

(No. 9.)



1873.

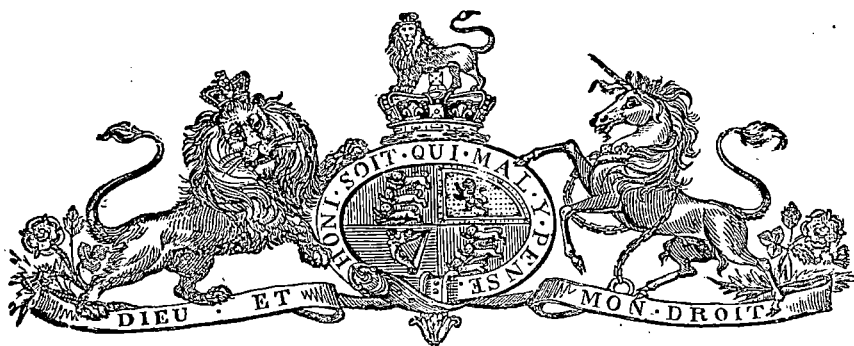
T A S M A N I A.

LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL.

QUEEN'S ASYLUM FOR DESTITUTE
CHILDREN.

REPORT FOR 1872.

Laid upon the Table by Mr. Scott, and ordered by the Council to be printed,
June 17, 1873.



SIR,

Queen's Asylum, New Town, 7th April, 1873.

I HAVE the honor to furnish the Annual Report of this Institution for 1872.

1. The details of expenditure, with other particulars, are set down in the several Returns following.

2. The admissions of children during the year were 53 in number, the apprenticeships 45, and the discharges 18. The average daily state was $351\frac{1}{3}\frac{6}{7}$, and the cost per head £15 Os. 6d.

3. The total estimated outlay for the Establishment was £5352 13s. 4d.; but which, by the reduction of £52 3s. received for maintenance of some of the inmates, £3 3s. for indenture fees, £14 by sale of pigs, £1 12s. 3d. of old rags and cuttings, and £1 0s. 7d. repayment moiety of Police Rate,—together amounting to £71 18s. 10d.,—leaves a net expenditure of £5280 14s. 6d.

4. The cases of sick and injured treated are elaborated under their respective Classes and Orders, and indicate a larger occurrence than usual of febrile attacks, as also an epidemic of Hooping Cough. No deaths, however, have to be recorded, whilst vaccination was successfully performed in 98 instances.

5. The Educational question, both as regards the Secular and Religious knowledge attained by, and the method of imparting same to, the children is sufficiently dealt with in Reports attached.

6. The Needlework done by the girls amounted to £135 15s. 1d., and the Washing to £628 14s. 4d.,—making a sum of £764 9s. 5d. to credit of industrial occupation, in addition to the household and other work carried out alike by boys and girls in their respective divisions, and upon which no money value has been calculated.

7. The services of the boys in milking the cows, on the other hand, whilst preventing the necessity of employing paid labour, may fairly be represented as worth £90, and which should in strictness be placed as a debit to the Farm, inasmuch as the milk and other produce raised there is charged in full against the Institution.

8. The balance shown in favour of the Farm in account current appended was £415 13s. 4d., and by deducting which from the net expenditure already given would make the cost of each inmate about £14 in place of £15, as previously mentioned.

9. The bequest, now familiarised under the title of "Fox's Feast," was again provided, and by the obliging permission of the Messrs. Degraives celebrated at the Cascades, where the usual enjoyment was experienced by the juveniles.

10. The usual prizes for proficiency and good conduct were distributed under the distinguished presidency of His Excellency the Governor and the Hon. Mrs. Du Cane. There were present also upon the occasion His Honor the Acting Chief Justice, the Hon. the Colonial Secretary, the Hon. the Colonial Treasurer, their Lordships the Bishops of Tasmania and Hobart Town, several members of the clergy, and many ladies and gentlemen, including the Guardians of the Institution.

Lastly. The character of the charity, judging by remarks entered in the Visitors' Books, appears to hold a high place in the opinions of the strangers who had visited the Establishment during the year.

The Farm, whilst it relieved the Treasury to the extent of £900 for milk, &c. supplied, continued to afford useful employment for very many of the boys sent to service in the country districts as farm servants, for whom an increasing demand was made.

