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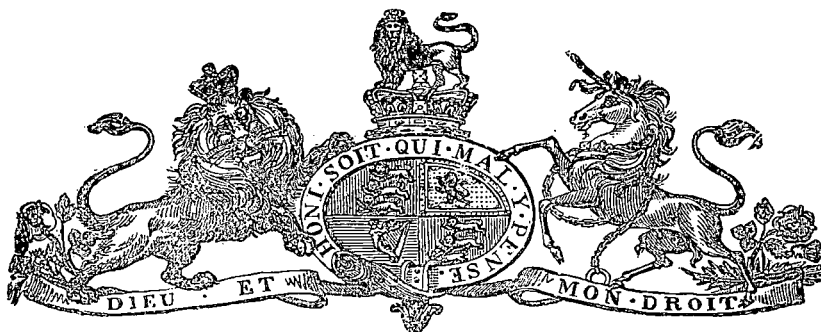
1892.

PARLIAMENT OF TASMANIA.

NEW TOWN CHARITABLE INSTITUTION :

REPORT FOR 1891.

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



New Town Charitable Institution, 13th May, 1892.

SIR,

I HAVE the honor to submit the Annual Report of the New Town Charitable Institution for the year 1891.

Strength.

The number of inmates on the books during the year was,—males, 778, and females, 292 = 1070, or 53 less than in 1890.

The actual number of inmates on the 31st December last was 504, being a decrease of 36 on the corresponding date of the previous year.

The highest number of inmates at any one time during the year was 576. Compared with 1890 this shows a decrease of 81; the lowest number was 488, a decrease of 32 as compared with 1890.

The average daily number during the year was 545, being a decrease of 47 on the previous year.

Admissions.

The number admitted during the year was 530, or 73 less than the previous year.

Discharges.

The number discharged was 416, as against 456 in 1890.

Mortality.

The number of deaths during the year was 153, or 14·30 per cent., as against 127, or 11·30 per cent. in 1890. The average age of those who died was 75·38 years, the maximum age being 94 and the minimum 34 years. The average age of the ten oldest was 90 years. Fifty averaged over 80 years of age.

Fuller particulars under these heads will be found in the tables in the Appendices.

Ages.

The approximate ages of the inmates remaining in the Institution at the end of the year were as follows:—

	Males.	Females.	Total.	Per cent.
90 years and upwards	13	...	13	2·59
Between 80 and 90 years	52	19	71	14·09
Ditto 70 and 80 „	174	49	223	44·24
Ditto 60 and 70 „	89	47	136	26·98
Ditto 50 and 60 „	16	16	32	6·35
Under 50 years	11	18	29	5·75
TOTAL	355	149	504	100·00
Average age	72·70	64·93	70·08	

Civil Condition.

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

	Males.	Females.	Total.	Per cent.
Free by servitude	603	184	787	73·55
Free to Colony	148	76	224	20·94
Born in the Colony	27	32	59	5·51
TOTAL	778	292	1070	100·00

Of those on the books on 31st December :—

	Males.	Females.	Total.	Per cent.
Free by servitude.....	251	81	332	65·87
Free to Colony	95	51	146	28·97
Born in the Colony	9	17	26	5·16
TOTAL	355	149	504	100·00

Birth-places.

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

	Males.	Females.	Total.	Per cent.
Australian Colonies and Tasmania.....	32	35	67	6·26
England and Wales.....	507	73	580	54·21
Ireland.....	168	142	310	28·97
Scotland.....	51	36	87	8·13
Other British Possessions.....	7	2	9	0·84
Foreign Countries.....	13	4	17	1·59
TOTAL	778	292	1070	100·00

Education.

Of the number on the books for the year, 516 could read and write, 136 could read only, and 418 could neither read nor write.

Religion.

The Census was taken on the night of Sunday, the 5th April, 1891, when the inmates numbered 519—367 males and 152 females.

The religions of these were :—

	Males.	Females.	Total.	Per cent.
Church of England.....	283	81	364	70·13
Church of Rome.....	76	71	147	28·33
Church of Scotland.....	3	...	3	} 1·54
Wesleyan Methodist.....	2	...	2	
Primitive Methodist.....	1	...	1	
Baptists.....	1	...	1	
Jews.....	1	...	1	
TOTAL	367	152	519	100·00

Occupations.

