

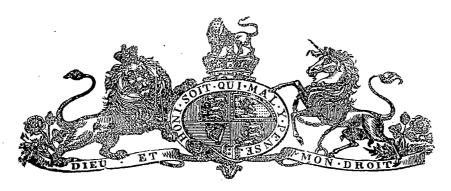
1885.

PARLIAMENT OF TASMANIA.

NEW TOWN CHARITABLE INSTITUTION:

REPORT FOR 1884.

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



ANNUAL REPORT of the New Town Charitable Institution for the Year 1884.

Charitable Institution, New Town, 10th February, 1885.

SIR

I have the honor to transmit to you the fifth Annual Report of the New Town Charitable Institution.

The item maintenance for each inmate for the year amounts to £13 9s. $9\frac{1}{2}d$., or 9d. per diem, a little in excess of the past year. There are several reasons for this, amongst them may be enumerated funeral expenses were considerably higher, the meat tender was in excess of that of former years, our own vegetable crop failed consequent upon the long continued dry weather, and a great deal has been done in the shape of necessary repairs; added to these causes there has been a decrease in the number of inmates; but with these drawbacks I am happy to report that every possible care has been exercised with respect to expenditure consistent with the efficient conduct of the requirements of the Public Service.

The comfort of the inmates of the Male Division, owing to the additions made for that purpose, and forming a paragraph in my Report for 1883, has presented itself most forcibly during the past year, and a very important addition to the new day-room, consisting of suitable stoves, has been very much appreciated by the aged and infirm.

Two new coppers having been added to the wash-house, the work of washing has been considerably accelerated, and the result, in a sanitary view, much more satisfactory than formerly.

The wards and hospitals have been thoroughly cleansed, lime washed, painted, and effectively renovated by inmates, thus saving a large amount in the expenditure.

The new reservoir is approaching completion. When this is effected I have great hopes that many of the complaints and sufferings arising from the present supply of impure water will be remedied. Sanitary operations will also be greatly assisted thereby.

In my last report I stated that the stamp of men and women who now receive orders for admission were totally unfitted, from age and their own infirmities, to fill the position of attendants in the hospital wards. During the past year the want in this respect has been sadly apparent, and I cannot but reiterate my former expressed opinion that a better class of attendants will not only be an advantage, but that it resolves itself into a necessity.

I beg to call your attention to the attached Returns.

As formerly, at the Cornelian Bay Cemetery and the New Town Government Farm detached parties from the Male Division are located.

The death-rate, viz.—127 males and 36 females, and at the average age of 75 and 73 years respectively, need only be noted.

The general conduct of the inmates of both divisions I am glad to report upon favourably.

The proprietors of the Mercury, Tasmanian News, Church News, Catholic Standard, and People's Friend have kindly continued the gratuitous supply of each publication of their journals. They are most eagerly sought for by the inmates, and I believe no other publications afford them an equal amount of satisfaction.

I have again to express my great approval of the generosity of Mr. T. L. Hood for his frequent supply of illustrated and other English newspapers. Thanks are also due to Miss Mitchell, of Lisdillon, for her present of a large quantity of colored scriptural prints; to Miss Marsh for several boxes of fruit; to Miss Knox for Christmas cards and illuminated texts; to Mr. F. Piesse for a supply of *Illustrated London News*, and to Mr. W. J. Dossetor for a quantity of miscellaneous newspapers.

During the past year several entertainments of a pleasing and musical nature have been provided by and under the auspices of the Rev. John Gray, the Rev. P. R. Hennebry, the ladies of the Flower Mission, and the Ladies' Visiting Committee for the Female Division, to which may be added an occasional treat, taking the shape of tea meetings, liberally supplied with dainties not frequently to be obtained by the inmates.

