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BOROUGH OF NEWCASTLE-UNDER-LYME

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*URBAN SANITARY AUTHORITY.*

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ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH,

*WM. HENRY HALLAM,*

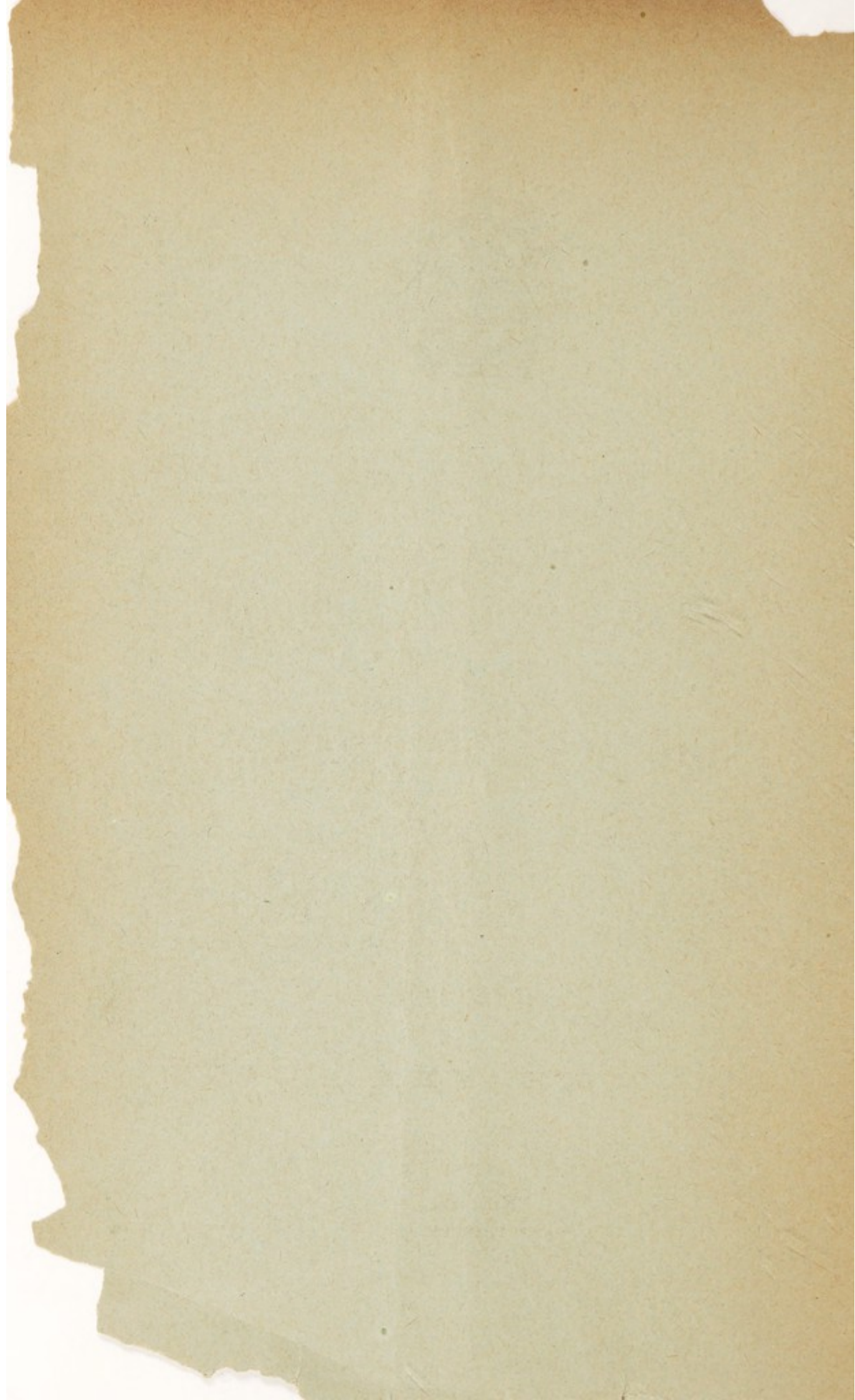
FOR THE YEAR 1893.

