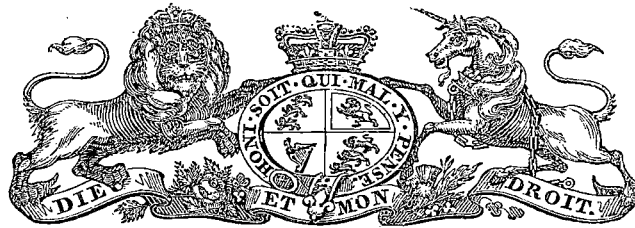


(No. 22.)



1893.

PARLIAMENT OF TASMANIA.

O U T - D O O R R E L I E F :

REPORT FOR 1892.

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



OUT-DOOR RELIEF.

REPORT FOR 1892.

Charitable Grants Department, 11th April, 1893.

SIR,

I HAVE the honor to submit the following Report for the year 1892 on the subject of **Out-door Relief, &c.** to Destitute Persons throughout the Colony, and the expenditure for transport and funeral expenses.

In a Return attached thereto is set forth the total sum disbursed for Out-door Relief in the Cities and Suburbs of Hobart and Launceston, and in each of the Municipal and Police Districts, amounting in all to £3236 11s. 5d. From this the sum of £56 5s. 10d. (received as repayments, including £27 6s. due by the Imperial Government, has been deducted, making the actual expenditure £3180 5s. 7d.

The number of cases in which relief was given, and the number of persons amongst whom it was distributed, were as follows:—Total number of cases, 449; number of individuals, 1117—571 adults and 546 children, belonging to 143 families.

Of the 449 cases—

200 were those of aged, infirm, and afflicted persons without family ties—males, 69; females, 131.

106 were of the same class, but composed of married couples.

11 were deserted wives with families.

67 were widows also with children to support.

59 were parents to whom assistance was given during illness or recovery from accidents; and

6 were the mothers of children whose fathers were undergoing terms of imprisonment.

449 total; 180 of which were relieved in Hobart, 44 in Launceston, and the remainder 225 in other Municipalities, &c.

Further details will be found in the Return forwarded herewith.

Each application for assistance was carefully inquired into, and unless evidence was forthcoming of the existence of such poverty and distress as appeared to demand attention at the hands of the Government, the request was not complied with. Care was also taken that persons who had relatives in a position to afford the help needed did not become charges upon the public.

According to practice, the authorities for the payment of cash or the supply of rations were issued for terms not exceeding six months, and on their expiration, if applications for renewal were made by those through whose agency assistance had previously been distributed, and the necessity for the grant still existed, the extensions asked for were authorised.

In connection with the above I have much pleasure in acknowledging the prompt and courteous manner in which my inquiries were replied to by the Wardens, Police Magistrates, and other officials with whom in the discharge of my duties I found it necessary to communicate.

Respecting Hobart and Suburbs, applications for relief were investigated and reported upon by the Inquiring Officer, Mr. Pearce, who discharged his duties in a very satisfactory manner. This officer also drew and issued rations, and made such payments in cash as were authorised, accounting for the same monthly through me to the Auditor-General and Colonial Storekeeper.

On the 1st January, 1892, there were 120 cases on the books. During the year 60 new cases were added (20 of which were transfers from the Benevolent Society), and 58 were removed from the list, leaving 122 on the 31st December, an increase of 2 since the beginning of the year. There were also four other transfers from the Benevolent Society, in one of which relief was not given, the circumstances connected therewith appearing to be such as the Society, not the Government, should recognise, and in the other three no further application was made.

In Launceston the work was carried on under the supervision of Mr. H. G. Quodling, and in the Municipal and Police Districts the Chief Magistrates and Superintendents of Police reported upon the circumstances of applicants, and disbursed such relief as was authorised.

In addition to the sum already referred to, viz., £3180 5s. 7d., out-door relief, £1221 6s. 8d. was expended on account of the maintenance of destitute persons not otherwise provided for, making a total of £4401 12s. 3d. Included in this amount is the sum of £104 2s. 10d. for the maintenance, clothing, and education of three children in the New South Wales Institution for the Deaf and Dumb and the Blind; £209 17s. for five boys and one girl in the Royal Victorian Institute for the Blind, St. Kilda Road, Melbourne; £28 16s. 4d. in connection with the board and lodging of a lad in the Industrial Blind Institution, Boomerang-street, Sydney, whose position there was explained in the Report for the year 1890,—making a total under this head of £342 16s. 2d.; £75 (increased from £50) to defray the cost of medicines supplied at the General Hospital, Hobart, to Out-door Patients; £25 salary Inquiring Officer, Launceston; £25 for clerical assistance, Launceston; and the balance to the liquidation of claims for medical attendance and medicine to out-door paupers residing in the Country Districts; fees for medical examination in cases of lunacy; maintenance of paupers in Cottage Hospitals; salary of Matron and maintenance of inmates of the Lying-in Home, Cascades; the supply of food and lodging to casual paupers and tramps at the Campbell Town and other Police Stations; cost of Christmas treat and fuel to the recipients of Out-door Relief, Hobart; commission to Collectors for Charitable Institutions; four special compassionate allowances; and other items of a similar character.

