

1880.

VICTORIA.

R E P O R T

OF THE

INSPECTOR OF LUNATIC ASYLUMS

ON

THE HOSPITALS FOR THE INSANEFOR THE YEAR ENDING 31ST DECEMBER

1879.

PRESENTED TO BOTH HOUSES OF PARLIAMENT PURSUANT TO ACT 31 VICT. No. 309, SECTION 56.

By Authority:

JOHN FERRES, GOVERNMENT PRINTER, MELBOURNE.

DEPARTMENT OF HOSPITALS FOR THE INSANE,
Melbourne, 3rd May 1880.

No. 276.

SIR,

In accordance with the provisions of the 56th section of the Lunacy Statute, No. 309, I have the honor to transmit for your information the accompanying Report on the state and condition of the Lunatic Asylums, Licensed House, and Lunacy Wards in the Colony of Victoria for the year ended on the 31st December 1879.

I have, &c.,

E. PALEY,

Inspector of Lunatic Asylums.

The Honorable the Chief Secretary.

R E P O R T.

From the first of the following tables giving the number of patients, male and female, and their distribution on the 31st December 1879, it is shown that there are 3,002 in the public asylums, 22 in the licensed house for the insane at Cremorne, and 2 in the lunacy wards attached to public hospitals; the total number of registered lunatics in the colony being 3,026. The number at the beginning of the year was 2,866 in the public asylums, 19 in the licensed house, and 1 in the Castlemaine lunacy ward. The following are the increases for the year, viz.:—In public asylums, 136; in the licensed house, 3; and in the lunacy wards, 1; a total of 140.

TABLE I.—Showing Distribution on 31st December 1879.

							Males.	Females.	Total.
In the public lunatic asylums at—									
Yarra Bend	...	...	...	...	...	503	313	816
Kew	...	...	...	...	...	434	451	885
Ararat	...	...	...	...	...	219	174	393
Beechworth	...	...	...	...	...	269	198	467
Ballarat and Sunbury	...	...	...	...	...	187	20	207
Out on probation from—									
Yarra Bend	...	...	...	...	...	36	36	72
Kew	...	...	...	...	...	59	80	139
Ararat	...	...	...	...	...	8	10	18
Beechworth	...	...	...	...	...	2	1	3
Sunbury	...	...	...	...	...	2	...	2
Total number of registered lunatics in public asylums							1,719	1,283	3,002
In Cremorne Licensed House							11	11	22
In Lunacy Ward, Castlemaine							1	...	1
„	„	Bendigo	...	...	...	1	...	1
„	„	Geelong	...	...	...	...	...	...
Total number of registered lunatics in the colony							1,732	1,294	3,026

TABLE II.—Showing the Admissions, Re-admissions, Discharges, and Deaths during the Year 1879 in Public Lunatic Asylums.

							Males.	Females.	Total.
In the asylums on 1st January 1879							1,643	1,223	2,866
							Males.	Females.	Total.
Admitted	...	{	For the first time	...	...	348	201	549	
				Re-admitted	...	...	23	13	36
Transferred during the year							75	62	137
Retaken							18	4	22
Total admitted							464	280	744
Total under care during the year							2,107	1,503	3,610
Discharged, removed, &c. :—							Males.	Females.	Total.
Recovered							123	81	204
Improved							7	9	16
Not improved							1	...	1
Transferred							72	60	132
Escaped							24	6	30
Died							161	64	225
Total discharged, died, &c., during the year							388	220	608
Remaining in the asylums on the 31st December 1879 (inclusive of absent on trial, males and females)							1,719	1,283	3,002
Average numbers resident during the year							1,590	1,130	2,721

TABLE III.—Showing the Admissions, Discharges, and Deaths, with the Mean Annual Mortality, and Proportion of Recoveries, &c., per Cent. on the Admissions, for the Years 1868 to 1879, in Public Lunatic Asylums.

Year.	Admitted.			Discharged.									Died.			Remaining on the 31st December in each Year.			Average Numbers Resident.			Percentage of Cases Recovered and Relieved on Admissions.			Percentage of Deaths on the Average Numbers Resident.		
	Males.	Females.	Total.	Recovered.			Relieved.			Transferred.			Males.	Females.	Total.	Males.	Females.	Total.	Males.	Females.	Total.	Males.	Females.	Total.	Males.	Females.	Total.
				Males.	Females.	Total.	Males.	Females.	Total.	Males.	Females.	Total.															
1868	313	194	507	101	68	169	19	21	40	157	171	328	78	20	98	920	636	1556	868	572	1441	38'33	45'87	41'22	8'98	3'49	6'80
1869	310	225	535	121	104	225	12	17	29	21	15	36	94	34	128	999	706	1705	956	669	1626	42'90	53'77	47'47	9'83	5'08	7'87
1870	347	219	566	119	109	228	26	22	48	55	41	90	96	39	135	1094	755	1849	1025	720	1745	41'78	59'81	48'76	9'36	5'41	7'73
1871	333	213	546	115	76	191	16	17	33	33	1	34	101	31	132	1192	845	2037	1124	778	1902	39'33	43'66	41'02	8'98	3'98	6'94
1872	357	214	571	116	67	183	9	11	20	132	70	202	108	33	141	1314	949	2263	1260	845	2107	35'01	36'44	35'55	8'57	3'90	6'69
1873	360	225	585	149	135	284	18	22	40	175	205	380	128	40	168	1370	976	2346	1339	916	2255	46'38	69'77	55'37	9'55	4'36	7'45
1874	326	226	552	125	100	225	26	37	63	7	8	15	114	54	168	1427	1011	2438	1339	928	2270	46'31	60'62	52'17	8'50	5'81	7'40
1875	349	228	577	152	131	283	10	5	15	63	8	71	121	51	172	1487	1050	2537	1399	976	2377	46'42	59'65	51'64	8'06	5'22	7'23
1876	350	237	587	166	115	281	17	20	37	76	68	144	135	50	185	1513	1100	2613	1463	1006	2471	52'28	56'96	54'17	9'22	4'97	7'48
1877	345	225	570	142	116	258	2	1	3	35	37	72	134	63	197	1573	1146	2719	1484	1056	2541	41'74	52'00	45'79	9'03	5'96	7'75
1878	318	242	560	122	91	213	5	9	14	181	95	276	114	63	177	1643	1223	2866	1537	1108	2645	39'93	41'32	40'53	7'41	5'68	6'69
1879	371	214	585	123	81	204	7	9	16	72	60	132	161	64	225	1719	1283	3002	1590	1130	2721	35'04	42'05	37'61	10'13	5'66	8'27

TABLE IV.—Showing the Causes of Death in Public Lunatic Asylums during the Year 1879.

Cause of Death.	Males.	Females.	Total.
Cerebral or spinal diseases :—			
Apoplexy and paralysis	16	3	19
Epilepsy and convulsions	2	2	4
General paresis	5	3	8
Maniacal and melancholic exhaustion or decay	1	3	4
Inflammation and other diseases of the brain, softening, tumors, &c.	72	23	95
Thoracic diseases :—			
Inflammation of the lungs, pleuræ, and bronchi	14	3	17
Pulmonary consumption	9	11	20
Disease of the heart	17	3	20
Gangrene of the lungs	2	3	5
Abdominal diseases :—			
Inflammation and ulceration of the stomach, intestines, or peritoneum	5	...	5
Dysentery and diarrhœa	6	...	6
Bright's disease and diseases of urinary organs	3	...	3
Liver disease	...	1	1
Dropsy	...	1	1
Erysipelas	...	1	1
Cancer	1	2	3
Anæmia	1	...	1
General debility and old age	4	2	6
Accidents	...	1	1
Suicide	1	...	1
Died while on leave of absence	2	2	4
Total	161	64	225

TABLE V.—Showing the Length of Residence of those Discharged Recovered, and of those who have Died in the Public Lunatic Asylums, during the Year 1879.

Length of Residence.	Recovered.			Died.		
	Males.	Females.	Total.	Males.	Females.	Total.
Under 1 month ...	12	3	15	18	8	26
From 1 to 3 months ...	28	14	42	13	4	17
" 3 " 6 " ...	28	15	43	14	4	18
" 6 " 9 " ...	16	12	28	9	2	11
" 9 " 12 " ...	6	8	14	15	7	22
" 1 " 2 years ...	22	21	43	35	10	45
" 2 " 3 " ...	5	4	9	13	5	18
" 3 " 5 " ...	1	2	3	10	6	16
" 5 " 7 " ...	2	1	3	11	6	17
" 7 " 10 " ...	2	...	2	9	5	14
" 10 " 12 " ...	1	...	1	8	5	13
" 12 " 15 " ...	...	1	1	2	...	2
Over 15 years ...	...	...	...	4	2	6
Total ...	123	81	204	161	64	225

TABLE VI.—Showing the Ages of Admissions, Discharges, and Deaths during the Year 1879 in the Public Lunatic Asylums.

Ages.	[Admissions.			Discharges.						Deaths.		
	Males.	Females.	Total.	Recovered.			Removed, Relieved or otherwise.			Males.	Females.	Total.
				Males.	Females.	Total.	Males.	Females.	Total.			
From 5 to 10 years ...	5	2	7	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
" 10 " 15 " ...	6	3	9	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	1
" 15 " 20 " ...	25	16	41	4	7	11	1	1	2	6	5	11
" 20 " 30 " ...	66	53	119	20	22	42	20	11	31	9	7	16
" 30 " 40 " ...	101	68	169	36	22	58	29	22	51	23	5	28
" 40 " 50 " ...	101	65	166	27	15	42	24	12	36	44	19	63
" 50 " 60 " ...	76	24	100	16	7	23	13	13	26	31	6	37
" 60 " 70 " ...	27	14	41	4	2	6	7	3	10	21	11	32
" 70 " 80 " ...	9	6	15	...	1	1	1	2	3	12	4	16
" 80 " 90 " ...	2	1	3	1	...	1	...	...	...	1	2	3
90 and upwards ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Unknown ...	46	28	74	15	5	20	9	11	20	14	4	18
Total ...	464	280	744	123	81	204	104	75	179	161	64	225

From Table II. it is seen that the following changes have taken place in the numbers in the public asylums at Yarra Bend, Kew, Ararat, Beechworth, and Ballarat and Sunbury, viz. :—Under care on the 1st January, 1,643 men and 1,223 women ; admitted (fresh patients), 348 men and 201 women ; re-admissions, 23 men and 13 women ; transferred, 75 men and 62 women ; and 18 men and 4 women, escaped patients, who were retaken ; giving the numbers under care, 2,107 men and 1,503 women—a total of 3,610. The numbers discharged cured are 123 men and 81 women ; improved, 7 men and 9 women ; not improved, 1 man ; transferred, 72 men and 60 women ; and died, 161 men and 64 women ; leaving on the books at the end of the year 1,719 men and 1,283 women.

At the Cremorne licensed house 19 were under care on the 1st January, 76 were admitted in the twelve months, and 73 were discharged (62 recovered, 5 improved, 5 transferred, and 1 died), leaving under care at the close of the year 22—11 men and 11 women. In the lunacy wards of the public hospitals there was only 1 patient under detention on the 1st January at Castlemaine ; 79 were admitted in the year ; 29 were discharged recovered, 1 improved, 46 were transferred to the public establishments for treatment, and 2 died, leaving 2 patients under care on the 31st December, 1 at the Bendigo and 1 at the Castlemaine Hospital. The total number of registered lunatics in the colony on the same date—in the public asylums,

on leave of absence, in the licensed house at Cremorne, and in the lunacy wards—was 3,026 : a number equal to 33·64 in each 10,000 of the population of the colony, estimated to be 899,330 at the end of the year. The proportion in England is 27·77 per 10,000, according to the Commissioners' Thirty-third Report, Table II., page 11. The new cases of insanity that were brought under treatment in all the various establishments of the colony during the year are—585 to the public asylums, 79 to the lunacy wards, and 76 to the licensed house—a total of 740, and a proportion to the population of 1 in every 1,215 persons. The proportion during the previous year was not so high, being only 1 in every 1,324 persons, and in England it is only 1 to 1,854 persons.

It is thus seen that the proportion of registered insane to the population is greater in the colony than in England, and so also are the fresh admissions. The chief cause of this has already been pointed out in my report for the year 1868 (and referred to in subsequent reports), where it is stated, that “many patients are received into the several lunatic asylums from the hospitals, benevolent asylums, and gaols in various parts of the colony, who, wholly unoffending in their habits, weak in mind, and feeble in body, need shelter and support, but not the costly care of an asylum.” The admission of such a class of persons for treatment in the public asylums of this colony has, I have no doubt, a very considerable influence in producing both these results, as in England such persons would never come under cognizance as insane ; they would be sent to poor-houses, and dealt with as ordinary paupers.

The total number of fresh patients (excluding re-admissions) received during the year, and their condition as regards marriage, is given in the following return :—

—	New Cases.	Married.		Single.		Widowed.		Unknown.	
		M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.
Yarra Bend	243	43	56	56	32	10	16	23	7
Kew	180	42	32	72	10	5	9	9	1
Ararat	108	29	19	37	12	5	1	5	...
Beechworth	18	1	2	9	2	...	2	2	...
Ballarat	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Sunbury	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Total	549	115	109	174	56	20	28	39	8

Recoveries and Mortality (Public Asylums).—The proportion of patients recovered and relieved to the admissions for the year is 37·61 in each 100. This is the lowest proportion since the year 1868, except once in 1872, when it was only 35·55 per 100. The proportion of actual recoveries to the new admissions is, however, only 34·87 per 100, but the average from 1869 to 1879 is 41·30 per 100, and it will be found by reference to page 23 of the report on English asylums that the number of stated recoveries is equal to 39·94 of the admissions.

It is now the practice in nearly all asylums to estimate the recoveries for a year by showing their proportion to the numbers admitted and re-admitted during the same period ; but as this method of dealing with the figures does not show the actual results of treatment, I furnish the following additional information on this subject. By comparison of the figures given in Tables Nos. II. and V., it is seen that 585 new patients, including, however, 36 cases of re-admission, were received for treatment. Out of this number, 15 were discharged recovered within one month after admission, 42 between one and three months, 43 between three and six months, 28 between six and nine months, 14 between nine and twelve months, or 24·27 per cent. within the year, 43, or 7·35 per cent., during the second year of residence, and 19, or 3·25 per cent., of patients who were asylum residents for various periods over two years. Making a further examination of this matter for the eleven years from 1869 to 1879, I find that the total number of patients admitted during that period is 6,234, of whom 302 were re-admissions. The total number discharged recovered was 2,575—167 after residence under a month, 764 between one and three months, 576 between three and six months, 391 between six and nine months, 183 between nine and twelve months, 287 between one and two years, and 207 of the older residents ; and from

the following return, giving details of the various years, it will also be observed that the average for the entire period is not materially different from the figures given for each separate year.

