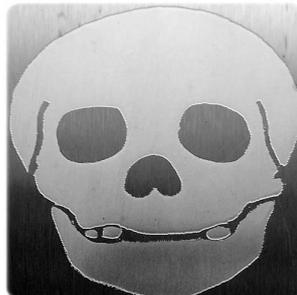


Sources for the Study of Cholera in Sheffield



CHOLERA REG.
BOARD OF HEALTH
MANY Persons who have been
CHOLERA BURIAL GROUNDS
had their interment at all entered
THE, and many Registers of that
place there, having been furnished
manner, whereby much inconvenience
arise to their respective families
BOARD OF HEALTH carries

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v. 1.7 (November 2015)

Front cover illustrations - left to right:

Cholera monument

(Sheffield Local Studies Library: Picture Sheffield w00780)

Detail from gates to cholera burial ground, Norfolk Road

(Sheffield Local Studies Library: Picture Sheffield a00449)

Extract from *Sheffield Independent*, 1 Sep 1832

(Sheffield Local Studies Library)

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You can download a copy of this *Study Guide* from www.sheffield.gov.uk/archives

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Introduction

This booklet lists sources available within Sheffield Libraries Archives and Information for the study of cholera in Sheffield, focussing on the epidemic of 1832 (there were later outbreaks in 1849, 1854 and 1866).

It is not a detailed history of cholera epidemics it merely points the reader who wishes to carry out their own research to what is available within Sheffield Libraries and Archives.

Cholera reached the UK in 1832 having travelled from Russia and across Europe. Known as 'King Cholera' it claimed over 50,000 lives, 402 of them in Sheffield.

The authorities struggled to cope with the outbreak. Though they had some warning that a cholera outbreak was likely some chose to deny this, probably on economic grounds. They did not want any interruption to trade. Also, at this time, there was no tradition, or widely accepted view, that local authorities, such as they were, should interfere in matters of health or hygiene, or tax the local population to raise money in order to introduce services to deal with the epidemic. There was no national health service, nor was there a borough council. What there were were a number of smaller, more parochial, vestries and parishes, along with the Town Trustees. As the seriousness of the situation was felt a local Board of Health was established to try and coordinate a response.

There was a system of carrying away those infected to the workhouse on Kelham Street, the upper floor of which was given over to a 'recovery house'. Those that succumbed were at first buried in parish churchyards, but following complaints about bodies being carried through the streets on carts and having to live next to churchyards, it was decided to provide a hearse and a isolated burial ground at Clay Woods (near what is now Norfolk Park).

There is a good range of sources to study the epidemic in 1832, as well as those in 1849 and 1866. As well as telling the story in Sheffield, the sources provide a good case study of the relationship between the local authorities and the Central Board of Health in London and the 'laissez faire' attitude of the day.

Adding to our Collections

Sheffield Libraries and Archives seeks to preserve information about events in our city's history. If you have photographs or personal papers that may be worth preserving please consider safeguarding them for current and future generations by placing them in the care of Sheffield Libraries and Archives. It is only through the generosity of individuals and organisations that we are able to have a complete record of important events in the history of Sheffield and the nation. We are interested in photographs, flyers and posters, minutes of meetings etc. For advice on record keeping and the facilities we offer please contact us archives@sheffield.gov.uk, tel. 0114 203 9395.

Timeline showing key dates

1 Jul 1831	<i>Sheffield Courant</i> "The alarm is entirely groundless"
28 Oct 1831	<i>Sheffield Courant</i> published a notice from the Privy Council recommending the establishment of local Boards of Health
29 Oct 1831	Medical profession form a District Committee, which met daily, to advise on anti-cholera measures [reported in the <i>Independent</i>]
7 Nov 1831	Town Trustees call a meeting "to determine the means to be adopted for preventing cholera ... should that disease unfortunately appear in Sheffield".
Nov - Dec 1831	The Town Trustees contribute £200 to the Cholera Fund
16 Dec 1831	<i>The Courant</i> states that "The Overseers of the Poor of Sheffield respectfully call upon the inhabitants to cleanse their houses, yards, premises, etc."
19 May 1832	A 'house of recovery' (the upper floors of the workhouse at Kelham Street) is advertised in the local press
14 Jul 1832	The Privy Council in London formally constituted the Sheffield Board of Health
14 Jul 1832	The first official bulletin detailing the number of cases and deaths was issued by the Sheffield Board of Health
16 Jun 1832	<i>Sheffield Mercury</i> reports on its first case of cholera
24 Jul 1832	<i>Sheffield Iris</i> - arrangements for burial published
25 Jul 1832	Thomas Asline Ward chairs the first meeting of the Sheffield Board of Health (James Montgomery took the chair soon after)
10 Aug 1832	The Privy Council formally constituted the Attercliffe-cum-Darnall Board of Health
13 Oct 1832	Sheffield Vestry receives a report on how the epidemic was handled
Nov 1833	Outbreak officially declared over
7 Oct 1834	Town Trustees contributed £20 towards the cost of a cholera monument
11 Dec 1834	Cholera monument cornerstone laid
1849	33,000 die of cholera across the country; less than 100 die in Sheffield
1853 - 1854	Cases recorded in Sheffield
1865 - 1866	1,053 die in London of cholera; a small number die in Sheffield

