

The annual report of the Dorset County Lunatic Asylum, Forston, for the year 1855.

Contributors

Dorset County Lunatic Asylum (Forston, England)
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THE
ANNUAL REPORT
OF THE
DORSET
COUNTY LUNATIC ASYLUM,
FORSTON,
FOR THE YEAR 1855.

LONDON:
PRINTED BY THOMAS SCOTT, 1, WARWICK COURT, HOLBORN.

1856.

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Committee of Visitors.

Appointed at the Epiphany Sessions, 1856.

REV. JAMES ACLAND TEMPLER, *Chairman.*

„ GEORGE PICKARD CAMBRIDGE.

„ HARRY FARR YEATMAN.

AUGUSTUS FOSTER, Esq.

CHARLES PORCHER, Esq.

JOHN FLOYER, Esq., M.P.

EDWARD ST. VINCENT DIGBY, Esq.

RICHARD BRINSLEY SHERIDAN, Esq., M.P.

ROBERT WILLIAMS, Esq.


HERBERT WILLIAMS, Esq.

HASTINGS NATHANIEL MIDDLETON, Esq.

HENRY CHARLES GOODDEN, Esq.

WILLIAM ELIOT, Esq.

JOHN HALES CALCRAFT, Esq.



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ANNUAL REPORT
OF THE
COMMITTEE OF VISITORS,

PRESENTED AT THE EPIPHANY SESSIONS,

1856.

THE 16 & 17 Victoria, cap. 97, sect. 62, having required that an Annual Report of the state of every County Lunatic Asylum should be laid before the Court of Quarter Sessions, to be holden next after the 20th day of December in every year for such County, the Visitors therefore beg to report, that during the past year, whenever they have visited the Asylum, either at the Quarterly Meetings, or separately at different times during the quarter, when their coming was unknown to the Superintendent, they have always found the wards clean, free from any unpleasant smell, and everything in the best order; and they have every reason to be satisfied with the attention of the present Superintendent, Mr. Symes, who appears to have paid most unremitting attention to the general superintendence of the Asylum, and to its good order and well-being. The conduct also of the Attendants has merited the approbation of Mr. Symes, in the care of their several wards, and their kindness to the patients, and no report of the contrary has been made during the year.

The Visitors have again to report the insufficiency of the accommodation for patients in the Asylum, there being now 20 patients in the upper story of the Superintendent's

house, which ought not to be, as they cause much personal inconvenience to the Medical Officer, especially by night. There are also 44 at Fisherton, under the care of Dr. Finch, making a total of 64 for whom proper accommodation ought to be provided by the county, and the Visitors most seriously urge the county to take the proper steps to carry this desirable object into immediate effect.

The Visitors also report the present want of a place large enough for the religious accommodation of the patients.

The health of the patients during the past year has been good. No epidemic of any description has occurred, and the deaths have, in five out the eleven cases, been those of persons far advanced in life.

The discharge of those recovered have also averaged a fair proportion, being 22 at Forston, and 5 at Fisherton,—total 27, during the past year.

Advantage has been taken of a clause in the "Lunatic Asylums Act," allowing patients to be discharged on trial, which has acted very beneficially, as they have a certain allowance made them for so many weeks, which has tended to keep them from excitement at the earlier period of their being at liberty until they could obtain work, and thus support themselves by their own labour.

The Visitors have been obliged, in several cases, to refuse applications from parishes to discharge patients whom they considered fit, but of whose sanity and competency to take care of themselves, the Medical Officer could not give a satisfactory report.

(Signed)

JAMES A. TEMPLER,

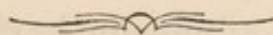
*Chairman of the Committee of Visitors of the
Dorset County Asylum.*

January 1st, 1856.

ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE

MEDICAL SUPERINTENDENT.



To the Chairman and Visitors of the Dorset County Asylum.

Gentlemen,

At the termination of the year, and in accordance with your request, I have the honour of submitting for your consideration a short statement of the condition of the Asylum and its inmates.

On January 1, 1854, there were in the Asylum 153 patients, *viz.*—70 males and 83 females, since which time there have been admitted 23 males and 24 females; discharged, 14 males and 19 females; died, 7 males and 4 females; and removed to Fisherton House, 6 males and 2 females. The number on the books now is, 66 males and 82 females, and at Fisherton, 21 males and 23 females, so that the whole number belonging to the county, and actually under treatment, is 192, *viz.*—87 males and 105 females.

The health and condition of those admitted was, in many instances, very unsatisfactory; some of them being in a weak and debilitated state, many were excessively dirty.

The necessity of early removal of a patient when attacked with insanity is generally admitted, but not so often acted upon; that it is of paramount importance cannot be denied, for a few days' residence in a workhouse, or in their own homes, improperly cared for, may give sufficient time for such permanent mischief in the brain as to render the case nearly hopeless, thus causing a great burden to the rate-payers, and an irreparable affliction to the patient and his

relatives. This rule might be relaxed with safety in cases where the intellectual powers are waning from paralysis or old age, and which principally require kindness and good nursing. In five such cases admitted during the year, the average age was above 70 years, and might be fairly adduced as examples of the above rule.

The certificates of admission having been so very informal, some notices were printed by the sanction of the Committee, and one was forwarded to every Relieving Officer or Overseer making application for the admission of a patient, saying, "that no patient would be received unless the certificate was properly and legally filled up." Some of them are less incorrect than formerly, but it is even now a very rare instance where some portion or other of the form has not to be materially altered, the errors invariably arising from non-attention to the notes at the bottom of each page.

Table XIV. will show the number of those discharged, recovered, and relieved during the past year, some of whom having been under treatment long before my residence here, owe very much to the care and kindness of the former Medical Officer.

The visits of friends, in several instances, have been obliged to be refused, in consequence of the injury likely to be caused. In many cases the mere removal of a patient from his home is of the greatest benefit, and the untoward visit of a relative or friend tends immediately to recal old associations, and cause a recurrence of the attack. The reason of refusal is always explained, with the intimation that it is generally best to write and ask for admittance, thus preventing the possibility of disappointment. As a general rule, I always advise that patients should not be visited under a month or six weeks after admission.