From this fact alone it may be assumed that the Institution has not altogether failed in its object. During the past eight years no fewer than 500 children have been apprenticed from it, whilst 320 have been discharged to parents or friends who had become capable of maintaining the said children. That the apprentices in several instances when first sent to service are troublesome admits of little question, any more than that the treatment they receive in those instances can be altogether justified. However, as a rule, considering the number of apprenticeships existing at any one period, namely 250, the complaints which occasionally are heard form but a very small proportion to the majority of those in service, who are justly entitled to praise for their moral conduct and otherwise good behaviour.

I have the honor to be,

Sir,

Your obedient Servant,

The Hon. the Colonial Secretary.

J. COVERDALE, *M.D.*, *Principal.*

No. 1.

Admitted - - - - -	53
Apprenticed - - - - -	45
Discharged - - - - -	18
Died - - - - -	0
Daily Average - - - - -	351 $\frac{67}{107}$
Cost per head - - - - -	£ 15 s. 0 d. 6
Salaries and Allowances - - - - -	£ 1954 s. 3 d. 8
Books and Stationery - - - - -	15 s. 9 d. 11
Provisions - - - - -	2185 s. 14 d. 8
Fuel and Light - - - - -	359 s. 6 d. 8
Stores - - - - -	82 s. 18 d. 6
Bedding - - - - -	49 s. 6 d. 0
Clothing - - - - -	615 s. 12 d. 4
Repairs, &c. to Buildings - - - - -	55 s. 3 d. 11
Incidental - - - - -	22 s. 18 d. 7
Needlework - - - - -	6 s. 14 d. 1
Medicines - - - - -	5 s. 5 d. 0
Total Expenditure - - - - -	5352 s. 13 d. 4
Total Receipts - - - - -	71 s. 18 d. 10
	<u>£5280 s. 14 d. 6</u>

No. 2.

SALARIES.

	£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.
Principal and Medical Officer - - - - -	450	0	0			
Storekeeper and Clerk - - - - -	120	0	0			
Head Schoolmaster - - - - -	200	0	0			
Assistant Schoolmaster - - - - -	120	0	0			
Matron, Female School - - - - -	125	0	0			
Matron, Infant School - - - - -	99	6	11			
Schoolmistress, Senior - - - - -	72	13	0			
Schoolmistress, Junior - - - - -	85	0	0			
Cook and Storeman - - - - -	35	19	4			
Out-door Inspector, Drill and Bandmaster - - - - -	80	0	0			
Carpenter - - - - -	90	0	0			
Shoemaker - - - - -	29	6	6			
Organist - - - - -	25	0	0			
Out-door Assistant, &c. - - - - -	70	0	0			
Nurse, Hospital - - - - -	36	0	0			
Cooks (2), Laundress (1), General Nurses (2) - - - - -	148	6	8			
General Servants - - - - -	56	0	0			
Messenger (1), Monitors (14) - - - - -	19	10	0			
				1862	2	5

ALLOWANCES.

Rent of House for Principal - - - - -	60	0	0			
Head Schoolmaster, instructing Monitors - - - - -	20	0	0			
Schoolmistress, Senior, instructing Monitresses - - - - -	10	0	0			
Police Rate - - - - -	2	1	3			
				92	1	3
				<u>£1954</u>	<u>3</u>	<u>8</u>

No. 3.

COST OF PROVISIONS.

	<i>Children.</i>			<i>Servants.</i>		
	<i>£</i>	<i>s.</i>	<i>d.</i>	<i>£</i>	<i>s.</i>	<i>d.</i>
January	172	14	0	6	8	6
February	172	15	5	6	0	2
March	182	12	4	6	8	6
April	174	19	2	6	3	10
May	180	16	0	6	8	4
June	172	4	10	6	4	8
July	176	18	8	6	9	6
August	178	7	6	6	9	6
September	175	16	4	7	2	0
October	174	3	6	7	7	1
November	172	16	2	6	3	10
December	173	15	4	6	9	6
	<u>£2107</u>	<u>19</u>	<u>3</u>	<u>£77</u>	<u>15</u>	<u>5</u>
Total for Children		<i>£</i>	<i>s.</i>	<i>d.</i>		
Total for Servants		2107	19	3		
		<u>77</u>	<u>15</u>	<u>5</u>		
		<u>£2185</u>	<u>14</u>	<u>8</u>		

No. 4.

