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ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE



FOR THE YEAR 1898,

BY

ALFRED ROBINSON, M.D.,

Medical Officer of Health,

Mem. Roy. Coll. Surg., Eng.,

Licent. San. Science,

Fellow Soc. Med. Off. of Health, &c.



ROTHERHAM :

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ANNUAL REPORT, 1898.

MR. MAYOR, AND GENTLEMEN,

My Report of the health of the town for the year 1898, is, I consider very satisfactory, the death rate from all causes being 16·05 per 1000, as compared with 17·78 for the year 1897.

Compared with the statistics for England and Wales, the following figures show how Rotherham stands as compared with other towns in the kingdom.

VITAL STATISTICS FOR THE YEAR 1898.

1897.	ENG- LAND AND WALES.	Thirty- three Great Towns	Sixty- seven other Large Towns.	England and Wales less the 100 Towns.	Rother- ham.
BIRTH RATE -	29·4	—	—	—	33·0
DEATH RATE -	17·6	19·0	17·2	16·7	16·05
Zymotic Death rate	2·22	2·85	2·41	1·75	1·15
Infantile Mortality	161	178	173	145	161

The population is now estimated at 53,000, which is probably under than over the exact number. The Town is rapidly increasing.

The total number of deaths was 871, of which 452 were male, and 419 females.

Classified according to age, the following are the figures:—

Under 1 year ...	...	...	...	288
Between 1 and 5 years	...	...	...	123
Between 5 and 15 years	...	...	...	22
Between 15 and 25 years	...	...	...	48
Between 25 and 60 years	...	...	...	211
Over 60 years ...	...	...	...	176
				<hr/> 871 <hr/>

ZYMOTIC DISEASES.

The rate of Mortality from the principal Zymotic Diseases was 1.15 against 1.78 per 1000, in the year 1897. Measles was the cause of 28 deaths, Scarlet Fever of 13, Enteric or Typhoid of 12.

No case of Small Pox was reported to the Sanitary Authority during the year.

DIARRHŒA.

The deaths from this cause were 67 and were very much in excess of our usual number, the mortality among infants being especially noticeable. Infantile Diarrhœa is probably the result of chemical poisoning in milk produced by certain spore-bearing Microbes. To boil the milk before it is used for food is a useful precaution, although it cannot be said to be entirely sterilized by this process.

We must therefore protect the milk from contamination at the farm, at the milk shop and not least at the house. Feeding bottles if used at all must be kept clean by boiling, the old fashioned boat shaped bottle to which the teat is directly attached is much easier to keep clean than a bottle with a long piece of India Rubber between the bottle and the teat.

SANATORIUM.

I have in several of my previous reports advocated the establishment of the above and look forward with pleasureable anticipation to its accomplishment in the immediate future, the Mayor having taken up the question with enthusiastic determination.

TUBERCULOSIS.

Under its different forms this was the cause of 62 deaths. It is imperative that all Sanitary Authorities should put in force the manifold powers they possess for improving the Public Health, especially in the direction of providing better light and ventilation and access of light in all dwellings and workshops, the clearance of crowded sites and the reconstruction of insanitary house property. It is also the duty of Local Authorities to assist in educating public opinion by the diffusion of leaflets and notices, pointing out the best means for limiting the spread of Tuberculosis. Tuberculosis is the cause of more deaths than all the acute specific diseases put together.

The great mortality in infancy and childhood is to a great extent due to infection through the alimentary canal by milk from Tuberculosis Cows.

It is therefore necessary that Sanitary Authorities should possess adequate means for the systematic pathological examination of milk, whether it is produced within or without the district, the infection of Tuberculosis in milk can be destroyed by boiling or sterilization.

It is generally agreed that the danger of dissemination of Tuberculosis from the use of the meat of infected animals is much less than in the case of milk.

Until recently Consumption was looked upon as an incurable disease. It is now recognised that if only patients can be placed in an early stage of the malady under favourable conditions there is every chance of recovery. In advanced cases if the patient reside in a cottage or tenement he is a certain source of danger to others, since it is almost impossible to ensure effectual disinfection of sputa under such conditions of life.

VACCINATION.

