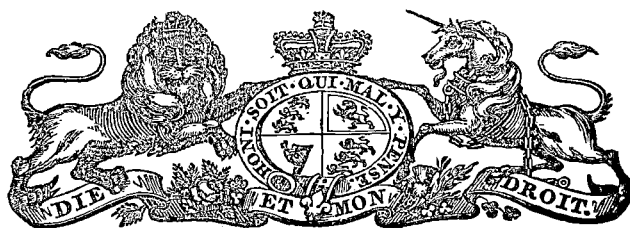


(No. 97.)



1883.

T A S M A N I A.

LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL.

**CHARITABLE AID IN HOBART AND
SUBURBS :**

REPORT FOR 1882.

Laid upon the Table by Mr. Moore, and ordered by the Council to be printed,
September 18, 1883.



Hobart, 11th July, 1883.

DEAR SIR,

I HAVE the honor to present a Report upon the administration of the funds voted by Parliament for the relief of destitute persons in Hobart and Suburbs, entrusted to the Executive Committee of the Hobart Benevolent Society, for the year 1882.

There has been a gradual reduction each year from 1880, which was the year when the Boarding-out cases and the relief of the destitute were first entrusted to the Society.

The Cash in 1880 was £1020, in 1881 £957, in 1882 £734 13s.

In the matter of Rations also there has been some reduction :—

1880.			1881.			1882.		
Scale No. 1.	Scale No. 2.	Scale No. 3.	Scale No. 1.	Scale No. 2.	Scale No. 3.	Scale No. 1.	Scale No. 2.	Scale No. 3.
5070	2128½	267	4135½	2049½	199	4101	2003½	239

There has been a slight increase in 1882 of 40½ rations, but this has been occasioned by the changes which are often made to accommodate the poor people ; and on the whole the result is very satisfactory.

Of widows and deserted women there are 39, with 119 children depending on them. Of single men there are 28,—2 blind, 3 imbecile, 2 bedridden, 1 heart disease, 2 cripples. Of married couples there are 28, whose ages average about 70, they being aged from 60 to 80. Nothing but death will relieve the Government of this responsibility.

As compared with 1880, there is a reduction of £285 7s., or an equivalent to £76 6s. 1d. per quarter.

I trust the Government will approve of the action of the Executive Committee as regards the appropriation of public funds placed at their disposal ; and I desire to assure you that while every precaution is taken to detect imposture, and to prevent the liberality of the State from tending to pauperise the class it is desired to relieve, no case of destitution is left unrelieved.

I may add that the Executive Committee strictly enforce the rule requiring the attendance of children at school, at any rate until over 12 years of age, under the penalty of having the rations allowed for the family stopped.

I remain yours,
Most respectfully and obediently,

R. ANDREW MATHER,
Chairman Executive Committee Benevolent Society.

To the Honorable the Chief Secretary.