COST OF FUEL AND LIGHT.

	<i>Fuel.</i>			<i>Light.</i>		
	<i>£</i>	<i>s.</i>	<i>d.</i>	<i>£</i>	<i>s.</i>	<i>d.</i>
January	19	19	0	3	15	0
February	17	19	0	3	12	0
March	19	19	0	3	16	2
April	16	18	0	5	11	5
May	35	6	0	5	11	6
June	36	9	0	4	17	9
July	33	15	0	5	5	9
August	37	4	0	5	13	1
September	31	9	0	4	17	10
October	18	16	0	3	5	3
November	18	16	0	3	4	4
December	19	19	0	3	7	7
	<u>£306</u>	<u>9</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>£52</u>	<u>17</u>	<u>8</u>

RECAPITULATION.

Coals, 585,225 lbs., at 23s. per ton	300	9	0
Wood, 33,600 lbs., at 8s. per ton	6	0	0
Oil, Kerosene, 379 gallons, at 2s. per gallon	37	18	0
Candles, Tallow, 711 lbs., at 4 $\frac{1}{2}$ d. per lb.	14	1	5
Ditto, Composition, 12 lbs., at 1s. 1d. per lb.	0	13	0
Wicks, Kerosene, 7 dozen, at 9d. per dozen	0	5	3
	<u>£359</u>	<u>6</u>	<u>8</u>

No. 5.

NUMBER OF CHILDREN.

Remaining 1 Jan. 1872.		Admitted in 1872.		Apprenticed in 1872.		Discharged in 1872.		Died in 1872.		Remaining 31 Dec. 1872.		Average Number throughout the Year.	
M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.
199	152	24	29	29	15	12	7	—	—	182	159	203 $\frac{7}{366}$	148 $\frac{95}{366}$
351		53		44		19		—		341		351 $\frac{197}{366}$	

AGES ON 31 DECEMBER, 1872; FUNDS; RELIGION.

	AGES.				HOW MAINTAINED.				RELIGION.		
	Under 6.	6 to 8.	8 to 12.	Above 12.	Colonial Government.	Imperial Government.	Undecided.	Moiety to each Government.	Protestants.	Roman Catholics.	Undecided.
Males	20	29	83	47	174	3	—	8	103	80	—
Females	19	27	60	56	139	4	—	13	64	94	—
TOTAL.....	39	56	143	103	313	7	—	21	167	174	—

DISTRIBUTION.

Male Division	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	130
Female Division	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	116
Infant Division, Male and Female	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	95

EXPENSE OF QUEEN'S ASYLUM, AMOUNT OF CASH RECEIPTS, AND COST OF EACH CHILD'S MAINTENANCE FOR 1872.

EXPENDITURE.			CASH RECEIPTS.	NET COST OF INSTITUTION TO GOVERNMENT.	COST PER HEAD PER ANNUM.
Salaries and Allowances.	Other Expenses.	TOTAL.			
£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.
1954 3 8	3398 9 8	5352 13 4	71 18 10	5280 14 6	15 0 6

Proportion of expenses chargeable to....	Imperial Government	£281 14 4
	Colonial Government	£4999 0 2

No. 6.

NEEDLEWORK PERFORMED BY THE GIRLS DURING 1872.

	<i>Made.</i>	<i>Repaired.</i>
Pinafores - - - - -	984	—
Night Dresses - - - - -	231	127
Chemises - - - - -	260	—
Frock Skirts - - - - -	661	20
Strings - - - - -	210	—
Flannel Petticoats - - - - -	84	—
Petticoat Skirts - - - - -	586	210
Sheets - - - - -	269	179
Jackets, Girls' - - - - -	349	119
Hoods - - - - -	110	—
Round Towels - - - - -	45	—
Collars - - - - -	287	—
Pillow Cases - - - - -	143	5
Hats trimmed - - - - -	70	—
Jumpers - - - - -	450	491
Aprons - - - - -	51	—
Ticks altered - - - - -	40	—
Trousers - - - - -	—	2294
Shirts - - - - -	—	697
Vests - - - - -	—	830
TOTAL - - - - -	4830	4972

VALUE OF SAID NEEDLEWORK IF CHARGED AT ORDINARY RATES.