During the year 1,484 children were successfully vaccinated, 927 in Kimberworth and 557 in Rotherham, leaving about 300 not accounted for. This is not as satisfactory as it should be, even taking into consideration the facts that many of the children have died and many have probably left the district. The new Vaccination Act is now in force and I am inclined to think it will be found to work smoothly, for though not perfect, it is in some respects a great improvement on past Acts, the chief of these being the abolition of Stational Vaccination and the introduction of Dormiciliary Vaccination in its place. The use of Glycerinated Calf Lymph is also to be commended and will do away with many of the objections to Vaccination. As far as Rotherham is concerned the "Conscientious Objector" has been conspicuous by his absence. Unfortunately in many of the other large towns, the reverse has been the case and thousands of children are liable to take Small Pox when occasion offers.

WATER SUPPLY.

During the greater part of the year, the town has been supplied with Sheffield Water and there has been a marked diminution in cases of Enteric Fever, in fact the smallest number recorded for several years past. Compared with the previous year (1897), the numbers are 60 as against 91.

Our own water supply cannot be regarded as satisfactory, as it is liable to be contaminated at many points, and any water which is liable to contamination must always be looked upon with suspicion. Many of the pollutions have existed for years, and it is incumbent upon the Corporation to deal with offenders with a firm hand. To add to the difficulties quite recently, a Colliery has been started within a few yards of the gathering grounds, and unless stringent precautions are taken, is likely to be a further source of trouble. I am glad to see that the Corporation have already appointed a Sub-Committee in the powers to deal specially with this matter.

In conclusion, I must again pay a tribute to the energy and interest of the Mayor (Mr. Councillor F. Mason), in the affairs connected with the health of the Borough. I am also indebted to the Sanitary Inspector, Mr. C. E. Parkin, for much of the information contained in this Report.

I am,

Mr. Chairman and Gentlemen,

Your obedient Servant,

ALFRED ROBINSON, M.D., D.P.H.,

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH.

PUBLIC ANALYST'S LABORATORY,

67, SURREY STREET, SHEFFIELD.

Report on a Sample of Drinking Water received from the Rotherham Corporation on November 5th, 1898. Sample Mark—"No. 95."

Physical Characters:—

SUSPENDED MATTER, none,

APPEARANCE of a Column two feet long, clear and colourless.

TASTE, normal. ODOUR, none.

On Analysis, the sample gave the following results :—

Grains per gallon.	{	TOTAL SOLID MATTER, 20·86; which lost on IGNITION 2·80 grs.
		CHLORINE, 1·50; equal to SODIUM CHLORIDE, 2·46 grs.
		NITROGEN in oxidised forms, traces; equal to Nitric Acid (anhydrous), traces grs.
		POISONOUS METALS (Lead, &c.), none.

DEGREES OF HARDNESS, 10·0. [Each degree of hardness represents a soap-destroying power equivalent to one grain of chalk per gallon.

Parts per million.	{	REDUCING POWER, 0·59. [Representing the Oxygen absorbed by the organic and other oxidisable matters in one million parts of water.]
		FREE and UREAL AMMONIA, 0·02 parts per million.
		ALBUMINOID AMMONIA, 0·08 parts per million.

These results are fairly satisfactory.

ALFRED H. ALLEN.

November 29th, 1898.

Sample taken from pure water basin, Dalton.

PUBLIC ANALYST'S LABORATORY,
67, SURREY STREET, SHEFFIELD.

Report on a Sample of Drinking Water received from the Rotherham Corporation, on October 26th, 1898. Sample Mark:—"94."

Physical Characters:—

SUSPENDED MATTER, None.

APPEARANCE of a Column two feet long: clear, very pale brown.

TASTE, Normal. ODOUR, None.

On Analysis, the sample gave the following results:—

Grains per gallon.	{	<p>TOTAL SOLID MATTER, 10·08; which lost on IGNITION, 2·24 g.</p> <p>CHLORINE, 1·00; equal to SODIUM CHLORIDE, 1·65 grs.</p> <p>NITROGEN in oxidised forms, Traces; equal to NITRIC ACID (anhydrous), Trace.</p> <p>POISONOUS METALS (Lead, &c.), None.</p>
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DEGREES of HARDNESS, 5·0 [Each degree of hardness represents a soap-destroying power equivalent to one grain of chalk per gallon.]