Year.	Admitted and Re-admitted.	Re-admitted.	Total Cured.		Under One Month.	From One to Three Months.	From Three to Six Months.	From Six to Nine Months.	From Nine to Twelve Months.	From One to Two Years.	Over Two Years.
			Number.	Percentage on Admissions.							
1869	535	28	225	42·05	17	86	47	27	15	23	10
1870	566	48	228	40·28	21	76	61	30	16	16	8
1871	546	23	191	34·98	7	60	42	31	17	23	11
1872	571	16	183	32·05	8	49	34	38	26	13	15
1873	585	19	284	48·54	20	78	69	42	15	37	23
1874	552	14	225	40·76	15	82	40	21	14	30	23
1875	577	18	283	49·05	21	81	70	41	22	26	22
1876	587	31	281	47·87	15	90	68	46	12	24	26
1877	570	18	258	45·26	14	69	55	48	16	31	25
1878	560	51	213	38·04	14	51	47	39	16	21	25
1879	585	36	204	34·87	15	42	43	28	14	43	19
Total	6,234	302	2,575	453·75	167	764	576	391	183	287	207
Average	566·72	27·45	234·09	41·30	15·18	69·45	52·36	35·54	16·63	26·09	18·81

The total number of deaths that occurred was 225 (4 being amongst patients who were absent on trial), and in Table IV. will be found the causes to which they were attributed, the accident and suicide being referred to under remarks on the Ararat Lunatic Asylum. From Table V. it is seen that 94 of those admitted in the year are returned as having died, this number being equal to 16·07 per cent. of the new admissions. Thus it appears that no less a number than 236 out of the 585 new admissions were also discharged during the year—142 by recoveries, and 94 by deaths—the total being equal to 40·34 per cent. of the new patients. The mortality is equal to 8·27 per cent. of the daily average numbers resident, this being the highest rate attained since 1868. It is true that a higher ratio of deaths has occurred at all the asylums except Beechworth, where the highest recorded is only 5·46 per cent. of the daily average, but this year shows the greatest amount of mortality over all the public establishments of the colony since 1867. By the same calculation for English asylums (Table VI., page 25, Report No. 33), the mortality is 10 per cent., and I observe from this table that the average annual mortality from 1869 to 1878 is 10·17 per cent. By the process of computing the mortality upon the total number under care in England, it is 7·70 per cent. against 6·23 per cent., in our public asylums. By examination of Table VI., it will be seen that 88 of the deaths that occurred were amongst patients aged 50 years and upwards, this being the highest mortality recorded during the past few years amongst these patients. Only 6 of them are residents for periods over 15 years, and, as before mentioned, 94 of the new cases died; 26 within one month after admission, 17 between one and three months, 18 between three and six months, and 33 between six and twelve months. The following return will show clearly the increase that has gradually taken place in the mortality of old persons:—

Year.	Deaths.		
	Over 50.	Unknown.	Under 50.
1875	48	17	107
1876	60	12	113
1877	70	19	108
1878	63	13	101
1879	88	18	119

Recoveries and Mortality (Public Asylums, Licensed Houses, and Lunacy Wards).—The total number of admissions and re-admissions for the year was 740; the stated recoveries being 295, and this gives the percentage of recoveries over all the establishments in the colony 39·86. The number of cases treated in the twelve months was 3,785; the deaths that occurred amongst that number was 228, or 6·02 per cent. of the total under care.

Numbers Remaining, and Accommodation in Public Lunatic Asylums.—In my report for the previous year, it was pointed out that the asylums at Yarra Bend, Kew, Ararat, Beechworth, and Ballarat only contained room for 1,637 men and 972 women,

and that on the 31st December there were under care 1,560 men and 1,112 women, or additional space for 77 men, and overcrowding of women to the extent of 140. To meet the great want of space for female patients, it was decided early in the year to provide the required accommodation by handing over to this department the buildings that had recently been erected in the Royal Park, Melbourne, for an Industrial and Reformatory School, to be used as a lunatic asylum for female patients. Before arrangements were complete to take possession of this building, the Government found it necessary to make some changes in their plans to meet the requirements both of this and the Industrial and Reformatory Schools departments, and it was finally settled that the Ballarat asylum buildings should be given up to the schools, this department receiving in exchange the school buildings at Sunbury. It became a matter of great urgency to place the Ballarat buildings in the hands of the Schools department on the earliest date possible, and this made it necessary to get ready a portion of the Sunbury buildings for occupation by the male patients from Ballarat, and nothing could be done to provide the required extra accommodation for the females until this was completed. The male wards were so far finished towards the end of the year that I was able to move from Ballarat on the 1st December, and I handed over that establishment to the Acting Inspector of Industrial and Reformatory Schools on the 3rd of the same month. After it was decided that I was not to obtain possession of the Royal Park buildings, and it became apparent that it would be absolutely wrong to continue overcrowding of the two metropolitan establishments that were both filled much beyond their proper capacity, on the 1st January I brought under notice that there were 87 female patients at Yarra Bend, and 25 at Kew, in excess of the proper number, and seeing no prospect of any immediate arrangement being made to accommodate them elsewhere, I suggested that enquiries should be made as to the terms upon which Mr. Harcourt would be willing to receive about 100 women, temporarily, into his licensed house at Cremorne. Again, on the 27th May, I made a further suggestion "to promote, by every possible means, the system of boarding out harmless patients with their relatives," and called attention to previous correspondence having reference to certain alterations of the law that were first necessary before any payments could be made to persons undertaking in their own homes the charge of their insane friends and relatives, as it was thought that payment might induce many persons to take patients out of the asylums who could partly, but not entirely maintain them. As the question of overcrowding was of a very serious and important character, I at this time submitted for consideration a proposal by Mr. Harcourt to take in from 80 to 100 female patients, at the rate of twenty-five shillings each per week, and under the circumstances I recommended that negotiations should be entered into respecting this proposal. Up to the end of September, however, nothing had been done in the matter; but early in August, after a conversation with the late Honorable Chief Secretary respecting various proposals that were brought forward, I decided to recommend that provision should be made for the temporary accommodation of 70 women at Kew, by using the recreation hall there as a dormitory. Having received sanction to this plan, I made the necessary arrangements to transfer women from Yarra Bend, but only 38 were removed in October, and afterwards, in December, I was able to send 20 more to Sunbury to occupy some wooden wards that are attached to the laundry there. During the same month I was also able to transfer 66 men to the same establishment—40 from the Yarra Bend and 26 from the Kew asylum—leaving the distribution of the patients on the 31st December as given in Table I., and the following return gives information as to numbers and accommodation on the same date :—

Asylum.	Number of Patients.			Accommodation.		
	Males.	Females.	Total.	Males.	Females.	Total.
Yarra Bend	503	313	816	479	242	721
Kew	434	451	885	500	400	900
Ararat	219	174	393	164	140	304
Beechworth	269	198	467	294	190	484
Sunbury	187	20	207	237	282	519
	1,612	1,156	2,768	1,674	1,254	2,928

When the Sunbury building is completed, I will take immediate steps to relieve the overcrowding at Yarra Bend and Kew, and to remove the women that are now accommodated in the recreation hall of the latter asylum. The necessary repairs, alterations, and additions at Sunbury to enable me to do this are being carried out with as much despatch as possible, and I hope to be able to occupy a portion of the female side on an early date.

From the foregoing return it is seen that now there is available space for only 62 additional men and 98 women, and at the rate of increase that has been taking place for some years past it is probable this extra room will be occupied during the next twelve or eighteen months, so I again beg to invite special attention to my previous suggestions as to the manner in which I think it advisable to provide the required accommodation, viz., to make separate provision for criminal lunatics, to provide one or two detached cottages at Yarra Bend, and to erect a number of single rooms attached to two of the large wards at the same establishment. For some time past the want of single rooms has been greatly felt both at the Yarra Bend and Kew asylums, but, as I do not think it advisable to increase the size of Kew, I have suggested that all the extra space required in the Melbourne district at present should be provided at the Yarra Bend. There is another suggestion in my report for 1878, to extend the operation of the 60th section of the Lunacy Act, whereby it would be legal to make payments to the friends and relatives who would be willing to undertake the care of insane persons in their homes, as it is possible that payment might largely increase the number on probation. I am still of opinion that it is most desirable to give this plan a fair trial, and I trust the required alteration may be made in the law at an early date. On the 31st December there were 234 patients absent from the asylums; in 1878 there were 194; and I also observe that a gradual but steady increase has been taking place in the number on leave for some years past.

In submitting my report on lunatic asylums for the year 1875 I called attention to the large number of idiot children that were at that time mixed up amongst the adult patients at the various asylums in the colony, and asked that separate buildings should be provided for them, so that an endeavour might be made to introduce a system of industrial training and occupation amongst them similar to what is at present carried on in some of the English asylums. The total number of idiots under 15 years of age in all the asylums at this time is only 30—22 boys and 8 girls—and they are distributed in the following manner:—11 at Yarra Bend, 10 at Kew, 2 at Ararat, 1 at Beechworth, and 6 at Sunbury. In 1875 the number was 54, and I am now glad to observe that no increase is taking place in this class of patient. Some have died since 1875, few (if any) have been discharged cured, but the great bulk of them are now about 18 or 20 years of age, and classed amongst the adult idiots. When the Ballarat Asylum was opened, on the 29th August 1877, I proposed removing to it all the young idiots from the other asylums, and making an effort to ameliorate their condition after collecting them together in the new building, and entirely separating them from the adults; but in 1878, in consequence of the withdrawal of the females from this place, and the uncertainty of being able to retain possession of the building as an asylum, I decided to make no further transfers to it, and I now regret to say that I have been utterly unable to carry out my views respecting these patients. If, however, my recommendation to erect cottages at the Yarra Bend Asylum should be carried out, I will still endeavour to make the separation, and see what can be done towards training them up to some kind of work.

To provide space for the excess in numbers at Ararat—viz., 55 men and 34 women—I beg to repeat the recommendation made in my report for 1878, page 22, to construct the following buildings:—“(1) detached hospital in each division to receive 30 men (10 in single rooms) and 20 women (5 in single rooms); (2) a cottage at the homestead for 20 farm workers, with attendants; (3) a cottage for 20 male imbeciles and idiots, with attendants.”

I would further suggest the erection of a cottage for 20 women, so situated in the reserve that it might form one of a series to be constructed from time to time according to necessity. This would effectually relieve the overcrowding and provide a little margin for increase of numbers.

It may be convenient that I should take the opportunity of stating here my firm conviction that to add small cottage buildings to each of the existing establishments from time to time is a far better and more economical plan of providing for increasing numbers than multiplying asylums in the colony, for thus, by a moderate outlay,

patients would be so placed that they could be managed by the existing administrative staff, with the additional help of only a small number of warders, whereas every additional asylum entails large extra expense in its separate administration.

COST OF MAINTENANCE.

TABLE VII.—Showing the Total Receipts and Expenditure of the Department of Hospitals for the Insane during the Year 1879.

<i>Receipts.</i>						£	s.	d.
Collections made by the Master-in-Lunacy for maintenance of patients at—								
Yarra Bend Lunatic Asylum	...	...	...	...	...	1,455	2	6
Kew	"	...	...	...	...	1,804	6	1
Ararat	"	...	...	...	...	320	5	1
Beechworth	"	...	...	...	...	448	13	0
Ballarat and Sunbury	"	...	...	...	...	49	0	3
Amount of fines and sales, &c.	...	...	...	...	...	353	5	0
Total						4,430	11	11

<i>Expenditure.</i>						£	s.	d.
General expenses	...	...	...	...	...	1,470	2	10
Maintenance Yarra Bend Asylum	...	...	...	...	...	29,147	8	9
" Kew	"	...	...	...	...	27,723	18	9
" Ararat	"	...	...	...	...	13,786	8	3
" Beechworth	"	...	...	...	...	14,790	14	4
" Ballarat and Sunbury	"	...	...	...	...	3,769	9	11
" Lunacy Ward, Castlemaine	...	...	...	...	...	52	4	0
" " Sandhurst	...	...	...	...	...	98	10	0
" " Geelong	...	...	...	...	...	77	15	0
Total						90,916	11	10

TABLE VIII.—Showing the Total Cost of Maintenance against each Asylum, the Sums Expended against each Vote, and the Amount of General Expenses, for the Year 1879.

Lunatic Asylum.	Daily Average Numbers Resident.	Total Cost of Maintenance.		Salaries.		Fees to Official Visitors.		Allowance to Stewards.		Allowance to Chaplains.		Provisions and Extra Articles.	
		£	s. d.	£	s. d.	£	s. d.	£	s. d.	£	s. d.	£	s. d.
Yarra Bend	850	29,147	8 9	11,735	19 9	...	...	65	0 0	52	10 0	8,833	12 0
Kew	889	27,723	18 9	10,179	4 2	...	...	35	0 0	52	10 0	9,423	0 7
Ararat	390	13,786	8 3	5,313	4 4	...	...	...	...	90	0 0	4,693	6 10
Beechworth	465	14,790	14 4	5,854	14 6	...	...	35	0 0	65	0 0	5,359	12 0
Ballarat and Sunbury	127	3,769	9 11	1,406	18 4	...	...	...	...	33	3 10	1,404	11 7
General expenses	...	1,470	2 10	492	15 3	919	4 4	...	...	...	...	...	...
Total	2,721	90,688	2 10	34,982	16 4	919	4 4	135	0 0	293	3 10	29,714	3 0

Lunatic Asylum.	Clothing, Bedding, and Materials for Manufacture.		Stores.		Fuel, Light, and Water.		Medicines and Medical Comforts.		Forage.		Incidentals.	
	£	s. d.	£	s. d.	£	s. d.	£	s. d.	£	s. d.	£	s. d.
Yarra Bend	3,114	3 11	1,071	8 0	2,851	13 9	1,022	4 3	56	0 2	344	16 11
Kew	3,612	3 2	823	5 2	2,028	2 10	1,154	10 10	119	15 0	296	7 0
Ararat	1,634	18 8	346	12 0	1,074	8 9	358	15 3	62	18 9	212	3 8
Beechworth	1,521	18 8	521	18 6	984	7 0	209	19 1	65	17 11	172	6 8
Ballarat and Sunbury	315	1 3	62	19 5	173	12 2	5	13 0	20	10 9	346	19 7
General expenses	...	...	1	18 6	...	...	...	...	...	...	56	4 9
Total	10,198	5 8	2,828	1 7	7,112	4 6	2,751	2 5	325	2 7	1,428	18 7

TABLE IX.—Showing the Average Weekly Cost of Patients for the Year 1879.

Lunatic Asylum.	Daily Average Numbers Resident.	Total Cost of Maintenance.			Salaries.		Allowance to Stewards.		Allowance to Chaplains.		Provisions and Extra Articles.		Clothing, Bedding, and Material for Manufacture.			
		£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.
Yarra Bend ...	850	29,147	8	9	0	5	3 $\frac{3}{4}$	0	0	0 $\frac{1}{2}$	0	4	0	0	1	5
Kew ...	889	27,723	18	9	0	4	4 $\frac{3}{4}$	0	0	0 $\frac{1}{4}$	0	4	1	0	1	6 $\frac{3}{4}$
Ararat ...	390	13,786	8	3	0	5	3	...	0	0	1	4	7 $\frac{1}{2}$	0	1	7 $\frac{1}{2}$
Beechworth ...	465	14,790	14	4	0	4	10	0	0	0 $\frac{3}{4}$	0	4	5 $\frac{1}{2}$	0	1	3
Ballarat & Sunbury	127	3,769	9	11	0	4	3 $\frac{1}{4}$	...	0	0	1 $\frac{1}{4}$	0	4	0	0	11 $\frac{1}{2}$
Total ...	2,721	89,218	0	0	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
General expenses	...	1,470	2	10	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...

