

[Report 1904] / Medical Officer of Health, Stroud (Union) R.D.C.

Contributors

Stroud (Gloucestershire, England). Rural District Council.

Publication/Creation

1904

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STROUD RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL.

31st JANUARY, 1905.

Report for Year ending 31st December, 1904.

GENTLEMEN,

I beg to lay before you my fifth Annual Report with regard to the Stroud Rural District. The year under review has been marked by progress in several directions—the opening of the Joint Isolation Hospital; the completion of the sewerage and sewage disposal works for Thrupp and part of Rodborough Civil Parishes; and Local Government Board Inquiries into applications for loans for the water supply of Painswick and for the sewerage of that Parish and of Woodchester. In November the two Sanitary Inspectors—Mr. Albert Bailey and Mr. John Hall—were appointed whole time officers, a step necessitated by increase of duties owing to the completion of, and connections with, the systems of sewerage and work relating to the house connections therewith, Factory and Workshop Act, &c.

The following alterations were made in three of the Registration Sub-Districts at the end of September :—

PAINSWICK REGISTRATION DISTRICT.

Miserden C. P. transferred to Bisley Registration District.
Uplands C. P. ,, ,, Stroud ,, ,,

HOUSE ACCOMMODATION.

Building Bye Laws were adopted in 1903, and sanctioned by the Local Government Board on the 9th November of that year. The Surveyor to the Rural District Council (Mr. J. E. Haynes) was appointed building inspector on the 22nd January, 1904, and the first plans were submitted on the 27th January. Mr. Haynes has kindly supplied me with information as to the numbers of plans passed and houses built during 1904 :—

Table A.

	Plans passed.	Houses built.
Bisley ...	—	1
Chalford ...	1	—
Horsley ...	—	—
Minchinhampton	6	3
Painswick ...	1	1
Cranham ...	—	—
Pitchcombe ...	—	—
Miserden ...	1	—
Rodborough ...	6	3
King's Stanley ...	—	—
Woodchester ...	—	—
Stonehouse ...	6	4
Cainscross ...	2	2
Leonard Stanley	2	1
Randwick ...	2	2
Thrupp ...	2	—
Whiteshill ...	3	—
	—	—
	32	17
	—	—

BUNGALOWS.

Painswick ...	5
Miserden ...	1

Three houses were condemned as unfit for human habitation. One was vacated on notice from the inspector; the two remaining are cottages owned by a poverty stricken old woman of about 86 years, and occupied one by herself and one by a tenant. This latter case illustrates some of the difficulties in dealing with unhealthy and dangerous houses: so long as the woman's husband was alive the cottages were continually patched up by him, but after his death early in 1904, the property got worse and worse, and on the 10th June I certified that they were unfit for human habitation. On the 24th June notice was served on the owner to make them habitable within two months. She had no money (her daughter living with her was in receipt of poor relief) and the reversioner would not do anything unless she would give up possession: this she declined to do. I reported to the Council from time to time that the condition of the cottages was getting more and more dangerous, but I was this month informed that the reversioner would do the necessary work, the interest on his outlay being given by friends.

Considerable discussion over Building Bye Laws generally took place at several meetings of the Council, in the course of which it was evident that some people at least have an erroneous idea as to the nature of the Bye Laws which were adopted for this district. Those in force in the town of Stroud are practically identical with the *urban* model Bye Laws of the Local Government Board, adapted for the special dangers of town life: they include detailed provisions for safety as regards structure and danger from fire. The Bye Laws adopted in this district on the other hand are drafted by the Local Government Board for the needs of Rural Districts, with modifications suiting them to this particular locality.

The materials and structure are left entirely to the builder, and there are no restrictions as to thickness of walls, etc.: the only provisions affecting structure are those which define that—

- 1.—*Where necessary for health considerations* the whole area of the house shall be covered with concrete.
- 2.—To protect the walls from wet, a damp course—which everyone acknowledges to be a necessity—shall be inserted;
- 3.—For the same reason all exposed walls shall be coped.

The remaining bye laws all deal with conditions affecting health which are already carried out by all good architects; the points dealt with are—

- 1.—A sufficiency of air space round the houses, and air and light in the houses.
- 2.—The provision of drains, closets, etc., of such a form, and executed in such a manner that the health of those living in the houses shall not be dangerously affected, and that the water supplies shall not be polluted.

The remaining bye laws provide for the deposit of plans, so that the Council may be satisfied that the health of the future occupiers of the houses and their neighbours shall not be endangered by infringement of the conditions required by the Bye laws.

Before these Bye Laws reached their present form much time and thought was given by the special committee in their drafting, and they adopted the least stringent regulations possible, consistent with healthy living. A further committee was appointed on 25th Nov., 1904, to consider what improvements could be made in the bye laws.

SEWERAGE AND DRAINAGE.

During 1904 systems of sewerage for five parishes were under the consideration of the Council. The sewage disposal works for Cainscross and Rodborough were completed during 1903, but by the end of that year the number of houses draining to them was only 89: this number is now 180. The works for the Thrupp were finished in August, and 50 houses are now connected with the main sewers. There has been barely sufficient time as yet for the bacteria beds to properly mature, but the effluents appear to be satisfactory.

Relating to this work, the Council gave special instructions on the 2nd September that complete plans of all connections, etc., should be kept in the office.

Two Local Government Board Inquiries were held by H. Ross Hooper, Esq., M.A., M.Inst., C.E., into applications to borrow £3,000 for the Sewerage of Woodchester (16th March) and £6,000 for sewerage and Sewage Disposal works at Painswick (15 March). The former application was sanctioned by the Local Government Board (29th April) and the Council has advertised for tenders for carrying out the work. The main intercepting sewer will be connected with the main sewer in the Woodchester Valley. The loan for the Painswick works has not yet

been sanctioned, pending the decision of the Local Government Board as to what shall be formed the "special area" for this and other purposes, the ecclesiastical parish being proposed.

The question of cleansing vaults, etc., in special drainage districts arose at the meeting of the Council on the 27th May. It was considered that there was no legal liability attaching to the Council in this matter, and the question was referred to the Parochial Committee. I made a suggestion at the time that those privies which conformed to the bye laws might be cleansed by the Council as an inducement to owners to do away with soil polluting privy vaults and cesspools, which also are a potential danger to water supplies. I would commend this suggestion for your consideration.

REFUSE DISPOSAL.

There has been no change in the methods of disposal of house refuse in the various parishes of this district since the time of writing my last Report. I would refer you to the remarks I made then and in previous years.

WATER SUPPLY.

The rainfall for 1904 was rather below the average and the local springs did not yield so abundantly as in 1903, an exceptionally wet year. No special shortness of supply, however, came to my knowledge. A list of public springs and wells in the District is being made and I hope at a future date to report on them in detail. During the year more connections were made with the mains of the Stroud Water Company than in either of the two previous years, a total of 1773 or 27·8% of the houses in this District being now supplied from this source. The parishes within the limits of supply of this Company for which as yet their water has not been made available are Bisley, Horsley, Pitchcombe, Woodchester, Randwick, and Whiteshill. With respect to Woodchester, the Rural District Council called on the Company in March, 1903, to supply the parish, and on the 30th November of that year gave the Company six months' notice under Sect. 52 of the Public Health Act, 1875, also including Horsley in the notice. On the 19th August, 1904, the Local Government Board inquired what was being done in the matter of Woodchester, but on the 4th July previously the Water Company wrote that the work would be done at once, tenders having been invited for the necessary pipes. I now understand that the mains will be laid this Spring.

In November considerable trouble was caused by a slip in one of the headings at the Chalford works, and for a time finely divided clay and limestone rendered the water cloudy; the work of clearing this heading is being pushed, but it will, I am informed, take a month longer before it can be finished. Owing to the courtesy of the Secretary, I am able to give a table (B) of the connections with their mains.