Parts per million.	{	<p>REDUCING POWER, 1·20 [Representing the Oxygen absorbed by the organic and other oxidisable matters in one million parts of water.]</p> <p>FREE and UREAL AMMONIA, 0·02 parts per million.</p> <p>ALBUMINOID AMMONIA, 0·08 parts per million.</p>
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These results are fairly satisfactory. The high figure under the head of reducing power, is probably due to the presence of vegetable matter of peaty character.

ALFRED H. ALLEN.

November 29th, 1898.

High Level taken from tap Godstone Road.

PUBLIC ANALYST'S LABORATORY,

67, SURREY STREET, SHEFFIELD.

Report of a Sample of Drinking Water received from the Rotherham Corporation on October 26th, 1898, Sample Mark, "93."

Physical Characters:—

SUSPENDED MATTER, None.

APPEARANCE of a Column two feet long, Clear & Colourless,

TASTE, Normal. ODOUR, None.

On Analysis, the sample gave the following results:—

Grains per gallon.	{	TOTAL SOLID MATTER, 21.70; which lost on IGNITION, 2.66 grs.
		CHLORINE, 1.85; equal to SODIUM CHLORATE, 3.04 grs.
		NITROGEN in oxydised forms, Trace; equal to NITRIC ACID (anhydrous), Trace grs.
		POISONOUS METALS (Lead, &c.), None.

DEGREES OF HARDNESS, 11.8, [Each degree of hardness represents a soap-destroying power equivalent to one grain of chalk per gallon.]

Parts per million.	{	REDUCING POWER, 0.66. [Representing the Oxygen absorbed by the organic and other oxidisable matters in one million parts of water.]
		FREE and UREAL AMMONIA, 0.02 parts per million.
		ALBUMINOID AMMONIA, 0.06 parts per million.

These figures show the water to be fairly free from readily-changeable organic matter. The proportion of chlorides is in excess of that usually met with in South Yorkshire in water of unexceptionable origin, but the suspicion arising from this anomaly is not borne out definitely by the other results.

ALFRED H. ALLEN.

November 29th, 1898.

Low Level taken from Tap, Howard Street.

PUBLIC ANALYST'S LABORATORY,

67, SURREY STREET, SHEFFIELD.

Report on a Sample of Drinking Water received from the Rotherham Corporation, on January 5th, 1899. Sample Mark :—" No. 96 Shallow Well."

Physical Characters :—

SUSPENDED MATTER, None.

APPEARANCE of a Column two feet long, Clear & Colourless

TASTE, — ODOUR. None.

On Analysis, the sample gave the following results :—

Grains per gallon.	{	TOTAL SOLID MATTER, 64.12 ; which lost on IGNITION, 12.04 grs.
		CHLORINE, 10.80 ; equal to SODIUM CHLORIDE, 17.82 grs.
		NITROGEN in oxidised forms, 1.40 ; equal to NITRIC ACID (anhydrous), 5.40 grs.
		POISONOUS METALS (Lead, &c.) None.

DEGREES of HARDNESS, 30.0. [Each degree of hardness represents a soap-destroying power equivalent to one grain of chalk per gallon.]

Parts per million.	{	REDUCING POWER, 0.72. [Representing the Oxygen absorbed by the organic and other oxidisable matters in one million parts of water.]
		FREE and UREAL AMMONIA, 0.03 parts per million.
		ALBUMINOID AMMONIA. 0.10 parts per million.

These results show the water to have suffered extensive contamination by cesspool-drainage or similar impurity. The greater part of the polluting matter has subsequently undergone spontaneous destruction by oxidation, but such a water must always be regarded with the gravest suspicion. In my opinion, its use for drinking is dangerous, and should be wholly discontinued.

ALFRED H. ALLEN.

January 7th, 1898, 8-35 p.m.

Well water, Mr. Robinson, Stable yard, Westgate.

PUBLIC ANALYST'S LABORATORY,

67, SURRY STREET, SHEFFIELD.

Report on a Sample of Drinking Water, received from the Rotherham Corporation, on March 28th, 1899. Sample Mark:—"No 97." Town Supply.

Physical Characters :—

SUSPENDED MATTER, None.

APPEARANCE of a Column two feet long, Clear & Colourless

TASTE, Normal. ODOUR, None.

On Analysis, the sample gave the following results :—

Grains per gallon.	{	TOTAL SOLID MATTER, 21.28; which lost on IGNITION, 5.60 grs.
		CHLORINE, 1.90; equal to SODIUM CHLORIDE, 3.13 grs.
		NITROGEN in oxidised forms, 0.47; equal to NITRIC ACID (anhydrous) 1.81 grs.
		POISONOUS METALS (Lead &c.) None.