Lunatic Asylum.	Stores.			Fuel, Light, and Water.			Medicines and Medical Comforts.			Forage.			Incidentals.			Weekly Cost.		
	£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.
Yarra Bend ...	0	0	5 $\frac{3}{4}$	0	1	3 $\frac{1}{2}$	0	0	5 $\frac{1}{2}$	0	0	0 $\frac{1}{4}$	0	0	1 $\frac{3}{4}$	0	13	2 $\frac{1}{4}$
Kew ...	0	0	4 $\frac{1}{4}$	0	0	10 $\frac{1}{2}$	0	0	6	0	0	0 $\frac{3}{4}$	0	0	1 $\frac{1}{2}$	0	12	0
Ararat ...	0	0	4	0	1	0 $\frac{3}{4}$	0	0	4 $\frac{1}{4}$	0	0	0 $\frac{3}{4}$	0	0	2 $\frac{3}{4}$	0	13	7 $\frac{1}{4}$
Beechworth ...	0	0	5 $\frac{1}{4}$	0	0	9 $\frac{3}{4}$	0	0	2	0	0	0 $\frac{3}{4}$	0	0	1 $\frac{3}{4}$	0	12	2 $\frac{3}{4}$
Ballarat & Sunbury	0	1	2 $\frac{1}{4}$	0	0	6 $\frac{1}{4}$	0	0	0 $\frac{1}{4}$	0	0	0 $\frac{3}{4}$	0	1	0 $\frac{1}{2}$	0	11	5
Total ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	0	12	7 $\frac{1}{4}$
General expenses	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	0	0	2 $\frac{1}{2}$

Amount collected by the Master-in-Lunacy for maintenance at—		£	s.	d.
Yarra Bend Lunatic Asylum	...	1,455	2	6
Kew Lunatic Asylum	...	1,804	6	1
Ararat Lunatic Asylum	...	320	5	1
Beechworth Lunatic Asylum	...	448	13	0
Ballarat and Sunbury Lunatic Asylums	...	49	0	3
Total	...	4,077	6	11

Average weekly cost of patients in public asylums, less amounts of maintenance collections and general expenses	0	12	0 $\frac{1}{4}$
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The total cost of maintenance of patients in the public asylums during this year has been £89,218, and £1,470 2s. 10d. for general expenses of Inspector's office and fees paid to the official visitors throughout the colony. The lunacy ward at Castlemaine cost £52 4s., the ward at Sandhurst £98 10s., and the ward at Geelong £77 15s., the gross expenditure being £90,916 11s. 10d. The weekly cost for each patient, after deducting the general expenses and collections made by the Master-in-Lunacy, is 12s. 0 $\frac{1}{4}$ d. per week. The corresponding sum for the preceding year is 13s. 4 $\frac{1}{4}$ d.; so it will be seen that a reduction of 1s. 4d. per patient per week for an average of 2,721, has taken place this year as compared with 1878, this being equal to a saving for the year of £9,432 16s. The principal items upon which reductions are observed are provisions and extra articles, the expenditure in 1878 having been £31,957 10s. 1d., as against £29,714 3s. for the present year; this is principally due to the very much reduced rates at which the articles under contract were supplied, and partially to reductions that the Superintendents have been enabled to make in the issue of special diets and extra articles. I have for several years past been giving particular attention to those issues not provided for under scale, and I am now glad to direct attention to such a satisfactory result. There are still, however, a number of them that have been brought under the notice of the officers of all the asylums, with a view to their being closely examined and reduced if practicable, and I hope on a future occasion to be enabled to report further satisfactory results in this direction. The clothing and bedding in 1878 cost £14,413 8s. 7d., in the present year only £10,198 5s. 8d., or a saving of £4,215 2s. 11d. on the year's expenditure, though providing for an increased daily average of 76 patients. This again is partially due to low rates of contract, but principally to a system of check that has recently been introduced, whereby I am in a position to make necessary reductions in demands for supplies. I have also in the same manner been able to reduce the vote for stores

from £3,591 14s. 7d. in 1878 to £2,828 1s. 7d. in the present year, again showing a saving of £763 13s. The brewer's account for the year shows that 3,048 dozen bottles of beer were manufactured and issued to patients at the Yarra Bend and Kew asylums. All the beer required at the former establishment was made on the premises, but only 384 dozen were sent to Kew. The wages paid to the brewer and his assistant are £265 a year; the material for brewing costs £582 19s. 9d., and the value of the material on hand on the 31st December was £89 5s. Estimating the beer at the contract rate of porter, viz., 6s. 3d. per dozen, a saving to the extent of £193 15s. 3d. is shown on this item. The value of the rations is not taken into account in making this computation, as it is already considered in the cost of provisions. The cost under the head of "Incidentals" has been increased from £1,367 13s. 3d. during the previous year to £1,428 18s. 7d. during the present year, but this is fully explained in the special expense that was incurred in removing from Ballarat to Sunbury. The following return shows the weekly rates of maintenance at each of the asylums in 1878 and 1879:—

Asylum.	Weekly Cost.					
	Year 1878.			Year 1879.		
	£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.
Yarra Bend	0	14	10½	0	13	2½
Kew	0	12	8	0	12	0
Ararat	0	15	8¾	0	13	7½
Beechworth	0	12	10	0	12	2¾
Ballarat and Sunbury	0	18	9½	0	11	5

As pointed out in 1878, the Kew and Beechworth asylums still remain low in cost and about equal. The Sunbury establishment is now the lowest, and Ararat is still the highest, but I am glad to notice, notwithstanding, that a very large reduction has taken place in the latter establishment, the weekly difference in cost between this and the previous year being 2s. 1½d. per patient per week.

In the last report published by the English Lunacy Commissioners, page 105, I see that in the county asylums 9s. 8½d. per week is given as the average cost per head for maintenance, and 11s. 3¾d. in the borough asylums; but it is specially observed that the average over both establishments, 9s. 10¾d., is the lowest rate at which patients have been maintained for some years past. By examination of the different items making up the rates both in the English and the Victorian asylums, it will be seen that in the home county asylums wages cost 2s. 1½d. per patient per week, in the borough asylums 2s. 7d., and in the Victorian public asylums 4s. 11d. This is an item over which I can exercise no control whatever, as the salary of every officer employed is fixed by the Government and cannot be either increased or reduced by my authority. If the cost of maintenance less this item is now examined, it will be seen to be—

In the English county asylums	7s. 7d. per week.
In the English borough asylums	8s. 8¾d. „
In the Victorian asylums	7s. 1¼d. „

Thus I think it is clearly shown that on those articles which are specially under my control I am able to manage the various asylums of the colony efficiently and as cheaply, if not more so, than the pauper establishments of the mother country, and it cannot therefore be justly said that the maintenance rate is too high in Victoria, or that any want of care in the management appears from examination of the cost of the asylums. The total saving that has been made in this year I have already estimated at £9,432 16s., and such a result cannot be regarded in any other light than as a strong evidence that care and economy are exercised in the management of these institutions, so far as is consistent with those objects for which lunatic asylums are primarily intended.

The amount collected by the Master-in-Lunacy during the twelve months is equal to a reduction of 7d. per week for each patient. As some prominent notice has recently been directed to the amount of those collections, perhaps it will not be out of place to compare the results in this colony and elsewhere, and the conditions under which they are arrived at. The total number of patients admitted to all the public

asylums of the colony in the year now under review was 585, and out of this large number only 113 were received under orders from friends and relatives, 420 were brought by the police, and 50 were received from the gaols, hospitals, and benevolent asylums. The great bulk of those brought by the police were taken up wandering at large about the country, without either homes, friends, or means of support. During the year the collections by the Master-in-Lunacy amounted to £4,077 6s. 11d., when the entire cost of maintenance was £89,218, or 4·57 per cent of the whole outlay. This result at first sight does not appear to be very satisfactory; but it will be found, by reference to the last report by the Commissioners in Lunacy for Scotland (Appendix C—Return of Expenditure on account of Pauper Lunatics during the year ending 14th May 1878), that the entire cost of lunacy in that country borne by the poor rates, inclusive of the parliamentary grant, was £183,383 5s. 7d., and that only £8,624 19s. 7d., or 4·70 per cent., was collected from friends and relatives. Again, in the district asylums of Ireland, the Commissioners' report for 1878 (page 65) shows that the total expenditure for the year 1877 was £200,031 8s. 9d.; but this sum includes some items that are not considered in the calculations for our asylums, and omitting these the amount will be reduced to £181,180 5s. 8d., and of this sum only £3,518 10s. 8d., or 1·94 per cent. of the expense, was collected from paying patients. In New Zealand in 1878 the cost of maintenance amounted to £35,267 4s. 6d., and a sum of £2,538 9s. 3d., or 7·19 per cent. of the outlay, was collected from the friends. In South Australia the total expenditure on lunatic asylums for the year 1878 was £16,015 19s. 2d., and the fees for maintenance during the same period amounted to £2,014 7s., a sum equal to 12·6 per cent. on the outlay. It is explained, however, that this sum is the highest ever reached, and it cannot therefore be regarded as indicating the average annual collections in that colony. In 1879 the maintenance cost £17,062 19s. 11d., when the collections only amounted to £1,685 16s. 5d., or 9·9 per cent. of the entire cost; the result during the last year showing that £2 is collected in South Australia for £1 in Victoria.

It may be thought that, if 4·70 per cent. of the expenditure can be collected in Scotland, a much larger sum should be obtained here, where the bulk of all the people are so much better off; but again, it may be fairly assumed that the maximum maintenance collections are made in Scotland, when it is considered that the most ample information as to the history of each patient can be placed in the hands of a number of collectors, which is not the case in Victoria, and it is also a well-known fact that many of our asylum inmates are without either friends or relatives.

With a view of compelling payment from those who can afford it, I think it would be advisable to appoint one or two collectors, who could visit the friends of the patients and ascertain their exact position, reporting the result to the Master-in-Lunacy, that action might be taken to secure contributions from persons legally liable, and who possess the necessary means. I would also suggest that material assistance might be given in the way of obtaining maintenance money by compelling all relations of persons about to be sent to an asylum to make a statutory declaration as to their position and means of payment; and I think this should be done before the admission of the patient. A regulation by the Governor in Council would probably be sufficient authority for enforcing such a rule, and I believe good results would be obtained from it.

I propose further to enjoin all superintendents, officers, and others employed in asylums to take constant and active interest in acquiring and communicating to the Master-in-Lunacy any information which may tend to forward the object in view.

In connection with this subject, I beg to invite attention to the following suggestion, which was submitted by me for the consideration of the Government on the 12th September 1878, in reference to proposed alterations in the Lunacy Act:—“Section 97 provides that the Master-in-Lunacy shall undertake the control of all property of lunatics in the colony. It has accordingly been the practice to forward to the Master all sums of money found on persons charged with lunacy, and many very small amounts are thus absorbed into the general revenue for maintenance, and those patients who are discharged from the asylums cured only receive the unexpended balance in the Master's hands, or small gratuities from the Government to enable them to reach their homes, and to support them while in search of employment. I think it is advisable to amend the section by giving power to the asylum authorities to retain all sums of £5 and under belonging to patients, and to pay the same over to them when they are discharged. The money so withheld from the Master's custody might

be paid to the credit of the trust fund in the ordinary way, and when any patient owning such money died in an asylum the amount might revert to the Government on account of maintenance." In many instances the sums here referred to represent the savings of domestic servants, laborers, and others, and it is often a grievous disappointment to them to find, when they are leaving the asylum, that all their money has been taken for maintenance, and I have known cases in which it has operated prejudicially on their mental condition.

Patients on Leave and Boarding-out.—The number on trial at the end of the year was 234. It is observed that a steady increase has taken place in the number of patients on trial for several years past, and it is most desirable to encourage the system, not only because it relieves the pressure upon asylum space, but also for the reason that it places a number of harmless patients under domestic management instead of confining them, often against their will, within the walls of a large establishment. It is thought that the adoption of this practice by the friends of patients might be greatly and advantageously extended by making a small weekly allowance to those who without such assistance are found to be unable to maintain them. The sum thus given should not in any instance exceed the cost of maintenance in a lunatic asylum, and, in order that effect may be given to the proposal, I would again recommend as follows :—“In order to extend the operation of the 60th section (under which the Inspector grants leave of absence for the benefit of health) to patients boarded-out with their relatives or friends, or other persons in unlicensed houses, upon payment of fixed sums for maintenance expenses, I would suggest an addition to clause 44, whereby power may be given to the Chief Secretary to permit such leave on the recommendation of the Inspector, and to fix the rate of maintenance in each case; supervision to be exercised by the asylum authorities assisted by the police as at present, and the Governor in Council to have authority for making and amending regulations from time to time.” If this proposition should be accepted, and success found to attend the working of it, I think there is reasonable probability that strangers might, in the course of time, be induced to receive patients into their homes, and by this means there might be effected an important reduction in the number of inmates of our asylums. Of course this movement must be regarded as an experiment, the result of which cannot be ascertained for a certain length of time, but I am fully satisfied that on social as well as on pecuniary considerations it is fairly worth a trial.

LUNATIC ASYLUM, YARRA BEND.

TABLE X.—Showing the Admissions, Re-admissions, Discharges, and Deaths during the Year 1879.

							Males.	Females.	Total.
In the asylum on 1st January 1879	...	...	...	...	...	...	510	340	850
							Males.	Females.	Total.
Admitted for the first time	...	...	...	...	...	...	132	111	243
Re-admitted	...	...	...	...	...	...	4	4	8
Transferred during the year	...	...	...	...	...	...	6	2	8
Retaken	...	...	...	...	...	...	11	2	13
Total admitted	...	...	...	...	...	...	153	119	272
Total under care during the year	...	...	...	...	...	...	663	459	1,122
							Males.	Females.	Total.
Discharged, removed, &c.:—	...	...	...	...	...	...
Recovered	...	...	...	...	...	...	29	23	52
Improved	...	...	...	...	...	...	3	4	7
Transferred	...	...	...	...	...	...	40	59	99
Escaped	...	...	...	...	...	...	12	2	14
Died	...	...	...	...	...	...	40	22	62
Total discharged, died, &c., during the year	...	...	...	...	...	...	124	110	234
Remaining in the asylum on the 31st December 1879 (inclusive of absent on trial, males and females)	...	...	...	...	...	...	539	349	888
Average numbers resident during the year	...	...	...	...	...	...	522	328	850

TABLE XI.—Showing the Admissions, Discharges, and Deaths, with the Mean Annual Mortality and Proportion of Recoveries, &c., per Cent. on the Admissions, for the Years 1848 to 1879.

