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*G. Hall*

REPTON RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL.

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ANNUAL REPORT

OF

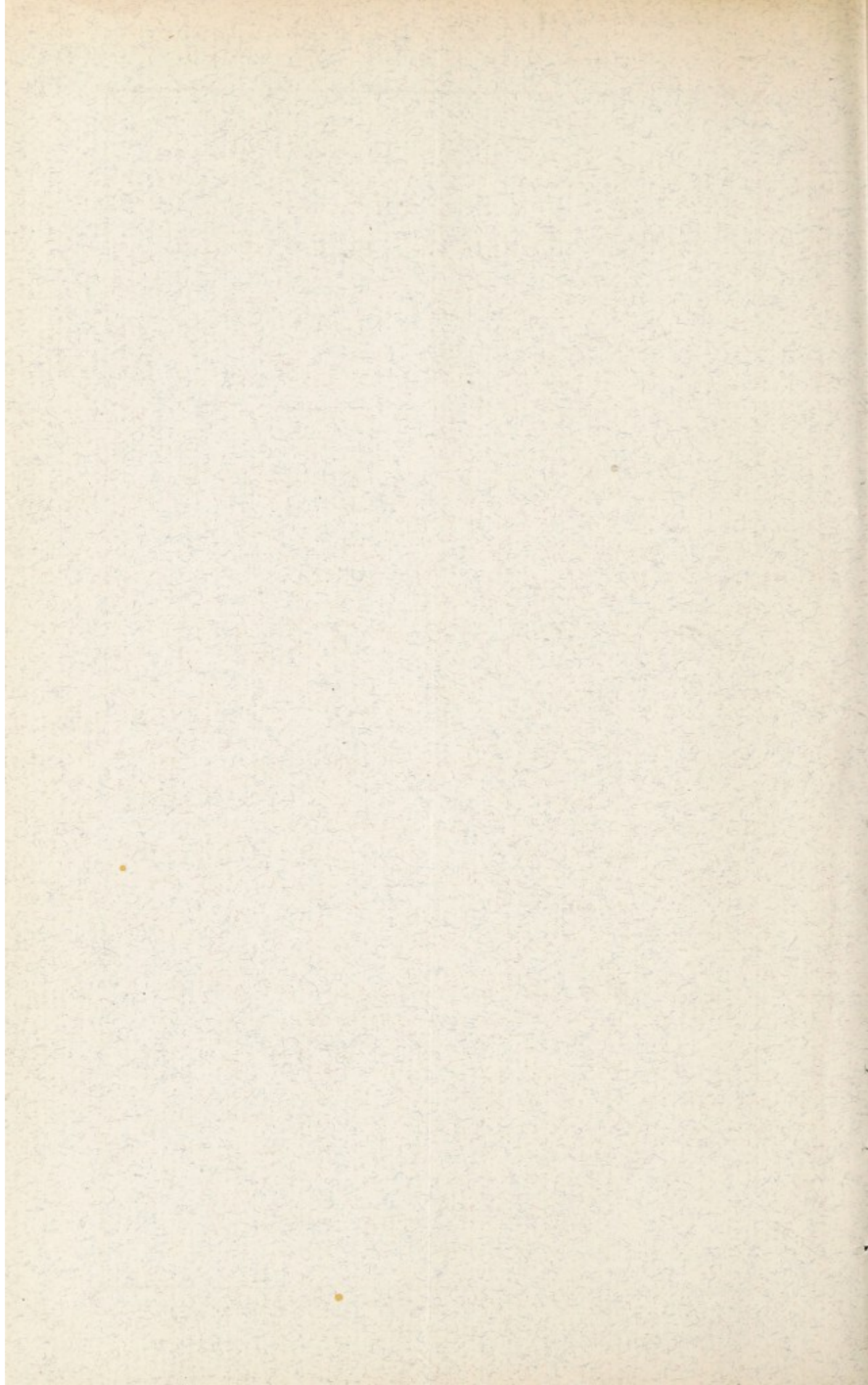
MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH,

FOR THE YEAR 1895.

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Presented to the Repton Rural District Council, 27th February, 1896,  
and ordered to be printed.

