

Water supply...from pump wells some of which are badly placed in that they are liable to contamination. That good water might without much difficulty be obtained...seems likely from the fact that a farmer whose shallow well was found by the Medical Officer of Health (MOH) to be polluted, appears to have a plentiful supply of water..obtained from the sandstone formation beneath a bed of clay 80 feet in thickness.

General sanitary conditions in many instances leaves much to be desired. In some cases the eave-spouting and yard paving were found to be very defective: other cottages were unprovided with any proper receptacle for ashes and house refuse, which are accordingly heaped up in the gardens. For excrement disposal, privies with fixed receptacles, some of which are connected with middens, are provided. Certain privies were found discharging into pigsties. One pigsty, in which a pig was kept, and into which a privy discharged, was found adjoining the corner of a dwelling. Another pigsty, into which a privy was discharging, drained into a small catchpit, which was overflowing onto the garden path. Some middens were uncovered, deep and wet. One large midden, with 2 privies connected with it, though covered, was within about 3 yards of a house door and was quite full. In another instance a wooden privy seat had been placed in the little "barn" behind a cottage, the excrement from this privy finding its way into a small hole in the garden behind.

The inspector commented that York Sanitary Authority had not adopted the Infectious Disease (Prevention) Act 1890, nor any clauses of the Public Health Acts Amendment Act 1890. He recommended the Sanitary Authority *earnestly set about the removal of so many unwholesome conditions.* (York Rural Sanitary District 1893)

City of York Sanitary Committee minutes also drew attention to dangers posed by cholera. It met with the Rural Sanitary Committee (RSC) regarding inspection of vessels passing through Naburn Lock from Hull. and agreed to retain a medical man at an allowance of £3 3s a week, plus board and lodging at the Lock House at a further cost of 28s a week. The RSC had bought and fitted a barge as a floating hospital (at a cost of £78), to be moored above Naburn Weir for reception of cholera cases.

Condition of some of the dwellings appears on the 1894 Valuation of Cottage Holdings. Clearly a number of the Palmes cottages were in a poor condition. The cottage tenanted by William Bell is damp. Other cottages occupied by Bells are in a very delapidated condition. A cottage rented by Thomas Atkinson (for one of his labourers) is *very badin a very unclean condition.* In some cases the roofs were so defective that washing tubs were set on the beds and in different parts of the room to catch the rain water (Palmes DDPA2/2)