

Document 16-I

General Register Office: Cholera deaths between 19 August and 9 September 1854 reported by the registrar at Middlesex Hospital

Henry Sibley, an attorney, was hospital registrar at the Middlesex. Ward sisters and medical men at the hospital provided Sibley a name and cause of death for every deceased patient. He, in turn, submitted additional information required by the General Register Office—address, vocation, and age—often adding unsolicited comments about the sanitary condition of home premises.

Extracted below are entries for Middlesex Hospital from an appendix on the nearby cholera outbreak, published in the *Weekly Return* for the week ending 9 September 1849.

[From the introduction:] To assist in the investigation of the epidemic outbreak in the region lying between Regent-street, Golden-square, Oxford-street, and Wardour-street, the Registrar General has thought it right to publish all the deaths from cholera and diarrhoea that have been registered in the *three weeks*, extending from August 19th to September 9th, in the five adjoining sub-districts, of Berwick-street, of Golden-square, of St. James square, of St. Anne, Soho, and of All Souls, Marylebone, where many of the patients died in Middlesex Hospital.¹

MARYLEBONE; *All Souls*.

I. Week ending 26 August 1854

At Middlesex Hospital on 22 August, a bricklayer's labourer, aged 60 years, "malignant cholera." Came from Gray's Buildings, Manchester Square.

At Middlesex Hospital on 23 August, the daughter of a tailor, aged 4 years, "cholera maligna." Came from 1 Pitt Street, Tottenham Street, St. Pancras.

II. Week ending 2 September 1854

At Middlesex Hospital on 2 September, the daughter of a gas fitter, aged 5 years, "cholera maligna." From 16 Upper Rathbone Place. The houses in this street are but little cleaner than formerly. They are mostly let in single rooms to the poorer classes.

¹ GRO, *WR* 15 (9 September 1854): 337, 339–40, 347–49; ten of the cases were previously printed in *WR* 15 (2 September 1854): 309.

At Middlesex Hospital on 2 September, the son of a bricklayer, aged 6 years, "cholera maligna." From 9 Hopkins Street, St. James. Previously a brother of deceased is registered. Their mother died at 9 Holpkins Street at 4 p.m., 2 September. A family living in dirt and poverty.

At Middlesex Hospital Hospital on 2 September, a porter, aged 33 years, "cholera maligna." From 14 Saville Street.

At Middlesex Hospital on 2 September, the wife of a tailor, aged 24 years, "cholera maligna." From 25 Great Titchfield Street, Marylebone. Although th residence is 25 Tichfield Street, I think this case belongs to St. James, as deceased, wo was a artificial flower maker, passed her time from early in the morning to late at night in Marshall Street. She was taken suddenly ill while at work about 11 p.m. on Friday, and immediately conveyed to the hospital.

At Middlesex Hospital on 2 September, the wife of a tailor, aged 49 years, "cholera maligna." From 5 Berwick Street, St. James.

At Middlesex Hospital on 2 September, a tailor, aged 48 years, "cholera maligna." From 5 Berwick Street, St. James. This is the husband of the above.

At Middlesex Hospital on 2 September, a tailor, aged 41 years, "cholera maligna." From 6 Haddon Court, Regent Street.

At Middlesex Hospital on 2 September, a painter, aged 35 years, "cholera maligna." From 16 Broad Street, St. James. In 16 Broad Street there are now 2 adults lying dead from cholera, and 2 more are not expected to live, and many are dying in the immediate neighbourhood. Nearly all the cases of cholera which have come under my notice at Middlesex Hospital come from one locality (in St. James parish). It is much crowded, and many of those who have been attacked with disease are dirty in their persons and houses. Their food is indifferent and clothing bad.

At Middlesex Hospital on 1 September, a waistcoat maker, aged 20 years, "cholera maligna." From 8 Husband Street.

At Middlesex Hospital on 1 September, a carpenter, aged 18 years, "cholera maligna." From 10 Husband Street. Both Irish families, their houses miserable and dirty.

At Middlesex Hospital on 1 September, a tin worker, aged 25 years, "cholera maligna." From Lamb's Conduit Street.

At Middlesex Hospital on 1 September, a piano forte maker, aged 38 years, "cholera maligna." From 21 Great Pulteney Street, St. James.

At Middlesex Hospital on 2 September, a servant, aged 27 years, "cholera maligna." From 4 Silver Street.

At Middlesex Hospital on 2 September, an errand boy, aged 15 years, "cholera maligna." From St. Ann's Court, Soho.

At Middlesex Hospital on 2 September, a tin worker, aged 32 years, "cholera maligna." From 37 Marshall Street, St. James.

At Middlesex Hospital on 1 September, a widow, a flower maker, aged 44 years, "cholera maligna." From 8 St. Ann's Court, Soho. Worked at her business in Marshall Street, St. James.

At Middlesex Hospital on 2 September, a green grocer, aged 17 years, "cholera maligna." From 9 Union Street, Marylebone.

