

(No. 23.)



1894.

PARLIAMENT OF TASMANIA.

HOSPITAL FOR THE INSANE, NEW NORFOLK :

REPORT FOR **1893.**

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



HOSPITAL FOR THE INSANE, NEW NORFOLK.

ANNUAL REPORT FOR 1893.

To His Excellency the Right Honorable JENICO WILLIAM JOSEPH, VISCOUNT GORMANSTON, Knight Commander of the Most Distinguished Order of Saint Michael and Saint George, Governor and Commander-in-Chief in and over the Colony of Tasmania and its Dependencies.

MAY IT PLEASE YOUR EXCELLENCY :

WE, the Official Visitors appointed under "The Insane Persons Hospitals Act Amendment Act, 1885," 49 Vict. No. 35, to the Hospital for the Insane at New Norfolk, have the honor to submit to you our Annual Report for the year 1893.

In accordance with the provisions of the Act, we visited the Institution each month during the year, and made the usual inspection of the whole establishment. We also, on each occasion of our visits, made such enquiries, examinations, and inspections as are set forth in Section 6 of said Act, and duly notified the same in a book kept for the purpose,—a copy of which report is duly transmitted to the Honorable the Chief Secretary after every such visit, as required by this Act. And on our several visits to the Hospital we inquired as to the care, treatment, and health of the patients, as well as into the arrangements for their maintenance and comfort ; and also made inquiry as to the moneys paid for their maintenance, together with such other matters as seemed necessary. We also examined and signed the several books required by the Act to be kept, and duly inspected the orders and certificates for the reception of all the patients admitted during the year. The Medical Superintendent has at all times rendered valuable assistance in these inquiries, and has produced for our inspection all the general books kept according to the Act, and furnished all returns as were required.

The number of patients remaining in the Institution on 31st December, 1892, according to the Medical Officer's Report, was, Males, 157, Females, 173, or a total of 330 ; whereas, on 31st December, 1893, there were, Males, 199, Females, 165, or a total of 364.

The admissions this year were augmented by the addition of 27 patients transferred from the Hobart Hospital for the Insane. The ordinary cases of admission were, Males, 28, Females, 14,—total 42 ; besides 13 cases of re-admission, thus making a total of 55 for the year.

The number of patients discharged during the year amounted to 32, a slight increase upon the number of last year ; and of these 15 were considered to be cases of complete recovery.

The mortality was below the average, being 16 for the year, 9 of whom were Males and 7 Females.

The main event of the year has been the completion of the new building for males, and its occupation by the patients for whom it was intended. No less than 107 patients are now domiciled within its walls, besides 14 attendants. The arrangement of the wards and the accommodation afforded render this building a most convenient and comfortable hospital, quite realising all that was anticipated of it as regards the classification and comfort of the patients.

The grounds in front of the new building have been divided into convenient airing courts, which have been tastefully laid out in lawns and gardens pleasing to the eye.

The removal of so many patients to this new building from other parts of the hospital wards permitted of an alteration to the back-yard division that was required to relieve the overcrowded state of the female department. This alteration had for its object the conversion of the building contiguous to the female division into wards for the use of the female patients, and this was effected by fencing it off from the male back division, and thereby making it a part of the female establishment. By this means sleeping accommodation has been provided for nearly fifty female patients, thus affording better facilities for classification, besides considerably relieving the congested condition of the main female wards.

Although the extra accommodation indicated for females will relieve the present overcrowding, the fact must not be lost sight of that when the new building for females is completed and a Convalescent Home provided, better classification of a very superior order will be obtained, together with, it is anticipated, decided corresponding mental benefit for the female patients.

Owing to the increasing number of criminal and, therefore, in most instances, dangerous patients, it will be necessary to construct an airing court specially adapted for this class of patients, not only for their safe custody, but in order that they may be kept apart from the other patients, to whom there is always the possibility of their doing some injury. The space of ground at the back of the new building for males could be converted into such a place for this purpose.

Many of the patients are daily employed in doing useful work in various ways, such as domestic work in connection with the wards, gardening, carpentering, woodcutting, and in effecting repairs generally. They do the work willingly and without coercion.

