Districts 14, 16, &c.
(Islington to Stoke Newington)

Local Government

—"— B202

Bk. XXXIII

(3)

From Charles Booly,
9, Adelphi Terrace,
Strand, London, W.C.

COLL U B 202

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District .

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BRITISH LIBRARY OF POLITICAL AND ECONOMIC SCIENCE
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Mr. Scannell, R.C.

Personal.

Miscell
14/17

Oct. 23. 1897 - J.A. 1

Mr. J. Scannell is a relieving officer for Islington, & I saw him at the Liverpool Rd Office, wh. is one of 3 relief stations in the parish.

He is a fat, somewhat coarse-looking man, with round head & face, dun-dreary whiskers, slightly frost bitten, black hair parted in the centre & brushed very smooth. Only needs an eye-glass to give him the appearance of a middle-aged, decayed dandy, in very shabby & somewhat carelessly dressed. He is without the official caution or reserve, expressing his opinions in a loud voice wh. one could sometimes wish take a very bullying tone when its owner chose. He was, however, quite civil, & even courteous, to me, tho' perhaps a little queer in his style. Almost as soon as our talk got underweigh, he took his stand at a desk on the opposite side of the room, produced a great mass. book, & commenced with great energy & some puffing to clean it with india rubber, inviting me to put any questions I liked

Character of District

Great deterioration

& he wd. answer them. So I did – almost threw them at him – & he answered fully & with no more hesitation than puffs & rubs masticated.

For relief purposes Islington is divided into 11 districts, & Mr. S. has No. 9, his area comprising the South-eastern corner of the parish, & extending from New North Rd. to City Rd. (N.E. & S.E.) & from Essex Rd. to the Canal. It includes some of the worst spots in the parish – Popham St, Queens Buildings & the adjoining "models," Dibden St, &c., off Essex Rd; Elliott's Pl. & Gardens, Fosser Rd. (a little lower down); Baldwin Ter., Frostview St., &c., by the Canal; Sidney Pl. & Sidney Grove, off the City Rd. The inhabitants are largely dockers, costers, old clo' men, &c.

Mr. S. has been here 12 years, & during that time the poverty of the district has gone up by leaps & bounds. The respectable, decent working class have largely gone away, & there

How the Poor Live.

Character of Recipients of Relief.

place was to be taken by people of the very poorest kind, who have come in mostly from Clerkenwell, as a result of the clearance of the slums for the Rosebery Avenue, &c., improvement. He thinks this really means some improvement for the people all round. Those who have come in are not so badly housed as before, & those who have gone have got to better quarters. But the effect on the district is bad, for out-relief alone has gone up in this Works Dn. about £20 to £37, the latter sum being distributed among 224 families.

He has been asked more than once how the poor live? His reply is that they live upon each other. With all their failings, they are very helpful to one another. He has come across remarkable instances of this.

The great majority of recipients of relief on this Works are old people, who, once they get on, never get off again

A Specimen Case.

whilst they live. But of the casual cases, we have a considerable number of labouring people who come for the least thing.

Want of industry & want of work are the chief causes who bring them. There is a fair proportion who will work if they can get it, men whose employers I can there a great, good character but the worthless these kind of people do not come at all, but will rather put up with the greatest privation. We have lately met with cases of such pressing need that we have voluntarily offered them relief, but the offer has been promptly refused. But once they do come, they nearly always come again.

Whilst we were talking a pale, weak looking woman, with a shock-headed girl of 8 or 9, ill-clad & not over clean, came to the window. The officer, in a loud, fierce tone "What, you here again? What do you want now?" Then, turning quickly to me, in the same loud tone "Here's a case! What are you to do with such people as these? Only be in the parish 15 mins.

& they'll come here nearly every fortnight
since. She has a child about every 9
mos!"

The woman explains that her baby is ill,
& wants food, & after further questioning &
scolding is sent off to see the doctor.

While she is gone the officer tells me about
them. Her husband is an iron moulder
aged 42.
& they have 6 children the eldest 12. They
live in one room at Elliott's Pl., Essex Rd,
& have come from Clerkenwell. Their room
is filthily dirty & in a wretched state.
When he called he told her of it, but she
said she could not help it. She was
offering to wash some almost absolutely
black underlinen in about a quart of water.
Asked her why she did'nt get some more
water. Replied she was waiting for her
eldest daughter to come in to fetch it up.
If he had his way he wd. order them
all into the House. They wd. there be
fed, cleansed, & put to work – under the

best they for them.

At this juncture the doctor's assistant (the doctor having gone) came in – a weak, nervous-looking young fellow – to ask what he shd. do with the case – seemed to have no idea himself. The Officer said he had bn giving bread & meat extract, & suggested continuation. "Oh, yes, yes, that'll do. Must I sign an order for it?" Reply in negative. Is going away satisfied, when Officer calls him back & suggests that possibly milk might be given for the baby. "Oh yes; give milk certainly." "Then please sign order for it." Medical order duly signed, & woman leaves room with bread, a little tea & extract, & an order on a tradesman to supply her with milk; also a parting injunction that if she comes again she will positively be sent to the House. Further questioned in the interim, she says her husband is shortly expected, & cd. not join any benefit society on that account, that he

Method of Relief
a Lawrence Board.

has bn ill with rheumatic gout, & is now
out of work owing to the strike. She also
added, "If I was well enough, I wd. not
come to you, Mrs Scannell. I'd go
straight to the workhouse."

I think the Ofcrs. notes on these
people rather worse than they are, but in
the whole is right.

In Mrs. S.'s opinion, the guardians
are too lenient. Experience (contrary to what
usually happens) has made them worse, if any-
thing, than when they started.. She has told
them they tempt people to come, & has pointed
out cases of people relieved here who cd. not
get out relief at either of the other offices.
The guardians tell him he is tyrannical.

The practice is not to take people into
the House ~~altogether~~ if it can be avoided;
if they have any sort of home out relief
is given to tide them over bad times. This
is right to a certain extent, but is carried

Abolition of Out Relief.

Religion.

Charity.

Samuel – R.O. Islington

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much too low. Relief is often granted for a week or two only, but is renewed time after time.

Does not agree with the Whitechapel system, as it drives people who need relief into other districts where it can be got. After 12 mos. residence they become entitled. Knows as a fact that this has happened in regard to St. Pancras, as a result of the great restriction of out-relief there.

Religious organizations are very active, but their influence is only temporary in character. So many efforts have been made to save that there ought not to be anybody unsaved now. He does not believe in street preaching by half-educated men – it brings religion into disrespect – tho' in isolated cases it no doubt strikes home. Mr. S. is a churchman

A good deal of voluntary charity is given, & very badly – without judgment or

Education.

Drink.

Housing, &c.

co-operation & much patriotism shown.
Public charities a great waste.
So much better to have used the money in
giving pensions to deserving old people.

Mr. S. has not a good word to say
for education. The people are as rough &
lowly as ever. Children are turned
out of the schools at 13 or 14, & 6 mos.
after they are semi-savages. Church
schools are preferable to Bd-schools, as
the children learn better behaviour & how
to address people more respectfully.

People who drink inherit the habit,
or are made what they are by their sur-
roundings - crowded homes, lazy wives, &c.
Drink he regards as an effect, not a
cause.

The houses in some parts might
be better looked after - in Elliotts Place,
Quinn's Buildings, & Sidney Pl. for example.

Nos. 314-320 Foswell Rd (dwellings over shops on extreme border of parish) are also in bad condition. If he sees anything very wrong he reports it & it is at once attended to, but there is no systematic house to house inspection. The Sanitary inspectors jumps about from place to place.

Immorality.

The means of overcrowding occasionally of young girls falling, but immorality is by no means general. There is too much early marrying (years)

Many live together without marriage, but are married to all intents & purposes. It is only absence of a formal ceremony.

Mr Davey, clerk to Guardians.

General Character of Population.

Growth of Pauperism.

Muscle 14/7/8

Dec. 14 – J.A.

Mr. E. Davey, clerk to the Islington Guardians, is not a man of ideas, & is reticent at that, so I could not get much out of him, though he thawed out considerably when it incidentally transpired that I had official connection with the parish & had friends among the Guardians.

On general questions he had nothing fresh to say. He has been in the parish 30 years, during which time the population has grown from under 200,000 to about 340,000, & with it has come a gradual decline of social standing, tho' not so great, he thinks, as many people try to make out. The people are rather better behaved & more sober, but not, he thinks more moral, judging by the number of illegitimate cases in the Workhouse, mainly the children of servant girls. These come to some extent from institutions, but mostly belong to the parish.

There has been in the 30 years a large increase of indoor poor, but not so much of outdoor, the following being the figures for

Out-Relief Policy.

Jan. 1 in each case:-

	1867	1897
Indoor -	1040	3806
Outdoor - -	2797	3566
	3837	7372

Outdoor pauperism was greatly checked by the closing of the stone yard 25 years ago. It has never been found necessary to reopen it, the matter of the unemployed being largely taken in hand by the Vestry now, & exceptional cases of distress being tided over by allowing a certain discretion to the relieving officers.

The policy of the Guardians has not varied much. They have always leaned towards a liberal policy of out relief, & have, I believe, best studied the interests of the parish in so doing, having often prevented the breaking up of a home. The policy adopted must depend on the character of the parish. He pointed out the great contrast there was between Whitechapel &

Lodging Houses.

Workhouse Buildings

Ickleton in character of population, &c., & put it to Mr. Vallance whether the Whitechapel plan was practicable in Ickleton, & Mr. V. admitted it was not. Then there are not the charitable agencies here to deal with the cases. The method, too, of helping widows by taking their children into the schools has not been very successful here. It is not a natural thing, & often results in the mother going wrong, & getting other children.

The Guardians do not care for the C.O.S., & have little to do with it, but the V.O.'s & C.O.S. officials sometimes co-operate in inquiries, &c.

Indoor pauperism is fed by the lodging houses, of wh. there are now a good many in the parish. When he first came there were only 3.

Ickleton has 2 workhouses, one infirmary, & one workhouse school. The former are very crowded at present, as

Inadequate Accommodation.

New Infirmary

These figures show:

	certified accommodation	No. of inmates
W'K'house, St. Johns Rd -	781	872
" " Cornwallis Rd -	808	776
Infirmary. St. Johns Rd. -	493	629 (648)
School, Hornsey Rd. -	449	349

To relieve the pressure the Board purchased a site for a new W'K'house at Bowes Pk. & had a temporary structure there. This then have now disposed of, & instead of it have purchased the late small pox hospital & grounds on Highgate Hill, & are adapting the large building for use as an Infirmary, the idea being to remove all the ordinary sick cases from the St. Johns Rd. Infirmary, & to use the latter more especially for the imbecile old, thus greatly relieving the W'K'house. There has been much delay over the matter, owing to one-half of the guardians being strenuously opposed to the Bowes Pk site. In fact this party afterwards obtained the majority, but the L. G. Board wd.

Pauper Children.

not allow them to sell it until they obtain other accommodation, ultimately found in the fortunate evacuation of the hospital. These newly acquired buildings will be opened almost immediately, & as a future disreputable chapter in the history of the guardians closed. Meanwhile nearly 150 adult paupers are boarded out in other workhouses.

The School is very well managed & has excellent reports [This I learn from personal visits - J.A.], the musical instruction, drill, &c., very first-rate. Over a hundred children are boarded out, & generally with most satisfactory results. The only difficulty is in finding suitable employment for the boys in the country districts to wh. they are sent, owing largely to the decline of agricultural pursuits. With the girls there is no trouble; they readily find places & are well-looked after by the M.A.B.Y.S., &c. Something is now being done for the lads by the Working Boys

Homes.

Mr. Davey is inclined to discredit the theory that workhouse schools act to any large extent as feeders of the workhouse, & to disagree with Sir John Gorst's departmental committee on that point. He thinks the returns of Mr. Lockwood (inspector of Poor Law Schools) is more nearly the truth. This shows that only 2.2 % of the inmates of Islington workhouses had been in the schools. It is owned that much doubt has been thrown on the method in wh. this return has been prepared; but he feels sure the proportion is small.

A few men are sent to the S. A. colony, but with indifferent results. Some run away; some come back & are punished, but "they tire us out;" & ultimately get back to the Home. No solitary instances good has been done.

S. A. Colony.

Islington

General Statistics

Revenue & Rating.

Dec. '97 - J.A.

Mercer 14/1/7

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Islington.

Facts about the parish, & Interviews with Officials.

Population, nearly 340,000. Area, 3109 acres.

Increase at rate of 11 % per decade. Greatest increase in Upper Holloway. Least in S.W. Islington. In 1841 the population was 56,000; in 1801, 10,000. Period of greatest growth, 1841-61; increase then ~~from~~ about 135 %.

Density. 109 to the acre; S.E. Islington has 144 to the acre; S.W. Islington, 132. In 1841 the density was only 18 to the acre.

The density of Islington is more than double (in several cases treble) that of any great town in England, yet its death rate is only 17.1, wh. is lower than that of two-thirds of the large towns, & 1.1 per thousand below that for all London.

Rateable value of parish, £1,800,000; slowly increasing, due largely to p. houses & public companies. Compounding with house-owners has ~~in~~ reduced

Representation.

almost to a minimum, & the amount allowed is under 15 %. The revenue of the parish (i.e. local rates) is over £450,000 a year, & the rate is 5/7½ in the £, one of the lowest in London.

The total indebtedness is about £1,900,000, comparing favorably with London as a whole.

There are 44500 assessments & 44000 voters.

The parish is divided into 4 Parliamentary divisions & 11 wards, & is represented by 4 M.P.'s, 8 L.C.C.'s, 120 Vestrymen & 30 Guardians.

With the exception of Public Libraries (wh. the majority of ratepayers have refused to sanction) Islington has adopted the powers of all the "permissive acts", & as its Vestry has direct & complete control over rating & finance, baths & washhouses, electric lighting, parochial charities, cemeteries, &c.

The Vestry is divided into 11 Committees, besides specials, & these held about 620 meetings last year, having charge of various depts. of the work, as - Valuation, Assessment,

Staff

Finance, Public Health, Works (care of streets, sewers, lighting, &c.) Baths & Washhouses, Electric Light, Cemetery, &c.

The staff of clerks & inspectors numbers about 170, & includes ~~besides~~ head clerks, medical Officer, Chief & 3 assistant surveyors, electrical engineers, treasurer & accountants, analyst, various supts. of depts. 14 sanitary inspectors, each with a district under their charge, a lady inspector of workshops in wh. women are employed, a male inspector of house let in lodgings, bakeries &c.

Clerks are graded according to length of service & capacity, & paid on a regularly increasing scale ranging from about £40 to £150; sanitary inspectors receive £130 to £160

Wages are paid at the "Trade Union rate or in practice obtaining," the minimum for labourers being 6½d. per hour, & most receiving 7d. The Trade Union clause is inserted in all contracts. About 600 wage earners are employed direct, including 140 pickers & sweepers & 110 dustmen — all permanent, with sick pay & holidays.

Labour Bureau

A Labor Bureau has ~~b~~ established for 3 year, but has lately ~~b~~ reorganised, the Supt. having been dismissed for incompetence. In 1896-7 3153 males & 467 females were registered. 1024 were employed by the Vestry & 900 found work privately, but in most cases the employment was temporary.

Lighting

Islington maintains nearly 5000 street lamps, at a cost of £14000 a year, & is continually increasing the number.

It has a large & excellent electric lighting station; has already installed the light very successfully in High St., Upper St., Holloway Rd., & Seven Sisters Rd., & Caledonian Rd., & as soon as the necessary machinery & plant can be laid down proposes to extend the system to Essex Rd., New North Rd., &c. Private consumers are numerous, & already a good profit is shown over working expenses.

Drainage

The parish has 114 miles of sewers. A

careful inspection of the older sewers has lately been made, several defects have been discovered, & a gang of men has been specially organised, & is now employed in the gradual repair of these.

Storm floodings have given considerable trouble, there, it is asserted, the main sewers of the L.C.C. being inadequate to the enormously increased precipitation, in times of very heavy storms. Joint action is being taken by Islington, Hackney & other northern parishes in this matter.

Open Spaces

The parish maintains 9 open spaces at a cost of £1230 a year, & has just acquired 2 pieces of land (a portion of the Cattle market) & proposes to lay them out as recreation grounds.

The band of the Workhouse schools gives selections of music on some of these spaces during the summer.

Dust Removal

A compulsory weekly removal of dust was started 2 years ago. Much opposed at first, it is now generally approved, prosecution having brought some of the more refractory to reason.

Baths

RETURN

Showing the number of Bathers and Washers, and Income, at each Establishment from its opening until 31st March, 1897.

CALEDONIAN ROAD ESTABLISHMENT.

Period.	1st Class Private Baths.		2nd Class Private Baths.		1st Class Swimming Baths.		2nd Class Swimming Baths.		Total Bathers.	Total Washers.	Establishment Receipts.		
	Males.	Females.	Males.	Females.	Males.	Females	Males.	Females.			£	s.	d.
23rd May, 1892, to 31st March, 1893	11,342	1,127	35,674	9,196	17,818	499	48,900	--	124,556	23,491	1,957	6	8
Year ended 31st March, 1894	14,058	1,731	49,318	11,475	23,634	822	57,596	1,629	160,263	31,480	2,601	3	0
Year ended 31st March, 1895	14,358	1,349	46,292	10,863	13,560	561	56,724	3,417	147,124	39,540	2,469	3	10
Year ended 31st March, 1896	15,228	1,746	48,638	11,419	19,615	496	63,040	5,601	165,783	33,979	2,509	13	1
Year ended 31st March, 1897	11,369	1,194	30,771	6,895	15,994	366	52,914	7,564	127,067	12,121	1,591	5	4½
Totals	66,355	7,147	210,693	49,848	90,621	2,744	279,174	18,211	724,793	140,611	11,128	11	11½

HORNSEY ROAD ESTABLISHMENT.

Period.	1st Class Private Baths.		2nd Class Private Baths.		1st Class Swimming Baths.		2nd Class Swimming Baths.		Total Bathers.	Total Washers.	Establishment Receipts.		
	Males.	Females.	Males.	Females.	Males.	Females	Males.	Females.			£	s.	d.
27th July, 1892, to 31st March, 1893	13,193	1,532	17,011	5,668	27,646	2,100	25,206	4,197	96,553	14,921	1,849	0	0½
Year ended 31st March, 1894	24,209	2,315	33,575	13,135	76,350	7,208	77,835	11,388	246,015	27,079	4,059	13	4½
Year ended 31st March, 1895	25,987	2,520	35,734	13,844	63,166	5,792	64,191	16,990	228,224	33,004	3,730	10	8
Year ended 31st March, 1896	28,463	2,749	44,469	16,509	69,201	9,719	81,368	18,746	271,224	30,420	4,224	10	3
Year ended 31st March, 1897	29,998	3,174	49,081	17,005	68,193	9,416	77,298	16,344	270,209	30,203	4,244	0	8
Totals	121,850	12,290	179,870	66,161	304,556	33,935	325,898	67,665	1,112,225	135,627	18,107	15	0

TIBBERTON SQUARE ESTABLISHMENT.

Period.	1st Class Private Baths.		2nd Class Private Baths.		1st Class Swimming Baths.		2nd Class Swimming Baths.		Total Bathers.	Total Washers.	Establishment Receipts.		
	Males.	Females.	Males.	Females.	Males.	Females.	Males.	Females.					
29th April, 1895, to 31st March, 1896	14,715	1,917	42,623	16,234	33,189	2,598	74,290	9,005	194,571	25,598	£2,628	6	7
Year ended 31st March, 1897	20,057	2,657	58,265	24,031	25,092	3,140	81,832	13,099	228,173	52,090	3,385	16	8
Totals	34,772	4,574	100,888	40,265	58,281	5,738	156,122	22,104	422,744	77,688	6,014	3	3

Rent of collection is £3000 a year. £600 of £700 is received by sale of tickets from the turnstiles. The remainder comes from the various Slipping Clubs who use the Bath. There is a reduced rate for a Season Ticket.

There are 3 sets of Baths & Washhouses.

Returns for 1896-7:

Caledonian Rd - Bathers - 126962 } closed for alteration
Washers - 12121 } during part of year.

Hornsey Road - Bathers - Receipts £1591
Washers - 27,000 (circ)
30400

Tibberton - Square - Bathers - Receipts £4244
Washers 228000 (circ)
52000 -

Receipts £3386

Freeman St. is being widened in order to give a better entrance to Tibberton Sq. Baths.

Caledonian Rd. Baths has just been rebuilt by addition of a Women's Swimming Bath & accommodation. A feature here is the Women

Public Improvements

swimming baths, one of wh. is successfully carried on through the winter.

Of the total of about 625,000 bathers, 115,000 were children connected with the schools, who are admitted at a specially low price.

The year's loss on the baths was £2300 on a/c of working expenses, or, with interest on loans, £6948.

One of the biggest improvements carried out by the Vestry in recent years was the clearing of an insanitary area known as Norfolk Square (Ho Hunton Rd), about 2 years ago. The Vestry propose to lay this out as a recreation ground, but the Local Govt. Board will not allow this unless the Vestry complies with the Act by erecting artisans dwellings somewhere in the locality. The Vestry will not do this, so at present there is a deadlock, & the land is boarded up & idle. It is contended by the Vestry that the erection of dwellings now is unnecessary & useless, the displaced people having got housed elsewhere long ago, but it seems probable that the crowding of Queensbury St., wh. adjoins, has by aggravated by the

clearance. The cleared area is marked d. blue & black on our maps.

Another large improvement now in progress is the widening of Blackstock Rd., with the clearance of Haskell Mews & some other old & bad property.

Several minor street improvements are carried out each year, & the Vestry has frequently put in force Richard Cayley Taylor's Act in order to purchase property compulsorily, but its provisions are costly & cumbersome.

Streets in the neighbourhood of the cattle market were until recently maintained by the City Corporation, but have now been taken over by the Vestry, under an arrangement.

The Vestry actively interested itself in getting the tramway on Highgate Hill reopened, & it has also taken a leading part in getting the Highgate Archway rebuilt. This work is to be commenced immediately, at the joint expense of Islington, Hornsey, Middlesex C.C., & L.C.C.

Disorderly Houses

Three disorderly houses were prosecuted last year, & 31 others were watched. [Great circumspection is required in these cases, & proof is difficult to obtain, neighbours usually being very loth to give evidence. The houses must be watched, & the Vestry has no suitable staff for such a purpose. The duty seems to be on for police rather than sanitary authority].

Sanitary Work

The Medical Officer reports a great amount of active work performed by sanitary inspectors during the year. Many thousands of visits paid, hundreds of defects remedied, but not many of a serious character.

The male & female inspectors of workshops, &c., have done "most satisfactory work." During the year, Miss Ffey alone reported to the Home Office 172 workshops wh. had not previously been registered. She visited 1251 laundries in wh. females are employed, found 27 overcrowded, 10 badly ventilated, & 50 dirty. The plan has

been adopted of leaving a large card to be hung up in each workshop, stating the maximum number of persons wh. the room will legally hold. The principal women's trades carried on are dress & mantle mkg., millinery, ties, blouses, furs, tailoring, & artificial flowers.