Several patients have been removed under the 81st sec-

tion of the "Lunatic Asylums Act," to be placed under the care of their friends. It would appear that this section is quite misinterpreted by some, who think they can remove a patient when they choose. An application was made a short time since, when the letter stated "it was their intention to remove A. B. and C. D. forthwith," neither of these patients being in a fit state for removal. The Committee are aware that it has always been the practice here to allow the parish authorities to see their patients whenever they wish; but it appears, that although very desirable they should know fully of their welfare, &c., this misconception has arisen from their merely having short and hurried conversations, in which, in many instances, they can detect nothing wrong; and if, in addition, they know they are regularly at work, they at once conclude that recovery must have taken place. A report of these imaginary facts are made, and an application for their discharge is the consequence.

The 79th section of the above Act is likely to be of great service, and several cases have been discharged "on trial" for short periods, thus enabling the patient to prove whether or not he is fit to be discharged altogether. The great difficulty experienced hitherto in these cases, is the "obtaining the necessary medical certificate as to the Patient's state of mind," without which he cannot be finally discharged.

Weekly allowances have been made, in accordance with the above section, in cases where it was deemed necessary; but it cannot be too earnestly impressed on the Guardians of the Poor, the absolute necessity of providing liberally for those patients just removed from an asylum; and, moreover, it will prove ultimately economy on their part. Too frequently it happens when a patient is discharged and gets home, he finds little or nothing to welcome him, and

without immediate daily work, feels and knows he cannot provide for himself and family. This tax on his bodily powers soon affects his mind, and he cannot bear up against it; a return here becomes necessitated; the experience of Medical Officers proves the too frequent occurrence of such cases. A case in point happened during the year. An old man, convalescent, was discharged, with every chance of remaining at home. The Overseer promised him meat twice at least weekly, and to be well cared for besides; instead of which, he was allowed one shilling and sixpence and one loaf of bread weekly; this afterwards was increased, I believe, to two loaves. Was there any wonder that he should soon become enfeebled, and his brain unable to bear the shock? In a month he was brought back considerably worse, and some weeks elapsed before he rallied; he will now be a permanent tax on his parish, and entirely, I believe, from want of a little care and kindness.

Four patients escaped during the year, but all were shortly retaken except one, a male. He got off about five o'clock on a very wet afternoon, made his way across the neighbouring corn-fields, slept in a bush the whole of one night, next morning getting to a small parish about six miles from hence. Although it was well known by the Overseer of the parish that he was there, yet no steps were taken to return him to the Asylum, it should therefore be mentioned, that by the 68th section of the "Lunatic Asylums Act, 1853," "the parish authorities are required to take care of any lunatic wandering at large, and not under proper care and control." Information at last reached us where he was, and an attendant was sent, with whom the patient quietly returned. He behaved very well afterwards, was soon discharged, and up to this time continues very well.

Table XV. shows that 11 deaths have occurred during

the year, which is not quite 8 per cent. of the average daily numbers. From a comparison of the rate of mortality in twenty-two asylums, the mean average number of deaths (computed for five years ending December, 1853,) is 11·27, therefore the above ratio of 8 per cent. must be considered satisfactory. It may be mentioned here, that the average of deaths in this Asylum for the period of five years above alluded to, was 8·1 per cent., being the lowest but three of those asylums above named (*vide Asylum Journal*, January 1, 1855,—“On Statistics,” by W. Parsey, M.D.), and may not these facts be adduced as a very cheering stimulus to those who have invariably cared so much for this Asylum, and somewhat as an answer to many who are constantly affirming the situation &c., to be unhealthy.

The rate of mortality for 1854 was rather higher than usual, and gave rise to a remark by the Commissioners in Lunacy at their visit in March last (*vide Report*, p. 17), but a brief glance at the ages of those who died will prove that it was more the natural decay of nature than disease. The deaths were 15,—not quite 11 per cent.,—three of whom averaged 65 years, four 74 years, and three 83 years, thus showing that long life is not at all incompatible with a residence in an asylum. I think it only just to my predecessor that these facts should be stated.

Of those who died during the past year (1855), two were found dead in bed from apoplexy; they both retired to rest in their usual health, and were not heard during the night. No inquests were held, the Coroner deeming it unnecessary.

Two inquests were held during the year; the first on a female, who died from fracture of the base of the skull, the effects of a fall; the second, on a male, who died from a self-inflicted wound in his throat. In this latter case there had never been any previous tendency to suicide exhibited.

Not being very well, he was directed to lie down for an hour; he rose and took his dinner, and appeared better; shortly afterwards he walked through the dining room, and into the shoemaker's shop, where he seized a knife, and with one blow severed the carotid artery; he died in less than two minutes; it was the smallest fatal external incision I ever saw, not being more than three-quarters of an inch in length. In both these cases a verdict was returned, not imputing blame to any one connected with the Institution.

Several accidents have occurred during the year, which it will be right to mention. *1st.*—A fracture of the lower third of the leg, with dislocation of the ankle, in a male patient, who was struck backwards over some steps by another patient. He recovered very nicely, and is now employed as milkman. *2nd.*—A male patient, whilst cleaving wood, had his two middle fingers fractured and much bruised at the first joints; complete union took place, and perfect use was restored. *3rd.*—A male patient, a feeble old man, in getting out of bed, fell and dislocated his left elbow backwards; he was in a weak and feeble state, and was otherwise much bruised from a fall shortly before his admission; the dislocation was easily reduced, but he has not yet perfectly recovered the use of his arm.

The patients, with the above exceptions, have enjoyed very good health. During the past month slight influenza has been prevalent, but in no case sufficiently severe to confine patients to their beds.

In cases of accidents or sickness requiring constant watching, the want of a bed-room where a fire might be kept is much felt; the dormitories being the only rooms with fire-places, and crowded with patients, cannot be used for the above purposes; but doubtless this, as well as many other requirements, will be fully cared for in the arrangements for the new building.

Some alterations in the seats of the No. 2 Female Ward have been made—widened, with reclining backs—they are now more comfortable. Several easy chairs, for the use of the sick, have also been added.

The occupations and amusements of the patients continue much as heretofore. Tables X. to XIII. will show the amount of work done during the year, and will prove that idleness does not prevail to any great extent; every encouragement being given to the industrious, as well as to others to imitate their example. All the clothing is made in the establishment, and at times, for the females, there has been quite a scarcity of work. Fancy work is not encouraged to any extent, for how little worth is it in a poor person's cottage! In several instances it has been lamentable to find that the patient could not cut out or make any part of their own garments, yet were proficient in knitting and crochet!

