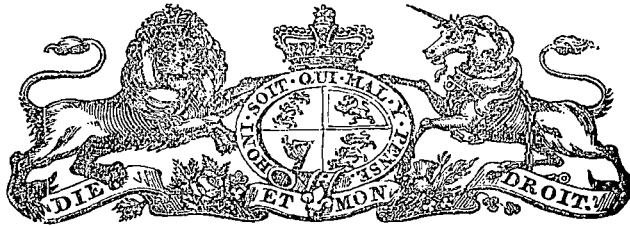


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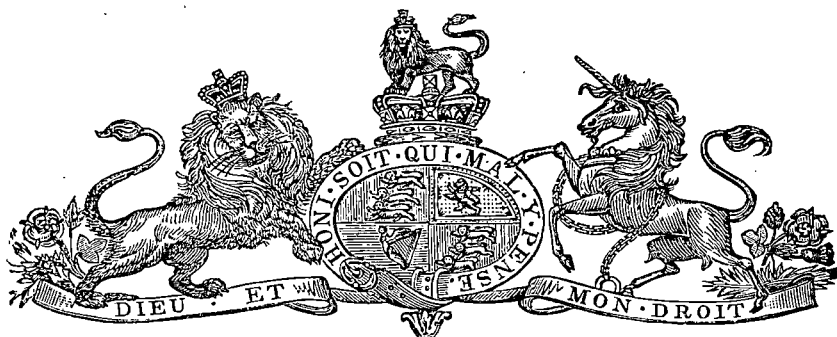
1893

PARLIAMENT OF TASMANIA.

LAUNCESTON BENEVOLENT SOCIETY :

REPORT FOR 1892.

Presented to both Houses of Parliament by His Excellency's Command.



LAUNCESTON BENEVOLENT SOCIETY.

REPORT FOR THE YEAR 1892.

In presenting the Annual Report of the operations of the Society for 1892, the Board would refer to the very severe depression which has been felt by all classes of the community, more especially by those amongst whom their work lies. Although a very heavy strain has been put upon the Society's resources, all claims have been met, with the assistance of a generous public.

During the past year there have been 47 meetings of the Board, with an average attendance of nine members.

The Society sustained a severe loss in the death of their late Secretary, Mr. Hugh Fraser, who, during his long term of office, performed his duties faithfully, and gained the esteem of those with whom he was brought into contact. In May last Mr. Robert Cameron was appointed to fill the vacancy. J. Whiteford, Esq., a member of the General Committee for many years, died in September last.

The number of casual cases relieved during 1892 was larger than in any previous year, viz. 1178, as against 600 in 1891; and of these 180 were men awaiting admission to the Invalid Depôt, several of whom were relieved on more than one occasion, in consequence of the accommodation being unequal to the demands made upon that institution.

The Society were called upon to adopt a new feature of work in relieving a large number of the unemployed, their wives and families.

About 2000 beds have been provided for casuals.

On the 31st December there were on the permanent roll 38 men, 86 women, and 164 children; total, 288. In the month of July the number on the books was 345. At the end of 1891 the total was 216, the increase being due to families with children.

The number of rations issued has averaged 200 per week. The roll comprises amongst others 33 married couples, 42 widows, 9 women deserted by their husbands, and 2 whose husbands are in gaol. There were also 13 confinements, mostly of unmarried women. The deaths amongst recipients have been 3 only during the year. One couple have been on the roll for 19 years, one widow for 18 years, one for 17 years, one for 14 years, and several others for lengthened periods.

The amount expended in fuel was £63 3s. 2d. This was in addition to 10 tons of coal donated by the Cornwall Coal Company, through their Secretary, Mr. Henry Edgell.

The sum of £7 19s. 3d. was expended in purchasing blankets.

The Society is much indebted to the late Mr. Moxon, who devised the sum of £100 to the funds through the Permanent Executors and Trustees Agency, but which was not received in time to be taken into account in the balance-sheet of the year.

The Corporation employés in the waterworks, quarry, streets, and sewerage, &c. departments made a liberal levy on their wages to assist, through the Benevolent Society, those out of employment. Other very pleasing contributions were the "gunners' quoin," contributed by the local Volunteer Artillery Force, through Captain G. E. Harrap, and handsome sums as the results of dramatic entertainments given by the Muffs Club, through their Secretary, Mr. D. J. Thomas, and the Rifle Regiment, through Lieutenant Burrowes.

