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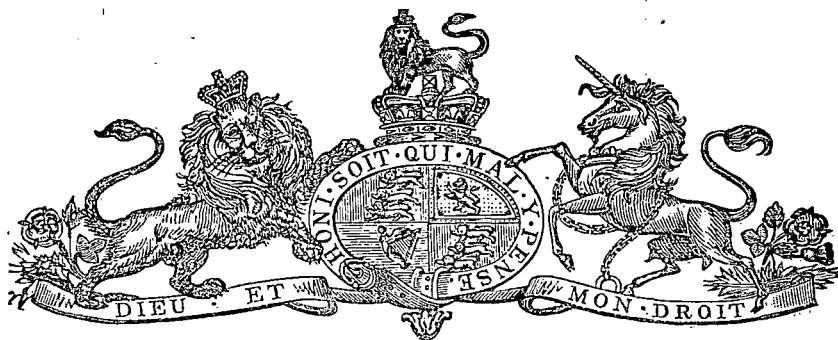
1890.

PARLIAMENT OF TASMANIA.

LAUNCESTON BENEVOLENT SOCIETY :

REPORT FOR 1889.

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



LAUNCESTON BENEVOLENT SOCIETY.

REPORT for the Year 1889.

IN reviewing the work of the year, your Committee are thankful to report that the contributions of subscribers have been liberal.

During the year the Society have relieved, including permanent and occasional cases, 137 men, 146 women, and 175 children; total, 462. At the close of the year there remained on the roll 30 men, 66 women, and 90 children; total, 190.

There are now on the relief roll 18 married couples and 36 widows. There are wives whose husbands have deserted them, wives whose husbands are sick and unfit for work, and others whose husbands are in gaol. The mothers are not able to support their children during the desertion, sickness, or imprisonment of their husbands.

The Society is now relieving two cases of 20 years' standing, two of 17 years, one of 14 years, three of 10 years, five of 9 years, three of 8 years, nine of 5 years, ten of 4 years, fourteen of 3 years, and seven of 2 years.

There have been two deaths amongst the recipients during the year. Three cases of confinement have been relieved.

In the winter months 45 pairs of blankets were distributed, as against 28 pairs last year; and firewood was supplied to the value of £45, as against £35 in 1888.

Your Committee would reiterate that every deserving case is relieved—none are turned away. That there are beggars about the streets, chiefly men and children, is owing to the support they receive in their house to house visitation. Many who are referred to the Secretary by subscribers fail to call upon him, fearing investigation; to no applicant is food refused.

The liberality of friends to the Society enabled the Committee to dispense extra rations for Christmas Day and New Year's Day; and this bounty has been duly appreciated by the recipients.

Your Committee are indebted to various kind friends for presents of blankets, clothing, oatmeal, vegetables, &c., and they must not omit to mention the gift of a mangle from Mr. Alfred Jones, Superintendent of Penal Establishments, which, with his approval, was bestowed on a deserving widow with a family. We also renew our thanks to the members of the medical profession, who gave their gratuitous services to the poor at the call of the Secretary. The courtesy of the medical officers at the General Hospital deserves special mention.

The thanks of the Committee are due to the Press for reporting the weekly proceedings of the Society, and thus placing our work constantly before the public.

In May last a deputation, consisting of the Chairman, Vice-Chairman, and Mr. B. P. Farrelly, waited upon the Chief Secretary with reference to the want of accommodation for female invalids in Launceston. The result was that additional beds were provided, and a promise given that no more women should be sent to Hobart contrary to their wishes.

An Act, entitled "The Charitable Institutions Act, 1888," was passed by the Legislature. This Act was primarily intended to give power to societies such as ours to sue the recipients and their relatives for the relief obtained. The Act also provides for societies being registered, and thus be constituted corporate bodies. After due deliberation the Society agreed to register, which was accordingly done in September last, and the Launceston Benevolent Society became a corporate body. Rules were framed and approved by the Attorney-General. Copies will be forwarded to subscribers.

There have been 45 meetings during the year, with an average attendance of 9 out of 11 members. Ten of the Committee and the Secretary act as relieving officers, and the relief roll is called over at every meeting.

The income and expenditure are given in detail in the Treasurer's statement. The Secretary's salary has been raised. Your Committee trust that you will confirm the favour as one well merited.

The Society, we learn on reliable authority, was established in 1840. Therefore 1890 is their jubilee; and the Committee trust it will be acknowledged that during the intervening period the Society has accomplished much good in the amelioration of suffering and the relief of want and distress, and your Committee look forward with well-founded hope that the public will mark their approval by exercising their wonted aid with even increased liberality.

JOHN STEPHENSON, *Chairman.*

LAUNCESTON BENEVOLENT SOCIETY.

Account of Receipts and Expenditure for the Year 1889.

| RECEIPTS. | | | EXPENDITURE. | | |
|--------------------------------------------------------------------|------|-------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------|------|-------|
| | £ | s. d. | | £ | s. d. |
| Balance to credit 31st December, 1888, as per last statement | 126 | 0 6 | Meat | 275 | 17 3 |
| Contributions | 370 | 12 9 | Bread | 232 | 7 4 |
| Government— | | | Groceries | 155 | 2 3 |
| Balance conditional, and unconditional | | | Secretary's Salary | 105 | 15 0 |
| Grants for 1888 | 250 | 0 0 | Commission collecting Subscriptions | 16 | 6 6 |
| On account, ditto, ditto, for 1889 | 250 | 0 0 | Fuel | 47 | 7 8 |
| | | | Printing, Advertising, Lodgings, Temporary Relief, Midwifery Charges, &c. | 46 | 15 9 |
| | | | Registration of Society, Examination of Rules | 2 | 14 6 |
| | | | Blankets | 11 | 11 0 |
| | | | Balance to credit at Bank of Van Diemen's Land | 102 | 16 0 |
| | £996 | 13 3 | | £996 | 13 3 |
| Balance to credit | 102 | 16 0 | | | |

Audited and found correct.

G. BAKER.

1st January, 1890.

T. GLADMAN, *Hon. Treasurer.*

LAUNCESTON BENEVOLENT SOCIETY.

Statement of Assets, 1st January, 1890.

| | £ | s. d. |
|------------------------------------------------------------------|-------|-------|
| Treasury—Government Bond | 100 | 0 0 |
| Equitable Building Society—Deposits | 1607 | 0 10 |
| Launceston Savings Investment and Building Society—Deposit | 383 | 10 6 |
| To credit at Bank of Van Diemen's Land | 102 | 16 0 |
| | £2193 | 7 4 |

Audited and found correct.

G. BAKER.

1st January, 1890.

T. GLADMAN, *Hon. Treasurer.*