[Report 1894] / Medical Officer of Health, Royal Tunbridge Wells Borough.

Contributors

Tunbridge Wells (England). Borough Council.

Publication/Creation

1894

Persistent URL

https://wellcomecollection.org/works/kctxgvap

License and attribution

You have permission to make copies of this work under a Creative Commons, Attribution license.

This licence permits unrestricted use, distribution, and reproduction in any medium, provided the original author and source are credited. See the Legal Code for further information.

Image source should be attributed as specified in the full catalogue record. If no source is given the image should be attributed to Wellcome Collection.



with wi Stamped & Compto



THE

ANNUAL REPORT

UPON THE

Mealth & Sanitary Condition,

OF THE

BOROUGH OF TUNBRIDGE WELLS,

For the Year ending December 31st, 1894,

BY

WM. STAMFORD.

LICENTIATE OF THE ROYAL COLLEGE OF PHYSICIANS, LONDON,
MEMBER OF THE ROYAL COLLEGE OF SURGEONS, ENGLAND,
FELLOW OF THE SOCIETY OF MEDICAL OFFICERS OF HEALTH,
ETC., ETC.

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH FOR THE BOROUGH.

Tunbridge Mells :

PRINTED BY A. K. BALDWIN, GROSVENOR WORKS

THIS BEING THE SPECIAL FILE COPY FOR

REQUESTED THAT IT MAY BE RETURNED AT AS EARLY A DATE AS POSSIBLE.





THE

ANNUAL REPORT

UPON THE

Bealth & Sanitary Condition,

OF THE

BOROUGH OF TUNBRIDGE WELLS,

For the Year ending December 31st, 1894,

BY

WM. STAMFORD.

LICENTIATE OF THE ROYAL COLLEGE OF PHYSICIANS, LONDON,
MEMBER OF THE ROYAL COLLEGE OF SURGEONS, ENGLAND,
FELLOW OF THE SOCIETY OF MEDICAL OFFICERS OF HEALTH,
ETC., ETC.

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH FOR THE BOROUGH.

Tunbridge Mells :

PRINTED BY A. K. BALDWIN, GROSVENOR WORKS.

Digitized by the Internet Archive in 2018 with funding from Wellcome Library

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH'S REPORT

For the Year ending December 31st, 1894.

To the Chairman and Members of the Health Committee of the Council of the Borough of Tunbridge Wells.

GENTLEMEN.

It is with great pleasure I lay before you my Annual Report upon the health and sanitary condition of the Borough of Tunbridge Wells, which, during the year 1894 were of so highly satisfactory a character as to more than meet the exalted requirements which have become customary, on account of the extended period over which the health statistics have maintained an almost unvarying excellence.

Impracticable as it is to make any decided improvement on the statistics for over ten years it is increasingly pleasureable, year after year, to find the tendency an attempt at something better than the best. For this period my reports have shewn a rate of mortality which can only be viewed as the natural and unavoidable loss ratio in a well ordered community living under exceptionally favourable circumstances (Table 1.)

This excellence has been maintained nothwithstanding frequent visitations of the common enemy Influenza, which also manifested its presence here in the early part of the year under notice.

Population.—The calculation made in the usual way by a method based upon the suggestions of the Registrar General, brings out the estimated population of the Borough on June 30th, 1894, to have been 29,065, an increase of 12·3 per 1,000 upon the estimated population for the previous 12 months.

There are points in connection with the age distribution, occupation, and character of the population which should not be lost sight of in considering the mortality comparatively with that of other districts:—

1st.—The influence of the low birth rate.

2nd.—The extra complement of aged lives.

3rd.—The increment of more or less invalid lives.

4th.—The absence of a proper proportion of operative workers.

5th.—The presence of an excess of opulent residents.

The low birth rate such as actually obtains in this district, (due no doubt to the excess of lives past the reproductive age, in great measure), implies greater excess of aged lives for succeeding years, which in turn obviously carries with it a heavier rate of mortality than would exist were the age distribution more evenly balanced.

This effect is intensified by the influx of persons past the middle period of life who, retiring from the active pursuits of their younger days, seek to enjoy the evening of their lives amid the pleasant and healthful surroundings of this district, and who of course bear the mortality rate proper to a population all at an advanced age.