*C. F. CHAMBERLIN,*  
*Clerk.*



REPTON RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL.

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## REPTON RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL.

## Annual Report of Medical Officer of Health.

ETWALL, DERBY,  
FEBRUARY 20TH, 1896.

To the Chairman and Councillors of the Repton District Council.

GENTLEMEN,

I beg to present to you my First Annual Report of the health and sanitary condition of the Repton District for the year ending December 31st, 1895.

As I was appointed at the latter end of April, there are some sanitary matters that were carried on at the earlier part of the year of which I have an imperfect knowledge; but, as I have been supplied with copies of the District Registrar's returns from the beginning of the year, I am enabled to complete the statistical tables for the Local Government Board, and to make an analysis of the births and deaths for the whole year. I propose dealing with this part of the report first.

**Population.**—In 1881 ... .. 14,149  
In 1891 ... .. 14,562  
Estimated to middle of 1895 ... 14,720

**Area of District in acres**—53,319.

**Number of Births during the year.**—

Males	... 254	} 1895	207	} 1894
Females	... 222		197	
Total	... 476		404	
Rate per 1000 ... 1895—33·0 ... 1894—27·5				

**Number of Deaths.**—

Males	... 146	} 1895	113	} 1894
Females	... 132		112	
Total	... 278		225	
Rate per 1000 ... 1895—18·2 ... 1894—15·3				

**Infantile Mortality.**—24·4 per cent. of total number of deaths, being the same as the previous year.

**Detailed Causes of Deaths.—**

	1895.	1894.
Scarlet Fever ... ..	3	0
Diphtheria ... ..	3	3
Typhoid Fever ... ..	1	2
Erysipelas ... ..	1	1
Measles ... ..	6	1
Whooping Cough... ..	2	6
Diarrhœa and Dysentery ... ..	9	6
Rheumatic Fever... ..	0	2
Phthisis ... ..	26	17
Bronchitis, Pneumonia, Pleurisy	52	44
Heart Diseases ... ..	41	23
Injuries (10 Inquest) ... ..	11	5
All other Diseases ... ..	123	118
Total ... ..	278	225

**Zymotic Diseases** caused in 1895 16 deaths—

1·0 per 1000 of population.

„ „ 1894 12 deaths—

0·8 per 1000 of population.

Number of Deaths under one year ... ..	68
„ between one and under five ... ..	17
„ „ five and fifteen ... ..	10
„ „ fifteen and twenty-five ... ..	8
„ „ twenty-five and sixty-five ... ..	81
„ „ from sixty-five upwards ... ..	94

Of the latter number 25 were over eighty years of age.

**Scarlet Fever.**—Although this fever assumed the form of an epidemic in the district, only three deaths occurred out of ninety-three cases that came under my notice.

At the time of my appointment, Scarlet Fever prevailed in the two contiguous villages, Hilton and Hatton. As fresh cases appeared at Hilton I deemed it necessary to close the school for three weeks. No fresh cases occurred for some time.

At Hatton I saw a case of Scarlet Fever, and upon further enquiry found four others that had not been reported, the Compulsory Notification Act not being then in force. No ordinary precautions had been taken to prevent the disease spreading. The children in this row of houses were prohibited attending day or Sunday schools.

At Scropton, a short distance from the last cases, four more children were found in one house with Scarlet Fever. These last cases caused the Sanitary Inspector and myself some trouble, as the children were neglected and dirty.

Isolated cases occurred at Marston-on-Dove, Ash and Etwall. At the latter village, the schoolmaster's son was the one affected, and as we had no available means of isolation he had to remain at home, and it became necessary to close the school for six weeks.

Between August 10th and 17th four fresh cases occurred in this village, one, being at the Post Office, was removed. I found a child had been attending the school while "peeling." The school was closed a second time.

A cottage in Sandy-pit Lane becoming available, I had several cases removed to it, and, as will be seen from my quarterly reports, it has been most useful as an Isolation hospital, one case being brought from Willington, three from Etwall village, and one from Egginton.