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Newcastle :

E. PEAKE, PRINTER, HIGH-ST.







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# REPORT.

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GENTLEMEN,

I have the honour to lay before you my Twelfth Annual Report.

During the year 1893, the number of deaths registered was 428, including 48 which occurred in the Union Workhouse.

The population, April, 1891, was for 3,640 dwellings 18,452, since then the number of inhabited dwellinghouses has increased to 3,835, and allowing 5 per house I calculate the population to middle of 1893, to be about 19,000. Estimating the population therefore to be 19,000, the death-rate is equal to 22·5 per 1,000.

59 deaths were reported from seven principal Zymotic Diseases, and calculating on the same population these give a Zymotic death-rate of 3·1 per 1,000.

With reference to sex 213 males, and 215 females died, 346 males and 332 females were born. The total number of births was 678, giving a birth-rate of 35·6 per 1,000.

The death of children under 1 year were 132, being 19·4 per cent. of number born.

The death under 5 years numbers 187, being 43·6 per cent. of the whole number of death registered.

25 deaths were uncertified, being 5·7 per cent. of total death.

2 Coroner Cases were held, 1893.

The following table epitomises the ages at which death occurred:—

Under 1 year	..	..	..	132	
Over 1 year and under 5	..		..	55	
				<hr/>	187
Over 5 years and under 15	..		..	20	
Over 15	„	„	25	..	22
Over 25	„	„	65	..	114
Over 65	„		..	85	
				<hr/>	241
			Total		<hr/> 428



Year	Number of Deaths	Death Rate	Death from principal Zymotic Diseases	Infant Mortality		No. of Births	Birth Rate
				Total	Death Rate per 1000 per annum		
1882	345	19.6	48	141	8.0	635	36.0
1883	346	19.5	30	148	8.3	640	36.1
1884	342	19.2	23	131	7.3	649	36.4
1885	340	18.9	22	128	7.1	650	36.3
1886	369	20.5	56	158	8.7	634	35.2
1887	332	18.3	26	124	6.8	661	36.5
1888	407	22.3	65	186	10.2	620	34.4
1889	384	20.9	50	161	8.8	662	36.1
1890	394	21.4	36	143	7.7	623	33.8
1891	430	23.2	70	180	9.7	654	35.3
1892	397	21.3	56	168	9.0	651	35.0
1893	428	22.5	59	187	10.	678	35.6

From the above table it would shew that the mortality in 1893, excepting the year 1891, was higher than any of the previous 11 years.

Infant mortality equal to 10 per 1,000 per annum only once exceeded, and then it was 10.2 in 1888, of Newcastle, compared with that of England and Wales, London and large towns:—

England and Wales.				Death Rate	Birth Rate	Zymotic Death Rate	Infant Mortality per 1000 per ann.
London .. .. .				21.3	31.0	3.1	164
32 Large Towns .. .. .				21.8	32.5	3.3	193
Newcastle .. .. .				22.5	35.6	3.1	194

#### DEATH FROM ZYMOTIC DISEASES.

		1893.	1892.	1891.
Principal	Fever { Small Pox ..	0	0	0
	Measles ..	24	7	26
	Scarlet Fever ..	4	2	11
	Diphtheria ..	2	2	0
	Diarrhea ..	15	18	9
	Typhoid Fever ..	1	1	5
	Whooping Cough ..	13	22	14
	Puerperal Fever ..	3	1	5
	Croup ..	0	2	0
	Erysipelas ..	1	1	1
		63	56	71

## NOTIFICATIONS OF INFECTIOUS DISEASE.

(From May 1st to Dec. 31st.)	1890.	1891.	1892.	1893.
Scarlet Fever ..	89	126	56	46
Diphtheria ..	3	6	4	6
Erysipelas ..	7	50	38	44
Typhoid Fever ..	27	13	9	17
Continued Fever ..	11	16	4	1
Puerperal ..	2	4	3	5
Croup ..	0	0	1	0
	<hr/> 139	<hr/> 215	<hr/> 115	<hr/> 119

These returns shew that Scarlet Fever was less prevalent than in previous years.

