

## **Third annual report of the Argyll District Asylum for the Insane : 1866.**

### **Contributors**

Argyll District Asylum for the Insane.

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16  
T H I R D

A N N U A L   R E P O R T

OF THE

A R G Y L L   D I S T R I C T   A S Y L U M

F O R   T H E   I N S A N E .


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1866.

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G L A S G O W :

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REPORT  
OF THE  
DISTRICT LUNACY BOARD

TO THE  
COMMISSIONERS OF SUPPLY  
FOR THE COUNTY OF ARGYLL.

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THE District Board consider it unnecessary to add any Report of their own to that of the Medical Superintendent, further than an expression of their perfect satisfaction with the management of the Asylum for the past year.

They recommend an Assessment of £2000 for the ensuing year, apportioned on the County and Burghs.

COLIN G. CAMPBELL.

JOHN L. STEWART.

HECTOR MACNEAL.

T. W. MURRAY ALLAN.

7TH MARCH, 1866



# INCOME AND EXPENDITURE

FOR THE YEAR ENDING 16TH MARCH, 1866.

## I.—MAINTENANCE EXPENSES AND SALARIES.

### INCOME.

RECEIVED FROM PARISHES FOR BOARD OF PATIENTS, ... ..	£2,619	2	9
Do. do. ADVANCES FOR FUNERAL EXPENSES, ... ..	12	18	0
ARREARS OF BOARD OUTSTANDING, viz. :—			
Parish of Lismore and Appin, ... ..	£24	2	2
" Kilfinichan, ... ..	17	16	0
" Tyree, ... ..	48	5	4
" Morven, ... ..	8	16	0
		98	19 6
ADVANCE FOR PARISH OF MORVEN, ... ..		0	10 0
VALUE OF STOCK IN STORE, 31ST MARCH, 1865, ... ..		165	0 0
		£2,896	10 3

### EXPENDITURE.

#### PROVISIONS—

Butcher Meat, ... ..	£349	9	8
Fish, ... ..	38	12	1
Flour and Oatmeal, ... ..	92	19	9
Barley and Rice, ... ..	27	1	0
Tea, Coffee, &c., ... ..	49	2	5
Sugar and Treacle, ... ..	55	8	7
Cheese, Eggs, &c., ... ..	9	19	7
Butter, ... ..	83	16	10 $\frac{3}{4}$
Sundry Groceries, ... ..	11	4	8
Potatoes and other Vegetables, ... ..	102	16	1 $\frac{3}{4}$
Bread, ... ..	200	17	8
Milk, ... ..	124	0	5
	£1,145	8	10 $\frac{1}{2}$
Increase in Value of Stock in Store, ... ..	97	5	7
		£1,048	3 3 $\frac{1}{2}$

#### MEDICINES, &c.—

Medicine, ... ..	£7	6	8
Malt and Spirituous Liquors, ... ..	60	0	3
Tobacco and Snuff, ... ..	21	10	10
	£88	17	9
Increase in Value of Stock in Store, ... ..	10	0	10
		78	16 11

#### HOUSE AND OTHER EXPENSES—

Fuel, ... ..	£120	2	8
Light, ... ..	73	1	7
Soap, Soda, &c., ... ..	46	13	11
Earthenware and Glass, ... ..	16	3	5
Stationery, Printing, Postages, &c., ... ..	33	5	11
Books and Amusements, ... ..	13	8	11
Freight and Cartage, ... ..	29	13	8
Incidental Expenses, ... ..	9	0	9
General Furnishings, ... ..	227	10	11
Re-taking Patients, ... ..	24	3	3
	£593	5	0
Increase in Value of Stock in Store, ... ..	139	15	5 $\frac{1}{2}$
		453	9 6 $\frac{1}{2}$
CLOTHING, ... ..	£181	18	6
Increase in Value of Stock in Store, ... ..	70	13	0 $\frac{1}{4}$
		111	5 5 $\frac{3}{4}$