Their occupations were stated as :—

	Males.	Females.	Total.
Butchers.....	3	...	3
Blacksmiths.....	8	...	8
Bricklayers.....	5	...	5
Brickmakers.....	7	...	7
Cooks.....	8	1	9
Carpenters.....	9	...	9
Clerks.....	5	...	5
Domestic servants.....	3	141	144
Fishermen.....	2	...	2
Farm labourers.....	30	...	30
Grooms.....	12	...	12
Gardeners.....	10	...	10
Hairdressers.....	3	...	3
Laundresses.....	...	2	2
Labourers.....	188	...	188
Miners.....	8	...	8
Needlewomen.....	...	6	6
Nurses.....	...	1	1
Painters.....	3	...	3
Pensioners.....	4	...	4
Sawyers.....	12	...	12
Seamen.....	14	...	14
Shoemakers.....	4	...	4
Shepherds.....	3	...	3
Stonemasons.....	6	...	6
Tailors.....	4	...	4
Tinsmiths.....	2	...	2
Other trades.....	14	...	14
Infants.....	...	1	1
TOTAL.....	367	152	519

Expenditure.

The gross expenditure for the year was £7815 1s. 8d., being £850 4s. 6d. less than the preceding year. After deducting the sum of £387 7s. 7d. received for maintenance, labour, &c., the net expenditure amounts to £7427 14s. 1d., or £835 9s. 10d. less than in 1890. The cost per head on the gross expenditure was, in 1891 £14 6s. 9d. per annum, as against £14 12s. 9d. in 1890; on the net expenditure the cost was £13 12s. 7d. per head in 1891, as against £13 19s. 2d. in the previous year, or a saving of 6s. 7d. per head per annum, notwithstanding the additional expense incurred by the employment of four paid wardsmen.

Paid Wardsmen.

At the beginning of the year four able-bodied paid wardsmen were appointed to the care of the sick in the hospitals, and the result has been most satisfactory. The work had hitherto been left to inmates, who received a small remuneration for their services, but their strength was not equal to the demand upon them. Cleanliness and better nursing can now be insisted upon.

Diet.

The new dietary scale prepared by the Board appointed by the Government was approved by the Governor in Council, and came into force on the 1st February last. The principal features in the amended scale were the substitution of white bread for brown, and the issue of a ration of porridge for breakfast on two days in the week in addition to the ordinary meal. Power was also given to the Superintendent to supplement this scale by an additional allowance of bread if necessary. The Medical Officer also orders such extras as he deems desirable.

Repairs and Improvements.

The amount voted by Parliament for repairs did not admit of any extensive improvements, nevertheless a large part of the roof of the male division was re-shingled; several of the wards were colored and painted, some by contract and some by inmate labour; many of the outside walls and buildings

were colored and painted; drain pipes were laid where most required; the worn-out flagging was taken up and replaced by asphalt, and sundry other minor repairs were effected. The whole of the bedsteads in the male division were re-painted. A mess-room was fitted up for the paid wardsmen, and the road leading from the main street to the Institution was planted with oak-trees and partly fenced with a view of forming an avenue.

Garden.

Under the direction of Mr. Overseer Scully, the supply of vegetables was well maintained. 58,485 lbs., valued at £163 12s. 5d., were used in the Institution, and quantities in excess of the requirements of the Institution were from time to time forwarded to H.M. Gaol.

Religious Services, &c.

The spiritual welfare of the inmates has been well looked after by the Chaplains, the Sisters of Mercy, Lay Preachers, the Flower Mission, the Salvation Army, and several ladies and gentlemen who take an interest in the work.

Visitors.

The Visitors' Books record a large number of visits paid during the year. Exclusive of those paid by ministers of religion, there were no less than 1114 recorded in the Visitors' Book in the Female Division. It is not found practicable to record all the visitors to the Male Division, but the numbers were nevertheless very large. I have appended some extracts from the Visitors' Books.

Treats.