The Water Supply of Painswick formed the subject of a Local Government Board Inquiry on the 16th March, on the application of the District Council for a loan of £3,000 for this purpose. It is proposed to pump water from a spring in the Edge valley, below Painswick House, to a covered reservoir on Painswick Hill, from which the town

Table B.

STROUD WATER COMPANY.

NEW CONNECTIONS, 1904.

Civil Parish	Total houses	CONNECTIONS			%
		31st Dec. 1903	New during 1904	31st Dec. 1904	
Bisley	586	0	—	157	19·9
Chalford	789	149	8	—	—
Horsley	272	0	—	—	—
Minchinhampton	937	370	26	396	42·3
Painswick	(697)	*	—	—	—
Cranham	(83)	*	—	—	—
Pitchcombe	55	0	—	—	—
Miserden	(101)	*	—	—	—
Rodborough	851	222	4	226	26·6
Kingstanley	506	133	1	134	26·5
Woodchester	197	0	—	—	—
Stonehouse	517	361	13	374	72·4
Cainscross	583	322	15	337	57·8
Leonard Stanley	193	59	6	65	33·7
Randwick	180	0	—	—	—
Thrupp	339	83	1	84	24·8
Whiteshill	362	0	—	—	—
S. R. D. (Limits of supply)	6367	1699	74	1773	27·8

* Beyond limits of supply.

New Connections 1904— 74
 1903— 48
 1902— 55
 1901— 103
 1900—

} 280

Total 1500 (? including Eastington, &c.)

would be supplied by gravitation. The scheme was approved generally, but formal sanction awaits the decision of the Board with respect to the constitution of the special drainage area.

In my report last year I referred to a group of 39 houses in Stonehouse dependent on water flowing through a roadside ditch for part of its course, as their supply. I again brought this matter before your notice on the 22nd July, 1904, when it was adjourned for a fortnight for the opinion of the Stonehouse Parish Council. In a letter from the Parish Council on the 5th August, they stated that the matter was considered at their June meeting, and was deferred for the convenience of the owner till after the haymaking. In September they appointed a Committee to inquire into the matter, and in October "it was decided to ask Mr. Huntley to forward the £5 he offered to have the matter put right." But, this water cannot be considered a satisfactory supply unless it is carried in a manner such as to prevent contamination in the ways I have described in previous reports. The mains of the water companies are available for the majority of these houses.

Water certificates under Sect. 6, Public Health (Water) Act, 1878, were granted for the four houses at Whiteshill (to which I referred in my Report for 1903), on the 19th August. The owner has repaired and properly steined an old well, the water of which, though not of the highest quality, is the only supply available. The total number of certificates granted during the year was 17; the numbers in the years immediately preceding were 17, 28, and 8. Fifteen samples of water were examined during 1904.

DAIRIES, COWSHEDS, AND MILKSHOPS.

A list of Milksellers has been made as complete as possible, and from this it appears that there are 123 persons supplying milk in the Rural District. Inspections are being made as time and opportunity will allow, and in many cases great care appears to be taken to prevent contamination of this important food which is so very susceptible to its surroundings; but on the whole these places cannot be considered satisfactory. Improvements are, however, gradually being made, and it is to be hoped that in time a higher standard generally will be reached. The most satisfactory dairy I have seen is at Lower Stringer's farm, and I would commend the arrangements of the dairy and the cowshed as an example of what should be aimed at. In addition to the ordinary dairy apparatus, a milk sterilizer is in use at this dairy. While it is possible under ideal conditions to obtain milk direct from the cow which is germ free, under ordinary conditions, this is not practicable: hence the advantage of sterilizing milk, by which any specific organisms such as the germ of consumption, which may have gained access to the milk accidentally, will also be destroyed.

SLAUGHTER HOUSES.

Some improvement in these places has been made during the year, but they cannot yet be considered satisfactory as a whole. I would suggest that application be made to the Local Government Board for Urban powers under Sect. 169 of the Public Health Act, 1875, and that Bye laws for the regulation of slaughter houses should be adopted.

FACTORIES AND WORKSHOPS.

The number of Workshops on the Register is 76, and the number of visits paid by the Inspectors to Factories, Workshops, and Outworkers, 93; the number of insanitary conditions found was 17, 13 of which have been remedied, while four are outstanding.

There are 56 bakehouses in the district, 15 of them being technically underground—one of these is now stated to be used for baking for home use only, and another has been given up. Of the remaining 13, four were satisfactory, eight have had alterations made whereby they may be considered satisfactory, and certificates for their continued use have been granted by the Council; alterations are still being made in the last. In most instances the floors have been made smooth, and the flour bins, etc., placed on wheels to facilitate cleansing.

The Outworkers on the Register are 165.

ANTHRAX.

One case of Anthrax occurred during the year—a pig dying of this disease at Stonehouse, in May. The carcass was cremated according to the new regulations of the Board of Agriculture.

Infectious Diseases.

There was a slight increase in the number of notifications during 1904, due to small outbreaks of Scarlet Fever at Cainscross, Slad, and Cranham; but the number of cases of Diphtheria (10) was the lowest on record, and, for the first time, there was no notification of Typhoid Fever.

Notification of certain diseases has now been in force for 15 years. During this period the prevalence of the different diseases has varied greatly. The years in which most cases occurred were—

Scarlet Fever	1891, 1892, 1900
Diphtheria	- 1892, 1898, 1899, 1900, 1903
Typhoid Fever	1892, 1893, 1895, 1899
Small Pox	- 1893, 1894, 1896

The Parishes with the highest and lowest 'attack rates' during the past 15 years are—(the figures refer to the years of the greatest prevalence of the disease).

Scarlet Fever.	Diphtheria.
Leonard Stanley 1894, 1900... ..	Woodchester 1900, 1901
Pitchcombe ... 1891, 2, 9	Horsley ... 1890, 1903
Whiteshill ... 1891, 9	Pitchcombe 1892 (only cases)
Stonehouse ... 1890-2, 1900-1 ...	Cranham ... 1897
Cainscross ... 1891, 2, 4, 5, 1900, 1	Cainscross 1899
.....
Cranham	Rodborough
Bisley	Chalford
Miserden	Bisley
Horsley	Leonard Stanley*
Chalford	

Typhoid Fever.	Erysipelas.
Cainscross ... 1892, 3, 9	Miserden
King's Stanley 1891, 1892... ..	Thrupp
Miserden ... 1899, 1901 (2 cases only)	Horsley
.....	Painswick
Chalford	Stonehouse
Stonehouse	.....
Bisley	King's Stanley
Horsley ^a	Minchinhampton
Pitchcombe ^a	Woodchester
Leonard Stanley ^a	Chalford
	Whiteshill

a—No Cases.

SCARLET FEVER.

There were 49 notifications of cases of this disease during 1904, the parishes chiefly affected being Cainscross, Rodborough, Slad, and Cranham. As usual the spread of the disease was mainly due to School influence, and the number of cases would have been considerably larger had not a careful search been made for unrecognized cases. In the case of Cranham, the existence of the disease was not known till several cases had occurred in the school, and there were probably several undiscovered cases: under these circumstances I considered it advisable that the school should be closed for a time and be thoroughly disinfected. The Slad school was also closed for two weeks, on the request of the Managers.

DIPHTHERIA.

The number of notifications during 1904 was the smallest on record—10, sporadic cases occurring in seven different parishes.

ERYSIPELAS.

There were 21 cases of this disease, three occurring in each of the following parishes:—Rodborough, Cainscross, and Chalford.

WHOOPIING COUGH.

This disease was prevalent to unknown extent in the Spring of this year, and was the cause of seven deaths—three in Chalford, two in Bisley, and one each in Minchinhampton and Rodborough civil parishes. Owing to the effect of this disease in reducing the attendance at the following schools, they were closed for the periods given—

Bussage	... ..	3 weeks.
Chalford Hill Infants	... ..	4 weeks.
King's Stanley National	... ..	3 weeks.

