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York

West Riding County Council.

REPORT

OF THE

COUNTY MEDICAL OFFICER

UPON THE

SANITARY CONDITION

OF THE

SELBY UNION.

(West Riding Portion.)

Printed by Order of the West Riding Sanitary Committee,
10th June, 1901.

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THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

LAND OFFICE

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

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UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

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With the Compliments
of the
County Medical Officer of Health.

County Hall,
Wakefield,



SELBY UNION.

THE West Riding portion of the Selby Union, to which this part of the Survey of the Administrative County refers, covers an area of 38,622 acres. It is scoop-like in form on paper, the handle being represented by the sparsely-populated parishes of Little Fenton and Biggin. The Union extends into the East Riding, but the West Riding portion, with which we are only concerned, has a water boundary, except on the west, where it abuts on the Tadcaster and Pontefract Unions. The district is emphatically rural, even in the vicinity of Selby town, which of late has, however, varied its trade by the introduction of a number of new industries.

It is administered sanitarily by two Authorities—the Urban, which was formed in 1851, and the Rural in 1872. The Urban covers an area of 3,896 acres. The Rural District, which comprises 34,726 acres, is divided into 19 parishes, Wistow being the largest and Thorpe Willoughby the smallest.

Forming, as it does, a portion of the extensive alluvial plain of the Vale of York, the physical features of the district are not expected to be very pronounced. With the exception of Brayton Barff and Hambleton Haugh (two hillocks of uncovered sandstone which rise to the height of 150 and 75 feet respectively) the country is flat, or at most gently undulating.

A considerable proportion of the population is housed on land below the 25 feet ordnance contour line. In fact, much of the land is below high water mark, but is protected by embankments, otherwise it would be submerged. It has this advantage, the position permits of the operation of warping, and the highly fertile silt of the rivers held in suspension can be deposited on the land. The result has been that the soil is largely composed of sand or warp, and is highly fertile and mostly arable. Bordering the rivers the soil is stiffer, consisting chiefly of laminated clay.

Traffic is provided for by highways, railroads, and water. The highways are well arranged, and kept in unusually good repair. In the country parts, and with the exception of some few streets in the town and principal centres of population which are laid with sets, they are made of macadam, which has been formed by a steam roller. The footpaths in this district require special note. They are covered with red burnt shale, and their tidy condition attracts attention, while the contrast between the light colour of the roadway and the burnt shale on the footpath is very pleasing to the eye. This material, it is said, costs 4/7 per ton. Dry footpaths, like dry backyards, are indeed not only a comfort to the traveller, but help in the maintenance of health. It is a pity in some parts (and this refers particularly to Selby town) that the fall-spouts often discharge directly on to the footpath, and not through a covered channel into the gutter. In the newer streets this is overcome by the introduction of a covered iron channel. The railways belong to two companies—the North Eastern and the Hull and Barnsley. Their disposition appears like the letter N, with the result that the district is pretty well supplied. There is also a light railway, recently purchased by the North Eastern, which traverses the area between Selby and Cawood through Wistow. This has proved of immense service to the agriculturalists by facilitating the importation of manure and exportation of produce. Selby Canal runs in a north-easterly direction from the River Aire at West Haddlesey to join the Ouse at Selby. The River Ouse, after being joined by the Wharfe, flows in a south-easterly direction, and in a somewhat tortuous course, along the northern boundary of the West Riding portion of the Union to its confluence with the River Aire a little north of the village of Airmyn. The Aire, for the greater part of its length, forms the southern boundary of the Union from West Haddlesey. Its course past Chapel Haddlesey, Temple Hirst, Hirst Courtney, Carlton, and Newland is very sinuous until it reaches the Ouse. At the junction of these two rivers the delta—Asselby Island—is formed. In nearly the whole of that part of its course (a distance of 15½ miles) the Aire is tidal, but at Chapel Haddlesey the tide is checked by a stone weir, which dams up the water to supply the Selby Canal referred to above. Into this part of the river there is little or no discharge of trade effluent, but the water of the Aire as it flows past is so polluted as to be incapable of maintaining fish life. There are other water-courses which require mention—the Selby dam, which flows eastward through the rural and urban districts to the River Ouse. It was once used as the motive power to drive the old Soke Mill at Selby, and is interesting on this account, as, along with the mill, it forms a relic of feudal times. There is also the streamlet known as Bishop Dyke, which for a little distance forms the boundary of the Union. It then flows in a north-easterly direction through Cawood to empty into the River Ouse. This dyke, it is interesting to note, was, many centuries ago, constructed to convey water to Cawood Castle, the former archiepiscopal palace. Reference to the sketch map will show that throughout the district there is quite a number of water channels, such as Temple Drain, Black Fen Drain, and Hambleton Dyke. These water courses are all of them more or less contaminated with sewage in the neighbourhood of

villages, as they invariably form the receptacle for the liquid filth from the adjoining dwellings. This remark refers to the rural district, because in the urban district sewers have been gradually provided, so that the town itself is now well sewered, although the sewage is discharged untreated into the River Ouse. It is well to record here that the Selby Dam Drainage Commissioners, by an Act of 1805, which was extended in 1885, have jurisdiction over certain of these land drains to maintain them in working order, and to levy a rate for the cost thereof. Within recent years, however, the Rural District Council has seen the wisdom of taking an active part in the matter, and now throughout the district the main land drains are, generally speaking, well attended to.

The geological formation of the district is triassic, represented by the bunter series of red sandstone. These are exposed at several places, *e.g.*, Brayton Barff, Hambleton Haugh; also at the villages of Camblesforth and Carlton, and in a quarry at Thorpe Willoughby. Altogether this area of denuded red sandstone amounts to about four square miles, and is important because it is from this area that the water supply of deep wells in Selby is said to come. There are several tracts of gravel overlying the sandstone, particularly at the base of Brayton Barff and Hambleton Haugh, but elsewhere there is a thick covering of clay, which around the town of Selby averages in thickness some 50 to 60 feet. At Cawood it is 57 feet. At this place also the red sandstone assumes a soft grayish character. The usual nature of the Bunter in this district is a loose red sand, becoming solid in form as it deepens, with clay bands and occasional partings of marl. The plane beds are well marked, and here and there it is badly fissured. It is devoid of fossils. This area is particularly interesting, as it forms a large underground reservoir, which provides the water supply to many people. It may be noted here for record that in a Bill of this Session power was sought by the Leeds Corporation to convert some portion of an area of 1,828 acres of arable land into a sewage farm, but the Committee of the House of Lords considered "it was not expedient that the Bill should proceed."

In the Urban District employment has become more variable in recent years. In addition to agricultural work, there is now ship-building, bacon curing, linoleum making, and tillage works. In the Rural District farm labour is the chief employment. At Hambleton a jam factory is now in operation. In 1835 a writer noted the pretty position of Selby town, and "the entire absence of smoke to pollute the atmosphere." This statement would not be absolutely true to-day. There are several chimneys which at intervals vomit forth an unnecessary large quantity of dense smoke, defiling the landscape, besides being a useless waste of coal. Upon inquiry it was found that at one factory the nuisance was due to want of boiler power, and that plans had been prepared to put down a second and new boiler. In a town like Selby, where the manufacturing element is likely to increase, the purity of the atmosphere—nature's free gift to man—should be very zealously guarded and maintained.

In studying the condition of the people with regard to sanitation, one cannot altogether overlook the history of the past, and in Selby town there is much to interest one. It is not alone to the historian that Selby is attractive; it is interesting also to the sanitarian. At the time of the Conquest, history records that where the town now stands it was forest and marshland, with much water around. But during the middle ages the town occupied a prominent position. With the Dissolution in 1536, however, came its decline. It was in those days, and even in recent times, that we read of ague being so prevalent in this and similar districts. The Abbey, founded in 1609, is a striking example of the evolution of architecture, and of the magnificence with which the rites of worship were celebrated in the palmy days of Roman Catholicism. One room is popularly referred to as the leper room. In the wall there is a leper's slot, which permits of a view directly on the altar. This reminds one that isolation is not a "new fad." The early registers contain an excellent list of sacrifices to filth disease, chiefly of a contagious character, and a comparison of the mortality tables of to-day with the figures of the latter half of the 18th century afford overwhelming evidence in favour of sanitation, the gospel of cleanliness. In Selby, Putrid Fever and Smallpox were prevalent in 1787, Cholera in 1832 and 1848, Irish Fever (typhus) in 1847. Notice has been taken in each parish of the Church register, because it is to some extent an indication of the age of the place and its surroundings, and many of them afford valuable evidence as to the existence and evolution of disease. The most curious register inspected was that of Drax, which dates back to 1600, and for this information I have to thank the Vicar. There are several very interesting items concerning the causes of death, which help us to form some idea as to the extent of medical knowledge during the 17th and 18th centuries. One man is recorded to have "dyed of a relaxation of the stomach which hindered his meat from being properly digested, as he always vomited what he took for some months before he dyed." This was probably a cancerous growth, obstructing the outlet from the stomach. Another death in 1787 was ascribed to Fever, but one Stephen Thompson says "he was devoured by louses." Another in 1795 was credited to "want of wind." Many died about this time with "acute fever," and others from "remitting fever," "excessive drinking," "palsy," "white swelling."

"looseness," "worms," "sore throat," "chincough," "smallpox," "putrid fever," "worm fever," "dropsy," and "sudden visitation of God." Dissatisfaction is often heard now-a-days with the ambiguity and indefiniteness of death certificates, but happily without the same justification as would have existed in earlier times. At the Cholera invasion in 1848 a Committee was formed to investigate, and after a personal inspection they came to the conclusion that the alarming mortality and sickness from Cholera was attributable to the insanitary state of the town.

Meteorology.—Our information with regard to the Selby Union is scant. There is no station, so far as I am aware, in the West Riding portion, but some idea of the rainfall can be gathered from neighbouring stations. At Doncaster the average of three stations during the years 1895-99 amounted to 23", while for the same years at York the average was 23·8". At Wakefield, if we extended our investigations to the ten years 1880-1889, the average is found to be 28·02".

TABLE I.—AREA, POPULATION, RATEABLE VALUE, Etc.

	Area in Acres.	1891 *		Density of Population, 1891.		Rate- able Value 1901. £	Elevation (in feet) above Sea Level.		Drainage Area.	Industries.
		Popula- tion.	Inhab. Houses.	Persons per House.	Persons per Acre.		Max.	Min.		
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)	(7)	(8)	(9)	(10)	(11)
Urban District:—										
Selby	3896	6178	1864	4·54	1·59	37960	25·0	18·3	Ouse	Flax Mills, Malting, Brewing, Shipbuilding, Bacon Fac- tory, Agriculture
Rural Parishes:—										
Barlow	2372	236	44	5·36	0·10	2765	18·6	12·4	Ouse	Agriculture
Biggin	718	118	29	4·07	1·16	809	25·0	22·2	"	"
Brayton	1801	353	72	4·88	0·19	10445	150·0	18·6	Ouse, Aire	"
Burn	2482	317	70	4·53	0·13	9287	27·0	15·2	"	"
Camblesforth	2132	301	71	4·24	0·14	2852	18·9	10·6	"	"
Carlton	3681	759	182	4·17	0·21	7451	24·1	10·6	Aire	"
Cawood	2891	1008	246	4·10	0·35	5843	26·0	19·8	Ouse	"
Chapel Haddlesey	1145	210	47	4·47	0·18	1741	26·0	19·7	Aire	"
Drax	968	382	91	4·20	0·39	2382	15·1	10·6	Ouse, Aire	"
Gateforth	2062	171	27	6·33	0·08	2156	75·0	21·8	Aire	"
Haddlesey West	1211	152	36	4·22	0·13	1959	27·0	21·0	"	"
Hambleton	2338	489	106	4·61	0·21	9182	125·0	18·6	Ouse	Jam Works
Hirst Courtney	630	116	24	4·83	0·18	1051	22·0	16·6	Aire	"
Little Fenton	779	72	15	4·80	0·09	681	27·0	25·0	Ouse	"
Long Drax	1683	117	29	4·03	0·07	2370	17·0	13·0	"	"
Newland	2296	261	60	4·35	0·11	2987	18·6	8·9	Ouse, Aire	"
Temple Hirst	758	115	30	3·83	0·15	5353	25·0	15·4	Aire	"
Thorpe Willoughby	463	130	29	4·48	0·28	4297	25·0	20·0	Ouse	"
Wistow	4316	674	160	4·21	0·16	7012	25·0	17·6	"	"
<i>Total of Rural Parishes.</i>	34726	5981	1368	4·37	0·17	80623	—	—	—	
Selby Union (West Riding portion)	38622	12159	2732	4·45	0·31	118583	—	—	—	

In Table I. figures are displayed relating to the acreage, population, the density of population in each house and on an acre, the rateable value, the elevation (both maximum and minimum), the drainage area in which the districts are situated, together with the industries carried on in the various parts. With regard to the rural population, in only one parish, namely Cawood, is there over 1000 inhabitants. Then comes Carlton with 759, followed by Wistow and Hambleton with 674 and 489 respectively, at the time of the census in 1891. The figures for the Urban District give a density of a little over 1.5 persons per acre, while in the rural the proportion is over five acres to every

* Since this report was written the preliminary Census figures of 1901 have been published, showing that the population of the Selby Urban District has increased to 7786, while the Rural population has decreased to 5822.

person living at the time of the census. Table II. is particularly interesting, because it helps to illustrate the subject now receiving much public attention, namely, rural exodus. Since the beginning of the century, until 1891, Selby town had more than doubled itself, and if the figures of the census just taken were available it would be found that Selby has probably trebled itself since 1801. In the Rural District we find that out of the 19 parishes six present a decline in population, four have become stationary; of the remaining nine an increase has only been noticeable in Brayton, Carlton, and Hambleton. Cawood, once so gay, is practically the same as at the opening of the last century. In a more detailed study of this table, one cannot overlook the movements of the population as revealed at each census. In the Urban District, apart from the increase of area by annexation in 1894, the growth has been gradual during the 19th century, whereas in the rural parts, in quite a number of the parishes, the maximum population was reached in the middle of the century, and since then emigration has gradually taken place. This is not the place to discuss the why and wherefore of this interesting social question.

TABLE II.—GROWTH OF POPULATION IN NINE DECADE, 1801—1891.

	PRE- SENT AREA. — Acres.	POPULATION.									
		1801	1811	1821	1831	1841	1851	1861	1871	1881	1891
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)	(7)	(8)	(9)	(10)	(11)	(12)
Urban District ;—											
Selby ...	3896	2861	3363	4097	4600	5376	5340	5424	6193	6213	6178
Rural Parishes :—											
Barlow ...	2372	173	195	175	225	284	276	289	268	208	236
Biggin ...	718	113	123	164	141	126	144	142	154	124	118
Brayton ...	1801	227	274	252	278	307	333	367	394	357	353
Burn ...	2482	189	221	238	244	281	316	320	362	341	317
Camblesforth ...	2132	190	231	257	260	321	335	322	299	299	301
Carlton ...	3681	536	687	775	808	802	784	752	769	728	759
Cawood ...	2891	1025	1053	1127	1173	1108	1195	1243	1179	1108	1008
Chapel Haddlesey ...	1145	152	165	199	196	216	230	210	177	177	210
Drax ...	968	221	296	370	350	364	420	446	443	355	382
Gateforth ...	2062	178	145	192	223	258	192	174	177	180	171
Haddlesey West ...	1211	224	238	293	296	288	222	213	179	148	152
Hambleton ...	2338	386	416	488	494	607	528	544	547	530	489
Hirst Courtney ...	630	132	152	145	117	134	137	126	117	112	116
Little Fenton ...	779	110	119	113	102	104	99	100	89	84	72
Long Drax ...	1683	170	169	187	140	171	181	162	166	156	117
Newland ...	2296	179	219	269	282	305	353	301	293	270	261
Temple Hirst ...	758	119	121	141	135	114	112	104	102	110	115
Thorpe Willoughby ...	463	121	128	144	148	157	161	150	164	176	130
Wistow ...	4316	647	623	633	665	756	788	849	817	769	674
<i>Total of Rural Parishes</i>	34726	5092	4575	6162	6277	6703	6806	6764	6716	6232	5981
Selby Union (West Riding portion)	38622	7953	7938	10259	10877	12079	12146	12188	12909	12445	12159

TABLE IIa.—DENSITY OF POPULATION, &c. (West Riding portion of Selby Union).

