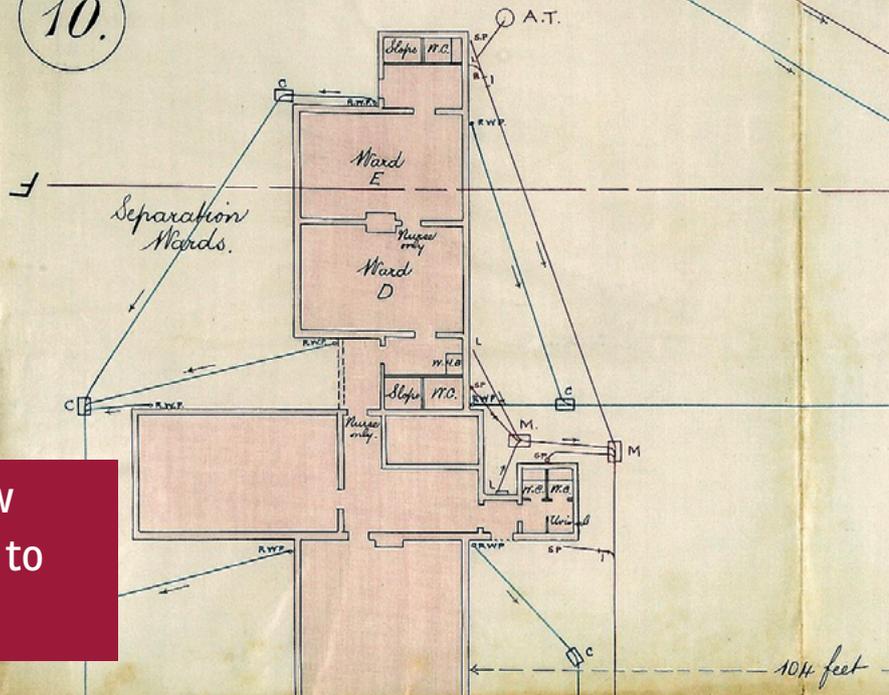
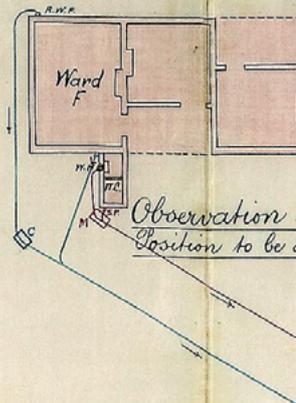


Workhouse
New Infirmary Buildings.

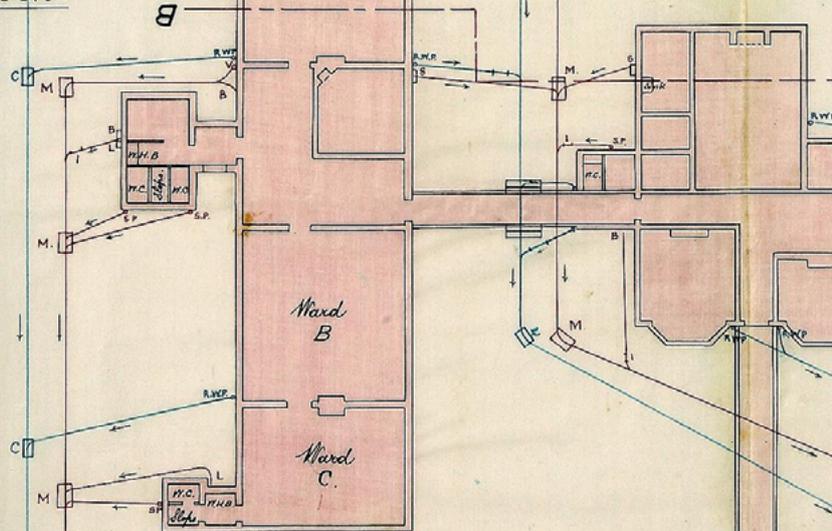
Block Plan.

Scale. 16 feet to One inch.

10.



Mens Block.



Schedule of Accommodation.

Mens' Side.	Ground Floor.	Ward A	20 Beds	} 42 Beds.
		B	8	
		Special Ward C	4	
		Separation Wards D & E	8	
		Observation Ward F	2	
Upper Floor.	Ward over A	20	} 32 "	
	B	8		
	C	4		
Centre Block.	Upper Floor.	Lying-in Wards	8	
Wom. Side.	Ground Floor.	Ward G	20 Beds	} 48 .
		H	8	
		Children's Ward I	10	
Upper Floor.	Special	Ward J	20	} 32 .
		K	8	
Third Floor.	Nurses Beds	4 over Mens'		} 8 .
		and 4 over Womans' side		
<u>Total</u>				<u>170 Beds</u>

Key Stage 4 | 1834-1900

Resource Pack

Note: The Wall, floor and cubic spaces are throughout fully as much as demanded by the L. G. B.

Day Rooms & Two Nurses Duty Rooms are provided on each side. Service Kitchen & Wash-up, also Nurses Sitting Room & Surgery & the Centre Block - with lift in each Block & to

To join the proposed new drainage system for the Workhouse which will be connected with the town sewerage scheme now in course of execution. An intercepting trap and fresh air inlet will be provided just within the Workhouse wallage.

Back line of present

Introduction

This lesson asks students to examine a set of letters to discover the health concerns of a sample of poor people in the Victorian era. The activity can be done in groups or as a carousel providing the whole class with knowledge of the content of each letter.

The letters have been grouped into five main themes related to health allowing you to select the letters most appropriate to your group's studies. You may also want to pair this activity with the use of our interactive maps on www.victorianpoor.org where there are over 3500 letters from the Victorian poor to explore. There is a curated map on health within the 'secondary' student portal, or further health related filters within the 'research' portal. Using these maps can allow you to explore health issues in your local area or explore national trends in medical care, sanitary reform or disease outbreaks.

This lesson was created as part of the Teaching the Voices of the Victorian Poor Teacher Scholar Programme.

Suitable for:

KS4

Time period:

Empire and Industry
1750-1850,
Victorians 1850-1901

Connections to the Curriculum:

Medicine through time

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Document One	Page 9	General Public Health:	
Document Two	Page 11	Document Nine	Page 25
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Glossary

Source 1:

pease soup = a savoury dish made with peas

Indian meal = Irish name for a type of porridge- corn related

Gruel = a thin, watery porridge

Adulterated = food product that doesn't meet legal standards e.g. has added inedible items to increase the quantity and enables the producer to profit from it e.g. chalk added to flour

Anatomy = study of the human body

Source 2:

Grievances = a cause for complaint e.g. bad treatment

Seldom = not often/ common

Deficit = quantity is too small

Redress = set right the complaints made

Over-scrupulous = over-careful and extremely attentive to detail

Whims = a sudden change in mind

Source 3:

Viz = in other words

Liberty = freedom- no restrictions

Round Robin = a petition which includes signatures written in a circle to hide the order in which they have been written. This is done to show that no one is more important than the other

Source 4:

Elucidate = make something clear/ explain

Inoperative = not in action/ issued

Compel = bring about something using force or pressure

Deputation = a group who complete a formal task for someone else

Glossary

Source 5:

Profess = claim

Avow = confess openly

Enumerate = mention things one by one

Registrar = a person responsible for keeping official records up to date

Requisition = an official order (people/ group with responsibility) claiming use to something. A requisition form details the items needed, for how long, etc.

