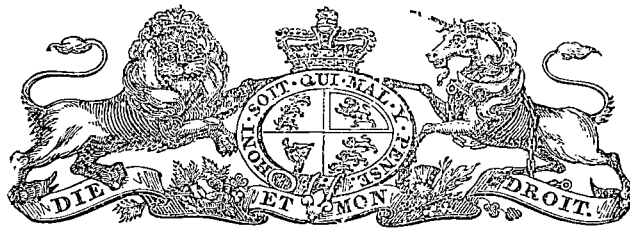


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1893.

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PARLIAMENT OF TASMANIA.

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BOYS' TRAINING SCHOOL, CASCADES :

REPORT FOR 1892.

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



*REPORT of the Managers of the BOYS' TRAINING SCHOOL, CASCADES, 1892.*

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THE Managers have the honor to submit the Report for the year 1892, furnished to them by the Superintendent.

It is gratifying to be able to report that the working of the School continues satisfactory, and the conduct of the boys, upon the whole, good.

In order that the boys may be at all times under supervision, it has been found necessary to increase the staff by one assistant; notwithstanding which, however, the net cost per boy of maintenance and training has been £27 8s. 11d. for the year, a sum which bears favourable comparison with similar Institutions elsewhere. Economy has been practised in all branches, and the Managers are satisfied that if efficiency is to be preserved, no reduction in staff is possible.

During the year an Order in Council has been made extending the guardianship of the Managers to the age of 18 years in the case of all boys who have been inmates of the Institution. This step, the Managers are assured, will undoubtedly prove of great benefit to the boys in after life.

It is satisfactory to the Managers to state that arrangements have now been made for the holding of Divine Service in the School every Sunday afternoon.

The Reverend J. K. McIntyre having retired from the Board, the vacancy has been filled by the appointment of the Rev. S. Bucknell.

Besides the ordinary monthly meetings at the School, the Managers have constantly visited the Institution at irregular times, and desire to record their satisfaction with the manner in which the work has been carried on by the Superintendent and the Staff.

JOHN MACFARLANE, *Chairman.*

J. W. SIMMONS,  
E. MAHER,  
THEO. CANE,  
S. BUCKNELL, } *Managers.*  
F. BELSTEAD, *Hon. Sec.*

8th February, 1893.

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*SUPERINTENDENT'S Report to the Managers of the Boys' Training School, Cascades, for the Year 1892.*

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GENTLEMEN,

I HAVE again the pleasure of presenting a Report on the work of the Boys' Training School for the year ending 31st December, 1892.

The year just closed has been, on the whole, a quiet one. During the first half there was a considerable amount of restlessness on the part of several of the elder lads, and a few attempts at absconding; but the second half was free from this, the boys being evidently more contented and settled.

One boy, out on leave, absconded. This has only happened twice previously during the nine years the Institution has been in existence. "Out on leave" is, of course, a privilege granted only to well-behaved boys; and although the granting of it causes a good deal of personal anxiety, still the disciplinary benefit to the lads, and the good feeling of being trusted engendered by it, would make me loath to part with the power, unless under very exceptional circumstances.

As is well known, there are periodical outburst of restlessness in all such Institutions as this; and although a complete cure may not be found to prevent it, still continuous watchfulness and vigilance very much reduce its effects.

The year 1892 commenced with 43 boys. During the year 19 were admitted, 14 left to situations, and 1 died, which left on the roll at the end of the year 47 inmates,—the largest number we have yet had in the school. For the year a daily average of 44 boys was reached; and altogether 62 individual boys dealt with.

*Admissions.*

Of the nineteen boys admitted, 6 were from Hobart, 2 from New Norfolk, 2 from Deloraine, and 1 from each of the following places:—Burnie, Swansea, Campbell Town, Strahan, Sorell, Waratah, St. Helen's, Jerusalem, Port Esperance.

*Ages of Boys when admitted.*

Four were aged 15, four 14, two 13, three 12, two 11, three 10, and one 9.

*Periods for which the Boys were sentenced.*

For five years, 4; for four years, 3; for three years, 11; for one year, 1.

*Family Circumstances.*

Orphans, 5; fatherless, 3; both parents alive, 11.

*Offences for which sentenced.*

Sixteen lads were committed for theft,—several of the cases being somewhat serious; two were sentenced for being idle and disorderly; and one for an attempt at an unnatural offence.

*Discharges.*

A boy when he leaves the Institution has reached, to him, an important epoch in his life; and, unless an attempt is made to follow his career for at least three years afterwards, the result cannot be considered satisfactory. The lad ought to feel that he has left friends behind him in the Institution to whom he can apply for assistance and advice if he wants it, and who will do all in their power to keep him straight. The most successful Institutions are those where this is carefully carried out. It is very pleasing to receive letters or visits from "old boys" who are doing well. One letter, recently received, stated that the lad had been five years in the same situation, and had saved a considerable sum of money. The discharges this year include several very promising youths likely to do well.

