

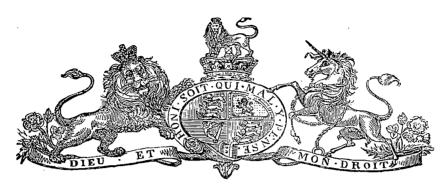
1886.

PARLIAMENT OF TASMANIA.

OUT-DOOR RELIEF:

REPORT FOR 1885.

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



OUT-DOOR RELIEF.

REPORT for 1885.

Charitable Grants Department, 23rd June, 1886.

SIR.

I HAVE the honor to submit the following Report for the year 1885 with reference to the Outdoor Relief, &c. of Paupers throughout the Colony, and the expenditure for transport and funeral expenses.

In the accompanying return is set forth the total sum disbursed during the year for Out-door Relief in the Town of Launceston, and in each of the Municipal and Police Districts, amounting to £2845 13s. Compared with the expenditure for Out-door Relief in 1884 there is a reduction in favour of 1885 of the sum of £205 10s. 9d.

The total number of cases in which relief was given, and the number of persons amongst whom it was distributed, were as follows:—Total number of cases 329, representing 774 individuals,—422 adults and 352 children, belonging to 100 families.

Of the 329 cases—

- 155 were those of aged, infirm, and afflicted persons without family ties—males, 64; females, 91.
 - 74 were of the same class, but composed of married couples.

11 were deserted wives with families.

49 were widows, also with children to support.

- 36 were parents to whom assistance was given during illness or recovery from accidents; and
- 4 were the mothers of children whose fathers were undergoing imprisonment for various offences.

329 Total.

In each of the above cases searching inquiry was instituted, and a report of a satisfactory character was received from the Warden or Police Magistrate of the District in which the applicants for relief resided before any payment was authorised to be made, and every precaution was taken against the public being saddled with the cost of the support of persons who had relatives in a position to supply them with the assistance of which they stated they stood in need. Applications for the renewal of allowances in cases in which the authorities for payment had expired were not acceded to unless it was satisfactorily proved that the causes which led to the grant being made in the first instance still existed, and that continued assistance was a matter of such necessity as to render the withdrawal of aid impossible without exposing the recipients to much suffering and distress.

In the discharge of these duties I have again the pleasure to acknowledge the assistance so promptly and courteously extended to me by the Wardens, Magistrates, and officials generally of the districts in which it was necessary to institute inquiries into the condition and means of applicants for assistance, and the ability of relatives to afford the relief applied for.

With regard to the relief distributed amongst the poor residing in the City of Hobart, at New Town, and Sandy Bay, I have the honour to refer you to the report of the Executive Committee of the Benevolent Society, under whose immediate supervision it was afforded. The sum expended by the Committee in cash amounted to £763 7s., and the cost of the rations issued was £565 19s. 8d., making a total of £1329 6s. 8d.

The total expenditure for Out-door Relief throughout the Colony amounted to £4174 19s. 8d., but repayments to the amount of £38 3s. were recovered from relatives, which reduced the actual outlay to £4136 16s. 8d.,—£341 13s 11d. less than was expended in the previous year.

Out of the vote £5500 for the maintenance of paupers not otherwise provided for, and to which the expenditure for Out-door Relief has been charged, there has also been expended £690 2s. 7d., making a total of £4826 19s. 3d., and leaving on the 31st March last, the date to which the accounts have been made up, an unexpended balance of £673 0s. 9d.

Of the amount £690 2s. 7d., the sum of £262 4s. 3d. was expended in providing medical attendance and medicines to out-door paupers residing in the country districts, including the cost of the maintenance of paupers in the Hospital at Campbell Town; £86 8s. 9d. for lying-in cases attended to by the Benevolent Society, Hobart, inclusive of the amount £20 allowed to the Registrar for supervision; £78 for food and lodging to casual paupers at the Campbell Town Police Station; £14 10s. 8d. for commission to Collectors for Charitable Institutions; £11 9s. for provisions and attendance upon persons in the country districts who could not be removed to an institution; £27 14s. 7d. in aid of the support of two apprentices; £123 3s. 8d. for the maintenance and clothing of six children in the New South Wales Institution for the Deaf and Dumb and the Blind; £36 10s. for compassionate allowances to Mary Smith and Adam Sprowle; together with sundry other items of small amount.