Cricket was frequently and much enjoyed by the men during the summer evenings. The cricket ground is kindly lent by the farmers opposite the Asylum, Messrs. Read and Thomas; and it was very gratifying to witness the great readiness with which some of the more able-bodied patients helped them during the time of harvest, thus showing that they are quite susceptible of appreciating a kind action, and to their utmost proving their gratitude. For several days, whilst working with the other labourers, they had their meals in the field;—in no instance was there the slightest reason for regretting it.

Dancing occasionally seems a very favourite amusement, but there is great doubt as to the propriety of its being encouraged, for if indulged in their own homes, how frequently does it lead to dissipation! and the same remarks would apply to cards, more than to other games, such as draughts, chess, &c.; for these latter games boards have been painted

on the tables in the day rooms. A good supply of newspapers and periodicals is allowed, and affords healthy recreation to the mind, and is much appreciated. The pleasure of communication with absent friends is enjoyed by a great many patients, to whom writing materials are given when desired, and very pleasing is it to observe the general tone and character of their letters. Music is encouraged, as tending to the benefit of the patient, in addition to the great enjoyment they evidently derive from it. Frequent and long walks are much enjoyed by the patients; and the summer tea parties on the Downs afforded them much pleasure.

The want of a chapel has long been a great and serious disadvantage, the room now provided for the purpose of Divine service not holding more than 40 persons. The average number of patients attending daily prayers is 30, besides attendants, &c.; more than this creates confusion by over crowding, but there can be no doubt that nearly two-thirds of our whole number would gladly attend every morning were there accommodation. I must express our thanks to our excellent and worthy Chaplain for his extreme regularity in attending, and his invariable kindness to the sick requiring his consolation and advice. Many of the patients regularly attend (weather permitting) Godmanstone Church, and sometimes form the greater part of the congregation; their behaviour has been always marked by great attention and devotedness.

At the Annual Meeting last month, another Female Attendant was allowed, who will be chiefly employed in the Laundry. The present Laundress having the sole charge of more than 20 Patients, finds it at times impossible to prevent injury to the clothes, and very difficult to get the work done for the Establishment.

An additional Male Attendant was also allowed, and will be of the greatest assistance, especially when Patients are

admitted requiring constant watching by night as well as day, as has been the case for some weeks past; for it cannot be expected that Attendants can satisfactorily perform their duties by day when engaged during the night as well. At some seasons of the year he will also be advantageously employed on the Farm with the Patients.

During the past year very little change has been necessary in the Servants and Attendants. Several left, and not without great reason, who had been here many years; but their places were speedily filled to my entire satisfaction.

Every Attendant, both male and female, has now a Daily Report to fill up, showing the occurrences of the previous 24 hours. This tends to produce attention to duties, and ensure regularity, both of which are most essential.

The use of restraint is now so almost universally condemned in the treatment of insanity, that it is perfectly needless to comment on it. None has been used here during the past year, and I believe for many previous years. That restraint is not so obsolete out of asylums is evident from the fact that no less than three cases—two of them females—were brought here in straight waistcoats; and one of the females had her legs so tightly bound, that the skin in several places was broken, and she was otherwise much bruised; yet she was guarded in a close fly by two stout women, and the relieving officer. The moment she was released from these bonds, she walked into the asylum without the least attempt to injure any one. It was many weeks before she recovered her harsh treatment. She is now progressing satisfactorily.

Seclusion is rarely resorted to, but occasionally is found of great comfort during temporary excitement; and in several instances have Patients requested to be allowed to remain in their bed rooms when they have not felt well.

An experiment was made a short time since to abate or remove the nuisance caused by the smoke from the engine house. During the prevalence of certain winds, the Drying Ground, which is adjoining, becomes filled with blacks and soot, thus causing much additional trouble in washing.

It did not succeed, although it was carried out precisely as at the Lincoln Asylum, where the success was perfect. In the additional building no doubt this evil will be obviated.

It is much to be regretted that all the rain water from this building is wasted, instead of being received into proper reservoirs. The use of it for laundry and domestic purposes cannot be over-rated; and if used in the Laundry would be a source of economy, obviating the necessity for so much soap and soda as is now requisite.

The supply of water, although coming from only one well, has been abundant during the whole of the year, and whilst many parts of the county have been suffering from scarcity, and in some places to a fearful extent, we have been well and thoroughly supplied.

The Dietary Table is at page 27. There is now no doubt, that in the treatment of insanity, a generous and liberal diet is absolutely required; and the food should be of good quality, and easily digested. In addition to this, wine and spirits are often found necessary, but are only given on the order of the medical officer.

In conclusion, I would desire respectfully to thank you for the kind consideration and advice so readily accorded me on all occasions connected with the general care and management of this Establishment, over which you have been pleased to place me.

With sincere respect,

I am, Gentlemen,

Your faithful Servant,

J. GUSTAVUS SYMES.

January, 1856.

REPORT
OF THE
COMMISSIONERS OF LUNACY,

Dated March 17th, 1855.

WE have visited this Asylum, and seen all the patients, 153 in number. They were very comfortable, and free from excitement; and the establishment throughout clean, and quite free from offensive odour.

The bedding is good and abundant, and the clothing of good quality. We saw the patients at dinner,—the food was of excellent quality, and neatly served. Although there are several feeble cases at present in the Asylum, the general health of the patients is good, and only 7 are under medical treatment.

Since the last visit (Jan. 7, 1854) 17 deaths have occurred. This number is rather above the usual average, but we perceive by the register, that of the patients who died, 9 were above 70 years of age.—26 patients have left the Asylum; of these, 5 were removed to Fisherton, and 13 were discharged recovered, and 8 relieved. In our passage through the wards to-day, we noticed several patients who were approaching convalescence.

A considerable number of the patients attend prayers, but the chapel does not afford sufficient accommodation.

The patients have various means of occupation and amusement; they make all their clothes and shoes, &c., and a considerable number of straw hats and mats.

The male patients are most of them employed in outdoor labour.

We learn that the Justices have recently purchased about 60 acres of land on the opposite side of the valley, and that they have it in contemplation to enlarge the Asylum, by adding wards immediately behind the existing building. Without entering into the details of the plan, it may be well to state our impression that such an addition will be open to many serious objections.

Mr. Symes entered upon his duties as Medical Superintendent on the 1st of December last, and we are glad to notice that under his management the Asylum continues to be in a very satisfactory state.

As there are several feeble cases in every ward, we think that some comfortable leaning arm-chairs should be provided. Some of the seats in the galleries might be also widened with advantage, and it might be well to place a few small tables in the different corridors.

