES OF LOCALITIES adopted for the purpose of these Statistics ; Public Institutions being shown as separate localities.	MORTALITY FROM ALL CAUSES AT SUBJOINED AGES.							MORTALITY.				
(a)	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)	(i)	Smallpox. 1	Scarlatina. 2	Diphtheria. 3	Membranous Croup. 4
St. Leonard	71	10	4	5	2	27	23	Under 5	..	..	..	..
								5 upwds.	..	..	2	1
St. Mary Magdalen ..	182	20	11	8	6	64	73	Under 5	..	..	4	2
								5 upwds.	..	3	4	..
Holy Trinity	74	9	1	2	5	31	26	Under 5	..	..	..	..
								5 upwds.	..	..	2	..
St. Andrew	30	1	5	..	4	12	8	Under 5	..	..	1	..
								5 upwds.	..	..	..	..
St. Mary-in-the-Castle ..	163	36	15	9	9	59	35	Under 5	..	..	2	..
								5 upwds.	..	1	1	..
St. Michael	7	1	2	..	..	3	1	Under 5	..	..	..	..
								5 upwds.	..	..	..	..
St. Mary Bulverhythe ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	Under 5	..	..	..	..
								5 upwds.	..	..	..	..
St. Clement	101	15	15	4	5	26	36	Under 5	..	3	1	..
								5 upwds.	..	1	..	1
All Saints	91	21	18	5	4	26	17	Under 5	..	1	6	..
								5 upwds.	..	..	3	..
Ore (part of)	12	1	2	1	1	5	2	Under 5	..	..	..	..
								5 upwds.	..	..	..	..
East Sussex Hospital ..	33	1	3	1	4	21	3	Under 5	..	..	..	..
								5 upwds.	..	..	..	..
Eversfield Hospital.. ..	9	..	..	..	4	5	..	Under 5	..	..	..	..
								5 upwds.	..	..	..	..
Hertfordshire Con. Home..	3	..	..	..	1	2	..	Under 5	..	..	..	..
								5 upwds.	..	..	..	..
Con. Home for poor Children	2	..	..	2	..	..	..	Under 5	..	..	..	..
								5 upwds.	..	..	..	..
Totals	778	115	76	37	45	281	224	Under 5	..	4	14	2
								5 upwds.	..	5	12	2
The subjoined numbers have also to be taken into												
Deaths occurring outside the district among persons belonging thereto	23	2	2	5	1	8	5	Under 5	..	1	2	..
								5 upwds.	..	2	3	..
Deaths occurring within the district among persons not belonging thereto....	156	10	4	4	15	80	43	Under 5	..	..	2	..
								5 upwds.	..	1	1	..

TABLE I.

District of Hastings, classified according to DISEASES, AGES, and LOCALITIES.

FROM SUBJOINED CAUSES, DISTINGUISHING DEATHS OF CHILDREN UNDER FIVE YEARS OF AGE,																	
FEVERS																	
Typhus.	Enteric or Typhoid.	Continued.	Relapsing.	Puerperal.	Cholera.	Erysipelas.	Measles.	Whooping Cough.	Diarrhoea and Dysentery.	Rheumatic Fever.	Ague.	Phthisis.	Bronchitis, Pneumonia and Pleurisy.	Heart Disease.	Injuries.	All other Diseases.	Total.
5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22
..	4	..	..	10	14
..	2	..	..	5	15	7	3	24	57
..	2	..	..	..	6	..	1	16	31
..	1	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	2	..	..	25	16	19	4	77	151
..	1	..	..	..	3	..	1	5	10
..	17	11	9	4	21	64
..	1	..	..	..	..	..	1	..	..	3	6
..	1	..	7	2	5	1	8	24
..	4	3	4	..	..	..	16	..	1	21	51
..	2	..	..	..	..	..	1	..	1	..	..	29	16	12	1	48	112
..	1	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	2	3
..	1	..	1	..	2	4
..
..	1	1	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
..	1	..	..	..	..	1	..	..	..	..	..	14	18	4	..	14	30
..	1	..	1	..	..	..	8	..	..	31	71
..	6	..	..	22	39
..	1	..	..	..	..	..	5	6	6	2	29	52
..	1	..	..	..	..	..	1	..	..	1	3
..	3	1	2	..	3	9
..	1	3	4
..	3	3	1	4	18	29
..
..	7	..	1	..	1	9
..
..	1	..	1	..	1	3
..
..	1	..	1	2
..	7	5	9	..	..	..	48	..	5	97	191
..	4	..	..	..	..	2	1	..	3	1	..	117	88	69	19	264	587

account in judging of the above records of mortality.

