

(No. 13.)



1873.

T A S M A N I A.

LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL.

BENEVOLENT SOCIETY, LAUNCESTON.

REPORT FOR 1872.

Laid upon the Table by Mr. Scott, and ordered by the Council to be printed,
June 17, 1873.



REPORT of the LAUNCESTON BENEVOLENT SOCIETY for the Year 1872.

THE Committee of this Society, in bringing up their Report for the year ending the 31st December, 1872, do so with much pleasure, as the means placed at their disposal have met the expenditure, and that no really deserving case has been refused for want of funds. And considering that the number that has been relieved during the year has amounted to 600 souls, with a sum amounting to only £696 9s. 7d., or not more than £1 3s. 5d. per head, we think the public cannot but approve of the economical manner in which the Committee have expended the moneys placed at their disposal.

Much vigilance requires to be exercised so as to prevent imposition. It will be seen by the report that, out of 249 fresh applications during the year, only 101 were entertained: the remaining 148 cases, upon investigation, proved to be not worthy of relief. The above statement will, we think, clearly show much vigilance has been exercised; and this is greatly owing to the fact that Mr. Tevelein, the Secretary of the Benevolent Society, has been so long connected with it that there is scarcely a person in the town that applies for relief but he is acquainted with, and knows mostly all the circumstances connected with the reason of their poverty: such being the case, this Society is less liable to imposition than private persons are.

We would again caution the charitable public from relieving beggars at their doors, as in nearly every instance such are impostors. Should any case come under notice which may seem to be a genuine one, and if it should be referred to Mr. Tevelein, the Secretary, the public may depend upon such case being thoroughly investigated by him, as also the Committee, as every case so reported is brought before us every Wednesday (the day on which the Committee meet), and the applicant ordered to be relieved if a worthy object of charity. Of course we shall require continued support to enable us to relieve all deserving cases that may come before us.

We would take this opportunity to state that we have not sent any children to the Orphan School for several years. Your Committee arrange to place such children with their friends or with recipients of the Society, by giving such persons rations; and by this means the Government effect a very great saving.

We regret to say during the year Mr. J. J. Hudson, who acted so many years as Chairman of this Society, has resigned: his loss has been much felt. Our present Chairman would gladly resign so as to see Mr. Hudson again in the chair. There have been several changes in the Committee,—one or two having resigned, and others added. We have a fair attendance at our weekly meetings to conduct the business.

The following are the numbers relieved during the year:—94 men, 129 women, and 377 children; 249 fresh applications, 148 of which were not entertained, 101 only relieved; 21 families relieved whose parent or parents are away; 11 families relieved whose parent or parents are or were in prison.

Signed on behalf of the Committee,

E. L. DITCHAM, *Chairman.*

LAUNCESTON BENEVOLENT SOCIETY in Account with G. BABINGTON, Treasurer.

Dr.	£ s. d.	Cr.	£ s. d.
Balance from 1871	59 0 7	Government conditional grant due for 1871 ..	26 4 6
Mr. Sutton, for bread	182 11 10	Parliamentary grant in aid.....	250 0 0
Messrs. Smith and Hutchinson, for meat	184 11 11	conditional grant	139 9 6
Mr. Hubbard, for groceries.....	156 13 3	special grant	100 0 0
Mr. Tevelein, salary	68 15 0	aid to special recipients.....	13 9 0
Coach and cab-hire	2 4 0	Private subscriptions, donations, &c., as per	
Lodging and out-patients.....	19 11 6	accompanying list.....	208 0 6
Rent	2 15 6		
Blankets	1 13 4		
Stationery, printing, and bookbinding	11 12 0		
Firewood.....	0 15 0		
Stamps.....	0 9 2		
Mr. Capon, commission	5 16 6		
Balance in Bank as per Pass-book.....	40 13 11		
	£737 3 6		£737 3 6

G. BABINGTON.

31st December, 1872.

Having examined the Cash-book of this Society, of which the above is an abstract, and compared the payments with the vouchers, the receipts with the amounts paid in, as per Bank Pass-book, I find it correct,—the balance to credit of the Society at Bank of V. D. Land on 31st December, 1872, being £40 13s. 11d.

T. GLADMAN, Auditor.

7th January, 1873.