Repayments, however, amounting to £32 19s. 4d., in addition to the sum already credited to Out-door Relief, were received, which reduced the actual expenditure to £4395 18s. 11d. Of this amount £38 12s. is on account of liabilities incurred in the year 1891, and has been provided for on a Supplementary Estimate.

With regard to the Deaf and Dumb and Blind Children above referred to, two, a boy and a girl, both blind, were discharged from the New South Wales Institution in December for misconduct, the particulars of which have not been reported. The boy returned to the Colony, and efforts are being made to obtain his admission to the Royal Victorian Institute, Melbourne, but the Committee hesitate to receive him until they obtain some knowledge of the circumstances (for which they have applied) that led to his expulsion from the Sydney Institution. The sum of £11 7s. has been received from Sydney for this boy from the special prize fund and paid to the Hobart Savings' Bank for his benefit. The girl remained in Sydney, and is now an inmate of the New South Wales Home for Blind Women, Albert Road, Starthfield, near Sydney. She also gained prizes to the amount of £9, which sum has been placed to her credit in the New South Wales Savings' Bank. After three years' instruction at Strathfield it is expected she will be able to earn sufficient to enable her to dispense with further assistance from the Government of this Colony.

The deaf and dumb girl referred to in last year's Report is still under the care of the Governors of the Girls' Industrial School, Hobart.

There are now three boys, one deaf and dumb and two blind, in the New South Wales Institution; two girls, blind, in the Institution for Blind Women near Sydney; one lad, blind, in the Industrial Blind Institution, Boomerang-street, Sydney; and five boys and one girl in the Royal Victorian Institute, Melbourne, who belong to this Colony, and are maintained at the public expense subject to contributions from the relatives of three of the inmates of the last-named Institution, amounting to £49 10s. per annum.

The cost of transport and funeral expenses amounted to £551 9s. 10d., but the sum of £39 0s. 10d. was received as repayment, which reduced the actual expenditure to £512 9s.

Included in the expenditure for transport, &c. is the cost of the conveyance to the New Town Charitable Institution of 79 destitute persons for whom the Superintendent of the Invalid Depôt, Launceston, could not find accommodation. Of these, 37 (males 31, females 6) came from Launceston, 31 males from Campbell Town, 3 males from Longford, 1 male from East Devonport, 3 males from Deloraine, 1 male from Ross, 2 males from Ulverstone, and 1 male from Latrobe.

In 1891 the number under this head was 52, 27 less than in 1892.

The following are the particulars of the number of orders issued during the year for out-door treatment as paupers at the Hospital, Hobart :—New cases, 673 ; renewals, 799 ; single visits, 99 ; refused, 21. Dr. Barnard also received 418 orders to visit cases in the City. Total applications, 2010.

Orders were also given for the admission from Hobart of 378 destitute men and women to the New Town Charitable Institution. Except in cases in which the persons to whom these orders were given were known to be destitute and friendless, inquiry was made for relatives and such as were found to be in a position to supply the medical aid required, or to contribute to the cost of maintenance, were called upon to do so. Similar inquiries were also made on the occasion of each admission to the Depôt at Launceston ; the Hospital for the Insane, New Norfolk ; the Girls' Industrial Schools, Hobart and Launceston ; St. Joseph's Orphanage ; the Training Schools for Boys and Girls ; and advantage taken of every opportunity that presented itself to obtain contributions from relatives of inmates.

Returns of the Annual Expenditure for Out-door Relief, and the Daily Average Number of Inmates of the several Depôts in the Colony from 1879 to 1892, both years inclusive, are forwarded herewith.

The annual claim in connection with repayment by the Imperial Government on account of paupers who were a charge to the Colony during the year, and which amounted to £1700 19s. 2d., has also been prepared and forwarded to the Treasury.

During the year there were 20 inmates of the Lying-in Home. Every attention was paid to them by the Ladies' Visiting Committee during their stay, and on their discharge they were cared for and furnished by the Committee with the means of supporting themselves and infants. Dr. Crouch had medical charge of the inmates, and Mrs. Boam, the Midwife, who resides on the premises, was responsible for their comfort and the internal arrangements of the Home.