Typhoid Fever was more prevalent than in 1892, but less so than 1890 and 1891.

Erysipelas is still expressly prevalent in the Borough.

The cost of notification for the year was £13 19s. 6d.

SMALL POX.—No cases occurred during 1893.

DIPHTHERIA.—6 Cases occurring at 4 dwellings, 2 deaths.

No. 5, Bow Street, 1 in February.

„ 22, West Brampton, 3 in November.

„ 51, Florence Street, 1 in December.

„ 1, Horton Street, 1 in December.

At one dwelling there was an unused drain in the cellar.

At one dwelling there was history of back poundage of Sewage into cellar kitchen.

At one dwelling leakage of privy from the next house.

At one dwelling no obvious cause. Several privies in close proximity to back premises.

In no instance was suspicion attached to milk or water supply.

ERYSIPELAS was again extremely prevalent, 44 cases being notified with one death.

6 of these occurred at Union Workhouse, 2 cases, viz: at 36, and 41, Garden Street, occurred in close proximity to 34 Garden street, where there was Typhoid Fever, and excepting Union Workhouse there was privy accommodation in every case. Judging from last annual Reports of County Medical Officer I may say in no districts in Staffordshire, is Erysipelas so prevalent as in the Newcastle Urban and Rural District.



TYPHOID FEVER.—18 cases notified.

March 10th, 18 Rye Bank. This case turned out to be Pneumonia. Insanitary conditions found. Number of privies and cesspools crowded together. Back poundage of Sewage into yard after heavy rain.

May 29th, 5 Lyme Street. This case also was doubtful. Privy accommodation.

July 6th, Barracks Square. Previous and subsequent cases in this locality.

July 26th, 18 Wilson Street. Privy accommodation, occasional leakage. Previous case some years ago at next house.

August 4th and 10th, 23 and 7 West Brampton. At No. 7, no obvious cause. At No. 23, history of back poundage of Sewage into cellar kitchen.

September 8th, 17 Seagrave Street. Probably contracted at Silverdale. Closet communicating direct with Sewer.

September, 63, Penkhull Street. Privy accommodation and filthy surroundings. Very confined back-yard.

October 1st and 8th, Barracks Square. 2 cases occurring in one house, situate at opposite corner to that reported above.

The insanitary conditions were due to several cesspits situated in close proximity to dwelling-houses which probably had never been properly cleansed for many years. These have since been removed and "Duckett" closets substituted for all privies.

November 10th, Red-lion-Square. Old house, old w.c., drain in cellar.

November 11th, 11 Hanover Street. No obvious cause, privy.

November 13th, 19 Mount Pleasant. No obvious cause, previous case next house but one, 2 years ago, may have contracted disease in Hanley.

November 16th, 15 Croft Street. Patient worked at Wedgwood's, Etruria, history of fellow workmen suffering from same disease, privy with occasional leakage.

November 18th, Red-lion-Square. 4 houses away from previous case, this house is old and not well ventilated.

Case of Cholera occurred here in 1849.

November 20th, 34 Garden Street. Leaking privy within 12 feet of living room.

November 22nd, 11 Lockwood Street. Leaking privy.

November 22nd, 5 Liverpool Road. Privy accommodation. No obvious cause.



In no case could this disease be attributed to local milk or water supply. In 9 cases Typhoid had occurred previously at the same or neighbouring houses.

WHOOPIING COUGH.—13 deaths from this disease. During the last 3 years there have been 49 deaths from this cause alone. This mortality would be materially diminished if parents, schoolmasters, and School Board officially recognized the importance of isolation and separation of children suffering from the disease, from the healthy. No child should be allowed to attend school from any house where any inmate is suffering from Whooping Cough.

DIARRHEA caused 9 deaths, being an improvement on 1891, and 1892, when 15 and 18 deaths occurred respectively.

INFLUENZA was prevalent during November and December.

