

(No. 10.)



1871.

T A S M A N I A.

H O U S E O F A S S E M B L Y.

BENEVOLENT SOCIETY, LAUNCESTON.

REPORT FOR 1870.

Laid upon the Table by the Colonial Treasurer, and ordered by the House to be printed, November 8, 1871.



REPORT of the LAUNCESTON BENEVOLENT SOCIETY for the Year 1870.

THE Committee have again the satisfaction of reporting to the subscribers that they have accomplished the objects of the Society within the means at their disposal; the balance in hand, after paying all claims, being £5 7s. 6d. During the year just passed they have had abundant evidence of the truth uttered by the Saviour—"The poor always ye have with you"—a large amount of distress arising from sickness, and not a little from vice and improvident habits.

They regret to state that no provision has been made for the education of the children of the poorest class in the town; and, although much boasting has been indulged in on account of the encouragement given to those who are both able and willing to help themselves, nothing is being done for the class most needing help.

The number of applicants for medical advice and assistance has increased, and is daily increasing. This is either an evidence of greater poverty, or of a lower standard of health among the poorer class.

The present mode of relieving the distressed through the medium of a Benevolent Society, subsidised by the Government, is only suited to a community in its earlier stages of existence; and it appears that the Government contemplate some change by appointing a Royal Commission to enquire into the working of the Charitable Institutions of the Colony. Should this enquiry result in the services of your Committee being dispensed with, they trust the wisdom of the Legislature will devise a better system than the present without an increase in the cost.

Signed on behalf of the Committee,

JAS. JNO. HUDSON.

10th January, 1871.

The Treasurer in Account Current with the LAUNCESTON BENEVOLENT SOCIETY for the Year ending 1870.

Dr.		Cr.	
	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	
To Balance from 1869	0 9 4	By Groceries, Vallentine and Hubbard	164 13 6
Government Contribution	437 9 10	Bread, Vaughan	193 6 0
Ditto, Special	19 13 9	Meat, Powell	170 18 3
Donations and Subscriptions	198 13 10	Secretary, Salary	75 0 0
		Board and lodging	20 6 8
		Printing, advertising, and stationery ...	9 4 7
		Car-hire	5 7 6
		Blankets	0 16 6
		Sundries	2 9 6
		Commission, Parke	1 2 3
		Ditto, Capon	7 14 6
		Balance	5 7 6
	£656 6 9		£656 6 9

G. BABINGTON, *Treasurer.*

10th January, 1871.