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BOROUGH OF MIDDLETON.

ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE

Medical Officer of Health,

AND OF THE

INSPECTOR OF NUISANCES,

FOR THE YEAR

1897.

MIDDLETON:

James Verity, Printer and Stationer, Old Hall Street,
1898.

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BOROUGH OF MIDDLETON.

ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE

Medical Officer of Health,

To the Chairman and Members of the Health Committee.

GENTLEMEN,

BIRTH RATE.

During the twelve months ending December 31st 1897, 660 births were registered for the Borough, giving a birth-rate of 25-7, 341 were males, and 319 females. The annual average for the past ten years has been 30 per 1,000. The rate of infant deaths was 190, to a 1,000 births last year.

DEATH RATE.

The number of deaths registered during the year amounted to 429, and the general death rate was 18-3 per 1000. The number of deaths in each ward is given above, 159 died in the South Ward against 166 in the preceding year, in the North and West Wards the number was 135, against 149 and

Zymotic diseases as well as from Pulmonary diseases and Phthisis, together with the general death-rate are given below for each year since the Borough became incorporated. The tables accompanying report give full statistics.

	1887	1888	1889	1890	1891	1892	1893	1894	1895	1896	1897
General Death Rate	20.83	20.68	20.17	20.38	24.12	18.04	18.53	16.8	18.9	19.75	19.3
Zymotic	2.04	2.48	3.14	1.33	2.29	1.26	2.04	2.04	1.9	1.5	1.36
Diseases of Respiratory Organs.	3.85	5.21	5	5.47	7.6	5.76	3.11	3.11	4-7	4.5	3.4
Phthisis	2.14	1.60	1.42	1.71	1.97	1.26	1.37	1.37	1.5	1.5	1.09

Table A required by the Local Government Board gives deaths classified according to age, diseases and wards. Table B population, births and new cases of infectious diseases during 1897, whilst Table C contains the information asked for by the Lancashire County Council, and the other tables are condensed from register of births and deaths.

The returns show that 165 children died under 5 years of age, being 20 less than 1896, but they included 126 under a year old, being 3 more than in the preceding year. 76 persons died at ages over 65 years. I find 35 deaths recorded from the 7 principal Zymotic Diseases, equal to a rate of 1.36 per 1,000, against 1-5 for preceding year, of those 26 children under 5 years of age, and 9 persons over that age, and the number of deaths are shown above in each Ward under the respective headings. Besides these, 3 children died from Croup, 2 of which were under five years of age, 1 from Erysipelas, 5 from Rheumatic Fever over that age, 4 from Puerperal Fever and 4 from Whooping Cough, under 5 years.

88 deaths occurred from Bronchitis, Pluerisy, and Pneumonia during 1897 against 110 in the previous year. The number of deaths from Phthisis amounted to 28, equal to a rate of 1 per 1,000 being less than from the principal zymotic diseases: 36 deaths from Phthisis occurred during the preceding year. The comparative mortality during the four quarters from pulmonary diseases is given, together with that from Phthisis and Zymotic Diseases in the table below.

1897	Ist	2nd	3rd	4th
	Quarter	Quarter	Quarter	Quarter
Deaths from Pulmonary Diseases, Phthisis Zymotic Diseases.	23	21	18	16
	7	12	4	5
	8	3	13	11
Total Deaths from all causes	115	120	88	106

The death-rate during the March, June, September and December quarters of 1897, were respectively 17-9, 18-6, 13-7, and 16-5 per 1,000. 100 cases of infectious diseases were notified to me during the year, against 137 in 1896, 88 in 1895, 128 in 1894, and 435 in 1893. The table below shows the cases in each Ward in less detail than Table B of the Local Government Board, and the diseases are arranged alphabetically.