Census.	HOUSES.		POPULATION.			Persons per Inhabited House.
	Inhabited.	Uninhabited.	Males.	Females.	Total.	
1871	2836	155	6328	6561	12889	4.55
1881	2764	236	6100	6345	12445	4.50
1891	2732	269	5978	6181	12159	4.45

TABLE IIb.—HOUSES, ROOMS, AND OCCUPANTS.

This Table relates to the whole of the Selby Union including parts of the East Riding.

Size of Tenement.	Number of Tenements occupied respectively by												Total.		Percentage. England and Wales.	
	1 person	2 persons	3 persons	4 persons	5 persons	6 persons	7 persons	8 persons	9 persons	10 persons	11 persons	12 or more persons	Selby Union.			
1 Room ..	13	3	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	17	0·5	4·7	
2 Rooms..	105	88	42	21	22	14	6	1	7	—	—	1	307	8·6	11·4	
3 Rooms..	42	73	58	54	46	37	20	13	6	3	1	—	353	9·9	13·3	
4 Rooms .	73	226	195	175	142	108	86	42	16	7	5	1	1076	30·2	23·9	
Number of Tenements with less than five rooms												1753	49·2	53·3
Number of Tenements with five or more rooms												1813	50·8	46·7
Total Number of Tenements												3566	100·0	100·0

In Table IIb. information is given as to the density of persons in houses, and it may be noted in the last two columns that the proportion of one, two, and three-roomed houses is much less, and the number of four-roomed houses much greater, than in the country generally. The large majority of houses are two-storeyed, but they vary in height. This, and the absence of adherence to a building line, gives the appearance characteristic of a town largely erected before bye-laws were in force. The dwellings are invariably constructed of brick, hand-made in the earlier buildings and machine-made in the newer. There are a few erected of limestone in the eastern part of the district. Tiles form the roofing of the older, and slates of the more recently built houses. The tiled roofs, unless properly attended to, are apt to be leaky, as many were found where repairs had been neglected. There still remain a few thatched houses throughout the district. The aspect of the houses, especially in the rural district, is invariably governed by the direction of the highway. The objectionable habit of erecting houses in confined courts at right-angles to the roadway, is pronounced in Selby town. In several courts inspected the houses are absolutely sunless, and, in the absence of nature's disinfectant—the sun—they cannot be healthy. Inadequacy of ventilation is noticeable in many of the dwellings, due to the fixture of the sliding windows for want of use, to houses placed back-to-back or having no through ventilation, or to the absence of a fireplace in the bedroom. The spouts are worthy of attention, because, if defective or wanting, the water soaks into the walls and foundations, causing dampness, which is a fertile source of sore throat and rheumatism, the latter disease in its milder type being somewhat common in this locality. Curiously enough, the spouts are often provided on the side of the house abutting on the highway, but are absent in the rear. The floor of the living room, especially in the older houses, rests on the soil, and in these instances damp-proof courses are almost always absent. But in the new houses both these defects are generally remedied; damp-proof courses of one kind or another are provided according to the bye-laws, and a space intervenes between the floor and the soil, although the site is not always concreted so as to provide an impervious surface. This excellent measure affords a protection against the entrance of moisture, foul vapours and gases from the subsoil, and is of additional importance in this locality where the subsoil water stands so near the surface. Defects in house construction, maintenance, and environments exercise without doubt a material influence for harm amongst the occupants. It may be only debility, but that renders them a ready prey to other diseases from which they would be more likely to be exempt were they living in dry and cleanly-kept habitations. Repetition of these defects in houses about to be built should be zealously and effectively guarded against.

The villages, like the town, contain two classes of houses—the modern and the old. In the former, modern conveniences are more generally provided, while the old exhibit the usual defects of country cottages. Except for the freer air space round about the village houses, they are not better than the workmen's dwellings in the town. As a rule the country cottages are more or less damp, and in this district such examples are common. In some an attempt has been made to overcome the difficulties of bad construction by plastering the outside of the walls. Most of the cottages are detached or in small groups, each with its own plot of ground. Compared with town and city life the detached cottage should favour the development of home life. The isolation of the families, too, should assist preventive measures in restricting the spread of infectious diseases, and thereby materially lessen the difficulty of dealing with epidemics. The advantage of ample recreation room for the children in fresh air is a great blessing. It is worthy of record here that Dr. Franklin Parsons, in his Annual Report for 1875, arranged the various villages into groups in order of compactness, and found the death rate varied as the density of the population, which simply means (1) the concentration of the refuse matter of a population into a smaller area, tending to cause contamination of earth, air, and water; (2) the interference with the free circulation of air; and (3) the favouring of the communication of infectious diseases. It should, adds Dr. Parsons, be remembered that

the degree of concentration of a gas or vapour diffusing itself equally into the air would be inversely as the square of the distance from the spot whence it issued. In 1891, the density of persons per house was 4.5 in the urban against 4.4 in the rural. During the last decade (1891-1901) many new houses have been erected, and there is now a better supply. In 1875, Dr. Parsons, the then medical officer of health, drew particular attention to premises known as "town houses," which are let at very small rentals to poor persons. The majority of these are now, for want of funds, in a discreditable state of repair. There is another class of houses which will require comment—those occupied by "hinds," where the farm labourer occupies the house rent free, it being considered as part of the wages. In a number of these there is great room for improvement, and in several instances remonstrances with the tenants about living in unhealthy houses brought about the reply, "But what can we do, it belongs to the master?"

TABLE III.—DATES OF FORMATION OF THE SANITARY DISTRICT, AND ADOPTION OF ACTS, BYE-LAWS AND REGULATIONS.

	Date of Formation.	Adoptive Acts in Force.		Bye-Laws, with Date of Adoption							Regulations under Dairies, Cowsheds, and Milkshops Orders.
		Infectious Disease Prevention Act, 1860	Public Health Acts Amendment Act, 1890	New Streets and Buildings	Cleansing of Footways & Pavements	Prevention of Nuisances	Common Lodging Houses	Slaughter Houses	Offensive Trades	Other Matters	
Selby ...	1851	Yes	Yes	1894 1895 1899	—	1893	1887	1877	—	Pleasure Grounds.	1887
Selby Rural ...	1872	Yes	Yes	1899	—	—	—	—	—	—	1889

From the above table it will be seen that both District Councils have wisely adopted the Health Acts of 1890. With regard to bye-laws, both have also provided for the regulation of New Streets and Buildings, and the Urban has strengthened these by framing bye-laws under Sec. 23 of Amending Act of 1890. These bye-laws are quite up-to-date and worthy of imitation by other districts. Nuisances, Common Lodging Houses, and Slaughter-houses are regulated in the Urban, but not in the Rural, by bye-laws after the models of the Local Government Board. In neither can offensive trades be regulated owing to the absence of bye-laws. Pleasure Grounds have been dealt with by the Urban. Cowsheds are conducted under regulations framed in 1887 in the Urban, and in 1889 in the Rural.

TABLE IV—ISOLATION, DISINFECTION, BURIAL GROUNDS, PUBLIC SCAVENGING, BATHS AND WASHHOUSES.

	Isolation Hospital.	Disinfecting Apparatus.	Ambulance.	Burial Grounds.	Public Scavenging.	Destructor.	Baths and Wash-houses.	Public Mortuary.		
Selby Urban ...	Joint Hospital Committee formed by County Council in 1898. No Hospital.	None	None	Cemetery ...	Own Staff	None	Baths	Yes		
Selby Rural—										
Barlow ...				Churchyard ...	None	None	None	None	None	None
Biggin ...				—	"	"	"	"	"	"
Brayton ...				Churchyard ...	"	"	"	"	"	"
Burn ...				—	"	"	"	"	"	"
Camblesforth ...				—	"	"	"	"	"	"
Carlton ...				Cemetery.	"	"	"	"	"	"
Cawood ...				Roman Catholic	"	"	"	"	"	"
Chapel Haddlesey				Cemetery ...	"	"	"	"	"	"
Drax ...				Churchyard ...	"	"	"	"	"	"
Gateforth ...				Churchyard ...	"	"	"	"	"	"
Haddlesey West.				—	"	"	"	"	"	"
Hambleton ...				—	"	"	"	"	"	"
Hirst Courtney...				—	"	"	"	"	"	"
Little Fenton ...				—	"	"	"	"	"	"
Long Drax ...				—	"	"	"	"	"	"
Newland ...				—	"	"	"	"	"	"
Temple Hirst ...				—	"	"	"	"	"	"
Thorpe Wil-				—	"	"	"	"	"	"
loughby ...	—	"	"	"	"	"	"			
Wistow ...	Churchyard ...	"	"	"	"	"	"			

At Cawood the churchyard is now disused. Several of the parishes in the Rural District are grouped together for ecclesiastical purposes, and the burial ground is at the Parish Church, which accounts for the absence of a graveyard in several of the parishes.

The Management of Infectious Diseases.—Both District Councils utilise the advantages of the Notification Acts. As soon as information is received as to the existence of a case of infectious disease, a visit is made to the infected house, and instructions given with regard to isolation as far as the circumstances of the house and family will allow. In many houses, however, isolation is absolutely impossible. Disinfectants are provided, and in the poorer cases soap is given free of cost. The ashpit is emptied, and the drain is flushed and disinfected. The following handbill is left at the houses:—

RULES to be observed in dealing with cases of Small-pox, Scarlet Fever (or Scarlatina), Typhus Fever, Enteric (or Gastric) Fever, Puerperal Fever, Whooping Cough, Measles, Diphtheria, Membranous Croup, or Erysipelas.

The District Council are very desirous that the following Rules and suggestions should be strictly adhered to when any of the above infectious diseases occur in any part of their district:—

I.—On the first appearance of the disease the patient should be placed in a room away from the rest of the family. If this is not possible, then the room should be well ventilated, so as to allow plenty of air to pass between the patient's bed and the other parts of the room.

II.—Neighbours ought at such times to avoid entirely the practice of *visiting from house to house*, as infection is very often carried by the clothing to other families.

III.—No child should be allowed to attend *School* from a house where any infectious case exists, until a certificate has been received from the Medical Attendant, or the Medical Officer of Health, stating that it can do so without the risk of conveying infection to others.

The Sanitary Authority are informed that on many occasions infection is spread by a neglect of either of the two last precautions, and they desire to warn the public that such neglect constitutes one of the offences quoted below from the Public Health Act.

IV.—The room in which the sick person is placed should have all carpets, curtains, and unnecessary furniture removed from it.

V.—Some disinfectants should be kept at all times in the room, and especially in any chamber utensil used by the patient. Clothes removed from the sick person or from the bed should at once be soaked in the disinfectant before being washed.

VI.—All drains, closets, or privies near or about the house into which any discharges from the patient have been emptied should be disinfected every day.

VII.—Persons nursing such cases should wear dresses which can be disinfected and washed.

The public are reminded that the danger of infection lasts for a long time after the patient has apparently recovered; in scarlet fever cases the infection lasts for from five to six weeks after the child has "recovered from the fever," or as long as there is any peeling or roughness of the skin. The time that the infection of whooping-cough, fever, measles, or diphtheria lasts is so varied and uncertain that the only safe course is to be guided as to freedom from infection by the Medical Attendant, or by the Medical Officer of Health.

VIII.—After the recovery of the case, the sick room should be fumigated by burning about a pound of powdered brimstone in it, with the windows, fire-place, and doors carefully closed, every person having previously left the room; the bedding and wearing apparel which cannot be washed should be spread out and exposed to the sulphur fumes in the room.

IX.—When death occurs this disinfection ought to be carried out before the body is removed for burial.

X.—In the sick room the following disinfectants can be used:—

Carbolic Acid, in the proportion of one pint of acid to four gallons of water.

Condy's Fluid, in a small tea-cupful to a gallon of water.

For disinfection of drains, privies, &c. :—

Carbolic Acid, two pints to four gallons of water.

Carbolic Powder and *Chloride of Lime*, one or two pounds to the gallon of water; also,

Green Copperas, in the proportion of one pound to the gallon of water is very effectual.

N.B.—All these disinfectants must be looked upon as **Poisons**, and are therefore to be kept out of the reach of children. They can be had free, on application to the Inspector.

XI.—Anyone attending as a Nurse upon a case of Puerperal Fever must not visit any other woman at or near her confinement, as there is the greatest danger of infection being conveyed from one to the other through the Nurse. Before she can again safely attend, the Nurse ought to thoroughly disinfect herself and all her clothes.

XII.—To prevent any risk of conveying the infection of Erysipelas, everyone dressing the part of the body affected should immediately after wash the hands in one of the disinfectants named above.

The 126th Section of the Public Health Act, 1875, states that—

- Any person who I.—While suffering from any dangerous infectious disorder wilfully exposes himself without proper precautions against spreading the said disorder in any street, public place, shop, inn, or public conveyance; or
- „ „ II.—Being in charge of any person so suffering, so exposes such sufferer; or
- „ „ III.—Gives, lends, sells, transmits, or exposes without previous disinfection any bedding, clothing, rags, or other things which have been exposed to infection from any such disorder, shall be liable to a penalty not exceeding £5.

By Order.

If the disease shows any tendency to become prevalent then information of a similar kind is posted throughout the district. In 1892, when an invasion of Cholera seemed probable, handbills were issued as follows containing information which is at all times applicable:—

The Sanitary Authority desire to impress upon all Householders the importance of taking the following means for preventing an outbreak in the District:—

- 1.—It is considered advisable to boil daily all water which is to be used for drinking. It must be allowed to cool in a clean place, away from sinks or drains.
- 2.—No Water ought to be used from the River Aire, nor from any Stream or dyke into which any Sewage has been discharged.
- 3.—To Cleanse and Lime-wash all Cellars, damp or badly-ventilated Rooms; also the Yards and Passages.
- 4.—To regularly Disinfect and Keep Clean all House and Yard Drains.
- 5.—To burn all Vegetable Refuse.
- 6.—No Liquids ever to be thrown into the Ashpits.
- 7.—To remove all Waste Matter and Refuse or Lumber from the House and Yards.
- 8.—All Milk as soon as received into the house, and before being used, should be scalded.
- 9.—Fruit which is unripe or decayed in the slightest degree should not be eaten.

Householders are urged to observe the above rules, by which they will render very important assistance to the Authority in warding off an outbreak of Cholera.

BY ORDER.

There is as yet no hospital to facilitate the isolation of infectious cases, but both districts have been formed into a combination under the Isolation Hospitals Act of 1893, to provide the necessary accommodation. A site has been viewed but nothing further has been done because it is included in the area sought by Leeds for a sewage farm. The delay is unfortunate, but it is to be hoped that now the result of the application to Parliament is a refusal, that steps will be immediately resumed for the acquisition of a site. There is no provision for the disinfection of infected clothing, etc., but this will be provided along with the proposed hospital. At present reliance is almost entirely placed in sulphur and in boiling and the destruction of useless and irreparable articles. With no hospital in the past an ambulance has not been required, but this will also be provided as an adjunct to the new hospital.

