

The ninth annual report of the committee for and Darenth Asylum and Schools for imbeciles, to 31st December, 1882.

Contributors

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Metropolitan Asylum District.

8th
THE
NINTH ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE

COMMITTEE FOR DARENTH ASYLUM AND SCHOOLS

FOR


IMBECILES,

To 31ST DECEMBER, 1882.

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Mr. W. F. JEBB, *Clerk to the Board.*

NINTH ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE

Committee for the Parenty Asylum and Schools.

January 1st, 1883.

To the Managers of the Metropolitan Asylum District.

Your Committee submit the Reports of the Medical Superintendents of the Adult Asylum and Schools, and of the Matron and Schoolmasters of the Schools, for the year 1882.

At the Asylum, 433 patients were admitted during the year, 45 died, and 13 were discharged; whilst at the Schools, there were 145 admissions, 40 deaths, and 120 discharges.

The percentage mortality at the Asylum, on the average numbers resident during the year, was 12·97, and at the Schools 7·84.

The daily average cost per head for the maintenance and clothing of the patients in the Adult Asylum, and of the children in the Schools, has been at the rate of 10½d. and 10¾d. for the half-year ended at Lady-Day and Michaelmas respectively.

During the year the Infirmarys at the Adult Asylum were completed and opened for the treatment of patients;

whilst the erection of cottages for the accommodation of married officers at the Schools and Asylum was decided upon by the Managers, and sanctioned by the Local Government Board.

The cultivation and tillage of the farm land has proceeded satisfactorily.

For the consideration with which their recommendations have at all times been received by the Managers, your Committee record their thanks.

(Signed) EDM. HAY CURRIE,
Chairman.

MEDICAL SUPERINTENDENT'S
ANNUAL REPORT FOR THE YEAR 1882
OF DARENTH ADULT ASYLUM.

January 1st, 1883.

GENTLEMEN,

I have the honour to submit to you the Annual Report of the Adult Asylum for the year 1882.

It was with great pleasure and satisfaction in May last that we were once more able to continue the working of our Asylum for adult imbeciles, which during the previous year had been somewhat interrupted by the Smallpox Convalescent Camp occupying some part of the grounds, and, during the inclement weather, the blocks themselves, necessitating the refusal on our part of new patients, and obliging us, as a precautionary measure, to discontinue the visiting of patients, except of course in cases of dangerous illness, when special permission was granted; and I am glad to say, that with the necessary precautions that were taken to entirely separate the imbecile patients and the attendants waiting on them from the Smallpox patients and their staff, we escaped any outbreak amongst the imbeciles and their attendants.

When the last of the Smallpox patients had recovered and gone, and the blocks they had been occupying had been thoroughly cleansed and disinfected, we began to receive

new imbecile patients about May, first transferring the resident female patients, who had been previously lodged in the male blocks, into the wards vacated as above mentioned; and the few male patients who temporarily had been occupying empty workshops (made as comfortable as attending circumstances would allow) were then removed into their properly appointed wards.

This year also we have had opened two new infirmary blocks, each constructed to receive ninety patients, and thirty beds being appointed to each floor. They are well ventilated, and warmed by hot water pipes running round the walls of the dormitory, as well as open fire-places, so that the temperature can always be maintained to a suitable degree in the coldest weather; which system would greatly improve the dormitories of our ordinary blocks, they having at present only open fire-places, and in very cold weather it is very difficult to keep up a sufficient heat for our class of patients, whose circulation is often extremely languid and feeble. I am glad to say that the infirmaries have also a staircase at each end of the block, so that in case of fire the removal of the patients could be effected with greater ease and safety than they would in the ordinary blocks, which have a staircase only at one end.

The number of patients in this Asylum, December 31st, 1882, was 598, viz., 232 males and 366 females.

During the year we admitted 230 males and 203 females. 16 males and 29 females died, and 6 males and 7 females were discharged to their parish or friends.

Amongst those admitted are included the transfers from

the School Asylum of those over 16 years of age; and it may be well to mention here that although they have reached the age of 16, yet many of them are still quite childlike in appearance, development, and habits, and are hardly fit to associate with the adult patients; and it may be advisable in the future to build some separate blocks for them, or to let them remain at the Schools.

We employ usefully as many of the patients as possible; the age and physical state of many render it difficult to employ a greater number. At the present time about 50 males work in the various shops, and about 20 are employed on the farm and in the grounds. The females do needlework and help to clean the wards, and a few are employed in the kitchen and laundry.

The amusements of the patients are encouraged as much as possible; some of the men have cricket in the summer, and occasional walks in the country. In the winter there are theatrical entertainments, at which both male and female patients attend as far as room will allow.

I believe next winter we shall have completed a recreation and dining hall. This will render the long evenings of winter more enjoyable, and tend to lessen the monotony of the wards, besides giving the wards an opportunity of becoming purified during the absence of the patients.

In June Dr. White was elected from amongst several candidates as Assistant Medical Officer to this Asylum, and has been of great help to me in my duties. The staff of attendants also had to be largely increased on the opening of our new blocks; and to make more room for their

accommodation, some new cottages are about to be built on the estate, and I believe that some of the married attendants will have the option of living in them, as at present their wives have to reside some distance from the Asylum.

The Commissioners of Lunacy paid us a visit in July last, and left a short satisfactory entry in the visitors' book.

The usual tables showing the numbers of admissions, deaths, and discharges are appended.

In conclusion, I have to thank the Committee for their kind continued support and assistance to me in the performance of my duties.

I have the honour to be, Gentlemen,

Your obedient Servant,

(Signed) T. B. DYER,
Medical Superintendent.

*To the Chairman and Committee,
Darenth Adult Asylum.*

TABLE I.

Showing the Admissions, Re-admissions, Discharges, and Deaths during the Year 1882.

In the Asylum, 1st January, 1882	...	...	...	...	Male.	Female.	Total.
Admitted for the first time during the Year ...	...	...	...	...	24	199	223
Re-admitted during the Year...	...	...	...	...	230	203	433
Total under care during the Year	...	...	...	...	254	402	656
Discharged or Removed—							
Recovered	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Relieved	...	...	...	...	4	5	9
Not Improved	...	...	...	...	2	2	4
Died	...	...	...	...	16	29	45
Total discharged (for various reasons) and died during the Year	...	...	...	...	22	36	58
Total admitted	...	...	...	...	230	203	433
Remaining in the Asylum, 31st December, 1882 (inclusive of absent on trial— Males, and Females)	...	...	...	...	232	366	598
Average numbers resident during the Year	...	...	...	...	97.04	249.70	346.74
Highest number resident on any one day	...	...	...	...	235	366	601
Lowest number resident on any one day	...	...	...	...	23	191	214

TABLE II.