Again, the attractions of the Borough with its extensive Commons and salubrious air, bring into the district a class among which mortality is extremely high, namely the more or less invalided, who seek rest and opportunities for recovery denied them in other places.

On the other hand, a comparative dearth of persons of the operative class and the excess of opulent residents, tend towards a reduction of the mortality rate.

In these respects however we get no consideration in the general statistics for the country, compiled by the Registrar General, and these matters can only be borne in mind by those interested in the condition of affairs within the Borough.

Births.—During the year ending December 31st, 1894, there were 655 births registered as against 623 in the previous year, 328 being males and 327 females.

Birth Rate.—The Birth Rate for the year was 22.53 per 1,000

of the Inhabitants, as against 21.70 for 1893, that for London having been 30.1 per 1,000, during the same period.

Deaths.—During the year ending December 31st, 1894, there were 391 deaths registered as having occured within the Borough, being 36 less than the number registered during the previous year, and of the total number of deaths 50 or 12.7 per cent. of the whole were those of visitors, among whom I enumerate persons having no permanent residence here, and whose sojourn has not been for a longer period than 3 months prior to their decease, also those strangers who have died during the year in the General Hospital.

Such deaths cannot be said to belong properly to the statistics of this district, though as they are included in the returns they appear as an element in the death rate, increasing it very considerably.

Death Rate.—Calculated on the estimated population of the district on June 30th, 1894, the death rate is 13.45 per 1,000, as against 14.8 for 1893, and 15.9 for 1892. It compares with the mean death rate for ten years most favourably as will be seen from the figures in the following table.

TABLE I.

DEATH RATE FOR TEN YEARS.

| *** | *** | *** | 15.4 |
|-----|-----|-----|------|
| | | | 14.4 |
| | | | 13.4 |
| | | | 14.0 |
| | | | 13.8 |
| | | | 13.8 |
| | | | 13.4 |
| | | | 15.9 |
| | | | 14.8 |
| | | | 13.4 |
| | | | 20. |
| | | | |

Correction of Death Rate.—An elimination of the 50 deaths which properly belong to other districts, but which, occurring here in the persons of visitors, and of strangers dying in the General Hospital, are compulsorily included when calculating the death

rate for the Registrar General, gives a total of 341 as the proportion properly belonging to this Borough.

It has been the practice in many of the Metropolitan districts to exclude mortality of this class from the returns, and for some years many towns have adopted the same measure in order to ascertain more correctly the effect of the means employed for the amelioration of the sanitary condition of the district to which the statistics relate

In a Borough so peculiarly influenced by foreign mortality as Tunbridge Wells, it is of vital importance to study its incidence, as by no other method can we ascertain the progress made in our Sanitation by putting it to the test of experience.

I find the corrected death rate for the Borough to be 11.74 per 1,000 of the inhabitants, as against 13.45, the death rate found by the ordinary method, and it compares with the corrected death rate for previous years as follows, shewing a decided improvement.

TABLE II.

CORRECTED DEATH-RATE FOR FIVE-YEARS.

| 1890 | | 12.80 |
|------|------|-----------|
| 1891 | | 12 22 |
| 1892 | | 14.58 |
| 1893 | | 12.92 |
| 1894 | | 11.74 |

Quarterly Returns.—The first quarter of the year has almost invariably a heavier mortality than any other quarter, but during the previous year the fourth quarter held the heaviest death roll, owing to the presence of Influenza; and this being continued into the first quarter of 1894 accounting for 6 deaths directly, and many deaths from lung diseases complicating Influenza, renders the mortality for the first quarter a peculiarly heavy one. There occurred 114 deaths at this period of the year, 10 more than in the corresponding quarter of 1893, and giving the exceptionally high death rate for the three months of 15.87 per 1,000 per annum.

This heavy loss is more than balanced by the loss of only 72 lives during the 3rd quarter, when the death rate was the extremely low one of 11.11 per 1,000 per annum.

The second and fourth quarters were in accord with the normal.