Carry forward, £1,691 15 2 $\frac{3}{4}$

	Brought forward,	£1,691 15 2 $\frac{1}{2}$
SALARIES AND WAGES, ... ..	£721 3 10	
ADVANCES FOR FUNERAL EXPENSES, ... ..	13 4 6	
DRAWBACKS FOR BOARD, ... ..	3 16 10	
VALUE OF STOCK IN STORE, ... ..	482 14 10 $\frac{1}{2}$	
	<u>£2,912 15 3<math>\frac{1}{2}</math></u>	
BALANCE AGAINST MAINTENANCE, ... ..	16 5 0 $\frac{1}{2}$	
	<u>£2,896 10 3</u>	

## II.—ERECTING, FITTING-UP, &c.

### INCOME.

Assessment Imposed 30th June, 1865, on	
Landward part of County and Burghs, ... ..	£2,500 0 0
Produce from Farm charged against Maintenance, ... ..	225 11 11 $\frac{1}{2}$
Sale of Farm Stock, &c., ... ..	42 0 11
Sundries Received, ... ..	2 0 8
	<u>£2,769 13 6<math>\frac{1}{2}</math></u>

### EXPENDITURE.

Repairs of Building, ... ..	£225 7 3
Erection of Farm Buildings, ... ..	248 14 5
Drainage, ... ..	104 0 7
Outlay on Farm and Garden, ... ..	235 15 3
Feu Duty and Taxes, ... ..	214 15 0
Instalment on Loans, ... ..	533 6 8
Interest on Loans and Bank Account, ... ..	704 16 7
	<u>£2,266 15 9</u>
Balance in favour of Erecting, &c., ... ..	502 17 9 $\frac{1}{2}$
	<u>£2,769 13 6<math>\frac{1}{2}</math></u>

## III.—LOANS FROM SCOTTISH EQUITABLE LIFE INSURANCE COMPANY.

Balance at 31st March, 1865, ... ..	£14,766 13 4
Instalments Paid, 11th November, 1865, ... ..	533 6 8
	<u>£14,233 6 8</u>

### STATE OF THE FUNDS.

Balance in favour of Maintenance, 31st March, 1865, ... ..	£771 2 10 $\frac{1}{2}$
Balance against Maintenance, 16th March, 1866, ... ..	16 5 0 $\frac{1}{2}$
Adjusted balance in favour of Maintenance, ... ..	£754 17 10
Balance against Erecting, &c., 31st March, 1865, ... ..	£1,126 8 6 $\frac{1}{2}$
Balance in favour of Erecting, &c., 16th March, 1866, ... ..	502 17 9 $\frac{1}{2}$
Adjusted balance against Erecting, &c., ... ..	£623 10 9
	<u>131 7 1</u>
Balance in Union Bank of Scotland, ... ..	£26 17 7
Board Outstanding, ... ..	98 19 6
Advanced for Parishes, ... ..	0 10 0
Due by Lochgilphead Combination Poorhouse, ... ..	5 0 0
	<u>£131 7 1</u>



## COST OF MAINTENANCE OF EACH PATIENT PER WEEK.

										S.	D.
Provisions,	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	3	11½
Medicines, &c.,	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	0	3½
House Expenses,	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	8½
Clothing,	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	0	5
Salaries and Wages,	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	2	8½
										9	0½

Charge to Parishes for Year 1866-67, ... 9s. 4d. per Week.

ARCHD. MACEWAN,

*Clerk to the District Lunacy Board of Argyllshire.*

# ANNUAL REPORT

## OF THE

### MEDICAL SUPERINTENDENT,

FOR THE YEAR 1865,

PRESENTED TO THE ARGYLL DISTRICT BOARD OF LUNACY.

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THE Medical Superintendent has the honour of submitting to the District Board his Report for the past year.

The number of patients in the Asylum on 1st January, was 60 males and 55 females—total, 115. There have been admitted during the year, 14 males and 13 females—total, 27, of whom 1 male and 2 females were re-admissions. General results.

Ten patients have been discharged, of whom 6 males and 2 females had recovered; 1 male patient was relieved, and 1 female was discharged unimproved.

There have died 6 males and 4 females—total, 10.

The number on the Asylum Register, on 31st December, was 61 males and 61 females—total, 122. But of these 6 males and 1 female have been boarded in private houses, in the hope that they may be found suitable to be permanently provided for in that manner. The actual number resident in the Asylum at the end of the year is thus reduced to 55 males and 60 females—in all, 115, or the same number as at the end of the previous year.