Many of the idiots and imbeciles are being trained to useful work, such as tailoring, gardening, and domestic work generally, and nearly all are induced to be useful in one way or another, and thereby their habits are being improved. Twenty-seven patients—idiots and imbeciles—now occupy the Boys' Cottage.

On the farm there are thirty acres of arable land now being cultivated; but this land is scattered over a considerable area and it is not in one compact block, but divided into eleven different plots. Attached to the Medical Superintendent's Report will be seen the farm balance-sheet showing the receipts and expenditure for the year. It is satisfactory to note that this branch of the Asylum more than pays for itself, besides contributing materially towards the comfort of the patients.

During the year some attention was given to dairying, but owing to the small area of land available for grazing purposes, the number of cows kept in milk was too limited to make butter on a large scale; but in a small way it was found to be beneficial, and the experiment will be repeated during the current year.

The house known as "La Maison," originally purchased with a view to being converted into a convalescent home, but for which no funds were available, was let during the year to a suitable tenant. The house on the church land was put in good repair, and is now occupied by the Farm Overseer.

The following repairs have been effected during the year:—The boundary fences have had attention, timber was obtained, and the repairs made by Asylum labour. The floor of the dining-room and recreation hall has been entirely relaid: this improvement has been much appreciated. Hot water has been laid on to the baths in the front division from the boiler in the new building for males, the old boiler that has been doing duty for this purpose for so many years past having been condemned through being worn out. Painting and lime-washing has been carried on throughout the building generally.

An improved laundry is much required, especially during the winter months, when much difficulty is experienced in drying the clothes after being washed.

The fire brigade of the Asylum was exercised monthly in our presence at the time of our visit. The fire appliances are kept in an efficient state ready for any emergency.

The amusements of the patients have been attended to during the year, and were much appreciated. Fortnightly dances, the annual picnic, and the Christmas tree are the chief social events of the year, and are thoroughly enjoyed.

Religious services were held every Sunday throughout the year by clergymen of the Churches of England and Rome respectively.

The Assistant Medical Officer, Dr. John T. Crampton, L.R.C.P. Ed., died on 1st October, and his place was filled by Dr. Philip K. O'Brien, M.R.C.S. Eng., previously the Assistant House Surgeon of the General Hospital.

By the death of Dr. Crampton the Hospital has lost the services of a skilled psychologist and the patients a friend. He was always foremost in looking after their welfare and in promoting their interest and amusement. He took considerable pains in assisting in the designing of the new building for males, in the progress of which he took exceeding great interest.

We append the Annual Report of the Superintendent and Medical Officer, accompanied by Returns and Tables giving the usual statistical information.

We have the honor to be,
Your Excellency's most obedient Servants,

C. E. BARNARD, *M.D.*,
PHILIP S. SEAGER,
R. W. G. SHOBRIDGE, *J.P.*, } *Official Visitors.*

23rd February, 1894.

Hospital for the Insane, New Norfolk, 1st February, 1894.

SIR,

I HAVE the honor to forward my Report for the year 1893.

On 31st December, 1892, there were 330 patients in this Institution, viz., 157 males and 173 females; and on 31st December, 1893, there were 364 patients, viz., 199 males and 165 females.

Twenty-eight male and 14 female patients were admitted during the year. Thirteen patients were re-admitted, viz., 8 males and 5 females, the intervals between discharge and re-admission varying from two months to 21 years.

Twenty-seven patients were transferred from the Hobart Hospital for the Insane.

The total number treated was 412.

Thirty-two patients were discharged, viz., 12 males and 20 females. Of these 17 were discharged under Section 22 of 22 Vict. No. 23.

The percentage of discharges on admissions and re-admissions, excluding idiots and imbeciles, and those from the Hobart Hospital for Insane, was 66·6.

Sixteen deaths occurred, viz., 9 males and 7 females. The percentage of deaths on number treated was 3·8.

A male patient, whilst escaping, jumped from the boundary-wall at the back division and sustained a compound comminuted fracture of the leg, but made a good recovery.

A female patient fractured the large bone of the right arm; this united well.

Two patients escaped, but were both returned to the Institution.

A case of typhoid fever occurred in the Female Department; the patient made a good recovery.

Notwithstanding a severe epidemic of measles throughout the Colony, only one case occurred in the Institution, and that in the nursing staff; none of the patients were attacked with this disease.