(Signed)

W. G. CAMPBELL,
T. TURNER,

Commissioners in Lunacy.

STATISTICAL TABLES.

TABLE I.—THE ADMISSIONS, RE-ADMISSIONS, DISCHARGES, AND DEATHS,
DURING THE YEAR 1855.

		Male.	Female.	Total.															
Remaining in the Asylum, Jan. 1, 1854		70	83	153															
	<table border="1" style="margin-left: auto; margin-right: auto;"> <thead> <tr> <th style="width: 25%;">Male</th> <th style="width: 25%;">Fem.</th> <th style="width: 25%;">Total</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td style="text-align: center;">23</td> <td style="text-align: center;">18</td> <td style="text-align: center;">41</td> </tr> <tr> <td style="text-align: center;">Re-admitted</td> <td style="text-align: center;">6</td> <td style="text-align: center;">6</td> </tr> </tbody> </table>	Male	Fem.	Total	23	18	41	Re-admitted	6	6									
Male	Fem.	Total																	
23	18	41																	
Re-admitted	6	6																	
Total admitted... ..		23	24	47															
Total under care during the Year ...		93	107	200															
Discharged :																			
Recovered	<table border="1" style="margin-left: auto; margin-right: auto;"> <thead> <tr> <th style="width: 25%;">Male</th> <th style="width: 25%;">Fem.</th> <th style="width: 25%;">Total</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td style="text-align: center;">11</td> <td style="text-align: center;">11</td> <td style="text-align: center;">22</td> </tr> <tr> <td style="text-align: center;">Relieved</td> <td style="text-align: center;">3</td> <td style="text-align: center;">8</td> </tr> <tr> <td style="text-align: center;">Died</td> <td style="text-align: center;">7</td> <td style="text-align: center;">4</td> </tr> <tr> <td style="text-align: center;">Total Discharged and Died</td> <td style="text-align: center;">7</td> <td style="text-align: center;">4</td> <td style="text-align: center;">11</td> </tr> </tbody> </table>	Male	Fem.	Total	11	11	22	Relieved	3	8	Died	7	4	Total Discharged and Died	7	4	11		
Male	Fem.	Total																	
11	11	22																	
Relieved	3	8																	
Died	7	4																	
Total Discharged and Died	7	4	11																
Relieved	3	8	11																
Died	7	4	11																
Total Discharged and Died		21	23	44															
Sent to Chronic Asylum at Fisherton		72	84	156															
Remaining in the Asylum, Dec. 31st, 1855		6	2	8															
		66	82	148															

TABLE II.—THE AUTHORITY OF ADMISSION.

		Male.	Female.	Total.
Under orders of Two Justices of the Peace		3	1	4
Under orders of Justice of the Peace and Relieving Officer		18	18	36
Under orders of Officiating Clergyman and Relieving Officer		2	5	7
Total		23	24	47

TABLE III.—THE RELIGIOUS PERSUASION.

Religious Profession.	Male.	Female.	Total.
Church of England	17	19	36
Independants	0	2	2
Wesleyan	4	1	5
Unitarian	1	0	1
Roman Catholic	1	2	3
	23	24	47

TABLE IV.—THE EDUCATION.

Education.	Male.	Female.	Total.
Of Good Education	6	2	8
Read and Write	8	13	21
Read	3	6	9
Neither	6	3	9
	23	24	47

TABLE V.—THE CIVIL CONDITION.

	Male.	Female.	Total.
Married	13	10	23
Single	7	9	16
Widowed... ..	3	5	8
	23	24	47

TABLE VI.—THE OCCUPATION.

MALES.				MALES.			
Cabinet Maker	1	Wives, Daughters, or Wi-					
Coast Guardsman	1	dows of:—					
Carrier	1	Cabinet Maker	1				
Cutler	1	Labourers	9				
Baker	1	Sailors	2				
Bootmaker	1	Sawyer	1				
Flax Dresser	1	Shepherd	1				
Labourers	7	Tailor	1				
Painter	1	Distressed Gentlewoman ...	1				
Prison Warder... ..	1	Charwoman	1				
Sailor	1	Laundress	1				
Sawyer	1	Servants	3				
Shepherd	1	School Teacher	1				
Stone Mason	1	Seamstress	1				
Thatcher	1	Twine Braider	1				
Vagrants	2						
Total	23	Total	24				

TABLE VII.—AGES AT FIRST ATTACK AND ON RE-ADMISSION.

AGE.	At First Attack.			On Admission or Re-admission.		
	M.	F.	Total.	M.	F.	Total.
From 5 to 10 years ...	0	1	1	...	...	...
„ 10 „ 20 „ ...	1	2	3	...	...	...
„ 20 „ 30 „ ...	5	6	11	4	6	10
„ 30 „ 40 „ ...	4	4	8	2	2	4
„ 40 „ 50 „ ...	6	4	10	8	6	14
„ 50 „ 60 „ ...	4	2	6	5	4	9
„ 60 „ 70 „ ...	1	2	3	3	3	6
„ 70 „ 80 „ ...	2	3	5	1	3	4
Total	23	24	47	23	24	47

TABLE VIII.—ASSIGNED CAUSES OF MENTAL DISORDERS OF PATIENTS.

Causes.	Male.	Female.	Total.
Anxiety about Employment	3	4	7
Excitement on Religion	1	2	3
Fright ... ..	...	1	1
Intemperance	2	1	3
Destitution ... ..	...	1	1
Injury to Head	1	...	1
Grief.—Death of Husband ... ..	...	1	1
Failure in Business	2	1	3
Husband going to the Crimea ...	...	1	1
Jealousy ... ..	...	1	1
Misconduct of Wife	2	...	2
Disappointed Love ... ..	...	2	2
Poverty	3	...	3
Hereditary	2	4	6
Fever	1	...	1
— After Child-birth ... ..	...	2	2
Disease of Uterus ... ..	...	1	1
Strumous Disease	2	...	2
Unknown	4	2	6
Total	23	24	47

TABLE IX.—FORM OF DISEASE ON ADMISSION.

Disease.	Male.	Female.
Mania—Acute	3	3
Chronic	7	7
Hysterical	0	2
With Epilepsy	2	0
Remittent	0	1
Puerperal	0	1
Melancholia	7	8
Dementia	4	1
Idiotcy	0	1
Total.....	23	24

TABLE X.—AVERAGE NUMBER OF FEMALE PATIENTS EMPLOYED DAILY.

