Royal Albert Asylum for the education and training of idiots & imbeciles belonging to Lancashire, Yorkshire, Cheshire, Westmorland, Cumberland, Durham and Northumberland: fourteenth annual report.

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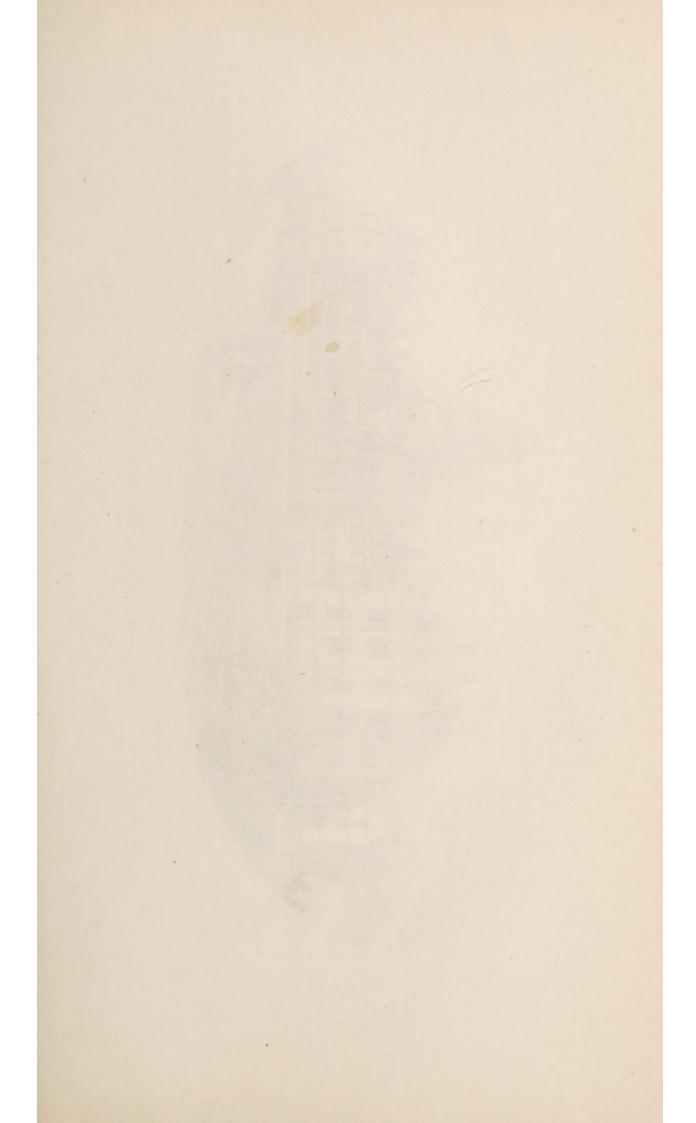
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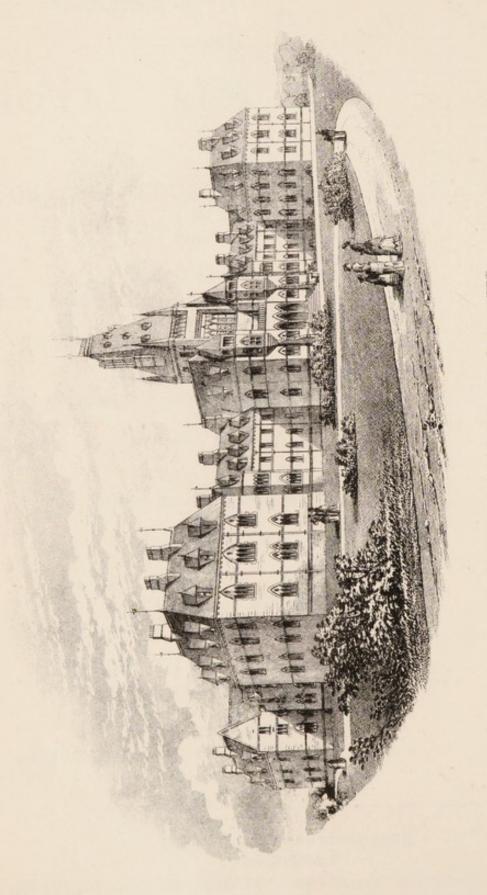
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THE ROYAL ALBERT ASYLUM, LANCASTER.

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On Mondays and Thursdays only,

FROM 11 A.M. TO 3 P.M.

*

ROYAL ALBERT ASYLUM

FOR THE

EDUCATION AND TRAINING OF IDIOTS & IMBECILES

BELONGING TO

Lancashire, Yorkshire, Cheshire, Westmorland, Cumberland, Durham, and Northumberland.

FOURTEENTH ANNUAL REPORT.

OFFICES:

ROYAL ALBERT ASYLUM, LANCASTER; EXCHANGE CHAMBERS, BANK STREET, MANCHESTER. Secretary,—Mr. James Diggens.

SEPTEMBER, 1878.

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CONTENTS

				120
Prospectus				Page
		•		
FORM OF BEQUEST AND LIST OF LEGACIES				10
TRUSTEES AND PRESIDENTS	-			11
CENTRAL COMMITTEE AND OFFICERS				12
FINANCE COMMITTEE - · · · · · · ·		-		13
House Committee		-		13
Officers of County Committees				14
Officers of Local Committees		-		15
REPORT OF ANNUAL MEETING, &c				17
REPORT OF THE CENTRAL COMMITTEE				19
MEDICAL SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT TO THE CENTRAL COMMIT	FEE	-		30
Cases of Improvement Illustrative of Report	-	-		36
EXTRACTS FROM THE LUNACY COMMISSIONERS' REPORT	-			37
Auditors' Report				39
BALANCE SHEET: -				
MAINTENANCE ACCOUNT				40
GENERAL ACCOUNT				42
SUSTENTATION FUND ACCOUNT				42
TABLE OF SCHOOL ATTAINMENTS OF PATIENTS				44
TABLE OF INDUSTRIAL OCCUPATIONS OF PATIENTS	-			46
Table Showing Ages of Patients, &:				48
LIST OF CLERGYMEN AND MINISTERS WHO HAVE PREACHED FOR T	не А	SYLUI	M	49
PRESENTS RECEIVED DURING THE YEAR ENDING JUNE 30TH, 1878	}		-	52
CENSUS OF IDIOTS AND IMBECILES				53
SUMMARY OF CONTRIBUTIONS	-		-	54
ADVERGRAPHENT OF PURITCATIONS				55

PROSPECTUS.

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THE ROYAL ALBERT ASYLUM has been established for the care and education of Idiots and Imbeciles of all classes belonging to the Seven Northern Counties, viz.:—
Lancashire, Yorkshire, Cheshire, Westmorland, Cumberland, Durham, and Northumberland. The number of Idiots and Imbeciles in England and Wales, as returned at the last Census (1871), is 29,452. Of these, 8,104 belong to the Seven Counties, 2,018 being between Five years of age and Twenty. But accurate statistics as to the prevalence of idiocy or imbecility are difficult to obtain, and there is no doubt that the foregoing returns are considerably below the actual number, owing to the general ignorance on the subject, and the natural desire in families to conceal the existence of the malady.

Idiocy being generally accompanied by an abnormal or imperfectly developed physical organization which retards the growth of the intellectual and moral powers, Idiots require a distinctive treatment in separate institutions, where the resources of the skilful physician can be best employed for the modification or correction of those defects which obscure the mind. The Commissioners in Lunacy, and the medical profession generally, condemn the association of Idiots with Lunatics, as in all respects very objectionable and mutually injurious. In their Report for 1865, the Commissioners observe: "It has long been our opinion, as the result of extended experience and observation, that the association of Idiot children with Lunatics is very objectionable and injurious to them, and upon our visits to County Asylums we have frequently suggested arrangements for their separate treatment and instruction. It is always to us a painful thing to see Idiot children, whose mental faculties and physical powers and habits are capable of much development and improvement, wandering, without object or special care, about the wards of a Lunatic Asylum. The benefits to be derived, even in idiot cases apparently hopeless, from a distinctive system, and from persevering endeavours to develope the dormant powers, physical and intellectual, are now so fully established that any argument upon the subject would be superfluous." Again, in their Report for 1874 the Commissioners state: "We should be glad to see the noble example of the Northern Counties in this direction followed in other parts of the kingdom, since Idiots form a large proportion of the mentally afflicted, and require peculiar treatment, distinct from that applicable to the Insane." Referring to the ROYAL ALBERT ASYLUM, the Lancet (June 20th, 1868) says :- "We hail the establishment of this Asylum as another proof of the more scientific therapeutics to which the insane are Till within the last few years the Idiot or the Imbecile child was invariably accommodated, not only in the same building, but in the same ward, with the victims to dementia, melancholia, or chronic mania. The effect of this indiscriminate classification and treatment were most pernicious. The young Idiot or Imbecile, at the impressible and plastic period of his life, suffered from daily and nightly centact with those confirmed or aggravated cases of lunacy, and the only opportunity available for his rescue was then allowed to slip, until his case also became aggravated or confirmed. The benefits of the new system have been signally satisfactory."

That much may be done to render the poor Idiot's life more tolerable to himself and less burdensome to his friends, has been abundantly demonstrated by the success of existing asylums. Dr. Langdon Down, speaking from his long experience as the Superintendent of the largest Idiot Asylum in this country, calculates that of the cases admitted into that Institution, "10 per cent. become self-supporting; 40 per cent. become so far improved as to cease to use up a sane life in their care, and become contributors to the common stock; and the remainder, all but 6 per cent., are invariably improved in

their habits, and become greatly lessened burdens on their families and society." Dr. Duncan, F.R.S., and Mr. Millard, in their work on the "Classification, Training, and Education of Idiots," thus describe the success of specific treatment :-- "Weak physical powers have been strengthened, uncleanly habits have been cured, the spiteful and irritable have become calm, the dependent self-depending; the idle have been rendered useful, the untutored have learned to read, write, count, and draw; the ability to earn much towards their own livelihood has been acquired by some, while in a few instances the capacity for earning sufficient for a maintenance and laying it out for themselves has been gained; and the moral and religious feelings have been aroused and fostered, so that excellent characters have been produced, and deeds of simple kindness have been performed by those who were once selfish, sensual, and depraved." Dr. Seguin, the distinguished French physician, who may be regarded as the pioneer in this noble work, says, after thirty years' practical experience in the education and training of Idiots:-"Idiots have been improved, educated, and even cured; not one in a thousand has been entirely refractory to treatment; not one in a hundred who has not been made more happy and healthy; more than thirty per cent. have been taught to onform to social and moral law, and rendered capable of order, of good feeling, and of working like the third of a man; more than forty per cent. have become capable of the ordinary transactions of life, under friendly control, of understanding moral and social abstractions, of working like two-thirds of a man; and twenty-five to thirty per cent. come nearer and nearer the standard of manhood, till some of them wil defy the scrutiny of good judges when compared with ordinary young men and women."

The Royal Albert Asylum is situated about a mile from Lancaster; and the Estate upon which it is erected consists of 86 acres of excellent land in a charming and salubrious situation, commanding fine views of Morecambe Bay and the Lake Mountains. Accommodation has been provided for 600 inmates, exclusive of staff, and the arrangements comprise every convenience for the specific treatment of idiots and imbeciles. The system of Training pursued in the Asylum is designed to secure, by special means, the physical, mental, and moral improvement of the patients, and is under the immediate direction of a Medical Superintendent. It includes gymnastic training school education of a suitable kind, and instruction in a simple handicraft or other useful occupation.

Epileptic, Paralytic, and Insane Persons are ineligible for admission; also those who are incurably Hydrocephalic. Idiocy which is complicated with blindness or deafness, is also a disqualification.

PATIENTS .- Two Classes of patients, of both sexes, are admitted into the Asylum :-

- Free patients, between the ages of Six and Fifteen, whose friends are proved to be unable to meet the lowest payment. They are elected by the votes of the Subscribers, and received for Seven years.
- Paying patients admitted by the Central Committee, without Election, and at any time. The charges vary according to the requirements and circumstances of the friends of applicants.
- Applications for Admission.—Applications must be addressed to the General Secretary, from whom all necessary information may be obtained. The Central Committee will institute inquiries to ascertain if there be a reasonable probability that the Candidates will be benefited by the system adopted in the Asylum, and decide the terms on which they ought to be admitted. Previously to the election, a list of approved applicants from each County will be sent to the Subscribers entitled to vote for the admission of patients.
- Mode of Electing Patients.—In order to meet the various opinions entertained as to the proper mode of electing patients, Subscribers have the option of voting directly, by means of voting papers; or of transferring their votes to their respective Local or County Committees. Canvassing for Votes is prohibited.

