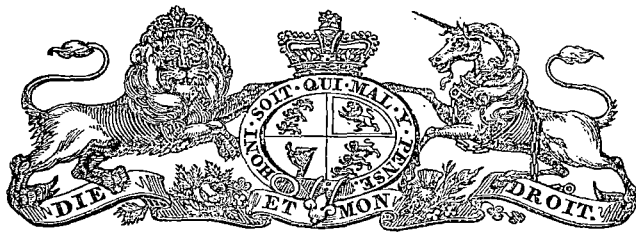


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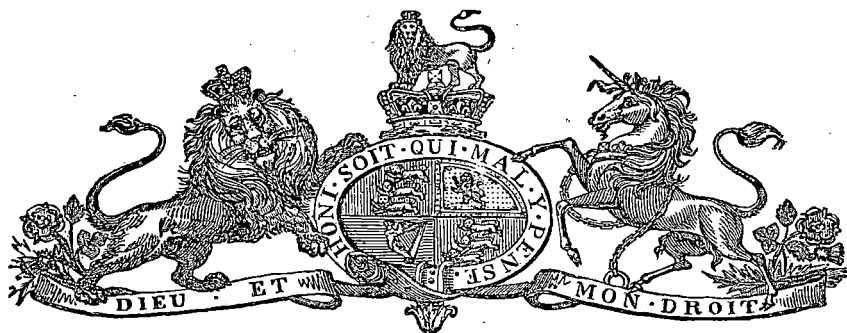
1888.

PARLIAMENT OF TASMANIA.

NEW TOWN CHARITABLE INSTITUTION :

REPORT FOR 1887.

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



*ANNUAL REPORT of the NEW TOWN CHARITABLE INSTITUTION for the Year
ending 31st December, 1887.*

New Town Charitable Institution, 1st February, 1888.

SIR,

I HAVE the honor to transmit the Annual Report of this Institution for the year 1887; and although nothing very striking has occurred during the past year, I have reason to hope it will (after examination) prove satisfactory.

The cost of maintenance cannot fail to meet with your approval, viz., 8½d. per diem. I believe, whilst I have paid all possible respect to the economical working of the Institution, nothing of importance having regard to the comfort of the inmates and the necessary expenditure for so large an establishment has been omitted.

There have been extensive repairs and additions to the female division, which, during the test since their completion, have proved to be advantageous to the comfort of the females, as also to their sanitary requirements.

In my last Report I drew attention to the very unsatisfactory state of the water supply. This has at all times been a vexed question; but as a Parliamentary grant has been made to rectify this special want, I am informed by those capable of giving an opinion that the proposed measures will render our water supply perfect, as to quantity and quality, both for use and in case of fire.

There have been, as in former years, several entertainments of a pleasing nature, got up entirely by kind and generous ladies and gentlemen, who from time to time enliven the inmates, thus relieving them from the sameness at all times prevailing in such institutions.

Mrs. Colonel Shelton, who has been to England and returned since my last Report, has resumed her visits, and has promised the inmates that she will continue her annual treats. I may here say that the visits and general kindness of this Christian lady are duly appreciated.

There is a frequent attendance of ladies and gentlemen, embracing, I believe, all denominations, and who, with the chaplains, afford a means of moral and Christian reformation. From the attention and fervour exhibited, I have hopes that the efforts of these painstaking people are, in some instances, successful.

I am anxious to note that the Jubilee of Her Majesty's reign was fully kept in view by loyal sentiments in coloured lettering, &c., the work of inmates. The inmates were also feasted upon this occasion.

The proprietors of the *Mercury*, *Tasmanian News*, *Church News*, *Catholic Standard*, and *People's Friend* still continue the supply of their respective journals free of charge. The eagerness with which the arrival of these are looked for evinces the appreciation of this boon.

I am greatly indebted to various donors of illustrated and other papers, pamphlets, &c., and particularly to the ladies of the Flower Mission, whose regular weekly visits and general kindness to the inmates is beyond all praise.

The accompanying Returns will, no doubt, prove satisfactory.

I am much pleased to report the conduct of the officers to be satisfactory.

I have the honor to be,
Sir,

Your most obedient Servant,

J. WITHRINGTON, *Superintendent*.

The Hon. the Chief Secretary, Hobart.

EXPENDITURE for the Year 1887.