The money received from paying patients amounted to £2972 12s. Of this, £887 16s. 9d. was contributed by the Ladies' Cottage, and £829 1s. 9d. by the Gentlemen's Cottage.

The total amount received from all sources, including £642 14s. 4d. from the Imperial Government, and £66 18s. 9d. from the sale of stock from the farm, together with the amount for the sale of empty bags, &c., was £3692 5s. 10d.

The gross cost of this Hospital was £11,507 15s. 7d., but, deducting the total amount received from all sources, the net cost was £7815 9s. 9d., or 8s. 11d. per week per patient.

The farm, garden, and dairy have been as productive as usual.

In addition to producing hay and mangolds for the stock, the farm has supplied a large quantity of bacon, ham, and pork, and also 431 dozen eggs, worth, at 1s. per dozen, £21 11s.

The dairy has yielded 9256½ gallons of milk, worth, at 3d. per quart, £462 16s. 9d., and 81½ pounds of butter, worth, at 1s. 3d. per lb., £5 7s. 10d.

The garden has supplied large quantities of fruit and vegetables.

There have been several changes in the staff during the year.

Dr. Crampton, the Assistant Medical Officer, died suddenly on 1st October, and Dr. P. K. O'Brien was appointed in his place.

The late Dr. Crampton was a very valuable officer, most devoted to his work, and the patients have lost a skilled physician and thorough psychologist.

The new building for Males was opened in December last, and has been found to realise all that was expected of it. The late Dr. Crampton took a great interest in the plans for this building, and his masterly skill in its arrangement is very evident.

Daniel Matthews resigned the position of Working Farm Overseer, and Francis John Coleman was appointed in his place.

On 4th December 27 patients were transferred from the Hobart Hospital for Insane to this Institution, together with the staff of attendants at that Hospital.

A very large amount of work has been done by the patients during the year.

The female patients have been usefully employed at needlework, washing, and domestic work in connection with the wards; and the male patients at carpentering, farm and garden work, painting, wood-cutting, road-making, fencing, and in the grounds, and at domestic work in connection with the wards.

The large airing courts in connection with the new buildings for Males were fenced and painted by the attendants and patients.

The usual amusements have been provided for the patients, and I take this opportunity of thanking the kind donors for their contributions to the patients' Christmas-tree.

The religious services have been held regularly during the year.

Nothing has yet been done to provide a steam laundry for this Hospital, and with the increased and increasing number of patients the difficulty in providing sufficient clean linen, &c. (especially in the winter) has been greatly intensified.

As all criminal lunatics are now received here, it is absolutely necessary that a suitable airing-court be provided for the male cases, and this can be done at a comparatively small cost, considering the class of patients, by making alterations in the airing-courts at the back of the new building for Males.

The usual Returns are appended.

I have the honor to be,

Sir,

Your obedient Servant,

W. H. MACFARLANE, *M.B., Superintendent
and Medical Officer.*

*The Chairman of the Official Visitors,
Hospital for the Insane, New Norfolk.*

RETURN of Patients who died in the Hospital for Insane, New Norfolk, and the Period of detention, from 1st January to 31st December, 1893.

<i>No. in Register.</i>	<i>Date of Admission.</i>	<i>Date of Death.</i>	<i>Age.</i>	<i>Sex.</i>	<i>Cause of Death.</i>
		1893.			
1716	3 September, 1891	23 January	43	M	General Paralysis of the Insane.
349	23 April, 1862	4 February	62	F	Aneurism and Fatty Degeneration of the Heart.
1040	20 February, 1879	17 February	63	F	Disease of Heart.
1793	19 November, 1892	14 March	32	M	Exhaustion from Acute Mania.
96	22 September, 1853	19 March	80	F	Senile Decay.
1818	20 April, 1893	21 April	36½	M	General Paralysis of the Insane.
1640	12 July, 1890	5 June	75	M	Senile Decay.
1196	18 August, 1882	21 July	19	M	Epilepsy.
670	5 October, 1870	30 July	61	M	Heart and Liver Disease.
1781	17 September, 1892	1 August	61	M	Chronic Brain Disease.
1646	12 July, 1890	7 August	74	M	Senile Decay.
1779	10 September, 1892	13 September	12	F	Chronic Disease of the Brain.
1727	26 October, 1891	14 November	85	F	Senile Decay.
1213	6 December, 1882	20 December	45	F	General Paralysis of the Insane.
1606	30 January, 1890	26 December	50	M	Chronic Disease of Brain.
304	15 March, 1861	30 December	59	F	Epilepsy.

