(No. 15.)



1876.

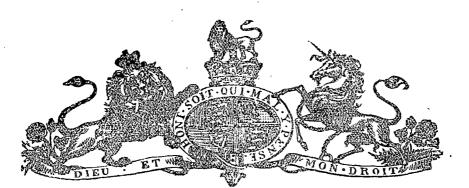
TASMANIA.

LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL.

BENEVOLENT SOCIETY, HOBART TOWN.

REPORT FOR 1875.

Laid upon the Table by Mr. Crowther, and ordered by the Council to be printed, September 12, 1876.



SIXTEENTH Annual Report of the Committee of the BENEVOLENT SOCIETY, Hobart Town, for the Year ending December, 1875.

In presenting the Sixteenth Annual Report of the Benevolent Society, Hobart Town, to the subscribers and friends, the Committee do so with much satisfaction. In the first place they firmly believe that cases needing the assistance of the Society are not so numerous as they were; and secondly, that the financial state of the Society in no previous year stood better than it does at the present time, while the Committee lament the want of support by public subscriptions and the attendance of members at the several meetings. The Committee continue not to lose sight of one of the features or objects of the Society, viz., to discountenance mendicity and vagrancy and to encourage industry.

The Committee wish to record with thankfulness the receipt during the year of a legacy of $\pounds 500$ by the will of the late Mr. William Broadribb, which has been vested in the Corporation Waterworks. It is with the aid of interest on sums thus invested that the funds have been sustained; and if the public will generously assist the Society in finance, the Committee hope in a few years that it will become self-supporting, to a great extent at least.

At the commencement of the year there were 30 cases (comprising 102 individuals) on the books of the Society, being a decrease of 2 cases and 6 individuals than at the close of the previous year, while during the year 160 fresh applications for aid have been received and each case minutely inquired into, 154 relieved, while 6 were refused. Of those relieved (comprising 439 individuals, viz., 73 males, 129 females, and 237 children), 78 arose from illness, 7 from accidents, 18 were widows, 5 husbands in prison, 13 husbands away, 4 were from age and infirmity, 21 were cases of destitution, 8 were for children only, making a total of 154 cases relieved, and in several instances with thankfulness on the part of the recipients.

The Committee have continued to afford casual relief in bread and soup, &c. to 51 individuals discharged from Hospital while on their way home, going to seek work in the country, others who were just discharged from gool or waiting to be invalided. The Wood Yard has found employment for 37 men (mostly with families) until they procured more profitable employment. In this branch of your Committee's labours they are glad to report the numbers have been less than in previous years. The Wood Brigade still continues in operation, and 242 dozen bundles were made and sold during the year, with a stock of 50 dozen bundles on hand. It is right that the Committee should acknowledge receipt of 70 tons of wood and coal from "friends to the poor," the Committee having only purchased 20 tons during the year: fuel has been judiciously issued and gratefully received. It is with pleasure your Committee record that the sum of £7 5s. has been received (in small sums from time to time) for the purchase of blankets at cost price, for which the purchasers have expressed thanks when receiving these necessary articles. While the Committee have in this way been encouraging frugality, they have issued marked blankets (on Ioan only) in several instances of wretchedness and destitution. The sum of £1 ls. has been expended in lodging tickets. In this branch of their labour they find it necessary to exercise watchfulness against those who are found to have discharged themselves from the Invalid Establishments and applying to the charitably disposed for a night's lodgings at least; and upon being referred to the Registrar their cases are at once recognised. The sum of £4 6s. 6d. has been expended in car-hire for the removal of the sick to the Hospital during the year. The Committee feel pleasure in finding that the hint thrown out in the last Report with reference to soup tickets being given instead of money (which, in too many instances, would find its way to the public-house) has been acted upon; for they discover the sum of £7 17s. 3d. h

The Society has issued the following stores during the year, viz. :-28,031 fbs. bread, 396 fbs. tea, 3924 fbs. sugar, 1040 fbs. oatmeal, 1410 fbs. rice, and 5986 pints of soup. In the making of soup, 3630 fbs. of meat, consisting principally of bullocks' heads and shins of beef, 415 fbs. rice, 390 fbs. pearl barley, and 488 fbs. peas have been used. The soup continues to be varied three times a week.

The supply of good 20 per cent. bread is contracted for quarterly, and fine bread in cases of sickness or otherwise. The members of the Executive Committee continue to keep a vigilant eye over the quality of the bread and other articles issued by the Society.

It is with pleasure your Committee can announce that the arrangement made with the Government in reference to lying-in cases of unmarried women has worked satisfactorily.

The Committee are in hopes that the attendance of children at school is improving, as they adhere to insist, as far as practicable, upon all children who are recipients of aid from the Society producing a weekly certificate from the master or mistress of their attendance at school.

The Committee would conclude with thanks to the Superintendents of the several Invalid Establishments for the weekly returns of those discharged which they furnish the Society, thus enabling the Committee very frequently to discover attempts at imposition; and the Registrar continues actively engaged in visiting, from time to time, the cases on the books; and the Committee acknowledge receiving much aid in their labours from the City Missionaries.

THE Treasurer in Account with the Hobart Town BENEVOLENT SOCIETY.

Dr.

		The state of the second st				•	_
1875.	Keceipts.	£ s. d.	1875.	Expenditure.	£	s.	d.
	Balance in Bank	149 1 11	Dec. 31.	By payments for Bread	119		1
Dec. 31.	Government Grant, 1875	400 0 0		Meat		7	6
<i>,</i>	Ditto, conditional, 1874			Groceries	205	11	6
	Ditto, repayment, expense of			Printing and advertising			2
	lying-in cases		1	Fuel for Soup Kitchen	10	0	Ö
	Subscriptions	147 5 0		Wood for Wood Yard			6
	Legacy, late Wm. Broadribb			Repairs to premises, and		_	-
`	Ditto, late James Therry	20 0 0		Fire Policy		12	0
	Interest on Debentures	158 11 3		Cab-hire to Hospital, poor			
	Deposit in Bank, with interest			patients	4	6	6
	= • F • • • • • • • • • • • • • • • • •			Lodging tickets and rent	7	-	-
		•	}	Ayton, John, commission			Ö
				Lying-in cases (Govern-			-
•				ment)		4	6
				Salary, Registrar			0
				", Cook	39	0	0
				Deposit in Bank of V.D.L.,	-		
				at interest	200	0	0
			· ·	Debentures		0	Ō
				Sundries	2	3	3
				Balance	177	2	7
			•				·
		£1655 1 7			£1655	1	7
		and the second			Constant of	_	_
1876.							
Jan. 1st. T	o Balance in Bank of V.D.L.	£177 2 7	Audited ar	ad found correct.			
				GEO. SALIER, HUGH M. HULL,	} Audi	tors.	

CAPITAL Account of the Hobart Town BENEVOLENT Society for the Year 1875.

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1875.	Liabilities.	£	8.	d.	1875.	Assets.	£	s.	d.
To Balance Assets	5	4500	0	0	Dec. 31.	By Premises, Bathurst-street.	750	0	0
						Government Debenture	500	0	0
					}	Legacy, T. Y. Lowes (in-			
						vested in a Government			
					1	Debenture)	2000	0	0
						Waterworks Debentures	300	0	0
						Deposit in Savings Bank	150	0	0
						Ditto in Bank of V.D.L	200	0	0
						Waterworks Debenture	600	0	0
							£4500	0	
		± 4500	0	0					
		in a fiù a fan 's			•				

31st December, 1875.

WM. WITT, Registrar.

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JAMES BARNARD, GOVERNMENT PRINTER, TASMANIA.