..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	4
..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	2	..	4	..	8	19
..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	..	..	..	..	5	..	..	6	14
..	1	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	45	21	17	8	48	142

TABLE II.

TABLE OF POPULATION, BIRTHS, and of NEW CASES OF INFECTIOUS SICKNESS, coming in the Urban Sanitary District of Hastings, Classified

NAMES OF LOCALITIES adopted for the purpose of these Statistics; Public Institutions being shown as separate localities.	POPULATION AT ALL AGES.		Registered Births.	Aged under 5 or over 5.	NEW CASES OF SICKNESS, IN EACH THE KNOWLEDGE OF THE MEDICAL						
	Census, 1891.	Estimate to middle of 1893.			Smallpox	Scarlatina	Diphtheria	Membranous Croup	FEVERS.		
									Typhus	Enteric or Typhoid	Continued
(a)	(b)	(c)	(d)	(e)	1	2	3	4	5	6	7
St. Leonard	6,589	6,934	109	Under 5 5 upwards.	.. ..	12 90	1 17	.. 1	.. ..	.. 6	.. 1
St. Mary Magdalen	14,415	15,015	239	Under 5 5 upwards.	.. ..	20 128	6 30	3 1	.. ..	.. 3	....
Holy Trinity	5,172	5,527	57	Under 5 5 upwards.	.. ..	2 32	.. 9	.. ..	.. ..	.. 2	....
St. Andrew	1,666	1,676	43	Under 5 5 upwards.	.. ..	3 6	.. 2	.. ..	.. ..	.. 2	....
St. Mary-in-the-Castle	11,869	12,549	264	Under 5 5 upwards.	.. 3	14 60	3 8	.. ..	.. ..	.. 4	....
St. Michael	334	334	7	Under 5 5 upwards.	.. ..	.. 2	....	....	....	....	....
St. Mary Bulverhythe	191	221	9	Under 5 5 upwards.	.. ..	.. ..	.. ..	.. ..	.. ..	.. ..	.. ..
St. Clement	4,856	4,916	116	Under 5 5 upwards.	.. 3	12 51	2 1	1 ..	.. ..	.. 1	....
All Saints	6,037	6,374	189	Under 5 5 upwards.	.. 5	20 88	7 6	....	....	....	....
Ore (part of)	1,094	1,224	26	Under 5 5 upwards.	.. ..	.. 3	.. ..	.. ..	.. ..	.. 1	....
Convalescent Home for poor Children	..	..	..	Under 5 5 upwards.	.. ..	.. 9	....	....	....	....	....
East Sussex Hospital	..	..	..	Under 5 5 upwards.	.. ..	.. ..	.. ..	.. ..	.. ..	.. 1	....
TOTALS.....	52,223	5,4770	1,059	Under 5 5 upwards.	.. 11	83 469	19 73	4 2	.. ..	.. 20	.. 1

TABLE III.

Years.	Births.	Birth-rate per 1000 of the inhabitants.	Deaths from all causes.	Death-rate per 1000 inhabitants.	Death-rate from the 7 chief Infectious Diseases per 1000 inhabitants.	Death-rate under 1 year of age per 1000 births.
1882	1095	25.23	715	16.47	2.07	137
1883	1098	24.77	727	16.40	0.79	111
1884	1099	24.28	738	16.30	1.85	153
1885	1100	23.78	703	15.20	1.36	99
1886	1098	23.25	718	15.20	1.58	131
1887	1097	22.78	771	15.98	1.63	128
1888	1077	21.85	726	14.73	0.50	101
1889	1117	22.19	711	14.12	0.71	114
1890	1003	19.53	743	14.45	0.99	104
1891	1089	20.74	892	16.99	1.14	115
1892	1070	19.95	937	17.47	1.51	145
1893	1059	19.33	783	14.29	1.33	110

Deaths Registered from all Causes during the year 1893.

beyond the limits of the District are included.