Poor Sanitation, Cholera's Breeding Ground

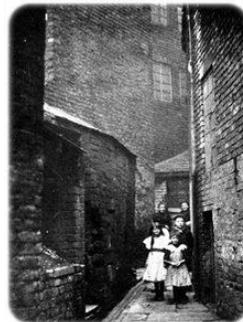
Cholera thrives in insanitary conditions where there is poor hygiene, poor access to clean water and accumulations of waste. The disease spreads by drinking contaminated water or eating infected food. With poor sanitation and little access to clean running water for drinking, cleaning or carrying away human waste, cholera is easily spread.

In Sheffield, parts of the city suffered from cholera more than others. These tended to be in the industrial parts of the city where living conditions were poor and cramped. The first case was believed to have taken place in Button Lane. It later spread to Park, Sheffield Moor, Arundel Street, the Nursery, Pond Street, Pond Hill, Spring Street, Water Lane, Furnival Street, Cotton Mill Row. It later spread to the Wicker and Bridgehouses.

A good source of information on the poor living conditions is the *Report on the Sanatory [sic] Condition of the Borough of Sheffield* in 1847. Below are some extracts along with images of poor living conditions taken from the Local Studies image library (www.picturesheffield.com):



Button Lane, Sheffield
(Picture Sheffield s06936)



Typical courtyard and street
(Picture Sheffield S05914 and
below s17429)



Typical courtyard (Picture
Sheffield S20397)

Accumulation of
night soil and
other filth from 15
or 20 houses ...
converts the
whole
neighbourhood
into a putrid
magma of the
worst description

Report on the Sanatory [sic]
Condition of the Borough of
Sheffield, James Haywood
and William Lee, 1847
(*Sheffield Archives: SY235*)

Putrid
drainage ..
accumulates
in cellars,
and soaks
through the
walls of
rooms ...
occupied by
families

Report on the
Sanatory [sic]
Condition of the
Borough of
Sheffield, James
Haywood and
William Lee, 1847
(*Sheffield City
Archives: SY235*)

How did the Authorities Respond?

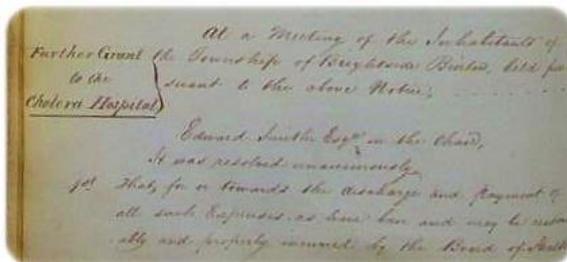
In 1832 there was no city council and no national health service, rather there was a patchwork of small authorities which had been established for many decades if not hundreds of years. They were not ideally suited to deal with problems caused by the large growth of industrial cities and all their problems of population, immigration, overcrowding, poor housing and lack of sanitation. There was also a general feeling at the time that the state or local authorities should not interfere with individuals' lives or place a burden on them by raising taxes to pay for local services.



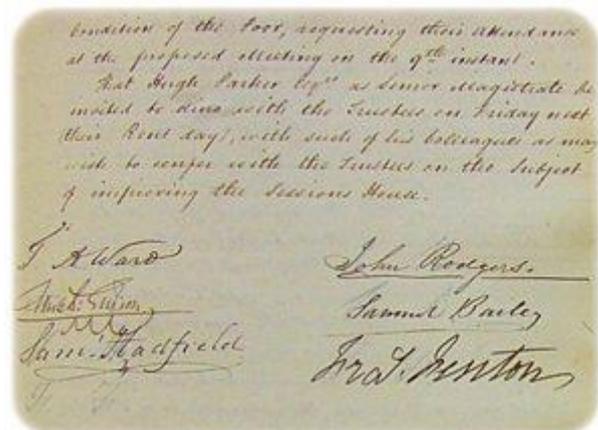
Thomas Asline Ward,
first chair of Sheffield
Board of Health
(Picture Sheffield
s08263)

However, the epidemic led the government to allow local Boards of Health to be established in areas where there was a risk of cholera taking hold. In Sheffield it was the Town Trustees and the parish vestries at Ecclesall, Attercliffe, Brightside and elsewhere that worked to try and stop the epidemic. Local Boards of Health were established at Sheffield and at Attercliffe.

Details of how the vestries and the Board of Health dealt with the crisis are detailed in the minutes of their meetings and in the reports of their actions reported in the local newspapers. Details of their expenditure (i.e. on medicines, brandy, coffins, flannel dresses, etc.) are recorded as is information on the establishment of the House of Recovery (at the Kelham Street workhouse), etc.