TABLE III.
SHEWING THE RELATIVE QUARTERLY MORTALITY FOR FIVE YEARS.

| | 1890 | 1891 | 1892 | 1893 | 1894 |
|--|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|
| 1st Quarter Number of Deaths Rate per 1000 per | 103 | 102 | 160 | 104 | 114 |
| annum | 14.6 | 14.6 | 22.6 | 14.53 | 15.8 |
| Number of Deaths 2nd Quarter Rate per 1000 per | 92 | 90 | 106 | 103 | 99 |
| annum | 18.9 | 12.7 | 12.8 | 14 9 | 14.3 |
| Number of Deaths Brd Quarter Rate per 1000 per | 72 | 86 | 94 | 97 | 72 |
| annum | 10.10 | 12.25 | 13.22 | 13.12 | 11.11 |
| 14th Quarter Number of Deaths Rate per 1000 per | 108 | 99 | 91 | 123 | 97 |
| annum | 15.2 | 14.0 | 12.7 | 17 0 | 13.2 |

Duration of Life.—The following deaths took place at advanced ages:—

and were equivalent to 36 per cent. of the deaths at all ages, as against 39 per cent. in 1893.

Between the ages of 4 and 25 there occurred only 36 deaths, as against 48 the previous year, and the low rate of mortality between these ages is remarkable, being at the rate of only 1.2 per 1,000 of the inhabitants.

Infant Mortality.—There were 58 deaths registered during the year as occurring at ages under one year, as against 655 births.

These figures give a death rate per 1,000 infants born and during the first year of life, of 88.5 as against 110.7 in the previous year, whereas the Registrar General's returns for 1893 shewed that 159 out of every 1,000 infants born throughout the country generally, died before completing a year of life.

The rate of our infant mortality is therefore only about half the normal; it has an important effect in relieving our death rate because every infant emerging from the first year of life, passes out of a period the normal death rate for which is shewn by the Registrar General's Returns to be five times as heavy as the death rate for the whole period of life.

Much of this loss, small as it is comparatively, is however preventable, and by well directed efforts upon the part of those capable of influencing the habits of the poorer inhabitants, much might be accomplished in relieving us of a portion of it.

TABLE IV.
RATE OF MORTALITY IN INFANTS AGED UNDER ONE YEAR.

| 1891 | Rate of | deaths pe | r 1000 born | | 87.8 |
|------|---------|-----------|-------------|-----|-------|
| 1892 | ,, | ,, | ** | *** | 114.9 |
| 1893 | ,, | ,, | ,, | | 110.7 |
| 1894 | ,, | ,, | ,, | | 88.5 |

Mortality at the Several Ages, given in Table V, shews the deaths among aged persons to have returned to the low rate which obtained in the Borough before the country was visited with epidemic Influenza, a disease peculiarly fatal to aged people.

TABLE V.
SHEWING THE MORTALITY AT THE SEVERAL AGES FOR FIVE YEARS.

| | 1890 | 1891 | 1892 | 1893 | 1894 |
|-------------------------------|------|------|------|------|------|
| Deaths at under 1 year of age | 61 | 58 | 76 | 69 | 58 |
| ,, 1 and under 5 years of age | 40 | 30 | 44 | 30 | 28 |
| ,, 5 ,, 15 ,, | 11 | 7 | 15 | 26 | 18 |
| ,, 15 ,, 25 ,, | 11 | 21 | 22 | 22 | - 18 |
| ,, 25 ,, 60 ,, | 106 | 100 | 111 | 113 | 125 |
| ,, 60 and upwards | 146 | 161 | 183 | 167 | 144 |

Effect of Influenza.—The Borough was visited in the last quarter of 1893 by Influenza in the epidemic form, and this visitation was carried into the first quarter of the year 1894, causing 6 deaths to be registered as directly due to it, and increasing the number of deaths registered as occurring from the usual complications, mainly diseases affecting the respiratory organs. This mortality had the effect of making a rather high death rate for the first quarter of the year, as already mentioned.

Zymotic Diseases.—I have to record the lowest death rate from Zymotic disease upon my books, there having occurred only 11 deaths from diseases of this class, as against 34 in the previous year, and giving the extraordinarily low rate of 0.38 per 1,000 of the inhabitants.

The Registrar General's Returns shew a mean Zymotic rate for the 32 principal provincial towns of 2.3 per 1,000, and for London the rate was 2.7 during the year. These rates are more than four times the rate obtaining in this Borough.

Here follows a Table shewing the Zymotic mortality for 10 years, and it will be seen on reference to it that the loss from this class of disease is in this Borough kept at the lowest with extraordinary permanence year after year.

TABLE VI.

