

(No. 21.)



1864.

TASMANIA.

LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL.

GENERAL HOSPITAL, HOBART TOWN.

REPORT, 1863.

Laid on the Table by Mr. Whyte, and ordered by the Council to be printed,
June 29, 1864.



General Hospital, 14th April, 1864.

SIR,

I HAVE the honor to forward to you the enclosed Annual Report, adopted at a Meeting of the Board of Management held on the 6th instant.

I have the honor to be,
Sir,

Your most obedient Servant,

GEORGE TURNLEY, *Secretary.*

The Hon. the Colonial Secretary.

HOSPITAL REPORT, 1863.

THE Board of Management of the General Hospital have the honor to lay before the Government their Report for the year ending 31st December, 1863.

During the past year the number of cases treated in the Hospital has been nearly equal to that in 1862, whilst the number of Out-patients who have received medical advice and medicine has increased from 3188 to 4234; and, in addition to these, 2060 children were vaccinated at the Dispensary,—making a total of 7585 persons who have received the benefits of the Institution. Notwithstanding this increase upon the number of cases treated during the previous year, the Board have much satisfaction in stating that the expenditure is very little greater than in 1862.

In the Report of the Finance Committee, this expenditure is classed under the following heads:—

	£	s.	d.
Salaries.....	2066	10	5
Provisions.....	2433	2	6
Medical Comforts.....	505	0	8
Medicines.....	300	0	0
Fuel and Lighting.....	517	6	5
Clothing, Bedding, &c.....	263	5	1
Rent and Repairs to Buildings.....	116	1	7
Incidental Expenses.....	275	5	2
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	£6476	11	10
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The number of diets issued during the year,—to Patients 67,610, to Attendants 9087; making a total of 76,697.

The daily average number of Patients treated was 185, and the cost of each was exactly the same as in the previous year; viz., a fraction under one shilling and eleven pence.

The sum of £236 4s. 1d. was received from self-paying Patients, reducing the nett expenditure for the year to £6240 7s. 9d.

In 1862 the number of self-paying Patients was 96, whilst in 1863 they increased to 148.

The Board have much satisfaction in recording this increase, as tending to show that the Hospital continues to enjoy the unabated confidence of the public.

The original estimate for 1863 was £6951,—the actual expenditure being considerably below that sum.

The amount voted by Parliament in 1861 having been found insufficient to complete the whole of the additions and alterations recommended by the Board as being necessary to the efficiency of the Establishment, a further sum of £800 was voted during the last Session; and the necessary steps are now being taken for the completion of these improvements.

In the course, therefore, of three or four months, the Hospital, in all that pertains to the comfort of the Patients, and the efficient carrying out of Medical treatment, will bear favorable comparison with any of those in the adjacent Colonies.

The Board would beg to bring under the notice of the Government the evils which attend the admission of Insane Persons into the Hospital.

At present, persons presumed to be of unsound mind are forwarded to the Hospital for observation, where they usually remain for some time.

The admission of these Patients interferes most essentially with the economy of the Establishment, and, if they be placed in the general wards, tends to the discomfort of the other Patients. In most cases of insanity which admit of improvement the immediate commencement of proper treatment is of paramount importance, and to carry out this treatment especial appliances and conveniences are requisite. In these the Hospital is deficient. The separate apartments are but gloomy cells, where the condition of the Patient is more likely to be made worse than to be improved. Occasionally the Patients are violent, and require two or three of the attendants to be almost constantly with them; the consequence being that their wards are in some measure neglected. Cases of this kind are never admitted into English Hospitals.

The Board, therefore, trust that the Government will adopt some measure by which this evil may be remedied.

In conclusion, the Board have much satisfaction in recording their appreciation of the manner in which the Resident Surgeon and Officers of the Establishment have performed their duties during the past year.

A. KENNERLEY, *Chairman*.
 THOS. MACDOWELL.
 STEPHEN SHEEHY.
 JNO. REGAN.
 D. LEWIS.
 CRAWFD. M. MAXWELL.
 A. KISSOCK.
 GEO. SALIER.
 R. OFFICER.

During the past year there were admitted into Hospital 1116 Patients, of whom 816 were males, and 300 females. Of the latter, 274 were Patients, and 26 were Invalids.

There were remaining under treatment at the date of the last Annual Report 175; so that the total number treated during the year ending 31st December, 1863, was 1291. Of these 969 were discharged, 145 died, and 177 remained under treatment.

During the past year 6 persons died on the day of admission, 11 on the day after, 2 on the second day, 9 on the third, 6 on the fourth, 4 on the fifth, and 6 on the sixth.

Of the Patients admitted, there were 148 self-supporting, and 101 paid from Imperial funds; and 867 were Colonial Paupers.

Of the 177 who remained under treatment at the close of the year, there were 6 self-supporting, 6 supported by Convict funds, and 165 were Colonial Paupers.

GEORGE TURNLEY.

RETURN showing the Diseases treated in the General Hospital during the Year 1863.

CLASSES OF DISEASE.	NUMBER OF CASES TREATED IN			DIED.
	HOSPITAL.	OUT PATIENTS.	TOTAL.	
Diseases of the { Stomach and Bowels	52	565	617	9
{ Lungs	159	909	1068	39
{ Eyes	41	128	169	—
{ Brain and Nervous System.....	131	99	230	16
{ Skin.....	18	224	242	—
{ Liver	31	23	54	12
Abscesses and Ulcers	124	342	466	9
Rheumatic Affections.....	166	398	564	2
Wounds and Injuries.....	148	484	632	7
Veneral Affections.....	81	7	88	1
Fevers ..	11	22	33	5
Dropsies	6	760	766	2
Other Diseases	323	273	596	43
TOTALS	1291	4234	5525	145

GEORGE TURNLEY, *Resident Medical Officer.*