Above Brightside Bierlow
vestry minutes (Sheffield
Archives: CA16/6) and right
Town Trustee minutes
(Sheffield City Archives: TT2)



Dr George
Calvert Holland
(Picture
Sheffield
s08691)

House of Recovery

Early on it was decided to isolate patients at the workhouse on Kelham Street. An upper floor was used as a ward for sufferers. A description of the workhouse at this time is available in White's Trade Directory of Sheffield, 1833.

Victims

The epidemic claimed over 400 lives. Using evidence from the special cholera burial register reveals evidence of their names and ages. This is an extract from the register. The ages of the 8 victims on this page range from 6 to 65.

[Page 7]

BURIALS in the Parish of *Sheffield*
in the County of *York* in the Year 1832

Name	Abode	When buried	Age	By whom the Ceremony was performed
<i>Mary Broadford</i>	<i>West Street Park</i>	<i>Aug 7th</i>	<i>60</i>	<i>W. Gibbons</i>
<i>Sarah White</i>	<i>West Street Park</i>	<i>Aug 7th</i>	<i>50</i>	
<i>Edwin Simpson</i>	<i>West Street Park</i>	<i>Aug 8th</i>	<i>50</i>	
<i>Mary Deakin</i>	<i>Stoke</i>	<i>Aug 9th</i>	<i>44</i>	
<i>William Hayes</i>	<i>West Street Park</i>	<i>Aug 9th</i>	<i>8</i>	
<i>John Jones</i>	<i>Sheffield</i>	<i>Aug 9th</i>	<i>27</i>	
<i>Joseph Wilson</i>	<i>Mill Lane</i>	<i>Aug 10th</i>	<i>49</i>	
<i>John Lane</i>	<i>Sheffield</i>	<i>Aug 11th</i>	<i>65</i>	

Bodies were carried away on carts at first and initially they went to local churchyards, however there was opposition to both the carts and the use of churchyards from local residents. A hearse was provided and also a special burial ground. The land was provided by the Duke of Norfolk at Claywood (now Norfolk Park). A special cholera burial ground was used to bury all of the victims in one place away from where people lived. Burials took place quickly and often at night - there was some concern that in the panic there was a risk people may be buried alive (see the *Sheffield Iris* 11 Aug 1832)

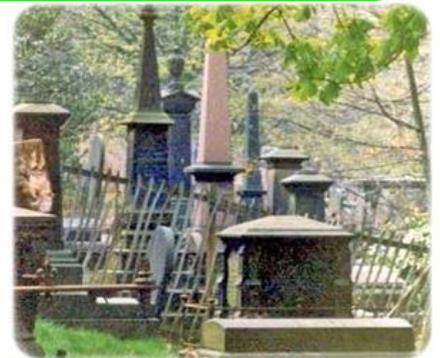


Cholera burial register (Sheffield City Archives: PR138/258)

Bodies were carried away on carts (Picture Sheffield s12514)



John Blake, Master Cutler was one of the victims. This is his memorial in the cholera burial ground in Norfolk Park (Picture Sheffield a00439)



Initially burials took place in local churchyards (Picture Sheffield t00634)

Newspaper Accounts

Contemporary newspapers can be a rich source of information. Where original records may not have survived, reports of events in the press often fill the gap.

For 1832 there are the *Sheffield Courant*, the *Iris* and the *Independent* available at the Local Studies Library.

Here are a few extracts from the *Independent* from Aug - Sep 1832.

THE CHOLERA.—The following is the official report of the progress of the cholera in this town since our last publication:—

	New Cases.	Died.	Recovered.	Remaining
Sept. 1	16	4	21	114
2 & 3	20	2	19	183
4	21	7	13	184
5	13	1	16	190
6	16	1	14	190
7	15	3	10	183
Total from commencement on 8th of July	1167	360		

CURE OF CHOLERA.—Our attention has been called several individuals to different cures for this complaint. We touch on the subject of treatment with great diffidence because we know that any false step may be attended with very mischievous effects. We are glad to find, however, that in nearly all the cases parties are agreed as to certain points. For instance, that it is of the highest importance that immediately on diarrhoea, the usual precursor of Cholera, making its appearance, medical assistance should be called in, and again that saline injections should be administered. Calomel, rhubarb, castor oil, &c. are also recommended in particular stages of the complaint, but prudence requires that persons should be guided in this by the faculty. Three drops of croton oil, on a piece of loaf sugar, has been mentioned as remarkably efficacious in one or two instances, but this should be resorted to with great caution and by a medical practitioner only, as it is a very violent medicine, and may do much more harm than good if not properly given, and in very small doses. — *Ibid.*

CHOLERA REGISTERING.
BOARD OF HEALTH, August 27, 1832.

