

(No. 18.)



1873.

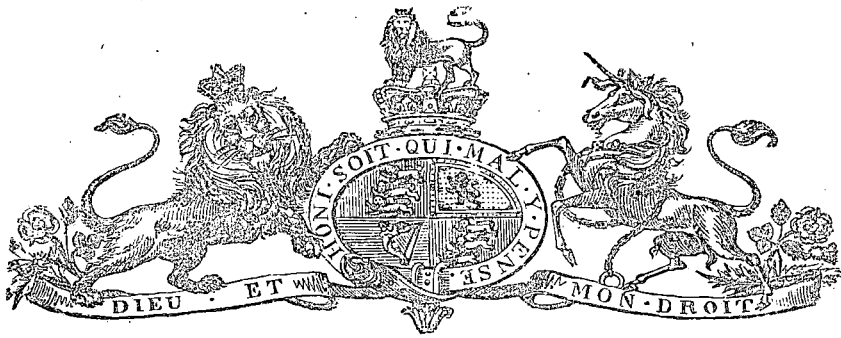
T A S M A N I A.

H O U S E O F A S S E M B L Y.

BOYS' HOME INDUSTRIAL SCHOOL.

REPORTS, 1869-70—1872-3.

Laid upon the Table by the Colonial Treasurer, and ordered by the House to be printed, June 17, 1873.



FIRST REPORT of the BOYS' HOME INDUSTRIAL SCHOOL, 1869-70.

Now that the time has come for the Governors of the Boys' Home to present their First Report to its friends and supporters, it seems desirable to look back to the first commencement of the undertaking, and to relate the various steps which prepared the way for the existence of the Home.

In the year 1867, public attention having been for some time drawn to the increasing number of destitute and neglected children in Hobart Town, a Committee of gentlemen was formed to consider by what remedial measures the evil might be checked. This Committee, after many meetings and much anxious discussion, determined that parliamentary interference was absolutely necessary, and drafted a Bill to be introduced to the Legislature. The Bill was approved and supported by the Government, and passed with but slight amendment as the Industrial Schools Act, 1867. It superseded an inoperative Act which had been passed some years before, and empowered the Government for the time being to grant substantial assistance to any effort that might be made by private benevolence for the establishment of Industrial Schools, giving at the same time to such institutions the protection of the law.

Early in May, the Hon. Mr. Kennerley, moved by a strong desire to give practical shape to the provisions of this Act, purchased a property of 3 acres, with a dwelling-house, in the western suburbs of Hobart Town, and without delay set about the erection of additional buildings, so planned as to provide for the accommodation and proper discipline of a considerable number of boys. As the work grew, its proportions were enlarged, and by the end of the year upwards of £1200 had been expended in the building of a substantial wing to the old dwelling-house, and excellently contrived out-buildings, embracing the various requirements of school-room, laundry, dairy, bath-room, &c. The cultivation and improvement of the ground was at the same time going on.

All being ready for occupation, the time seemed come for making an appeal to the public, who, it might be supposed, would show their interest in the work by placing furniture in the buildings that had thus been prepared, and otherwise providing for the working expenditure. An appeal was put forth by Mr. Kennerley and a few friends with whom he had taken counsel, and in many quarters it met with a liberal response.

A body of contributors being thus formed, it appeared desirable to place in their hands the appointment of Governors of the Institution, and to take their advice as to the fundamental principles upon which the Home might be conducted. With this view a meeting of contributors was invited by public advertisement, and held in the Town Hall on the 12th day of February, 1869, the Bishop of Tasmania presiding. After discussion, the meeting was adjourned to the 16th February, and at the adjourned meeting Messrs. Kennerley, Dobson, Tarleton, Giblin, Mather, H. L. Roberts, and Rev. F. H. Cox, were appointed Governors for a period of three years, and the following fundamental rules were adopted:—

1. The Boys' Home shall be an Institution for the education and training of boys, of the character described in the Industrial Schools Act, 1867, and shall be established under the provisions of that Act.

2. The management and control of the Boys' Home shall be vested in seven Governors, who shall be elected every three years, by a meeting of Donors and Subscribers to the Institution; provided that votes for such election be given only by such persons as have paid a donation of not less than Five Pounds or an annual subscription of not less than One Pound to the funds of the Institution. Any or all of the retiring Governors shall be capable of re-election, and any vacancy occurring in the interim shall be filled by the remaining Governors, choosing from among the donors or subscribers.

