

(No. 5.)

1884.

PARLIAMENT OF TASMANIA.

MOUNT BISCHOFF PROVIDENT HOSPITAL.

REPORT FOR 1883.

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



THIRD Annual Report MOUNT BISCHOFF PROVIDENT HOSPITAL, for the Year ending 31st December, 1883.

AGAIN the Committee have a pleasant duty to perform; *i.e.*, to lay before you the Third Annual Report and Balance Sheet, and in doing so must express their extreme gratification at seeing the many benefits which have been derived by subscribers and others from having such an institution as the Hospital in our midst.

From the 9th January last the management of the Hospital and the method of supporting it has been of a different nature than previously.

On account of the dissatisfaction which existed between the employees of the Mount Bischoff Company by reason of the medical attendance to which they were subjected, a general meeting was held on January 9th, and a resolution was passed to the effect that the Hospital Committee be empowered to take over at once the sums of one shilling per week for married men and sixpence per week for single men, on condition that the Committee procure medical attendance and medicine as previously, either at their homes or in the Hospital. These terms the Committee agreed to accept; and from thenceforward the Hospital, on account of the difference existing between it and other Hospitals in the matter of subscriptions, has fully borne out its name as a provident institution.

It then became patent to the Committee that a new code of rules and regulations would be needed to meet the requirements, and accordingly those at present in use were compiled and adopted at the last general meeting of subscribers.

There is no need to recapitulate the circumstances which led to the appointment of a medical officer to take charge of the Hospital under the new arrangements. Applications were invited for the position at a salary of $\pounds400$ per year, and from out of several applicants the choice unanimously fell upon Dr. John Kennedy.

The past year has proved to have been the heaviest year for sickness on Waratah, no less than thirty-three cases being admitted into the Hospital, and we regret to add that five out of that number succumbed to their illness. 1723 cases were also treated by the Medical Officer as out-door patients either by visits or consultations.

Several improvements, both internal and external, have been made to the Hospital. Your Committee, deeming the former accommodation inadequate should any serious outbreak occur, decided to put the old ward in proper repair, and also make an addition of another ward. For the work Mr. J. C. King was the successful tenderer, his price being £195 10s.

The fencing in of the Hospital grounds has been completed, and a portion has been cleared for the formation of a garden, which will in future form a very desirable adjunct to the Hospital premises.

A contract has also been entered into for the supply of 100 tons of firewood, of which 66 tons have been delivered.

One very essential feature towards improving the sanitary condition of the Hospital is that of drainage, and to this subject the Committee intend to devote their immediate attention.

Your Committee having had enforced upon them the necessity of paying for the burial of a pauper, communicated with Government upon the matter, the consequence being that the sum of $\pounds 4$ will be paid for the burial of such in the future. Two shillings per diem has also been granted towards defraying expenses of keeping paupers whilst in the Hospital.

Mrs. Pritchard, the former nurse, having resigned her post early in the year, Mrs. Whitehouse was appointed to fill the vacancy, at a salary of $\pounds 1$, with the same advantages as those allowed her

predecessor. Since then her salary has been increased eight shillings per week, with the proviso that should any extra nursing be required the expense of such should be defrayed from her private income.

The number of subscribers, including those engaged in the mines, amounts to about 400, with a revenue derived from that source of $\pounds 655$ 3s. 11d.

The Mount Bischoff Company have again displayed their liberality by granting to the Institution the sum of £50. The sum of £5 has also been received from the Stanhope Company.

The Church collections are slightly in excess of last year, the total amount realised being $\pounds 13$ 10s. 8d., and the best thanks of the Committee are due to the clergy and congregations of the different churches.

Many changes have taken place during the year in the *personnel* of the Committee. At the election in April last the Committee stood as follows; viz.,—Messrs. Kayser, Bailey, Sheedy, Littler, Quinton, Bray, Hilder, Dakin, Green, King, Hill, Alford, and Harris.

A great loss was experienced through the retirement of Mr. A. Hilder, not only as a member of Committee but also as Treasurer, he having occupied that office for a considerable time. Mr. J. S. Roberts has been appointed in his stead, and has given every satisfaction.

At the time of the annual audit, Mr. Horne being absent from the district, Mr. Matthews was appointed in his stead, and great credit is due to him, in conjunction with Mr. Paterson, for the very able manner in which they have performed the duties assigned to them.

The retiring members this year are Messrs. R. W. Clarke, H. Kayser, C. Sheedy, S. Vial, A. A. Littler, and W. Carter, all of whom, however, are eligible for re-election.

The auditors, Messrs. Horne and Patterson, also retire, but are eligible for re-election.

In conclusion, the Committee wish to record their satisfaction at the manner in which the Medical Officer and the other officials connected with the management of the Hospital have fulfilled their various duties, and trust that the Institution will continue to prove its usefulness, when required, to the inhabitants.

GEORGE DAKIN, Vice-Chairman. WM. HARRIS, Secretary. 16th April, 1884.

The Hon. WILLIAM MOORE, Chief Secretary.

BALANCE SHEET, MOUNT BISCHOFF PROVIDENT HOSPITAL, Year ending December 31st,	. <i>st</i> . 1000.
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Dr.	RECEIPTS.				Cr. EXPENDITURE.			
1883.		£	<i>s</i> .	d.	1883.	£	5.	a
Dec. 31. '	Fo Subscriptions	655		11	Dec. 31. By Balance from 1882	20	10	
	Government grant, 1882	100		0	Salaries			
	Donations	61	7	7	Medicines		7	
	Fees from paying patients	21	18	0	Additional Medical Attendance		n	
	Church Collections	13		8	Stores, Provisions, &c		19	
	Collection Boxes		19	6	Buildings, Timber, &c.		Õ	
	Half payment of fencing from		••	Ŭ	Firewood		12	
	adjoining allotments	1	17	5	Printing		4	
	Half proceeds Entertainment		10	ŏ	Medical Comforts		$1\overline{5}$	
	Cheques outstanding		6	ž	Furniture		12	
	Balance as per Bank pass-book	178		$\tilde{5}$	Clearing Ground		15	
	Durance as per Duran pass-oook	110	11	0	Fencing		16	
	•				Soft Goods			
					Telegrams and Stationery		14	
					Interest on Overdraft		11	
					Lawyer's Fees		5	
					Assistant Nursing		7	
					Insurance Premium		-	
							7	
					Burial of Patient (infant)	1	1	
	- E	:1050	4	8		£1050	4	
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					WM. HARRIS, Secre	etary.		

JOHN S. ROBERTS, Treasurer.

Examined and found correct. E. NEVILLE MATTHEWS, T. D. PATTERSON April 7th, 1884.

> WILLIAM THOMAS STRUTT, GOVERNMENT PRINTER, TASMANIA.