The Chaplains of the Institution, Dissenting Ministers, laymen and ladies, have been assiduous in their efforts to impart spiritual instruction in both divisions during the year. The ladies, who appear to have made an impression on many of the old people, visit generally on Tuesdays. They are led by Mrs. Col. Shelton, a lady well known for years past as having a very warm interest in the welfare of the aged and afflicted, and she has been most ably assisted by Mrs. R. Propsting, Mrs. Cannaway, Miss Ball, and others. The ladies of the Flower Mission attend on Fridays, visiting the hospitals—male and female,—singing and conversing with the patients, and presenting each with a tastefully-made bouquet. The Ladies' Visiting Committee visit the Female Division only; they read to and converse with the patients, and distribute books amongst them.

I am happy to report favourably, as to the general conduct and willingness to perform their duties, of the officers of the Institution.

I have the honor to be, Sir,

Your obedient Servant,

JOHN WITHRINGTON, Superintendent.

The Hon. the Chief Secretary.

EXPENDITURE for the Year ended 31st December, 1884.

<i>"</i>	£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.	D. G	£	s.	d.
Salaries Contingencies—	••	•		1116	2	10	By fees received for maintenance, sale of road metal, &c.	115	19	7
Provisions and medical							Tobacco supplied Hobart Cemetery Trust	1	7	
comforts	5218	7	7				Ditto to New Town Farm	1	7	_
Medicines and medical at-							Pig food to ditto	12	0	0
tendance	169	13	10				Tobacco, tea, and sugar supplied to men			
Clothing, bedding, stores,							working at the new Reservoir	7	18	8
and stationery										
Fuel and light	566	4	11				Net cost	8444	15	4
Miscellaneous, including										
funeral expenses	293	0	6							
Repairs and alterations to										
buildings	197	11	11							
-	•			7467	4	9	}			
			•	£8583	7	7		£8583	7	7
					_	_	[_

Produce of Garden-42,907 lbs. vegetables, valued at £133 19s. 11d.

J. WITHRINGTON, Superintendent.

COMPARATIVE Return of Ages of Innates for the Years 1880, 1881, 1882, 1883, 1884.

	18	80.	18	81.	18	82.	18	83.	1884.		
	Males.	Females.	Males.	Females.	Males.	Females.	Males.	Females.	Males.	Females.	
Number of deaths Average age of those	98	23	76	20	94	35	109	24	127	36	
who died Oldest Youngest		69 86 34	72½ 85 45	661 90 16	74 91 28	72 91 19	73 94 54	70 92 53	75 94 53	73 88 54	
Average age of those remaining 31st De- cember, 1884 Ditto males and	683	66	68	60	69	60	69 <u>‡</u>	601	68	611	
females combined, 31 December, 1884 Oldest Youngest	89 12	63 93 16	91 29	6 88 15	91 18	6 90 8	92 20	3 89 9	90 20	92 20	

J. WITHRINGTON, Superintendent.

COMPARATIVE Strength Returns for the Years 1880, 1881, 1882, 1883, 1884.

	18	80.	1.8	381.	18	82.	18	83.	1884.		
	Males.	Females.									
No. of Inmates, 1st January Admitted during the year	408 491	151 116	408 481	157 150	420 543	175 187	422 575	168 201	413 470	177 170	
TOTAL	899	267	889	307	963	362	997	369	883	347	
Discharged during the year Died during the year	393 98	87 23	393 76	112 20	447 94	159 35	475 109	168 24	391 127	124 36	
TOTAL	491	110	469	132	541	194	584	192	518	160	
REMAINING 31ST DECEMBER	408	157	420	175	422	168	413	177	365	187	

J. WITHRINGTON, Superintendent.

COMPARATIVE Statement of the average Daily Number of Inmates, and Expenditure, for the Years 1880, 1881, 1882, 1883, and 1884.