MEASLES.

There were some isolated cases of this disease in Rodborough and Chalford in the first half of the year, but the disease did not then become epidemic. There appears now to be indications of excessive prevalence of the disease in certain parts of the district after a period of four years of greater or less immunity.

RINGWORM.

In one school there was an outbreak of this disease affecting 37% of the children. On my suggestion the Education Committee empowered the managers to have the children systematically examined by a doctor in the neighbourhood, until this work was undertaken by a Special Committee appointed to carry out the general scheme of medical inspection of school children. After persisting for many months, the disease still exists in the school, so intractable a complaint is ringworm to deal with. Steady and persevering treatment of the children by the parents and guardians is absolutely necessary to supplement any action of the School Authority in attempting to control the spread of ringworm.

Isolation Hospital.

The Joint Isolation Hospital was opened in December, and the first patient admitted on the 29th of that month. Mr. G. P. Milnes, Assoc. M. Inst. C.E., who designed the Hospital, has kindly contributed the following account of the building.

STROUD JOINT HOSPITAL.

The Hospital consists of seven distinct buildings.

The Porter's Lodge near the entrance with Waiting Room, Living Room, Scullery, Pantry, Larder, Coals, W.C., and two bedrooms.

Administrative Block with Matron's Room, Office, Nurses' Sitting Room, Dining Room, Medical Officer's Room, Surgery, Lavatory, Kitchen, Scullery, Servants' W.C., and Coals, with enclosed Yard, six Bedrooms, Bath Room, Housemaid's Cupboard, Store Room, and W.C. on first floor; six Bedrooms, Store Room, and Tank Room on second floor.

Three Ward Blocks—two of twelve beds and one of sixteen beds; each block being divided into two wards, and having W.C., Slop Sink, and Lavatory basin to each ward, with Nurses' Room, Bath Room, and Store Room between each ward.

Isolation Block consisting of two wards with two beds in each, and Nurses' Room between; also Slop Sink and two W.C.'s, with a verandah running the whole length of building.

The whole of the above, with the exception of Porter's Lodge, are heated by Low Pressure Hot Water Apparatus; the boiler being placed in Basement under the Administrative Block, and pipes carried to Radiators in each block, provision being made for heating air supplied to each block by passing it through the Radiators.

The Outbuildings block consists of Wash-house, Laundry, Mortuary, Ambulance House, Disinfecting House, and Coal House. The Laundry is fitted up with Messrs. Thos. Bradford & Co.'s Drying Closet, as well as their Washing and Laundry Machinery. The Disinfector is Messrs. Goddard, Massey & Warner's Steam Disinfector.

The whole of the buildings are connected by inter-communicating Telephones, and the Administrative Block is connected with the National Telephone Co.'s system.

The total area of land is about four acres, and the site is enclosed by a fence 6 ft., 6 in. high.

Vital Statistics.

The population of the district, estimated on the rate of change during the decennium 1891-1901 to the middle of 1904, was 27,565, but the correctness of these estimates as we advance further from the census becomes more and more doubtful. A useful check on the estimate could be made if an *accurate* statement of the numbers of *inhabited* houses each year could be obtained from the rate collectors; but I believe there is some difficulty in getting these numbers accurately owing to the system of compounding rates in some parishes. The estimates for the parishes will be found in the accompanying Table C and Table II. (Local Government Board).

On the chart accompanying this report are given curves comparing the birth and death rates in this district with those for England and Wales and the contained urban district; Table C gives the rates for the constituent civil parishes, 1904 and averages.

BIRTHS.

The number of births during 1904 was 541, 294 males and 247 females, a rate per 1,000 of the population of 19·6—the lowest on record. It is 2·8 below the average (22·4) for the previous ten years, and slightly lower than the rate for 1904 in the Urban District. Illegitimate births were 18 in number, 3·3% of total births: the percentages in the two previous years were 2·9 and 2·2 respectively, and in England and Wales (1891-1900) 4·2%.

DEATHS.

320 deaths were registered during 1904, including 6 of visitors being treated for consumption in the Painswick Registration District; there were 12 deaths in the Stroud Union Workhouse, 7 in the Stroud General Hospital, and 9 in the County Asylum of persons belonging to this District. The nett number of deaths is thus 342, a rate per 1,000 of the population of 12·4—the lowest on record, and 1·7 below the average (14·1) of the previous ten years. Correcting for the sex and age distribution of the population the rate becomes 11·5, while that for the Urban District similarly corrected is 11·2, and for England and Wales 16·2. This is the first time since 1897 that the rural death rate has exceeded the urban. The parochial rates will be found in Table C, and the numbers in Table II. (Local Government Board).

DEATHS UNDER ONE.

45 children died under the age of one year, a death rate per 1,000 births of 83, which is slightly below the average of the previous ten years (92). The chief causes of death were: developmental (13), bronchitis (8), pneumonia (4), enteritis (4), and whooping cough (3).

Of the above 45, 3 were illegitimate children: the infantile mortality for this group (illegitimate deaths per 1,000 illegitimate births) was 167—in 1903 and 1902 respectively this rate was 118 and 250.

CONSUMPTION.

The deaths from tubercular diseases were 34 in number, a rate per 1,000 of 1·23; the average annual rate for the ten years, 1891-1901, was 1·02.

Table C.

BIRTH RATE, DEATH RATE AND INFANTILE MORTALITY.

1904 AND AVERAGE (1895—1903) DEATH RATE.

1900—1903 { BIRTH RATE.
INFANTILE MORTALITY.

PARISH	Estimated Population, 1904.	BIRTH RATE			DEATH RATE			INFANTILE MORTALITY		
		1904	Rate		1904	Rate		1904	Rate	
		Births	1904	Av'age.	Deaths	1904	Av'age.	Deaths	1904	Av'age.
Bisley	1999	33	16·5	20·9	28	14·0	12·3	2	61	68
Chalford	2934	58	19·8	20·3	45	15·3	13·6	7	121	74
Horsley	1015	22	21·7	29·3	13	12·8	14·2	2	91	48
Minchinhampton ...	3674	98	26·7	18·3	49	13·3	13·3	8	82	84
Painswick	2533	52	20·5	18·3	35	13·8	16·1	5	96	63
Cranham	325	3	9·2	17·8	3	9·2	13·8	0	—	138
Pitchcombe	219	3	13·7	13·0	1	4·6	14·8	0	—	167
Miserden	364	9	24·7	21·2	5	13·7	10·7	1	111	62·5
Rodborough	3516	72	20·5	23·6	40	11·4	11·8	7	97	100
King's Stanley	1801	30	16·7	18·7	23	12·8	13·9	1	33	43
Woodchester	804	12	14·9	20·5	9	11·2	13·3	1	83	106
Stonehouse	2248	30	13·3	18·2	25	11·1	13·5	4	133	85
Cainscross	2170	42	19·4	21·3	28	12·9	13·9	2	48	83
Leonard Stanley ...	649	13	20·0	23·2	4	6·2	14·5	2	154	50
Randwick	756	9	11·9	19·5	10	13·2	13·0	2	222	153
Thrupp	1261	25	19·8	17·0*	6	4·8	10·8	0	—	45*
Whiteshill	1297	30	23·1	22·6*	18	13·9	12·0	1	33	143*
Stroud Rural District	27565	541	19·6	22·1	342	12·4	14·2	45	83	92

* 1901-3 only.

Something might be done to reduce the death rate from this disease by disinfection of the houses where a death has occurred, as is done at the termination of cases of notifiable disease. This is already undertaken in the contained urban district in accordance with the following resolution unanimously passed on the 21st January, 1903: "The Committee recommended the Council to have all premises disinfected where fatal cases of consumption had occurred within the District."

I would suggest that this should be also done in this District.

UNCERTIFIED DEATHS.

The number of deaths which were not certified by a medical certificate was 46, 13·5% of total deaths—the highest percentage since 1889.

