

(No. 18.)



1880.

T A S M A N I A.

LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL.

ST. JOSEPH'S ORPHANAGE, HOBART TOWN :

REPORT FOR 1879.

Laid upon the Table by Mr. Moore, and ordered by the Council to be printed,
August 10, 1880.



ST. JOSEPH'S INDUSTRIAL SCHOOL AND ORPHANAGE FOR FEMALES.

Harrington-street, 31st May, 1880.

SIR,

WE have the honor to forward to you a Report of St. Joseph's Industrial School and Orphanage from the date of its opening, May 3rd, 1879, to December 31st, 1879.

The school was opened May 3rd, 1879. On that day two children were admitted, who were sent by their parents. On the 19th May eighteen children, and on the 27th May two children, were admitted from the Queen's Asylum, New Town, by order of the Hon. the Colonial Secretary. During the last six months of 1879 four children were admitted by order of the Police Magistrate, one of whom was, soon after admission, claimed by her father, and given up to him by order of the Governor in Council.

The children in the Orphanage at present are to remain for periods varying from one to seven years, according to their respective ages. There are twenty-nine girls in the Institution at present, of whom twenty-three are paid for by Government, three by their relatives, and three for whom fees are not received.

The elder girls are employed during the day in household work, cooking, and in the laundry; and in the evening they receive secular and religious instruction. The younger children have some household work suited to their capacity allotted to them, and attend school during the usual hours. All learn needlework.

All the children are giving satisfaction to those who have charge of them. They have ample play-ground, and are strong and healthy. We trust they will become respectable members of society, well fitted for the position they are intended to fill,—that of trustworthy domestics.

The sum paid by Government for each child is five shillings per week. The total amount received from May 3rd, 1879, to December 31st, 1879, was £169 6s. 4d. When leaving the Queen's Asylum the Government supplied the children with bedding, crockery, and other necessary furniture, which was a great help to the Institution. Six of the Sisters of Charity devote their entire time and attention to the care and instruction of the inmates, and the children appreciate the kindness bestowed upon them.

The Industrial School and Orphanage is large and commodious. The site cost £1200. The building of house, laundry, and drying sheds cost £2023. Total, £3223. Of this large sum the Sisters of Charity have paid off £2088, leaving a debt on the Institution of £1135. The funds by which the Sisters have been enabled to purchase the site of the Orphanage and pay (to a great extent) the contractor for the erection of the building have been procured by means of a Bazaar and by the contributions of kind friends who take an interest in the poor children. We hope the debt yet hanging over the Orphanage will not long remain unpaid, as it is a cause that excites the sympathy of all classes.

We have the honor to remain,

Sir,

Your obedient Servants,

CHAS. WOODS,
ELIZA WILLIAMS,
CATHERINE O'FARRELL.

} *Governors of St. Joseph's
Industrial School and
Orphanage.*

The Hon. the Colonial Secretary.