SCARLET FEVER, excepting the months of April, May and June, existed more or less during the year, and 46 cases were notified with 4 deaths. The disease was of a mild type. 10 patients only were treated at the Hospital.

The above cases occurred, 6 at the Union Workhouse, and 40 at 32 dwellings.

MEASLES.—24 deaths occurred. During March and April a few cases occurred, and during May and June the disease became general affecting all the Board Schools. On May 15th, I was informed that there were 240 absentees from the Hassell Street Schools, and at the request of members of the School Board I recommended the closing of the School on May 16th. On June 2nd it was reported that the Infant Department in the Rye Croft Schools was seriously affected, and it was decided to close these Schools. The epidemic reached its height at the end of May and beginning of June, and the greatest mortality occurred during June. During the closure of Schools the epidemic rapidly abated, and in July only 3 deaths occurred, in August 2, and September 1.

Proceedings were taken for Non-notification of Infectious Disease in one case, conviction and penalty followed.

Preventive measures. In every instance of Infectious Disease being notified the premises were visited by myself or the Sanitary Inspector. Directions were given for isolation and disinfection—the latter being carried out under the supervision of the Inspector. All insanitary conditions which came under our notice were also attended to.

Printed circulars of precautions to be observed during Influenza Epidemic were issued in November.

SEWERS AND DRAINAGE.—West Brampton. This district has been



frequently referred to. It was found here that there was not sufficient fall into West Brampton, and this has now been remedied by diverting all house drains to Heath Street, which is at a lower level.

ASHFIELDS ALLOTMENTS.—I am glad to say that a new sewerage scheme for this district has been completed during 1893. The roads have also been made good.

From the return of Borough Surveyor I gather that 2,287 yards of Main Sewers have been laid since my last report.

I append Borough Surveyor's return.

#### BOROUGH OF NEWCASTLE-UNDER-LYME.

List of various Works executed in the Borough, from March, 25th, 1893, to March 25th, 1894.

The total length of Main Sewers in the Borough including the Main Outfall Sewer is  $14\frac{2}{3}$  miles.

During the past 12 months 2,287 yards of Main Sewers have been laid. The whole system is properly ventilated by means of Man-holes.

NEW STREETS.—1,012 lineal yds. of New Streets have been laid out and completed.

Plans for 94 dwelling-houses have been approved, and containing the following Sanitary Arrangements, 71 w.c's. included in sundry alterations to property.

26 Duckett's patent. 17 Common privies.

To W. H. Hallam, Esq.,  
Medical Officer of Health.

JAS. PATTISON,  
Borough Surveyor,  
19th March, 1894.

EXCREMENT DISPOSAL AND SCAVENGING.—In previous reports I have drawn your attention to the difficulty of disposal of night soil. Occasionally during the past year the Inspector has had the same experience, and night soil has been retained at the Town Yard in tubs until there was demand by the farmers.

On May 11th, 1893, I received letter from the County Medical Officer enclosing complaint from Mr. Rundall of the High School.

In concluding my report on the alleged nuisance which was caused by deposit of night soil on fields in the neighbourhood of the High School. I wrote "the nuisance complained of is only one of the inseparable consequences of the privy cesspit system. The disposal of night soil depends on the requirements of the farmers, and as we discontinue the nuisance in one district we are bound to create the same in another. In Newcastle there are 3,000 houses from which excrement *must* be removed and disposed of in this way. I with other Medical Officers shall welcome the time when it will be compulsory for all Urban Sanitary Authorities to adopt the Water Carriage System."



WATER SUPPLY chiefly from Staffordshire Potteries Water Works. There are still 4 wells and pumps in use supplying about 100 dwellings.

Lower Green Pump supplying 30 houses.

Pump, Pool Side	„	19	„
1 Well, Lower Bath-st.	„	12	„
1 Well, Deansgate	„	30	„

The latter sources of water are uncertain and liable at any time to contamination. I have from time to time recommended their closure.