Year.	Admitted.			Discharged.									Died.			Remaining on the 31st December in each Year.			Average Numbers Resident.			Percentage of Cases Recovered and Relieved on Admissions.			Percentage of Deaths on the Average Numbers Resident.			
				Recovered.			Relieved.			Transferred.																		
	Males.	Females.	Total.	Males.	Females.	Total.	Males.	Females.	Total.	Males.	Females.	Total.	Males.	Females.	Total.	Males.	Females.	Total.	Males.	Females.	Total.	Males.	Females.	Total.	Males.	Females.	Total.	
1848	12	13	25	1	1	2	1	1	2	...	...	...	1	...	1	1	11	20	7	9	17	16'66	15'38	16'00	14'28	...	5'88
1849	22	12	34	1	2	3	1	3	4	...	...	...	3	1	4	26	17	43	13	12	25	9'09	41'66	20'58	23'07	8'33	16'00
1850	10	5	15	7	1	8	1	...	1	...	...	...	1	1	2	27	20	47	25	18	44	80'00	20'00	60'00	4'00	5'55	4'54
1851	22	19	41	9	11	20	...	1	1	...	...	...	4	3	7	35	24	59	33	26	59	40'90	63'15	51'21	12'12	11'53	11'86
1852	9	26	35	2	8	10	4	2	6	...	...	...	1	2	3	36	38	74	36	29	66	66'66	38'46	45'71	2'77	6'89	4'54
1853	109	35	144	29	15	44	1	2	3	...	...	...	15	4	19	97	52	149	69	43	113	27'52	48'57	32'63	21'73	9'30	16'81
1854	79	41	120	33	17	50	3	3	6	...	...	...	16	4	20	122	68	190	103	56	160	45'56	48'78	46'66	15'53	7'14	12'50
1855	111	48	159	39	20	59	4	2	6	...	...	...	23	5	28	162	89	251	132	74	206	38'73	45'83	40'88	17'41	6'75	13'59
1856	100	49	149	43	19	62	1	5	6	...	...	...	27	6	33	190	108	298	167	97	264	44'00	48'97	45'63	16'16	6'18	12'50
1857	74	65	139	22	27	49	6	1	7	...	...	...	25	4	29	208	141	349	194	121	316	37'83	43'07	40'28	12'88	3'30	9'17
1858	160	99	259	44	33	77	5	7	12	...	...	...	48	16	64	267	184	451	...	...	412	30'62	40'40	34'36	...	...	15'53
1859	167	89	256	34	29	63	6	6	12	...	...	...	55	12	67	337	227	564	...	...	490	23'95	39'32	29'29	...	...	13'67
1860	104	81	185	34	38	72	11	9	20	...	...	...	42	16	58	351	245	596	347	244	592	43'26	58'02	49'72	12'10	6'55	9'79
1861	178	96	274	49	31	80	9	15	24	...	...	...	46	13	59	420	282	702	400	266	667	32'58	47'91	37'95	11'50	4'88	8'84
1862	137	76	213	25	43	68	16	15	31	...	...	...	49	14	63	464	285	750	436	285	722	29'92	76'31	46'47	11'23	4'91	8'72
1863	158	122	280	51	26	77	11	14	25	...	...	...	52	12	64	501	355	856	498	326	825	39'24	32'78	36'42	10'44	3'68	7'75
1864	208	142	350	37	48	85	19	24	43	...	...	...	88	26	114	562	398	960	539	374	913	26'92	50'70	36'57	16'32	6'95	12'48
1865	178	132	310	37	42	79	7	13	20	...	...	...	59	19	78	509	359	868	503	367	870	31'08	50'00	38'97	8'72	6'23	7'71
1866	80	76	156	26	38	64	15	13	28	...	...	...	50	19	69	596	399	995	604	396	1,001	51'25	67'10	58'97	8'27	4'79	6'89
1867	95	69	164	18	23	41	11	19	30	50	15	65	29	20	49	583	390	973	599	401	1,001	30'52	60'86	43'29	4'84	4'98	4'89	
1868	142	88	230	36	27	63	7	9	16	130	155	285	45	12	57	512	350	862	539	347	886	30'28	40'90	34'34	8'34	3'45	6'43	
1869	193	138	331	52	61	113	8	8	16	16	6	22	48	23	71	587	399	986	550	369	920	31'08	50'00	38'97	8'72	6'23	7'71	
1870	242	164	406	82	62	144	15	11	26	55	39	94	55	25	80	615	428	1,043	590	412	1,002	40'08	44'51	41'87	9'32	6'06	7'98	
1871	233	163	396	66	58	124	13	10	23	73	41	114	56	25	81	641	458	1,099	624	440	1,065	33'90	41'71	37'12	8'97	5'68	7'60	
1872	281	186	467	81	57	138	5	5	10	121	69	190	67	20	87	662	495	1,157	598	415	1,013	30'60	33'33	31'69	11'20	4'81	8'58	
1873	245	158	403	104	102	206	12	14	26	69	147	216	85	21	106	634	368	1,002	607	473	981	47'34	73'46	57'56	14'00	5'63	10'80	
1874	...	1	1	1	1	2	5	3	12	44	558	311	869	547	301	849	5'85	3'98	5'18
1875	2	5	7	14	8	22	5	1	6	25	...	...	23	13	44	510	302	812	508	286	795	...	...	...	6'49	4'54	5'78
1876	7	8	15	9	3	12	10	5	15	...	...	...	25	5	30	483	299	782	481	284	765	...	...	...	5'19	1'76	3'92
1877	4	7	11	6	3	9	1	1	2	5	2	7	18	20	38	467	297	764	466	290	756	...	...	...	3'86	6'79	5'02
1878	45	35	80	7	4	11	...	3	3	21	3	24	18	24	42	510	340	850	462	296	758	15'55	20'00	17'50	3'89	8'10	5'54	
1879	136	115	251	29	23	52	3	4	7	40	59	99	40	22	62	539	349	888	522	328	850	23'53	23'48	23'51	7'66	6'71	7'29	

Statistics.—The following changes in the numbers have taken place during the year, viz. :—Admitted for the first time, 132 men and 111 women; re-admitted, 4 men and 4 women; transferred from other asylums, 6 men and 2 women, and 11 men and 2 women who had escaped were retaken. These, with the numbers in the asylum on the 1st January, 510 men and 340 women, give a total of 1,122 under care—663 men and 459 women. The discharges are as follow:—Recovered, 29 men and 23 women; improved, 3 men and 4 women; transferred, 40 men and 59 women; 12 men and 2 women escaped, and 40 men and 22 women died, leaving on the register on the 31st December 539 men and 349 women, and showing increase for the year 29 men and 9 women. The percentage of cases recovered and relieved, calculated on the admissions, is 23'53 for men, and 23'48 for women; the mortality is 7'66 for men, and 6'71 for women, or a total of 7'29 per 100 of the daily average numbers resident, the latter result being greater than for some previous years. The causes of death are—apoplexy and paralysis, 3; epilepsy and convulsions, 2; general paresis, 4; maniacal and melancholic exhaustion and decay, 3; inflammation and other diseases of the brain, softening, tumors, &c., 15; inflammation of the lungs, pleuræ, and bronchi, 7; pulmonary consumption, 9; disease of the heart, 9; abdominal disease, 3; erysipelas, 1; cancer, 2; anæmia, 1; and old age, 3. On the 31st December the following classification of the inmates is given, viz. :—Curable, 72 men and 25 women; epileptics, 53 men and 22 women; harmless imbeciles, 99 men and 27 women; adult idiots, 14, and 6 idiot boys and 5 idiot girls under 15 years of age; the remainder are classified under various forms of mental disorder. There were 15 Chinese lunatics under care on the same date. On the 1st of January there were 17 men and 20 women absent on trial, and during the year 42 men and 66 women were also allowed to leave on probation; 7 men and 15 women recovered during the time of their absence. Only 3 male patients were removed on bond under the provisions of section 62 of the Lunacy Statute. Out of the 251 patients admitted and re-admitted in the twelve months, 78 were sent by their friends, 136 were brought by the police, and 37 were received from the gaols, benevolent asylums, and hospitals throughout the colony.

Work.—The tables of the Appendix give returns of the quantity of produce received from the asylum farm, and the following values are given of the different items:—Potatoes, £46 12s. 9d.; meat, £41 12s. 4d.; butter, £34 2s.; eggs, £21 7s. 1d.; milk, £1,025 3s. 4d.; and for sales of hides and cattle, £12 2s. 8d. The remaining items—barley, hay, straw, mangold, and green food—are grown principally

for feed of cattle, and their value must be taken in the return of milk, but the full value of all the crops grown is estimated to be £1,886 1s. 1d.; their cost to the Government being—wages, £330; caretaker, Sunbury, £26 1s.; seeds, £54 10s. 8d.; repairs and shoeing, £34 16s. 6d.; forage for horses and cows, £175 7s. 1d.; purchase of stock, £10; and miscellaneous, £21 10s. 6d. The total quantity of produce from the garden is 129,979 lbs. of various vegetables, estimated, at 1½d. per lb., to be worth £812 7s. 4d. The total quantity produced in the previous year was 148,269 lbs., but the falling off is in a great measure due to the severity of the few first months of the year.

The Buildings.—The state of these buildings is, I regret to say, very unsatisfactory; nearly all the works referred to in my report for 1878 have been allowed to stand over, but late in the year some important ones were commenced that are now in course of execution, viz., repairing fence round the upper male division and fence round laundry drying ground, repairing concert room and kitchen roofs, and some other minor repairs. At present the flooring in the verandahs of many of the female cottages need repair, and the picket fence inside the reserve is in a very bad condition. The brick passages and verandahs of the female hospitals also need looking after. A shed in the airing court, attached to one of the female refractory wards, was blown down early in the year, but arrangements were made to have a new one erected by the labor of warders, assisted by patients, and, at the same time, two other sheds, which were in a very insecure state, were reconstructed in a substantial manner. The condition of O (male) ward yard has been in a very unsatisfactory state for some time, and provision was made for having it asphalted. Up to the end of December nothing was done in the matter, so far as I am aware, but I have now reason to believe that the work will soon be put in hand.

There are also various repairs, all more or less of an urgent nature, required to sculleries and wards throughout the establishment, and most of the wood-work of the buildings needs painting. The drains, generally, are in good condition.

Inspection.—This establishment, as well as Kew, is visited and inspected by an official Board, consisting of Dr. Barker as chairman, Drs. Youl, Campbell, and Iffla, and F. C. Mason, Esq., M.P., and E. J. Dixon, Esq., M.P., members. They make visitation at uncertain times throughout the year, and record the result in a book which is kept for the purpose, and once in each quarter they make report to you. I have been afforded an opportunity of perusing all these reports, and I find that attention is called principally to the overcrowded state of the establishment, and the urgent necessity for repairs to lavatories and bath-rooms. Their December report contains a suggestion that this asylum and Kew should be worked together, and that patients should be committed to them as if they formed one establishment. Respecting this suggestion, I beg to repeat the observations made in a recent report, that it “would, if adopted, necessitate an alteration in the law; some increase, or, at all events, some re-arrangement of staff; the construction of receiving wards at Yarra Bend, and other changes involving considerable outlay. I think the plan is one deserving careful thought, but I am not at present prepared to urge its adoption.”

LUNATIC ASYLUM, KEW.

TABLE XII.—Showing the Admissions, Re-admissions, Discharges, and Deaths during the Year 1879.

							Males.	Females.	Total.
In the asylum on 1st January 1879	509	504	1,013
							Males.	Females.	Total.
Admitted for the first time	...	...	...	...	...	128	52	180
Re-admitted	...	...	...	...	...	15	5	20
Transferred during the year	...	...	...	...	...	2	40	42
Retaken	...	...	...	...	...	4	...	4
Total admitted	...	...	...	...	...	149	97	246
Total under care during the year	...	...	...	...	...	658	601	1,259
							Males.	Females.	Total.
Discharged, removed, &c. :—	...	...	...	...	...	56	35	91
Recovered	...	...	...	...	...	1	5	6
Improved	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	1
Not improved	...	...	...	...	...	30	1	31
Transferred	...	...	...	...	...	6	...	6
Escaped	...	...	...	...	...	69	27	96
Died	...	...	...	...	...	2	2	4
Died while on leave	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Total discharged, died, &c., during the year	...	...	...	...	...	165	70	235
Remaining in the asylum on the 31st December 1879 (inclusive of absent on trial, males and females)	...	...	...	...	...	493	531	1,024
Average numbers resident during the year	...	...	...	...	...	458	430	889

TABLE XIII.—Showing the Admissions, Discharges, and Deaths, with the Mean Annual Mortality and Proportion of Recoveries, &c., per Cent. on the Admissions, for the Years 1872 to 1879.

Year.	Admitted.			Discharged.									Died.			Remaining on the 31st December in each Year.			Average Numbers Resident.			Percentage of Cases Recovered and Relieved on Admissions.			Percentage of Deaths on the Average Numbers Resident.		
				Recovered.			Relieved.			Transferred.																	
	Males.	Females.	Total.	Males.	Females.	Total.	Males.	Females.	Total.	Males.	Females.	Total.	Males.	Females.	Total.	Males.	Females.	Total.	Males.	Females.	Total.	Males.	Females.	Total.	Males.	Females.	Total.
1872	..	..	..	8	1	9	..	..	..	7	1	8	3	1	4	137	106	243	152	84	236	..	..	..	1'97	1'19	1'69
1873	59	43	102	17	17	34	1	3	4	1	1	2	15	11	26	333	321	654	229	206	435	30'50	46'51	37'25	6'55	5'33	5'97
1874	273	196	469	76	70	146	2	6	8	6	1	7	61	32	93	458	413	871	392	346	739	28'57	38'77	32'83	15'56	9'24	12'58
1875	301	200	501	111	111	222	4	1	5	39	8	47	72	32	104	530	460	990	480	410	890	38'20	56'00	45'30	15'00	7'80	11'68
1876	299	191	490	136	99	235	4	10	14	71	64	135	84	31	115	531	449	980	499	401	900	46'82	57'06	50'81	16'83	7'73	12'77
1877	265	196	461	103	90	193	1	..	1	27	30	57	67	37	104	599	487	1086	522	416	938	39'24	45'90	42'08	12'83	8'89	11'08
1878	201	158	359	77	73	150	4	6	10	153	39	192	57	23	80	509	504	1013	516	430	946	40'29	50'00	44'56	11'04	5'34	8'45
1879	143	57	200	56	35	91	1	5	6	30	1	31	71	29	100	493	531	1024	458	430	889	39'86	70'17	48'50	15'50	6'74	11'24

Statistics.—On the 1st January there were 509 men and 504 women registered on the books of the asylum, of whom 50 men and 82 women were absent on trial. The fresh admissions in the year were 128 men and 52 women; re-admissions, 15 men and 5 women; transferred and retaken, 6 men and 40 women—giving the numbers under care, 658 men and 601 women, or a total of 1,259. The number under care the previous year was 1,453, but, after examination of the returns for both years, I find that the admissions and re-admissions were greater by 159 in 1878 than in 1879; 40 female patients were transferred from the Yarra Bend to this asylum owing to the overcrowded state of the former building. The total number recovered and improved was 97, a percentage of 48·50 on the admissions, the highest recorded at this asylum since it was opened except in one year (1876), when it was 50·81; 30 men and 1 woman were transferred to other establishments; 69 men and 27 women died in the asylum, and 2 men and 2 women died while on leave, the total number of deaths (100) being equal to 11·24 in every 100 of the daily average numbers resident; 62 were due to cerebral or spinal diseases, 28 to thoracic diseases, 4 to abdominal diseases, 1 to cancer, 1 to old age and general debility, and 4 died while on leave. Of the 91 stated recoveries, 61 were admitted in the same year, 19 were residents between one and two years, 7 between two and three years, and the remaining 4 were older patients; 35 of the deaths also occurred amongst the patients received, 30 were resident between one and two years, 12 between two and three years, and the remaining 23 for various periods between three and ten years. The following classification of the inmates is given on the 31st December:—61 men and 62 women supposed to be curable, 35 men and 26 women epileptics, 48 men and 3 women harmless imbeciles, 6 adult idiots, 10 idiot children under 15 years of age, and 23 Chinese patients, the balance being classed under various forms of mental disorder. On the 1st January there were 50 men and 82 women out on trial; 60 additional men and 61 women were allowed out during the year; and of these numbers 19 men and 22 women were discharged cured, and 1 man and 5 women relieved; only 1 man was allowed to leave on bond. Of the 200 patients admitted and re-admitted in the twelve months, 23 were received from their friends, 11 from benevolent asylums, hospitals, and gaols, and 166 were brought by the police.