3. An Annual Report of the condition of the Home, with an audited account of its Receipts and Expenditure, shall be published by the Governors.

4. Rules for the management of the Home shall be made by the Governors from time to time at their discretion: provided that any new rule shall be published in the Annual Report; provided also, that the religious worship and instruction of the boys shall be in accordance with the doctrine and usages of the Church of England.

The Boys' Home was gazetted on the 5th day of April, 1869, as an Industrial School certified by the Colonial Secretary,* and was thus brought under the provisions of the Act of Parliament. And here it may not be out of place to notice the warm interest which was throughout felt in the undertaking by the late lamented Sir Richard Dry, who at that time held the office of Colonial Secretary.

In the same month the Governors took steps to obtain the services of two qualified persons to act as Master and Mistress of the Home; and after much careful enquiry, and the consideration of the testimonials of a large number of applicants, they finally selected and appointed Mr. and Mrs. Reilly, who, in the twelve months that have since elapsed, have by their faithfulness and care abundantly proved that the selection was well made.

During the year 20 boys have been admitted, of whom *two* were after a short time removed to the Queen's Asylum, such removal being rendered advisable by their weak state of health and tender years. The remaining *eighteen* are still in the Home, and of nearly all of them it may be truly said that they have improved in every respect since their admission. Visitors to the Home have again and again recorded the pleasure with which they have noticed its free yet well-ordered discipline, as shown in the bright faces, good manners, and intelligent answers of the boys. They are employed every forenoon in the various occupations belonging to the house and ground,—cooking, washing, wood-cutting, milking, gardening, &c.—and every afternoon, except Saturday (when they are frequently taken for a ramble over the neighboring hills), in lessons in the school-room. Their more especially religious instruction has its proper place in the morning and evening of every day, and in the larger opportunities of the Lord's Day.

When it is considered that most of the boys, when application is made for their admission, are described as "wild," "unmanageable," and the like, it is the more remarkable that they should be found living together month after month, not only with no attempt to escape and return to the old freedom, but with the happy contentment which marks a well-ordered home.

The Governors, who have the privilege of acting with the Founder in the general oversight of the Home, cannot close this Report without acknowledging the great value of the constant assistance given by Mrs. Kennerley in all matters relating to its internal and domestic management.

They must also express an earnest hope, that those who have watched the Institution from without will continue to show a warm interest in its success, and that many who now read this record of its first year's work will desire to strengthen it by their support. It will be understood that the Home has room for the admission of many more boys than the eighteen who now belong to it; but as the number increases, so also will the expense of maintenance, and this must be met from those enlarged resources which Christian charity is never slow to supply.

May 3, 1870.

TABLE showing Ages of Boys now in the Home.

Age, or supposed Age.	Number of Boys.
Between 8 and 9 years	2
„ 9 and 10 „	3
„ 10 and 11 „	6
„ 11 and 12 „	7
	<u>18</u>

STATEMENT of Cost of House and Three Acres of Land, with Additions and Alterations to Premises, defrayed by the Undersigned at his own cost.

	£	s.	d.
1868 and 1869.			
Paid W. A. Guesdon & Co., purchase money	450	0	0
Paid for Conveyance and other Law Charges	10	0	0
Paid James Gregory, builder, as follows:—			
Additional Stone Wing to House	505	14	10
Repairs to the old Residence	169	17	1
New Outbuildings—viz., Laundry, Bath-room, Dairy, and Coal-shed	374	3	2
Repairing Barn, and altering it into School-room	81	2	7
New Fencing, Gates, &c., and Cow-shed	95	10	11
Paid Nine Months' Wages to Gardener and Laborers previous to opening the Establishment	70	0	0
Total	<u>£1756</u>	<u>8</u>	<u>7</u>

E. & O. E.

ALFRED KENNERLEY.

Hobart Town, 2nd May, 1870.

I find the above statement correct,

J. M'C. BROWNE.

* Over and above the direct benefit which, it may be hoped, the community will receive from the Boys' Home, it is probably, in part at least, owing to its establishment that the Government has been encouraged to open a Reformatory or Training School at the Cascades, to which lads who have been convicted of offences may be sent instead of committing them to gaol.

SECOND ANNUAL Report of the Boys' HOME INDUSTRIAL SCHOOL, 1870-1.

THE Governors of the Boys' Home have now the pleasing satisfaction of presenting their Second Annual Report to its friends and supporters.

