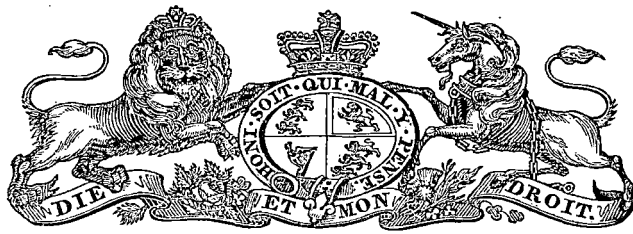


(No. 7.)



1887.

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PARLIAMENT OF TASMANIA.

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CONTAGIOUS DISEASES HOSPITAL, CASCADES :

REPORT FOR 1886.

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



## CONTAGIOUS DISEASES HOSPITAL, CASCADES.

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*Contagious Diseases Hospital, Cascades, 9th April, 1887.*

SIR,

I HAVE the honor to furnish the Annual Report of this Institution for 1886.

The year commenced with no patients in hospital, and 12 only were admitted during the remaining period of it.

Of these 11 were for the first time, and 1 for the fifth. 8 were Protestants, and 4 were Roman Catholics, their ages ranging from 16 to 27, the mean being  $22\frac{3}{4}$ .

The character of diseases treated is shown in Table A., the majority of which were of a virulent type.

The daily average number of patients was  $1\frac{1}{4}$ ths, and the cost per head for a year about £109. The expenditure, however, is detailed in Table B., the total amount being £196 3s. 7d.

In review of the operation of the Act since its introduction in September, 1879, there is evidence of marked beneficial results having been obtained thereby, inasmuch as the annual daily averages have steadily decreased from  $10\frac{1}{8}$  to  $1\frac{1}{4}$ ; or from the admission of 108 to 12 in a year.

These results, however, may not be wholly attributable to a diminution of disease, as doubtless there are methods of evading detection as there are means of obtaining relief privately; but whatever the cause, the fact remains that establishing a Contagious Diseases Hospital has, at least, been an active agent in directing attention to an evil which previously passed unnoticed and uncared for by those more immediately concerned in the transmission of disease.

On the other hand, it would not be right to overlook the doctrine that "Syphilis, like certain other maladies, fluctuates under the operation of causes not yet brought completely within the range of science. Its intensity will increase for one period, and diminish for the next, without any palpable reason."

Under this aspect of the question, therefore, there is no guarantee that the numbers of to-day will be the numbers of to-morrow.

I have the honor to be,  
Sir,

Your obedient Servant,

J. COVERDALE, *M.D.*

*The Hon. the Chief Secretary.*

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## A.

*RETURN of the Number, Character, and Disposal of the Cases of Venereal Disease at the Contagious Diseases Hospital, Cascades, during the Year 1886.*

<i>No.</i>	<i>Disease.</i>	<i>Discharged.</i>	<i>Remaining.</i>
1	Gonorrhœa .....	1	<i>Nil.</i>
9	Primary Syphilis .....	9	<i>Nil.</i>
2	Secondary ditto .....	2	<i>Nil.</i>

J. COVERDALE, *M.D.*, *Medical Officer.*

## B.

*RETURN of the Expenditure of the Contagious Diseases Hospital, Cascades, for the Year 1886.*

	<i>£</i>	<i>s.</i>	<i>d.</i>
Salaries .....	111	0	0
Provisions .....	39	10	0
Medical Comforts .....	0	7	9
Stores, Bedding, and Clothing .....	13	15	8
Fuel and Light .....	20	3	0
Medicines .....	1	0	0
Miscellaneous .....	2	2	6
Repairs to Buildings .....	8	4	8
	<u>£196</u>	<u>3</u>	<u>7</u>

J. COVERDALE, *M.D.*, *Medical Officer.*