

(No. 12.)



1896.

SESSION II.

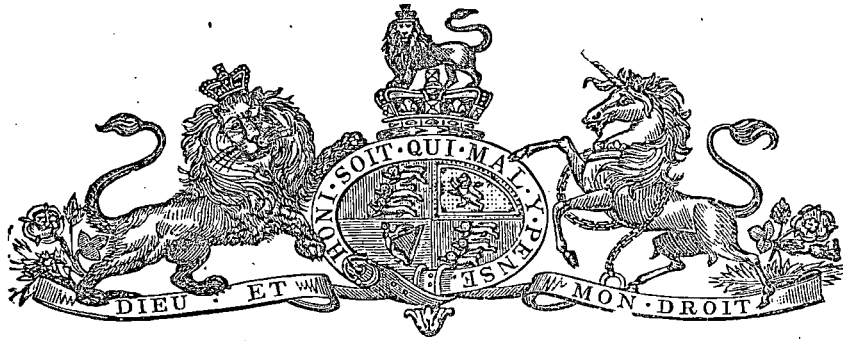
PARLIAMENT OF TASMANIA.

BOYS' TRAINING SCHOOL, CASCADES :

REPORT OF THE MANAGERS FOR THE YEAR 1895.

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

Cost of printing—£1 7s.



REPORT of the Managers of the Boys' TRAINING SCHOOL, CASCADES, for the Year 1895.

THE Managers have the honor to submit the Report for the Year 1895, furnished to them by the Superintendent.

The working of the School continues satisfactory, and the conduct of the boys fairly good.

The strictest economy has been adopted in the working of the Institution, with the result that the net cost per boy for maintenance and training has been reduced to £18 13s. 10d.

Boys have been licensed out as occasion has required and opportunity offered, and it is most satisfactory to report that the Board are in possession of most valuable testimony from employers as to the efficiency of, and the training given to, the boys at the School, and their satisfactory behaviour on discharge.

The proposed change in the control and management of the Institution is viewed with considerable alarm by the Managers, inasmuch as it is a distinct reversal of a policy which has worked successfully during the past twelve years: and the Managers fear that the vital interests of the unfortunate lads committed to their care are likely to be sacrificed in favour of an anticipated present economy, which anticipation, however, the Board feel convinced will not be realised.

The Board has already entered its solemn protest against many points contained in the proposed scheme of management, and awaits with much apprehension the result of the experiment which the Government appear determined upon trying.

JOHN MACFARLANE, *Chairman.*
J. W. SIMMONS,
THEOPHILUS CANE, } *Managers.*
S. BUCKNELL,
F. BELSTEAD,

SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT FOR 1895.

I HAVE the honor to present a Report on the working of the Boys' Training School for the year ending 31st December, 1895, being the twelfth since the Institution was opened.

During the year 13 boys have been admitted sent by Magistrates, and 1 temporarily at the request of the Administrator of Charitable Grants. Twenty-three boys have been licensed to situations, and 3 have been discharged by order of the Chief Secretary, which left in the Institution on the 31st December, 1895, 56 inmates. Upwards of 80 individual boys have been dealt with throughout the year. The daily average for 1895 is 64.

Admissions.

The boys admitted were, 8 from Hobart, 2 from Franklin, and 1 from each of the following places :— Latrobe, Scottsdale, and Campbell Town.

Ages.

2 aged 10 years, 1 aged 11, 2 aged 12, 3 aged 13, 3 aged 14, and 2 aged 15.

Periods sent.

4 for 3 years, 2 for 4 years, and 7 for 5 years. Offences for which the boys were sent :—Ten for theft, serious and otherwise ; and three for being idle and disorderly.

Discharges.

During the year 26 boys have left to situations or friends, being the largest number sent out during any one year since the Institution was opened 12 years ago. I have had reports from masters and parents of the boys, who are still, although in situations, under the charge of the Managers. The great bulk of the reports received are exceedingly gratifying. I shall give a few extracts in the exact wording received, although, for obvious reasons, shall only give the initials of the boys' names :—

- P.G.—“ Is getting on first class ; a very good boy on a farm.”
 G.P.—“ Is doing very well ; quick, and attends to his duties to my satisfaction.”
 W.W.—“ Has been behaving himself very well indeed ; I am very much pleased with him.”
 G.H.—“ A very good boy ; almost a grown man.”
 W.P.—“ Is getting on all right ; does whatever he is told.”
 R.S.—“ Conduct is good, but has a bad fault—he will not work when I am not with him.”
 W.M.—“ Is a well-conducted obedient boy ; I have no fault to find with him.”
 J.K.—“ Is getting on fairly.”
 J.B.'s parents send thanks for training their boy received.
 A.F.—“ Conduct is good ; much more obedient now.”
 L.C.—“ Very much pleased with his conduct ; no fault to find ; very willing to work.”
 T.M.—“ Getting on very well ; does his best.”
 S.D.—“ Conduct very good.”
 G.B.—“ His general behaviour has been very good.”

The above reports speak for themselves, and show that many of the boys who have recently gone out have made a good start, and are likely to prove a credit to themselves and the Institution.

Educational.

The educational condition of the boys received this year is much the same from an educational standpoint as those received on previous years. Five were quite ignorant, 6 could read and write a little, and 2 could read and write well. The Director of Education, Mr. Rule, paid his annual visit of inspection on the 8th November, and reported as follows :—

“ I examined the classes of this School on the 8th of November. There were 55 boys present, who were classified as follows :—In the upper first class, 10 ; in the second class, 27 ; in the third, 13 ; in the fourth, 5. The Teacher supplied no information as to their ages ; but, judged by the appearance of the boys, they seemed to range from 10 to 17 years.

“ The work is restricted to reading, writing, and arithmetic ; in which subjects all, without exception, justified their classification ; while 6 in the first class, 17 in the second, 5 in the third, and 3 in the fourth were found qualified for promotion. It was found that 40 of the boys had been examined in the previous year ; and that, within the limits above mentioned, the progress of 16 had been good, 12 fair, 11 moderate, and one slow.

“ The classification is low, but this is evidently due to the slender attainments of the boys on their admission to the School.”

Religious Instruction.

Divine service has been conducted regularly in the chapel each Sunday afternoon for the Church of England boys by the Rev. S. Bucknell, Vicar of All Saints, and his assistants. Mr. Bucknell has also attended at least once a week for the purpose of giving religious instruction. The Roman Catholic lads have received every attention from the Rev. Fathers Gilleran and O'Reilly. The Sisters of Charity have also regularly attended. Some of the best-behaved boys have frequently attended the regular Sabbath service at St. Joseph's Church.

Recreation.

As usual, the amusements of the lads have received due attention. They have had their picnic at Denne's Point, their annual entertainment conducted by themselves, and they also spent the greater part of a day at the Exhibition. During the winter months they played frequent football matches with various