<i>Dozen.</i>	<i>Pieces.</i>	<i>Articles.</i>	<i>Price.</i>	<i>Amount.</i>
38	1	Sheets, Pillow Cases, &c. -	3s. per doz.	£ 5 14 3
364	5	General Clothing -	6s. per doz.	109 6 6
414	4	Repairs - - - - -	1s. per doz.	20 14 4
				£135 15 1

No. 7.

WASHING PERFORMED BY WOMEN AND GIRLS DURING 1872.

Pinafores - - - - -	39,865
Shirts - - - - -	17,808
Socks - - - - -	8527
Pillow Cases - - - - -	13,560
Chemises - - - - -	12,217
Stockings - - - - -	6466
Hood - - - - -	2092
Night Dresses - - - - -	8718
Towels - - - - -	9145
Flannels - - - - -	1490
Frocks - - - - -	420
Petticoats - - - - -	746
Table Cloths - - - - -	374
Jumpers - - - - -	833
Trousers - - - - -	2785
Vests - - - - -	1239
Capes - - - - -	120
Jackets - - - - -	986
Blankets - - - - -	748
Sheets - - - - -	14,303
Aprons - - - - -	384
Collars - - - - -	540
	143,366

VALUE OF SAID WASHING IF CHARGED AT ORDINARY RATES.

<i>Dozens.</i>	<i>Pieces.</i>	<i>Articles.</i>	<i>Price.</i>	<i>Amount.</i>
1254	3	Sheets, Blankets, &c. Ordinary	1s. 6d. per dozen	£ 94 1 5
10,692	11		1s. per dozen	534 12 11
				£628 14 4

RETURN OF SICK AND INJURED AT QUEEN'S ASYLUM FOR 1873.

CLASS 1.—ZYMOTIC DISEASES.		Order 3.—DISEASES OF THE RESPIRATORY ORGANS.	
<i>Order 1.—MIASMATIC DISEASES.</i>		<i>Pneumonia</i> 2	
Varicella	1	Total Order 3..... — 2	
Parotitis	1	<i>Order 4.—DISEASES OF THE DIGESTIVE ORGAN .</i>	
Fever, com. cont.....	80	Jaundice	1
Erythema	2	Constipation	2
Rheumatism	2	Ephemeral Fever.....	26
Carbuncle	1	Total Order 4..... — 29	
Catarrh	1	<i>Order 7.—DISEASES OF THE LOCOMOTIVE SYSTEM.</i>	
Boils	2	Periostitis.....	3
Hives	1	Synovitis	2
Hooping Cough	51	Total Order 7..... — 5	
Erysipelas	1	<i>Order 8.—DISEASES OF THE INTEGUMENTARY SYSTEM.</i>	
Vaccination	98	Eczema Capitis	7
Total Order 1.....	— 241	Eruptio	3
<i>Order 3.—DIETIC DISEASES.</i>		Excoriatio.....	1
Purpura.....	2	Chilblains	4
Total Order 3.....	— 2	Ulcer.....	1
<i>Order 4.—PARASITIC DISEASES.</i>		Total Order 8..... 16	
Scabies	32	Total Class 3..... 70	
Lumbrici	34		
Total Order 4.....	66		
Total Class 1.....	309		
CLASS 2.—CONSTITUTIONAL DISEASES.		CLASS 4.—DEVELOPMENTAL DISEASES.	
<i>Order 1.—DIATHETIC DISEASES.</i>		<i>Order 2.—DITTO DITTO OF ADULTS.</i>	
Cancrum Oris	3	Menorrhagia	1
Anæmia.....	4	Total Order 2.....	1
Serous Cyst	1	Total Class 4.....	1
Tumor	1		
Total Order 1.....	— 9		
<i>Order 2.—TUBERCULAR DISEASES.</i>		CLASS 5.—VIOLENCE.	
Morbus Coxarius.....	1	<i>Order 1.—ACCIDENTS OR NEGLIGENCE.</i>	
Struma	2	Scalds	5
Abscess.....	13	Fracture	1
Total Order 2.....	16	Concussion	1
Total Class 2.....	25	Contused Wounds	4
CLASS 3.—LOCAL DISEASES.		Dislocation	1
<i>Order 1. DISEASES OF THE NERVOUS SYSTEM.</i>		Contusions	7
Ophthalmia	3	Total Order 1.....	19
Hysteria	2	Total Class 5.....	19
Conjunctivitis.....	8		
Tarsal Inflammation	4		
Aphonia.....	1		
Total Order 1.....	— 18		
GENERAL TOTAL		424	

Kangaroo Point, 26th December, 1872.

