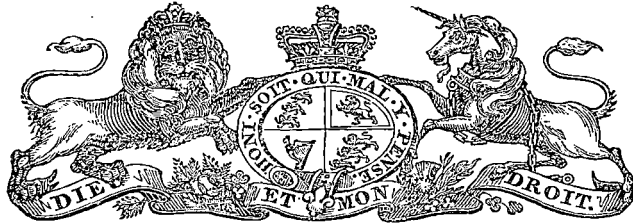


(No. 26.)



1891.

PARLIAMENT OF TASMANIA.

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

REPORT FOR 1890.

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



OUT-DOOR RELIEF.

REPORT for 1890.

Charitable Grants Department, 24th April, 1891.

SIR,

I HAVE the honor to submit the following Report for the year 1890 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 hereto 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 £3187. From this the sum of £39 13s. 7d. received as repayments has been deducted, making the actual expenditure £3147 6s. 5d.—a decrease of £336 1s. 4d. as compared with the previous year.

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, 470; number of individuals, 1139—596 adults and 543 children, belonging to 173 families.

Of the 470 cases—

- 231 were those of aged, infirm, and afflicted persons without family ties—males, 70; females, 161.
- 100 were of the same class, but composed of married couples.
- 12 were deserted wives with families.
- 75 were widows, also with children to support.
- 46 were parents to whom assistance was given during illness or recovery from accidents; and
- 6 were the mothers of children whose fathers were undergoing imprisonment for various offences.

470 total, 205 of which were relieved in Hobart, 49 in Launceston, and the remainder 216 in other Municipalities, &c. Further details will be found in the return forwarded herewith.

The most careful and searching investigation was made into the position and circumstances of all applicants for relief, and unless satisfactory proof of destitution and of the inability of relatives to afford the aid asked for was forthcoming, the applications were not entertained. This inquiry applied to those whose names were already on the list of recipients as well as to those who for the first time appealed for help.

It is the practice of the Department to issue authority for relief to be given for such period not exceeding six months as the necessities of each case would appear to require, and if at the end of that term an application for renewal is made, to institute such further inquiry as may be considered necessary to ascertain if any change in the affairs of the recipient has taken place to justify a reduction, or to call for the cancellation of the authority altogether.

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

With regard to Hobart, the applications for assistance were investigated and reported upon by the Inquiring Officer (Mr. Kelly), who, as stated in my Report for the half-year ended 30th June last, exhibited energy and tact in the discharge of his duties. On the 1st July there were 141 cases on the books; 23 new cases were added during the half-year (8 of which were transfers from the Benevolent Society), and 33 were removed from the list, leaving 131 on the 31st December. The expenditure on this account, as shown in the annexed Return, has been charged to the vote of £1300 under the heading in the Estimates Grants in aid of Charitable Institutions, &c., and is £82 17s. less than the previous year, when the cases were under the supervision of the Executive Committee of the Benevolent Society.

Of the vote £3550 for the Maintenance of Destitute Persons, &c., and to which the expenditure for Out-door Relief, Hobart excepted, amounting to £2369 2s. 6d., has been charged, there has also been expended the sum of £1019 4s. 10d., making a total of £3388 7s. 4d. Out of this amount the sum of £246 was expended for the maintenance, clothing, and education of seven children in the New South Wales Institution for the Deaf and Dumb and the Blind; £36 for a lad who is an inmate of the Victorian Asylum and School for the Blind, St. Kilda Road; £27 14s. 8d. in connection with a lad who was transferred from the Sydney Institution to the Industrial Blind Institution, Boomerang-street, Sydney—viz., £20 donation to the Institution, and the balance to defray the cost of his maintenance outside. The lad receives 10s. per week wages in addition to being taught a trade, and this is supplemented by the Government of this Colony to the extent of 11s. per week to enable him to pay for his board and lodging and to find his clothes, &c. In this Institution neither food nor lodging is provided, except in the case of emergency residents. £50 to defray the cost of medicines supplied at the General Hospital, Hobart, to out-door patients; and the balance to the liquidation of claims for medical attendance and medicines 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, Hobart, of whom there were ten; the supply of food and lodging to casual paupers and tramps at the Campbell Town Police Station; commission to Collectors for Charitable Institutions; three special compassionate allowances; and other items of a similar character.

