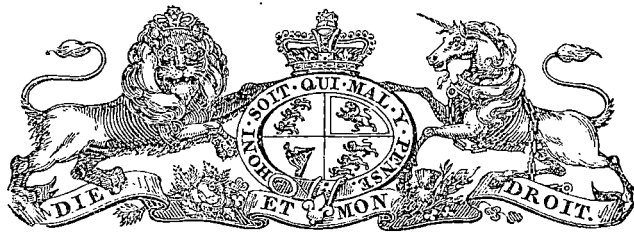


(No 9.)



1901.

---

PARLIAMENT OF TASMANIA.

---

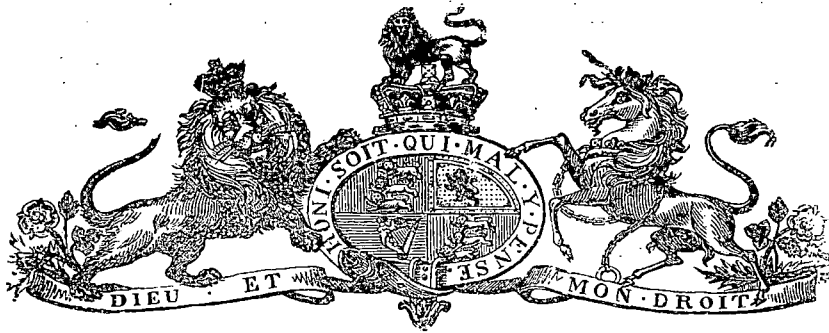
NEW TOWN CHARITABLE INSTITUTION:

REPORT FOR 1900.

---

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

Cost of printing—£3 7s. 6d.



## NEW TOWN CHARITABLE INSTITUTION.

### REPORT FOR 1900.

New Town, 13th March, 1901.

SIR,

I HAVE the honour to submit the Annual Report of the New Town Charitable Institution for the year 1900.

#### *Strength.*

The number of inmates on the books during the year was—Males, 352 ; Females, 236 ; Total, 588.

The number in the institution, including children, on 31st December, was 341, or 20 less than in 1899.

The highest number of inmates at any one time was 387, and the lowest 341. Compared with 1899 this shows a decrease of 41 and 18 respectively.

The average daily number during the year was 372·27, a decrease of 33·81 compared with 1899.

#### *Admissions.*

The number admitted was 227, being one less than in 1899.

#### *Discharges.*

The number discharged was 162, as against 200 in 1899.

#### *Mortality.*

The deaths during the year numbered 85, or 14·46 per cent., as against 95, or 14·53 per cent. in 1899. The average age of those who died was 74·27 years, the maximum age being 101, and the minimum 24 years ; 43 averaged over 80 years of age, and the average age of the oldest 15 was 90 years. Fuller particulars under this head will be found in Return C in the Appendices.

#### *Ages.*

The approximate Ages of inmates, exclusive of children, remaining in the institution on the 31st December, 1900, were as follows :—

	Males.	Females.	Total.	Per Cent.
90 years and upwards .....	5	1	6	1·78
Between 80 and 90 years .....	65	22	87	25·74
Ditto 70 and 80 .....	83	54	137	40·53
Ditto 60 and 70 .....	16	18	34	10·06
Ditto 50 and 60 .....	6	11	17	5·03
Under 50 years .....	24	33	57	16·86
<b>TOTAL .....</b>	<b>199</b>	<b>139</b>	<b>338</b>	<b>100·00</b>
Average age .....	71·83	60·72	67·26	
Ditto in previous years .....	71·45	60·94	67·37	

*Civil Condition.*

The Civil Condition of those on the books during the year was as follows:—

	Males.	Females.	Total.	Per Cent.	Per Cent. in 1899.
Free by servitude.....	166	76	242	41·16	42·05
Free to Colony .....	141	82	223	37·92	36·39
Born in Colony .....	45	78	123	20·92	21·56
<b>TOTAL .....</b>	<b>352</b>	<b>236</b>	<b>588</b>	<b>100·00</b>	<b>..</b>
Previous year .....	389	265	654	..	..