Inquests were held in 36 cases (21 males and 15 females), 10·5% of total deaths—the highest on record. The juries returned verdicts of natural causes in 18 cases, accidental death in 14, suicide in 4.

Natural Causes.

- 1 f 40 Cerebral hæmorrhage.
- 2 m 43 Found dead in his cottage, no signs of injury, natural causes, probably heart failure.
- 3 m 66 Died suddenly, natural causes, probably heart disease.
- 4 m 65 Natural causes, heart disease.
- 5 m 72 Heart failure, fatty degeneration of heart, acute dilatation, natural causes.
- 6 m 4 mo. Died from natural causes, probably convulsions.
- 7 f 59 Died very suddenly from natural causes, probably fatty degeneration of heart.
- 8 f 30 Natural causes, probably sudden syncope.
- 9 f 11 mo. Natural causes, teething, convulsions.
- 10 m 77 Found dead in bed, alone in house, natural causes, probably heart failure.
- 11 m 45 Found dead, probably heart failure and chronic asthma.
- 12 f 66 Suddenly from natural causes.
- 13 f 62 Found dead, having died from heart failure.
- 14 f 11 Inanition probably resulting from her diseased condition, weakly from birth.
- 15 f 54 Found dead in house alone, no marks of injury, natural causes, history of heart weakness, Bright's disease and dropsy.
- 16 f 5 days. Died suddenly from natural causes, probably convulsions.
- 17 f 67 Cerebral hæmorrhage, natural causes.
- 18 m 63 Fell down and died very suddenly from natural causes, probably heart failure.

Accidents.

- 1 m 82 Old age, accelerated by shock from accidental fall, knocked down by led horse.
- 2 m 16 Accidentally knocked down and run over by a cart, and died from injuries received.
- 3 m 60 Accidentally knocked down by an up express, and killed on Great Western Railway.

- 4 f 45 Severely injured by burns, clothes accidentally caught fire from grate in bedroom, died from result of injuries.
- 5 m 30 Found drowned in Thames and Severn Canal, having probably accidentally fallen into water.
- 6 m 78 Internal injuries sustained by accidental fall from hay wagon.
- 7 m 15 Accidentally drowned, fell into canal while climbing down to lock gate.
- 8 m 34 Found drowned, having probably accidentally walked into the canal, no marks of injury.
- 9 f 14 Accidentally drowned in Stroud Water Canal whilst playing with the swing bridge.
- 10 m 55 Found dead in Stroud Water Canal, having probably accidentally fallen into the canal.
- 11 f 80 Accidentally fell down cellar steps and injured the back of her head, and died from her injuries same day.
- 12 m 27 Found dead, gunshot wound in right breast.
- 13 f 62 Syncope, shock to system, accidental injuries from burning, flannellette clothes taking fire from grate, paralysed for some years.
- 14 m 8 Accidentally fell into canal and drowned.

Suicides.

- 1 m 63 Found drowned, having committed suicide by drowning whilst of unsound mind.
- 2 m 48 Committed suicide by hanging himself with a cord from ceiling in cane stores, whilst of unsound mind.
- 3 f 32 Committed suicide by cutting her throat with a table knife.
- 4 m 44 Found dead in his W.C., having hanged himself whilst temporarily insane.

Summarising :—

Natural Causes	...	18	Accidents	...	14	Suicides	...	4
Cerebral hæmorrhage	2		Falls	...	3	Drowning	...	1
Heart failure	..	10	Run over by cart	1		Hanging	...	2
Convulsions	...	3	Run over by train	1		Cutting throat	1	
Syncope	...	1	Burning	...	2			
Inanition	...	1	Drowning	...	6			
Not stated	...	1	Gunshot wound	1				

No Inquests.

On the remaining 10 (5 males and 5 females) no inquests were held. The percentage of total deaths is 3·0, which is above the average of the last 10 years. It is gratifying to note that the number of deaths in this group is considerably smaller than in the earlier years of which I have records, when the percentage of uncertified deaths was as high as 7·5 and 8·3 in two years.

The ascribed causes of death in 1904 were :—

- 1 f 6 mo. Convulsions.
- 2 m 88 Cerebral softening, senile decay.
- 3 m 66 Chronic asthma.
- 4 f 23 Heart failure.
- 5 f 6 days. Convulsions, weakly from birth.
- 6 m 7 mo. Convulsions.
- 7 m 1 $\frac{3}{4}$ Convulsions.
- 8 m 79 Old age, natural causes.
- 9 f 82 Chronic bronchitis, heart failure.
- 10 f 70 Paralysis.

RAINFALL.

“Over the British Isles generally the deficiency of rainfall in 1904 does not seem to have exceeded 8 per cent.”—(Dr. Mill, 62 Camden Square, N.W.) At all the observing stations in this district there was also a deficiency of rainfall in varying degrees. The highest reading was obtained by C. J. Bowstead, Esq., at Hyde Grange, near Chalford, and the lowest at Wycliffe College (G. W. Sibly, Esq.) : these two stations have also the highest and lowest averages respectively. I have much pleasure in again thanking the gentlemen who have so kindly sent me their rainfall records, viz. :—

SIR WILLIAM MARLING, BART.

REV. C. MARRIOTT.

E. ARMITAGE, ESQ.

G. W. SIBLY, ESQ.

C. J. BOWSTEAD, ESQ.

W. J. STANTON, ESQ.

F. K. ETLINGER, ESQ.

I append the usual tables of statistics required by the Local Government Board.

- 1.—Birth and death rate for the whole district.
- 2.—Births and deaths in the Civil Parishes.
- 3.—Distribution of notifications of infectious disease according to age and parish.
- 4.—Causes of death at various ages in the whole district and constituent parishes.

I remain, Gentlemen,

Your obedient Servant,

J. MIDDLETON MARTIN, B.A., M.D., B.C., D.P.H., etc.,
Medical Officer of Health.

Rainfall, 1904.

1904	Park Farm, Lypiatt.	Cherington Rectory.	Hyde Grange, Chalford.	Stratford Lodge, Stroud.	Stanley Park.	Wycliffe College, Stonehouse.	Cotswold Sanatorium, Cranham.
	690 ft.	520 ft.	528 ft.	140 ft.	365 ft.	124 ft.	820 ft.
January ...	3'98	3'46	4'49	3'85	4'22	3'25	3'78
February ...	5'07	4'36	5'37	4'50	5'30	4'93	4'85
March ...	1'36	1'11	1'37	1'47	1'37	1'49	1'60
April ...	1'50	1'39	1'54	1'10	1'36	1'41	1'05
May ...	2'23	2'35	2'68	1'88	2'12	2'11	2'57
June ...	1'07	1'34	1'45	1'20	1'25	1'24	1'23
July ...	3'25	3'37	3'81	3'31	3'89	3'43	2'96
August ...	2'13	2'75	2'30	2'61	2'65	2'33	2'70
September	1'94	2'95	3'18	2'26	2'66	1'68	2'79
October ...	1'21	'58	'63	0'62	'48	1'07	1'22
November	1'59	1'53	1'67	1'54	1'68	1'52	1'77
December	2'22	1'95	2'17	2'19	2'19	1'92	2'44
1904 ...	27'55	27'14	30'66	26'53	29'17	26'38	28'96
Average ...	1899-1903 32'15	1896-1903 28'74	1896-1903 32'23	about 27'00	1889-1903 29'76	1890-1903 26'98	
No. of Wet Days.	—	206	—	133	158	180	162

STROUD RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL.

DISTRICT No. 1.

Sanitary Inspector's Report

Of the Sanitary Work completed in the year ending December
31st, 1904.

PREVENTION OF INFECTIOUS DISEASE UNDER DIRECTION OF MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH.

No. of cases enquired into	...	...	...	...	...	41
„ Visits and re-visits	...	...	...	...	...	123
„ Houses disinfected and cleansed	...	...	...	...	...	35
„ School buildings disinfected	...	...	...	...	...	2

HOUSES.