The great object of the Institution, namely, to impart an Industrial, Moral, and Religious training to the destitute and neglected children placed under the care of the Governors by the magisterial bench, has been hitherto successfully carried out by the Master and Mistress of the establishment, who have, by faithful attention to their onerous duties, abundantly proved how much they have the best interests of the children at heart.

During the first year twenty boys were admitted, two of whom, after a short time, were removed to the Queen's Asylum, on account of their weak state of health and tender years,—eighteen remaining in the Home on the 31st March, 1870.

Since then, nine boys have been received, one of whom was removed by order of His Excellency the Governor, on the application of the boy's friends, who were desirous of sending him to his mother in Melbourne.

On the 31st March, 1871, there were twenty-six boys in the Home, of the following ages:—

Between 9 and 10 years	1
10 and 11 years	9
11 and 12 years	5
12 and 13 years	6
13 and 14 years	5
	<hr/>
	26
	<hr/>

To substantiate the claims this Institution has upon the Government and the public generally, the Governors (following the example of similar institutions in Great Britain) consider it desirable to furnish a statement from official records of the circumstances of the children at the time of their admission into the Boys' Home.

No. 1, J. E.—Illegitimate, deserted by his mother, a drunkard and very bad character; father's residence not known; left utterly destitute in the streets.

No. 2, W. H. W.—One of four orphans, both parents dead, left entirely destitute.

No. 3, C. C.—Father deserted his wife and family, mother an abandoned woman and a drunkard, boy running wild in the streets.

No. 4, G. B.—Father dead, mother not to be found, boy apprehended on the wharf living in boilers, deserted, friendless, and destitute.

No. 5, W. F. S.—Father dead, mother not able to work from the effects of hernia, one of five children.

Nos. 6 and 7, J. and G. H.—Brothers; father under sentence of imprisonment; mother a drunken bad character.

No. 8, J. J. K.—Father dead, mother in delicate health with a family of four children to support, very destitute.

No. 9, M. L.—Father absconded, mother left with three other children, living in a locality of the lowest order, boy exposed to every sort of evil, never at school, quite destitute.

Nos. 10 and 11, J. T. and J. S.—Brothers; father absent in New Zealand, mother left with four other children very destitute; boys running about the streets bare-footed and miserably clad, would not go to school.

No. 12, H. W. W.—An orphan, both parents dead, no relations in the colony, running wild and quite destitute.

No. 13, J. S.—Father dead, mother a notorious drunkard and bad character, boy starved and cruelly ill used.

No. 14, J. G.—Illegitimate, father not known, mother a drunken dissolute character.

No. 15, G. A. J.—Father dead, mother given to drinking and stealing, now under sentence for petty theft, boy very wild.

No. 16, G. B.—Father in Hospital very ill, mother dead, boy allowed to run wild in the streets.

No. 17, W. H. H.—Father dead, mother in gaol for begging; had not been at School for months, no home or friends, apprehended under *The Vagrancy Act*.

No. 18, G. M.—Father an invalid, mother a bad character, four other children, very destitute, boy wild and unmanageable.

No. 19, J. O.—Father dead, mother drinking and neglecting her children. This poor boy was taken off the streets in a most miserable plight, ragged, starved, and covered with sores.

No. 20, H. B.—Mother a widow in very poor circumstances, and unable to maintain him. She states that she cannot control him.

No. 21, H. R.—Father unable to support him on account of ill health; mother dead.*

No. 22, R. S.—Father dead, mother described as having been a loose character for some time. Boy's admission recommended by enquiring officer as an act of charity.

No. 23, F. D.—Stepmother unable to support or control him, having been deserted by her husband, the boy's father, the day after her marriage to him.

Nos. 24 and 25, J. and G. H.—Brothers, father was a constable. He committed suicide at Green Ponds; mother gone to service, she has one child to support.

No. 26, H. J. M.—Illegitimate, father unknown, mother in delicate health. A recipient of out-door relief.

Notwithstanding, however, the deplorable condition in which most of these poor children were found (not a few having been rescued from abodes of sin and misery), the Governors are truly thankful to be able to say that the moral and physical training, combined with the religious instruction they have received, is now beginning to make a marked improvement in nearly all of them, and they trust that when the boys leave the Home, they will be able to obtain an honest living, and do credit to the institution.

Several of the children, they regret to notice, have suffered so much hardship and privation in their early years, that it will be a long time—if ever—before they attain the vigor and health that children of their age should possess, had they been properly cared for.