*Birth-places.*

The Birth-places of those on the books during the year were as follows:—

	Males.	Females.	Total.	Per cent.	Per cent. in 1899.
Australian Colonies and Tasmania ...	42	82	124	21·09	22·94
England and Wales .....	195	50	245	41·67	38·84
Ireland .....	78	70	148	25·17	27·32
Scotland .....	21	29	50	8·50	8·41
Other British Possessions .....	4	2	6	1·02	0·91
Foreign Countries .....	12	3	15	2·55	1·68
<b>TOTAL .....</b>	<b>352</b>	<b>236</b>	<b>588</b>	<b>100·00</b>	

*Education.*

The Education of those on the books during the year was as follows:—

	Males.	Females.	Total.	Per cent.	Per cent. in 1899.
Read and write .....	199	85	284	48·29	47·10
Read only .....	40	38	78	13·27	14·37
Neither read nor write .....	109	113	222	37·76	38·07
Superior Education .....	4	—	4	0·68	0·46
<b>TOTAL .....</b>	<b>352</b>	<b>236</b>	<b>588</b>	<b>100·00</b>	

*Religion.*

The religion of those remaining in the institution on 31st December, was as follows:—

	Males.	Females.	Total.	Per cent.	Per cent. in 1899.
Church of England .....	108	64	172	50·44	50·14
Church of Rome .....	65	64	129	37·83	38·50
Church of Scotland .....	26	14	40	11·73	11·36
<b>TOTAL .....</b>	<b>199</b>	<b>142</b>	<b>341</b>	<b>100·00</b>	

*Expenditure.*

The gross expenditure for the year was £4436 4s. 6d., or £45 14s. 3d. less than in 1899. The receipts were £339 1s. 10d., as against £487 1s. 6d. in 1899. The net expenditure was £4097 2s. 8d., or £102 5s. 5d. more than in 1899.

The cost per head on gross expenditure was £11 18s. 4d., and on net expenditure £10 12s. 10d., or 17s. 7d. and 16s. 1d. more respectively than in 1899.

The claim made against the Imperial Government for maintenance of paupers in the New Town Charitable Institution chargeable to the Imperial Funds was £210 0s. 8d.; if credit were taken for this amount, the net cost would be reduced to £10 8s. 10d., or 7d. per diem.

*Repairs.*

Special attention has been paid to the repairs of the buildings throughout, so that they are now in an excellent state of preservation, all wards, cook-houses, &c., having been renovated during the year. Green blinds have been placed to the hospital windows, and are much appreciated by the sick.

*Dietary.*

The daily variation of the dietary scale, which was introduced last year, continues to give satisfaction, and as the new cook-house in the hospital, Male Division is now completed, I hope to still vary the dietary scale with baked dinners at intervals during the week.

*Bath-room, Male Depôt.*

The bath-room has been fitted with a copper boiler connected with two 400-gallon tanks, thus giving a full supply of hot or cold water at any hour night or day; the internal fittings of the bath-room have also received attention and been made more comfortable.

*Clothing and Fuel.*

Consequently upon the advanced age of many of the inmates a warmer and more suitable description of clothing, consisting of Tasmanian woollen cloths, has been introduced. For the same reason special attention has been paid to the fires throughout the institution.

*Sanitary.*

Sanitary matters have received attention, and all such is now removed to the Farm at Derwent Park and there treated.

*Garden.*

Owing to the infirmity of the inmates not much has been produced from the gardens, but all who are able to do a little work are employed at light labour. The produce for the year amounted in value to £39 11s.

*Stores.*

During the month of August the Inspector of Stores took stock of and examined all stores throughout the institution.

*Religious Services.*

The spiritual wants of the inmates continue to be well attended to by the Venerable Archdeacon Whittington, Rev. J. Babington, Rev. Father Gilleran, Rev. Father O'Reilly, Rev. W. Perry Hart, the Sisters of Charity, Flower Mission Ladies, Ladies' Visiting Committee, Christian Endeavour Society, Mrs. Canaway and friends, the Salvation Army, and very many other friends of the institution, all of whom take a very deep interest in the old people under my care; and I can sincerely assert that the good feeling is reciprocated by the old folks, and that the numerous visits of friends is a source of great comfort to the old people. Mrs. Colonel Shelton, a very old and beloved friend of the institution, visited the old people during the year during her short stay in Hobart. The institution is open daily to visitors, and may be inspected at any hour.