The total receipts for the year have been £1043 3s. 1d., and the expenditure £1279 5s. 5d., leaving a debit balance on the transactions of the year of £236 2s. 4d., the subscriptions being £470 6s. 5d.

These amounts compare very favourably with those for last year, which were—Receipts, £860 14s.; Expenditure, £1033 8s. 8d., and subscriptions, £357 9s., the subscriptions during 1892 being in excess of 1891 by £112 17s. 5d. The sum of £72 16s. 8d. was received from the Bank of Van Diemen's Land.

Christmas and New Year's extras were furnished to those on the roll, special donations being received for that purpose.

The thanks of the Board are especially due to Mrs. George Baker for her untiring exertions and assistance willingly rendered in all cases of confinement referred to her; to those gentlemen of the medical profession who, by their generosity in giving advice and prescribing gratuitously, have lightened the burdens of many; to Messrs. Quodling and Daniels, of the Invalid Depôt, and to the Police throughout the district, for information and assistance readily given, whereby, in many instances, the Society has been saved from imposition; to the Press, for reporting the weekly meetings; and to the general public, for their liberal support.

The Board also acknowledge with thanks the receipt of parcels of clothing, boots, blankets, flour, oatmeal, &c., vegetables, tobacco, and tea, all of which have been highly appreciated by the recipients.

The Secretary has authority to relieve all needy casual cases, and subscribers are once more earnestly requested not to assist the beggar, who usually chooses the evening to ply his calling, as money so given is, with few exceptions, spent in drink, but refer each applicant to the Secretary, 156, George-street.

No case is ever refused the required help if the Board is satisfied as to its *bonâ fides*, and the strictest enquiry is made into the merits of each individual application.

JOHN STEPHENSON, *Chairman*.



LAUNCESTON BENEVOLENT SOCIETY.

ACCOUNT of Receipts and Expenditure for the Year 1892.

1892.	Dr.	£ s. d.	1892.	Cr.	£ s. d.
Dec. 31.			Jan. 1. By balance from 1891		255 3 0
To Equitable Building Society, redeposit of amounts withdrawn in 1891		250 0 0	Dec. 31.		
Supplies—Meat		351 6 5	By Contributions.....		388 7 1
Bread.....		350 10 2	Proceeds entertainment "The Muffs"		21 16 6
Groceries		195 18 11	Ditto Launceston Rifle Regiment		5 6 5
Fuel		63 3 2	Contributions from Corporation employés		18 1 0
Oatmeal, milk, &c.....		4 15 9	"Gunners' Quoin".....		8 2 0
Blankets.....		7 19 3	Labour Bureau		2 19 6
Advertising, Printing, & Stationery		36 1 6	Discounts on accounts paid		0 13 11
Midwifery cases, &c.		28 8 9	Repayments, Bank of V.D. Land, four, of £18 4s. 2d. each.....		72 16 8
Secretary		123 0 4	W. Hart (Hon.) portion of Parliamentary grant to Members		25 0 0
Lodgings		62 13 2	Government—Balance of conditional and unconditional grant in aid for 1891		250 0 0
Advanced to a recipient.....		5 2 6	Ditto, on account for 1892		250 0 0
Gratuity to Widow late Secretary...		25 0 0	Balance		230 19 4
Petty—£2 2s., and £5 2s.		7 4 0			
Bank Interest		0 5 0			
Commission collecting.....		17 16 6			
		<u>£1529 5 5</u>			<u>£1529 5 5</u>
Balance to Dr. per pass book.....		231 6 10			
Cash in hand		0 7 6			
		<u>£230 19 4</u>			

Audited and found correct.

G. BAKER, Auditor.

9th January, 1893.

JOHN STEPHENSON, Chairman.

LAUNCESTON BENEVOLENT SOCIETY.

STATEMENT of Assets, 1st January, 1893.

	£ s. d.
Equitable Building Society Deposit.....	1932 4 7
To credit at Bank of Van Diemen's Land	218 11 0
	<u>2150 15 7</u>
To debit, National Bank of Tasmania.....	230 19 4
	<u>£1919 16 3</u>

Audited and found correct.

G. BAKER, Auditor.

1st January, 1893.

T. GLADMAN, Hon. Treasurer.
JOHN STEPHENSON, Chairman.