Nature of Employment.	No.
In the House	2
„ Kitchen	4
„ Laundry	16
„ Ward	16
Needlework	16
Knitting, &c.	5
Plaiting Straw, &c.	5
Total.....	64

TABLE XI.—THE AMOUNT OF WORK DONE BY THE FEMALE PATIENTS DURING THE YEAR 1855.

Description of Articles.	Made.	Repaired.
Aprons	94	84
Bed Ticks	3	4
Flannel Vests	9	73
Caps	15	84
Blankets ... ..	...	9
Gowns	180	71
Slop Frocks ... ..	...	148
Shirts	36	373
Shifts	43	186
Petticoats, stuff	12	26
Ditto flannel... ..	24	42
Stays	7	31
Sheets	61	144
Pillow-cases ... ..	...	64
Mattress-cases ... ..	...	26
Rugs ... ..	...	11
Table cloths	8	21
Stockings (male) pairs	77	1825
Ditto (female)	7	363
Handkerchiefs	50	93
Neckerchiefs	153	...
Bonnets	96	...
Hats... ..	44	...
Baskets	8	...
Tea cloths	21	...
Towels	13	...

TABLE XII.—AVERAGE NUMBER OF MALE PATIENTS EMPLOYED DAILY.

Nature of Employment.								No.
On the Farm	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	23
In the House	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1
„ Kitchen	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1
„ Stable	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1
„ Tailor's Shop	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	3
„ Shoemaker's ditto	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	3
„ Painter's ditto	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1
„ Carpenter's ditto	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	2
„ Engineer's department	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	2
„ Ward and Airing Courts	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	14
Total.....								51

TABLE XIII.—BOOTS AND SHOES MADE AND REPAIRED BY MALE PATIENTS.

	MALES.				FEMALES.			
	New.		Repaired.		New.		Repaired.	
	S. Pairs.	B. Pairs.	S. Pairs.	B. Pairs.	S. Pairs.	B. Pairs.	S. Pairs.	B. Pairs.
First Quarter	10	...	45	15	18	19	7	
Second Quarter	8	1	55	7	8	7	20	32
Third Quarter.....	10	...	44	18	3	16	30	17
Fourth Quarter	11	10	50	22	17	13	21	27
Total.....	39	11	194	62	46	55	78	76

In addition to the above, all the Male Clothing is made and kept in repair solely by the Patients.

TABLE XV.—OBITUARY.

No. in Admission Book.	Age at Death, and Civil State.	Sex.	Length of time Insane when admitted.	Duration of Residence in Asylum in Days.	Form of Mental Disease and Bodily Condition on Admission.	Apparent Cause of Death.
525	30 Years: Single	Female	2 Weeks	3184	Mania (recent)—Bodily health good	{ Compression of Brain (the result of a fall)—Inquest held; Verdict—Accidental Death.
697	30 Years: Single	Female	3 Months	1848	Melancholia (suicidal)—Health bad	{ Dropsy—Disease of Heart and Kidneys.
782	55 Years: Married	Female	1 Year	1137	Mania (chronic)—Paraplegia ...	Apoplexy.
858	32 Years: Single	Male	2 Weeks	516	Mania (acute)—Health good ...	Epilepsy.
883	28 Years: Single	Male	4 Years	285	Mania—Inguinal Hernia; in other respects impaired ...	{ Suicidal Wound in Throat—Inquest; Verdict—Accidental Death.
113	63 Years: Married	Male	1 Month	7484	Monomania—Feeble ...	Exhaustion.
53	64 Years: Single	Male	5 Years	8106	Mania—Good ...	General Paralysis.
908	71 Years: Married	Male	1 Week	139	Dementia—Very feeble, could hardly walk ...	Bronchitis.
911	28 Years: Single	Male	9 Months	126	Mania (with Epilepsy) —Moderately good ...	Apoplexy (sanguineous).
5	66 Years: Married	Female	1½ Year	8442	Mania—Good ...	Hæmoptysis.
934	49 Years: Married	Male	6 Weeks	54	Mania (recent)—Tolerably good ...	Cerebritis (effusion).

DIETARY FOR PATIENTS.

DAYS OF THE WEEK.	BREAKFAST.						DINNER.						SUPPER.											
	Males.			Females.			Males.						Females.											
	Bread.	Milk Gruel.	pt.	Bread.	Milk Gruel (1).	pt.	Cooked Meat, without bone.	Soup (2).	Meat Pie (3).	Vegetables.	Suet or Rice Pudding.	Bread.	Beer.	oz.	pt.	Bread.	Cheese.	oz.	Beer.	pt.	Bread.	Cheese.	oz.	pt.	Tea or Coffee.
Sunday ...	6	2	1½	5	1½	2	...	...	...	...	4	...	...	1½	8	2	6	2	1	6	2	6	2	1
Monday ...	6	2	1½	5	1½	...	5	...	16	...	...	...	1	8	2	6	2	...	...	8	2	6	2	1
Tuesday ...	6	2	1½	5	1½	...	5	10	16	...	...	...	1	8	2	6	2	...	...	8	2	6	2	1
Wednesday ...	6	2	1½	5	1½	...	5	...	16	...	...	...	1	8	2	6	2	...	...	8	2	6	2	1
Thursday ...	6	2	1½	5	1½	...	5	...	16	...	...	...	1	8	2	6	2	...	...	8	2	6	2	1
Friday ...	6	2	1½	5	1½	...	5	...	...	16	...	...	1	8	2	6	2	...	...	8	2	6	2	1
Saturday ...	6	2	1½	5	1½	...	5	...	16	...	...	...	1	8	2	6	2	...	...	8	2	6	2	1
Total ...	42	14	10½	35	10½	2	20	10	80	16	4	3	20	1½	56	14	42	14	3½	3	56	14	42	7

EXTRA DIET:—Lunch: Bread and cheese and ½ pint beer is allowed for those at work, both males and females, with ½ pint beer for men, and tea for women, every afternoon at Four o'clock. Tobacco and snuff are allowed as extras to many of the Patients. Butter is only allowed to those on the Sick List.

The Attendants are allowed 7 lbs. bread, and ½ lb. butter weekly. **MALES:** 2 pints beer. **FEMALES:** 1 pint beer daily. They all dine in the Servants' Hall, without restriction as to quantity of meat, vegetables, &c.; and are allowed bread and cheese for Supper.

(1). The Milk Gruel is made with oatmeal and milk.