No. erected	...	...	...	...	...	8
„ made fit for habitation	...	...	...	...	...	1

OVERCROWDING OF DWELLING-HOUSES.

No. of Cases reported and abated	2
----------------------------------	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	---

HOUSE DRAINS.

No. of Plans submitted and approved	...	...	...	...	...	32
„ Connections to Sewers	...	...	...	...	...	33
„ Cleansed, trapped, and ventilated	...	...	...	...	...	18
„ of Insanitary Lavatories, Sinks, and Urinals rectified	...	...	...	...	...	14
„ Defective waste pipes rectified	...	...	...	...	...	5

PRIVIES AND ASHPITS.

No. of privies and ashpits cleansed	...	...	...	...	...	33
„ „ repaired	...	...	...	...	...	3
„ „ converted to W.C's	...	...	...	...	...	41
„ „ Pail closets provided	...	...	...	...	...	4

WATER CLOSETS.

No. repaired and supplied with flush Cisterns	10
---	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	----

OFFENSIVE TRADES.

Carcase of animal in putrid state	...	...	...	...	...	2
Defective gas mains	...	...	...	...	...	2

WATER SUPPLY.

No. of Wells cleansed and repaired	5
,, New Wells	1
,, Samples taken for analysis	6
,, Certificates granted	5
,, Public Springs rectified	2

SLAUGHTER HOUSES.

No. regularly inspected	7
,, Cleansed and repaired	2

BAKEHOUSES.

No. inspected	12
,, Cleansed, ventilated, etc.	5

DAIRIES, COWSHEDS, AND MILKSHOPS.

No. inspected	13
,, of Contraventions of Act or Orders	7

ACCUMULATION OF OFFENSIVE REFUSE.

No. of Removals	21
------------------------	----

ANIMALS KEPT SO AS TO BE A NUISANCE.

No. of Cases of removal of nuisance	15
--	----

PETROLEUM ACT.

No. of Premises inspected	7
,, Licenses granted	7

FACTORIES AND WORKSHOPS.

No. of Inspections	24
,, Insanitary Conditions dealt with	7

CANAL BOATS.

No. of Visits to Canal	43
,, Boats inspected	16
,, Contraventions of Acts and Regulations	1

CLERICAL WORK.

No. of Official Letters, &c.	272
,, Notices served	148
,, ,, outstanding	2

Signed,

ALBERT BAILEY,

Sanitary Inspector.

January, 1905.

RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL OF STROUD.

Inspector's Report

Of the Sanitary Work completed in the year ending December
31st, 1904.

PREVENTION OF INFECTIOUS DISEASE UNDER DIRECTION OF MEDICAL
OFFICER OF HEALTH.

No. of Cases inquired into	...	...	...	...	...	...	37
,, Houses disinfected and cleansed	...	...	...	...	...	...	28
,, Cases of Exposure	...	...	...	...	...	...	0

HOUSES.

No. of Houses erected	...	...	...	...	...	...	14
,, ,, made fit for habitation	...	..	...	...	...	...	6
,, ,, Certified unfit for habitation...	...	...	...	...	...	...	2
,, ,, Cleansed and limewashed	...	...	...	...	...	...	16

OVERCROWDING.

No. of Cases abated	9
---------------------	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	---

HOUSE DRAINS.

No. Laid or relaid	...	...	...	...	...	...	111
,, Cleansed, trapped, or ventilated	...	...	...	...	...	...	48
,, Defective waste pipes rectified	...	...	...	...	...	...	10
,, Insanitary Lavatories, Sink, and Urinals rectified	...	...	...	...	...	...	15

WATER CLOSETS.

No. of Water Closets reconstructed	...	...	...	...	...	...	13
,, ,, ,, supplied with Flush Cisterns	...	...	...	...	...	...	10

PRIVIES AND ASHPITS.

No. of Privy Vaults cleared out	...	...	...	...	...	...	33
,, Ashpits cleared out	...	...	...	...	...	...	18

OFFENSIVE TRADES.

Improperly conducted	1
----------------------	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	---

WATER SUPPLY.

No. of Investigations <i>re</i> Public Water Supplies	...	...	...	...	...	...	5
,, Wells closed	...	...	...	...	...	...	1
,, Wells cleansed and repaired	...	...	...	...	...	...	2
,, Houses supplied from Waterworks during year	...	...	...	...	...	...	65
,, Samples of water sent for analysis	...	...	...	...	...	...	10

SLAUGHTER HOUSES.

No. regularly inspected	...	...	...	...	...	20
„ Cleansed and repaired	...	...	...	...	...	7

FACTORIES AND WORKSHOPS.

No. under inspection	...	...	...	...	...	50
„ Certified for limewashing	...	...	...	...	...	6
„ Insanitary conditions dealt with as nuisances	...	...	...	...	...	10

BAKEHOUSES.

No. of Bakehouses regularly inspected	...	...	...	...	...	28
„ „ Whitewashed and improved	...	...	...	...	...	7

SCHOOL CONVENIENCE.

No. of Inspections School Conveniences, limewashed	7
--	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	---

DAIRIES AND COWSHEDS.

No. of persons engaged in Milk trade and under supervision	...	...	...	...	...	33
„ Contraventions of Acts, Orders, or Bye Laws	...	...	...	...	...	9

DISEASED COW.

No. of, diseased cow destroyed	1
--------------------------------	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	---

CARCASE.

No. of Investigation respecting disposal of cow carcase, unwholesome	1
--	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	---

CANAL BOATS.

No. of Boats inspected	...	...	...	...	...	23
„ „ found registered	...	...	...	...	...	21
„ Contraventions dealt with	...	...	...	...	...	2
„ Certificates of compliance	...	...	...	...	...	2

ANTHRAX.

Investigation of case and burning of carcase	1
--	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	---

ANIMALS KEPT SO AS TO BE A NUISANCE.

No. of Cases of removal on Notice	16
-----------------------------------	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	----

ACCUMULATIONS OF OFFENSIVE REFUSE.

No. of Removals on Notice	17
---------------------------	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	----

PETROLEUM LICENSES.

No. of Inspections made to premises	...	...	...	...	...	12
„ Licenses granted	...	...	...	...	...	6

LEGAL PROCEEDINGS.—None.

CLERICAL WORK.

No. of Official Letters written	...	...	...	...	...	267
„ Notices served	...	...	...	...	...	146
„ „ complied with	...	...	...	...	...	143
„ „ outstanding	...	...	...	...	...	3

Signed,

JOHN HALL,

Sanitary Inspector.

January, 1905.

Table 1.

VITAL STATISTICS OF WHOLE DISTRICT DURING 1904 AND PREVIOUS YEARS.

YEAR.	Popula- tion estimated to Middle of each year.	BIRTHS.		TOTAL DEATHS REGISTERED IN THE DISTRICT.				Total Deaths in Public Institutions in the District.	Deaths of Non-Residents Registered in Public Institu- tions in the District.	Deaths of Residents Regis- tered in Public Institutions beyond the District.	NETT DEATHS AT ALL AGES BELONGING TO THE DISTRICT.	
		Number.	Rate.*	Under 1 Year of Age.		At all Ages.					Number.	Rate.*
				Number.	Rate per 1000 Births Regis- tered.	Number.	Rate.*					
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13
1894	26,105	638	24'4	58	91	326	12'5			42	368	14'1
1895†	28,204	673	23'9	75	111	394	14'0			53	447	15'9
1896	28,133	683	24'3	73	107	353	12'6			35	388	13'8
1897	28,055	661	23'6	74	112	408	14'5			36	444	15'8
1898	27,989	642	22'9	47	73	325	11'6			27	352	12'6
1899	27,910	631	22'6	63	100	407	14'6			43	450	16'1
1900	27,840	556	20'0	46	83	356	12'8	4	4	42	394	14'2
1901	27,769	572	20'6	41	72	315	11'3	3	3	50	362	13'0
1902	27,702	553	20'0	50	90	330	11'9	6	6	45	369	13'3
1903	27,630	590	21'4	43	73	318	11'5	9	9	36	345	12'5
Averages for years 1894-1903	27,734	620	22'4	57	92	353	12'7	5'5	5'5	41	392	14'1
1904	27,565	541	19'6	45	83	320	11'6	6	6	28	342	12'4