Laundries, visited for first time under new Act, were found far fm. satisfactory, but a marked improvement has been effected.

The male inspectors made 1006 visits to bakehouses, finding defects - usually small - in 235 cases. Tailors, bootmakers, pianos, brassworks, toy sorters, glass works, bicycles, builders & cabinet makers, are amongst the principal trades carried on in shops visited, in wh. males are employed.

He has also made 4592 inspections of houses let in lodgings, & got many improvements carried out. A stringent code of bye-laws is in force dealing with these houses, & the tenants readily assist in getting the law complied with. All houses in wh. the landlord shows any tendency to neglect his duties are placed on a

Food Inspection

Infectious Disease

register & periodically supervised.

2386 samples of food taken in a year, & 14.4 % found adulterated - a comparatively small proportion. Of milk, 468 samples were analysed; of those obtained on weekdays only 7.9 % was wrong; but of the Sunday milk 16.6 % was adulterated. There was a big fight over a prosecution of grocers for selling beet sugar as cane; it was the first time such an action had been brought, & all the strength of the trade was at the back of the defence, but the Vestry were quite successful.

Eight prescriptions were sent to chemists to be made up, of wh. 5 were found to be improperly compounded.

altogether, 250 prosecutions were instituted under the Food & Public Health Acts.

The Vestry has a disinfecting station & a crematorium at wh. infected articles can be dealt with, bad food destroyed, &c. 43,000 articles were

disinfected in 1896 - ~~5~~ (one year). In connection, there is a shelter house at wh. persons are received whilst their houses are disinfected. Arrangements for disinfection are reported to be very good all round.

3882 cases of infectious disease were notified, including 48 cases of small pox (an unusually large number), but there was only one death from this, & the disease was quickly stamped out. Three of the cases were treated as chicken pox, owing to the ignorance of the medical men, who had never seen small-pox before. 32 of the patients were vaccinated.

Phthisis, bronchitis & pneumonia were the most prevalent diseases - & most fatal - Whilst there was a good deal of measles & diarrhoea, & diphtheria was bad.

The report of the medical officer for 1886 gives a complete list of streets in wh. infectious disease occurred & the no. of cases in each, as well as the occupations, if any, carried on in the houses (See pp. 100-135)

It shows generally that infantile disease was most prevalent in the poorest streets, ~~such as~~ Bewerton St, Beaconsfield Buildings, Brewery Rd., Carlyle St., Copenhagen St., Cottenham Rd., Campbell Rd., Cromwell Rd., Cundy Rd., Durham Rd., Devonshire Rd., Dane St., Frost Rd., Gillespie Rd., Horsley Rd., Hampden Rd., Packington St., Queens Buildings, St. Johns Rd., being those most affected, besides 2 or 3 busy main roads. Clerks, servants, errand boys, & shop assistants were most affected, & the homes most concerned were those in wh. ~~tailoring~~ dressmaking & bootmaking was carried on.

— " —

Subjoined are interviews with the 3 principal officials of the Vestry: -

Mr. Dewey - Vestry clerk of Islington.

Personal.

Value of Athletics, games, &c. 2

3

4

Miscell
Local
14/17

59

Mr. W. F. Dewey, Vestry clerk, has the reputation of being a very able official, & is undoubtedly a thoroughly upright & conscientious man; his staff being regarded as a model one in the matter of discipline & esprit de corps. He is clerk to the assessment Committee, returning officer at all elections, clerk to the overseers, &c. & as makes about £1000 or £1100 a year. So that naturally he is too busy a man to take much part in matters outside the range of his own duties, & as he does not now live in the parish, he could only in general terms corroborate what we already know as to the character & condition of the people.

He is of Conservative tendencies & of legal mind, with a strong belief in athletics & games, & not over enthusiastic about education, sanitation, &c., though fully conscious of their importance. He has taken the lead in establishing a very successful club for the members of his staff, with a capital ground at Finchley, all sorts of outdoor games, & social gatherings

Local administration

Sanitation.

in winter. It proved of this, looks upon it as excellent training for the clerks, & thinks it has done much in bringing out their best qualities. He wd. encourage much more the play-side of our elementary school life, throw open the playgrounds freely, & increase the number where possible. Prizes shd. be offered in elementary schools for proficiency in outdoor sports, & the masters encouraged to take an interest in them, wh. they very often do not at present.

As a somewhat personal matter, Mr. D. is diffident in speaking of local govt. in Islington, but thinks there is reason to regard it as well-administered here, & knows it is so regarded by other districts. Sanitary inspection is rather ~~sparsworks~~, save in the poorest streets — house to house visitation wd. involve too much expense — & on this ground is a little uneven in administration. Sanitary science is so changeful in its character, too, that it is sometimes rather hard that people shd. be put

Street Improvements.

Open Spaces.

to a lot of expense for what may shortly afterwards be condemned as not being up to latest requirements. A house may be quite healthy & yet not be technically perfect in its sanitary appliances. It therefore favours cautious action, believing that an injudicious enforcement of the latest requirements in every respect may do injustice & cause unnecessary friction. There has been a little of this here already.

The Vestry is much alive to the importance of improving the streets where possible, & the compulsory purchase of property for this purpose has often been enforced.

This appreciation of open spaces is evidenced by their action in regard to Norfolk Square & the Public Thoroughfares; by their contributions to the purchase of Phisord Park, Highgate Woods, &c., & by the liberal manner in which the open spaces of the parish are kept up. [It is proposed to lay out the 2 plots just

Water Supply

Food Supply

acquired at the Cattle Market. — one as a public garden, with museums &c.; the other as a Playground — at a cost of over £10,000.

Mr. D. considers the Vestry hardly dealt with in the matter of Norfolk Square. Is doubtful of the wisdom of forcing the Vestry to erect artisans' dwellings.

Water supply very good & cheap. Does not think it cd. be bettered — even if done as well — by a public authority. Of course he is speaking as to New River Co. only. Believes that to supply water for private consumption by meter wd. be a great mistake. Would lead to water being least used by the classes who most need it. At present the rich largely pay for the poor. But there is no injustice in this or charity — the rich man is merely protecting himself, as he is also in sanitary matters generally.

A great deal has to be done in preventing

Police.

authority over the staff.

food adulteration, but there is still room for much improvement. Samples not taken frequently enough, & often fines are inadequate. To those who are trading in dishonesty on a large scale a fine of £20 or 30 once or twice in a year means very little.

Regards the police as specifically good & well suited to the English character. Is struck, on the one hand, with their management of a crowd & control of the traffic, & on the other with the orderly instincts of the people in so readily submitting to control. Has often noted the obliging ways of the police, particularly in helping women & children across busy streets, sometimes even carrying a child in their arms.

Mr. D. is a stickler for authority, & rather apt to stand on his dignity, & his advice has led the Vestry to be just a little litigious. He wd. like to have absolute & entire control over his staff, & not have to gain the sanction

of Committees before dismissing anybody. Schmitz he is almost invariably supported by the Vestry, but believes the fact that he cannot himself punish being known to the staff tends to prevent complete efficiency.

There is, however, very little complaint of inefficiency, the Vestry recognising that as a whole the work is very well done, & that in Mr. D. they have a very capable clerk & a good fellow to boot.

Dr Harris, Medical Officer.

a Horsejobbers Terror.

a Sanitary Awakening.

Miscell & Local 14/17

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Dr. Harris is a middle aged Irishman, of fair complexion, stoutish build, & with a suggestion of the brogue. He comes here from Hull with a good reputation, & as medical officer of health has well maintained it, he being indeed something of a terror to the horse jobbers; he says himself that his name is execrated on the boat, & that when horses are put up for sale in N. London shouts of inquiry are raised as to whether it is in Harris's district. He has a penchant for statistics - his report bristles with them - & he lays great stress on their value; he compiles them, he says, in his leisure time at home.

Since Dr H. came there has been a great awakening in sanitary matters. His predecessor, Dr Tidey, was the well-known analyst who had so much to do with the Maybrick case. He used to give only part of his time - first worked in about one a week says Dr H., who has not a high opinion of him, saying he ever gave any evidence for many. Dr H. gives his

Tenants too ready to complain.

Population & Housing.

entire services to the parish. Under his regime a District public health Department has been inaugurated & the staff greatly increased, whilst the tenants as recognise the importance of sanitation that they are often too ready to complain. In many cases they come direct to him without saying a word to the landlord, who it often transpires wd have readily remedied any defect had he known of it. Probably they fear to tell the landlord, or he never divulges the complainant, but no doubt the landlords must guess who it is.

Although the working population are pushing out the middle class, Dr H. still regards the parish as in many parts the home of middle class Landowners. It contains a very steady & industrious population, whose numbers have increased from 10,000 in 1801.

Its houses as a whole are very well built & there is a cleanness & tidiness about most of its thoroughfares that is better

a Healthy Parish.

even than regular open spaces. Consequently its death rate is abnormally low for so great a population - for the current quarter it is under 16 per thousand. Of course there are some bad spots - such as Elliotts Pl. & Gardens - but even in these, as a result of surprise visits, they have not been able to find illegal overcrowding, tho' the people are living under conditions wh. must be very injurious morally. They have also found houses, but not many, in wh. the floor boards are in direct contact with the earth. In such instances they have the earth dug out & a bed of concrete inserted. There is also a want of adaptation in the houses to the newer ideas of 2 or 3 families - want of water upstairs being perhaps the chief difficulty. He does not know of any houses in the parish (apart of course from the models) wh. have been built for 2 or 3 families, but believes some are now being erected in Hornsey Rd.

300 ft. is the maximum amount of

P. H. Act – a stringent measure.

Some hardships involved –

Cut

Satisfactory effects of Administration

mil space wh. must be allowd for each person, under the Public Health Act. He works upon the Act as very stringent in its sanitary requirements – quite enough to set up the back of any property owner, & occasionally with good cause. There is a good deal to contend with in its administration. (I fancy Dr H. & Mr. Drury both had in mind some little over zealousness on a subordinate's part, but have no particulars) He thinks it unfair to property owners that information may be given by any person, & that the med. Officer shd. be bound to act in all such cases. Sometimes complaint is made out of sheer spite.

The effect of the Administration of the act is, however, clearly shown in the fact that, in spite of our enormous growth of population – & that of a fluctuating character – they have been able to reduce the death rate. To have prevented its increase wd. have been a great achievement under such circs.

But there are not yet enough in-

More Inspectors Needed

Workshops, &c.

Slaughter & Cow-houses.

spectors; there shd. be one to each 20,000 persons, who wd. mean 17, as against 14 actually employed in ordinary sanitary work. Consequently systematic house-to-house inspection is not possible.

He is very well satisfied with the inspection of workshops, bakehouses, &c., as now being carried out (See p. 49 ante). The Act empowers the scheduling of all houses occupied by 2 or more families, but this wd. have to be too vast a task, so the plan is adopted of only registering those about wh. there is suspicion or actual difficulty. Thus the register is a sort of black list.

Slaughter & cowhouses are under the L.C.C., but he nevertheless has a close watch kept on them, & reports any defects to the Council.

In 1895 he traced a serious outbreak of disease to the milk supply. He paid a special visit of inspection to the cowhouses of Derbyshire, & found them in such a disgraceful state that he has somewhat altered

Enemies of Sanitation.

The ideal Health Committee.

Bad food.

his opinion as to the desirability of slaughterhouses being removed from London. Here they are constantly inspected & so are in an infinitely better condition.

Builders & house jobbers are, Dr. H. thinks, the worst enemies of good sanitation. Such men shd. not be on the Vestry, & more particularly on the Public Health Committee. (Dr H. speaks as one having experience, & I can well believe it). He also finds it is not desirable to have doctors on the Health Committee. They may have their own ends to serve - never what shd. be done but will not support doing it. Is afraid self-interest & human nature come in! Best class for the Committee are educated, disinterested laymen. Artisan class very earnest, but want to go a bit too fast, & so upset the coach.

Each inspector is responsible for any bad food supplied in his district, & special measures are taken to watch butchers' shops.

ministers shd. preach
the Gospel of Health

Dr Harris considers that ministers of Religion might do a great deal more in preaching the gospel of Health. Though so fully laid down in the Bible it rarely forms the basis of a Sermon.

Mr. Barber, Surveyor

Labour.

Insell
+ Local Govt
14/17
10

Mr. Barber, chief surveyor of Islington, is a man of 40 or so, of average height & build, wears a dark beard & moustache, & is just a little testy in disposition. Very precise in manner, fond of full rounded sentences, in order that the meaning of what he says may be fully understood, but always talking with intelligence & much appearance of sound reasoning, & very sincere in his views.

He has been here 13 years, & was previously an assistant at St. George's, Hanover Sq^re. Came first as road surveyor only, there being then a second surveyor for sewers, but about the after the 2 depts were merged, & he became head of both.

Like Mr. Dewey, he is much interested in his staff, & had a good deal to say about them. He found the men in a bad way when he came, his predecessor having been a poor disciplinarian, who drank & swore at his men & seemed to have no control over his men. He had over thoroughly good men,

but treated them very badly. It was no uncommon thing to find a number of the men coming out of a public-house drunk in the afternoon, even the sergeants joining in with them. Ill pay, ill discipline & ill service seem to have been the rule. All this has been completely altered now. Gradually, sick pay was obtained, wages increased from 5s to 6½d, holidays given, &c. So that now the men value their position & do their work well. A few of the incorrigible had to be discharged, but the bulk, treated with kindness but firmness, have reformed, & have become trustworthy men - indeed he is proud of them. The problem, too, who used to ~~be on piecework~~ [drawn & very unsatisfactory] & depend largely on bits & tips, are much improved by the new conditions of service. Mr. B. quoted some remarkable instances of change in the men as a result of good & just treatment - he believes in appealing to their manhood & their sense of right, & is rarely mistaken. Con-

trusting these men with those in had charge
of at St. Georges, he says the latter were
a decrepit, broken down set, & were paid 4d
an hour. He mentioned an interesting
instance of having paid a surprise visit
one night to Dr Gwythers class & there found
a number of rough fellows - labourers &
navvies - rehearsing a Midsummer Night Dream,
under the direction of one of his foremen, who
was very fond of this sort of thing. Was
delighted to see the evident interest of these
men. This foreman had now gone to Brighton, &
was doing very well indeed.

Altogether Mr B's testimony strongly favours
the more liberal treatment of the men inaugurated
by the Progressives, & he has no doubt as to its
success.

Accommodation pretty good, but dear.
The older houses were built for a better class, &
are substantial. The smaller ones, erected
30 or 40 years ago, not so good, but there

Hornsey.

Sanitation

are not a large proportion. These houses were all right when there was plenty of open space around them, but hemmed in as they are now they are behind the times.

Since the passing of the P. H. Act of 1894, there has been some adaptation of houses to suit requirements of 2 or 3 families.

Every effort is made to keep the streets as tidy as possible, particularly those of the working class, who in fact are so dependent on & affected by their surroundings.

It is a form believes in good sanitary administration, & wd. have the laws rigidly enforced, ignoring the clamour of property owners. He considers the present Public Health Committee to be the strongest & straightest the Vestry has ever had, & the work very well done. Cuffley is an excellent chairman.

Great changes for the better have been wrought about in the condition of local factories & workshops since the passing of the new act.

Drink

Thrift.

Amusements.

Plans of alterations constantly come before him. mentions Stephens Ink factory in Fellespie Rd. as a model one. The men have large & very comfortable dining & reading rooms provided.

Certainly a decrease in drinking habits. People respect themselves & their homes more. Finds a most marked improvement in his own men.

A fair amount of thrift amongst the men he deals with. Two or three own their houses. Has an idea that local bodies might encourage thrift by taking money on deposit at 2 or 3 %, instead of borrowing from large money Corporations.

Not nearly the number of open spaces there sh. be, considering the population. Working men in London greatly handicapped in the matter of outdoor games, having so far to go for them. He is, like Mr. Dewey, an enthusiast for cricket, &c., & wishes more cd. be done to

encourage outdoor pastimes. One of the sights of Chiswick PK is to see the working men play quoits – they play very well, too.

Theatres & clubs do a good deal to provide winter amusement, but do not reach the lower strata of male population. His earners of destitution, for instance, still find their amusement in the public-house sing-song, but he is sure they wd. appreciate something better if brought to them – as witness the incident at Grey Friars Club, before referred to.

Religion

Mr. Barber has been brought up under religious influences, & associated all his life with religious work, but regards its influence in a very broad sense. People do not attend places of worship so regularly as they did, but their non-attendance is not necessarily evidence that they are irreligious. Religion he regards as the greatest & most far-reaching influence of any, affecting those who come under it more completely than any other. Generally speaking, religion is

Police

General

making the people quieter, more peaceable, more kindly & considerate to others. Working in a quiet earnest way it is doing much good.

Education, too, is helping considerably in the same direction, but religion is the deeper influence.

Active, reliable, honest & kind-hearted.

Mr. B. also made some allusions to street improvements, baths & workhouses, & other instances of municipal enterprise in Islington, but added nothing to the facts already recorded.

ST. MARY, ISLINGTON

STATEMENT

OF THE

RECEIPTS AND EXPENDITURE

OF

MR. WILLIAM JOHN MERRINGTON,

CHURCHWARDEN,

INCLUDING

THE ACCOUNTS

OF THE SEVERAL

CHARITIES AND BEQUESTS,

PARISH CHURCH PEW RENTS,

CHAPEL-OF-EASE,

AND FOR THE MAINTENANCE OF

The St. Mary's and Chapel-of-Ease

RECREATION GROUNDS,

1896-97.

LONDON:
CHAS. STRAKER AND SONS, LTD., BISHOPSGATE AVENUE, E.C.

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THE ACCOUNTS OF MR. WILLIAM JOHN MERRINGTON,

CHURCHWARDEN FOR THE YEAR 1896-97.

DR. GENERAL ACCOUNT. CR.

Receipts.

1896-7.		£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.
	Balance from Mr. Churchwarden Walkley	140	13	3			
1896.							
Oct.	Cheque from Vestry	150	0	0			
1897.							
April.	Cheque from Vestry	18	14	0			
July.	Do.	44	13	6			
,,	Do.	32	10	3			
Oct.	Cash from Treasurer		7	6			
					386	18	6
	To error in Mr. Churchwarden Walkley's Account, new water service to cottage, wrongly charged to General Account				14	19	0
	Carried forward				£401	17	6

Expenditure.

1896.		£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.
	Churchwardens' Admission Fee					18	0
	JURY LISTS.						
	Vestry Clerk, preparing List	60	15	8			
	Penfold & Farmer, Printing	61	10	10			
	J. C. Lester, delivering and collecting papers	4	2	0			
	A. Nicholls ditto ...	4	2	3			
	W. Price ditto ...	3	18	9			
	L. Higham ditto ...	3	3	10			
	W. Hollist ditto ...	3	3	4			
	Men from Labour Bureau, ditto per Mr. Norton	27	17	4			
					168	14	0
	BELL RINGING.						
May 24.	Queen's Birthday	2	2	0			
June 20.	,, Accession	1	13	0			
,, 28.	,, Coronation	2	2	0			
Nov. 9.	Prince of Wales' Birthday	1	13	0			
Dec. 25.	Christmas Day	2	2	0			
1897.							
Jan. 1.	New Year's Day	2	2	0			
May 24.	Queen's Birthday	1	13	0			
					13	7	0
	CLOCKS.						
	Messrs. J. Moore & Sons, Winding Clock to Christmas, 1896	8	8	0			
	Messrs. J. Moore & Sons, Repairs to Clock	3	2	0			
	Christmas Box to Clock Winder			0			
	Mr. Spicer, Cleaning Face of Clock, to Lady Day, 1897	2	0	0			
					13	11	0
	Carried forward				£196	10	0

THE ACCOUNTS OF MR. WILLIAM JOHN MERRINGTON,

CHURCHWARDEN FOR THE YEAR, 1896-97.

DR. GENERAL ACCOUNT. CR.

Receipts.

1896-97:	£	s.	d.
Brought forward	401	17	6
	£401	17	6

Expenditure.

1896-97.	£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.
Brought forward				196	10	0
Rent of Cottage in Churchyard	20	0	0			
Rates and Water to ditto	3	16	2			
				23	16	2
Repainting Board in Churchyard...				2	2	0
New River Co., Water to Churchyard				6	12	1
Fire Insurance, one year to Midsummer, 1897, on Parish Church	8	5	0			
Ditto, on St. Mary Magdalen	8	12	6			
				16	17	6
Stationery, Postage, &c.					7	6
Paid to Treasurer of Vestry				155	12	3
				£401	17	6

The Accounts of Mr. WILLIAM JOHN MERRINGTON,

Churchwarden for the Year 1896-97.

Dr. — PAROCHIAL — Cr.

1896-97.	Receipts.	£	s.	d.
	Guardians of St. Mary, Islington, one year's rent of Porter's Acre to March, 1897	50	0	0
	City Parochial Foundation (Loane's Gift) Four quarters' rent to March, 1897, less commission ...	81	5	4
	CHARITY COMMISSIONERS - -			
	One year's dividend on £1,112 13s. 3d., Consols to April, 1897, Kingsland Estates	30	11	8
	(Parke's Charity) £75 9s. 5d. ...	2	1	4
	(Poor Stock) £1,018 16s. 10d. ...	28	0	4
	(Geary's Stock) £55 1s. 11d. ...	1	10	0
	Hull's Gift, one year to Sept., 1896 ...	5	16	0
	Haine's Gift do. do. ...	2	0	0
	Hobson's Gift, one year to March, 1897	5	4	0
	Lady Owen's Gift do. do. ...	2	12	0
			209	0	8
			£209	0	8
	To Balance		17	14	0

CHARITIES.

1896-97.	Expenditure.	£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.
	Balance due to Mr. Churchwarden Walkley				4	7	3
	Mr. T. Pickett, for Bread distributed to Poor on Sundays to 22nd May, 1897	18	4	7			
	Less Burge's Charity ...	5	0	0			
					13	4	7
	Cash to Monthly Pensioners				9	1	6
	St. Thomas' Day Gifts—						
	Mr. Pickett, Bread		6	10			
	Mr. Mead, do.	1	5	3			
	Mr. Cummins, do.		7	4			
					1	19	5
	Blind Tea Agency, Tea				6	7	7
	Mr. Fencott Evans, Blankets and Flannel	11	15	3			
	Mr. Donald Smith do.	12	15	5			
					24	10	8
	Money Gifts				10	4	0
	Coal, as per Book	123	19	0			
	Less Ferris' Charity	7	8	4			
					116	10	8
	The Vicar, Daniel Parke's Gift ...					10	0
	London & General Printing Co., Printing	1	0	0			
	Sharpe, Walker & Co., Printing ...	1	17	0			
	Envelopes and Postage		18	8			
	Police and other Assistance		7	0			
					4	2	8
	Stamps and Cheques					8	4
	Balance				17	14	0
					£209	0	8

THE ACCOUNTS OF MR. WILLIAM JOHN MERRINGTON,

CHURCHWARDEN FOR THE YEAR 1896-97.

LADY TEMPLE'S CHARITY.

