

Contributors

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SWADLINCOTE
URBAN COUNCIL DISTRICT.

Annual Report

OF THE

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

FOR THE YEAR 1894.

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SWADLINCOTE URBAN COUNCIL DISTRICT.

MEDICAL OFFICER'S REPORT

For 1894.

MR. CHAIRMAN AND GENTLEMEN,

In presenting my annual report for the year ended December, 1894, I would premise by saying, that owing to an error in the over estimation of the population to the middle of the year, 1893, the birth, death, and other rates were in consequence underestimated. I have revised that estimate for comparison with the past year.

The population of the united district was at the census in 1891, 13,889. I have estimated the population up to the middle of last year at 14,200.

The total number of deaths was 222, viz., 119 males, and 103 females, giving a death rate of 15·63 per 1,000. The death rate for 1893 was 17·57 per 1,000.

The deaths registered from zymotic disease were 40, giving a death rate from this cause at 2·81 per 1,000. In the previous year the death rate was 2·21 per 1,000.

The total number of births registered was 596, viz., 299 males and 297 females. The birth rate for the year was 41·97 per 1,000, as compared with 39·14 in the previous year.

This equals a net increase during the year of 180 males and 194 females—a slightly higher birth rate for males, and a lower death rate for females.

DEATH RATE FOR SWADLINCOTE DISTRICT COUNCIL AS REQUIRED
BY THE LOCAL GOVERNMENT ACT, 1894.

Name of Disease.				Under 5 years.			Over 5 years.		
Smallpox	...	...	...	0	...	...	...	0	...
Scarlatina	...	...	...	2	...	...	...	1	...
Diphtheria	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	1	...
Membranous Croup	...	...	...	0	...	...	...	0	...
Fevers.	Typhus	...	...	0	...	...	...	0	...
	Enteric or Typhoid	...	...	1	...	...	...	4	...
	Continued	...	...	0	...	...	...	0	...
	Relapsing	...	...	0	...	...	...	0	...
	Puerperal	...	...	0	...	...	...	1	...
Cholera	...	...	...	0	...	...	...	0	...
Erysipelas	...	...	...	0	...	...	...	1	...
Measles	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	2	...
Whooping Cough	...	...	...	12	...	...	...	10	...
Diarrhoea and Dysentery	...	...	...	0	...	...	...	1	...
Rheumatic Fever	...	...	...	0	...	...	...	0	...
Ague	...	...	...	0	...	...	...	0	...
Bronchitis, Pleurisy, and Pneumonia	...	...	...	36	...	...	...	14	...
Heart Disease	...	...	...	0	...	...	...	14	...
Phthisis	...	...	...	0	...	...	...	7	...
Injuries	...	...	...	2	...	...	...	2	...
All other Diseases	...	...	...	75	...	...	...	34	...
				130			92		

Total for 1894, from all causes and at all ages, 222.

On referring to Table A accompanying this, we find the summary of deaths at subjoined ages to be : Children under one year, 80 ; one year and under five, 51 ; five years and under fifteen, 13 ; persons aged fifteen and under twenty-five, 9 ; twenty-five and under sixty-five years, 40 ; sixty-five years and upwards, 29.

The mortality under one year equals a death rate of 134·22 per 1,000 of births registered, compared with 180·65 in the previous year.

The death rate from sixty-five years and upwards was 2·04 per 1,000, as compared with 3·85 in the previous year.

The second part of my Report on the Table marked B deals with new cases of infectious sickness. It will be seen from this that 92 cases which were notified to me come under this head. Many cases of measles, whooping cough, and a few of influenza also occurred, none of which diseases have been made compulsory in your district under the Notification of Diseases Act.

Smallpox I am glad to be able to report a total immunity from this disease during the year.

Scarlet Fever Forty-six cases were reported to me in the district, and three deaths occurred from this cause. All the means at the disposal of the Sanitary Inspector and myself were adopted to prevent its spread, but as has been mentioned by me in my monthly report to the Board, until a well-appointed isolation hospital has been provided in the Council's district for the early isolation of the first cases occurring, whatever other steps may be taken, our efforts will prove in great part futile. I may here mention that the parents in nearly every instance object to the removal of patients to the neighbouring Sanitary Authorities' Isolation Hospital.

Typhoid Fever Eight cases were reported during the year, and five deaths occurred from this cause. A very faulty state of the sewers in three instances will probably account for its origin; in the other five cases no definite cause could be ascertained.

Puerperal Fever Four cases with one death occurred during the year.