Aforesaid = referring to something mentioned previously in the letter

Substantiated = no reasonable grounds to object

Source 6:

Magistrates = enforces the law e.g. in court

Propagating = spread an idea widely

Constitutional diseases = someone's physical condition from a disease

Unconstitutional = Not in line with procedure

Tyrannical = controlling, harsh, no option but to follow it

Pernicious = having a gradual harmful effect

Memorialists = someone who signs something/ a branch of Christianity

Humbly = not arrogantly asking

Accede = agree to a request

Repeal = taking back or cancelling a law

Unjust = unfair

Oppressive = forceful

Glossary

Source 7:

Audacity = disrespectful behaviour

Beck = river

Source 9:

Lunatic asylum = (this is not a term we use in the modern day as it can offend) a hospital for patients who have mental health difficulties

Warded = to enter and care for someone in a hospital

Infirm = not physically or mentally strong

Cultivated = the land is worked e.g. crops are grown and the earth is ploughed

Source 10:

Commodious = roomy and comfortable

Privy = toilet

Deplorable = completely unacceptable

Miscarry = lose a baby before it is born

Factor	Evidence of the Poor Law's contributions to Public Health
Malnourishment (Letters 1 & 2)	
Smallpox (Letters 3 & 4)	
Vaccination (Letters 5 & 6)	
Typhus Fever (Letters 7 & 8)	
Public Health (Letters 9 & 10)	

Teacher's notes

- You may want to define key words in the sources e.g. advocates or consult the glossary pages provided. This is separated into the different sources, but some words may come up several times. Therefore I would ensure each group has access to the whole glossary.
- You may want students to work in groups on a few of the sources, rather than all of them. Groups can focus on one aspect, e.g. smallpox, then share their feedback to the rest of the class.
- You may want to pre-teach some of the topics (e.g. smallpox and Jenner's vaccination) to give students contextual knowledge for the source content.
- You may want to time this so that it fits into your chosen specifications/ schemes of learning and lesson sequencing e.g. Industrial Revolution during Medicine Through Time/ around new poor law opposition in the Poverty and Public Health course (both Edexcel).
- You can keep this lesson suggestion as it is or download, save and adapt it to fit your class.
- The plenary task could be set out in the following ways: a small group, class debate or written task.
- There are some difficult/ sensitive words/ terms in the texts that may not be suitable for some students. Please do check over them first at your discretion.

Background

The Victorian era was a point of major overhaul for public health in England and Wales, with The Poor Law and the Public Health Act working to support the basic needs of the people and attempting to understand and prevent illness in a manner never seen before.

A key figure in both of these acts was Edwin Chadwick. After helping to set up the 1834 Poor Law it became clear to Chadwick that health and sanitation was a major issue for the poor, with many seeking relief for issues stemming from illness and disease. The answer for Chadwick, as he suggests in his 1842 publication 'The Sanitary Condition of the Labouring Population for Great Britain' was to improve sanitation and access to preventative health care in order to prevent illness and therefore stop the poor from needing to ask for relief.

In the meantime the Poor Law created new administrative systems to oversee the relief provided to those in need. Workhouses were staffed with doctors and nurses and a dietary provided a recommended meal plan – which though meagre could still be more than the poor could provide for themselves if they could not work. Out relief could also be provided by relieving officers, providing access to food, clothing or some medical treatment.

A Central Board of Health was created after the Public Health Act of 1848, following a serious outbreak of cholera that year. Yet the board was unfunded and had little power to make changes, so the Poor Law continued to be an important service for the poor seeking help with the medical needs.

Document One

Catalogue Ref: MH12/6044, 53044/1850

I was kept on low diet near thirteen weeks
 was reduced to such a state of weakness
 I could scarcely walk, and my legs swelled
 much with the least exertion the sick room
 them a quick introduction to the Poor
 of Anatomy, there was eight subjects and
 week five on one night it is very unpleasant
 the sick hearing the wheel coming for them
 every night and they dare not make
 on any subject
 complaints as they will know that Mr Pitt
 make their lives very disagreeable if
 had to say come to the case. I have
 difficulty to get breath attended with a bad
 and occasional spitting of blood with a
 pain at my heart and lungs and a
 and soreness at the pit of the stomach
 porridge pea soup & rice milk when I
 more feel far worse. the doctor told me
 that I could not get a worse thing than
 for my complaint
 Yours respectfully
 Lewis Mordaunt
 16 Nov 30
 14 Nov 30
 Mr Austin
 1217, 1218, 1219, 1220, 1221, 1222, 1223, 1224, 1225, 1226, 1227, 1228, 1229, 1230, 1231, 1232, 1233, 1234, 1235, 1236, 1237, 1238, 1239, 1240, 1241, 1242, 1243, 1244, 1245, 1246, 1247, 1248, 1249, 1250, 1251, 1252, 1253, 1254, 1255, 1256, 1257, 1258, 1259, 1260, 1261, 1262, 1263, 1264, 1265, 1266, 1267, 1268, 1269, 1270, 1271, 1272, 1273, 1274, 1275, 1276, 1277, 1278, 1279, 1280, 1281, 1282, 1283, 1284, 1285, 1286, 1287, 1288, 1289, 1290, 1291, 1292, 1293, 1294, 1295, 1296, 1297, 1298, 1299, 1300, 1301, 1302, 1303, 1304, 1305, 1306, 1307, 1308, 1309, 1310, 1311, 1312, 1313, 1314, 1315, 1316, 1317, 1318, 1319, 1320, 1321, 1322, 1323, 1324, 1325, 1326, 1327, 1328, 1329, 1330, 1331, 1332, 1333, 1334, 1335, 1336, 1337, 1338, 1339, 1340, 1341, 1342, 1343, 1344, 1345, 1346, 1347, 1348, 1349, 1350, 1351, 1352, 1353, 1354, 1355, 1356, 1357, 1358, 1359, 1360, 1361, 1362, 1363, 1364, 1365, 1366, 1367, 1368, 1369, 1370, 1371, 1372, 1373, 1374, 1375, 1376, 1377, 1378, 1379, 1380, 1381, 1382, 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2711, 2712, 2713, 2714, 2715, 2716, 2717, 2718, 2719, 2720, 2721, 2722, 2723, 2724, 2725, 2726, 2727, 2728, 2729, 2730, 2731, 2732, 2733, 2734, 2735, 2736, 2737, 2738, 2739, 2740, 2741, 2742, 2743, 2744, 2745, 2746, 2747, 2748, 2749, 2750, 2751, 2752, 2753, 2754, 2755, 2756, 2757, 2758, 2759, 2760, 2761, 2762, 2763, 2764, 2765, 2766, 2767, 2768, 2769, 2770, 2771, 2772, 2773, 2774, 2775, 2776, 2777, 2778, 2779, 2780, 2781, 2782, 2783, 2784, 2785, 2786, 2787, 2788, 2789, 2790, 2791, 2792, 2793, 2794, 2795, 2796, 2797, 2798, 2799, 2800, 2801, 2802, 2803, 2804, 2805, 2806, 2807, 2808, 2809, 2810, 2811, 2812, 2813, 2814, 2815, 2816, 2817, 2818, 2819, 2820, 2821, 2822, 2823, 2824, 2825, 2826, 2827, 2828, 2829, 2830, 2831, 2832, 2833, 2834, 2835, 2836, 2837, 2838, 2839, 2840, 2841, 2842, 2843, 2844, 2845, 2846, 2847, 2848, 2849, 2850, 2851, 2852, 2853, 2854, 2855, 2856, 2857, 2858, 2859, 2860, 2861, 2862, 2863, 2864, 2865, 2866, 2867, 2868, 2869, 2870, 2871, 2872, 2873, 2874, 2875, 2876, 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Document One - Transcript