Showing the Admissions, Re-admissions, and Discharges from the opening of the Asylum to the present date, 31st December, 1882.

	Male.	Female.	Total.
Admitted during the period of three years	255	447	702
Re-admissions	...	2	2
Total of Cases Admitted	255	449	704
Discharged or Removed:—			
	Male.	Female.	Total.
Recovered	1	4	5
Relieved	4	7	11
Not Improved	2	13	15
Died	16	59	75
Total discharged and died during the three Years	23	83	106
Remaining, 31st December, 1882	232	366	598
Average numbers resident during the three years	48.50	195.53	244.3

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.

opening of the Asylum.

Year.	Admitted.			Discharged.									Died.			Remaining 31st December in each year.			Average Numbers Resident.			Percentage of Recoveries on Admissions.			Percentage of Deaths on Average Numbers Resident.		
				Recovered.			Relieved.			Not Improved.																	
	Male	Female	Total	Male	Female	Total	Male	Female	Total	Male	Female	Total	Male	Female	Total	Male	Female	Total	Male	Female	Total	Male	Female	Total	Male	Female	Total
1880	25	217	242	...	...	...	...	2	2	...	9	9	...	8	8	25	198	223	24.04	139.84	163.88	...	...	...	...	5.15	5.69
1881	...	29	29	1	4	5	...	...	...	...	2	2	...	22	22	24	199	223	24.43	197.04	221.47	...	13.7	17.2	...	11.16	9.93
1882	230	203	433	...	...	...	4	5	9	2	2	4	16	29	45	232	366	598	97.04	249.70	346.74	...	...	...	16.4	11.61	12.97
Totals	255	449	704	1	4	5	4	7	11	2	13	15	16	59	75	281	763	1044	1455.1	586.58	732.9	...	13.7	17.2	16.49	27.92	28.59

TABLE IV.

Classifying under the usual denominations of Mental Disease the Mental Condition of the Patients admitted during the year 1882.

MENTAL DISEASES.							Males.	Females.	Totals.
Imbecile and of weak mind	...	...	...	...	...	...	95	66	161
Dementia	...	...	...	...	...	...	47	57	104
Chronic mania	...	...	...	...	...	...	13	18	31
Idiots	...	...	...	...	...	...	6	10	16
Melancholic	...	...	...	...	...	...	3	3	6
Epileptic	...	...	...	...	...	...	49	49	98
Paralytic	...	...	...	...	...	...	17	...	17
Totals	...	...	...	...	...	...	230	203	433

TABLE V.

Classifying, under the usual denominations of Mental Disease, the mental condition of the Patients resident in the Asylum on the 31st December in each year.

MENTAL DISEASE.	1880.			1881.			1882.		
	Male.	Female.	Total.	Male.	Female.	Total.	Male.	Female.	Total.
Imbecile and of weak mind ...	19	104	123	19	106	125	112	142	254
Idiots ...	...	21	21	...	23	23	6	39	45
Chronic Mania ...	...	...	...	...	1	1	11	31	42
Epileptic ...	6	54	60	5	55	60	48	87	135
Paralytic ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	13	6	19
Dementia ...	...	15	15	...	10	10	39	57	96
Melancholic ...	...	4	4	...	4	4	3	4	7
Total ...	25	198	223	24	199	223	232	366	598

Year	1897	1898	1899	1900	1901	1902	1903	1904	1905	1906	1907
January	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1
February	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1
March	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1
April	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1
May	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1
June	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1
July	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1
August	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1
September	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1
October	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1
November	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1
December	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1
Total	12	12	12	12	12	12	12	12	12	12	12

The above table shows the number of days in each month for each year from 1897 to 1907. The total number of days in each year is 365, except for leap years which have 366 days.

TABLE VI.

Showing the History of the Annual Admissions since the opening of the Asylum, with the Discharges and Deaths, and the numbers remaining on the 31st December of each year, and of the year reported on.

Admitted.						Of each Year's Admissions, Discharged and Died in 1882.												Total Discharged and Died of each Year's Admissions to 31st December, 1882.												Remaining of each Year's Admissions, 31st Dec., 1882.		
Year.	New Cases.		Relapsed Cases.		Total.	Recovered.			Relieved.			Not Improved.			Died.			Recovered.			Relieved.			Not Improved.			Died.			Males.	Females.	Total.
	Males.	Females.	Males.	Females.		Males.	Females.	Total.	Males.	Females.	Total.	Males.	Females.	Total.	Males.	Females.	Total.	Males.	Females.	Total.	Males.	Females.	Total.	Males.	Females.	Total.	Males.	Females.	Total.			
1880	25	217	...	...	242	...	...	...	1	3	4	...	1	1	...	18	18	1	2	3	1	5	6	...	2	2	...	48	48	23	150	173
1881	...	28	...	1	29	...	...	...	...	1	1	...	1	1	...	3	3	...	2	2	...	1	1	...	1	1	...	3	3	...	22	22
1882	230	202	...	1	433	...	...	...	3	1	4	2	...	2	16	8	24	...	...	...	3	1	4	2	...	2	16	8	24	209	194	403
Totals	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...

Summary of the Total Admissions.						Males.	Females.	Both sexes.
Percentage of cases	Recovered	...	...	...	...	·39	·88	·77
"	Relieved	...	...	...	...	1·56	1·55	1·56
"	Not Improved	...	...	...	...	·78	2·89	2·13
"	Dead	...	...	...	...	6·27	13·14	10·65
"	Remaining	...	...	...	...	90·98	81·52	84·94

TABLE VII.

Showing the Causes of Death during the year 1882, together with the Ages of the Decedents.

CAUSES OF DEATH.	Under 17		18		19		20 to 29		30 to 39		40 to 49		50 to 59		60 to 69		70 to 79		80 to 89		TOTAL.		
	Males	Females	Males	Females	Males	Females	Males	Females	Males	Females	Males	Females	Males	Females	Males	Females	Males	Females	Males	Females	Males	Females	TOTAL
CEREBRAL OR SPINAL DISEASES :—																							
Apoplexy and Paralysis	1	...	1	2	2	2	4	6	
Epilepsy and Convulsions	1	1	1	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	1	1	...	...	3	4	7
General Paresis	4	...	1	...	...	...	5	5		
Maniacal and Melancholic Exhaustion, or Decay	1	...	...	...	...	1	...	1		
THORACIC DISEASE :—																							
Inflammation of the Lungs, Pleuræ, and Bronchi...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	2	...	1	...	1	2	4	6		
Pulmonary Consumption	1	...	1	2	...	1	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	6	6			
Diseases of the Heart, &c...	1	...	1	...	...	...	2	2			
ABDOMINAL DISEASE :—																							
Inflammation and Ulceration of the Stomach, Intestines, or Peritoneum	1	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	2	...	2		
Cirrhosis of Liver	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	1		
Erysipelas	1	...	...	...	1	1		
Cancer of Liver...	1	...	...	...	...	1	...	1			
General Debility and Old Age...	1	1	1	2	2	3	5		
Syphilitic Cachexia	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	1		
Purpura	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	1		
Totals	1	1	1	1	...	1	3	3	1	2	...	1	2	1	5	10	2	6	1	3	16	29	45

TABLE VIII.