SIR,

I HAVE the honor to report the result of my examination of the Queen's Orphan Asylum Schools in Secular Instruction, held on the 16th and 17th instant.

1. There were present for examination 292 children; viz.—125 in the Boys' Division, 84 in the Girls', and 83 in the Infants'.

2. In the Boys' Division there are four classes exclusive of monitors, who form a small fifth class. The number in each class, the average age, and time in school are given in *Appendix I.* to this Report. On comparing the figures therein contained with those of last year's Report it will be found that a much larger per-centage of children are this year in the higher classes, but that there is little alteration in the average age and the average time in school of the children in each class. In the First, after comparing the progress of each child with his time in school I find fair results in reading and writing; and a similar comparison tells favourably for the Second in reading, writing, and arithmetic, the last being their weakest subject. It is in this class, where a noticeable development of intelligence might reasonably be expected, that one is first struck with the inadequacy of the monitorial system. The Third Class are inaccurate and unintelligent in reading, moderate in writing, but much better than last year in arithmetic. In the Fourth Class the reading has the same faults, the writing from copy is fair, from dictation moderate, the arithmetic is decidedly better than it was last year. As in former years the Fifth are the only class able to read with fair intelligence: their reading is really good; their arithmetic, though a little better than last year, can hardly be called fair; but their writing, both from copy and from dictation, is good. It ought to be remembered that the monitors are under instruction only one hour a day. The supply of slates is very insufficient in this school, all but a few boys having to work their sums and write from dictation on fragments five or six inches square.

3. In the Girls' Division the First Class show fair results; the Second compare favourably in reading and writing with the same class of boys, but their arithmetic must be pronounced a failure. In the Third the reading and writing from dictation are fair, the writing from copy is good, but the arithmetic only moderate. The Fourth Class is the highest in this school, and consists of four monitors who are under instruction one hour only per day. Their reading is fluent and pretty accurate, and their intelligence is beyond that of the Fourth boys, but inferior to that of the boy monitors to whom in age they are nearly equal; they show an improvement in arithmetic; and their writing is good, both from copy and from dictation. A glance at the number of classes and their subdivision will show that the Mistress of this school has harder work than any other teacher in the institution.

4. In the Infants' Division there are two classes; and the satisfactory standard reached last year is well maintained in both; the higher shows remarkably careful instruction in arithmetic and writing. An increase in the number of gallery lessons would be an improvement.

5. The names of those who obtained the best marks, and to whom prizes are awarded, are contained in Appendix II.

6. I regret that the monitorial system is still in force in the two upper schools; the only change it has undergone has been for the worse, and the want of intelligence in the classes under the instruction of monitors is proportionately greater. One or two examples will best illustrate this:—In the reading lesson of the Fourth Class occurred the expression,—“the Swiss side of the Alps,” and they had no notion whatever as to which side could be thus designated; one boy suggested “The right hand side,” and the majority of the class at once adopted the explanation. After the second division of the Third Class had read the short poem in the Third Book about the “Irish Harper and his dog,” only one of them knew that the Shannon is a river; several conjectured that “Sheelah” signified a sheep, not one that it was the name of a woman. To the question—“In what country do the Irish live?” the first answer was “Rome,” the second “England,” then followed several echoes of each; till at last one boy rather doubtfully suggested “Ireland.” Not one knew the meaning of the word *harper*; and to the question, “On what does a harper play?” the only answer was “A harpoon.” Very few have any notion as to which nouns pronouns refer in a sentence in the least degree complex. Now these facts indicate exactly the state of things to be expected among children shut in from the world, and educated by machinery—the monitors are very little better than unreasoning instruments—and without a radical change of system there cannot be any satisfactory amendment.