[illegible]

SUMMARY OF TABLE IV.

	No. of Deaths		No. of Deaths
<i>Group I—</i>			
I.—SPECIFIC FEVERS, OR ZYMOTIC DISEASES.			
1. Miasmatic Diseases	62		
2. Marabout	11		
3. " "	—		
4. Zenguenas	—		
5. Venereal	2		
6. " "	1		
7. " "	1		
II.—PARASITIC DISEASES.			
1. Trichinosis	4		
III.—DIETIC DISEASES.			
1. Dysentery	199		
IV.—CONSTITUTIONAL DISEASES.			
V.—LIFE-CONSUMING DISEASES.			
VI.—LOCAL DISEASES.			
1. Diseases of Nervous System	79		
2. Diseases of Organs of Special Sense	3		
3. Diseases of Circulatory System	79		
4. Diseases of Respiratory System	29		
5. Diseases of Digestive System	29		
<i>Group II—</i>			
VII.—VIOLENCE.			
1. Accidents or Negligence	16		
2. Suicide	6		
3. Homicide	—		
4. Execution	4		
VIII.—ILL-DEFINED AND NOT SPECIFIED CAUSES.			
Total			
686		783	

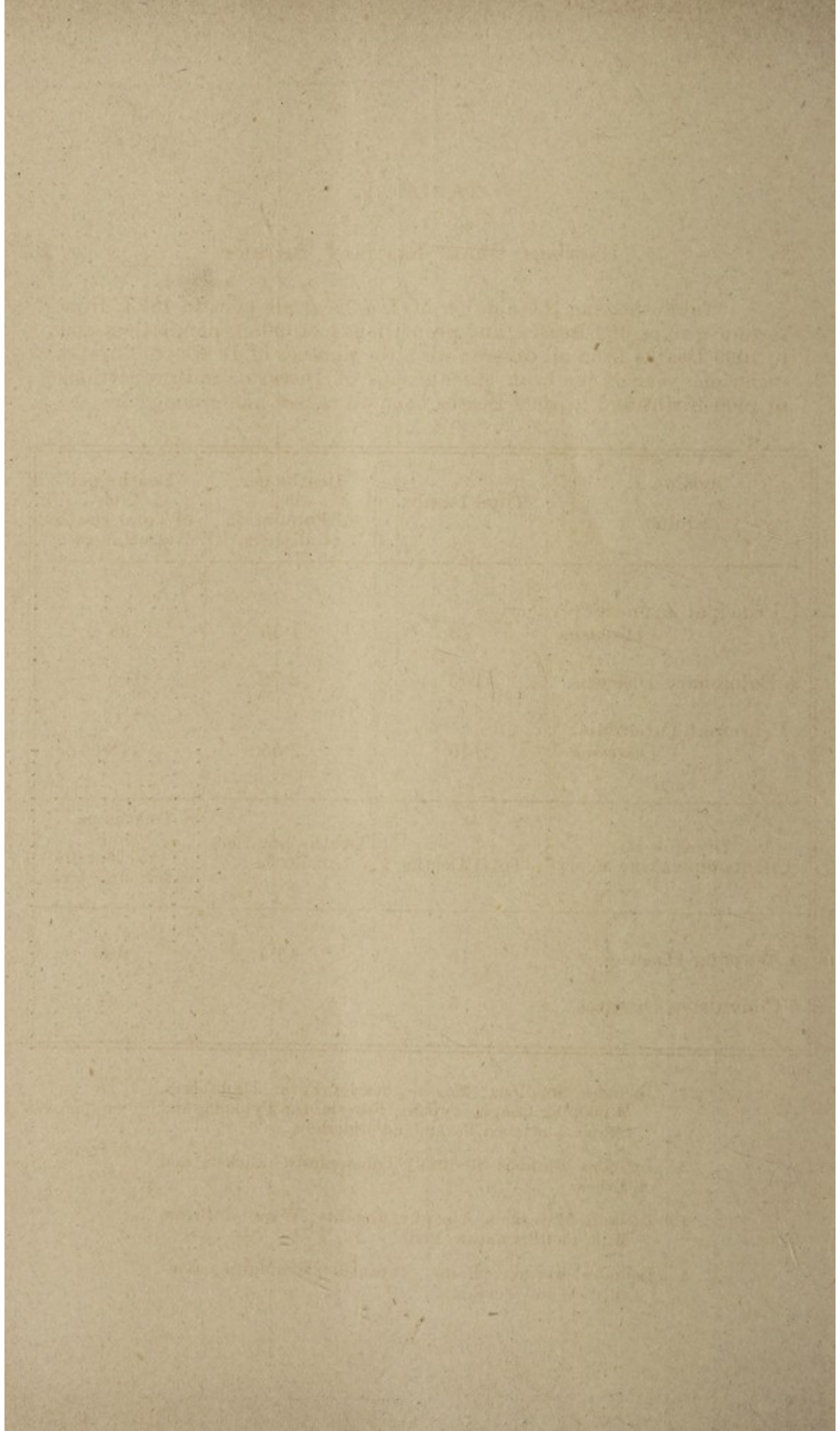


TABLE V.

HASTINGS URBAN SANITARY DISTRICT.

Table showing the number of Deaths at all ages in 1893, from certain groups of Diseases, and proportions to 1000 of population, and to 1000 Deaths from all causes; also the number of Deaths of Infants under one year of age from other groups of Diseases, and proportions to 1000 Births and to 1000 Deaths from all causes under one year.

Division I. (Adults).	Total Deaths.	Deaths per 1000 of Population at all ages.	Deaths per 1000 of Total Deaths at all ages.
1 Principal Zymotic Diseases	73	1.33	98
2 Pulmonary Diseases	153	2.79	195
3 Principal Tubercular Diseases	140	2.55	178
Division II. (Infants under One Year).	Total Deaths.	Deaths per 1000 of Births.	Deaths per 1000 of Total Deaths under One Year.
4 Wasting Diseases	46	43.4	396
5 Convulsive Diseases	5	4.7	43

1. Includes Smallpox, Measles, Scarlet Fever, Diphtheria, Whooping Cough, Typhus, Enteric, (or Typhoid) and Simple continued Fevers and Diarrhoea.
