

(No. 13.)



1876.

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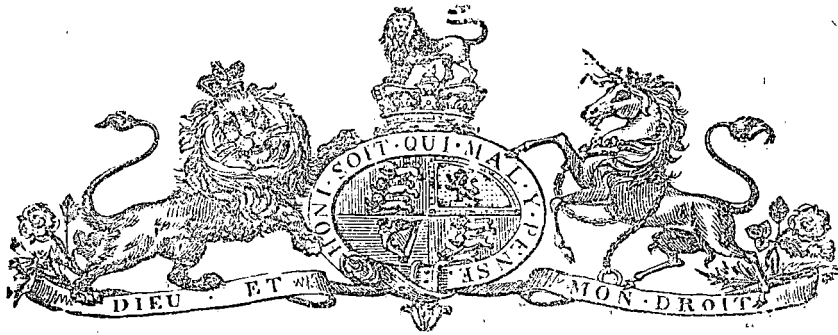
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BOYS' HOME.

R E P O R T F O R 1875.

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Laid upon the Table by the Colonial Secretary, and ordered by the House to be printed, September 12, 1876.



## *SEVENTH REPORT of the Boys' HOME INDUSTRIAL SCHOOL, 1875-6.*

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THE BOYS' HOME has now been established seven years, and the success which has attended the operations of the Institution during that period is such as to make the Governors desirous of placing it on a firm and permanent basis.

The capitation allowance from the Government is found not to be sufficient to maintain the children comfortably while in the Home, and to send them out to service decently clad, and, therefore, no funds remain for the payment of salaries and repairs to the premises.

It is true that a number of friends (about sixty) have contributed annually to supplement what has been required beyond the amount received from the Government; but the experience of the past with respect to various Charitable Institutions, both here and elsewhere, and the decrease of subscriptions to the Boys' Home, convince the Governors that but little dependence can be placed upon such a source of income alone.

Such being the case, they see the necessity of raising by degrees an Endowment or Trust Fund of not less than £3000, the interest on which would about pay the salaries of the Master and Mistress, and the wages of the Gardener.

The original property called the Boys' Home, consisting of three acres of land, with suitable buildings, and an allotment of about two acres of land in Lansdowne Crescent, upon which a gardener's residence has lately been built, have been conveyed to Trustees by the donor on certain conditions, one of which is that the Governors of the Institution shall annually pay to the Trustees the sum of fifty pounds (£50), not as a rental, but as a contribution to the Endowment or Trust Fund. This has been done up to the present time, and the amount invested in Government debentures, forming the nucleus of the Trust Fund already mentioned; but it will require for the future more exertion on the part of the Governors in collecting, and more liberality on the part of the public in contributing, to provide the required amount, a sum of at least £200 per annum. The continued existence of the Institution may be said to depend upon the amount named being raised, and an earnest appeal is therefore made to the friends and supporters of the Boys' Home and the public generally that it may not be allowed to fail for want of the necessary funds to carry out the objects for which it was established fully and effectually.

On the 31st March, 1875, there were twenty-one boys in the Home; fourteen have been admitted during the past year, and eight have left.

Since the establishment of the Institution in 1869, sixty-seven children have been received (including one re-admitted) and forty have left, leaving twenty-seven in the Home at the present time. The boy who was re-admitted had been sent to the service of a tradesman in a country town in November, 1874, but his master soon found that he could not control him on account of the other lads on the township, and had him transferred in February, 1875, to a small farmer a few miles away from the town; but his second master could get no good out of him, and returned him to the Home in July, 1875: another situation was soon obtained for this lad on an establishment some distance in the country, and with a different kind of master, to whom the boy has been some time apprenticed, and is now giving every satisfaction. This case is mentioned (and not a solitary instance) as showing the trouble there is in getting suitable places for the boys when eligible for service, for it has proved to be as often the want of good management and kind treatment on the part of the masters as the misconduct of the apprentices that they could not agree.



*COPIES of some of the Testimonials entered in the Visitors' Book during the Past Year.*

S. B. Mather.

"Having gone over this Establishment and seen its admirable arrangements, the order and cleanliness from one end to the other, I cannot but express my great pleasure and gratification."—*5th April, 1875.*

Patrick Irvine, Esq., Waratah, New Town.

"It is to be regretted that steps are not taken to make the Home more generally known to the public. I have been several years in the Colony, and it is only quite recently that I became acquainted with its existence."—*14th June, 1875.*

Rev. Thomas Macdowell and Mrs. Macdowell.

"I am greatly pleased with the Home; everything connected with the Institution seems carried on most satisfactorily. Altogether the Home must be a very great benefit, not only to the boys themselves, but to the Colony. Indeed I think the Institution a model one."—*12th July, 1875.*

George Horne, Oxford.

"I am very much pleased with the Home. I consider it one of the best institutions in Tasmania."—*16th July, 1875.*

Henry T. C. Cox, Launceston.

"Visited the Home and the School. As usual much gratified with the comfortable appearance and intelligence of the boys, and the excellent understanding that seems to exist between Mr. and Mrs. Reilly and the boys."—*13th September, 1875.*

G. H. G. Whiting, The Oak Hill, Huon.

"I was very much pleased with the intelligence and order of the boys, and the kindness and carefulness of the Master. The buildings and garden are very clean and in good order."—*13th September, 1875.*

W. Schuëtz.

"I availed myself of the Master's courteous permission to question one class, taking Geography for my subject, and was greatly pleased with the readiness and correctness of answering."—*17th November, 1875.*

"Mr. and Mrs. Wolfen, from Sydney, N. S. Wales, have visited the 'Boys' Home,' and are impressed most favourably by all they have seen. The whole reflects great credit on the Managers, who, it is to be hoped, will at some future period derive satisfaction from their benevolent acts by seeing many of the boys occupying good positions in the community."—*24th January, 1876.*

Rev. A. Wayn and Mrs. Wayn.

"I have much pleasure in leaving a testimony to the delight and surprise which my visit has given me. Everything which could be wisely done for the good of these poor boys seems to have been thought of and provided for."—*7th February, 1876.*