SHEWING THE RELATIVE MORTALITY FROM ZYMOTIC CAUSES FOR TEN YEARS.

| | 1885 | 1886 | 1887 | 1888 | 1389 | 1890 | 1891 | 1892 | 1893 | 1894 |
|---|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|
| Scarlet Fever | 0 | 1 | 1 | 0 | 2 | 1 | 0 | 1 | 0 | 1 |
| Continued Fever | 4 | 1 | 3 | 0 | 1 | 1 | 0 | 1 | 2 | 1 |
| Erysipelas and Pyœmia | 0. | 0 | 0 | 0 | 1 | 0 | 4 | 3 | 2 | 1 |
| Diphtheria | | 1 | 1 | 9 | 3 | 5 | 4 | 5 | 9 | 5 |
| Diarrhœa and Dysentery | 4 | 11 | 5 | 1 | 2 | 4 | 1 | 0 | 8 | 0 |
| Smallpox | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Measles | 0 | 3 | 0 | 1 | 5 | 3 | 0 | 15 | 2 | 0 |
| Whooping Cough | 7 | 2 | 1 | 12 | 1 | 8 | 2 | 4 | 10 | 2 |
| Croup | 0 | 1 | 2 | 1 | 2 | 2 | 1 | 3 | 1 | 1 |
| Total number of deaths from Zymotic causes | 01 | 20 | 13 | 27 | 17 | 24 | 12 | 32 | 34 | 11 |
| Per centage upon the tota number of deaths from al causes | 5.0 | 5.1 | 3.5 | 6.2 | 4.5 | 6.4 | 3.2 | 7.0 | 7.9 | 2.9 |
| Zymotic Death-rate per 1000 living | | 0.70 | 0.40 | 0.87 | 0.61 | 0.85 | 0.42 | 1.12 | 1.25 | 0.3 |

From this Table it appears that not only is this the lowest

death-rate from Zymotic diseases for ten years, but the per centage of deaths from this class of diseases upon the total number of deaths is also reduced below any previous year's figures as given.

The same statement holds good for the whole period during which vital statistics have been recorded.

As a health resort this Borough compares most favourably with neighbouring towns similarly dependent upon visitors, as the following Table will show:—

| | | Zymotic Death-rate for year 1894. | Compared with that of Tunbridge Wells. |
|-----------|-------|--------------------------------------|---|
| TUNBRIDGE | WELLS | 0.38 | |
| BRIGHTON | | 1.2 | 3.1 times as great |
| HASTINGS | | 0.93 | 2.4 times as great |

The Zymotic death-rate of Hastings was recorded by the Medical Officer of Health for that Borough as being 25 per cent. lower than during any previous year, whereas it is 2.4 times as great as that of Tunbridge Wells.

By reference to Table VI., it will be seen that only twice during ten years has the death-rate from Zymotic diseases risen so high as to be equal to this exceptional death-rate recorded in Hastings.

Scarlet Fever.—Though very prevalent during the first half of the year was of the usual mild type, characteristic of this neighbourhood. It caused only one death, but owing to the neglect of parents to send for a doctor early it spread considerably, and in some cases a whole family of children were infected by one child not having had advice in time.

Every precaution is taken in this Borough to prevent the spread of ailments of this character, and with the co-operation of those in charge of sufferers, they might be limited on their outbreak to the cases immediately implicated.

In this instance some of the cases were imported into the Borough, and were promptly dealt with on their discovery, the Sanatorium having done excellent work in affording isolation for 80 cases where otherwise isolation was impossible.

Erysipelas was the cause of one death.

Continued Fever was the cause of one death. Two cases of this disease were imported, one from Ludlow, the other from Marlborough.

Typhoid.—The Borough has at no time given us more than an occasional case of Typhoid.

Diphtheria was again very prevalent throughout the country, and in this Borough it caused five deaths. Most of the cases notified were of a mild type. The mortality from this disease in London and the country was very high.

Diarrhœa and Dysentery caused no death, and our immunity from mortality under this head is one of the strongest evidences of our freedom from the evils of ill drainage and insanitary house arrangements, which it would be possible for me to adduce.

Smallpox, as usual, caused no death.

A case was discovered in January among the out-patients of the General Hospital with the eruption well developed.