The vote £550 for the transport and funeral expenses of paupers was found to be insufficient for the service of the year. Accounts paid to the 31st March last showed an expenditure for transport, £329 5s. 4d.; funeral expenses, £219 13s.; total, £548 18s.,—an increase to the same date upon the previous year of £54 7s. 1d.; viz., for transport, £15 5s. 11d., and for funeral expenses £39 0s. 10d. Additional claims having been rendered, the authority of the Governor in Council for the expenditure of a further sum of £20 had to be obtained. Included in the expenditure for transport is the cost of the conveyance to the New Town Charitable Institution of 91 paupers (30 in excess of the previous year) from districts north of Oatlands, for whom the Superintendent of the Invalid Depôt at Launceston could not provide accommodation. Of that number 28 were received from Launceston, 36 from Campbell Town, 14 from Deloraine, 4 from Longford, 3 from Westbury, 2 from Evandale, and one from each of the districts of George Town, Latrobe, Torquay, and Waratah.

RECAPITULATION. Expenditure. s, dOut-door Relief, Hobart and suburbs..... 1329 8 2845 13 690 7 4865 Less Repayments.... 38 3 0 4826 19 Unexpended balance..... 673 0 9 Voted by Parliament..... 5500 0 0 Transport..... Funeral expenses..... 219 13 0 548 18 4 Voted by Parliament..... 550 0 0 Supplementary to meet claims on account of 1885 rendered after 0 31st March, 1886..... 20 0 570

Appended are returns of the annual expenditure for out-door relief, and of the daily average number of inmates of the several Invalid Depôts in the Colony from 1879 to 1885, both years inclusive. From these Returns it will be seen that a very large deduction in the expenditure for the

maintenance of out-door paupers, as well as in the number provided for in the Depôts, has taken place during the last six years. In that period the cost for out-door relief has been gradually reduced from £7317 19s. 10d. to £4136 16s. 8d. per annum, a result which of itself should be a source of considerable satisfaction, but, when viewed in connection with the decrease also in the number of indoor paupers, it affords reasonable ground for the belief that either the care and vigilance exercised by those to whom the disbursement of the funds voted by Parliament for the relief of genuine distress has been entrusted have prevented undeserving persons from being participators in the bounty of the public, or that, as expressed in a previous report upon this subject, "more prosperous times have enabled people to dispense with Government aid, who, under less favourable circumstances, would have sought it in one form or the other."

I have the honor to be,

Sir,

Your obedient Servant,

The Hon. the Chief Secretary.

J. O'BOYLE, Administrator Charitable Grants.

RETURN of Expenditure for Out-door Relief in Tasmania during the Years 1879, 1880, 1881, 1882, 1883, 1884, and 1885.

YBAR.	Expen	DITURE.	Repayments to be	<i>T</i>
Y BAR.	Hobart and Suburbs.	Launceston, Municipalities, &c.	Repayments to be deducted.	TOTAL EXPENDITURE.
1879	1473 13 10	£ s. d. 4956 17 7 3783 17 4 3542 9 9 3887 15 8 3222 17 2 3051 3 9 2845 13 0	£ s. d. 45 1 1 81 5 0 76 19 2 42 1 5 38 3 0	£ s. d. 7317 19 10 5872 17 1 5130 18 7 4886 9 5 4619 11 10 4478 10 7 4136 16 8

RETURN of the Daily Average Number of Inmates of the several Invalid Depôts during the Years 1879, 1880, 1881, 1882, 1883, 1884, and 1885.

Year.	Brickfields.	New Town.	Launceston.	Total
879	222	550	125	897
.880	134	569	140	843
881	119	611	146	876
.882	89	577	140	806
.883	•••	642	139	781
884	•••	626	147	773
885	•••	609	150	759

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RETURN of Expenditure for Out-door Relief in the Town of LAUNCESTON and the several Municipal and Police Districts, during the Year 1885.

J. O'BOYLE, Administrator Charitable Grants.