	£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.		£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.
Salaries .....	..	..	..	1133	9	3	Maintenance, &c.	105	8	8			
Contingencies—							Pig food to New Town Farm	12	0	0			
Provisions	5009	13	5				Tobacco to New Town Farm..	0	17	6			
Medical Comforts	127	13	10				Tobacco to Cemetery	0	17	6			
Medicines and Medical Atten-											119	3	8
dance	248	5	4				Net Cost .....	..			8587	0	5
Clothing, bedding, stores,													
and stationery	1304	4	11										
Fuel and light	430	19	3										
Miscellaneous, including													
funeral expenses	293	17	1										
Repairs and alterations to													
buildings	158	1	0										
				7572	14	10							
TOTAL .....	..			£8706	4	1					£8706	4	1

Produce of Garden—Vegetables, 26,735 lbs., valued at £61 9s. 5d.

J. WITHRINGTON, *Superintendent*.

COMPARATIVE Statement of the Average Daily Number of Inmates and Expenditure for the Years 1880 to 1887 inclusive.

	1880.		1881.		1882.		1883.		1884.		1885.		1886.		1887.	
	Average Daily No. of Inmates.	Net Expenditure.	Average Daily No. of Inmates.	Net Expenditure.	Average Daily No. of Inmates.	Net Expenditure.	Average Daily No. of Inmates.	Net Expenditure.	Average Daily No. of Inmates.	Net Expenditure.	Average Daily No. of Inmates.	Net Expenditure.	Average Daily No. of Inmates.	Net Expenditure.	Average Daily No. of Inmates.	Net Expenditure.
Charitable Institution...	569	£ s. d. 6749 0 4	611	£ s. d. 6965 18 5½	577	£ s. d. 7440 3 1	642	£ s. d. 8501 13 11	626	£ s. d. 8444 15 4	609	£ s. d. 8474 19 3	670½	£ s. d. 8901 5 8	661¾	£ s. d. 8587 0 5
Brickfields	134½	1577 8 2	119½	1394 4 5½	89	1053 15 7	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
TOTAL	703½	8326 8 6	730½	8360 2 11	666	8493 18 8	642	8501 13 11	626	8444 15 4	609	8474 19 3	670½	8901 5 8	661¾	8587 0 5
Per diem	—	7¾d.	—	7½d.	—	8¼d.	—	8¾d.	—	9d.	—	9d.	—	8¾d.	—	8½d.
Per annum	—	£11 16s. 8½d.	—	£11 8s. 11¼d.	—	£12 15s. 0¾d.	—	£13 4s. 10d.	—	£13 9s. 9½d.	—	£13 18s. 3¾d.	—	£13 5s. 6d.	—	£12 19s. 9¾d.

J. WITHRINGTON, Superintendent.

COMPARATIVE Strength Return for the Years 1880, 1881, 1882, 1883, 1884, 1885, 1886, and 1887.

	1880.		1881.		1882.		1883.		1884.		1885.		1886.		1887.	
	<i>Male Div.</i>	<i>Female Div.</i>	<i>Male Div.</i>	<i>Female Div.</i>	<i>Male Div.</i>	<i>Female Div.</i>	<i>Male Div.</i>	<i>Female Div.</i>	<i>Male Div.</i>	<i>Female Div.</i>	<i>Male Div.</i>	<i>Female Div.</i>	<i>Male Div.</i>	<i>Female Div.</i>	<i>Male Div.</i>	<i>Female Div.</i>
No. of Inmates, 1st January.....	408	151	408	157	420	175	422	168	413	177	364	186	423	184	467	176
Admitted during the year	491	116	481	150	543	187	575	201	470	170	557	170	627	178	581	171
TOTALS	899	267	889	307	963	362	997	369	883	347	921	356	1050	362	1048	347
Discharged during year.....	393	87	393	112	447	159	475	168	391	124	394	124	475	147	504	143
Died during the year.....	98	23	76	20	94	35	109	24	127	36	104	48	107	39	132	36
TOTALS	491	110	469	132	541	194	584	192	518	160	498	172	583	186	636	179
Remaining 31st December.....	408	157	420	175	422	168	413	177	365	187	423	184	467	176	412	168

J. WITHRINGTON, *Superintendent.*

COMPARATIVE Return of Ages of Inmates for the Years 1880, 1881, 1882, 1883, 1884, 1885, 1886, and 1887.

	1880.		1881.		1882.		1883.		1884.		1885.		1886.		1887.	
	Male.	Female.	Male.	Female.	Male.	Female.	Male.	Female.	Male.	Female.	Male.	Female.	Male.	Female.	Male.	Female.
Number of deaths	98	23	76	20	94	35	109	24	127	36	104	48	107	39	132	36
Average age of those who died	71½	69	72½	66½	74	72	73	70	73	73	73½	72¾	73½	71¼	72	73⅔
Oldest	97	86	85	90	91	91	94	92	94	88	96	91	95	92	91	95
Youngest.....	37	34	45	16	28	19	54	53	53	53	34	27	32	25	23	55
Average age of those remaining 31st December, 1887.....	68¾	66	68	60	69	60	69	60½	68	61½	68	61	67¾	61½	69¼	62½
Ditto males and females combined, 31st December, 1887	67½		64		64½		65		64¾		64½		64½		68½	
Oldest	89	93	91	88	91	90	92	89	90	92	95	83	96	84	97	95
Youngest	12	16	29	15	18	8	20	9	20	20	20	15	22	16	21	12

J. WITHRINGTON, *Superintendent.*

EXTRACTS FROM VISITORS' BOOK.