The patient was a servant girl, only arrived from Ore near Hastings, one week before. She was immediately isolated and removed to the Sanatorium. Three other persons residing in the house with the girl were infected, and upon notification were immediately removed. Nearly all the out-patients in the waiting room where the girl had been sitting were vaccinated. None were infected.

Measles caused no death during the year, and there were very few cases of the disease.

Whooping Cough was the cause of two deaths by complica-

Croup, of the membranous variety, was the cause of only one death.

Notifications of Infectious Diseases.—The following cases of

infectious diseases were notified to me during the year and promptly dealt with.

| - | | - | - | - | - | 164 |
|-----|-----|---|-----|---|---|-----|
| - | | - | - | - | - | 40 |
| - | - | - | - | | - | 8 |
| - | - | - | - | - | - | 24 |
| - | - 1 | - | 2 | - | - | 4 |
|) - | - | - | , - | - | - | 3 |
| - | - | - | - | - | - | 4 |
| | | | | | | 247 |
| | - | | | | | |

I have again much pleasure in acknowledging the assistance rendered me by the members of the Medical profession in the prompt notification of the occurence of cases of infectious diseases.

Schools have been frequently visited, and in the first half of the year one district of the Borough having shown that Scarlet Fever was rather prevalent, the schools in that district were closed to prevent its spread.

Sanatorium.—It has been a source of considerable gratification to me that the recommendations you made to the Council at the conclusion of last year, as to the erection of a new Fever Hospital, were adopted by the Council and have been approved by the Local Government Board, and that the buildings are now well advanced towards completion.

I am sure that we shall be able to deal more effectually, and with greater satisfaction to the Burgesses, with any cases of Scarlet Fever which may occur in future, and require treatment in the Sanatorium.

Water Supply.—I am exceedingly pleased to be able to state that the water supply during the past year has been abundant, and that from various analyses which have been made by the Borough Analyst, Dr. Stevenson, it is of most excellent quality.

I am pleased also that the Council have recognised the necessity of providing an additional supply by boring an Artesian Well at Pembury. Although the permanence of the results of boring are somewhat doubtful, it is satisfactory to know that the results of pumping with temporary machinery promise all that could be wished, and analysis shews the water obtained from the well to be quite equal in purity and fitness for domestic use to that obtained from the springs.

Sanitary Work.—Our new Sanitary Inspector has done excellent work, and everything is working satisfactorily in his department. His report will be found appended along with the usual Summary of Births and Deaths.

In conclusion I am glad to be able to say that every part of the Borough was unusually healthy at the close of the year.

I am, Gentlemen,

Your obedient servant,

WM. STAMFORD,

Medical Officer of Health.



TABLE VII.

TABULAR STATEMENT OF BIRTHS AND DEATHS FOR THE YEAR ENDING DECEMBER 31st, 1894.

| 18% | Estimated Population (30t | h June, 189 | 94) | | | 29,065 |
|-----|----------------------------|-------------|------------|--------------|-------|--------|
| | Number of Deaths | | | | | 391 |
| | Rate per 1000 | | | | | 13.45 |
| | | | DEATH. | | *** | 77.77 |
| | Under One Year | | | | | 58 |
| | One, and under Five | | | *** | *** | 28 |
| | | | | | *** | |
| | Five, and under Fifteen | | | | | 18 |
| | Fifteen and under Twent | | | *** | | 18 |
| | Twenty-five and under Si | | | | | 125 |
| | Sixty Years and upwards | | | | | 144 |
| | | CAUSES | OF DEAT | H. | | |
| | Consumption | | | *** | *** | 39 |
| | Bronchitis, Pleurisy and P | | | *** | | 40 |
| | Diseases of Brain and Ner | vous Syster | m—includi | ng Convuls | sions | |
| | in Children | | | | | 54 |
| | Old Age | | | | | 23 |
| | Diseases of Organs of Cir | | | *** | | 50 |
| | Diseases of Digestive Orga | ans | | | | 31 |
| | | | | *** | | 32 |
| | Congenital Diseases in In | fants | | | | 2 |
| | Tubercular Diseases | | | | | 16 |
| | Urinary Diseases | | *** | *** | *** | 15 |
| | Premature Birth and Atr | ophy | | | | 19 |
| | Parturition | | | | *** | 5 |
| | Rheumatic Fever | | | | | 4 |
| | Puerperal Fever | | | | | 1 |
| | Suicide and Injuries | | | | | 9 |
| | Influenza | | | | | 6 |
| | | | DISEASE | | | |
| | Scarlet Fever | dimonic | DIOLINO | | | 1 |
| | Continued Fever | | | | | 1 |
| | Erysipelas and Pyœmia | 100 | 100 | | | 1 |
| | Diphtheria | | | te per 1000 | | 5 |
| | Diarrhœa and Dysentery | est | imated por | oulation 0.3 | 18 | 0 |
| | Smallpox Measles | | | | | 0 |
| | Whooping Cough | | | | | 0 2 1 |
| | Croup (Not Spasmodic) | | | | | 1 |
| | ALL OTHER DISEASES | | | | | 34 |
| | | | | | | |
| | TOTAL | | | | | 391 |
| | | | | | | - |
| | Number of Births (Boys, & | 328; Girls, | 327) | | | 655 |
| | Birth-rate per 1000 | | | | | 22.53 |
| - | | | - | | | |