	Cholera	Membranous Croup	Diptheria	Enteric Fever	Erysipelas
North Ward	0	I	0	0	II
South Ward	0	0	I	12	6
West Ward	0	1	3	5	9
Total	0	2	4	17	26
	Puerperal Fever	Scarlet Fever	Small Pox	Typhus	Total
North Ward	I	10	0	0	23
South Ward	2	28	0	0	49
West Ward	2	8	0	0	28
Total	5	46	0	0	100

Measles caused 10 deaths, 9 under 5 years of age and 1 over. The total cases removed to Marland Hospital amounted to 5. 25 persons died at Oldham Workhouse belonging to the Parish of Middleton, 3 under 5 and 22 over 5 years of age. During the past year no cases of Small Pox were reported, 46 cases of Scarlet Fever were notified with only 2 deaths, against 72 in the preceding year.

DEATHS DURING THE YEAR.

During the past year, 30 of the total number of deaths were certified to by the Coroner, 16 of these were attributed to injuries (accidental or suicidal). Several children were found dead in bed under six months old, a few died of other causes soon after being born. Several adults died from cardiac failure or other natural cause. Three deaths were due to suicide and one to excessive drinking, one person was accidentally drowned, and three persons not residing in the district previous to death, were found drowned. Four died from burns or scalds, aged respectively 23 months, 2 years, 7 years, and 85 years. The accidents included crushing and injury, caused by being knocked down by a fall of clay and earth whilst excavating, and injuries to head and spine, caused by falling off a load of hay, in the cases of two men, aged respectively 48 years and 31 years, in April. Two young persons lost their lives by being knocked down by vehicles in the streets, and one person died in a greenhouse, probably from apoplexy.

Three bodies were removed from the Rochdale Canal by the Police, to the nearest public-house in the neighbourhood in which found. Although publicans in almost every instance do allow dead bodies to be deposited in their stables or outbuildings, until after inquest, I believe it is not compulsory on them to do so. In the majority of cases it is not proper to deposit dead bodies in such places, owing to the number of rats that frequent them. I think a mortuary is urgently required, and the town being well provided with litters, a central situation should be adapted for such building, as being most convenient for identification, cleansing, or disinfecting purposes.

During the year 80 house drains were trapped, 42 old privies converted to the pail system, and 25 to the slop water closets, of which there are now 651 in the borough, together with 255 water closets.

The number of privies on the pail system is now estimated by the Surveyor to be 2,238.

There has been a considerable addition of new cottages in the borough, and the remainder of the back-to-back houses should either be closed or converted into through houses, which in many instances they originally were, being used as loom-houses when silk weaving was a leading industry in the district. Back-to-back houses are great factors in the production of phthisis, they are not conducive to cleanliness, and are specially objectionable when infectious diseases occur therein, owing to want of ventilation, &c.

The many sanitary requirements of the borough, referred to in previous reports, which have yet to be carried out, will, I trust, in the near future, receive fuller consideration now that the question of dealing with the sewage has been attended to, and the international method of disposal at work.

I am, Yours respectfully,

WILLIAM GRAHAM,

Medical Officer of Health.

14th February, 1898,

BOROUGH OF MIDDLETON

Classified Return of Births and Deaths.

			-				
			WA	RD	S.		
Acreage of the Borough	Nor 196 672 805	3 4	Sout 117 732 835	r r	WES 1607 8117 9200		OTAL. 4741 22162 25600
BIRTHS registered during the year do. do. Last year		N.	S.	W.			alAv'r'ge ooo living 1896
DEATHS—0-1 year		5 7 49	56 19 9 11 37 27	33 14 7 13 50 18	39 21 31		
DEATHS from Small Pox Measles Scarlet Fever Diphtheria Whooping Cough Continued Fevers. Typhus Enteric or Typhe Other or Doubtfu	oid	- 4 - 2 - - 2	- 4 - 2 - 1 - 6		10 2 1 4 - 2 - 16		
Total deaths from 7 principal zymotic dis	seases	8	13	14	35	1-36	1-4
Croup Influenza. Cholera Acute Rheumatism Pyaemia Puerperal Fever Ague. Pththisis Bronchitis, Pneumonia, & Ple Heart Disease Injuries All other causes.	eurisy	- I - 6 25 13 4 74	- - - 3 - 1 - 9 35 7 7 84	1 — — — 2 — 13 28 10 5 61	3 5 4 28 88 30 16 219		
Total number of Deaths during the year do. Last year		135	159 166	135	429 474	18-3	
Notified cases of Infectious sickness:- Cholera Croup (membranous) Diphtheria Enteric Fever Erysipelas Puerperal Fever Scarlet Fever Small Pox Typhus Total		_	- I I2 6 2 28 49	- I 3 5 9 2 8	- 2 4 17 26 5 46 		137