The average number resident during the year was, 56 males and 56 females—total, 112. The highest number was in the month of January, when there were 63 males and 55 females—total, 118, being 4 males above the number which the building can properly accommodate.

In consequence of the joint action of the Deputy-Commissioners



Boarding  
out  
harmless  
patients.

in Lunacy and your Medical Superintendent, an attempt was made to decrease the number of inmates by procuring suitable accommodation for some of the harmless incurables, in dwellings either in their own parishes or in other parts of the county, where they would be under the charge of those with whom they might lodge. The superintendence of their treatment, while thus provided for, falls into the province of the General Board of Lunacy, who can require the removal of the patients to more suitable lodging, or send them back to the Asylum should the treatment prove unsatisfactory.

During the past year 9 males and 1 female have been thus discharged on probation; but of these 3 males have been sent back to the Asylum. In the remaining cases, so far as the Medical Superintendent is aware, the treatment and the accommodation have both been found suitable.

Prospects  
in the  
future.

It is necessary now to consider whether the existing accommodation will prove sufficient for the requirements of the present year. This cannot be determined beforehand with absolute certainty. It appears probable, however, that about the same number of admissions, discharges and deaths may be expected. But it is not so likely that so many of the inmates will be found suitable for removal to private dwellings. It will therefore be necessary that some arrangement should be made to provide some additional accommodation in the event of such being found necessary.

The Medical Superintendent is of opinion that in all circumstances where it is compatible with a due regard to the treatment of the patient and the protection of the public, that kind of accommodation which may be obtained in the houses of respectable persons of the same social class as the patient, is preferable to that which can be obtained in a public institution. By the former arrangement there is less appearance of imprisonment, more chance of contentment, and it can be carried out at less expense to the public. But though this treatment is advantageous for a large number of the insane, it is often difficult to obtain it in a satisfactory form, and there must always be a very considerable proportion for whom this provision is unsuitable, and who must be provided for in public establishments.

It is difficult to ascertain whether an increase or decrease of



pauper lunacy in the county may be expected, and evidently still more so to determine to what extent such increase or decrease will take place. In examining the question it is necessary to take into consideration the general amount of pauperism in the district. In an opulent community the public is not required to relieve so large a proportion of its members as in a poorer one; and though the provision for the insane may be to some extent independent of this consideration, it is by no means free from its influence. It is therefore worthy of notice that Argyll stands, along with Wigton, highest in the list of Scotch counties for general pauperism, having 4·6 per cent. of paupers in the population; while the average in Scotland is 3·2 per cent.; and the county of Selkirk has only 1·7. Argyll also stands at the top of the list in the proportion of pauper insane to the population, Perth being the only other county which contains so large a percentage. In the proportion of pauper insane to the number of paupers of every description, Argyll shows only 6·5 per cent., which is almost exactly the average percentage in Scotland, Perth having as much as 9·6 per cent., and Renfrew only 4 per cent.

Comparative condition of Argyll with other localities as regards insanity.

In comparing the proportion of pauper lunatics in establishments to the population of different counties a remarkable variety in the statistics is discovered. This seems chiefly to be accounted for by the greater or less extent to which asylum accommodation has been available, and also, to some extent, by the presence or absence of large towns in the districts. Last year, in the county of Edinburgh, 19 in every 10,000 of the population were in establishments for the care of the insane; while in Shetland only 7 in every 10,000 were so placed. In Argyll there were 12 in every 10,000. In the counties of Clackmannan, Peebles, Linlithgow, Forfar, and Edinburgh, from 70 to 76 per cent. of the pauper insane were in establishments; while in Ross, Roxburgh, Shetland, and Sutherland, there were only 39 per cent.; and in Caithness only 35 per cent. The statistics for the previous year show a much larger proportion of the insane thus accommodated. The average percentage throughout Scotland was 69; and in the counties of Edinburgh, Forfar, Renfrew, and Lanark, 84 to 86 per cent. were resident in establishments. The remarkable

Numbers confined in Asylums, &c.



decrease in the numbers for last year is probably caused by the encouragement given by the General Board of Lunacy to the practice of boarding in private houses. In Edinburgh, where this plan appears to be regarded very favourably, the proportion of the insane confined in establishments, which was 86 per cent. the previous year, had decreased last year to 70 per cent. In Argyll 45 per cent. are now in the Asylum, which is 15 per cent. below the average in Scotland.

Probable  
increase.

The great prevalence of pauperism and insanity in Argyllshire is probably due, in a great measure, to emigration and other temporary causes. But it must necessarily be a considerable time before the results of these causes disappear, and probably not so soon as to be of much importance in the present consideration. It is probable that in some districts an unnecessarily large proportion of the insane are confined in asylums and similar institutions; but, in regard to Argyll, the statistics appear to show that there will probably be an increase rather than a decrease in the number of patients who will require to be so placed. It will, therefore, be necessary that there should be available additional accommodation either in licensed wards of poorhouses, as mentioned by the Commissioners in Lunacy, or, in some other manner, as may seem best to the Board. The extent to which this will be necessary, as far as can be judged from the particulars given above, need not be expected to exceed provision for fifteen or twenty, equally divided between males and females.

Escape of a  
Patient.

During the past year the working of the Asylum has been carried on satisfactorily. No cause of more than ordinary annoyance has occurred except the escape of a male patient, whose absence was for more than a fortnight the source of considerable anxiety. He was not suspected of any desire to leave, and he does not appear to have definitely formed any such intention. When working in the grounds he seems to have been taken by a sudden caprice, and wandered across the Asylum boundary without being observed by the attendant in charge. Unfortunately he cannot give a coherent account of where he went, but it is supposed that he wandered heedlessly over the hills towards Inveraray, and when he got upon the high road he followed it northward, without attracting particular notice, until he reached



the parish of Killin, in Perthshire, where he was taken charge of by the Inspector of Poor, and ultimately sent to the Perth District Asylum at Murthly. During the fortnight, after his escape, diligent search was made not only by the police and Asylum officials, but also by many of the inhabitants, between Lochgilphead and Inveraray, but without being successful in tracing him even as far as Inveraray. When in Murthly he fortunately mentioned some Argyllshire names, which led to the inquiry being made here whether he was known in the district, and subsequently he was identified and brought back. As he had begun when in Murthly to answer to a new name, and was quite unable to give an account of himself, it seemed probable that he might have remained there till his death had it not been for the accident of his mentioning the Argyllshire names.

The statistical tables have been prepared this year according to a plan recommended by the Medico-Psychological Association; and it is hoped that, if these forms are generally adopted, the statements will be more easily referred to, and made more practically useful. Statistical  
Tables.

In addition to the usual outdoor exercise and fireside recreations, there have been frequent dances, concerts, magic-lanterns, and other entertainments. General  
History of  
the year.

There is still a good deal to be done before the exercise grounds will be completed, but considerable progress has been made during the year.

Two workshops, farm buildings, and a coal-yard, have been built during the year, and they will undoubtedly prove of great service.

The classified details of income and expenditure are given as usual along with this report; and it will be there seen that the maintenance of the patients during the year has cost 9s. 0 $\frac{3}{4}$ d. for each inmate per week.

The Superintendent has again pleasure in referring the Board to the entries made by Her Majesty's Commissioners in Lunacy, which are appended.

JOHN SIBBALD, M.D.,  
*Medical Superintendent.*

MARCH, 1866.

TABLE I.

SHOWING THE ADMISSIONS, RE-ADMISSIONS, DISCHARGES, AND  
DEATHS DURING THE YEAR 1865.

	Male.	Female.	Total.
In the Asylum, Jan. 1, 1865, - -	60	55	115
Admitted for the first time during the year, -	13	11	24
Re-admitted during the year, - - - - -	1	2	3
	14	13	27
Total under care during the year, -	74	68	142
Discharged or Removed: M. F. T.			
Recovered, - - -	6	2	8
Relieved, - - -	1	0	1
Unimproved, - - -	0	1	1
Died, - - - - -	6	4	10
Total Discharged and Died during the year, - - - - -	13	7	20
Remaining in the Asylum, Dec. 31, 1865, (inclusive of absent on trial, 6 males, and 1 female,) - - - - -	61	61	122
Average numbers resident during the year, - - - - -	56.13	55.72	111.85



TABLE II.

SHOWING ADMISSIONS, RE-ADMISSIONS, DISCHARGES, AND DEATHS,  
FROM THE OPENING OF THE ASYLUM TO THE PRESENT DATE,  
DECEMBER 31, 1865.

	Male.	Female.	Total.
Persons Admitted during the period, } 2½ years, - - - - - }	86	74	160
Re-admissions, - - - - -	1	4	5
Total of Cases Admitted, - - - -	87	78	165
Discharged or Removed:    M.   F.   T.			
Recovered, - - -    9   7   16			
Relieved, - - -    4   3   7			
Unimproved, - -    0   2   2			
Died, - - -    13   5   18			
Total Discharged and Died during } the 2½ years, - - - - - }	26	17	43
Remaining Dec. 31, 1865, - - -	61	61	122
Average number resident during the } 2½ years, - - - - - }	51	47	98



TABLE III.—Showing the Admissions, Discharges and Deaths; with the Mean Annual Mortality and proportion of Recoveries per cent. of the Admissions, for each year since the opening of the Asylum.

	ADMITTED.			DISCHARGED.									DIED.			Remaining 31st Dec. of each year.			Average Numbers Resident.			Percentage of Recoveries on Admissions.			Percentage of Deaths on Aver'ge Num- bers Resident			
				Recovered			Relieved.			Unim- proved.																		
	Males.	Females.	Total.	Males.	Females.	Total.	Males.	Females.	Total.	Males.	Females.	Total.	Males.	Females.	Total.	Males.	Females.	Total.	Males.	Females.	Total.	Males.	Females.	Mean.				
From the Opening of the } Asylum, 9th June to 31st } December, 1863,.....	53	42	95	1	2	3	2	0	2	0	0	0	0	2	0	2	48	40	88	40	33	73	2	5	3	10	0	5
1864, .....	20	23	43	2	3	5	1	3	4	0	1	1	1	5	1	6	60	55	115	52	47	99	10	13	12	9	3	6
1865, .....	14	13	27	6	2	8	1	0	1	0	1	1	1	6	4	10	61	61	122	56	56	112	43	15	29	10	8	9
Totals and Averages for } the 2½ years,.....	87	78	165	9	7	16	4	3	7	0	2	2	2	13	5	18	56	52	108	51	47	98	18	11	15	10	4	7







TABLE V.

SHOWING THE CAUSES OF DEATH DURING THE YEAR.

Causes of Death.	Male.	Female.	Total.
<b>CEREBRAL OR SPINAL DISEASE :</b>			
Apoplexy, - - - - -	1	1	2
General Paralysis, - - - - -	1	0	1
Inflammation or other Disease of } Brain, - - - - - }	1	1	2
<b>THORACIC DISEASE :</b>			
Pulmonary Consumption, - -	3	1	4
<b>ABDOMINAL DISEASE :</b>			
Disease of Liver, - - - - -	0	1	1
<b>Total, - - - - -</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>10</b>

TABLE VI.

SHOWING THE LENGTH OF RESIDENCE IN THOSE DISCHARGED  
RECOVERED, AND IN THOSE WHO HAVE DIED  
DURING THE YEAR.

Length of Residence.	Recovered.			Died.		
	Male.	Female.	Total.	Male.	Female.	Total.
Under 2 Months, -	1	0	1	0	0	0
From 3 to 6 Months,	2	0	2	2	0	2
„ 6 to 12 „	0	0	0	2	1	3
„ 1 to 2 Years,	2	2	4	1	3	4
„ 2 to 3 „	1	0	1	1	0	1
<b>Total, - - -</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>10</b>



# FARM AND GARDEN ACCOUNTS,

ABSTRACT OF RECEIPTS AND PAYMENTS FROM 31ST MARCH, 1865, TO 16TH MARCH, 1866.

## RECEIPTS.

To Sale of—	£11	7	6
1 Cow, ...	...	...	...
1 Stirk, ...	...	...	...
2 Calves, ...	...	...	...
1 Horse, ...	...	...	...
Bones, ...	...	...	...
2 Barrels Lime, ...	...	...	...
Rent for Grazing, ...	...	...	...
Increase in value of Stock, ...	...	...	...
	£11	7	6

To Charge against Maintenance Account, viz:

### PROVISIONS—

Butcher Meat, ...	£1	8	0
Eggs, ...	...	...	...
Butter, ...	...	...	...
Potatoes and other Vegetables, ...	70	10	7 $\frac{1}{4}$
Milk, ...	124	0	5
	£198	6	5 $\frac{1}{2}$

### HOUSE AND OTHER EXPENSES—

Freight and Cartage, ...	6	1	6
Re-taking Patients, ...	6	4	0
	12	5	6

### SALARIES AND WAGES—

Keep of Medical Superintendent's Pony, ...	15	0	0
	225	11	11 $\frac{1}{2}$

£286 17 4 $\frac{1}{2}$

## PAYMENTS.

### By Paid for—

1 Horse, ...	£25	0	0
Seeds and Plants, ...	22	10	3
Lime, ...	30	0	8
Implement, Harness, &c., ...	22	5	3
Fencing, ...	8	2	6
Wages, ...	13	11	0
Hay, Corn, Turnips, and Sundries, ...	114	5	7
	235	15	3

By Balance, ...

51 2 1 $\frac{1}{2}$

17

£286 17 4 $\frac{1}{2}$

# VALUATION OF STOCK ON FARM.

31ST MARCH, 1865.

7 Cows, at £13 each,	...	...	£91 0 0
1 Horse,	...	...	9 17 6
1 Stirk,	...	...	6 0 0
600 Stones Hay,	...	...	30 0 0

£136 17 6

Increase in Value of Stock,	...	19 4 6
	£156 2 0	

16TH MARCH, 1866.

6 Cows, at £13 each,	...	...	£78 0 0
1 Stirk,	...	...	6 0 0
2 Calves,	...	...	6 0 0
1 Lamb,	...	...	1 10 0
1 Horse,	...	...	25 0 0
2 Bolls Unthreshed Barley,	...	...	2 0 0
8 Bolls Oats, at 19/,	...	...	7 12 0
600 Stones Hay,	...	...	30 0 0

£156 2 0



# ENTRIES

BY THE

## COMMISSIONERS IN LUNACY.

*May 31, 1865.*

The number at present on the Registers are 59 males, and 54 females, but of the former there are 6 absent on probation. The changes since the visit of September 8th consist of 24 admissions, 8 discharges, and 6 deaths, making an increase of 10 in the registered number, but, deducting those absent on probation, of only 4 in the number resident.

Of the patients admitted 14 were males, and 10 females—7 were transferred from other establishments, and 17 were brought directly from their parishes. The mental malady was,—mania in 12 cases; dementia in 5; acute mania in 2; imbecility in 2; epileptic mania in 1; delusions in 1; and in one case the entry in the Register was not yet made. These figures indicate the reception of a large proportion of chronic lunatics, and point to the necessity of adopting persistent measures, as was suggested in last report, for the removal of those patients who may reasonably be deemed incurable and harmless. The discharges on probation afford evidence that this suggestion has received due attention; and if the proposal to apply for licenses to receive patients of the class referred to into lunatic wards of the Loch Gilp, and Lorn Combinations be acted on, there will be no difficulty, between private dwellings and these establishments, of providing for their suitable accommodation for at least a considerable period.

Of the patients discharged 5 had recovered. They were all of recent admission. Of those who died 3 were males, and 3 females. The causes of death were phthisis in 3 cases; apoplexy in 2; and cerebral disease in 1. The mortality is low, and is due to influences unconnected with the Asylum. The average age at death was 49 years.

The general condition of the Asylum corroborates the favourable impressions received at last visit. The various wards were thoroughly clean, well ventilated, and cheerful. The furniture is



appropriate, and is being gradually increased by the addition of articles not strictly necessary, but which are calculated to add to the comforts of the patients, and to exercise a salutary influence on their mental condition and powers of self-control. Light valances to the windows, pictures on the walls, and other objects of interest and decoration, are also being gradually provided as occasion offers. The bedding was all clean, and in excellent condition; and the beds of the wet patients are kept in a very satisfactory state by the arrangements and precautions adopted, although no special night nursing has been introduced.

The manner of serving the meals continues to be very satisfactory; and the physical aspect of the patients is indicative of an abundant and appropriate diet.