Table IV also refers to scavenging. This is carried out in the urban district by the servants of the Council, but in the rural district by the owners and occupiers. In neither is there any destructor. In the urban district the water-carriage system is almost universally adopted. The apparatus used is of three types according to the flushing. The one generally in use is flushed directly from the mains by means of a rising valve. The closet itself is generally of the short hopper type, but the flushing rim, so essential for efficient cleansing, is not always present. Some of these closets were found, on inspection, to be made up and complaints were not uncommon. This form has been frequently condemned and the Council are now wisely urging the adoption of a flushing cistern of the capacity of at least two gallons. There are also a number of trough closets which, I am informed by the tenants, work very well. It ought to be borne in mind that the small amount of fall permissible in this district renders slop closets somewhat unsuitable. Where cisterns are provided they are quite unprotected, in fact they are placed just opposite the aperture over the top of the door. Inquiries, however, elicited the fact that freezing was not frequent, although in a few isolated instances information was obtained that actual freezing had taken place. It might be well to record here

that at some new property the landlord is introducing a system other than that of water-carriage. This is to be deplored as a retrograde step, and cannot be justified even on the score of economy, because no charge is made for water. It is true the bye-laws permit several kinds of closets, but the multiplicity of types must be costly for the administration especially when they occur in isolated groups. I understand the Urban District Council have made application, but the Local Government Board refused to restrict the bye-laws to the water-carriage system. Box closets are in use in some parts, but not all made of one size, neither are they always water-tight. These boxes, where the single service is in operation as in Selby, are sometimes permitted to continue in use and are but rarely replaced, thereby permitting pollution of the surrounding soil and contamination of the air of the closet. Moreover, the box is invariably withdrawn from the closet on to an unmade surface, except in a few instances. It is only by a double service in which each pan is taken regularly to a depot and comes under observation, that cleanliness can be properly maintained. Privy-middens still exist in the urban district but efforts are being steadily made to abolish these abominations. Some of them are inordinately large and the floor is not always above the ground level. Ashpits are invariably covered over so as to keep them dry, and at one row of houses the ashpits are sunk into the ground with moveable covers at the ground level. In the rural district privy-middens are general throughout, and the usual objections are:—(1) Want of proper light and ventilation, (2) often in unsuitable positions, (3) bad construction so that the fæces lie exposed, and is not covered with ashes, (4) want of facilities for cleansing, (5) open, *i.e.*, receiving the rainfall and very often the drippings from neighbouring premises which helps to materially aggravate the nuisance. In such instances one can always perceive the "old fashioned stink" in the proximity of these middens.

Reference is also made in Table IV to baths. In the month of May in this year, public baths were provided by the Urban District Council. They include slipper and vapour baths with an excellent swimming pond. They are situated in the public park, and have been erected at a total cost of about £6,000.

With regard to the provision of a public mortuary, one has been provided by the Urban District Council, but it is entirely utilised for persons found dead. So far so good, but it is extremely desirable that some inviting structure should also be provided where the people can have their dead removed while waiting for interment, especially is this the case where the accommodation at home is limited. With a family of four or five in a house with a kitchen and two bedrooms, one can imagine the undesirability of keeping a corpse for three days, particularly if the death has been due to any of the infectious diseases.

TABLE IVa.—ALLOTMENTS.

Selby Urban District	...	None.
Selby Rural District:—		
BARLOW	...	Every cottager has one along with his cottage.
BIGGIN	...	None.
BRAYTON	...	None.
BURN	...	Yes. Awarded by Enclosure Commissioners in 1852 to "Labouring Poor."
CAMBLESFORTH	...	None.
CARLTON	...	Provided by principal landowner. 6½ acres in extent. Plots vary from 1 rood to ½ acre; rent 13/6 per rood.
CAWOOD	...	Under Parish Council. 63 plots of 1 rood each; rent 12/- per plot.
CHAPEL HADDLESEY	...	None.
DRAX	...	Provided by principal landowner. 22 plots of ½ acre each; rent 25/- per plot.
GATEFORTH	...	None.
HADDLESEY WEST	...	None.
HAMBLETON	...	None.
HIRST COURTNEY	...	Provided by District Council. 1 plot of 1½ acres, rented at £3 0s. 0d. 9 plots of 1 acre, rented at £2 10s. 0d. each. 2 " ½ " " £1 5s. 0d. "
LITTLE FENTON	...	None.
LONG DRAX	...	None.
NEWLAND	...	None.
TEMPLE HIRST	...	Provided by private owner. 2 acres 2 roods 35 perches, rent £5 10s. 3 tenants.
THORPE WILLOUGHBY	...	None.
WISTOW	...	Provided by Parish Council. 16 plots of 1 acre each; rent £2 10s. 0d. per plot. 1 plot of ½ " " £1 5s. 0d. "

On first thought, some one may ask, what relation has allotments to sanitation? But a little reflection will remove any doubt. The legislature has recognised the connection, and made it the duty, under certain conditions, for the Sanitary Authority to acquire land by the Allotments Act, 1887, which has been supplemented by the Allotments Act of 1890, whereby the County Council may act.

TABLE V.—WATER SUPPLY

(1)	Centre of Population.	Approximate number of Inhabited Houses, 1901.	Approximate Population, 1901.	Water Supplies.		Sewerage.	
				Public.	Other.	System.	Kind.
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)	(7)	(8)
Selby Urban	Selby	1871	8000	Yes	Wells	Yes	Pipe
Selby Rural—							
BARLOW	Barlow	29	155	None	Wells	None	Pipe
	<i>Remainder</i>	14	75	"	"	"	"
BIGGIN	Biggin	24	98	"	"	"	—
	<i>Remainder</i>	5	20	"	"	"	"
BRAYTON	Brayton	56	273	"	"	"	Pipe
	<i>Remainder</i>	11	54	"	"	"	"
BURN	Burn	45	204	"	"	"	"
	<i>Remainder</i>	19	86	"	"	"	"
CAMBLESFORTH	Camblesforth	62	263	"	"	"	"
	<i>Remainder</i>	13	55	"	"	"	"
CARLTON	Carlton	176	734	"	"	"	"
	<i>Remainder</i>	23	96	"	"	"	"
CAWOOD	Cawood	228	985	"	(Wells, River Ouse and Bishopdyke Wells	"	"
	<i>Remainder</i>	15	62	"		"	"
CHAPEL HADDLESEY	Chapel Haddlesey	33	148	"	Wells	"	"
	<i>Remainder</i>	5	22	"	"	"	"
DRAX	Drax	63	265	"	"	"	Pipe
	<i>Remainder</i>	10	42	"	"	"	"
GATEFORTH	Gateforth	16	101	"	"	"	Pipe
	<i>Remainder</i>	11	70	"	"	"	"
HADDLESEY WEST	Haddlesey West	35	148	"	"	"	"
HAMBLETON	Hambleton	105	484	"	Wells	"	Pipe
	<i>Remainder</i>	8	37	"	"	"	"
HIRST COURTNEY	Hirst Courtney	23	111	"	"	"	"
	<i>Remainder</i>	2	10	"	"	"	"
LITTLE FENTON	Little Fenton	16	77	"	Wells	"	Pipe
	<i>Remainder</i>	2	10	"	"	"	"
LONG DRAX	Long Drax	11	44	"	Wells and River Ouse Wells	"	"
	<i>Remainder</i>	17	69	"		"	"
NEWLAND	Newland	18	78	"	Rain and Ditch-water, Wells and River Aire Rainwater and Wells	"	"
	<i>Remainder</i>	42	183	"		"	"
TEMPLE HIRST	Temple Hirst	27	103	"	Wells	"	Pipe
	<i>Remainder</i>	2	8	"	"	"	"
THORPE WILLOUGHBY	Thorpe Willoughby	29	130	"	"	"	Pipe
	<i>Remainder</i>	2	9	"	"	"	"
WISTOW	Wistow	126	530	"	"	"	Pipe
	<i>Remainder</i>	18	76	"	"	"	"

Sewage.		Trade Effluents.		Remarks.
Destination.	Treatment, if any.	From	Admitted into Sewers.	
(9)	(10)	(11)	(12)	(13)
River Ouse	None	Brewery, Bacon Factory	Yes	Several outlets to River. 14 houses to Selby Dam
Ditch	None	None	No	
"	"	"	—	
"	"	"	—	25 houses to Fox Dyke
"	"	"	—	
"	"	"	—	
"	"	"	—	
"	"	"	—	20 houses to Clay Pit Lane Dam
"	"	"	—	
"	"	"	—	90 houses to covered tanks, with overflow to tributary ditches of Weigh Bridge Drain
"	"	"	—	
River Ouse	"	"	—	
Ditch	"	"	—	Four farm houses to Dutchman's Dyke
"	"	"	—	
"	"	"	—	48 houses by several outlets to tributaries to Town Drain and Temple Drain
"	"	"	—	
"	"	"	—	
"	"	"	—	
"	"	"	—	
"	"	"	—	108 houses to Causeway Dyke or Barley Dyke
"	"	"	—	
"	"	"	—	29 houses to Ings and Marsh Drain
"	"	"	—	
"	"	"	—	12 houses to Carr Dyke
"	"	"	—	
"	"	"	—	
"	"	"	—	40 houses to tributary stream of River Aire
"	"	"	—	
"	"	"	—	20 houses to Common Lane Drain
"	"	"	—	
"	"	"	—	20 houses to Town Dyke
"	"	"	—	
"	"	"	—	
"	"	"	—	Four houses to Dutchman's Dyke

In the foregoing Table the populations have been divided into (1) the village proper, and (2) the remainder of the parish, to facilitate a clearer idea of the provisions relating to water supply, sewerage, and sewage disposal. The population is estimated on the approximate number of houses inhabited in 1901.

Referring to water, it will be seen that the only public supply provided is in the town of Selby, which obtains its water from an artesian well sunk to the depth of 676 feet in the new red sandstone. In considering a well water, it is necessary to have due regard to the gathering ground from which the well is supplied. In this locality it is of particular interest. The well itself is tubed to the depth of 138 feet, thereby excluding all the waters from the adjacent rocks. In addition to this, however, the well is safeguarded by a layer of impervious clay some 50 feet in thickness, through which neither the rainfall nor surface pollutions can percolate. This bed of clay extends for some distance around Selby, so that the water can only reach the well from the rain-absorbing area referred to under the head of geology. The water is raised from the well into a tank 80 feet high, and capable of containing 150,000 gallons. It is then distributed over the town, in the majority of instances to standpipes in the yards, but in others to taps in the houses. The water supply of the rural parts is generally drawn from wells, either by pump or by bucket. River water is also used, and occasionally rain water. The wells are in most cases comparatively shallow, the water being found in the district at the depth of some eight feet from the surface. It contains abnormal quantities of mineral and organic matter, sometimes derived from the alluvial or peaty soil, but more often from the percolation of sewage from drains, privies, and farmyards. Such contamination is obvious at times from its yellowish colour. For many years, Dr. Mitchell Wilson, the Medical Officer of Health, has regularly analysed a large number of samples, with the result that some 57 per cent. have been found to be contaminated, and yet the inhabitants invariably praise their water supplies, and so pass their lives in this blind confidence in the goodness of their well waters. Numerous samples have been analysed during this survey, and the results are tabulated on page 13. From these analyses it will be seen that polluted water is lamentably common throughout the district, 25 samples being quite unfit to drink out of a total of 32 examined. In the country one would expect to find the purest water, but from one or another cause the country folks are worse off respecting this blessing than those living in large cities. The people do not realise (1) that it is absolutely necessary to preserve the precincts and gathering ground of the well from all filth; (2) that the proximity of a well to a farmyard means only a question of time to produce pollution of the water; (3) that the well requires periodical examination and cleansing; (4) that great danger arises in the use of filth-contaminated water; (5) that good water is as necessary to the farm animal as for man. In perusing the carefully prepared reports of Dr. Mitchell Wilson, the Medical Officer of Health, there are to be found numerous instances of disease associated with contaminated water, particularly enteric fever. Diphtheria also, which is not so general, has been ascribed to tainted water supply. The question of water supply has been constantly before the Rural Sanitary Authority, and the Medical Officer of Health has urged over and over again the advantages of bored wells as against the old type of shallow, dry steined wells. Curiously enough, both Dr. Parsons and Dr. Mitchell Wilson have stated that the waters of the River Ouse (and I would even add the River Aire) is probably chemically purer than many of the country well waters. These remarks have a meaning for every tourist. In previous Survey Reports, Nos. 6 and 7, reference was made to methods which have been adopted for the exclusion of soil pollutions from wells.

In Table V. details will also be noticed with regard to sewerage and sewage disposal. Many of the sewers in the Urban District have been constructed or relaid recently on modern principles, and though some of them act as tank sewers, still the danger which might accrue from this is overcome by the provision for the pumping of the sewage into the river during times of high water or when the river is in flood. There are no sewage disposal works either in the Urban or Rural Districts. In the former it goes directly into the river, and in the latter to the nearest ditch, water-course, or depression, sometimes at the rear of the house, sometimes even on the side of the highway, where the result is invariably a nuisance. In those instances where ditches and water-courses serve for land drainage and the sewage is discharged into them at a distance from the dwellings or public roads there may be little nuisance, as the action of plants and the exposure to air and sunlight effect some purification, but where the sewage lies in a stagnant pool near dwellings and along highways, anyone would be bold indeed to advocate or uphold such an insanitary condition. These ditches are simply dug in the soil, the beds irregular and the banks of crumbling earth, still in many parts careful attention is given to the cleansing and clearing; nevertheless at many places sewage was seen to form stagnant cesspools which at the time of my visit were bubbling with gases of decomposition. Reference to this will be found again in the details as to the various parishes. In the Urban District means of flushing have been provided, and the ventilation of the sewers has received much attention. Special exhaust shafts have been erected, but many of the surface gratings have been stopped up. In the Rural District new sewers have been laid, but a difficulty has been found with the debris from the roads, and particularly as in a country district like this it is difficult to provide proper gradients in the sewers to make them self-cleansing. It has therefore been found necessary to insert in the course of the sewers cesspits which catch the sludge, but this is a system at variance with modern ideas. Unless these are regularly emptied the decomposition of the contents is apt to cause a

nuisance, but they are regularly attended to, and those inspected were found to be satisfactory. In all there are some 127 of these cesspits in the rural district. In 1877 Dr. Parsons referred to this matter in his Annual Report as follows:—"I regret that in several places where pipe sewers have been laid at the instance of your Board the results have not been satisfactory; the pipes have become blocked with sediment and have had to be taken up. This has been owing to the want of a proper outfall, to the want of sufficient means of flushing, and to the pipes having been inefficiently laid, as without sufficient fall or in the soft bottom and crooked course of an old ditch. In any future case I should recommend the Board not to attempt to patch up the old drains but to carry out a proper system of sewage, the sewers being provided with manholes, ventilating shafts, and means of flushing, and being carried in straight lines from manhole to manhole. Except in simple cases it would, I think, be the truest economy in the long run to ask the advice of a competent professional engineer. As a means of flushing I should like to see a trial given to the syphon flush-tanks. Another thing which our experience has shown to be necessary is some simple means of clarifying the sewage.

TABLE Va.—SAMPLES OF DRINKING WATER FROM THE SELBY UNION, ANALYSED IN THE COUNTY HEALTH LABORATORY, 1901.