Dr. 1896-97. **Receipts.**

	£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.
Balance from Churchwarden Walkley				13	7	10
Half-year's Dividend on £436 4s. 8d. Consols to October, 1896	5	19	10			
Half-year's Dividend on £60 0s. 0d. Consols to October, 1896		16	6			
	6	16	4			
Less Trustees' expenses ...	2	13	8			
				4	2	8
By Cheque from Trustees ...				21	19	6
				£39	10	0

Cr. 1896-97. **Expenditure.**

	£	s.	d.
Miss Herepath, board, residence and instruction of three girls for three quarters to Christmas, 1896	39	10	0
	£39	10	0

THE TRUSTEES OF JOHN HANKINS' CHARITY.

1898-67.

	£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.
Mr. Wm. Ellis, one year's rent of Land at Potters' Bar, to Lady-day, 1897	56	0	0			
Less Timber for repairing Gates £1 9 0						
„ Property Tax ... 1 17 4						
	3	6	4			
				52	13	8
From Mr. H. S. Friend (Receiver) two quarter's Dividends, due January and April, 1897, on two sums of £436 4s. 8d. and £60 Consols ...				6	16	4
				£59	10	0

IN ACCOUNT.

1896-97.

	£	s.	d.
Mr. Churchwarden Merrington, to balance his Account	21	19	6
Mr. A. Mark, preparing Plan of Estate	13	0	0
Rev. W. H. Barlow, as per Will	2	0	0
Mr. Churchwarden Merrington, as per Will	1	0	0
Misses Herepath and Baker, board of one and education of two girls for one quarter to Lady-day, 1897	9	0	0
Messrs. Price & Sons, preparation of Lease, and settlement of Boundary Claims, &c.	10	10	0
Bank Cheque Book		2	1
Balance in hand	1	18	5
	£59	10	0

JOHN HANKINS' CHARITY.

1896-97. **Receipts.**

	£	s.	d.
Balance from Churchwarden Walkley	3	1	2
One year's Dividend on £300 Consols to April, 1897	8	5	0
	£11	6	2
Balance	£5	6	2

BURGE'S CHARITY.

1896-97. **Expenditure.**

	£	s.	d.
Bread for the Poor, as per Will	5	0	0
Sexton, as per Will	1	0	0
Balance	5	6	2
	£11	6	2

THE ACCOUNTS OF MR. WILLIAM JOHN MERRINGTON, CHURCHWARDEN FOR THE YEAR 1896-97.

CATHERINE PARRY'S CHARITY.

Receipts.

1896-97.	£	s.	d.
Balance from Mr. Churchwarden Walkley	10	12	0
One year's Dividend on £96 16s. 0d. Consols to April, 1897	2	13	0
	£13	5	0
Balance	£13	5	0

Expenditure.

1896-97.	£	s.	d.
Balance	13	5	0
	£13	5	0

Dr. ISABELLA FERRIS' GIFT. Cr.

Receipts.

1896-97.	£	s.	d.
One year's Dividend on £270 Consols to April, 1897, invested in the names of the Charity Commissioners	7	8	4
	£7	8	4

Expenditure.

1896-97.	£	s.	d.
Coal for the Poor	7	8	4
	£7	8	4

Dr. SUSAN EBURN'S CHARITY. Cr.

Receipts.

1896-97.	£	s.	d.
Balance from Mr. Churchwarden Walkley	9	9	2
One year's Dividend on £100 Consols to April, 1897	2	15	0
	£12	4	2
Balance	£12	4	2

Expenditure.

1896-97.	£	s.	d.
Balance	12	4	2
	£12	4	2

Dr. COLONEL WILSON'S CHARITY. Cr.

Receipts.

1896-97.	£	s.	d.
Received from the Weavers' Company	5	0	0
	£5	0	0

Expenditure.

1896-97.	£	s.	d.
Money Gifts to ten poor Parishioners not in receipt of parish relief (10s. each)–			
Per The Vicar (five)	2	10	0
„ The First Churchwarden (two)	1	0	0
„ The Second Churchwarden (two)	1	0	0
„ The Third Churchwarden (one)		10	0
	£5	0	0

The Accounts of Mr. WILLIAM JOHN MERRINGTON, Churchwarden for the Year 1896-97.

Dr. PARISH CHURCH ACCOUNT. Cr.

Receipts.

1896-97.	£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.
Pew Rents, as per book	146	2	6			
Less Collector's Commission	4	4	0			
				141	18	6
Offertories for Church Expenses ...				75	16	11
Rent of Cottage from Vestry... ...				20	0	0
Tolling Bell for late Mr. A. Coombes					3	9
Special Fund for Liquidation of Church Debt.						
Rev. Dr. Barlow, Vicar	50	0	0			
Miss A. Price	10	0	0			
Sir A. K. Rollit, M.P....	10	10	0			
B. L. Cohen, Esq., M.P.	10	0	0			
T. Hodge, Esq.	5	5	0			
T. Perry, Esq.	5	5	0			
Messrs. Dove Brothers	3	3	0			
Rev. T. W. Drury	2	2	0			
Messrs. S. Price & Sons	2	2	0			
C. E. Watts, Esq.	2	2	0			
Donald Smith, Esq.	2	2	0			
Dr. Glover	2	2	0			
Mr. and Mrs. Hollyman	2	2	0			
T. Lough, Esq., M.P.	1	1	0			
E. Street, Esq....	1	1	0			
J. A. Boole, Esq.	1	1	0			
R. S. Cufflin, Esq.	1	1	0			
S. Rayson, Esq.	1	1	0			
J. T. Johnson, Esq.	1	1	0			
W. H. Walkley, Esq.	1	1	0			
T. Rutt, Esq.	1	1	0			
F. Benson, Esq.	1	1	0			
W. F. Dewey, Esq.	1	1	0			
A. Towers, Esq.	1	1	0			
J. Woollett, Esq.	1	1	0			
H. Ansell, Esq.	1	1	0			
Fencott Evans, Esq.	1	1	0			
Sidney Smith, Esq.	1	1	0			
C. J. Masham, Esq.	1	1	0			
J. Lindon, Esq.	1	1	0			
F. Baker, Esq.	1	1	0			
M. H. Rackstraw, Esq.	1	1	0			
				126	14	0
Carried forward				364	13	2

Expenditure.

1896-97.	£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.
Balance due to Churchwardens ...	136	16	9			
New water service to Cottage, charged in error to General Account ...	14	19	0			
	151	15	9			
Less commission for collecting Pew Rents, charged twice in error ...	4	4	0			
				147	11	9
Salaries to Lady Day 1897.						
Mr. S. Hann, Organist	52	10	0			
„ H. Bilby, Clerk	12	12	0			
„ W. H. Baker, Sexton	4	4	0			
„ C. Spicer, Organ Blower	6	0	0			
„ H. Smith, Verger	15	15	0			
Mrs. Pearson, Pew Opener and Cleaner	21	15	0			
				112	16	0
Rates and Taxes.						
Gas, four Quarters to March, 1897 ...	37	2	0			
Water „ „ ...	1	11	6			
				38	13	6
Mr. E. Ingram, Tuning Organ, one year, to Easter, 1897				8	8	0
Mr. T. Greig, Repairs	1	4	0			
„ H. W. Rooke „	2	18	6			
„ Bradley „	1	7	6			
„ Stainton „		15	0			
„ Trevillion „		4	0			
				6	9	0
Mr. Baker, sundries as per book ...	20	9	0			
„ Church cleaning	3	12	2			
				24	1	2
Mrs. Barlow, Christmas Decorations ...				1	14	0
Mr. C. Rolfe, Coal and Coke	3	9	0			
Messrs. Lowther & Cameron, ditto ...	1	1	0			
„ Lamb & Co. ditto ...	2	4	0			
				6	14	0
Carried forward				£346	7	5

The Accounts of Mr. WILLIAM JOHN MERRINGTON,

Churchwarden for the Year 1896-97.

Dr. PARISH CHURCH ACCOUNT. Cr.

Receipts.

1896-97.	£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.
Brought forward				364	13	2
F. A. Dodd, Esq.	1	1	0			
P. Spooner, Esq.	1	1	0			
G. T. Wilson, Esq.	1	1	0			
Rev. Dr. Dyson	1	1	0			
H. Moseley, Esq.	1	1	0			
A. N. Disney, Esq.	1	1	0			
W. Huntsman, Esq.	1	1	0			
— Hodgson, Esq.	1	1	0			
G. O. Barrett, Esq.	1	1	0			
J. D. Matthews, Esq.	1	1	0			
C. Peters, Esq....	1	1	0			
H. Sanders, Esq.	1	1	0			
J. Lewis, Esq.	1	1	0			
T. Vine, Esq.	1	1	0			
A. Rumbelow, Esq.	1	1	0			
H. Sprake, Esq.	1	1	0			
H. B. Harding, Esq.		10	6			
T. Andrew, Esq.		10	6			
C. Bradley, Esq.		10	6			
A. Lemon, Esq.		10	6			
D. W. Williams, Esq.		10	6			
Miss F. Walden		10	6			
Dr. Keele		10	0			
T. Chodwick Brown, Esq.		10	0			
T. F. Bryen, Esq.		5	0			
H. Page, Esq.		5	0			
Miss Moffat		2	6			
E. Edwards, Esq.		2	6			
St. Mary's Soup Society, part cost of New Water Service	5	0	0			
W. J. Merrington, Esq., Churchwarden	2	2	0			
J. W. Williams, Esq. „	2	2	0			
F. J. Street, Esq. „	2	2	0			
Interest on above account at Bank ...		4	3			
				33	4	3
				£397	17	5
Balance				29	12	9

Expenditure.

1896-97.	£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.
Brought forward...				346	7	5
Shovel					2	2
London & General Printing Co., Printing	12	6				
Robertson & Co., Printing	13	4				
				1	5	10
Messrs. Bailey Bros., Repairing Bibles				2	15	0
Mr. M. H. Rackstraw, Felt				2	13	2
Confirmation 1896.						
Printing	15	6				
Bell Ringing	1	13	0			
Assistance	1	13	6			
				4	2	0
Confirmation 1897.						
Printing	15	0				
Bell Ringing	1	13	0			
Assistance	1	12	6			
				4	0	6
Queen's taxes on Cottage	8	10				
Fire Insurance ditto	6	0				
				14	10	
Cheques and Postage	5	2				
Sundries	13	1				
				18	3	
Printing	2	14	6			
Stationery and Postage	1	16	0			
Clerical Assistance	15	0				
				5	5	6
Balance				29	12	9
				£397	17	5

THE ACCOUNTS OF MR. WILLIAM JOHN MERRINGTON,

CHURCHWARDEN FOR THE YEAR 1896-97.

SUPPLEMENT TO

DR. Receipts. CR.

1896-97.		£	s.	d.
	Collections for Schools and Societies during the Year	125	9	1
		£125	9	1

PARISH CHURCH ACCOUNT.

Expenditure.

1896.		£	s.	d.
May 31.	Bible Women	3	0	0
June 14.	Hospital Sunday Fund	20	0	0
July 19.	Parochial Schools	7	7	6
Aug. 16.	Colonial and Continental Church Society	4	4	0
„ 30.	Bible Women	2	6	0
Sept. 20.	Infant Schools	7	10	0
Oct. 18.	Church Missionary Society	14	0	0
Nov. 15.	East London Church Fund	7	0	0
„ 29.	Bible Women	3	10	0
Dec. 20.	District Visitors	7	10	0
Dec. 25.	Bible Women	2	18	3
1897.				
Jan. 17.	Parochial Schools	6	10	10
„ 31.	Soup Kitchen	3	9	0
Feb. 21.	Church Pastoral Aid Society	7	7	0
Mar. 21.	Infant School	7	2	6
April 16.	Society for Conversion of the Jews	3	3	0
„ 25.	Bishop of London's Fund	8	10	0
May 16.	Sunday Schools	10	10	0
		£125	9	1

DR. ST. MARY MAGDALEN ACCOUNT. CR.

Receipts. Expenditure.

1896-97.		£	s.	d.
	Balance from Mr. Churchwarden Walkley's Account	30	16	0
	Trustees of the Stonefield Estate—			
	Half-year to Midsummer, 1896	100	0	0
	Do. to Christmas, 1896	100	0	0
		£230	16	0

1896-97.		£	s.	d.
Paid Wardens of St. Mary Magdalen		30	16	0
Do.	do.	100	0	0
Do.	do.	100	0	0
		£230	16	0

THE ACCOUNTS OF MR. WILLIAM JOHN MERRINGTON,

CHURCHWARDEN FOR THE YEAR 1896-97.

DR. SUMMARY OF BALANCES. CR.

1896-97.		£	s.	d.	1896-97.	£	s.	d.
To Balance on Parochial Charities	17	14	0		Balance	78	2	1
„ John Hankins Burge's Charity...	5	6	2					
„ Catherine Parry's Charity ...	13	5	0					
„ Susan Eburn's Charity... ...	12	4	2					
„ Parish Church Account ...	29	12	9					
				78 2 1				
Balance				£78 2 1				£78 2 1

WE, the undersigned Auditors, having examined the foregoing Accounts, certify the same to be correct, leaving a balance of Seventy-eight Pounds Two Shillings and One Penny in the hands of the Churchwardens, and in token thereof sign our names.

Dated this 27th day of October, 1897.

WILLIAM JOHN BURDGE.
RICHARD ELLIS.
JAMES FAIRWEATHER NUNN.

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Stoke Newington Vestry

Composition & Personnel.

Feb. 15. 98 - J. A.

Stoke Newington Vestry.

Interview with Mr. Burton, assistant clerk, & notes from annual Report, 1896-7.

Mr. Burton is quite of the common-place order, & had little to tell. The principal clerk, Mr. Webb, appears to have some other business, & did not conveniently to be interviewed. Fortunately, the report is pretty complete, & probably gives all that is necessary about this small parish.

As an administrative body, the Stoke Newington Vestry is not yet 4 years old, having (as separate from Hackney in Mar., '94. The parish still remains in Hackney Union, & its assessing is done by the Hackney Assessment Committee, altho' it has its own overseers to make the rate.

The Vestry consists of 60 members, elected in 5 wards. It is mostly predominated by City men, or retired men with like interests, & acts as a rule on the old lines of employment by contractors & the "cheapest market," but is gradually changing in this respect. A Progressive movement,

Elections well contested in the South Wards, where dem returns include 2 or 3 working men.

Popular & houses

area & density.

Births & deaths.
a very healthy district.

tho' weak as yet, is at work, & has several representatives on the Vestry, & the S.D.F. hammers at the door. Rev. L.E. Shelford is Chairman.

Population, 33615; increased from 22781 since '81. 5128 occupied houses; about 300 empty. Average of 6 persons to a house.

639 acres; 52.6 persons to an acre on whole. But the parish is separated into 2 parts by Church St., & in the Northern division there are only 27.2 per acre, as against 108 in South.

Similarly, birth & death rate are both much smaller in North than in South, the deaths being 8.4 in North & 14.7 in South. As a whole, the death rate is 12.46, running Hampstead very close for lowest record. Its birth rate is about half that of St. Luke's, & its death rate half that of St Saviour's, Southwark.

The North district consists of well-to-do professional people, with a sprinkling of clerks & mechanics; the South of clerks & comfortable mechanics mainly. Few poor.

Infectious Disease & Treatment.

Diphtheria, as in the country generally, is the most troublesome disease, & is not always connected with insanitary conditions. Anti-Toxin is sold by the Vestry at cost price.

There were 354 notifications of infectious disease, from 290 houses – mostly cases of Scarlet fever. Every infected house was inspected; 33 had grave sanitary defects, 191 slight defects. The medical officer remarks on the great difficulty of finding sufficient hospital accommodation, & says the well-to-do shd be isolated in their own homes, instead of being removed. He also complains of the large quantity of cheap & useless disinfectant sold & used by the poorer residents. Good disinfectant supplied freely by Vestry.

Scarlet fever he thinks is largely spread by schools, & he advocates frequent & systematic medical inspection of schools.

Baby Farming.

The medical officer has something to say about baby farming, tho' he does not say it prevails to any extent in his own parish. He wd. have registration even where only one child is "farmed"

Sanitary Work.

because people may take a succession of single infants, & cause the death of each by ill-feeding & neglect. Report of L.C.C. for '94–5 shows that the mortality in registered "farms" is only half that in unregistered.

In this parish the office of Surveyor & Chief Sanitary Inspector is combined, & the work is all in one dept. There is one additional permanent inspector & one temporary man, the latter being mainly employed in house-to-house inspection. 1627 premises were inspected during the year, & various defects found in a large number of cases. 1314 intimations notices were complied with. Only 181 of these inspections were made as result of complaints, thus showing great importance of a regular house-to-house system.

The slaughterhouses, bakehouses, & dairies were all duly inspected, as well as the one common lodging house, wh. is in Church St.

Workshop inspection.

There are 76 workshops in the parish, all

Food Adulteration

Water supply

registered & inspected. Defects found in 34 last year.

47 samples were taken; 7 adulterated. There is an increasing use of small quantities of antiseptics in food – not sufficient to justify legal proceedings, says the med. Officer, because injury to health cannot be positively proved, but it is more probable that medicines have results. They are used to freshen up stale & unwholesome articles. Vendor shd. be compelled to state amount of antiseptic (in the product or receptacle) or colouring matter used. The Doctor also avers injurious results to infants from use of condensed milk.

The Doctor remarks on the growing possibilities of a contaminated supply of water to London, & while saying there has been exaggerated apprehension on the subject, & that S. N. is exceptionally well situated in having the great reservoirs of the N. R. Co. within its own boundaries, goes on to observe that the facts are sufficient to make everyone

companies desire to see a change. London is supplied with water which is polluted in the first place, and then incompletely purified by sand filtration, and to this state of things London, doubtless, pays an annual toll of preventable disease. Sand filters are untrustworthy; although they have failed with disastrous results on but few occasions in this country, they have done so over and over again in other countries. Organisms can be found in Thames water which could only gain admission through the medium of sewage, and this is not surprising when one considers that the Thames and Lea drain populous, highly cultivated, and therefore highly polluted, areas. Such organisms have been found in filtered Thames water, and although they do not produce disease, yet, being larger than the harmful ones, it follows that the latter may and do also get through the filter.

London should go to a pure source for a pure supply. The cost will be great, but so is the danger and evil which it will obviate, and so will be the value of the result achieved.

Even with the "constant system" it seems that a storage cistern in each house is a necessity of its constancy, as the supply to the house pipes is liable to interruptions. It will be regrettable, however, if when a constant system is adopted, parishioners do not ask themselves whether they have a suitable cistern accessible for frequent cleansing and situated among wholesome surroundings. It is seldom, and more especially in poor class property, that a water cistern is found to be in every sense satisfactory; and in those cases where the conditions for storing water cannot be made wholly favourable to its purity, it would be better to discontinue the use of cisterns altogether, on the score that the danger likely to arise during the rare occurrences when the water is cut off for a day or two (as for repair of mains), is less than that which is daily faced from a badly constructed dirty cistern, badly placed. Where stop valves are fitted on the mains at frequent intervals the inconvenience is not very great.

The scheme for a sea water supply to London should certainly be encouraged, for such would serve excellently well for flushing sewers. It is at present a great anomaly that we should go to such trouble and expense in bringing water to a relatively high degree of purity and then use it for flushing our drains and sewers, *i.e.*, for the conveyance away of our excreta!

	s.	d.
Per day of 10 hours	9	3
„ ¾ „ 7½ „	7	3
„ ½ „ 5 „	5	3
„ ¼ „ 2½ „	3	0
„ 1¼ „ 12½ „	11	6

Cards with the specific daily work marked thereon are given to the drivers (each morning), and the work carried out under the following regulations:—

Stoke Newington Vestry.

REGULATIONS FOR ROAD WATERING.

1. All carmen and horses to be at Vestry's Depot by 6 a.m. each morning when ordered for the day.
2. All roads named on this card to be watered *twice daily*.
3. No two water vans to be at the same post at one time.
4. When loading, water cock to be turned on to the full.
5. No smoking allowed during hours of labour.
6. When van is loaded, key to be removed from cock.
7. The following vans to be in Stoke Newington Yard during meal-times, viz., 1, 2, 6, and 7.

S. E. BURGESS,
Surveyor.

Any carman not complying with the above Rules will be fined ¼ day.

Care of Streets
Direct Employ v. Contracts

ROAD SWEEPING AND SCAVENGING.

This work is now, and has been for the past twelve months, undertaken by our own staff, particular attention and strict supervision being given to the work. I believe the cleanliness of the roads in the Parish is well maintained.

The slop and sweepings during the year have been tipped to shoot at Messrs. Williamson's brickyard, Green Lanes, the Vestry paying the sum of £200 for the privilege.

The quantity of slop and sweepings removed from the Parish was as follows:—

	From Roads.		From Road Gulleys.	
26th March to 24th June, 1896 (inclusive) ...	526	van-loads ...	27	van-loads.
25th June to 29th Sept., 1896 (inclusive) ...	680	„ ...	52½	„
30th Sept. to 25th Dec., 1896 (inclusive) ...	764	„ ...	39½	„
26th Dec., 1896, to 25th March, 1897 (inclusive)	948	„ ...	36	„
	2,918	„ ...	155	„
	155	„		
Total ...	3,073	„		

Approximate capacity of each van 3 cube yards

The cost for slopping work by own staff, from 26th March, 1896, to 25th March, 1897, was as follows:—

	£	s.	d.
Labour (carmen)	224	5	5
Labour on sweeping machine	29	2	7
Horse keep	160	19	9
Rent of stables and cottage	48	0	0
Veterinary charges (annual work)	3	19	1
Burton, for hire of chestnut mare	5	10	0
Hire of horses and men (contract)	87	18	1
Shoeing horses, &c.	10	0	0
Scoops, oil, grease, &c.	5	11	0
Slop shoot (Williamson's)	200	0	0
Repairs at stables, harness, and other sundries	16	14	2
Rates, taxes, gas, and water	19	7	2
Extra paving to stable floor	14	0	0
	£825	7	3

Dust Removal.

Paid to Contractor for 1895-6—

	£	s.	d.
For cartage of slop, and providing vans and horses	900	0	0
Horsing sweeping machine, 26th March, 1895, to 3rd March, 1896	93	10	0
Total ...	993	10	0

Sweeping machine worked by own horse after 3rd March, 1896.

Total number of van-loads taken away—

1895-6 ... ... 3,260 van loads.
1896-7 ... ... 3,073 ,,

The macadam margins at High Street, Stoke Newington Road, and Green Lanes, paved 1896-7, not so 1895-6.

Horse refuse & dust are removed under contract, & the work is reported to be done in a satisfactory manner, but the parish is evidently meeting with the difficulty wh. seems to prevail everywhere when an improved system is ~~adopted~~ called for by the authorities, for the report goes on to say:—

Dust Removal (cont.)