TABLE showing the Admissions, Discharges, and Deaths, with the Mean Annual Mortality, and Proportion of Recoveries, &c. per cent. on Admissions, &c., for the Years 1884 to 1893.

Year.	Admitted, including Re-admissions.			Discharged.									Died.			Remaining 31st December in each year.			Average Numbers resident.			Percentage of Cases recovered on Admission.			Percentage of Cases recovered on Average Numbers resident.			Percentage of Deaths on Average Numbers resident.		
				Recovered.			Relieved.			Unimproved.																				
	Males.	Females.	TOTAL.	Males.	Females.	TOTAL.	Males.	Females.	TOTAL.	Males.	Females.	TOTAL.	Males.	Females.	TOTAL.	Males.	Females.	TOTAL.	Males.	Females.	TOTAL.	Males.	Females.	TOTAL.	Males.	Females.	TOTAL.	Males.	Females.	TOTAL.
1884...	30	34	64	11	4	15	6	6	12	...	1	1	14	9	23	144	158	302	148·6	148·3	296·9	36·6	11·7	23·4	7·4	2·7	5·05	9·4	6·07	7·7
1885...	34	24	58	12	6	18	6	8	14	...	3	3	10	15	25	134	150	284	128·6	149·7	278·3	35·3	25·	31·03	9·3	4·008	6·4	7·7	10·02	8·9
1886...	25	16	41	7	6	13	6	4	10	1	...	1	7	12	19	138	143	281	133·4	145·4	278·8	28·	37·5	31·7	5·2	4·1	4·6	5·1	8·2	6·8
1887...	35	24	59	8	2	10	3	6	9	1	1	2	19	1	20	137	157	294	139·6	148·8	288·4	22·8	8·3	16·9	5·7	1·3	3·4	13·6	·67	6·9
1888...	25	24	49	9	7	16	3	14	17	...	...	...	14	3	17	134	157	291	133·9	158·1	292·	36·	29·1	32·6	6·7	4·4	5·5	10·4	1·9	5·8
1889...	40	22	62	13	4	17	2	2	4	...	1	1	19	5	24	140	167	307	137·	163·	300·	32·5	18·1	27·4	9·4	2·4	5·6	13·8	3·06	8·
1890...	36	26	62	10	12	22	8	3	11	1	3	4	16	10	26	158	165	323	152·4	165·7	318·1	27·7	46·1	35·4	6·5	7·2	6·9	10·4	6·03	8·1
1891...	34	27	61	16	11	27	2	2	4	1	...	1	21	7	28	154	172	326	153·1	165·9	319·	47·	40·7	44·2	10·4	6·6	8·4	13·6	4·2	8·7
1892...	28	29	57	12	10	22	2	4	6	...	...	...	12	14	26	157	173	330	154·1	170·	324·1	42·8	34·4	38·5	7·7	5·8	6·7	7·7	8·2	8·02
1893...	36	19	55	8	7	15	4	12	16	...	1	1	9	7	16	199	165	364	165·	172·	337·	22·2	36·8	27·2	4·8	4·06	4·4	5·4	4·06	4·7

W. H. MACFARLANE, M.B., Superintendent and Medical Officer.

TABLE showing the Admissions, Discharges, and Deaths during the Year 1893.

	Males.	Females.	TOTAL.	Males.	Females.	TOTAL.
In the Asylum, 1st January, 1893.....	...	...	...	157	173	330
Admitted { For the 1st time	28	14	42			
{ Re-admitted.....	8	5	13			
{ Transferred from Hobart Hospital						
{ for Insane.....	27	...	27			
Total admitted .....	...	...	...	63	19	82
Total under care during the year.....	...	...	...	220	192	412
Discharged, recovered, &c. { Died	9	7	16			
{ Recovered, &c...	12	20	32			
Total discharged, died, &c. during the year.....	...	...	...	21	27	48
Remaining in the Asylum, 31st December.....	...	...	...	199	165	364
Average number resident during the year.....	...	...	...	165	172	337

TABLE showing the Length of Residence of those discharged, recovered, and of those who have died during the Year 1893.