CONDITION OF DWELLINGS.—In the older parts of the town, Holborn, Lower Green, Salters Lane, Courts off Lower Street and other districts the condition of dwellings is far from satisfactory, and is owing in most instances to defective privies, want of spouting, and filthy habits of the occupants. As to condition of new dwellings a large number are excellently built and provided with proper w.c. accommodation. Some although erected in new streets where there are excellent sewers are provided with privies and cesspits, in others the workmanship and materials have been so bad that draughts find their way between wainscoting and walls, and between the window frames and brickwork, also the floors are so badly laid in bedrooms, the boards in some instances being  $\frac{1}{4}$ -in. apart, that filth and germs of disease may be harboured between floor and ceiling of room below. The waste pipes in many instances from sinks are fixed in slovenly fashion.

As to overcrowding, 8 cases have come under the notice of Inspector, 2 of these were remedied after formal notice, and 6 without notice.

INFECTIOUS DISEASES HOSPITAL.—As to condition of Hospital, this is much the same as in December, 1891, when I reported very fully to the Corporation Estates Committee. 10 patients only were admitted suffering from Scarlet Fever during September, October and November. As Small Pox was very prevalent in South Staffordshire, I considered it necessary to reserve the Hospital during the first half of the year for any cases of this disease that might appear. Fortunately Small Pox did not invade Newcastle during 1893. The cost of 10 patients during 13 weeks including medical attendance, nursing and nourishment amounted to £40, an average of £4 per patient.

The cost of feeding patients was about 4/- per week. How it was done I cannot say.

OFFENSIVE TRADES.—No complaints during the year.

COMMON LODGING HOUSES.—17 houses on the register to accommodate 286. One License was transferred. Some complaints of uncleanness which were abated after caution by Inspector.

SLAUGHTER HOUSES.—29 on register. Some nuisances complained of and abated after caution by Inspector.



BAKEHOUSES.—Number on register 31. Have been whitewashed twice during the year.

These are clean and well-kept with two or three exceptions.

COWSHEDS, MILKHOUSES AND DAIRIES.—44 on the register as Purveyors of Milk, 19 of these are cow-keepers.

No Infectious Diseases have been traced to milk supply during 1893.

#### FOOD AND DRUGS ACT.

Milk, 8 samples, 7 genuine, 1 watered.

Butter, 4 „ 3 „ 1 adulterated with margarine.

Coffee, 1 „ 1 adulterated with chicory.

Vinegar, 1 „ 1 genuine.

Baking Powder, 1 sample, 1 genuine.

2 convictions. The above is the return made by Inspector of samples taken and analyses made during 1893.

HOUSING OF WORKING CLASSES ACT.—Under the act no proceedings taken.

On March 7th, 1893, I reported 25 and 27, Penkhull Street, as being unfit for habitation, and asked the Council to instruct Town Clerk to take proceedings before Magistrates. In concluding my report, I said, it was most important that the matter should be considered at once as there were many other premises in the Borough in a similar insanitary condition which must be dealt with under the same act. The report was referred to Sanitary Committee.

The Sanitary Committee met on March 30th, and the above report was considered. Resolved that “No further action be taken in the matter.” On 27th April I attended meeting of Corporation Estates Committee and presented report on the insanitary condition of 25, 26 and 27, Penkhull Street. The Committee instructed me to furnish report on condition of all property belonging to Corporation, and postponed taking action on present report until the next meeting. On 1st of June I presented such report on Corporation Property. Resolved, “That the report be received.”

On 26th January, 1894, I again reported the Penkhull Street property as unfit for habitation. Resolved by the Sanitary Committee, “That the question be referred to a Sub-Committee to inspect, consider and report to next meeting.”

The above is an example of the “difficulties” of Sanitary administration. The above houses were closed by order of Magistrates in August, 1892. Although still insanitary they were re-opened by Lessee and are still occupied.



FACTORY AND WORKSHOP ACT.—During November and December, Mr. Price has inspected 69 Workshops employing a total number of 1,300 hands, of these 310 are under 18 years of age. With 3 exceptions these are reported to be in a satisfactory condition. In a very large number copies of the Factory Act Notice not exhibited.