Mrs. Colonel Shelton and the ladies associated with her gave their usual treat to the male inmates, as also did the Ladies' Flower Mission. The Ladies' Reading Committee gave their annual "tea," the week before Christmas, to the female inmates. By the exertions of Mr. J. W. Johnson, the whole of the inmates were regaled on Good Friday with hot cross buns, fruit, and tobacco; and the Cascade Brewery Company and Mr. G. Nichols generously afforded the inmates a supply of ale with their Christmas cheer. On the Queen's Birthday, by the liberality of the Government, the usual treat of roast beef, plum pudding, and extras was afforded.

Library.

The proprietors of the *Mercury*, *Tasmanian News*, *Church News*, and *Catholic Standard* kindly supplied copies of their publications during the year, and presents of books, periodicals, and papers were received from several friends of the Institution for the benefit of the inmates.

I have the honor to be,
Sir,

Your obedient Servant,

GEO. RICHARDSON, *Superintendent.*

The Hon. the Chief Secretary.



RETURN showing the Expenditure at the NEW TOWN CHARITABLE INSTITUTION for the Year 1891; the Receipts for the same period; and the Net Cost per head.

EXPENDITURE.	£	s.	d.	RECEIPTS.	£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.
Salaries.....	1378	18	11	Fees for Maintenance of inmates	199	12	7			
Provisions	3735	15	9	Sale of road metal, rags, &c.....	14	13	9			
Medical comforts.....	152	16	9	Labour of men at Cemetery	73	16	6			
Clothing, bedding, stores, and stationery.....	1198	4	9	Labour of men at Government Farm...	90	16	0			
Fuel and light.....	574	18	6	Wine & spirits supplied to Gaol, Hobart.....	7	6	11			
Medicines	140	16	0	Ditto General Hospital, Hobart....	0	5	6			
Medical attendance.....	63	0	0	Tobacco supplied to men at Cemetery.....	0	16	4			
Miscellaneous, including funeral expenses	317	14	2					387	7	7
Repairs and alterations to buildings...	252	16	10	Balance, being Net Cost of Establishment.....	...			7427	14	1
TOTAL.....	£7815	1	8	TOTAL.....	...	...	...	£7815	1	8

Average Daily Number.

Males (Colonial).....	365
„ (Imperial).....	24
Females	156
	<u>545</u>

Net Cost per head, £13 12s. 7d.

RETURN showing the estimated probable Cost of New Town Charitable Institution, and the actual Amount expended, for the year 1891.

Heads of Service.	Per Estimate.	Actual Cost.	Increase.	Decrease.
	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.
Salaries.....	1436 0 0	1378 18 11	...	57 1 1
Provisions	5000 0 0	3735 15 9	...	1264 4 3
Medical Comforts.....	150 0 0	152 16 9	2 16 9	
Clothing, Bedding, Stores, and Stationery.....	1500 0 0	1198 4 9	...	301 15 3
Medicine and Medical Attendance.....	150 0 0	203 16 0	53 16 0	
Miscellaneous, including Funeral Expenses	260 0 0	317 14 2	57 14 2	
Fuel and Light.....	450 0 0	574 18 6	124 18 6	
Repairs to Buildings.....	150 0 0	252 16 10	102 16 10	
TOTAL.....	9096 0 0	7815 1 8	342 2 3	1623 0 7

Estimated cost	£ s. d.
Actual cost.....	9096 0 0
	7815 1 8
Under estimate.....	<u>1280 18 4</u>

RETURN of Deaths at the New Town Charitable Institution during the year 1891.

Disease.	Between the Ages of—														TOTAL.
	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.	
Apoplexy	1	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	2
Brain disease.....	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1
Bright's disease.....	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1
Cancer	1	3	...	1	1	...	...	...	...	6
Chronic bronchitis	1	...	...	...	...	...	1
Dysentery	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	1
Heart disease	1	2	...	...	...	...	...	...	3
Injuries caused through a fall	1	...	...	...	...	...	1
Paralysis	1	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	2
Paralysis of brain	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1
Phthisis.....	1	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	2
Senile debility	3	1	12	5	49	12	40	4	5	1	132
TOTALS	1	1	...	1	4	2	19	8	53	14	40	4	5	1	153

DECENNIAL Return showing the Number of Persons remaining in the New Town Charitable Institution on the 1st January; the Number received, discharged, and remaining on 31st December of each year; Net Cost of the Institution, and the Net Cost per Head.