Showing the length of Residence in those discharged and in those who have died during the year.

LENGTH OF RESIDENCE.	RELIEVED.			DIED.		
	Male.	Female.	Total.	Male.	Female.	Total.
Under 1 Month ... ..	...	...	...	5	1	6
From 1 to 3 Months	2	...	2	7	6	13
„ 3 to 6 „	2	1	3	2	1	3
„ 6 to 9 „ ... ..	...	...	...	2	...	2
„ 9 to 12 „ ... ..	...	...	...	...	1	1
„ 1 to 2 Years	2	5	7	...	9	9
„ 2 to 3 „ ... ..	...	1	1	...	11	11
„ 3 to 5 „ ... ..	...	...	...	...	...	...
„ 5 to 7 „ ... ..	...	...	...	...	...	...
„ 7 to 10 „ ... ..	...	...	...	...	...	...
„ 10 to 12 „ ... ..	...	...	...	...	...	...
	6	7	13	16	29	45

TABLE IX.

Showing the Ages of Patients resident in the Asylum on 31st December in each year; calculated from the Ages stated on the Orders of Admission.

Years ending December 31st.	16		17		18		19		20		20 to 29		30 to 39		40 to 49		50 to 59		60 to 69		70 to 79		80 to 89		90 to 99		Ages not known.		Totals.			
	Males.	Females.	Males.	Females.	Males.	Females.	Males.	Females.	Males.	Females.	Males.	Females.	Males.	Females.	Males.	Females.	Males.	Females.	Males.	Females.	Males.	Females.	Males.	Females.	Males.	Females.	Males.	Females.	Totals.			
1880 ...	8	12	1	13	6	12	3	12	7	41	...	24	...	18	...	24	...	26	...	10	...	6	25	198	223
1881	9	8	13	1	13	5	11	10	52	...	23	...	20	...	22	...	22	...	6	...	6	...	1	...	1	...	24	119	223
1882 ...	13	15	39	15	30	14	14	17	9	12	32	76	17	49	13	50	24	41	24	42	12	29	5	5	...	1	...	...	232	366	598
Total ...	21	36	48	41	37	39	22	40	9	12	49	169	17	96	13	88	24	87	24	90	12	45	5	17	...	2	...	1	281	763	1044	

Showing the Ages of the Admissions, Discharges, and Deaths during the year.

AGES.	ADMISSIONS.			DISCHARGES.			DEATHS.		
	Male.	Female.	Total.	Recovered.		Removed, Relieved, or otherwise.	Male.	Female.	Total.
				Male.	Female.				
From 15 to 20 years	92	34	126	...	...	2	1	3	2
" 20 " 30	30	34	64	...	...	...	3	3	3
" 30 " 40	21	30	51	...	...	2	...	2	1
" 40 " 50	12	25	37	...	...	...	...	...	1
" 50 " 60	32	23	55	...	...	2	1	3	3
" 60 " 70	22	30	52	...	...	...	2	11	3
" 70 " 80	17	25	42	...	...	...	...	6	3
" 80 " 90	4	2	6	...	...	...	...	3	...
Total	230	203	433	...	...	6	7	13	16
	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	29
									...

TABLE XI.

Showing the Departments where Patients were employed on the 29th December, 1882.

MALES.			FEMALES.		
Departments.		Numbers Employed.	Departments.		Numbers Employed.
Coaling	...	4	Laundry	...	10
Stores ...	...	2	Work Room	...	4
Bakehouse	...	3	Needlework in Blocks	...	20
Tailor's Shop	...	22	Helpers in Blocks	...	40
Shoemaker's Shop	...	22	Centre ...	...	1
Grounds	...	15	Kitchen	...	4
Carpenter	...	3			
Total	...	71	Total	...	79

TABLE XII.
Showing the Occupation of the Patients admitted during the Year.

MALES.			FEMALES.		
Occupations.		Numbers.	Occupations.		Numbers.
Artisans	...	43	Dressmakers	...	16
Surgeon	...	1	Domestic Servants	...	49
Bargeman	...	1	Laundresses	...	7
Domestic Servants	...	55	Telegraphist	...	1
Journalist	...	1	Governess	...	1
Tradesmen	...	3	Mechanics	...	5
Bookseller	...	1	Shopkeepers	...	2
Builder	...	1	Unknown	...	122
Unknown	...	119			
Total	...	225	Total	...	203

REPORT OF THE MEDICAL SUPERINTENDENT OF THE SCHOOLS.

To the Chairman and Committee of Darenth Schools.

GENTLEMEN,

I have the honour to submit the Annual Report for the year 1882.

On the 31st of December, 1881, there were in the Schools 320 boys and 191 girls; total, 511. During the year 145 patients have been received, of whom 88 were males and 57 females; 87 males and 33 females have been discharged; and 23 males and 17 females have died. The total number under treatment has been 656, the average daily number resident 509·9, and the number in the Schools on the 31st of December, 1882, 496.

ADMISSIONS.

These have been more numerous than in the two preceding years, and are only 10 less than the admissions in 1879, when this Asylum was opened. The low physical condition of the majority of the patients admitted unfortunately remains the same.

RE-ADMISSIONS.

One patient, a girl, has been re-admitted. She was admitted for the first time in March, and after having been

only two months in the Asylum, was taken out by the Guardians at the parents' request. She was found to be unmanageable, and was re-admitted in November.

DISCHARGES.

These have exceeded in number the discharges in any year since the opening of the Asylum at Clapton eight years ago. Very few cases were transferred to the Adult Asylum last year, as the wards were full, and so a number of patients over 16 years of age were retained in the Schools. Four blocks were opened for the reception of imbeciles in the spring, and soon afterwards 63 cases were sent over. Of the 120 patients discharged during the year, 95, or over three-fourths, viz., 78 males and 17 females, were transferred to the Adult Asylum. Of the males, 42 had improved under training, 23 had not improved, and 13 had deteriorated; of the females, 6 had improved, 8 had not improved, and 3 had deteriorated.

The remaining 25, viz., 9 males and 16 females, were discharged to the various parishes. 2 of these had "recovered" under treatment, being a percentage of 1.38 on the admissions. It is needless to say they were not congenital cases. 15 had improved under treatment, and 8 had not improved.

DEATHS.