DEGREE of HARDNESS, 12.0. [Each degree of hardness represents a soap-destroying power equivalent to one grain of chalk per gallon.]

Parts per million.	{	REDUCING POWER, 0.32. [Representing the Oxygen absorbed by the organic and other oxidisable matters in one million parts of water.]
		FREE and UREAL AMMONIA, 0.03 parts per million.
		ALBUMINOID AMMONIA, 0.06 parts per million.

The presence of nitrates suggests that the water has received an infiltration of drainage of some sort, possibly the drainage from cultivated land. The figures under the head of Free and Albuminoid Ammonia show that the water in its present condition is free from other than normal traces of readily-changeable organic matter.

ALFRED H. ALLEN.

April 7th, 1899.

Sample taken from Pure Water Basin at Dalton.

PUBLIC ANALYST'S LABORATORY,

67, SURREY STREET, SHEFFIELD.

Report on a Sample of Drinking Water received from the Rotherham Corporation, on March 28th, 1899. Sample Mark :—" No. 98." Town Supply.

Physical Characters.

SUSPENDED MATTER, None.

APPEARANCE of a Column two feet long, Clear & colourless.

TASTE, Normal. ODOUR, None.

On Analysis, the sample gave the following results :—

Grains per gallon.	{	TOTAL SOLID MATTER, 25.48; which lost on IGNITION 3.08 grs.
		CHLORINE, 2.20; equal to SODIUM CHLORIDE, 3.62 grs.
		NITROGEN in oxidised forms, 0.10; equal to NITRIC ACID (anhydrous), 0.38 grs.
		POISONOUS METALS (Lead, &c.) None.

DEGREES of HARDNESS, 18.0. [Each degree of hardness represents a soap-destroying power equivalent to one grain of chalk per gallon.]

Parts per million.	{	REDUCING POWER, 0.33. [Representing the Oxygen absorbed by the organic and other oxidisable matters in one million parts of water.]
		FREE and UREAL AMMONIA, 0.02 parts per million.
		ALBUMINOID AMMONIA, 0.06 parts per million.

These results show the water to be free from other than normal traces of readily-changeable organic matter. The proportion of Chlorides is in excess of that usually met with in South Yorkshire drinking-waters of unexceptionable quality, and, together with the presence of nitrates, suggests infiltration of surface drainage or similar impurity.

ALFRED H. ALLEN.

April 7th, 1899.

Sample taken from Dalton Spring below the Windmill.

PUBLIC ANALYST'S LABORATORY,

67, SURREY STREET, SHEFFIELD.

Report on a Sample of Drinking Water, received from the Rotherham Corporation, on March 28th, 1899. Sample Mark :—" No. 99." Town Supply.

Physical Characters.

SUSPENDED MATTER, None.

APPEARANCE of a Column two feet long : Clear, yellow.

TASTE : Normal.

Odour : None.

On Analysis, the sample gave the following results :—

Grains per Gallon.	{	TOTAL SOLID MATTER, 6.37 ; which lost on IGNITION, 1.33 grs.
		CHLORINE, 0.75 ; equal to SODIUM CHLORIDE, 1.23 grs.
		NITROGEN in oxidised forms, None ; equal to NITRIC ACID (anhydrous), None.
		POISONOUS METALS (Lead, &c.), None.

DEGREES OF HARDNESS, 4.5. [Each degree of hardness represents a soap-destroying power equivalent to one grain of chalk per gallon.]

Parts per million.	{	REDUCING POWER, 1.70. [Representing the Oxygen absorbed by the organic and other oxidisable matters in one million parts of water.]
		FREE and UREAL AMMONIA, 0.02 parts per million.
		ALBUMINOID AMMONIA, 0.06 parts per million.

These results are satisfactory. The high figure under the head of Reducing Power is doubtless due to the presence of peaty matter of vegetable origin.

ALFRED H. ALLEN.

April 7th, 1899.

Sample taken from Tap, Godstone Road. (High Level.)

TABLE III.

DEATHS Registered at several Groups of Ages from different Causes, during the Year 1898.