During the third quarter of the year, eight more cases were reported at Hilton, some were imported, and some were in the houses of those previously affected.

At Dalbury Lees I found a child had been attending the day school in the "peeling" stage, and I had, in consequence, to order the school to be closed and disinfected.

About this time, two cases were seen on the Egginton Sewage Farm in one house; one had been attending Etwall school, and the other contracted the disease from his brother.

At Linton there were two cases, and at Lullington one; the latter imported from a distance.

At the beginning of October a sudden epidemic of this fever occurred at Egginton. The first case was removed to the temporary hospital at Etwall, but I found it necessary to make arrangements to obtain another house for these cases; within a few days, sixteen cases were admitted, two trained nurses taking charge. These, and four others that were isolated at home, arose through a child attending the Egginton school while in an infectious condition, the parents not knowing the nature of the disease.

After the temporary hospital had been closed a short time, three other cases appeared and were taken to it. It now appears to have been completely stamped out as regards Egginton.

**Diphtheria.**—Six cases of Diphtheria have been reported, three of which were fatal. Three cases were in one house at Stenson, one at Findern, one at Burnaston, and one at Drakelow. The sanitary surroundings were closely inquired into, and defective conditions remedied.

In this connection I may say that Dr. Barwise has made arrangements for a bacteriological examination of the secretion from the throat of suspected cases of diphtheria. Where the diagnosis is

doubtful, this will be of great assistance to the busy practitioner, and will enable him to take active measures to combat the disease in some cases that might otherwise be treated as simple sore throats.

**Typhoid or Enteric Fever.**—Four cases were reported. A fatal case at Mickleover, and one at each of the following places, Egginton, Bretby and Foston. Serious sanitary defects were found at the Bretby and Foston cases.

**Measles.**—In the first quarter of the year there were four fatal cases of measles at Repton, and in the second quarter, two. This disease seems to have been confined to this village. The fact of boys coming from all parts of the kingdom easily explains its introduction.

**Diarrhœa.**—Caused nine deaths. The prolonged summer and plentiful fruit crop account for the large number of fatal cases.

**Whooping Cough.**—Only caused two deaths during the year, one at Scropton and the other at Dalbury Lees.

**Influenza.**—Ten deaths are attributed to this disease, all occurring during the earlier months of the year.

**Erysipelas.**—There were two fatal cases.

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### *Sanitary Improvements effected during the year.*

**Etwall.**—Complaints having been made of offensive smells in the neighbourhood of Etwall Railway Station, the sewer outfall was greatly improved, and drains at the station examined and put in order. An open drain near the Egginton Road, Etwall, was properly sewered.

**Findern.**—Many sanitary improvements are required in this village. During the past year the public sewer was made good, the pool in the centre of the village filled in, and many minor sanitary matters were attended to.

**Hilton.**—The people of this village have complained for some time of offensive smells from the mill-dam. Several farmers, who have fields through which the stream flows that supplies the dam with water, also complain that during a dry season the water is almost stagnant in their brooks, and cattle suffer through drinking it. They also complain that the height of the weir causes the water to be backed into the drains, completely blocking them. To remedy these insanitary conditions, I instructed your Sanitary Inspector to endeavour to get the mill-dam cleaned out, and then

to get the weir lowered. As this is a work of some magnitude, and involving considerable expense, it was not decided upon for some time, nor until some pressure was put on the owners. I am glad to be able to state that at the present time, February 20th, 1896, the work of cleaning the dam is in progress.

Many other matters connected with the sanitary condition of the district have received the attention of your Sanitary Inspector and myself.

## REPTON BROOK.

The County Council have threatened to apply to the Court for an Order, if some definite scheme of sewage disposal is not carried out within a stated time. The Repton Parish Councillors and others are of opinion that it is unnecessary to incur so much expense as the village is particularly healthy, having as a rule, a very low zymotic death rate. To form an opinion as to the condition of the brook, I was requested to meet a deputation of the District Councillors and the Sanitary Inspector at Repton. We examined the whole course of the stream through the village, and it apparently contained very little impurity of any kind. The Sanitary Inspector took samples of the water from different parts of the brook, which were submitted to Mr. Cartmell, Analytical Chemist of Burton-on-Trent. I have inserted copies of the reports of his analyses:—

No. 1	Is a sample of water as it leaves the village.
„ 2	„ „ supplying mill.
„ 3	„ „ as it enters the village.
„ 4	„ „ main stream, near mill.
„ 5	„ „ where it enters the river.

