

(No. 16.)



1876.

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TASMANIA.

LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL.

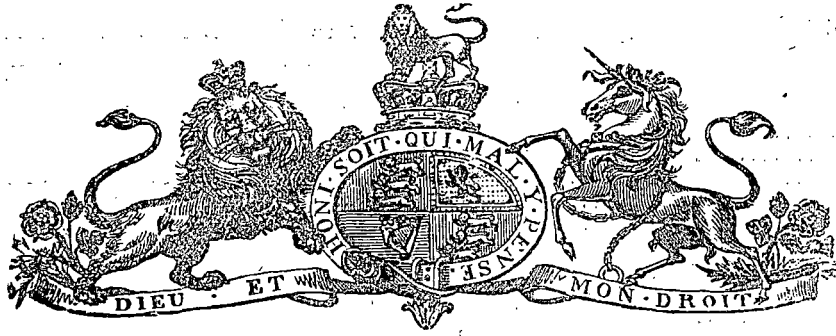
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**BENEVOLENT SOCIETY, LAUNCESTON.**

**REPORT FOR 1875.**

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Laid upon the Table by Mr. Crowther, and ordered by the Council to be printed,  
September 12, 1876.



*REPORT of the LAUNCESTON BENEVOLENT SOCIETY for the Year 1875.*

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In bringing up the report of the Launceston Benevolent Society for the year 1875, we feel it necessary to give some explanation why we have delayed the annual meeting so long. It was hoped that His Excellency could have taken the chair, but during his visit at the time of the races it was not convenient, and on his last visit he had made arrangements prior to his being asked, so that he could not in either of his visits to the Northern capital preside, but his expressed regret, together with his liberal subscription, showed it was not from any want of willingness on his part to do so.

We have during the year been enabled through the kindness and liberality of a sympathising public, together with the grants from the Government, to relieve all the deserving cases which have been brought before us, although we have not had restored to us the £250, the unconditional grant. The Government has given us during the year £80 on account of the various special cases which ought to be borne entirely by them, such as boarding-out children, and special cases of women lying in; but the returns made out up to the 31st December, 1875, and furnished, show the Government are still indebted to the Society for such cases to the amount of £142 Os. 5*d.*, which sum we look forward to receive, so as to enable us to carry on the working of the Society during the present year, without causing that anxiety to the members of committee which has so often been felt, and the question asked, where are we to get the funds to pay the debts we are incurring?

The want so long felt of good and suitable buildings for the respectable poor old women has not yet been supplied, but we trust our legislators will not overlook this want during the next session of Parliament; although we would much prefer some kind philanthropist to endow the Launceston Benevolent Society with some half-dozen or more almshouses for persons of this class, as it would show greater sympathy for them than to put such poor but respectable people into a Government building, which would prevent them attending their different places of worship, as most of the class we refer to are members of some Christian church.

Another great want is felt, and that is a place in which to put deserted and offending young children. The thought has occurred to us that this might be remedied by placing the boys in a part of the old men's depôt, and when we get the new depôt for old respectable women, to put the girls therein, and select men either from the depôt or elsewhere to teach the boys a trade, and women to teach the girls to be domestic servants. We mean these institutions should be as reformatories.

Your Society relieved during the year 1875—59 men, 116 women, and 276 children; 124 fresh applications were received, 59 of which were relieved, and 65 not entertained. 23 families have been relieved whose parent or parents are away, 3 families whose parent or parents are in prison. Nearly 100 children must have been sent to the Orphan School but for the assistance of the Society. Forty-three meetings of committee have been held during the year, with an average attendance of seven.

HENRY REED, *Chairman.*

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LAUNCESTON BENEVOLENT SOCIETY *in Account with Treasurer.*

1875.	Dr.	£	s.	d.	1875.	Cr.	£	s.	d.
To Meat .....		185	16	2	By Balance (January, 1875).....		133	0	4
Bread .....		163	12	5	Government conditional grant, from 30th				
Groceries .....		138	3	0	December, 1874, to 24th July, 1875..		250	0	0
Lodgings .....		9	17	6	Government special grant .....		80	0	0
Blankets .....		9	3	0	Contributions .....		329	4	10
Printing, Stationery, &c. ....		18	9	6					
Midwifery .....		2	10	0					
Oatmeal .....		2	0	0					
Car hire .....		1	8	6					
Milk .....		1	0	11					
Expenses of Lectures .....		1	8	3					
Stamps .....		0	17	2					
Wood .....		0	5	0					
Commission .....		5	14	9					
Salary, Secretary .....		75	0	0					
Balance in Bank of Van Diemen's Land		176	19	0					
		<u>£792</u>	<u>5</u>	<u>2</u>			<u>£792</u>	<u>5</u>	<u>2</u>

I have examined the Cash-book and Vouchers of this Society for the past Twelve Months, and compared same with this Abstract, finding all correct.

1st February, 1876.

T. GLADMAN.

By Balance .....

£176 19 9

G. BABINGTON, *Hon. Treasurer.*