Manchester Novr 12th 1850

Gentlemen

I hope you will excuse the liberty that I am taking by intruding on your time but I am compelled by necessity for I have been in a bad state of health for a long time so that a large portion of the food disagrees with me the pease soup is mixed with other ingredients so that it is impossible for a large proportion of the inmates to use it without being ill afterwards in the stomach and bowels the porridge has such a large portion of Indian meal in it that it causes it to be like gruel that their bowels are relaxed to a very great extent every day and the bread is likewise mixed with a large portion of Indian meal so that it is very disagreeable and in hot weather absolutely stinks the milk and tea is reduced in quantity one fourth in the helpless by introducing small pots and the rice milk is adulterated with some other grain that I cannot possibly eat use it I have been without dinners three days a week for a considerable time owing to my inability to eat them and I made application to the Governor to allow me something that I could eat and he referred me to the Doctor but he would not make any alteration so I was compelled to ask for my discharge but the overseer would not give me any other relief than in doors what I am to do I know not as I dare not go to the medical ward again as I have not recovered from the effects of the last time I was kept on low diet near thirteen weeks until I was reduced to such a state of weakness that I could scarcely walk and my legs swelled up much with the least exertion the sick rooms [***] them a quick introduction to the Pine St. [school] of Anatomy. There was eight subjects sent there [***] week five on one night it is very unpleasant for the sick hearing the vehicle coming for them [now] every night and they dare not make any complaints on any subject as they well know that Mr. Sutton will make their lives very disagreeable if what I had to say came to his ears. I have great difficulty to get breath attended with a bad cough and occasional spitting of blood with a [deadly] pain at my heart and lungs and a great pain and soreness at the pit of the stomach - porridge pea soup & rice ilk when I use make me feel far worse. The doctor told me himself that I could not get a worse thing than [porridge] for my complaint

Yours Respectfully

Squire Armitage

Document Two

Catalogue Ref: MH12/7700, 105229/88

thing is fit for such as you!

6. The bread oft times deficient in weight, issued out by the 3 or 4oz loaf, instead of weight, these reports have been brought forward again & again, but no redress is given. The continuance of the same old game "Cheating paupers of a small allowance of their dietary."

Further, after giving 72 hours notice for discharge, a pauper cannot get out before 100 to look for work. Sundays are not counted in the 3 days, but have to go 6 hours or a day more. How can one look for a job of work when a good 1/2 of the day is gone; this gives them no opportunity of getting work? if it was 7 of it might enable him. In conclusion, I trust that our complaints will be looked into by you, for the Guardians are by the majority of the paupers complaints & operated by a not over-scrupulous Master to his own interests, or whims. I remain, Gentlemen,
 Your Obedt. Servant
 J. H. Moulton

Poplar Union Board 23 Nov 88
 23 Nov 88
 Local Government Board 105229

I beg again to call your attention to our grievances in the Poplar Workhouse.

1. Not the sample of Potatoes (of which a specimen I forward on to you for your opinion) which is issued out to us. Many of which are rotten, & on stew-days after being boiled, feeded & put in our stew.
2. The meat which we are allowed on Soup-days & 12 days; if put in, seldom if ever issued or served up to us.
3. To the heastly state of the clothes which are given to the men to put on at admission, dirty ragged & thread bare.
4. Only two towels provided in the receiving ward for the use of perhaps from 24 to 40 new admissions after bathing.
5. The continual bad-cooking & no lead paid to complaints made. Take it or leave it, any

B. A

Document Two - Transcript

Date of letter: 23 November 1888

CIRCUMTEXT

I think a copy of this may be sent to the Gns. for their Obsn.

Dec 1 /88 BH

TEXT

Poplar Union Workhouse

The 23 Novr. /88

Local Govt. Board

Gentlemen

I beg again to call your attention to our grevances in the Poplar Workhouse.

1st To the sample of Potatoes (of which a specimen I forward on to you for your opinion) which is issued out to us. Many of which are rotten, & on stew-days after being boiled, peeled & ^are^ put in our stew

2. The meat which we are allowed on Soup days & Pie days; if sent in, seldom if ever issued or served up to us.

3. To the beastly state of the clothes which are given to the men to put on at admission, dirty ragged & thread bare.

4. Only two towels provided in the receiving ward for the use of perhaps from 24 to 40 new admissions after bathing.

5. The continual bad cooking & no heed paid to the complaints – “Take it or leave it”, any thing is fit for such as you!

6. The bread oft times deficit in Weight, issued out by the 5 or 4oz loaf, instead of ^by^ weight.

These rzports have been brought forward again & again, but no redress is given. The continua<tion> of the same old game “Cheating paupers of the ^our^ small allowance of their dietary”.

