

(No. 2.)



1880.

T A S M A N I A.

LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL.

GENERAL HOSPITAL, HOBART TOWN:

REPORT FOR 1879.

Laid upon the Table by Mr. Moore, and ordered by the Council to be printed,
August 10, 1880.



GENERAL HOSPITAL, HOBART TOWN.

ANNUAL REPORT for 1879.

SIR,

IN accordance with the Rules of the Hobart Town General Hospital, I have the honor to lay before you the following Annual Report of the affairs of that Institution, together with such information regarding its cost, management, and condition during the year 1879 as will, I trust, afford a satisfactory exposition of all details of importance.

The Hobart Town General Hospital Act, 1878, having come into operation on the 31st December, 1878, the affairs of the Hospital have been administered during the past year by a Board of Management in accordance with the provisions of that Act; the Board consisting of seventeen members,—viz. twelve unofficial and five *ex officio*, their names being as follows:—

Alderman J. E. Addison, Esq., J.P.
R. S. Bright, Esq., M.R.C.S., J.P.
W. F. Brownell, Esq.
W. H. Burgess, Esq., J.P., (the Worshipful the Mayor of Hobart Town).
Assistant Commissary-General L. R. Castray, J.P.
C. F. Collier, Esq., Barrister-at-Law.
E. L. Crowther, Esq., M.D., J.P., M.H.A.
C. Dowdell, Esq., J.P.
J. Grant, Esq.
W. P. Green, Esq., J.P.
Major-General A. Irvine, J.P.
The Honorable D. Lewis, J.P., M.H.A.
H. A. Perkins, Esq., M.D.
T. C. Smart, Esq., F.R.C.S.E., J.P.
D. Macmillan, Esq.
Alderman E. Maher, Esq., J.P.
R. A. Mather, Esq.

Fifteen Board and fifty-five Committee meetings were held during the year, at all of which the attendance of Members was, without exception, good; while during the same period the Honorary Medical Staff made thirteen hundred and seven professional visits to the wards of the Hospital.

It affords me great pleasure to be able to report that during the past year the Hospital, as a whole, has been worked with great efficiency, and that there is reason to believe that in future a high standard of excellence in this respect will be maintained.

In the Annual Reports for 1877 and 1878 attention was drawn to the very unsatisfactory condition of the old buildings connected with the Hospital, and the wretched accommodation which those buildings afford for the treatment of the sick. I regret to say that no improvement whatever in this direction has been effected during the year.

The improvements introduced into the main building during the early part of last year, by which a complete separation between the lavatories and the water-closets was effected, have proved highly satisfactory.

The arrangements made for a continuous and abundant supply of hot water for all Hospital purposes, reported on as completed and working well at the close of 1878, have continued in operation throughout the year, and have fully answered the purposes for which they were erected.

In the Annual Reports for 1877 and 1878 the urgent necessity for the erection of suitable quarters for the various Officers of the Hospital was pressed on the attention of Government, but, up to the present time, nothing has been done in this matter.

In my Report for 1878 I pointed out the very large expenditure for Medicines, Surgical Appliances, &c. incurred on account of the General Hospital; the average cost under this head for 1877, 1878, and 1879 being £687 per annum; an expenditure, as I pointed out in my Report for last year, far exceeding the wants of this Hospital when considered by itself: and I have now only to recapitulate what I then said; viz.—that owing to the large consumption in this branch of the Hospital service beyond its due limits, this institution should be credited with a much larger sum annually than it has of late years received. I therefore take credit as under, and beg to recommend that the establishments named should be debited with their respective amounts. Her Majesty's Gaol, £40; Cascades Hospital for Insane, £10; Brickfields Male Invalid Depôt, £40; Queen's Asylum Male and Female Invalid Depôt, £60; Drugs, &c. supplied by order of the Medical Attendant to paupers at their own homes, £60; proportion of Dispenser's salary and allowances, £40; making a total of £250, which should be deducted from the gross cost of the Hospital.

In 1878 the annual cost of each occupied bed was £82 14s. 5d., whereas I am glad to be able to state that for 1879 the cost per occupied bed was £72 13s. 6½d.; thus showing a saving of £10 0s. 10½d. per bed per annum in the latter year.

The number of Patients treated during 1879, and the diseases from which they suffered, have been tabulated and will be found in Appendix A.