LABORATORY REFERENCE NUMBER.	HARDNESS	CHLORINE	ALKALI- NITY in Terms of Carbonate of Soda.	SOLID MATTER.		Oxidized Nitrogen.	AMMONIA.		OXYGEN CONSUMED in Two Hours at 100° C.	REMARKS.
				Total.	Loss on Ignition.		Free.	Albuminoid.		
				<i>Grains per Gallon.</i>				<i>Parts per Million.</i>		
Selby Urban 129 (1)	15.0	1.5	14.2	22.4	6.3	0.2	0.000	0.003	0.9	Good
Barlow 119 (3)...	38.0	11.5	27.1	110.6	28.0	1.7	0.016	0.216	10.2	Bad
119 (4)...	15.0	1.3	14.8	24.5	7.0	nil.	0.016	0.216	11.4	Bad
Brayton 129 (2)...	29.0	6.3	6.7	67.2	18.9	3.2	0.086	0.064	4.3	Bad
129 (3)...	26.0	7.8	8.5	91.0	15.4	4.9	0.000	0.126	7.2	Bad
Burn 119 (1)...	10.0	2.2	5.6	24.1	6.3	nil.	0.258	0.126	8.5	Bad
119 (2)...	43.0	29.1	7.8	238.0	44.1	16.1	6.300	0.600	12.7	Bad
Camblesforth ...	15.0	5.6	3.0	67.2	16.1	4.0	0.010	0.140	6.9	Bad
127 (3)										
127 (4)...	29.0	7.8	13.7	100.8	16.8	5.6	0.010	0.124	5.5	Bad
Carlton 107 (1)...	21.5	6.6	17.4	87.5	13.3	4.1	0.016	0.170	6.8	Bad
107 (2)...	53.0	22.7	21.5	181.0	39.2	9.8	5.246	0.190	7.8	Bad
107 (3)...	32.0	14.0	40.0	151.9	23.1	4.9	0.010	0.180	6.3	Bad
107 (4)...	32.0	24.1	22.6	136.9	14.0	6.3	0.632	0.146	8.5	Bad
107 (5)...	19.0	2.8	7.4	39.9	9.1	2.2	0.012	0.054	4.4	Fair
107 (6)...	7.5	2.2	2.6	16.8	4.2	0.3	1.680	0.056	7.4	Bad
Cawood 117 (1)...	11.0	1.4	11.1	23.1	2.8	nil.	0.022	0.060	5.5	Good
117 (2)...	35.0	3.1	19.7	48.3	6.3	0.5	0.014	0.060	2.6	Fair
Chapel Haddlesey	46.0	9.8	18.5	91.0	15.4	3.8	0.008	0.076	3.7	Bad
109 (4)										
Drax 127 (1)...	19.0	9.1	24.1	60.2	11.2	0.6	0.042	0.046	4.0	Bad
127 (2)...	23.0	11.2	31.1	94.5	12.6	1.9	0.016	0.038	2.5	Bad
127 (3)...	34.0	5.6	27.1	104.3	20.3	1.3	0.016	0.304	8.6	Bad
Drax Long 127 (6)	11.0	2.5	9.6	113.4	8.4	Nil	0.556	1.040	32.5	Bad
Gateforth 129 (4)	23.0	5.6	6.7	69.3	9.1	3.2	0.002	0.104	7.4	Bad
Haddlesey West	40.0	8.3	22.2	96.4	18.2	4.3	0.004	0.168	4.6	Bad
109 (3)										
Hambleton 129 (5)	33.0	11.5	20.8	138.6	30.8	5.8	0.196	0.204	9.1	Bad
129 (6)	20.0	5.0	18.5	51.8	11.2	0.5	0.016	0.090	5.5	Fair
Hirst Courtney										
109 (1)	49.0	7.0	21.1	100.1	16.1	3.8	0.002	0.082	3.9	Bad
109 (2)...	35.0	6.7	13.3	95.2	23.1	4.5	0.008	0.072	3.4	Bad
Newlands 139 (1)	30.0	6.9	34.1	84.7	18.2	1.0	0.006	0.080	2.2	Fair
Temple Hirst ...	34.0	11.9	18.6	129.5	16.8	5.0	0.012	0.344	14.0	Bad
135 (3)										
Thorpe Wil- loughby 135 (2)	19.0	1.3	9.3	37.1	8.4	1.0	0.000	0.096	3.7	Fair
Wistow 135 (1)...	27.0	13.3	8.2	123.2	21.0	8.4	0.008	0.090	4.8	Bad

TABLE VI.—MILK SUPPLIES.

		Number of—		Regulations	Registration	Inspection
		Cow-keepers	Purveyors of Milk			
Selby Urban	...	25	17	1887	Yes	Yes
Selby Rural	...	17	14	1889	Yes	Yes

These figures create a little surprise to find that there are a greater number of cow-keepers registered in the Urban than in the Rural district. It would seem to indicate that in the latter greater attention is necessary to this important item.

In neither district are the regulations under the Dairies, Cowsheds, and Milkshops Order of an up to date character, in fact they are obsolete having been framed over ten years ago. In them there is no requirement as to any definite cubic space for each animal, and it would appear that a difference is made between buildings occupied as cowsheds before the regulations came into force, and those occupied afterwards. In the Order, Clause 8, it is clearly laid down that it is unlawful to occupy any building as a cowshed, whether so occupied at the commencement of this Order or not, so long as the lighting and ventilation thereof are not such as are necessary and proper. It would be well that in an agricultural district like this the new Model Regulations should be adopted. The evidence that is daily accumulating as to the relation of milk to tuberculosis, to enteric fever, to scarlet fever, to diphtheria, and to other diseases of man, demands the exercise of the greatest care concerning the health conditions of the cow and the distribution of the milk to man. Improvements to keep cowsheds on a proper sanitary footing cost money, but a little expenditure timely undertaken will prove economical in the end. Many of the milk producing farms require amendment. One picture will illustrate the conditions common to many of them. The farm buildings, with some exceptions are in fair repair, but absence of spouting was general on all the buildings except the dwelling house. The farm buildings are arranged around an open foldyard, with the back windows of the farm dwelling overlooking it, and only separated from it by a footway, so that in the summer the kitchen cannot but be pervaded by the emanations from the accumulation of manure into which the drainage of the house, cowsheds, and stables flows, and here and there forms lagoons of decomposing liquid. Outside the back door, sometimes even in the fold, sometimes a yard or two away, one finds the pump with the well generally underneath. Of course, this description does not apply to all farm buildings. Some of them are very tidily kept, and it is not unusual to gather some idea of the occupier from the conditions of the farm premises and their surroundings. The waste of liquid manure at some of the farms is almost inconceivable unless noted personally. I have seen large farmyards with a dozen cattle, besides pigs, etc., discharge the liquid contents directly into a running stream. The excuse for this is the labour and cost of pumping, the absence of any cover to the fold, and the usual story that the landlord will not do anything.

SALE OF FOOD AND DRUGS ACTS.—It might be recorded here that neither of the Authorities in the Union have exercised their powers of taking samples of food for analysis, nor have they taken advantage of the arrangements whereby the County Council undertake to pay for the analysis of milk samples submitted by local officers and to provide the necessary outfits and legal assistance. Nevertheless, the Inspectors of the West Riding County Council have from time to time purchased samples in this district and it may be stated that out of 100 such samples 76 per cent. were genuine, 17 per cent. inferior, and 7 per cent. adulterated.

The importance of the question as to the evil consequences which may arise from the consumption of contaminated milk is growing daily in the public regard. The fear of some people that a higher standard of regulations relating to cowsheds may drive farmers out of the trade is not supported by experience. Better cowsheds mean healthier cows and a higher quality of milk.

TABLE No. VIa.—ANALYSIS OF COWSHEDS.

Selby Urban District—

No. of Cowshed.	Number of Animals.	Cubic Space per Animal.	Ventilation.	Lighting.	Water.	Flooring and Drainage.	Middenstead.	Head-walk.	Food Store.	Remarks.
1	9	513	Nine openings 7in. by 4½in., and space between galvanised roofing and the wood parlin	Two trellis windows	Public supply	Brick floor and channel draining to gully outside premises	Open in yard	None	Separate	Foul open yard
2	3	673	Three perforated bricks, two trellis windows	Seven glass tiles in roof	Pump	Cobble and brick floor with tile channel, draining to open fold yard	Open fold yard	"	"	Large, deep, and foul fold-yard
3	4	427	Two openings, each 7½in. by 6in.	Four glass tiles in roof and the two openings for ventilation	Public supply	Brick floor and channel	Open midden	"	"	The yard is very unsatisfactory
4	6	503	Four 2in. field tiles and two trellis windows	Two windows, each 28in. by 8½in.	"	Very bad brick floor and channel, liquid standing in pools	Open fold yard	"	"	Very foul yard, liquid standing in pools
5	4	519	Two openings, 14in. by 4½in., one blocked	Three glass tiles in roof	"	Rough brick floor and channel in each case draining to gully outside	Large open midden	"	"	Large open midden
5A	5	641	None	Two glass tiles in roof	"	"	"	"	"	"
6	7	469	No permanent ventilation. One trellis window	Eight glass tiles in roof and one window 2ft. 6in. by 11in.	Pump	Brick floor and channel draining to gully outside	Open midden	"	"	Fairly good
7	6	784	No permanent ventilation. Two trellis windows	One glass tile in roof and two windows, 2ft. 4in. by 9in.	Public supply	Rough brick floor with bad channel draining to gully outside	Open fold yard	"	"	"
8	6	473	Ridge tile raised, and one trellis window	One window 2ft. by 10in. and one window 1ft. 7in. by 1ft. 8in.	"	Brick floor and channel draining to cesspool outside with overflow to public sewer	Open midden	"	"	Foul open midden close to cowshed

NOTE.—There are several Cowsheds in regard to which the District Council are taking action and are about to be re-built which are not included in the above.

No. of Cowshed.	Number of Animals	Cubic Space per Animal.	Ventilation.	Lighting.	Water.	Flooring and Drainage.	Middenstead.	Head-walk.	Food Store.	Remarks.
1	4	421	128 sq. in. (permanent)	Three glass tiles in roof	Pump	Rough brick floor and channel drained to open fold yard	Open fold yard	None	Separate	Foul yard
2	15		50 2 in. land tiles; ridge ventilation. 350 sq. in. of trellis window	Four glass tiles in roof, and 276 sq. in. of window	"	Good brick floor and channel drained to fold. Open yard	"	"	"	"
3	8	798	25 2 in. land tiles, 469 sq. in. of trellis window	480 sq. in. of windows	"	Bad brick floor and channel, liquid standing in pool, drains to open fold yard	"	"	"	Fold yard drained into village drain
4	2	397	None	None	"	Rough brick floor, liquid standing in pools inside and outside cowshed	Manure heaped against cowshed	"	"	Wooden building, foul surroundings
5	2	406	18 sq. in. (permanent), 1 trellis window, 214 sq. in.	Window, 2 ft. square	"	Wooden sleepers, no drainage	Open yard	"	"	"
6	4	554	11 openings, 208 sq. in. area, which were stopped up with hay	No permanent lighting	"	Rough cobble floor and channel drained to open fold yard	Open fold yard	"	"	Very foul yard
7	4	544	None	"	"	Cobble floor, with bad channel, draining to open midden	Open midden	"	"	"
8	4	252	None	None	"	Wooden sleepers, no proper drainage	Open, close to cowsheds	"	"	(Wooden premises, with very foul surroundings, pig kept in part of No. 8)
8A	1	210	12 sq. in. permanent	None except the opening 4 ft. by 3 in. for Ventilation	"	Rough cobble, no proper drainage	Open in yard	"	"	Unsatisfactory surroundings, pools of water standing in yard
9	2	355	None permanent	None	"	Rough brick floor with bad drainage channel	Open fold yard	"	"	Foul open fold yard
10	3	417	None permanent	None	"	Rough cobble floor with bad channel	Open midden close to cowshed	"	"	Unsatisfactory surroundings
11	5	433	None permanent	No permanent lighting	"	Brick floor with very narrow channel, floor filthy	Open fold yard	"	"	Foul fold yard
12	2	630	One trellis window 336 sq. in.	297 sq. in. of window	"	Brick floor, bad drainage to fold land	"	"	"	Large open fold yard
12A	4	672	Two trellis windows 672 sq. in.	594 sq. in. of window	"	Brick floor and channel which drains into a tub outside cowshed	Open midden	"	In Cowshed...	"
13	7	364	Nine 2 in. land tiles; 592 sq. in. of trellis window	504 sq. in. of window	"	Brick floor, bad channel, liquid standing in pool	"	"	Separate	"
14	3	609	Two 3 in. land tiles in gables. Two trellis windows 132 sq. in.	198 sq. in. of window	Draw well	Good brick floor with a good channel draining to fold yard	Open fold yard	"	"	New cowshed
15	4	360	None permanent	No permanent lighting	Pump		"	"	"	"
16	6	652	Ridge ventilation. Two trellis windows 166 sq. in.	Two windows 22 in. by 7 in.	"		Open fold yard	"	"	"

TABLE VII.—SLAUGHTER HOUSES.

	Number.	Bye-Laws.	Registration.	Inspection.
Selby Urban ...	12	1877	Yes	Yes
Selby Rural ...	7	—	—	Yes

In Selby Urban there are 12 slaughter houses. Most of them are badly situated in narrow, confined positions, and are much too near dwellings. At about half of them the only means of approach to the slaughter house is through the shop, which forms a passage for the animals taken in, and the garbage and refuse carried out. There is undoubtedly a great need for a public abattoir. This has been recognised and recommended as far back as 1874. Several of them have no notice displayed publicly, as required by Section 170 of the Public Health Act of 1875, such as "Licensed Slaughterhouse," or "Registered Slaughterhouse." The floor is chiefly composed of flags, which are liable to become loose and movable, with the result that the filth percolates underneath and putrefaction follows. Several instances were noticed where the floors were unsatisfactory. In three places the floors were made of concrete, and, as is usually expected, they were clean and satisfactory because of their being easily washed. The walls are generally of brick, and not impervious, and only limewashed. In two instances the walls were tarred to the height of three or four feet. As regards water supply, they are all provided. Half-a-dozen of them are drained to gullies inside the slaughter house, and in one case the waste pipe from the kitchen sink discharges upon the floor. The provision of non-absorbant vessels, with close fitting covers, for the removal of refuse is wanting in most cases. In a few cases the refuse is thrown into the midden, which resulted in a foul nuisance in one case, and this was materially aggravated by the insanitary condition of an adjoining pigstye. While writing this report a painful exhibition was given of the dragging of a cow through a passage to a slaughter house on the 21st May. This afforded a telling argument in favour of a public abattoir. Of course, there are other arguments equally forcible, such as (1) hygienic, (2) economic, and (3) humanitarian.

In Selby Rural, the District Council have taken no steps to obtain urban powers to regulate slaughter houses in their district. Seven of them were inspected, and the work of the officials should be strengthened by bringing such premises under proper control, and also in a thorough sanitary condition, because, although the medical officer of health and sanitary inspector visit them as they do, from time to time, they cannot effectually take steps to remedy deficiencies.

TABLE VIII.—OFFENSIVE TRADES.

	Number and Description.	Bye-Laws.	Inspection.
Selby Urban ...	None Registered	—	Yes
Selby Rural ...	—	—	—

Bone boiling, fat rendering, and gut cleansing, are carried on at several places in the Urban District, but they are not registered, nor are they subject to any bye-laws. Under such circumstances it would be difficult to deal with any new business which might be begun, even though it was not in conformity with the ideas of the Council. There is also a knacker's yard in the urban district where carcasses of horses, etc., are boiled and treated for manure, and these premises are licensed. The effluvia from one of the boiling pans is carried by a 2½ inch iron pipe to the underside of the fire box. In the other case there is a 6 inch pipe connected with the chimney, and the gases do not pass through the fire.

Without bye-laws the existing offensive trades cannot be regulated satisfactory.

TABLE IX.—COMMON LODGING HOUSES.

	Number.	Bye-Laws.	Registration.	Inspection
Selby Urban ...	5	1887	Yes	Yes
Selby Rural ...	—	—	—	—

There are only five Registered Common Lodging Houses in the Union and these are situated in town of Selby.

Considering the great part which this class of premises play in the spread of the more contagious of the zymotic diseases, there is need for much stricter supervision throughout the Riding than is being given at present.

Selby is in much the same condition as most towns in this respect. The District Council do not cause the words "Registered Common Lodging House" to be affixed in some conspicuous place on the outside of the house, which Sec. 79 of the Public Health Act gives them power to do. They do not enforce the provision of bye-law 5 as to screens in married quarters, nor bye-law 7 as to the daily cleansing of rooms. In none of them are there permanent basins for washing as suggested by the Local Government Board. Bye-law 21 requires a separate bed for each male above ten years of age, but in all the houses double beds are provided, and some of the keepers acknowledged that two men slept in one bed. By having double beds overcrowding of the rooms takes place. This has been obviated in several towns by causing the keepers to provide single beds for the men's quarters. In none of the rooms were notices exhibited under bye-law 24 stating the number of lodgers authorised to occupy the rooms. In only one case was a copy of the bye-laws exhibited in the house, and here it was hung in a room not used by the lodgers. In one case the bed-linen was in need of cleansing, but in the others it was in fairly good condition.

TABLE X.—MEAN ANNUAL RATES, PER 1,000 LIVING, DURING THE FIVE YEARS 1895—99.