COPIES of some of the Testimonials entered during the last Six months in the Visitors' Book:—

His Excellency the Governor and the Hon. Mrs. Du Cane.

"We are very much pleased with the perfect order and cleanliness evident throughout the whole of the establishment; with the generally cheerful and healthy appearance of the Boys, and the decided progress made by those who have been any length of time in the Home." *2nd September, 1870.*

The Rev. J. R. Buckland, B.A., Head Master, Hutchins School.

"I have been much pleased with the manner in which the boys do their work in school, and the intelligence shown by those who have been longest in the Home; they all seem to take an interest in what they are doing. The general arrangements of the Home seem to me admirable." *20th September, 1870.*

The Bishop of Tasmania and Mrs. Bromby.

"Visited this admirable institution, pleased with the intelligence and moral tone of the boys, who are manifestly feeling the effects of the humanising influences under which they are happily placed." *8th November, 1870.*

* The father of this lad hearing at Launceston there was a home for poor boys at Hobart Town, walked down in 14 days in a very weak state of health, and having succeeded in his object endeavoured to return there, but was found dead in the bush near Campbell Town.

The Rev. W. A. Quick, Principal Horton College, Ross.

"I am more than pleased with all the arrangements at the Boys' Home. The lads are generally a fine class, they are respectful in their bearing and yet perfectly at home with Mr. and Mrs. Reilly. The excellent founder of the institution may confidently hope that these boys will become men of sense and virtue."

Rev. Hans Mack.

"I fully concur in the above." 16th November, 1870.

The Hon. F. Stanley Dobson, L.L.D., and M.L.C., Melbourne.

"I have been much pleased with my visit to the Boys' Home. The system adopted appears to have been eminently successful considering the short time that the institution has been in existence. I was much struck with the admirable cleanliness which is everywhere apparent."

Mr. Justice Dobson, Hon. W. R. Giblin.

"We concur fully in what is above written, and have been much pleased with all we have seen and heard during our visit." 23rd December, 1870.

The Hon. F. M. Innes, M.L.C.

"I have been much gratified by my inspection of the establishment, and by the appearance and educational progress of the children, as well as by their manner when spoken to." 6th March, 1871.

Revs. C. P. Greene, Christopher Bromby, and H. B. Bromby.

"Were much pleased with the appearance of the boys, and, having catechised them, with their intelligent answering." 23rd February, 1871.

The Right Hon. Sir James Fergusson, Governor South Australia.

"I have been much gratified by the opportunity of seeing the good order and appearance of this institution." 7th March, 1871.

Joseph J. Neave, J. B. Cotton, Edwd. O. Cotton.

"Truly pleased with the establishment and all the arrangements in it, and the spirit of loving interest manifested by the master and mistress." 3rd Month, 13th, 1871.

The Hon. Neville Blyth, M.L.C., Adelaide, South Australia.

"I have had very great pleasure in my visit of inspection to the Boys' Home, Hobart Town, and having been shown over the whole establishment and received a great deal of information as to its regulations, am happy to record my admiration of them." 13th March, 1871.

Messrs. Eben. Atherton, James B. Walker, John M'Intyre.

"We have been shown over the Boys' Home, and have been greatly delighted with the healthy, cheerful, and home-like appearance of the whole establishment." 22nd March, 1871.

The Governors cannot allow this opportunity to pass without tendering their grateful thanks to Messrs. M'Gregor, Colvin, Bailey, Hedberg, Risby, Fisher, Facey, M'Arthur, and others interested in the shipping of this port for having erected in a most substantial manner masts and yards at the Boys' Home at a cost exceeding £100, and trust after a time to be able to supply some smart lads as apprentices for their vessels, as a return for their kind generosity.

They desire also to record with thanks the receipt of £100 as a bequest by the late Henry Hopkins, Esq., and trust that as the benefits of this institution become more generally known and appreciated, others may be induced to follow this example.

Donations and subscriptions will be thankfully received by any of the Governors of the Home, or by the Commercial Bank, Hobart Town.

8th May, 1871.

The Governors will look with much interest for the reports which they hope from time to time to receive from those in whose hands these boys are placed.

It is well known to all who have visited the Boys' Home that its *domestic* character, as presenting the pleasant features of a well-ordered *family*, is due to the kindly influence exercised over their charge by Mr. and Mrs. Reilly. Another year's experience enables the Governors to acknowledge the truth of this statement with continued satisfaction.