Repayments, however, amounting to £53 13s. 5d., in addition to the £29 13s. 7d. already credited to out-door relief—making a total of £93 7s.—were received, which reduced the actual outlay to £3295 0s. 4d.—£188 7s. 5d. less than last year—and left an unexpended balance of £254 19s. 8d.

A further sum of £28 0s. 8d. was recovered from the Imperial Government, which, if taken into account, would still further reduce the total expenditure to £3266 19s. 8d.

With reference to the children in the New South Wales Institution for the Deaf and Dumb and the Blind, the following report was received from the Honorary Secretary at the end of the year:—"Three of the children—A, B, and C—have gone home, and the two former will not return. A, as you are aware, leaves at his father's request; and B, who is a big strong lad nearly 16 years old, has been discharged, as it is time he began to earn his own living. C is comparatively small for his age, and another year at school would be beneficial to him. All these lads, in addition to their ordinary school-work, have been learning carpentry, but would do well at almost any trade, as they are sharp and intelligent. (These boys are deaf and dumb.) The second distribution of the income from the Special Prize Fund for the Blind took place at our annual examination on the 17th instant, and D (a boy) was awarded £3 9s. and E (a girl) £2 15s. The money will be placed in the Savings Bank for them until they leave the Institution."

The cost of transport and funeral expenses amounted to £555 9s. 3d., but the sum of £34 8s. 10d. was received as repayment, which reduced the actual expenditure to £521 0s. 5d. In addition, the sum of £1 6s. 2d. was received from the Imperial Government.

In the expenditure for transport, &c. is included the cost of the conveyance to the New Town Charitable Institution of 69 destitute persons for whom there was no room in the Invalid Depôt at Launceston. Of these, 47—36 males and 11 females—came from Launceston, 8 males from Campbell Town, 4 from Deloraine (3 males and one female), one male from East Devonport, one ditto from Ellesmere, 3 ditto from Fingal, one ditto from Latrobe, 2 ditto from Longford, one ditto from Ulverstone, and one ditto from Westbury,—forty-eight in excess of the number in 1889.

The following are the particulars with regard to the issue of orders for out-door treatment at the Hospital, Hobart, from the 1st January to the 31st December:—Orders which were issued for one month only, 1154; renewed, 379; refused, 30; total applications, 1563.

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 1890, both years inclusive, are forwarded herewith.

I have the honor to be,

Sir,

Your obedient Servant,

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

The Hon. the Chief Secretary.

RETURN of Expenditure for Out-door Relief in the Cities of Hobart and Launceston, and the several Municipal and Police Districts, during the Year 1890.

	£	s.	d.		£	s.	d.
Bothwell	9	6	7	Kingborough	95	5	7
Brighton.....	66	19	9	Launceston.....	396	17	11
Campbell Town.....	153	7	9	Longford	199	14	11
Clarence.....	17	18	5	Macquarie Plains	31	5	10
Deloraine	68	15	0	New Norfolk	82	15	11
Evandale	77	14	4	Oatlands	43	0	7
East Devon	91	18	5	Portland.....	3	3	3
Emu Bay	29	3	11	Ross	14	5	4
Fingal.....	75	8	4	Richmond	69	0	9
Franklin	181	7	1	Russell	22	3	4
Glamorgan.....	35	14	10	Ringarooma	6	1	4
Glenorchy	44	6	6	Spring Bay.....	17	3	1
Green Ponds	60	1	10	Sorell	97	5	9
George Town.....	48	7	6	West Devon	113	12	4
Hamilton	62	7	0	Westbury	143	1	11
Hedberg, Mr. O. E.	11	7	5				
Hobart { Cash	167	4	6		£3187	0	0
{ Rations	650	13	0				

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.
		Adults.	Children.	Total.		Males.	Females.	Total.					
Hobart	205	340	311	651	96	23	87	110	33	7	34	20	1
Launceston	49	59	65	124	27	9	13	22	9	2	9	7	0
Municipalities, &c.	216	197	167	364	50	38	61	99	58	3	32	19	5
	470	596	543	1139	173	70	161	231	100	12	75	46	6

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

Year.	Expenditure.						Repayments to be deducted.	TOTAL EXPENDITURE.				
	Hobart and Suburbs.			Launceston, Municipalities, &c.								
	£	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

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, and 1890.

Year.	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