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1885.

PARLIAMENT OF TASMANIA.

INDUSTRIAL SCHOOL FOR GIRLS,
LAUNCESTON :

REPORT FOR 1884.

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



LAUNCESTON INDUSTRIAL SCHOOL FOR GIRLS.

EIGHTH ANNUAL REPORT—1884.

THE Committee are pleased to report the steady and increasing usefulness of this Institution.

Eight girls have been admitted during the year, three have left, two of these being placed at service, and one returned to her friends; remaining in the School, twenty-five. Of those who from time to time have been apprenticed your Committee report that in almost every instance the girls are doing well, and in some cases giving the greatest satisfaction.

The Committee have been much gratified to find that the School is attracting increased attention by the public. The many acts of kindness and liberality are too numerous to particularise. There have been frequent and almost regular supplies of fruit, vegetables, and many other kitchen and household requisites. Occasionally friends have provided tea for the children, and afterwards entertained them; at other times they have been taken on pleasure excursions, either into the country, or down the river by steamer. Concerts have been given in aid of the School funds. The Wharf Labour Union very generously gave us the substantial balance of their funds, and from the Board of Education we have received a valuable grant of books.

The usual Bible and Singing Classes have been held, and the children give evidence of improvement in these, as also in their general school and house work.

The financial condition of the School is also encouraging. The subscriptions for the past year are in excess of those for the previous year, and we are keeping clear of debt.

The Committee are very pleased to report the purchase of new School premises in Wellington-street, for the sum of £1100. There is a substantial brick house of eight rooms besides out-buildings, standing on an acre and a quarter of land pleasantly and healthily situated. We purpose making at once large and substantial additions, and these when completed will make the place eminently suited for the purposes required. We are much indebted to the Government for having secured for us a Parliamentary vote of £500 towards this object. We have besides about £900 in hand, but shall require considerable additional help before we can open the school—as we hope to do—free of debt.

There has been during the year more sickness than usual, and this has made a larger demand on the time of the Medical Attendant, of whom the Matron reports:—"Nothing could exceed Dr. Hallows' kindness and attention to these children." Mr. Wells, dentist, has also continued his services. Mr. H. Conway has very generously offered to prepare plans for the new buildings, and to superintend the erection of the same free of cost; and Messrs. Tyson and Lakin have given their usual care in auditing the accounts. To all these gentlemen our cordial thanks are given, as also to the many other friends who have shown such sympathy with our work, and rendered us substantial help by their gifts.

It is with feelings of deep regret that we record the death of Mrs. Cleveland, who has been a member of the Committee from the time the Institution was founded. The deceased lady always manifested a lively interest in the affairs of the School, and has rendered us much valuable help both by her contributions to our funds and her wise counsels.