Further, after giving 72 hours notice for discharge, a pauper cannot get out before 10 o’C to look for work. Sundays are not counted in the 3 days, but have to go 96 hours or a day more – How can men look for a job of Work when a good ½ of the day is gone; this gives him no opportunity of getting Work? if it was 7 o’C it might enable him. In conclusion, I trust that our complaints will be looked into by you, for the Guardians are in the majority led ^to believe paupers complaints exaggerated^ by a not over-scrupulous Master to his own interests, or whims –

I remain

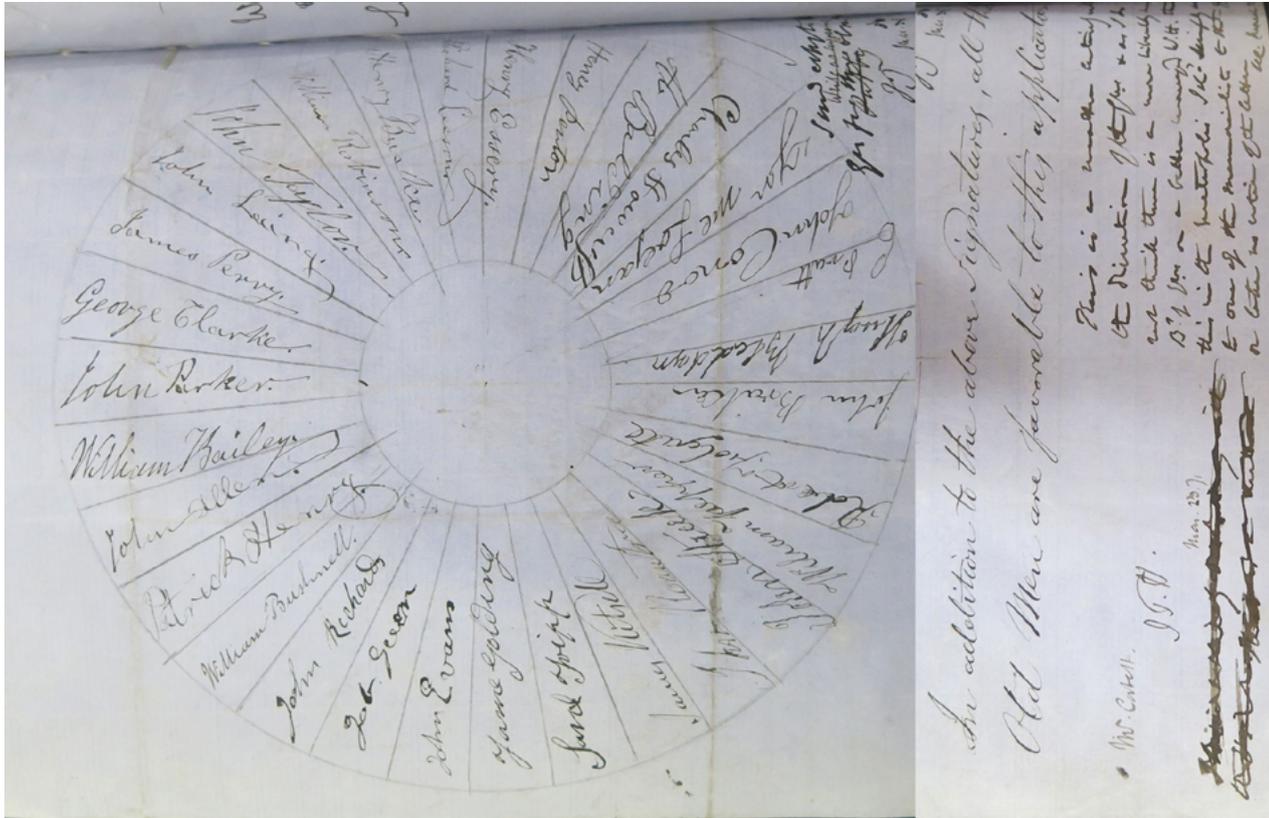
Gentlemen

Your Obt. Humble Servant

J.W. Monleynes

Document Three

Catalogue Ref:



261
 20 March 1871
 18662
 CHARLES WOODHOUSE
 POOR LAW BOARD
 MAR 21 1871
 The undersigned inmates of the above House beg to respectfully request your honorable Board in respect to a grant of money which we are now suffering, viz: In consequence of the prevalence of the small pox we have been deprived of our usual liberty of going out on Sundays, thus depriving us of the benefit of Air & exercise, & visiting our friends - It is now Eight Weeks since we last went out.

All the inmates having been vaccinated in the House very recently, we humbly conceive there is very little danger of contagion, but we think there is much more so from the admission of Strangers - Inmates also go out daily to the Sand Yard to take Bread & Cakes - they also go out with the Wood Trucks & Messengers are daily sent out on various occasions - therefore we conceive we have been harshly treated. We would also mention that 4 Inmates were let out yesterday - which favoritism is decidedly wrong, if it is safe for them, it is equally so for us - If your Honorable Board will be good enough to enquire into this matter the inmates will much appreciate your kindness. Our friends have been prohibited from visiting the House for the last three months.

(P. V. 07)

Document Three - Transcript

Chelsea Workhouse 20 March 1871

Gentn. We the undersigned Inmates of the above House beg most respectfully to address your honourable Board in respect to a grievance under which we are now suffering, viz: In consequence of the prevalence of the Small Pox we have been deprived of our usual liberty of going out on Sunday's, thus depriving us of the benefit of Air & exercise, & visiting our friends –

It is now Eight Weeks since we last went out – All the Inmates having been Vaccinated in the House very recently & we humbly conceive there is very little danger of contagion, but we think there is much more so from the admission of Tramps – Inmates also go out daily to the Stone Yard to take Bread & Oakum – they also go out with the Wood Truck, & Messengers are daily sent out on various occasions – therefore we conceive we have been harshly treated. We would also mention that 4 Inmates were let out yesterday – which favouritism is decidedly wrong, if it is safe for them, it is equally so for us –

If your Honourable Board will be good enough to enquire into this matter the Inmates will much appreciate your Kindness. Our Friends have been prohibited from Visiting the house for the last Three Months. (P.T.O.)

[The following names are in the form of a Round Robin]

James Perry, George Clarke, John Parker, William Bailey, John Allen, Patrick Henry,

William Bushnell, John Richards, Job [Green], John Evans, [Jame] Goulding,

Saml.Tripp, James Kitsell, John Rowntree, John Streek, William Pepper, Robert

Holgate, John Braker, Hugh [Mcaddyn], C. Pratt, John [Conor], Jn. McLagan,

Charles [Howarth], A. Balding, Heney Penton, Henry Essery, Richard Leeson, Henry Buske, William Robinson, John Taylor, John Laing.

In addition to the above Signatures, all the Old Men are favourable to this application.