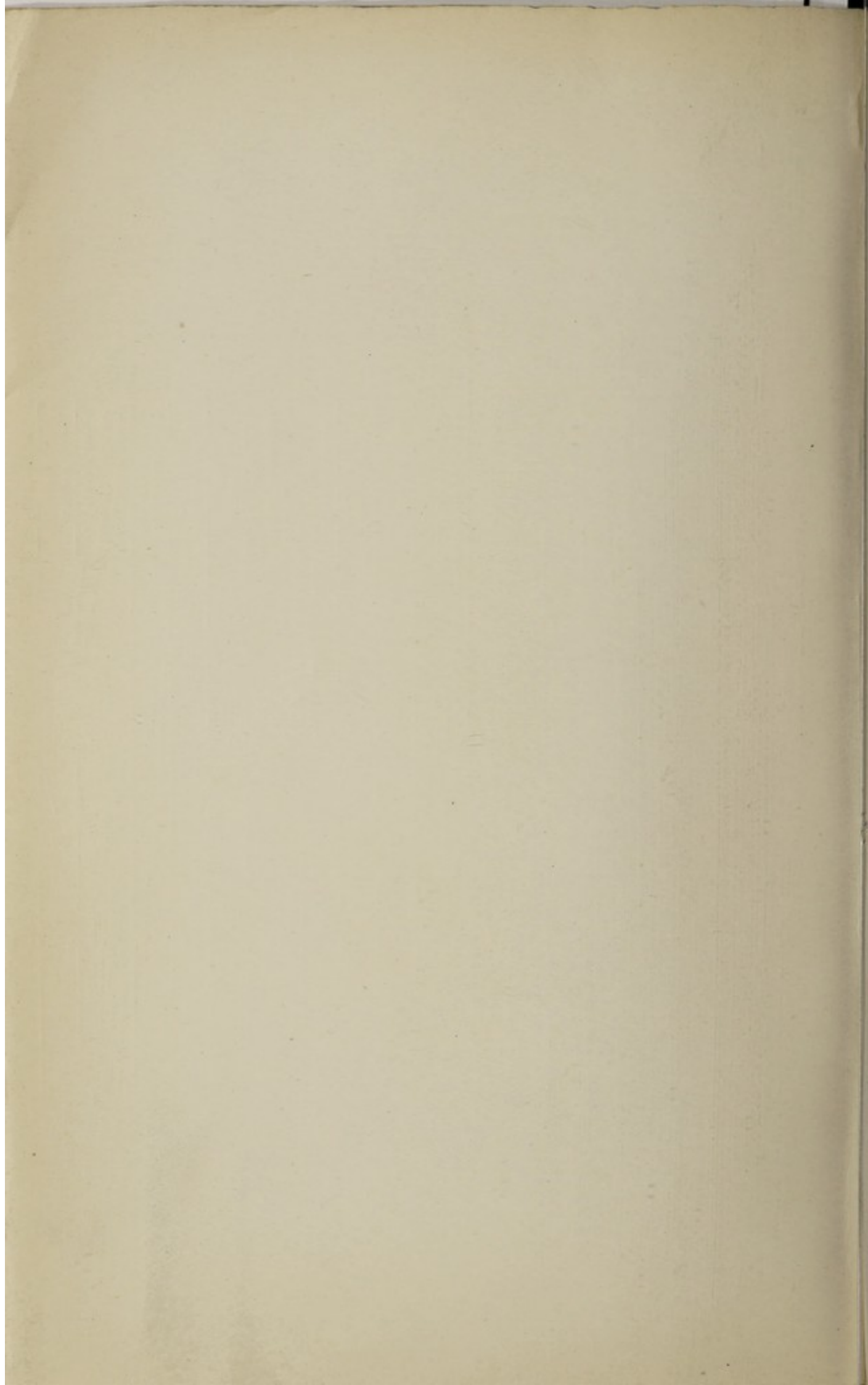
* Rates in Columns 4, 8 and 13 calculated per 1,000 of estimated population.

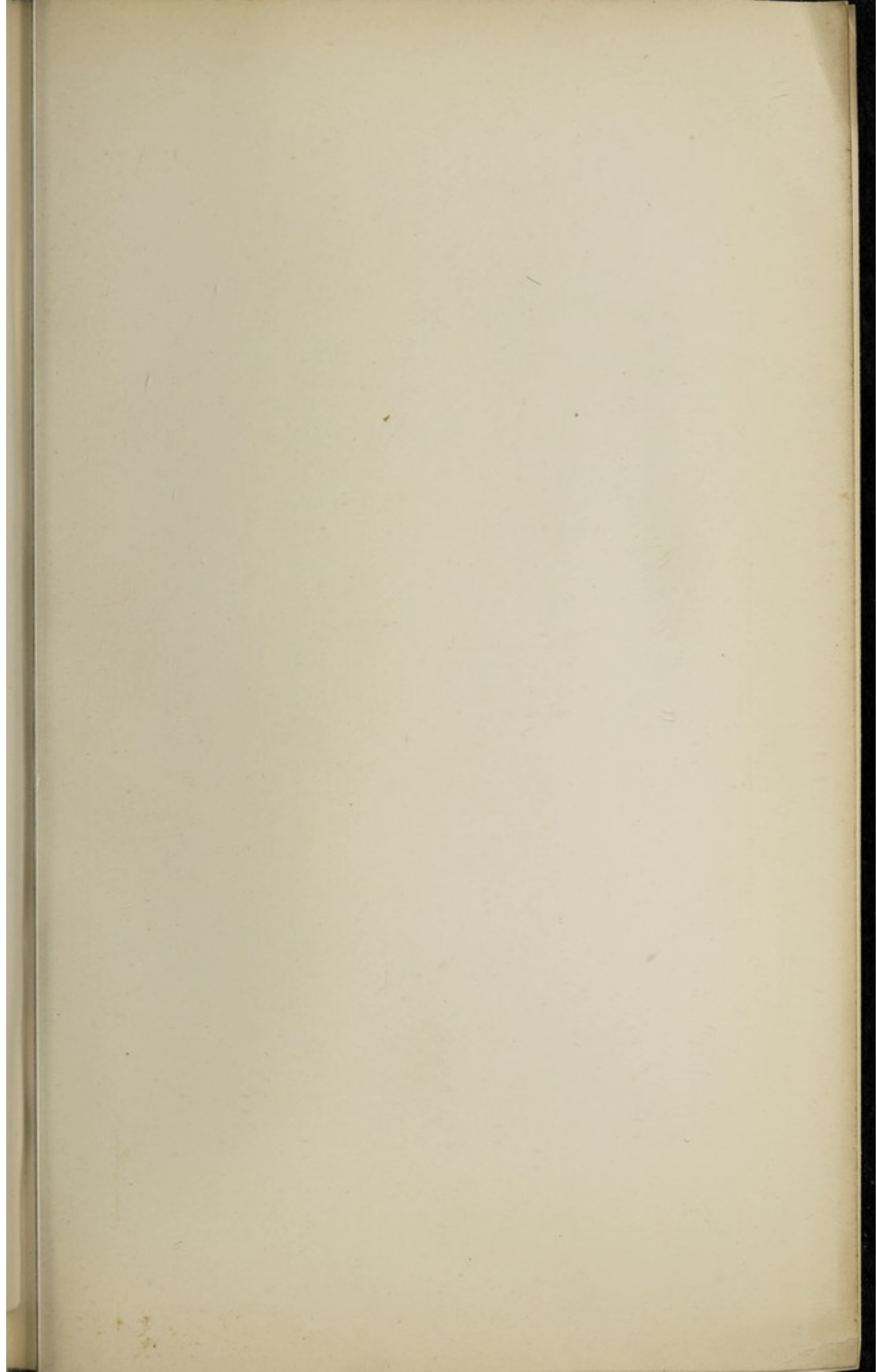
† (Nailsworth C.P. separated from Stroud R.D.C. and made an Urban District.
 (Bisley U.D. merged into Stroud R.D.C.