It would be very pleasing to be able to report "all doing well," but this is not likely: still, the great bulk of those who have left during the year are very favourably reported on by their masters. One remarks, "G—— is still doing well; and it is a credit to any Institution to be able to turn boys out like him. I hope he will still continue to do the same. Another says, "I am well pleased with him; could not have a better boy." Another, "John suits very well; indeed, he has a bad temper sometimes, but still, for all that, he is getting on first-rate, and suits me very well." Another, "W—— is giving me every satisfaction. Like all boys, he wants seeing after; but he does try to do his best, and that is very good. He is very well-mannered, does not smoke, have never heard him swear, and seems very happy and contented." And another, "The lad C—— is going on satisfactorily in every respect." Such reports as these are very gratifying and encouraging.

*Health of the Inmates.*

The general health throughout the year has been excellent. It has been necessary to call in the doctor only once during the year, and that to a little lad, a half-caste, who, being constitutionally weak, was unable to withstand the effects of a cold, which settled on his lungs and carried him off in two days' illness.

*Educational Condition.*

The lads admitted have been, as a rule, sadly neglected educationally. They are clever enough in some respects, in fact, some show a remarkable knowledge in things they would be better ignorant of. To make any impression on some big lads, who come actually ignorant of the alphabet, is a very arduous, in fact an almost impossible task. The educational state of the boys admitted during the year was as follows:—Eight were quite ignorant, seven could read and write a little, and four could read and write fairly well. The Chief Inspector of Schools (Mr. Rule) paid his annual visit of inspection in December, and his Report is appended.

*Religious Instruction.*

The religious instruction of the inmates has received special attention throughout the year. The old chapel at the Cascades, which had been disused for years, was put in order, and a weekly service on the Sunday afternoon inaugurated. The first service was conducted by Bishop Montgomery, and since then by the Revs. S. Bucknell and F. G. Copeland, of All Saints, who have taken a very deep interest in the religious welfare of the inmates. Thirteen of the lads belonging to the Church of England were confirmed at All Saints. The Roman Catholic boys have not been neglected; the Rev. Father Gilleran and the Sisters of Charity have been most assiduous in their attention to their religious instruction.

*Recreation.*

It is as necessary to amuse the lads as it is to educate them. Every opportunity is given for recreation, and they are encouraged in their efforts to organize sports and pastimes of the usual character. The two principal events of the year were the Entertainment given by the boys themselves,—a gathering which is looked forward to with great interest, and in the preparation of which the lads derive benefit and evidence a real interest in its success; and the annual river excursion to Denne's Point, where, notwithstanding the wet weather, a very enjoyable day was spent.

*The Officials.*

There has been no change in the officials throughout the year. Mr. Howe continues in charge of the carpenters' shop, Mr. Langher of the farm, Mr. Tagg of the garden, and Mr. Birchall, a new appointment, as general assistant. Mrs. Farquhar continues as Matron. All perform their duties in a praiseworthy manner.

*Industrial Departments.*

Probably the most important and distinguishing feature of an Institution of this description is the industrial training which is given the inmates. The object in view is of course to train them into habits of industry and to help them in such a way as to benefit them in after life. Boys sent are naturally lazy, and it requires tact more than severity to get a reasonable amount of work out of them. Farm and garden work—our main employments, as a means of improving their physical condition and as a useful training for colonial youths, cannot be improved upon. Boys are naturally fond of working among cattle, horses, &c., and very few but take to it and seem anxious to learn milking, and agricultural pursuits generally. It is now necessary to keep a considerable number of cows in order to supply milk to the Gaol and other Institutions. The amount of milk sold during the year amounts to 27,850 pints; there was also sold 8 tons potatoes and  $1\frac{1}{2}$  tons vegetables. The profits on the year's transactions would be considerably greater were it not necessary to purchase so much hay, bran, &c. during the winter months. This unfortunately cannot be avoided owing to the lack of level land, and, in consequence, our inability to grow more ourselves. The work of the carpenters throughout the year was very varied and useful. They performed all the necessary repairs and improvements, put the old chapel in order, painted the whole Establishment, and laid the greater part of the play-yard with old bricks. The gardeners have been fully occupied at the necessary garden duties, pruning, planting, weeding, digging, &c.

There were, in addition, the kitchen, scullery, washing, and house boys employed at their various duties.

