

1887.

PARLIAMENT OF TASMANIA.

HOSPITAL FOR THE INSANE, NEW NORFOLK:

REPORT FOR 1886.

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

(No. 8.)



HOSPITAL FOR THE INSANE, NEW NORFOLK.

ANNUAL REPORT.

To His Excellency SIR ROBERT GEORGE CROOKSHANK HAMILTON, Knight Commander of the Most Honorable Order of the Bath, Governor and Commander-in-Chief in and over the Colony of Tasmania and its Dependencies, in Council.

MAY IT PLEASE YOUR EXCELLENCY.

In accordance with the Acts of 22nd Victoria, No. 23, and the 46th Victoria, No. 35, for the regulation of the care and treatment of the Insane, we have the honor to submit the following Report for the year 1886.

We, the Official Visitors appointed under "The Insane Persons Hospital Act Amendment Act, 1885," 49 Victoria, No. 35, to the Hospitals for the Insane in Tasmania, had the honor to transmit to you in June last our "First Interim Report" on the then condition of the Hospital for the Insane, New Norfolk, embodying therein such recommendations and forwarding therewith such plans for the general improvement of that Hospital as would, if carried out, render it in every essential respect suitable as a modern institution for the custody, classification, maintenance, and treatment of the insane; at the same time strongly urging on the Government the necessity that existed for the adoption of measures calculated to remedy with as little delay as possible the many and grave defects and deficiencies then present, their existence being utterly incompatible with any scheme having for its object the conversion of the present Hospital into a modern institution.

In their "Interim Report" dated 28th June, 1886, your Official Visitors also entered minutely into detail as to the extent and character of the buildings and works required, furnishing at the same time plans in illustration of their proposals; and it is gratifying to them to find that their efforts to deal with this important public matter have met with the general approval of the Government and Parliament.

In entering on this, their Annual Report, in accordance with the Act, your Official Visitors are equally earnest in their endeavours to impress on the Government and Parliament the necessity for a vigorous prosecution of the works proposed; the result of their experience so far being the conviction that every effort at substantial improvement must prove futile until such buildings have been provided, and alterations effected, as are necessary for the classification and accommodation of the patients.

The recommendations contained in the "Interim Report" referred to—namely, that of 28th June, 1886—are briefly as follows, and may with advantage be here recapitulated; and it will be a pleasant duty to report progress from time to time as these works advance towards completion :—

1st. That the whole of the buildings condemned by Drs. Manning, Dick, and Paterson "as unfit for further use" be removed.

2nd. That Grey-street be included in the area of the Hospital grounds.

- 3rd. That a new building (No. 1 on block plan), to accommodate from 60 to 70 male patients, be erected.
- 4th. That an enclosure (as represented on plan) to include all workshops, lumber stores, woodsheds, engine-houses, &c., be provided.

- 5th. That in connection with the above, a steam laundry, with all necessary appliances, dryinghouse, yard, &c. as shown on plan, be provided.
- 6th. That a mess and day-room for male attendants be provided-see plan.
- 7th. That a new and commodious kitchen, with bakery, scullery, hot-water apparatus for baths, &c. be erected.
- 8th. That the present kitchen be converted into a provision store, &c.
- 9th. That administrative offices and Assistant Medical Officer's quarters be erected, as shown on plan.
- 10th. That the central quadrangular block be altered and improved as recommended, including alteration of airing courts, &c., and the addition of a day and mess-room-see plancapable of dining and accommodating 50 patients. 11th. That a day-room, with a small associated dormitory and an attendant's room, be added to
- the sixteen separate apartments in the back airing court.
- 12th. That the present new store be converted into workrooms for female patients.
- 13th. That a general store in a central position be erected.
- 14th. That a building now out of use be converted into a morgue and post-mortem room.
- 15th. That a new and suitable building to accommodate from 44 to 46 refractory female patients be erected—see plan.
- 16th. That the buildings now occupied by refractory female patients be retained and improved.

- 17th. That a home for idiots be erected. (This building is now in progress.) 18th. That a suitable building for Matron's quarters be erected and located, as shown on plan. 19th. That the Matron's present quarters be altered and enlarged, and transferred to the nursing staff as a home when off duty. 20th. That the buildings constituting the "female division" be put in a state of thorough
- repair.
- 21st. That additional land suitable for garden purposes, and contiguous to the Asylum, be procured.