TABLE C.

Summary of Medical Officer's Report

. . . District of Middlet

Urban Sanitary District of Middleton.

. . FOR 1897. . . .

Area in Sta	atute Acres, 4,741
Population	(Census), 189122,162
,,	Estimated, 189725,600

Name of Medical Officer of Health, WILLIAM GRAHAM, M.D., P.H. Salary. £60 per annum.

Births registered—Male, 341; Female, 319; Total, 660.

Deaths registered-Male, 224; Female, 205; Total, 429.

Birth Rate, 25.7. Death Rate, 13.4.

Rate of Infant Deaths, under one year, to 1,000 Births, 190.

Death Rate from the seven principal Zymotic Diseases, per 1,000 of population, 1.36.

Diseases prevalent?—Mild Scarlet Fever to a slight extent, and several cases of Enteric Fever toward end of year.

What Action taken?—Five cases removed to Hospital.

Any Schools Closed?—No.

What is the character of the Hospital Accommodation?—Marland Hospital.

Is it Joint or otherwise?—Contract with Rochdale Corporation.

No. of Beds available for the District?-62.

Deaths in Hospital?-one.

From what Causes?—Enteric Fever.

How is Disinfection carried out ?- By Sulphurous Acid.

Apparatus used ?—No Steam Disinfector.

Is the Infectious Disease (Notification) Act in force?—Yes.

Are any Diseases not specifically mentioned in the Act notifiable?—Erysipelas and Membranous are notifiable, but Measles not so.

If so, what are they?—See above.

What is the character of House Accommodation?-Much improved.

Has any action been taken under "The Housing of the Working Classes Act, 1890,"?—No legal action.

Have any houses condemned as unfit for human habitation been closed or demolished? If so, how many?— Many condemned but none closed or demolished.

Is the Water Supply good and subject to your inspection?—It is.

Is Scavenging carried out satisfactorily?—Yes.

By Sanitary Authority or Contract?—By Sanitary Authority.

How is the Refuse disposed of?—Carted on Farms and tipped where special provision is made.

What is the character of Drainage and the form of Sewage Disposal?—400,000 gallons daily being dealt with at Sewage Works on the international system at Lands End.

Canal Boats:—32 Boats inspected and found free from overcrowding and infectious disease.

What is the condition of the Bakehouses?—Good.

- Slaughter Houses?—537 visits made by the Inspector and many by myself, they receive and require close attention. Abattoir much needed.
- Lodging Houses? Are they Registered?—100 visits made by the Inspector.
- Are the Dairies, Cowsheds & Milkshops periodically inspected?-Yes.
 - Have any Regulations been made by your Authority under the Order of the Local Government Board?—Yes, but annual licenses should be enforced.
 - What amount of air space in cubic feet is required for each cow?—800 cubic feet for new buildings, 400 for old.
- Have the Factories and Workshops been inspected, and with what result?—Yes, one workshop found dirty.
- Food unfit for Human Consumption, Amount seized?—Four seizures of diseased meat, three of the seizures were effected in a slaughterhouse, two being tuberculous animals: five rabbits and a piece of fish were seized from a hawker's cart, and legal proceedings taken.
- Any special report of Medical Officer of Health during the year?—No.
- Department of Inspector of Nuisances: No. of notices served?— 250, including 44 by order of Health Committee.
 - No. of Nuisances remedied?-408.
 - Legal Proceedings taken and result?—None, except for Meat and Smoke.

