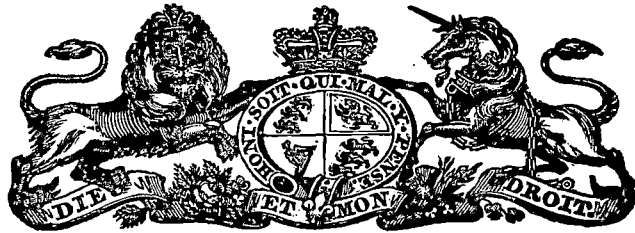


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1878.

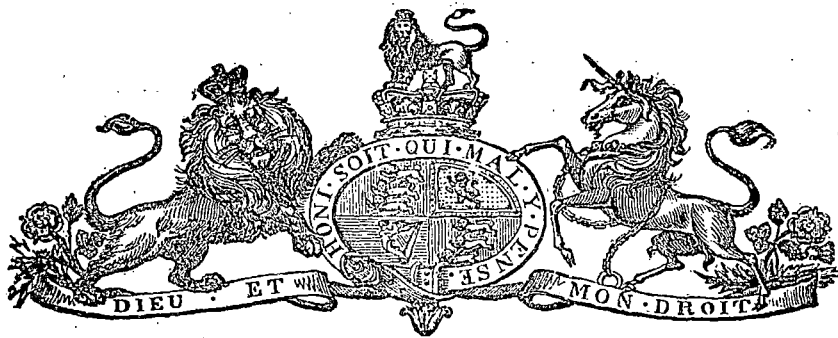
T A S M A N I A.

LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL.

GENERAL HOSPITAL, LAUNCESTON:

REPORT FOR 1877.

Laid upon the Table by Mr. Moore, and ordered by the Council to be printed,
July 16, 1878.



LAUNCESTON GENERAL HOSPITAL.

ANNUAL REPORT for 1877.

26th March, 1878.

SIR,

I HAVE the honor to submit the Report of the Launceston General Hospital for 1877.

The proceedings of the past year have been uneventful, and the Institution working satisfactorily, but kitchen accommodation has been severely felt. Some very much needed repairs have been effected, and the whole of the interior of the building is being thoroughly cleansed and whitewashed, prison labour being made available for the purpose.

The extensive grounds around the Establishment have been levelled and laid out, shrubs being planted and grass sown, and this, when completed, will add considerably to the appearance of the building from without, prison labour having also been utilised for this purpose.

The number of admissions exceeded that of the preceding year, the daily average, 57, being somewhat greater, while the total expenditure was considerably less, and the daily cost per head was 2*d.* less.

The number of Outdoor Patients, 798, is nearly the same as last year; and in reference to this Department I fear the charity is in many cases abused by persons who should be well able to pay for medical advice and medicine elsewhere, considering the facilities offered by Provident Clubs and the high rate of wages earned by the working classes, but every precaution is taken for the detection of abuse, and many glaring cases have been refused.

The receipts from Paying Patients is larger than last year, viz., £283 16*s.* 2*d.*, and as far as practicable this class of Patients has been encouraged, by giving them a separate ward.

Of the Patients admitted, 457, 346 were males and 111 females, the average daily number in Hospital being 57.

There had remained at the close of the previous year 51 Patients, so that the total number treated in 1877 was 508; and of these 389 were discharged, cured or relieved, 73 died, and 46 remained under treatment.

The majority of those who died were admitted in a hopeless state, being very old men; and of the 73 deaths, the average age was 53 years.

Of the Patients admitted, 100 were Self-supporting, 2 were wholly or in part chargeable to Imperial Funds, and 406 were Colonial Paupers.

The statistical information is as usual appended.

I have the honor to be,

Sir,

Your obedient Servant,

R. W. MURPHY, *M.R.C.S.E., &c.*
Surgeon Superintendent.

The Hon. the Colonial Secretary.

EXPENDITURE on account of the Launceston General Hospital for 1877.

	£	s.	d.
Salaries	860	15	0
Provisions and medical comforts	749	16	11
Clothing, bedding, and stores	149	14	10
Fuel and light	303	8	7
Medicines and instruments, &c	285	0	11
Water supply	34	1	8
Stationery and advertising	7	8	8
Washing (at Gaol)	55	19	0
Funeral expenses	99	18	0
Repairs to buildings	88	5	6
Insurance of Surgeon Superintendent's residence	7	10	0
Furniture, matting	13	18	11
	£2665 18 0		
Medical attendance and medicines supplied to Gaol and	£	s.	d.
House of Correction	34	10	0
Ditto to the Invalid Depôt	31	5	0
Paid into Treasury for Self-supporting Patients	283	16	2
	349 11 2		
	£2306 6 10		

S. R.

No. of Diets issued to Patients, 20,839.

No. of Diets issued to Attendants, 4380.

Daily cost of each Patient, 2s. 2½d.

Yearly cost of each Patient, £40 7s. 11d.

The Cases treated during the year were :—

	Indoor Cases.	Outdoor Cases.	Total.
Diseases of the respiratory system	66	164	230
brain and nervous system	30	26	56
heart and blood vessels	13	10	23
eyes	15	17	32
skin	19	59	78
bones and joints	54	59	113
digestive system	45	230	275
urinary organs	23	16	39
Fevers	15	21	36
Dropsies	10	4	14
Rheumatic affections	31	27	58
Veneral affections	30	46	76
Abscesses and ulcers	31	29	60
Wounds and injuries	32	28	60
All other diseases	43	62	105
TOTALS	457	798	1255

The Diseases and Injuries which proved fatal were :—

Bronchitis	4	Erysipelas	1
Cancer	9	Debility	2
Pulmonary Consumption	6	Diarrhoea	1
Inflammation of Liver	5	Abscess of Liver	1
Dysentery	4	Disease of kidneys	4
Senility	4	Gangrene (senile)	1
Disease of hip joint	1	Lithotomy (exhaustion after)	1
jaw-bone	1	Privation	1
Inflammation of lungs	8	Paralysis	4
Organic heart disease	5	Apoplexy	1
Spinal disease	1	Brain disease	1
Shock (after accidents)	3	Delirium tremens	1
Typhoid fever	3		
Stone in kidney	1		
Inflammation of bowels	1		
stomach	1		
			73

The Ages of those who died were as follows:—

Under 20 years	8
From 20 to 30 years	1
From 30 to 40 years	4
From 40 to 50 years	15
From 50 to 60 years	16
From 60 to 70 years	18
From 70 to 80 years	9
From 80 to 90 years	2
	<u>73</u>
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