MANY Persons who have been buried at the CHOLERA BURIAL GROUND in the Park, not having had their interment at all entered in the PARISH REGISTER, and many Registers of interments that have taken place there, having been furnished in a most irregular manner, whereby much inconvenience and injury may arise to their respective families and Connexions, the BOARD OF HEALTH earnestly request all persons who have buried Friends at the Cholera Burial Ground aforesaid, to attend at the PARISH CHURCH VESTRY, on any Day, at Four o'Clock, (Sunday's excepted) to see that such interments are not only inserted in the Parish Register, but inserted regularly and properly.

By Order,
JAMES MONTGOMERY, Chairman.

N.B.—The Register will be examined, and the necessary Entries made, free of Expense.


MORISON'S
UNIVERSAL MEDICINES,
A CERTAIN PREVENTION AND CURE OF THE CHOLERA MORBUS.

Sir,—Having been perfectly cured of a most violent attack of Cholera Morbus, by Mr. Morison's invaluable Medicine, I deem it a duty I owe to you and the Public, to lay my case before you, for the benefit of those who may be attacked with that direful disease. On Wednesday, the 22d of August, I was suddenly attacked with cramps in my legs, accompanied by cold trembling all over me, so that every nerve was affected, followed by most violent pains in my bowels, stomach, and head, my hands became of a blueish colour, and my finger nails black. My wife was much

Contemporary Voices

... most violent pains in my stomach ..., my hands became a blueish colour, and my finger nails black

A survivor tells his story
Sheffield Independent 1 Sep 1832

The cholera is likely to come to Sheffield. It attacks chiefly the dirty, the idle, the drunken, and the disorderly.

Sheffield Mercury, 16 Jun 1832

One of my earliest recollections is standing in Howard Street on a summer's night, and seeing the funerals of cholera victims ... and I recollect few things that seemed more appalling than this, and the sight of the "Cholera Basket", as the conveyance used to transport patients to the hospital was called.

Reminiscences of Old Sheffield, R E Leader, 1876
(*Sheffield Local Studies*: 942.74 SST; Also available at Sheffield City Archives: LEA/LOCAL)

The deceased cholera patients were buried, or rather thrown, together daily into large graves, in St George's churchyard ...

Board of Health member,
Iris, 4 Sep 1832

The dead were carried to their graves, four or five together upon a cart, without sides or covering, but after several complaints ... a large hearse [was provided]

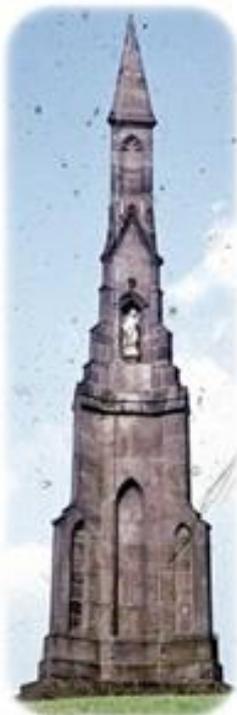
Board of Health member,
Iris, 4 Sep 1832

Sometimes they were hurried to their graves before their friends were fully satisfied that life was really extinct

Letter to *Iris*, 11 Aug 1832

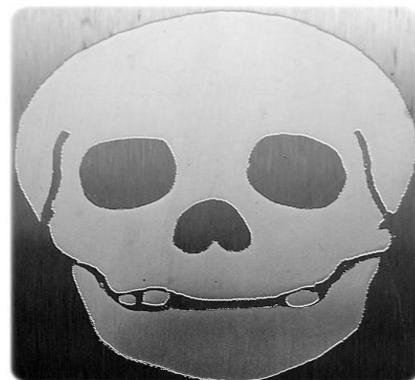
Remembering the Epidemic

The epidemic of 1832 was not the only outbreak of cholera. Further epidemics followed in 1848-1849, 1854 and 1866. However, immediately after the 1832 epidemic was over there was great relief. A day of thanksgiving was held in local churches as Sheffielders gave thanks that the epidemic had now passed. An appeal was launched to raise funds to erect a public monument at the burial ground (now Norfolk Park).



Above and left - the cholera monument in Norfolk Park (Picture Sheffield w00780)

Detail from entrance gates to cholera burial ground, Norfolk Road (Picture Sheffield a00449)



List of documents, books, photographs and other items available at Sheffield Libraries, Archives and Information

Histories of the Epidemic

The Medical Detective: John Snow and the Mystery of Cholera, Sandra Hempel, 2006

(Sheffield Central Lending Library: 614.514)

The Ghost Map: the Story of London's Most Terrifying Epidemic - and how it Changed science, cities and the modern world, Steven Johnson, 2006

(Sheffield Central Lending Library and Ecclesall Library: 614.514)

Cholera, Fever and English Medicine, 1825-1865, Margaret Pelling, 1978

(Sheffield Central Library store 614.09[42])

Cholera, 1832: the Social Response to an Epidemic, R J Morris, 1976

(Sheffield Central Library store 614.514)