Smoke: No. of Observations?—78.

No. of Legal Proceedings taken and result?—6 prosecutions.

2 firms fined 5s. and costs, and in remainder,
orders to abate and pay costs.

What is the time limit allowed for the emission of black smoke per hour?—12 minutes.

Has the Authority adopted-

- (a) "The Infectious Disease (Prevention) Act, 1890"?-Yes.
- (b) "The Public Health Acts Amendment Act, 1890"?-Yes.

BOROUGH OF MIDDLETON,

HEALTH DEPARTMENT,

SANITARY INSPECTOR'S

. ANNUAL REPORT, .

For the Year ended Dec. 31st, 1897.

To the Chairmen and Members of the Health and Watch Committees.

Gentlemen,

I beg to present the Annual Report of the work done by the above Department, during the year 1897.

I am,

Yours obediently,

Charles Hy. Norton,

Nuisance Inspector.

Summary of Work Done

During the year ended 31st Dec. 1897.

Preliminary notices served		206
Formal notices by order of Committee		44
Reported to Committee		11/2/10/20
Notices served in respect of black smoke		4
Smoke observations taken		
Prosecutions in respect of black smoke		6
Canal Boats inspected		32
Diseased carcases seized (two beasts)	1200	lbs.
Unsound animals ,, (five rabbits)	15	,,
,, fish ,, (one piece)	2	,,
Diseased meat ,, (one piece)	15	,,
Prosecution in respect of unsound food		I
Seizures of diseased and unwholesome food		4
House chimney's on fire		26
Visits to Slaughterhouses		537
", ", Lodging-houses		100
", ", Bakehouses		31
" " Offensive Trades		158
", " Farms		21
" " Vans used as dwellings		27
" in respect of Infectious Disease		314
Patients removed to Marland Hospital		5
Rooms fumigated		131
Infectious disease reported		99
Swine fever		I
		_
Nuisances found existing during the year	189	7.
Defective privies		20
,, ashpits		
sanitary cans		20

Nuisances found existing during	g the	year	1897	(contin	nued).	
Defective eaves gutters				 		7
" downspouts				 		17
,, drains				 		17
,, traps				 		4
,, trap basins				 		4
,, back yards				 		51
,, channels				 		18
" waste pipes				 		53
,, roofs				 		6
,, floors				 		2
,, passage				 		I
,, waste water closets	tipp	ers		 		4
Dirty back yards				 		6
,, closets				 		8
" workshop				 		I
" dwelling houses				 		2
Dangerous steps				 		2
,, walls				 		18
" wood building				 		I
,, privies				 		5
" kitchen				 		I
" chimneys				 		2
" bedroom floors				 		2
,, ash places				 		2
Damp rooms				 		25
Blocked drains				 		58
" downspouts				 		2
" waste water closets				 		8
Insufficient closet accommodat	ion			 		4
" ashpit "				 		2
No ashpit accommodation				 		27
Untrapped drains				 		100
Waste pipes connected to dra	ins			 		21
Brick pave kitchen floors				 		14
Inefficient traps						2

Nuisances found existing, (continued) Stagnant sewage in back yards ... 4 No ashpit doors ... 4 Offensive urinal ... No closet door No basin on top of gully trap ... 7 Effluvium nuisances 5 Inefficient ventilating pipes... 2 Unventilated soil pipes 2 Soil pipe vent shafts discharging under bedroom windows 2 Dirty stables... 2 Waste pipes connected to soil pipes 2 Offensive manure heaps 6 Brick drains 15 House drain discharging on field Ι No ashpit roof Ι No eaves gutter I No back door 5 Brick paved back yards 26 Keeping Animals 7 Back to back houses ... 6 Unpaved back yards 9 Nuisances abated during 1897. Defective waste w.c., tipper made good I privies 6 ashpits 9 ... sanitary cans 21 eaves gutters 2 downspouts 13 drains II traps 2 trap basins 3 back yards 6 channels 7 waste pipes 47 roofs 8

Nuisances abated, (continued).