The following Tabular Statement shows the number of In-patients treated during the year 1879:—

	Males.	Females.	Total.
In-patients remaining 1st January, 1879.....	54	16	70
Admitted during the year	674	357	1031
Total treated	728	373	1101
Discharged.....	610	334	944
Died	61	21	82
Remaining 1st January, 1880	57	18	75

Of the patients admitted there died:—

On the day of admission	4
1st day after admission	9
2nd ditto.....	5
3rd ditto	5
4th ditto	4
5th ditto	5
6th ditto	1
7th ditto	4
Total.....	37
After the 7th day.....	45
Yearly Total	82

The above Table shows the very great number of persons received in a dying condition.

The ages of those who died in Hospital during 1879 were as follows:—

Under 10 years	1
Between 10 and 15 years	4
15 and 25 ditto	15
25 and 35 ditto	5
35 and 45 ditto	6
45 and 55 ditto	16
55 and 65 ditto	24
Over 65 years	11
Total for the Year.....	82

I now append a comparative statement of certain statistics of 1878 and 1879 :—

	1878,	1879.
Number of In-patients treated	1130	1101
Ditto died	105 (1 in 10·76)	82 (1 in 13·42)
Ditto out-patients treated	3907	1895
Ditto diets issued to in-patients	28,791	29,424
Average stay in Hospital of each patient	25·47 days	26·72 days
Ditto daily number of in-patients	78·87	80·61
Number of diets issued to staff	11,318	10,827

The following tabulated information, comprehending the total cost of every branch of the Hospital Service in detail, is based on the plan suggested by Dr. Roberts, of Sydney, and adopted in the Returns of all the Australian Hospitals, and is valuable as a basis of comparison :—

GENERAL HOSPITAL, HOBART TOWN, TASMANIA.

A.

1. What is the population of the township, and of the district benefited by the Hospital? Estimated 40,000.
2. The character of the Hospital? General.
3. How many years has the Hospital been established? 36 years.
4. If the present building was erected for a Hospital? Yes.
5. If built for a Hospital, what was its original cost? Built by Imperial Government.
6. How much of the cost of construction was contributed by the Government? All.
7. How much of the cost of construction was contributed by public subscription? None.
8. How much of the annual income is contributed by the Government? All.
9. How much of the annual income is contributed by public subscription? None.
10. How much of the annual income is contributed upon an average by paying patients? £220.
11. How much of the annual income is derived from invested funds? None.
12. What amount has been received by legacies and donations? None.
13. Is the Institution under the control of a single officer or a Board? A Board.
14. If by a single officer, what is his position and salary, and to whom is he responsible? —
15. If by a Board, what is the number of its members, and by whom is it elected, &c.? 17 members, appointed by the Governor in Council with power to fill its own vacancies, subject to the approval of the Governor in Council.
16. Whether any power or control of supervision is exercised by the Government; and if so, in what form and to what extent? Yes, in regard to money matters.

B.

1. The number of beds? 133.
2. The average cubic space per bed? 1249·32 feet.
3. The average number of in-patients daily throughout the year, male? 53·31.
4. Ditto, female? 27·30.
5. The number of paying patients received during the year? 148.
6. The number of patients received during the year who would have been more suitable for a Benevolent Asylum? Estimated about $\frac{1}{3}$.
7. Total number of in-patients received during the year? 1031.

C.

1. The number who attended at the Hospital as out-patients? 1870.
2. The average number who are attended annually at their own homes? This is the work of a separate department.
3. The average number of women who are attended annually in confinement at their own homes? This is the work of a separate department.

D.

1. The number of paid medical officers, resident? Two.
2. The annual amount of their salaries? £550 with fuel and light, and £60 in place of better quarters than those provided for them.
3. The number of paid medical officers, non-resident? None.
4. The annual amount of their salaries? Nil.

5. The number of other paid officers, exclusive of Nurses and servants? 3: Secretary, Lady Superintendent, and Dispenser.
6. The annual amount of their salaries? £554, fuel, light, and quarters, and £76 3s. house and personal allowances to the Dispenser.
7. The number of the nursing staff? 13.
8. The annual amount of their salaries? £514 15s.
9. The number of servants? 14.
10. The annual amount of their salaries? £473.
Total cost of salaries? £2144 5s.
Total cost of allowances? £136 3s.
11. Enquiry Officer for pauper out-patients, £52 10s.

