

(No. 3.)



1869.

T A S M A N I A.

LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL.

GENERAL HOSPITAL, LAUNCESTON.

REPORT FOR 1868.

Laid upon the Table by Mr. Wilson, and ordered by the Council to be printed,
August 24, 1869.



LAUNCESTON GENERAL HOSPITAL.

ANNUAL REPORT for 1868.

THE Board of Management of the Launceston General Hospital have the honor to lay before the Government their Report for the year 1868.

During the past year a most salutary measure has been effected in the removal of a number of chronic incurable cases from the Male Wards to the Invalid Depôt lately established in Patterson-street.

More ample accommodation has thus been afforded for Patients suffering from active disease.

Many Invalids, however, are still retained in the Division appropriated to Females,—occupying the space that should be reserved for the sick.

The Board would therefore direct the attention of the Government to the desirability of removing these Invalids to a more suitable Asylum.

In former years the number of applicants for relief at the Dispensary had been gradually increasing,—many of them being persons whose circumstances did not entitle them to the benefit of the charity.

In 1868 the number was diminished,—the diminution being referable to the system introduced some months since, of forwarding a list of all doubtful cases to the Police for enquiry.

The average daily cost for In-patients was somewhat higher than in 1867.

This increase is accounted for by the removal of the Male Invalids, and the consequent reduction of the daily average number of the Inmates of the Institution.

In November last the Honorable the Colonial Secretary received a communication from the Secretary of the Royal College of Surgeons of England, intimating that the Council of the College had been pleased to recognise the Launceston Hospital.

This recognition will prove of great advantage to Pupils who are now studying, or may hereafter commence their studies at the Hospital, in reducing by twelve months the period otherwise necessary for the completion of their studies in England.

A most serious defect in this, as in most other Colonial Hospitals, is the inefficiency of the nursing.

Although the best persons procurable are selected for the purpose, they form but poor substitutes for those who have been specially educated for the office.

A request from the Hospital Board of Management in Hobart Town for the introduction of trained Nurses from England having received the favourable consideration of the Government, the Managers of the Launceston Hospital would respectfully suggest that a certain number of these Nurses should also be procured for the Institution under their charge.

The Board desire to record their appreciation of the kindness of Messieurs Birchall, Flexman, and others, who have presented Engravings, Books, &c., to the Hospital.

The Engravings have been framed, and placed in the Wards, to which they impart an air of cheerfulness; whilst the Patients pass many an hour in reading which would otherwise have been occupied in dwelling upon their ailments.

In conclusion, the Board desire to express their approbation of the Surgeon-Superintendent, Dr. Turnley's, management of the Institution, and of his skill and care in the treatment of the sick.

ISAAC SHERWIN, *Chairman*.
JOHN MURPHY.
W. S. BUTTON.
JOHN SALE.
JAMES ROBERTSON.
H. DOWLING.

EXPENDITURE on account of the Launceston General Hospital for 1868.

	£	s.	d.
Salaries	823	2	0
Provisions and medical comforts.....	1056	9	0
Clothing, bedding, and stores	150	0	0
Fuel and light	318	4	0
Stationery and advertising.....	3	4	0
Water	30	0	0
Medicines, &c.	207	0	7
Funerals	143	0	0
Rent and Taxes	85	4	0
Incidental Expenses	3	19	6

	Cr.	£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.
Cash received from Paying Patients	141	2	10	£2820	3	1	
Medicines for Out-Patients and Dépôt.....	110	0	0				
				251	2	10	
				£2569	3	1	

No. of Diets issued to Patients, 27,292.
No. of Diets issued to Attendants, 4492.
Daily cost of each Patient, 1s. 10½d., or about.
Yearly cost at above rate, £34 5s.

GEORGE TURNLEY, *Surgeon-Superintendent*.

REPORT of the Surgeon-Superintendent of the Launceston General Hospital for the Year 1868.

In the year 1868 there were admitted into Hospital 464 Patients, of whom 377 were males, and 87 females.

At the close of 1867 there remained in the Hospital 85 Patients: the total number treated during the year was therefore 549: of these 408 were discharged cured or relieved, 66 died, and 75 remained under treatment.

Of the total number of deaths, 25 took place during the first week after admission into Hospital; viz.—6 on the first day, 2 on the second, 4 on the third, 2 on the fourth, 2 on the fifth, 4 on the sixth, and 5 on the seventh.

The ages of those who died were as follows:—

Under 20 years	2
From 20 to 30	8
30 to 40	8
40 to 50	10
50 to 60	14
60 to 70	15
70 to 80	7
80 to 90	2
TOTAL	66

Of the Patients admitted, 55 were Self-supporting, 22 were wholly or in part charged to Imperial Funds, and 472 were Colonial Paupers.

The sum of £141 2s. 10d. was received from Paying Patients during the year.

The more important operations performed during the year were 11 in number; viz.—

Amputation of thigh.....	2	Lithotrity.....	1
Excision of knee-joint.....	1	Removal of malignant growths..	5
Strangulated femoral hernia ..	1	Enucleation of eye-ball.....	1

One of these cases proved fatal,—that of an old man whose thigh was amputated for extensive gangrene of the foot and leg, occurring after injury, and who was in a very weak condition when admitted.

The cases treated during 1868 were :—

	<i>In-door Cases.</i>	<i>Out-door Cases.</i>	<i>Total.</i>
Diseases of the respiratory organs.....	73	315	388
brain and nervous system.....	33	54	87
heart and blood-vessels.....	25	4	29
eyes.....	9	27	36
skin.....	7	79	86
bones and joints.....	20	7	27
digestive system.....	36	148	184
urinary organs.....	9	10	19
genitals.....	8	28	36
Fevers.....	12	3	15
Rheumatic affections.....	61	49	110
Venereal affections.....	28	41	69
Abscesses and ulcers.....	40	69	109
Wounds and injuries.....	81	64	145
Malignant diseases.....	15	—	15
All other diseases.....	92	27	119
	549	925	1474

The diseases and injuries which proved fatal were :—

Phthisis.....	8
Apoplexy.....	3
Burns.....	2
Pyæmia.....	3
Pneumonia.....	9
Cancer.....	5
Fracture of skull.....	1
Debilitas and senilis.....	7
Paralysis.....	1
Typhoid fever.....	3
Gangrene.....	1
Diabetes.....	1
Heart disease.....	15
Disease of kidney.....	2
Delirium tremens.....	1
Disease of liver.....	2
Chronic bronchitis.....	1
Contusions.....	1
TOTAL.....	66

GEORGE TURNLEY, *Surgeon-Superintendent.*