Erysipelas At one period of the year this disease assumed quite an epidemic form; 28 cases with one death were reported. In this connection I would doubt the necessity or usefulness of retaining this disease amongst those that are notified compulsory. If measles or whooping cough, or both, were placed amongst those under the notification of diseases act in lieu of it, greater good would accrue.

Diphtheria Six cases, with two deaths, were reported during the year. In nearly every instance a faulty state of the sewers was found at the houses in which it occurred, and immediate steps were taken to rectify this error, and every precaution was adopted in order to prevent its spread. The remarks made under the head of scarlet fever as to isolation, applies equally in this case.

Measles and Whooping Cough These diseases prevailed continuously almost throughout the year, 25 deaths having occurred from these causes. I would again ask the Council to consider the advisability of placing both measles and whooping cough under the Notification of Diseases Act.

Bronchitis and Pneumonia Bronchitis and pneumonia were very prevalent in the early part of the year. Fifty deaths were reported under this head.

Diarrhœa and
Dysentery

Diarrhœa and dysentery were not so prevalent as in the former year, and only one death occurred from this cause. I would here remind the Board of the suggestion of the Local Government Board Inspector who visited the district for the cholera survey—that, in view of the possible outbreak of cholera, these diseases should be included under the Notification Act.

By the annexed Report, marked C, the amount of work done in the Inspector of Nuisances' Department comprised 808 inspections, 599 informal notices for removal of nuisances were issued, legal notices by authority 287, 551 nuisances were abated after notice, 28 lots of bedding were disinfected, and the like number of houses thoroughly disinfected. The water analyses made were four.

Water Supply

Under this head, I am sorry to say that throughout the year the water was again both bad in quality and short in quantity, and in many instances entailed great hardship upon the inhabitants of the district. I can only urge again, as I have done in each of my monthly reports, that the Milton Scheme now in hand will soon be completed, and the district placed, in this regard, in a position second to none.

Infectious
Diseases
Hospital

I would again earnestly urge the Council to take immediate steps—either by joining with the other parts of the County as submitted in the scheme now under consideration from the County Council—or by providing an isolation hospital of their own, a means, and that the surest and most necessary, for stamping out in their initial stage such diseases as scarlet fever and diphtheria. Indeed, as I have before noticed, all other means are less futile unless such provision is made; and taking into consideration the known objection of the parents and friends of patients to have them removed to a distance—as would probably happen in case of an amalgamation with other parts of the county—I would view with much greater favour the erection of a hospital within the Council's own district and under its own control.

Overcrowd

Five cases were dealt with under this head, and in all instances the nuisance was abated.

Drainage

I trust that the scheme adopted by the old Board will soon be put in hand and speedily executed. The necessity for this, need not, I am sure, be urged upon the Council.

Inspection

I have made the usual general inspection of the district, and have besides on several occasions reported the necessity for the abatement of nuisances, which have all been carried out, and have visited the cowsheds and dairies. In the case of each thirteen nuisances were abated. I have also attended some of the Board's meetings and informed you as to the health of the district.

No case of diseased meat or fish was offered for sale. One successful prosecution was made under the Adulteration of Foods Act. No occasion arose to take proceedings in the matter of offensive trades, bakehouses, and workshops.

I am, Gentlemen,

Yours obediently,

JOHN HAMILTON, M.D.



TABLE A.

DEATHS during the Year 1894, in the Swadlincote Urban Council District, classified according to Diseases, Ages, and Localities.

AGES AT WHICH DEATHS OCCURRED.

Under 1 year	...	...	...	...	...	80
1 and under 5 years	...	...	...	...	...	51
5 ,, 15 ,,	...	...	...	...	...	13
15 ,, 25 ,,	...	...	...	...	...	9
25 ,, 65 ,,	...	...	...	...	...	40
65 years and upwards	...	...	...	...	...	29
						<hr/> 222

CAUSES OF DEATH.

					Under 5 years.	5 years and upwards.
Scarlatina	...	...	...	...	2	1
Diphtheria	...	...	...	...	1	1
Enteric or Typhoid Fever	...	...	...	...	1	4
Puerperal Fever	...	...	...	...	0	1
Erysipelas	...	...	...	...	0	1
Measles	...	...	...	...	1	2
Whooping Cough	...	...	...	...	12	10
Diarrhoea and Dysentery	...	...	...	...	0	1
Phthisis	...	...	...	...	0	7
Bronchitis, Pneumonia, and Pleurisy	...	...	...	...	36	14
Heart Disease	...	...	...	...	0	14
Injuries	...	...	...	...	2	2
All other Diseases	...	...	...	...	75	34
					<hr/> 131	<hr/> 91
					<hr/> 222 <hr/>	

TABLE B.