7. A plan for the better arrangement of the desks suggested by the Head Master several years ago could be carried out with very little expense, and what are now most inconvenient school-rooms could thus be made equal to the best in the Colony; and with a liberal extension of the programme of instruction, and the adoption of the pupil teacher system, the schools might provide an education superior to that given in the public schools. Some political economists think that the instruction in pauper schools ought to be limited to reading, writing, and arithmetic; but this is a mistake, for the classes of parents that are prone to pauperism have no care as to how their children are educated, the prospect of a liberal education can therefore be no inducement to them in leaving their children a burden to the State: while it is, on the other hand, a powerful agency in making the latter grow up good citizens, and preventing them in their turn burdening the State with the support of children, or sinking again in their old age into a state of pauperism.

I have the honor to be,

Sir,

Your obedient Servant,

J. RULE.

To the Hon. the Colonial Secretary.

APPENDIX I.

NUMBERS, AGES, CLASSIFICATION, AND TIME IN SCHOOL.

1. *Boys' School.*

<i>Class.</i>	<i>Number examined.</i>	<i>Average Age.</i>		<i>Average Time in School.</i>	
		<i>Years.</i>	<i>Months.</i>	<i>Years.</i>	<i>Months.</i>
I.	10	9	11	1	0
II.	15	10	2	2	1
III.	50	11	1	2	8
IV.	41	11	3	3	4
V.	9	13	0	5	1

2. *Girls' School.*

I.	11	10	4	0	11
II.	26	9	7	1	8
III.	43	11	11	3	3
IV.	4	12	10	6	5

3. *Infants' School.*

I.	45	5	6	1	3
II.	38	7	8	2	7

APPENDIX II.

PRIZE LIST.

SUBJECT.	CLASS I.			CLASS II.		CLASS III.			CLASS IV.	CLASS V.
	1.	2.	3.	1.	2.	1.	2.	3.		
Reading—										
Boys.....	P. Connolly	Jno. Jennings	Ml. Galvin	Thos. Hines	Ab. Cunningham	C. Gurwin	W. Woodruff	Jas. Martin	J. Innis	F. Williams
Girls.....	..	..	Lydia Smith	Louisa Fraser	Jane Rigney	M. A. Parker	Tha. Conway	..	A. Conway	..
Writing (Copy)—										
Boys.....	..	..	..	..	..	Ml. Mollóy	Jno. Bryceland	T. Clarke	Ed. Coates	Pat. Cusack
Girls.....	..	..	..	M. A. Franklyn	E. Blake	M. A. Townsend	Adel. Williams	..	A. Conway	..
Arithmetic—										
Boys.....	..	..	..	Thos. Hines	Ab. Cunningham	D. Henderson	W. Neaves	Pat. Jones	F. Jennet	H. Donovan
Girls.....	..	..	..	..	E. Blake	A. Wainwright	R. Lawson	..	F. Fardell	..
Writing (Dictation)—										
Boys.....	..	..	..	B. Donaldson	T. Innis	R. Jones	G. H. Lillywell	H. Rodgers	P. Henderson	F. Williams
Girls.....	..	..	..	..	M. Lee	M. A. Parker	S. Allen	..	F. Fardell	..

Hobart Town, 27th December, 1872.

ON Tuesday last, at the request of the Bishop, I examined those children of the Queen's Asylum who are taught the doctrine of the Church of England. My examination included the religious subjects in which the different classes have been instructed by the Rev. Canon Hudspeth or under his direction.

The boys and girls of the highest classes answered on the whole very satisfactorily. Their knowledge of Sacred History and of the most important truths contained in Holy Scripture exceeds the usual attainments of children of the same age. The rest of the children showed a much lower degree of proficiency, and failed in many instances to answer very easy questions. Some of them appeared to be stolid as well as ignorant. I am informed, however, that some of those children whose intelligence and attainments are now conspicuous were among the dullest and most ignorant when they were admitted to the Asylum. This examination therefore confirms the opinion which I have expressed on former occasions, that the children of the Asylum are instructed carefully and successfully in Holy Scripture, and in the principles on which Christian practice is founded. The knowledge attained by the best informed among them is not indeed so wide or accurate as it used to be in past years, but the difference, I believe, is owing to the fact that both boys and girls are removed from the Asylum at an earlier age than formerly.

