

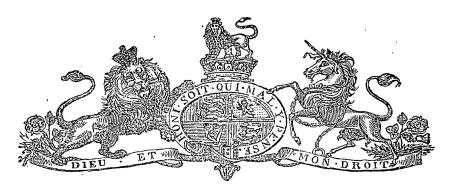
1892.

PARLIAMENT OF TASMANIA.

HOBART BENEVOLENT SOCIE, TY:

REPORT FOR 1891.

Presented to both Houses of Parliament by His Excellency's Command.



THIRTY-SECOND Annual Report of the Hobert Benevolent Society, for Year ending 31st December, 1891.

The Annual Meeting of the Benevolent Society was held on Friday, February 12th, at the Offices, Bathurst-street. The following gentlemen were present:—His Worship the Mayor (in the Chair), Messrs. C. Harbottle, John Mitchell, G. Seabrook, John Hamilton, Thomas Mather, G. Kerr, James Salier, J. D. Shaw, Chas. Butler.

The Secretary (Mr. Seabrook) read the Annual Report of the Association as follows:-

A clear statement of principle applicable to the management of charitable institutions has for some years past appeared on the title page of our Annual Reports, as follows:—"The object of all good citizens should be to work towards the abolition of a pauper class, and, whilst it exists amongst us, so to alleviate its lot that it shall not be driven to despair. It is quite possible to show sympathy with those who have been brought to misfortune, and yet to so relieve distress as to give no encouragement to idleness or vice." It may be asked, therefore, whether the work of the Society has been in the direction of this lofty ideal? The following comparative statement may suggest an answer:—

	1881.	1891.
From previous year	122	7 6
During year	235	115
On account of illness	88	49
Widows		. 20
Husbands away		12
Husbands in prison	4	8
Destitute	64	3
Accidents	4	4
Aged and infirm	.10	9
Total individuals	552	404

Subscribers interested in noting the changes of time will not fail to observe still more striking differences in methods of work and service.

Colonists may be congratulated that during the year work for labourers has been fairly good. Steady willing men have been introduced to employment with scarcely a day's delay. Unfortunately, benevolent societies are positive evils to drunkards and idlers, such persons feeling satisfied that charity cannot allow their wives and children to want for bread. Perhaps a greater kindness would be to place such thoughtless persons in gaol, and there compel them to work for those so shamefully neglected and dishonoured.

Messrs. Simmons and Kerr attended, at the request of the Committee, the second Charity Congress in Melbourne, Reports of which will be circulated when received. During the Chairman's absence from the Colony his place was ably filled by Mr. J. E. Salier.

Careful observers of charitable statistics cannot fail to note that multiplication of agencies leads to the increase of poverty. In the report of work for 1881 the following statement was made:—
"It must not be lost sight of that up to the year 1866 all the poor of the City were relieved through one channel, and that was the Hobart Benevolent Society. At that time every legitimate claim was met; none were permitted to want." Whether things have improved by the establishment of rival agencies is a question that may be left to the consideration of colonists generally.

The Registrar reports for 1891:—

New cases for the year, 115, comprising 71 males, 94 females; children, 132 males, 107 females; total, 404. Of the adults there were 49 cases of illness, 20 widows, 12 husbands away, 10 husbands out of work, 8 husbands in gaol, 9 aged and infirm, 4 accidents, 3 destitute, 4 cases refused.

On the books from last year there were 27 families, comprising 76 individuals.

The rations issued during the year were—Bread, 15,525 lbs.; tea, $408\frac{1}{2}$ lbs.; sugar, 2252 lbs.; oatmeal, 487 lbs.; rice, 1500 lbs.: and for sick cases, cornflour, 37 lbs.; cocoa, 11 lbs.; sago, 22 lbs. Wood and coal were given by friends to the amount of £18 10s., which enabled the Society to supply fuel to the poor during the winter months. Blankets were also given.

The sum of £19 was paid to the men working in the wood-yard; lodging tickets and rent for the homeless, £9 17s.; and for special cases, £15 8s.

A large quantity of apple jelly given by Mr. R. Shoobridge was a great comfort to many sick families.

The left-off clothing given by friends during the year for adults and children was much appreciated.

Of persons receiving aid during 1891, only 11 cases were transferred to Government Account.