BEEN all over the Institution. Very much pleased with all we have seen both in male and female departments. Every kindness shown both to inmates and visitors.

3rd March, 1887.

(Signed) MR. & MRS. JOSEPH BELL,
Brighton Beach, Melbourne.

16th March, 1887.

HAVING just completed a tour round the premises, am not only surprised but delighted with the cleanliness of the establishment, and am pleased to observe the comfort and homely manner of the men even in the presence of Mr. Seager, who has so courteously shown me over the home; the old prison discipline being quite conspicuous by its absence, and, I trust, it will ever have such zealous workers at its head as my kind friend and the matron.

(Signed) HORACE WATSON, *St. Kilda.*

HAVING been shown over the Institution, we are greatly pleased with the manner in which it is conducted, and are delighted with the cleanliness of the Institution. It far surpasses any similar institution we have visited.

(Signed) H. E. S. WATTS, *Caulfield.*
H. O. D. WHITTY, *Hawthorn.*
W. H. SHORT, *St. Kilda.*

March, 1887.

WE sincerely thank the manager and officers for the courtesy they have shown us whilst inspecting this Institution,—an Institution which reflects much credit on the Colony.

(Signed) E. M. KINGSLEY, *Lochmaben, Dumfries, N.B.*
T. E. NORTHOVER, *Weymouth, Dorset.*

I MADE a careful inspection of this Institution this evening, commencing at quarter to 8 o'clock and terminating at half-past 10 o'clock, giving no warning of my intention.

I found the dormitories clean and, for the most part, well ventilated—a little excessive, in fact, I noticed here and there. The dormitories on the ground floor are all provided with fire-places, four of the upstairs ones are similarly provided, the four others are without; but radiating stoves are about to be provided (the inmates in these receive an extra blanket each). In five of the dormitories there were altogether 16 men sleeping on the floor for want of bedstead accommodation. Out of a total of 496 male inmates 183 were in the hospital wards (eight in number).

I find there are six old soldiers in this Institution in receipt of pensions, and who, under the provisions of Section 14 of 37 Vict. No. 15 (Maintenance of Indigent Persons), are compelled to submit to a levy being made on their pensions for their maintenance to an extent which leaves them but a mere pittance. As nearly all of them have seen a considerable amount of active service, I would submit, on their behalf, although not at their request, a protest against a continuance of this system in respect to those who have given their best years to their country, and who might be allowed to purchase with their hard-earned pension a few comforts for their remaining days, instead of being mulcted by the State for their subsistence.

In the female division there were only 32 in hospital out of a total of 196. The dormitories here appeared also warm and at the same time fairly ventilated. Like the male division, the sleeping accommodation would seem to be insufficient, the passage in the centre of the room between the beds in some of the dormitories being occupied by beds on the floor. Lights, I noticed, in each of the dormitories, both in the male and female division.

The general aspect of the wards in both divisions conveyed the idea of scrupulous cleanliness.

The Superintendent, Deputy-Superintendent, and the various assistants gave me the impression of taking great interest in the care of those entrusted to their charge.

1st Aug. 1887.

(Signed) W. H. ST. HILL.

10th September, 1887.

WITH Mrs. Hardy and Mrs. Reibey I went carefully over all the wards of male and female divisions. Much pleased with the order of both, and the evident care taken of the grounds and gardens. Considering the class of men to be cared for, their past habits and life, and also the construction of the old rambling buildings, with bad staircases, and the want of all modern improvements, I think Mr. Withrington and his officers deserve great credit for the way in which they conduct the Institution.

There is rather too great evidence of economy as far as paint and colouring are concerned. Many parts of the building might be brightened up and made more cheerful by a *small* expenditure of money.

The women's department was particularly clean, and the old women appeared to be happy and comfortable.

10th September, 1887.

(Signed) THOS. REIBEY, *Speaker House of Assembly.*

22nd December, 1887.

I HAVE to-day, in company of Mr. Fisher, of New South Wales, visited this Institution, and have much pleasure in testifying to the excellent order, neatness, and extreme degree of cleanliness displayed in every part of the buildings; and must compliment Mr. Withrington on the excellent manner in which everything is conducted.

(Signed) JAMES M. COOKE, *Victoria.*
JOHN FISHER, *N.S. Wales.*