Area of District in acres (exclusive of area covered by water).	} 37,047	Total population at all ages ... 27,793 Number of inhabited houses ... 6,635 Average number of persons per house 4'19	} At Census of 1901.
Institutions within the District receiving sick and infirm persons from outside the District.	{	Cotswold Sanatorium, Cranham. Painswick Sanatorium, Convalescent Home (Alexandra Hospital for children with Hip Disease).	
Institutions outside the District receiving sick and infirm persons from the District.	{	Stroud Union Workhouse. Stroud General Hospital. Gloucester County Asylum.	
Is the Union Workhouse within the District?		No.	

Table II.
VITAL STATISTICS OF SEPARATE LOCALITIES IN 1904 AND PREVIOUS YEARS.

Year.	Whole District.			Bishop.			Chalfont.			Horsley.			Mishkington.			Painwick.			Orthon.			Pitchoard.			Marden.			Rudborough.			King's Stanley.			Wanchester.			Stanhurst.			Calceston.			Leamard Stanley.			Randwick.			Thorp.			Walterhill.		
	Population each year.	Births.	Deaths.	Population each year.	Births.	Deaths.	Population each year.	Births.	Deaths.	Population each year.	Births.	Deaths.	Population each year.	Births.	Deaths.	Population each year.	Births.	Deaths.	Population each year.	Births.	Deaths.	Population each year.	Births.	Deaths.	Population each year.	Births.	Deaths.	Population each year.	Births.	Deaths.	Population each year.	Births.	Deaths.	Population each year.	Births.	Deaths.	Population each year.	Births.	Deaths.	Population each year.	Births.	Deaths.												
1894	48,204	723	447	73	1,098	11	2,751	47	8	2,083	53	13	374	6	1	120	1	1	374	0	0	3135	39	9	1904	24	5	647	7	1	1070	21	5	1131	20	1	7-6	15	1	779	10	1												
1895	48,133	683	398	73	1,125	11	2,741	61	6	2,066	36	4	374	3	0	116	3	0	374	5	0	3177	35	11	1910	17	7	843	10	1	1070	20	6	1134	15	6	777	11	3	775	13	0												
1896	48,055	664	444	74	1,154	11	2,729	69	11	2,052	41	8	374	3	0	117	2	0	374	4	0	3193	37	5	1826	14	8	832	14	0	1108	41	8	1126	15	6	768	9	3	773	9	1												
1897	47,978	645	351	67	1,183	11	2,717	76	16	2,038	36	6	374	3	0	118	1	0	374	4	1	3216	24	5	1884	14	8	852	14	0	1108	24	3	1138	15	0	769	5	1	770	9	0												
1898	47,901	627	430	63	1,212	11	2,705	83	26	2,020	31	10	374	3	0	119	0	0	374	4	1	3234	21	6	1908	11	7	867	15	1	1108	23	2	1150	19	7	761	11	3	767	11	3	767	11	3									
1899	47,824	609	394	60	1,241	11	2,693	91	34	2,002	26	11	374	3	0	120	0	0	374	4	2	3252	17	6	1924	11	8	884	14	0	1108	24	0	1162	20	11	764	14	11	764	14	11												
1900	47,747	591	354	60	1,270	11	2,681	99	42	1,984	21	11	374	3	0	121	0	0	374	4	3	3270	13	6	1940	11	8	901	14	0	1108	24	0	1176	20	11	764	14	11	764	14	11												
1901	47,670	573	314	61	1,299	11	2,669	107	50	1,966	16	11	374	3	0	122	0	0	374	4	4	3288	13	4	1956	11	8	918	14	0	1108	24	0	1192	20	11	764	14	11	764	14	11												
1902	47,593	555	274	61	1,328	11	2,657	115	58	1,948	11	11	374	3	0	123	0	0	374	4	5	3306	13	4	1972	11	8	935	14	0	1108	24	0	1208	20	11	764	14	11	764	14	11												
1903	47,516	537	234	61	1,357	11	2,645	123	66	1,930	6	11	374	3	0	124	0	0	374	4	6	3324	13	4	1988	11	8	952	14	0	1108	24	0	1224	20	11	764	14	11	764	14	11												
1904	47,439	519	194	61	1,386	11	2,633	131	74	1,912	0	11	374	3	0	125	0	0	374	4	7	3342	13	4	2004	11	8	969	14	0	1108	24	0	1240	20	11	764	14	11	764	14	11												
Averages of Years 1894 to 1903.	47,614	619	338	62	1,211	11	2,684	64	41	1,996	31	13	374	3	0	120	0	0	374	4	3	3184	23	10	1910	14	7	858	14	1	1108	24	0	1136	19	7	764	14	11	764	14	11												
1904	47,362	501	154	61	1,415	11	2,621	139	82	1,894	0	11	374	3	0	126	0	0	374	4	8	3360	13	4	2020	11	8	986	14	0	1108	24	0	1256	20	11	764	14	11	764	14	11												





CASES OF INFECTIOUS DISEASE

NOTIFIABLE DISEASE.	CASES NOTIFIED IN WHOLE DISTRICT.							1 Bisley.	2 Chalford.
	At all Ages.	At Ages—Years.							
		Under 1	1 to 5	5 to 15	15 to 25	25 to 65	65 and up- wards		
Small-pox									
Cholera									
Diphtheria	m 6 } f 4 } 10		3 } 0 } 3	2 } 3 } 5	0 } 1 } 1	1 } 0 } 1		1 } 1 } 2	1 } 1 } 2
Membranous croup									
Erysipelas	m 7 } f 14 } 21	0 } 1 } 1	0 } 1 } 1	1 } 0 } 1	0 } 1 } 1	5 } 8 } 13	1 } 3 } 4	1 } 1 } 2	2 } 1 } 3
Scarlet Fever	m 21 } f 28 } 49	0 } 2 } 2	5 } 5 } 10	14 } 18 } 32	2 } 1 } 3	0 } 2 } 2		2 } 4 } 6	2 } 1 } 3
Typhus Fever									
Enteric Fever									
Relapsing Fever									
Continued Fever									
Puerperal Fever	m 0 } f 1 } 1					0 } 1 } 1			
Plague									
Totals	m 34 } f 47 } 81	0 } 3 } 3	8 } 6 } 14	17 } 21 } 38	2 } 3 } 5	6 } 11 } 17	1 } 3 } 4	4 } 6 } 10	5 } 3 } 8

