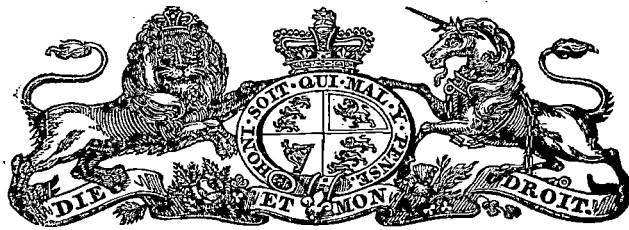


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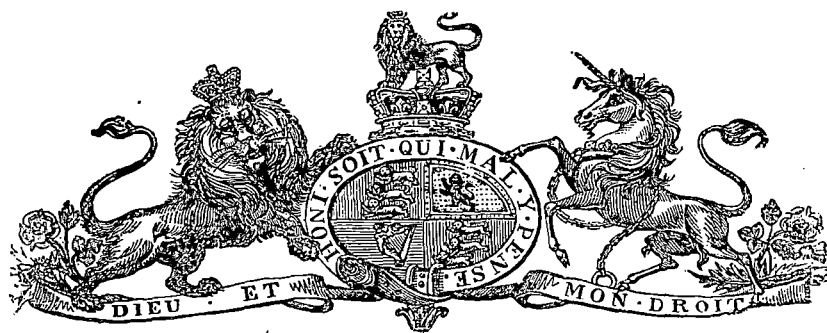
1892.

PARLIAMENT OF TASMANIA.

LAUNCESTON BENEVOLENT SOCIETY :

REPORT FOR 1891.

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



LAUNCESTON BENEVOLENT SOCIETY.

REPORT for the Year 1891.

DURING the year the Board held 47 meetings, with an average attendance of 8 out of 11 members.

Mr. John Ellis, who had been an active member of the Board for many years, died on June 21st. Mr. J. C. Genders was elected to fill the vacancy.

Although the last five months of the year were months of grave anxiety to the community, through the stoppage of two banks, the subscriptions were only £4 6s. 9d. less than last year.

The epidemic of influenza caused a larger demand upon the Society's funds than usual,—the number of "casuals" relieved being much in excess of last year. Many convalescents were sent from the Hospital to the Society for relief, until they were able to return to their homes. The Society has also relieved many persons with food and lodgings whilst they were waiting admission into the Invalid Depôt.

The number of cases on the books at the end of 1891 were—36 men, 76 women, and 104 children; total 216. At the end of 1890 the total was 200.

There were twelve deaths among the recipients, one of them a widow who had been on the roll for 21 years. Two other recipients have been receiving aid for 17 years. Of those relieved during the year there were 27 married couples, 61 widows, 7 wives deserted by their husbands, and 2 whose husbands were in gaol.

There were 9 cases of confinement, chiefly of unmarried women. The thanks of the Society are due to Mrs. George Baker for taking charge of these cases.

In consequence of the rise in the price of stock and of flour, the Society's expenses were considerably increased.

The sum of £46 18s. 4d. was expended for fuel, and £15 19s. 10d. for blankets. The Board acknowledges with thanks donations of blankets, clothing, oatmeal, &c., also of 10 tons of coal from the Cornwall Coal Company, through their Manager, Henry Edgell, Esq.

Christmas and New Year's extras were supplied to those on the roll, and to a few others, as in former years,—special donations being given for this purpose.

The Board had under consideration cases of women who assumed other names than their own, and were begging from door to door; of women who would not live amicably with their married sons or daughters; and aged widows whose sons were in a position to maintain them, but refused.

The stoppage of the Bank of Van Diemen's Land on 3rd August, in which the Society had a credit balance of £364 4s. 7d., necessitated the withdrawal of £250 from the Equitable Building Society and of £422 12s. 6d. from the Launceston Savings Investment and Building Society. These sums formed part of the reserve fund. In December the Treasurer received from the Bank of Van Diemen's Land £72 16s. 11d., being one-fifth of the amount which was held by the Bank.

The expenses of the Society for 1891 exceeded the previous year by £115 9s. 7d.

The average monthly expenditure for 1891 was £86 2s. 5d., and for 1890, £77.

The Secretary has authority to relieve, after due enquiry, all casual poor with food and lodging.

Subscribers are again urged not to relieve beggars, but refer them to the Secretary of the Society, No. 13, Upper Elizabeth-street. These cases mostly occur at night, when the worthless spendthrift, tramp, or drunkard, steal out to beg for food or money,—the money so obtained being often spent in drink.

A second Conference of Charity Organisations was held in Melbourne in November, under the able presidency of Professor Morris, to which this Society was requested to send delegates. Messrs. J. Stephenson, B. P. Farrelly, and A. W. Birchall were nominated as delegates, but were unable to attend through sickness or press of business.

The thanks of the Board are due to both newspapers for reporting the weekly meetings.

The Treasurer's Statement is appended.

JOHN STEPHENSON, *Chairman.*

LAUNCESTON BENEVOLENT SOCIETY.

ACCOUNT of Receipts and Expenditure for the Year 1891.

RECEIPTS.		EXPENDITURE.	
	£ s. d.		£ s. d.
Balance to Cr. 31st December, 1890, as per last statement	46 12 10	Meat	324 14 1
Contributions	357 9 0	Bread	265 2 1
Refund of relief granted, &c.	3 5 0	Groceries	161 15 4
Government—		Secretary's Salary	125 0 0
Balance of conditional and uncondi- tional grants for 1890	250 0 0	Commission collecting Subscriptions	18 13 0
On account ditto, ditto, for 1891 ...	250 0 0	Printing and Advertising	27 7 4
	<u>£907 6 10</u>	Lodgings, Temporary Relief, Mid- wifery Charges	47 18 8
Transferred from Equitable Building Society	250 0 0	Firewood	46 18 4
Transferred from Launceston Savings, Investment, and Building Society...	422 12 6	Blankets, &c.....	15 19 10
	<u>£1579 19 4</u>		<u>£1033 8 8</u>
Balance to Cr. at Banks	£546 10 8	* Balance to Cr. at Bank of Van Diemen's Land	291 7 8
		Balance to Cr. at National Bank of Tasmania	255 3 0
			<u>£1579 19 4</u>
		£ s. d.	
		* When payment stopped.....	364 4 7
		By Dividend	72 16 11
			<u>£291 7 8</u>

From the above Statement it will be seen that the Expenditure for the year was £1033 8s. 8d., and the Receipts, including the Balance (£46 12s. 10d.) from the previous year £907 6s. 10d., causing a deficiency of £126 1s. 10d.: this has been temporarily met out of the amounts £250 and £422 12s. 6d., transferred from the Board's invested funds at the Building Societies, and of these latter amounts £546 10s. 8d. remain in the Banks mentioned. £291 7s. 8d. is not at present available owing to the failure of the Bank of Van Diemen's Land.

T. GLADMAN, *Hon. Treasurer.*

Audited and found correct.

G. BAKER, *Auditor.*

9th January, 1892.

LAUNCESTON BENEVOLENT SOCIETY.

STATEMENT of Assets, 1st January, 1892.

Equitable Building Society—Deposits	£ s. d.
To credit at Banks	1669 8 7
	546 10 8
	<u>£2215 19 3</u>

T. GLADMAN, *Treasurer.*

Audited and found correct.

G. BAKER.

1st January, 1892.