Letter from John Stokes to R E Leader, with a copy of his 'History of the Cholera Epidemic in Sheffield', 1912

(Sheffield City Archives: MD1222)

The History of the Cholera Epidemic of 1832 in Sheffield, J Stokes, 1921

(Sheffield Local Studies: 942.74 S; Copy available at Sheffield City Archives STO/HEALTH; Reprint available to purchase from bookshops, (published by Bibliolife 2009))

Sheffield Past and Present, Alfred Gatty, 1873

(Sheffield Local Studies: 942.74 S; also available at Sheffield City Archives: GAT/LOCAL)

Reminiscences of Old Sheffield, edited by R E Leader, 1876

(Sheffield Local Studies: 942.74 S; also available at Sheffield City Archives: LEA/LOCAL)

The Records of the Burgery of Sheffield: Commonly called the Town Trust, J D Leader, 1897

(Sheffield Local Studies: 942.74 S; also available at Sheffield City Archives: TT/PRINT SOURCE; Reprint available to purchase from bookshops, (published by Bibliolife 2009))

The Life of John Holland of Sheffield Park, William Hudson, 1874

(Sheffield Local Studies: B. H719 SST; also available at Sheffield City Archives: HOL/BIOG)

Memoirs of James Montgomery, Vol. V, John Holland and James Everett, 1856

(Sheffield Local Studies: B. M766 SST; also available at Sheffield City Archives: MON/BIOG)

'The Cholera Epidemic of 1832' in *Edgar Allen Works and Sports Magazine*, Oct 1930 (page 2)
(*Sheffield Local Studies Library: 052.74 S*)

Article by Fred Bland on the epidemic of 1832, c. 1920
(*Sheffield City Archives: BC/20/33*)

Historical illustrated article, in *Dormer Outlook*, 1978 (pages 18-19)
(*Sheffield Local Studies Library: 052.74 S*)

Sheffield's Time Trail: True Tales from the Norfolk Heritage Trail, Peter Machan, 2004
(*Sheffield Local Studies Library: 942.74 S; also available in a number of community libraries 942.821*)

The First Spasmodic Cholera Epidemic in York, 1832, M Durey, 1974
(*Sheffield Central Library store 906*)

Newspaper Reports, etc.

Relevant articles and features may appear in local newspapers. The main titles available at Sheffield Local Studies Library for 1832 include: *Iris* or *Sheffield Advertiser for the Northern Counties*, 1794 - 1856; *Sheffield Mercury*, 1807 - 1848 and the *Sheffield Independent* 1819 - 1938.

Account of the cholera epidemic, 1832
(*Sheffield Local Studies Library: newspaper cuttings relating to Sheffield, Vol. 16, pp. 94-102: 942.74 S (microfilm)*)

Archives of some national newspapers are available on the internet, notably *The Times* (<http://www.thetimes.co.uk/tto/archive/>) and *The Guardian* (<http://archive.guardian.co.uk>)

The British Library British Newspapers website includes over nine million pages from over 300 national and local newspapers (including the *Sheffield and Rotherham Independent 1819 - 1909*, *Sheffield Daily Telegraph 1855 - 1950* and *Sheffield Evening Telegraph 1887 - 1920*) (<http://www.britishnewspaperarchive.co.uk/>)

The Sheffield Register includes references to incidents of cholera from 1831 - 1871
(*Sheffield Local Studies Library: 942.74 S; also available on CD-ROM at Sheffield City Archives*)

Documents etc

Cholera Morbus: the following regulations have been drawn up by the London Board of Health, for the purpose of restraining the progress of the disorder as much as possible, printed by Ridge, Sheffield, 1831
(*Sheffield Local Studies Library: MP 516 M*)

Sheffield Town Trust minutes, 1831 - 1833
(*Sheffield City Archives: TT/2*)

Ecclesall Vestry minutes, 1831 - 1833
(*Sheffield City Archives: CA18/4*)

Brightside Bierlow Vestry minutes, 1832 - 1833
(*Sheffield City Archives: CA16/6*)

Attercliffe Vestry minutes, 1832 - 1833
(*Sheffield City Archives: CA15/3*)

Medical Board - Sheffield Provisional Committee - address to the inhabitants of Sheffield and the neighbourhood on the cholera morbus, 1831
(*Sheffield Local Studies Library: Local Pamphlets, Vol. 67 No. 5: 042 S*)

A Report on the Sanatory [sic] Condition of the Borough of Sheffield, James Haywood and William Lee, 1847 (1st edition)
(*Sheffield City Archives: SY235/Z2/1*)

A Report on the Sanatory [sic] Condition of the Borough of Sheffield, James Haywood and William Lee, 1848 (2nd edition)
(*Sheffield Local Studies Library: 628.4 S*)

'[Sheffield] Board of Health's deputation to the magistrates to represent that misconduct in public houses and beer shops should be prevented as being conducive to the aggravation of cholera', newspaper report [1832]
(*Sheffield City Archives: JC/1364 page 6*)