General State of the Building.—It is to be regretted that nothing has yet been done to provide proper farm buildings. In my last report I called special attention to the unsightly appearance of the stables, which are situated in one of the most prominent positions on the reserve. If it is necessary to retain them in use much longer, I fear they will need some extensive repairs, and a service of water to the buildings will be indispensable. The fire service to the main building also referred to last year has not been supplied.

The following report was made to me during the year by the Medical Superintendent:—"The doors and skirtings of the asylum require repainting; almost all the upper bath-room floors are in a decayed state, and I would suggest that they should be relaid with asphalt; the ceilings under some of these floors having been soaked with water are falling down and should be replastered." About the beginning of July a large portion of one of the ceilings referred to fell down, and would probably have caused serious injury had any person been in the room at the time. The buildings generally are now in want of very important repairs. All the wood and iron work need painting. The boundary walls should be cement-washed, and the various sculleries, kitchen and laundry floors should be relaid. Requisitions have, however, been submitted and approved for the most urgent, which are now in hand.

Work.—The tables of Appendix A show the average number of patients employed, the amount of work performed by male and female patients in the work-rooms, and the produce from the farm and garden. The cost of working the farm during this year is estimated at £622 5s. 7d., viz. :—Wages £270 16s. 1d.; seeds, £26 13s. 6d.; repairs, £18 15s. 6d.; forage for horses and cows, £141 11s.; purchase of stock (11 cows and 1 bull), £113 10s.; purchase of implements and harness, £28 18s. 6d.; sundries, £22 1s. The estimated value of the produce is as follows :—17,761 lbs. pork, £119 17s. 8d.; 1,564 lbs. veal, £10 11s. 1d.; 60,534 quarts of milk, £1,008 18s.; 138 $\frac{3}{4}$ dozen of eggs, £9 15s. 10d.; 543 $\frac{1}{4}$ tons firewood, £332 16s. 7d.; 33,600 lbs. of potatoes, £60; and the pease, hay, barley, mangold, carrots, straw, green food, and wheat, are estimated to be worth £630 18s. 4d.; the sales of hides and stock realised a sum of £3 10s. 8d. The farm is under the management of the farm bailiff, assisted by three carters; and an average of 45 patients are employed upon it throughout the year; 25 are engaged on the ornamental grounds, 4 on the cricket ground, 8 at the piggeries, and 13 milking. The average number of patients who work in the kitchen garden is 12, and in this year the gardener has sent to the store 142,296 lbs. of vegetables, which, estimated at 1 $\frac{1}{2}$ d. per lb., would be worth £889 7s. The total quantity of vegetables grown in 1878 was 168,338, so it will be observed that a very considerable falling off in the returns for this year has taken place.

Amusements.—Up till the month of October, when the recreation hall was made use of for the accommodation of female patients, an average of 200 men and 130 women had been in the habit of attending the balls and concerts that were held at the asylum. A large number of the men attend the cricket matches that are played during the season, and football, bowls, and billiards are also indulged in by others. About 30 men regularly attend in the reading-room, and a large number of both sexes are allowed to take walks in the grounds. The Superintendent can also send about 7 female patients for a drive once in each week.

Inspection.—On the 7th April the Board of Official Visitors inspected this asylum, and made report to you that they had elected Dr. Barker to be chairman in place of the Hon. J. T. Smith, deceased. On the 18th June they directed special attention to the overcrowded state of the female division, and brought under notice the pressing need of some further accommodation. On the 15th October they again made a report as follows :—“The Board cannot but regret the idea of the large hall of the Kew Asylum being appropriated for sleeping accommodation for female patients, as it will thereby prevent the use of it for religious and amusement purposes, so essential in many cases for the recovery of the inmates. They would urge that more single cells be provided on the female side of the asylum, as the Medical Officer of that division complains greatly of the risk (those requiring them) run of injuring themselves and other patients from sleeping in associated dormitories. The asylum badly wants painting; not only is the appearance untoward, but the wood-work is perishing from the want of it.”

“To relieve the crowded state of the asylums (Kew and Yarra Bend) the Board would earnestly recommend that some of the harmless patients be boarded-out, as they feel convinced they would be usefully employed and a great saving to the country effected.” At the end of the year they again advert to the crowded condition of the asylum, stating that—“Many of the dormitories were crowded, and the day rooms have to be utilised for sleeping accommodation, and the recreation hall, occupied by female patients. Although the day rooms in this colony are not so much used as in England, where the climate requires that the patients should constantly occupy them, still the practice is most objectionable, and should be at once discontinued. The number of separate rooms at Kew Asylum is quite inadequate for the proper safety and treatment of dangerous patients; one noisy person in a large dormitory is very annoying to the quiet occupants, and he is very likely to be assaulted by those who are disturbed by him. Notwithstanding these great drawbacks to this asylum, the number of cures compare favorably with those in England. The patients are well cared for; no less than 450 are daily employed in the gardens, farm, grounds, laundry, workrooms, and at the various occupations about the house. They have an excellent reading room, which is well attended; they have a good cricket ground and bowling green, and are well supplied with books, periodicals, cards, &c. Indeed that part of curative treatment which depends upon occupation and amusement is well cared for and attended to by the Superintendent.”

“Taking into consideration the class of patients in this asylum, 95 per cent. of whom are paupers, and the nature of our climate, we do not think the inmates have

suffered or are likely to suffer any detriment to their health from their present surroundings, which are a great improvement upon their usual residences when in health and at large."

LUNATIC ASYLUM, ARARAT.

TABLE XIV.—Showing the Admissions, Re-admissions, Discharges, and Deaths during the Year 1879.

							Males.	Females.	Total.
In the asylum on 1st January 1879	...	...	...	...	...	...	215	179	394
							Males.	Females.	Total.
Admitted for the first time	...	...	...	...	...	76	32	108	
Re-admitted	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	1	
Transferred during the year	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Retaken	...	...	...	...	...	2	2	4	
Total admitted							79	34	113
Total under care during the year							294	213	507
							Males.	Females.	Total.
Discharged, removed, &c. :—	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Recovered	...	...	...	...	...	26	18	44	
Improved	...	...	...	...	...	2	...	2	
Transferred	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	1	
Escaped	...	...	...	...	...	2	2	4	
Died	...	...	...	...	...	36	9	45	
Total discharged, died, &c., during the year							67	29	96
Remaining in the asylum on the 31st December 1879 (inclusive of absent on trial, males and females)							227	184	411
Average numbers resident during the year							214	176	390

TABLE XV.—Showing the Admissions, Discharges, and Deaths, with the Mean Annual Mortality and Proportion of Recoveries, &c., per Cent. on the Admissions, for the Years 1867 to 1879.

Year.	Admitted.			Discharged.						Died.			Remaining on the 31st December in each Year.			Average Numbers Resident.			Percentage of Cases Recovered and Relieved on Admissions.			Percentage of Deaths on the Average Numbers Resident.						
	Males.	Females.	Total.	Recovered.		Relieved.		Transferred.		Males.	Females.	Total.	Males.	Females.	Total.	Males.	Females.	Total.	Males.	Females.	Total.	Males.	Females.	Total.				
				Males.	Females.	Total.	Males.	Females.	Total.																Males.	Females.	Total.	Males.	Females.	Total.
1867	37	14	51	1	...	1	2	...	...	1	...	1	...	1	85	17	102	64	8	72	8.10	...	8.88	1.56	...	1.38	
1868	82	53	135	27	22	49	7	3	10	...	...	15	3	18	158	112	270	127	90	217	41.46	47.16	43.70	11.81	3.33	8.29	
1869	63	46	109	37	18	55	1	7	8	...	...	18	8	34	156	125	281	154	117	271	60.31	54.34	57.79	16.88	6.83	12.54	
1870	89	44	133	27	34	61	10	3	13	...	...	19	12	31	200	141	341	174	127	301	41.57	84.09	55.63	10.91	9.44	10.29	
1871	74	42	116	39	15	54	2	5	7	...	...	25	2	27	206	161	367	204	151	356	55.40	47.61	52.58	12.25	1.32	7.58	
1872	41	19	60	13	2	15	4	3	7	...	...	16	8	24	215	167	382	206	162	369	41.46	26.31	36.66	7.76	4.93	6.50	
1873	26	13	39	15	10	25	4	5	9	1	...	1	9	5	14	211	161	372	208	159	368	73.07	115.38	87.18	4.32	3.14	3.80	
1874	32	18	50	9	9	18	1	1	2	1	2	3	12	9	21	219	158	377	210	156	367	31.25	55.55	40.00	5.71	5.76	5.72	
1875	21	15	36	17	11	28	...	3	3	1	...	1	10	3	13	212	156	368	216	151	368	80.95	93.33	86.11	4.62	1.98	3.53	
1876	22	19	41	6	8	14	3	2	5	...	1	1	10	6	16	215	158	373	212	153	366	40.90	52.63	46.34	4.71	3.92	4.37	
1877	46	16	62	17	12	29	...	...	...	1	...	1	30	4	34	212	159	371	207	152	360	36.95	75.00	46.77	14.49	2.63	9.44
1878	44	37	81	19	10	29	1	1	1	2	22	7	29	215	179	394	211	162	373	43.18	27.02	35.80	10.42	4.32	7.77
1879	77	32	109	26	18	44	2	...	2	1	...	1	36	9	45	227	184	411	214	176	390	36.36	56.25	42.20	16.82	5.11	11.53	

Statistics.—At the beginning of the year there were 394 patients under care in this asylum, and on the 31st December that number had been increased by 17—12 men and 5 women. The admissions were unusually large during the twelve months : 108 new cases were received, 1 re-admitted, and 4 escaped patients retaken. In no other year since this asylum was opened have the numbers admitted and re-admitted exceeded 81, and the average for some years past has only been about 52. The numbers under care were 294 men and 213 women, a total of 507, as against 458 during the previous year. The large number of new cases brought under treatment has helped to contribute to an increase in the numbers recovered and relieved, as, in the year, 44 are returned as cured and 2 improved—the highest total attained since 1871—the proportion to the admissions being 42.20 in the 100 ; 8 were cured within one month after admission, 15 within three months, 12 within six months, 4 within nine months, 3 between one and two years, and the remaining 2 had been under care for periods over five and seven years each. The mortality, 45, is the highest yet recorded since the asylum was opened, and is equal to 11.53 in every 100 of the daily average numbers resident. Dr. McCreery, the Medical Superintendent, has called my special attention to this result, which he accounts for in the following

manner :—“It was principally occasioned by the very large number of patients admitted suffering from advanced bodily disease ;”—19 deaths having occurred amongst the patients admitted in the year ; one man, O. W. T., was received on the 14th August in a dying state, the day before his death ; and another died during the same month, who had been admitted in July in a very feeble state of health ; E. V., a female patient, was admitted from the Ballarat Benevolent Asylum on the 6th August in almost a dying state, and she only lived until the 17th of the following month ; 31 of the deaths were due to cerebral or spinal diseases, 4 to thoracic diseases, 6 to abdominal diseases, 2 to general debility and old age ; 1 woman met her death by accident, and 1 man committed suicide. On the 31st December, 41 persons are returned as curable—20 men and 21 women ; 12 men and 11 women epileptic, 10 men and 7 women harmless imbeciles ; 13 men and 2 women are adult idiots, 2 idiot boys are under 15 years of age, and there were 15 Chinese patients under care on the same date ; 16 men and 15 women were allowed to leave the asylum on trial during the twelve months, and 5 men and 3 women were discharged cured without having to return. Only 1 man was discharged under the provisions of section 62 of the Lunacy Act, his friends having entered into the necessary bond for his safe custody. The number of patients submitted to restraint and seclusion was very small ; the Medical Superintendent states, however, that in some few cases it is still necessary to make use of the camisole, but expresses a hope that he will soon be able to discard all articles used for the purpose in treatment of patients at this asylum. Out of the total number of patients admitted and re-admitted in the year, 70 men and 30 women were brought by the police ; only 5 men and 2 women were placed under treatment by their friends, and 2 men were sent from the Benevolent Asylum and the gaol.

Casualties.—On the 26th January a Chinese patient, L. P. S., committed suicide by hanging himself from the cord of a window-shutter with a strip of blanket. The usual inquest was held, and no blame was attributed to any member of the staff. As Dr. McCreery, however, considered that this and other shutter cords might be unsafe, he directed the asylum carpenter to examine them all throughout the building, and put up new ones where necessary. L. P. S. was not suspected of suicidal tendencies, and therefore no special measures to prevent self-injury were adopted. On the 8th June a female patient, C. McG., made her escape from the asylum, and her body was found on the following morning on the railway line between Ballarat and Ararat. As this woman had escaped on a previous occasion she was placed on special attention, under charge of a warder. This warder explained that she gave the patient her keys to open a door at the end of her ward, and finding that she did not return, made search, and ascertained that she had left the building by means of these keys. The accident was reported to you on the 13th June, and as it was considered that the warder was seriously to blame in the matter, having placed in the hands of a patient she had special instructions to watch carefully the means whereby she made her escape and met with her death, her dismissal from the public service was recommended as being the only adequate punishment to meet the gravity of her offence. In consideration, however, of the woman's length of service and previous good character, this having been the first offence recorded against her, she was punished by fine of one month's pay, and allowed to retain her position.