Document Four

Catalogue Ref: MH12/15168

I have attended the meeting at Keytley this morning - a deputation accompanied by Mr. Hester, Medical Officer, called upon the Magistrate to advise as to the best course to be taken to check the small pox outbreak at Keytley and Dugby, the present means being quite inadequate, the Magistrate sending an official apointment, and the other sent him being then for to take where it exists, the persons waiting upon

the infected persons leaving them to wait upon the Justices; the drainage, drainage, and sewage in the town being in a most dangerous state, while the disease is rapidly spreading, and the deaths among the poor painfully increasing. - It was decided that I should make an appeal from the Board for a public subscription, and write to the Local Govt. Board by this day with details

that under the present fearful state of the disease an appeal for some Board might be made the Union directly, not only to stimulate the Sanitary Officers, but to point out to the Home Office where the present law is inadequate to combat isolation, and I was also desired to state that this is the general feeling among. - I communicated to the Sanitary Board I had already made this appeal and was expecting to hear from you. - I am
 Yours faithfully
 L. G. Board
 W. Bernard

STAVES
 KEYTLEY
 YORKSHIRE.
 May 14. 1875
 3232
 12
 Keytley 541

RECEIVED
 MAY 15 1875

Document Four - Transcript

May 14 1875

Keighley Union

Small pox

Sir

I have attended the petty sessions at Keighley this morning in a deputation accompanied by W. Heelis Medical Officer, waited upon the Magistrate to advise as to the best course to be taken to check the small pox both at Keighley and Bingley, the present means being quite inadequate, the guardians rendering us efficient assistance, and the shops and Inns being open for trade where it exists, the persons waiting upon the infected patients leaving them to wait upon the Customers; the sewerage, drainage, and sewage in both Towns being in a most dangerous state, while the disease is rapidly spreading, and the distress among the Poor painfully increasing.

It was decided that I should make an appeal from the Bench for a public subscription, and write to the Local Govt Board by this days post stating that under the present fearful state of the disease an officer from your Board ought to visit the Union directly, not only to [elucidate] the Sanitary Officials, but to point out the Home Office where the present law is inoperative to compel isolation, and I was also desired to state that this is the general public opinion.

I communicated to the Deputation that I had already [urged] this course and was expecting to hear from you. –

I am

yrs faithfully

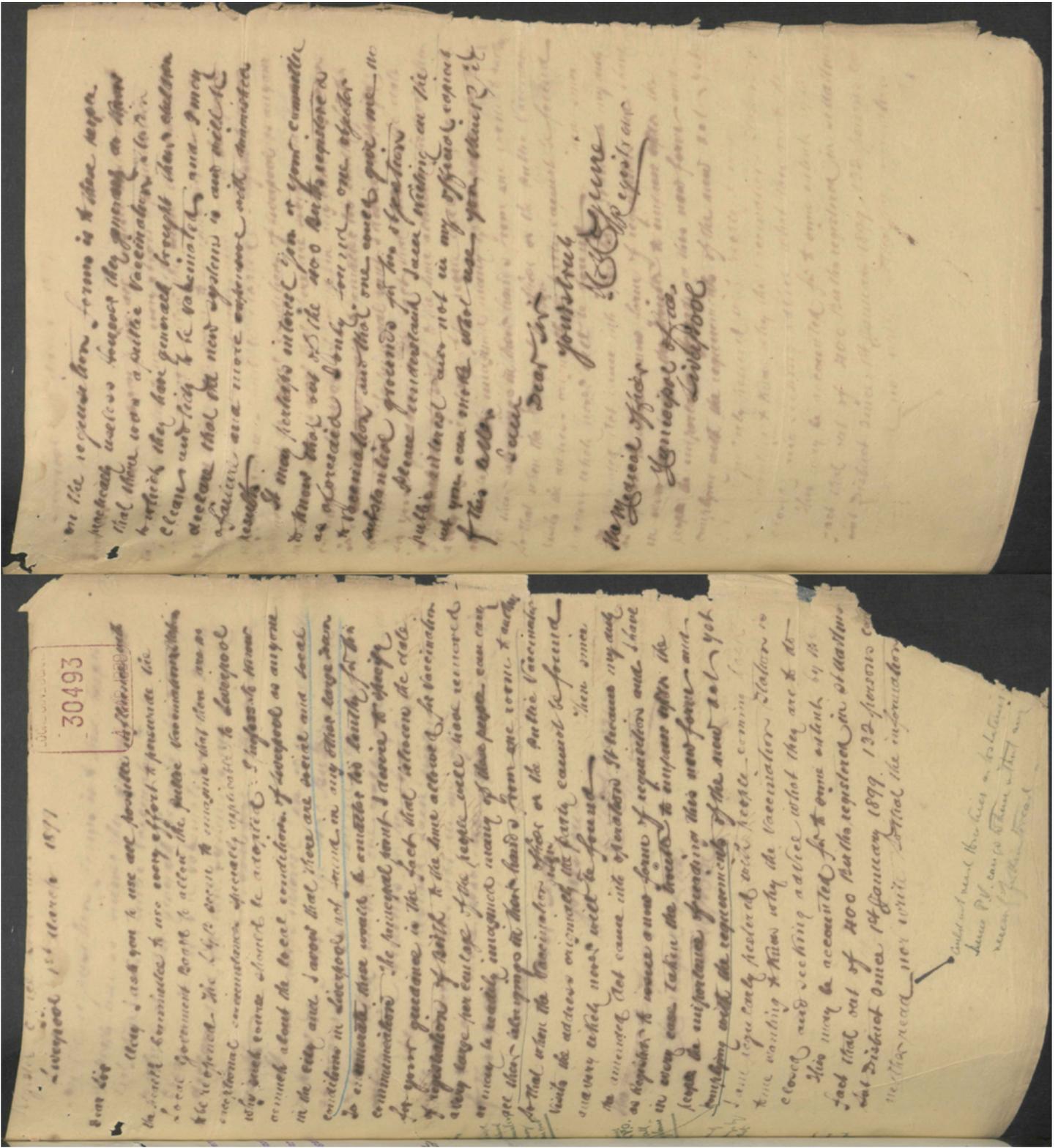
W Ferrand

The Secy

L.G. Board

Document Five

Catalogue Ref: MH12/6016



in the request form forms is a blue paper
 which are less however they generally are about
 4 which they have general brought them all down
 clean and light to be vaccinated and I may
 declare that the new system is and will be
 fairer and more superior with admitted
 results

It may perhaps interest you or your committee
 to know that out of 400 births registered
 & recorded only 100 were vaccinated
 & the remainder and the one week prior to
 publication provided for the operation
 please understand I am writing as the
 public interest and not in my official capacity
 of this matter what use you think it
 will be

Dear Sir

Yours truly
 W. H. G. G. G.

