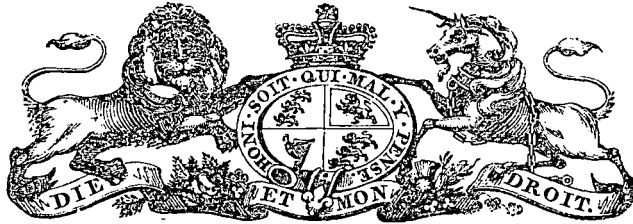


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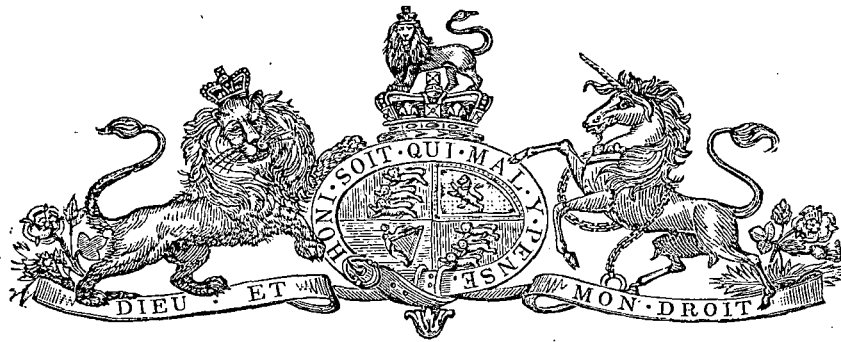
PARLIAMENT OF TASMANIA.

NEW TOWN CHARITABLE INSTITUTION:

REPORT FOR 1898.

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

Cost of printing—£2 17s.



NEW TOWN CHARITABLE INSTITUTION.

REPORT FOR 1898.

New Town, 31st December, 1898.

SIR,

I HAVE the honour to submit the Annual Report of the New Town Charitable Institution for the year 1898.

Strength.

The number of inmates on the books during the year was—Males, 459; Females, 296; Total, 755; a decrease of 50 compared with 1897.

The number in the Institution, including children, on 31st December, 1898, was 426, or 44 less than in 1897.

The highest number of inmates at any one time was 497, and the lowest 423. Compared with 1897 this shows a decrease respectively of 27 and 47.

The average daily number during the year was 470·46, a decrease of 28·69 compared with 1897.

Admissions.

The number admitted during the year was 285, as against 291 in 1897.

Discharges.

The number discharged was 198, as against 232 in 1897.

Mortality.

The deaths during the year numbered 131, or 17·35 per cent., as against 103, or 12·80 per cent., for 1897. The average age, exclusive of children, of those who died was 72·26 years, the maximum age being 96, and the minimum 27 years. 39 averaged over 80 years of age, and the average of the 16 oldest was 80·50 years. Fuller particulars under this head will be found in Return C. in the Appendices.

Ages.

The approximate Ages of inmates, exclusive of children, remaining in the Institution on the 31st December, 1898, were as follows :—

	Males.	Females.	Total.	Per cent.
90 years and upwards	3	2	5	1·20
Between 80 and 90 years.....	72	19	91	21·93
Ditto 70 and 80 „	119	57	176	42·41
Ditto 60 and 70 „	28	33	61	14·70
Ditto 50 and 60 „	10	12	22	5·30
Under 50 years.....	21	39	60	14·46
TOTAL.....	253	162	415	100·00
Average age.....	72·30	62·47	68·47	
Average age in previous year.....	73·60	63·79	70·05	

Civil Condition.

The Civil Condition of those on the books during the year was as follows:—

	Males.	Females.	Total.	Per cent.	Per cent. in 1897.
Free by servitude.....	254	104	358	47·42	52·30
Free to Colony.....	145	94	239	31·66	29·32
Born in Colony.....	60	98	158	20·92	18·38
TOTAL.....	459	296	755	100·00	
Previous year.....	495	310	805		

Birth-places.

The Birth-places of those on the books during the year were as follows:—

	Males.	Females.	Total.	Per cent.	Per cent. in 1897.
Australian Colonies and Tasmania.....	61	117	178	23·58	19·63
England and Wales.....	235	53	288	38·15	41·86
Ireland.....	112	94	206	27·28	28·20
Scotland.....	35	27	62	8·21	7·70
Other British Possessions.....	5	2	7	0·92	1·00
Foreign Countries.....	11	3	14	1·86	1·61
TOTAL.....	459	296	755	100·00	

Education.