POPULATION, BIRTHS, and of New Cases of INFECTIOUS SICKNESS coming to the knowledge of the Medical Officer of Health during the Year 1894, in the Swadlincote Urban Council District, classified according to Diseases, Ages, & Localities.

POPULATION.

Census, 1891	...	...	...	...	13,889
Estimated to middle of 1894	14,200

BIRTHS.

Births registered during the year	596
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INFECTIOUS SICKNESS.

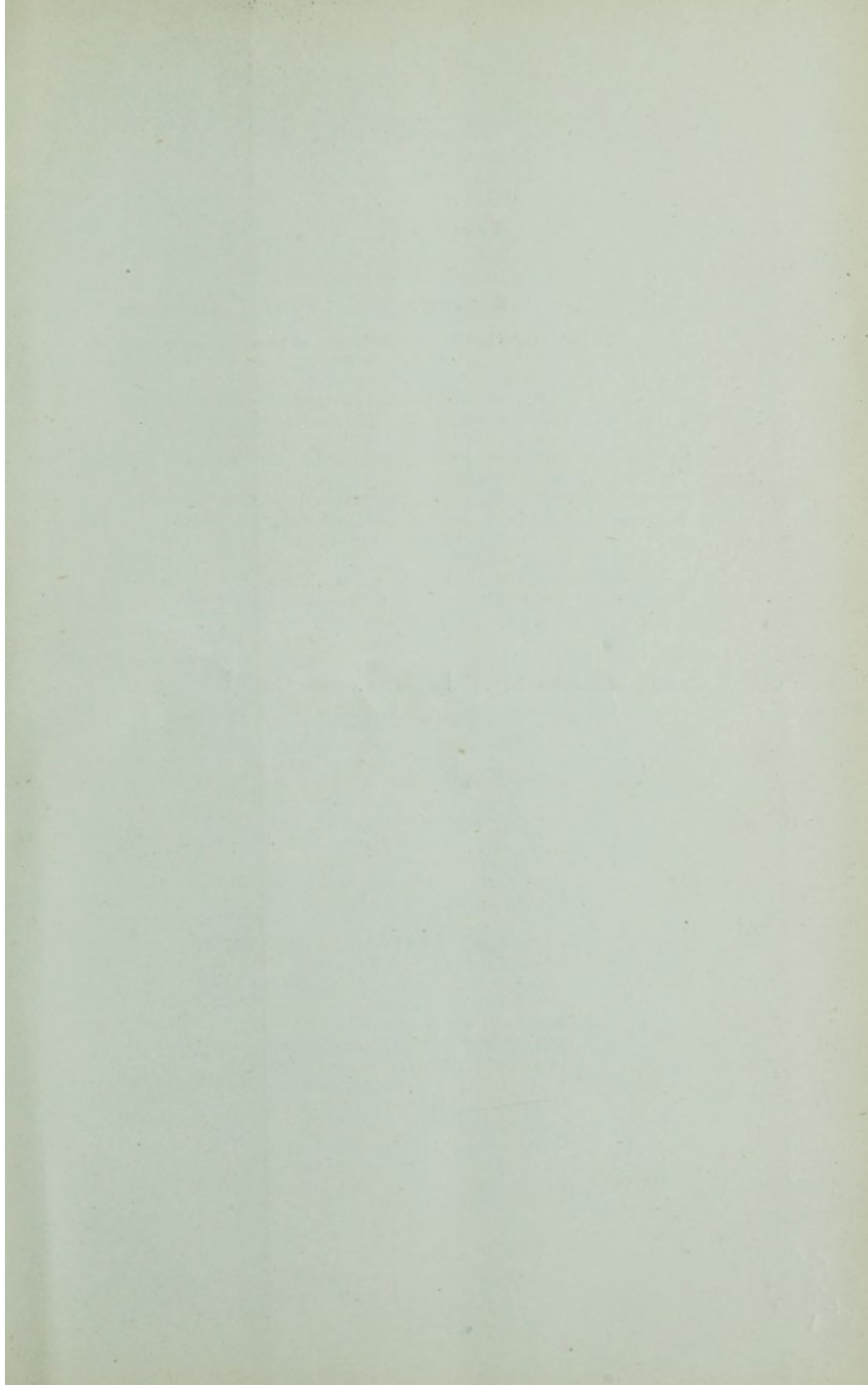
					Under 5 years.	5 years and upwards.
Scarlatina	14	32
Diphtheria	1	5
Enteric or Typhoid Fever	...	...	...	...	1	7
Puerperal Fever	...	...	...	...	0	4
Erysipelas	...	...	...	...	0	28
					16	76

TABLE C.