Canon Hudspeth has kindly undertaken, at my request, to name for rewards the boys and girls in the several classes who are most proficient in religious knowledge. The prizes so awarded will be given to those who really deserve them best; whereas I do not think that a merely oral examination, occupying little more than five hours, would enable me to select in every case the most deserving.

ARTHUR DAVENPORT.

Mayfield, New Town, 27th December, 1872.

SIR,

I HAVE the honor to report the result of the Religious Examination of the Male and Female Department of the Roman Catholic children of the Queen's Orphan Asylum held on Friday, the 20th instant. The examination was conducted by me on the fore and afternoon of that day.

The boys, who numbered altogether about sixty or sixty-one, were divided into six classes according to their respective ages and the time spent in the Institution. Those of the first or highest class, ten in number, amongst whom were three monitors, I examined in each of the thirty chapters of the Most Rev. Dr. Butler's Catechism, and did not find one who could not answer readily every question proposed by me, and who seemed to understand thoroughly the meaning of each, even those questions which appeared to me amongst the most difficult. The knowledge shown by these same boys in every page of M. L'Abbé Fleury's "Short Historical Catechism" was very good: indeed throughout, I may add, their answering was admirable. The Second Class consisted of a dozen boys, and these underwent a test nearly similar to that of the boys of the first division, I am happy to say with the same satisfactory results. Out of the twelve who were examined five deserve special notice, being invariably exceedingly intelligent.

The candidates of the four junior classes, numbering some forty, did not succeed at all as well as I expected, although considerable pains were taken to bring them out; but this of course was owing, I presume, principally to the great difference in their ages, as well as the comparatively short time the majority of them were residents of the Orphanage. Were it not for some glaring blunders, traceable perhaps to timidity or momentary confusion more than any other imaginary cause, the answering was on the whole pretty fair. Nevertheless, their intelligence travelled far beyond the limits of that catechetical science usually manifested by the boys of the same class attending our large Sunday Schools.

The girls, who numbered (big and little) in the Institution fifty-seven, were divided into four classes. In the fourth, which was the highest class, fifteen girls presented themselves prepared with the whole of "Butler's large Catechism" and the "Douay Catechism," as well as a considerable portion of Roman History. In this division all did their business in a most creditable and, in one or two instances, marvellous manner. In any such Institution or Public School of the Colony it would be hard to find girls equal to those referred to in the fourth class. The third and second highest class contained eighteen children, whom I likewise examined in "Butler's large Catechism" and the "Douay Catechism." Here the difficulty was to tell the best, a task which entailed upon the examiner much time and considerable extra labour. The two junior classes (second and first) consisted each of 12 children—the former had all "Butler's large Catechism" and a portion of the "Douay," and the latter all "Butler's small Catechism," revised and approved by Dr. Murphy.

The little children of the above two classes gave very satisfactory specimens of their knowledge of Christian doctrine. I think they were called the *infants*, who formed a separate department, and as infants gave excellent proof of their nascent attainments in the simple rudiments of Christianity. They all blessed themselves and repeated their morning and evening prayers with accuracy and recollection. For myself, I must say I was greatly and agreeably surprised, for, though anticipating a great deal, I was not by any means prepared for what I must term from beginning to end a little theological display. Taking the Catholic children as a body their general proficiency did not consist exactly in the answering of positive matter only as contained in the text books, but even the quick answering of questions outside those books, when the exercise of the judgment, criterion, and common sense were required in order to understand everything and every doctrine clearly. From such an exhibition of almost universal goodness it follows without a shadow of a doubt that no amount of pains and intelligent attention has been spared either by

their ecclesiastical or lay instructors. On this there can be no second opinion. At all events one thing is certain, that with such a fund of good sound moral and religious instruction as the majority of those poor children possess, when going forth into the world as apprentices or servants, they ought to be able to guide their conduct in maturer years in the practice of their Faith, their duty to God, to themselves, and their employers, unless indeed the cruel treatment which unfortunately in too many instances they are doomed to meet with discourage them and extinguish in their hearts every spark of Christian vitality, and render them as years roll on indifferent to every religious and almost human feeling.

Prizes have been awarded by me to the boys who answered best, as follows:—First Class—Henry Donovan, Alfred Holbrook, Augustus Slattery (monitors). Second Class—Jas. Holbrook, William Gardiner, Francis Smith, William Allen, and Edward O'Donnell. Third Class—E. Harford and William Neaves. Fourth Class—Charles Gurnin, Charles Harford, and John Hawthorn. Fifth Class—Thomas Harper and Denis M'Donald.