**No. 1.—Repton Brook.**—Chemical Analysis and Report of a sample of water marked No. 1 “Repton” received from Mr. E. Baylis, Sanitary Inspector, the Repton Rural District Council:

It contained the following quantities of total solid and organic matter, expressed in grains per gallon—

Total solid matter	...	...	30.0 grains per gall.
Free Ammonia	...	...	0.0245 „
Albuminoid Ammonia	...	...	0.0100 „
Nitrogen as Nitrates and Nitrites	...	...	0.0267 „
Chlorine	...	...	3.5000 „
Temporary hardness	...	...	14.0 degrees.
Permanent hardness	...	...	22.4 „
Total hardness	...	...	36.4 „

This sample of water in its present state contains too much organic impurity to allow of its use for drinking or domestic purposes.

**No. 2** contained the following quantities of total solid and organic matter expressed in grains per gallon—

Total solid matter	...	...	30.0 grains per gall.
Free Ammonia	...	...	0.0210 "
Albuminoid Ammonia	...	...	0.0070 "
Nitrogen as Nitrates and Nitrites	...	...	0.0222 "
Chlorine	...	...	2.4500 "
Temporary hardness	...	...	15.4 degrees.
Permanent hardness	...	...	19.6 "
Total hardness	...	...	35.0 "

There is sufficient organic impurity in this water to prevent its use for drinking or domestic purposes.

**No. 3** contained the following quantities of total solid and organic matter, expressed in grains per gallon—

Total solid matter	...	...	27.5 grains per gall.
Free Ammonia	...	...	0.03052 "
Albuminoid Ammonia	...	...	0.00700 "
Nitrogen as Nitrates and Nitrites	...	...	0.13356 "
Chlorine	...	...	2.10000 "

Owing to the quantity of organic impurity present in this sample of water, it would not be safe or advisable to use it for drinking or domestic purposes.

**No. 4** contained the following quantities of total solid and organic matter, expressed in grains per gallon—

Total solid matter	...	...	29.0 grains per gall.
Free Ammonia	...	...	0.008 "
Albuminoid Ammonia	...	...	0.005 "
Nitrogen as Nitrates and Nitrites	...	...	0.0834 "
Chlorine	...	...	2.1000 "
Temporary hardness	...	...	14.0 degrees.
Permanent hardness	...	...	21.0 "
Total hardness	...	...	35.0 "

This sample of water contains organic matter of a nature that will prevent its use for drinking or domestic supply.

**No. 5** contained the following quantities of total solid and organic matter, expressed in grains per gallon—

Total solid matter	...	...	29.0 grains per gall.
Free Ammonia	...	...	0.0078 "
Albuminoid Ammonia	...	...	0.0084 "
Nitrogen as Nitrates and Nitrites	...	...	0.0834 "
Chlorine	...	...	3.1500 "
Temporary hardness	...	...	12.6 degrees.
Permanent hardness	...	...	15.4 "
Total hardness	...	...	28.0 "

There is sufficient organic impurity in this sample of water at the present time to prevent its being used for drinking or domestic purposes with safety.

In reference to the samples 1, 2, 3 and 4, Mr. Cartmell says :—

“In giving a few remarks as to the nature of the impurity present in these four samples of water, I do not find any direct indications of sewage matter being turned into the brook at the present time. The analyses show the impurity to be of an animal and vegetable kind chiefly. Had sewage matter been the direct cause of pollution, we should have found the solid matter, *i.e.*, Chlorine, as Chloride of Sodium, or common salt, much lighter. All the waters contain a large amount of “free ammonia” which would be taken up by them in their course from surrounding soils, and also from rain-water. This impurity would be found in any open brook course. No. 1 contains more impurity than any of the samples. Nos. 2 and 3 are almost alike in the quantities and nature of the impurity they contain : as is also No. 4 sample. There is no doubt from the various chemical experiments I have made with the waters, none of them are actually safe to use from a “Public Health” point of view. I do not go so far as to say that pollution from sewage matter has never entered the brook, but there are not any marked indications at the present time of this nature.