- Votes.—Donors of Five Guineas have a Life Vote, and Annual Subscribers of Half-a-Guinea an Annual Vote for each vacancy due to their respective Counties. The right of voting, as regards higher sums, increases in the same proportion.
- Votes of Ministers.—Any Minister preaching, or lending his pulpit for, a Sermon on behalf of the Institution, has a Vote for Life. The Minister of the Place of Worship where the Collection is made, is also entitled to Life Votes for the amount thus raised, at the rate of One Vote for every Five Guineas.
- Perpetuation of Votes.—At the death of a Donor, a vote for every Ten Guineas of his gift is vested in perpetuity in the Committee of the County to which the gift was originally made. This voting power is never to exceed one-fourth of the entire voting power belonging to the Donors and Subscribers in the County.
- GOVERNMENT. The Government of the Institution is confided to -
 - (a) A Central Committee, meeting at Lancaster, which consists of Representatives from each of the Local Committees, and of Fifteen Subscribers resident in the neighbourhood of Lancaster, to be chosen at the General Annual Meeting.
 - (b) County Committees, constituted by the Members of the Central Committee forming themselves into Sub-Committees for promoting, in their respective Counties, the interests of the Asylum.
 - (c) Local Committees, for the purpose of obtaining funds and generally promoting the interests of the Asylum. Every Local Committee is entitled to send one Representative to the Central Committee, and an additional Representative for each entire Thousand Guineas in Donations after the first Thousand Guineas, and for each entire Fifty Guineas in Annual Subscriptions after the first Fifty Guineas, contributed in that district.

The number of patients elected by each County is regulated by the amount of its contributions. Of the 373 patients now in the Asylum, 159 belong to Lancashire, 120 to Yorkshire, 30 to Durham, 23 to Cheshire, 19 to Northumberland, 14 to Cumberland, 6 to Westmorland. Two full payment cases belong to counties not included in the Asylum district.

The most unqualified testimony to the successful working of the Institution has been borne by the Commissioners in Lunacy; by Dr. Seguin, of New York; and by other eminent authorities. In the Official Report of a Visit to the Asylum in April, 1878, the Commissioners in Lunacy state:—"The Institution continues to be maintained in a state of efficiency which is most creditable. We trust that the munificence which has been so largely displayed in the past will not fail in the future, and that this most useful Institution will speedily attain its complete development, and be occupied by its full number of patients." The Manchester Guardian, Manchester Examiner, Liverpool Courier, Leeds Mercury, Sheffield Independent, Bradford Observer, Yorkshire Post, Preston Herald, Halifax Courier, Southport Visiter, and other leading journals, have sent Special Correspondents to describe the daily life of the Institution.

CONTRIBUTIONS ARE URGENTLY NEEDED on General Account, to meet the entire cost of the estate (86 acres), Asylum (with Fittings and Furniture), Farm Buildings, Lodges, &c. For want of funds, only one-half of the accommodation provided is as yet utilised, although the Applications for Admission are both numerous and urgent. The Central Committee, therefore, while gratefully acknowledging the generous support which they have received in the past, earnestly Appeal for further Donations and Annual Subscriptions.

Reports, Pamphlets, Regulations of Admission, and other information, will be gladly supplied by the General Secretary, Mr. James Diggens, Royal Albert Asylum, Lancaster.

WINMARLEIGH, Chairman of the Central Committee.

JAMES DIGGENS, General Secretary.

FORM OF BEQUEST.

H

I Bequeath to the Treasurer, for the time being, of The Royal Albert Asylum for Idiots and Imbeciles, situate at Lancaster, the sum of to be applied to the purposes of that Institution, such Legacy to be paid, in precedence of the other pecuniary Legacies hereby bequeathed, out of such part of my personal Estate, not specifically bequeathed, as the law permits to be appropriated by Will to charitable purposes.

LEGACIES.				
		£	S.	d.
Miss Brackenbury, Brighton		10,000	0	0
John Bairstow, Esq., Preston		5,000	0	0
The Very Rev. Geo. Waddington, D.D., Dean of Durham		5,000	0	0
John Abbott, Esq., Halifax		2,000	0	0
Miss E. A. Cort, Kirkby, Liverpool		2,000	0	0
Miss Pennington, Preston		1,000	0	0
Miss Tatham, Lancaster		1,000	0	0
Miss Jessica Ball Rigby, Liverpool		985	12	8
Miss Bradley, Slyne, Lancaster		720	0	0
Henry Brown, Esq., Rawdon		500	0	0
Mrs. Burton, Roundhay, Leeds		500	0	0
Nathaniel Greenhalgh, Esq., Sharples, Bolton-le-Moors	•••	500	0	
Miss Irlam, Liverpool		500	0	0
George Wood, Esq., Manchester		500	0	0
Mrs. Crabtree, Springfield, Rossendale		450 300	0	0
Mrs. Robinson, Elterwater, Grasmere		221	0	9
Miss F. J. Lewthwaite, Stott Park, Newby Bridge		200	0	0
Miss E. Cowley, Sheffield		184	0	0
Mrs. Walling, Preston.		102	12	4
Isaac Bateson, Esq., Wyresdale, Lancaster		100	0	0
Captain Gibson, R.N., Yealand Conyers		100	0	0
John Holgate, Burton-in-Lonsdale		100	0	0
Rev. R. Lamb, Hay Carr, Garstang	•	100	0	0
Thomas Lamb, Esq., Hay Carr, Garstang		100	0	0
Miss Greenwell, Darlington		90	0	0
Stephen Ross, Esq., Lancaster		90	0	0
Miss Emma Elleray, Cartmel		50	0	0
Miss Isabella Elleray, Cartmel		50	0	0
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Rev. T. B. Holgate, Cartmel		50	0	0
T. Tomlinson, Esq., Heysham		50	0	0
Mrs. Atkinson, Lancaster		45	0	0
Thomas Dewhurst, Esq., Lancaster		45	0	0
Mrs. Chamley, Lancaster		40	0	0
David Moore, Esq., Lancaster		25	0	0
James Dickinson, Esq., Lancaster		19	19	0
John Jacobson, Esq., Lancaster		19	19	0
William Welch, Esq., Lancaster		3.30	19	0
Thomas Woods, Esq., Lancaster		19	19	0
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ROYAL ALBERT ASYLUM

FOR

IDIOTS AND IMBECILES OF THE NORTHERN COUNTIES,

LANCASTER.

INSTITUTED DECEMBER 21, 1864.

Under the Patronage of Ber Most Gracions Majesty the Queen.

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F. W. TETLEY, Esq.

Liberpool.

Chairman:—E. LAWRENCE, Esq. Treasurer:—Charles Groves, Esq.

North Yonsdale.

Chairman: - HIS GRACE THE DUKE OF DEVONSHIRE, K.G.

Munchester and Salford.

Chairman:—HUGH BIRLEY, Esq., M.P.

Vice Chairman
and Treasurer

Edward S. Heywood, Esq.

Secretary:—Mr. James Diggens.

Middlesborough. Hon. Sec.:—John T. Belk, Esq.

Rewenstle-upon-Tyne.

Oldham.

Chairman:—LIEUT-COLONEL LEES.
Vice- {T. Emmott, Esq.
Chairmen. {A.Thom Thomson, Esq., F.R.C.S.
Treasurer:—A. Butterworth, Esq. Hon. Sec. :- James Yates, Esq., M.D.

Preston.

Chairman :-- RICHARD NEWSHAM, Esq. Treasurer: —W. P. Park, Esq.

Hon. Secs. {J. H. Hammond, Esq., M.D.
R. C. Brown, Esq., M.B.

Rochdule.

Treasurer :- RICHARD HURST, Esq. Hon. Sec. :- Ald. T. B. WILLANS. Assistant Hon. Sec. :- Mr. A. OLDHAM.

Botherham.

Chairman: - G. W. CHAMBERS, Esq. Hon. Sec. :- John Barras, Esq.

Salford Bundred.

Chairman: -JOHN T. HIBBERT, Esq., M.P. Vice-Chairman: - Rev. J. S. Birley, M.A. Treasurer :- Edward S. Heywood, Esq. Secretary :- Mr. James Diggens.

Seurborough.

Chairman: - The VEN. ARCHDEACON BLUNT Treasurer :- W. Rowntree, Esq. Hon. Sec .: - HENRY TURNBULL, Esq.

Settle.

Chairman: - WALTER MORRISON, Esq. Treasurer: — John Birkbeck, Esq.

Hon. Secs { Christopher Brown, Esq.
Mr. Ellwood Brockbank.

Sheffield.

Chairman :- F. T. MAPPIN, Esq. Treasurer :- Samuel Roberts, Esq. Hon. Secs. R. E. LEADER, Esq. Edward Birks, Esq.

Skipton.

Treasurers: - Messrs. Woods & Co., Bankers. Chairman: - Sir M. WILSON, Bart., M.P. Treasurer: George Robinson, Esq. Hon. Secs. Lieut.-Col. Robinson. Esq.

Southport.

Chairman :- W. ATKINSON, Esq. Hon. Sec .: - EDWIN VINCENT, Esq.

South Shields.

Hon. Sec .: - Joseph F. Armstrong, Esq., M.D.

St. Belens.

Chairman :- ROBERT DAGLISH, Esq. Hon. Secs. { Dr. McNicoll. Major Ogle.

Stockton-on-Tees.

Chairman: - The Worshipful the MAYOR. Hon. Secs. { T. Crosby, Esq. J. I. Carson, Esq.

Sunderland.

Treasurers: - Messrs. J. Backhouse & Co. Hon. Sec. : - C. S. Moon, Esq.

Wakefield.

Chairman :- W. HARTLEY LEE, Esq. Hon. Sec.: - Samuel Bruce, Esq., LL.B.

Marrington.

Chairman:-

Vice-Chairmen. { George Artingstall Esq. Samuel Rigby, Esq.,

Whitby.

Hon. Sec .: - Rev. J. OWEN.

Wligan.

Chairman: -The Worshipful the MAYOR. Treasurer: Henry Woodcock, Esq. Hon. Sec. :- WILLIAM HEATON, Esq.

Hork.

Chairman :- THE HON. AND VERY REV. THE DEAN OF YORK. Hon. Secs. { W. Gray, Esq. JAMES RAMSAY, Esq., M.D.

There are also Local Committees at Bishop Auckland and Selby.

GENERAL ANNUAL MEETING AT LANCASTER.

The GENERAL ANNUAL MEETING of the Subscribers to the Royal Albert Asylum, was held in the Brooke Wing of the Asylum, on Wednesday, September 4th, 1878;

THE RIGHT HON. LORD WINMARLEIGH.

Chairman of the Central Committee,

PRESIDING.

The proceedings having been opened with prayer, by the Vicar of Lancaster (Rev. John Allen, D.D.), the Report of the Central Committee was presented by the General Secretary (Mr. James Diggens), and the Chairman addressed the Meeting.

The following RESOLUTIONS were then unanimously passed:-

1.—That this Meeting approves and adopts the Report now presented; and recognises, with gratification, many evidences of steady progress, both as regards the improvement of the patients and the liberal support which the Royal Albert Asylum has hitherto received.

Moved by the Chairman; seconded by the Hon. W. Lowther, M.P.

2.—That this Meeting pledges itself to renewed exertions in furtherance of the benevolent objects of the Royal Albert Asylum, and earnestly invites the zealous co-operation of Local Committees, Ladies' Associations, and other voluntary agencies, in endeavours to raise an ample Maintenance Fund, so that the vacant accommodation may be speedily utilised, and the benefits of the Institution be thereby extended to the numerous Candidates now unable to obtain admission, owing to the inadequacy of the present Income.

Moved by Edward Lawrence, Esq., Liverpool, Vice-Chairman of the Central Committee; seconded by Hugh Birley, Esq., M.P., Chairman of the Manchester and Salford Local Committee.

3.—That this Meeting gratefully acknowledges the able, zealous, and constant services rendered to the Institution by the Lancaster Members of the Central Committee; and, in compliance with Rule 24, hereby re-appoints those Gentlemen members of the Central Committee for the ensuing year.

Dr. E. DENIS DE VITRE. REV. DAVID DAVIS, B.A. HENRY GARNETT, Esq. JAMES GRANT, Esq.

T. Howitt, Esq., F.R.C.S. HENRY HADWEN, Esq. JAMES CARTER MOON, Esq. EDWARD G. PALEY, Esq. J. S. Harrison, Esq., F.R.C.S. William Roper, Esq.

Rev. C. T. Royds, M.A. WILLIAM SATTERTHWAITE, Esq. JOHN SHARP, Esq. J. P. C. STARKIE, ESQ., M.P. THOMAS STOREY, Esq.

Moved by J. T. Hibbert, Esq., M.P., Chairman of the Lancashire County Committee; seconded by James Harrison, Esq., of Liverpool.

4.—That the cordial thanks of this Meeting be given to the Honorary Auditor, William Roper, Esq., and to Mr. William G. Welch, Professional Auditor, for their thorough investigation of the Accounts of the Asylum for the past year, and for their careful examination of the Securities held on the Sustentation Fund Account; and this Meeting, in compliance with Rule 34, hereby appoints for the ensuing year, James Carter Moon, Esq., as Honorary Auditor, and Mr. William G. Welch, as Professional Auditor.

Moved by J. S. Burrell, Esq., of Liverpool; seconded by Rev. D. Davis, of Lancaster.