In resigning the trust that was committed to them for the term of three years, the Governors cannot but express a very earnest hope that the Institution which they have endeavoured thus far to mature, may long be blessed and prospered, as they believe it has been hitherto, and so may maintain its character for true usefulness, and be the means of teaching many otherwise neglected children how to fulfil, honestly and faithfully, their duty to God and man.

The entries from the Visitors' Book will be read with interest. In more than one of these testimonials the position occupied by the writer gives special weight and value to his remarks.

May, 1872.

STATEMENT of RECEIPTS and EXPENDITURE for the Year ending 31st March, 1872.

		£	s.	d.			£	s.	d.
Balance on 31st March, 1871	—	141	7	5	Salaries and Wages	—	126	11	0
Subscriptions	—	160	8	6	Meat Accounts	57	0	3	
Government Grant-in-aid	100	0	0		Bread, Flour, and Oatmeal.	47	3	3	
Government Capitation Allowances	276	1	4		Tea, Sugar, Rice, and Soap	41	4	5	
		376	1	4			145	7	11
Butter sold by Reilly	17	7	10		Coals and Wood	—	12	12	0
Fruit ditto	2	18	8		Hay, Straw, Potatoes, and Bran	54	0	7	
		20	6	6	Grazing Cows	5	1	0	
Interest on £100 Debenture	5	6	0		Manure	2	18	0	
Ditto £100 special deposit	4	0	0				61	19	7
		9	6	0	Blankets and Clothing	33	17	6	
					Boots and repairs to ditto	13	17	5	
							47	14	11
					Ironmongery & Wheelbarrows.	13	13	10	
					Furniture & repairs to Fencing	9	3	5	
							22	17	3
					Insurance of premises to 1st May, 1872		4	2	6
					Printing and advertising	—	3	14	6
					Milch Cow	—	7	0	0
					Reilly's Petty Cash, £12 18s.; Stamped Cheque Book, 16s. 8d.	13	14	8	
					Postage Stamps and Stationery	0	10	0	
							14	4	8
					Balance	—	261	5	5
							£707	9	9
1872.									
March 31—To Balance at Credit of the Institution	—	£261	5	5					
Audited and found correct, J. M'C. BROWNE.					E. & O. E.				
					ALFRED KENNERLEY, Treasurer. Hobart Town, 10th May, 1872.				

FOURTH REPORT of the BOYS' HOME INDUSTRIAL SCHOOL, 1872-3.

THE Governors of the Boys' Home have now the pleasure of presenting to their friends and supporters the Fourth Annual Report.

This Institution having been four years in existence, they are now better able than formerly to judge of the measure of success attending the efforts made to reclaim some of the poor neglected children living among us.

Twelve boys have left the Home at different periods during the last two years and gone into service;—of two of these boys we regret to have to report unfavourably. Although this is the case, we are thankful to be able to say that the work is of a most interesting and encouraging character, evidently proving that the moral and religious instruction received, together with industrial training—not forgetting the kindly influence of a better home than these poor waifs and strays ever had before—will produce many well-conducted useful lads, made in some cases out of very unpromising material; for the accounts received from some of the masters respecting the boys in their service are very gratifying.

On the 31st March, 1872, there were twenty-six boys in the Home; nine have been admitted during the past year, and eight have gone into service in various country districts; namely,—Green Ponds, Bagdad, Sorell, the Huon, and Prosser's Plains; it being the desire of the Governors that the boys should not be apprenticed in town, for fear of their again becoming acquainted with former associates.

The term (three years) for which the first Governors were appointed having expired, they resigned their trust; and at the public meeting of subscribers held in May last were then re-elected, an expression of confidence in their management for which they desire to tender their acknowledgments.

The entries in the Visitors' Book during the past year though few are satisfactory; and it is pleasing to remark that several persons from other Colonies have testified their approval by liberal donations towards the support of the Institution.

Nor have nearer neighbours been unmindful of the Home. Many gifts of books, &c., and a generously planned excursion up the river, have been among the unsolicited acts of kindness received and heartily appreciated by the boys in the course of the year.

We must not close our Report without again bearing testimony to the continuous faithful performance of their onerous duties by the Master and Mistress of the Establishment.

Average number of boys during the past year, twenty-seven; cost per head, £15 16s. 4d.

May, 1873.

BOYS' HOME INDUSTRIAL SCHOOL.