The death-rate—6.09 per cent, on the total number under treatment, or 7.84 per cent. on the average number daily resident—is much the same as last year. The admission of a large number of epileptic and helpless cases, increasing the accumulation of such patients already resident, and an

epidemic of Measles of a severe type, have kept up the death-rate.

GENERAL HISTORY.

Contagious diseases have been very prevalent in the Schools during the past year. In January a case of Whooping Cough occurred, and was sent to the Infectious Infirmary under the care of a nurse. Altogether 18 patients suffered from it, and two children died of bronchitis complicating the disease. While this epidemic was running its course Chicken Pox made its appearance, but, fortunately, only one child was attacked. The remaining cases of Whooping Cough, and the patient who had been suffering from Chicken Pox, were transferred to the Probationary Block to undergo quarantine on the 26th of May, and the Infectious Infirmary was closed. On the 28th of May, however, another case of Whooping Cough occurred, and the Infectious Infirmary had again to be opened. While this patient was still in the Infirmary an epidemic of Measles broke out, and 55 patients were under treatment up to the 11th of December. The disease, as mentioned above, was of a severe type, and 10 patients died of it, epilepsy and bronchitis being complications in 6 of the 10 cases. The Infectious Infirmary was practically open during the whole of the year, and at my request the Committee appointed a nurse to take charge of it, as the continual sending of nurses over from the main building upset the working of the Asylum.

All patients are revaccinated on admission, and my opinion that calf lymph is more certain and powerful than human lymph for revaccination purposes remains unchanged. In young children who present fairly good marks revaccination by calf lymph is successful.

Referring again to the character of the cases admitted, I find that of the 145 admissions 82, or nearly two-thirds, belonged to the epileptic or helpless class. This is nearly as many as last year. There are now in the Schools 153 epileptic patients, of whom 75 are helpless, in addition to 152 helpless cases, an increase altogether of 19 over the past year. As these cases are accumulating in such numbers, and there are many helpless children in the Adult Asylum who can be better nursed by women, I would recommend that the School building be extended by the erection of ground floor blocks, capable of holding from 100 to 200 patients.

Two helpless blocks have been converted into supplementary infirmaries, and now contain 50 beds, and a year's experience proves the alteration to be a success. The infirmaries proper, which formerly were overcrowded, have been relieved, and the patients can be treated more successfully.

The vehicle, to which I referred in my last Report, capable of containing 15 children, has been supplied, and during the summer all the helpless cases have been taken round the grounds, to their great delight. Two tents were also put up on the recreation ground at the back of the Schools, and proved of great advantage to this class of children, who took their dinner and tea in them, and lived the greater part of the day out of doors. The air of the wards was thus kept fresh and pure, and the health of the children improved. The airing courts adjoining the helpless wards are nearly completed, and I am looking forward to their use during the summer.

There are now 192 patients engaged in household work.

Of these 35 are adult girls, who, as mentioned in last year's Report, are employed in the kitchen, laundry, and the wards. The remainder are children, who work in the dormitories up to 10 o'clock, afterwards attending school or shop. A few of these do needlework in the blocks in the afternoon. Paid scrubbers have been engaged during the year, for we lost the services of 40 trained boys, who were transferred to the Adult Asylum, and it was found impossible to keep the male side clean without help. These women are also employed in the corridor and in the dining hall and chapel.

The number of children on the School register on the 31st of December, 1882, was 366, an increase of 26 over those attending last year, the numbers then being higher than at any previous time. Although some hopeless cases have been removed, to make room for more improvable ones, yet the classes are very large, and there is great difficulty in keeping the air of the class-rooms in a pure condition. It is very desirable that these rooms should be enlarged, as at present the health of the teachers suffers, and all have had to go away in turn for change of air.

28 boys are employed as shoemakers, and 27 as tailors, the greater number working half-time. As ready-made clothing has been in use during the year, the boys have been chiefly engaged in mending and repairing, and the tailor and shoemaker have had more time to teach the preliminary work of those trades.

The greater part of the Asylum has been painted and distempered, and the wards have thereby been made more cheerful and bright in appearance. A still more homely look would be given if linoleum were laid down in them, that in

the corridor having worn very well. I would recommend that the Infectious Infirmary be painted throughout, as it can be more effectually disinfected after the subsidence of an epidemic, and be more easily kept clean.

Another year's experience proves the efficacy of heating the healthy block by steam. The helpless blocks and the supplementary infirmaries are, however, at times very cold, and even with fires the temperature can only with difficulty be kept up. I would recommend the Committee to do away with hot water entirely, and heat the Asylum throughout by steam from the central boilers.

A giant-stride and swings have been erected on the recreation ground at the back of the Schools, where the children often spend an afternoon. In addition to the ordinary amusements, an out-door fête was given for the first time. The day, fortunately, was fine, and was much enjoyed by the patients and those in charge of them. "Punch and Judy" and marionnettes were provided, and prizes were given to the most successful competitors in the athletic sports which were got up for the occasion.

Mr. Reicher, an Austrian, visited us during the year, bringing a letter of introduction from the Local Government Board; and the Rev. H. Sockett, who is interested in the training of imbeciles, was anxious to see the work carried on here. The Inspectors of the Local Government Board and the Commissioners in Lunacy came as usual, and the Chelsea Board of Guardians paid us a visit for the first time.

The two married couples who have been employed for the last two years in looking after the big boys have answered

so well that three more have been engaged, and all the boys in the healthy blocks are now under the care of the married attendants. There is no doubt that the principle is a good one. They settle down in their work, give little trouble, and look well after the patients. Most of them are musicians, so that we always have a band ready for the nurses' weekly dance, and one that can play at any time to relieve the monotony of the work here.

The Night Superintendent alluded to in last year's Report has been appointed, and the children have been better looked after by the night nurses.

The Clinical Assistant, whom the Committee have kindly granted me, has been of great assistance. He holds office for six months, and besides helping in the work, has an opportunity of studying the mental diseases of children. When the Asylum is enlarged, as it soon must be, for the reasons before mentioned, and the fact that with a population of 500 the admissions exceed the discharges, an Assistant Medical Officer will be required, and I hope will be supplied. The work even now is very heavy, and but for the help of the Clinical Assistant I could not efficiently perform my duties. I have to thank Dr. White, Assistant Medical Officer at the Adult Asylum, for kindly seeing my patients during my absence on various occasions.

Table V., showing the assigned causes of the mental disorder in the patients admitted during the year, I have again been able to supply. The visiting of patients was resumed in March, and from the parents or friends particulars were obtained. Unfortunately many children are never visited, so that much information is lost. Such as it is, the

table shows the causes which are at work in the production of imbecility, these being much the same in the pauper class as in those above them. There may be more worry and anxiety to the mother during pregnancy, for the husband is often out of work, and a hard fight has to be kept up to procure the necessities of life for herself and children; but I am decidedly of opinion that intemperance plays a more important part as a predisposing cause in this class. The moderation in the use of alcoholic liquors which obtains in the upper ranks of life is not yet so common in the lower, though, as time goes on, and education becomes more widely spread, we may hope that this result may be attained. This is not the place to enter fully into the subject, but I may say that my opinion on the relation of intemperance to imbecility, expressed in a paper which I had the opportunity of reading on the subject two years ago, has not been shaken by subsequent experience.

In conclusion, I have to thank the Committee for their continued kindness and support.

I have the honour to be, Gentlemen,

Your obedient Servant,

(Signed) FLETCHER BEACH, M.B., M.R.C.P.,
Medical Superintendent.

Darenth Schools, January, 1883.

TABLE I.
Showing the Admissions, Re-admissions, Discharges, and Deaths during the Year 1882.

	In the Asylum, 1st January, 1882			Male.	Female.	Total.
			
Admitted for the first time during the Year ...	88	56	144			
Re-admitted during the Year ...	...	1	1	88	57	145
Total under care during the Year	...	...	...	408	248	656
Discharged or Removed—						
Recovered ...	...	2	2			
*Relieved ...	46	17	63			
Not Improved ...	41	14	55			
Died... ..	23	17	40			
Total Discharged (for various reasons) and Died during the Year	...	...	...	110	50	160
Remaining in the Asylum, 31st December, 1882	...	...	...	298	198	496
Average numbers resident during the Year	...	...	...	310.2	199.7	509.9
Highest number resident on any one day	...	...	...	341	197	538
Lowest number resident on any one day	...	...	...	282	195	477

* Of these 42 Males and 6 Females were sent to the Adult Asylum, having improved under training in the Schools.

TABLE II.

Showing the Admissions, Re-admissions, and Discharges, from the opening of the Asylum to the present date, 31st December, 1882.

	Male.	Female.	Total.
Admitted during the period of 8 years	694	483	1,177
Re-admissions	2	6	8
Total of Cases Admitted	696	489	1,185
Discharged or Removed—			
Recovered	10	12	22
Relieved	91	51	142
Not Improved	162	116	278
Died	135	112	247
Total Discharged and Died during the 8 years	398	291	689
Remaining, 31st December, 1882	298	198	496
Average numbers resident during the 8 years	229·7	164·4	941

Year	Month	Day	Time	Place	Remarks
1900	Jan	1	10:00	St. Paul	Arrived from St. Paul
1900	Jan	2	10:00	St. Paul	Left St. Paul for Chicago
1900	Jan	3	10:00	Chicago	Arrived Chicago
1900	Jan	4	10:00	Chicago	Left Chicago for St. Paul
1900	Jan	5	10:00	St. Paul	Arrived St. Paul
1900	Jan	6	10:00	St. Paul	Left St. Paul for Chicago
1900	Jan	7	10:00	Chicago	Arrived Chicago
1900	Jan	8	10:00	Chicago	Left Chicago for St. Paul
1900	Jan	9	10:00	St. Paul	Arrived St. Paul
1900	Jan	10	10:00	St. Paul	Left St. Paul for Chicago
1900	Jan	11	10:00	Chicago	Arrived Chicago
1900	Jan	12	10:00	Chicago	Left Chicago for St. Paul
1900	Jan	13	10:00	St. Paul	Arrived St. Paul
1900	Jan	14	10:00	St. Paul	Left St. Paul for Chicago
1900	Jan	15	10:00	Chicago	Arrived Chicago
1900	Jan	16	10:00	Chicago	Left Chicago for St. Paul
1900	Jan	17	10:00	St. Paul	Arrived St. Paul
1900	Jan	18	10:00	St. Paul	Left St. Paul for Chicago
1900	Jan	19	10:00	Chicago	Arrived Chicago
1900	Jan	20	10:00	Chicago	Left Chicago for St. Paul
1900	Jan	21	10:00	St. Paul	Arrived St. Paul
1900	Jan	22	10:00	St. Paul	Left St. Paul for Chicago
1900	Jan	23	10:00	Chicago	Arrived Chicago
1900	Jan	24	10:00	Chicago	Left Chicago for St. Paul
1900	Jan	25	10:00	St. Paul	Arrived St. Paul
1900	Jan	26	10:00	St. Paul	Left St. Paul for Chicago
1900	Jan	27	10:00	Chicago	Arrived Chicago
1900	Jan	28	10:00	Chicago	Left Chicago for St. Paul
1900	Jan	29	10:00	St. Paul	Arrived St. Paul
1900	Jan	30	10:00	St. Paul	Left St. Paul for Chicago
1900	Jan	31	10:00	Chicago	Arrived Chicago

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.

Year.	Admitted.			Discharged.									Died.			Remaining 31st December in each year.			Average Numbers Resident.			Percentage of Recoveries on Admissions.			Percentage of Deaths on Average Numbers Resident.		
				Recovered.			Relieved.			Not Improved.																	
	Male.	Female.	Total.	Male.	Female.	Total.	Male.	Female.	Total.	Male.	Female.	Total.	Male.	Female.	Total.	Male.	Female.	Total.	Male.	Female.	Total.	Male.	Female.	Total.			
1875 ...	213	164	377	...	...	...	2	1	3	30	20	50	13	11	24	168	132	300	137.6	125.1	262.7	...	...	...	9.44	8.79	9.13
1876 ...	76	44	120	...	...	...	2	...	2	25	18	43	23	21	44	194	137	331	182.9	136.9	319.8	...	...	...	12.5	13.3	13.7
1877 ...	32	24	56	2	1	3	4	2	6	4	9	13	10	5	15	206	144	350	201.1	140.5	341.6	6.25	4.16	5.35	4.97	3.55	4.39
1878 ...	53	20	73	2	2	4	4	2	6	39	7	46	18	10	28	196	143	339	203.6	144.1	347.7	3.77	10.0	5.47	8.84	6.93	8.05
1879 ...	90	65	155	2	3	5	3	1	4	12	...	12	15	15	30	254	189	443	238.7	176.4	415.1	2.22	4.61	3.22	6.29	8.50	7.22
1880 ...	77	66	143	2	2	4	23	13	36	10	45	55	11	16	27	285	179	464	266.6	201.0	467.6	2.59	3.3	2.79	4.12	7.96	5.66
1881 ...	67	49	116	2	2	4	7	15	22	1	3	4	22	17	39	320	191	511	297.5	192.0	489.5	2.98	4.8	3.44	7.42	8.85	7.96
1882 ...	88	57	145	...	2	2	46	17	63	41	14	55	23	17	40	298	198	496	310.2	199.7	509.9	...	3.50	1.38	7.41	8.51	7.84
Totals	696	489	1,185	10	12	22	91	51	142	162	116	278	135	112	247	...	...	...	229.7	164.4	394.1	...	...	...	...	...	63.96

TABLE
 Showing the number of persons in the State of New York, by age, sex, and color, in the year 1880.