The Medical Officer
 Liverpool

30493

Liverpool 1st March 1877

Dear Sir

They ask you to use all possible means to
 the best advantage to use every effort to procure the
 local Government Board to allow the public vaccination
 to be free. The local board to imagine that they are in
 a financial straits especially in Liverpool
 why such a course should be adopted. I suppose it shows
 much about the local conditions of Liverpool as any one
 in the city and I am glad that there are several and local
 conditions in Liverpool not found in any other large town
 in the world. These would be another hindrance for the
 committee. The principal point I desire to stress
 in your guidance is the fact that between the date
 of registration of birth & the time allowed for vaccination
 every large percentage of the people will have returned
 or may be readily imagined many of these people can easily
 see their advantage in their hands from one week to another
 & that when the vaccination officer or the public vaccination
 visits the address originally the party cannot be found
 and very likely never will be found

the accident that cause the operation it because my only
 as hospital & some a new form of registration and I have
 in every case taken the trouble to inquire after the
 people the importance of sending this new form out
 promptly with the requirements of the new act yet
 I am equally fearful with respect to the
 time waiting & how why the vaccination station is
 closed and seeking advice what they are to do

This may be accounted for to some extent by the
 fact that out of 400 births registered in the last
 six District since 1st January 1877, 132 persons
 were born and 108 were still alive. I shall be informed

and send the
 June 1877. I am, Sir, your
 obedient servant

Document Five - Transcript

Register Office [St. Martin's]
Liverpool 1st March 1899

Dear Sir

May I ask you to use all possible influence with the Health Committee to use every effort to persuade the Local Government Board to allow the public vaccination station to be reopened. The Local Government Board seem to imagine that there are no exceptional circumstances specially applicable to Liverpool why such course should be adopted. I profess to know as much about the local condition of Liverpool as anyone in the city and I avow that there are social and local conditions in Liverpool not found in any other large Town. To enumerate these would be a matter too lengthy for this communication. The principal point I desire to specify for your guidance is the fact that between the date of registration of Birth to the time allowed for vaccination a very large percentage of the people will have removed or may be readily imagined many of these people can carry all their belongings in their hands from one room to another. So that when the Vaccination officer or the Public Vaccinator visits the address originally ^given^ the party cannot be found and very likely never will be found. Then since the amended Act came into operation. It became my duty as Registrar to issue a new form of requisition and I have in every case taken the trouble to impress upon the people the importance of reading this new form and complying with the requirements of the new act yet I am regularly pestered with people coming back to me wanting to know why the Vaccination Station is closed and seeking advice what they are to do.

This may be accounted for to some extent by the fact that out of 400 Births registered in [St. Martins] Sub District since 1st January 1899. 132 persons can neither read nor write so that the information on the requisition form is to those people practically useless. However they generally do know that there was a public Vaccination Station to which they have generally brought their children clean and tidy to be vaccinated, and I may declare that the new system is and will be a failure and more expensive with diminished results.

It may perhaps interest you or your committee to know that out of the 400 Births registered as aforesaid I only found one objector to vaccination and that one could give me no substantiated grounds for his objection.

Please understand I am writing in the public interest and not in my official capacity but you can make what use you think of this letter.

I am, Dear Sir, Yours truly
M McGuire
Registrar

The Medical Officer
Municipal Office
Liverpool

Document Six

Catalogue Ref: MH12/15168

29632
75

The Right Honorable G. Scates
M. P. President of the Local
Government Board

The humble Memorial of the
Inhabitants of Keighley in Public
Meeting assembled, March 24th 1875

That whereas Vaccination is
mischievous first, because it diverts
attention from those impurities which
are the Cause of Small-pox, & which
too frequently lie at the doors of Mag-
istrates, who punish good men for
Non-Vaccination; & secondly, because
it is the means of propagating all kinds
of Constitutional Diseases;

And whereas the Law would enforce
this useless & pernicious Practice is
unconstitutional, tyrannical and ab-
solutely opposed to the very spirit of Local
Self-government;

Therefore your Memorialists humbly pray
that you will not accede to the request
of the Keighley Magistrates, that you
should interfere with the freedom of
the Keighley Guardians in their refusal
to be unjust & peace-disturbers, by en-
forcing the Vaccination Acts, which
request ~~is~~ would not on any account
be obeyed, because it could not be justly
obeyed, but that you will before the end
of this Session use your high influence
to compass the entire repeal of the un-
just & oppressive Vaccination Acts.

And your Memorialists will ever
pray.

Samuel Smith, Chairman

Document Six - Transcript

To the Right Honorable G. Sclater Booth, M.P., President of the Local Government Board,

The humble Memorial of the Inhabitants of Keighley in Public Meeting assembled March 24th 1875
[**]with

That whereas vaccination is mischievous first, because it diverts attention from those impurities which are the cause of small-pox, + which too frequently lie at the doors of the Magistrates, who punish good men for non-vaccination, + secondly, because it is the means of propogating all kinds of constitutional diseases;

And whereas the law would enforce this useless and pernicious practice is unconstitutional, tyrannical and absolutely opposed ^to^ the very spirit of Local self government;

