

(No. 4.)



1864.

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T A S M A N I A.

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LAUNCESTON HOSPITAL.

REPORT FOR 1863.

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Laid upon the Table by Mr. Colonial Treasurer, and ordered by the House to be printed, 29 June, 1864.



## LAUNCESTON GENERAL HOSPITAL.

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### *ANNUAL REPORT for 1863.*

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THE transactions of the past year do not call for any lengthened Report.

In the month of January the Institution was removed from the old unsuitable building, which had for so many years served as a Hospital for Launceston, to the present admirable structure.

The new Hospital affords accommodation for 102 Patients,—74 males and 28 females. Its fine salubrious situation, and the airiness and cleanliness of its interior, have elicited the admiration and approval of all who have visited it.

The Managers take this opportunity of expressing the undiminished confidence which they continue to repose in the Surgeon Superintendent.

In the early part of the year it was notified in the *Gazette*, that the Governor in Council had been pleased to direct that the old name of "Cornwall Hospital" should be changed to the "Launceston General Hospital."

The amount of subscriptions and donations having continued to decrease year by year till it did not reach the sum of £100 per annum, the late Trustees brought the matter under the notice of the Government, and received an intimation in reply, that from the end of 1863 the expense of the Hospital would be entirely defrayed from the public funds.

Since then a Board of Managers, consisting of Six Members, has been nominated by the Governor in Council.

The Managers think it well to state, however, that, during the ten years which have elapsed from the first establishment of the Cornwall Hospital, the sum of £4290 4s. 2d. (in addition to Hospital fees) has been contributed by the inhabitants of the Northern districts towards its support.

For the Board of Management,

ISAAC SHERWIN, *Chairman.*

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*REPORT of the Surgeon Superintendent of the LAUNCESTON GENERAL HOSPITAL for the Year 1863.*

DURING the year 1863 there were admitted into Hospital 331 Patients, of whom 268 were males, and 63 females: 286 were Hospital cases, and 45 were Invalids.

There were remaining under treatment at the close of 1862, 50 Patients; so that the total number treated during the year 1863 was 381; of whom 184 were discharged cured, 67 relieved, and 12 incurable; 57 died, and 61 remained.

The rate of mortality is, as in former years, high, and must continue so while the Hospital remains the only refuge which the houseless and homeless poor can resort to on the approach of the fell destroyer.

The great majority of those who swell the list of deaths are in a hopeless state when admitted, and are such cases as would not be received into an English Hospital.

Of those who died during 1863, 3 died on the day of admission, and 7 on the day after, 2 on the second day after, 1 on the third, 1 on the fourth, 2 on the fifth, and 1 on the sixth day.

The ages of those who died were as follows:—

Under 20 years .....	3
From 20 to 30 .....	0
30 to 40 .....	8
40 to 50 .....	16
50 to 60 .....	11
60 to 70 .....	10
70 to 80 .....	4
80 to 90 .....	5
TOTAL .....	<u>57</u>

Of the Patients admitted, there were 44 Self-supporting, 18 sent in by Subscribers, 25 charged to Imperial Funds, and 244 were Colonial Paupers.

The average daily number during the year was 60; and the daily cost of each Patient a fraction under 2s. 4d.

The cases treated during 1863 were:—

	<i>In-door Cases.</i>	<i>Out-door Cases.</i>	<i>Totals.</i>
Diseases of the respiratory organs .....	35	46	81
Ditto the brain and nervous system .....	43	6	49
Ditto the digestive system .....	23	48	71
Ditto the heart and blood-vessels .....	7	1	8
Ditto the eyes .....	12	10	22
Ditto the skin .....	3	9	12
Ditto the bones and joints .....	11	1	12
Fevers .....	4	0	4
Dropsies .....	6	1	7
Rheumatic affections .....	23	9	37
Veneral affections .....	20	11	31
Abscesses and ulcers .....	42	16	58
Wounds and injuries .....	48	22	70
All other diseases .....	99	37	136
	<u>381</u>	<u>217</u>	<u>598</u>

The diseases and injuries that proved fatal were:—

Pulmonary consumption .....	10 Cases.
Cancer .....	7
Paralysis .....	6
Organic disease of the heart .....	3
Chronic bronchitis .....	3
Inflammation of the bowels .....	2
Inflammation of the lungs .....	2
Dropsy .....	2
Dysentery .....	2
Chronic rheumatism .....	2
Delirium tremens .....	2
Wounds .....	2
Diseases of the hip joint .....	1
Diabetes .....	1
Phlegmonous erysipelas .....	1
Hydatids in the lungs .....	1
Serous apoplexy .....	1
Mortification .....	1
Fracture of the skull .....	1
Burn .....	1
Decay of nature .....	5

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J. L. MILLER, *Surgeon Superintendent.*