Work.—The tables of Appendix A give details of the result of various labors about the asylum. The quantity of goods made up and repaired by male patients in the workshops is not very much, the only item of importance being 400 pairs of men's and 35 pairs of women's boots repaired. The returns from the female workrooms are, however, more satisfactory ; but I think it is possible, by greater attention to the repair of various articles of clothing and bedding, to considerably reduce maintenance rate under these heads at this establishment. Dr. McCreery reports a great improvement to have taken place in the returns of the produce from the asylum gardens during the past year, and that there now seems to be a satisfactory prospect of sufficient supply for the future. In the present year the total supply was 59,677 lbs. of various kinds of vegetables, and during the year 1878 the return was only 39,400 lbs., so it would appear that a judicious selection was made in the site of the new garden, and the anticipations as to future supplies are justified by the results of the present year. Estimating the price of the vegetables at 1½d. per lb., the total value of the garden produce is £372 19s. 7½d. The amount of produce from the farm shows that it is worked with much success, but it has been suggested to me that before any further

marked improvement can be looked for it is necessary to make a dam in one of the paddocks for the purpose of storing water for irrigation in the summer. I think, however, the benefit of this work is somewhat doubtful, as in order to effectually carry on a system of irrigation from any point where storage of water is possible, it would be necessary to erect either a steam pump or windmill, and previous experience of obtaining a supply of water in this manner does not warrant the outlay of any great sum of money on such an experiment. The total quantity of land under cultivation was 94 acres, and the estimated value of all the crops is £1,321 16s. 11d.:—Milk, £634 9s. 7d.; eggs, pork, veal, poultry, and onions, &c., £65 9s. 6d.; mangolds, £160; green food, hay and straw, £439 10s.; pease, wheat, and barley, £20 5s.; and sale of hides, £2 2s. 10d. The expense of the management is as follows:—Salaries, £153 2s. 10d.; seeds, £36 14s.; repairs and shoeing, £19 2s.; forage, £64 13s. 8d.; purchase of stock, bran, manure, hay, &c., £86 5s. 2d.—a total of £359 17s. 8d. Some of the airing courts have been improved by planting trees, and a sunshade has been erected in the female refractory airing court. This court and the corresponding one on the male side require some considerable improvements that it is very desirable should be carried out without delay.

Amusements.—The usual amusements have been carried out as in previous years. The asylum dramatic club gave one performance in the year, and Dr. McCreery has made an effort to form a class to give concerts in the wards during the winter evenings; but he informs me he expects little or no results, as there is want of musical talent in a large portion of the staff. During the month of April a large number of male and female patients were sent to the Easter festival in the township, and the Ararat Christy Minstrel Club gave a very enjoyable performance at the asylum; the patients were also allowed to attend the Ararat sports on the holidays in December.

Religious Services.—The Medical Superintendent informed me that services have been regularly conducted by the chaplains of the Church of England, Presbyterian, and Roman Catholic denominations. A choir has been established in connection with the Church of England, and a number of ladies and gentlemen unconnected with the staff have given their assistance under the leadership of one of the warders.

Inspection.—The following entries were made in the asylum book at my visits of inspection on the 20th and 21st March and on the 22nd and 23rd September:—

20th and 21st March.—Yesterday and to-day I have been engaged in making inspection of this asylum. Since my visit on the 19th December last the following changes have taken place amongst the patients, viz.:—Admitted, 16 men and 6 women; discharged, 7 men and 3 women; died, 11 men and 2 women; transferred, 1 man; escaped, 1 man; retaken, 1 woman; allowed on leave, 1 man and 8 women; returned from leave, 2 men and 1 woman; remaining in the asylum, 211 men and 169 women. Though there is a large number of delicate patients in the asylum, and many of those recently admitted are in feeble bodily health, there was only 1 man confined to bed at the time of my visit, and he was only kept there for purposes of surgical observation. The patients were, generally speaking, free from excitement, and I heard no complaints from any of them, except in a few instances the accustomed one of unlawful detention. No one was in restraint or in seclusion, and there have been no instances of the camisole being employed since my last visit. Gloves have been used at night in the case of some male patients of very destructive habits, and these are all carefully recorded every week in the medical journal.

Of the 13 deaths, 1 was due to sanguineous apoplexy, 1 to dropsy, 1 to dysentery, and 1 to self-strangulation, the remainder being caused by chronic disease of the brain, and other ordinary diseases. In the case of suicide, in addition to the usual inquest, there was some correspondence between the Chief Secretary, the Medical Superintendent, and myself, with the ultimate conclusion that the staff of the establishment was free from blame in the matter.

Divine service is regularly performed, and I am informed that there is always a good attendance of patients and staff.

Occupations and amusements are as heretofore. The dramatic club gave a very successful entertainment this week, which was much enjoyed by numbers of the patients as well as by visitors from Ararat and the neighborhood.

Certain of the smaller works mentioned in my last report of 20th September 1878 are now in course of erection, but no steps have yet been taken to provide additional buildings to meet the requirements of increasing numbers. I consider it necessary, and would recommend accordingly, that the following additions be made:—(1) a detached hospital in each division for 30 men (10 in single rooms) and 20 women (5 in single rooms); (2) a cottage at the homestead for 20 farm workers with attendants; (3) a cottage for 20 male imbeciles and idiots with attendants; (4) a mortuary; (5) a detached bath-room with 6 baths, a dressing-room, and a scullery for each division.

The yield of milk has been below the requirements for several weeks past, owing to the scarcity of feed, consequent upon the protracted drought, rendering it necessary to obtain supply by contract. The deficiency is now becoming less, and it is anticipated that there will not much longer exist any necessity for making purchase. The farm appears in excellent order, and the state of the stock and farm buildings gives evidence of skilful and careful management. A new gardener has entered on duty (the former one having resigned his appointment), and it is hoped that there will soon be an increase in the quantity of vegetables.

I observed nothing calling for special remarks respecting stores or provisions.

The statutory books have been seen and signed, and the recent orders of admission have been found on examination to be in proper form.

22nd and 23rd September.—During yesterday and to-day I have inspected this asylum. Since the last visit (six months ago) the following changes have taken place amongst the patients:—Admitted, 36 men and 22 women; discharged, 10 men and 6 women; died, 18 men and 7 women; allowed on leave, 9 men and 4 women; returned from leave, 7 men and 8 women; remaining in the asylum, 217 men and 182 women. The estimated numbers that can be properly accommodated here are 164 males and 140 females respectively, the present population being 217 and 182, or an excess of 53 men and 42 women. This overcrowding is very objectionable, and should be remedied with the least possible delay.

The admissions have been unusually numerous, and the majority of patients have been in a very weak state from old age or advanced brain disease, and many of these have died not many days after admission. The mortality is above the average; this, however, does not appear due to any preventible cause, but to the debilitated condition of most of the newly received patients. One death was caused by a train running over a female patient, who had escaped and wandered on to the line. The particulars of this occurrence were reported to the Chief Secretary, and the attendant to whose negligence the escape was due had a mitigated punishment awarded to her in consideration of her previous good character during five years' service. A male patient had his right humerus fractured in a struggle with another patient.

Very little restraint is recorded, only 1 female having worn a camisole on one occasion for a period of six hours. This is a great improvement on former practice, and credit is due to the Superintendent and those under him for having effected it.

The stores and provisions were examined, and I perceived no cause to find fault with any of them. I saw most of the patients taking a good dinner in a quiet and orderly manner.

Of works referred to in previous entries a picket fence has been put up in the female airing yard. A door has been made from A and E ward to the airing yard. A requisition for a mortuary has been approved, and the work will probably soon be taken in hand. An improvement has been made by inserting glass panels in the upper part of some of the doors, thus making light and cheerful passages, which before had a dark and gloomy aspect. The following works are again brought under notice:—(1) repairs to sculleries and bath-rooms in various parts of the building; (2) construction of an associated bath-room and scullery on the ground-floor, and detached from the main building; (3) constructing a cottage at the homestead for farm patients and attendants; (4) building a cottage for idiots and imbeciles.

The farm and garden have yielded well considering the bad season which has just passed, and it is expected that in two or three months there will be an abundant supply of good vegetables.

Religious services, occupations, and amusements are as heretofore.

Statutory books are properly entered up to date, and recent orders of admissions are in correct form.

The official visitors also make frequent inspection of the asylum, and report to you once in each month as to the state and condition of the patients, the provisions, and the building. I have read all their reports, and they generally contain expression of opinion that the asylum is in a satisfactory and creditable condition. I find that in May they directed special attention to bad butter, which they found in the store, and in August they report as follows:—"On going through the male division we found in the hospital ward three patients in bed, and some under medical treatment, some of whom seem in an enfeebled state; with the exception of those, the rest appear to be in fair bodily health. At present, and even for a long time past, there has not been a refractory or even a violent patient, nor has there been one under restraint." In September they remark that the deaths have been somewhat numerous during the past few months, but attribute the increase of mortality to the number of weak and enfeebled patients who were then under treatment. In November they drew attention to the treatment of some feeble male patients in single rooms, and suggested their removal to other quarters, where better ventilation would be ensured, as they thought treatment in the cells militated against recovery. It has been impossible, however, to carry out the recommendation of the visitors in this instance until an opportunity offers for building detached hospitals; and it was pointed out that the single rooms used by sick patients each contained 980 cubic feet, and were also fairly ventilated. To improve the ventilation, however, I gave instructions for Tobin's tubes to be introduced into several of them. I again find that in December they suggest some alterations and improvements in the building, that will be made the subject of special enquiry when I visit the asylum; and they recommend that arrangements should be made for outdoor amusements, such as picnics, &c. In September they called special attention to the number under treatment, and expressed opinion that, if increase continued, further accommodation would be absolutely required.

The Mayor of the town of Ararat is *ex officio* an official visitor to the asylum, and it occasionally happens that the Mayor for the time being holds a contract for supplies to the establishment he visits. The undesirability of one gentleman holding two such positions must be apparent, and during the year I have had to call your attention to the matter in connection with visitation by the Mayor, Thos. Tobin, Esq., who was at the same time a contractor for the supply of forage, and it was decided that in future the acceptance of a contract by an official visitor would be regarded as a resignation of visitorship.

LUNATIC ASYLUM, BEECHWORTH.

TABLE XVI.—Showing the Admissions, Re-admissions, Discharges, and Deaths during the Year 1879.

				Males.	Females.	Total.
In the asylum on 1st January 1879	...	...	...	273	200	473
				Males.	Females.	Total.
Admitted for the first time	...	...	...	12	6	18
Re-admitted	...	...	...	3	4	7
Transferred during the year	...	...	...	1	...	1
Retaken	...	...	...	1	...	1
	Total admitted	...	...	17	10	27
	Total under care during the year	...	...	290	210	500
				Males.	Females.	Total.
Discharged, removed, &c. :—	...	...	...	7	5	12
Recovered	...	...	...	...	...	...
Improved	...	...	...	...	...	...
Transferred	...	...	...	...	...	...
Escaped *	...	...	...	3	2	5
Died	...	...	...	9	4	13
	Total discharged, died, &c., during the year	...	...	19	11	30
	Remaining in the asylum on the 31st December 1879 (inclusive of absent on trial, males and females)	...	...	271	199	470
	Average numbers resident during the year	...	...	269	196	465

* One man and two women who did not return from leave are included.

TABLE XVII.—Showing the Admissions, Discharges, and Deaths, with the Mean Annual Mortality and Proportion of Recoveries, &c., per Cent. on the Admissions, for the Years 1867 to 1879.

Year.	Admitted.			Discharged.									Died.			Remaining on the 31st December in each Year.			Average Numbers Resident.			Percentage of Cases Recovered and Relieved on Admissions.			Percentage of Deaths on the Average Numbers Resident.		
	Males.	Females.	Total.	Recovered.			Relieved.			Transferred.			Males.	Females.	Total.	Males.	Females.	Total.	Males.	Females.	Total.	Males.	Females.	Total.	Males.	Females.	Total.
				Males.	Females.	Total.	Males.	Females.	Total.	Males.	Females.	Total.															
1867	17	4	21	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	1	55	16	71	25	9	34	...	...	...	4'00	...	2'90	
1868	19	10	29	6	4	10	...	1	1	...	...	7	...	7	176	119	295	129	83	212	31'57	50'00	39'73	5'40	...	3'30	
1869	19	12	31	11	5	16	2	2	4	1	1	2	9	2	11	171	127	298	173	127	300	68'42	58'33	64'51	5'20	1'57	3'66
1870	16	11	27	5	5	10	...	5	5	1	1	2	6	1	7	176	127	303	171	126	297	31'25	90'90	55'55	3'50	0'79	2'33
1871	27	8	35	10	3	13	1	2	3	...	...	8	2	10	184	128	312	177	126	304	40'74	62'50	45'71	4'51	1'58	3'28	
1872	36	9	45	14	7	21	...	3	3	3	3	3	11	3	14	191	124	315	189	125	315	38'88	111'11	53'33	5'88	2'40	4'44
1873	30	11	41	13	6	19	1	...	1	...	...	14	3	17	192	126	318	190	122	313	46'66	54'54	48'78	7'36	2'45	5'43	
1874	21	11	32	9	6	15	3	1	4	...	...	9	1	10	192	129	321	190	125	315	57'14	63'63	59'37	4'73	0'80	3'17	
1875	25	8	33	10	1	11	1	...	1	...	...	6	3	9	235	132	367	195	129	324	44'00	12'50	36'36	3'07	2'32	2'77	
1876	22	19	41	15	5	20	...	3	3	5	3	8	16	8	24	284	194	478	271	168	439	68'18	42'10	56'09	5'90	4'76	5'46
1877	30	5	35	16	11	27	...	...	...	2	4	6	19	2	21	275	182	457	277	187	464	53'33	...	77'14	6'85	1'06	4'52
1878	28	12	40	18	3	21	1	...	1	1	3	4	7	7	14	273	200	473	267	186	453	67'85	25'00	55'00	2'62	3'76	3'09
1879	15	10	25	7	5	12	...	...	...	...	...	9	4	13	271	199	470	269	196	465	46'66	50'00	48'00	3'35	2'04	2'80	

Statistics.—There were 473 registered patients in this establishment at the end of 1878 ; 18 new patients were received in the year, and 7 were re-admitted, of whom only 5 were brought by their friends, 18 by the police, and 2 were sent from hospital and gaol ; 1 man was transferred and 1 man who had escaped was retaken ; giving the total under care during the twelve months 500 patients—290 men and 210 women ; 12 patients were discharged cured, 5 escaped, and 13 died—leaving under care, on the 31st December, 271 men and 199 women. The proportion of cases recovered and relieved to the admissions is 48 per cent., as against 55 per cent. for the previous year ; but the mortality is very low, being only 2'80 per cent. of the daily average numbers resident. The majority of deaths were due to cerebral diseases, 9 out of the 13 having been due to various forms of disorder under this head ; 2 died from pulmonary consumption, 1 from disease of the heart, and 1 from inflammation of the lungs. On the 31st December only 12 men and 2 women are returned as supposed curable patients ; 16 are epileptics, 116 harmless imbeciles, 7 adult idiots, 1 idiot girl under 15 years of age, and 27 are Chinese patients ; 8 men and 6 women were removed on trial, and 3 men and 5 women were discharged cured when absent with their friends.

The building is much in need of extensive repairs ; the inside nearly all wants painting, the floors of the ward closets are very defective, and the bath-rooms and sculleries stand in urgent need of repair. There is also some fencing and repairs to roads that should receive immediate attention.