The whole of these proposed alterations and additions will be found delineated in the Interim Report of June, 1886; and the following is an outline of their progress up to the close of that year,a period, though brief, not altogether barren of results :-

- Idiot Asylum.-A design for this building was submitted to Government by the Official Visitors in their Interim Report dated 28th June, 1886, from which plans were prepared by the Government Architect. A tender was accepted on 4th August, at £4677. The work is now in progress, and there is every prospect of its being finished within contract time.
- Asylum for two classes of refractory female patients.—The plans for this building are in a forward condition, and tenders may shortly be invited.
- New Building, Male Division .- To accommodate two classes of patients, about 70 in all. Plans in progress.

Administrative block and Assistant Medical Officer's Quarters.-Plans in progress.

Plans for other additions and improvements are also in course of preparation.

In various other directions important matters connected with the institution have engaged the attention of the Official Visitors, of which the following may be cited as an instance.

Of all the calamities that could befall an institution such as the New Norfolk Asylum, fire would be the most appalling; and recognising the possibility of such a catastrophe, and at the same time distrusting the means available to cope successfully with such an enemy, a searching investi-gation was made into the whole question. The assistance of Mr. Maher, Superintendent of Fire Brigades in Hobart, was obtained, with the sanction of the Government, when it was discovered that, owing to defective and inefficient appliances and insufficient water supply available for fireengines, no effectual means existed for the protection of the institution and its inmates in the event of a serious conflagration taking place.

The whole of the matters connected with this important question were fully and forcibly represented in detail to the Government in the Reports furnished by Mr. Maher and the Official Visitors, the result being a thorough recognition by the Government of the dangers pointed out, and an assurance that provision would be made to avert the possibility of such a calamity,—an assurance which will doubtless be speedily carried into effect.

Many other matters of importance have engaged the attention of the Official Visitors during the twelve months they have exercised the powers conferred upon them by the Act; and that the duties and functions thus imposed on them have been duly and critically performed, and the care of the patients in every respect held paramount to all other considerations will, on a careful perusal of the specimen "Monthly Report" attached, be manifest beyond doubt.

These Reports have been furnished to the Government monthly, and from their comprehensiveness, and the care bestowed on every detail bearing on the daily welfare of the patients, it must be patent that no better guarantee of the care exercised could be offered than that furnished by these Reports, compiled as they have been on the spot, after a careful investigation into the whole working of the institution.

As a further proof of the satisfactory internal working of the institution, it may be added that every patient who has recovered has, without exception, on being discharged from the Asylum, borne voluntary and grateful testimony to the invariable kindness of all officers and attendants, male and female, also to the superiority in quality and sufficiency in quantity of the dietary scale of the Asylum, also of the clothing, bedding, &c. supplied, together with expressions of satisfaction with the treatment received throughout their stay in the Hospital.

The inspections of the Official Visitors have been made chiefly without notice; but whether these were visits of surprise or otherwise, no difference in the condition of the Asylum has ever been discovered.

The management has been favourably reported on throughout the year; and no charge of misconduct or neglect on the part of any of the employees having come under the notice of the Official Visitors, they have every reason to believe that the whole of the Hospital staff, male and female, have performed their respective duties to the satisfaction of the Superintendent.

Appended is the Annual Report of the Superintendent and Medical Officer, Dr. Macfarlane, accompanied by such Returns and tabulated information as will fully elucidate the whole of the statistical and financial affairs of the Institution.

We have the honor to be,

Your Excellency's most obedient humble Servants,

THOS. C. SMART, F. W. MITCHELL, Official Visitors. GEO. INGE,

SPECIMEN MONTHLY REPORT.

STATE of Hospital for the Insane, New Norfolk, on 29th December, 1886.