3. Includes Phthisis Scrofula, Tuberculosis, Rickets and Tabes.
4. Includes Marasmus, Atrophy, Debility, Want of Breast Milk, and Premature Birth.
5. Includes Hydrocephalus, Infantile Meningitis, Convulsions and Teething.



REPORT
ON THE
HEALTH, SANITARY CONDITION, &c.,
OF THE
Borough of Hastings.
FOR THE QUARTER ENDING DECEMBER 31st, 1893.

TO THE
MAYOR, ALDERMEN, AND BURGESSES OF THE
BOROUGH OF HASTINGS.

GENTLEMEN,

The number of births registered during the quarter ending December 31st, 1893, was two hundred and forty-six (127 of males, 119 of females). This is equivalent to an annual birth-rate of only 17·96 per 1000; and although less by 1·73 per 1000 than that of the same quarter in 1892, yet slightly exceeds the rate recorded in 1891. There was only one illegitimate birth registered during the quarter, equal to 0·4 per cent. of the total number. The births in the Borough exceeded the deaths by 21.

The deaths registered in the District during the same quarter numbered 225 (106 of males, 119 of females). To this number the deaths of 3 parishioners which occurred in the Sanatorium and of 1 in the Union Workhouse, both of which Institutions are outside the Borough boundary, must be added. The deaths of two visitors in the Public Institutions of the Borough should be deducted. One of these was recorded in the Hertfordshire Convalescent Home, and the other in the Eversfield Hospital for Consumption. Calculated from this total of 227 deaths, the death-rate for the quarter is equal to 16·57 per 1000, as against 17·30 in 1892 and 17·21 in 1891.

Thirty-six of the deaths equivalent to 15·8 per cent. were those of visitors or non-residents.