At Middlesex Hospital on 2 September, the son of a locksmith, aged 4 years, "cholera maligna." From 2 Pulteney Street, St. James.

At Middlesex Hospital on 2 September, a tailor, aged 41 years, "cholera maligna." From 2 New Street, St. James.

At Middlesex Hospital on 2 September, a painter, aged 28 years, "cholera maligna." From 6 Windmill Street, St. James.

At Middlesex Hospital on 2 September, the son of a bricklayer, aged 11 yeas, "cholera maligna." From 9 Hopkins Street, St. James.

At Middlesex Hospital on 2 September, a shoemaker, aged 35 years, "cholera maligna." From 25 Little Windmill Street, St. James.

At Middlesex Hospital on 2 September, the son of a coachman, aged 12 years, "cholera maligna." From 1 Pulteney Court, St. James.

At Middlesex Hospital on 24 August, a charwoman, aged 50 years, "cholera maligna." From 12 Silver Street, St. James.,

At Middlesex Hospital on 31 August, a farrier, aged 34 years, "cholera maligna." From 16 Noble Mews. Deceased had been out of work for many weeks, and his family were in very great poverty. "Irish." The house is close to a cow yard.

At Middlesex Hospital on 29 August, a locksmith, aged 67 years, "cholera maligna." From 45 Foley Place.

At Middlesex Hospital on 1 September, a porter, aged 60 years, "cholera maligna." From 12 Silver Street, St. James.

At Middlesex Hospital on 1 September, a baker, aged 39 years, "cholera maligna." From 4 Portland Street.

At Middlesex Hospital on 1 September, the son of a tailor, aged 1 year and 10 months, "cholera maligna." From 7 Pulteney Court.

III. Week ending 9 September 1854

At Middlesex Hospital on 4 September, the wife of a labourer, aged 55 years, "cholera maligna." From 6 Husband Street, St. James.

At Middlesex Hospital on 2 September, the daughter of a labourer, aged 13 years, "cholera maligna." From Cross Street, S. James.

At Middlesex Hospital on 2 September, the wife of a tailor, aged 30 years, "cholera maligna." From 41 Broad Street, St. James.

At Middlesex Hospital on 3 September, a porter, aged 53 years, "cholera maligna." From 22 St. Ann's Court, Soho.

At Middlesex Hospital on 2 September, an engineer, aged 30 years, "cholera maligna." From 22 Little Windmill Street, St. James.

At Middlesex Hospital on 2 September, a carpenter, aged 40 years, "cholera maligna." From 5 Marlborough Row, St. James.

At Middlesex Hospital on 4 September, the daughter of a carpenter, aged 4 years, "cholera maligna." Daughter of the person above. From 5 Marlborough Row, St. James.

At Middlesex Hospital on 2 September, a female servant, aged 19 years, "cholera maligna." From 3 Kemps Court, St. James.

At Middlesex Hospital on 2 September, a widow, aged 40 years, "cholera maligna." From 9 Tyler Street, St. James.

At Middlesex Hospital on 2 September, a labourer, aged 35 years, "cholera maligna." From 18 Meard's Court, Soho.

At Middlesex Hospital on 3 September, a tailor, aged 30 years, "cholera maligna." From 22 Little Windmill Street, St. James.

At Middlesex Hospital on 2 September, a servant, aged 21 years, "cholera maligna." From 5 Berwick Street, St. James.

At Middlesex Hospital on 3 September, a butcher, aged 26 years, "cholera maligna." From 5 Dufour's Place, St. James.

At Middlesex Hospital on 2 September, a painter, aged 27 years, "cholera maligna." From 22 St. Ann's Court, Soho.

At Middlesex Hospital on 4 September, a female servant, aged 18 years, "cholera maligna." From 27 Wardour Street, Soho.

At Middlesex Hospital on 3 September, a governess, aged 24 years, "cholera maligna." From 1 Bentinck Street, St. James.

At Middlesex Hospital on 2 September, a widow, aged 43 years, "cholera maligna."

At Middlesex Hospital on 4 September, a baker, aged 32 years, "cholera maligna." From 11 Hopkins Street, St. James.

At Middlesex Hospital on 3 September, a female servant, aged 16 years, "cholera maligna." From 39 Wardour Street, St. James.

At Middlesex Hospital on 4 September, a charwoman, aged 54 years, "cholera maligna." From 9 Harfield Street.

At Middlesex Hospital on 3 September, the wife of a painter, aged 32 years, "cholera maligna." From 16 Ager Mews, Marylebone.

At Middlesex Hospital on 4 September, the son of a shoemaker, aged 3½ years, "cholera maligna." From 9 Bentinck Street, St. James.

At Middlesex Hospital on 3 September, the daughter of a shoemaker, aged 1½ years, "cholera maligna." From 9 Bentinck Street, St. James.

