

(No. 3.)



1879.

T A S M A N I A.

LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL.

GENERAL HOSPITAL, LAUNCESTON :

REPORT FOR 1878.

Laid upon the Table by Mr. Crowther, and ordered by the Council to be printed,
September 9, 1879.



LAUNCESTON GENERAL HOSPITAL.

ANNUAL REPORT for 1878.

29th April, 1879.

SIR,

I HAVE the honor to submit the Report of the Launceston General Hospital for 1878.

The past year has been a comparatively uneventful one, and nothing has transpired worthy of report.

The number of admissions exceeded that of the previous year by 27.

There were admitted during the year 484 Patients, of whom 355 were males, and 129 females.

The total expenditure for the year is in excess of that of last year; and the daily cost per head is greater by $3\frac{1}{4}d.$, a fact accounted for owing to the increased price of provisions and fuel.

The number of Outdoor Patients, 745, is less than last year, mainly owing to increased vigilance to prevent abuse, and to the prosperity of the class of persons seeking outdoor hospital relief.

The receipts from paying Patients is £328 9s. 6d., an increase of £34 13s. 4d. on those of the preceding year.

There had remained at the close of the previous year 46 Patients, so that the total number treated in 1878 was 529; and of these 423 were discharged cured or relieved, 56 died, and 52 remained under treatment.

The average daily number in Hospital was $54\frac{1}{2}$.

Of the 56 deaths, no less than 38 were over 50 years of age; many of them admitted in a hopeless state, surviving but a few hours after admission; and the average age was $53\frac{1}{2}$ years.

The admissions were 27 in excess of last year, and the deaths were less by 17.

Of the Patients admitted 96 were self-supporting, 1 wholly chargeable to Imperial Funds, and 423 were Colonial Paupers.

The statistical information is as usual appended.

I have the honor to be,

Sir,

Your obedient Servant,

R. W. MURPHY, *M.R.C.S.E., &c.*
Surgeon Superintendent.

The Hon. the Colonial Secretary.

EXPENDITURE on account of the Launceston General Hospital for 1878.

| | £ | s. | d. |
|---|--------------|-----------|----------|
| Salaries..... | 860 | 15 | 0 |
| Provisions and medical comforts | 797 | 12 | 0 |
| Fuel, light, and water..... | 391 | 3 | 1 |
| Clothing, bedding, and stores | 257 | 10 | 2 |
| Funeral expenses..... | 59 | 0 | 0 |
| Stationery and advertising | 7 | 12 | 4 |
| Medicines and surgical instruments | 265 | 7 | 7 |
| Washing (at Gaol)..... | 52 | 9 | 1 |
| Insurance of House Surgeon's residence | 7 | 10 | 0 |
| Repairs, &c. to building..... | 184 | 3 | 3 |
| | <u>£2883</u> | <u>2</u> | <u>6</u> |
| Medical attendance and medicines supplied to Gaol and | £ | s. | d. |
| House of Correction..... | 31 | 0 | 0 |
| Ditto to the Invalid Dépôt..... | 31 | 5 | 0 |
| Paid into Treasury for paying Patients..... | 328 | 9 | 6 |
| | <u>390</u> | <u>14</u> | <u>6</u> |
| Nett expenditure..... | £2492 | 8 | 0 |

No. of Diets issued to Patients, 19,947.

No. of Diets issued to Attendants, 4380.

Daily cost of each Patient, 2s. 5½d.

Yearly cost of each Patient, £45 12s. 1½d.

The Cases treated during the year were :—

| | Indoor Cases. | Outdoor Cases. | Total. |
|---|------------------|-------------------|-------------|
| Diseases of the respiratory system..... | 59 | 136 | 195 |
| brain and nervous system..... | 47 | 62 | 109 |
| heart and blood-vessels | 13 | 25 | 38 |
| eyes | 27 | 15 | 42 |
| skin | 32 | 51 | 83 |
| bones and joints | 48 | 39 | 87 |
| digestive system | 40 | 102 | 142 |
| urinary organs | 35 | 40 | 75 |
| Fevers | 11 | 19 | 30 |
| Dropsies | 7 | 7 | 14 |
| Rheumatic affections | 38 | 36 | 74 |
| Venereal affections | 24 | 40 | 64 |
| Abscesses and ulcers | 35 | 27 | 62 |
| Wounds and injuries | 25 | 27 | 52 |
| Uterine disorders..... | 20 | 44 | 64 |
| All other diseases..... | 23 | 75 | 98 |
| | <u>484</u> | <u>745</u> | <u>1229</u> |

The Diseases and Injuries which proved fatal were :—

| | | | |
|-----------------------------|---|-----------------------------|-----------|
| Inflammation of liver | 5 | Inflammation of brain | 2 |
| lungs | 5 | Stricture, &c. | 2 |
| Cancer | 6 | Paralysis..... | 4 |
| Jaundice..... | 1 | Ulcer and debility..... | 1 |
| Organic heart disease | 6 | Cancer and privation..... | 1 |
| Bronchitis | 3 | Spleen disease..... | 1 |
| Apoplexy | 2 | Diphtheria | 1 |
| Inflammation of bowels..... | 1 | Disease of stomach | 1 |
| Typhoid fever | 1 | Spinal Disease | 1 |
| Disease of kidneys..... | 1 | Shock (from accident) | 1 |
| Pulmonary consumption | 5 | | |
| Dropsy | 1 | TOTAL..... | <u>56</u> |
| Senility | 1 | | |
| Erysipelas | 3 | | |

The Ages of those who died were as follows :—

| | |
|---------------------------|----------|
| Under 20 years | 2 |
| From 20 to 30 years | 6 |
| 30 to 40 years | 4 |
| 40 to 50 years | 6 |
| 50 to 60 years | 17 |
| 60 to 70 years | 15 |
| 70 to 80 years | 6 |
| | <u>—</u> |
| TOTAL..... | 56 |
| | <u>—</u> |