CAUSE of DEATH.	All Ages.	Over 60 Years.	25 to 60 Years.	15 to 25 Years.	5 to 15 Years.	1 to 5 Years.	(Infants) under 1 year	CAUSE of DEATH.	All Ages.	Over 60 Years.	25 to 60 Years.	15 to 25 Years.	5 to 15 Years.	1 to 5 years.	(Infants) under 1 year
ALL CAUSES	871	176	211	48	22	126	288								
1--ZYMOTIC								Order 4.							
Order 1.								Enteritis	43	3	1	2	1	7	33
Measles	28					20	8	Peritonitis	4		1			1	
Scarlet Fever	13		1	1		11		Tub. "	1						
Whooping Cough	8					4	4	Tub. Disease of Bwls.	3		2	1			
Diarrhoea	67	1	1	1		15	49	Obstruction of Bowels	3	1	1	1			
Fever—Enteric	12		5	5	1	1		Stricture of " ..	1	1					
Croup	5				1	1	1	Hernia	1		1				
Quinsy	1				1			Intussusception ...	1						1
Puerperal Fever								Stomach Disease, &c	2		1	1			
(Metria)	2		2					Hepatitis	1		1				
Influenza	6	2	3	1				Jaundice	1					1	
Dysentery	1					1		Liver Disease, &c...	9	2	7				
Rheumatism	7	1	4	1	1			Spleen	2		2				
Order 2.								Order 5.							
Syphilis	5					1	4	Nephritis	23	11	9	1		2	
Pyæmia	2		2					Diabetes	3		3				
Order 3.								Cystitis	3	2	1				
Alcoholism :								Kidney Disease ...	1		1				
Intemperance ...	1		1					Order 6.							
2--CONSTITUTIONAL								Exophthalmic Goitre.	2		2				
Order 1.								Order 7.							
Dropsy	1	1						Skin Diseases	1	1					
Cancer	28	17	10	1				4--DEVELOPMENTAL.							
Sarcoma	1		1					Order 1.							
Grangrene	2	1	1					Premature Birth ...	42						42
Order 2.								Spina Bifida	3						3
Tuberculosis	12		3	2	2	2	3	Other Malformations	1						1
Tabes Mesenterica...	7					3	4	Teething	11					3	8
Phthisis	53	4	31	13	2	3		Order 2.							
Rickets	6						4	Child Birth	2			1			1
Anæmia	1			1				Order 3.							
3--LOCAL								Old Age	47	45	2				
Order 1.								Order 4.							
Meningitis	15				2	8	5	Atrophy & Debility	35		2			4	29
Apoplexy	23	15	8					5--VIOLENT DEATHS							
Paralysis	1	1						Order 1.							
Epilepsy	3		2	1				(Accident or							
Convulsions	28					3	25	Negligence)							
Brain Disease, &c...	8	3	3	1		1		Burns and Scalds ...	4		1		2	1	1
Spinal Disease	3		1		2			Poison	1		6				
Puerperal Eclampsia	1		1					Drowning	9				2	1	
Order 2.								Suffocation	1				1		1
Aneurism	1		1					Otherwise	18	2	12	2	1	1	
Heart Disease, &c...	59	19	31	5	2	2		Order 2.							
Order 3.								(Suicide)							
Laryngitis	2						2	Hanging	1	1					
Bronchitis	77	29	15	3		5	25	Order 3.							
Pleurisy	1			1				Sudden Death (cause	2		1				1
Pneumonia	79	12	20	2	1	20	24	unascertained) ...							
Asthma	1		1					Cause not specified	16	1	6				9
Lung Disease, &c...	2		1		1			or ill defined ...							
Total	573							Total	298						

Table IV.—Shewing the Death Rate per 1000 for the five Classes of Diseases combined in Table IIIa for five years.

	1894	1895	1896	1897	1898
I. Zymotics (Principal)	2.08	1.97	1.40	1.78	1.15
II. Constitutional	1.93	1.52	1.78	2.11	2.09
III. Local... ..	8.97	9.06	9.52	8.55	7.71
IV. Developmental	2.78	2.75	2.94	3.57	2.61
V. Violent	0.78	0.89	0.76	0.71	0.98

Table V.—Shewing MORTALITY from certain classes of Diseases in the Several Wards, and PROPORTION TO POPULATION, and to 1000 Deaths, 1898.