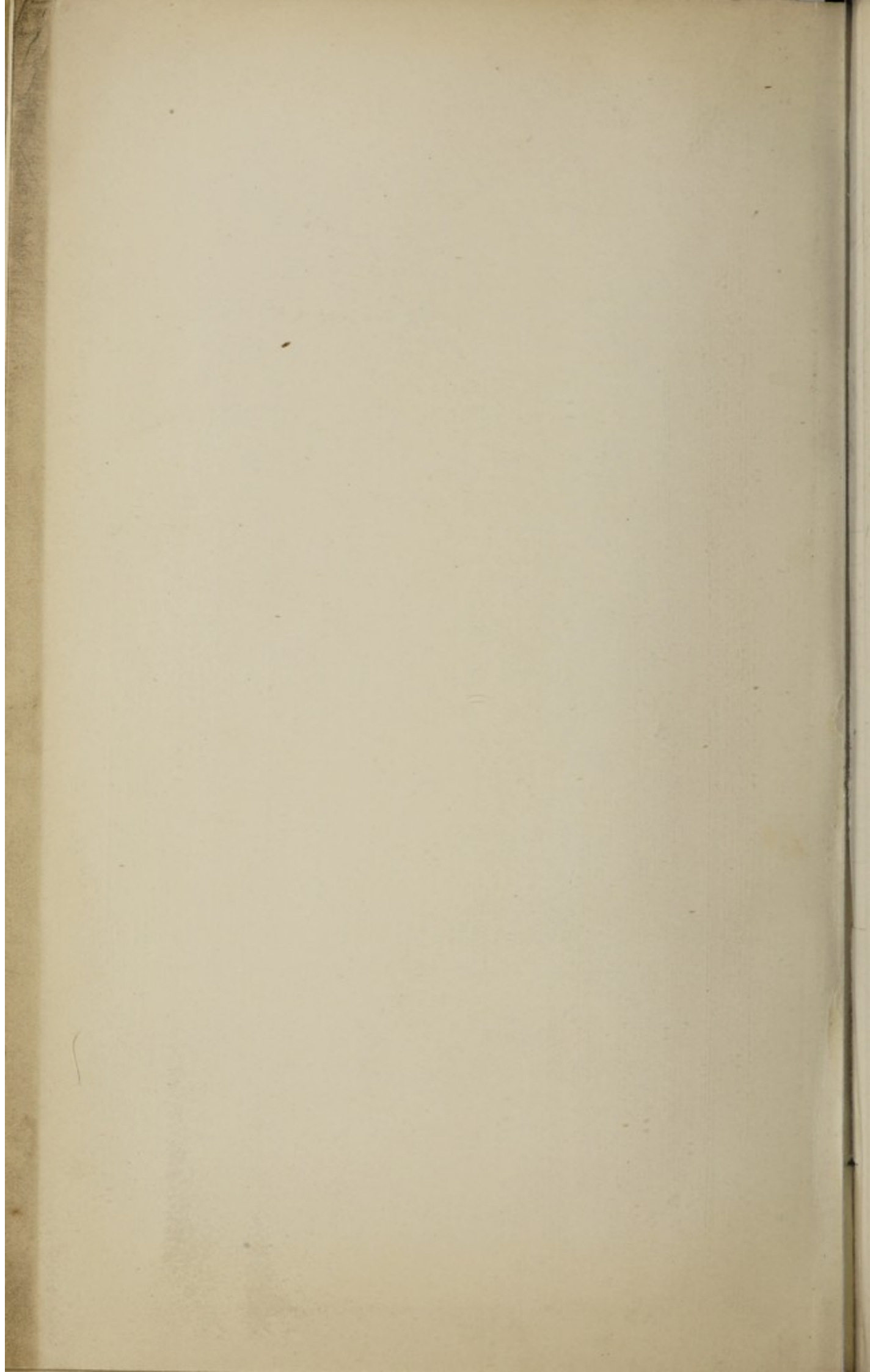
H.—Stroud Joint

III.

NOTIFIED DURING THE YEAR 1904.

TOTAL CASES NOTIFIED IN EACH LOCALITY.													
4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17
Minchin- hampton.	Painswick	Cranham.	Pitchcombe.	Miserden.	Rodborough	King's Stanley.	Wood- chester.	Stonehouse.	Cainscross.	Leonard Stanley.	Randwick.	Thrupp.	White-hill.
									H.				
	1 } 0 } 1						1 } 0 } 1	1 } 1 } 2					0 } 1 } 1
1 } 2 } 3	0 } 1 } 1 1 } 1 } 2	1 } 5 } 6		0 } 2 } 2	1 } 2 } 3 3 } 4 } 7		0 } 1 } 1 1 } 0 } 1	1 } 2 } 3 0 } 1 } 1	2 } 1 } 3 8 } 6 } 14			0 } 2 } 2 1 } 1 } 2	1 } 3 } 4
							0 } 1 } 1						
1 } 2 } 3	2 } 2 } 4	1 } 5 } 6		0 } 2 } 2	4 } 6 } 10		2 } 2 } 4	2 } 4 } 6	10 } 7 } 17			1 } 3 } 4	1 } 4 } 5

al (Cainscross).



SCHEDULE *B.

Stroud Rural District Council.

Table of Deaths—Year 1904.

CAUSES OF DEATH.	ALL AGES	Under 1	1-5	5-15	15-25	25-65	65 & Upwards.	Bisley	Chalfont	Horsley	Mitchampton	Palwick	Quarham	Pitchcombe	Miscoten	Redborough	King's Stanley	Woodchester	Stonehouse	Cainscross	Leppard Stanley	Randwick	Thrupp	Whiteshill	In Public Institutions	
Small-Pox ...																										
Measles ...																										
Scarlet Fever ...																										
Typhus Fever ...																										
Epidemic Influenza ...	m 1 f 1	2	1				1								1									1		
Whooping-cough ...	m 4 f 3	7	3	2	4			1	2	1	3	1				1										
Diphtheria, Membranous Croup ...	m 1 f 1	1		1				1																		
Croup ...																										
Enteric Fever ...																										
Asiatic Cholera ...																										
Diarrhea, Dysentery ...																										
Epidemic or Zymotic Enteritis ...																										
Enteritis ...	m 2 f 3	5	2	4			1				2	1								1			1			
Erysipelas ...	m 1 f 1	1	1															1								
Puerperal Fever ...	m 1 f 1	1					1											1								
Intermittent Fever and Malarial Cachexia ...																		1								
Tuberculosis of Meninges ...	m 1 f 1	1	1																							
Tuberculosis of Lungs ...	m 19 f 13	32	2	3		4	7	3	20	2	2	1	2	4	1	5	2	1	2	3	1			2	1	6
Other forms of Tuberculosis ...	m 1 f 1	1																								
Alcoholism ...																										
Cancer ...	m 6 f 26	32					4	1	15	2	1	4				1	3	1	4	2	1		1	2	2	
Premature Birth ...	m 1 f 1	1	1																							
Developmental Diseases ...	m 6 f 7	13	7	1						3	4															
Old Age ...	m 11 f 21	32					1	3	10	29																
Meningitis ...	m 1 f 1	1																								
Inflammation and Softening of Brain ...	m 1 f 2	2																								
Organic Diseases of Heart ...	m 7 f 11	18					3	1	9	4	9					1	2	1	2	2			1	1		
Acute Bronchitis ...	m 8 f 6	14	6	8	2	1				1						1	1									
Chronic Bronchitis ...	m 6 f 12	18					3	5	3	13						1	1									
Lobar (Croupous) Pneumonia ...	m 7 f 3	10					4	7	2	2																
Lobular (Broncho-) Pneumonia ...	m 4 f 3	7	2	4	1					1																
Diseases of Stomach ...	m 4 f 3	7					1	1	2	1																
Obstruction of Intestines ...	m 3 f 2	5					1	1	2	1																
Cirrhosis of Liver ...	m 1 f 1	1																								
Nephritis and Bright's Disease ...	m 7 f 3	10					2	4	5	6																
Tumours and Other Affections of Female Genital Organs ...	m 1 f 1	1																								
Accidents and Diseases of Parturition ...	m 1 f 1	1																								
Deaths by Accident or Negligence ...	m 10 f 4	14					1	2	5	7	2	3				1	1									
Deaths by Suicide ...	m 3 f 1	4																								
Deaths from Ill-defined Causes ...	m 11 f 16	27	2	4			1	4	8	5	14					1	2	2								
Other Respiratory ...	m 1 f 1	1																								
All other Causes ...	m 34 f 47	75	2	5	2	2	2	6	15	31	21	33	3	9	6	12	1	1	4	1	3			3	4	
ALL CAUSES ...	m 183 f 189	372	23	10	13	11	6	9	12	61	128	50	137	101	28	48	2	13	21	49	16	35	1	3	1	