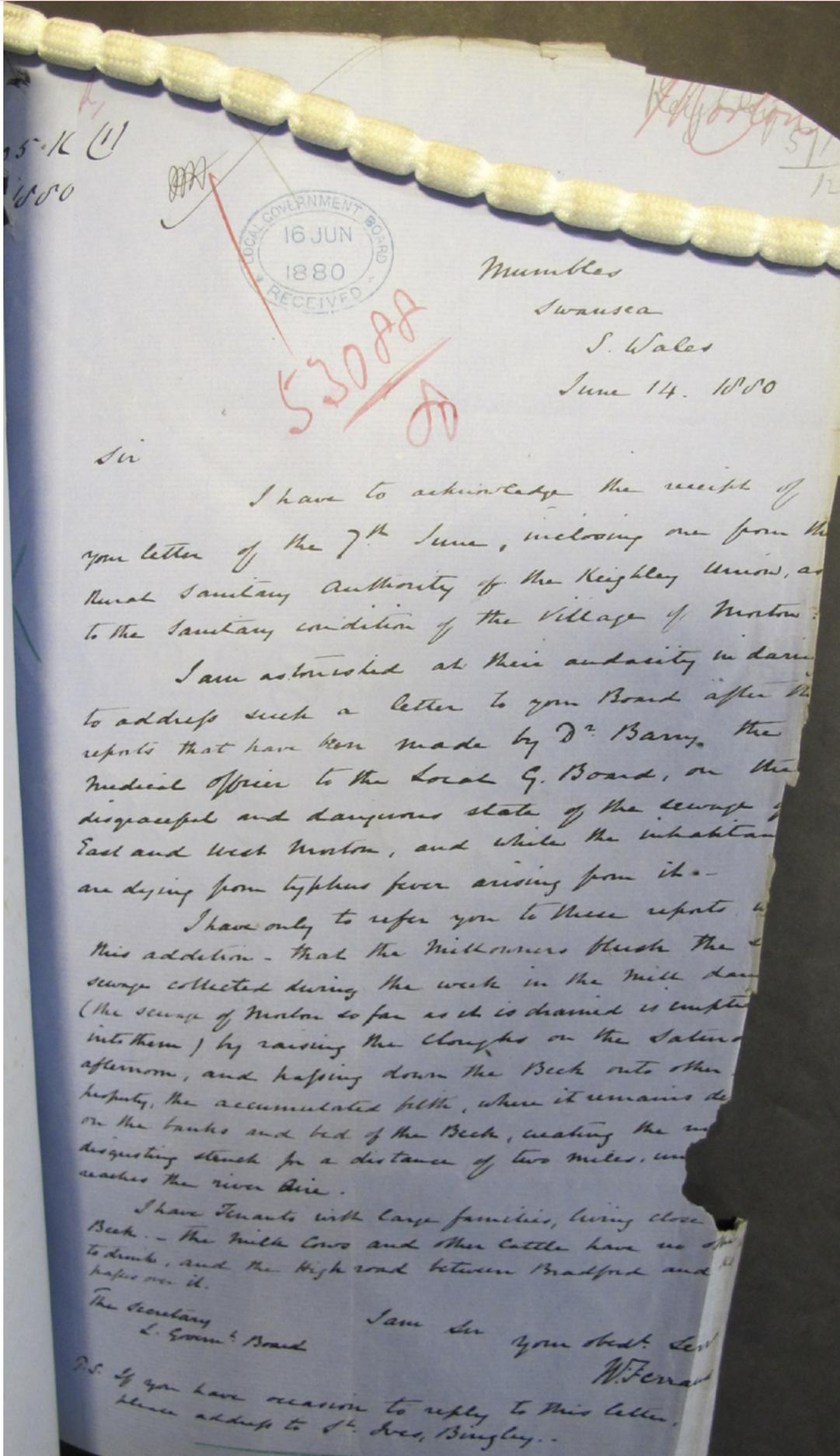
Therefore four Memorialists humbly pray that you will not accede to the request of the Keighley Magistrates, that you should interfere with the freedom of the Keighley Guardians in their refusal unjust + peace-disturbers, by enforcing the Vaccinations Acts, which request you would not on any account be obeyed, because it could not be justly obeyed, but that you will before the end of this Session use your high influence to compass the entire repeal of the unjust + oppressive Vaccination Acts.

And your Memorialists will ever pray.

Samuel Smith, Chairman

Document Seven

Catalogue Ref: MH12/15174



Document Seven - Transcript

Sir

I have to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of the 7th June, inclosing one from the Rural Sanitary Authority of the Keighley Union, as to the Sanitary condition of the Village of Moreton

I am astonished at their audacity in daring to address such a letter to your Board after [the] reports that have been made by Dr Barry, the Medical Officer to the Local G. Board, on the disgraceful and dangerous state of the sewage [of] East and West Morton, and while the inhabitants are dying from typhus fever arising from it.

I have only to refer you to these reports [xxx] this addition- that the Millowners flush the [xxx] sewage collected during the week in the mill [xxxx] (the sewage of Moreton so far as it is drained is emptied into them) by raising the cloughs on the Saturday afternoon, and hossing down the Beck onto other [xxx] property, the accumulated filth, where it remains [deep] on the banks and bed of the Beck, creating the [xxx] disgusting stench for a distance of two miles [until it] reaches the river Aire.

I have Tenants with large families living close [xxxx] Beck – the milk cows and other cattle have no other [xxx] to drink and the High road between Bradford and [xxx] passes over it.

I am your obedt. Serv

W Ferrand

Document Eight

Catalogue Ref: MH12/15159

24th May 1846. —

375

7615/46

Betty Feather of Hill Stye, Neworth, States, I am 52 Years of Age, We had the Typhus Fever in the Family about 9 months since, that Mr. E. S. Hall attended the Family as Medical Officer, after he had been once he was a week before he came again when we sent for him, there were two in the fever all that time, he slightly looked at the children and then said he would send something up, and he sent a bottle of medicine, and he did not come again till we sent for him, there were two in the fever for a month, and Mr. Hall attended only five times during that time, and then only when sent for, we were so dissatisfied with Mr. Hall's attention to the cases, that we called in another Dr. (Mr. Mackley) and he attended the Family every other day, which he stated ought to be done, and the children got better. —

(Signed)

Betty + Feather's

Mark

Document Eight - Transcript

Date of letter: 27 May 1846

The statement is part of a case against Edward South Hall, late Medical Officer for Howarth, who attended only a couple of times when Typhus hit the household.

TEXT:

Betty Feather of Hill Style, Haworth, States, I am 52 Years of Age, We had the Typhus Fever in the Family about 9 months since, That Mr E. S. Hall attended the Family as Medical Officer, after he had been once he was a week before he came again when we sent for him, There were two in the Fever all that time, he slightly looked at the Children and then said he would send something up, and he sent a bottle of medicine, and he did not come again till we sent for him, there were two in the fever for a month, and Mr Hall attended only five times during that time , and then only when sent for , we were so dissatisfied with Mr Hall's attention to the cases, that we called in – another Dr (Mr Mackley), and he attended the Family every other day, which he stated ought to be done , and the children got better. –

(Signed) Betty X Feather's Mark

Document Nine

Catalogue Ref: MH12/12231

75749
 15
 1888
 RECEIVED

Sir I beg to inform you that a woman named Capon who is in a state of Lunacy has been kept in Dorking workhouse one week without being placed under proper control. It is a dirty case and fit only for a single room at night in a Lunatic asylum where night watches are on duty to attend to her whereas she is here divided with a few quiet industrious infirm old women who are kept awake at night to keep the said women from rambling about the room frightening them out of sleep which might have an injurious effect on them. I think it is scandalous treatment of women who are not in a position to defend themselves. The workhouse stands in the center of pleasant looking and well cultivated land and get within the high and gloomy walls of the old women airing Court. Women are allowed to accumulate in a shed which at times create an offensive atmosphere. In the airing Court a large tub is kept for the reception of waste for pigs. There is also a shed devoted for the reception of rubbish. Not cleared away every day as it ought to be with an extensive accommodation outside the walls. I suppose sanitary reform has not reached Dorking workhouse to the present time.

My names may be rather blunt. But as a thorough English woman I am sure the words for that.