At Middlesex Hospital on 4 September, a shoemaker, aged 26 years, "cholera maligna." From 8 Little Wardour Street, St. James.

At Middlesex Hospital on 4 September, a boot maker, aged 55 years, "cholera maligna." From 31 Union Street, Marylebone.

At Middlesex Hospital on 3 September, a toy maker, aged 25 years, "cholera maligna." From 12 Broad Street, St. James.

At Middlesex Hospital on 4 September, a French polisher, aged 27 years, "cholera maligna." From 9 Stephen's Street, St. Pancras.

At Middlesex Hospital on 4 September, a labourer, aged 26 years, "cholera maligna." From 1 St. Ann's Court, Soho.

At Middlesex Hospital on 5 September, a servant, aged 19 years, "cholera maligna." From 44 Marshall Street, St. James.

At Middlesex Hospital on 5 September, a tailoress, aged 39 years, "cholera maligna." From 14 New Street, St. James.

At Middlesex Hospital on 6 September, a hairdresser, aged 45 years, "cholera maligna." From 87 Wardour Street.

At Middlesex Hospital on 5 September, a shoemaker, aged 40 years, "cholera maligna." From 21 Peter Street, St. James.

At Middlesex Hospital on 5 September, an ostler, aged 47 years, "cholera maligna." From 37 Tavistock Mews, St. Pancras.

potboy: A boy who collected empty ale pots and glasses at a public house.

At Middlesex Hospital on 5 September, a **potboy**, aged 12 years, “cholera maligna.” From 10 Husband Street, St. James.

At Middlesex Hospital on 5 September, the wife of a baker, aged 37 years, “cholera maligna.” From 3 Little Windmill Street, St. James.

At Middlesex Hospital on 5 September, a tailor, aged 20 years, “cholera maligna.” From Golden Square, St. James.

At Middlesex Hospital on 5 September, a potboy, aged 16 years, “cholera maligna.” from 42 Wardour Street.

At Middlesex Hospital on 6 September, the wife of a smith, aged 26 years, “cholera maligna.” From 2 Pulteney Court, St. James.

At Middlesex Hospital on 6 September, a shoemaker, aged 28 years, “cholera maligna.” From Windmill Street, St. James.

At Middlesex Hospital on 6 September, a tailor, aged 38 years, “cholera maligna.” From 5 George Court, Prince Street, St. James.

At Middlesex Hospital on 6 September, the son of a tailor, aged 2 years, “cholera maligna.” From 3 Marlborough Court, St. James. The father of the deceased (the informant) states that the house required to be examined by the authorities.

At Middlesex Hospital on 7 September, the wife of a tailor, aged 42 years, “cholera maligna.” Mother of child whose death is registered in preceding case. From 3 Marlborough Court, St. James.

At Middlesex Hospital on 6 September, a cabinet maker, aged 45 years, “cholera maligna.” From 3 Philip’s Court, Noel Street, St. James.

At Middlesex Hospital on 7 September, the wife of a **japanner**, aged 30 years, “cholera maligna.” From Edward Street, Wardour Street [St. James].

At Middlesex Hospital on 7 September, the widow of a brush maker, aged 70 years, “cholera maligna.” From 8 Cross Street, St. James.

At Middlesex Hospital on 7 September, a servant, aged 50 years, “cholera maligna.” From Little Pulteney Street, St. James.

At Middlesex Hospital on 8 September, a widow, aged 64 years, “cholera maligna.” From 8 Broad Street, St. James.

At Middlesex Hospital on 8 September, a tailor, aged 42 years, “cholera maligna.” From 5 Pulteney Court, St. James.

At Middlesex Hospital on 9 September, the widow of a porter, aged 53 years, “cholera maligna.” From 29 Upper Charlton Street. Attended and laid out two persons who died of cholera in Great Marlborough Street, St. James, on 4 and 5 September. She had been in a low state of health for some time.

At Middlesex Hospital on 9 September, the widow of a bricklayer, aged 48 years, “cholera maligna.” This is the second death from 9 Tyler Street, where deceased occupied a kitchen.

At Middlesex Hospital on 9 September, the daughter of a labourer, aged 4 years, “cholera maligna.” From 13 Meard’s Court, St. James.

At Middlesex Hospital on 9 September, the daughter of a gilder, aged 3 years, “cholera maligna.” From 45 Upper Rathbone Place.

At Middlesex Hospital on 9 September, a tailor, aged 34 years, “cholera maligna.” From 1 Bentinck Street, St. James.

At Middlesex Hospital on 9 September, the wife of a porter, aged 50 years, “cholera maligna.” From 38 Upper Rathbone Place. This house is miserable and dirty. Deceased had hardly sufficient food to preserve life, her husband being old and too ill to work much.

japanner: “One who follows the trade of varnishing with japan” (*OED*). Japan is “a varnish of exceptional hardness, which originally came from Japan” (*OED*), although the name was then also used for other varnishes that produced a high gloss, black finish.