At the present time rarely is that co-operation accorded by householders to the work of dusting which one might reasonably expect, but on the contrary the householder adopts a line of action utterly opposed to co-operative economy of execution. If each householder would refrain from casting into the dust receptacle everything that could be readily burned in his own kitchen fire-place, not only would the labour and cost of dusting work be reduced, but the sanitary condition of his house would be improved. Further saving could be effected by householders facilitating the removal of refuse by placing movable dust receptacles in positions readily accessible to the dustman, and permitting the contents to be removed on the regular weekly call day. Instead of doing this, the householder (naturally) studies his own convenience first, and then (also naturally) grumbles at the cost of the work. In better class houses, any little social function bars the dustman, while in some houses, the fact of its being washing-day, or drying-day, &c., &c., is an equal barrier, whilst in others, the greatest hindrance to regular and speedy collection arises from the difficulty of obtaining access to the premises. The dustmen knock repeatedly, but obtain no answer; very likely all the occupants are out; perhaps the house is let in tenements, and no individual lodger cares to trouble about the dust-bin, common to all, and it is this class of dwelling which gives the most trouble and causes the greatest nuisance.

In the Bye-laws framed by the London County Council under section 16 (2A) of the Public Health (London) Act, the Local Sanitary Authority is required to remove the house refuse at least once a week, and by section 116 of the said Act it is made a penal offence on the part of anyone wilfully obstructing the performance of this duty.

Section 126 of the Metropolis Management Act, 1855, enacted that "any person who does not permit any ashes to be taken away by the scavengers appointed by any Vestry, shall be liable to a fine not exceeding £5," and as this section has been repealed, and no

provision made to compel householders to now give admission to the dustmen, the Vestry asks the L.C.C. to make Bye-laws to meet ~~such~~ cases of refusal.

Dust Removal. (Cont'd.)

Lighting

[But why the section of the P.H. Act referred to in the previous para. is not sufficient I do not know. It is, I believe, with other Vestries]

There is some friction with the L.C.C. about this question of dust removal. The Vestry adopts the old system. The dustmen go (or are supposed to go) into each street once a week or call out, but do not go to a house unless invited. The L.C.C. wd. compel a weekly house-to-house collection. [The system used, I regret, to be unsatisfactory. I have had a chart of Vestries for a fortnight at a time].

The total number of lamps 25th March, 1897 :—

555 lamps fitted with one ordinary burner, burning 5 feet per hour.
2 lamps fitted with two ordinary burners, burning 10 feet per hour.
2 large lamps on refuges, supplied by meter.
4 lamps fitted with one incandescent burner, burning 4 feet per hour.

563

Open Spaces

Control Drainage.

Labour.

The charge by the Gas Light and Coke Company for gas, lighting, painting, cleansing, and keeping in repair is as follows:—

	£	s.	d.	
Ordinary lamps, 5 ft. per hour.....	3	2	4	per annum.
„ „ 10 „ „	5	9	8	„
Incandescent lamps, 4 ft. per hour.	2	14	0	„

(with no liability for burners, chimneys, and mantels).

All lamp columns, lanterns, &c., are in the first instance fixed by the Vestry at a cost of £2 17s. 9d. per lamp.

Open spaces regularly looked after. 600 trees in the public streets.

Lies other local bodies, the Vestry regards present state of laws very unsatisfactory. & urges amendment.

VESTRY WORKMEN AND DEPOT.

Holidays.—One week's holiday during the year (in addition to the Bank Holidays) is allowed with full pay to every man who has been continuously in the employment of the Vestry for six months, provided that there has been no serious complaint against him.

Sick Pay.—One third wages is allowed for six weeks in cases of illness.

An advance of wages has been made to some of the workmen, who, on report, were thought to be deserving of increased pay.

Labour (cont'd)

Public Library.

Hours of Work.

The Drivers shall keep the following hours:—

Duties.	Summer months.		Winter months.			
	March to October (inclusive).		November and February.		December and January.	
	Monday to Friday.	Saturday.	Monday to Friday.	Saturday.	Monday to Friday.	Saturday.
Attend to Horse, &c.	5 to 6 a.m.	5 to 6 a.m.	5.30 to 6.30 a.m.	5.30 to 6.30 a.m.	6 to 7 a.m.	6 to 7 a.m.
Working Hours	6 to 8 a.m.	6 to 8 a.m.	6.30 to 8 a.m.	6.30 to 8 a.m.	7 to 9 a.m.	7 to 9 a.m.
Breakfast	8 to 8.30 a.m.	8 to 8.30 a.m.	8 to 8.30 a.m.	8 to 8.30 a.m.	8 to 8.30 a.m.	8 to 8.30 a.m.
Working Hours	8.30 a.m. to 12 noon.	8.30 a.m. to 12 noon.	8.30 a.m. to 12 noon.	8.30 a.m. to 12 noon.	8.30 a.m. to 12.30 p.m.	8.30 a.m. to 12.30 p.m.
Dinner	12 noon to 1 p.m.	12 noon to 1 p.m.	12 noon to 1 p.m.	12 noon to 1 p.m.	12.30 to 1.30 p.m.	12.30 to 1.30 p.m.
Working Hours	1 p.m. to 5.30 p.m.	1 p.m. to 4 p.m.	1 p.m. to 5 p.m.	1 p.m. to 4 p.m.	1.30 to 5 p.m.	1.30 to 4 p.m.

On Sundays Drivers must attend to the horses from 7 to 8 a.m., and again from 5 to 5.30 p.m., as instructed by the Foreman.

After working hours each Driver must return to the stables, groom and bed down his horse, and clean the harness.

Labourers and Roadmen shall keep the following hours:—

Duties.	Summer months.		Winter months.			
	March to October (inclusive).		November and February.		December and January.	
	Monday to Friday.	Saturday.	Monday to Friday.	Saturday.	Monday to Friday.	Saturday.
Working Hours	6 a.m. to 5.30 p.m.	6 a.m. to 4 p.m.	6.30 to 5 p.m.	6 30 to 4 p.m.	7 a.m. to 5 p m.	7 a.m to 4 p.m.
Breakfast	8 to 8.30 a.m.	8 to 8.30 a.m.	8 to 8.30 a.m.	8 to 8.30 a.m.	8 to 8.30 a.m.	8 to 8.30 a.m.
Dinner	12 noon to 1 p.m.	12 noon to 1 p.m.	12 noon to 1 p.m.	12 noon to 1 p.m.	12 noon to 1 p.m.	12 noon to 1 p.m.

Total number of working hours—Summer 58½, Winter 53 and 50.

Labourers wages are about 24/- to 25/- a week.

Act adopted about 8 years ago. New Library & reading room in Church St. Cost £4000, raised by loan. Managed by 9 Commissioners, 3 appointed annually by Vestry. Penny rate produces £800. Subjoined are the statistics:—

Library Statistics

SUMMARY.

Population of Parish, 1896			33,485
Area of Parish			639 acres
Rateable value (1897)			£219,609
Product of Rate of 1d. in the £ (1896-7)			£868 10s.
Public Libraries Act adopted			February, 5th, 1890
First Commissioners appointed ...			March 7th, 1890
Temporary Newsroom opened			October 4th, 1890
Lending Library opened			October 12th, 1891
Permanent Library Building opened ...			July 23rd, 1892
		1895-6	1896-7
Total number of Volumes in stock		10,753	11,457
„ „ „ added during year...		1,169	946
„ „ „ issued		102,124	102,750
Daily average issue		392	396
Average number of times which each Book has been issued		9·5	9
Number of Borrowers' Cards issued and renewed		3,208	3,236
„ „ „ cancelled ...		128	152
„ „ „ now in force ...		3,080	3,084
(*Mem.—Borrowers' Cards are renewed annually*).			
Number of Volumes issued per Borrower (Lending Library)...		30	30·1
Percentage of Borrowers to population ...			9·2
Daily attendance in Reading Rooms ...	(about)	1,050	1,050

P.T.O. (See back)

Library Statistics

TABLE showing Classification, Volumes in Stock, Volumes issued during the year, and the Percentage of each class.

Class Letter.	Classification.	Volumes in Stock.					Volumes Issued.				
		Lending	Reference	Total	Percentage of Stock	Volumes added during the year	Lending	Reference	Total	Percentage of issues	Turnover
A	Philosophy and religion	469	205	674	5·9	39	1,171	518	1,689	1·7	2·5
B	Sociology (politics, law, education, &c.)	352	363	715	6·2	9	1,101	750	1,851	1·8	2·6
C	Science (natural history, physics, &c.)	411	189	600	5·2	42	1,659	864	2,523	2·4	4·2
D	Useful arts (trades, manufactures, &c.)	248	113	361	3·2	28	1,378	971	2,349	2·3	6·5
E	Fine arts (architecture, painting, &c.)	163	89	252	2·2	36	1,221	688	1,909	1·8	7·6
F	Literature and language (essays, poetry, &c.)	836	654	1,490	13·	99	3,222	1,374	4,596	4·4	3·1
G	History, biography, and travel...	1,821	1,231	3,052	26·6	146	7,923	2,313	10,236	10·	3·3
H	Miscellaneous (general dictionaries, &c.)	354	721	1,075	9·4	62	2,718	2,165	4,883	4·7	4·5
J	Juvenile literature (in all classes)	501	—	501	4·4	74	10,726	—	10,726	10·4	21·4
K	Prose fiction	2,697	40	2,737	23·9	169	61,841	147	61 988	60·3	22·6
	TOTAL	7,852	3,605	11,457	100·	704	92,960	9,790	102,750	100·	9·

Daily average issue of Lending Library, 364; Reference Library, 32; Total, 396.

Baths

No baths in parish. Nearest at Dalston, & these are private. Many of the houses are without baths, so there is some need of public baths

Amusements.

Plenty of outdoor sports in Parks. Attempts being made to form museum in old house at Chiswick Pk., but not yet successful. L.C.C. says it has no fund from wh. it can undertake care of such a museum. New theatre in Stoke Newington Rd. Have petitioned L.C.C. to make a gymnasium in Chiswick Pk.

Houses let in Lodgings.

All houses are registered wh. the rent paid by lodgers is below 2/6 unfurnished & 4/- furnished. The number will probably be small. Subjoined are the bye-laws wh. the Vestry has made for regulating these houses.

There are very few tenement houses in the parish, & no model blocks.

Improvements.

Church St. being widened whenever opportunity offers.

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President.

Seal.

HUGH OWEN,

Secretary.

Public Health (London) Act, 1891.

BYELAWS

Made by the Vestry of the Parish of St. Mary, Stoke Newington, being the Sanitary Authority for the said Parish, with respect to Houses let in Lodgings, or occupied by Members of more than one family.

(*a.*) *For fixing the number of persons who may occupy a house or part of a house which is let in lodgings or occupied by members of more than one family :*

(*b.*) *For the registration of houses so let or occupied :*

(*c.*) *For the inspection of such houses :*

(*d.*) *For enforcing drainage for such houses, and for promoting cleanliness and ventilation in such houses :*

(*e.*) *For the cleansing and lime-washing at stated times of the premises :*

(*f*) *For the taking of precautions in case of any infectious disease.*

Interpretation of Terms.

1. In these byelaws, unless the context otherwise requires, the following words and expressions have the meanings hereinafter respectively assigned to them ; that is to say,—

"Sanitary Authority" means the Vestry of the Parish of St. Mary, Stoke Newington.

"Lodging-house" means a house or part of a house which is let in lodgings or occupied by members of more than one family :

"Landlord," in relation to a house or part of a house which is let in lodgings or occupied by members of more than one family, means the person (whatever may be the nature or extent of his interest in the premises) by whom or on whose behalf such house or part of a house is let in lodgings, or for occupation by members of more than one family, or who for the time being receives, or is entitled to receive, the profits arising from such letting :

"Lodger," in relation to a house or part of a house which is let in lodgings or occupied by members of more than one family, means a person to whom any room or rooms in such house or part of a house may have been let as a lodging, or for his use and occupation.

Exempted Houses.

2. In either of the following cases a lodging-house shall be exempt from the operation of these byelaws ; that is to say,—

(*a.*) Where the rent or charge payable by each lodger, and exclusive of any charge for the use by such lodger of any furniture, is at a rate of 2s. 6d. per week or upwards.

(*b.*) Where the rent or charge payable by each lodger, and inclusive of any charge for the use by such lodger of any furniture, is at a rate of 4s. per week or upwards.

(a.) *For fixing the number of persons who may occupy a house or part of a house which is let in lodgings or occupied by members of more than one family:*

3. The Landlord of a lodging-house or a lodger therein shall not knowingly cause or suffer a greater number of persons than will admit of the provision of *three hundred cubic feet* of free air space for each person of an age exceeding *ten years*, and of *one hundred and fifty cubic feet* of free air space for each person of an age not exceeding *ten years* to occupy, at any one time, as a sleeping apartment, a room which is used exclusively for that purpose, and which is under the control of such landlord, or which has been let to such lodger, respectively, as the case may be.

4. The landlord of a lodging-house, or a lodger therein, shall not knowingly cause or suffer a greater number of persons than will admit of the provision of *four hundred cubic feet* of free air space for each person of an age exceeding *ten years*, and of *two hundred cubic feet* of free air space for each person of an age not exceeding *ten* years to occupy, at any one time, as a sleeping apartment, a room which is not used exclusively for that purpose, and which is under the control of such landlord, or which has been let to such lodger respectively, as the case may be.

(b.) *For the registration of houses so let or occupied:*

5. The landlord of a lodging-house, within a period of *fourteen days* after he shall have been required by a notice in writing, signed by the clerk to the Sanitary Authority, and duly served upon or delivered to such landlord, to supply the information necessary for the registration of such house by the Sanitary Authority, shall, himself, or by his agent duly authorised in that behalf, sign and furnish to the Sanitary Authority a true statement of the following particulars with respect to such house; that is to say,—

(*a*) The total number of rooms in the house:

(*b.*) The total number of rooms let in lodgings or occupied by members of more than one family:

(*c.*) The manner of use of each room:

(*d.*) The number, age, and sex of the occupants of each room used for sleeping:

(*e.*) The Christian name and surname of the lessee of each room; and

(*f.*) The amount of rent or charge per week payable by each lessee.

(c). *For the inspection of such houses.*

6. In any case where the landlord of a lodging-house occupies or resides in any part of the premises, or retains a general possession or control of the premises, such landlord, and in any case where the landlord of a lodging-house does not occupy or reside in any part of the premises, or retain a general possession or control of the premises, every lodger who is entitled to have or to exercise the control of the outer door of the premises shall, at all times when required by the Medical Officer of Health, the Sanitary Inspector, or any other officer specially appointed or authorised by the Sanitary Authority in that behalf, afford any such officer free access to the interior of the premises for the purpose of inspection.

7. Every lodger in a lodging-house shall, at all times when required by the Medical Officer of Health, the Sanitary Inspector or any other officer specially appointed or authorised by the Sanitary Authority in that behalf, afford any such officer free access for the purpose of inspection to the interior of any room or rooms which may have been let to such lodger.

8. Where the Medical Officer of Health, the Sanitary Inspector, or any other officer specially appointed or authorised by the Sanitary Authority in that behalf, has, for the purpose of inspection, obtained access to the interior of a lodging-house or to the interior of any room or rooms in such house, a person shall not wilfully obstruct any such officer in the inspection of any part of the premises, or, without reasonable excuse, neglect or refuse, when required by any such officer, to render him such assistance as may be reasonably necessary for the purpose of such inspection.

(d.) *For enforcing drainage for such houses, and for promoting cleanliness and ventilation in such houses.*

9. In any case where a lodger in a lodging-house is entitled to the exclusive use of any court, court-yard, area, or other open space within the curtilage of the premises, such lodger, and in any case where two or more lodgers in a lodging house are entitled to the use in common of any court, court-yard, area, or other open space within the curtilage of the premises, the landlord, shall cause such court, court-yard, area, or other open space to be thoroughly cleansed from time to time as often as may be requisite for the purpose of keeping the same in a cleanly condition.

10. The landlord of a lodging-house shall cause every drain or means of drainage with which any water-closet belonging to such house may communicate to be maintained at all times in good order and efficient action.

He shall also cause all such means of ventilation as may be provided in or in connexion therewith to be maintained at all times in good order.

11. Every lodger in a lodging-house shall cause all solid or liquid filth or refuse to be removed once at least in *every day* from every room which has been let to him, and shall once at least in *every day* cause every vessel, utensil, or other receptacle for such filth or refuse to be thoroughly cleansed.

12. In every case where a lodger in a lodging-house is entitled to the exclusive use of any staircase, landing, or passage in such house, such lodger shall cause every part of such staircase, landing, or passage to be thoroughly cleansed from time to time as often as may be requisite.

13. A lodger in a lodging-house shall not cause or suffer any animal to be kept in any room which has been let to such lodger or elsewhere upon the premises in such a manner as to render the condition of such room or premises filthy.

14. The landlord of a lodging-house shall cause every common passage or staircase in such house to be thoroughly cleansed from time to time as often as may be requisite.

(e.) *For the cleansing and lime-washing at stated times of the premises.*

15. The landlord of a lodging-house shall, in the first week of the month of *April* in every year, cause every part of the premises to be cleansed.

He shall, at the same time, except in such cases as are hereinafter specified, cause every area the interior surface of every ceiling and wall of every water-closet belonging to the premises, and the interior surface of every ceiling and wall of every room, staircase, and passage in the house to be thoroughly lime-washed.

Provided that the foregoing requirement with respect to the lime-washing of the internal surface of the walls of rooms, staircases, and passages shall not apply in any case where the internal surface of any such wall is painted, or where the material of or with which such surface is constructed or covered is such as to render the lime-washing thereof unsuitable or inexpedient, and where such surface is thoroughly cleansed, and the paint or other covering is renewed, if the renewal thereof be necessary for the purpose of keeping the premises in a cleanly and wholesome condition.

16. The landlord of a lodging-house shall provide adequate means of ventilation in or in connexion with every common passage or staircase in such house, and shall cause such means of ventilation to be maintained at all times in good order.

17. The landlord of a lodging-house shall cause all such means of ventilation as may be provided in or in connection with any room in such house to be maintained at all times in good order.

(f.) *For the taking of precautions in case of any infectious disease.*

18. In every case where, in pursuance of any statutory provision in that behalf, an order of a justice has been obtained for the removal from a lodging-house to a hospital of a person who is suffering from any dangerous infectious disease and is without proper lodging or accommodation, the landlord of such house, and the lodger to whom any room whereof such person may be an occupant has been let shall, on being informed of such order, forthwith take all such steps as may be requisite on the part of such landlord and of such lodger, respectively, to secure the safe and prompt removal of such person in compliance with such order, and shall, in and about such removal, adopt all such precautions as, in accordance with any instructions which such landlord and such lodger, respectively, may receive from the Medical Officer of Health of the Sanitary Authority, may be most suitable for the circumstances of the case.

Penalties.

19. Every person who shall offend against any of the foregoing byelaws shall be liable for every such offence to a penalty of five pounds, and in the case of a continuing offence to a further penalty of forty shillings for each day after written notice of the offence from the Sanitary Authority:

Provided, nevertheless, that the justices or court before whom any complaint may be made or any proceedings may be taken in respect of any such offence may, if they think fit, adjudge the payment as a penalty of any sum less than the full amount of the penalty imposed by this byelaw.

Repeal of Byelaws.

20. From and after the date of the confirmation of these Byelaws, the regulations for Houses or parts of Houses which are let in lodgings or occupied by members of more than One Family which were confirmed on the fourteenth day of February, in the year one thousand eight hundred and eighty five, by the Local Government Board, shall be repealed as regards the parish of St. Mary, Stoke Newington.

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GEO. WEBB,
Clerk to the Vestry.

Allowed by the Local Government Board this fifteenth day of August, 1895.

HENRY CHAPLIN,
President.

Seal

HUGH OWEN,
Secretary.

Inquest Local 14/17

11

Islington Charities.

These charities were inquired into by the Charity Commissioners in 1896, & the following particulars are taken from their report: —

Lady Alice Owen's Charity. - This is by far the most important of the Islington charities. It was founded in the seventeenth century by Dame Owen, partly for the maintenance of almshouses for poor widows, & partly for supporting a free school for the children of the poor. The trustees are the Brewers Company. The value of the property left has, of course, increased enormously, & new schemes for dealing with the proceeds have been drafted from time to time. It has long ceased to be a free school, & the almshouses have long since been demolished. The £20 a year left as master's stipend has grown to over £800, & the clerk's 10/- to £500 or £600; the 30 children to be taught free has grown to over 700 who pay

£6 a year, save those admitted by scholarships thro' the L.C.C. or other schemes; & the scientific curriculum has yr extended to an elaborate modern education. The total income is nearly £10,500, of wh. (roughly) £10,000 is spent on education, & £450 on pensions of £2.12 a month to 14 poor widows of Islington & Clerkenwell.

The boys school provides for 420, & is always full. There are 17 assistt masters, besides visiting music teacher, drill instructor, &c. 26 boys hold scholarships under the scheme; 72 are sent by L.C.C., & 16 by Middlesex C.C. There are 5 exhibition scholarships.

The girls school has 300 children, taught by a head mistress, 14 assistants, & visiting teachers. Very liberal curriculum.

The children are mainly those of clerks, shopkeepers & the professional classes. About half live within 2 miles of the school; the rest come from nearly all parts of N. London.

The following are further particulars of

the pension scheme: —

There are 14 women pensioners (seven from Islington and seven from Clerkenwell) each of whom receives 2*l.* 12*s.* every month, *i.e.*, 31*l.* 4*s.* a year. The only other allowance to the pensioners from this Charity is 1½ lbs. of tea at Christmas, but the 10 senior pensioners receive from the Charity of Elizabeth Lovejoy (*see* page 35) 12*s.* a year each, paid quarterly, and from Ann Potter's Charity (*see* page 35) 4*s.* each in November. The pensioners are paid at the Brewers' Hall by the clerk to the Company.

The amount spent in pensions is usually 436*l.* 16*s.* a year, but in 1895 a special grant of 12*l.* was made to a widow, sister of a pensioner, making the 448*l.* 16*s.* shown in the accounts below.

In the event of a vacancy the clerk to the Company informs the vicar of the parish in which the former pensioner resided, and the selection is made by the Company from three or four names sent in by the vicar. The clerk to the Company keeps a list of applicants, the number on the list being usually 200 or more.

No advertisement of a vacancy is issued, but the Charity is well known,

A candidate is required to furnish her name, address, age, certificates of marriage and of the husband's death, and a statement signed by the vicar and churchwardens of Islington or Clerkenwell that the applicant has resided seven years in the qualifying parish.

Candidates are never selected unless they are more than 50 years of age.

Richard Clondesley's Charity consists of about 230 houses in Clondesley Sq^re, Clondesley Rd., Clondesley St., Clondesley Pl., Stonefield ~~Street~~ St., &c. It was left in the early 16^th century, & the then value of £6 or £7 a year, for the saying of masses, prayers &c. by priests & certain poor persons. It now produces £925, viz., after paying exp^s, is equally divided between the 4 churches of St Mary, St. John, St. Paul, & Holy Trinity, & spent by them in & against their salaries,

Plantes bry's Charity.

under the scheme, when the income reaches £1000 a new scheme has to be prepared for disposal of balance, & already the Vestry & the trustees are consulting as to what is to be done, whilst institutions like the St. Northern Hospital & Northern Polytechnic are putting forward claims to consideration.

gas & water rates, & various other purposes. The rateable value of the estate is £9395, & the leases all expire between 1899 & 1916, so in the near future this will be a very valuable property.