Summary of SANITARY WORK done in the Inspector of Nuisances' Department, during the Year 1894, in the Urban Sanitary District of Swadlincote.

		Inspections and Observations made.	Informal Notices served by Inspector.	Legal Notices by Authority.	Nuisances Abated after Notice.
Dwelling Houses and Schools.	{ Foul Conditions ...	... 55	... 24	... 18	... 18
	{ Structural Defects ...	... 69	... 38	... 36	... 38
	{ Overcrowding ...	... 5	... 5	... 3	... 5
	{ Unfit for Habitation ...	... 18	... 10	... 2	... 12
	Lodging Houses ...	... 3	... 0	... 0	... 0
	Dairies and Milkshops ...	... 40	... 18	... 5	... 23
	Cow Sheds... ...	... 43	... 12	... 1	... 13
	Bakehouses ...	... 10	... 4	... 0	... 4
	Slaughter-houses ...	... 24	... 6	... 0	... 6
	Ashpits and Privies ...	... 204	... 183	... 106	... 180
	Deposits of Refuse and Manure ...	... 6	... 6	... 0	... 6
House Drainage	{ Defective Traps ...	... 102	... 102	... 78	... 78
	{ No Disconnection... ...	... 30	... 24	... 12	... 24
	{ Other Faults ...	... 110	... 100	... 8	... 108
	Water Supply ...	... 43	... 43	... 0	... 12
	Pigsties ...	... 46	... 24	... 18	... 24
		808	599	287	551

Samples of Water taken for Analysis	...	...	...	4
Lots of Infected Bedding Stoved or Destroyed...			...	28
Houses Disinfected after Infectious Disease	...		...	28



BY APPOINTMENT

THE

Swinton District Council

ANNUAL MEDICAL REPORT FOR 1894.

Mr. Chairman and Gentlemen,—In presenting my 12th annual report, I estimate the population of your district at the end of June, 1894, at 10462.

The births registered during the year were 405 (2 less than last year), distributed as follows:—

	Legitimate.	Illegitimate.
Swinton..	144 mal's, 124 fem'l's,	4 mal's, 2 femls
Kilnhurst	60 " 56 "	6 " 9 "
	204	180
	Total, 405.	

This gives a birth-rate per 1000 of 38.71, last year it was 39.1, and the year before 44.42.

The deaths were 152, 122 in Swinton and 30 in Kilnhurst. The death rate is 14.53 per 1000, last year it was 19.1, and the year before 20.76.

The natural increase of the population being the number of births in excess of the number of deaths is 253.

The deaths due to the principal zymotic diseases are 32.

The certified causes of deaths areas follows:—

	Swinton.	Kilnhurst	Ttl.
Diphtheria ..	8	0	8
Membranous croup ..	1	0	1
Puerperal fever ..	3	1	4
Erysipelas ..	1	0	1
Measles ..	11	0	11
Whooping cough ..	5	0	5
Diarrhoea ..	2	0	2
Phthisis ..	6	3	9
Brouchitis, pneumonia, and pleurisy ..	30	11	41
Heart disease ..	2	2	4
Injuries ..	6	1	7
All other diseases ..	47	12	59
	122	30	152

The ages at death are as follows:—

	Swinton.	Kilnhurst.	Ttl.
Under 1 year..	48	12	60
1 yr and under 5 yrs	28	3	31
5 " 15	6	2	8
15 " 25	3	1	4
25 " 65	28	10	31
65 and upwards ..	9	2	11
	122	30	152

The deaths under 1 year are 60, giving a rate calculated per 1000 births of 148. The last two years the rate was 167.

The zymotic death rate is 3.06.

There was no case of small-pox reported during the year, but there have been several cases in the surrounding districts, and I must here call your attention to the fact that the hospital is not in a

proper state of repair, and in its present condition is not fit to receive a patient.

There were six cases of scarlet fever reported, two in Swinton and four in Kilnhurst, but none of these proved fatal.

Measles and its complications caused 11 deaths, all in Swinton, during October and November. I have no means of knowing the number of cases, but the epidemic was localised to the neighbourhood of Wath road and Bowbroom.

There were four cases of enteric fever reported, two in Swinton and two in Kilnhurst. The first case in Kilnhurst was imported by a girl who was sent home ill from service, and the second case, a child in the same house, contracted it from her. The Swinton cases, in Walker street and Charles street, respectively were almost certainly caused by offensive middens. These were at once cleared out, and the one in Charles street repaired. The same preventative treatment was adopted in each case—the tub for the reception and removal of all excreta—and there was no extension of the disease.