Defective floors	ma	de go	bod		 	 2
,, passage		,,	,.		 	 I
Waste pipes disconnected	from	drai	ns,		 	 II
Blocked drains opened					 	 52
Drains trapped					 	 63
Downspouts provided					 	 2
Privies converted to sanit	ary	cans			 	 27
Dangerous steps repaired					 	 2
Drains provided					 	 I
Damp rooms rendered dry					 	 9
Dangerous privies made s	safe				 	 2
Dangerous ashpits made	safe				 	 2
Bell traps removed					 	 4
Flushing cistern to w.c.					 	 I
Additional closet accomm	odat	tion 1	prov	ided	 	 I
Eaves gutter provided					 	 I
Dirty workshop cleaned					 	 I
Dirty back-yards cleaned					 	 2
Blocked w.c's. opened					 	 9
Ashpit doors provided					 	 2
Blocked downspouts oper	ned				 	 2
Wet ashpits to dry ashpi	laces	· · · ·			 	 29
Effluvium nuisance abated	1				 	 I
Dirty houses cleaned					 	 2
Ashplaces provided					 	 13
Dirty stable cleaned						I
Manure heaps removed					 	 3
Dangerous walls repaired						2
House drains connected						I
Pipe drains to replace brid						12
Earthenware tile to repla						2
Dangerous wood shed ren						1
Animals removed						4
Efficient trap provided						1
Dangerous buildings mad						3

Nuisances requiring abatement on 31st Dec. 1897.

Waste pij	pes com	necte	ed to	dra	ins						15
Defective	rainwat	er p	ipes								13
,,	eaves g	gutte	rs								10
,,	waste p	pipes									21
,,	privies										20
,,	ashpits										33
,,	back-ya	rds									18
,,	drains										2
,,	channel	ls									7
,,	trap										I
,,	trap ba	sin									I
,,	roofs										3
,,	floors										2
,,	waste v	wate	r clo	set							1
Untrappe	d drain										43
Insufficier	nt closet	acco	omod	lation	1						2
Dirty bac	k-yards										2
Dangerou	s house	chin	ney	s							3
Want of	drain										I
Inefficient	ventila	ting	pipe	s							2
Terminati	ion of ve	entila	ating	pipe	es un	der	bedr	oom	wind	ow	2
Unventila	ted soil	pip	es								2
Waste pip	oes conn	ecte	d to	soil p	pipes						2
Dangerou	s walls										10
Back-to-b	ack hou	ises									7
No Ashp	it										2
Brick dra	ins										2
No eaves	gutter										2
No backd	oors										5
Dangerou	s steps										I
Brick pay	ved back	k-ya	rds								26
Dangerou	s privie	s									5
Damp roo	oms										17
Dangerou	s sculle	ery									I

Nuisances requiring abatement,	, (continued).	
Brick channels		I
Offensive Urinals		2
Keeping animals, poultry, &c		2
Brick paved kitchen floors	I	2
Inadequate ashpit accommodation		I
Offensive manure heaps		I
Unpaved back yards		8
No trap basins		7
Brick channels		3
Blocked waste water closets		3

Infectious Disease.

Scarlet Fever	No. 46	Rooms Fumigated. III	Removed to Hospital. I
Typhoid Fever	17	36	3
Puerperal Fever	4	_	
Erysipelas	26	-	_
Diptheria	4	II	I
Membranous	2		
	99	148	5

Canal Boats Act.