	Birth Rate.	Death Rate.	Death Rate from				Infant Mortality.
			Zymotic Diseases.	Phthisis.	Respiratory Diseases.	Injuries.	
Selby Urban ... (West Riding portion)	31·0	19·6	2·8	1·3	2·4	0·4	183
, Rural ...	27·8	14·8	1·0	0·6	1·6	0·9	130
England and Wales ...	29·7	17·8	2·7	1·3	3·1	0·6	157

The position of the Urban District in comparison with the country generally is not so favourable as one would have expected. Two noticeable features are the higher gross death rate and the infantile mortality, while the deaths ascribed to infectious diseases and consumption are approximately similar. On the other hand, the Rural displays a set of figures more in unison with one's expectations, and compares very favourably with the rates in England and Wales. The remarkably low mortality from consumption and respiratory diseases is striking.

TABLE X a.—AVERAGE ANNUAL RATES DURING TWO DECADES.

(These Figures are for the entire Union, including Parts of the East Riding.)

PERIOD.	ANNUAL RATES PER 1,000 LIVING.			Per 1,000 Births.
	Deaths.	Births.	Marriages.	Infantile Mortality.
1871—1880 ...	20·31	32·61	11·26	142
1881—1890 ...	17·71	30·82	11·76	116

The figures displayed in the above table are highly encouraging, notably in connection with the crude death-rate and the infantile mortality. Both show an improvement. The birth-rate appears to be declining here as elsewhere, and the result apparently cannot be ascribed to a diminution in the number of marriages. Can it be supposed that the inhabitants are not marrying until later in life, and nearer the end of the child-bearing period? Investigations negative that idea. Gossip has it that sociological factors play an important part, and will do with the increase of intercommunication with large towns. Opinions anent the growth of populations have varied at different times, but it would appear that there is now no cause for alarm lest the growth exceed subsistence.

TABLE XI.—SEX AND AGE-DISTRIBUTION OF POPULATION, *PER CENT.*

LOCALITY.	SEX.		AGES.				
	Male.	Female.	0-5	5-15	15-25	25-65	Over 65
England and Wales	48.5	51.5	12.3	22.8	19.3	40.9	4.7
West Riding	48.7	51.3	12.0	22.7	20.0	41.6	3.7
Selby Urban	48.2	51.8	11.9	22.8	19.4	40.4	5.5
Selby Rural*	50.3	49.7	12.5	23.4	16.2	40.0	7.9

* Selby Rural District before alteration, and including parts of the East Riding.

The similarity of sex distribution in the country—in the Riding and in Selby Urban—is noticeable, and the predominance of the female in each, whereas in the Rural the female sex form the lesser portion. This condition arises probably from the means of employment.

With regard to age distribution, the low figures in the period 15 to 25 years of age, and the higher figure in the age period over 65 years are significant, and indicate that the rural exodus going on throughout the country is also in operation here.

TABLE XII.—The following figures are compiled from the Registrar General's Returns for the 10 years 1890-99. They relate to the whole of the Selby Union, separate data not being obtainable for the West Riding portion alone.

<i>Mean Population 15,093.</i>		
<i>Births 4,495, of which 273, or 6.1 per cent., were illegitimate,</i> No data as to sex ... ..	...	Annual Birth Rate ... 29.8
<i>Deaths 2,662, of which 1,355 were males and 1,307 females</i> ...	...	Annual Death Rate ... 17.6
<i>Ages at Death.</i> No data; hence <i>infant mortality</i> cannot be stated here, but see Table X. and Xa.		Male ... 18.1 Female ... 17.2
<i>Deaths in Public Institutions.</i> There were 145 or 5.4 per cent., in the Workhouse.		
<i>Deaths from particular causes</i>		
Small Pox	—	} 222 Zymotic Death Rate ... 1.47
Measles	25	
Scarlet Fever	14	
Diphtheria	13	
Whooping Cough	46	
Typhus	—	
Enteric (Typhoid) Fever... ..	26	
Simple Continued Fever	1	
Diarrhoea	97	
Cancer	123	Cancer Death Rate.. 0.81
Phthisis	165	Phthisis ,, 1.09
Diseases of Respiratory System	385	Respiratory ,, 2.55
Diseases of Circulatory System	274	Heart Disease, &c. ,, 1.82
Diseases of Nervous System	363	Nervous Diseases ,, 2.41
Violence	124	Violence ,, 0.82
<i>Inquests</i> ... 194		

TABLE XIIa.—COMPARATIVE ANALYSIS OF DEATH CAUSES IN TWO DECADES.

Selby Union.*	Ten Years. 1871-80.	Ten Years. 1881-90.		Ten Years. 1871-80	Ten Years. 1881-90	
MEAN POPULATION	16,098	15,550	Cancer	0.35	0.75	
<i>Annual Death-rates per 1,000:—</i>			Serofula	0.13	?	
ALL CAUSES	20.31	17.71	Tabes Mesenterica	0.40	0.21	
Small-pox	0.02	0.01	Phthisis	1.44	1.37	
Measles	0.19	0.20	Hydrocephalus	0.34	?	
Scarlet Fever	1.04	0.30	Diseases of {	Nervous System	2.87	2.40
Diphtheria	0.20	0.17		Circulatory	1.59	1.78
Whooping Cough	0.41	0.21		Respiratory	2.63	2.83
Typhus	0.06	0.01		Digestive	1.16	0.97
Enteric Fever	0.23	0.17		Urinary	0.33	0.38
Simple Continued Fever	0.13	0.03	Generative	0.07	0.05	
Puerperal Fever	0.13	0.08	Childbirth	0.06	0.05	
Diarrhœa and Dysentery	0.78	0.54	Suicide	0.09	0.73	
Cholera Nostras	0.04	0.01	Other Violence	0.65		
			Other causes	4.97	4.14	

* This Table also relates to the whole of the Selby Union, including the parts in the East Riding.

In Table XII the actual deaths are given with the corresponding rates per 1000 of the persons living. In the supplementary table a comparison is made of death causes in two ten year periods. The general improvement in the mortality from each infectious disease is worthy of note. The deaths from cancer has been doubled during the decade, 1881-1890.

TABLE XIII.—VACCINATION.

Percentage of Children born in year stated, and reckoned as "unvaccinated," because not accounted for as "successfully vaccinated," "insusceptible of vaccination," "had smallpox," or "died unvaccinated."

Year.	Selby Union.*	West Riding.	England and Wales.
1887	3.0	9.6	7.1
1888	2.1	12.2	8.5
1889	2.4	15.0	9.9
1890	1.4	16.6	11.3
1891	5.5	17.5	13.4
1892	3.7	17.3	14.9
1893	4.7	18.2	11.7
1894	5.7	20.8	19.2
1895	4.6	20.5	20.5
1896	4.3	21.9	22.9
1897	?	20.8	22.7

* The entire Selby Union, including the East Riding portion.

The Selby folks have evidently grasped the first and greatest argument in favour of vaccination, in that it has enormously diminished the death-rate from Small-pox. They are a well vaccinated people, and to that extent have secured themselves against the ravages of this loathsome disease. The death-rate however, conveys no adequate idea of the injury which Small-pox may cause to a population, if left unchecked. It should never be forgotten that vaccination should be well and thoroughly done if the best protection is to be obtained.

TABLE XIV.

DISTRICT.	MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH.						
	NAME AND QUALIFICATIONS.	Term of Appointment.	Date of First Appointment.	SALARY.	Repayment by County Council.	Annual Report Printed.	
Selby Urban ...	J. Mitchell Wilson, M.D., D.P.H.	Seven Years	1879	£ s. d. 16 0 0	Yes	Yes	
Selby Rural ...	Do. do. do. ...	"	"	52 0 0	"	"	

DISTRICT.	SANITARY INSPECTOR.						
	NAME, &c.	Term of Appointment.	Date of First Appointment.	SALARY.	Repayment by County Council.	Other Duties.	TOTAL SALARY.
Selby Urban ...	R. Bruce McGregor Gray	Annual	1896	£ s. d. 85 0 0	Yes	Surveyor	£ s. d. 250 0 0
Selby Rural ...	Thos. Braithwaite	"	1900	90 0 0	Yes	Surveyor Canal Boats Inspector	250 0 0

TABLE XV.—SCHOOLS.

In the following Table, B. stands for boys. G. for girls. I. for Infants, and M. for mixed.

District.	Name of School.	Date of Erection	Certified Accommodation	Average Attendance.	Ventilation.	Closet Accommodation.	Water Supply.	Lavatory and Drainage.	Cloak Room	
Selby Urban	Abbey Church National	M. 1858 1896	1023	355	New portion good. Old portion not good	Trough	Yes	No proper lavatory. Only one sink	Fairly good	
	" " "	M. I. 1871		248	Unsatisfactory	Trough	Yes	3 Basins only	Unsatisfactory	
	"	Wesleyan ...	M. I. 1888	519	361	Unsatisfactory	Trough	Yes	Insufficient lavatory	Unsatisfactory
"	Roman Catholic ...	M. I. —	268	153	Unsatisfactory	Trough	Yes	Insufficient lavatory	Very unsatisfactory	
Selby Rural	Barlow ...	National ...	M. I. —	60	45	Unsatisfactory	C.P.M.	None	No lavatory	Very unsatisfactory
"	Biggin ...	Board ...	M. I. 1884	54	31	Fair	C.P.M.	None	No lavatory	Small
"	Brayton ...	National ...	M. I. 1872	218	122	New portion much better than the old	C.P.M. large and foul	None	No lavatory	Unsatisfactory
"	Camblesforth	Endowed ...	G. I. —	40	24	Ventilation and lighting bad	C.P.M.	None	No lavatory	Unsatisfactory
"	Carlton ...	National ...	M. I. 1862	159	59	Unsatisfactory	Pail	Pump	No lavatory	Unsatisfactory
"	"	Roman Catholic ...	M. I. 1879	202	88	Unsatisfactory	Cesspits	None	Insufficient lavatory	Unsatisfactory
"	Cawood ...	Endowed ...	B. 1850	125	65	Unsatisfactory	C.P.M.	None	No lavatory	Unsatisfactory
"	"	" ...	G. I. 1876	148	112	Unsatisfactory	C.P.M. foul	None	No lavatory	Fair
"	Chapel Had- dlesey	National ...	M. I. 1875	112	54	Unsatisfactory	C.P.M. very large	None	No lavatory	Unsatisfactory
"	Drax ...	Endowed ...	M. I. 1894	110	75	Good	Box	Yes	Good	Good
"	Gateforth ...	Endowed ...	I. 1880	—	15	Sash Windows	O.P.M.	None	No lavatory	None
"	Hambleton	National ...	M. I. 1872	200	102	Unsatisfactory	Box	None	No lavatory. One to be constructed	Unsatisfactory
"	Hirst	National ...	M. I. 1860 1888	78	38	Unsatisfactory	C.P.M.	None	No lavatory	Unsatisfactory
"	Courtney Long Drax	Endowed ...	G. I. 1897	36	15	Satisfactory	O.P.M. foul	Pump	Marble basin	Unsatisfactory
"	Newland ...	Endowed ...	G. I. 1895	34	14	Satisfactory	Pail	Rain-water	Both Good	Good
"	Wistow ...	Parochial ...	M. I. 1876	173	90	Fair	Very bad C.P.M.	None	No lavatory	Good

The figures in columns IV. and V. do not indicate overcrowding, but, during inspection, it was noted in several Schoolrooms. It will be admitted that the requirements of ventilation increase in opposite ratio to the age of the pupils. An atmosphere which may be tolerated by adults can be a cause of serious uneasiness to children. Too much care therefore cannot be taken in preparing the hygienic condition of schools. Reference to column 6 in Table XV. shows that there is much need for vigorous action in this item. The statute books show an increasing number of employer's liability acts, of laws regulating the employment of children and the admission of fresh air to mines, and cubic space in workshops; the law recognises certain occupations as dangerous, and necessitates all possible precautions for the safety of the worker, but such principles are not yet fully realized in relation to schools. This may be partly owing to the fact that some Sanitary Authorities consider school hygiene the province of the Board of Education, and they forget that "schools" are included in the definition of a "house," and as such they impose a responsibility on the Sanitary Authority. The conditions of school life are peculiarly favourable to the transmission of infectious diseases, whether the infection be conveyed from a scholar in the early stage of a spreading disease or from the infected clothing of children coming from a house where infection exists. The condition of the cloak-rooms, as stated in column 10, cannot be considered as sanitary. The conditions of the playground is equally as important as those inside the school. At the Abbey Church National School at Selby, and at the Hirst Courtney and Carlton Roman Catholic Schools the surface of the playground is formed of asphalt, which is a decided improvement on the ashes, gravel, and shale at one or other of the remaining schools in both districts.

The results of this survey of the schools in Selby Union demonstrate the fact that hygienic faults do exist in connection with most of them and their surroundings.

One dislikes to single out particular instances of unsatisfactory schools, but the insanitary condition of the Roman Catholic School in Selby Town requires special comment (see Table XV).

To insure a favourable hygienic condition for the schools, the following essential steps are necessary:—

- 1.—To provide an adequate supply of pure and wholesome water, where there is none at present. To see to the periodical cleansing of the wells, and to ascertain by analysis that the water continues to be drinkable.
- 2.—To furnish lavatories so that the pupils can have the privilege of cleanliness.
- 3.—To provide adequate ventilation so that a supply of pure fresh air, warmed in winter time, can be furnished without causing draughts of cold air to fall on the pupils.
- 4.—To furnish healthy cloak rooms, properly managed, so that the clothing shall not be heaped up.
- 5.—To render the playgrounds impervious, and so graded as to facilitate the removal of liquids, and to avoid dust.
- 6.—Suitable closets should be insisted upon. Where water is not available, some form of earth closet should be adopted and regularly attended to. (Cesspits and privy middens should be abolished.)
- 7.—Proper drainage with means of flushing should be provided.

It appears almost superfluous to remark that the buildings should be in good repair, with tight floors, dry foundations, impervious roofs, proper eaves, and downfall spouting.

SELBY URBAN DISTRICT.

So much has been written in the foregoing general part of the Report that few detailed remarks are necessary here. Selby is the market town of the Union. It is situate 15 miles south of York and 14 north-west from Goole on the navigable River Ouse. In 1791 a wooden bridge was erected over the river by a company. This would appear to have been very necessary, because history records that in 1790 there were conveyed over the river by the ferry nearly 152,000 persons, 39,000 horses, 30,000 oxen, hogs, and sheep, and also some 530 coaches and waggons.

The population of Selby is three times what it was a hundred years ago. The rate of progress was most marked at the opening and at the end of the century. The stationary condition of the population during the forties, fifties, and sixties probably gave rise to the doggerel—

Selby was a seaport town when Goole was but a marsh;
Now Goole it is a seaport town, and Selby fares the worse.

The history of Selby is recorded in two books, one by James Mountain (1800) and the other by Wilberforce Morrell (1867). Both are interesting, but one extract from each will suffice. The former, in describing the appearance of the town in 1800, writes, "What can be more refreshing, what can appear more beautiful than the river, resembling for colour, as it were, an ocean of silver abounding with the finny race." Contrast this with 1901.

Morrell writes in 1867:—"The sanitary state of the town has long been exceedingly defective, the result of which has been much preventible disease, and Selby was almost sure to be visited by any epidemic that prevailed." The most notable defects were then (1) defective state of the drainage and sewerage, the main drain not having been cleansed for 45 years; (2) the overcrowding of the parish graveyard; (3) the want of a proper water supply. The progress of sanitary knowledge and the corresponding activity of the Sanitary Authority have removed these insanitary conditions, as may be gathered from this Report, although others, with the increasing population, have arisen.

The welfare of the poorer people has received much consideration in the way of charities. There are some twenty-two for various purposes, *e.g.*, teaching, clothing, attendance on the sick, the provision of medicine, bread, and coals. Dwellings have been provided by the Feoffees. In Mill Bridge Lane there is a hospital for six widows, founded in 1716 and rebuilt in 1889. A good market and auction mart have been provided, and the cattle, instead of standing for sale in the streets, are now properly accommodated. A Park, Museum and Reading Room, and Mechanics' Institute, are at the service of the people. The present Town Hall was erected in 1890 and the Gas Works in 1852. In 1867 there were 22 inns; to-day, it is stated, there are 35 licensed houses.