Year	Total		Male		Female	
	White	Colored	White	Colored	White	Colored
1870	1,212,000	100,000	606,000	50,000	606,000	50,000
1871	1,220,000	100,000	610,000	50,000	610,000	50,000
1872	1,228,000	100,000	614,000	50,000	614,000	50,000
1873	1,236,000	100,000	618,000	50,000	618,000	50,000
1874	1,244,000	100,000	622,000	50,000	622,000	50,000
1875	1,252,000	100,000	626,000	50,000	626,000	50,000
1876	1,260,000	100,000	630,000	50,000	630,000	50,000
1877	1,268,000	100,000	634,000	50,000	634,000	50,000
1878	1,276,000	100,000	638,000	50,000	638,000	50,000
1879	1,284,000	100,000	642,000	50,000	642,000	50,000
1880	1,292,000	100,000	646,000	50,000	646,000	50,000
Total	12,920,000	1,000,000	6,460,000	500,000	6,460,000	500,000

TABLE IV.

*Showing the Ages of the Patients resident in the Asylum
on the 31st of December, 1882.*

Ages.				Males.	Females.	Total.
From 2 to 4 years	...			2	1	3
„ 4 „ 6 „	...			11	7	18
„ 6 „ 8 „	...			38	14	52
„ 8 „ 10 „	...			50	18	68
„ 10 „ 12 „	...			58	29	87
„ 12 „ 14 „	...			47	40	87
„ 14 „ 16 „	...			82	43	125
16 „	...			10	10	20
17 „	4	4
18 „	7	7
19 „	7	7
20 „	6	6
Over 20 „	12	12
Total	...			298	198	496

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TABLE IV.

Showing the Age of the Patients treated in the Asylum
on the 31st of December, 1882.

Age.	Males.	Females.	Total.
From 2 to 4 years	3	1	4
" 4 " 7	11	7	18
" 8 " 9	20	11	31
" 10 " 19	50	16	66
" 20 " 29	68	30	98
" 30 " 39	47	40	87
" 40 " 49	22	24	46
" 50 " 59	10	10	20
" 60 " 69	...	...	...
" 70 " 79	...	...	...
" 80 " 89	...	...	...
" 90 " 99	...	...	...
Over 100	...	...	...
Total	288	177	465

TABLE V.

Showing the probable Causes of the Mental Disorder in the Patients admitted during the year 1882.

CAUSES.		Males.	Females.	Total.
CONGENITAL—				
Fright of mother during pregnancy ... ..	... ..	5	2	7
(In 2 of these the parents were moderate drinkers, and in 1 the grandfather was intemperate.)				
Anxiety of mother during pregnancy ... ..	... ..	1	5	6
(In 2 of these the fathers were intemperate, and in 1 the parents were first cousins.)				
Ill health during pregnancy and tedious labour ... ..	... ..	...	1	1
Fright or anxiety, and tedious or difficult birth ... ..	... ..	6	5	11
(In 3 of these the fathers were intemperate, and in 2 the parents were moderate drinkers.)				
Tedious or difficult labour ... ..	... ..	3	3	6
Fright of mother, and premature labour ... ..	... ..	1	...	1
Unknown ... ..	... ..	5	2	7
(In 1 of these the mother was intemperate and "an abandoned woman.")				
ACQUIRED—				
Epilepsy ... ..	... ..	3	2	5
(In 1 of these the grandfather was intemperate.)				
Convulsions in infancy ... ..	... ..	4	4	8
Rheumatic fever, and subsequent convulsion ... ..	... ..	...	1	1
Scarlet fever, and subsequent convulsion ... ..	... ..	...	1	1
Typhoid fever ... ..	... ..	1	1	2
(In 1 of these the father was intemperate.)				
Brain disease ... ..	... ..	2	...	2
Injury to head ... ..	... ..	2	1	3
(In 1 of these the parents were moderate drinkers.)				
Injury to head, producing fits ... ..	... ..	2	...	2
Injury to child ... ..	... ..	3	...	3
Diabetes ... ..	... ..	1	...	1
Not ascertained ... ..	... ..	49	29	78
TOTAL ... ..	... ..	88	57	145

In many of these cases there was a history of insanity, imbecility, or epilepsy, and very frequently phthisis alone, or combined with these, in the parents or their relations.

TABLE VI.

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Showing the History of the Annual Admissions since the opening of the Asylum, with the Discharges and Deaths, and the numbers remaining on the 31st December of each year, and of the year reported on.

Admitted.						Of each Year's Admissions, Discharged, and Died, in 1882.												Total Discharged and Died of each Year's Admissions to 31st December, 1882.												Remaining of each Year's Admissions, 31st Dec., 1882.		
Year.	New Cases.		Relapsed Cases.		Total.	Recovered.			Relieved.			Not Improved.			Died.			Recovered.			Relieved.			Not Improved.			Died.			Males.	Females.	Total.
	Males.	Females.	Males.	Females.		Males.	Females.	Total.	Males.	Females.	Total.	Males.	Females.	Total.	Males.	Females.	Total.	Males.	Females.	Total.	Males.	Females.	Total.	Males.	Females.	Total.						
1875	213	164	...	...	377	...	...	...	14	2	16	15	1	16	2	...	2	3	2	5	35	12	47	103	72	175	56	40	96	16	38	54
1876	76	44	...	...	120	...	...	...	3	...	3	7	...	7	1	2	3	3	2	5	12	4	16	21	19	40	17	13	30	23	6	29
1877	32	24	...	...	56	...	...	...	1	...	1	1	...	1	1	...	1	...	2	2	4	1	5	7	4	11	7	7	14	14	10	24
1878	53	19	...	1	73	...	...	...	5	...	5	6	3	9	3	...	3	...	...	8	3	11	11	4	15	8	3	11	26	10	36	
1879	89	64	1	1	155	...	...	...	11	1	12	2	2	4	1	3	4	2	3	5	16	10	26	10	4	14	17	20	37	45	28	73
1880	77	65	...	1	143	...	...	...	7	4	11	5	2	7	6	6	12	1	...	1	11	10	21	5	7	12	17	16	33	43	33	76
1881	66	48	1	1	116	...	1	1	3	6	9	3	1	4	4	2	6	1	2	3	3	7	10	3	1	4	8	9	17	52	30	82
1882	88	56	...	1	145	...	1	1	2	6	8	2	5	7	5	4	9	...	1	1	2	6	8	2	5	7	5	4	9	79	41	120
	694	484	2	5	1185	...	2	2	46	19	65	41	14	55	23	17	40	10	12	22	91	53	144	162	116	278	135	112	247	298	196	494