Borough Sanitary Inspector's Office, Town Hall,

Tunbridge Wells.

January 30th, 1895.

SIR,

In handing you this, my first Annual Report, I beg to say, that sanitary work is being proceeded with in almost every direction, and especially in many places where modern science has shown that improvements could be made.

In the first place I will take Cowsheds and Dairies (the inspection of which, in a health resort, is especially essential) these places are inspected periodically as time permits, and in addition to many improvements made to those situated within the Borough, I have also indirectly caused much to be done to those situated outside the Borough from whence milk is sent into the town.

Common Lodging Houses are inspected periodically, and I have on several occasions kept special observations upon them with a view to prevent disease being brought into the town.

The Slaughterhouses are in a very fair condition, several improvements standing over until the question regarding the necessity of a "Public Abattoir" is settled.

Offensive Trades are, I am pleased to say, not carried on in any part of the district, but we have manure pits and marine store dealers (fat and bone shops) that are troublesome at times, and I am inclined to recommend that advantage be taken in this direction (and most needful in hot weather) of the provision made by the Public Health Act, 1875 to remove any nuisance that is not abated in a given time with our own hands.

Food Inspection has received special attention, four parcels of food unfit for human consumption, have been seized and destroyed, and three of the vendors were successfully prosecuted.

Twenty-two samples of food have been submitted to the Public Analyst, viz.:—fifteen milk, three tea, three butter, and one cocoa. Three samples of milk were found to be adulterated and the vendors were successfully prosecuted; the remaining samples proved to be genuine.

Infectious Diseases, I am pleased to say we are entirely free from, at the time of writing, and from my own investigations I am sure the outbreak that did occur some time ago, was due to the wilful negligence of ignorant persons; however, the cautions given to them have been effective, and through constant observations being taken, I am pleased to say that nothing serious has taken place.

The disinfection of rooms and bedding I have taken entire charge of; of the 107 rooms disinfected (mentioned in my appended list) 103 I have done myself, the remaining four having been done under the supervision of the Medical Attendant.

In conclusion, I wish to thank the Borough Officials for the kind manner in which they have rendered me assistance in many ways, and to you, Sir, I beg to tender my best thanks for having appreciated my efforts, and for making my work rather a pleasure than otherwise.

I am, Sir,

Your obedient servant,

JAMES CAVE,

Borough Sanitary Inspector.

W. Stamford, Esq., Medical Officer of Health.

Summary of Works, &c. Carried Out .-

- 90 Complaints have received attention.
 - 9 New drains have been put in.
- 17 Drains have been repaired.
- 75 W.C.'s have been refitted.
- 26 W.C.'s have had water supply laid on.
- 24 Drain ventilators have been erected.
- 120 Defective traps have been abolished and efficient ones substituted.
 - 13 Defective (inside) soilpipes have been abolished.