Lady Temple's Charity consists of a farm at North Weirs & £600 consols. The income is £30 a year; £28 is spent in boarding & educating 2 girls at a private school, & in educating only one girl; vicar takes £2 & churchwardens £1; rest exps &c. Vicar & churchs select the children from those of parents who have become reduced in circs. (The a/cs of this charity are given at p. 99)

Parochial Charities. - These consist of Lowis charity (a portion of property in Old Bailey, producing £80, 15s Paid charity £50, & 7 small charities varying in about £70 - The £200 is distributed in bread, coals, blankets, &c, by vicar & churchwardens; mostly at Xmas, when 10/- worth of coal tickets are handed to each

Vestryman for distribution. (o/s at p. 991

Davis's almshouses. – Eight almshouses in Queen's Head St. & £3505 consols. Trustees, vicar & 4 others.

The trustees meet when an almshouse is vacated, and whenever there is any special business to transact.

It is believed that the benefits of the Charity have in practice always been confined to the parish of Islington.

A vacant almshouse is filled by the appointment of a married couple or a widow.

No advertisement of the vacancy is issued, and the trustees do not require that any particular form of application shall be filled up by the candidates, who must be members of the Church of England, and not less than 50 years of age. The trustees usually choose persons with whose circumstances they are well acquainted. If one of a married couple dies the survivor is allowed to remain in the almshouse.

There are at the present time three married couples, three widows, and two widowers. A pension varying from 6*l.* to 7*l.* per annum is paid to each single person or married couple.

About two tons of coal are supplied to each house every year.

The trustees require that every inmate shall have a small guaranteed income from sources other than the Charity

Blossom Charity. – Income £99 from Reduced Annuities. £9. 5 a year given to 10 poor widows or single women, who must be "poor members of the Established Church" over 60, resident in Islington, not beggars or receiving parish relief, & not more than £25 a year income. Trustees are 4 or 5 local clergy. The gift is renewable every

year, but the recipients seldom change, except by death. The vicar keeps them under supervision.

Lambe's Charity is an ancient benefaction under control of the Clothworkers' Company, & was originally left to preach certain sermons in a City church & give clothing to a number of poor people. The Company in 1872 obtained an act authorising them to build a church in the suburbs. They accordingly erected St. James, Prebend Lane, & the income of the charity is now expended as follows:-

	£
St. John's College, Oxford (scholarship)	80
Stipend of vicar of St. James	300
Gifts of blankets & shoes (about)	26
	£406

Selection of recipients left to Vicar & Churchwardens, the former of whom still performs the duties imposed by the will.

Dickenson's Charity.- Left for distribution of bread, coals, & potatoes to 20 poor deserving

families who are regular attendants at St. John's Church, Holloway." Property. £4000 consols. Other particulars:-

The annual dividends are 110*l.*

The trustees are the Rev. J. Seaver, vicar of St. John's, and Messrs. H. Byrne, J. G. Petrie, Frederic Hammond, and R. Vesey. Mr. J. G. Petrie acts as honorary secretary.

On the death or resignation of a trustee a new trustee is appointed at a meeting of the continuing trustees. The directions of the Scheme of 1853 as to appointments of trustees are not followed.

Meetings take place three or four times a year, the principal meeting being held in November. At the November meeting the recipients of the Charity are selected.

Candidates are required to fill up a form stating the name and address of the applicant, how long he or she has resided in the district, how employed and amount of weekly earnings, whether in possession of any other resources, the number of members in family and their respective ages, whether children are living at home and earning any livelihood, whether applicant is in receipt of parish relief, whether applicant has received the benefits of the Charity before, whether applicant and his family attend either St. John's Church or St. Mark's Church.

The trustees do not limit the number of families benefited to 20, and do not confine the gifts to families attending the last-mentioned churches, some of the beneficiaries being chosen from the other ecclesiastical districts which have been formed out of St. John's since the formation of St. Mark's, viz., St. Peter's, All Saint's, St. Stephen's and St. Paul's.

In the last four years there have been 107 recipients in St. John's, seven in St. Mark's, six in St. Peter's, eight in All Saints, four in St. Stephen's, and ten in St. Paul's.

The gifts are distributed in the form of tickets for coal, bread, and groceries.

The tickets are given away half in November and half in February, and entitle the recipients to a supply of coal, bread, and groceries for 24 weeks during the winter.

The value of the goods to be obtained in exchange for the tickets varies.

The accounts for the year ending the 31st December 1896 are subjoined :—

Receipts.	£	s.	d.	Expenditure.	£	s.	d.
Dividends - - - -	110	0	0	Balance due to treasurer - - -	8	3	11
Balance due to treasurer - -	8	15	11	Potatoes - - - -	36	0	0
				Coals - - - - -	36	0	0
				Bread - - - - -	36	0	0
				Hire of room for distribution - -	2	2	0
				Attendant at distribution - -	0	10	0
	118	15	11		118	15	11

The bank-book showed on the 31st December 1896 a balance in hand of 102*l.* 0*s.* 7*d.* It appears from a statement prepared by the treasurer and verified by examination of the bank pass book and the accounts that various items of expenditure amounting to 23*l.* 6*s.* 6*d.* have been debited in the accounts although the payments have not in fact been made and are still due, while on the other hand the pass book shows a receipt of 87*l.* 10*s.* for dividends, which sum has not yet been credited in the accounts. The balance to the credit of the Charity on the 31st December 1896 was in fact 78*l.* 14*s.* 1*d.*

Newton's Charity - £2000 New Consols (regulated in 1891

to the incumbent and wardens for the time being of the Chapel of Ease Islington and their successors, upon trust to hold the same stock or in their discretion to sell the same and invest the proceeds in their names in other Government funds, and to pay the dividends arising therefrom for such charitable purposes (being for the school or any other institutions in connection with the said chapel) as the said incumbent and wardens for the time being should think proper, the mode and extent in and to which the said dividends should be so paid for all or any of the purposes aforesaid being left to their absolute and uncontrolled discretion.

Proceedings took place in the Chancery Division of the

Under a scheme authorised by Court of

Charities the proceeds are disbursed thus:-

Receipts.	£	s.	d.	Expenditure.	£	s.	d.
Balance - - -	56	9	9	Clerk's salary and petty disbursements	13	9	6
Dividends - - -	495	6	10	Endowment to the Rev. J. A. Faithfull.	150	0	0
Income tax reclaimed - -	13	16	0	Church room fund - - -	35	0	0
				Youths' club - - -	20	0	0
				Church of England Temperance Society.	10	0	0
				District Visiting Society - -	10	0	0
				Parsonage fund - - -	29	15	6
				St. Mary Magdalene Day Schools -	210	0	0
				" " Sunday Schools	45	0	0
				Balance - - - -	42	7	7
	565	12	7		565	12	7

The £150 to the vicar is conditional on his giving up a like amount of pew rents

There are a number of other small charities all for special purposes - religious & educational.

1. Personnel.

Hackney Vestry.

Summary of Evidence.

Deteriorating. – Blaker. (clergy) XV. 21.

Excellent body. Do work well. No deterioration since new act. Only working man member is moderate. – Hurrell, XV 43

Less corrupt than were. Room for improvement. – Barnes, XV. 133

Fairly efficient. – Lennard, XVI 23.

The wrong men. Have real social spirit, zeal & enthusiasm, but lack training & education. Not sufficient idea of moral improvement. – Thursby, XVI. 105.

Fairly effective. Prompt on abuses. – Gardner (school) XVIII 83

Progressive since new act. Not deteriorated, but improved. Represent all classes. Interest in election. Labour party if 15 or 20 – not socialists. – Hosford, XIX. 57.

Working men should not be on Vestry. Pander to Vestry employees, & set them against their "superiors". Ways will shd. be kept low. – Lovegrove (brewery) XIX 113.

Well & honorably administered. – Johnson. XXIV, 57.

Proud of our public bodies. Quality of men good. Administration atmosphere very clean. – Fleming Williams, XXV, 14.

2. Rating, &c.

3. Health.

Rateable value £1,053,514. Guardians are the assessment authority.
Rating 6/- in £.

Excellent. District lies low, but splendid gravel soil. Epidemics light. – Blatch (clergy) XV 25.

Very good throughout Hackney. We has hardly any sick cases. – Heorcorn. XV 57.

Good. – Walker, XV. 83.

Good deal of sickness. Poorer streets on made ground, & houses wretchedly built. Good doctors, but unqualified assistant of worst description. – Bankes (St. Augustine's, Vict. Pk.) XV 132.

Only moderate. Frequent epidemics among children. Very diseases & rheumatism there low ground & damp climate. – Donaldson, Eton Mission, H. Wick, XV. 211.

Wonderfully good. Very little actual illness. Greatly improved owing to better condition of Lea. Physical perfectly enormous. – Hawkins XV. 233. (Clapton)

Extraordinarily healthy, except possibly bit by Lea, wh very low & causes insanitary. Flooded sometimes in winter. – Brown (Clapton) XVI 65.

District wealthy. – Andrews, (Clapton Pk), XVI 121.

Very healthy. Has been a lot better since he came from Lambeth. – Nicholson (Wesleyan) XVII 23

The parish not a wealth resort. Rather low & depressing. - Father Dewes (Ballance Rd.) XII 133

4. Housing & Sanitation.

(a) Private houses & general.

Good. No epidemics in 3 years. Very few hospital cases needed. Nearest ever keeps so healthy. - Porter, XVII. 44

Wonderfully good, considering habits & close packing; low & damp ground, & jerry building. - Blunt, (R.O.) XVIII, 71

Health of Wick not "thoroughly bad" Open marshes a salvation. Some fever epidemic, largely attributable to personal uncleanness. Dirt & filth sometimes found is positively appalling. Cleanliness shd. be taught. - Coffin, R.O., XVIII, 193.

Brandreth St. area, Clapton Pk., lies low, damp, flooded, & frosted. Fevers very rife thro' bad drainage. Improved thro' action of Local authority & L.C.C. Latter had a special report made. - Addiscott, XVIII, 207

Good health record. Death rate 16.4. Diphtheria prevalent thro' schools. - Warry, XIX 39.

Very satisfactory. - Dr Birch, XIX 193.

Healthy. Sandy subsoil. - Johnston, XXII, 90

Many houses old & well built; none insanitary. "Sanitary Aid Committee" no longer necessary. Conditions thoroly efficient. - Blatch XV 25.

Except few old houses in Sheep Lane, all are in good sanitary condition. Great deal done of late years. - Hurcomb, XV 51

Housing & Sanitation (cont^d.)

In 1895 Dr W. made special inquiry as to H. Wick, consequent on very many mortality. Found houses were built on bad soil, made up house refuse, &c., on bed of clay. Basements of wood, allowing exudations from soil to readily penetrate into houses. Drains & sewers insufficient fall, & sewage stood in them. Poverty & overcrowding rife. Mothers working, infants neglected & die. Many of basements of houses now concreted, damp courses put in walls, & done up properly. New sewer being made. – Warry XIX, 39.

People on west side of Mare St. well housed, but often too many people in the houses. Housing Lane district bad, but better than Church Walk, &c. – Nettleton, XVII 23

Everything as near as possible to meyor requirements of building acts – size, internal fittings, &c. – Porter, XVII 49

Good, but some overcrowding. – Walker, XV 83

Wick been much neglected, but lately a gradual improvement. Landlords forced to concrete floors. In many cases drains still very bad. – Donaldson XV, 205.

Housing improving. Landlords callous & obstinate. Only do most necessary repairs under great pressure. – Donaldson, XV 213.

Dr Warry very efficient. Landlords very bad. Won't execute repairs without constant pressure. – Hawkins, XV 231.

Houses let very low, & some insanitary. Flooded in winter. – Brown, XVI 55.

Some cottages in Drapery Lane & Jerusalem Square might well come down – Thornley, XVI 105. (Jerusalem Square still standing in 1911)

Sanitary administration very good. – Andrews XVI 119.

Tranby Croft an insanitary area. Some houses in Navvies Island (especially Millington St.) unfit for habitation – Miss Davis XVIII, 19.

Houses pretty bad. & many terribly damp. Landlords will do nothing unless forced. – Blunt XVIII, 71 (Clapton Pk.)

Local property managed on strictest business lines. 10 or 12 % investment, financial corporations, & speculators. Rents collected by agents. Position now fair, because of vestry intervention. Before that was "shockingly bad". – Gardner (Wick) XVIII 85. (strikingly)

Dust shuts in locality a source of infection & illness. Children poke about. Destructor needed. – Gardner.

Too much overcrowding & subletting. – Miss Parish, XVIII 145

Landlords leave matters to agents, whose chief interest is to get rents. Cares little as to overcrowding or want of repairs. Overcrowded, ill-repaired houses induce dirty habits, drink, &c. Becoming sick, tenants can't pay. So landlord loses rent & repairs cost nearly double. To escape liability, he raises rent. – Miss Parish XVIII 153.

Best built houses K. Edward Rd. Worst, the flash houses in Ingram Crescent. Every neighbourhood has its rows & shows. Good, well-built houses get ultimately a shady class. Badly built ones get worst class in time, & pass down for good. – Stoddart (house agent) XVIII, 183.

Much sanitary improvement in last 6 years. Inspectors increased from 5 to 11. Each has district of 2 & 3000 houses. Do all work in own district, now taking samples. Many new duties of public health act being gradually taken up. – Warry (Dr.) XIX 25.

6800 houses inspected, & 31,000 reinspections in 1896. – Warry.

Housing & sanitation well looked after. Much advance of late. – Prescott, V. Clk., XIX 51

much progress. Vestry fully alive to importance of sanitary work. Parish well looked after. - Hosgood XIX 57

Housing & San.n well looked after. Efficient med. officer. Improvement in dwgs. Slums diverted. - Chambers, XIX 75

Great hope of improvement in better dwellings. - XIX 79 (Chambers)

Small property shd. be entirely withdrawn from local control & placed under Govt. health dept. No house-owners, builders, lessees, &c., of poorer class of property shd. sit on or hold any office under local authority. - Clarke, XIX, 103.

Horses better looked after sanitarily, people cleaner & more healthy. Favours municipal dwellings under Govt. control. - Clarke.

H. & S. very good in the Beaumont Town; fairly so on Rhodes Estate. Tyssen Place, Passage, &c. (Stoke Newington Junction) in bad condition - Rudkin, XIX 169

Sanitation made wonderful strides. Save in a few cases (as High Hill Ferry), worst class of old cottage property from model blocks a great advance, owing to efficiency of drainage & complaints promptly attended to. - Dr Birch XIX 177.

Horses well looked after. & sanitary staff efficient. - Crane (R.O.) XIX 203.

Housing & Sanitation (contd)

Sanitary administration good & active prompt. Efficiently carried out & law ground on wh. good many houses built. Flooding from sea. Some houses in block side uncommonly bad. Terrace building in most towns. – Cubbin (clerk) XXI 121

Terribly crowded compared to country. No wonder men go to pub. – Cleale (Carp.) XXII 31.

H. & S. pretty fair. Authority very vigilant & will be more so. Sanitary life in Vestry. – Hellman (Bapt.) XXII 62

An inspector can thoroughly cover whole of his District in a year – 2000 houses – only ± need visiting. Very great improvts in Hackney Wick, but difficulties of drainage so great that can never be thoroughly sanitary. Made ground. Never ought to have been built on. Tenants very destructive. W.c. doors & seats used for fuel. – Hellard, XXIII 12

Stoke Newington good. England gradual improvement. People much more concerned about sanitary matters, & will not put up w. bad sanitary conditions – Johnston XXIV 59.

On whole, H. & S. wonderfully good. Island ought to come down, also courts at back of Dalston police station. The Wick & Clapton P/L relics of days before Building Act. Would not be allowed now. – Fleming Williams, XXV 17

Millers assume worst place in District. Only allowed

Housing & Sanitation (cont'd)

(b).
Workshops, &c.

(c) Houses let in lodgings.

5. Rents & crowding.

to be built by some jobbery. No backs to houses, no current of air, & rooms terribly small. - Ellerton (Bassishaw, Shackelwell) XXVI 87.

Probably 2000 workshops in district. Some time must elapse before they are brought under proper supervision. 234 inspected in 1896, & defects in about 200. 103 fresh ones registered. Bakehouses much improved since 1894, when they were generally bad, having been neglected. - Warry. XIX 31

Bye-laws framed in '95, & notices issued in '96. At least 500 houses will be placed on register this year (1897), & under periodical inspection. — Warry. XIX 31

Was difficulty in letting better houses; rents fallen, & now full. In worst streets tendency for rents to rise. - Few families in one room, but most have only two. - Bankes, St. Augustine's, XV 112.

People attracted by lowness of rents. Houses from 6/6 to 10/6. - Hawkins (Old Jewry, Aldgate) XV 219

2 families to a house the rule. Very rarely only one. Houses built for subletting. - Andrews (St. Paul, Low Hamilton) XVI 121

Rents high & houses always let. Rent-mongers of small & poor landlords, as well as bigger ones.- XVII. 449 (Porter)

6. Dust Removal.

often drink, most principal cause of squalid poverty is high rent, wh. leads to crowding. Rooms become so crowded that cleanliness impossible, decency unknown, & loss of all self respect follows.- Miss Parish XVIII. 124.

Rents rather low. a few single rooms 1/3, a good many at 1/6, going up to 2/-, 2/6 & 3/- A vast lately of 6d. district full, sufficient to find rooms. Property much improved lately. Landlords want better class of tenant.- Coffin (R.O.) H. Wick, XVIII 193.

Good deal of poverty & overcrowding. In W. Hackney ward, a good many living 3, 4 & 5 families in a house. crowded streets are Gillett St., back of Dalston police St.n, & the Island.- Young. XIX 3.

Rents comparatively cheap - 2/- or 3/- a room. Not noticed any undue crowding or bad conditions as to sleeping.- Crane (R.O.), Shacklewell, &c., XIX 203.

Great want of small houses.- Johnston (Davis Pk. Rd.) XXII 90

Crowding increasing. Some of larger houses in Dalston Lane have 8 families.- Sanders (St. Marks) XXIX. 25

Weekly house-to-house system. Much improvement & few complaints. Large number of refusals - not yet

used to system. Proceedings will be necessary. Dust destructor needed, & to be considered with electric light scheme. – Warry XIX 33

Suggestion that dust be used for raising level of Hackney Marshes (in same way as Gainsboro' Rd was raised). Not favorably received. – Lovejoy XIX 93

Need of dust destructor intensified by spread in parish of wood & asphalte paving. Dung, &c., pulled in heaps instead of sinking into the earth. – Holland XXIII 13

7. Sewers & Flooding.

Cleansing & flushing of sewers done by Vestry's own men, as well as small repairs. Amount spent on sewers largely increasing. 92 miles of sewers. Jones system of flushing adopted – very good. Much improvement in Lea owing to diversion of Tottenham sewage. Serious storm floodings in '92 & '95. – Lovejoy, XIX 89, 99.

Low lying character of district makes storm flooding very serious. advocates new intercepting sewer – very costly, but only effectual remedy. – Lovejoy.

Water Supply.

Giving much trouble, & still defective at times. ⅔ supplied by E. London Co'y, & ⅓ by N. River Co. Latter delayed

Water Supply (cont^d)

greatly in giving constant supply, but now completed it. E. London Co. gave defective supply in summers of '94, '95 & '96. No doubt seriously affected public health. – Worry. XIX, 33

Condition of Lea.

River Lea polluted by Walthamstow & Leyton sewage farms. Bad smells in hot weather. Health injured. Select Committee of Parliament inquired into matter in '86 – nothing came of it. Much worse now. Large numbers bathe in it, at great risks. L.C.C. proposed to open bathing pools from it, but Vestry advised against to officially sanction what is dangerous to health, owing to pollution. So bathing unrecognised & unregulated, aggravated by large new recreation ground adjoining. – Warry.

Care of Streets.

Hackney Wicks. – 2/3 Main streets swept 3 times a week; a few 2^ce, rest once. In latter case, refuse not removed till next Day. Arrangement suitable, having regard to character of district. Cannot apply City rules. Not necessary for carts to follow sweepers, large extra cost & no adequate advantage. – Lovegrove, XIX 87

Gradual improvement lately. Better paved & lighted. – Wigmakerson XV 205.

N. Wick still most unkempt. Streets a mass of paper, bottles, tins, &c. Impression that scavenger very seldom seen. – Baxter.

93 miles of streets in Hackney. In '56 there were 39½ m; '71, 58½; '90, 83 m. 8 districts, each under charge of a road of 8 men gangers, assisted by leading sweeper & gang of men. Separate staff to pick up loose paper, &c. – Lovegrove, XIX, 83

Street watering done by Vestry's carts, but horses & men hired.

Lighting.

steady increase in outlay for this. – Lovejoy.

Lamps reduced from 170 to 50 yds. apart. Several large lamps placed at important points. In '56 there were only 1128 lamps; now 3038. Trial of incandescent light suggested. Order obtained for electric lighting, but only in inquiry stage yet. – Lovejoy, XIX 87

[Since above information was given, Committee recommended Vestry to hand over electric lighting & dust destructor to private company. This aroused much opposition & feeling in parish, & it was ultimately decided to let the matter stand over till after the elections in May, '98, so as to take opinion of ratepayers on question – J.A.]

Disorderly Houses.

Brothels started at various times in Marian St., but always suppressed. Centres of prostitution round Hackney & Dalston Junction. – XV 23 (Blatch).

Were several brothels in Warburton Rd., but all closed 18 mos. ago. Mare St. used by prostitutes, but better than used to be; so also is London Fields. – Bennett, XV 49

a ladies committee looks after fallen girls, getting them situations, whilst guardians or others take charge of babies for a time. There is also a rescue society. S.A. homes bring many fallen girls into district. – Young, XIX, 9.

Large no. of cases of illegitimacy in workhouse. Some of young women very brazen about it. – Beurle XII 153

Knew of no brothels in parish. – Fletcher, XV 113

Dalston Lane swarms with prostitutes, & several brothels in parish. Notorious one at 2 Woodland St., but woman very kind & neighbours won't complain. – Knapp, XVI 81

Have closed 2 houses on estate. Cannot interfere with 2 Woodland St., because woman has a lease. Authorities ought to step in. – Donaldson (Rhodes estate) – XVIII, 141

No bad houses in parish. Dalston Lane very bad for prostitutes. – Sanders (St. Marks) XXIX 23

Not a neighbourhood of prostitution, but much low morality. – Dennis (R.C.) Ballance Rd., XII 133

Mare St. very bad on Sunday night. – Denny. XII 165

Told of disorderly houses in Tottenham Rd – Howlett XII 189.

A few bad houses in neighbourhood. Closed 2 in Exmouth Place. London Fields used for immoral purposes. — XVII 48

Have work ward in infirmary, & get cases from Dalston, &c. 77 out of 108 births last year were illegitimate. Many of these the children of young women from S.A. shelter. Not generally an immoral neighbourhood. Some bad houses in Graham Rd closed. – Gordon (H. Infirmary) XIX 219

Improvements.