- 1. Area and character of Grounds.—48 acres, including grounds, buildings, garden, grazing paddocks, and farm.
- 2. Extent, capacity, and suitability of Buildings.-Capable of accommodating 300 patients.
- 3. Ventilation, sunlight, &c.-Good generally.
- 4. Internal arrangement generally.—Clean and orderly.
- 5. Furniture and Utensils.—Suitable. Some new pictures and a work-table for the female workroom have been obtained during the month, and 6 chests of drawers have been received for the Ladies' Cottage.
- 6. Clothing and Bedding.-Sufficient, and of good quality.

7. Food, quantity, and quality.—Ample in quantity and of excellent quality.

- 8. Food, how cooked and served.-Well cooked and properly served.
- 9. Baths and Bathing.—Baths all working well. New hot-water boiler at Gentlemen's Cottage giving great satisfaction.
- 10. Closets, Lavatories, &c.-In good order, except at back-yard lavatory, where the water-taps want repairing badly.
- 11. Kitchen, Bakery, Laundry.-Clean.
- 12. Dormitories, cubic space and ventilation.—Well ventilated generally, allowing each patient an average of 700 cubic feet.
- 13. Cells.—In good order.
- 14. Water Supply.—Ample; but to make it more efficient in case of fire a four-inch pipe direct from main pipe into the building is required.
- 15. Severage and Drainage.—In good order.
- 16. Yards and Airing Grounds.-Orderly.
- 17. Number of Inmates, Male and Female.--Males, 138; Females, 144; total, 282.
- 18. Classification of Patients.-Adopted as far as possible.
- 19. How many of each capable of employment.-Males, about 65; females, about 50.
- 20. How employed generally.—Males at gardening, farming, painting, woodcutting, shoemaking, and general cleansing; females at needlework, washing, hair-picking, and domestic work.
- 21. Number under restraint during the month.—Males, 2; females, 3.
- 22. Means of restraint resorted to.-Camisole.
- 23. Number in seclusion during the month.-Males, 0; females, 6.

- 24. Special reasons for restraint and seclusion.-For safety of patients and attendants.
- 25. Recoveries during the month.-See Discharges.
- 26. Deaths during the month.-Males, 2; females, 1. Coroner duly advised.
- 27. Occupation and Amusement.--Cards, draughts, bagatelle, dominoes, walking parties, concerts, dances, cricket, regatta, &c.
- 28. Schooling or Teaching.-An attempt on a small scale is made on the female side.
- 29. Divine Service.—Performed regularly by Protestant and Roman Catholic chaplains, without apparent effect.
- 30. Complaints of Patients how treated.—There have been none.
- 31. Cost per head.-In 1885 the cost per annum on net expenditure was £28 6s. 82d.
- 32. Fees received for Maintenance of Patients during the Month.-£216 13s. 3d.
- 33. Library, Reading-rooms, &c.—The library is moderately used by the patients, and has been recently added to by gifts of many reviews and other books.
- 34. Admissions and Discharges.-Admissions, males, 2; females, 1. Discharges, nil.
- 35. Staff of Attendants, Mule and Female.-Male staff, 35; female, 23.
- 36. How designated.—Chief attendant, 2 senior attendants, carpenter, tailor, shoemaker, barber, baker, cook, gardener, 2 senior nurses, and 21 nurses.
- 37. General Management.-Satisfactory.
- 38. Condition of Patients (physical) .- In good health generally.
- 39. Examination of Books, Orders, and Certificates .--- Duly performed.
- 40. Other Matters.—Johanna Mahoney, being very violent, fell whilst being put by three nurses into seclusion and dislocated her shoulder, which was at once reduced, and has since been attended to.

Inspected, in accordance with the provisions of "The Insane Persons Hospital Act Amendment Act," 49 Vict. No. 35, and found as represented in this Report.

> THOS. C. SMART, F. W. MITCHELL, *Official Visitors.* GEO. INGE,

SUPERINTENDENT AND MEDICAL OFFICER'S REPORT.

Hospital for the Insane, New Norfolk, 1st January, 1887

Sir,

I HAVE the honor to present my Report for the year 1886.

There were 284 patients in this Institution on 31st December, 1885,—viz, 134 males and 150 females.

There have been 38 admissions during the year,-24 males and 14 females; and 3 re-admissions,-1 male and 2 females.

With regard to the re-admissions, the patients had been absent from the Asylum for periods varying from 14 days to 11 years.

