

(No. 3.)



1874.

T A S M A N I A.

HOUSE OF ASSEMBLY.

GENERAL HOSPITAL, LAUNCESTON.

REPORT FOR 1873.

Laid upon the Table by the Attorney-General, and ordered by the House to be printed, July 21, 1874.



LAUNCESTON GENERAL HOSPITAL.

ANNUAL REPORT for 1873.

SIR,

I HAVE the honor to submit the Report of the Launceston General Hospital for 1873.

During the year there was a considerable increase in the number of both indoor and outdoor patients, as compared with the previous twelve months. I am sure that some were relieved as out-patients who could have paid for medical advice and medicines, and that the kindness of gentlemen having the privilege of recommending patients was not unfrequently abused and taken advantage of.

The new printed form of "Dispensary Ticket" issued towards the close of the year had at once the effect of reducing the number of applicants.

Dr. Charles Martin having resigned the position of House Surgeon, which he had held nearly two years, Dr. A. J. Macqueen was appointed in his stead, from the 1st of June.

The cost per head was less than in 1872, notwithstanding a smaller daily average in the house.

The Members of the Board of Visitors have frequently visited the Institution, and their reports have been always satisfactory.

I beg to append the usual statistical information.

EXPENDITURE on account of the Launceston General Hospital for 1873.

	£	s.	d.
Salaries.....	860	15	0
Allowances (rent and taxes)	91	16	0
Provisions and medical comforts.....	622	9	2
Clothing, bedding, and stores.....	77	13	4
Fuel and light	246	9	8
Medicines and instruments, &c.	303	9	11
Water supply	30	0	0
Washing (at Gaol)	63	0	0
Funeral expenses	83	1	4
Stationery and advertising	2	18	3
Repairs to buildings, &c.	41	16	7
	2423	9	3
Medical attendance and medicines supplied to the Gaol and			
House of Correction—Inmates and Officers, 117 at 5s....	29	5	0
Ditto to the Invalid Dépôt—Inmates and Officers, 119			
at 5s.....	29	15	0
Paid into Treasury for Self-supporting Patients, including			
Railway workmen	84	17	5
	143	17	5
	£2279	11	10

No. of Diets issued to Patients, 21,409:

No. of Diets issued to Attendants, 4561:

Daily cost of each Patient, 2s. 1½d.

Yearly cost of each Patient, £38 17s. 3½d.

THERE were admitted to Hospital during the year 1873, 393 Patients, of whom 323 were males and 70 females.

There remained under treatment at the close of 1872, 57 Patients, so that the total number treated during the year was 450 ; and of these 334 were discharged cured or relieved, 64 died, and 52 remained under treatment.

Of the 64 who died, nearly all were admitted in a hopeless condition ; and a large majority were over 50 years of age:

Their ages were as follows :—

Under 20 years	2
From 20 to 30	4
From 30 to 40	6
From 40 to 50	7
From 50 to 60	15
From 60 to 70	16
From 70 to 80	12
From 80 to 90	2
Total	64

Of the Patients admitted 39 were Self-supporting, 6 were wholly or in part chargeable to Imperial Funds, and 249 were Colonial Paupers.

The sum of £84 17s. 5d. was received from, and on account of, Self-supporting Patients during the year.

The cases treated during the year were :—

	Indoor Cases.	Outdoor Cases.	Total.
Diseases of the respiratory system	61	304	365
brain and nervous system	27	54	81
heart and blood-vessels	8	23	31
eyes	21	11	32
skin	12	59	71
bones and joints	15	16	31
digestive system	33	204	237
urinary organs	34	20	54
Fevers	8	15	23
Dropsies	5	6	11
Rheumatic affections	35	48	83
Venereal affections	8	49	57
Abscesses and ulcers	53	69	122
Wounds and injuries	69	62	131
All other diseases	54	251	305
TOTALS	443	1191	1634

The diseases and injuries which proved fatal were :—

Disease of kidneys.....	4 cases.
Disease of the stomach	2
Organic disease of the heart.....	4
Senile decay	13
Pulmonary consumption	8
Fracture of spine	1
Burn	1
Pleurisy	1
Bronchitis	7
Inflammation of the lungs	2
Tetanus	1
Apoplexy	2
Cancer	5
Necrosis	1
Fever	1
Fracture of skull	1
Dysentery	1
Paralysis	2
Compound fracture of the leg, &c.	1
Dropsy	2
Abscess of liver	2
Privation	1
Erysipelas	1
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Total.....	64
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I have the honor to be,
Sir,

Your obedient Servant,

J. I. MILLER, *F. F. P. S. Glasg.*,
Chief Medical Officer at Launceston.

The Hon. the Colonial Secretary.