

**Annual report of the Committee of Visitors of the County of Warwick  
Pauper Lunatic Asylum : for the year 1868.**

**Contributors**

County of Warwick Pauper Lunatic Asylum.  
Parsey, W. H.  
Sanders, P. P.

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ANNUAL REPORT  
OF  
THE COMMITTEE OF VISITORS  
OF THE  
COUNTY OF WARWICK  
PAUPER LUNATIC ASYLUM.

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FOR THE YEAR 1868.

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A LIST OF  
THE COMMITTEE OF VISITORS,  
APPOINTED AT THE EPIPHANY SESSIONS, 1869.

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# ANNUAL REPORT

## OF THE

### COMMITTEE OF VISITORS.

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IN publishing, as has been customary, Dr. PARSEY's Annual Report of the state and condition of the Asylum during the past Year, the Committee of Visitors have to state that the Asylum was visited on 12th May last by two of the Commissioners in Lunacy, who, after commenting in detail upon various points relating to the Asylum, conclude their Report in these words:—"There is, nevertheless, even now a little crowding on the male side, where 200 patients would be the fair complement, the present number being 206; and on the female side there are only 17 vacant beds. We bring away from this visit a confirmed impression of Dr. PARSEY's efficient discharge of every part of his duties in the Asylum; and in Mr. NELL he appears to have found an excellent assistant."

The Committee also desire to express their satisfaction with the general management of the Asylum; and their continued confidence in Dr. PARSEY, the resident Medical Superintendent; in Miss RAYNES, the Matron; and in Mr. SANDERS, the Clerk and Steward.



## DR. PARSEY'S REPORT.

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IN my Annual Report to the Committee, on the condition of this Asylum and movements of the patients, presented a twelvemonth back, I was able, for the first time since its opening, to state that, instead of an increase, there had been a diminution in the numbers during the year 1867. This apparently favourable result, however, only compensated the excessive increase of the preceding year, which was more than double the average. During the year just closed there has been an addition of ten, viz., four males and six females, of whom three males and one female are absent from the Asylum on trial. But, though at the present date the number of males provided for within the Asylum is only one higher than it was at the end of 1867, there have been periods within the year when we have been called on to accommodate several more; and to this condition I beg specially to call the attention of the Committee, as it involves the serious consequence of having had the male department not merely full, but crowded; and, unless prompt steps can be taken to relieve this condition, I am afraid that, in addition to the risks run in case of the supervention of any epidemic, you may, at no very distant period, be obliged to refuse, at least for a time, further admission to male patients. Already for many months it has been necessary to require of the relieving officers that they make enquiry whether there is room before a male patient is brought here, as at times every room and every bed has been occupied; and, to obtain the accommodation that has hitherto been afforded, the average sleeping space for patients in dormitories has been obliged to be curtailed from 48 square feet and 576 cubic feet per patient to 42 square and 485 cubic feet. The annual increase of male patients for several years has not been so great as to lead to the conclusion that extensive additions would be necessary to enable you to provide for all cases of active insanity which are likely, in the present state of the population of this county,\*

\* In that portion of the Aston Union within the county of Warwick the population is, however, rapidly on the increase.



to require care here; but every idiot, and every person afflicted with chronic insanity, just bad enough to demand rather more judicious care and treatment than can be administered in his own home, or in the wards of an ordinary workhouse, and who, consequently, has to be removed here, occupies important space for the rest of his life, and constitutes in the aggregate the real cause of the inadequate accommodation afforded by the present building.

The male congenital idiots now in the Asylum number from forty to forty-five; and, could these, or the least offensive of them, and some few others, who have passed into a state of mental decay in no way different from the imperfect development of idiocy, be drafted into a less costly building, any structural addition to the main Asylum would probably be rendered unnecessary for at least many years. I am aware that for nearly two years past the erection of some such less costly annex to this Asylum has been under your consideration; but the urgent want of space in the present building, and the risk that would be run from over-crowding, should we be unfortunately visited by any epidemic disease, induce me again respectfully to press upon your Committee the necessity for immediate action.

The remarks that I have made on the male department apply with somewhat less force to the female, in which there is still sufficient accommodation to meet all immediate demands, though not sufficient to meet probable ordinary future demands.