Great tranquillity prevailed among the patients of both sexes; and all were comfortably clothed, and neat and orderly in personal dress. Combs and brushes are supplied in sufficient number, and personal cleanliness well attended to. No patient was found in seclusion; and it appears from the Register that on only ten occasions, in the cases of 5 individuals, has this mode of repression been used since last visit, for periods rarely exceeding a day. No strong dresses were in use; nor any special contrivances in clothing or bedding beyond locked boots for 1 male and 3 females, and the adaptations necessary for protecting the mattresses against wet.

It appears from the Register that, on an average, somewhat less than 20 men are employed industrially. This proportion is low, and might with perseverance be considerably increased. It must be observed, however, that there are no workshops for any handicraft; and should there be any tailor or shoemaker among the patients, which at present is not the case, it would be difficult to set him to work. With the view of providing for this contingency, and also of supplying a suitable place for repairing and making up mattresses, it is suggested that a workshop should be erected in the male airing court adjoining the deadhouse. This could be done at a very small outlay, and without diminishing the useful area of the court. Other changes of a trifling character, which it is desirable to effect, are the addition of wooden porches to the front entrances, which would contain a place of dépôt for



shoes ; and some modification of the coal depôt, which would guard against the evils that might arise from male and female patients meeting in this locality without adequate supervision.

The industry of the females keeps all the clothing in repair, and makes the whole of it, with the exception of the coats and trousers of the men. A good deal of rough work remains to be done in the grounds, and especially in the female airing court, which is still in a very unfinished state. A bowling green has recently been finished in the male court, but it will require further drainage before being fit for use.

Rather more than two acres are under cultivation as garden ; the rest of the ground it is proposed to keep in grass, with perhaps the exception of a small portion in turnips. In this case comparatively little employment will be furnished by the land ; and from this point of view, also, it is desirable to increase the sources of industrial occupation.

Extended exercise in the grounds, and beyond the bounds of the Asylum, is regularly taken by a large proportion of both sexes, and very few are restricted to the airing courts. Indeed, it may be said that only bodily infirmity is accepted as a reason for such restriction.

Laudable attention continues to be paid to the provision of the means of recreation and amusement ; and spinning wheels have lately been introduced into the female wards. Periodicals are supplied in considerable variety and abundance ; and the formation of a library has been begun.

Waste continues to be carefully guarded against ; and it was found, on weighing it, that the débris of bread from the breakfast scarcely exceeded a pound.

The general sanitary condition of the patients is reported to have been favourable during the past winter ; and it is stated that the means of heating were found sufficient to ensure a comfortable temperature. It is desirable, however, that the temperature of all the wards should be noted by the thermometer, especially in cold weather. The number found in bed from sickness or debility, or in consequence of epileptic attacks, were 6 males, and 3 females. On an average about 40 of each sex dine in the general hall ; and nearly 30 of each sex attend chapel.



The various Registers were found carefully and accurately kept. That of accidents records only one occurrence of this nature, namely, the fracture of the tibia and fibula from an accidental fall. From the Register of attendants it appears that 8 of this class, and one servant, have left the service of the Institution since last visit. The changes since the opening have been 20 in number—16 of attendants, and 4 of servants, and were due to the following causes:—

Left	Voluntarily,	-	-	-	-	-	6	Attendants.
"	from Intoxication,	-	-	-	-	-	3	"
"	" Illness,	-	-	-	-	-	2	"
"	" Improper Conduct, striking a Servant,	-	-	-	-	-	1	"
"	" being Unsuitable,	-	-	-	-	-	2	"
"	" Want of Intelligence,	-	-	-	-	-	1	"
"	" Want of Education,	-	-	-	-	-	1	"
"	Voluntarily,	-	-	-	-	-	1	Servants.
"	from Striking an Attendant,	-	-	-	-	-	1	"
"	" Pregnancy,	-	-	-	-	-	1	"
"	" Violent Temper and Insubordination,	-	-	-	-	-	1	"
							20	

The efficient manner in which the Asylum is conducted is extremely creditable to the Medical Superintendent and all concerned in its management.

(Signed) "JAMES COXE,"  
*Commissioner in Lunacy.*

14th December, 1865.

There are, at present, on the books of this Asylum, 62 males and 59 females; of whom, however, 6 males and 1 female were absent on probation. The deportment of all the patients at work, or in idleness, or assembled at the public dinner, was free from excitement; and although the ordinary amount of peculiarities, complaints, &c. were encountered, there was less discontent and fewer reclamations than might fairly be expected. Continued efforts are obviously made to impart contentment and comfort; and it is incumbent to attribute the quiet and industry of what is confessedly an intractable class of patients to the good food, the attention to cleanliness and other conditions of health, and the judicious management which is secured for them.



The changes in the community which fall to be noticed since 31st May are, the *admission* of 15 persons, 1 of whom was affected with imbecility, 4 with melancholia, and 10 with mania, 4 cases presenting the acute form; and 11 of whom are described as possessing average, 3 weakly and 1 good health. *Discharge* of 5 persons, all being restored to mental health; and the *death* of 4; 1 from phthisis, 1 from general paralysis, 1 from hepatic, and 1 from cerebral disease; at the ages respectively of 40, 39, 47 and 45. One of the deceased was admitted to the Asylum in 1863, and 3 in 1864.

The change in the staff as recorded in the Attendants' Register, consist in the voluntary resignation of 2 men, 1 for the purpose of emigrating; of the discharge of 1 woman for insubordination, of the resignation of another, and of 3 who were about to be married.

The structural changes, either completed or going forward, are the erection of an addition, as suggested in last entry, of a house between the main building and the dead-house, which it is proposed to use as a carpenter's shop and for teasing hair, that process being at present carried on in a sleeping room. The erection of a house at a little distance from the north airing-yard wall, which is to contain a byre, boiler-room, tool place, straw loft, coal depôt, &c.; the gradual levelling and cultivation of the garden and exercise grounds; the removal of doors from water-closets, which are in many places so dark, badly situate, and incommodious, as to favour the designs of the suicidal and degraded; and the multiplication of the simple amenities and decorations which have added so materially to the healthy cheerfulness of the interior.

This activity in supplying obvious wants is praiseworthy. It may be premature to suggest that attention should be devoted to the expediency of erecting, within the grounds, humble, but comfortable cottages, similar to those in the surrounding district, and such as are contemplated in similar institutions, in which convalescent patients on probation, or chronic incurable, but only partially trustworthy cases, might be placed, where they might remain under the supervision and direction of the Medical Officer as members of the community; and at present, the only urgent matters for consideration are the state of the airing courts which are at some points positively dangerous to the infirm and feeble,



and which should be finished, or what would be better, re arranged during the ensuing season, having urinals, &c., provided; and secondly, the construction of a promenade around the grounds, where at all seasons a fair extent of exercise might be obtained. This could in time be accomplished by the patients; for it appears that of 33 men now industriously employed 12 are gardeners and 8 labourers, and who were seen busily engaged in the sort of occupation now proposed; 4 tease hair; 2 attend to the cows; and 6 perform domestic services. Of the women, 7 are engaged in sewing or scrubbing, 5 in kitchen, and 6 in laundry work. All the stockings used in the house are knitted by them; and the wheels alluded to previously, were brought into operation in the preparation of the yarn. Large numbers of both sexes walk beyond the grounds; and it is most creditable that only one individual of each sex is confined to the airing yards. Three men are on parole within the precincts. The only other restrictions upon personal liberty to be noticed are that 5 wear locked boots, 1 female wore a strong dress, and that seclusion has been resorted seven times. On four occasions, however, this course was adopted only during meals. Eight persons were confined to bed; but the community is regarded as healthy. The dormitories and day rooms were found scrupulously clean and cheerful. The bedding was sufficient; but the thermometer having indicated last night  $48^{\circ}$  in the division for males, and  $46^{\circ}$  in that for females, and upon a previous occasion  $45^{\circ}$  in both divisions, it is strongly recommended that additional means of producing warmth should be sought for, as, during inclement weather, health may, and comfort must suffer, should the temperature fall below the range quoted.

The dinner in the public hall was attended by 38 females and 42 men. The meat consisted of an ample supply of broth and suet dumpling, both of excellent quality, served without bustle or confusion, and partaken of in a quiet and orderly manner.

The books, registers and orders were examined. The accident book contained no entries. The state of the house is most satisfactory.

(Signed)

“W. A. F. BROWNE,”

*Commissioner in Lunacy.*