(2). The Soup is made from the liquor of the boiled meat, with peas, rice, onions, &c.; and 1½ oz. meat for each Patient.

(3). Meat pie contains 3 oz. of meat without bone.

FINANCIAL ACCOUNTS

Receipts and Payments

Date	Particulars	Amount
1890		
Jan 1	Balance forward	100.00
Jan 15	Received from A. B.	50.00
Jan 20	Received from C. D.	25.00
Jan 25	Received from E. F.	75.00
Jan 30	Received from G. H.	100.00
Feb 5	Received from I. J.	150.00
Feb 10	Received from K. L.	200.00
Feb 15	Received from M. N.	300.00
Feb 20	Received from O. P.	400.00
Feb 25	Received from Q. R.	500.00
Feb 30	Received from S. T.	600.00
Mar 5	Received from U. V.	700.00
Mar 10	Received from W. X.	800.00
Mar 15	Received from Y. Z.	900.00
Mar 20	Received from AA. BB.	1000.00
Mar 25	Received from CC. DD.	1100.00
Mar 30	Received from EE. FF.	1200.00
Apr 5	Received from GG. HH.	1300.00
Apr 10	Received from II. JJ.	1400.00
Apr 15	Received from KK. LL.	1500.00
Apr 20	Received from MM. NN.	1600.00
Apr 25	Received from OO. PP.	1700.00
Apr 30	Received from QQ. RR.	1800.00
May 5	Received from SS. TT.	1900.00
May 10	Received from UU. VV.	2000.00
May 15	Received from WW. XX.	2100.00
May 20	Received from YY. ZZ.	2200.00
May 25	Received from AA. BB.	2300.00
May 30	Received from CC. DD.	2400.00
Jun 5	Received from EE. FF.	2500.00
Jun 10	Received from GG. HH.	2600.00
Jun 15	Received from II. JJ.	2700.00
Jun 20	Received from KK. LL.	2800.00
Jun 25	Received from MM. NN.	2900.00
Jun 30	Received from OO. PP.	3000.00
Jul 5	Received from QQ. RR.	3100.00
Jul 10	Received from SS. TT.	3200.00
Jul 15	Received from UU. VV.	3300.00
Jul 20	Received from WW. XX.	3400.00
Jul 25	Received from YY. ZZ.	3500.00
Jul 30	Received from AA. BB.	3600.00
Aug 5	Received from CC. DD.	3700.00
Aug 10	Received from EE. FF.	3800.00
Aug 15	Received from GG. HH.	3900.00
Aug 20	Received from II. JJ.	4000.00
Aug 25	Received from KK. LL.	4100.00
Aug 30	Received from MM. NN.	4200.00
Sep 5	Received from OO. PP.	4300.00
Sep 10	Received from QQ. RR.	4400.00
Sep 15	Received from SS. TT.	4500.00
Sep 20	Received from UU. VV.	4600.00
Sep 25	Received from WW. XX.	4700.00
Sep 30	Received from YY. ZZ.	4800.00
Oct 5	Received from AA. BB.	4900.00
Oct 10	Received from CC. DD.	5000.00
Oct 15	Received from EE. FF.	5100.00
Oct 20	Received from GG. HH.	5200.00
Oct 25	Received from II. JJ.	5300.00
Oct 30	Received from KK. LL.	5400.00
Nov 5	Received from MM. NN.	5500.00
Nov 10	Received from OO. PP.	5600.00
Nov 15	Received from QQ. RR.	5700.00
Nov 20	Received from SS. TT.	5800.00
Nov 25	Received from UU. VV.	5900.00
Nov 30	Received from WW. XX.	6000.00
Dec 5	Received from YY. ZZ.	6100.00
Dec 10	Received from AA. BB.	6200.00
Dec 15	Received from CC. DD.	6300.00
Dec 20	Received from EE. FF.	6400.00
Dec 25	Received from GG. HH.	6500.00
Dec 30	Received from II. JJ.	6600.00
Total		6700.00

FINANCIAL ACCOUNTS.

Receipts and Payments

FOR THE YEAR ENDING 31st DECEMBER, 1855.

RECEIPTS.

	£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.
To Balance in hand, 31st December, 1854 ...				37	13	8
FROM INTEREST ON MONIES INVESTED:—						
To One Year's Dividends on £4,500, £3 per cent. Consols				135	0	0
MAINTENANCE ACCOUNT:—						
To Amount received from Parishes for Pauper Patients	3970	7	10			
From Parishes in other Counties ...	74	11	0			
From County Treasurer for Vagrant Paupers and Criminal Lunatics ...	189	14	0			
				<u>4234</u>	12	10
From Parishes for Funerals ...				20	3	6
FROM CONTINGENT FUND ACCOUNT:—						
Particulars <i>vide</i> page 35	112	2	7			
Ditto	57	6	2			
				<u>169</u>	8	9
FROM COUNTY TREASURER:—						
Particulars, <i>vide</i> page 33				611	5	0
Total Receipts				<u>£5208</u>	3	9

PAYMENTS.

SALARIES AND WAGES:—

Officers	...	...	...	249	13	5
Attendants	...	...	...	223	10	1
Servants	...	...	...	113	13	8
						586 17 2

PROVISIONS, viz.:—

21082 lbs. Meat	...	...	...	568	7	3
54144 lbs. Bread...	...	...	...	479	18	6
4844 lbs. Flour	...	...	...	51	18	0
103 lbs. Peas	...	...	...	1	3	10
2072 lbs. Rice	...	...	...	21	2	0
4704 lbs. Oatmeal	...	...	...	46	4	0
8975 lbs. Cheese	...	...	...	133	14	11
348 lbs. Tea	...	...	...	61	10	4
158 lbs. Coffee, Cocoa, and Chicory	...	...	...	8	9	6
165 lbs. Lump Sugar	...	...	...	3	13	8
566 lbs. Moist Sugar...	...	...	...	10	8	9
25 lbs. Currants...	...	...	...	1	5	0
44 lbs. Raisins	...	...	...	1	5	8
58 lbs. Tobacco and Snuff...	...	...	...	14	8	0
Vinegar, Salt, Saltpetre, Mustard, Spices, Arrowroot, Tapioca, Sago, and Mis- cellaneous	...	...	...	23	11	11
68 bushels Malt...	...	...	...	31	11	6
53 lbs. Hops	...	...	...	10	18	8
216 gallons Porter	...	...	...	11	8	0
7349 gallons Ale	...	...	...	295	14	4
Potatoes	...	...	...	20	2	0
						1796 15 10