The general results of the year just closed will, I hope, not contrast unfavourably with those of any preceding one. The following Table shows the movements of the patients:—

	M.	F.	Total.
In the Asylum 1st of January, 1868, including			
those out on trial .. .. .	201	227	428
Admitted during the year:—			
	M.	F.	T.
For first time .. .. .	37	40	77
Not first time .. .. .	7	11	18
Total number under treatment .. .. .	245	278	523
Recovered .. .. .	21	20	41
Relieved.. .. .	1	1	2
Died .. .. .	18	24	42
Average daily number under treatment .. .. .	205	231	436
Numbers on 31st December, 1868, including			
those on trial .. .. .	205	233	438

From which are obtained the deductions—that the admissions are about



the average; the recoveries (slightly over 43 per cent. on the admissions) are higher than those of any year since the opening of the Asylum, except 1867; and the mortality (slightly over 9½ per cent. on the average number under treatment) is below the average of Asylums.

Of those admitted four have been congenital idiots, and seven have had their insanity complicated with epilepsy; five, all males, were transferred from the Criminal Asylum at Broadmoor, having been previously for many years confined in criminal lunatic asylums; and one man was sent from the County Gaol, and has since been transferred to the Asylum for the county of Devon, in which county he has his legal settlement; and of the whole number received during the year, 53 may be classified as probably curable, and 42 incurable, at the time of admission. The recoveries have been numerically nearly equal in the two sexes; but, as compared with the admissions, are 47¾ per cent. of males and 39¼ per cent. of females. Last year the females preponderated in a marked degree over the males. Of those discharged relieved, one was transferred to another asylum; the other, a female, was, at the earliest solicitation of her relatives, discharged to their care, on their giving the legal guarantee that she should be properly taken care of, and not again become chargeable to any parish or union; she was, however, re-admitted, about six months afterwards, as an ordinary patient from her Union, in much the same mental condition as when discharged.

Of the total deaths of the year, fifteen were the result of disease of the brain or nervous system; five females succumbed to the exhausting effects of acute mental disease; three males and seven females were of ages at death varying from 72 to 86 years; leaving only twelve to be accounted for by the ordinary diseases of adult life. The youngest that died was a boy twelve years old; and the average age at death was of males 47 years, of females 56½ years.

The effects of the excessive heat of last summer told upon the population of this Asylum as unfavourably as it did on the community at large; the latter part of the summer and early autumn being characterised by much general illness, and by a mortality in the months of August and September exceeding a fourth part of that of the whole year—the season being peculiarly fatal to aged people of low vital power.

Among what may be considered the accidental causes of death were this year two from epileptics turning on their face during the fit, and one from a paralytic patient choking from food getting into the wind-



pipe. The death of another patient was hastened by a serious, though by no means necessarily fatal accident: he was an elderly man (about 66), who had twice previously been under treatment here: on all three occasions he had acute paroxysmal mania, with marked proclivity to self-destruction. On the second afternoon after this his last admission, whilst taking exercise in an airing court, he suddenly rushed against the wall with such impetuosity as to break his collar bone and one rib. He died seven days afterwards. The acute mental condition, extensive disease in the structure of the brain, and the accident, all combined to cause his death. An attendant was within a few yards of him when he rushed at the wall, but was not quick enough to prevent the concussion.

In this summary of the movements of the patients with regard to admissions, removals, and deaths, I have given the real history of the Asylum for the past year; as, in ordinary detail of management and treatment, there has been nothing to make a distinction between this and former years. The same system of useful occupation and amusement, that has been found so advantageously to supplement medical and hygienic treatment, has been carried on as before; and as much variety as can be accomplished has been made to diversify the amusements. Perhaps in this year, more than in any preceding one, I have been able to extend to a large number of patients the privilege of passing the day with friends in the neighbourhood, or at their more distant homes; and, were occasion to call for it, I should ask your Committee to allow me, in some few instances, to extend the leave of absence to two or more days. Of the useful occupations of the patients I have spoken in former years, especially of the value of the labour of the male patients in painting, colouring, papering, or otherwise ornamenting the different parts of the interior of the building—on the male side almost entirely unaided by any guidance but that of their ordinary attendants, and on the female with but little paid help. As another illustration of the value of the work done by the inmates, I may mention that during the past year there have been made by the tailor-attendant, and the patients working under his direction, 246 men's jackets, 222 pairs of trousers, 171 waistcoats, 167 men's caps, 28 attendants' jackets, besides sundry mattress cases, strong rugs and clothing, and night boots for warmth for those restless at night; in addition to all the repairs of men's clothing for the year. And the shoemaker, with his helping patients, has made 178 pairs of boots, and repaired nearly 1,200 pairs. In the other trades it is not so easy to give