	3	1880.			. 1	.881	L.		. 2	882	•		1883.				1884.			
	Average Daily No. of Inmates.	Expe	Vet ndit	ure.	Average Daily No. of Inmates.	Exp	Net endi		Average Daily No. of Inmates.	Expe	Vet ndit	ure.	Average Daily No. of Inmates.	Expe	Net mdi		Average Daily No. of Inmates.	Expe	Net ndi	 ture
New Town 569 6749 0 4	d. 4 2	611 119½	£ 6965 1394		$5\frac{3}{4}$	5 77 89	£ 7440 1053		d. 1 7	642		£ s. 501 13		626	£ 8444	ა. 15	d. 4			
	703 <u>1</u>	8326	8	6	730½	8360	2	11	666	8493	18	8	642	8501	13	11	626	8444	15	4
Cost per diem Cost per annum	£11	7¾d. 16s. 8	3½d.		$7\frac{1}{2}d.$ £11 8s. $11\frac{1}{4}d.$				$\frac{8_{1}^{1}d.}{\pounds 12 \ 15s. \ 0_{4}^{3}d.}$				$\frac{8\frac{3}{4}d.}{£13}$ 4s. 10d.				9d. £13 9s. 9½d.			

J. WITHRINGTON, Superintendent.

EXTRACTS from the Visitors' Book, New Town Charitable Institution.

8th January, 1884.

I HAVE this day visited the Institution, and am much pleased with the general cleanliness of the same, and also the appearance of the inmates.

J. M'DONALD, Melbourne.

10th January, 1884.

THE Hon. Wm. M'Culloch, Mrs. and the Misses M'Culloch, with Dr. Robt. Peel, Melbourne, have to-day visited this Institution, and cannot speak too highly of the management of the same, its cleanliness, the food, and above all, the general contentment of the poor old people.

18th March, 1884.

Through the kindness of Mr. Seager I have been taken through every part of the Institution, and have been delighted with all the arrangements. The cleanliness, and happy and comfortable appearance of the inmates speaks very highly for the general management. After many such visits, I have never felt greater satisfaction than after spending this afternoon in the New Town Charitable Institution.

T. HOWARD, Adelaide, S.A.

I was shown through the New Town Charitable Institution to-day by Mr. Superintendent Withrington, and was very much pleased at the way in which I found everything as regards cleanliness, &c.; and was very pleased with my visit.

T. K. PRENDERGAST, N.S.W.

23rd May, 1884.

I have this day visited the New Town Charitable Institution, and have indeed been well pleased with the whole management. The officers without doubt take a great interest in their work, and try in every way to make things comfortable for the unfortunate people whom they have under their charge. I might just add that all I have seen to-day is unique, reflecting considerable credit upon all who have the management. It also goes far to show that although the immates are old, and have been unfortunate, yet they are not forsaken. I shall be able when in the old world to give a very pleasing account of my visit to the Institution, and let them know that the old people of Tasmania who are past work and unable to provide for themselves, find that the Government are not mean or close in comforting their declining days.

HOWARD HAYWOOD.

WE visited this Institution this day, and saw Ching Hing and Ther Goon, and asked them how they liked the place, and they said very much; all men very kind, plenty to eat and drink, and they are comfortable. We saw all over the place, and it was clean and comfortable; and we are very much pleased with the treatment of our country-

JAMES AH CATT. NIE TOM.

20th October, 1884.

THE improvements in the place, with all the surrounding circumstances, are remarkable and manifest since my last visit.

J. M. DOOLEY, M.H.A.

6th November, 1884.

VISITED the Institution. Exceedingly pleased at the manner in which everything appeared to be conducted for the welfare of the aged and infirm.

THOMAS JESSOP, Sydney.

VISITED the Institution December 6th, and was very much struck with the thorough cleanliness and ship-shape

YATES STIRLING, Commander U.S.N., Commanding U.S.S. Iroquois. H. E. SMITH.

Kindly shown through Institution, and much pleased with happy appearance and cleanliness of all the old

people.

The establishment compares very favourably with New Zealand, where a very large amount is spent upon charitable aid.

JNO. THOMPSON, Surveyor, New Zealand.