M'th. N	o. of b	oats.	M'th. N	o. of be	oats.
Jan.	I		July	4	6 children on board.
Feb.	2	2 children on board.	Aug.	3	
Mar.	2		Sept.	5	i did not produce certificate.
Apr.	I	rchild on board.	Oct.	4	1 did not produce cert-
May	I		Nov.	I	
June	2		Dec.	6	

Of the thirty two boats inspected two failed to produce the certificate when asked for, in each case notice was served upon the owners and complied with. The boats were registered for one hundred and thirty one and occupied by eighty six persons, comprised of fifty seven males, sixteen females (adults), and thirteen children. The cabins were clean, free from overcrowding and infectious disease.

Smoke Observations.

Firm.	Address.		Black Smoke s. per hour.
Townley Spinning Co	Spring Vale	. 5	M. S. 8 14 ³ / ₅
Albany Spinning Co	Old Hall Street	. 4	4 584
Wilton Manufacturing Co.	Townley Street	. 2	I 20
David Walker	Gas Street	. 2	I 35
Robert Mc Bride	Off Wood Street	. і	0 0
S. Lawton & Sons	Cross Street	. I	4 45
T. B. Wood & Co	Suffield Street	. 4	$621\frac{3}{4}$
W. W. Hulton	Kemp Street	. I	1 15
Hy. Cocker & Co	Wood Street	. 4	$5\ 32\frac{1}{4}$
Mark Fletcher & Son	Wood Street	. 4	$5 7\frac{3}{4}$
Mather & Ormesher	Manchester New Rd	. 3	9 28
Irk Spinning Co	Oldham Road	. 3	$3 20\frac{2}{3}$
E. Kempsey & Co	Townley Street	. 6	8 232
Gorton & Halliday	Park Lane	. 3	5 361
Rhodes Manufacturing Co.	Rhodes	. I	4 35
Richard Ashworth & Sons	Spring Vale	. 2	2 27
Midd. & Tonge Spin. Co.	Dane Street	. 4	$12 55\frac{3}{4}$
Kay & Smith	Rhodes	. I	5 35
Dickins & Heywood	Spring Vale	. 3	8 38
W. G. Thompson	Tonge Springs	. 3	3 43
Boarshaw Rais. & Fin. Co.	Boarshaw Road	. I	0 0
Salis Schwabe & Co	Rhodes	. 2	$22 56\frac{1}{2}$
Irkdale Bleaching Co	Algernon Street	. 6	13 112
Thomas Partington	Green Street	. 2	$22 \ 30\frac{1}{2}$
R. K. Lee & Co	Green Street	. 4	12 24
Tonge Vale Spinning Co.	Tonge Vale	. 4	9 21
S. Barlow & Co	Stakehill	1	10 18
Raynor Frost & Co	Rhodes	. I	4 16

Seventy eighty smoke observations have been taken during the year and the limit of twelve minutes has been exceeded on thirteen occasions, notice of abatement was ordered and served in five cases, in six cases proceedings were taken with the result that two firms were fined five shillings and costs, the remainder were ordered to abate the nuisance and pay costs. The average time that black smoke was emitted for the seventy eight observations is two minutes and thirty four seconds.