Year.	Remaining on 1st January.	Received during Year.	Total.	Discharged during Year.	Died during Year.	Total.	Remaining on 31st December.		Average daily Number.	Net Cost of Institution.	Net Cost per Head.
							Number.	Average Age.			
1882.....	595	730	1325	606	129	735	590	64.50	666	£ 8493 18 8	£ 12 15 0
1883.....	590	776	1366	643	133	776	590	65.00	642	8501 13 11	13 4 10
1884.....	590	640	1230	515	163	678	552	64.75	626	8444 15 4	13 9 9
1885.....	552	727	1279	520	152	672	607	64.50	609	8474 19 3	13 18 3
1886.....	607	805	1412	623	146	769	643	64.50	670	8901 5 8	13 5 6
1887.....	643	752	1395	647	168	815	580	68.00	662	8578 0 5	12 19 9
1888.....	580	636	1216	534	118	652	564	68.25	624	8841 13 7	14 3 4
1889.....	564	552	1116	484	112	596	520	68.00	589	8176 12 1	13 17 8
1890.....	520	603	1123	456	127	583	540	67.75	592	8263 3 11	13 19 2
1891.....	540	530	1070	413	153	566	504	70.08	545	7427 14 1	13 12 7

RETURN showing the Number of Persons in the New Town Charitable Institution on the 1st day of each Month during the Year 1891.

	<i>Males.</i>	<i>Females.</i>	<i>Total.</i>
January.....	382	158	540
February.....	370	153	523
March.....	363	152	515
April.....	364	147	511
May.....	406	159	565
June.....	398	158	556
July.....	415	155	570
August.....	405	160	565
September.....	410	161	571
October.....	408	165	573
November.....	397	162	559
December.....	373	158	531

EXTRACTS FROM VISITORS' BOOKS.

MALE DIVISION.

VISITED Institution thoroughly. I have been much struck with the cleanliness, order, and comfort that prevails.

2. 1. 91.

JAMES ECCLESTON WALKER. (*The Press*)

THE system of working the Institution is highly creditable. Cleanliness and comfort are marked characteristics.

3. 1. 91.

CHARLES HOGG, *Newcastle, N.S.W., Reporter.*

AM much pleased with the provision made for the comfort of inmates.

3. 1. 91.

J. MACKAY, *Newcastle, N.S.W.*

AM much pleased with all the arrangements of this Institution.

One novel arrangement of separating the R. C. inmates must, I think, work exceedingly well. The rooms are exceptionally clean.

4. 1. 91.

THOS. F. CORBETT, *LL.B., Victoria.*

MUCH gratified with the cleanliness and good order of the Institution, and also with the courtesy of those in charge.

5. 1. 91.

J. J. SHEEDY, *H.T., Victoria.*

WELL pleased with the cleanliness and arrangements.

19. 1. 91.

EVERETT SMITH.
(*From Newcastle, connected with Depot there.*)

VERY pleased with everything; everything in beautiful order.

24. 1. 91.

GEORGE BIRD, *H.M.S. Orlando.*
W. T. BATES.

VERY much satisfied with what I have seen.

28. 2. 91.

ARTHUR J. LEWIS, *Randwick, Sydney.*

ALL most creditable.

5. 3. 91.

W. H. SMITH, *Town Clerk, Hobart.*
J. H. MADDOCK, *Melbourne.*

VERY much pleased with the evidence of kindness and care bestowed on the inmates.

23. 3. 91.

A. H. BARLOW, } *Ipswich, Queensland,*
WM. SALKELD, }
M's.P. interested in Charitable Institutions.

IN going round the Institution to day, I am glad to notice the additions to the comfort and safety of the inmates. Three main points which I have long urged have been conceded; viz.—professional nurses, gas, and fire escapes. I notice, also, numerous minor improvements under the new régime; attention appears to be paid to the smallest detail affecting the comfort of the inmates, all indicating a personal interest in the Institution.

17. 4. 91.

W. H. ST. HILL, *M.H.A.*

WE think the treatment of the aged poor most kind, and far more humane than in England.