BYE LAWS.—A special meeting held 29th June, 1893, of Town Council, Resolved, “That the Bye-Laws revised by the Bye-Laws Committee, and approved of by the General Purposes Committee, be and are hereby adopted, and that the Corporate Common Seal be, and is hereby ordered to be affixed thereto.”

On 6th February, 1894, Resolved, “That the Bye-Laws revised by the Bye-Laws Committee, and approved of by the General Purposes Committee, and amended by the Local Government Board, be adopted, and that the Corporate Common Seal be affixed thereto.”

#### PROMINENT FEATURES OF REPORT.

1. Death-rate higher than any reached during 11 years except 1891.
2. Infant Mortality higher than any reached during 11 years excepting 1888, being also higher than London and 32 Large Towns.
3. High mortality of Measles and Whooping Cough.
4. Scarlet Fever less prevalent than in previous years.
5. Absence of Small Pox.
6. Continual prevalence of Erysipelas.
7. Typhoid occurring at dwelling-houses, or in the neighbourhood of where previous cases have existed.
8. Epidemic of Measles rapidly abating after closure of Schools.
9. Supply of water from wells liable to contamination, and should be closed.
10. Insanitary condition of dwellings in older districts of Town.
11. Dilapidated condition of Hospital.
12. No proceedings under Housing of Working Classes Act.
13. Adoption of Bye-Laws at Council Meeting held June 29th, 1893, and subsequently after amendment by Local Government Board at meeting held February 6th, 1894.

I am, yours obediently,

WM. HENRY HALLAM,

Medical Officer of Health.



*SUMMARY of SANITARY WORK done in the Inspector of Nuisances'  
Department during the year 1893, in the Staffordshire portion of the  
Urban Sanitary District of Newcastle-under-Lyme.*

		Inspections and Observations made	Formal Notices by Authority	Nuisances Abated after Notice
Dwelling houses and Schools	Foul Conditions .. ..	500	135	135
	Structural Defects .. ..	100	40	40
	Overcrowding .. ..	8	2	2
	Unfit for Habitation .. ..	11	11	11
	Lodging-houses .. ..	200	4	4
	Dairies and Milkshops .. ..	40	6	6
	Cowsheds .. ..	30	4	4
	Bakehouses .. ..	30	4	3
	Slaughter-houses .. ..	80	2	2
	Canal Boats .. ..			
House drainage	Ashpits and Privies .. ..	700	140	136
	Deposits of Refuse and Manure .. ..	35	8	8
	Water Closets .. ..	40	10	10
	Defective Traps .. ..	50	20	20
	No Disconnection .. ..	38	30	30
	Other Faults .. ..	20	18	18
	Water Supply .. ..	20	12	12
	Pigsties .. ..	18	9	9
	Animals improperly kept .. ..	12	2	2
	Offensive Trades .. ..	20	0	0
	Smoke Nuisances .. ..	12	1	1
	Other Nuisances .. ..			
TOTALS .. ..		1964	458	453

Seizures of Unwholesome Food	Nos. 2
Fish on arrival here, but offered for Sale	
Samples of Food taken for Analysis	15
"    Found Adulterated	2
Proceedings taken in 2 Cases, Convictions followed	
Samples of Water taken for Analysis	2
"    Condemned as unfit for use	
<b>Precautions against Infectious Disease.</b>	
Lots of Infected Bedding Stoved or Destroyed	25
Houses Disinfected after Infectious Disease	86
Schools ditto ditto	
Prosecutions for not Notifying Existence of Infectious Disease ..	1
Convictions ditto ditto	1
Prosecutions for Exposure of Infected Persons or Things ..	
Convictions ditto ditto	

NOTE.—Where an Inspection or Notice embraces more than one defect, it may be enumerated separately as regards each such defect.

March, 1894.

*Signed, J. PRICE.*

# Annual Report of Medical Officer of Health, 1893.

## URBAN SANITARY DISTRICT OF NEWCASTLE.

(A) Deaths registered during the year 1893, classified according to Diseases, Ages, and Localities; showing the Population of such Localities and the Births therein during the year.

