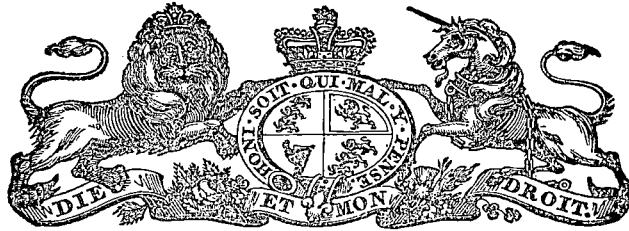


(No. 3.)



1877.

SESSION II.

T A S M A N I A.

LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL.

GENERAL HOSPITAL, LAUNCESTON :

REPORT FOR 1876.

Laid upon the Table by Mr. Crowther, and ordered by the Council to be printed,
April 24, 1877.



LAUNCESTON GENERAL HOSPITAL.

ANNUAL REPORT for 1876.

SIR,

I HAVE the honor to submit the Report of the Launceston General Hospital for the year 1876.

The past year has been characterised by an alteration in the working of the Institution, in consequence of the resignation of Dr. J. L. Miller as Chief Medical Officer, and the appointment of Dr. R. W. Murphy, formerly House Surgeon, as Surgeon Superintendent, with a supplementary staff of Honorary Medical Officers, consisting of Drs. Wigan, Maddox, and Hardy, the change having taken effect on the 1st of July last.

The proceedings of the past year, otherwise than in this respect, have been uniformly quiet, and nothing has transpired worthy of report.

The numbers of admissions slightly exceeded that of the previous year, but the daily average number in the Hospital, viz. 56 $\frac{1}{2}$, was a fraction less.

There was a considerable diminution in the number of Outdoor Patients, mainly due to refusal to supply many cases applying who were well able to pay for advice and medicine elsewhere,—information as to their means having been obtained through the instrumentality of the Superintendent of Police.

There was likewise an increase in the number of Patients admitted paying fees.

There were admitted during 1876, 418 Patients, of whom 295 were males and 123 were females.

There had remained at the close of the previous year 50 Patients, so that the total number treated in 1876 was 468 Patients; and of these 352 were discharged cured or relieved, 65 died, and 51 remained under treatment.

The average age of those who died was 50 years, and many of them were admitted in a state beyond any treatment, others again only surviving a few hours after admission.

Of the Patients admitted, 98 were Self-supporting, 4 were wholly or in part chargeable to Imperial Funds, and 366 were Colonial Paupers.

The sum of £249 14s. was received from or on account of Self-supporting Patients during the year.

I append the usual statistical information.

I have the honor to be,
Sir,

Your obedient Servant,

R. W. MURPHY, M.R.C.S.E.,
Surgeon Superintendent.

The Hon. the Colonial Secretary.

EXPENDITURE on account of the Launceston General Hospital in 1876.

	£	s.	d.
Salaries.....	843	7	11
Provisions and medical comforts.....	750	16	8
Clothing, bedding, and stores.....	209	15	9
Fuel and light.....	324	18	0
Medicines and instruments, &c.....	284	8	7
Water supply.....	30	0	0
Stationery and advertising.....	4	17	8
Washing (at Gaol).....	53	9	7
Funeral expenses.....	59	9	6
Repairs to buildings.....	213	8	0
Insurance of Surgeon Superintendent's residence ..	7	10	0
	<u>2782</u>	<u>1</u>	<u>8</u>
Medical attendance and medicines supplied to the Gaol and Houses of Correction.....	£	s.	d.
Houses of Correction.....	34	0	0
Ditto to the Invalid Depôt.....	31	5	0
Paid into Treasury for Self-supporting Patients.....	249	14	0
	<u>314</u>	<u>19</u>	<u>0</u>
	<u>£2467</u>	<u>2</u>	<u>8</u>

No. of Diets issued to Patients, 20,754.

No. of Diets issued to Attendants, 4392.

Daily cost of each Patient, about 2s. 4½d.

Yearly cost of each Patient, about £43 6s. 11d.

The Cases treated during the year were :—

	Indoor.	Outdoor.	Total.
Diseases of the respiratory system.....	60	157	217
brain and nervous system.....	30	60	90
heart and blood-vessels.....	12	23	35
eyes.....	18	22	40
skin.....	18	42	60
bones and joints.....	50	27	77
digestive system.....	33	175	208
urinary organs.....	23	30	53
Fevers.....	3	46	49
Dropsies.....	7	6	13
Rheumatic affections.....	26	44	70
Venereal affections.....	34	49	83
Abscesses and ulcers.....	43	25	68
Wounds and injuries.....	31	19	50
All other diseases.....	30	71	101
TOTALS	418	796	1214

The Diseases and Injuries which proved fatal were :—

Gangrene.....	Cases.	2	Paralysis.....	Cases.	3
Inflammation of lungs.....	13	Organic heart disease.....	4		
Disease of the liver.....	2	Abscess of brain.....	3		
Disease of the kidneys.....	5	Senility.....	6		
Ulcer of the stomach.....	1	Abscess of scalp.....	1		
Inflammation of stomach.....	1	Diarrhœa.....	2		
Debility.....	1	Pulmonary consumption.....	3		
Concussion of the brain.....	1	Lithotomy (exhaustion after).....	1		
Abscess of the liver.....	2	Inflammation of brain.....	1		
Chronic bronchitis.....	1	Cancer.....	4		
Disease of the spine.....	3	Dislocation of spine.....	1		
Inflammation of bladder.....	2				
Apoplexy.....	1				
Inflammation of the larynx ..	1				
			<u>65</u>		

The Ages of those who died were as follows :—

Under 20 years	7
From 20 to 30.....	7
From 30 to 40.....	5
From 40 to 50	8
From 50 to 60.....	12
From 60 to 70	17
From 70 to 80.....	8
From 80 to 90.....	1
	—
	65
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