COPIES of some of the Testimonials entered in the Visitors' Book.

1871-72.

Rev. Canon Sharpe, Bathurst, Clements Lester, R. Campbell Ewing, New South Wales.

"Much gratified with the order and cleanliness of the establishment, and with the contented and happy faces of the boys." *26th April, 1871.*

E. C. Nowell, Esq.

"The boys seem to have improved in appearance since my last visit. They look healthy and happy." *16th May, 1871.*

Commission on Charitable Institutions.

"Have had much pleasure in going through this establishment, the state of which we found very satisfactory."

F. M. INNES, *Chairman.*

12th June, 1871.

"Highly gratified with all I witnessed in this noble institution. The proficiency of the boys reflect credit upon their teachers. Singing excellent."

WILLIAM PRATT, *City Missionary.*

11th August, 1871.

"I have questioned the boys in geography, and been much pleased with their intelligent answers. Their reading is very much improved since I heard them a year ago, and their writing also. The boys who have been here longest have very much improved in their appearance, and in the intelligent look of their faces, and they seem to take a real interest in their work.

"The general arrangements, order, and cleanliness of everything about the Home is most satisfactory."

JOHN R. BUCKLAND, *Head Master of the Hutchins School.*

29th September, 1871.

"Having visited the institution in company with the Rev. Mr. Buckland, I was much struck with the general good management, which seems well calculated to carry out the objects for which the institution was designed."

C. H. BELSTEAD.

29th September, 1871.

"I have much pleasure in testifying to the good work which is being done by this excellent institution. The marked improvement visible in the appearance and general demeanour of the boys would of itself be a sufficient certificate of efficiency for those who do not care to look closely into the details of management, and this satisfactory evidence is fully confirmed upon a closer investigation. The training in habits of industry and usefulness, combined with the exercise of a kindly home influence, I regard as by far the most valuable part of the system of the Boys' Home; and I feel that a public debt of gratitude is due to all who have been directly or indirectly concerned in the successful working of this experiment in a long-neglected field.

"Knowing how large a measure of the success which has been achieved is due to the close and friendly relations subsisting between the master and mistress and the boys entrusted to their charge, forming, as they do, one family, I may be pardoned for expressing a hope that no extension or enlargement will be permitted by the Governors which would render the continuance of such relations impracticable or inconvenient."

T. STEPHENS, *M.A., Chief Inspector of Schools.*

3rd November, 1871.

Hon. Charles Meredith, M.H.A.

"I am much pleased with all I have seen in this establishment." *2nd December, 1871.*

Mr. and Mrs. Francis White, Musselbrook, Upper Hunter, New South Wales.

"The inspection of the Boys' Home has given us much gratification.

"The institution is one which, if it receives the support it deserves, must prove a blessing to the community by rescuing numbers of lads from a life of sin and destitution. The manners and general appearance of the children (now *thirty* in the Home) denote happiness and contentment, and their school attainments reflect the greatest credit upon the master and mistress, Mr. and Mrs. Reilly." 9th January, 1872.

The Rev. Canon Alfred H. Stephen, Vice-President and late Secretary of the Randwick Asylum, Sydney.

"I have been particularly pleased with all the arrangements of this institution, which strike me as being the most complete of the kind I have ever seen. I have examined the classes in the school; and when I say that the boys reflect great credit on their instructors, I feel I am scarcely doing justice to the latter, so far above the average is the proficiency of the scholars. I should indeed be happy were I able to assert that the children in our Randwick Institution, at Sydney, were on a par with these boys in intelligence and knowledge." 9th February, 1872.

1872-73.

His Excellency Charles Du Cane, Esq.

"I have had great pleasure in re-visiting this excellent institution, and finding the inmates making such satisfactory progress." 21st January, 1873.

Commodore Stirling, H.M.S. *Clio*.

"I am much pleased with this establishment."

Hon. John Bramston, Attorney-General of Queensland.

J. Coverdale, Principal, Queen's Asylum.

"The Boys' Home is certainly a most creditable establishment, and great credit is due to the teacher, who appears to be most indefatigable in his somewhat onerous and multifarious duties." 22nd March, 1873.

Thomas Chuck, Melbourne.

"This is one of the most successfully managed institutions it has been my good fortune to inspect, and I subscribe my name with the hope that the eye of the Institute may watch over the boys after they have left, and as soon as possible induce them to take an interest in the Institute's future management." 28th March, 1873.