	East Ward.	South Ward.	West Ward.	North Ward.	Masbrough Ward.	Kimberworth Ward.	Workhouse and Rotherham Hospital.	TOTAL.	Rate per 1000 Living.	Proportion of Deaths to 1000
1. Seven Principal Zymotic Diseases	31	12	8	31	37	8	1	128	2.41	146.95
2. Pulmonary Diseases (other than Phthisis)	40	11	15	22	37	14	21	160	3.01	183.69
3. Tubercular Diseases	16	7	15	17	13	9	8	85	1.603	97.58
4. Wasting Diseases of Infants.....	23	7	4	10	17	13	3	77	1.45	88.404
5. Convulsive Diseases of Children ...	3	9	8	12	14	5	1	52	0.98	59.701

- 1.—Includes Small Pox, Measles, Scarlet Fever, Diphtheria, Whooping Cough, Fever, and Diarrhoea.
 3.—Includes Phthisis, Scrofula, Rickets, and Tabes.
 4.—Includes Marasmus, Atrophy, Debility, Want of Breast Milk, and Premature Birth.
 5.—Includes Hydrocephalus, Infantile Meningitis, Convulsions, and Teething.

TABLE VII.

Return of the number of cases Infectious Diseases notified to the Medical Officer of Health during the year 1898, and the number of deaths from the diseases reported.

	Cases notified 1898.	Deaths registered 1898.
Scarlet Fever.....	219	13
Diphtheria	9	0
Enteric Fever.....	60	12
Puerperal Fever.....	9	2
Membranous Croup	6	5
Small Pox	0	0
<i>Typhus</i> Typhoid Fever	2	0
	<hr/> 304	<hr/> 32

TABLE OF DEATHS during the year 1898, in the Borough of Rotherham, classified according to Diseases, Ages, and Localities.

Mortality from all Causes.										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 25		25 and under 65		65 and upwards,		Smallpox.	Scarlatina.	Diphtheria.	Membr'us Croup.	Typhus.	Enteric or Typhoid Fever.	Puerperal Fever.	Measles.	Whooping Cough.	Diarrhoea and Dysentery.	Phtisis.	Bronchitis. Pneumonia and Pleurisy.	Heart Disease.	Influenza.	Injuries.	All other Diseases.	Total.
Borough	781	279	124	18	40	176	144	Under 5	5 upwds	11	...	4	...	1	...	28	8	64	3	73	2	...	...	209	403			
Workhouse	70	5	1	...	5	28	31	Under 5	5 upwds	2	...	1	...	11	...	...	...	3	47	69	53	5	...	183	378		
Hospital	20	4	1	4	3	7	1	Under 5	5 upwds	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	7	16	4	1	1	34	64
								Under 5	5 upwds	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	2	...	...	6	8	12
Totals	871	288	126	22	48	216	176	Under 5	5 upwds	11	...	4	...	1	...	28	8	64	3	74	2	...	...	222	417			
								5 upwds	5 upwds	2	...	1	...	11	...	2	...	4	52	87	57	6	7	221	454					

The subjoined numbers must also be taken into account in judging of the above records of mortality.

Deaths outside the District among Persons belonging thereto.	5	...	...	...	...	4	1	Under 5	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	2	...	...	...	2	...	5
Death within not belonging thereto	21	1	...	...	1	8	11	Under 5	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	2	...	1	...	4	12	20

**K 2 II.—TABLE OF POPULATION, BIRTHS, AND OF NEW CASES OF INFECTIOUS
(B) SICKNESS, coming to the knowledge of the Medical Officer of Health, during the year
1898, in the Urban Sanitary District of Rotherham; classified according to Diseases,
Ages, and Localities.**

Names of Localities adopted for the pur- pose of these statistics; Public Institutions being shewn as separ- ate localities.	Population at all ages.		Registered Births.		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.	Estim'd to middle of 1898.			Smallpox	Scarlatina	Diphtheria	Membr's Group.	Typhus Fever	Enteric or Typhoid	Cholera	Diarrhoea	Smallpox	Cholera
Borough	42,050	53,000	1785	Under 5	..	80	1	5	..	3	..	..	..	..
Public Institutions	...	...	...	5 upwds	..	139	8	1	2	54	..	..	..	..
				Under 5
Totals				5 upwds	..	..	..	..	..	3	..	..	..	..
				Under 5	..	80	1	5	..	3

Table C. 1898.