E.

1. The annual cost of provisions, exclusive of wine, beer, and spirits? £1985 10s. 7d.
2. Ditto wine, beer, and spirits? £124 12s.
3. Ditto fire and lighting? £517 17s. 10d.
4. Ditto washing and laundry? £119 7s. 5d., (done at H.M. Gaol).
5. Ditto linen and bedding? }
6. Ditto furniture, earthenware, &c.? } £227 1s. 7d.
7. Ditto drugs and dispensary? }
8. Ditto surgical instruments and appliances? } £685 11s.
9. Ditto water supply? Nil.
10. Ditto printing, stationery? £19 16s. 11d.
11. Ditto funerals? £71 6s.
12. Ditto repairs, average? £193 3s. 9d.
13. Payments for interest? Nil.
14. Ditto insurance? Nil.
15. Ditto commission? Nil.
16. Other expenses not included in the above? Nil.
17. Total cost of the Hospital per annum? —
18. Proportionate cost of salaries to each occupied bed? £26 17s. 7d.
19. Ditto provisions ditto? £24 16s. 3d.
20. Total cost of each occupied bed? £72 13s. 6½d.

F.

1. The contract price during the year of bread for the 2 lb. loaf? 2½d.
2. Ditto meat at per lb.? 3½d.

The following is the cost of the Hobart Town General Hospital for the year 1879, arranged under the customary heads:—

	£	s.	d.	
Salaries	2166	17	0	
Allowances	134	1	4	
Provisions and medical comforts	2110	2	7	
Fuel and Light	517	17	10	
Medicines and surgical instruments	685	11	0	
Clothing, bedding, and stores	227	1	7	
Stationery	19	16	11	
Funeral expenses	71	6	0	
Washing	119	7	5	
Repairs to buildings	241	17	1	
Cleansing, removal of night soil, ashes, &c.....	45	0	0	
Petty expenses	13	5	0	
Advertising	3	0	0	
Gross Expenditure.....	£6355	3	9	
For medicines and appliances supplied to other Establishments	250	0	0	
Sums received from self-supporting patients and other sources.....	246	14	7	
		496	14	7
Net Expenditure ..	£5858	9	2	

In Appendix B. will be found what I have hitherto been unable to furnish, for reasons explained in the last paragraph of my Report for 1880, an absolutely correct Nosological Return of all cases treated at this Institution as out-patients during the year 1879.

I have, &c.

THOS. C. SMART, *F.R.C.S.E.*, *Chairman.*
26th May, 1880.

To the Hon. the Colonial Secretary.

APPENDIX A.

CLASS I.—ZYMOTIC DISEASES.

ORDER 1.—*Miasmatic Diseases.*

	Cases.	Deaths.
Diphtheria.....	19	4
Quinsy.....	11	
Croup.....	5	1
Whooping-cough.....	1	
Typhus and Infantile Fever, Typhoid, &c.....	17	2
Erysipelas.....	9	3
Carbuncle, Boil.....	3	
Influenza, Coryza, Catarrh, &c.....	15	
Dysentery.....	1	
Diarrhoea.....	13	1
Ague.....	3	
Rheumatism.....	69	2
Other Zymotic Diseases.....	1	1
Total Order 1.....	167	14

ORDER 2.—*Enthetic Diseases.*

Syphilis.....	19	
Gonorrhoea, Stricture of the Urethra.....	50	1
Total Order 2.....	69	1

ORDER 3.—*Dietic Diseases.*

Privation.....	3	
Purpura and Scurvy.....	1	
Alcoholism { Delirium Tremens.....	12	
{ Intemperance.....	55	
Total Order 3.....	71	

ORDER 4.—*Parasitic Diseases.*

Worms, &c.....	2	
Hydatid.....	2	
Total Order 4.....	4	

TOTAL CLASS I. 311 15

CLASS II.—CONSTITUTIONAL DISEASES.

ORDER 1.—*Diathetic Diseases.*

Gout.....	5	
Dropsy.....	8	1
Cancer.....	30	6
Tumor.....	5	
Polypus.....	1	
Mortification.....	2	
Total Order 1.....	51	7

ORDER 2.—*Tubercular Diseases.*

Scrofula.....	13	
Phthisis.....	36	8
Hæmoptysis.....	4	
Others.....	24	1
Total Order 2.....	77	9

TOTAL CLASS II. 128 16

CLASS III.—LOCAL DISEASES.