The Christmas and New Year's treat was given to 38 families, comprising 110 individuals. Flour purchased 200 lbs.; flour given, 200 lbs.; raisins purchased, 26 lbs.; raisins given, 72 lbs.; cake purchased, 100 lbs.; buns, spice, and peel given. Lollies, 14 lbs., and gingernuts for the children.

The usual investigation of cases has been made during the year, with 118 personal visits.

J. W. SIMMONS, Chairman.

STATEMENT of RECEIPTS and Expenditure for the Year 1891.

				, , , , , , , , , , , , , , , , , , ,
1891 Dr.	£	s.	<i>d</i> .	1891 Cr. £ s. d.
to To Balance in Bank, 1st Ja		12	4	to By Bread Account 63 2 7
Dec. 31. Subscriptions and Don				Dec. 31. Groceries
tions	164	5	6	Chairman 52 0 0
Donations for Fuel	18	10	0	Registrar 127 0 0
Donations for Christm	as			Bonus for last year 10 0 0
Treat	20	2	0	Special Cases 15 8 0
Interest on Capital Accou	int 244	5	0	Wood-yard and Cartage 19 0 0
Government Grant for 18		0	0	Wood and Coal Account 13 17 0
Dividend 4s. in the \pounds	on			Blankets 10 2 9
all Deposits in the V.D.	L.			Printing and Advertising 9 8 6
Bank with 12 month				Gas Account 7 19 3
interest and 4s. on Cu	ır-			Fire Insurance 1 10 0
rent Account	574	16	8	Lodgings and Rents 9 17 0
	-			Commission on Subscrip-
				tions 8 7 9
				Repairs to Office Roof, &c. 23 15 6
	•			Christmas Treat 10 9 3
				Balance in V.D.L. Bank,
		•		Current Account, 3rd
				Aug 103 13 7
•				Fixed Deposit 500 0 0
				Ditto 150 0 0
•				Balance in Commercial
				Bank 19 9 11
	£1223	11	6	£1223 11 6
	===			======
D 07 ' M. D. l ' . D	7.0			

Dec. 31. To Balance in Bank....... 19 9 11

Examined and found correct with the Vouchers.

CHAS. E. WALCH, Auditors.

29th January, 1892.

WM. WITT, Registrar.

The Treasurer in Account with the Hobart Benevolent Society.

1891 D _R .	£ s.	d.	1891 Dr.	£	s.	d.
to To Balance in Bank, 1st Jan. Dec. 31. Subscriptions and Donations Ditto Christmas Treat Donations for Fuel Government Grant for 1890	1 12 164 5 20 2	4 6 0 0	Ditto Balance Current Account	450 150 500	Ŏ	0 0 0
Dividend 4s. in the \mathcal{L} on all Deposits in the V.D.L. Bank with 12 months' interest, and 4s, in \mathcal{L} on			V.D.L. Bank, Aug. 3, 1891 Balance Commercial Bank	103 19	1 3 9	
Current Account Interest on Capital Account		8				
£	1223 11	6	£	1223	11	6

G. S. CROUCH, Treasurer.

INVESTED CAPITAL.								
	£	8.	d.					
Debentures, due January 1st, 1893	2000	0	0					
Ditto, due October 5th, 1894	500	Ŏ	ŏ					
Deposits, Commercial Bank, December 11th	500	ŏ	ŏ					
Ditto, Hobart Mutual B. Society, December 6th	600	ŏ	ŏ					
Ditto, ditto, January 30th	150	ŏ	Ŏ.					
Ditto, ditto, April 17th	25	0	ŏ.					
Ditto, ditto, April 17th	29	U	U					
2 1 1 1 1 2 1 2 1 2 1 2 1 2 1 2 1 2 1 2								
12 months' Interest								
Current Account								
00074 0 0								
£2874 3 2								
Less Dividend 4s. in £			_					
· · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·	2299	6	6					
·			_					
, ,	£6074	6	6					
	trans-							
CAPITAL ACCOUNT.								
	${f \pounds}$	s.	d.					
As per List	6074	6	6					
Society's Premises, Bathurst-street, say	1000	0	0					
Fire and Flood Emergency Fund, Fixed Deposit, Union Bank	105	. 0	0					
Accrued Interest, Savings Bank	60	4	4					
	£7239	10	 10					
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