5.—That, circumstances permitting, the next General Annual Meeting of this Institution be held at Newcastle-upon-Tyne, on Wednesday, September 24th, 1879, and that notice thereof be given in the Lancaster, Newcastle, Durham, Carlisle, Kendal, York, Leeds, Bradford, Sheffield, Manchester, Liverpool, and Chester newspapers.

Moved by G. E. Wilson, Esq., of Dallam Tower; seconded by the Mayor of Carlisle (S. J. Binning, Esq.)

The proceedings closed with a cordial Vote of Thanks to the Chairman, which was moved by the High Sheriff of Lancashire; and seconded by Major Sandys.

A BANQUET, in aid of the funds of the Asylum, was subsequently held in the De Vitré Hall, under the presidency of

THE MOST HON. THE MARQUIS OF HARTINGTON, M.P.

There was a large attendance of the Subscribers and Friends of the Royal Albert Asylum, among whom were: The High Sheriff of Lancashire (N. Eckersley, Esq.), the Right Hon. Lord Winmarleigh, the Secretary of State for War (Col. the Right Hon. F. A. Stanley, M.P.), the Hon. W. Lowther, M.P., Colonel Blackburne, M.P., J. T. Hibbert, Esq., M.P., J. P. C. Starkie, Esq., M.P., Hugh Birley, Esq., M.P., A. Brogden, Esq., M.P., the Mayor of Lancaster (A. Seward, Esq.), the Mayor of Carlisle (S. J. Binning, Esq.), the Mayor of Southport (R. Nicholson, Esq.), &c., &c.

A Report of the proceedings may be had on application to the Secretary.

REPORT

Presented to the Subscribers, at the General Annual Meeting, held at the Royal Albert Asylum, September 4th, 1878.

THE Central Committee, in presenting the Fourteenth Resignation Annual Report, consider that their first duty is to announce Dr. de Vitré. to the Subscribers the resignation of their Chairman, Dr. Edward Denis de Vitré, to whose enterprising spirit, large-hearted generosity, and innumerable practical services, the Royal Albert Asylum owes much of its prosperity. While health and strength were vouchsafed, he devoted himself with enthusiasm to the promotion of its various interests; and his advocacy of its cause has been not only of advantage to this institution, but has also, no doubt, contributed greatly to the formation of a sound public opinion on the subject of the proper treatment of the idiot and imbecile. Dr. de Vitré was unable to attend the last Annual Meeting in consequence of serious indisposition. That illness increased and prevented him from again taking any part in the management of the Institution. At the July meeting of the Central Committee he tendered his resignation, and the following resolution was unanimously passed:-

"That the resignation of Dr. E. D. de Vitré, as Chairman of the Central Committee of this Institution, be and is hereby regretfully accepted.

"That the Central Committee desires to place on record its high appreciation of the eminent services which Dr. de Vitré has rendered to humanity by the selfsacrificing labour he has for so many years devoted to the promotion of the welfare of the idiot and imbecile; and at the same time it desires to express its heartfelt sympathy with him in the severe illness which has alike necessitated his retirement from the Chairmanship and deprived the Royal Albert Asylum of the wise counsels and active services of its most tried and trusted friend, whose name cannot but be inseparably associated with the origin and successful establishment of the Institution."

In acknowledgment of his important services, and especially of his munificent gift of £2,373 for the erection of eight Cottages for the Trade Instructors and other servants of the Institution, the Dining Hall has been named the "De Vitré Hall."

Appointment

In December last Mr. Edward Lawrence, Chairman of the of Chairman Liverpool Local Committee, and Mr. M. W. Thompson, Chair-Vice-Chairmen man of the Bradford Local Committee, were appointed Vice-Chairmen of the Central Committee; and Mr. Thomas Howitt. F.R.C.S., and Mr. Thomas Storey, of Lancaster, were appointed Vice-Chairmen of the House Committee. The Right Hon. Lord Winmarleigh has accepted the office of Chairman of the Central Committee, from which his esteemed friend Dr. de Vitré has so recently retired. It is believed that these appointments will tend to maintain the general character of the management of the Institution, and contribute to its increased prosperity.

General Annual Meeting at Halifax.

The last Annual Meeting was held at Halifax, on the 24th of October, 1877. This Report covers, therefore, only a period of about ten months; and in reviewing the work of the Institution in its various departments, this fact needs to be borne in mind. That meeting was, in the much regretted absence, through illness, of Lord Frederick Cavendish, M.P., presided over by Mr. F. T. Mappin, of Sheffield, the Chairman of the Yorkshire Committee, who has in many ways manifested a generous and practical interest in the Royal Albert Asylum. The Halifax Committee did everything they could to make the meeting successful; and prominently ought to be mentioned the kind co-operation of the Mayor (Mr. N. Whitley); of the Vice-Chairman, Mr. L. J. Crossley, to whose earnest labours reference has been made in former reports; and of the Honorary Secretaries, Mr. J. Hodgson Wright and Mr. J. Edwards Hill, who were indefatigable in their exertions. On the platform and in the meeting were many old friends, who, both by their advocacy and liberal contributions, testified their unabated interest in the work. The Central Committee was represented by an influential deputation, and among its members were Mr. J. T. Hibbert, M.P., Chairman of the Lancashire Committee, whose ready sympathy, earnest appeals, and zealous labours for the Royal Albert Asylum are so well known, and Mr. Hugh Birley, M.P., whose influence and advocacy are always highly valued. The immediate pecuniary results of the meeting were satisfactory, and would probably have been still greater but for the almost unparalleled commercial depression in the district.

One of the first fruits of this meeting was the formation of a Associations. Ladies' Association for the district of Halifax. A most thorough and systematic canvass for contributions was made in the town and

neighbourhood, and about £114 was obtained in Annual Subscriptions, and £191 in Donations. The Annual Subscriptions ranged from 6d. to £2 2s., and the Donations from 2d. to £22 10s. The chief promoters were Mrs. F. E. Rawson, Mrs. Hodgson Wright, and Mrs. J. Edwards Hill. To Mrs. Hodgson Wright fell the principal share of organisation, which was admirably carried out. The example of Halifax proves that Ladies' Associations may be established and energetically worked in busy communities as well as amid the quieter scenes of Cathedral cities; and it is hoped that its influence will be felt in many of the neighbouring towns of Yorkshire and Lancashire.

The work of the County of Durham Ladies' Association continues to be prosecuted with energy and success; and the total amount remitted this year is £336, which, notwithstanding bad trade, exceeds any sum forwarded since its formation in 1875.

So numerous and urgent were the applications for admission that the Central Committee last November determined to arrange for an election of fifty Patients in the following spring. The step was a bold one considering the state of the income, but it was taken in that spirit of confident reliance for support upon the benevolent in the Seven Northern Counties which the Committee had hitherto so justifiably exercised. The Election was held at Southport on the 29th of April, under the presidency of Mr. J. T. Hibbert, M.P. Lord Skelmersdale presided at the subsequent meeting, and Lord Winmarleigh, and other friends of the Asylum, advocated its claims. The visit served to revive an earnest interest in the work of the Asylum, and the Local Committee, under the leadership of its revered Chairman, Mr. W. Atkinson, will, no doubt, find its work greatly facilitated. In making the arrangements for these meetings the cordial and useful assistance of the Hon. Local Secretary, Mr. E. Vincent, deserves recognition. One good result of this visit has been the formation of a Ladies' Association in Southport.

Election of Fifty Patients at Southport.

Although the funds of the Institution continue to increase, the The state of Maintenance Income does not make that rapid progress which the the Funds and the urgent urgency of the case requires, and which would enable the Com-need for an mittee further to develope their plans for the amelioration of the increase of the condition of the idiot and imbecile in the North of England. Fund. Looking at what has been accomplished in this work in about thirteen years there is, however, no room for despondency. When

the project was launched the first work of the Committee was to enlighten the public mind as to the educability of the idiot; and this was slowly but surely accomplished, not only by public meetings and platform advocacy, but also through the press by articles, appeals, and pamphlets of various kinds calculated to attract all classes of the thoughtfully benevolent, as well as by the organisation of numerous Local Committees, and by many other means. Gradually the feasibility and importance of the work was recognised. The late Mr. Brunton's generous donation of £2,000 has grown into results which may be best described in the words of the Lunacy Commissioners :- "The Asylum has been erected with accommodation for 600 patients, on a freehold estate of 86 acres, and with the necessary entrance lodges, farm buildings, and workshops, and 10 cottages for servants, at a cost of about £110,000, all of which, except £4,000, has been actually raised by voluntary contributions. The greater part of the Asylum has been furnished and fitted for the reception of patients, and, in addition to the above-mentioned sum, a Sustentation Fund. amounting at present to £50,000, has been formed." These are results upon which the Committee feel that the Subscribers are to be most heartily congratulated; and which are not easily paralleled in the history of charitable institutions. But the fact remains that the Maintenance Fund especially needs to be augmented, in order to be fully adequate to the present wants of the Institution. to say nothing of the possibilities of future development. The sum of £3,894 can hardly be considered a sufficient contribution in Annual Subscriptions from Seven Counties; nor can £1,739 8s. 6d. and £1,113 os. 9d. be accounted enough for two great counties like Lancashire and Yorkshire respectively to supply. Undoubtedly greater progress would have been made but for the extreme depression of every branch of industry in the North. In ordinary times—cwing to removals, deaths, and other unavoidable causes of discontinuance—it requires no small effort to maintain Annual Subscriptions at the previous year's level. To do this and to make steady progress in times of almost unequalled commercial depression, have necessitated much labour and anxiety. It is particularly encouraging to find the interest of old friends increase, as in the case of a Firm at Lancaster, which, in addition to its previous liberal contributions to the General and Maintenance Funds, has offered an Annual Subscription of 100 guineas for five years.

The following tables show the amounts contributed by each of Contributions the Seven Associated Counties to the Maintenance and Sustenta- from the Seven Counties. tion Funds to the 30th of June last:-

	MAINTENANCE Annual Subs. promised.)					NI ons	a-	SUSTENTA Legacies.			ATION FUND, Donations, &c.			(Invested.) Total.		
		£	S.	d.	£s	. d	l.	£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.
LANCASHIRE		1739	8	6	35	5	0	23669	5	9	2635	0	1	26304	5	10
YORKSHIRE		1113	0	9	720	0	6	3284	0	0	15814	8	4	19098	8	4
WESTMORLANI	D	94	1	0				300	0	0	67	15	0	367	15	0
CHESHIRE		190	19	6							56	15	0	56	15	0
CUMBERLAND		136	10	0							126	0	0	126	0	0
DURHAM		568	9	0				5090	0	0	52	10	0	5142	10	0
NORTHUMBERI	LAN	D 51	19	6												
		-	1	_	-		_			_						_
		£3894	8	3 .	£755	5	6	£32343	5	9.	£18752	8	5 .	£51095	14	2

Of the 373 patients now in the Asylum, 159 belong to Lancashire, 120 to Yorkshire, 30 to Durham, 23 to Cheshire, 19 to Patients from Northumberland, 14 to Cumberland, and 6 to Westmorland. Two full payment patients belong to Counties not included in the Asylum district.

each County.

The following Legacies have been notified during the year: Legacies.

		£	S.	d.	
Henry Brown, Rawdon	 	 500	0	0	
Mrs. Minton, Toxteth Park, Liverpool	 /	 221	0	9	
Miss E. Cowley, Sheffield	 	 184	0	0	
Mrs. Walling, Preston	 	 102	12	4	
John Holgate, Burton-in-Lonsdale	 	 100	0	0	
Mrs. Charnley, Lancaster	 	 40	0	0	

Several reversionary Legacies of various amounts have also been intimated.

Special attention is invited to the following contributions:-

Special

A Concert in aid of the Patients' Amusement Fund, given at the Music Hall, Contributions Lancaster, by the High Street Choral Society and the Lancaster Orchestral Band, assisted by Mr. J. Sidney Jones and other friends from Leeds, realised a profit of £27.

The father of one of the payment patients has collected £18 18s. in Annual Subscriptions, and £9 7s. in Donations; and the mother of a reduced payment case has similarly obtained, with her collecting purse, the sum of £27 9s. 6d. The parents and other relatives of election cases have also collected contributions tor the Asylum.

The Manchester and Salford Equitable Co-operative Society has contributed a second Donation of £5 5s.; and the Order of Oddfellows, Halifax District, has sent an Annual Subscription of £1 1s.

No more touching gift has been received than a £10 note, carefully enclosed in an envelope, which a most devoted lady friend of the Institution requested, when dying, might be handed to the Secretary, as the last practical proof she could give of her enduring, affectionate interest in the good work.

Reference to Audit.

For detailed information respecting the finances of the Institution, the Committee have pleasure in referring to the Auditor's Report, and to the duly certified Balance Sheets. The examination of the Books and Accounts has been painstaking and complete, and the Report testifies to the accuracy with which they have been kept.

Miscellaneous Presents.

In the numerous presents of great variety forwarded from all parts of the Asylum district, the patients continue to receive proofs of kind remembrance. The Christmas Tree never fails to attract gifts of toys, dressed dolls, knitted woollen articles, pictures, books, &c.; and for the Christmas Day festivities, cases of oranges and boxes of fruits and sweets always find their way to the Asylum.