In the following Tables it will be observed that, while there has been only a small increase in number of inhabited dwellings, the uninhabited dwellings are more numerous. As stated elsewhere, there has been great activity in the building trade during the decade 1891 to 1901, which must be borne in mind. The distribution of sex shows that in somewhat a stationary population during the twenty years 1871-91, the females were in the majority. As to the tenements, excess of two, three, and four-roomed houses, when compared with the County generally, is noticeable.

DENSITY OF POPULATION, &c. (Selby Urban District).

Census.	HOUSES.		POPULATION.			Persons per Inhabited House.
	Inhabited.	Uninhabited.	Males.	Females.	Total.	
1871	1803	65	3004	3189	6193	4.75
1881	1900	97	2906	3151	6057	4.66
1891	1926	126	2903	3119	6022	4.54

HOUSES, ROOMS, AND OCCUPANTS.

Size of Tenement.	Number of Tenements occupied respectively by												Total.		Percentage.	
	1 person	2 persons	3 persons	4 persons	5 persons	6 persons	7 persons	8 persons	9 persons	10 persons	11 persons	12 or more persons	Selby Urban.	England and Wales.		
1 Room ..	7	1	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	9	0.7	4.7	
2 Rooms..	48	60	33	15	18	10	5	—	4	—	—	1	194	14.2	11.4	
3 Rooms..	18	36	36	30	32	20	12	10	5	2	1	—	202	14.8	13.3	
4 Rooms..	11	60	70	60	56	36	38	14	8	4	1	1	359	26.2	23.9	
Number of Tenements with less than five rooms												...	...	764	55.9	53.3
Number of Tenements with five or more rooms												...	...	604	44.1	46.7
Total number of Tenements												...	...	1368	100.0	100.0

SELBY URBAN.

1 Heading.	2 Dr. H. F. Parson's reports as Medical Officer of Health for the District, 1874-7.	3 References in Annual Reports of Local Medical Officer of Health, Dr. J. Mitchell Wilson 1890-99.	4 Condition in 1900 when inspected by County Medical Officer.
1. Cleanliness of roadways and domestic premises	Main streets asphalted. Many blind alleys or yards. Some filthy yards. Traffic confined to a few main streets	Paving of open spaces and yards desirable. Common yards unsatisfactory. Paving broken or absent	In the older property improvement of yards is necessary. In new property the paving of yards is good. In several instances the yard space is being encroached upon by wooden erections
2. Sewering and draining	Main sewers are brick culverts, with branches of unglazed socketed pipes slightly porous. Ventilation of sewers by rainfall pipes, a special shaft is, however, provided on the Millgate sewer. Sewage to river untreated. Pumps provided for lifting sewage into river if necessary. Houses rarely have a sink indoors	Sewerage system almost complete. There has been several extensions of up-to-date sewers from time to time. A few baths and sink wastes are disconnected from the sewers yearly. Complaints of nasty smells from sewer gratings suspiciously associated with illness	Sewerage and drainage upon the whole appears to have been fairly well attended to. In some of the yards the gully trap is much too low, and prevents better gradients being obtained. Special ventilating shafts have been provided in several parts of the town. The whole of the sewage is ultimately discharged into the River Ouse untreated
3. Excrement removal and disposal	684 W.C.'s, 262 privies. Many W.C.'s of faulty construction, flushing direct from main by a valve, fear of back suction into mains; there is also insufficient pressure. Absence of light and ventilation in W.C.'s and privies, and ashpits in many cases are too large and uncovered	Defective water supply to closets. Dirty and unworkable state of closets used by more than one family. Gradual converting privies to water carriage system	A large number of faulty W.C.'s mentioned by Dr. Parsons still exist, but are being gradually reduced. At new property W.C.'s are generally provided, but in three areas pail closets are being supplied. Several o.p.m. and large c.p.m. still exist, and in some cases there are three and four houses to one closet. The privies at the shipbuilding yard are very unsatisfactory
4. Scavenging and refuse removal	Public Scavenging undertaken in 1875. Cost in money well spent. Still room for improvement (1877). It is not at all times carried out with regularity	Too many houses to one ashpit. Too many persons to one closet. 1892 scavenging by Board's staff. 1894 box closets tried, but not to recommend them when water and sewers have been provided. Tipping of refuse still complained about. Cremation recommended. Diseases credited to decomposing filth in ashpits. Much all round improvement (1900)	Upon the whole fairly well conducted, few ashpits being found overflowing
5. Water supply.	From artesian well sunk in red sandstone. Constant and pure. Free from all forms of animal life. 1280 houses (5254 persons) use town's water, 41 houses in outlying parts use well water, and 24 houses at East Common use canal water. Much wilful waste. Consumption 30 to 35 gallons per head of population	Adequate and pure; objection is want of cistern between supply pipe and closet 1885, second well sunk close to the old one, some extension of water mains. 25 gallons used per head of population a day. 250 notices issued against wasting water	Pure and adequate supply. A special feature is the large number of houses supplied from stand pipes, which are fixed in yards for common use. Flushing of W.C.'s direct from service pipe is very unsatisfactory

SELBY URBAN, continued.

1 Heading.	2 Dr. H. F. Parson's reports as Medical Officer of Health for the District, 1874-7.	3 References in Annual Reports of Local Medical Officer of Health, Dr. J. Mitchell Wilson 1890-99.	4 Condition in 1900 when inspected by County Medical Officer.
6. Dwellinghouses	Houses of working classes arranged in courts and yards. These yards number 63. Several not more than 6 feet wide. Many houses are back to back, or with no back window or door. Though clean yet "frowsy stuffy smell." Improved ventilation advised and remedy suggested. Disposition of dwellings favours the spread of scarlet fever	Gross overcrowding. Grave defects of ventilation, 40 houses condemned as "unfit" and mostly demolished. Removal of "obstructive" buildings urged. Erection of new houses, but not in exchange for those condemned, but relief given overcrowding Crowding of dwellings in yards is the greatest obstacle to progress	The conditions mentioned in columns 2 and 3 still exist in the older parts of the town. The Council are alive to the necessity of improvement and have taken action in that direction. New houses are constructed in conformity with the Bye-laws
7. Abatement of nuisances	Notice served but not followed up with sufficient diligence. If proceedings were taken in a few cases important work would proceed more rapidly	Much good work carried out by persuasion	Good work is being done to improve the conditions of the older parts of the town
8. Isolation Hospital	None. Accommodation at Workhouse totally inadequate. Permanent nucleus of four beds recommended. Provision urged repeatedly	Provision urged annually. Removal to hospital is rational and wise. Impossibility of isolation at many houses. Resolutions and consideration but no hospital	Provision of Joint Hospital still unprovided, need for greater progress
9. Disinfecting Apparatus	Frequently advocated ...	Disinfection by sulphur fumes not satisfactory, urgent need for apparatus	No apparatus yet provided
10. Public Mortuary	—	Recommended by coroner's jury. Provision made by erecting new mortuary (1898)	Mortuary provided for cases of accidental death, etc.
11. Adoptive Acts	—	Public Health Act Amendment Act, and Infectious Diseases Prevention Act, adopted in 1891. Baths and Wash-houses Act, adopted 1897	Well up-to-date in this respect Excellent swimming and slipper baths provided under this act in public park
12. Bye-Laws and Regulations	"Models" advocated, see table.	Revision of Bye-laws for slaughter-houses advocated, "models" for various matter adopted. See table. Additional bye-laws under Public Health Act Amendment Act, 1890, section 23 adopted. General desire to carry out the bye-laws.	Except for offensive trades and dairies, cowsheds and milkshops regulations, the district is well provided.

SELBY URBAN, continued.

1 Heading.	2 Dr. H. F. Parson's reports as Medical Officer of Health for the District, 1874-8.	3 References in Annual Reports of Local Medical Officer of Health, Dr. J. Mitchell Wilson 1890-99.	4 Condition in 1901 when inspected by County Medical Officer.
13. Regulated Buildings and Trades	Numerous. 26 butchers, 3 tallow chandlers, 1 knacker and bone boiler, 1 farmer, 1 flax scutching mill (steep- ing vats). Public abattoir mooted, 3 bakehouses 11 common lodging houses	Majority of slaughter-houses are far short of what reasonably satisfactory slaughter-houses should be; great need of abattoir. Half the animals enter through shop or passage. Common lodging-houses internally clean but struc- tural condition is indif- ferent. Workshop inspec- tion undertaken. 31 Dairies and Cowsheds in register. Several dem- olished. Nuisance from fried fish trade	The slaughter-houses are in confined yards and are gen- erally unsuitable. Common lodging-houses need closer supervision, especially when their power of spreading diseases are considered. Cowsheds are being re- modeled in some cases, others need attention
14. Burial Grounds	—	Ample. Cemetery provided. No need for extension	Sufficient.
15. Polluted Streams, &c.	Sewage to River Ouse. Holme Dyke offensive	Cockrit Dyke complained of, but now remedied	Sewage to streams
16. Food and Drugs	No Public Analyst	1890, conducted by Police. 1895, County Council arrangement accepted anent milk sampling	Take no action

TABLE SHEWING SOME PARTICULARS OF WORK DONE IN THE SELBY URBAN DISTRICT
IN THE FOLLOWING YEARS :—

	1900	1899	1898	1897	1896
Inspections made	1842	1964	1925	1706	1600
New sewers made	2278	2825	1432	—	780
Houses connected with Sewers	198	163	135	6	3
New House connected with Water supply	110	162	128	6	—
Flushing cisterns provided, new and old	103	153	128	10	—
Ashpits and privies cleansed	6200	4449	4601	4619	4739
Loads of refuse removed	1624	1436	1443	1285	1275
Ash Boxes emptied	17500	13461	10088	—	—
Slaughter Houses repaired	3	1	4	2	—
Cowsheds limewashed	5	4	—	—	—
Notices to abate smoke	4	5	—	—	—
Yards repaired	8	—	—	6	2
Ventilation Shafts, 30ft. high	4	—	—	—	—
Canal Boats inspected	54	49	45	60	41
Workshops inspected	—	—	—	—	7
Plans for dwellings.	411	354	138	48	10
Houses unfit for habitation	—	—	1	4	2
Defective privies and ashpits rebuilt	10	3	11	12	64

The above table helps to show the diversified nature of the work of the Sanitary Department, and enables one to judge as to the yearly progress of such work.

LOANS CONTRACTED UNDER THE PUBLIC HEALTH ACTS.

SELBY URBAN DISTRICT.

Year.	Sewerage.	Waterworks.	Baths.
	£	£	£
1851	6000	—	—
1856	—	6000	—
1882	—	60	—
1884	—	750	—
1890	1500	—	—
1892	500	—	—
1895	950	850	—
1899	900	540	—
1900	—	—	5000

A sound state of sanitary defence cannot be attained without expenditure of money. It may be said the choice lies between sickness and death (it may be poverty and pauperism), and what is after all, if undertaken judiciously and progressively, a relatively small outlay.

It is gratifying to record that the sanitary administration has been and is conducted with a due sense of the responsibilities imposed upon the Urban District Council by the Health Laws. This has been due to a large extent to the constant and active initiative of the Health Officers in bringing information before the Council. They have been encouraged to point out sanitary defects, and to record them in reports which should be a true reflex of the sanitary condition and requirements of the district.

Though much has been done to strengthen the defences against disease, there still remain some channels in which the energy of the Sanitary Authority might be beneficially exerted.

In a growing town like Selby too much care cannot be displayed in producing and maintaining a high standard of sanitation, particularly in connection with new property. Any fear of interference with development will be disastrous to future healthiness.

If Pasteur's famous aphorism be true that "it is in the power of man to cause all parasitic diseases to disappear from the earth," then there is need of a greater extension of the application of the remedies already within our knowledge.

Preventable sickness unprevented is a crime against the community, and preventable death not prevented is contrary to nature's law. Unfortunately, in the material world, the unseen to the layman has little or no danger in it. If bacilli were as large as grizzly bears then one is justified in saying there would be no end of sanitation.

RECOMMENDATIONS AS TO SELBY URBAN DISTRICT.

The following items are suggested for consideration :—

- (1) Provision of a public abattoir instead of the unsatisfactory slaughter-houses now in use.
- (2) Continued conversion of all water-closets flushed directly from the service-pipe to modern systems, and of privy-middens to water-carriage.
- (3) Further action under the Housing of the Working Classes Act, 1890.
- (4) Improvement of yards in older property, and of back streets generally.
- (5) Provision of bye-laws to control offensive trades, and up-to-date regulations relating to cowsheds and dairies.
- (6) More rigorous supervision of Common Lodging Houses.

Mention need not be made of the provision of Isolation, Disinfectant, and Ambulance, because there is every prospect that this will soon be undertaken.

SELBY RURAL DISTRICT.

It is only necessary to refer here to one or two items before proceeding to discuss the various parishes seriatim.

From the following figures it will be noted that with the decrease in the number of inhabited houses there is an increase in decaying property. Though some of the latter are still tenanted, decay and dilapidation are going on rendering an increasing number unfit for occupation. It is interesting to observe how evenly the balance of sex distribution has been maintained during the twenty years 1871-91.

With regard to tenements, the relationship of the size of houses in the Rural and the country generally is the reverse of that which has obtained in the Selby Urban. The proportion of two and three-roomed dwellings is less than half the percentage in England and Wales, and in Selby Urban. Tenements with four rooms and over four rooms are comparatively much more numerous in the Rural. This will be accounted for to some extent by the large farm houses.

TABLE.—DENSITY OF POPULATION, &c. (Selby Rural District).

Census.	HOUSES.		POPULATION.			Persons per Inhabited House.
	Inhabited.	Unhabited.	Males.	Females.	Total.	
1871	1533	90	3324	3372	6696	4.37
1881	1464	139	3194	3194	6388	4.36
1891	1406	143	3075	3062	6137	4.37

HOUSES, ROOMS AND OCCUPANTS (SELBY RURAL DISTRICT).

Size of Tenement.	Number of Tenements occupied respectively by												Total.		Percentage.	
	1 person	2 persons	3 persons	4 persons	5 persons	6 persons	7 persons	8 persons	9 persons	10 persons	11 persons	12 or more persons	Selby Rural.	England and Wales.		
1 Room ..	6	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	8	0.4	4.7	
2 Rooms .	57	28	9	6	4	4	1	1	3	—	—	—	113	5.1	11.4	
3 Rooms .	24	37	22	24	14	17	8	3	1	1	—	—	151	6.9	13.3	
4 Rooms..	62	166	125	115	86	72	48	28	8	3	4	—	717	32.6	23.9	
Number of Tenements with less than five rooms												...	...	989	45.0	53.3
Number of Tenements with five or more rooms												...	...	1209	55.0	46.7
Total Number of Tenements												...	...	2198	100.0	100.0

In Selby Rural no loans have been contracted for purely sanitary purposes. The cemeteries provided at Cawood and Carlton necessitated loans of £2346 and £1200 respectively.

SELBY RURAL.