'A sermon preached in Ecclesfield Church, on the day agreed upon by the parishioners, to return thanks to Almighty God, that their whole parish had been spared the infliction of the cholera', T R Ryder, 1832
(*Sheffield Local Studies Library: Local Sermons, Vol. 3, No. 1: J 252 S*)

'The grounds of national humiliation: a sermon preached in the Parish Church of Chesterfield, on 21 Mar 1832, being the day appointed for a general fast', Thomas Hill, 1832
(*Sheffield Local Studies Library: Local Pamphlets, Vol. 22 No. 12: 042 S*)

Poem 'On the Present Awful Pestilence' in *The Sabbath Gleaner*, Mary Hutton, [? c. 1832] part of a sermon in St Paul's, Sheffield by Rev J Knight
(*Sheffield Local Studies: Local Pamphlets, Vol. 50 No. 3 and Vol. 148 No. 5: 042 S*)

James Montgomery wrote to John Holland on 25 Aug 1832 in which he referred to the "city of plague". Whilst a lot of Montgomery's correspondence is in Sheffield City Archives this particular letter is not currently (2009) showing in the catalogue. Subsequent, more detailed cataloguing may bring it to light.

Original Hymns for Private and Social Devotion, James Montgomery, 1853 (pages 309-312) hymn No. 289 for a day of humiliation during the prevalence of the cholera; 'Let the land mourn through all its coasts'; No. 290 During the Cholera - confession and Supplication; No. 291 Thanksgiving for deliverance from the cholera, and No. 292 Thanksgiving for the removal of the Cholera from Sheffield
(*Sheffield Local Studies Library: 245 SST*)

Poem, 'On the Approach of the Cholera Morbus', in 'Poems or, Amusements in Rhyme written at Various Periods, between 1815 - 1845', Printed by Thomas Rodgers, Sheffield, 1845
(*Sheffield Local Studies Library: J821 R616 S*)

Recipe / remedy book, including reference to cholera morbus, c. 1825
(*Sheffield City Archives: RC/33*)

Cholera Hospitals

Brightside Bierlow cholera hospital minutes, 1832
(*Sheffield City Archives: CA16/6*)

Ecclesall cholera hospital minutes, 1832
(*Sheffield City Archives: CA18/4*)

Description of the Sheffield Workhouse in 1833 in White's Sheffield Directory (p. 112)
(*Sheffield Local Studies; copy also available in Sheffield City Archives*)

Sheffield Workhouse is shown on Taylor's map of Sheffield, 1832
(*Sheffield Local Studies Library: S 14 L; also available at Sheffield City Archives: FC She 22 L*)

On the employment of galvanism, in cases of malignant cholera; with remarks on some other modes of treatment used at the Sheffield Cholera Hospital, [1833]
(*Sheffield Local Studies: Local Pamphlets, Vol. 50 No. 3: 042 S*)

Deaths and Burials

Cholera burial ground register, 3 Aug - 11 Oct 1832
(*Sheffield City Archives: PR138/4/21 - use microfilm at A154*)

Claywood cholera burial ground, transcript of burials
(*Sheffield City Archives: MD6781*)

Typescript transcript of cholera burial register, Aug - Oct 1832
(*Sheffield City Archives: TI 20/31, ROM/13*)

Faculty for the cholera burial ground, 1832
(*Sheffield City Archives: PR10/58/9*)

St George parish burial register, 1832
(*Sheffield City Archives: PR 62/3/2 - use microfiche PR62/48m*)

St Philip parish burial register, 1832
(*Sheffield City Archives: PR10/3/1 - use microfiche PR10/37m*)

It is possible that a record has been made of a grave or headstone that refers to a victim of the epidemic. The burials of the first victims took place in parish churchyards. Transcripts from graves and headstones (known as monumental inscriptions) are available at Sheffield City Archives (ref. MI)

Letters and Diaries

Within the archives of the Sheffield Literary and Philosophical Society numerous letters refer to cholera:

13 Jul 1832, John Holland to James Montgomery (*Sheffield City Archives: SLPS/4/10*)

Aug 1832, Letters to James Montgomery (*Sheffield City Archives: SLPS/36/953-954*)

2 Aug 1832, Daniel Shaw to John Holland (*Sheffield City Archives: SLPS/1/113*)

24 Aug 1832, Thomas Asline Ward to Rev Joseph Hunter (*Sheffield City Archives: SLPS/52/48*)

25 Aug 1832, James Montgomery to John Holland (*Sheffield City Archives: SLPS/1/114*)

10 Sep 1832, Anne Shaw to John Holland (*Sheffield City Archives: SLPS/1/116*)

Letters, mainly from Michael Ellison (1787-1861) to his parents and sister Winifred at Glossop Hall, one of which refers to the cholera epidemic and burial ground, Aug 1832

(*Sheffield City Archives: ACM/X/13*)