Vestry proposing to make a direct road & bridge from Stratford to Hackney Wick. Will alter whole character of Wick. Make it accessible & an important thoroughfare. – Coffin (R.O.) XVIII 199

Cottages in Jerusalem Gardens demolished in 1844. (opposite Town Hall). An effective improvement. – Weary. XIX 37

Most important street improvement of late was widening junction of Kensington Green & Albion Rd, & wood-paving latter. Between '90 & '94 Vestry spent £2000 (obtained by special rate) in kerbing & channelling works. Wood paving slowly introduced, & a few small improvements made each year.

Town Hall enlarged to double former size.

Underground conveniences opened at Wells St. & Stamford Hill. Very largely used. – Lovegrove (report) XIX, 89

Widening of Cat & Fiddle & Rosemary Branch bridges contemplated. Also satisfactory negotiations with Leyton Dist. B^d for making a new road between Hackney & Leyton. – Lovegrove XIX 109

Open Spaces.

Indiscriminate fornication fostered by open spaces in neighbourhood. – Bankes, XV 137.

Large open space at their door leads to much fornication. – Donaldson XV 204

Parish rich in recreation grounds. Are principal owners.

Open Spaces (cont.)

attraction to public-houses. – Prowett, XIX 42

Plenty of open spaces, & get more whenever they can. Disgraceful behaviour of young people on Hackney Downs. – Chambers XIX, 72

11 acres under Vestry, 160 a. under LCC, besides Victoria Pk & Hack. Marshes. Dr Beaumont Square & Hack. Churchyard among recent additions. – Lovgrove, XIX 91

Open spaces after dark, such as H. Marshes, hotbeds of immorality – Dr Clarke, XIX, 109

Heads influence of open s/s. after dark. – Lovgrove, XIX 119

Clapton commons & waste land round Craven Lodge the haunt of vile women from Dalston. Blackmail lads. – Gibbons, XXIV 189

Hack. Downs an abode of iniquity. Insufficiently lighted. – Sanders XXIX 23

Baths.

Five new baths, cost £6,000. 4000 bathers a day. £185 a week taken in small sums. – Prowett, XIX 42

New baths a great success. – Chambers, XIX 72

Mortuary

Six years ago no proper mortuary. Now a good one. – Hulland

Labour.

Labour Bureau opened in 93-4. £2060 paid in wages to otherwise unemployed. 3/6 a day. Snow clearing, &c.

Labour (contd)

breaking, & laying out Hackney Churchyard. Great excess of applicants, much disappointment & complaint. Little work found apart from parish. In '94-5 £2730 in wages to unemployed – snow removal, stone breaking, road & sewer repairs, &c. Great rush for snow sweeping work. Many fewer in '95-6 – mild weather & paving works kept on, with extra men. Loss of near 50% on stone yard – unremunerative work. – Lovegrove XIX 95

Wages much increased in '95. Minimum raised to 24/–, week's holiday, extra for overtime, &c. Scavengers & watchmen supplied with various articles. Wages increased from £10 800 to £16 000 in last 6 years. – Lovegrove.

Question of unemployed a serious one in winter. Large amount of building work going on aggravates matters. Expert at stone breaking earns 4/– a day; a new hand hardly 1/6. Not enough thought for poorer ratepayers who have to bear expense. – Lovegrove, XIX 121

Endowed charities.

100 endowed charities. Mainly small. 12 only have over £50 income, & 6 or 7 of these over £100. Total income £3930: £1370 is given in money & £200 in kind; £1000 in almshouses & pensions; £430 in education; £500 in medical

Charities /cont^d/

relief & nursing; rest mainly ecclesiastical purposes. Spurstow's much the largest - £1263. managed by rector, churchwardens & 15 other trustees. 6 women in the almshouses get £25 a year each; ten women in Bishop Wood's almshouses £16 a year each; £15 each given to 20 outpensioners; £500 spent in sending people to Convalescent Homes; rest in Secretary's salary, &c.

Valentine Poole's Charity - £375 - given away in money doles by rector & churchwardens of Hackney, W. Hack., & S. Hack. Dynes Charity - £260 - spent in just same way

Bishop Wood's Almshouses - £100 - £7 given to each of 10 aged women inmates, in addition to the £16 from Spurstow's charity.

Hackney & Spitalfields Exhibition Foundation. £183. Spent in scholarships. Children from elementary schools in parish compete. - XIX 127-37.

Endowed charities assist cases wh. Guardians cannot. Good work of Spurstow's in convalescent cases. Many doles don't do much harm. Usually go to poor widows, & are very acceptable at the time. - Beurle, (Hack. Guardians) XIX 157

Hackney Guardians.

Personnel & Policy.

Hackney Guardians.
Summary of Evidence.

Not so corrupt as were. Give much out relief, but only enough to starve on. – Bankes XV 133

Weak administration. Hackney suffered much from strong administration in other districts; people come here because system lax. – Buckmaster (R.O.) XVIII 173

Approves of policy, on whole. – Coffin (R.O.) XVIII 203.

Confine themselves strictly to law. No co-operation with outside agencies; do not ask contributions from those not legally liable; & are not hard on those who are. Exceed in a great many cases, even often how decided they shall pay. – Burels, XIX 143

Present method of administration has led to establishment of permanent pauper class. Favours gradual abolition of O.R., & giving by paid Govt. official. At present, work devolves on a few. Absence of uniformity; favouritism & vexation; undue pottering about, & inadequacy. Cases kept going on miserable pittance when shd. be in House. – Dr Birch, XIX 179

2 relief committees. Every Guardian entitled to sit on them. Well attended. Needs more thorough investigation than used to be. Absolutely destitute & simple out-of-works are

Good, on whole.

offered the "House"; o.r. to all others suitable. No co-operation, save R.O.'s & C.O.S. sometimes in injuries. -(Evans XIX 207

Tho' administration good as whole & painstaking, Govt. Officials might be wise change. Guardians apt to please constituents, & each election may alter policy. - Evans.

Tendency is towards less out & more indoor relief, but not a rapid change. Increase if out in severe weather, thro' opening of storeyard. Inclin towards out-relief when first elected, but experience shows House often best place. Getting in touch a little with C.O.S. Present Board attends to relief work better than any previous one he knows; '94 act led to increased efficiency. all shades of opinion, but work well together. Triennial elections better than annual. - Coles, XIX 222

Guardians regard stone-breaking as very cruel at first, but in their third year wish it was done. Favors paid Commissioners, & unification for poor law purposes. - Mason, XIX 239 &c.

Guardian 20 years. Immense improvement foreseen from lowering of suffrage. Tradesmen class chiefly obj of value; more take a large view. Now men much more statesmanlike. Workmen members pick of class, both jobbery, weak on out-relief, but learning. - Shelford, XXI 43

Personnel & Policy (contd.)

Decentralization & less red-tape wanted. Guardians too much dependent on R.O.'s, who are autocratic & have not time for proper inquiry. So many people often relieved, or in wrong way. Small local committees wanted of people who really know the poor. – Johnston XXIII 23

Guardians kindly, just & faithful. Men of large experience. – Fleming Williams, XXV 14

Poor law very well worked in Dalston. – Johns, XXII 40

Is Guardian of 3 years standing. Progressive. 3 years term very beneficial. – Father Dunn XII 131

Out Relief.

Out relief increasing. Favours it to a certain point. It pauperises, but so does all charity. – Dunn, XII 131

Strong advocate of O.R.; knows of no excess, but of hardships worked up since its refusal. – Father Denny, XII 163

Moderate amount of O.R.; cases carefully chosen. – Blatch, XII 21

Fair amount of O.R.; much less than formerly; confined entirely to widows & old. Carefully given. – Hurrell & Pennell, XII 43

Good deal of O.R.; as a rule, goes to right people. – Donaldson XII 207

– " – " – very well administered. 2 excellent R.O.'s. – Hawkins XII 231

Local r.o. worst & cruel; goes to right people. – Leonard, XVI 23

Out Relief (contd)

O.r. not abused. Very hard to get. – Andrews, XVI 119.

Weak administration, but improving. Much inadequate o.r. – Davis (C.O.S.) XVIII 19.

Many applications from Clapton Pk.; large proportion o.r. – Blunt, R.D. XVIII 69

Great deal of o.r. Very careful inquiry, but imposition v. it is impossible to detect. – Blunt. XVIII 75

Liberal o.r. draws expectant idle poor into any district. – Parish XVIII, 151

O.r. all right with proper administration, but it needs smaller districts & more V.O's. – Buckmaster, XVIII 173.

O.r. largely given. Better than forcing people into House. Must have other means. Average 3/- per adult, with some in mind. Come more frequently than need. Neighbours influence. Strict inquiry always. People won't state true cases; say have nothing, & so are refused o.r. Guardians glad to augment little income – Young (Guardian) XIX, 11.

O.r. quite inadequate. Need pressing when people first apply, but get over feeling of degradation, & then go steadily. – Hurgood, XIX 63

Tendency to gradually increase not. without & reduce outdoor. Increasing expenditure on o.r., because more adequate. – Bourke. XIX 143.

246 on o.r. list (London Fields, &c.), including 36 a.b. women (mostly widows) & 3 men. Only given in urgent cases, after strict inquiry. Get deceived sometimes. – Fenton. XIX 163 (S.P.O.)

220 on his list (St Bennets Town). Mainly respectable old people,

Out Relief (cont'd)

Workhouse Treatment

long resident, & partly kept by children. Younger applicants a shifty class of newcomers. – Rudkin (R.O.) XIX 165

O.r. led to gradual establishment of permanent pauper class. Bad influence. – Birch, XIX 179.

O.r. granted weekly if rent forthcoming. 3/6 shd be minimum. Old get many little gifts, apart from relief. – Crane (R.O.) XIX 209

Magnetic influence of relief. Come once, come again. – Coles, XIX 231

Larger o.r. desirable. – Shrimpton, XX 59 (clergy)

R.O's careful. No preventable abuse. – Cullen, XXI 121

Great deal of o.r. due to old or widows with large families, but many most unsatisfactory characters. – Ellerton XXVI, 101

Much o.r. mostly old & widows. Most inadequate. Recipients often almost starved. – Pearsall (L.C.M.) XXVIII 63.

O.r. great evil. Recklessly given. Great nuisance – one days for Whitechapel. – Saunders XXIX, 23.

Great deal of inadequate o.r. – Davis (C.O.S.) XVIII, 19.

Inexpensiveness of L.G.B.'s regulations. Bread allowance rule caused great waste. Have broken thro' rule, & defied L.G.B. – Young, XIX 13

Remarkably healthy workhouses. Old lead a comfortable, contented life; well cared for & no worry. – Dr. Gordon (Workh.) XIX 223

Huge workhouses great mistakes, & much money wasted. Helpless,

able-bodied Paupers.

shiftless lazy class of a.b. men are turned & put to useless labour. Personal influence of great value, but impossible in big workhouses. Inmates rarely make a fresh start – whole influence against it. Habitual inmate easily recognisable. The pauper look & gait. The old shd. be decently cared for. – Mason XIX, 241 &c

Building separate w'house for a.b. Subdivision into 8 classes will then be possible. – Dewar, XII 131

Difficulty of dealing with a.b. not solved yet. Labour yard prevents search for employment; always people in it, while open. Now for last 2 years – open winters. – Coffin (RO.) XVIII 203

80 men sent to S.A. colony – not very good results. Material too bad. – Coles. XIX 229

a.b. men helpless, shiftless, & lazy. Now put to useless labour. Form into industrial army, & make do useful work – reclamation of waste land, &c., but must be strictest discipline. Large helpless class, who must have everything put to their hand, but will then work steadily & faithfully. Examples. Prefer to be under discipline. – Mason, XIX 235

S.A. colony forlorn, but still better than Hoxton, with its stones & oakum. – Mason

able-bodied (contd)

The Sick.

Casual ward, for women & children at least, shd. be abolished. Neither cleanliness nor decency. Poverty, ~~miserable~~ vagabond lives encouraged. Purposes for wh. ward was established hardly exists, now travelling so cheap. – Inmate.

A.B. women, unless overburdened with children, have less excuse for pauperism than men, for can nearly always get work. Put them to laundry work, &c., – a stiff task wh. soon leads to some getting work outside. – Inmate.

Outdoor medical officers most kind to poor. Excellent men. – Inmate, XV 43

Infirmary treatment greatly improved. – Donaldson, XV 202

– " – admirably managed. – Hawkins, XV 231

Infirmary overcrowded, new wing about to open. Then will hold 644. Doctor & 2 assistants. Train own nurses. 60 beds on a floor, looked after by 1 charge nurse, 2 staff. 1 probationer, & 1 night nurse. No old women employed. People prefer infirmary to hospital. Not regarded as any disgrace, but workhouse is. Many get medical relief who cd. pay, & local doctors complain; but they dare not refuse. Great many cases indirectly due to Drink – many aged wh. wd. have paid for treatment. Beautifully clean, light, & well-ventilated

Pauper Children.

building. Cheerful comfort. - Visit with Mr. Gordon, XIX 219 &.

Pauper children excellently brought up. Air of decency & refinement about them. - XV 209 (Donaldson)

A few boarded out, with excellent results. Children also sent to cottage homes at Hanwell, without entering workhouse. Non-distinctive & non-uniform clothing. - Yorke. XIX 13

Contrast - treatment 100 years ago. Boys & girls aged 6 to 8 taken from "Home" by a cotton manufr to work in his factory. - Hosgood, XIX 65.

Result of Brentwood school scandals an altered regime. More human treatment, with good results. Experimenting now with cottage homes, close to workhouse, wh. were bought with a view to asylums, or for old, or fallen girls. Trouble with district surveyor, & only 2 cottages occupied. Rest empty. Too much under shadow of house. Shd be away, but near Board schools. Social advantages & better teaching obtained by sending children to Bd. Schools. Difficult to get good teachers in Workhouses. Now allow teachers at Brentwood to live out, & relieve them from watching & disciplinary work. — Bewley, XIX, 147 &

Pauper Children (contd)

Classification & Unification.

Workhouse schools bring up children under artificial conditions. Shd. be allowed to mix freely with other children. Cottage home system the best idea, if only practicable. – Crane, XIX 211

Boarding-out adopted to a very limited extent. Too soon to speak of results. – Pikes, XIX 229

Children usually do well if properly started by Guardians, but if, as often happens, they are taken away by bad parents, reverse is case. Guardians shd. have power to refuse to give up children, & to take them from worst homes. Boarding out doubtful; scattered homes hopeful. – Mason, XIX 242

Provide for old by largely increasing no. of almshouses or by classification in workhouses. Unification of London for poor law purposes wd. greatly help this. Workhouses cd. then be graded, & people sent according to character, &c. – Buarke XIX 465

(Mason & others also strongly support unification.)

Personnel, &c.

Population, area, density, rateable value &c.

Health.

Islington Vestry.
Summary of Evidence.

Praised work of Vestry. - Isaacs (St. Thomas Finsb. Pk.) XXI 194.

Local administration satisfactory. - Lightfoot (St. Stephens, Canonbury) XXIX 53

Vestry active. - Blyth. XXXI 53.

Well administered. - Torrance XXXI 63

Great advance made by Progressives. Local Govt. never more hopeful.
Good men on Vestry. - Stevenson (Baptist) XXXII 24

"As usual". Not much jobbery, but personal motives. - Basleford (St. Thomas Hemingford 120) XXXIV 83

Not too active. Great local need of sanitary revival. - Aylmer (Clergy) XXIV 95

Amongst the new blood some who lose their heads & talk nonsense. He encourages interest in Local Govt. - Jamison (Nonconf.) XXXV 15

Sanitary administration good. - Osborne (clergy) XXXVI 67

General policy good, & enterprise commendable. Have boldness needed in laying asphalte in poor streets. Cheaper in end. - Roberts XXXVIII 51

Have to be more active lately, but better class, educated men needed to take up the work. - Alexander (Friends) XXXIX 101

See pps. 33-35 of this book.

Health good. - Banning (clergy) XXI 71

Quite healthy. No high towers, or narrow streets, & splendid breathing space afforded by railway sidings. - Hind (clergy) XXI 155.

Health (contd.)

Healthiest district in London. No child mortality. Has not buried a child for 6 years. - Carmichael (Norton.-Canonbury) XXIV 115

Good. - Hughes (Walton Sq^re) XXV 122

Good, all things considered. Directly or indirectly, most of illness caused by drink. - Stainsbam (Clergy- S. Isl.) XXVI 55

Parish on gravel. Much more healthy than Canonbury. - Whitby (Islington Sq) XXVI 157

Exceedingly healthy - Snow XXVI 181

Not very good. Scarlet fever worst trouble. - Morgan (Canonbury) XXIX 32

Good. - Lightfoot. XXIX 53 (Canonbury).

-"- - Blyth XXXI 53

See pp. 53-57 of this book.

Death-rate abnormally low - 16 per 1000. Has not reduced in spite of growing populous & deterioration. Speaks well for effects of sanitary administrations. - XXXIII, 75 (Med. Officer)

Parish very healthy. - Glover (W. Holloway) XXXIV 57

× Parish not over healthy. Sch. in better, as marked by young countenances on railway. - Aspect (Copenhagen St.) XXXIV 99

Wonderfully good. - Barstow (St. Michael's, Barnsbury) XXXIV 125

District high & healthy. - Leach (Pentonville) XXXIV 149.

Unusually good. One of most healthy in London. - Wood (Asp. Hol. Bapt.) XXXIII 31

+ Fever & measles very prevalent. More deaths from measles than in any other part of London. - Bennett Williams (Paddn. R^d B^d. Schl.) XXXVIII 71

Health | cont^d |

District healthy, in spite of crowding. attributable to large amount of open space. – Roberts, XXXVIII 101.

Excellent. – Jones (B^d. School, Upr. Holl.) XXXVIII 137

Sm. por in Pamphett R^d, but cases exceptional. – Hewitt XXXVIII 142

Not healthy at present. Undefined disorders. Play soil & damp atmosphere – – Edge (Tollington Pk) XXXVI 25

Remarkably good. – Parker (Upr. Holl.) XXXVI 41

Excellent. – Osborne (Highgate Hill) XXXVI 67

Wonderfully good. especially considering crowding. – Comford (Hornsey Rise) XXXVI 94

Healthy. – Seaver (Upr. Holl.) XXXVI 137

Generally good, but good deal of illness thro' jerry building & defective drains, especially Gladsmuir R^d. – Murphy (Whittlesea Pl. & Hornsey Lane) XXXVI 219

Housing & Sanitation.

✓ Sanitary administration improving, & room for it. – Faithfull (Upr. Holl.) XX 104

– " – – " – not even-handed. Inclined suspect collusion between inspectors & local tradesmen. – Hawkins, XX 139

✓ Has sanitary aid committee, from wh. hopes for good results. – Heard (Holloway) XXI 143

✓ Housing as whole satisfactory. worst streets better than their occupants. – Sanitation cd. well be improved. Inspection of houses revealing defects. – Heard, 149, 155

✓ Sanitary work seems satisfactory. – Isaacs (Finsb. Pk) XXI 199

✓ Housing good as a rule. overcrowding not common. – Isaacs, 201.

Housing & Sanitation (contd)

✓ Houses decent & sanitary. Any fault is due to tenant. Great difficulty of parents with large fam.s getting work. – Gray (V.O. Peckham Rd) XXIII 65

✓ Sanitary work good. Big buildings in great demand; dislikes, but sees no way of avoiding them. – Harwood XXVIII 37.

✓ Well looked after. Great improvements effected. – Chatterton (Newton Rd) / XXVIII 121

✓ Good work done in clearing houses, & putting others in thorough sanitary condition. Has full professional knowledge of this – Waterman, XXVIII 137

✓ appear to be good. – Green (Wilton Sq.) / XXVIII 149

✓ authorities active, but housing unsatisfactory. – Morgan (Canonbury) / XXIX 32

✓ Complaints at once attended to, but no systematic house to house inspection. Houses in some parts want more attention (Elliotts Pl., Queens Bldgs. Sydney Pl. &c). – Secretell (R.O.). – XXXIII. 17

See pp. 49-51 of this book (next Off's report)

✓ Inspection rather sporadic, save in poorest streets. House-to-house inspection wd. involve so much expense & a little uneven in administration. Changes in sanitary science involve some hardship. – Dewey. XXXIII 61

✓ Houses mostly well built. Wide & breezy therefore. Some bad spots, but even with surprise visits they cannot find illegal overcrowding. Want of adaptation of houses for 2 or 3 families. No water upstairs. Concrete inserted between earth & floorboards in old houses. – Harris XXXIII 75

Housing &c. (cont^d)

P. H. Act very stringent; causes some friction & hardships, but effects very satisfactory. 3 more inspectors needed for systematic house-to-house inspection. 14 now, & 2 special inspectors. – Harris, 74

House accommodation pretty good, but dear. Older houses substantial, newer ones not so good, but fewer. Some adaptation of houses since passing of P.H. Act. Sanitary laws shd. be rigidly enforced. P. H. Committee very good & straight. Excellent chairman. – Barber XXXIII 89

Housing very good. – Glover (W. Hol.) XXXIV 51

Fair houses, but many turned into tenements. Some condemned by authorities.

Drainage bad & some houses, especially old, dirty. – Dorton (W. Hol.) XXXIV 57

Authorities active, & place well looked after, but overcrowding. – Smith (Shoreditch) XXXIV 109

Overcrowding. Houses in Henry Pl. & some of buildings (Penton) insanitary. – Leach XXXIV 149

Some of streets & courts between Eden Grove & Seven Sisters Rd. shd. come down. – Charlton XXXIV 187

Little houses very bad, & shd. be cleared (e.g. Blundell St.). – Benson (Newington Butts Dist.) XXXV 51

Houses fair. Nothing wrong with sanitation. – Edge (Up. Hol.) XXXVI 25

might be much better. Not enough inspectors. Much jerry building. – Wallis XXXVI 39

Very much improved. Rather crowded, but conditions good. – Osborne XXXVI 69

Houses often in dreadful repair. Quite unfit to let in tenements. – Crumpton XXXVI 94

Houses often insanitary, because built for 1 family, & let to several. – Hocking (Islington) XXXVI 124

Housing good, fairly so even in poorer parts. – Seavey (Up. Hol.) XXXVI 137

Some jerry building & defective drainage, especially Gladstone Rd. – Humphry XXXVII 219

S. Islington houses older & distinctly better built than those in Holloway. Modern

Housing, &c. (cont^d)

tendency elaborate fittings; houses less substantial in consequence. But new houses better in being adapted for 2 or 3 fam. Sanitary conditions not very greatly improved comparatively, but have more than kept pace with much greater rebuilding. Proof that much has been done. - Potters XXXVIII 39

Sanitation defective. Not sufficient w.c's. - B. Williams (Cald. Rd.) XXXVIII 91

✓ Good work being done. Some hardship to landlords. - Adcock, XXXVIII 107

✓ Houses generally good. Mostly a 2-room district. - Jones (Drumcondra RD) " 137

✓ Authorities very lively. Continually meeting officials. Proof of this. - Parsons XXXIX 19

Broad Court, Essex Rd., in bad condition. - Duckworth, XIII C 143

2 houses in Endover Rd. unroofed & in ~~ruins~~ absolute ruins. - XIII D 61.