To the girls named in the following order I also deem worthy of prizes:—Fourth and highest Class—Agnes Conway, Theresa Conway, Sarah A. Allen, and Emma Jones. Third Class and second highest—Mary Hayes, Mary Allen Alcock, and Matilda Bevell. Second Class—Mary A. Parker, Catherine Hawthorne, Louisa Rowe, and Susan Baker. First Class—Maria Lee, Mary Anne Franklin, and Mary Baker.

I have the honor to be,
Sir,

Your obedient Servant,

DANIEL F. X. BEECHINOR.

To the Hon. the Colonial Secretary.

ACCOUNT CURRENT of the QUEEN'S ASYLUM FARM, New Town, for the Year 1872.

Dr.		Cr.	
Salaries.		£ s. d. £ s. d.	
Farm Overseer	- - - 120 0 0	Milk supplied to Institution,	
Gardener, &c.	- - - 93 12 0	76,764 pints, at 2d.	- 639 14 0
Ploughman	- - - 78 0 0	Vegetables, ditto, 33,372 lbs.,	
Labourer	- - - 49 4 3	at - - -	- 52 11 6
Ditto - - -	- - - 65 0 0	Butter, ditto, 398½ lbs. at 1s.	19 18 10
Farm Boys	- - - 10 8 0	Firewood, ditto, 33,600 lbs., at 8s.	6 0 0
	416 4 3		718 4 4
<i>Miscellaneous.</i>		<i>Cash Receipts.</i>	
Seeds—Turnip, 5 lbs. 2s. 6d.;		Service of Bull	- - - 1 10 0
Wheat, 3 bushels, at 6s.	- 1 10 6		1 10 0
Italian Rye Grass, 10 bushels,		<i>Sale of Stock.</i>	
at 8s.	- 4 0 0	Two Cows for 17l. 5s. 0d.; 1 ditto	
Clover, red, 6 lbs., at 1s. 9d.;		9l. 7s. 6d.	- 26 12 6
ditto, Alsike, 6 lbs., at 3s.	- 1 8 6	One Calf, at 1l. 1s. 6d.; 1 ditto, at	
Oats, 24 bushels, at 3s.; ditto,		10s.	- 1 11 6
35½ bushels, at 3s. 6d.	- 9 17 1	Six ditto, at 5s.; 21 ditto, at 2s. 6d.	- 4 2 6
Potatoes, 7693 lbs., at			32 6 6
3l. 8s. 9d. per ton	- 11 16 1	<i>Milk supplied to other Establishments, Hobart Town.</i>	
Barley, 20 bushels, at 3s. 3d.	- 3 5 0	General Hospital, 18,874 pints,	
Onions, ½ lb., at 3s.; Parsnips,		at 2d.	- 157 5 8
1 lb., at 4s.	- 0 6 6	Invalids, Brickfields, 3847 pints,	
Mangold Wurtzel, 8 lbs., at		at 2d.	- 32 1 2
1s. 3d.; ditto, 7 lbs., at 1s. 6d.	- 1 0 6	Invalids, Cascades, 142 pints,	
Bran, 400 bushels, at 10d.; 200		at 2d.	- 1 3 8
bushels, at 9½d.	- 24 11 8		190 10 6
Blacksmith, 19l. 3s. 9d.; Toll,			
6l. 13s. 7d.	- 25 17 4		
Straw, 85½ cwt., at 9l. 19s. 7d.;			
Vetinary Surgeon, 1l.	- 10 19 7		
Salt, 1 cwt., at 7s.; crushing			
Bones, 14 cwt. 2 qrs., 2l. 3s. 6d.	- 2 10 6		
Repairs to harness, 1l. 17s. 6d.;			
ditto, cart, 1l. 13s. 6d.	- 3 11 0		
Poundage Fees	- 0 12 0		
Commission on Sale of Stock	- 1 7 6		
	102 13 9		
<i>Stock Purchased.</i>			
One Cow and Calf	- - - 8 0 0		
Balance in favour of Farm	- 415 13 4		
	£942 11 4		£942 11 4