a correct estimate of all work performed without entering into tedious and useless detail; but I must not forget to say that the women in their usefulness are in no way behind the men. And it is satisfactory to know that though the pecuniary results of the industry of the more capable patients must be undoubted, they are as nothing compared with the mental improvement and personal comfort that accrue both to the workers and to their mentally less-favoured fellow inmates, by this useful exercise of their imperfect and disordered faculties; for in an Asylum of this nature more than in any other institution does useful employment signify, *pro tanto*, absence of mischievous employment, suppression of general discomfort, and control of perverted troublesome propensities.

The principal staff of the Asylum remains as in late preceding years, there having been no changes.

Among the attendants and servants there have been more than the full proportion of changes incident to a large establishment, caused by marriage (5), sickness (1), inefficiency (1), wish for change (1), and dismissal for drunkenness and misconduct (1). The general conduct of the attendants and servants has been satisfactory and efficient; and I hope it may be the good fortune of myself and those associated with me in the higher offices of the Asylum to have acquitted ourselves, in the exercise of our duties, to the satisfaction of your Committee.

W. H. PARSEY, M.D.

1st JANUARY, 1869.



## CAUSES OF DEATH DURING THE YEAR 1868.

Causes of Death.	M.	F.	T.
Apoplexy .....	1	0	1
Epilepsy .....	2	4	6
General Paralysis .....	1	1	2
Chronic disorganization of Brain .....	4	2	6
Maniacal Exhaustion .....	0	5	5
Phthisis.....	4	1	5
Pneumonia .....	1	1	2
Heart Disease .....	0	1	1
General Decay .....	0	1	1
"    "    with Chronic Bronchitis .....	1	0	1
"    "    "    Diarrhoea .....	0	1	1
Decay of age .....	1	5	6
"    "    with Diarrhoea .....	1	1	2
"    "    "    Cerebral Effusion .....	0	1	1
Fracture of Clavicle and one Rib—Disease of Brain .....	1	0	1
Choking from Food in Windpipe .....	1	0	1
Total .....	18	24	42

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LENGTH OF RESIDENCE OF THOSE RECOVERED  
AND DIED DURING 1868.

| Length of Residence.           | Recovered. |    |    | Died. |    |    |
|--------------------------------|------------|----|----|-------|----|----|
|                                | M.         | F. | T. | M.    | F. | T. |
| Under 1 month .....            | 0          | 0  | 0  | 1     | 5  | 6  |
| From 1 to 3 months .....       | 7          | 3  | 10 | 1     | 1  | 2  |
| "    3    "    6    "    ..... | 5          | 7  | 12 | 2     | 1  | 3  |
| "    6    "    9    "    ..... | 3          | 6  | 9  | 3     | 1  | 4  |
| "    9    "    12   "    ..... | 2          | 2  | 4  | 1     | 1  | 2  |
| "    1   "    2 years .....    | 3          | 2  | 5  | 1     | 2  | 3  |
| "    2   "    3    "    .....  | 1          | 0  | 1  | 2     | 4  | 6  |
| "    3   "    5    "    .....  | 0          | 0  | 0  | 1     | 1  | 2  |
| "    5   "    7    "    .....  | 0          | 0  | 0  | 1     | 3  | 4  |
| "    7   "    10   "    .....  | 0          | 0  | 0  | 3     | 2  | 5  |
| "    10  "    15   "    .....  | 0          | 0  | 0  | 1     | 1  | 2  |
| Over 15      "    .....        | 0          | 0  | 0  | 1     | 2  | 3  |
| Total .....                    | 21         | 20 | 41 | 18    | 24 | 42 |