The Work of mittees.

The Committee feel that no small amount of the financial Local Com- success of the Institution is due to the disinterested activity and local influence of officers and members of the various Local Committees, and they desire to acknowledge their indebtedness in this respect. To the same kindly help the Committee must continue to look, and in no more efficient manner can such assistance be rendered than by enlisting in this benevolent work, the sympathies of ladies in their respective districts. What has been already accomplished, in the formation of Ladies' Associations in the county of Durham and in Halifax, Manchester, &c., has mainly owed its initiation to the zealous exertions and personal influence of active members of Local Committees.

Appeal for

The advocacy of the claims of the Institution from the pulpit Collections. has always been regarded by the Committee as of great value; but, with the many appeals to the clergy and ministers of all denominations for collections on behalf of missionary and other strictly religious objects, a philanthropic institution of a general character, is at a serious disadvantage. Still, some clergymen and ministers make Annual Collections for the Royal Albert Asylum, and others devote to it a certain proportion of the Offertory on Hospital Sunday or at Harvest Thanksgiving Services. Although the regular contributions from collections and offertories are but few, the Committee are, nevertheless, grateful, and trust that as the work of the Asylum becomes better known this source of income will largely increase. During the year assistance has been received from the following:-

Rev. Dr. Allen, St. Mary's Parish Church, Lancaster.

Rev. R. Atkinson-Grimshaw, Cockerham Church, Garstang.

Rev. C. J. Bushell, Barkisland Church, Halifax.

Rev. F. A. Cave B. Cave, Longridge Church, Preston.

Rev. Canon Eden, Aberford Church, South Milford.

Rev. Jos. Hodgkin, Treales Church, Kirkham.

Ven. Archdeacon Hornby, St. Michael's-on-Wyre, Garstang.

Rev. A. H. Hughes, Trinity Church, Darlington.

Rev. Thos. Meadows, Thornton Church, Poulton le-Fylde.

Rev. Dr. Neary, South Ossett Church, Wakefield.

Rev. F. E. Perrin, Ribchester Church, Preston.

Rev. G. F. Weston, Crosby Ravensworth Church, Penrith.

Rev. T. Windsor, Congregational Chapel, Skipton.

Again the Committee gratefully acknowledge their obligations Obligations to to the Press generally. The thanks of the Committee are especially due to the Halifax Courier for a lucid sketch of the working of the Asylum written by one of its own staff, and which opportunely appeared just before the Annual Meeting; and to the Editor of the Southport Visiter, who well described in an attractive article what he saw in a day devoted to a minute inspection. Such impartial and public testimony of keen observers is of great value. In the summer the Asylum is visited by hundreds of persons staying at Morecambe and other places in the picturesque neighbourhood of Lancaster.

The Lunacy Commissioners make their official inspection of the Asylum at least once a year, and in their investigation of its various departments, bring to bear an impartial judgment, large experience, and well trained powers of observation. The Committee have much pleasure in appending to this report copious extracts from the Official Report of the last visit of the Commissioners.

Official Inspection by the Lunacy Commission-

The question of the erection of a Detached Infirmary was The need for mentioned in the last Annual Report, and has engaged the attention of the Committee during the past year. That such a Building is one of the early future necessities of the Institution is admitted. but the Committee, while they have so much space at their disposal, do not feel that its present urgency is so great as to warrant any immediate special appeal on that account. To guard against the spread of severe epidemics such as the Institution suffered from last Autumn, it is of course important to secure, if possible, complete isolation; and the Committee will, when trade revives, appeal for contributions towards the cost of erecting a detached Infirmary. At the present time the financial resources are strained

a Detached Infirmary.

to the utmost to procure a Maintenance Fund adequate to the present requirements, without regard to the unoccupied accommodation for 200 more patients. Already the Committee have been cheered by an unsolicited donation of £150; and, possibly, among the numerous wealthy friends of the Royal Albert Asylum in the Seven Northern Counties, some one may yet be found willing to undertake the entire cost of such a building, and thus establish a title to permanent remembrance in connection with a great philanthropic work.

Thefavourable Friends of Patients.

During the month of August in each year the patients, who Testimony of have been resident at the Asylum sufficiently long to have become settled, are allowed to go home for a holiday of two or three weeks. About eighty-five have just been home, and the Committee have pleasure in quoting a few selections from the favourable testimony of parents or guardians:--

- 1 .- "I am most thankful to state that my son is in the enjoyment of the best of health. He is improved in every way, both in body and mind, the advancement in speech being most marked."
- 2.- "I am very thankful to say that we find our son much improved both physically and mentally. Two years since he could only say one word (no), now he can say several, and appears to be trying at more. To-day I had pulled a brace button off; he got a needle and thread and sewed it on as well and quickly as any lad of his age could do. He is much easier controlled than formerly, he does not attempt so much to run away as formerly; also he appears to keep himself more tidy than he used to do."
- 3.-"I consider my son greatly improved since he went to the Royal Albert Asylum. He is now able to read, and he did not know the alphabet when he went. His memory also seems improved."
- 4 .- "I find my son very much improved in his habits and health. I am sorry his evesight prevents him from learning to read and write, and think it is a very great drawback to him. He has a very good memory, and I find he can remember people and things that transpired five or six years ago. On the whole we find him very much improved since he went to the Royal Albert Asylum, and feel thankful there is a place of this description for improving children like him."
- 5 .- "I am much gratified to find that our daughter's health is all that could be desired. She has evidently been very carefully attended to. She has much improved in her physical capabilities. Her moral habits are also the subject of congratulation. During the time she has been with us we see that she has been taught obedience by kindness, and we have seen no disposition to violence of temper. Mentally, we observe that her memory is still good. She appears to have a very strong appreciation of the humorous and altogether although the improvement in her mind is not so marked as in the other respects, we do observe a very decided advance."
- 6.- "My wife desires me to state that she considers her sister considerably improved since she last saw her. She appears much more intelligent, and is more active and industrious than formerly. The girl herself seems very much attached to the Asylum, which she calls her home, and is very anxious to return."
- 7.—"This is to inform you that both father and mother, sisters and brothers, and all friends and neighbours are greatly pleased with the improvement of manners and speech of my sister since her admission into the Royal Albert Asylum, Lancaster."

It has been decided by the Committee, after much delibera- Patients to be tion, to receive, in future, every case on a year's probation. This a year's proarrangement will afford the Medical Superintendent a fair opportunity of judging as to the probability of improvement, and will prevent the Asylum from being occupied for a long period by comparatively hopeless cases, to the exclusion of others that would greatly improve under its system of physical, mental, and industrial training.

Training.

The Committee refer with gratification to the Report of the The Results of Medical Superintendent, with its many proofs of earnest and successful work. Early in the year the Committee carefully investigated the condition and progress of those patients whose regulation term of seven years' training would expire in the course of the current year. While most anxious to extend to as many cases as possible the advantages of such care and training as this Institution affords, it was nevertheless considered undesirable to secure vacancies simply by discharging at once those patients who were first admitted. The Committee deem it well again to remind the subscribers that for several years after the opening of a portion of the Building in 1870, the work of the Institution was carried on under disadvantageous conditions, such as imperfect accommodation, defective appliances, and above all an incomplete and inexperienced staff; and, consequently, that the value of the training in those early years is not comparable with that of a corresponding period now.

In estimating these results of training (the regulation period in most cases not yet having been completed) it must be explained that at the first elections there was, owing to a paucity of candidates presented in some of the associated counties, a far less strict ordeal of investigation than now prevails, and that therefore, many of the earlier patients were of a low type, that would certainly now be rejected as "unimprovable;" for it must be remembered that this is essentially a Training Institution, which has to keep in view the return of the patients to society at the end of a limited period, and not a Life Asylum for idiots and imbeciles of all grades. The latter is undoubtedly needed, and may ultimately fall within the benevolent scope of the Royal Albert Asylum; but it is of far less immediate urgency than the development and extension of the Training School.

It will help the Subscribers to a just appreciation of these results, if they will consider them in the light of the Medical Superintendent's remarks on the nature of Idiocy and the kind of training which is required. In such cases both the physical and mental condition is abnormal, and the mind is only to be reached and cultivated by sedulous attention to the state of the body, which is often miserably oppressed by manifold infirmities. Cure must not be expected; all that can be looked for, in the very best cases, is alleviation. How great is the alleviation in many patients can only be appreciated by a comparison with the untrained idiot or imbecile of a similar type. The mind will always manifest itself as out of balance and working more or less imperfectly, but great must be the gain both to the individual and to Society if the idiot can be trained to habits of decency, order, self-control, and sustained industry; if his dormant intelligence and sluggish will can be aroused, strengthened and developed; if he can be made to understand and practise some, at least, of his social and moral obligations: and if with the quickening of the spirit of a sound mind, there spring up religious aspirations and a craving for the better life, the gain is incalculable. Brief as has been the experience of the Royal Albert Asylum, such results have been achieved, and they amply repay all the toil and anxiety spent in establishing the Institution, and inspire the Committee with feelings of devout gratitude. Nor is the gain to the idiot and imbecile only. From such missions of mercy proceed the silent influence of love and patience; a belief that no condition of human life, however hard, is utterly hopeless; and a conviction, strengthened by each year's experience, that no system of education is worthy of the name, which does not regard physiological principles, and that, especially with young children, sensory teaching and objective methods ought to have primary attention. And even in respect of those idiots of uncomely and distorted form in whom the divine image is most blurred, and who are objects of the deepest pity, there is this gleam of solace that something may be done by Christian love and scientific study to brighten life and render it less burdensome; and true Christian philanthropy firmly holds

"That nothing walks with aimless feet
That not one life shall be destroyed,
Or cast as rubbish to the void,
When God hath made the pile complete."

In reviewing the work of the year, the Committee consider that there is abundant reason for thankfulness. In the liberal support which has been received by the Royal Albert Asylum ever since its initiation in Lancaster as a mere project, they see hope for the future; and the success of the efforts for the improvement of the patients affords encouragement to expect that, with the Divine blessing and the growth of experience, still more beneficial results may be accomplished.

WINMARLEIGH, Chairman.

MEDICAL SUPERINTENDENT'S GENERAL REPORT

To the Central Committee of the Royal Albert Asylum.

My LORDS AND GENTLEMEN,

Owing to the early date of the Annual Meeting, the General Report, which I have now the honour to submit as Medical Super-intendent, extends over a period of little more than ten months.

Average Number Resident, &c.

During this period 71 patients (45 boys, 26 girls) have been admitted into the Asylum; 20 patients (16 boys, 4 girls) have been discharged; and 11 patients (7 boys, 4 girls) have died. At the date of my last General Report there were resident in the Institution 333 patients (224 boys, 109 girls). The number is now 373 (246 boys, 127 girls), showing an increase of 40 (22 boys, 18 girls). The average number resident during the past forty-seven weeks has been 338; and the aggregate number under training, 404.

Discharges.

The discharges above enumerated have been chiefly those of patients whose friends desired to have them at home, or who were for some reason found unsuitable to remain in the Institution. Two boys, who were making fair progress, were removed to continue their education in their own families; two patients were withdrawn in consequence of serious ill-health; one because his father could no longer continue his payment; and another to travel on the Continent with his friends. One lad, after three years training in the Institution, during which he had become tolerably expert as a joiner, returned to his home last Christmas, and an account recently received of him states that "he settled to work directly he came home"—(assisting in his father's machine-factory) -- "and has continued steadily all along." This account is the more gratifying as previous to his training he had been a source of much trouble to his friends on account of his uncertain temper, and unsteady, wandering habits. Another youth, discharged after a term of seven years, resides with his parents in Lancaster, and works on the Asylum farm as a day-labourer at a small wage. The farm-bailiff gives him an excellent character for regularity and industry. Of the rest, the majority have of necessity been discharged from the Institution, owing to their mental condition having assumed the form of insanity rather than that of imbecility. Amongst this latter class, I regret to have to refer to the case of the lad who, from the circumstance of his having for several years previous to admission spent all his waking hours in a tub, had gained the name of "Diogenes." This patient when admitted to

the Institution three years ago, presented certain symptoms of insane excitement, which, however, gradually subsided underdiscipline, and from being utterly ignorant and useless, he had learned to read and write, developed a considerable faculty for calculation, and had become an expert mat-maker. He had also considerably improved in physical powers and in disposition. Unhappily, however, during the last few months suicidal propensities developed themselves, and it became necessary for his safety

to transfer him to the Lunatic Asylum.

The number of deaths during the period of this Report has Deaths from been swelled by the mortality arising from the epidemic of scarlatina with which the Institution was visited in the latter part of last year. The first case, that of a boy recently returned from his holidays, was promptly isolated, but unhappily the disease, which was at the time epidemic in the neighbourhood, spread in the Institution, and, altogether, 55 cases occurred amongst the inmates. Though the type of disease was in some cases grave, and the condition of almost all those affected, rendered their care a matter of difficulty and anxiety, 5 deaths only occurred, 4 directly from the fever, and I subsequently from induced debility. The uppermost storey of the northern portion of the building, being unoccupied, afforded separate accommodation for these patients; but it is obvious that to obtain satisfactory isolation for infectious cases a detached infirmary is a desideratum. From a sanitary point of view, this is indeed almost a necessity in any institution in which a large number of children are congregated; and it appears to be of special importance when the construction of the building in continuous blocks—as is the case with the Royal Albert Asylum—renders the atmospheric isolation of the various departments a matter not easily accomplished.