Thomas Asline Ward, President of the Cholera Committee, diary, 1832
(*Sheffield City Archives: SLPS/154*)

Extract from the diary of Rev Andrew Lynn, minister of Scotland Street Chapel, emphasising the religious influence of the plague on the people of Sheffield in 'Methodist Records', Andrew Lynn, 1858 (page 262)
(*Sheffield Local Studies: B.L99 SST*)

Cholera Monument

'The Cholera Mount - lines on the burying place for patients who have died of cholera morbus, a pleasant eminence in Sheffield Park - written during the prevalence of the disease', James Montgomery, 1832
(*Sheffield Local Studies Library: MP 3024 M; Full text available to read on www.google.co.uk/books (in The Poetical Works of James Montgomery, 1861 (page*

170), also available in *The Poems of John Montgomery*, (George Wiley, 2000, 821MONT S)

Circular asking for contributions from the public for a monument on the Cholera Burial Ground (includes a poem, 'The Cholera Mount' by James Montgomery), 1834 (Sheffield City Archives: SY619/Z8/1)

Cholera Monument on the burial ground in Sheffield Park, printed by Whitaker, Sheffield, 1835 (includes extracts from minutes of the Sheffield Board of Health; a copy of the record deposited in the corner stone; notice to the ratepayers concerning the erection of the monument; and a poem written by James Montgomery, 1832) (Sheffield Local Studies Library: MP 1022 M)

Letter from M E Hadfield to the Cholera Monument Committee concerning the completion of the Cholera Monument, 13 May 1835 (Sheffield City Archives, ACM/S478/13/116)

Poem on the monument, when partly demolished by a hurricane on 7 Jan 1839 (Sheffield Local Studies Library: newspaper cuttings relating to Sheffield, Vol. 13, p.37: 942.74 SQ microfilm))

Ordnance Survey map, 1889 (scale 1:500) showing cholera monument (Sheffield Local Studies: sheet 294.12.12; also available at Sheffield City Archives)

Plan of the situation of the cholera monument, 1934 (Sheffield Local Studies Library: MP 1873 S)

Repair feasibility report for the Norfolk Park Cholera Monument, Rivelin Masonry Company, 1997 (Sheffield Local Studies Library: MP 5587 M)

Local Studies Library press cuttings collection, 1960s - date (Local Studies Library: microfiche)

Sheffield Council minutes, 1898 - 1899

Letter from Alderman W H Brittain regarding the opening of the Cholera Monument Grounds. (Sheffield City Archives: CA-MIN/34, page 670; also available at Sheffield Local Studies)

Historical details in *The Hub*, 1959, Vol. 8 No. 7, page 18 (Sheffield Local Studies Library: 380 S)

Brief notes and picture, 1944 (Sheffield Local Studies Library: newspaper cuttings relating to Sheffield, Vol. 25, p.89: 942.74 SF (microfilm))

Note and picture on monument and whale-bone arch in the grounds of the cholera monument, 1938

(Sheffield Local Studies Library: newspaper cuttings relating to Sheffield, Vol. 27, p.339: 942.74 SF (microfilm))

Sketch and note, no date

(Sheffield Local Studies Library: newspaper cuttings relating to Sheffield, Vol. 14, p.44: 942.74 SF (microfilm))

Short description in '150 years of architectural drawing by Hadfield, Cawkwell, Davidson and Partners', 1984

(Sheffield Local Studies Library: 927.2 S; also available at Sheffield City Archives: HAD/ARCH)

Sketch of graves, with details in 'Sheffield', Henry Tatton, [1920 - 1936], Vol. 2, page 347

(Sheffield Local Studies Library: 942.74 SQ)

Picture and description, 1930s

(Sheffield Local Studies Library: Sheffield Daily Telegraph, 4 Oct 1930, page 8 and Daily Independent, 17 Aug 1932, page 6)

Cholera after 1832

Sheffield Council minutes, 1843 onwards

There will be numerous references to cholera throughout these minutes, for example:

10 Oct 1849 (page 67) refers to the closing of shops and secular business for a day of humiliation and prayer on account of the pestilence spreading through the land
(Sheffield City Archives: CA-COU/3)

9 Aug 1865 (page 3) and 11 Oct 1865 (page 4) refers to a letter from the Privy Council regarding cholera in Egypt, Turkey and Italy and advises that "authorities should take such measures as they might think proper for the preservation of the health of the inhabitants ..." In response the Health Committee (4 Sep 1865 (page 21) called for the weekly cleaning of privies, ash pits and cess pools; on 30 Oct 1865 (page 17) the Health Committee included a report on a case in Infirmary Road)
(Sheffield City Archives: CA-MIN/1)

Sheffield Council: Health Committee signed minutes, 1849 onwards

The first volume of minutes of the Health Committee (1843 - 1849) has not survived, however the index to it has (in CA-HEA/1/2). This includes reference to correspondence of Mr Ironside to Mr Eadon on treatment of cholera and a report on cholera by the Metropolitan Association.