# DURATION OF DISORDER ON ADMISSION, &c.

| Class.                                                             | On Admission. |    |    | Recovered. |    |    | Removed, Relieved,<br>or otherwise. |    |    | Died. |    |    |
|--------------------------------------------------------------------|---------------|----|----|------------|----|----|-------------------------------------|----|----|-------|----|----|
|                                                                    | M.            | F. | T. | M.         | F. | T. | M.                                  | F. | T. | M.    | F. | T. |
| <b>FIRST CLASS:—</b>                                               |               |    |    |            |    |    |                                     |    |    |       |    |    |
| First attack, and within 3 months on admission .....               | 12            | 17 | 29 | 7          | 8  | 15 | 0                                   | 1  | 1  | 2     | 3  | 5  |
| <b>SECOND CLASS:—</b>                                              |               |    |    |            |    |    |                                     |    |    |       |    |    |
| First attack, above 3 and within 12 months on admission .....      | 5             | 4  | 9  | 4          | 1  | 5  | 0                                   | 0  | 0  | 5     | 3  | 8  |
| <b>THIRD CLASS:—</b>                                               |               |    |    |            |    |    |                                     |    |    |       |    |    |
| Not first attack, and within 12 months on admission .....          | 9             | 13 | 22 | 5          | 7  | 12 | 0                                   | 0  | 0  | 3     | 2  | 5  |
| <b>FOURTH CLASS:—</b>                                              |               |    |    |            |    |    |                                     |    |    |       |    |    |
| First attack or not, but of more than 12 months on admission ..... | 15            | 17 | 32 | 3          | 4  | 7  | 0                                   | 0  | 0  | 8     | 16 | 24 |
| Not known .....                                                    | 3             | 0  | 3  | 2          | 0  | 2  | 1                                   | 0  | 0  | 0     | 0  | 0  |
| <b>Total .....</b>                                                 | 44            | 51 | 95 | 21         | 20 | 41 | 1                                   | 1  | 2  | 18    | 24 | 42 |



AGES OF THOSE ADMITTED, DISCHARGED, AND DIED,  
DURING 1868.

| Ages.                   | Admitted. |    |    | Discharged. |    |    |                       |    |    | Died. |    |    |
|-------------------------|-----------|----|----|-------------|----|----|-----------------------|----|----|-------|----|----|
|                         |           |    |    | Recovered.  |    |    | Removed,<br>Relieved. |    |    |       |    |    |
|                         | M.        | F. | T. | M.          | F. | T. | M.                    | F. | T. | M.    | F. | T. |
| From 10 to 15 years     | 0         | 0  | 0  | 0           | 0  | 0  | 0                     | 0  | 0  | 1     | 0  | 1  |
| "    15    "    20    " | 2         | 4  | 6  | 2           | 0  | 2  | 0                     | 0  | 0  | 0     | 2  | 2  |
| "    20    "    30    " | 6         | 12 | 18 | 1           | 6  | 7  | 1                     | 0  | 1  | 3     | 1  | 4  |
| "    30    "    40    " | 10        | 11 | 21 | 7           | 4  | 11 | 0                     | 1  | 1  | 4     | 1  | 5  |
| "    40    "    50    " | 8         | 7  | 15 | 7           | 2  | 9  | 0                     | 0  | 0  | 2     | 4  | 6  |
| "    50    "    60    " | 6         | 11 | 17 | 1           | 5  | 6  | 0                     | 0  | 0  | 2     | 5  | 7  |
| "    60    "    70    " | 9         | 5  | 14 | 3           | 2  | 5  | 0                     | 0  | 0  | 3     | 4  | 7  |
| "    70    "    80    " | 3         | 1  | 4  | 0           | 1  | 1  | 0                     | 0  | 0  | 3     | 5  | 8  |
| "    80    "    90    " | 0         | 0  | 0  | 0           | 0  | 0  | 0                     | 0  | 0  | 0     | 2  | 2  |
| Total .....             | 44        | 51 | 95 | 21          | 20 | 41 | 1                     | 1  | 2  | 18    | 24 | 42 |

CONDITION AS TO MARRIAGE OF THOSE ADMITTED,  
DISCHARGED, AND DIED IN 1868.

|               | Admitted. |    |    | Discharged. |    |    |           |    |    | Died. |    |    |
|---------------|-----------|----|----|-------------|----|----|-----------|----|----|-------|----|----|
|               |           |    |    | Recovered.  |    |    | Relieved. |    |    |       |    |    |
|               | M.        | F. | T. | M.          | F. | T. | M.        | F. | T. | M.    | F. | T. |
| Single .....  | 18        | 25 | 43 | 7           | 7  | 14 | 1         | 1  | 2  | 6     | 8  | 14 |
| Married ..... | 24        | 20 | 44 | 13          | 9  | 22 | 0         | 0  | 0  | 9     | 10 | 19 |
| Widowed ..... | 2         | 6  | 8  | 1           | 4  | 5  | 0         | 0  | 0  | 3     | 6  | 9  |

## STATEMENT,

*Showing the Total Maintenance Expenses for the Year ending  
31st December, 1868.*

THE AVERAGE NUMBER OF PATIENTS IN THE ASYLUM FOR THE  
YEAR 1868 WAS 436.