Borough of Rotherham Sanitary District.

Medical Officer of Health, ALF. ROBINSON, M.D., D.P.H.

Sanitary Inspector, Mr. CHAS. E. PARKIN.

WATER SUPPLY—

Quality Fairly Good. Action on Lead, Nil.

Any extensions or change during 1898? Sheffield Supply.

Any inadequacy in any part? Intermittent supply part of the year.

SEWERAGE AND SEWAGE DISPOSAL—Extensions or improvements during 1898. Any inadequacy in any part? Under construction and re-arrangement of Sewers generally.

SCAVENGING—Are the Privy-middens, etc., cleansed by Sanitary Staff, by Contractors, or by Owners and Tenants? Sanitary Staff.

If scavenging undertaken by District Council, what was the annual cost during 1898?

ADOPTIVE ACTS—

Parts adopted, and Date.

Public Health Acts (Amendment) Act, 1890. The whole Act.

Infectious Disease (Prevention) Act, 1890. The whole Act.

What was the amount paid to practitioners under the Infectious Disease (Notification) Act during 1898? £38 10s.

BYE-LAWS—Any adopted or sanctioned during 1898? No.

Are they properly enforced? Yes.

Any deficiency?

Regulated Buildings, Trades, &c.	Number.		General Conditions.
	Regist-ered.	Inspected.	
Common Lodging Houses. .	10	By Police and San- itary Department. 48	Fairly good Constantly
Canal Boats ... ..	...	
Slaughter Houses	33		
Bakehouses	10		
Dairies }	62		
Cowsheds }			
Milkshops }			
Offensive Trades	6		Tripe Boilers

ISOLATION HOSPITAL—Rotherham Small Pox.

Disinfecting Apparatus, Steam ; Type of same, Lyons'.

Compensation paid for infected articles destroyed during 1898, none.

DWELLINGS—Number of Houses built during 1898, 438. General character, Artizan.

Any overcrowding of persons in houses ? 10.

Any overcrowding of houses on area ? 20.

Any action taken under the Housing of the Working Classes Act, 1890 ? Yes.

METEOROLOGY—Mean Temperature for the year 1898, 58.

Rainfall, 20 inches.

GEOLOGY—Nature of Soil, Clay and Sandstone ; Subsoil, Clay, Rock and Gravel.

MISCELLANEOUS—Total number of Nuisances in hand at close of 1897, 30. At close of 1898, 17. Reported during 1898, 363. Abated during 1898, 376.

Number of Sink wastes disconnected and trapped during 1898, 116. Number of Closets constructed during 1898, 65. Kinds, Hopper, and Automatic.

Any diseases peculiarly endemic in the district ? No.

Any information as to number of deaths from cancer of all kinds during 1898.

Any information as to number of deaths from Tabes Mesenterica ? Yes, 7.

Vaccination—General efficiency, 1484 successfully vaccinated.

What action has been taken in regard to the following matters ?

Samples under Sale of Food and Drugs Act, 35.

Prosecutions, 2.

River Pollution, Sewage disposal under construction.

Burial Grounds—Number in District, 4. Any need for extension ? No.

BIRTHS—

Males 896, Females 889. Total 1,785.

Number illegitimate, included in the above, 74.

Any information as to Still Births? Nil.

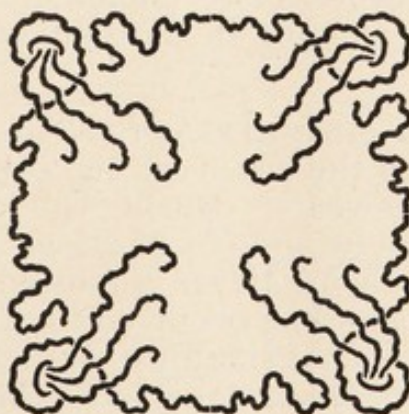
DEATHS—

Males 452, Females 419. Total 871.

Number uncertified, included in the above—Yes.

RATEABLE VALUE as stated in Valuation List.	Value upon which the General District Rate is assessed.			Rate in the £ 1898.
	Full Rateable Value Houses, &c.	One-fourth Rateable Value. Land, etc.	Two-thirds Rateable value (where owner is assessed.	
£162,318	£112,184	£4,614	£45,520	2/6

Sanitary requirements of District, and suggestions of Medical Officer of Health—Want of an Infectious Diseases Hospital and an improved water supply.