ORDER 1.—*Diseases of the Nervous System.*

	Cases.	Deaths.
Cephalitis.....	5	3
Apoplexy.....	2	2
Paralysis.....	15	1
Insanity.....	39	
Chorea.....	3	1
Epilepsy.....	13	
Brain Disease, &c.....	55	
Total Order 1.....	132	7

ORDER 2.—*Diseases of the Organs of Circulation.*

Pericarditis.....	1	
Aneurism.....	3	1
Heart Disease, &c.....	34	9
Total Order 2.....	38	10

ORDER 3.—*Diseases of the Respiratory System.*

Laryngitis.....	2	
Bronchitis.....	22	
Pleurisy.....	11	
Pneumonia.....	29	11
Congestion of Lungs, Pulmonary Apoplexy.....	2	
Asthma.....	6	
Lung Disease, &c.....	1	
Total Order 3.....	73	12

ORDER 4.—*Diseases of the Digestive Organs.*

Gastritis.....	1	
Enteritis.....	9	
Peritonitis.....	4	2
Ascites.....	2	
Ulceration of Intestines.....	1	
Hernia.....	5	
Ileus.....	2	
Stricture of Intestines.....	2	
Fistula.....	6	1
Stomach Disease, &c.....	14	
Hepatitis.....	3	
Jaundice, Gallstone, &c.....	1	1
Liver Disease, &c.....	11	3
Total Order 4.....	61	7

ORDER 5.—*Diseases of the Urinary Organs.*

Ischuria.....	6	
Nephria.....	11	6
Diabetes.....	2	1
Stone, Gravel.....	3	1
Kidney Disease, &c.....	3	
Total Order 5.....	25	8

ORDER 6.—*Diseases of the Organs of Generation.*

Uterus Disease, &c.....	15	
Total Order 6.....	15	

ORDER 7.— <i>Diseases of the Locomotive System.</i>		
	Cases.	Deaths.
Arthritis	11	
Ostitis, Periostitis, &c.	4	
Joint Disease, &c.	34	1
<i>Total Order 7</i>	<u>49</u>	<u>1</u>
ORDER 8.— <i>Diseases of the Integumentary System.</i>		
Phlegmon, Whitlow, &c.....	2	
Ulcer	38	
Skin Disease, &c.	18	
<i>Total Order 8</i>	<u>58</u>	
TOTAL CLASS III.....	451	45
CLASS IV.—DEVELOPMENTAL DISEASES.		
ORDER 1.— <i>Developmental Diseases of Children.</i>		
Other Malformations.....	3	
<i>Total Order 1</i>	<u>3</u>	
ORDER 2.— <i>Developmental Diseases of Adults.</i>		
Paramenia	7	
Childbirth	5	
ORDER 3.— <i>Developmental Diseases of Old People.</i>		
Old Age	10	

ORDER 4.— <i>Diseases of Nutrition.</i>		
	Cases.	Deaths.
Atrophy and Debility	8	
TOTAL CLASS IV.....	33	
CLASS V.—VIOLENCE.		
ORDER 1.— <i>Accident or Negligence.</i>		
Fractures, Contusions, &c.	122	3
Wounds } Gunshot	8	
} Cuts, &c.....	19	2
Burns and Scalds.....	11	1
Poison	1	
Drowning.....	1	
<i>Total Order 1</i>	<u>162</u>	<u>6</u>
ORDER 4.— <i>Suicide.</i>		
Wounds—Cut, Stab, &c.	1	
Poison	3	
Drowning	1	
<i>Total Order 4</i>	<u>5</u>	
TOTAL CLASS V.	167	6
Specified Causes.....	1090	82
Causes not specified	11	
All Causes	<u>1101</u>	<u>82</u>

APPENDIX B.