The Education of those on the books during the year was as follows:—

	Males.	Females.	Total.	Per cent.	Per cent. in 1897.
Read and write.....	250	102	352	46·62	45·34
Read only.....	58	42	100	13·24	11·68
Neither read nor write.....	146	152	298	39·47	41·71
Superior Education.....	5	—	5	0·67	0·68
TOTAL.....	459	296	755	100·00	

Religion.

The religion of those remaining in the Institution on 31st December was as follows:—

	Males.	Females.	Total.	Per cent.	Per cent. in 1897.
Church of England.....	151	84	235	55·16	56·38
Church of Rome.....	77	77	154	36·15	36·81
Church of Scotland.....	25	12	37	8·69	6·81
TOTAL.....	253	173	426	100·00	

Expenditure.

The gross expenditure for the year was £5635 Os. 5*d.*, as against £5400 Os. 11*d.* in 1897.

The receipts were £459 6*s.* 7*d.*, being £20 5*s.* 11*d.* less than in 1897. The net expenditure was £5175 13*s.* 10*d.*, or £250 5*s.* 5*d.* more than in 1897.

The cost per head on gross expenditure was £11 19*s.* 6*d.*, and on net expenditure £11, or £1 3*s.* 2*d.*, and £1 2*s.* 10*d.* more respectively than in 1897.

The increased cost was caused mainly through the advanced price of provisions and the falling off in the number of inmates.

The claim made against the Imperial Government for maintenance of paupers chargeable to Imperial funds was £265 5*s.*; if credit were taken for this amount, the net cost would be reduced to £10 8*s.* 9*d.*, or 7*d.* per diem.

Repairs and Improvements.

The sum of £296 19s. 6d. was expended in repairs to the buildings; of this amount £49 16s. 9d. was for stripping off shingles and roofing certain buildings with galvanised iron, and £83 18s. 11d. for spouting, &c.; the balance was for materials.

In addition to the works mentioned, which were done by contract, the following works were carried out by inmate labour:—New steps and hearthstones to various parts of the buildings, drain-pipes laid down, floors asphalted, and officers' quarters papered and painted, and several of the wards renovated.

Garden.

Gardening operations were carried on as usual, and the value of vegetables raised in the Institution was £92 2s. 6d.

Religious Services.

The spiritual wants of the inmates have, as usual, been attended to by the Chaplains, and services have been held by the Sisters of Charity, Flower Mission, Lay Readers, Christian Endeavour Society, Salvation Army, and others.

Entertainments, Treats, &c.

During the year entertainments were given by the New Town Comedy Club, Butchers Variety Company, H.M.S. *Wallaroo* Minstrel Company, and others, and were much appreciated by the inmates.

On Christmas Day and Queen's Birthday the usual treat of plum pudding and roast beef was given by the Government, and the Cascade Brewery Company, with their usual liberality, contributed a hogshead of beer on Christmas Day.

The Honourable F. W. Piesse, M.L.C., and Mr. Parsons of Adelaide, donated funds for the purchase of Christmas extras. The Venerable Archdeacon Whittington treated the inmates to tobacco on Christmas Day.

Honourable J. Watchorn, M.L.C., sent five gallons of ale for male inmates in Hospital, and Mr. H. Watson sent several tins of Keen's Curry Powder for the use of the inmates. On the 10th August a number of the Hobart butchers visited and distributed tobacco, fruit, and lollies among the inmates.

Lying-in Home.

Full particulars under this head will be found in the annexed Return marked E.

Library.

The proprietors of the *Mercury*, *Tasmanian News*, *Church News*, and the *Monitor* have, as usual, supplied free copies of their publications during the year.

My appointment to another branch of the Government service on the 1st January, 1899, severs my connection with this Department; and in leaving I would like to place on record my high appreciation of the ever ready and zealous services of the officers with whom I have been associated in the work of this Institution during a period of nearly ten years. In handing over the charge to my successor, Mr. F. R. Seager, who has hitherto acted as my assistant, I feel convinced that the interests of the Institution will be fully maintained, and that the Government have made a wise selection by his appointment to the position of Superintendent.

I have the honour to be,

Sir,

Your most obedient Servant,

GEO. RICHARDSON, *Superintendent.*

The Hon. the Chief Secretary.

A.

RETURN showing the Expenditure of the New Town Charitable Institution for the Year 1898; the Receipts for the same period, and the Net Cost per head.