The total number of patients treated was 325.

Twenty-four patients have been discharged,—viz., 13 males and 11 females. Of these 12 had recovered, 2 were discharged under Sect. 21 of 22 Vict. No. 23, and 10 were discharged to their friends' care, in accordance with Sect. 22 of 22 Vict. No. 23.

The percentage of discharges on admissions, excluding idiots and imbeciles, was 68.5.

One male patient was transferred to the Hospital for the Insane at the Cascades.

Nineteen deaths occurred during the year—viz., 7 males and 12 females, whose respective ages were--1, 81; 1, 72; 1, 70; 1, 69; 2, 66; 1, 63; 1, 59; 1, 54; 1, 53; 1, 47; 1, 40; 1, 39; 1, 32; 1, 29; 2, 24; 1, 21; 1, 16: the percentage of deaths to the number treated being 5.8.

In two cases inquests were held, one case being that of a patient who fell down stairs and died of concussion of the brain. I forwarded a report of this accident to the Hon. the Chief Secretary. The other was one of rupture of the heart.

Notice was given to the Coroner in every case of death, but he only found it necessary to hold inquests in the two instances mentioned.

A male patient sustained a fracture of the fibula, and a female patient fracture and dislocation of the húmerus, the cause in each case being accidental. Both made good recoveries.

No cases of serious injury inflicted by one patient on another have occurred. Two cases of typhoid fever have occurred; both made good recoveries.

Two male patients escaped during the year. One was brought back in a few minutes, and the other in about two hours.

The amount received from paying patients was £2449 7s. 1d. The sum contributed to this for patients in the Ladies' Cottage was £672 3s. 8d., and for patients at the Gentlemen's Cottage, £1019 4s. 6d. The Imperial Government paid £485 19s. 2d. The sale of stock and hay from the farm realised £150 7s.

The total amount received from all sources, including the sum paid by the Imperial Government, was £3085 13s. 3d.

The gross cost of the Institution was $\pounds 11,319$ 5s. 1d.; but, deducting the sum of $\pounds 3085$ 13s. 3d. from this, the net cost is $\pounds 8233$ 11s. 10d., or 1s. 74d. per diem per patient.

The dairy has yielded 42,865 pints of milk, worth, at 2d. per pint, £357 4s. 2d.

The farm and garden have been as productive as usual. The farm has supplied 509 dozen eggs, worth, at 1s. 3d. per dozen, £31 16s. 3d. It has also afforded an ample supply of bacon and ham.

A large amount of work has been performed by the patients. The men have been employed at gardening, farming, painting, tailoring, hair-picking, carpentering, wood-cutting, and in the kitchen and bakery, and the women at needlework, in the laundry, and at domestic work in connection with the wards. Whilst employment is largely conducive to mental improvement, the Asylum receives also considerable benefit from the patients' work.

All the wood has been cut on the premises by the men, and the women have made nearly all their own clothing, a large portion of male underclothing, and, in addition, all the mending has been done by them. The work done may fairly be valued at $\pounds700$ for the men and $\pounds500$ for the women.

The patients have been afforded the following amusements :--Football, cricket, lawn tennis, croquet, quoits, skittles, picnics, and walking parties; also cards, draughts, bagatelle, and dominoes. The usual dances have taken place, and concerts and theatrical performances have been given occasionally. Some of the patients have been taken to the circus.

Dr. W. P. Murphy resigned the position of Assistant Medical Officer in June, and Dr. A. W. Graham was appointed in his place.

There have not been so many changes in the staff of attendants as in former years. This, I believe, is owing to the increased pay and the additional leave of absence allowed.

A new cottage for male idiots is now in course of erection, and plans are ready for the construction of a female refractory division. When these buildings are completed greater facilities will be afforded for the treatment of patients, and their comfort will be much increased.

I take this opportunity of again thanking the various donors on behalf of this Institution for their kind gifts of books, illustrated papers, fruit, flowers, and vegetables, all of which have been much appreciated by the patients. A Christmas tree on New Year's Eve afforded the patients much pleasure, and I desire to thank the ladies who kindly contributed to it.