CLASS I.—ZYMOTIC DISEASES.		
ORDER 1.— <i>Miasmatic Diseases.</i>		
Chicken-pox	8	
Diphtheria	20	
Quinsy	26	
Croup	3	
Whooping-cough	27	
Typhus and Infantile Fever, Typhoid, &c.	4	
Erysipelas	3	
Carbuncle, Boil	4	
Influenza, Coryza, Catarrh, &c.....	134	
Dysentery	1	
Diarrhœa.....	23	
Rheumatism.....	79	
<i>Total Order 1</i>	332	
ORDER 2.— <i>Enthetic Diseases.</i>		
Syphilis	50	
Gonorrhœa, Stricture of the Urethra	48	
<i>Total Order 2</i>	98	
ORDER 3.— <i>Dietic Diseases.</i>		
Privation.....	13	
<i>Total Order 3</i>	13	
ORDER 4.— <i>Parasitic Diseases.</i>		
Thrush.....	11	
Worms, &c.....	106	
Others	51	
<i>Total Order 4</i>	168	
TOTAL CLASS I.....	<u>1</u>	

CLASS II.—CONSTITUTIONAL DISEASES.		
ORDER 1.— <i>Diathetic Diseases.</i>		
Gout	4	
Dropsy	5	
Cancer	15	
Tumor	12	
Polypus	1	
Others	3	
<i>Total Order 1</i>	40	
ORDER 2.— <i>Tubercular Diseases.</i>		
Scrofula	15	
Phthisis	13	
Hæmoptysis	4	
Hydrocephalus	4	
Others	36	
<i>Total Order 2</i>	72	
TOTAL CLASS II.	112	
CLASS III.—LOCAL DISEASES.		
ORDER 1.— <i>Diseases of the Nervous System.</i>		
Cephalitis	1	
Apoplexy	1	
Paralysis.....	14	
Chorea	2	
Epilepsy	15	
Brain Disease, &c.	40	
<i>Total Order 1</i>	73	
ORDER 2.— <i>Diseases of the Organs of Circulation.</i>		
Pericarditis.....	1	
Aneurism	1	
Heart Disease, &c.	45	
<i>Total Order 2</i>	47	

ORDER 3.—*Diseases of the Respiratory System.*

Laryngitis	2
Bronchitis	42
Pleurisy	17
Pneumonia	8
Congestion of Lungs, Pulmonary Apoplexy	1
Asthma	16
<i>Total Order 3</i>	86

ORDER 4.—*Diseases of the Digestive Organs.*

Gastritis	1
Enteritis	1
Ascites.....	2
Hernia.....	12
Plcus.....	2
Intussusception	2
<i>Stomach Disease, &c.</i>	91
Hepatitis	1
<i>Liver Disease, &c.</i>	4
<i>Spleen Disease, &c.</i>	1
<i>Total Order 4</i>	127

ORDER 5.—*Diseases of the Urinary Organs.*

Nephritis.....	2
Ischuria	13
Nephria	10
Cystitis	1
<i>Kidney Disease, &c.</i>	10
<i>Total Order 5</i>	36

ORDER 6.—*Diseases of the Organs of Generation.*

<i>Uterus Disease, &c.</i>	29
<i>Total Order 6</i>	29

ORDER 7.—*Diseases of the Locomotive System.*

Arthritis	1
Ostitis, Periostitis, &c.....	7
<i>Joint Disease, &c.</i>	10
<i>Total Order 7</i>	18

ORDER 8.—*Diseases of the Integumentary System.*

Phlegmon, Whitlow, &c.....	8
Ulcer	36
<i>Skin Disease, &c.</i>	183
<i>Total Order 8</i>	227
TOTAL CLASS III	643

CLASS IV.—DEVELOPMENTAL DISEASES.

ORDER 1.—*Developmental Diseases of Children.*

Other Malformations	7
Teething	25
<i>Total Order 1</i>	32

ORDER 2.—*Developmental Diseases of Adults.*

Paramenia	40
Childbirth	22
<i>Total Order 2</i>	62

ORDER 4.—*Diseases of Nutrition.*

Atrophy and Debility	67
<i>Total Order 4</i>	67

TOTAL CLASS IV..... 161

CLASS V.—VIOLENCE.

ORDER 1.—*Accident or Negligence.*

Fractures, Contusions, &c.....	243
Wounds { Gunshot	2
{ Cuts, &c.....	90
Burns and Scalds	16
Poison.....	1
Bite of a Snake or Insect.....	4
Other or unspecified Accidents	12
<i>Total Order 1</i>	368

TOTAL CLASS V. 368

ALL CAUSES 1895