Cottages in Broad St. let in furnished rooms nightly. Good deal of this in neighbourhood. Escape all inspection. - XIII D 95

Victoria Place very bad; cellars; disgrace to owners. - XIII D 153

Workshops.

See pp. 49-57 of this work.

Tenements & Lodgings.

Great changes for better since passing of act. Constant improvements. Stephen's Alley factory a model. - Barber XXXIII 91

Popham St. & Queen's Buildings. 8 years ago were in shocking state. Vestry threatened to close. Great improvement under Mrs. Blyth & ladies. Social agencies started. Well worked by directors. - Blyth, XXXI 32

& See also pp. 49-57 of this work.

Overcrowding.

Not much overcrowding. Cattlesheds interfere too much for that. - Jones XXIII 29

Landlords will not take people with large families. Thinks Vestry or L.C.C will be obliged to build dwellings for these. - Gray XXIII 65.

Rents about 2/6 a room. Most fam. have 2 rooms. - Stanham (S. Hill.) XXVII 35

Great tendency to overcrowd. - Whitty (Arlington Sq.) XXVII 152

No excessive crowding, but some one-roomed tenements - Lightfoot (Camm.) XXIX 53

Houses very small, & much overcrowded. - Ayerst XXXIV 91 (Walworth St.)

Population of parish grown from 45000 to 11,000 & only 200 new houses. - Yates (Wyl. Rd) XXXVI 24

Crowding in Blenheim Rd., &c. aver. pop. of 8 r. houses 22; 6 r. 19. 5 in a room. One increase. - Hansen (Sch. visitor) XXXVI 75

Parish more crowded in recent years. average 2 persons. - Chambers (Campbell Rd. Dist.) XXXVI 149

Examples of crowding, Cromwell Rd. Dist. 32 in one house - Fam. was closed. - Thornton (LCM) XXXVIII 121

Do. Campbell Rd. - XXXVIII 173

Evils of overcrowding. Mental, moral & physical deterioration. - B. Williams XXXVIII 181.

Ellenboro' Rd. 4 or more fam. in each house. Marcellus & Danbury Rds. about same. Rotherham & Wyphiley rather worse. - Bird (Notes missing) XXXIX 125

Sewers & Drains.

Older sewers be carefully overhauled, by special staff. L.C.C. main sewers inadequate. Storm flushings. - XXXIII 41

Drains well looked after. - Barlow XXXIV 125

Dust.

Compulsory weekly removal. Every house called at. Generally acquiesced in now. Costs £30,000 a year. - XXXIII 41

Water Supply.

Very good & cheap. Could hardly be bettered. – Dewey XXXIII 65

Care of Streets.

Cleansing insufficient in poor streets. Always litter about, especially on Sundays. – Wood (Up. Hl. Baker.) XXXVII 31.

Vestry did lay asphalte in poor streets of Barnsbury, wh. are children's playgrounds.

~~St~~ Cleaner, & cheaper in end. – Roberts, XXXVIII 61

Roads mostly wide & well-kept. – Ward, – – – 101

Ebury St. (with Junction Rd.) a disgrace. Litter of all kinds. – XIII D. 181

Lighting.

Nearly 5000 lamps. Cost £14,000 a year. Frequent additions. Excellent electric light works. Installations increasing rapidly. Much enterprise – XXXIII 39

Food Adulteration

2386 samples taken. 14.4 % adulterated. Sunday milk much watered. Energetic action. 250 prosecutions – XXXIII. 53

Great deal done, but room for much more. Fines inadequate. – Dewey XXXIII 65

Each inspector responsible for own district. Butcher's shops watched. – Harris XXXIII 81

Brothels.

No houses of ill fame in district. – Banning (Highbury) XXI 72

2 houses in Queensland Rd in wh. 25 to 28 prostitutes live, but take men elsewhere, & can't be legally touched. Try to reform, but little success. – Heriot, XXI 151

Brothels (cont^d)

many bad houses on other side of Seven Sisters R^d. Campbell R^d district very discreditable. – Isaacs (St. Thomas) XXI 201

Brothels in New North R^d. – Jones (Cross St. Bapt.) XXII 58

heads prostitutes round angel, & must be brothels, tho' we don't know them – Shaw, XXVI 181

3 prosecuted & 31 others watched. Great difficulty of proof, & Vestry no suitable staff. Matter more for police. – Vestry report XXXIII 49

2 or 3 lately established near Portobello Theatre. Lately suppressing. – Glover XXXIV 51

knows there are bad houses, but cannot deal with them. – Cayford (Coppock St.) XXXIV 95

knows of no brothels now. Many been closed. Very few, for so near angel. – Lovell XXXIV 142

lowest prostitutes live in lodging-houses here, but knows of no brothels. – Charlton (St. Jas.) XXXIV 187

Does not know of any in parish, but about 30 well-dressed women go out of parish each day for immoral purposes. – Edge (Islington Pk.) XXXVI 23

Brothels in Blenheim & Ellenboro' R^ds. Many kept women in parish. – Pickford (Hornsey Rise) XXXVI 97

about 4 suspected houses in District. Vestry proceeds against one now & again, but always break out elsewhere. Place gets bad name, so V. slow to act. – Park Streets between Holloway & Hornsey R^ds, XXIII 241

2 or 3 streets north of Seven Sisters R^d have a few suspected houses. One whole sub-division 5 brothels under police surveillance. – XIII D 15

Improvements.

See pp. 45–7 of this book.

Vestry much alive to importance of improving streets. often purchases property compulsorily for this purpose. – Bewley XXXIII 63

Open spaces.

maintains 9 & just got 2 more. Cost £1220 a year. Band plays in some in summer. – Report, XXXIII 41

Vestry's appreciation evidenced by action regarding Norfolk Sq. & Cattle Mket., & contributions to Chissold Pk, Highgate Woods, &c. Very well kept. – Dewey XXXIII 63

New Op. space at Cattle Mket. will be great boon to children. accidents not infrequent to children in streets. – Ward, XXXVIII 99

Baths, &c.

3 bths. about 625000 bathers & 100,000 washers in year. 118000 children £2300 loss on working. – Report, XXXIII 43

Libraries.

None. Ratepayers always refuse to adopt Act.

Cemetery.

Large cemetery at Finchley, managed by Committee of Vestry. about to erect new chapel.

Disinfecting Station, Shelter & Mortuary

all possessed by parish.

Labour policy.

Trade Union rate, with 6d minimum. Clauses in all contracts. 600 employed direct. much interest taken in staff. Permanent work, sick pay, & holidays

Labour Bureau estab. 3 years. lately reorganised. 3153 m. & 467 f. reg^d in 1892. 1024 employed by Vestry, 900 privately. usually temporary work. – Report XXXIII 37-9.

Labour (cont'd)

Charities.

Great improvement in character & condition, under proper wages, & permanency of employment.

Picture of what used to be. Remarkable instances of change. - Barker XXXIV 85

Enforcement of Fr. Union wages made a great difference to men on roads. Used to keep old men on, even when work slack, to keep out of workhouse. Now get best men, & only keep as long as absolutely required. - Adams XXXVIII 104

Owen's & Chadwick's principles. Denis's almshouses, Lady Temple's educational. Lawrence Green, work & Harvest. - XXXIII 133-149

Personnel & policy.

Relief.

Islington Guardians.

Poor Law administration praiseworthy. – Isaacs (Fins. Pk.) XXI 199
– " – – " – might be more humane. – Hyams on, XXVII 41
– " – – " – bad, & O.R. given to any extent. Guardians not lazy or corrupt, but ignorant. Want new & better ideas. Lady members not of great weight. Blyths think of going on Board. – Blyth XXXI 53
Guardians too lenient; get worse; tempt people to crime. Practise never to break up home; O.R. given to rich over. Right to certain extent, but carried much too far. – Seamell (R.O.) S. Hfl., XXXIII 13
administration moderate. O.R. sparingly, in small sums, when no only supplements. – Basleford (Hemingford Rd.) XXXIV 83
Well administered. Hurstfield, R.O.; a good man. – Leach XXXIV 145
Administration reasonable. – Osborne (Highgate Hill) XXXVI 65
" very indignant. Mainly governed by caprice of R.O. – Hocking (Bryanston Pk.) XXXIII 121

O.R. on whole "mercifully" administered. – Faithfull (Hat. Rd.) XX 109
Too much O.R. allowances, but sympathises with Guardians position.
As must build huge workhouses, bound to get people to go in. – XX 139
Good deal of O.R. to old & widows, supplemented by Church or other sources. – Snow, XXVI 179.
O.R. satisfactory. But sometimes given to people too old to really properly look after themselves. – Lightfoot (Canonbury) XXIX 53

Relief (contd)

Large part of their relief goes to old who are starving on inadequate out-relief. – Fox (Bolls Pond) XXIX 71

O.R. too easily given, especially to widows & spinsters. – Pritchard (Pos.) XXXI 27

More careful administration. Act on same nearly where dist. got o.r.

Now only widows, old, &c. – Agar (R.O.) Queensland Rd. dist., XXXI 31

Specimen o.r. case. – See XXXIII, 7–13.

Abolition of o.r. drives people to other districts. So with St. Pancras. – Seamell, XXXIII 15.

Liberal policy always adopted. Best for this District. Prevented many losing. Policy must vary with locality. – Davey XXXIII 23

See last page – Bashford.

Obliged to supplement o.r. if many old to keep from starving. – Shorlton. (St. James, Hull.) XXXIV 182

O.r. very judiciously given. – Kaleu (Asst. Ovs. Hull.) XXXVI 39

Much o.r. Not 5 of 30 who get it right to. Many sell the bread, &c., for drink. – Thassen (Sc. V., Harvey Rise) XXXVI 95

O.r. well & liberally administered. Knows several old helped by it. Complaints of want of courtesy of parish doctor. – Parsons XXXIX 19

Large increase of indoor poor. Social decline of parish. – Davey, XXXIII, 21

Able-bodied.

Difficulty with a.b.'s. Send to S.A. colony, prison &c., but indifferent results. "They live on it." – Davey XXXIII 31

Children.

Very well managed schools. Excellent reports. Over 100 boarded out - boarded out with good results. Only difficulty is finding suitable work for boys on leaving, owing to agricultural decline. - Davey, 29.

Training & discipline capital; some provisions bright. But is told the pauper spirit breaks out directly the children get free of restraint. Shew schools the best they have can see for the children. - Edge (chaplain), XXXVI 19.

Buildings.

Crowding of House & Infirmary. Steps to relieve pressure. - See p. 25 of this book.

Cuttings

Dist. 13. (Hackney)

The True Position of Parties Up to Da

WITH the election in Central Hackney on
Council is now complete, and consists of—

Progressives, 70.
Moderates, 48.

...charge of apathy; the Hackney election was
... interest taken in the election. If we allow
...or voters who polled elsewhere on March
...s and voters who only exercised one vote,
... about a quarter of the electorate remained

...IPAL LONDON—1895.

...Divisions represented by
...ESSIVES.

...Divisions represented by
...OGRESSIVE and one
...RATE.

...d Divisions represented
...HERATES.

...Vestry it was decided to expend £20,000 in
...ases in the Hornsey-road. Twelve months ago
...hame of enlargement, but this has been with-
...ve one agreed to. This provides for additional
...40 more private baths, and a new first-class
...h a pond 75 ft. by 25 ft., fitted in the most
7,000. Artesian wells are being made, and it
...3 of £600 per annum, or about one half the
...sent water bill. The number of bathers at
...unted to something like three-quarters of a
...washers during that period was upwards of
...as an increase.

...ted by Progressives and Moderates is now as

...	...	...	...	2,578,960
...	...	...	...	1,854,158
...lation	...	...	...	764,802

15

SOME ISLI

DAME ALICE OWEN'S SCHOOLS.

SOME interesting facts are brought to light in the R
Digest of Endowed Charities of the County of London
Islington), just issued by or
House of Commons. Th
commences, curiously enough
recital of a Report of an en
as far back as 1819, and
history of Lady Alice Owen
The evidence given by Mr.
Balfour, who at that time
Master of the School for 2
noteworthy. This gentlema
the munificent remuneratio
per annum and a donation o
annum. But he was a man of resource. Unlike the good ol
Wakefield, he had no inclination to be "passing rich
year," so he discovered other sources of revenue. He to
pupils, and finding the school house not large enough fo
sets of scholars, he enlarged the building at a cost of £20

...t made quite clear, in our reference last week to ...
...illigan's chairmanship of the Wandsworth Board of
... that Mr. Milligan has been a member of the body in
... some sixteen years. This could have been more explicitly
...ough the fact intended to be conveyed was quite obvious
...re acquainted with this gentleman's long services to the
...ministration of the parish.

* * * *

...guis of Northampton presided at the fifty-fourth annual
... the Ragged School Union, now to be known as the
... Society, held on Monday at the Queen's Hall. A
...raging report was presented by the secretary, Mr.
... and adopted. Lady Newnes presented the "Faithful
...izes, and some addresses of an earnest nature, including
...e Hon. Evelyn Ashley, were delivered.

* * * *

...HUR ARNOLD, ex-chairman of the London County
...ntinued his evidence at Monday's sitting of the Royal
... on London's Water Supply. He denied Mr. Whit-
...gation that the County Council was unfit to take charge
...r supply of the metropolis because it was over-worked,
...ggestion that the Council wasted time in political
... Dr. Shirley Murphy, medical officer of health for the
...ive county of London, held that the water-owning
...nd the disease-preventing authority ought to be the
... enteric death-rate of London was at present very low,
...us was very feeble, but it might become more dangerous
... to deal with in future.

CENTRAL LONDON S

A MEETING of the managers was he
presiding. An important report as to
ear diseases at Hanwell Schools was
Charing Cross and other hospitals, wh
He had examined 82 children and fou
diseases of the organs indicated, w
leave permanent ill effects. He re
operations should be performed by a
effects might be prevented. He found
school responsible for the diseases, whi
all classes of society. The report was
on the motion of the Rev. E. T. Ham

The Farm Committee brought up a
sence of a good deal of sewage in the
decided to write to the Port Sanitary
and other authorities on the matter.

THE CITY OF LO

TUESDAY'S meeting, over which t
presided, was not a very interestin
fective drain at the workhouse and
Master to remedy it were again
deavoured to get the names of the
employed in its construction, but
Mr. Wagstaff pointed out that wh
lations now enforced in these mat
that the enquiry was in a measu
Board thought too, and let the mat

The following gentlemen were
Guardians on the Asylums Boar
did not wish to be nominated a
Mr. F. F. Day, C.C., Mr. W. J. Jol
and Mr. E. Monson.

Before adjourning, the Guardia
Committee which was appointed to
to take legal action for the recove
tenants with whom they have had

FOOD ADULTERATIO

SOME interesting figures are to b
General Purposes Committee of the
the administration of the Food and
last week, together with comparativ
The general inference to be drawn fr
in the county is declining rapidly.
was 1,844, and although this figure
two preceding years, the result
the year ending March, 1896,
was 8·0, and for 1897, 7·8, las
87 certificates of adulteration bein
of cases was 153, and in 1897, 145.
shewn that from 1893, when for o
adulteration stood as high as 26·8, t
Dealing specifically with commoditie
extent, 972 samples being taken, wit
was adulteration. Butter stood ne
with the exception of 16, passed the
cheese, margarine, sweets, beer, and
first named was any adulteration
samples were obtained, the cost—
record in the county, and the cost

Cuttings
Dist. 15 – 17
Islington & S. Newington

233

15

£253,000 for a Parish Infirmary in Islington.

The Islington Guardians, Shocked at the Extravagant Cost of Brook Hospital, Coolly Propose to Spend Over a Quarter of a Million to Accommodate 800 Patients!

TRULY, this is a period of gross extravagance in the building of Poor Law institutions. The howl of indignation throughout London over the scandalously extravagant cost of the Brook Hospital has scarce died away than another building scandal, as bad as that for which the Metropolitan Asylums Board is responsible, has come to light. The Islington Guardians for some years have had to face the problem of an overcrowded infirmary. The condition of things at the joint workhouse and infirmary in St. John's-road has long been a discredit to the parish, and for years pressure has been put upon the Guardians from Whitehall to provide additional accommodation. Having frittered away large sums of money in initiating schemes, only to abandon them on flimsy grounds, and having wasted 10 years in making up their minds, they have at last agreed upon a scheme, which is to cost over £250,000, to provide accommodation for 800 patients. Even this is only an "estimate," and the ratepayers, with their past experience of the value of "estimates," can confidently anticipate that this sum will be considerably increased. Nor does this represent the whole charge upon the Islington people. The money, of course, will be raised by a loan, probably repayable in 50 years, and the interest on the capital charge will amount to something like another £180,000, so the Islington ratepayers will be called upon to provide nearer a half-million than a quarter for the doubtful privilege of having another infirmary in their midst. Unfortunately, the parish is hopelessly committed to the scheme, the builder's contracts have been sealed, and the foundation stone will be laid next week, if with *éclat* on the part of the present Board, certainly not with rejoicings on the part of the ratepayers. The whole business has been smuggled through so quietly that the ratepayers have been unable to express an opinion, and many probably have been in total ignorance of the scheme, but they will do well to require all the Guardians of either party to give an account of their stewardship in this matter at the election now pending. The Guardians, at their last meeting, sought to minimise the effect of the expenditure. Answering a rumor that the direct effect upon the rates would be a direct increase of 3½d. in the £, the clerk made a long statement to prove that the rates would not be increased to that extent, because certain loans with respect to other works would be falling in before long. This, of course, is only begging the question, and does not minimise the Guardians' present extravagance.

A DISCREDITABLE STORY.

The whole history of this new infirmary movement is discreditable. Ten years ago the Guardians, had they been firm and business-like, could have secured an ideal institution at a saving of over £100,000 on the present cost. But the Guardians have had no desire to build, and have only brought forward schemes, and played with them, to appease the Local Government Board. The Guardians in 1891 had under consideration a proposal to put up an infirmary in Cornwallis-road, adjoining the workhouse, when they were offered five acres of land in Tollington Park for the sum of £18,500. Plans were accepted for the erection of an infirmary to cost £100,000, and final negotiations almost completed, when the scheme was abandoned by a majority of one vote in consequence of personal interests being pushed forward, and the site fell into the hands of the speculative builder. Then the Guardians purchased 32 acres of land three miles out of Islington, called Bowes Park Manor, for £19,000, which was decidedly a bargain so far as the parish was concerned. All the plans for an infirmary on this site were prepared, but again the Guardians changed their mind and abandoned the enterprise on the sentimental ground that they were imposing a hardship on the poor friends of the patients who might desire to visit the institution. The land being on the hands of the parish, the Guardians decided to sell.

HOW A SITE WAS SOLD TO A SPECULATIVE BUILDER.

The electors would do well to demand a complete explanation as to the sale of this property. Instead of adopting the practice of all other public boards, and offering the land for sale by public auction, it was disposed of by private treaty. The purchaser turns out to be a speculative builder, and it is stated that all the negotiations were carried out through a third party. The name was not disclosed to the public until all the details were settled. It is not suggested that there was any undue influence at work, but transactions of this character always give rise to suspicions. It is true that the Guardians sold the 32 acres of land for £26,000, or £7,000 more than they gave for it, but land experts in Islington complain that the land would have realised a considerably larger sum if disposed of publicly. Less than ten acres of land, not four miles away, for instance, realised £23,000 not long ago. Mr. G. S. Elliott, chairman of the Islington board, makes a fuss on the Asylums Board about dealing with sites; why does he not look at home?

A COMMON-PLACE INSTITUTION ON A BAD SITE.

After the collapse of the Bowes-park manor scheme the Guardians endeavored to compulsorily purchase a comparatively small portion of land adjoining the St. John's-road workhouse and infirmary. But this scheme went the way of the others. Finally, the Guardians have purchased a private fever hospital and eight acres of grounds on Highgate-hill. The site, probably, is one of the worst they could have selected, owing to the gradient, and this, no doubt, accounts in a large measure for the excessive figures of the estimate. A large sum has been set aside for the foundations, but with a recollection of the tremendous extras for the foundations of the Brook Hospital before the public, fears for the Islington ratepayers may be pardoned. It is admitted that, in addition to the existing hospital, which will be converted into a nurses' home, the Islington people will only get a plain, common-place building for their £260,000 for 800 patients and 100 nurses. Even the Brook Hospital, which is admitted to be one of the finest set of buildings of its kind in and about London, was only estimated to cost £194,810. The present workhouse and infirmary, including the land on which they stand in St. John's-road, which accommodates 781 patients, only cost 30 years ago £100,000, and the comparison with other metropolitan infirmaries is even more striking.

NO COMPETITION FOR THE DESIGNS.

The designs were not thrown open to competition. The Guardians were committed to Mr. W. Smith, who has already done some other work for the Guardians in the parish. He was responsible for all the drawings for the rejected sites, and his claim, therefore, upon the Guardians was considerable. However, he agreed to forego all claims upon the parish upon payment of £500, in addition to the small sums already received, on the understanding that he was entrusted with the building on Highgate Hill, for which he was to be remunerated at 4 per cent., or on a smaller scale than is usually allowed for this class of work. No one seems disposed to blame Mr. Smith, who has been given one of the worst possible sites to work upon. Moreover, the Local Government Board have been very exacting in their demands as to the nature of the buildings. Although the number of patients in the infirmary is only 100 in excess of the certified number, the infirm wards of the workhouse are considerably overcrowded, and in all probability these will be transferred to the old infirmary when the new building is completed. This is the only comforting aspect of the story. At last, many of the poor old people will be housed in something like a humane manner, and the reproach which has long enough hung over the Guardians removed. No one disputes that an infirmary is urgently needed, but whether the ratepayers are getting value for their money, and whether they are not being called upon to pay an excessive sum for the needed infirmary, are questions that will be brought prominently to the front at the election. It is now generally admitted that a gross scandal was committed in disposing of the Tollington-park site, which was in every way adapted to the needs of the parish, and those who advocate the necessity of an infirmary being situated within the confines of the parish, contend that the Highgate-hill Hospital is the only possible alternative. Already there are rumours of a compromise between the Moderates and the Progressives on the Board, which has long enough partaken of the family party character. Stronger, more independent, Progressive men and women are needed on the Islington Guardians, and much is hoped for in the coming contest.

"NOT AS OTHER MEN."

It is certainly amusing to hear the Islington Guardians offering up thanks that they are not as other Boards are—unnecessarily extravagant. At their last meeting they passed severe strictures upon the Metropolitan Board of Works for permitting the Brook Hospital scandal, and passed a resolution of protest, which will be forwarded to the Local Government Board and Local Boards in the metropolis. Mr. Elliott played the rôle of the rejected prophet. "I warned you," he said, "many months ago as to what would happen, but my protests were in vain." The Guardians rather resented Mr. Elliott's tone, and several insisted that they had always backed him up, and had held public meetings in support of his crusade. Mr. Elliott and his colleagues would do well to search for their own mote before they pass any more resolutions of condemnation, and to put a check on their own extravagance before they seek to check the extravagance of others.

At to-day's meeting of the Guardians the consent of the Board will be asked to borrow the sum of £129,136 for the infirmary and alteration to the small-pox hospital. This sum does not include the cost of furnishing, and value of land and existing hospital. The building contracts were, of course, thrown open to competition, and the tender of Messrs. Kirk & Randall, the lowest, at £181,523, was accepted.