1. Heading.	2. Dr. H. F. Parson's, Reports as Medical Officer of Health for District, 1874-7.	3. References in Annual Reports of Local Medical Officer of Health, Dr. Wilson, 1890-99.	4. Condition in 1900 when inspected by County Medical Officer.
1. Cleanliness of roadways and domestic premises	Back streets of Carlton in a disgraceful condition. A good many cottages are very unsatisfactory	Insanitary conditions near to houses from want of attention to notices to clean ashpits	Roadways generally in good condition. Many instances of uncleanness from want of proper drainage and paving of yards and spaces about houses
2. Sewering and draining	Great difficulty in sewerage villages in so flat a district. Several places are inefficiently sewered. Recommends that patching of old sewers be stopped, and that proper sewers be laid under a competent professional engineer	The question of sewerage is narrowed down to improving the existing sewers and freeing the open ditches from sediment. Many sewers have been taken up and relaid, and short extensions have been made in most of the villages. Improvements for the disposal of house slops needed	There is no proper system of sewerage in any of the villages. The sewers consist mainly of pipes put into the bed of an open ditch and follow its sinuosities to the outskirts of the village. House drainage defective in many of the villages

1. Heading.	2. Dr. H. F. Parson's, Reports as Medical Officer of Health for District, 1874-7.	3. References in Annual Reports of Local Medical Officer of Health, Dr. Wilson, 1890-99.	4. Condition in 1900 when inspected by County Medical Officer.
3. Excrement removal and disposal	Midden privies general. Large, wet, open ashpits, with porous bottoms, placed in unsuitable positions, without proper facilities for emptying	Better closet accommodation is being provided gradually. Many are, however, far from satisfactory, and owners are slow to make alterations, and tenants suffer from filth nuisances	Recent improvements noted in many of the villages. There are still many wet and foul open privy middens in unsuitable positions; in some cases abutting on houses. At Cawood, some discharge their contents directly into Bishopdyke
4. Scavenging and refuse removal	By householders	Scavenging rarely causes any trouble. Closets at some of the schools require cleaning more frequently	Generally found the ashpits well scavenged
5. Water	Water supply from wells, rivers, and rainwater. Well waters are of very inferior quality. River water, even after pollutions, contained less albuminoid organic matter, chlorine, and mineral salts than most of the well waters	Every years' history repeats the story of polluted wells by foul surroundings. Urges deeper wells, bored to purer layers of strata. It is an old experience to have cases of typhoid where waters from the rivers Aire or Ouse is drunk, but is used after repeated warnings	Many polluted wells, with foul surroundings. Water from the river Ouse is drunk at Cawood and Long Drax, and from the Aire at the houses and villages adjoining it
6. Dwellinghouses	Many cottages unsatisfactory at Hambleton, Barlow, Wistow, and Carlton. "Town's Houses" in some villages are in wretched condition	Common causes of complaint are dampness of walls, leaky roofs, want of windows, or not made to open; part of house dilapidated and dangerous, want of drains or reasonable water supply. 28 houses certified as unfit for habitation	Insanitary cottage property was noted in most of the villages, arising from the dilapidated condition or want of drainage, spouting, or having privies and ashpits abutting upon them, or otherwise defective
7. Abatement of nuisances	Some flagrant nuisances remain unabated in spite of frequent notices	Improvements obtained chiefly through notification of infectious disease. The number of inspections made by the Inspector declined from 323 in 1895, to 107 in 1899. Want of attention in following up notices	It is quite clear, from the large number of insanitary conditions noted, that the abatement of nuisances has not been satisfactorily prosecuted. A decided improvement has followed the appointment of a new Inspector
8. Isolation Hospital	—	Need for Hospital. Joint Hospital district formed in 1898 by County Council. If a hospital had been ready several of the cases at Carlton in 1899 might have been prevented	Joint Committee have visited several sites, but nothing definite has yet been done
9. Disinfecting Apparatus	—	With our imperfect means of disinfecting clothing there is always the possibility of fresh cases	No disinfecting apparatus
10. Public Mortuary	—	—	None

1. Heading.	2. Dr. F. H. Parsons, Reports as Medical Officer of Health for District, 1874-7.	3. References in Annual Reports of Local Medical Officer of Health, Dr. Wilson, 1890-99.	4. Condition in 1900 when inspected by County Medical Officer.
11. Adoptive Acts	—	Adopted the Infectious Diseases Notification Act. The Infectious Diseases Prevention Act and Part III. of the Public Health Act, Amendment Act at an early period	See column 3
12. Bye-Laws and Regulations	—	The provision of bye-laws has been long under consideration. In June, 1899, the Local Government Board sanctioned bye-laws for new streets and buildings	Bye-laws for new streets and buildings and regulations under the Dairies, Cowsheds and Milkshops Order now in force
13. Regulated Buildings and Trades	—	In 1891 the regulations of the Dairies, Cowsheds, and Milkshops Order were for the first time carried out. There are 16 cowsheds on the register Workshops and Canal Boats inspected	There is need of improvement in Cowsheds, and urban powers ought to be obtained for regulating slaughter houses
14. Burial Grounds	—	—	See Table IV.
15. Polluted Streams, &c.	Sewage to ditches and streams	Bishopdyke fouled by coal washings. The Aire is little better than a sewer. Sewage to ditches and streams	Many of the ditches near villages are in a foul condition, and the River Aire at Haddlesey lock gives off very offensive gases. Bishopdyke is fouled by the discharges from privies

TABLE SHOWING PARTICULARS OF SOME WORK DONE IN THE SELBY RURAL DISTRICT
IN THE FOLLOWING YEARS :—

	1900.	1899.	1898.	1897.	1896.
Inspections made	485	107	226	206	218
New sewers laid, yards	570	624	330	712	702
Old sewers re-laid, "	366	59	76	190	—
Open sewers cleansed, "	20276	6180	3860	3860	3860
New privies and ashpits built, old repaired or demolished	42	5	28	31	32
Wells, made, repaired, cleansed	24	18	19	12	22
Sinks disconnected	15	6	1	1	—
Cowsheds inspected	9	10	16	15	14
Inspections of new buildings	46	—	—	—	—
Drains laid or repaired by owners, yards	1592	385	1173	923	1528
Plans passed for dwellings	10	—	—	—	—
Canal Boats inspected	19	10	13	10	14

In the following pages the nineteen parishes of the Selby Rural District are considered seriatim, beyond the foregoing general remarks.

BARLOW.

Barlow is an agricultural parish of 2372 acres, adjoining Selby town, inhabited by a population of 236 in 43 houses at the census of 1891. These figures are only a little higher than those recorded in 1801. The hamlet itself embraces 29 houses, the remainder being in isolated positions. There is only a difference of about six feet in the extreme altitude of the parish. It has a churchyard and a school. In the latter it was noted that the walls were damp, and the ventilation so defective as to cause a deposit of moisture on the windows. The playground surface is unformed. In the cloak room the pegs were empty, and the clothing heaped partly on the seat and partly on the floor. Besides the private draw-wells there is a public pump. There are several shallow dip-wells in the village, which are affected in rainy weather. In March, 1901, a new eight-inch sewer was laid in the course of the old pipe track. Some house drainage was made in 1897 by the Lord of the Manor. Several of the houses were damp from bad construction. In one cow-house (containing three cows) pigs were also kept.

BIGGIN.

Biggin parish covers an area of 718 acres, with 118 inhabitants. There are 29 houses, erected in a straggling manner, near to the Bishop Dyke, which flows to Cawood. The variation in altitude is less than three feet throughout the parish.

The sewage from several houses discharges into a surface cesspool formed alongside the foundations of these houses. The schoolyard is extremely untidy, and littered in one part with broken crockery from neighbouring houses.

BRAYTON.

Brayton is a parish also adjoining the town. In 1894 a portion of it, embracing 144 acres and 156 persons, was given to Selby, leaving 1801 acres, with a population of 353. Of the 67 houses, 56 form the village. In 1891, 1895, and 1899 new sewers were laid and existing sewers extended. There is no public well. Brayton Barff, one of two eminences in the Union, rises to a height of 150 ft. The lowest point in the parish is 18.6 ft. o.d. Some of the houses are old, but there is evidence here and there of repair and reconstruction. There are a number of farmhouses—some of them in good condition, others capable of improvement, particularly in their surroundings.

The Register of the Church (St. Wilfrid's) dates from 1610. There is a churchyard, but it is becoming nearly filled up.

BURN.

Burn is a parish three miles south of Selby town. In 1891, there were 317 inhabitants against 189 in 1801. Of the 64 houses, 45 are gathered together in the village. There is a difference of not more than 12 feet in the various altitudes. It is in the Aire-Ouse drainage area. There is no public pump, and the water is obtained from draw-wells, dry-steined in the majority of instances, and suspicious, owing to their position apart from chemical analysis. In 1891 some pipe sewers were laid, and extended four years later. Still there are open sewers, particularly on the roadside to Barlow, where a stench was perceptible from the decomposing sewage on the day of inspection. Most of the cottages possess a garden, with plenty of air-space around. In some, the sliding windows are now fixed and not movable, especially in the living rooms. In one block of ten houses there is much room for improvement, *e.g.*, the eaves spouting is more or less defective, and in some parts absent; the downfall pipes discharge on to the walls or into the foundation of the houses; the back-yards are unpaved and in a dirty condition; the outbuildings—block privies—are in a semi-ruinous condition; the ashes are disposed of in a passage between two houses.

In other parts of the village the spouting is sometimes absent in the rear of the dwellings, and the yards are often composed of cobbles, flags, and broken bricks, forming islets in wet weather. There is one cottage occupied by Mr. Dickinson which is scarcely habitable; the rental is eighteenpence weekly. Several cottages have been closed. A wooden cowshed was noted here with neither light or ventilation, and rather rudimentary drainage. There is neither school nor graveyard in the parish.

CAMBLESFORTH.

Camblesforth parish embraces an area of 2132 acres, upon which there were living 301 persons in 1891. It is in two drainage areas—Ouse and Aire. It is purely agricultural. Of the 74 houses, 62 are in the village. The difference in the elevation of the ground does not exceed eight feet. The water is obtained from wells. There is a pump beside the chapel. In several instances it was noticed that the surplus water flows back again into the well. Bad drainage was noticed at several cottages, but in one instance the new pipes have been

provided for replacing the old ones. Most of the cottages possess a garden. Four houses of recent construction in one row drain under the highway to the ditch. The rental of these houses is £4 15s. 0d. A fair proportion of the cottages have been provided with slate roofs. There are a number of farm buildings, their appearance in cleanliness and tidiness reflecting the habits of the occupants. At one of them there is a perfect quagmire of filth.

In a shed for three cows, which measures 11 feet by 13 feet by 8.9 feet, there is neither light nor ventilation; the floor is of brick badly laid, and there is no head walk. In the yard there is a huge accumulation of manure and liquid.

In 1839, about 1300 yards of sewer were laid, and extended in 1896. There is no systematic sewerage, and the sewage finds its way to the ditches by several outfalls. There are a few cesspools.

CARLTON.

Carlton parish is the second largest in the Union. It embraces 3681 acres, upon which there dwelt at the time of the 1891 census 759 persons in 182 houses. With the exception of 23, all the houses are aggregated in the village. The southern boundary adjoins the River Aire. The village is 6½ miles from Selby, and is served by a Station on the Hull and Barnsley Railway.

The Register dates from the year 1680. Fisher's Charity provides for bread, and also for the teaching of ten poor children. There are three Inns.

While there are some well-built houses in good condition, there are a number of old dwellings, some of them constructed of hand made bricks. Dampness of the walls is not uncommon, and, in some instances, the outside walls have been plastered, which is rather indicative of dampness. There are a few "one-deckers," four of them not habitable, but information was received that these houses are about to be demolished and replaced by new ones. There are one or two with thatched roofs. In one house, where the bedroom was in the roof, the maximum height was 6 feet 9 inches and the minimum 2 feet 9 inches. This room provided 453 cubic feet for two double beds. Fixed "sliding" windows and defective spouting were observed here and there. At several houses, especially in the rear, the spouting is absent. Rentals at 1/9 and 2/- per week were noted. Yards are seldom paved, and cannot therefore be kept clean. Some are laid with cobbles or bricks, but a few are concreted.

Refuse receptacles are varied. Covered privy-middens are general, the closet being only lighted and ventilated by an aperture over the door. Several of the middens are deep and capacious. A number are open, and receive the rain drippings from the roof, making the contents to be wet and foul. There are also several block-privies, two wooden and dilapidated in Hinsley Lane.

The water is obtained from wells, most of them being provided with a pump. The supply is often very bad, and a number of pumps are not used because the tenants consider the water unusable. Several wells become dry in summer, and a few are visibly contaminated; others suspiciously near the house drainage. Rain water is collected in various receptacles, generally for washing purposes.

The sewerage has been tackled at various intervals, particularly in 1892, 1893, and 1898; but even now much is wanting. The majority of the houses drain backwards towards Low Street by ditches, and ultimately into the Mill Beck. It is proposed (at any rate a resolution has been passed instructing the Surveyor) to carry these channels further away from the houses and nearer to the river. These ditches are now very foul, several of them emitting a disagreeable and sickening stench; one in Linwith Lane (13 ft. by 2 ft.) is abominable; another beyond North View is little better; both are on the side of the roadway. Whether the proposal mentioned above is the right one I am not inclined to say, but a proper scheme of sewage disposal would have ended the difficulty, whereas the other will only tide over the present difficulty. The occurrence of flooding and the trouble with "back water" has to be contended with. Special ventilation shafts are provided, but no proper manholes or inspection chambers. House drainage, in some instances, discharges into ditches too near dwellings. In one case, where the drainage discharges into a tank, it is sometimes so neglected as to overflow into a neighbour's garden, and a number of fowls are said to have died after drinking the effluent.

Animals improperly kept require notice at Carlton, especially pigs. Seldom is there any drainage provided, the floor of the piggery being soft earth, and sometimes made of wooden sleepers. In some places the pigs are housed in the cowshed, contrary to the Regulations under the Dairies, Cowsheds, and Milkshops Order. There are several cowsheds in a bad condition, and one or two require demolition.

The village is lit by oil lamps—not by gas. At the Inns the urinal is without any flush of water. At the Station it is the same, but the structure is exceedingly good, consisting of white porcelain basins, slab walls and divisions, and with proper exit channel.

The churchyard has been closed, except as regards vaults, and a new cemetery has been provided by the Rural District Council.

CAWOOD.

Cawood is a large straggling parish of 2891 acres, which had a population of 1008 in 1891. The town population has been practically stationery during the nineteenth century, though in earlier times, particularly in the sixteenth and seventeenth centuries, it must have been a busy place. It is famous in its association with the downfall of the great Cardinal Wolsey. The town is $4\frac{1}{2}$ miles north-west from Selby, and is now connected with it by a light railway through Wiston. It is also connected with the East Riding by an iron bridge erected in 1871. In this parish we find the half-pipe open sewer on the side of the highway, which though it has its advantages has also great disadvantages. Sewers were laid in King Street, Threadgold Lane, and part of Rythergate in 1877, but there is no proper system of sewers. The water supply is obtained from wells, the River Ouse, and the Bishopdyke. In summertime the water of the Ouse is said to be "thick as pudding," but the warp in settling in a tub takes the solids with it and leaves fairly clear supernatant liquid. The Dyke receives the sewage of a number of houses as well as slaughter-houses and several stables and cowsheds, and though the drinking of this water has been credited as the cause of enteric fever, it is still used. In 1877 Dr. Parsons, and in 1895 Dr. Mitchell Wilson called attention to the necessity of a proper water supply to Cawood.

As might be expected in an ancient town like this, there is a variety of dwellings in as varied conditions of repair. Several houses bear dates about 1735, and almost invariably the sliding windows are immovable from want of use or from old painting. Absence of spouting, especially on out-houses, was noted, and in several of the houses the ceiling is low. Many of the cottages are damp, and the yards are badly made. There is some crowding of houses on area. Open privy middens are sometimes illplaced and too near the houses, as in Threadgold Lane. Several privies discharge their contents in Bishopdyke. There are about one dozen empty cottages. Rentals were noted in several cases as low as 1s. 9d. weekly, and there are one or two cottages at 9d. a week. There are four almshouses for females, substantially built in 1839 but now very damp. The May-pole still stands in Wistowgate; the gas works were opened in 1856. The girls' school is undoubtedly overcrowded, and the closets are in need of attention; there are no lavatories at any of the schools. Much improvement would result from the asphaltting of the yards.

There are three slaughter-houses, but they are not registered, as the Rural District Council have not yet obtained urban powers for their regulation. They send their liquid refuse into Bishopdyke.

CHAPEL HADDLESEY.