*Finance.*

The following is the Financial Report for the year:—

RECEIPTS.			EXPENDITURE.		
	£	s. d.		£	s. d.
Reimbursement by parents of boys in Training School .....	17	1 4	Provisions (boys) .....	308	19 3
Net profit on working Farm .....	57	16 6	Ditto (workmasters) .....	70	0 0
Balance, net cost of Establishment ...	1207	12 4	Clothing and bedding .....	195	7 10
			Fuel and light (boys).....	71	8 1
			Ditto (workmasters) .....	20	0 0
			Stores, washing, &c. ....	13	18 0
			Alterations and repairs .....	74	6 6
			Furniture and material .....	24	13 7
			Excursion and petty expenses .....	25	19 10
			Stationery and school-books .....	15	7 1
			Salaries and wages .....	462	10 0
	<u>£1282</u>	<u>10 2</u>		<u>£1282</u>	<u>10 2</u>

*Farm Account.*

RECEIPTS.			EXPENDITURE.		
	£	s. d.		£	s. d.
Sale of milk .....	169	1 3	Salary, farm labourer.....	91	5 0
Sale of potatoes, &c. ....	54	1 3	Tools, &c. ....	7	18 6
Service of bull.....	4	12 6	Straw, hay, and seed.....	62	2 8
Sale of pigs .....	6	15 0	Live stock .....	20	12 6
Other receipts.....	2	6 10	Bran .....	37	1 8
Value of fruit and vegetables supplied boys.....	40	0 0	Balance profit.....	57	16 6
	<u>£276</u>	<u>16 10</u>		<u>£276</u>	<u>16 10</u>

The average daily attendance at the Institution being 44, shows the net cost per head for food to be £7 0s. 5d., for clothing and bedding, £4 8s. 9d.; or altogether, including bedding, clothing, food, industrial training and general supervision, £27 8s. 11d. This is 18s. 3d. higher than last year, but is accounted for by the fact that it was necessary to appoint an extra Assistant during the year. From this should really be deducted the permanent improvements done by the carpenters, which amounts to £100, and the value of the cows bought, amounting to £20 12s. 6d. On the Farm there are now 15 cows valued at £60, 7 young cattle and a bull valued at £13, 5 pigs valued at £12 10s., and an excellent crop of potatoes, maize, mangolds, and vegetables.

*General Remarks.*

The plan adopted in one or two cases this year of licensing boys to respectable parents has so far been quite a success. Parents who are really desirous of their sons' welfare will of course pay more attention to them than anyone else would. It is also an exceedingly effective check on the lad himself, as he very well knows any bad behaviour on his part means his return to the Institution. It is also very helpful to the parents. Unfortunately, the great bulk of parents having boys in such Institutions are very unsuitable for the guardianship of their sons. There are some who show remarkably little care or thought for their boys while here; but immediately their time has expired they pounce upon them to get what they possibly can out of them.

The power which has now been granted under 53 Vict. No. 17 by the Governor in Council will be of immense benefit in the working of the Institution, and will assist very materially in making the results even better than they have been. All boys, whatever their sentence is, are now under the charge of the Institution until they attain the age of eighteen, unless the period for which they have been sentenced extends beyond this age. The beneficial effects of the power thus conferred will be specially felt in the case of younger lads, who practically were able to do as they liked on the expiry of their sentence. This has always been a weakness, and seriously affected the after results, owing to the frequent determination of young lads to leave good places without any real cause. There is of course power to bring back the lad to the Institution, but, unless in very extreme cases, this is not desirable: all that is really wanted is the power now granted, of compelling him to stay in his situation and attend to the advice given him.

In bringing this report of another year's proceedings to a close, I must sincerely express my acknowledgments to Mr. John Macfarlane, Chairman of the Managers, and Mr. Belstead, the Honorary Secretary, for their frequent visits and kind help and sympathy in the carrying on of the important work of the Institution.

I have the honor to be,  
Gentlemen,

Your obedient Servant,

JAMES LONGMORE, *Superintendent.*

8th February, 1893.

**BOYS' TRAINING SCHOOL.**

*Report on the Annual Examination, 5th December, 1892.*

FORTY-FIVE boys were examined, in five separate classes. Twenty-five of these had been present at the previous Annual Examination, and consequently their progress during the year could be estimated. That of two had been good; that of fourteen had been fair; that of five moderate; and that of four slow.

Class I., Lower. Number examined, 8.

Three of these had been in the same division since the previous year's examination. Five were new scholars. Their work on the whole was promising.

Class I., Upper. Number examined, 5.

Three of these had been in the lower division at the previous year's examination. Two were new scholars. All passed satisfactorily; all doing very well in Arithmetic, four in Writing, three in Reading.

Class II. Number examined, 12.

Six of these had been promoted from the lower class, six were new scholars since the previous year's examination. All passed in Arithmetic, and all but one passed in other subjects. Seven did very well in Reading, six in Writing, seven in Arithmetic, five in all three subjects.

Class III. Number examined, 15.

Nine of these had been promoted from a lower class; six were new scholars since the previous examination. All passed in three subjects; eleven doing well in Reading, seven in Writing, six in Arithmetic, three in all subjects.

Class IV. Number examined, 5.

All these had been in a lower class at the previous year's examination. All passed very well in Reading; all passed in Writing, four with credit. All passed in Arithmetic, two with credit.

The results of the Examination show that diligent and effective work has been done in the few hours of each day available for teaching.

J. RULE, *Senior Inspector of Schools.*

*The Honorable the Minister of Education.*