There were nine cases of erysipelas reported, and one case in an infant proved fatal.

There were only two deaths due to diarrhoea, and I believe that it was at no time prevalent in the district.

There were four cases of puerperal septicaemia reported, three in Swinton and one in Kilnhurst, all of which proved fatal.

Whooping cough caused five deaths.

There were nine deaths from phthisis, six in Swinton and three in Kilnhurst.

Bronchitis and pneumonia caused 41 deaths, 30 in Swinton and 11 in Kilnhurst. Many of these were probably in consequence of influenza, which was prevalent in the earlier part and also the latter part of the year.

Injuries caused seven deaths, three of which were from drowning.

Diphtheria caused eight deaths, and croup one death out of 35 cases reported. Nearly all the cases occurred in the neighbourhood of Wath road and Bowbroom, in the following sequence:—4 in March, 2 in July, 1 in August, 4 in September, 6 in October, 7 in November, and 9 in December. There were only two cases in Kilnhurst. I have inquired most anxiously into the causes of all these cases, and I have been forced to exactly the same conclusion as I came to last year, and the following remarks from my last year's report are quite as applicable to this epidemic as they were to the one to which they referred in 1893:—“The water cannot be the cause, as the same supply is used for the whole district. The low level cannot be the cause as Kilnhurst escaped. The milk supply was not the cause as that was not the same for all the cases. It was not due to the Schools, as the children affected belonged to various ones. It was not due to a very local

cause such as a foul midden, because the disease was too generally distributed, and the same objection applies to the open drain between White Lee road and William street. I mentioned previously that the cases of puerperal fever and several of the erysipelas cases occurred in practically the same area. This points strongly to a common cause, and I am firmly of opinion that this common cause is the sewer gas contained in the sewers draining this area. Sometime ago, very unwisely, all the street gratings of the sewers were closed on account of the smell proceeding from them, and now on the higher ground, on the canal side for instance, the smell is most offensive. The remedy for this is not to close the gratings confining the gas and forcing it into the houses and yards through the house drains, but to prevent its formation by not allowing the sewage to remain stagnant in the drain. This can be done by frequent flushing and constant pumping at the outfall, and if any smell still proceeds from them, a ventilating pipe should be carried up to above the level of the roof of an adjoining building. I must ask you to give this matter your urgent attention, as I consider this outbreak of diphtheria to be the most serious quest on I have had to consider since I have been your medical officer.” This was the report I gave you last year, but the street gratings are still covered up, no ventilating shafts have been put up, and the pumping at the outfall has been most inconstant.

Seven inquests were held during the year, but in four cases no doctor certified the cause of death, and no inquests were held.

Several faulty privies have been pulled down during the year and replaced by new ones, but the privies to most of the old houses are far too few, and of most faulty construction.

The Sewerage Farm should be kept in the Council's own hands and not farmed out, as the whole sewerage system depends on the proper working of the farm.

I can only again reiterate what I have often said before that the water supply is not nearly sufficient for the needs of the district, and that the quality of the water derived from Foster's spring is not good. I sincerely trust that the works for the new water supply, for which you have obtained your Bill, will be pushed on and finished as soon as possible.

I cannot conclude without thanking the members of the Local Board for the willing help they have always given me, and I have every confidence in hoping that there will be the same friendly spirit displayed on the new Council.—I remain, gentlemen, your obedient servant,

W. MAKEIG JONES,
D.P.H., Cambridge.

Reprinted from the *Merborough & Swinton Times*,
April 5th, 1895.

ANNUAL REPORT FOR 1912
The following table shows the results of the work done during the year 1912. The work was done in the following order: first, the work of the year was divided into four quarters; second, the work of each quarter was divided into four months; third, the work of each month was divided into four weeks; and fourth, the work of each week was divided into four days. The results of the work done during the year 1912 are as follows:

Quarter	Month	Week	Day	Work Done
First Quarter	January	1	1	100
			2	100
			3	100
			4	100
Second Quarter	February	1	100	
			2	100
			3	100
			4	100
Third Quarter	March	1	100	
			2	100
			3	100
			4	100
Fourth Quarter	April	1	100	
			2	100
			3	100
			4	100

The results of the work done during the year 1912 are as follows: 100 per cent of the work was done during the year 1912. The work was done in the following order: first, the work of the year was divided into four quarters; second, the work of each quarter was divided into four months; third, the work of each month was divided into four weeks; and fourth, the work of each week was divided into four days. The results of the work done during the year 1912 are as follows: