

The Asylum for Idiots. Instituted October 27, 1847. Incorporated by Royal Charter, 1862. Establishment: Earlswood, Red Hill, Surrey. Office: 29, Poultry, London, E.C.

Contributors

Earlswood Asylum.

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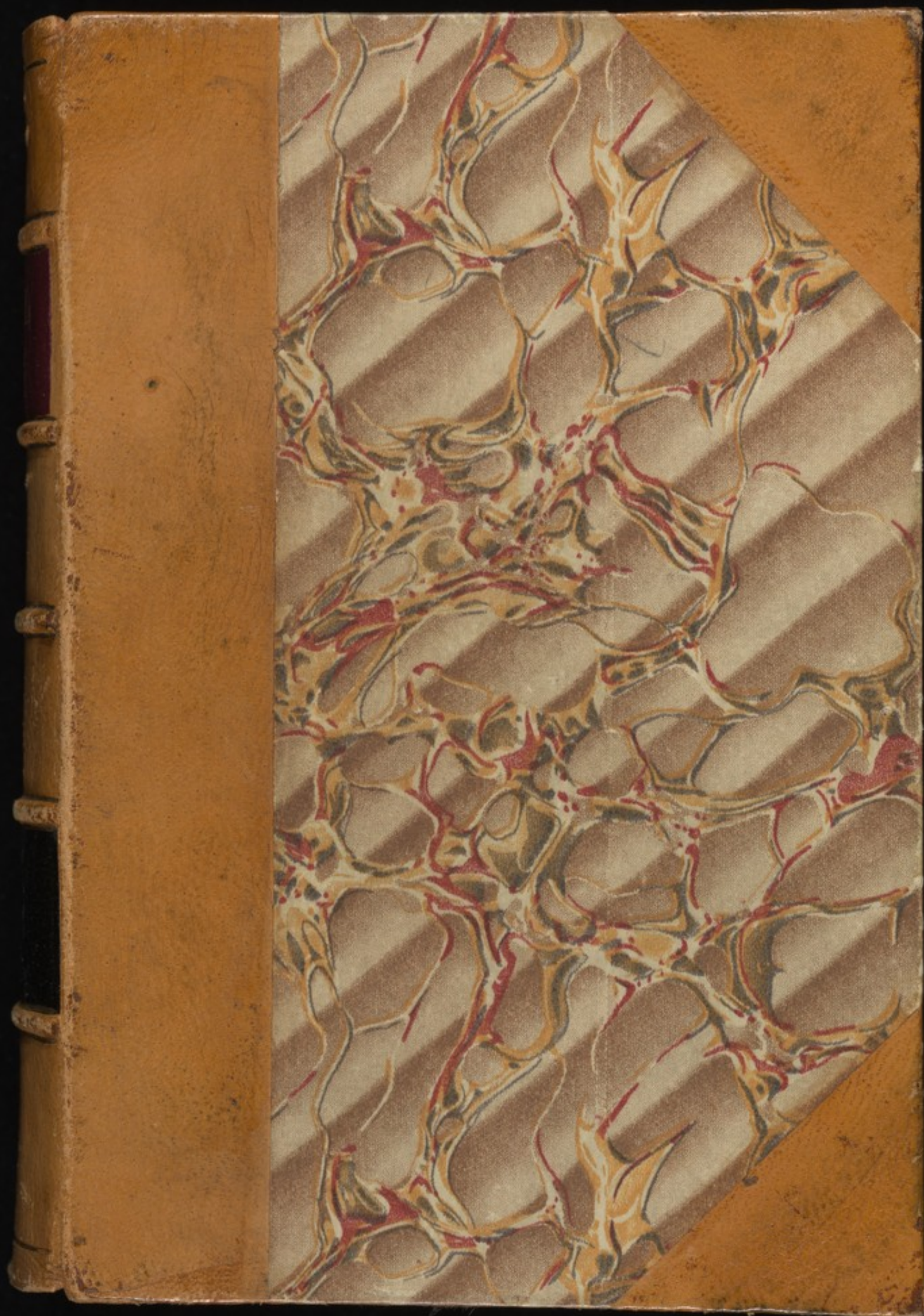
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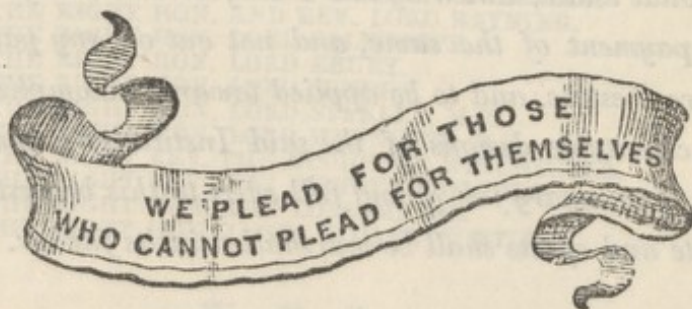
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THE
Under the Patronage of
 ASYLUM FOR IDIOTS.

INSTITUTED OCTOBER 27, 1847.

INCORPORATED BY ROYAL CHARTER, 1862.



ESTABLISHMENT:
 EARLSWOOD, RED HILL, SURREY.

OFFICE—29, POULTRY, LONDON, E.C.

1866.

FORM OF BEQUEST.

~~Handwritten text, possibly a signature or name, crossed out with a horizontal line.~~

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REPORT-1866.

THE Board, in presenting their usual Annual Report, are gratified in being able to state that the past year happily testifies to no diminution of the prosperity which it has been their good fortune to record in past years; and, notwithstanding the loss by death of several munificent Subscribers and the increased price of provisions, they have been able to meet their liabilities, to admit the large number of SIXTY children by election during the year, and they have agreed to elect THIRTY to-day—this will make a total in the Establishment of 446 Inmates, with the necessary staff of Officers, Attendants, and Servants.

With devout thankfulness they refer to the extraordinary health and light mortality of the family, most of whom are physically as well as mentally weak.

The Society has sustained the loss of many

valued supporters, nevertheless the Annual Subscriptions show a steady increase, and to these the Board chiefly look.

Notice of the following Legacies has been received, some of them have been paid, others are contingent :—

Richard Thornton, Esq.	£2,000
Mrs. Elizabeth Wood	200
William Hollins, Esq.	150
Mrs. Charlotte Turner	100
Miss Maria C. Garnett	100
Mrs. Harriet Sheldon (3 per cents.) ...	100
John Saunders, Esq.	50
Mariano Fernandez, Esq.	50
Miss Margaret Hunter—Moiety of Residue of Property.	

Public meetings have been again addressed by the Rev. Edwin Sidney, the earnest friend of the Charity, at Bath and Bristol ; these were attended by many influential persons in both places, who gave a hearty reception to the rev. gentleman and the Secretary. Upwards of £400, and Seventy Annual Subscribers were subsequently obtained by the personal calls of Mr. Nicholas, who was so fortunate as to obtain the kind assistance of Mr. George Thomas and Mr. William Terrell, of Bristol, both well-known merchants of that opulent city. Additional sums are being each week received. A meeting had been arranged for at Southampton, and the late Lord Palmerston had most kindly

promised to preside; the lamented death of that illustrious statesman frustrated the expectations of the Board, and the Charity suffered an incalculable loss.

Several eminent and distinguished men have visited the Asylum during the year, among whom may be mentioned Professor Owen and Lord Dufferin, and all have expressed the high gratification and deep interest they derived from what they witnessed.

Lord Dufferin kindly presided at the Annual Festival, which was a great success. His Lordship's touching eloquence made a deep impression; a copy of that and the other speeches has already been sent to each Subscriber; the sum announced was £2,300.

An Appeal was made to the friends of the Payment Cases for Contributions towards an Organ, and £155 have already been sent in; the Board hope next year to announce that the Organ has been erected, and the total cost contributed.

Through the kind offices of a member of the Board, Mr. Davis Sims, Messrs. Broadwood & Sons have presented the Institution with a handsome Grand Pianoforte, of considerable value, and Messrs. John Moore & Sons, Clerkenwell, have most generously offered a Turret Clock and Bell of 2 cwt., of the

value of £140. To these gentlemen the Board, on behalf of the Subscribers, beg to tender their hearty thanks. Many minor presents, both for the use and adornment of the Asylum and the amusement of the Inmates, have been made by several Ladies and Gentlemen, warm supporters of the Charity; and while on this subject, the Board quote from the Dinner speech of their esteemed Treasurer, Mr. Alderman Abbiss—"that if any persons when visiting the Asylum think there is anything which will conduce to the comfort of the Inmates, the Board will be happy to receive it."

The Summer Fête was attended by a large number of the Subscribers, and was a happy and joyous day to the Inmates, producing effects and impressions of a most beneficial character.

Sermons have been preached on behalf of the Charity by the following gentlemen:—

The Rev. G. C. BERKELEY,
 „ JOHN BLACKBURN,
 „ ALLAN CHEALES,
 „ CLEMENT DUKES,
 „ DR. GOULBURN,
 „ HUGH MCSORLEY,
 „ F. W. TREMLETT,
 „ G. T. POCKOCK,

to whom the Board desire to testify their gratitude. Sermons are eminently adapted to bring the claims of the Institution before the attention of large numbers, and the co-operation of more of the Clergy and Ministers is earnestly entreated.

The following extracts from the Report of the Visit of the Commissioners in Lunacy will prove gratifying:—

“*June, 1865.*—There are now 418 Patients on the Books of the Asylum, viz., 286 Males and 132 Females—of these 4 Males and 1 Female are away on leave. We have this day personally examined every Patient, and inspected all their Wards.

“We are glad to be able to report very favourably of the condition of the Institution and its inmates. The children were, with very few exceptions on the male side only, clean and well clothed, and they presented a cheerful and happy appearance.

“Their manner towards those who were in attendance on them gave the best assurance that they are kindly treated.

“We saw the children at dinner. In the hall there were 160 Male and 82 Female Patients, the rest were served in their respective Wards. The food seemed to be very good and abundant, but no beer was allowed.

"We are glad to find that during the past year the health of the Patients has been excellent, and only fourteen deaths have occurred. Of these, eight were from Phthisis and six from Epilepsy. To-day very few were in bed.

"Various structural improvements have been effected. A new corridor, with bed-rooms over, has been added to the male division, and much progress has been made in the workshop block, where, however, much yet remains to be done. The old workshops will shortly be disused, as they are too small, and otherwise ill-adapted for their purpose.

"All the rooms which we inspected were clean, and the bedding throughout in excellent order.

"The numbers now in the house are so large that the attention of the Committee has been drawn to the subject of the sufficiency of the Medical Staff, and we are glad to find that they have it in contemplation to appoint an Assistant Medical Officer.

"To Dr. Down every credit is due for his very efficient management of the Institution, which continues to shew signs of progress and improvement at each of our succeeding visits.

(Signed) "G. C. CAMPBELL, } Commissioners in
"ROBT. NAIRNE, } Lunacy."

The Board have two important announcements to make ; one of a most painful and sorrowful character—the loss by death of that eminent, amiable, and benevolent gentleman, Dr. Conolly, one of the early promoters of this Institution, and for many years, in conjunction with the late Dr. Andrew Reed, one of the Honorary Secretaries ; though, from increasing infirmities, he had for some two or three years been prevented taking any active part in the proceedings of this Institution, yet the Board will feel and mourn his decease—known throughout the world as the friend of the Lunatic and the Idiot, his name will be cherished with affectionate veneration, and his removal felt to be an irreparable loss.

The other announcement, and to which the Board ask the serious attention of their Friends and the Public, is that THE ASYLUM IS NOW FULL, whilst the number of applicants is continually increasing, as the present Polling Papers testify. As mentioned in the Report of 1865, the Board propose to double the capacity of the present Building, for which there is every facility, but they deprecate incurring a debt, and desire to advance in proportion to the sums contributed.

The extension of the Laundry and the new Workshops now in course of erection have been

done under the direction and superintendence of the Steward; they are proofs of Mr. Brown's skill and ability, and the Board highly appreciate so valuable an officer.

The Board now resign their trust with great confidence, thankfulness, and satisfaction; they leave no debts or burdens for their successors, but an Institution in a high state of efficiency, with an able and zealous staff of officers; and they pray that God may still more eminently bless the efforts made on behalf of the afflicted ones, and dispose the hearts of the benevolent to greater generosity, so that the desired objects of the enlargement and the increased accommodation may be accomplished.

P.S.—The Board have added, as an Appendix, selections from the Reports of the Schoolmaster and Schoolmistress, which will be found very interesting; they at the same time wish it to be understood that the whole of the educational arrangements are under the direction of their Resident Medical Superintendent, who adapts them to the mental and physical condition of each inmate.

REPORT

OF THE

MEDICAL SUPERINTENDENT TO THE BOARD.

IN presenting his Eighth Annual Report, your Superintendent is happy in being able again to call your attention to the continued prosperity of the Institution, and to tender the retrospect of a year which has been marked by a steady advance in the number of the recipients of your bounty, by a freedom from serious casualties of any kind, and by a growing reputation throughout the British dominions.

Commencing the year with 404 inmates, and terminating with 421, of whom 289 are males, and 132 females, an increase of 17 has resulted; a larger increase, however, would have taken place but for the want of space to meet the demand. Many have been waiting for vacancies, but it was necessary to reserve room for the addition to the inmates which this day's election will entail, and on

the reception of whom the structure at Earlswood will be completely filled.

The health of the Establishment has been remarkably good. There has been an absence of epidemic disease, and the accidents have been both slight and few. Indeed, it has been a source of much gratification to your Superintendent, in reviewing the last eight years, to observe that, with so numerous and helpless a population, a population depending so much on the unceasing attention of the staff, not a single case of accidental death has taken place.

The western end of the Laundry, to the progress of which attention was drawn in the last Report, is now completed, and while accommodating the domestics employed therein, and adding, therefore, to their comfort, furnishes ample space for the more complete working of that part of the establishment.

The prominent event of the past year has been the commencement of the workshops, the foundation-stone of which was laid by the Treasurer, Mr. Alderman Abbiss, in October last. They are being progressed with as rapidly as the weather will permit, and will supply the important desiderata of spacious and convenient workshops apart from the main building. They will comprise well-ventilated

rooms for industrial training, mat-making, joinery, brush-making, printing, shoe-making, painting, staining, and varnishing, plumbing, and smith's work. They will form an eastern termination to the Laundry, and will present in their entirety a pleasing façade, protecting the boys' playground from the north wind. Besides furnishing accommodation which has been long needed, they will provide to some extent increased space for inmates by freeing those rooms in the main building which have been hitherto appropriated to industrial pursuits.

The announcement that the number which will be added to the inmates by this day's election will completely fill the present building, must deeply impress the friends of the Charity with the necessity of responding to your appeal for increasing the size of the edifice. Moreover, there are other expenses which cannot be long postponed. In his Report for 1864, your Superintendent, in referring to the Farm, stated that "the profits arising from this department might be considerably increased by the erection of suitable farm-buildings to replace those purchased with the estate, and which are in a seriously dilapidated condition." The lapse of two years adds much force to the re-iteration of this sentiment. Sixty

more patients, and their corresponding attendants, draw from it their supply of milk, and demand an increased amount of stock. A great deal of the preparation of food for the cattle has to be done by the inmates in the open air, regardless of the inclemency of the season, for lack of proper accommodation, and a few more such stormy nights as the past season has produced will, in all probability, make a rapid clearance of barns, stables, and sheds. It is a matter for congratulation that hitherto the stock of the establishment has not suffered in the slightest degree from the disease which has produced such havoc in the dairy farms of the kingdom.

During the past year, an underground tank has been built, capable of holding 120,000 gallons, to intercept the remaining two-thirds of the rain water which falls on the roof of the building, in order to render it available for Laundry purposes.

The continual thirst of many of the inmates, and the expedients to which they resort to obtain water, even though unfit for drinking purposes, for its alleviation, has deeply impressed your Superintendent with the necessity of meeting this demand, and has suggested the desirability of fixing drinking-fountains in both playgrounds. He believes that were the want made known, it would gratify some

benevolent persons to present to the Asylum arrangements which would contribute so much to the comfort and health of the Inmates.

The construction of the water-tank on the south side of the playground, and the buildings which are still in progress on the north, have very much interfered with the boys' playground and gymnasium. A small meadow was called into requisition last year, and will be again required during the coming season; it is hoped that on the completion of the present erections the entire space will be levelled and enclosed, and the out-door gymnasium put into good repair.

The girls' playground, which is conveniently situated, will also require new gravel, and the gymnastic appliances to be thoroughly renovated. The Winter amusements have been conducted with more than usual success—Concerts, Dramatic Entertainments, and the Magic Lantern, have in succession amused and stimulated the inmates during the dreary months. The power to carry out these entertainments has been recently increased by the gifts of lanthorns for Dissolving Views, with a large assortment of slides; also, of a Grand Pianoforte of excellent quality. The Summer amusements resulted, as usual, in a great amount of enjoyment to the inmates. Croquet, Cricket, Racing, Jumping,

and Fire Balloons, have furnished varied sources of pleasure.

More than one hundred of the inmates visited the Crystal Palace at one time during the summer, defraying the cost from their own savings; and their conduct throughout the entire day was irreproachable.

Much improvement has been effected in the grounds by planting trees and shrubs; and a friend of the Institution, with a true insight into the requirements of such an establishment, has presented 100 Standard Roses, of the most approved kinds, for the decoration of the terrace garden.

Increased effort has been made during the past year to render more effective the elementary training carried on in the schools, while the industrial pursuits of the house and workshops have not been neglected. The year has not passed without examples of the benefit which these united appliances effect. One of the boys who had been at Earlswood between four and five years, and who had been previously not only a trouble to his friends, but an annoyance to his neighbours, who spoke very indistinctly, and manifested propensities of a mischievous character, became so tractable, that he was employed in the carpenter's shop, and acquired so much information, and improved so much

mentally, that he was able to leave Earlswood, without our entertaining any fear as to his success in life. During the autumn of 1865 he made a call at the Asylum, thanked those who had ministered to his wants, and expressed his recognition of "the world of good that was done by the Institution;" and testified, both by his appearance and manner, that he had been fitted for self-reliance, and was acquiring a fair livelihood.

Another boy, who was unmanageable at home, and who, up to five years of age had been unable to speak; whose habits were incorrect, who was afraid of being left in the dark, played with the fire, tore his clothing, and excited terror by his passion, left, after five years' residence, a well-behaved youth, having become a most expert shoemaker, equalling any ordinary workman in the rapidity and quality of his work, and is now earning his own living apart from the Asylum.

A girl who was admitted in 1862, who spoke with such indistinctness as not to be understood, and whose capacity was described as "almost nil," was at the end of three years able to speak distinctly, to take part in the house work, to do needlework, and to write a letter of her own dictation to her friends.

Many others might be quoted; those mentioned,

however, are sufficient to show that labour has not been bestowed in vain.

Your Superintendent cannot conclude his Report without acknowledging his obligations to the Staff of Officers and Servants, for their hearty co-operation with him in the various measures he has introduced for benefitting those committed to his charge.

J. LANGDON H. DOWN, M.D., LOND.,
Resident Physician & Superintendent.
Earlswood, April, 1866.

APPENDIX.

Number of the Patients employed in industrial occupations :—

MALES.		Household Work	26
Carpenters	13	Laundry.....	8
Shoemakers	15		189
Mat Weavers and Helpers in Mat Shops	80	FEMALES.	
Basket Maker	1	Household Work	21
Tailors	28	Needlework	9
Farm and Garden	16	Repairing Clothes	2
Plumber.....	1	Assistant Nurses.....	2
Baker.....	1		34

EXTRACTS FROM SCHOOLMASTER'S REPORT.

25th April, 1866.

The average number of pupils attending from the 1st of April, 1865, to the 31st March, 1866, has been :—

Whole time (both morning and afternoon) ...	19
Half time (morning one week, afternoon the next) ...	130
Occasionally (two half-days each week) ..	2
Average total number ...	151

The subjects taught have been, Reading, Writing, Arithmetic, Writing from Dictation, Shopkeeping, Drawing, Telling the Time, Collective Object Lessons, Drilling, Speaking, Dressing ; religious truths and moral sentiments are brought before them as opportunities occur. The duration of the lessons on each subject varies from half-an-hour to three-quarters. Three of these lessons, differing

as much as possible in their nature, are given in each class, both in the morning and afternoon school. Between each of these lessons the pupils are collected in one room, and sing exercises, combining information, such as the Multiplication and Money Tables, &c., and, at the same time, move the head, arms, or legs, to the time of the music. This combination of singing and physical and mental exercise is found very beneficial in awakening their attention, and promoting a cheerful attention to the other subjects.

Of the 144 pupils now in School:—

15 can read with tolerable fluency in the Gospel of St. John;

11 can read slowly in ditto;

18 can read slowly from lesson boards;

17 know all the letters;

43 know a few letters;

40 know none of the letters.

144

WRITING.

21 can write sentences in copy-books;

23 can write words in copy-books;

14 can write easy words on the slate;

59 can make strokes or the letter O on the slate;

27 can only scribble.

—

144

ARITHMETIC.—This is mostly taught with the assistance of the black-board, the tables being

learned as a singing-lesson. The counting is taught with the assistance of beads on wire.

11 can do sums individually ;

22 can do addition collectively from black-board, and count above 100 ;

10 can count above 50 ;

22 can count above 25 ;

48 can count a little ;

31 cannot count at all ;

—
144

SHOP LESSON.—This lesson, originated by our Superintendent, Dr. Down, and explained by him in the Report for 1862, although considered play by the pupils, is very instructive. A shop, supplied with groceries, stationery, crockery, toys, &c., also counter, scales, weights, and money, is fitted up in the schoolroom. The pupils are taught to purchase articles in ordinary use. They act as shop-keeper in turn, weighing out articles required, and endeavouring to calculate the price, which is then counted out and paid by the pupil acting as purchaser. The following statement will give some idea of the results :—

28 know all the coins and weights, and can calculate the price a little ;

27 know all the coins, and two or three weights ;

15 know a few coins and weights ;

38 know two or three coins ;

36 know none.

—
144

TELLING THE TIME.

- 8 can tell the time to a minute ;
 7 can tell the hours, quarters, and some the five minutes ;
 30 can tell some of the hours.
 99 not at all.

144

THE BIBLE CLASS on the Sunday morning, and the Sunday evening service, continue to produce good results ; the answers to questions put on the above occasions often showing that the pupils take an interest in what is brought before them ; that they have a tolerable knowledge of Bible history, and some little idea of the saving truths of Christianity.

EXTRACTS

FROM

SCHOOLMISTRESS' REPORT.

25th April, 1866.

The present number is 130 (102 girls, and 28 boys).

- Of these, 60 attend the Sunday morning Bible Class;
60 attend the Sunday evening Lecture; and
54 attend regularly morning and evening Prayers;
12 Girls, who attend School in the afternoon, are engaged in the morning in domestic duties;
5 in the work-room all day;
3 in the wardrobes;
2 in the kitchen.

The following is a statement of the capabilities of the children —

READING AND SPELLING.

- 13 can read the Bible;
7 can read simple lessons;
17 can read words of three letters;
14 can point out the letters;
5 repeat them when told;
9 make a sound; and
33 are dumb.

WRITING.

- 12 write text, round, and small hand very fairly;
 - 5 all round hand;
 - 9 words of one syllable;
 - 20 letters on their slates;
 - 30 make strokes and pot-hooks;
- Of the above, 7 write letters once a month, and take great delight in doing so.

ARITHMETIC.

- 1 in compound addition;
- 1 in compound long division;
- 1 in multiplication (simple);
- 1 in addition (simple);
- 2 can say to six times in the tables;
- 2 can say the whole of the tables;
- 5 can count to 100;
- 8 can count to 40;
- 3 can count to 24;
- 9 can count to 6.

PLAIN WORK.

- 30 can work well;
- 14 hem and sew very fairly;
- 9 fairly;
- 12 indifferently;
- 9 can only thread their needles;
- 4 have learnt bed-making as lessons in school; and
- 3 scrubbing.

I am happy to report that the children are not so careless in losing their slates, pencils, cottons, &c. They walk better, and are more cleanly. Their greatest delight is in writing letters. They

appear fond of school, many of them anticipating the time for school-hours to arrive: and when they are over, one will sometimes assume my name and functions, and they will keep school among themselves. At their play they will propose various games. A few can play bagatelle; several use the skipping-rope; while others exhibit not a little ingenuity at hide-and-seek—all which I encourage, as I believe that their recreations, being productive of so much gratification, cannot fail to be attended with beneficial results. (I have found the Cabinet very useful, and that I can generally command the attention of the children to the object which it enables me to give.

PLAIN WORK.

Their greatest delight is in writing letters. They
 &c. They walk better, and are more cleanly;
 so careless in losing their slates, pencils, cottons,
 I am happy to report that the children are not
 3 scripping.
 4 have learnt bed-making as lessons in school; and
 5 can only thied their needles;
 9 fairly;
 14 hem and sew very fairly;
 20 can work well;

From December 31st, 1864.

Mr.

Dec. 31.

To Pupils' Account, Charge for the Year	d.	s.	11
Annual Subscriptions	8,340	13	11
Life ditto	4,989	4	0
Donations	3,702	12	0
Miscellaneous Receipts	1,657	4	6
Legacies	247	11	2
Life Payment Cases	2,777	6	9
Kitchen Garden	600	0	0
Farm	134	4	0
Interest, &c.	184	19	5
	55	8	9

£22,689 4 6

Mr.

B A D A N C E

1865.

Dec. 31.

ASSETS.

Dec. 31.		£	s.	d.
To Pupils' Account, Amount due		982	12	6
" South Eastern Stock (a Gift)		450	0	0
" Metropolitan Association Shares (a Gift)		125	0	0
" Cash at Bankers		1,920	0	2
" Ditto, with Secretary		3	10	10
" Ditto, with Steward		37	19	6
" Goods in Workshops		210	0	0
" Timber in Stock		144	15	3
" Building		60,101	9	0
" Estate		15,514	17	11
" Plant and Machinery		2,073	0	0
" Furniture, Earlswood		7,033	15	10
" Ditto, Office		114	11	3
		£88,691	12	3

EXPENDITURE,

to December 31st, 1865.

Cr.

1865.

Dec. 31.

	£	s.	d.
By Housekeeping Expenses for Board, Clothing, Coals, Washing, Medicine, &c.	10,805	12	5
„ Salaries of Officers, Earlswood and Office, Commission, and all Office Expenses	2,046	2	7
„ Wages, Attendants, Masters of Trades, and Servants	744	18	6
„ Furniture, including Bedding, Linen, Earthenware, Hardware, Fittings, &c. (wear and tear)	1,004	16	6
„ Repairs, Painting, Colouring, Varnishing, &c.	469	11	3
„ Printing Lists of Subscribers, Reports, Proxies, "Visits to Earlswoods," "Lectures," &c.	315	18	7
„ Stationery, Office and Asylum, School Books, &c.	129	7	5
„ Advertisements	304	18	9
„ Postage of Proxies, Reports, Circulars, Letters, &c.	221	7	5
„ Carriage of Goods, Materials, and Travelling Expenses	160	9	1
„ Rates and Taxes	242	8	8
„ Law Expenses (Conveyancing)	172	15	10
„ Gas	190	2	3
„ Insurance	52	16	3
„ Expenses of Public Meetings, Bath, Bristol, &c.	80	0	0
„ Workshops Expenses	46	11	8
„ Rent, Office	60	0	0
„ Furniture, Office (wear and tear)	16	7	3
„ Estate, Repairs of Roads, Paths, &c.	61	13	5
„ Miscellaneous Expenditure, Surveyor, &c.	366	9	5
„ Pupils' Payments Returned	22	6	3
„ Annual Dinner Expenses	156	18	6
„ Building Depreciation, Written off	607	1	10
„ Plant and Machinery ditto	230	3	6
„ Balance to Capital Account	4,180	7	2
	<u>£22,639</u>	<u>4</u>	<u>6</u>

SHEET.

Cr.

1865.

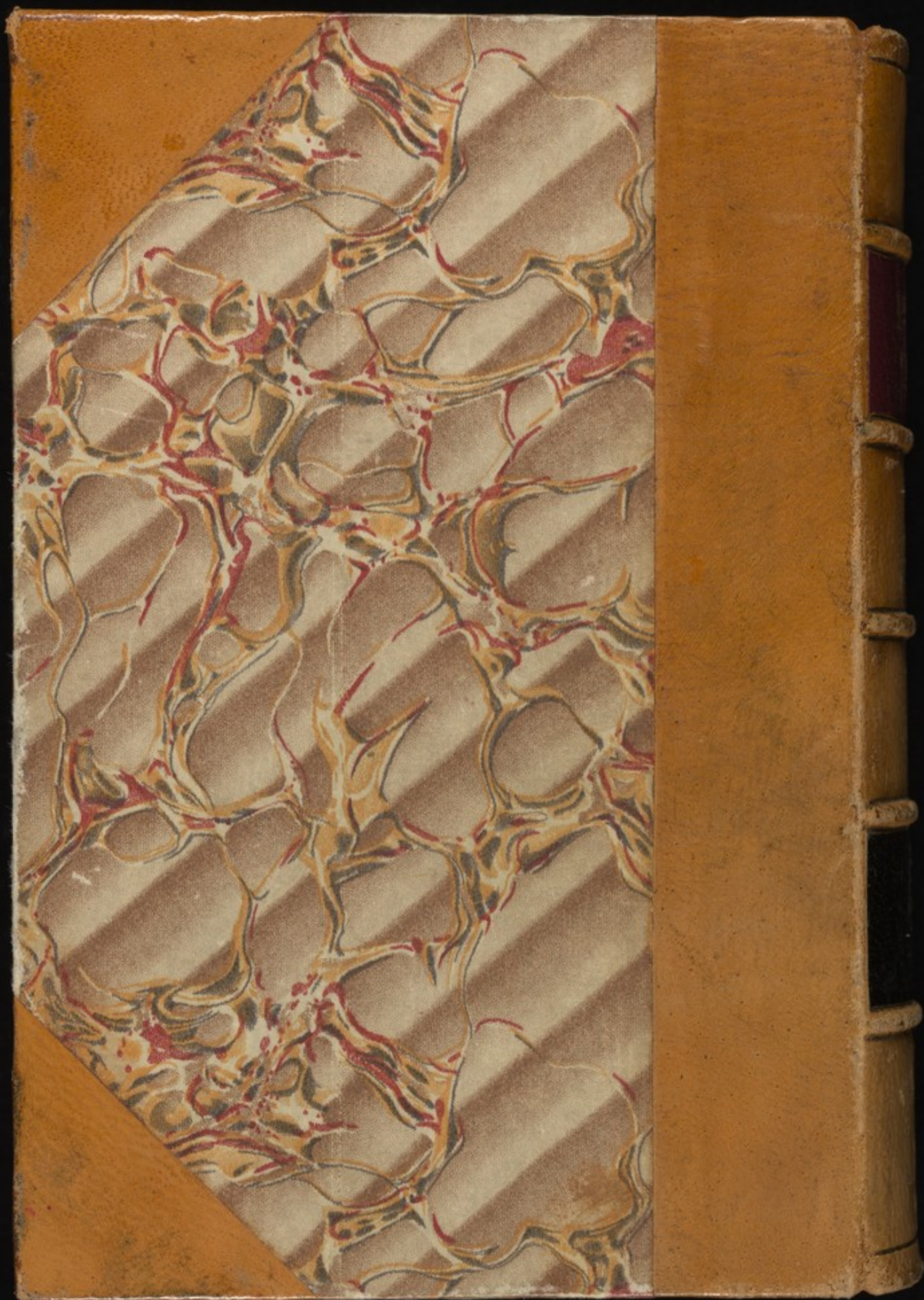
LIABILITIES.

Dec. 31.

	£	s.	d.
By Life Payments received	4,242	10	0
„ Christmas Bills due	3,739	6	7
„ Capital Account	80,709	15	8
	<u>£88,691</u>	<u>12</u>	<u>3</u>

Examined and compared with the Books and
Vouchers, and certified to be correct.

JAMES MANN,
CHARLES TYLER,
RICHARD WESTALL, } Auditors.



MEDICAL
TRACTS

543



The Wellcome Library