Summary of the Total Admissions.						Males.	Females.	Both Sexes.
Percentage of cases	Recovered	...	...	...	...	1·44	2·45	1·86
"	"	Relieved	...	...	...	13·07	10·84	12·15
"	"	Not Improved	...	...	...	23·28	23·72	23·46
"	"	Dead	...	...	...	19·39	22·90	20·84
"	"	Remaining	...	...	...	42·83	40·08	41·69

Statement of the Ministry of the Interior

Year	New Cases		Reopened Cases		Total Cases		Deaths		Total
	1870	1871	1870	1871	1870	1871	1870	1871	
1870	104	76	...	...	104	76	...	...	180
1871	76	32	...	...	76	32	...	...	108
1872	32	24	...	...	32	24	...	...	56
1873	24	16	...	...	24	16	...	...	40
1874	16	11	...	...	16	11	...	...	27
1875	11	7	...	...	11	7	...	...	18
1876	7	5	...	...	7	5	...	...	12
1877	5	3	...	...	5	3	...	...	8
1878	3	2	...	...	3	2	...	...	5
1879	2	1	...	...	2	1	...	...	3
1880	1	1	...	...	1	1	...	...	2
1881	1	1	...	...	1	1	...	...	2
1882	1	1	...	...	1	1	...	...	2
1883	1	1	...	...	1	1	...	...	2
1884	1	1	...	...	1	1	...	...	2

Year	Percentage of Cases
1870	100%
1871	100%
1872	100%
1873	100%
1874	100%
1875	100%
1876	100%
1877	100%
1878	100%
1879	100%
1880	100%
1881	100%
1882	100%
1883	100%
1884	100%

TABLE VII.

Showing the Causes of Death during the year 1882, together with the Ages of the Decedents.

CAUSES OF DEATH.	2 to 4		4 to 6		6 to 8		8 to 10		10 to 12		12 to 14		14 to 16		16		17		TOTAL.		
	Males.	Females.	Males.	Females.	Males.	Females.	Males.	Females.	Males.	Females.	Males.	Females.	Males.	Females.	Males.	Females.	Males.	Females.	Males.	Females.	Total.
CEREBRAL OR SPINAL DISEASES—																					
Epilepsy and Convulsions	1	...	1	...	1	...	...	...	...	3	...	2	1	1	...	...	1	6	5	11
Inflammation and other Diseases of the Brain, Softening, Tumours, &c.	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	1
THORACIC DISEASE—																					
Inflammation of the Lungs, Pleuræ and Bronchi	1	1	2	1	1	...	...	...	...	1	1	1	...	...	...	...	5	4	9
Pulmonary Consumption	1	1	1	...	...	...	...	1	2	3
ABDOMINAL DISEASE—																					
Inflammation and Ulceration of the Stomach, Intestines, or Peritoneum
Dysentery and Diarrhœa
Measles	1	...	1	...	...	...	1	1	1	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	4	2	6
Measles and Epilepsy	2	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	2	1	3
Whooping Cough	1	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	2	2
Cancrum Oris	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	1
Caries of Vertebra	1	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	1
Marasmus	2	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	2	1	3
Totals	1	5	4	4	3	1	...	3	1	4	4	5	3	1	...	...	1	23	17	40

CAUSES OF DEATH

GENERAL OR SYSTEMIC DISEASES

Myocarditis and Coronary Disease

Information and other diseases of the Heart, Coronary
Artery, etc.

Thoracic Diseases

Information of the Lung, Pleura and Mediastinum

Pulmonary Consumption

Abdominal Diseases

Information and Location of the Peritoneum, Intestine,
etc.

Hepatitis and Jaundice

Nephritis

Nephritis and Nephrosis

Wandering Ovary

Cancer of the

Cancer of the

Meningitis

Encephalitis

TABLE VIII,

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 1 Month	2	2	4
From 1 to 3 Months	2	1	3
„ 3 „ 6 „	...	1	1	1	1	2
„ 6 „ 9 „	1	1
„ 9 „ 12 „	2	1	3
„ 1 „ 2 Years	...	1	1	5	4	9
„ 2 „ 3 „	4	2	6
„ 3 „ 5 „	3	3	6
„ 5 „ 7 „	2	2	4
„ 7 „ 10 „	2	...	2
	...	2	2	23	17	40

TABLE IX.

Showing the Ages of Patients admitted into the Asylum in each year ; calculated from the Ages stated on the Orders of Admission.

Years ending December 31st.	2 to 4		4 to 6		6 to 8		8 to 10		10 to 12		12 to 14		14 to 16		16		17		18		19		Over 20		TOTALS.		
	Males.	Females.	Males.	Females.	Males.	Females.	Males.	Females.	Males.	Females.	Males.	Females.	Males.	Females.	Males.	Females.	Males.	Females.	Males.	Females.	Males.	Females.	Males.	Females.	Males.	Females.	Total.
1875 ...	...	...	13	7	21	11	33	22	39	27	34	28	51	28	14	8	7	7	1	3	...	...	...	23	213	164	377
1876 ...	2	2	7	1	10	9	13	8	18	1	9	6	13	11	4	2	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	4	76	44	120
1877 ...	...	1	4	2	3	2	7	5	7	5	5	1	5	8	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	32	24	56
1878 ...	...	...	5	1	12	3	5	2	12	3	13	7	5	4	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	53	20	73
1879 ...	5	5	10	6	18	9	13	7	12	13	13	10	18	14	...	1	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	90	65	155
1880 ...	3	2	10	7	16	7	12	11	8	7	14	10	13	17	...	2	1	2	...	...	...	...	...	1	77	66	143
1881 ...	3	3	8	2	11	10	12	10	9	8	11	6	13	10	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	67	49	116
1882 ...	2	3	5	7	16	7	17	6	17	11	10	8	19	12	1	1	1	2	...	...	...	...	...	...	88	57	145
Total	15	16	62	33	107	58	112	71	122	75	109	76	137	104	21	14	10	11	1	3	...	...	...	28	696	489	1185

Year	2 to 4		4 to 6		6 to 8		8 to 10		Total
	Male	Female	Male	Female	Male	Female	Male	Female	
1876 ...	...	...	13	7	21	11	33	22	55
1877 ...	3	2	7	5	10	12	18	14	32
1878 ...	...	...	4	2	3	2	5	4	9
1879 ...	...	...	3	1	12	3	15	4	19
1880 ...	3	3	16	8	16	2	18	10	28
1881 ...	3	3	10	7	16	7	23	14	37
1882 ...	3	3	3	3	11	11	14	10	24
1883 ...	3	3	3	7	13	7	20	14	34
1884 ...	13	13	16	23	39	32	71	45	116

TABLE XI.