*Gifts.*

The following gifts have been received during the year for the inmates, and I wish to return my thanks to the various donors for their kindness:—Ale, gingerbeer, and lemonade, from the Bushmen's Sports Committee; magazines and papers from Mrs. Sparks; papers from Chief Officer s.s. *Oonah*; 3 cases oranges from Mr. Sawyer; 1195 lbs. tobacco and 5 gross of pipes from Mr. Bowman; box of pipes each from Mr. D. Griffiths and Messrs. Cearn Bros.; apples from Messrs. Thorpe and Paterson; beer from Mr. Kemp; beer for Christmas from Cascade Brewery Co. and Mr. E. Blake; several lots of magazines and papers, also £1 at Christmas for extras from Hon. F. W. Piessé, M.L.C.; illustrated papers from the Committee of the New Town Library; and various parcels of English papers from Mr. G. R. Miller.

*Entertainments.*

Mr. H. Shirley and friends three times during the year gave the inmates very pleasant evenings. The following friends also gave entertainments:—Newbury Spada Co., Mr. Eltham and friends, Mr. Duggan and friends, Mrs. Orchard and friends, the United Choirs, and the boys of the Training School.

*Brabazon Employment Society.*

This society, established in England by the Countess of Meath, has started a branch society at this institution, and has been most successful in its efforts to brighten the lives of many of the inmates. Attached will be found the Report of the Corresponding Secretary.

*Medical Officer.*

Dr. Crouch, M.R.C.S. England, visits the institution regularly twice a week, and at other times when called upon.

*Honorary Dentist.*

Mr. R. Sharp, Honorary Dentist, visits the institution when called upon to do so.

*Lying-in Home.*

There were but 3 cases admitted into the Home during the year, and were discharged with their infants.

*Library.*

The inmates still continue to appreciate the kindness of the proprietors of the *Mercury*, *Tasmanian News*, *Church News*, and *Monitor*, for free copies of their publications during the year.

I have the honour to be,  
Sir,

Your obedient Servant,

F. R. SEAGER, *Superintendent.*

*The Honourable the Chief Secretary.*

## A.

*RETURN showing the Expenditure of the New Town Charitable Institution for the Year 1900; the Receipts for the same period, and the Net Cost per head.*

Expenditure.	Amount.	Total.	Receipts.	Amount.	Total.
	£ s. d.	£ s. d.		£ s. d.	£ s. d.
Salaries .....	...	989 8 10.	Fees for maintenance of In-		
Provisions .....	2153 16 1		mates .....	234 3 0	
Clothing, bedding, stores, and			Sale of old stores .....	15 14 8	
stationery .....	592 4 4		Ditto vegetables .....	15 5 6	
Fuel and light .....	358 15 6		Ditto fat .....	3 8 11	
Medicines and medical com-			Ditto surgical instruments	1 3 6	
forts .....	59 5 7		Ditto drugs .....	15 0 0	
Miscellaneous, including			Ditto provisions to Tas-		
funeral expenses .....	150 17 11		manian Imperial Contingent	16 12 6	
Repairs and alterations to			Ditto fuel and light to		
buildings .....	131 16 3	3446 15 8	Commissioner of Police, &c.	12 1 10	
			Repayment of funeral ex-		
			penses of inmate .....	1 16 0	315 5 11
			Labour of Men at Cemetery...	...	23 13 0
			Tobacco supplied to Men at	...	0 2 11
			Cemetery .....	...	
			Balance, being net Cost of	...	4097 2 8
			Establishment .....	...	
		£4436 4 6			£4436 4 6

*Average Daily Number.*

Males (Colonial).....	211.87
" (Imperial) .....	7.65
Females (Colonial).....	152.75
Net Cost per Head, £10 12s. 10d.	