In reference to No. 5 sample which was taken at a later date, Mr. Cartmell says :—

“It differs very little, in the amount of the organic impurity it contains, from the previous samples, and does not contain more impurity than that which is contained in Nos. 2, 3 and 4 samples, and the impurity seems to be of the same kind. Sewage pollution does not appear to be contained in the water in a marked quantity, as the total solids are about the same as contained in each of the samples, as is also the free and albuminoid ammonias and chlorine. As stated with regard to the previous analyses it would not be safe to use the water for a drinking or domestic supply.”

In my special report on this subject, I pointed out the very small addition of solid matter which the stream receives in its course through Repton, and the remarkable fact that Mr. Cartmell cannot find “any direct indications of sewage matter being turned into the brook.” This is to be explained by the large volume of rapidly flowing water making the proportion of sewage extremely small. I suggest that care be taken that all cesspools be properly constructed, ventilated and periodically emptied, and that the brook be kept clear of all obstructions and accumulations of any kind that would impede its rapid flow, or tend to pollute it.

The adoption by the District Council of the Compulsory Notification Act, has, without doubt, led to the detection of many cases of infectious diseases that would otherwise have been undiscovered.

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The need of an Isolation Hospital has been clearly shown during the late epidemic of Scarlet Fever. The temporary hospitals at Etwall and Egginton assisted greatly in checking the spread of this fever; at the same time, it was only by a fortuitous combination of circumstances, that I was enabled to use these houses for that purpose. We might have another and more serious outbreak, and perhaps be unable to efficiently cope with it, in consequence of our having no permanent hospital ready to receive the first cases.

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During the last eight months of the year I have visited nearly all the parishes in the district, and have made enquiries as to the existence of any insanitary conditions.

I append a summary of sanitary work as supplied by Mr. Baylis, and the usual tables required by the Local Government Board and the County Council.

I have the honour to be, Gentlemen,

Your obedient Servant,

E. RIDING.

TABLE OF DEATHS during the Year 1895, in the REPTON RURAL DISTRICT, classified according to Diseases, Ages, and Localities.

Names of Localities adopted for the purpose of these Statistics; public institutions being shown as separate localities. (Columns for Population and Births are in Table B.)	Mortality from all causes, at subjoined ages.							(i)	Mortality from subjoined causes, distinguishing Deaths of Children under Five Years of Age.																																										
	At all ages.	Under 1 year.	1 and under 5	5 and under 15	15 and under 35	35 and under 65	65 and upwards.		1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22																					
																															Smallpox.	Scarlatina.	Diphtheria.	Membranous Comp.	Fevers.					Cholera.	Erysipelas.	Measles.	Whooping Cough.	Diarrhoea and Dysentery.	Rheumatic Fever.	Phthisis.	Bronchitis, Pneumonia and Pleurisy.	Heart Diseases.	Injuries.	All other Diseases.	Total.
																																			Typhus.	Enteric or Typhoid.	Continued.	Relapsing.	Puerperal.												
(a)	(b)	(c)	(d)	(e)	(f)	(g)	(h)	(i)																																											
County Asylum .. .. .	58				4	34	20	Under 5																																											
								5 upwards																																											
District No. 1— Castle Gresley, Caldwell, Drake- low, Coton, Linton, Walton-on-Trent Lullington and Rolleston .. .. .	59	20	5	1	1	14	18	Under 5			1																																								
								5 upwards										1																																	
District No. 2— Ash, Burnaston, Brethby, Etwell, Dalbury-with-Leas, Trosley, Vin- derr, Twyford and Stenson, Bear- warstone, Mickover, Radbourne, Foremark, Ingley, Newton Solney, Repton and Willington .. .. .	105	34	7	7	2	20	35	Under 5			2																																								
								5 upwards		1				1																																					
District No. 3— Barton Blount, Egginton, Foston and Scampton, Hoot, Hinton, Hutton, Marston-on-Avon, Okeston and Thurston, Sutton-on-the-Hill and Church Broughton .. .. .	56	14	5	2	1	13	21	Under 5		1																																									
								5 upwards		1																																									
Totals .. .. .	278	68	17	10	8	81	94	Under 5		1	3																																								
								5 upwards		2				1					1	3	1	3																													
The subjoined numbers have also to be taken into account in judging of the above records of mortality.																																																			
Deaths occurring within the district among persons not belonging thereto	52							5 upwards																																											