ENLARGING HORNSEY ROAD BATHS.

AT last meeting of Islington Vestry it was decided to expend £20,000 in enlarging the baths and washhouses in the Hornsey-road. Twelve months ago the Vestry sanctioned a minor scheme of enlargement, but this has been withdrawn, and a more comprehensive one agreed to. This provides for additional machinery, storage tank, nearly 40 more private baths, and a new first-class swimming-bath for women, with a pond 75 ft. by 25 ft., fitted in the most approved manner at a cost of £7,000. Artesian wells are being made, and it has been estimated that a saving of £600 per annum, or about one half the total, will be effected in the present water bill. The number of bathers at these baths during 1896-97 amounted to something like three-quarters of a million, while the number of washers during that period was upwards of 113,000, and every year there was an increase.

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The New County Council.

The True Position of Parties Up to Date Gives the Progressives a Majority of Twenty-Seven—Maps of Municipal Londo Under the Old and the New Council.

WITH the election in Central Hackney on Monday the fourth County Council is now complete, and consists of—

Progressives, 70.
Moderates, 48.

they include the great unbuilt areas of Woolwich, Plumstead, Dulwich, Lewisham, Norwood, and Wandsworth, which are still far from being filled up. It should be remembered that Central Finsbury, while represented by Moderates, polled a majority of Progressive voters. We

With the aldermen elected on Tuesday, and those who did not retire, the division of the parties stands as follows:—

Progressives,	82
Moderates,	55
Majority	27

disposed last week of the charge of apathy; the Hackney election was another proof of the keen interest taken in the election. If we allow in the case of Hackney for voters who polled elsewhere on March 3rd, for removals, absentees and voters who only exercised one vote, it will be found that only about a quarter of the electorate remained unpolled.

As Mr. McKinnon Wood takes the chair this will reduce the Progressive majority by two in the division, but still leaves them with a majority on a division of 25.

We give below maps showing the divisions represented by Progressives and Moderates. The shaded areas representing the Moderate divisions occupy a larger amount of space than the populations warrant, as

The population represented by Progressives and Moderates is now as follows:—

Progressives	2,578,960
Moderates	1,854,158
Majority of population	764,802

SOME ISLINGTON CHARITIES.

Dame Alice Owen's Schools.

Some interesting facts are brought to light in the Report and Digest of Endowed Charities of the County of London (Parish of Islington), just issued by order of the House of Commons. The Report commences, curiously enough, with the recital of a Report of an enquiry held as far back as 1819, and gives the history of Lady Alice Owen's School. The evidence given by Mr. Alexander Balfour, who at that time had been Master of the School for 27 years, is noteworthy. This gentleman received the munificent remuneration of £30 per annum and a donation of £10 per annum. But he was a man of resource. Unlike the good old Vicar of Wakefield, he had no inclination to be "passing rich on £40 a year," so he discovered other sources of revenue. He took private pupils, and finding the school house not large enough for the two sets of scholars, he enlarged the building at a cost of £200, towards which, however, the Brewers' Company were good enough to allow £130. Even this did not raise this speculative pedagogue's salary to a sufficiently high standard. True the prayers of the Established Church were said daily in the Schools, but Mr. Balfour was a Baptist, and to favour his own denomination and fill his own pocket at the same time he let the schoolroom as a place of public worship to the Baptists for £20 a year, and quieted his conscience in the matter by paying back £1 per annum for seats for himself and family. However, the outcome of all this scheming was that the Brewers' Company refused henceforth to allow their Church Schools to be used as a Baptist Chapel.

A comparison between this Report of 1819 and the Report of another Government enquiry held in 1865 shows something of the rapid improvement in the financial position of the Charity—so much so, that the Brewers' Company made application to the Court of Chancery for authority to increase the annual sum available for educational purposes. This authority was given, and in 1840 a new school for 120 boys was built, at a cost of £2,650. No fees were charged. Later on, under a new scheme, the boys' school was enlarged, and at the date of the last enquiry it accommodated 420 boys, who, instead of being educated free, paid fees amounting to £6 10s. per annum, and as 25 per cent. of the boys lived beyond two miles distant from the school, it must be presumed that a considerable sum was spent by the pupils in travelling expenses. Against poor Mr. Balfour's salary of £30 per annum, the present head-master, Mr. James Easterbrook, receives nearly £850. He is M.A. of University College, London.

A girls' school was erected in 1886, on a site formerly occupied by houses in Owen's-row and Owen's-court. It is a substantial red brick building, providing accommodation for 300 girls. It is always full. The fees are the same as in the boys' school, but while the boys who elect to dine at the school are charged only 6d. for the meal, the girls are charged 8d. Do the girls eat more than the boys, or is the *menu* provided for them of a more expensive character? The head-mistress is Miss Emily Armstrong, L.L.A., St. Andrew's University. She has 14 assistant mistresses, all of whom hold University certificates or have taken a degree. There are no pupil teachers in the school. Both these schools are in every way thoroughly well equipped, and the educational attainments of the scholars are usually of a high order. The Report deals with the parochial schools of the mother church of St. Mary, of the Chapel of Ease (now called St. Mary Magdalene), and several minor trusts.

The Cloudesley Charity.

The Cloudesley Charity may be looked upon as an undeveloped gold mine. Richard Cloudesley gave certain lands in order that by the revenue derived therefrom masses should be said for his soul, the soul of his wife, and for the souls of all Christians, in the parish church of St. Mary, Islington. Since then two things have happened. Islington has become the model Evangelical parish of London, and the Vicar, the Rev. Dr. Barlow, would hardly admit that he says masses; and in the second place the field which the "pious founder" left has been fully built upon, and is to-day of the rateable value of £9,359. About £1,000 a year, however, is all that is at present available for any charitable purposes, and this sum is divided between the parishes of St. Mary Magdalene (£287 18s. 2d.), Holy Trinity (£276 1s. 5½d.), St. John (£333 0s. 3d.), St. Paul (£231 1s. 10d.), which, it will be seen, practically exhausts the amount at present realised by the estate. But a change will soon come about. From a schedule accompanying the Report we find that there are fifty-nine houses in Liverpool-road (formerly called Cloudesley-terrace) which, if we mistake not, are fairly large residences, which produce only the sum of £251 16s. as gross annual rental, or an average of less than £5 per house. Lucky tenants! These leases will expire at Midsummer, 1899. Thirty-four houses in the comparatively speaking aristocratic Cloudesley-square produce only £120 per annum gross, or an average of less than £4 per house. All these leases expire on the 24th June, 1901. Thirty-four houses in Cloudesley-street yield the modest sum of £102 18s., or an average of £3 per annum; these leases run till 1916. There are five houses in Cloudesley-place which are included in leases of the houses in Cloudesley-street and Cloudesley-road, and, consequently, are unproductive of any additional rental. Twenty-eight houses in Stonefield-street realise £114 10s., or a trifle over £4 per house per annum. The leases will expire in 1905. Ten houses in Richmond-road (one of which has a coach-house attached) bring in the munificent sum of £22, or just £2 4s. each. These leases expire in 1906. Cloudesley-villa, sixty houses in Cloudesley-road, and a building in the rear of No. 118, produce, together, £265 15s., the largest item on the list, but which works out at a little over £4 a house. These leases will terminate in 1902. Last on the list we have premises of which the lease will expire at Christmas 1901, comprising Stonefield Cottage, 17 cottages in Milton's Yard, and tenements in the rear of Elizabeth-terrace, producing altogether the startling sum of £5, or about 5s. each per annum.

Thus it will be seen that in a few years' time there will be a large surplus in hand. What will be done with it? By an Act 20 and 21 Vict. c. 118, entitled "The Islington Parish Acts Amendment Act, 1857" (10th August, 1857), it was provided *(inter alia)*, "When the clear rents and profits of the lands and hereditaments of the said Charity shall exceed the annual sum of £1,000, the residue or surplus shall be from time to time paid to the account of the Official Trustees of Charitable Funds, and shall be invested by them in trust for the said charity, until a scheme for the application thereof shall be settled by competent authority." It is this "scheme' which is waited for with some anxiety by those parishioners who know anything at all about the matter. What will be done with the money? Free Libraries are out of the question—the parish has three times rejected the proposal to adopt the Act even when a large bribe was offered—perhaps because of the bribe. Public baths and washhouses already exist. There is the Northern Polytechnic in Holloway-road, and the Northampton Institute, just on the borders of the parish, so there is no demand for establishments of that description. The greatest want appears to be scholarships for Middle Class Schools, such as those dealt with in the first part of this article, and it is probable that a portion of the surplus cash will be devoted to this purpose.

Dissenters' Endowments.

Liberationists who clamour for the disestablishment and disendowment of the Church of England are apt to forget—if they ever knew—that Dissenting Chapels have their endowments, guarded by the same laws which protect Church property. A lady named Abigail Smith, in 1768, left £100 to the pastor and congregation of the Independent Protestant Dissenters assembling in Lower-street (now called Essex-road). Nathaniel Barnard also left £100 for the same chapel, and these sums, represented now by £232 12s. 9d. New Consols, are in the name of the Paymaster-General to the credit of the account.

In like manner the Islington Chapel Poor and Sick Fund, which from investments produces about £42 per year, is distributed in grants to poor members of the congregation. The Wesleyan Chapel in Liverpool Road, the Holloway Mission, the Caledonian Church, Holloway-road, and the Maberley Mission Fund (London Congregational Union), are among the Dissenting bodies whose charities are dealt with in the interesting report which we have been considering.

CENTRAL LONDON SCHOOL DISTRICT.

A MEETING of the managers was held on Monday, Mr. T. Cooksey presiding. An important report as to the prevalence of nose, throat and ear diseases at Hanwell Schools was received from Dr. Willcocks, of Charing Cross and other hospitals, who had made a special examination. He had examined 82 children and found them suffering from various diseases of the organs indicated, which, if not attended to, would leave permanent ill effects. He recommended that in some cases operations should be performed by a specialist so that grievous after effects might be prevented. He found nothing in the conditions of the school responsible for the diseases, which were such as were prevalent in all classes of society. The report was referred to the House Committee on the motion of the Rev. E. T. Hamel, seconded by Mr. Day.

The Farm Committee brought up a report which admitted the presence of a good deal of sewage in the Brent, and it was consequently decided to write to the Port Sanitary Committee of the Corporation and other authorities on the matter.

THE CITY OF LONDON UNION.

TUESDAY'S meeting, over which the Chairman, Mr. John Akers, presided, was not a very interesting one. The discovery of a defective drain at the workhouse and the prompt efforts made by the Master to remedy it were again discussed, and Mr. Lobb endeavoured to get the names of the architect and builder who were employed in its construction, but with little satisfactory results. Mr. Wagstaff pointed out that when the drain was laid the regulations now enforced in these matters were not in existence, so that the enquiry was in a measure a bootless one, and so the Board thought too, and let the matter drop.

The following gentlemen were appointed to represent the Guardians on the Asylums Board (Mr. Lobb writing that he did not wish to be nominated again): Mr. J. H. Lile, C.C., Mr. F. F. Day, C.C., Mr. W. J. Johnson, C.C., Mr. J. H. Willmott, and Mr. E. Monson.

Before adjourning, the Guardians decided, on the advice of the Committee which was appointed to go thoroughly into the matter, to take legal action for the recovery of rent owing by one of their tenants with whom they have had some recent trouble.

FOOD ADULTERATION IN MIDDLESEX.

SOME interesting figures are to be found in the annual report of the General Purposes Committee of the Middlesex County Council upon the administration of the Food and Drugs Act in the county, presented last week, together with comparative tables for the past three years. The general inference to be drawn from the report is that adulteration in the county is declining rapidly. The number of samples submitted was 1,844, and although this figure is less than that for either of the two preceding years, the results are better, for whereas for the year ending March, 1896, the percentage of adulteration was 8·0, and for 1897, 7·8, last year it dropped to 4·6, only 87 certificates of adulteration being received. In 1896 the number of cases was 153, and in 1897, 145. From a supplemental table it is shewn that from 1893, when for one quarter alone the percentage of adulteration stood as high as 26·8, the rate has been dwindling rapidly. Dealing specifically with commodities, milk was tested to the greatest extent, 972 samples being taken, with the result that in 52 cases there was adulteration. Butter stood next with 468 samples, all of which, with the exception of 16, passed the standards, and then came whiskey, cheese, margarine, sweets, beer, and lard, and only with respect to the first named was any adulteration found. Strangely, though fewer samples were obtained, the cost—£204 19s. 5d.—is the highest on record in the county, and the cost of assistants and witnesses is also higher than in previous years, though the cost of prosecutions has fallen nearly 30 per cent. below the previous year. In all 93 convictions were obtained on 121 prosecutions.

VESTRY versus RAILWAY COMPANY.

THE North-Western Railway Company has been obliged to modify the proposals which it submitted to Parliament a short time ago, for the extension of its system in the neighbourhood of Regent's Park. In the original scheme it was proposed to acquire a considerable space of land, in and around Mornington-road, Mornington-crescent, and Park Village-east—at present a very popular residential portion of the parish of St. Pancras. The Vestry, vigilant as usual when the interests of the parishioners are seriously threatened, decided to oppose the scheme, and when it came before the Committee of the House of Commons a few days ago, they submitted some weighty reasons against certain of its features. So cogent indeed were these recognised to be, that the Company's representatives were compelled to make valuable concessions, with which the Vestry and the parishioners seem thoroughly pleased. No houses on the west side of Mornington-road will now be demolished, nor will the new lines be used for the shunting of coal or other heavy goods waggons, to the great annoyance at night of the occupants of neighbouring dwellings. Furthermore, the Company has agreed to build an important new bridge from Mornington-street to Park Village-East, 45 feet in width, and has given an undertaking not to close any street in which houses are to be taken, until a new thoroughfare has been provided. The Company will also have to make provision of course for the re-housing of those residents disturbed in the course of the extensions. These are important points gained, and are a sufficient justification of the activity of the Vestry.

CROYDON COUNTY COUNCIL.

THE Mayor (Mr. Councillor S. G. Edridge) presided on Monday evening. An important report was considered with regard to the Fire Brigade. The Sub-Committee dealing with this question, recommended that a new Central Station be erected in Mint-walk, and that a new branch station be built at South Norwood-hill, and Woodville-road, Thornton Heath. The total cost of the scheme amounted to £4,725. The Committee further recommended that four 40 ft. combined curricle pattern fire escape and hose carts be purchased. The scheme was approved.

ELECTION OF BOROUGH AUDITORS AT CROYDON.—The election of two borough auditors was held at Croydon on Monday. The Mayor (Mr. Councillor S. G. Edridge) declared the result of the poll as follows:—Elected: Mr. Geo. Hatch, 963; Mr. W. W. Feast, 377; non-elected: Mr. E. C. Wells, 188. Messrs. Hatch and Feast were the retiring auditors.

SHOREDITCH ELECTRIC LIGHTING SCHEME.

The balance-sheet of the combined dust destructor and electric lighting scheme has now come to light, and shows a clear profit on the nine months' working of about £2,000. In the first quarter there was a loss of £500. In the next three months this, it is stated, was turned into a profit of £800. It has been suggested that the £2,000 should be devoted to the maintenance of the public libraries. The balance-sheet has been kept strictly private, even from the members of the Vestry itself, whilst the members of the Committee have been practically bound to secrecy.

HERE AND THERE.

THE new branch library at Balham is to be opened on the 23rd inst. by Lord Dunraven, L.C.C.

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THE Countess of Jersey on Saturday afternoon opened a new crèche at Hounslow, erected by Mr. W. H. Ellis, late lessee of the "Royal," Holborn.

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THE Beckenham School Board has passed a vote of condolence with Alderman F. P. Alliston, who is one of the members, in the severe loss he has sustained by the death of his son.

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MR. W. DAVIES, L.C.C., who has retired from the Chair of Battersea Vestry, has held that position for the past three years. During that time he was permanently placed on the Commission of the Peace. It is rumoured that, in certain circumstances, he may seek re-election.

* * *

SIR F. D. DIXON HARTLAND, BART., M.P., has been appointed the representative of the Middlesex County Council upon the Thames Conservancy. He reported to the County Council on Thursday that in consequence of an increase in the Conservators' funds a more extensive system of dredging would be organised in the Thames.

* * *

THE members of the Penge and Upper Norwood Constitutional Club will hold a dinner on May 19 to celebrate the success of the Unionist candidate in the London County Council election for the division, and the return of Mr. G. E. Dodson, the chairman, as one of the Lewisham members. Sir J. Blundell Maple, M.P., and Major Dalbiac, M.P., have promised to attend.

* * *

It was not made quite clear, in our reference last week to Mr. Duncan Milligan's chairmanship of the Wandsworth Board of Guardians, that Mr. Milligan has been a member of the body in question for some sixteen years. This could have been more explicitly stated, although the fact intended to be conveyed was quite obvious to all who are acquainted with this gentleman's long services to the poor law administration of the parish.

* * *

THE Marquis of Northampton presided at the fifty-fourth annual meeting of the Ragged School Union, now to be known as the Shaftesbury Society, held on Monday at the Queen's Hall. A most encouraging report was presented by the secretary, Mr. John Kirk, and adopted. Lady Newnes presented the "Faithful Service" prizes, and some addresses of an earnest nature, including one from the Hon. Evelyn Ashley, were delivered.

* * *

SIR ARTHUR ARNOLD, ex-chairman of the London County Council, continued his evidence at Monday's sitting of the Royal Commission on London's Water Supply. He denied Mr. Whitmore's allegation that the County Council was unfit to take charge of the water supply of the metropolis because it was over-worked, and his suggestion that the Council wasted time in political discussions. Dr. Shirley Murphy, medical officer of health for the administrative county of London, held that the water-owning authority and the disease-preventing authority ought to be the same. The enteric death-rate of London was at present very low, and the virus was very feeble, but it might become more dangerous and difficult to deal with in future.

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MR. W. DAVIES, L.C.C., who has retired from the Chair of Battersea Vestry, has held that position for the past three years. During that time he was permanently placed on the Commission of the Peace. It is rumoured that, in certain circumstances, he may seek re-election.

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SIR F. D. DIXON HARTLAND, BART., M.P., has been appointed the representative of the Middlesex County Council upon the Thames Conservancy. He reported to the County Council on Thursday that in consequence of an increase in the Conservators' funds a more extensive system of dredging would be organised in the Thames.

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THE members of the Penge and Upper Norwood Constitutional Club will hold a dinner on May 19 to celebrate the success of the Unionist candidate in the London County Council election for the division, and the return of Mr. G. E. Dodson, the chairman, as one of the Lewisham members. Sir J. Blundell Maple, M.P., and Major Dalbiac, M.P., have promised to attend.

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HEALTH OF STOKE NEWINGTON.

Dr. Kenwood, the Stoke Newington Medical Officer, in his recently-published annual report, states that there was a great reduction in the number of cases of infectious diseases notified, and the deaths from infectious diseases and the rate of infantile mortality were also lower than the corresponding rates for the year 1896. The returns are on the whole satisfactory, and serve to maintain the parish in the same high position (as to healthiness), when compared with the other London parishes, that it has held for several years. With regard to infantile mortality, the lack of intelligent parental management of the infant in the matter of feeding and nursing, which was responsible for so much infantile mortality, was seen reflected in the number of deaths from wasting and debility and from diarrhœa. The nurse (Miss Norton), whose services were secured by the parish in commemoration of the Jubilee of Her Majesty, has done good work, although her services have not been in such great demand as was anticipated.

14 Ap. 1898.

A TWO-HEAD OFFICIAL.

Owing to its determination to stick to the old policy of appointing a joint surveyor and chief sanitary inspector, the Stoke Newington Vestry has got into difficulties. A man after their own heart was recently selected to fill the vacancy, but as he did not hold the necessary sanitary qualifications he was given the appointment upon the condition that he passed a sanitary examination within a given period. An attempt was made by those who opposed the dual appointment to upset the arrangement, but without success. Probably pressure has since been brought to bear upon the successful candidate, for he has now intimated that he will have nothing further to do with the job. One of his defeated rivals has now been offered the appointment. The parish has been without a surveyor for some weeks now, causing great inconvenience. One of the vestrymen, chairman of the General Purposes Committee, has attended to the work temporarily.

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MUNICIPAL

VESTRIES.

STOKE NEWINGTON.

The Rev. Prebendary Shelford presided on Tuesday. The Vestry refused to adopt the opinion of the Sanitary Committee that peat litter should be included in the bye-laws of the County Council made under Section 16 of the Public Health Acts, and considered that its inclusion in the bye-laws should be made so as to deal with stables of twenty or more horses only. The Vestry also refused to appoint an extra Sanitary Inspector, considering that the Surveyor was the Chief Sanitary Inspector and ought to carry out the duties of that office, although it was said he had no time to do so. A scene arose in which Mr. Eve felt insulted at the remarks of Dr. White and gave the latter the lie direct, besides accusing the Chairman of not dealing fairly with him by not protecting him from insult. The Chairman said he was not aware that he ever showed the slightest bias towards any member of the Vestry, and certainly not towards Mr. Churchwarden Eve, who, on this occasion, had leaped to his feet, defended himself, and hit out at everybody right and left, including Dr. White and himself. He asked Dr. White to withdraw the remarks which had so offended Mr. Churchwarden Eve, and this the doctor at once did. Directly after this the Rev. Prebendary Shelford said that in consequence of the way in which he had been treated that evening he must ask the Vestry to find another chairman for the remainder of the evening. He then left the meeting.

N ARGUS. AUGUST 20, 1898.

THE BRITISH MUSEUM.

THE annual report relative to the British Museum was issued on Thursday as a Parliamentary Return. The total number of visitors to the Museum in the year 1897 amounted to 586,437 being a slight increase on the number for 1896, which was the highest number reached since 1890. Of this total the visitors on Sunday afternoons were 37,594, and the visitors on week-day evenings 26,254. The steady annual diminution in the number of evening visitors has satisfied the Trustees that they will not be justified in continuing to incur the expense of keeping the galleries open at night. From the commencement of the present year, therefore, this service has been abandoned, but the hours of the day opening have been extended to six in the evening on week-days throughout the year. The total number of visits of students to the reading-room during the year was 188,628, a further diminution by 2,735 on the number in 1895, which had declined from the totals of previous years. The daily average was about 624, as against 630 in 1896. There has been an increase in the total number of visits of students to the several departments other than the reading-room, amounting to 40,976, as against 37,130 in 1896.

Among the more important acquisitions of the year, mention is made of a further series of Egyptian sculptures of great antiquity, supplementing those which were purchased in 1896. The most valuable addition of literary interest is a papyrus, unfortunately much mutilated, of the first century before Christ, containing poems of the Greek poet Bacchylides, the contemporary of Pindar. The number of remarkable books acquired during 1897 has been less considerable than usual; but several of the acquisitions have been of the very highest importance. The purchase of a fine vellum copy of the Decretals of Boniface VIII., Petrus Schoeffer, Mentz, 1476, is of value as completing the museum set of the four Mentz editions of the Decretals. Three of these are upon vellum. It is remarked that there could hardly

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