

(No. 17.)



1894.

PARLIAMENT OF TASMANIA.

HOBART HOSPITAL FOR THE INSANE :

REPORT FOR 1893.

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



HOBART HOSPITAL FOR THE INSANE.

ANNUAL REPORT FOR 1893.

To His Excellency the Right Honorable JENICO WILLIAM JOSEPH, VISCOUNT GORMANSTON, Knight Commander of the Most Distinguished Order of Saint Michael and Saint George, Governor and Commander-in-Chief in and over the Colony of Tasmania and its Dependencies.

MAY IT PLEASE YOUR EXCELLENCY.

WE have the honor to submit, in accordance with the provisions of the 22nd Vict. No. 23 and 46th Vict. No. 35, our Report of this Institution for the year 1893.

On the 1st January, 1893, there were 27 patients in this Hospital, and one was admitted during the year.

On the 4th December, 1893, in accordance with an Order received from the Honorable the Chief Secretary, 27 patients, with the four attendants, were transferred to the Hospital for the Insane at New Norfolk, together with all the necessary furniture, bedding, stores, &c. belonging to the Institution.

One patient was left remaining in the Hospital, pending his transfer to the New Town Charitable Institution, where he was removed on 30th January.

The general health of the patients has been excellent, as shown in the following extract from the minute book, dated 12 September, 1893:—"The health of the patients has been exceptionally good. There has been no case of sickness for some considerable time past."

There were no deaths during the year. The average age of each inmate was 58; the average age of the 11 oldest was 72.

On 16th October Mr. Jones (the Superintendent) was granted six months' leave of absence, and Mr. Oscar Hedberg was appointed to the position of Superintendent in his stead, and commenced his duties on that date.

During the year the dietary scale of the patients was revised, and effect given to the same from 1st April, by order of the Honorable the Chief Secretary.

Those of the patients who were able were employed in domestic work, such as cleaning and scrubbing. A certain amount of prison labour was also utilized in keeping up the cleanliness of the establishment.

As usual, amusements were found for the patients, such as quoits, cards, dominoes, draughts, and musical entertainments of an evening.

Religious services have been regularly held in the Institution by the clergymen of the Churches of England and Rome, as well as by the Sisters of Charity.

The officers and attendants performed their duties satisfactorily, and with kindness to the patients.

The Medical Officers of the New Norfolk Hospital for the Insane ceased to visit the Institution early in the year.

The cost of the Hospital for the year is as follows :—

	£	s.	d.
Salaries and allowances.....	289	17	1
Provisions.....	285	18	6
Medicines.....	8	0	0
Clothing, Bedding, Stores, and Stationery.....	74	12	2
Fuel and Light.....	48	3	7
Uniforms.....	10	10	0
Repairs to Buildings.....	2	15	4
Miscellaneous.....	7	10	3
Making the gross cost.....	£727	6	11

The net cost (after deducting £28 10s. 1d. received on account of a patient) is £698 16s. 10d., of which £274 19s. 1d. is chargeable to the Imperial Government, and £423 17s. 9d. to the Colonial Government.

The net cost of each patient for the year was £27 1s. 9d., or nearly 1s. 6d. per diem.

We have the honor to be,

Your Excellency's obedient Servants,

C. E. BARNARD, *M.D.*,

A. RIDDOCH, *J.P.*,

PHILIP S. SEAGER,

} *Official Visitors.*

February 10, 1894.