Work.—The estimated cost of working the farm is £352 8s. 5d., viz. :—£180 for salaries and wages ; £22 14s. 1d. for seeds ; repairs and horse-shoeing, £14 12s. 3d. ; forage, £67 13s. ; purchase of stock, £36 ; purchase of manure, £9 6s. 8d. ; incidental expenses, £22 2s. 5d. The total value of produce by which saving is effected is only estimated at £181 5s. 8d. ; the items being milk, pork, meat, veal, poultry, eggs, potatoes, bacon, and turnips. There have been, however, a large number of important works carried out under the direction of the farm bailiff, that are estimated to be worth £317 8s., viz. :—Carting earth for ornamental grounds and other purposes ; carting gravel, firewood, and cleaning up yards and airing courts ; sales of stock realised £33 8s. 6d.—the total being £532 2s. 2d. By reference to the table of Appendix A it will be seen that there are a large number of other articles produced which are not taken into calculation in this return, as it was only desired to show the actual value of the farm in connection with the establishment. The hay crop is estimated to be worth £209 1s. 4d. ; turnips, £8 8s. ; vetches, £8 ; straw and green food, £79 9s. 6d. ; oats, £10 ; firewood, £40 19s. The total quantity of vegetables and fruit sent to the store from the gardens is 101,806 lbs., estimated to be worth £679 16s. 3d. The total quantity sent to the store in the previous year was 180,327 lbs. ; but the falling off that has taken place in the returns for the present year are, in a great measure, due to the fact that produce from this source for some years past has been somewhat in excess of the legitimate requirements of the asylum, and it was pointed out to Dr. Watkins that it would be advisable to use a portion of the garden ground

for the purpose of raising root and other crops to feed the cattle at times when there was scarcity of hay or grass. The quantity now raised is equal to an average of 219 lbs. per year to each patient. The amount of new work and of mending that has been performed by the patients in the various work-rooms is given in the tables of the Appendix.

Amusements.—The usual amusements have been carried out as in previous years; they consist principally of concerts, dances, reading, billiards, cards, dominoes, draughts, football, and drives in the waggonette; and an average of 115 men and 69 women are able to join in them during the year. During the month of April a concert was given by some ladies and gentlemen of Beechworth, and it was apparently very much enjoyed by the inmates who were able to attend.

Inspection.—Inspection was made by me on the 26th and 27th of March, and on the 10th and 11th of September. Reports are attached hereto.

26th and 27th March.—During yesterday and to-day I have visited and officially inspected this asylum. Since the date of my last report the following changes have taken place:—Admitted, 5 men and 3 women; discharged, 1 man and 1 woman; died, 1 woman; allowed on leave, 3 men and 2 women; returned from leave, 7 men and 2 women; remaining in the asylum, 273 men and 197 women. The establishment was clean and in good order throughout, and the patients, with very few exceptions, were quiet and orderly in their demeanour; 2 men and 1 woman were confined to bed and 1 man wore a camisole. In this particular case the camisole has been used for a long time with very little intermission, the persistently destructive habits of the patient being the reason assigned for its employment. It seems to me, however, that a determined stand should be made to break through this practice, and that for a portion at least of every day the patient should be freed from restraint, and his quiescence should be sought by the watchfulness of attendants and by medical treatment. The other recorded instances of restraint have been few in number, of short duration, and chiefly for surgical reasons. The only casualty of importance has been a fracture of the left forearm in a female patient by an accidental fall, the circumstances of which she herself described to me. Since the beginning of the year there have occurred many cases of ophthalmia on the male side of the house, but none in the female division. Some are described as having been of much severity, and two of rather a grave character are still under care, but it is satisfactory to record that in no instance has there resulted any impairment of vision, a fact which must be received as evidence of vigilance and skill in medical treatment as well as nursing.

The food which I saw issued to the patients was well cooked and of good quality, but I was sorry again to observe many of the dining tables without table-cloths, and I think it right to urge this matter once more on the attention of the Medical Superintendent, with a view to its being remedied without further delay.

Referring to previous suggestions I have now to record—(1) new piggeries are being built; (2) fire hose has been provided and fitted in all the wards; (3) the wood-lined rooms are being re-boarded on a plan which will give great facilities for cleansing and preventing the harboring of vermin. The following works are required:—(1) painting and whitewashing the inside of the whole building; (2) repairing floors of certain sculleries and bath-rooms, or, what would be better still, abolishing these and building in lieu thereof on the ground-floor in each division an associated bath-room and scullery detached from the main building; (3) a detached hospital in each division; (4) repairs to fences, roads, &c.; (5) construction of wooden dwellings for the farm bailiff, the messenger, and the hall porter; materials for these have been provided, but there are no funds at present to pay for the labor.

The gardens still yield large and satisfactory quantities of good fruit and vegetables, but the crops from the farm are small, and represent (even taking into account the value of milk, eggs, pork, and poultry) but a small surplus over the cost of working it; therefore, unless some improvement is speedily effected, it will be necessary to consider the question of a change in its management.

I have examined the stores, and found all good except some porter, which had been condemned, and which I considered quite unfit for use; and some tobacco, which was of very inferior quality.

The statutory books have been seen and signed, and the recent orders of admission have been found in proper form.

10th and 11th September.—During yesterday and to-day I have made official inspection of this asylum. Since the last visit, on the 27th March, the following changes have taken place amongst the patients:—Admitted, 3 men and 6 women; discharged, 3 men and 3 women; died, 5 men and 2 women; escaped (while on leave), 1 man and 2 women; allowed on leave, 5 men and 2 women; remaining, 269 men and 197 women. The establishment was clean and in good order, and the patients were well provided with clothes, bedding, &c. They appeared generally in good health, and no one was confined to bed. In the female division, however, was a bad case of cancer, which must soon be fatal; and in the male side there has occurred a case of strangulated hernia, with unusual complications, which was operated on by Dr. Moussé (Drs. Dobbryn and Watkins assisting), but, though the operation was successfully carried out, the patient died within twenty-four hours.

I saw most of the supplies in the store, and was satisfied with their quality. The food distributed to the patients was good and well cooked, and I was glad to see tablecloths again in use in the mess-rooms.

Of work adverted to in previous report, new pigstyes have been made, and a cottage for the farm bailiff is in progress. Of those not dealt with, the most urgent are—"repairs to sculleries and bath-rooms," and removing the old wooden fence at rear of male division, and substituting a brick wall for it.

The following produce has been sent in from the farm and garden since last entry:—53,187 lbs. vegetables, 3,550 lbs. fruit, 9,572 lbs. potatoes, 79 dozen eggs, 4,297 qts. milk, 2,465 lbs. of pork, 130 lbs. bacon, 542 lbs. beef, 40 lbs. veal, 29½ lbs. poultry.

The several statutory books have been seen and signed, and the recent orders examined and found correct.

I have seen all the reports made by the official visitors to this asylum, and they are generally of a satisfactory character. They have made suggestion respecting a variety of improvements, and every attention has been given to their recommendations. In some instances want of funds has caused postponement of works, but whenever there is prospect of having them carried out they will be included in requisition. In November they made the following suggestion:—"We would recommend that a coating of gravel of a darker shade should be spread over the refractory yard on the male side, as the present gravel must be very trying to the eyes of both patients and warders." In December they were able to report that the work suggested in the previous month was being carried out.

LUNATIC ASYLUMS, BALLARAT AND SUNBURY.

TABLE XVIII.—Showing the Admissions, Re-admissions, Discharges, and Deaths during the Year 1879.

				Males.	Females.	Total.
In the asylum on 1st January 1879	...	...	...	136	...	136
				Males.	Females.	Total.
Admitted for the first time	...	...	...	...	...	...
Re-admitted	...	...	...	...	...	...
Transferred during the year	...	...	...	66	20	86
Retaken	...	...	...	...	...	...
Total admitted	...	...	...	66	20	86
Total under care during the year	...	...	...	202	20	222
Discharged, removed, &c. :—				Males.	Females.	Total.
Recovered	...	...	...	5	...	5
Improved	...	...	...	1	...	1
Transferred	...	...	...	1	...	1
Escaped	...	...	...	1	...	1
Died	...	...	...	5	...	5
Total discharged, died, &c., during the year	...	...	...	13	...	13
Remaining in the asylum on the 31st December 1879 (inclusive of absent on trial, males and females)	...	...	...	189	20	209
Average numbers resident during the year	...	...	...	127	...	127

TABLE XIX.—Showing the Admissions, Discharges, and Deaths, with the Mean Annual Mortality and Proportion of Recoveries, &c., per Cent. on the Admissions, for the Years 1877 to 1879.

Year.	Admitted.			Discharged.									Died.			Remaining on the 31st December in each Year.			Average Numbers Resident.			Percentage of Cases Recovered and Relieved on Admission.			Percentage of Deaths on the Average Numbers Resident.				
				Recovered.			Relieved.			Transferred.																			
	Males.	Females.	Total.	Males.	Females.	Total.	Males.	Females.	Total.	Males.	Females.	Total.	Males.	Females.	Total.	Males.	Females.	Total.	Males.	Females.	Total.	Males.	Females.	Total.	Males.	Females.	Total.		
1877	...	1	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	20	21	41	12	11	23	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
1878	1	1	2	5	49	54	10	2	12	136	...	136	81	34	115	12.34	5.88	10.43
1879	5	...	5	1	...	1	...	1	...	1	5	...	5	189	20	209	127	3.93	...	3.93

During the year the Sunbury buildings were given to this department in exchange for those at Ballarat. I made arrangements for removal of the patients and goods from the latter establishment on the 1st December, and handed over possession of it to the Acting Inspector of Industrial and Reformatory schools on the 3rd of the same month. I have found it convenient to prepare only one set of returns for both the establishments, and from them it will be seen that there were 136 patients on the books on the 1st January; 66 men and 20 women were transferred from Yarra Bend and Kew during the year, giving the total under care 202 men and 20 women; 5 men were discharged recovered; 1 improved, 1 was transferred to the Yarra Bend, and 5 died. No alterations, so far as discharges are concerned, have taken place in the return for female patients, as the 20 under care on the 31st December had only been transferred after removal to Sunbury; the numbers remaining at the end of the year being 189 men and 20 women. The labor returns from the Ballarat Asylum show that 15,118 lbs. of vegetables had been grown and issued for use; 5 tons of green food were produced for the cattle; 286 lbs. of veal and 1,558 lbs. of fresh pork were sent into store; and the quantity of milk produced was 11,954 quarts. The sale of pigs realised £14 os. 4d., and hides 11s. 6d. Owing to the lateness of the season, no great amount of work has yet been done at Sunbury beyond cleaning up the wards, repairing walls and fences, and a crop of hay, valued at £35, grown by the Schools department, which was cut and saved in December.

Inspection.—Ballarat Asylum, 22nd March.—Visited and inspected. The rooms and offices are in excellent order, and the patients appear to be treated with every care and attention. There are now 131 patients in the asylum and a staff of 8 male warders. Since the beginning of the year there have been 53 cases of ophthalmia, and 23 now remain under treatment. I am informed that many of the cases were of great severity, and the fact that they have now nearly all recovered with vision unimpaired must be taken as evidence of no small skill in their medical management and great assiduity in their nursing. One of the male warders was badly affected with ophthalmia, but is reported improving, and he is now absent on his annual leave.

Ballarat Asylum, 20th and 22nd September.—Visited and inspected. Found the patients well cared for in all respects, and the establishment in excellent order in every part. Made some preliminary arrangements with Mr. Baldwin for transfer of patients to Sunbury.

The Board of Official Visitors to the Ballarat establishment, Messrs. Long and Russell, have made frequent visitation, and copies of their reports have always been forwarded for your perusal. I have seen them all, and I am glad to say they are uniformly of a most favorable character. On the 1st December, the occasion of their last visit, they make the following report, which I think it right to quote:—"We have visited the above institution this day (1st December), and, as usual, found it clean and in good order, and the inmates apparently well cared for and comfortable. Since the removal of the female patients we have not the slightest reason to find fault with the management of the institution. This being our last visit, we take the opportunity of expressing our opinion that a more suitable man than Mr. Baldwin for the position he occupies (in charge of asylum) could not be easily found. We also have much pleasure in stating that during our term of office we have always found the Medical Officer (Mr. Bunce) very attentive indeed to the duties of his office. We also beg to tender our best thanks to the Visiting Inspector (Dr. Paley) for the cordial manner in which he has tendered us advice and assistance whenever we found it necessary to consult him."

E. PALEY,
Inspector of Lunatic Asylums.

APPENDICES.

APPENDIX A.

RETURN showing the Average Number of Patients Employed during the Year 1879.

Occupations.	Males.					Occupations.	Females.				
	Yarra Bend.	Kew.	Ararat.	Beechworth.	Ballarat and Sunbury.		Yarra Bend.	Kew.	Ararat.	Beechworth.	Ballarat and Sunbury.
Farm and garden labor	114	103	58	55	26	Fancy work ...	2	2	8	...	...
Household work ...	186	105	54	65	15	Household work ...	56	76	26	42	...
Workshops ...	21	10	3	14	3	Laundry work ...	46	45	15	19	...
Miscellaneous ...	10	18	...	9	17	Sewing ...	127	91	14	41	...
Totals ...	331	236	115	143	61	Totals ...	231	214	63	102	...

RETURN of Produce from the Asylum Farms during the Year 1879.

Item.	Yarra Bend.	Kew.	Ararat.	Beechworth.	Ballarat and Sunbury.
Barley ...	90 bshls.	55 bshls.	40 bshls.	...	...
Beef ...	...	...	...	960 lbs.	...
Butter ...	1,056 lbs.	...	...	...	...
Canary seed ...	...	...	...	...	...
Carrots ...	8,960 lbs.	24,640 lbs.	...	...	...
Eggs ...	301½ doz.	138½ doz.	322 dozen	229½ doz.	...
Firewood ...	...	543½ tons	...	252 tons	...
Green food...	33,085 bdl.	25,000 bdl.	96 tons	30 "	5 tons
Hay ...	90 tons	68 tons	84 "	32 "	...
Mangold ...	62,930 bls.	100 "	160 "	...	...
Milk ...	61,510 qts.	60,534 qts.	30,455 qts.	11,370 qts.	11,954 qts.
Pease ...	...	60 bshls.	10 bshls.	...	...
Pork ...	5,096 lbs.	17,761 lbs.	3,296 lbs.	3,476 lbs.	1,558 lbs.
Potatoes ...	17,220 "	33,600 "	...	3,184 "	...
Poultry ...	90 "	...	20 lbs.	44½ "	...
Straw ...	18 tons	2 tons	5 tons	2 tons	...
Turnips ...	...	...	...	30 cwt.	...
Veal ...	980 lbs.	1,564 lbs.	554 lbs.	256 lbs.	268 lbs.
Wheat ...	...	20 bshls.	30 bshls.	...	...
Onions ...	...	...	240 lbs.	...	...
Bacon ...	...	...	...	130 lbs.	...
Oats ...	...	...	...	40 bshls.	...
Gravel ...	...	...	...	95 cub. yds.	...
Vetches ...	...	...	...	8 bshls.	...
Seed, rye grass	90 bshls.	...	...	...	...

RETURN of Produce from the Asylum Gardens during the Year 1879.