In Chapel Haddlesy there are only 45 houses, seven of them empty at present, but in 1891 there were 50 houses, and only three unoccupied. Several houses require attention either as to their structure or surroundings. In two cottages occupied by Messrs. Bainbridge and Hudson the walls are damp, the drainage defective, and the yard behind insanitary. A pig is kept on elevated ground, with no drainage whatever, and the filth from this, along with droppings from fowls, is washed towards the dwellings; the rental is 1s. 9d. per week. Several very damp cottages were seen. In a house in course of erection it was noticed that although a damp course was provided for the outer walls there was none for any of the inner walls. Deficiency or want of spouting is too common. At one house seven fowls were confined in a mud-puddle 12 ft. by 4 ft. The difference between the maximum and minimum elevation is only 6 ft. throughout the district.

Several complaints were heard in this neighbourhood about the "horrid, sickening stinks" from the River Aire, caused by the trituration of the contaminated liquid over the Weir close by the village. One woman stated that it was not unusual to feel sick, and to see others vomiting in hot weather, and particularly just before rain fell.

DRAX.

Drax is a parish of 968 acres, inhabited by 382 persons. In 1801 the population was estimated at 221, since when these figures gradually increased to 446 in 1861, and then declined to the present number. In 1891 there were 91 inhabited houses, and in 1900 only 73, all of them being congregated in the village, which is a little over seven miles from Selby town. The difference between the highest and lowest altitude is less than five feet, the maximum being only 15.1 o.d. The Register dates from 1600, so one expects to find some old houses.

There are several almshouses—one-deckers—in connection with a Charity, but they are generally in bad repair. There are, however, some substantially built houses and shops, and a number of back-to-back houses. Fixed windows, absence of drainage, ashpit, and spouting were noted in several parts. One house, occupied by a "hind," is so damp as to be scarcely habitable; several are dilapidated. Two cowhouses are in an unsatisfactory condition; one at the eastern end of the village is very badly drained and lighted, in fact, it was difficult to enter it because of liquid and manure accumulations between it and the dwelling-house.

There are some pipe sewers which discharge their contents into ditches.

Water is obtained from wells.

Drax Grammar School, established in the reign of Charles II., A.D. 1667, was rebuilt in 1859. A new school (endowed) was erected in 1894, in accordance with modern ideas.

GATEFORTH.

Gateforth parish embraces an area of 2062 acres, upon which there lived in 1891 some 171 persons in 27 dwellings. There were five unoccupied. In the village there are 16 houses. It is five miles south-west from Selby. Gateforth, it would appear, reached its maximum population (258) in 1841, and since then has declined. The highest point is 75 feet; the lowest is 21·8 feet. The parish is wholly in the Aire drainage area.

Wells, including several tube-wells, provide the water supply. Several short lengths of pipe sewers have been laid, which convey sewage to the ditches, or, in two instances, to cesspools. It is in this parish that the Leeds Corporation propose placing their sewage farm, having purchased the Gateforth Estate, comprising 1828 acres.

An endowed school was provided in 1880, and has an average attendance of 15 scholars. It has no water supply nor lavatory, no cloak room, and the closets are of the open privy-midden type.

Cottages were noted having a rental of from £2 to £4 per annum.

HADDLESEY WEST.

Haddlesey West is a parish of 1211 acres, with a declining population, which now numbers 152 against 224 in 1801. The houses, in number 36, with five unoccupied, form the village, which is situate on the north bank of the River Aire.

Houses with no spouting are noticeable; several are plastered outside; others are damp. The surroundings of several farm houses leave much to be desired, the yards in two cases being simply lagoons of filth in wet weather. Some privies have been recently improved. There is no system of sewers, and the house drainage is in many cases of an unsatisfactory character.

Wells, with pumps attached, provide the water. Several are not used because the tenants consider the water unfit for domestic use. This is not to be wondered at from the surroundings. In one case the piggery, with no proper drainage, is within 15 feet of the well. Several wells become dry in summer, and then the people use rain water or obtain a supply on sufferance. Quite often the farm well abuts upon or is actually in the foldyard.

Several cowhouses are by no means satisfactory owing to absence of light, and proper ventilation and drainage. An excuse often heard is, "We only rear and make butter; we don't sell milk;" as if rearing and butter-making were not as important. One, a wooden erection, with iron roof and wooden floor, shelters two cows and two pigs. Another, similar in construction, is surrounded partly by a surface cesspool.

There appears to be an absence in this locality of knowledge as to the proper disposal of house refuse. Some houses, in fact, have no ashpit.

At the National School the privy is 12 ft. by 4 ft., deep and wet.

HAMBLETON.

Hambleton parish covers an area of 2338 acres, inhabited in 1891 by 489 persons sheltered in 106 houses. With the exception of eight, the houses are aggregated to form the village. The parish is entirely in the Ouse watershed. Hambleton Haugh, an eminence of 125 ft., enlivens the scenery. The minimum altitude is 18·6 ft.; the village is four miles west of Selby, and has a Station on the Leeds and Selby Railway. A manufactory for bottling pickles, peas, and fruit, and making jams and jellies, was opened in 1895. It is lighted by electricity.

There are several newly-built houses, but the majority are old; some are plastered outside—to me a suspicion of damp walls. Several have been erected of limestone, due apparently to proximity of this stone in the Pontefract and Tadcaster Unions. There are a number of houses with no through ventilation; a number of immovable windows were observed; dampness of walls and defective roofs appears common, and on some houses spouts are wanting. One or two houses are not habitable, noticeably those occupied by Messrs. Haynes and Whipcop. The latter is an ancient, delapidated structure; yards are not made as they ought to be, and house refuse is not properly disposed of at several places. House drainage absent or defective was noted in some instances. Water is obtained from wells; some of them provided with a pump, but in several instances it remains unused because of the bad quality of the water, and the tenants have to find water from neighbours. Two bore wells, 110 ft. and 75 ft. respectively, have been sunk by private persons. Sewage is conveyed directly to the ditches, and near the post office the smell is not wholesome. In Back Lane a cesspool receives the house drainage, but, oddly enough, several large fold yards are drained directly into the Town Dyke.

There are several capacious privy-middens, one 15 ft. by 5 ft., another 12 ft. 6 in. by 4 ft. 6 in. Some are open, deep, and wet, but most of them are covered. Several privies are too close to and even abut against houses; there are a few block privies. The school playground is covered with burnt shale, and obviously this is unsuitable as giving rise to much dust. In several of the cowsheds whitewashing is apparently seldom done. The regulations require this operation twice a year.

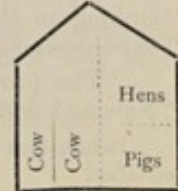
HIRST COURTNEY.

Hirst Courtney is a small parish of 630 acres, adjoining the River Aire. The population in 1891 was 116, and has varied little since the beginning of the nineteenth century. Practically the whole of the houses are concentrated in the village. The variation in levels is less than 6 ft., the maximum height in the parish being 22 ft. Several houses bear dates 1739 and 1773, and several are empty. Defective drainage, fixed windows, bad spouting and dampness are the chief defects. Some houses are at times flooded by overflow from the River Aire.

Wells, with pumps, provide the water, and at one farm its colour changes after rain. This supply has been condemned by the Medical Officer of Health, but is still in use.

There is evidently a poor appreciation here of the necessity of properly housing cows. One cowhouse for two cows measures 11 ft. 3 in. by 8 ft. by 8 ft. high.

A section of this cowshed appears somewhat as shown in the margin, but the occupiers state that "they only make butter." At another place the pig and donkey occupy the new brick premises, and two cows a wooden erection.



At the school, the stone ledge of the privy midden is used to sharpen slate pencils. The playground is concreted, and has a clean appearance. The windows of the school swing on a central pivot, and new modern seats and desks have been provided. In the infant department the ventilation is defective, and the room smells very stuffy. It is proposed to provide at an early date a proper cloak-room.

LITTLE FENTON.

Little Fenton parish contains 779 acres, with a population of 72 persons in 15 houses at the census of 1891. The district viewed on paper forms a promontory into the Tadcaster Union. The houses, though sparsely distributed, might be described as forming a hamlet on the Fox Dyke, a tributary of the Selby Dam. The population is stationary. There was some interchange of territory with the Tadcaster Union in 1861.

The parish is practically level, as the variation does not exceed two feet.

Water is obtained from wells.

Some lengths of pipe sewer have been laid, but the house drainage is primitive. Want of eavespouts and dampness noted.

LONG DRAX.

Long Drax had 33 houses upon an area of 1683 acres in 1891. At present there are 30. The houses are scattered over the district and do not form any distinct aggregation unless the few houses alongside the River Ouse can be reckoned a hamlet. The ancient glory of this place has departed, and there remains only a mound to mark the site of the Drax Priory, which once contained a flourishing community, and was founded in the twelfth century in the reign of Henry the First. It was suppressed at the time of the reformation. History records that the existence of an island on the Ouse, a little upstream from Long Drax, and at the mouth of the Derwent, but the confinement of the River and the high embankment has altered entirely the physical features of this locality.

The variations in altitudes are only four feet. A very fine triple girder bridge spans the River Ouse to carry over the Hull and Barnsley Railway. The central girder swings open to allow the navigation of the River which is here about 100 yards in width. There is also a boat-ferry between the Railway and the confluence of the Derwent with the Ouse.

The inhabitants along the Riverside drink the water of the Ouse after settlement of the suspended Solids. Even where there is a pump the River water is preferred. Several of these houses are not in a satisfactory state of repair. The house slops are disposed of upon the ground.

Record should here be made of the life of some farm labourers, who sleep in an old hovel, several of them in a stable, with only straw or old sacking between them and the clay or stone floor. Bacon adorned the walls and there was one basin for ablutions. I am told they seldom remove their clothing but Nansen-like they get inside the sacks. Under such conditions these persons might easily be a menace to public health.

NEWLAND.

Newland parish consists of 2296 acres, occupying the delta at the confluence of the Rivers Aire and Ouse. A small island in the estuary belongs to Newland. The population of 261 in 1891 has varied little in number during the century. Some farmhouses are in good condition, but several cottages appear damp, and in need of alteration.

Houses drain directly into the River Aire, to which drains have been provided.

"Town's Houses" are conspicuous here, there being 15, of which two are unoccupied. They are chiefly "one-deckers," with damp walls; brick-tile floors are laid on the ground, and in several below the ground level. Rain-water is used for drinking and ditch-water for slopping. The tile roofs are in need of repair. The privy-middens are primitive. These houses are let at 10/- for widows and £1 for married couples per annum.

With regard to the water supply the following Report was presented by the County Medical Officer to the West Riding Sanitary Committee in September, 1897:—"Attention was directed to the water supply of the village of Newland by the Reports of the Local Medical Officer of Health. During a visit on the 16th July, it was ascertained that the majority of the inhabitants depend on the River Aire for their water supply. The water is collected in casks and domestic utensils, in which the solids are allowed to settle, after which the upper and clearer layers of water are poured off for use. It has been argued that well-sinking in this locality does not produce a usable water, but this is controverted by the experience in Long Newland, distant several hundred yards, where good water is procured.

"The provision of an adequate supply of pure and wholesome water to the village of Newland demands the early attention of the Selby Rural District Council."

Since the date of the above Report a well has been provided, and the tenants are now satisfied.

TEMPLE HIRST.

Temple Hirst parish covers 758 acres, inhabited by 115 persons, in 30 houses, in 1891. Four houses were then unoccupied. With the exception of two, all the houses are associated in the village.

Tile roofs are general here. The usual defects are also found here, such as fixed windows and dampness. One thatched house is scarcely habitable, but near the station there are several good houses. The water is obtained from wells, and here, as in many other places in the rural parts, there is little if any attempt to protect the water in the well from impurities. "It's all right, only a bit thick in time of floods," was the statement of one rustic. A well, supplying four cottages, though condemned by the Medical Officer of Health, is still used. The sewage goes to ditches, which are here well cleaned, but contain stagnant pools of decomposing sewage. Several lengths of sewer have been laid.

THORPE WILLOUGHBY.

Thorpe Willoughby is the smallest parish in the Union. It covers only 463 acres, inhabited in 1831 by 130 persons in 29 houses. It has altered very little since 1801, although it is only two miles west of Selby. With two exceptions, all the houses are associated in the village, which is itself somewhat straggling. A number of the dwellings are plastered outside. In one row there are eight houses with tile roofs, of which several are leaky; also sliding windows, most of which have now become fixed. The rentals are £4 with rates. A pigstye here has no drainage. The house drainage is piped to some distance from the village into a ditch, although some houses drain directly into Town Beck.

The variations in altitude throughout this parish do not exceed 5 ft. The district is in the Ouse watershed. There is no school.

WISTOW.

Wistow is the largest parish in the Union, and almost encircles the northern half of Selby Urban District. It covers 4316 acres, but had only 674 inhabitants in 160 houses at the census of 1891. It practically remains as it was in 1801, with this exception, that now the locality is benefitted by a light railway from Selby. It should perhaps be noted that in 1861 the population rose to 849, and then declined. A similar movement appears to have occurred in other parishes, and was probably due, to a large extent, to the flourishing condition of trade in larger centres of population following the Crimean War.

The Register dates from January, 1590. The highest altitude is 25 feet, and the lowest 17.6 feet.

There are some good houses, but others are old and in need of repair, and a number were unoccupied. Several are damp, some have no drainage, and at others it is defective.

The water is obtained from wells, and considering the method of disposal of sewage it cannot amaze anyone to know that there is contamination.

There is no systematic sewerage, and the sewage goes to ditches, often on the side of the public highway. Here it appears that several sewers are laid with the socketted end downhill. All around the village the ditches have been well cleared of *debris*, but the sewage stands in stagnant pools, bubbling up gases, and emitting noxious stenches. At Midgeley's farm this was pronounced, and the conditions in the farmyard do not improve it. The middenstead is almost unlimited in area, the well evidently polluted, the yard littered

with fowl droppings, the cowshed without light or special ventilation, although the tiled roof provides plenty of fresh air. With regard to drainage there is none. The ditch, or rather cesspool, covered with green scum, washes the foundations of the house on two sides. The excuse for all this is, "We don't sell milk," but the Rural Council are taking action here.

Complaints were heard of the rotten filth sent from large towns in the Riding for manure. So distinctive was the stench that several people claim they can tell the town it has come from.

RECOMMENDATIONS AS TO SELBY RURAL DISTRICT.

Though good work has been done in the Rural District, yet to attain a reasonable standard of sanitation it will be necessary to push forward in various channels, and among others the following are suggested :—

1. The provision of public water supplies in the populous villages, and an adequate supply of pure water in other parts of the district still without pure water; also the better protection of wells now yielding wholesome water.
2. Adoption of public scavenging in populous villages.
3. Efficient means of sewerage and drainage in villages. This will necessarily include efficient ventilation, the exclusion of sewer gas from dwellings, and the harmless disposal of the sewage.
4. Continued action with regard to dwellings unfit for human habitation.
5. Up-to-date regulations under the D.C.M. Orders.
6. Fuller powers to strengthen the sanitary administration, *e.g.*, the adoption of the Infectious Disease Prevention Act and the Public Health Acts Amendment Act of 1890 (Part III.); also Bye-laws under Sections 23 and 26 of the latter Act. Bye-laws relating to Slaughterhouses and Offensive Trades are also necessary.

With respect to the provision of an Isolation Hospital, a disinfecting apparatus and ambulance, the Rural District has entered a combination with Selby Urban to provide these invaluable adjuncts of every sanitary administration.

It is now my duty to express my obligations to the officials and others, and to record my grateful appreciation of the courtesy and help extended to me when obtaining the necessary information for this Report.

JAMES ROBT. KAYE,
County Medical Officer.

Wakefield,
June, 1901.

The first part of the document is a letter from the Secretary of the State to the Governor, dated the 10th of the month of the year 1860. The letter contains a report on the state of the state and the progress of the government. It also contains a list of the names of the members of the state legislature and the names of the judges of the state courts.

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1860

West Riding County Council,

WEST RIDING PORTIONS OF THE

SELBY UNION, 1901.

Map to accompany County Medical Officers Report.

SCALE - 1 INCH TO 2 MILES.



REFERENCES.

- Union Boundary
- West Riding Boundary
- Township Boundary
- Selby Urban District
- Rural Parishes
- Railways
- Light Railways
- Canals

WM. HOLMES,
June, 1901.