- 15 New soilpipes have been erected outside.
 - 2 New rainwater pipes have been erected.
- 114 Rooms have been cleansed.
 - 2 Offensive ditches have been cleansed.
- 130 Loads of offensive matter have been removed.
- 247 Houses have been inspected.
- 193 Visits been made to works in course of progress.
 - 2 Pigs unlawfully kept, removed.
 - 9 Cesspools emptied, cleansed, and filled in.
 - 1 Well emptied and cleansed.
 - 8 Cases of overcrowding dealt with.
- 358 Visits to infected houses.
- 107 Rooms disinfected.
 - 38 Loads of bedding disinfected.
- 347 Parcels of food examined.
 - 4 Samples of well-water analysed.
 - 84 Houses have had the town water supply laid on.
 - 86 New houses have been built.
 - 6 Cowsheds have been paved and drained.
 - 13 Yards have been repaved and drained.
- 171 Streets and roads have been regularly swept and kept clean.
- 5490 Dustbins have been periodically emptied and cleansed.
- 80 Cases have been removed to the Sanatorium, 71 over 5 years of age and 9 under.

Cowsheds, cows, dairies, slaughterhouses, and common lodging houses have been periodically inspected.

SUNSHINE AND RAIN IN 1894.

In 1894 the Jordan (photographic) sunshine recorder shewed 1,701½ hours of sunshine at Tunbridge Wells, and 66 sunless days. The most recorded in one day was 14 hours 40 mins. on the 30th of June. The Campbell-Stokes (burning glass) recorder gave 1,474¾ hours, and showed none on 72 days. The most sunshine recorded in one month was in July—214 hours 36 minutes; but there were 203 hours 57 minutes in March, which was very unusual; and although most enjoyable at the time was injurious, by causing vegetation to get too much advanced, and so to be more injured by the late frosts.

The greatest heat in the sun was 128 degrees on July 2nd, and in the shade 85.6 degrees on July 1st: and the hottest night was the 25th of the same month, when the thermometer did not go below 58.5 deg. The coldest in the air (4ft. above the ground on Mount Ephraim) was January 5th, when it registered 8.6 degrees, and on the grass January 6th, when it fell to—3.2 degrees. The mean temperature of the year was 49.1 degrees. The mean in the sun was 91.8 degrees; the mean daily range 14.2 degrees. There were 46 frosts in the air, 127 on the grass. The most in the air in one month was 13 in January, and there were none in June, July, August, September, and November. The most on the grass 25 in December, and there were none in June, July, and August.

The last frost in the air in spring was on May 22nd, and the 1st in autumn on October 17th. The last on the grass in spring was on May 29th, and the 1st in autumn on September 28th.

The temperature in the sun

First rose to 100 degrees on March 3rd.

,, 110 ,, March 31st.

,, 120 ,, April 8th.

Was last 120 ,, August 31st.

,, 110 ,, September 23rd.

,, 100 ,, November 1st.

In the shade

```
It was first 60 degrees on March 25th.

,, 70 ,, April 8th.
,, 80 ,, July 1st.
,, last 80 ,, July 6th.
,, 70 ,, September 19th.
,, 60 ,, November 2nd.
```

The difference between the wet and dry bulbs at 9 a.m. was greatest (9.7 deg.) on April the 8th; the mean was 2.6 deg.; and the mean temperature at that hour 50.1 deg.

The soil at the depth of 1ft. was coldest (35.7 degrees) on the 9th and 10th of January, and hottest (67.8 degrees) on the 2nd of July.

```
It first reached 50 degrees on April 8th.

,, 60 ,, July 16th.

It last ,, 60 ,, September 3rd.
,, 50 ,, November 6th.

The mean was 50 6 degrees.
```

The anemometer, showing the horizontal force of the wind, recorded 96,096 miles. The most windy day was February 11th, when 767 miles were recorded, and the calmest, October 8th, when it only showed 41. The mean was 263.5. The most windy month was January, with 10,404 miles; the calmest September, which onlygave 5,187.

The direction of the wind was-

| N | on | | 45 | days. |
|------|----|-----------|----------|-------|
| N.E. | ,, | | 40 | ,, |
| E. | ,, | *** | 32 | ** |
| S.E. | ** | | 31 | ,, |
| S.W. | ,, | | 45 52 | ** |
| W. | 11 | | 64 | ** |
| N.W. | ,, | | 55 | ,, |
| | | yariable. | | |

The rainfall amounted to 36.58 inches, and fell on 203 days. The wettest month was November, when 6.16 inches fell; and the wettest day November 11th, when there was 1.44 inches. The least rain was in May, when only 1.3 inches fell. The greatest number of wet days in a month was 23 in January, and the smallest (11) in April. Snow only fell on eight days. There was either thunder or lightning on 14 days.

F.G.S.