I am Sir your most humble servant
 Hannah Pearson.
 Union Workhouse
 Dorking
 Surrey

Saturday Noon
 July 24th 1886

Document Nine - Transcript

Date of letter: 24 July 1886

Sir

I beg to inform you that a woman named Capon who is in a state of Lunacy has been kept in Dorking Workhouse one week without being placed under proper controle. It is a dirty case and fit only for a single room at night in a Lunatic asylum where night watches are on duty to attend to her whereas she is here warded with a few quiet industrious infirm old women who are kept awake at night to keep the said woman from rambleing about the room frightening them out of sleep which might have an injurious efect on them. I think it is scandalous treatment of women who are not in a position to defend themselves.

The Workhouse stands in the center of pleasant Woking and well cultivated land and yet within the high and gloomy walls of the old womens airing court Bones are allowed to accumulate in a shed which at times create an offensive smell.

In the young womens airing court a large tub is kept for the reception of waste for pigs. there is also a space devoted for the reception of rubish not cleared away every day as it ought to be with such extensive accomodation outside the walls.

I suppose sanitary reform has not reached Dorking Workhouse up to the present time.

My manner may be rather blunt. But as a thorough English woman I am none the worse for that.

I am Sir your most humble servant

Hannah Pearson.

Union Workhouse

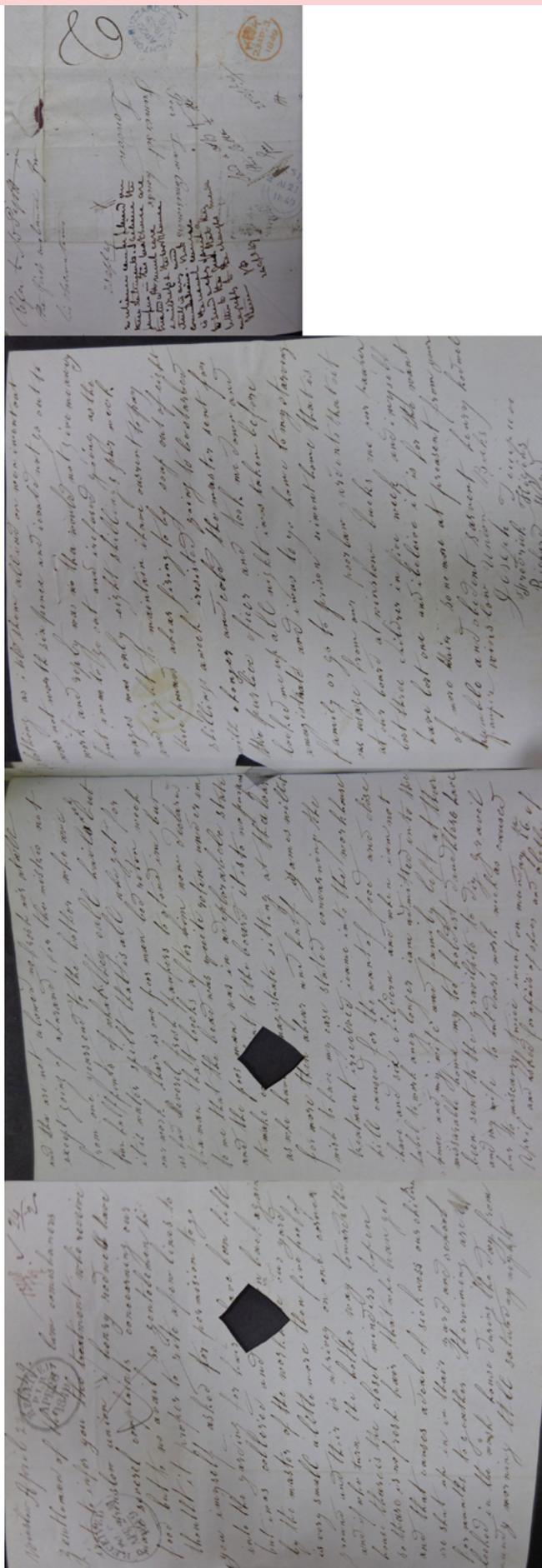
Dorking Surrey

Saturday morn

July 24th/86

Document Ten

Catalogue Ref: MH12/12248



Document Ten - Transcript

Date of letter: 22 April 1849

CIRCUMTEXT:

12248/49 24/2

Refer to W Pigott in the first instance for his observations

23 apl 49

No reliance can be placed on these statements. I believe the paupers in this workhouse are treated with much care & mildness & the workhouse itself is airy and commodious. But is the usual course to send a copy of such a letter to the Gns. that they may reply to the charges made therein

JD 24 apl 49

Send a copy of this letter to the Gns

20 apl 49

[HN]

TEXT:

Winslow April 22 nd 1849

Gentlemen of the poor law comishaners

irote to infor you the treatment whe receive in winslow union i henry rodwell have made severel complaints concernng our food but to no avail so gentlemen hi thought it proper to rite a few lines to you imyself asked for permision to go into the garding for hais have been hill but was collered and <...> ..n back again by the master of the workhouse our yard is very small a little mor then five [foot] of ground and their is aprivy on one corner and if whe turn the hother way towards the house thare is the closet winders hopen so thare is no fresh hair that whe that get and that causes a deal of sickness our children are shut up in thair yard and school for months togeather the wiming are [...] locked in the wash house during the day from mundy morning till saturday night and tha are not alowed no fresh air at all except going of aharand for the mistres not from one years end to the hother whe ave four half pints of what they call [haril] a week but it is water spilt that is all whe get for our work thair is one poor man bed riten wich as severel fresh paupers to atend im but tha man that loocks after him now declares to me that the bead was quite roten under im and the poor man was in a deplorablolle state to make c<omplain>t to the borard it is to no purpous as whe have <...> magistrate sitting at tha board for more then ahear and half James [wilde] wish to have my case stated concernng the treatment ireceived i came into the workhouse hill caused for

Document Ten - Transcript (continued)

the want of food and close i have and six childern and when I am not habel to work aney longer I am admitted into the house and my wife and family left at thaer missarable home my too holdest daughters have been sent to the gravil pits to dig gravil and my wife to out doars work wich as caused her to miscarry twice iwent on munday 16 th of April and asked for a pair of shoes and a little clothing as i told them all i ad on wen i went out was not worth six pence and i could not go out to work and reply was no tha would not give me aney but ive to go out and irefused going as the wages was only eight shillings per week and eight to maintain i have our rent to pay three pound ahear firing to by soap out of eight shillings a week iresisted going to Constabel with honger and cold the master sent for the purlice oficer and took me down and locked me up all night i was taken before a magistrate and i was to go home to my starving family or go to prison so i went home that is our usage from our poor law gardents that sit at our board at winslow bucks one poor pauper lost three children in five week and i myself have lost one and ibelieve it is for the want of more hair so no more at preasent from your humble and obedient sarvent henry rodwel pauper winslow Union Bucks

Joseph Timpson

Frederick Higinis

Richard Ward

Poor Law Comisioners Sumerset house London