Item.	Yarra Bend.	Kew.	Ararat.	Beechworth.	Ballarat and Sunbury.
	lbs.	lbs.	lbs.	lbs.	lbs.
Artichokes ...	...	...	...	45	...
Beans ...	4,209	1,880	1,343	4,192	40
" French ...	580	...	...	...	...
Beet ...	...	...	...	...	836
Carrots ...	3,765	8,163	367	492	800
Cabbages ...	48,400	53,227	17,643	30,157	8,843
Cauliflowers ...	9,460	14,903	7,475	1,529	...
Celery ...	5,095	1,216	397	...	...
Cress ...	...	...	130	...	18
Cucumbers...	240	117	...	12	...
Lettuces ...	3,757	1,698	1,498	...	250
Marrows ...	8,992	12,981	10,537	12,305	250
Onions and leeks	11,101	5,060	2,789	865	736
Pease ...	700	16	3,479	2,207	822
Parsnips ...	3,497	8,186	...	2,803	10
Pumpkins ...	8,405	14,846	...	24,068	278
Parsley ...	...	...	...	...	560
Potatoes ...	...	...	...	11,007	...
Radishes ...	1,871	5,917	1,735	1,108	125
Rhubarb ...	1,276	535	118	1,300	...
Soup vegetables	3,391	668	...	100	250
Spinach ...	180	...	262	...	...
Tomatoes ...	2,250	5,937	160	28	455
Turnips ...	8,562	5,452	11,491	3,064	678
Fruit, melons, &c.	4,591	1,494	253	6,524	167
Sage ...	12	...	...	...	...

RETURN of Clothing Made up and Repaired by Male Patients during the Year 1879.

Item.	Yarra Bend.		Kew.		Ararat.		Beechworth.		Ballarat and Sunbury.	
	Made up.	Repaired.	Made up.	Repaired.	Made up.	Repaired.	Made up.	Repaired.	Made up.	Repaired.
Boots—men's	1	...	...	38	...	400	...	681	...	...
" " soled	600	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	133
" " soled and heeled	314	...	697	...	...	...	...	...	417
" women's	35	...	116	...	...
" " soled	350	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
" " soled and heeled	124	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Carpet yards	30	...	...	...
Canvas caps	33	...	2	4	...	...
" dresses	14	147	6	33	8	...	2	30	...	21
" trousers	2	...	...	...
" jumpers	2	...	...	...
" rugs	2	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
" slippers	41	...	...
" suit	1	...	...	...
Coats	7	129	16	772	...	...	...	558	...	373
Gloves—canvas and leather	1	65	...	32	...	20	...	17	3	...
Harness pieces	8	...	...
Hose pieces	3	...	...
Trousers	48	1,843	19	2,084	7	...	...	1,616	...	509
Vests	9	204	16	497	...	...	...	85	...	314
Woollen rugs
Cricket and foot balls	24	...	...	...	...	2	...
Mattresses—hair	13	...	...
Straps and buckles...	64	...	...
Tunics—serge	1	110	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Spittoons	9	2
Dippers	2	2
Shirts—cotton	1,015
Vests—flannel	45
Socks	1,194
Drawers	4
Ticks—bed	4
" pillow	2
Blankets	7
Sheets	4
Domestics	158
Pots—pint	21
" tea and coffee	4
Lamps	9
Cans—toilet	1
Buckets—E. C.	1

RETURN of Clothing Made up and Repaired by Female Patients during the Year 1879.

Item.	Yarra Bend.		Kew.		Ararat.		Beechworth.		Ballarat and Sunbury.	
	Made up.	Repaired.	Made up.	Repaired.	Made up.	Repaired.	Made up.	Repaired.	Made up.	Repaired.
Aprons ... ..	...	...	30	...	12	...	...	...	...	...
Badges ... ..	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Blinds—holland ... ..	...	...	...	...	35	...	...	...	...	...
Blankets ... ..	...	40	...	176	...	63	...	556	...	...
Bonnets—sun	168	499	300	840	...	535	33	2,282	...	...
Coats ... ..	...	...	...	...	...	362	...	1,653	...	...
Chemises—cotton	254	3,710	669	2,352	40	779	171	3,096	...	...
" flannel	123	132	264	877	121	418	21	2,889	...	...
Drawers	200	123	270	330	50	...	61	317	...	...
Dresses—canvas and duck	...	46	...	466	...	362	...	545	...	...
" linsey and print	537	2,925	611	2,549	386	870	221	3,469	...	...
Gowns—night ... ..	...	100	...	10	...	44	...	...	...	...
Jumpers—canvas ... ..	...	...	...	180	...	...	...	2,954	...	...
Mattresses—hair ... ..	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
" cases ... ..	...	...	...	...	...	33	...	...	...	...
Petticoats—cotton	472	1,050	189	865	216	658	...	2,396	...	...
" flannel	194	1,355	385	1,060	232	794	...	2,560	...	...
Pinafores ... ..	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Pillows—hair ... ..	...	...	...	...	18	...	...	...	...	...
" cases ... ..	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Pillowslips	120	502	1,750	335	170	56	300	...	...	...
Rugs ... ..	...	61	...	...	...	51	...	...	...	...
Sheets	891	1,487	1,400	1,989	641	91	422	2,120	...	...
Shirts—cotton	764	4,481	1,216	4,845	338	2,685	407	2,271	...	...
" serge ... ..	...	264	417	489	100	402	165	1,594	...	...
Socks and stockings	...	8,329	...	4,812	...	4,427	...	3,895	...	...
Shrouds ... ..	...	...	...	...	...	...	20	...	...	...
Tablecloths	215	42	157	288	20	...	40	516	...	...
Ticks—bed	249	90	470	...	160	77	72	1,045	...	...
" pillow	110	139	262	...	24	...	6	915	...	...
Towels	460	19	160	188	50	...	30	385	...	...
Trousers ... ..	...	...	...	...	...	2,594	...	2,067	...	...
Vests ... ..	...	...	...	...	...	483	...	1,080	...	...
" flannel	122	371	380	472	120	445	121	...	...	...
Wool jackets ... ..	...	539	...	272	...	48	...	34	...	...
Curtains—knitted ... ..	...	...	...	...	...	...	56	...	...	...

APPENDIX B.

BENDIGO GOLD DISTRICT HOSPITAL.

TABLE showing the Admissions, Re-admissions, Discharges, and Deaths during the Year 1879 in the Lunacy Ward.

								Males.	Females.	Total.
In the ward on 1st January 1879	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
								Males.	Females.	Total.
Admitted for the first time	...	...	...	...	...	14	5	19	
Re-admitted	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Transferred during the year	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Retaken	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Total admitted	...	...	...	...	...	14	5	19	
Total under care during the year	...	...	...	...	...	14	5	19	
								Males.	Females.	Total.
Discharged, removed, &c. :—	...	...	...	...	...	6	2	8	
Recovered	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Improved	...	...	...	...	...	6	3	9	
Transferred	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Escaped	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Died	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	1	
Total discharged, died, &c., during the year	...	...	...	...	...	13	5	18	
Remaining in the ward on the 31st December 1879 (inclusive of absent on trial, males and females)	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	1	

APPENDIX C.

CASTLEMAINE DISTRICT HOSPITAL.

TABLE showing the Admissions, Re-admissions, Discharges, and Deaths during the Year 1879 in the Lunacy Ward.

								Males.	Females.	Total.
In the ward on 1st January 1879	1	...	1
								Males.	Females.	Total.
Admitted for the first time	...	...	...	...	...	19	5	24	
Re-admitted	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Transferred during the year	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Retaken	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Total admitted	...	...	...	...	...	19	5	24	
Total under care during the year	...	...	...	...	...	20	5	25	
								Males.	Females.	Total.
Discharged, removed, &c. :—	...	...	...	...	...	5	3	8	
Recovered	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	1	
Improved	...	...	...	...	...	14	1	15	
Transferred	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Escaped	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Died	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Total discharged, died, &c., during the year	...	...	...	...	...	19	5	24	
Remaining in the ward on the 31st December 1879 (inclusive of absent on trial, males and females)	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	1	

APPENDIX D.

GEE LONG INFIRMARY AND BENEVOLENT ASYLUM.

TABLE showing the Admissions, Re-admissions, Discharges, and Deaths during the Year 1879 in the Lunacy Ward.

							Males.	Females.	Total.
In the ward on 1st January 1879
							Males.	Females.	Total.
Admitted for the first time	...	...	...	...	...	19	16	35
Re-admitted	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	1
Transferred during the year	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Retaken	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Total admitted	...	...	...	...	...	20	16	36
Total under care during the year	...	...	...	...	...	20	16	36
Discharged, removed, &c.:—							Males.	Females.	Total.
Recovered	...	...	...	...	...	9	4	13
Improved	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Transferred	...	...	...	...	...	10	12	22
Escaped	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Died	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	1
Total discharged, died, &c., during the year	...	...	...	...	...	20	16	36
Remaining in the ward on the 31st December 1879 (inclusive of absent on trial, males and females)	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...

APPENDIX E.

TABLE showing the Number of Patients Visited and the Number of Miles Travelled by the Inspector of Lunatic Asylums during the Year 1879.

Place and Date of Visit.	Number of Patients at Date of Visit.		Number of Miles Travelled.		Place and Date of Visit.	Number of Patients at Date of Visit.		Number of Miles Travelled.	
	Number.	Total.	Number.	Total.		Number.	Total.	Number.	Total.
Yarra Bend Asylum.*					Ballarat Asylum :				
Kew Asylum :					22nd March ...	131	6		
17th January ...	878	878	2	2	20th September ...	126	6		
Ararat Asylum :					22nd September ...	126	6	383	†18
21st March ...	380		328		Cremorne Licensed House :				
23rd September ...	399	779	328	656	1st April ...	17	6		
Beechworth Asylum :					13th May ...	18	6		
27th March ...	470		355		30th June ...	25	6		
11th September ...	466	936	355	710	1st September ...	23	6		
					12th December ...	24	6	107	30
					Totals ...	...	...	3,083	1,416

* Visited by Board of Official Visitors—Dr. Barker, Chairman ; Drs. Youl, Campbell, Knaggs, and Iffia ; and Messrs. Farrell, Mason, and Dixon.

† Balance of distance included in Ararat.

APPENDIX F.

LICENSED HOUSE FOR THE INSANE, CREMORNE.

TABLE 1.—Showing the Admissions, Re-admissions, Discharges, and Deaths during the Year 1879.

							Males.	Females.	Total.
In the licensed house on 1st January 1879							8	11	19
							Males.	Females.	Total.
Admitted for the first time							42	17	59
Re-admitted							17	...	17
Transferred during the year ... ..							...	...	...
Retaken ... ..							...	...	...
Total admitted							59	17	76
Total under care during the year							67	28	95
							Males.	Females.	Total.
Discharged, removed, &c. :—							49	13	62
Recovered							3	2	5
Improved							3	2	5
Transferred ... ..							...	...	...
Escaped							1	...	1
Died ... ..							...	...	...
Total discharged, died, &c., during the year							56	17	73
Remaining in the licensed house on the 31st December 1879 (inclusive of absent on trial, males and females)							11	11	22
Average numbers resident during the year							9	11	20

LICENSED HOUSE FOR THE INSANE, CREMORNE.

TABLE 2.—Showing the Admissions, Discharges, and Deaths, with the Mean Annual Mortality and Proportion of Recoveries, &c., per Cent. on the Admissions, for the Years 1867 to 1879.

Year.	Admitted.			Discharged.									Died.			Remaining on the 31st December in each Year.			Average Numbers Resident.			Percentage of Cases Recovered and Relieved on Admissions.			Percentage of Deaths on the Average Numbers Resident.		
	Males.	Females.	Total.	Recovered.			Relieved.			Transferred.			Males.	Females.	Total.	Males.	Females.	Total.	Males.	Females.	Total.	Males.	Females.	Total.	Males.	Females.	Total.
				Males.	Females.	Total.	Males.	Females.	Total.	Males.	Females.	Total.															
1867	3	4	7	3	2	5	..	1	1	..	..	..	..	..	5	73	78	6	73	79	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
1868	25	10	35	22	6	28	3	20	23	..	..	51	51	..	..	7	6	11	5	23	28	..	..	..	..	..	..
1869	33	20	53	23	15	38	1	1	1	..	..	4	4	..	..	10	8	15	7	14	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
1870	36	15	51	25	14	39	2	..	2	..	..	2	6	..	..	7	7	17	8	15	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
1871	37	7	44	28	6	34	4	..	4	..	..	1	6	..	..	7	8	15	8	15	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
1872	35	12	47	25	11	36	2	..	2	..	..	4	5	..	..	10	8	18	7	15	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
1873	29	6	35	26	8	34	4	..	5	..	..	..	..	..	..	4	4	12	4	14	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
1874	41	15	56	41	8	49	..	2	2	..	..	..	..	..	7	9	16	7	13	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
1875	25	12	37	19	9	28	1	1	2	..	..	1	2	..	..	10	9	19	9	17	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
1876	36	12	48	32	10	42	5	1	6	..	..	2	2	..	..	9	10	19	9	14	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
1877	39	10	49	29	6	35	4	..	4	..	..	2	3	..	..	12	12	26	10	11	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
1878	44	8	52	42	5	47	5	2	7	..	..	1	4	..	..	14	11	25	10	20	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
1879	59	17	76	49	13	62	3	2	5	..	..	2	5	..	..	11	11	22	9	20	88.14	88.24	88.16	11.11	..	..	5

LICENSED HOUSE FOR THE INSANE, CREMORNE.

TABLE 3.—Showing the Causes of Death during the Year 1879.

Cause of Death.	Males.	Females.	Total.
Cerebral or spinal diseases :—			
Apoplexy and paralysis	1	...	1

LICENSED HOUSE FOR THE INSANE, CREMORNE.

TABLE 4.—Showing the Length of Residence of those Discharged Recovered and of those who have Died during the Year 1879.

Length of Residence.	Recovered.			Died.		
	Males.	Females.	Total.	Males.	Females.	Total.
Under 1 month ...	38	3	41	1	...	1
From 1 to 3 months ...	5	2	7	...	...	...
" 3 " 6 " ...	3	4	7	...	...	...
" 6 " 9 " ...	1	2	3	...	...	...
" 9 " 12 " ...	2	...	2	...	...	...
" 1 " 2 years ...	...	2	2	...	...	...
" 2 " 3 " ...	...	...	...	...	...	...
" 3 " 5 " ...	...	...	...	...	...	...
" 5 " 7 " ...	...	...	...	...	...	...
" 7 " 10 " ...	...	...	...	...	...	...
" 10 " 12 " ...	...	...	...	...	...	...
" 12 " 15 " ...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Over 15 years ...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Total ...	49	13	62	1	...	1

LICENSED HOUSE FOR THE INSANE, CREMORNE.

TABLE 5.—Showing the Ages of Admissions, Discharges, and Deaths during the Year 1879.

Ages.	Admissions.			Discharges.						Deaths.		
				Recovered.			Removed, Relieved or otherwise.					
	Males.	Females.	Total.	Males.	Females.	Total.	Males.	Females.	Total.	Males.	Females.	Total.
From 5 to 10 years ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
" 10 " 15 " ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
" 15 " 20 " ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
" 20 " 30 " ...	4	5	9	3	2	5	...	1	1	...	...	...
" 30 " 40 " ...	14	5	19	14	6	20	1	1	2	...	...	...
" 40 " 50 " ...	35	5	40	28	3	31	3	2	5	1	...	1
" 50 " 60 " ...	4	1	5	3	1	4	2	...	2	...	...	...
" 60 " 70 " ...	2	1	3	1	1	2	...	...	...	...	...	...
" 70 " 80 " ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
" 80 " 90 " ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
90 and upwards	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Unknown ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Total ...	59	17	76	49	13	62	6	4	10	1	...	1