The other deaths during the period of this Report have been Mortality of of an ordinary character, and independently of those arising from Idiots greater scarlatina, only 7 deaths have occurred. The inclusive mortality than that of from all causes is equivalent to an annual death-rate of 3.6 per cent. on the average number resident, or 3.0 per cent. on the aggregate number under training. A medical statistician, commenting in the "British Medical Journal" (May 25 and June 1, 1878) upon the mortality of imbecile children, shows that the death rate of patients under 20 years of age in two Southern Institutions, in what would seem to be favourable years, is from five to eight times that prevailing amongst the normal population of similar age. Detailed information on this point is given in the appended table of mortality at various ages. It is important to bear in mind that idiocy is almost invariably associated with a feeble or defective bodily organization; and however excellent the sanitary arrangements of an idiot institution may be, a com paratively large mortality is inevitable.

Scarlatina Epidemic.

Children.

Disturbance

It will be readily understood that the prevalence in the of ordinary Institution of such an epidemic as that referred to materially Arrangements interfered with the arrangements for education and training. As a consequence, comparatively little progress was made during the winter quarter; but as soon as prudence permitted, the ordinary arrangements were resumed, and encouraging results have, as heretofore, been obtained. Some illustrative instances of individual improvement, and the usual tables of school-attainments and of industrial occupations are appended to this Report.

Articles by the Patients.

A list of the articles manufactured in the workshops would inmanufactured clude the greater part of the male clothing, and of the shoes worn by the patients, and a variety of fittings and furniture made in the joiners' shop for the service of the establishment. The training of the patients employed in the shops is considered of primary importance, rather than the actual value of the products of their labour; and it is not always easy accurately to separate the value of the Patients' work from that of their Instructors. It may, however, be interesting to note that one of the shoe-maker's lads can make three pairs of boots weekly, and that another youth who has learnt tailoring can make trousers at the rate of four pairs per week. In each case the materials are cut out by the master of the shop; but beyond this, very little aid is required by the more advanced pupils. Mats and brushes are still manufactured both for sale and for use in the house; and the teasing of hair, wool, &c., for mattress-making forms simple occupation for some of the less capable inmates.

The advantage of out-

In an Institution like the Royal Albert, receiving many boys whose homes are in urban industrial centres—homes to which they door Employ- will probably return—it is of course needful that training in handicrafts such as they can carry on in towns should be provided. But there can be little question of the superior fitness of out-door labour as a means of employment, whenever practicable, for a large proportion of the idiot and imbecile class. About the farm and garden there are a variety of simple but necessary occupations, which patients of but limited capacity may efficiently perform. Satisfactory results have indeed been not unfrequently obtained by transferring lads, whose progress in the workshops was not encouraging, to one of these branches of labour. The improvement in the physical condition of some of the patients so transferred has been most striking. It is therefore a matter of extreme importance to maintain in connexion with the Institution, apart from mere considerations of profit and loss, an ample farm and garden. At the present time ten lads reside at the farm house under the care of the bailiff and his family, and several of them render very efficient service.

The experiment of boarding-out a few of the patients with Boarding-out Trade Instructors in the Asylum Cottages has been continued with of Patients. such marked success that I trust it may at some future time be found practicable to carry out similar arrangements on a more extensive scale.

The Girls are employed in useful house-work of various kinds, Employments and practise in school sewing, knitting, and wool-work. Two of the pupils are becoming proficient in the use of the sewing machine. A class for Industrial Training of the younger girls and some of the infant boys is a valuable and interesting feature in the system of school instruction.

The subject of industrial occupations has been first adverted The value of to, because with practical minds the capacity for productive work on the part of those who have been trained in the Institution, will probably be regarded as the ultimate test of the success of the system. But it would not be right to leave unnoticed the subject of school instruction, which even if its results, as compared with ordinary standards, are sometimes meagre, is nevertheless of essential importance. School, with imbecile, as with normal children, has two principal uses, the one as a mode of discipline, the other as a means of acquiring knowledge. Including, as an integral part of school, the gymnasium, it will be obvious that for children who not unfrequently lack the power of definitely regulating the movements of their bodies, (and this is a common infirmity of idiots), school discipline is of prime importance. It has been well remarked that in some cases progress is to be estimated not so much by what the pupils have learned to do, as by what they have learned not to do. To sit still in a class, to abandon objectionable habits and cries, to fix the wandering attention, and finally to subordinate unruly impulses to a wiser will, these are beneficial results which are to be obtained more readily by a school organization than in any other way. Such an organization moreover furnishes a model to the attendants of what is expected of them in the training of the patients when under their care in their respective departments. But, with the majority of cases, school has moreover a distinct value as a means of acquiring knowledge. The quickening of the senses to take cognizance of surrounding objects, and the training of the hand to definite uses, are essential preliminaries to any kind of useful employment. If beyond this, capacity exists for acquiring in a reasonable time the arts of reading and writing, the desirability of the necessary training will scarcely be disputed. It is satisfactory to notice that as many as 50 of the patients read books for their own amusement; and that upwards of 200 letters have been written during the year by boys and girls to their friends at home. Such letters often contain interesting descriptions of Institution life, and serve as evidence of the writers' contentment with their surroundings. Recently the

School Instruction. following was composed and addressed to his father by a lad who has learnt all he knows, both at school and work, since his admission to the Institution three and a half years ago. It shows that family ties are not lost sight of, and that moral training is not neglected in the Institution:—

Royal Albert Asylum, July 18, 1878.

MY DEAR FATHER,

I am very sorry that you have not been so well. I hope you have got home now, and that you feel a little better, and that mother is better. I have been saving up my pennies, and now I am so glad I can send you a post office order for Ten Shillings, and I hope that will do you good. . . . I have got some more money left, for I save nearly every penny I earn. I am very sorry that you are poor, I hope you will soon be able to work. . . . I am very sorry I can't get home this summer, but I hope I shall come home next summer. I have made a table for the laundry, and I am going to make a cupboard. I will try to make a picture frame to bring home next summer. I send my kind love to you all. I hope you will send me a letter as soon as you can.

I am, your loving son,

D. J.

The "getting home" alluded to above refers to the annual holiday in August, during which patients who have been in the Institution more than two years are allowed to visit their friends. More than 80 patients have this year spent from one to three weeks at their own homes; and in many cases interesting testimony has been received from the friends as to signs of

improvement noticed by them.

Summary of Results.

In my last Report I endeavoured briefly and broadly to summarise in three classes the varying degrees of improvement effected in the 29 Patients whose term of election was drawing to a close. Making a similar examination of 79 election cases who have been in the Institution 5 years and upwards, the following may be given as an approximative statement of results. 28 have made substantial progress in some useful occupation, and of these more than half may reasonably be expected under proper supervision to be capable of earning their living; 27 are capable of some amount of useful work under close supervision; and 22 have improved only in habits and self-helpfulness; 2 have retrograded owing to ill-health. It will be observed that even with the cases who have most improved, continued kindly supervision is indicated as desirable. From the nature of the case "Recovery" in its plenary sense is not to be looked for in the class of Idiots and Imbeciles. In comparatively few cases is it to be expected that all trace of original weakness will be obliterated by Institution training, but it may reasonably be hoped that in a fair proportion such training will exert a life-long influence for good, and render those who have profited most by it comparatively useful members of society. But much will depend upon the surroundings of such cases; and there is still ample scope for Christian philanthropy in helping to secure for them the most favorable conditions.

In addition to the recreations systematically provided for the patients, the following entertainments have been given at the Asylum by Lancaster friends, and deserve grateful acknowledgment:—

Special Entertainments.

A Magic Lantern Exhibition by Mr. Edmund Johnson, of St. Thomas' School.

A Concert by Mr. Thomas Johnson's Singing Class.

A Rehearsal of public concert given by the High Street Choral Society and the Lancaster Orchestral Band.

One of the most agreeable treats the patients have ever had was recently given to them by Mr. G. E. Wilson, of Dallam Tower, Westmorland. Mr. Wilson kindly invited to Dallam Tower fifty of the patients, who were accompanied by thirteen members of the staff, including the Asylum band. The day was pleasantly spent in inspecting the grounds and garden, and in games in the park.

Among the presents of great variety received during the vear may be mentioned:—

Presents.

A Donkey from Mr. H. W. Parr, Lancaster Castle; and one from Dr. Wingate Saul, Lancaster.

A handsome Picture Screen from an Anonymous Friend.

A Case of Butterflies from Mr. Edward Storey, Lancaster.

A Cage of Doves and a large Box of Toys from Mr. T. Storey, Lancaster.

A Dozen large Paper Balloons from Signor Pandolfini, Lancaster.

A Box of American Toys from Mrs. Strange, Scarborough.

A Parcel of Clothing from Mrs. Tyler, Lanchester, Durham.

A Parcel of Clothing from Mrs. Schofield, Rochdale.

Mr. Matthew Simpson, the donor of the flagstaff, has again gratuitous'y supplied and fixed stays, and has also painted the staff.

A full list of Presents is appended to the Report.

In concluding this Report I desire to recognise the unremitting exertions for the welfare of the patients of the officers in their respective departments, and to refer specially to their devotion to duty during the trying period of the scarlatina epidemic. To the Committee I am indebted for continued kind support, and for medical aid opportunely provided at periods of pressure. My acknowledgments are also due to the Secretary, Mr. Diggens, for his cordial and valuable co-operation. On behalf of the staff and of the inmates of the Institution generally, I may perhaps be permitted to express our respectful regret at the cause which has for some time past deprived us of the cheering presence and valued counsel of Dr. de Vitré. His name will ever be held in affectionate regard by those who had the privilege of being associated with him in the organisation of the Institution.

I am, my Lords and Gentlemen, Your obedient Servant,

G. E. SHUTTLEWORTH,

ROYAL ALBERT ASYLUM, August, 1878. MEDICAL SUPERINTENDENT.

CASES OF IMPROVEMENT ILLUSTRATIVE OF REPORT.

(NOT PREVIOUSLY REPORTED.)

BOYS.

- A. (7) Admitted in January, 1871, aged 6. Then an exceedingly restless, peevish boy: of destructive tendencies, and somewhat delicate. For five years and more showed but little signs of mental improvement; but has of late made considerable advance at school. Now knows nearly all the letters, and forms them on the slate. Counts to 30, and writes down numbers up to 20; knows all the hours and half-hours, and all the coins; distinguishes the simple colours, and the principal parts of the body and articles of clothing. Instead of unravelling all worsted articles within his reach, can now knit a little.
- B. (166.) Admitted in April, 1873, aged 17. When admitted only educational attainments were spelling a few words and printing a few letters. Now can read fairly well, and write (with some help) a fairly good letter; understands the value or figures (up to 100) and of the coins and weights. Is a steady and useful worker in the garden.
- C. (361).—Admitted in August, 1876, aged 15. Then an undersized boy, destructive in his habits, educational attainments limited to spelling out a few words and forming letters on the slate. Can now read easy words at sight and spell them, write fairly in copy book, and (with some little help) write a well-expressed letter to his friends. Works diligently at chopping and sawing wood in the Joiner's Shop, and is no longer destructive.
- D. (356).—Admitted in July, 1876, aged 9. Then a very nervous boy with choreic movements. Had attended village school, but had not been able to keep up with other boys of his age; could read a few short words, could not write, and could count only to 30. Now much steadier and usually free from nervous movement; can read easy lessons with understanding of their meaning, write a letter with a little help, and work a simple addition sum. Is very useful in helping his weaker companions; can hem a handkerchief, sew buttons on, and knit.
- E. (189).—Admitted in November, 1873, aged 8. Then shy, slow of apprehension, and destitute of educational or industrial acquirements. Is now much more cheerful and active; can read and write easy words and work simple addition sums. Can hem handkerchiefs and knit a stocking.

GIRLS.

- F. (282.)—Admitted April, 1875. Aged 10. Then a shy, fretful, girl, with imperfect speech, and no educational attainments. Now cheerful in manner; speaks fairly well; reads easy words, and writes easy letters in copybook. Can sew neatly, make a bed, dust and arrange furniture, and is always anxious to make herself useful.
- G. (258.)—Admitted November, 1874. Aged 13. Then a slow and awkward girl, disinclined to speak, apt to call things by wrong names, and destitute of educational attainments. Now cheerful and active; answers well in lessons on objects: can read small words; write neatly in copy-book; and has a good idea of writing a letter. Can knit and sew, and is very useful in simple house-work.
- H. (318.) Admitted February, 1876 Aged 10. Then an indifferent talker, speaking in a disjointed manner; destitute of educational or industrial acquirements. Now speaks much more connectedly, reads easy words, and can write a letter with assistance. Can knit and sew, and is useful in general domestic work.