Were these thirty-six deaths of visitors deducted the death-rate per 1000 would be only 13·94 instead of 16·57. It would of course be obviously unfair to deduct the deaths of visitors in calculating the death-rate unless the number of visitors in the town were deducted from the population also. This deduction I am unfortunately not able to make as the exact number of visitors is unknown. At the same time it may be fairly argued that these deaths of non-residents unduly raise the death-rate of the town seeing that they number nearly one-sixth of the total deaths recorded while it is certain that the visitors do not number one-sixth of the population.

The following table gives the number of deaths registered in the several parishes with their approximate death-rate.

PARISH.	Estimated Population.	Deaths.				Death-rate per 1,000.
		At all ages.	Under 1 year.	1 and und'r 5	5 and upw'rds	
St. Leonard	6934	18	1		17	10·38
St. Mary Magdalen	15015	56	4	4	48	14·88
Holy Trinity	5527	24	2		22	17·35
St. Andrew	1676	7			7	16·70
St. Mary-in-the-Castle	12549	44	3	3	38	14·02
St. Mary Bulverhythe	221					
St. Michael	334	4		1	3	
St. Clement	4916	34	5	7	22	27·66
All Saints.....	6374	23	4	6	13	14·43
Ore (part of).....	1224	3	1		2	9·80
Total..	54770	213	20	21	172	

There are 16 deaths not accounted for in the above table, of which 10 occurred in the East Sussex Hospital, 1 in the Workhouse Infirmary, 1 in the Eversfield Hospital, 3 in the Borough Sanatorium and 1 in the Hertfordshire Convalescent Home.

Twenty-one children died under 1 year of age, being 85 per 1000 of the registered births, and 92 per 1000 of the total deaths.

Forty-two children, inclusive of the above, died under 5 years of age, which is equal to 185 per 1000 of the total deaths.

The following table shows the birth-rate, death-rate, death-rates among children, proportion of deaths in Public Institutions in 1000 deaths during the quarter ending December 1893, compared with the same quarter in the years 1891-1892.

	1891.	1892.	1893.
Birth-rate per 1000 of the Population	17.82	19.69	17.96
Corrected death-rate per 1000 of the Population	17.21	17.30	16.57
Deaths of Children under 1 year, per 1000 of Registered Births	98.29	170.45	85
Deaths of Children under 1 year, per 1000 of total Deaths	101.77	193.96	92
Deaths of Children under 5 years, per 1000 of total Deaths	194.69	375.00	185
Deaths in Public Institutions per 1000 of total Deaths	119.46	68.97	69
Zymotic death-rate	1.67	2.08	1.67

The following table shows the number of deaths at all ages in October, November and December 1893, from certain groups of diseases, and proportions to 1000 of the population, and to 1000

deaths from all causes; also the number of deaths of infants under one year of age from other groups of diseases and proportion to 1000 births and to 1000 deaths from all causes under one year.

Division I. (All ages).	Total Deaths.	Deaths per 1000 of Population at all ages.	Deaths per 1000 of Total Deaths at all ages.
1 Principal Zymotic Diseases	23	1.67	101
2 Pulmonary Diseases	50	3.65	220
3 Principal Tubercular Diseases	33	2.41	145
Division II. (Infants under 1 year).	Total Deaths.	Deaths per 1000 of Births.	Deaths per 1000 of Total Deaths under One Year.
4 Wasting Diseases	7	28.45	333
5 Convulsive Diseases	3	12.19	143

1. Includes Smallpox, Measles, Scarlet Fever, Diphtheria, Whooping Cough, Typhus, Enteric, (or Typhoid) and simple continued Fevers, and Diarrhoea.
3. Includes, Phthisis, Scrofula, Tuberculosis, Rickets, and Tabes.
4. Includes Marasmus, Atrophy, Debility, Want of Breast Milk, and Premature Birth.
5. Includes Hydrocephalus, Infantile Meningitis, Convulsions and Teething.

The decrease in the death-rates, both General and Zymotic, will be noticed with satisfaction, as will also the decline in the rates of the deaths of children.

I am, Gentlemen,

Yours obediently,

A. SCARLYN WILSON, D.P.H.

January, 1894,

St. Leonards-on-Sea.

Medical Officer of Health.