The usual religious services have been held regularly throughout the year. The music of the Anglican service has been improved by the purchase of an American organ.

The usual Returns are appended.

I have the honor to be,

Sir,

Your obedient Servant,

W. H. MACFARLANE, M.B., Superintendent and Medical Officer.

The Chairman of the Official Visitors, Hobart.

	Males.	Females.	TOTAL.	Males.	Females.	TOTAL.
In the Asylum 1st January, 1886 Admitted { For the first time Re-admitted	 24 1	 14 2	 38 3	134 	150 	284
Total admitted				25	16	41
Total under care during the year Discharged, recovered, &c. {Died Transferred. Recovered	 7 13 1	 12 11 	 19 24 1	159 	166 , 	325
Total discharged, died, &c. during the year				21	23	44
Remaining in the Asylum 31st December	•••		••••	138	143	281
Average number resident during the year		• ••		133.4	145.4	278.8

TABLE showing the Admissions, Discharges, and Deaths during the Year 1886.

TABLE showing the Ages of Admissions, Discharges, and Deaths during the Year 1886.

					·								
Ages.	1	1 <i>dmission</i>	ıs.	R	ECOVERI	ED.		VED, REI OTHERW		Died.			
	Males.	Females.	TOTAL.	Males.	Females.	TOTAL.	Males.	Females.	TOTAL.	Males.	Females.	TOTAL.	
From 5 to 10 years From 10 to 15 years From 15 to 20 years From 20 to 30 years From 30 to 40 years From 40 to 50 years From 50 to 60 years From 60 to 70 years From 70 to 80 years From 80 to 90 years From 90 and upwards Unknown	$ \begin{array}{c} 2 \\ 3 \\ 4 \\ 5 \\ 3 \\ \\ 1 \\ \\ \\ 1 \\ $	$ \begin{array}{c} $	$ \begin{array}{c} $	 1 1 3 1 	···· 4 1 1 1	 1 5 1 1 3 1 1	 1 3 1 	···· ··· ··· ··· ···	··· ··· 4 ··· 2 3 1 ··· 1 ···	 1 2 1 1 	··· ··· ··· ··· ··· ··· ···	$ \begin{array}{c} $	
	25	16	41	6	7	13	7	4	11	7	12	19	

RETURN of Patients who died in the Hospital for Insane, New Norfolk, and the Period of Detention, from January 1st to December 31st, 1886.

T U CD T	, Relie	eved or reco	Died.	. * . *		
Length of Residence.	Males.	Females.	TOTAL.	Males.	Females.	TOTAL.
Under 1 month From 1 to 3 months From 3 to 6 months From 6 to 9 months From 9 to 12 months From 1 to 2 years From 3 to 5 years From 5 to 7 years From 7 to 10 years From 10 to 12 years From 12 to 15 years 16 years 18 years 14 years	1 3 3 1 2 2 1 13		1 6 3 4 3 1 24	1 1 1 1 1 1 1 7	$\begin{array}{c} & \cdots & & \\ & \ddots & & \\ & 2 & & \\ & \ddots & & \\ & 2 & & \\ & 1 & & \\$	$ \begin{array}{c} 1\\\\ 2\\ 1\\\\ 2\\ 1\\ 2\\ 1\\ 1\\ 2\\ 1\\ 1\\ 1\\ 1\\ 19\end{array} $

TABLE showing the Length of Residence of those discharged, recovered, and of those who have died, during the Year 1886.

RETURN of							

Estimated gross value of Articles of Clothing, Bedding,	Males.	Females.	TOTAL.
&c. made and repaired in this Institution for the	£	$\begin{array}{c} \pounds \\ 500 \end{array}$	£
year 1886 by the patients	700		1200

RETURN showing Value of Farm and Garden Produce sold and supplied to the Hospital for the Year 1886.