Removal of Nightsoil.											
M'nth.	No. of Pails Emptied	No. of i.oads.		ost per onth	1.	Cost per pail.	Lo ds Midd'ns	Loads Dry Ashes.	per	Cost per Load.	Total cost per Month.
Jan	10554	182	£ 41	s. 14	d. 2	d. '949	199	330	£ s. d. 67 I 9	s. d. 2 64	£ s. d. 108 15 11
Feb	10776	212	42	7	0	944	277	349	73 14 2	2 44	116 1 2
Mar	13339	232	52	6	0	.948	368	379	9011 4	2 5	142 17 4
Apr	10361	189	41	I	4	.951	157	373	64 3 6	2 5	105 4 10
May	10745	187	41	14	2	.931	266	335	79 511	2 7	121 O I
June	14062	251	54	10	10	.930	283	447	86 II o	$24\frac{1}{2}$	141 1 10
July	11108	203	46	10	4	1.00	307	318	78 0 7	2 6	124 10 11
Aug	10312	179	41	7	9	963	179	370	68 16 11	2 6	110 4 8
Sept	14555	254	58	7	10	.963	281	416	9513 6	2 8 4	154 I 4
Oct	11109	199	44	5	6	955	215	305	72 7 6	29	116 13 0
Nov	11118	194	44	5	6	956	192	295	79 12 2	3 3	123 17 8
Dec	14024	242	55	3	8	944	220	442	87 3 10	2 71/2	142 7 6
Total-	142253	2524	563	18	3		2944	4360	943 2 2		1506 16 3
Т	otal 18	807			F	Pails e	mptied	1	42.253		
		396							40,874—1	270 in	crease
									2,524	3/9	or cause.
1926											
von Midden I and											
180m Duy Ashes Leads 1 of											
1926											
Total cost for 1897£1,506 16s. 3d.											
,, ,, 1896£1,413 14s 1d.—£93 2s. 2d. increase.											
Total cost per load, pails, middens, & dry ashes, 18973s. o4d.											

1896..3s. $3\frac{5}{16}d.-2\frac{9}{16}d.$ decrs.

The removal of Nightsoil from the districts of Hebers, Birch, and Bowlee, since March, 1897, has been carried out by the Corporation instead of by contract; by this arrangement there has been less complaints than in previous years, and the work carried out in a more satisfactory manner.

Shop Hours Acts.

There has been no infringement of the above acts detected during the year. There is considerable difficulty in detecting infringements of the above Acts, owing to employers being able to employ their assistants (young persons) any number of hours per day, providing the limit of seventy hours per week be not exceeded.

Contagious Disease (Animals) Act.

There has been one outbreak of swine fever during the year. Seven pigs were attacked, the animals were slaughtered, and buried in carbolic powder and lime.

A case of supposed swine fever from Kiln Street was also reported, but upon investigation proved to be untrue.

Seizures of diseased and unwholesome Food.

During the year, four seizures of diseased, unsound, and unwholesome food have been made. Three of the seizures were effected in a slaughterhouse, two being beasts that had suffered from tuberculosis, the other a diseased piece of meat (a liver); the remaining case was effected from a hawker's cart, and consisted of five rabbits and one piece of fish which were in an advanced state of decomposition; in the last case only were legal proceedings taken, and a penalty of five shillings and costs was inflicted upon the owner.

Firing House Chimneys.

Twenty-six persons have been summoned to appear before the Watch Committee for the above offence. In seventeen cases the offenders were cautioned, the remainder were fined one shilling each.

Foods and Drugs Acts.

During the year, six samples of milk have been tested with the lactometer, and appeared to be of good quality. No samples have been submitted for analysis.

	IV	lai	ket	Receipts.			
Month.	£	s.	d.	Number of Stallholders,	200	ost oreepi	
January	9	2	4	84	~0	5	2
February	5	ΙI	3	120	0	6	2
March	7		10	168	0	8	I
April	8	I	3	152	0	6	10
May	7	18	9	202	0	5 8	9
June	4	10	6	120	0		6
July	6	19	5	184	0	6	8
August		7	8	231	0	18	2
September	4	16	3	133	0	15	4
October	5	5	ΙI	145	0	12	10
November	6	19	3	164	0	14	5
December	4	ΙΙ	3	119	0	14	7
	£113	9	8	1822	£6	2	6
Receipts 1897	113	9	8	Cost of sweeping,	18976	2	6
,, 1896	131	4	3	.,,	18965	8	2
	£17 I	4	6	Increas	e£0	14	2

The decrease in the receipts is owing to the reduced receipts at the Wakes, and the wet weather we have experienced on Market nights.

I remain,

Yours faithfully,

Charles Hy. Norton,

Inspector of Nuisances.