## B.

*RETURN showing the estimated probable Cost of the New Town Charitable Institution, and the actual Amount expended, for the Year 1900.*

Head of Service.	Per Estimate.	Actual Cost.	Increase.	Decrease.
	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.
Salaries .....	1040 0 0	989 8 10	...	50 11 2
Provisions .....		2153 16 1	...	
Clothing, bedding, stores, & stationery		592 4 4	...	
Medicines and medical comforts .....		59 5 7	...	
Miscellaneous, including funeral ex-	3790 0 0			343 4 4
penses .....		150 17 11	...	
Fuel and light .....		358 15 6	...	
Repairs to buildings .....		131 16 3	...	
TOTAL .....	£4830 0 0	4436 4 6	...	393 15 6

## C.

*RETURN of Deaths at the New Town Charitable Institution during the Year 1900.*

	Between the Ages of—																			TOTAL.	
	Children.		20 to 30.		30 to 40.		40 to 50.		50 to 60.		60 to 70.		70 to 80.		80 to 90.		90 to 100.		Over 100.		
	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.		F.
Brain Disease...	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	2
Cancer.....	...	...	...	...	1	...	1	...	...	1	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	4
Epilepsy .....	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1
Heart Disease...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1
Morbus Cordis..	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	2
Paralysis.....	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1
Senile Debility...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	2	3	23	5	32	5	2	1	1	...	...	...	74
TOTALS...	...	1	1	...	1	...	1	...	3	7	23	5	34	5	2	1	1	...	...	...	85

## D.

*DECENNIAL Return showing the Number of Persons admitted, discharged, and remaining in the New Town Charitable Institution on the 31st December in each year, Net Cost of the Institution, and the Net Cost per Head.*

Years.	Admitted during the Year.	Discharged during the Year.	Died during the Year.	Remaining on 31st December.		Average daily Number.	Net Cost of Institution.			Net Cost per Head.		
				Number.	Average Age.		£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.
1891.....	530	413	153	504	70·08	545	7247	14	1	13	12	7
1892.....	510	387	109	518	69·61	537	7685	16	8	14	6	3
1893.....	538	419	122	515	70·02	542	6158	18	10	11	7	5
1894.....	448	313	112	538	70·58	349	5336	15	3	9	14	5
1895.....	371	300	86	523	70·58	345	5216	6	6	9	11	1
1896.....	357	276	90	514	69·78	530	4857	15	3	9	3	3
1897.....	291	232	103	470	70·05	499	4920	8	5	9	17	2
1898.....	285	198	131	426	68·47	470	5175	13	10	11	0	0
1899.....	228	198	95	361	67·37	406	3994	17	3	9	16	9
1900.....	227	162	85	341	67·26	372	4097	2	8	10	12	10

## E.

*RETURN of Inmates in the Lying-in Home during the year 1900.*

No. of Lying-in Inmates on 31st December, 1899—	
Already confined .....	—
Awaiting confinement .....	—
Admitted during the year—	
Single.....	3
Married .....	—
Number left during the year—	
To service with infant .....	3
Number remaining 31st December, 1900—	
Already confined .....	—
Awaiting confinement .....	—
Number of confinements—	
Single.....	3
Married .....	—

*REPORT of the Brabazon Employment Society for 1900.*

The Brabazon Employment Society was founded by the Countess of Meath to provide interesting occupation for those who, from ill-health or age, are forced to pass the weary hours idly in our Workhouse and Infirmary wards. No payment of any kind, either in money or rewards, is allowed to be made for the work done. Ladies voluntarily give up their time to teaching the inmates and, therefore, derive no benefit, whatever.

The work is sold and the proceeds are devoted first, to repay to the central fund by instalments, the grant for materials, advanced by the Countess of Meath; secondly, to the purchase of new materials to carry on the work, and to enable the society to benefit by supplying extra comforts to those inmates who prefer work to idleness. These benefits can only be conferred from time to time, as the committee allows.

The New Town Charitable Institution Branch, by permission of the Government, was started in June, 1900, by the Ministering Children's League. Basket-work, Turkish mat-making, bent iron-work, and knitting, are the principal employments; the mat and rug making is taken up particularly by the deaf and dumb women.

The sympathy and help of the Administrator of Charitable Grants and Mrs. Seager, Mrs. Taylor, the energetic Secretary, and the ladies who most unselfishly devote every Monday afternoon to the work, have been of inestimable assistance in furthering the aims of the society, and in enlivening the otherwise monotonous lives of the old, crippled, or deaf and dumb inmates of the institution.

EMILY DOBSON, *Corresponding Secretary and Treasurer.*