	Pigs.	£ s. d.	
105	Pigs	$111 \ 4 \ 9$	•
4	Cows and Heifers	$15 \ 14 \ 6$	
6	Tons Hay (sold)	$23 \ 7 \ 9$	
32	Tons Hay	$154 \ 0 \ 0$	
76,000	Pounds English Grass	68 0.0	
50,000	Pounds Green Barley	$40 \ 0 \ 0$	
	Vegetables	$154 \ 1 \ 10$	
2755	Pounds Fruit	$21 \ 6 \ 3$	
509	Dozen Eggs	$31 \ 16 \ 3$	
42,865	Pints Milk	357 4 2	
6	Pigs killed, valued at	30 0 0	
	-		
		$1006 \ 15 \ 6$	
	•		

RETURN of Live Stock in the Hospital for the Insane, New Norfolk, for the Year 1886.

	Horses.	Bulls.	Cows.	Pigs.	Calves.
On hand 1st January Since received	3	$\frac{1}{\cdots}$	9 1	$\begin{array}{c} 46\\98\end{array}$	1
TOTAL	3	1	10	144	·
Sold Killed Died	•••	 	3	$\begin{array}{c}105\\6\\4\end{array}$	1
Remaining 31st December	3	1	7	29	1

	c	mitted cluding udmiss	7	Bo	covere		Disch	arge		Unii		wed		Died.		Remaining 31st December in each year.			Average Numbers resident.			Re	ntage of covered dmission	on Cases	Percentage of Cases recovered on Average Numbers resident.			Percentage of Deaths on Average Numbers resident.		
		·							<u> </u>	<u> </u>				·	1					__			·							
	Males.	Femules.	Toral.	Males.	Females.	TOTAL.	Males.	Females.	Тотаг.	Males.	Females.	TOTAL.	Males.	Females.	TOTAL.	Males.	Females.	TOTAL.	Males.	Females.	Тотаг.	Males.	Females.	TOTAL.	Males.	Females.	TOTAL.	Males.	Females.	TOTAL.
1877	34	11	45	11	4	15	1	3	4				14	11	25	137	124	261	136.2	125.2	261·4	35.2	63·6	42·2	8.8	5·5	7.2	10.2	8.7	9 ·5
1878	19	14	33	5	4	9	2	6	8				16	7	23	135	120	255	140.4	122.3	262·7	36 ·8	71.4	51·5	4 ·9	8·1	6·4	11.3	5.7	8.7
1879	30	23	53	10	6	16	1		1		1	1	15	4	19	139	132	271	138 ·7	125.9	264·6	36.6	26.04	32.07	7·9	4.7	6.4	10.8	3.1	7.1
1880	20	16	36	7	5	12		4	4		1	1	12	7	19	139	131	270	138·3	133-8	272·1	35 •	56 ·2	44 4	5.06	6.7	5.8	8·6	5.2	6.9
1881	28	20	48	4	1	5	1.	1	2				17	5	22	145	144	289	141.5	137.4	278-9	1 7 ·8	10.	14.5	3.5	1.4	2.5	12.1	3.6	7 ·8
1882	32	20	52	9	11	20]	21	6	27	147	147	294	142.3	143.07	285·37	28.1	55·	38.4	6.3	7 •6	7·3	14 ·7	4·1	9·4
1883	31	16	47	7	8	15	3	2	5				20	7	27	145	144	289	149.3	142.4	291·7	22.6	50·	31.9	4.6	5.6	5.1	13.4	4·9	9.2
1884	30	34	64	11	4	15	6	6	12		1	1	14	9	23	144	158	302	148.6	148.3	296.9	3 6 ·6	11· 7	23.4	7.4	2.7	5.05	9·4	6·07	7.7
1885	34	24	58	12	6	18	6	8	14		3	3	10	15	25	134	150	284	128.6	149.7	278·3	35.3	25	31.03	9.3	4·008	6·4	7.7	10.02	8.9
1886	25	16	41	7	6	13	6	4	10	1		1	7	12	19	138	143	281	133.4	145.4	278.8	28	37.5	31.7	5.2	4.1	4 ·6	5.1	8·2	6.8

IABLE showing the Admissions, Discharges, and Deaths, with the Mean Annual Mortality, and Propos	ortion of Recoveries, &c. per cent. on the Admissions, &c., for
the Years 1877 to 1886.	

W. H. MACFARLANE, M.B., Superintendent and Medical Officer.

WILLIAM THOMAS STRUTT, GOVERNMENT PRINTER, TASMANIA.

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