I have the honour to be,

Sir,

Your obedient Servant,

J. O'BOYLE, *Administrator Charitable Grants.*

The Hon. the Chief Secretary.

RETURN showing the Number of Cases, &c. in which Relief was given.

DISTRICT.	Total Number of Cases.	Individuals relieved.			Number of Families to whom the Children belonged.	Adults, Aged and Infirm.			Aged and Infirm Married Couples.	Deserted Wives and Families.	Widows with Families.	Illness or Accidents.	Mothers of Children whose Fathers were undergoing Sentence.	Expenditure.	Expenditure per Head.				
		Adults.	Children.	Total.		Males.	Females.	Total.											
Hobart	180	237	224	461	61	18	60	78	41	8	22	26	5	£ 787	s. 16	d. 3	£ 1	s. 14	d. 2
Launceston	44	54	69	123	16	7	11	18	10	1	9	6	0	389	15	9	3	3	4½
Municipalities, &c.	225	280	253	533	66	44	60	104	55	2	36	27	1	2058	19	5	3	17	3
	449	571	546	1117	143	69	131	200	106	11	67	59	6	3236	11	5			
Deduct Repayments.....													56	5	10				
													£ 3180	5	7	2	17	11¼	

RETURN of Expenditure for Out-door Relief in the Cities of Hobart and Launceston, and the several Municipal and Police Districts, during the Year 1892.

Bothwell	£ 8	s. 7	d. 0	Kingborough.....	£ 79	s. 4	d. 2
Brighton	67	13	0	Launceston.....	389	15	9
Campbell Town	182	3	8	Longford	189	7	6
Carnarvon.....	3	5	5	Macquarie Plains	9	4	8
Clarence.....	19	12	6	New Norfolk.....	115	6	0
Deloraine	108	16	3	Oatlands.....	27	18	7
Evandale	101	1	8	Portland	10	18	0
East Devon.....	154	3	1	Ross	29	1	7
Emu Bay.....	35	19	0	Richmond.....	45	13	11
Fingal.....	84	16	11	Russell	22	4	7
Franklin	158	5	11	Ringarooma.....	6	2	8
Glamorgan	26	7	11	Spring Bay.....	16	8	7
Glenorchy.....	33	18	8	Sorell.....	68	14	1
Green Ponds	51	1	3	West Devon.....	144	12	6
George Town.....	28	8	6	Westbury	166	9	2
Hamilton	63	12	8				
Hobart { Cash.....	148	8	9		£3236	11	5
Rations.....	639	7	6				

RETURN of Expenditure for Out-door Relief in Tasmania during the Years 1879, 1880, 1881, 1882, 1883, 1884, 1885, 1886, 1887, 1888, 1889, 1890, 1891, and 1892.

Year.	Expenditure.		Repayments to be deducted.	TOTAL EXPENDITURE.
	Hobart and Suburbs.	Launceston, Municipalities, &c.		
	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.
1879	2361 2 3	4956 17 7	...	7317 19 10
1880	2088 19 9	3783 17 4	...	5872 17 1
1881	1633 9 11	3542 9 9	45 1 1	5130 18 7
1882	1579 18 9	3387 15 8	81 5 0	4886 9 5
1883	1473 13 10	3222 17 2	76 19 2	4619 11 10
1884	1469 8 3	3051 3 9	42 1 5	4478 10 7
1885	1329 6 8	2845 13 0	38 3 0	4136 16 8
1886	1270 0 1	2945 12 5	33 9 5	4191 3 1
1887	1296 15 9	3026 6 11	51 19 4	4271 3 4
1888	946 6 11	2996 17 5	39 19 5	3903 4 11
1889	900 14 6	2628 8 3	45 15 0	3483 7 9
1890	817 17 6	2369 2 6	39 13 7	3147 6 5
1891	734 17 9	2385 19 6	59 7 2	3061 10 1
1892	787 16 3	2448 15 2	56 5 10	3180 5 7

RETURN of the Daily Average Number of Inmates of the several Invalid Depôts during the Years 1879, 1880, 1881, 1882, 1883, 1884, 1885, 1886, 1887, 1888, 1889, 1890, 1891, and 1892.

Years.	Brickfields.	New Town.	Launceston.	TOTAL.
1879	222	550	125	897
1880	134	569	140	843
1881	119	611	146	876
1882	89	577	140	806
1883 .....	...	642	139	781
1884 .....	...	626	147	773
1885 .....	...	609	150	759
1886 .....	...	670	128	798
1887 .....	...	661	148	809
1888 .....	...	624	188	812
1889 .....	...	589	217	806
1890 .....	...	592	210	802
1891 .....	...	545	215	760
1892 .....	...	535	224	759