EXTRACTS FROM THE

EIGHTH REPORT OF THE LUNACY COMMISSIONERS.

Royal Albert Asylum, April 1st 1878

We are glad to report that a further increase in the number of patients under treatment in this Asylum has taken place since the last visit of the Commissioners, which was made on the 12th of March, 1877. The number then on the Books was 299, while to-day we find here 327 idiot or imbecile inmates. Of these 194 are elected cases, maintained gratuitously; 49 are paupers paid for by their respective Unions; 7 are presentation, and 3 are life cases; and the remaining 74 are the ordinary paying cases.

Since the date of the last visit, the changes which have taken place are

as follows :-

M. F.	Total,
ADMITTED. Election Cases 11 14	25
Pauper Cases 13 3	16
24 17	
Payment Cases 14 5	
38 22	60
DISCHARGED II 3	14
DIED 12 6	18

The mortality has been higher than usual, the excess in the death-rate being chiefly attributable to an outbreak of scarlet fever which proved fatal in four cases. The disorder made its appearance in the Asylum on the 19th of September last, and between that date and the 19th of December, when the last case occurred, 55 patients of both sexes were attacked. The only officer who suffered was the Schoolmaster, who, however, had the complaint in a mitigated form. The outbreak commenced with a boy who had a week previously been spending a holiday with his friends. Scarlet fever was at the time, however, epidemic in Lancaster. There being no detached building available for the isolation of the cases as they occurred, the patients attacked were separated from the rest, as far as possible, by placing them in some empty rooms on the second floor of the Female division. Dr Shuttleworth undertook the Medical charge, and temporary Medical assistance for the ordinary work was afforded by Dr. Massiah. The utmost precautions possible under the circumstances were taken to limit the spread of the disorder, but it was not until the lapse of three months that the fever finally ceased.

This outbreak shews the great necessity, in an Institution of this size and character, of a detached hospital; and as we learn that the need is fully recognised by the Committee, we trust they may, ere long, be enabled by the state of their

finances to undertake the erection of such a building.

The other causes of death were of an ordinary kind, 7 being due to pulmonary consumption, and 3 to disease of the brain or its membranes. Post mortem examinations were made in seven cases. No coroner's inquest has been held. The health at present of the inmates, is quite up to the average, and there was only one child of each sex in bed at the time of our visit. The patients under medical treatment last week, were 7 of the male, and 4 of the female sex. No seclusion has been employed, and only one case of slight restraint has occurred, and that for surgical reasons. One patient is to-day away on leave, but we have seen all the others. In dress and personal appearance they presented as satisfactory an aspect as it would be reasonable to expect in such a class; and all appeared to be contented. Everything we saw pointed to kind treatment, and

affectionate care on the part of the attendants and officers, and these are evidently not lost on the patients. We witnessed the teaching of some of the classes in school, and were pleased to notice individual cases of a very considerable development of intellect. We also inspected the workshops in which a considerable amount of industrial training of the more capable of the boys is effected. The numbers attending educational classes at present are: boys 187, girls 92, making a total of 279. Of these 126 boys and 57 girls have, besides, industrial training of one kind or other; and there are actually employed in some useful occupation, 108 of the male, and 46 of the female, sex. The nursing and educational staff, comprises, besides the superior officers, 19 in the male division; viz., 2 teachers, 2 school attendants, 1 chief attendant, 1 night attendant, 2 married couples, and 9 other attendants, including 4 tradesmen; and on the female side, 4 teachers, 1 head nurse, 1 night nurse, and 13 other at tendants.

The dietary is unchanged. Milk enters largely into it, and it appears to be in all respects sufficient. We saw to-day 164 of both sexes assembled in the Dining Hall at their dinner, which consisted of boiled beef, potatoes and carrots,

followed by rice pudding, and which was ample and well cooked.

The amusement and entertainment of the children are well attended to. Weekly entertainments are given in the Hall and are usually attended by 250 of both sexes; there have been pic-nics and excursions during the past year, and many children have gone home for holidays; while in summer out of door games,

and in the winter, concerts, dances, &c., are organised.

Some of the usual arrangements in the wards and dormitories have been disturbed by the out-break of scarlet fever. Carpets have been removed, and thus the rooms have assumed a less comfortable appearance. Making due allowance for this, we have found the building generally in a satisfactory condition. The beds and bedding are clean and well attended to, and the warming and ventilation of the Asylum are good. We understand that the cottages noticed in the Commissioners' last Report are now occupied, and that as an experiment, two male patients are boarded out in them, with satisfactory results. No other structural alterations or improvements of much importance have been effected.

It will be seen from the foregoing Report that the Institution continues to be maintained in a state of efficiency which is most creditable to the Committee and

their principal officers.

As ten years have now elapsed since the building of this Asylum was commenced, and seven years since it was opened for the reception of patients, it may be interesting to state here, from the information which has been supplied to us, the important results which have been arrived at. The Asylum has been erected, with accommodation for 600 patients, on a freehold estate of 86 acres, and with the necessary entrance lodges, farm buildings, and workshops, and 10 costages for servants, at a cost of about £110,000, all of which, except £4,000, has been actually raised by voluntary contributions. The greater part of the Asylum has been furnished and fitted for the reception of patients, and in addition to the above mentioned sum, a Sustentation Fund, amounting at present to £50,000, has been formed. We trust that the munificence which has been so largely displayed in the past will not fail in the future, and that this most useful Institution will speedily attain its complete development, and be occupied by its full number of patients. We are glad to learn that in the present month, 50 patients in addition to the present number, will be elected.

We cannot close this Report without expressing our sincere regret that the Asylum has, for some months past, been deprived, through serious illness, of the invaluable and indefatigable services of Dr. de Vitré, the Chairman of the

Committee, and to whom this Institution owes so much.

C. S. BAGOT, Commissioners in Lunacy.

AUDITOR'S REPORT.

LANCASTER, AUGUST 21ST, 1878.

I have the honour to report that, in fulfilment of the appointment of the last Annual Meeting, I have audited the accounts of the Royal Albert Asylum for the year ending June 30th, 1878. All the items of receipt and expenditure are duly set forth under their proper headings in the accompanying statements of General Account, Maintenance Account, and Sustentation Fund Account. After a careful comparison of these statements with the Books from which they are abstracted, and after verifying all payments by their proper vouchers, I have been able to certify to the accuracy of the accounts.

In my Report of last year I drew attention to the fact that since the completion of the Building, the full burden of all expenditure connected with the Institution,-except for additions to Buildings or Furniture—had been thrown on Maintenance Account. I pointed out that the income of that account had not been sufficient to meet the increased expenditure, but I expressed the hope that this desideratum might be attained during the current year; and I am happy to say my expectation has been more than realized. Not only have the receipts equalled the expenditure, but the balance at the debit of the account has been reduced by £243. This has been effected, partly by a satisfactory increase in Annual Subscriptions, and partly by Special Donations to the Maintenance Fund to the amount of £750. As the number of patients at present resident in the Asylum is greatly in excess of the past year's average, and as there is a probability of a further increase of free cases during the current year, an augmentation of this Fund is an obvious and pressing necessity.

I have examined the scrip representing the Investments held on Sustentation Fund Account, and have found all in perfect order. The securities fully maintain their position as safe and judicious investments.

The total amount of Donations promised to June 30th was £106,683 16s. 1d., and the amount actually received at that date was £106,316 4s. 6d., so that only the comparatively small sum of £367 11s. 7d. is outstanding.

I have had the valuable co-operation of Mr. Roper, the Honorary Auditor elected at the Annual Meeting, and he has joined with me in certifying to the accuracy of the Balance Sheets.

WILLIAM G. WELCH, AUDITOR.

RECEIPTS AND

From June 30th, 1877, to

and the second s			M	AI	NI	ENA	N	Œ
	dr.							
			£	s.	d.	£	S	d.
To Donations		 	 749	16	10			
" Annual Subscriptions, 1877-8		 	 3,710	19	5			
" Payments for Patients		 	 4,947	15	9			
" Interest on Sustentation Fund Investmen	nts	 	 2,337	14	3			
" Interest on Bank Deposits		 	 137	16	10			
" Sundries		 	 470	19	4	22.200	- 4	1 12
					-	12,355	2	5
" Farm Produce sold		 	 253					
" Farm Produce supplied to the Asylum		 	 953					
"Garden Produce supplied to the Asylum		 	 139	9	10			
					_	1,345	14	9
"Balance due to Secretary		 	 18	17	1			
" Balance due to Lancaster Bank		 	 333	19	9			-
			-		-	352	16	10

£14,053 14 0

Examined and compared with the Books of Account and Vouchers, and certified to be correct.—August 21st, 1878.

WILLIAM ROPER, Lancaster, Honorary Auditor. WILLIAM G. WELCH, Lancaster, Auditor.

EXPENDITURE

June 30th, 1878.

ACCOUNT.						
Cr.						
	£	S	. d	. £	S	. d
By Balance due to Secretary June 30th, 1877		17				
" Balance due to Lancaster Bank	481					
To the state of the state of the state of	-			595	19	4
., Expenses of General Annual Meeting at Halifax; of Public Meetings; and of Local Committees	84	3	3			
"Expenses of Elections		5				
" Printing 6,500 General Subscription Lists		10				
" Printing 1,800 Thirteenth Annual Reports; Reports of						
General Annual Meeting; also Election Returns,						
Appeals, Local Subscription Lists, Pamphlets, and General Printing and Stationery	209	18	11			
"General Advertising		19				
" Postage of Letters, Subscription Lists, Reports, Appeals,						
Pamphlets, Voting Papers, &c	75	19	11			
,, Offices (Lancaster and Manchester), Rent, Rates, Gas, Telegrams, and Petty Cash Sundries	103	16	4			
Telegrams, and Telegram Sundanes				703	13	5
"Salaries, Wages, and Travelling J Offices, £897 3s. 9d.)	4,180	13	4			
Expenses (Asylum, £3,283 9s. 7d.)	1,100	10				
,, Provisions (Purchased£3,794 18s. 3d.) Necessarias (From Farm and Garden £1,092 11s. 4d.)	4,88	7 9	7			
,, Necessaries—						
Coals	537	11	7			
Gas	156		11			
Water	143 216	9 2	6			
General	507	4	3 4			
"Boarding out of Patients	67		0			
" Drugs, Surgery Requisites, &c	52	14	7			
" Workshops	159	2	7			
" School Expenses		19	6			
"Repairs	123 5	7	5			
,, Crockery		0	4			
"Asylum Postage	9	2	6			
" Insurance	34	9	0			
" Sundries	151	2	5	11 050	1	0
" Farm Expenses (including Stock, Implements, Wages, &c.)	1 150	5	6	11,252	4	9
"Grounds and Garden Expenses		4	-			
)) Marian man Marian Politico II II II II II II			_	1,398	10	2
" Bank Interest, Commission, &c				103	6	4
						_
			1	£14,053	14	0

RECEIPTS AND

From June 30th, 1877, to

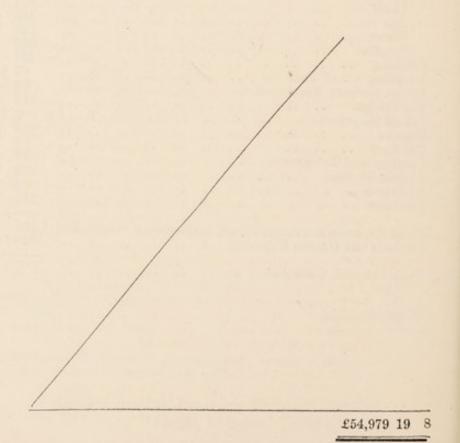
1,657 13 1

525 0 0

And the second s				
	Receipts.			GENERAL
To Donations	ofirmary		1,609 2 150 0 40 0 107 3 8 10	£ s. d 3 0 0 6 0 1,914 15 1 1,992 16
		/		
	/			
				£3,907 12 5
			SUST	ENTATION
Co Balance, June 30th, 1877, Donations	₽r. :: :: ::			£ s. d. 52,486 16 7 310 10 0

" Legacies

Life Interest Payment..



Examined and compared with the Books of Account and Vouchers, and certified to be correct.—August 21st, 1878.

WILLIAM ROPER, Lancaster, Honorary Auditor. WILLIAM G. WELCH, Lancaster, Auditor.

EXPENDITURE

June 30th, 1878.

