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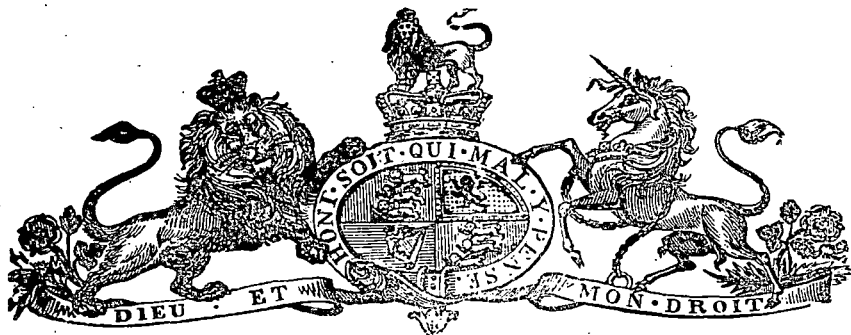
1884.

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 £400 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 £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 £1, with the same advantages as those allowed her