NECESSARIES:—

133 lbs. Candles (Moulds and Metallics)	...	...	...	6	12	7
576 lbs. Ditto (Dips)	...	...	...	17	6	0
Oil	...	...	...	1	0	0
207 tons 1 cwt. Coals	...	...	...	315	4	6
2918 lbs. Soap	...	...	...	40	18	0
896 lbs. Soda	...	...	...	2	8	0
98½ lbs. Starch and Blue	...	...	...	2	17	8
Blacklead, Whiting, and Miscellaneous...	...	...	...	21	17	3
						408 4 0
Carried forward						2791 17 0

PAYMENTS.—*continued.*

	£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.
Brought forward				2791	17	0
SURGERY AND DISPENSARY :—						
Drugs, Surgery, &c.	32	8	5			
Wine and Spirits	21	9	6			
	<hr/>			53	17	11
CLOTHING :—						
Calico, Frint, &c.	12	13	11			
Flannel	13	4	0			
Leather	43	15	5			
Linen and Dowlas	6	15	11½			
Stockings	0	17	3			
Cloth, and other articles of clothing	36	4	0			
Thread, Needles, Tape, Worsted, and Sundries	17	6	11			
	<hr/>			130	17	5½
FURNITURE AND BEDDING :—						
Rugs, Blankets, Flock, Tick, &c. ...	35	4	7			
Straw for Bedding	13	0	0			
Sheeting	19	0	2½			
Crockery and Earthenware ...	6	15	11			
Culinary Cooperage, Brushes, Mops, &c.	25	6	11			
Articles of Furniture and Sundries	30	15	7			
	<hr/>			130	3	2½
REPAIRS :—						
Bricklayer	1	6	0			
Tin, Copper, and Brass work ..	8	8	9			
Iron work and Ironmongery	60	13	0			
Timber and Carpenter	1	13	0			
Paint, and Plumber and Glazier ...	12	13	4			
	<hr/>			84	14	1
GARDEN AND FARM EXPENCES :—						
Implements of Husbandry	2	4	0			
Compost, Manure, and Straw	29	9	0			
Provender for Live Stock	173	13	11			
Seeds and Plants	13	2	3			
	<hr/>			218	9	2
Carried forward				3409	18	10

PAYMENTS.—*continued.*

	£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.
Brought forward				3409	18	10
MISCELLANEOUS:—						
Advertisements, Printing, Stationery, Postage, and Carriage	66	7	10			
Patients, for Maintenance when on trial	2	0	0			
Incidentals	4	8	6			
				<u>72</u>	<u>16</u>	<u>4</u>
Amount paid by Parishes for Maintenance of Patients at Fisherton Asylum ...				944	3	10
				<u>4426</u>	<u>19</u>	<u>0</u>
Funeral Expences, Coffins, &c., repaid by Parishes				20	3	6
FROM CONTINGENT FUND:—						
The Relatives of the Patient, Mary Brown- ing, deceased, money belonging to her	2	12	3			
Mr. Caines, for Pasturage ...	5	15	0			
New Furniture, for Medical Superin- tendent's House	100	0	0			
Subscription to Godmanstone School	2	0	0			
Books for Patients	1	10	6			
Incidentals	0	4	10			
				<u>112</u>	<u>2</u>	<u>7</u>
REPAIRS, RENT, TAXES, COST OF PATIENTS AT FISHERTON HOUSE, &c.						
(Repaid by County Treasurer):—						
Timber Merchant	26	0	1			
Bricklayer	71	10	5			
Plumber	1	0	9			
Glass	2	1	5			
New Spring Waggon	24	0	0			
Rent of Field	18	16	8			
Tithes, Rates, and Taxes ...	9	17	8			
Carriage of Patients to Fisherton ...	11	13	3			
Ditto Sundry Carriage and Travelling Expences, Visiting Patients, &c. &c....	9	13	5			
Carried forward	<u>£174</u>	<u>13</u>	<u>8</u>	<u>£4559</u>	<u>5</u>	<u>1</u>

PAYMENTS.—*continued.*

	£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.
Brought forward	174	13	8	4559	5	1
One Quarter's Pension to a Nurse (since deceased)	3	6	8			
Surgical Instruments	18	1	0			
	196	1	4			
Dr. Finch remainder of the Cost of Maintenance of Patients at Fisherton House	365	3	8			
Chaplain's Salary	50	0	0			
				611	5	0
Total Payments				£5170	10	1

Aggregate Number of Days' Residence of Patients, 69,933.

Daily Average Number of Patients on the Books during the Year, 191 $\frac{3}{5}$.

Ditto ditto in the House, 148 $\frac{4}{5}$.

Average Weekly Cost per Head for Maintenance, 8s. 10 $\frac{3}{4}$ d., viz.:

£	s.	d.		£	s.	d.
586	17	2	Salaries and Wages	0	1	2
1796	15	10	Provisions	0	3	7 $\frac{1}{4}$
408	4	0	Necessaries	0	0	9 $\frac{3}{4}$
53	17	11	Surgery and Dispensary, Wine, &c. ...	0	0	1 $\frac{1}{4}$
130	17	5 $\frac{1}{2}$	Clothing	0	0	3 $\frac{1}{2}$
130	3	2 $\frac{1}{2}$	Furniture and Bedding	0	0	3 $\frac{1}{2}$
84	14	1	Ironmongery, &c.	0	0	2 $\frac{1}{2}$
218	9	2	Garden and Farm Expences	0	0	5 $\frac{1}{4}$
72	16	4	Printing, Books, Stationery, Miscellaneous	0	0	1 $\frac{3}{4}$
944	3	10	Patients at Fisherton	0	1	10 $\frac{3}{4}$
4426	19	0	Total	0	8	10 $\frac{3}{4}$

Average weekly rate charged to the Parishes 0 8 5 $\frac{1}{2}$

GENERAL STATEMENT

DR.

Of the Receipts and Payments for the Year ending 31st December, 1855.

CR.

