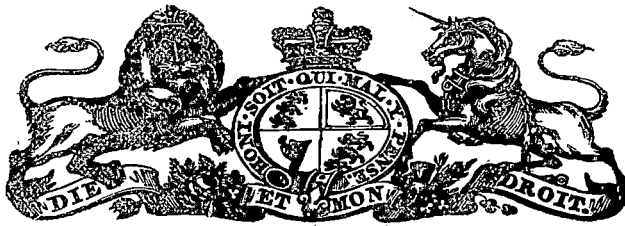


(No. 20.)



1885.

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PARLIAMENT OF TASMANIA.

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**LAUNCESTON BENEVOLENT SOCIETY :**

**REPORT FOR 1884.**

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



*REPORT of the LAUNCESTON BENEVOLENT SOCIETY for the Year 1884.*

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ANOTHER year having passed, the Committee of the Launceston Benevolent Society, in furnishing their Report for 1884, do so with very grateful feelings and thanks to the kind subscribers, and also to the Government, for having supplied the funds which have enabled them to relieve all the deserving poor seeking their assistance.

The expenditure of the Society has been very heavy during the past year, owing to several causes, one being the high price of meat, and others the extra quantity of firewood and blankets supplied during the unusually severe winter months, both of which were very gratefully received, and in all cases much needed.

The Committee have heard with regret that the Government contemplate appropriating a portion of the Female Invalid Depôt to other purposes. Should this be carried out, it will throw a very much heavier burden on the Society, inasmuch as the apartments used for the poor old women are now much too limited, the Superintendent having constantly to refuse applicants for want of room, and under these circumstances the Committee have to provide both board and lodging until there is room to admit them into the Depôt. If the present limited accommodation be further reduced, it will be the means of increasing the expenditure of the Society. This is a matter for serious consideration, and the Committee trust will not be carried out.

The Committee have again to report that the cases of single women with illegitimate children are many, and sometimes of so peculiar a character that they scarcely know how to deal with them. The Committee have to thank Mrs. George Baker for her kind assistance at these times.

During the year 46 meetings of the Committee have been held, with an average attendance of eight members.

The Committee have relieved during the past year 62 men, 101 women, and 233 children, being 81 more than the previous year.

The Committee again urge householders not to relieve those who practice a system of begging at their doors, as all really deserving cases brought before them are relieved.

E. L. DITCHAM, *Chairman.*

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LAUNCESTON BENEVOLENT SOCIETY *in account with Treasurer for 1884.*

<i>Dr.</i>	<i>£ s. d.</i>	<i>Cr.</i>	<i>£ s. d.</i>
To Meat .....	301 9 1	By Balance in V. D. L. Bank from 1883 ...	53 4 7
Bread.....	225 18 8	Government Conditional Grant .....	250 0 0
Groceries .....	162 3 6	ditto Unconditional ditto .....	250 0 0
Equitable Building Society .....	100 0 0	Matured Debenture.....	50 0 0
Secretary's salary .....	75 0 0	Interest .....	59 16 0
Blankets .....	27 1 6	Subscriptions .....	253 17 6
Midwifery.....	19 17 0	Balance due V. D. L. Bank .....	66 14 0
Firewood.....	23 17 9		
Commission .....	11 5 5		
Lodgings.....	9 16 6		
Car hire, milk, stamps, and interest.....	3 7 2		
Train fares and passages .....	10 9 6		
Printing and stationery .....	11 10 0		
Oatmeal.....	1 16 0		
	<u>£983 12 1</u>		<u>£983 12 1</u>

G. BABINGTON, *Hon. Treasurer.*