Length of Residence.	Recovered or Relieved.			Died.		
	Males.	Females.	TOTAL.	Males.	Females.	TOTAL.
Under 1 month .....	...	...	3	1	...	1
From 1 to 3 months	5	3	8	...	...	...
From 3 to 6 months	3	6	9	2	...	2
From 6 to 9 months	2	1	3	...	...	...
From 9 to 12 months.....	1	1	2	...	...	...
From 1 to 2 years .....	...	5	5	1	1	2
From 2 to 3 years	1	2	3	1	1	2
From 3 to 5 years .....	...	2	2	2	...	2
From 5 to 7 years .....	...	...	...	...	...	...
From 7 to 10 years .....	...	...	...	...	...	...
From 10 to 12 years .....	...	...	...	1	1	2
From 12 to 15 years.....	...	...	...	...	1	1
22 years .....	...	...	...	1	...	1
30 years .....	...	...	...	...	1	1
32 years .....	...	...	...	...	1	1
39 years .....	...	...	...	...	1	1
	12	20	32	9	7	16

TABLE showing the Ages of Admissions, Discharges, and Deaths during the Year 1893.

AGES.	ADMISSIONS.			DISCHARGES.						DIED.		
				<i>Recovered.</i>			<i>Removed, relieved, or otherwise.</i>					
	Males.	Females.	TOTAL.	Males.	Females.	TOTAL.	Males.	Females.	TOTAL.	Males.	Females.	TOTAL.
From 5 to 10 years	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
From 10 to 15 years	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	1
From 15 to 20 years	2	1	3	1	...	1	...	1	1	1	...	1
From 20 to 30 years	9	6	15	2	2	4	2	5	7	...	...	...
From 30 to 40 years	7	3	10	2	...	2	1	3	4	2	...	2
From 40 to 50 years	3	1	4	...	...	...	...	1	1	1	1	2
From 50 to 60 years	5	3	8	1	3	4	1	3	4	1	1	2
From 60 to 70 years	...	2	2	1	1	2	...	...	...	2	2	4
From 70 to 80 years	3	1	4	...	...	...	...	...	...	2	...	2
From 80 to 90 years	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	2	2
From 90 & upwards	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Unknown.....	7	2	9	1	1	2	...	...	...	...	...	...
	36	19	55	8	7	15	4	13	17	9	7	16

RETURN showing cost of the Hospital for the Insane, New Norfolk, compared with the Amount estimated for the Year 1893.

Head of Service.	Per Estimate.			Actual Cost.			Increase.			Decrease.		
	£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.
Salaries	5997	0	0	5554	1	11	...	...	...	442	18	1
Allowances	9	2	6	12	10	10	3	8	4	...	...	...
Uniforms	309	16	10	191	2	0	...	...	...	118	14	10
Locum tenens for Medical Officers	50	0	0	22	10	0	...	...	...	27	10	0
Patients recreation and petty expenses	80	0	0	40	1	10	...	...	...	39	18	2
Provisions	3600	0	0	3269	10	11	...	...	...	330	9	1
Medical comforts.....	150	0	0	63	2	6	...	...	...	86	17	6
Bedding, clothing, stores, &c.	1500	0	0	1032	13	6	...	...	...	467	6	6
Fuel and light.....	800	0	0	695	14	5	...	...	...	104	5	7
Conveyance of Stores.....	130	0	0	90	16	10	...	...	...	39	3	2
Medicines and surgical instruments	150	0	0	130	0	0	...	...	...	20	0	0
Incidental expenses, including furniture ...	550	0	0	158	8	11	...	...	...	391	11	1
Printing and advertising	20	0	0	...	...	...	...	...	...	20	0	0
Coroner's inquests and funeral expenses ...	70	0	0	19	4	0	...	...	...	50	16	0
Repairs and alterations to buildings	250	0	0	227	17	11	...	...	...	22	2	1
Total.....	13,665	19	4	11,507	15	7	3	8	4	2161	12	1

	£	s.	d.
Estimated Cost.....	13,665	19	4
Actual Cost	11,507	15	7
Under Estimate	£2158	3	9