	£	s.	d.
To Balance in hand 31st Dec., 1854.	37	13	8
To Cash received for Dividends	135	0	0
" from Parishes for Maintenance of Patients	3970	7	10
" from Parishes for ditto in other Counties ditto	74	11	0
" from County Treasurer ditto ..	189	14	0
" for Funerals	4234	12	10
" From Contingent Fund for Furniture, &c.	20	3	6
" towards Maintenance Account ..	112	2	7
" From County Treasurer for Repairs and Patients at Fisherton, &c.	57	6	2
	169	8	9
	611	5	0
	£5208 3 9		
By Cash paid Salaries and Wages.....	586	17	2
" Provisions	1796	15	10
" Necessaries, Fuel, Lighting, and Washing	408	4	0
" Surgery and Dispensary, Wine, &c.	53	17	11
" Clothing	130	17	5½
" Furniture and Bedding	130	3	2½
" Ironmongery, Tin, Copper ware, &c.	84	14	1
" Garden and Farm Expenses	218	9	2
" Printing, Stationery, and Miscellaneous ...	72	16	4
" Funeral Expenses.....	20	3	6
" Patients at Fisherton, from Maintenance Account	944	3	10
" Contingent Fund	112	2	7
" County Treasurer	611	5	0
" Balance in hand	37	13	8
	£5208 3 9		

STATEMENT OF BALANCES, viz.—

On General Account	£37 13 8
" Contingent Fund Account	360 13 7
" Charity Account	333 7 0
" Farm Account	29 15 5
	£5208 3 9

Dr.

THE CONTINGENT FUND ACCOUNT to 31st December, 1855.

Cr.

	£	s.	d.
To Balance in hand 31st December, 1854	495	19	4
To One Year's Dividend on £1138 8s. 6d. 3 per Cent. Reduced.....	34	3	0
<hr/>			
	£530	24	

	£	s.	d.
By Cash paid the personal representatives of Mary Browning, a deceased patient, money be- longing to her	2	12	3
" Mr. Caines, for Pasturage	5	15	0
" New Furniture, Superintendent's House	100	0	0
" Subscription to Godmanstone School.....	2	0	0
" Books for Patients.....	1	10	6
" Sundry Payments.....	0	4	10
	112	27	
" Sums paid Maintenance Account £81 0 0	81	0	0
Ditto.....	4	11	3
	85	11	3
" Sums received from Maintenance Account £20 13 6	20	13	6
Ditto.....	7	11	7
	28	5	1
	57	6	2
" Balance in hand	169	8	9
	360	13	7
	£530	24	

35

CR.

CHARITY ACCOUNT to 31st December, 1855.

DR.

		1855.			
		£	s. d.	£	s. d.
1855.	To Balance in Dorchester Saving's Bank, 31st December, 1854	...	328 9 9	...	5 0 0
May 20.	Half-year's Interest	...	4 18 6	...	333 7 0
Nov. 20.	Ditto	...	4 18 9	...	
		<hr/>		<hr/>	
		£338 7 0		£338 7 0	
		<hr/>		<hr/>	

July 14. By Cash paid to Superintendent, to be applied
for the use of the Patients ...

Balance in hand ...

36

	£	s.	d.	Articles.	Quantity.	Price.	Estimated Value.
Rent of Field	18	16	8	Butter	1039½ lbs.	10d. per lb.	£43 6s 3d
Labour	68	13	6	Milk	3538 gals.	7d. per gal.	103 3 10
Hay	100	7	7	Pork	2471 lbs.	6d. per lb.	61 15 6
Straw	26	0	0	Veal	100 lbs.	7d. "	2 18 4
Hire of Grass	5	15	0	Mutton	470 lbs.	6½d. "	12 14 7
Barley Meal and Corn	72	8	10	Lard	78½ lbs.	7d. "	2 5 9½
Pigs, &c.	16	18	1	Eggs	102 doz.	9d. per doz.	3 16 6
Heifers	32	10	0	Potatoes	640 bush.	3s. per bushel	96 0 0
Sheep	11	0	0	Carrots	888 "	1s. "	44 8 0
Sundries, Manure, Seeds, Hurdles, &c. &c.	26	7	3	Parsnips	161 "	1s. 3d. "	10 1 3
				Swedes and Turnips	268 "	4½d. "	5 0 6
				Mangold-Wurtzel	768 "	6d. "	19 4 0
				Cabbage	487 "	6d. "	12 3 6
				Broad Beans	54 "	1s. "	2 14 0
				French Beans	98 "	2s. 6d. "	12 5 0
				Peas	90 "	2s. "	9 0 0
				Onions	18 "	4s. 6d. "	4 1 0
				Lettuce	25 "	1s. "	1 5 0
				Leaves from roots	2724 "	1½d. "	17 0 6
				Fruit			1 15 2
				1 acre Lucerne	4 cuttings	30s. per cutting	6 0 0
				1 ditto ditto	1 "	" "	1 10 0
				2 ditto Vetches	2 acres	£5 per acre	10 0 0
				¾ ditto Rye	¾ "	£1 "	0 15 0
				2 ditto Grass, mown	2 tons Hay	£6 per ton	12 0 0
				SOLD.—Pigs, £28 3s.; Cows and Calves, £41 14s. 11d.;			
				Dripping, &c., £6 17s.; Plants, £1 10s.; Sundries,			
				£4 6s. 10d.			82 11 9
Balance in favour of Farm and Garden	378	16	11	Estimated value of Live Stock	142 10 0		16 3½
	198	19	4½	Ditto ditto	60 0 0		
	577	16	3½				
							£202 10 0

The Asylum has been wholly supplied, and the stock kept, with the exception of the hire of grass.—A bushel of roots averages 56lbs. in weight.

FARM ACCOUNT.

General Statement of the Receipts and Payments on this Account exclusively.

RECEIPTS.		PAYMENTS.	
	£ s. d.		£ s. d.
To Balance in hand, 31st December, 1854...	23 10 11	To Cash paid for Live Stock ...	60 8 1
To Cash received from Sale of Live Stock	68 0 5	" Plants and Seeds ...	0 12 0
" Plants ...	1 10 0	" Corn and Provender ...	1 11 0
" Dairy Produce	2 11 8	" Labour, Drilling, & Mowing	4 8 6
" Fat and Dripping	6 11 11	" Manure ...	2 14 0
" Pork ...	1 17 6	" Pasturage ...	5 15 0
" Old Iron ...	6 1 6	" Milk ...	3 11 8
" Barn ...	0 2 11	" Sundries ...	2 8 0
" Sundries ...	0 16 10	Balance in Superintendent's hands ...	81 8 3
	87 12 9		29 15 5
	£111 3 8		£111 3 8

JNO. BROWN,

Clerk to the Asylum and to the Visitors.