SANITARY'S INSPECTOR'S REPORT.



During the year the staff have been fully engaged in the various duties connected with the department.

CANAL BOATS.—48 Boats have been inspected and found to be in a fairly good condition. No infectious diseases or overcrowding were detected on board. Special visits have been made to the water-ways at various points.

The number of children found on the boats, together with their ages, are as follows :—

1 year.....	6
2 „	3
3 „	3
4 „	2
5 „	2
8 „	2
11 „	1

19

DESTRUCTOR.—Since the alterations to the Destructor and the addition of forced draught, the complaints of offensive smells arising by fumes from the chimney have been considerably lessened. Particularly so during the winter months, when more combustible material and less vegetable matter is found in the ashboxes and pits.

DISEASES OF ANIMALS ACT.—The work under the Act and orders during the past year have been considerably in excess of previous years. During the first three months the Market Order was in force in April we were unfortunate in having a case of Swine Fever imported from Bedford, and has one or two cases had occurred in the West Riding District, The Board of Agriculture, with a view of preventing a further spread of disease, declared the Borough and a certain part of the West Riding to be a Swine Fever infected area. Over 5,000 licenses, declarations, and copies have been granted. In December the order was revoked and the Swine Fever “movement” order substituted. Sixty cases of Swine Fever, or suspected Swine Fever have been reported during the year, but only four cases have been confirmed as being actually Swine Fever.

• SANITARY.—All cases of infectious diseases have received attention, and dealt with in the best manner possible in the absence of a proper Isolation Hospital.

House drains cleaned, relaid, trapped, ventilated, or new provided	176
Privies and Water Closets reported.....	59
New water closets and privies provided ..	65
Ashpits repaired, removed, reconstructed or new provided	66
Surface drainages, repaired, or paved....	8
Stagnant water or sewage removed	8
Houses without proper water supply	8
Houses unfit for human habitation.....	1
Houses overcrowded 9, Filthy 1	10
Manure and offensive accumulations removed	11
Fowls, pigeons, & rabbits kept in dwelling houses .....	..
Pigs so kept	9
Cesspools repaired	2
Lodging houses closed	1

 363

The following shews the number of privies and ashpits cleaned, the number of loads of soil and ashes taken therefrom, and the number of loads of refuse collected and the disposal of the same.

No. of ashpits emptied	12,107
„ privies	23,608
„ loads of soil removed from ashpits and privies...	12,763
„ loads of Refuse collected ..	4,269
	<hr/> 17,032

DISPOSAL.

„ „ burned at the Destructor	11,525
„ „ disposed of to farmers...	1,580
„ „ „ by canal boats. ....	..
„ „ tipped	3,927
	<hr/> 17,032

The following shews the work done by Destructor during the year :—

No. of loads from Ashpits	7,212
„ „ collected (dry)	4,169
„ „ offal and other refuse..	144
	<hr/> 11,525
Mattresses burned	330
Pillows „	57
Beds „	29
Carcases „ Beef.....	26
„ Sheep	36
„ Calves	8
„ Pigs.....	57
„ Dogs	170
„ Goats	2

Table. X.—FOOD AND DRUGS ACT.

No.	Nature of Samples.	Pure.	Adulterated.	Summonses issued.	Convictions.	Penalties and Costs.	Remarks.
33	MILK	31	2	2	2	5 19 0	
2	BUTTER	2	...	...	...	...
35		33	2	2	2	5 19 0	

Table IX.

Provisions Seized and Destroyed during the year as
compared with the preceding year.

Provisions.	No.		Lbs.		Sum.'nses		Convctns.		Penalties and Costs.	
	1898	1897	1898	1897	1898	1897	1898	1897	1898	1897
Lambs ...	5	1	118	36						
Sheep ..	27	24	1139	1150						
Pigs . .	9	14	936	1806						
Calves ...	6	7	412	498						
Beasts Crcs.	27	16	1788	7292						
„ Heads	23	15								
„ Livers	27	17								
„ Hearts	27	1								
Sheep's Plck	19	2								
Goats ...	2	1								
Rabbits ...		20				2		1		13/13/6
Fowls		1								
Sundries ..				70						
	172	154	14593	10854		2		1		13/13/6