30. 4. 91.

JOSEPH D. KAIN. } *Members of Stockport Board*
SAML. ROBINSON. } *of Guardians, England.*

THE treatment of the inmates and the management of this Institution reflect credit on its officials and the Colony of Tasmania.

8. 5. 91.

ARTHUR COGGIN, *Royal Mint, Melbourne.*

VISITED this establishment to-day, and must confess that the Institution is admirably managed. Everything very clean, and the inmates the subjects of great care and attention.

13. 5. 91.

E. DANIEL, *Launceston Depot.*

FOUND everything in good order, and much improved since my last visit.

5. 8. 91.

W. H. MACFARLANE, *M.B., New Norfolk.*

EVERYTHING beautifully clean, and all the old men seem very happy and comfortable.

1. 10. 91.

E. L. DITCHAM, *Launceston.*

HAVING visited a great many Institutions in the other Colonies, I can say I have never seen one more cleanly or apparently better kept or managed, and everything changed for the better from the old management. The whole premises I found perfectly clean and free from every kind of smell.

3. 10. 91.

MAURICE WESTON.

FOUND everything in a perfectly satisfactory condition. Inmates very happy.

2. 12. 91.

J. B. CURRAN, *Hobart.*
P. SCHNEIDERS, *London.*
B. SNIDERS, *Melbourne, Ex Presiden' Jewish Philanthropic Society.*

HAVE been shown over the whole Institution. Think everything very satisfactory except the Library. Shall have great pleasure in forwarding a donation of books.

28. 12. 91.

ROBERT B. HAROLD, *J.P., Melbourne.*

HAVING been through the whole of this Institution, I have much pleasure in testifying to very efficient and perfect management.

28. 12. 91.

CHARLES ROGERS, *J.P.*

FEMALE DIVISION.

VERY clean and comfortable.

3. 1. 91.

M. V. BEST, *General Hospital, Hobart.*

EXCEEDINGLY pleased with all I have seen. Cleanliness and tidiness everywhere. Old people looking cheerful and happy.

3. 1. 91.

LEE WHITELAW.

WELL pleased with my visit to this Institution. Everything very clean.

6. 1. 91.

JAMES CURLEY, *M.L.A., Islington, Newcastle, N.S.W.*

MUCH pleased with all we have seen.

6. 1. 91.

JOHN T. SHIELD.
E. IRELAND, *Newcastle.*
A. WOLLEDGE, *Penrith.*
T. WOLLEDGE, *Newcastle.*
A. IRELAND, *Newcastle.*

NOTICED great cleanliness and order.

14. 1. 91.

L. A. & F. M. TILLEY, *Adelaide.*

- SCRUPULOUSLY clean, and old folk look happy and cheerful.
 25. 2. 91. _____ THOS. SANTLEY, *Melbourne.*
- GREATLY pleased to see the excellent manner in which the Institution is managed.

 NORMAN S. COHEN, *Sydney, N.S.W.*
 GEORGE J. COHEN.
 D. NATHAN.
 W. L. COHEN.
 23. 3. 91.
- MUCH pleased with the evidence of kindness and care bestowed on the inmates.
 13. 4. 91. _____ WM. SALKELD, *Ipswich, Queensland.*
- VERY well pleased. Very clean.

 L. FREAME, } *Victoria.*
 A. FREAME, }
- EVERYTHING looks very clean and comfortable.
 24. 4. 91. _____ W. A. KID.
- VERY pleased with everything.

 MRS. SHOLL.
 MISS MOFFATT.
 29. 4. 91.
- THE accommodation excellent.
 30. 4. 91. _____ *Councillor J. D. KAIN, Stockport, England.*
- ALL the old folk look as cozy as could be desired.

 PHILIP K. O'BRIEN, *M.R.C.S., Eng.*
 HAMILTON FITTS.
 6. 6. 91.
- MUCH pleased with visit, and with kindly feeling shown by inmates towards Superintendent.

 THOMAS HARLIN,
Member of the Victorian Royal Commission on Charities.
 29. 6. 91.
- A GRAND Institution for the old people. Very pleased with the way it is conducted.
 5. 11. 91. _____ E. A. STACEY.