ACCOUNT. Expenditure.		
expenditure.	£ s. d.	£ s. d
By Balance due to Lancaster Bank, June 30th, 1877		2,505 18 9
" BUILDING ACCOUNT:—		
Gas Fittings		
Painting	F1 15 0	
Alterations at Lodges	FO C O	
Disinfecting Apparatus		
Ventilation		F00 - 1
Sundries	5 19 10	566 5 9
" Furniture:—		
General	303 2 6	
Ironmongery House Linen	64 4 11 15 18 5	
Bedding	193 11 1	576 16 11
		0,0 10 11
"Interest on Special Contribution		118 13 8
,, Property Expenses		51 9 10 88 7 6
,, Bank Interest		- 00 1
		£3,907 12 4
TATE A COOTING		1
FUND ACCOUNT.		
Cr,	£ s. d.	£ s. d
Y Investments :	. S. U.	£ s. d
£8,000 East Indian Railway Stock; Interest at 5 per cent	9,285 9 3	
£7,000 Madras Railway Stock; Interest at 5 per cent		
£500 Madras Debenture Bond; Interest at 4 per cent. £6,000 Scinde Delhi Railway Stock; Interest at)	500 0 0	
5 per cent	6,250 0 0	
£1,200 Bombay, Baroda, and Central India Railway	1,237 8 0	
Stock; Interest at 5 per cent	1,201 0 0	
South Eastern Railway Stock: £3,250 Preference; Interest at 5 per cent	6,257 16 10	
£3,250 Preference; Interest at 5 per cent	0,207 10 10	
£1,200 London and North Western Railway (Cocker-)		
mouth and Workington) Preference Stock;	2,703 2 6	
Interest at 10 per cent		
£2,000 London and North Western Railway) Preference Stock; Interest at 5 per cent	2,483 18 6	
£1,000 Manchester, Sheffield and Lincolnshire	1 000 0 0	
Railway Debenture Stock; Interest at 4½ per cent	1,000 0 0	
£3,800 Great Western Railway Preference Stock;	4,290 4 0	
Interest at 5 per cent		
Interest at 4½ per cent	1,212 10 0	
£845 Furness Railway Preference Stock; Interest	1 100 10 0	
at 6 per cent	1,133 13 9	
£2,000 Furness Railway Preference Stock; Interest	2,070 12 6	
at 4½ per cent		
60 Shares at £10; Interest at 5 per cent	619 14 6	
86 Lancaster Canal Shares; a yearly Dividend		
of £1 15s. per share guaranteed by the	3,225 0 0	
London and North Western Railway)		819 617 0 0
, Additional Land (10a. 2r. 34p.)		£49,617 9 2 1,950 0 0
, Freehold Property		975 0 0
, Balance at Lancaster Bank		2,437 10 6
		£54 070 10
		£54,979 19 8

TABLE OF SCHOOL ATTAINMENTS OF PATIENTS.

This Table is compiled from the Quarterly Reports of the Schoolmaster, Schoolmistress, and Gymnastic Master.

	C	LASSES OF	PATIENT	s.	
GRADES.	1. Senior Boys.	2. Probationary Boys.	3. Infant Boys.	4 Girls.	TOTALS.
	139	38	70	126	373
I. SPEECH.					
1. Make no attempt	4 0 2 23 40 70	3 16 5 3 5 6	7 6 9 6 11 31	3 14 18 10 15 66	17 36 34 42 71 173 873
II. READING.					0,0
1. Know no letters or words 2. Know a few letters	15 49 2 26 29 18	25 8 4 1 0	29 13 9 5 8 6	38 12 10 27 18 21	107 82 25 59 55 45*
III. WRITING.					
 Do nothing but scribble Form strokes, &c., on slate Do. do. in copy book Form letters in copy book Write easy words in copy book Write fairly * 43 Patients write letters home with 	12 46 25 15 19 22	10 15 6 7 0	14 31 6 15 2	20 32 14 27 18 15	56 124 51 64 39 39*
assistance, and 11 others without assistance. Upwards of 200 Letters have been written during the past Year.					010
IV. ARITHMETIC.					
1. Cannot count at all	7 49 23 34 20 6*	13 19 4 2 0 0	17 21 11 15 4 2	25 21 15 23 36 6	62 110 53 74 60 14
* 3 Boys work sums in the compound rules.					373

TABLE OF SCHOOL ATTAINMENTS .- continued.

	C				
GRADES.	1. Senior Boys.	2. Probationary Boys.	3. Infant Boys.	4. Girls.	TOTALS.
V. CLOCK LESSON.	139	38	70	126	373
1. Know neither hours nor minutes	43 28 23 15 8	30 8 0 0 0	3 7 11 5 3	49 10 14 16 20 17	125 63 48 36 31 30
VI. SHOP LESSON.					373
1. Know no coins nor weights	18 23 23 36	32 4 1 1	41 10 11 7	44 14 12 21	135 51 47 65
calculate a little	30 9	0	0	29 6	59 16
VII. COLOUR LESSON.			**		373
1. Know no colours	7 18 25 21 47	1 6 14 9 7	9 6 12 18 15	7 15 17 24 17	24 45 68 72 86 78
VIII. MUSIC.					373
 No interest in musical sounds Attentive to do. do. Sing by ear simple tunes without words Do. do. with words Rudimentary knowledge of musical 	1 5 49 68	0 9 18 11	0 10 26 34	0 24 29 49	1 48 122 162
symbols	16 0	0 0	0	24 0	40 0 373
instruments. IX. DRILL.	1				
1. Have no idea of drill	4.0	2 27 6 2 1	2 2 9 10 16 31	3 4 13 21 22 63	8 38 57 58 51 161

TABLE OF INDUSTRIAL OCCUPATIONS OF PATIENTS.

This Table is compiled from the Quarterly Returns of the Trade Instructors, Chief Attendant and Head Nurse. It must be understood that the occupations are progressive, in order of difficulty, from 1 to 6; occupation in a higher grade usually implying familiarity with the lower grades.

OCCUPATIONS OF BOYS.			d in each g y of work		Total
Grades of Work.	In- different.	Fair.	Good.	Ex- cellent.	number em- ployed.
I. TAILORING. 1. Preliminary Work	3 0 0 0 0 0	0 2 0 0 0 1	0 1 1 1 2 1	0 0 0 0 0	12 Tailors.
II. SHOEMAKING. 1. Preliminary Work	0 0 1 0 0 0	1 1 0 1 1 0	0 1 1 1 1 0	0 0 0 0 0 0	10 Shoemakers
III. JOINERY. 1. Preliminary work (use of tools)	0 0 0	1 0 0 0 0 0	7 1 0 0 1 2	1 0 0 0 0 1	9 1 0 0 0 2 2 2
IV. GARDENING. 1. Preliminary work in weeding-class 2. Barrow-filling and emptying	0 0 0	9 0 1 2 1 0	5 2 0 3 6 2	0 0 0 0 0	18 Weeding Boys 2 1 5 7 2 Gardeners.

OCCUPATIONS OF BOYS.	Number	Total			
Grades of Work.	In- different	Fair.	Good.	Ex- cellent.	number em- ployed
V. FARMING.					
1. Preliminary work—weeding, &c 2. Cleaning yards, shippons, &c 3. Feeding stock	0 0 0 0	0 0 0 1	2 0 2 0 0	0 0 0 2 0	10 Farm Boys.
6. Milking, &c	0	U	1	1	2
VI. INDUSTRIAL TRAINING SHOP. 1. Picking Hair, Wool, &c 2. Plaiting Coir 3. Mat-making 4. Brush-filling 5. Palliasse and Mattress making 6. Basket-making	3 0 0 0 0 0	1 0 1 0 0	9 3 2 3 0	1 0 0 0 0 0	23 in industria training shop
VII. MISCELLANEOUS OCJUPATIONS.			AM Seg		1
1. Shoe-cleaning	1	6	8	0	15
2. Corridor-cleaning	0	1	1	0	29 mi
3. Laundry-work-mangling, &c., &c	0	3	4	1	scel mpl
4. Store-work	0	0	0	1	employed.
5. Assisting Stoker	0	0	1	0	1 ously
6. Assisting Plumber	. 0	1	1	0	2)

Total number of Boys employed in Industrial Occupations - - - 133.

Several others assist in Dormitory and Day-room arrangements, and in dressing and attending on other Patients.

20 Infant Boys receive special Industrial Lessons in School (not included in above tabulation)

Six Boys (also otherwise employed) act as Messengers to Lancaster.

OCCUPATIONS OF GIRLS.	Number tion	Total			
Chief kinds of Occupation.	In- different.	Fair.	Good.	Ex- cellent.	number em- ployed.
1. Preliminary work—dusting, &c	2 2	10 4 1 0 0 2	12 4 4 3 3 2	7 3 5 3 1 8	33 13 12 6 4 8

* In school 22 girls are engaged in preliminary work with needle, 16 hem, 22 sew fairly,

7 sew fairly and knit, and 20 sew fairly, knit, and do wool-work.

The number of Girls employed in Industrial occupations out of school is 50, and 26 other Girls receive special Industrial lessons in school, making total of 76 under Industrial Training.

Table showing ages of Patients who have resided in the Asylum, and of those who have died, during the forty-seven weeks included in the Medical Superintendent's General Report.

AGES On 1st January, 1878.		OF EACH RESIDENT		NO. OF EACH AGE DECEASED.			
, ,	Male.	Female.	Total.	Male.	Female	Total.	
From 5 to 10 years	41	25	66	I	I	2 a	
10 ,, 15 ,,	93	47	140	3	3	6 b	
15 ,, 20 ,,	96	52	148	2	0	2	
20 and upwards	39	II	50	I	0	I	
	269	135	404	7	4	II	

a. One of these deaths arose from Scarlatina.

b. Three of these deaths arose from Scarlatina.

LIST OF

CLERGYMEN AND MINISTERS

WHO HAVE ALREADY PREACHED IN AID OF THE ROYAL ALBERT ASYLUM.

The Right Rev. the Lord Bishop of Manchester, at the Parish Church, Lancaster; Rev. Dr. Allen, Vicar.

Rev. C. J. Vaughan, D.D., (now Master of the Temple), at the Parish Church, Leeds; Rev. Dr. Atlay (now Lord Bishop of Hereford), Vicar.

Rev. Dr. Allen, St. Mary's Parish Church, Lancaster.

Rev. J. Cooper Antliff, Stanley Street Chapel, Sheffield.

Rev. Canon Ashwell (Chichester), Burnmoor Church, Fence Houses.

Rev. R. Atkinson-Grimshaw, Cockerham Church, Lancaster.

Rev. W. C. Bache, (Alresford), Longridge Church, Preston.

Rev. W. Baitey, Primitive Methodist Chapel, Whitby.

Rev. Dr. Black, Newchurch Church, Warrington.

Rev. G. L. Blake, St. Mary's Church, Ellel, Lancaster.

Rev. Francis Bolton, High Street Independent Chapel, Lancaster.

Rev. John Bone, St. Thomas's Church, Lancaster.

Rev. J. Brack, Skerton Church, Lancaster.

Rev. C. J. Bushell, Barkisland Church, Halifax.

Rev. F. A. Cave B. Cave, Longridge Church, Preston.

Rev. John Chadwick, Tatham Church, Bentham.

Rev. S. Chapman, (Glasgow), Baptist Chapel, Rochdale.

Rev. W. E. Chapman, (Brighton), St. Mary's Church, Sowerby, Halifax.

Rev. A. Christopherson, (Haverthwaite), Caton Church, Lancaster.

Rev. T. J. Clarke, (York), St. Thomas's Church, Lancaster; Rev. C. Campbell, Vicar.

Rev. E. Dothie (London), High Street Independent Chapel, Lancaster.

Rev. S. Earnshaw, at Parish Church, Sheffield; Rev. Rowley Hill (now Lord Bishop of Sodor and Man), Vicar.

Rev. Canon Eden, Aberford Church, South Milford.

Rev. J. Fleming, (London), at the Independent Chapel, Lancaster.

Rev. G. Green, All Saints' Church, Cockermouth.

Rev. Dr. Bedford Hall, St. Mary's Church, Sowerby, Halifax.

Rev. James Harrison, Barbon Church, Kirkby Lonsdale.

Rev. H. Hassard, Stockton-on-the-Forest Church, York.

Rev. S. Hastings, Rector of Halton, Lancaster; Camp Service of 2nd Adm. Battalion of West Riding Volunteers at Morecambe.

Rev. H. B. Hawkins, Parish Church, Lytham.

Rev. Thos. Hayes, Bracewell Church, Skipton.

Rev. T. C. Henley, Kirkby Malham Church, Bell Busk.

Rev. Thompson Hesk, Wesley Chapel, Whitby,

Rev. Rowley Hill, (now Lord Bishop of Sodor and Man) Parish Church, Sheffield.

Rev. W. M. Hitchcock, Whitburn Church, Sunderland.

Rev. J. Hodgkin, Treales Church, Kirkham.

Rev. J. Holgate, Baptist Chapel, Salterforth.

Ven. Archdeacon Hornby, St. Michael's-on-Wyre, Garstang.

Rev. Canon Hornby, St. Mary's Parish Church, Bury.

Rev. Canon Hoskins, at All Saints' Church, Cockermouth; Rev. E. Green, Vicar.

Rev. A. H. Hughes, Holy Trinity Church, Darlington.

Rev. W. Jackson, Independent Chapel, Whitby.

Rev. J. Kenworthy, Ackworth Church, Pontefract.

Rev. W. C. Kewish, Wesleyan Methodist Chapel, Radcliffe Bridge, Manchester.

Rev. P. C. Kidd, Parish Church, Skipton.

Rev. H. W. Kirby, Field Broughton Church, Grange-over-Sands.

Rev. Thos. Leach, Parish Church, Burton-in-Lonsdale.