Showing the Departments where Patients were employed on the 31st December, 1882.

MALES.			FEMALES.		
Departments.		Numbers Employed.	Departments.		Numbers Employed.
Blocks ...	...	37	Laundry ...	...	13
Coaling ...	...	3	Work Room ...	...	2
Mess Room ...	...	1	Helpers in Blocks ...	...	40
Tailor's Shop ...	...	27	Needlework in Blocks...	...	34
Shoemaker's Shop ...	...	28	Corridor and Dining Hall ...	...	2
			Mess Room ...	...	1
			Kitchen ...	...	4
Total ...	...	96	Total ...	...	96

TABLE XII.
Showing Grades of Work in Tailor's and Shoemaker's Shops.

Occupations of Boys.	Number Employed in each Grade, with Quality of Work.				Total Number Employed.
	Indifferent	Fair.	Good.	Excellent.	
I. TAILORING.					
1. Preliminary Work ...	4	2	27 Tailors. (All half time.) { 6 17 4
2. Sewing Linings or Seams ...	...	...	...	...
3. Felling ...	...	...	...	...
4. Button-holing ...	...	...	...	...
5. Repairing ...	...	13	4	...
6. Machining ...	...	...	1	3
II. SHOEMAKING.					
1. Preliminary Work ...	10	...	1	...	28 Shoemakers (3 work whole time.) { 11 8 4 2 3
2. Closing Uppers ...	...	4	4	...
3. Repairing ...	...	2	2	...
4. Finishing ...	...	1	1	...
5. Riveting ...	...	...	2	1

FLETCHER BEACH.

REPORT OF THE MATRON AND SCHOOLMISTRESS
OF THE SCHOOLS WITH REGARD TO THE
WORK OF THE MATRON'S DEPARTMENT.

1st January, 1883.

To the Chairman and Committee of the Darenth Schools.

GENTLEMEN,

I beg to submit to you my Second Annual Report.

The kitchen and laundry arrangements have continued to work in a satisfactory manner, and there has been no change in the staff employed in these departments. The work, however, is very heavy in the laundry, in consequence of the large number of helpless children admitted, and as the summer approaches it will be necessary for me to ask for another laundry-maid.

The scrubbing on the girls' side still continues to be done by 35 trained adult girls; but the boys' side, including the dining hall, chapel, corridor, and offices, has to be kept clean by 12 paid scrubbers, for all the trained boys have been transferred to the Adult Asylum. As the number of trained girls increases, we hope by degrees to do away with the paid scrubbers.

As the linoleum laid down in the corridor has caused a

considerable saving of work, I should like to see it extended to the wards; besides being useful, it gives a homely air to the building, and would, I think, give a more cheerful appearance to the day rooms.

The clothing and bedding continue to be in a satisfactory condition.

Ready-made clothing has been introduced, but the result has not been so satisfactory as was expected: it has not lasted as well as that I have had made in the establishment, for what has perhaps been saved in the first cost has been lost in the shorter period of wear obtained; in fact, cases have happened in which the sewing of the former has given way completely during the paroxysms of an epileptic fit. I think it would be wiser to provide further assistance in the work-room, so as to enable us to resume the making of the clothes.

In consequence of the number of cases of infectious disease which have occurred during the year, a charge attendant has been appointed for the Infectious Infirmary, as the sending over of ward nurses from time to time caused dissatisfaction, and interfered with the work of the main building.

The Night Superintendent promised last year has been appointed, and the patients are now more thoroughly looked after by the night attendants.

As the married attendants appointed to take charge of the big boys have worked so well, three more couples have been engaged for Blocks F, H, and J.

The behaviour of the attendants and servants generally has been good, and only two attendants have had their "good conduct money" stopped during the past year.

I have again the pleasure of tendering you my thanks for your kindness and support.

I remain, Gentlemen,

Your obedient Servant,

(Signed)

ELLEN WRIGHT,

Matron and Schoolmistress.

Darenth Schools.

REPORT OF MATRON AND SCHOOLMISTRESS WITH REGARD TO SCHOOL WORK.

1st January 1883.

To the Chairman and Committee of the Darenth Schools.

GENTLEMEN,

I have the honour to submit to you the Eighth Annual Report of the work done in the Schools department.

Of the 496 patients in the Schools on the 31st December, 1882,

35 were adult women,

2 „ patients over 16 years of age,

366 „ children attending school,

93 „ in Probationary, Helpless, Infirmary, or Epileptic Wards.

496

Of the 366 children attending school,

314 attend whole time,

52 „ half time.

366

243 were boys, 123 were girls.

The average attendance has been 237.

A great many of the children have shown signs of improvement, though individual cases are not so marked during the past year, on account of the frequent interruptions of the school work. From May until November, a large number of children were kept away from school, owing to the painting of the schoolroom, and the epidemics of whooping cough, chicken-pox, and measles which occurred at different times.

I would respectfully suggest the necessity of enlarging the schoolrooms, as they are frequently unpleasantly close— notwithstanding that ventilation has been carefully attended to—from the number of children present, sometimes upwards of 60 children being in one class-room at a time. In consequence of this, the health of the teachers has suffered, and all have had to go away in turn for change of air.

The list of sewing, knitting, &c., is not so large as last year, owing to the causes above mentioned.

List of articles made during the year:—

<i>Sewing.</i>					
Chemises ...	...	...	...	...	50
Towels ...	...	...	...	...	12
Scarves ...	...	...	...	...	28
Dinner Napkins ...	...	...	...	...	12
Tea Cloths ...	...	...	...	...	82
Handkerchiefs ...	...	...	...	...	130
Dusters ...	...	...	...	...	74
Pinafores ...	...	...	...	...	36
					<hr/> 424 <hr/>

Knitting.

Stockings ...	...	...	...	pairs	12
Socks ...	...	...	...	„	22
Cuffs ...	...	...	...	„	54
					<hr/> 88

For the first time, an out-door fête was given to the children.

A “Punch and Judy” and marionnettes were provided, and prizes were given to the successful competitors in the athletic sports which were got up on the occasion.

The practising for the races, running, jumping, &c., caused great amusement, and therefore I trust that the fête may become an annual affair.

Several visitors have visited the school-room, and all have expressed themselves satisfied with the way in which the work is carried on.

Miss Hoatson and her assistants continue to carry on their work in a highly satisfactory manner.

Thanking you for your kindness, and the interest you have taken in the School,

I remain, Gentlemen,

Yours faithfully,

(Signed) ELLEN WRIGHT,
Matron and Head Schoolmistress.

Darenth Schools.

April, 1882.

(Signed) ELLEN WRIGHT.