EXPENDITURE.	£	s.	d.	RECEIPTS.	£	s.	d.
Salaries.....	1487	7	11	Fees for maintenance of inmates.....	326	1	0
Provisions.....	2689	16	4	Sale old stores.....	5	7	6
Clothing, bedding, stores, & stationery	519	7	7	Ditto vegetables.....	30	9	0
Fuel and light.....	373	6	3	Money found on deceased inmates....	2	12	8
Medicines and medical comforts.....	65	19	7	Mangling performed.....	0	19	2
Miscellaneous, including funeral ex- penses.....	202	3	3	Labour of men at cemetery.....	93	11	6
Repairs and alterations to buildings...	296	19	6	Tobacco supplied to men at cemetery	0	5	9
				Balance, being Net Cost of Establish- ment.....	5175	13	10
TOTAL.....	£5635	0	5	TOTAL.....	£5635	0	5

Average daily Number.

Males (Colonial).....	280.43
" (Imperial).....	10.49
Females.....	179.54
Net cost per head, £11.	

B.

RETURN showing the estimated probable Cost of the New Town Charitable Institution, and the actual Amount expended, for the Year 1898.

Head of Service.	Per Estimate.	Actual Cost.	Increase.	Decrease.
	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.
Salaries.....	1502 0 0	1487 7 11	...	14 12 1
Provisions.....	2550 0 0	2689 16 4	139 16 4	...
Clothing, bedding, stores, & stationery	550 0 0	519 7 7	...	30 12 5
Medicines and medical comforts.....	65 0 0	65 19 7	0 19 7	...
Miscellaneous, including funeral ex- penses.....	160 0 0	202 3 3	42 3 3	...
Fuel and light.....	350 0 0	373 6 3	23 6 3	...
Repairs to buildings.....	300 0 0	296 19 6	...	3 0 6
TOTAL.....	£5477 0 0	5635 0 5	206 5 5*	48 5 0

* Provided for upon Supplementary Estimate.

C.

RETURN of Deaths at the New Town Charitable Institution during the Year 1898.

	Children.	Between the Ages of—																TOTAL.
		20 to 30.		30 to 40.		40 to 50.		50 to 60.		60 to 70.		70 to 80.		80 to 90.		90 to 100.		
		M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	
Brain Disease...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	2	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	2
Cancer.....	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	3	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	5
Morbus Cordis..	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	2	...	...	...	...	...	2
Paralysis.....	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	2
Phthisis.....	...	...	...	1	3	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	4
Epilepsy.....	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1
Abscess.....	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1
Senile Debility...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	10	10	38	13	27	7	4	...	110
Premature Birth	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1
Marasmus.....	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1
Bronchitis.....	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1
Fistula.....	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1
TOTALS...	2	1	...	...	3	3	...	1	1	17	11	39	15	27	7	4	...	131

D.

DECENNIAL Return showing the Number of Persons admitted, discharged, and remaining in the New Town Charitable Institution on the 31st December in each year, Net Cost of the Institution, and the Net Cost per Head.

Years.	Admitted during the Year.	Discharged during the Year.	Died during the Year.	Remaining on 31st December.		Average daily Number.	Net Cost of Institution.			Net Cost per Head.		
				Number.	Average Age.		£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.
1889.....	552	484	112	520	68·00	589	8176	12	1	13	17	8
1890.....	603	456	127	540	67·75	592	8263	3	11	13	19	2
1891.....	530	413	153	504	70·08	545	7427	14	1	13	12	7
1892.....	510	387	109	518	69·61	537	7685	16	8	14	6	3
1893.....	538	419	122	515	70·02	542	6158	18	10	11	7	5
1894.....	448	313	112	538	70·58	349	5336	15	3	9	14	5
1895.....	371	300	86	523	70·58	345	5216	6	6	9	11	1
1896.....	357	276	90	514	69·78	530	4857	15	3	9	3	3
1897.....	291	232	103	470	70·05	499	4920	8	5	9	17	2
1898.....	285	198	131	426	68·47	470	5175	13	10	11	0	0

RETURN of Inmates in the Lying-in Ward during the Year 1898.

Number of Lying-in Inmates on 31st December, 1897—				<i>Brought forward</i>	15		
Already confined.....	2			Left before confinement at, own desire			
Awaiting confinement.....	2						
		4					
Admitted during the year—				TOTAL			15
Single	8			Number remaining, 31st December, 1897—			
Married.....	5			Already confined.....		1	
		13		Awaiting confinement.....		1	
TOTAL			17				2
Number left during the year—				Number of Confinements—			
To Service with Infant.....	5			Single	9		
„ Relations.....	6			Married.....	5		14
„ Anchorage Home.....				Number of infants who died during the year	2		
„ Salvation Army	1						
„ N.T.C.I. Institution.....	3			Causes of death : Child aged 2 days, Premature Birth ; child aged 8 days, Marasmus.			
Forward			15				