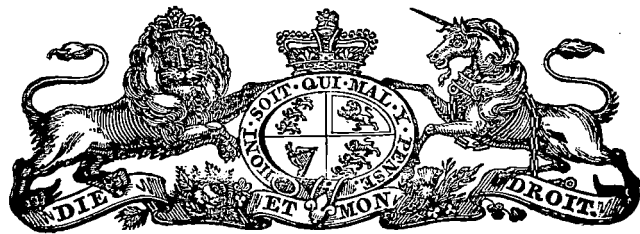


(No. 14.)



1879.

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T A S M A N I A.

LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL.

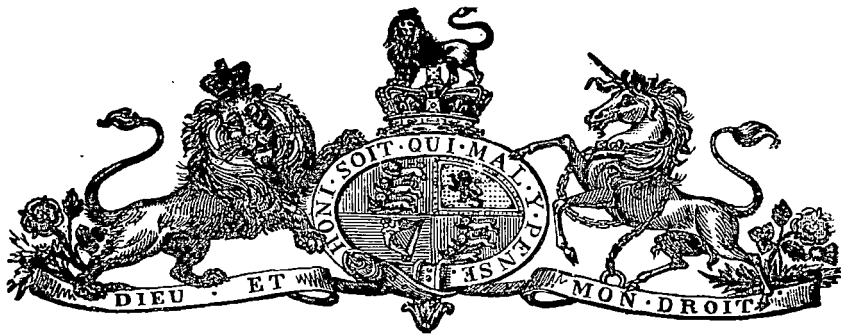
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**FEMALE INDUSTRIAL SCHOOL,  
LAUNCESTON :**

**REPORT FOR 1878.**

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Laid upon the Table by Mr. Crowther, and ordered by the Council to be printed,  
September 9, 1879.



## LAUNCESTON INDUSTRIAL SCHOOL FOR GIRLS.

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### *SECOND ANNUAL REPORT, 1879.*

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THE working of the Institution during the past year has been on the whole of a most encouraging character, and more than justified the expectations which the Committee had formed when presenting the last Annual Report. The work, commenced on a small scale, has not been marked by rapidity of growth, yet there has been steady advancement; and this fact gives, we think, greater promise of future enlargement and permanence.

There are now 13 girls in the School, and of these four have been admitted during the year. One has been placed at service.

The Matron reports that very great improvement is manifest in needlework, laundry work, and general household duties.

It is our pleasing duty to call special attention to the amount which has been earned by the girls for washing and needlework, which for the year reaches the considerable sum of £51 0s. 8d. The Matron states that the girls are to be fairly credited with the entire amount thus realised, all the work having been done by them, she exercising only a general supervision over the whole: this result is the more satisfactory when we remember that of the 13 girls two only are 14 years of age, and of the remainder some not more than 6 or 7.

The Report of the kindred institution in Hobart Town is not yet to hand, but we think that the pecuniary result of our year's work will compare very favourably with theirs.

The case of the girl already referred to as having been placed in service illustrates very forcibly the value and usefulness of the Institution. She came under our notice just at the time of being released after undergoing a term of imprisonment; had no home to go to, and was too old to allow of her being committed to the School, so it was decided that an asylum should be given her in the Institution until some suitable place could be found for her in the country. After the lapse of some months the way was opened for placing her with a very kind-hearted, respectable person, who, after the expiration of seven months, testifies that the girl is hard-working, industrious, and gives great satisfaction. She is earning weekly wages and conducting herself respectably, and so by these means she has probably been saved from a career of vice, and the chance given (of which she appears to be availing herself) of gaining an honest and industrious living.

The visitors during the year speak in terms of great commendation of the Matron's management, the scrupulous cleanliness and order prevailing in the establishment, and the healthy, cheerful appearance of the children. As the result of much closer and more frequent investigation, your Committee can fully endorse this expression of opinion, and consider that much of the success realised is due to the very efficient manner in which Mrs. Henry discharges her responsible and onerous duties.

The increase in the number of inmates will necessitate the taking of immediate steps to secure the services of some suitable person as working sub-matron for the purpose of assisting Mrs. Henry in the management.

The Governors contemplate taking the necessary course to secure, if possible, such an alteration in the Act as will ensure to them, in the case of every child committed to the School by magisterial order, the payment of the full sum of 5s. per week, leaving it as a matter entirely between the Government and the Police authorities to recover any sum or sums that the parents or guardians may be required to pay.

The Committee desire to express their obligations to Dr. Hardy for his kindness in gratuitously attending the inmates, to the ladies who attend weekly for the purpose of instructing the children, to the gentlemen who have audited the accounts, and to the general public, who, from the beginning, have manifested such a warm interest in the Institution by contributing so liberally towards its support.

Whilst your Committee have in the main written thus hopefully, they would not have it understood that there are no difficulties encountered. On the contrary, it is found in the efforts we are making to reclaim and train aright those whose early surroundings have been of so very unfavourable a character, that there is a great deal of up-hill work; and it is only with the conviction that the effort is a right one to make, and the faith in a higher than any mere human power to direct and bless such effort, that encourages them to persevere in a work which they believe will prove to be a constantly increasing benefit to the community.

*LAUNCESTON FEMALE INDUSTRIAL SCHOOL in account with the Treasurer.*

[illegible]

### BUILDING ACCOUNT.

1877.	£	s.	d.
To fixed deposits in Bank of Australasia.....	150	0	0
1879.			
April 28.—Ditto .....	100	0	0
Interest on ditto to date.....	10	15	6
	£260	15	6

(E. & O. E.) F. STANFIELD, *Treasurer.*  
April 28th, 1879.

Examined and found correct,

F. LAKIN, }  
MATT. TYSON, } *Auditors.*

JAMES BARNARD,  
GOVERNMENT PRINTER, TASMANIA.