Rev. T. Faulkner Lee, D.D., and the Rev. T. S. Polehampton, at Christ Church, Lancaster.

Rev. E. C. Maclure, (Rochdale), Holy Trinity Church, Habergham Eaves, Burnley.

Rev. E. F. Manby, Morecambe Church.

Rev. C. Marsden, Gargrave Church.

Rev. Robert Martin, Irlam Church, near Manchester.

Rev. Thomas Meadows, Thornton Church, Poulton-le-Fylde.

Rev. J. M. Morgan, Parish Church, Dalton-in-Furness.

Rev. G. G. Morton, Parish Church, Ulverston.

Rev. D. C. Neary, D.D., South Ossett Church, Wakefield.

Rev. A. M. Norman, Burnmoor Church, Fence Houses.

Rev. T. J. Oliver, United Methodist Free Church, Blyth.

Rev. John Owen, Unitarian Chapel, Whitby.

Rev. Wilson Pedder, Churchtown Church, Garstang.

Rev. F. E. Perrin, Ribchester.

Rev. G. Pickering, Trinity Church, Ulverston.

Rev. W. E. Pryke, at Warton Church, and Priest Hutton Licensed Room; Rev. T. H. Pain, Rector of Warton.

Rev. Richard Ray, Wesleyan Chapel, Whitby.

Rev. J. P. Rigby, Aughton Church, Lancaster.

Rev. Canon Robinson, Parish Church, Bolton Abbey.

Rev. W. Rose, Petre Street Chapel, Sheffield.

Rev. C. T. Royds, Heysham Church, Lancaster.

Rev. A. D. Shafto, Brancepeth Church, Durham.

Rev. R. N. Sharpe, Hundersfield, Rochdale.

Rev. W. Shilleto, Goosnargh Church, Preston.

Rev. J. Simpson, (Kirkby Stephen), at the Parish Church, Kirkby Lonsdale; Rev. Canon Ware, Vicar.

Rev. J. G. Smith, Primitive Methodist Chapel, Stanley Street, Sheffield.

Rev. James Smith, Wicker Congregational Chapel, Sheffield.

Rev. H. A. Starkie, Radcliffe Church, Manchester.

Rev. Canon Stewart and Rev. John Creeser, St. John Baptist's Church, Tue Brook, Liverpool; Rev. John C. Reade, Vicar.

Rev. Alexander Thomson, D.D. (Manchester), at High Street Independent Chapel, Lancaster.

Rev. C. C. Tyte, Broompark Congregational Chapel, Sheffield,

Rev. G. F. Weston, Crosby Ravensworth Church, Penrith.

Rev. E. White, Quernmore Church, Lancaster.

Rev. A. M. Wilson, Ainstable Church, Penrith.

Rev. R. W. Wilson, Sutton Church, Cross Hills.

Rev. Thos. Windsor, Congregational Chapel, Skipton.

PRESENTS RECEIVED DURING THE YEAR.

Friend, per Dr. de Vitré, a Picture Screen.

Baldry, Mrs., Grasmere, Toys.

Bell, T. and Co., Lancaster, Packet of Illustrated Periodicals.

Blades, Mrs., Laucaster, a Case of Oranges.

Hadwen, Mrs., Lancaster, Dressed Dolls, &c.

Hall, William, Lancaster, Six Boxes of Christmas Tree Candles.

Hays, Miss, Durham, Six Illuminated Texts.

Hogg, Mrs., Preston, a Parcel of Illustrated Papers.

Holden, Mrs., Lancaster, Knitted Woollen Articles.

Howitt, Mrs., Lancaster, £1 for Toys.

Kerr and Jubb, Halifax, India Rubber Toys.

Longman, Henry, Lancaster, Illustrated Books and Periodicals.

Mansergh, Robert, Lancaster, Three Chinese Lanterns and a Packet of Christmas Cards.

Melson, Miss, Lancaster, Knitted Woollen Articles.

Moon, J. C., Lancaster, Fruit, Sweets, &c.

Pandolfini, Signor, Lancaster, One Dozen Large Paper Balloons.

Parr, H. W., Lancaster, Gift of a Donkey.

Rawson, Mrs., F. E., Halifax, Mottoes, Shields, Toys, &c.

Saul, Dr. W. W., Lancaster, Gift of a Donkey.

Seward, Abram (Mayor) Lancaster, Two Cases of Oranges.

Sherriff, Mrs., Lancaster, Dressed Dolls, Toys, &c.

Sherson, Mrs., Lancaster, a Case of Oranges.

Stange, Mrs., Scarborough, American Toys.

Stevenson, Mrs. J. C., Preston, a Large Box of Toys.

Storey, Edward, Lancaster, a Case of Butterflies.

Storey, Mrs. T., Lancaster, a Large Box of Toys and Cage of Doves.

Thornhill, Lieut.-Colonel, Lancaster, a Box of Christmas Tree Ornaments.

Townley, Miss A., Lancaster, Knitted Woollen Articles.

Tyler, Misses, Lanchester, a Parcel of Clothing.

Welch, Misses, Lancaster, Dressed Dolls, Toys, &c.

Yates, Robert, Bolton-le-Moors, a Case of Oranges.

A Donation of Five Guineas entitles a Subscriber to one Vote for Life, in the election of patients, and an Annual Subscription of a Guinea to two Annual Votes. Votes to increase in the same proportion for higher sums.

Collecting Purses may be had on application to the Secretary. Every Five Guineas obtained will entitle the Collector to a Life Vote.

ALL THE BANKS IN THE NOTHERN COUNTIES RECEIVE SUBSCRIPTIONS.

Early intimation of money so paid should be sent to the Secretary, (Mr. James Diggens, Royal Albert Asylum, Lancaster), in order that the usual official acknowledgment may be made.

CENSUS OF IDIOTS AND IMBECILES.

ENGLAND.

Number of Idiots and Imbeciles returned in the Householders' Schedules at the Census of 1871:—

Males. 14,728					100	емаць 14,724			Ton 29,4		
The	Seven	Northern	n (Countie		100			Royal	Albert	Asylum
					Di	stric	t :				
								MALES.	FEMA	LES.	TOTAL.
	LANCASI	HIRE						1683	16	93	3376
	YORKSH							1370	12	90	2660
	DURHAM	I						312	8	02	614
	CHESHI	RE						335	3	57	692
	NORTHU	MBERLA	ND					246	2	09	455
	CUMBER							129		87	216
	WESTMO	RLAND						48		43	91
									-	_	
		Total of	the	District				4123	39	81	8104

The returns are, undoubtedly, far below the actual number. It is obvious that, for various reasons, many persons throughout the country, who unquestionably belong to the class "Idiots and Imbeciles," would not be returned as such in the Householders' Schedules; and, as an illustration of the great difficulty of procuring accurate statistics on the subject, it may be mentioned that the Superintendent Registrar of an extensive district ascertained, after careful enquiry, that fully 25 per cent. of the Idiots and Imbeciles in his district had not been returned. It may be assumed that the Census Officers of the district secured more than average completeness in their returns, as they received precise and special instructions to see that the Column in the Schedules headed "Imbecile or Idiot" was filled up in all proper cases.

The number of Idiots and Imbeciles of 5 years of age and under 20, returned in the Seven Northern Counties, was 2018. Probably, a great many at the early period of life would not be entered in the Schedules, owing to the natural disinclination of parents to conclude that their children are so far mentally afflicted as to render it necessary to return them as Idiots or Imbeciles.

The following is the Ratio of returned Idiots and Imbeciles to the entire population in the several places named.

Name.	Population.	Idiots and Imbeciles.	Persons to One Idiot or Imbecile.	Idiots and Imbeciles per 20,000 persons.
ENGLAND	22,712,266	29,452	771	25.9
THE SEVEN COUNTIES	7,198,847	8,104	888	22.5
LANCASHIRE	2,849,259	3,376	844	23.7
YORKSHIRE	2,395,569	2,660	900	22.2
DURHAM	742,205	614	1209	16.5
CHESHIRE	539,785	692	780	25.6
NORTHUMBERLAND.	386,646	455	850	23.5
CUMBERLAND	220,253	216	1019	19.6
WESTMORLAND	65,130	91	715	27.9

NOTE.—The Counties are Registration Counties, which differ slightly from the Geographical Counties. Twenty-two of the cases returned in Lancashire were removed to the Royal Albert Asylum from other Counties in the District.

SUMMARY OF CONTRIBUTIONS

(Including Donations to the General and Sustentation Funds, and Annual Subscriptions,)

(Including Domestons to the General and Sustentialist		renewed Subscriptions,,	
FROM DISTRICTS WHERE COMMITTEES	HAVE BEE	N FORMED AND	
PUBLIC MEETINGS	HELD.	Annual Sub-	
	Dor	nations. scriptions.	
		E s. d. £ s. d.	
LANCASTER (1)		1 11 5 391 6 6	
MANCHESTER (2)	934		500
LIVERPOOL (3)	894		
BRADFORD (4)		37 13 3 204 4 6	
ROCHDALE (5)	****		
TEEDS (6)			
LEEDS (6)			
HALIFAX (7)			
CHESHIRE (CHESTER, STOCKPORT, &c.)	317		
PRESTON (8)		4 14 9 51 19 6	
CUMBERLAND (CARLISLE &c.) (9),		04 12 7 136 10 0	
SHEFFIELD		23 15 9 159 2 6	
KENDAL (10)	222	24 7 3 65 11 0)
YORK (11)	207	8 12 0 17 6 6	,
NORTH LONSDALE (ULVERSTON, BARROW, &c.)	199	07 2 2 51 19 6	;
OLDHAM (12)		94 12 0 74 10 0)
SETTLE		7 15 9 34 13 0)
SKIPTON		4 18 6 86 14 6	
BOLTON		8 13 0 69 6 0	
DURHAM	404		
The Control of the Co		34 13 7 22 9 6	
BURY	80		
WARRINGTON		5 17 6 31 10 0	
BURNLEY		1 17 6 18 2 6	
KEIGHLEY	70		
NEWCASTLE-ON-TYNE		00 15 6 49 17 6	
DARLINGTON	65		
KIRKBY LONSDALE	64	12 15 9 7 17 6	,
SOUTHPORT	59	6 6 8 54 18 0	1
ASHTON-UNDER-LYNE	55	66 2 0 16 16 0	,
WIGAN		0 14 0 51 9 0	,
SELBY	0.0		
SUNDERLAND		85 11 0 64 12 0	
SCARBOROUGH		80 19 0 13 2 6	
		61 15 0 35 3 6	
WHITBY			6.
ROTHERHAM	19		
HARTLEPOOL	13		
DONCASTER	12		
SOUTH SHIELDS		9 2 6 42 6 0	
MIDDLESBROUGH	6	3 0 0 1 11 6	-
BERWICK-UPON-TWEED	5	1 1 6 7 9 6	,
STOCKTON-ON-TEES	3	7 15 0 10 6 6	,
WEST HARTLEPOOL		1 8 6 25 12 6	-
		ENEDAT SECRETARY	

August 21st, 1878.

JAMES DIGGENS, GENERAL SECRETARY.

- (1) The Lancaster Donations include £2050 from the late Mr. James Brunton; £1050 from Messrs. Storey Bros. and Co.; and £1000 from the Lancaster Banking Company. The Annual Subscriptions include a special subscription of £105 for five years from Storey Brothers & Co.
- (2) The Manchester Donations include £1105 from the late John Fernley, Esq.; £1000 from the late Robert Barnes, Esq.; and £1000 from William Atkinson, Esq. (3) The Liverpool Donations include £1000 from Mrs. Chas. Turner.

- (4) The Bradford Donations include £5105 from the late Sir Titus Salt, Bart.
 (5) The Rochdale Donations include £525 from Richard Hurst, Esq.; £525 from the late Henry Kelsall, Esq.; £525 from the late Henry Kelsall, junr., Esq.; £500 from John Fielden, Esq., Todmorden; £500 from John Fielden, Esq., M.P., Todmorden; and £500 from Samuel Fielden, Esq., Todmorden.
 (6) The Leeds Donations include £1053 10s from Massey Leebus Teller and Company for the late Henry Kelsall, junr., Esq.; £500 from John Fielden, Esq., Todmorden.
- (6) The Leeds Donations include £1052 10s. from Messrs. Joshua Tetley and Son: £525 from Mr. and Mrs. Arthur Lupton; and £500 from the late Miss Dawson, of Bramhope Manor, Otley.
- (7) The Halifax Donations include £525 from Joshua Appleyard, Esq.
 (8) The Preston Donations include £525 from Richard Newsham, Esq.
- (9) The Cumberland Donations include £525 from Thomas Ainsworth, Esq., (Cleator); and £500 from the Right Hon. Lord Muncaster, M.P.
- (10) The Kendal Donations include £650 from W. H. Wakefield, Esq.; and £400 from the late John Wakefield, Esq.
- (11) The York Donations include £1000 from A Friend, per Wm. Gray, Esq.
- (12) The Oldham Donations include £631 5s. from Asa Lees, Esq.
 (13) The Wakefield Donations include £520 from the late Daniel Gaskell, Esq.

ESSAYS AND STORIES

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1878.