Names of Localities adopted for the purpose of these statistics; public institutions being shown as separate Localities.	Population		Registered Births			Deaths from all causes at subjoined ages										Mortality from subjoined causes, distinguishing deaths of Children under 5 years of age.														
	Census, 1891	Estimated to middle of 1893	Males	Females	Total	At all ages			Under 1 year	1 year & under 5	5 years & under 15	15 years and under 25	25 years and under 65	65 years and upwards		Scarlatina	Diphtheria	Fevers		Typhoid	Puerperal	Erysipelas	Measles	Whooping Cough	Diarrhoea or Dysentery	Phthisis	Bronchitis Pneumonia and Pleurisy	Heart Disease	All other diseases	
						Males	Females	Total										Typhoid	Puerperal											
Newcastle Borough	18452	19000	346	332	678	213	215	428	380	129	52	18	19	91	71	Under 5 and upwards	3	2	1	3	1	23	10	10	3	33	13	97		
Newcastle Union Workhouse									48	3	3	2	3	23	14	Under 5 and upwards								1	3	2	4	13	1	21

(B) New Cases of Infectious Sickness coming to the knowledge of the Medical Officer of Health during the year 1893, enumerating the Number of Houses Infected, the Total Number of Deaths, also the Number of Cases Treated and the Deaths that occurred in Infectious Hospitals.

		Scarlatina	Diphtheria	Enteric Fever	Puerperal Fever	Erysipelas	Measles	Whooping Cough
Houses infected. ....		33	4	17	5	39	Uncertain	Uncertain
Total cases reported among persons belonging to district. ....	Under 5 .. 5 and upwards ..	36 10	4 2	2 16	5	44	Uncertain	Uncertain
Cases at Union Workhouse .....	Under 5 .. 5 and upwards ..	6				6		
Total deaths reported among persons belonging to district. ....	Under 5 .. 5 and upwards ..	3 1	2	1	3	1	23 1	13
Cases treated in Hospital among persons belonging to district. ....	Under 5 .. 5 and upwards ..	10						

Signed, Wm. HENRY HALLAM, Medical Officer of Health.





(A) Table of **DEATHS** during the Year 1893, in the Urban Sanitary District of Newcastle, Staffordshire, classified according to Diseases, Ages and Localities.

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 from subjoined causes, distinguishing deaths of Children under 5 years of age													
	at all ages	Under 1 year	1 and under 5	5 and under 15	15 and under 25	25 and under 65	65 and upwards	Scarlatina	Diphtheria	Fevers		Erysipelas	Measles	Whooping Cough	Diarrhoea and Dysentery	Phthisis	Bronchitis, Pneumonia and Pleurisy	Heart Disease	All other Diseases	Total	
										Enteric or Typhoid	Puerperal										
Newcastle Borough	380	129	52	18	19	91	71	Under 5 5 and upwards	3 1	2	1	3	1	23	10	10 3	3 15	33 59	13	97 103	181 199
Newcastle Union Workhouse	48	3	3	2	3	23	14	Under 5 5 and upwards					1	3		2	4	13	1	3 21	6 42
Totals	428	132	55	20	22	114	85	Under 5 5 and upwards	3 1	2	5	3	1	23 1	13	10 5	3 19	3 72	14	100 124	187 241

(B) Table of **NEW CASES of INFECTIOUS SICKNESS** coming to the knowledge of the Medical Officer of Health, during the year 1893, in the Urban Sanitary District of Newcastle, Staffordshire, classified according to Diseases, Ages and Localities.

Name of Locality adopted for the purpose of these statistics; public institutions being shown as separate Localities.		New Cases of Sickness in each Locality, coming to the knowledge of the Medical Officer of Health.					Number of such Cases removed from their Homes in the several Localities for Treatment in Isolation Hospital.
		Scarlatina	Diphtheria	Fevers		Erysipelas	
				Enteric or Typhoid	Puerperal		
Newcastle Borough	Under 5 .. 5 and upwards	36 10	4 2	2 16	5	44	Scarlatina—10

Signed, Wm. HENRY HALLAM, Medical Officer of Health.