B

TABLE OF POPULATION, BIRTHS, AND OF NEW CASES OF INFECTIOUS SICKNESS, coming to the knowledge of the Medical Officer of Health during the Year 1895, in the REPTON RURAL DISTRICT; classified according to Diseases, Ages and Localities.

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 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.										
	Census 1891	Estimated to middle of 1895			1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11
					Smallpox.	Scarlatina.	Diphtheria.	Membranous Croup.	Fever.					Cholera.	Erysipelas.	Smallpox.	Scarlatina.	Diphtheria.	Membranous Croup.	Fever.					Cholera.	Erysipelas.
									Typhus.	Enteric or Typhoid.	Continued.	Relapsing.	Puerperal.							Typhus.	Enteric or Typhoid.	Continued.	Relapsing.	Puerperal.		
(a)	(b)	(c)	(d)	(e)																						
County Asylum .. .. .	521	Average No. of Patients 458		Under 5																						
				5 upwards																						
District No. 1— Castle Gresley, Canlow, Drake- low, Coton, Linton, Walton-on-Trent, Lullington and Rodleston .. .	4167	4220	143	Under 5		2	1																			
				5 upwards		1							2													
District No. 2— Ash, Burnaston, Brethby, Etwell, Dalbury-with-Leas, Trusley, Fin- derm, Teyford and Stenson, Bear- wardslee, Micklesover, Radbourne, Foremark, Ingleby, Newton Solney, Repton and Willington .. .	6487	6599	218	Under 5		8	3									2*										
				5 upwards		20	2			1						1*										
District No. 3— Barton Blount, Egginton, Foston and Scropton, Hoon, Hilton, Hatton, Marden-on-Dore, Okeston and Thuraston, Sutton-on-the-Hill and Church Broughton .. .	3387	3380	125	Under 5		25										16†										
				5 upwards		37				2						4†										
Totals .. .. .	14562	14657	486	Under 5		35	4									18										
				5 upwards		58	2			3				2		5										

State here whether "Notification of Infectious Disease" is compulsory in the District.—Yes.

Since when 7—April, 1895.

\* Etwell Temporary Isolation Hospital.

† Egginton Temporary Isolation Hospital



# SUMMARY OF SANITARY WORK

From May to December, 1895.

	Notices served.	Nuisances abated.	Number inspected.
Dwelling-houses (foul condition) .. ..	6	6	General
Lodging-houses .. .. .	..	..	..
Dairies and Milkshops (Factories).. ..	..	..	3
Cowsheds defective .. .. .	2	1	..
Cowsheds inspected—153 (Work of registration in process)	..	..	..
Bakehouses .. .. .	..	..	4
Slaughter-houses .. .. .	..	..	..
Ashpits and Privies .. .. .	26	26	..
Deposits of Manure, &c. .. ..	5	5	..
Water Closets .. .. .	..	..	43
Defective Drainage .. .. .	28	26	General
Water Supply either insufficient, unwholesome, etc. .. ..	9	9	..
Other Nuisances— General inspection, and great number obviated by verbal request.			

Seizure of Unwholesome Food—Nil.

Samples of Food taken—Nil.

Samples of Water taken for Analysis—5. (See report of analysis).

## INFECTIOUS CASES.

Houses Disinfected after Infection—58\*

Schools and Public Buildings ditto—5.

Visits made to Houses and Isolation Hospitals during Infectious Cases—Innumerable. Visited frequently as occasion required.

\* In one or two cases more than once, through case cropping up after the first cases have recovered.