Later volumes of the Health Committee also refer to cholera, viz;

Ferguson, Mr Wm – explanation of supposed cause and cure of cholera, 1850; request to Dr Henry Eadon to furnish facts and suggestions relative to cholera, 1853 (CA-HEA/1/2, pages 23 and 56)

Letter from the Privy Council regarding cholera and measures to be taken; Inspector's report on a case of cholera, Sep - Oct 1865 (CA-HEA/1/3, pages 494, 505 and 507)

Note regarding precautions to be taken against cholera to be printed and distributed, Aug 1871 (CA-HEA/1/5, page 161)

(Sheffield City Archives: CA-HEA)

Vestry minutes may also contain references. Sheffield City Archives has minutes of a number of vestries covering the post 1832 period, including Attercliffe (CA15), Brightside (CA16), Ecclesall (CA18), Handsworth (CA19), Nether Hallam (CA210) Upper Hallam (CA22), Norton (CA29) and Sheffield (CA24)
(Sheffield City Archives)

Poor Law Union minutes are also worth checking. Sheffield City Archives has minutes of the Wortley Poor Law Union (SY164) and Norton (CA29)
(Sheffield City Archives)

Cholera in the Large Towns of the West and East Ridings, 1848 - 1893, Michael Sigsworth, 1991
(Sheffield Local Studies Library: 614.514 SQ)

Letter to Charles Wentworth Fitzwilliam, mentions "cholera, Sheffield medical men not affected", 1849
(Sheffield City Archives: WWM/G/83/508)

Letter from the Rev Thomas Hill of Chesterfield (Derbyshire) to his parishioners on the sinfulness of attending race meetings, particularly in view of the present risk of contagion, Sep 1849
(Sheffield City Archives: JC/1593)

Precautions against cholera (notes on the preparations made in the Sheffield Union to combat the expected invasion of cholera in 1849 in *Transactions of the National Association for the Promotion of Social Science*, 1865
(Sheffield Local Studies Library: 306 S)

Final figures for the 1849 epidemic were published in the Sheffield Local Register, 24 Oct 1849
(Sheffield Local Studies Library: 942.74 S; also available on CD-ROM at Sheffield City Archives)

'Report on Cholera in Sheffield, 1849' in Report of the General Board of Health on the Epidemic Cholera of 1848-1849 (page 107). *Full text available on to read on www.google.co.uk/books*

Discovery of the Cause and Cure of Cholera, William Ferguson (printed by Samuel Easton, 1851
(Sheffield Local Studies Library: Local Pamphlets, vol. 2: 042 S)

A letter to the chairman of the Board of Guardians of the Sheffield Union, on the prevention of cholera, 1853
(Sheffield Local Studies: Local Pamphlets, Vol. 57 No. 3: 042 S)

Agreement between the overseers of Brightside Bierlow and Sheffield Guardians to allow use of Brightside Workhouse as a refuge from cholera, 1854
(Sheffield City Archives: CA354/2)

The Cholera: two sermons preached in Zion Chapel, Attercliffe, on Sunday, August 12th, 1866, John Calvert
(*Sheffield Local Studies Library Local pamphlets, vol. 64: 042 S*)

Letter from Margaret Gatty to her sister refers to cholera, 1866
(*Sheffield City Archives: HAS/43/138*)

Photographs

Over 65,000 images from the Local Studies Library and City Archives photographic collections are available to search online at www.picturesheffield.com.

Websites

Archives of some national newspapers are available on the internet, notably *The Times* (<http://www.thetimes.co.uk/tto/archive/>) and *The Guardian* (<http://archive.guardian.co.uk>)

Library and Archive Collections Held Elsewhere

The National Archives Discovery catalogue includes catalogues describing archives held locally in England and Wales <http://discovery.nationalarchives.gov.uk/>

The Archives Hub contains catalogues describing archives held in universities and colleges in the UK <http://www.archiveshub.ac.uk/>

The National Archives (TNA) holds records of central government such as the Privy Council which was responsible for constituting local Boards of Health, the Government's Central Board of Health, etc. You can search the TNA catalogue online at www.nationalarchives.gov.uk. See also their online leaflet: *Nineteenth Century Public Health and Epidemics: Sources in The National Archives* <http://www.nationalarchives.gov.uk/catalogue/RdLeaflet.asp?sLeafletID=117>

The Wellcome Library will also hold relevant material, including Cholera Morbus - the best means of avoiding this dreadful disease, printed in Sheffield in 1832 and also papers of Robert Storrs (1801 - 1847), surgeon-apothecary of Doncaster (Yorkshire) which refer to cholera at Sheffield (<http://library.wellcome.ac.uk>)

Sheffield City Archives and Local Studies services collect and preserve original records and printed material relating to Sheffield and the surrounding area.

The information dates from the 12th century to the present and relates to Sheffield, South Yorkshire and north Derbyshire.

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