AVERAGE WEEKLY COST OF MAINTENANCE, MEDICINE, CLOTHING,  
AND CARE OF PATIENTS DURING THE YEAR 1868.

|                                                                                                         | Total Cost for<br>the Year. |    |                  | Cost per Head<br>per Week. |    |                 |
|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------|----|------------------|----------------------------|----|-----------------|
|                                                                                                         | £.                          | s. | d.               | £.                         | s. | d.              |
| Salaries and Wages .....                                                                                | 2,006                       | 3  | 7                | 0                          | 1  | 9 $\frac{1}{2}$ |
| Provisions (including all articles of Diet,<br>excepting Wine and Spirits) .....                        | 5,199                       | 12 | 5                | 0                          | 4  | 6 $\frac{3}{4}$ |
| Wine and Spirits .....                                                                                  | 39                          | 4  | 0                | 0                          | 0  | 0 $\frac{3}{8}$ |
| Necessaries (Fuel, Lighting, Washing, &c.) .....                                                        | 1,496                       | 9  | 9                | 0                          | 1  | 3 $\frac{3}{4}$ |
| Surgery and Dispensary .....                                                                            | 59                          | 19 | 1                | 0                          | 0  | 0 $\frac{5}{8}$ |
| Clothing .....                                                                                          | 754                         | 18 | 6                | 0                          | 0  | 8               |
| Furniture and Bedding .....                                                                             | 457                         | 16 | 10               | 0                          | 0  | 4 $\frac{5}{4}$ |
| Funeral Expenses .....                                                                                  | 27                          | 5  | 1                | 0                          | 0  | 0 $\frac{1}{4}$ |
| Garden and Farm .....                                                                                   | 539                         | 0  | 2 $\frac{1}{2}$  | 0                          | 0  | 5 $\frac{5}{8}$ |
| Rates and Taxes .....                                                                                   | 9                           | 0  | 10 $\frac{1}{2}$ | 0                          | 0  | 0 $\frac{1}{8}$ |
| Miscellaneous—Books, Advertising, Print-<br>ing, Stationery, Postages, Travelling<br>Expenses, &c. .... | 153                         | 7  | 9                | 0                          | 0  | 1 $\frac{5}{8}$ |
|                                                                                                         | 10,742                      | 18 | 1                | 0                          | 9  | 5               |
| Less Receipts from Sales of Produce,<br>Labour, &c. ....                                                | 350                         | 5  | 2                | 0                          | 0  | 3 $\frac{1}{4}$ |
|                                                                                                         | £10,392                     | 12 | 11               | 0                          | 9  | 1 $\frac{1}{4}$ |

Total Average Weekly Cost per Head ... .. s. d.  
9 1 $\frac{1}{4}$

|                                                                                       |  | s. | d.              |
|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--|----|-----------------|
| Weekly Charge for Paupers from Counties or Boroughs to<br>which Asylum belongs ... .. |  | 9  | 0 $\frac{1}{2}$ |
| Ditto ditto from other Counties or Boroughs ... ..                                    |  | 14 | 0               |
| Ditto ditto for Private Patients ... ..                                               |  | 11 | 1               |



## GENERAL

*Of Receipts and Payments on the Maintenance and Building*

## RECEIPTS.

## MAINTENANCE ACCOUNT.

|                                                                                     | £.     | s. | d.  | £.     | s. | d. |
|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------|----|-----|--------|----|----|
| Balance in hand ... ..                                                              | 191    | 16 | 8   |        |    |    |
| From Sales of Produce, &c. ... ..                                                   | 350    | 5  | 2   |        |    |    |
| „ Pauper Patients from Counties and<br>Boroughs to which Asylum be-<br>longs ... .. | 10,133 | 12 | 10½ |        |    |    |
| „ Pauper Patients from other Counties<br>and Boroughs ... ..                        | 6      | 0  | 0   |        |    |    |
| „ Private Patients ... ..                                                           | 202    | 16 | 6   |        |    |    |
|                                                                                     |        |    |     | 10,884 | 11 | 2½ |

## BUILDING ACCOUNT.

|                   |       |    |   |
|-------------------|-------|----|---|
| From Rates ... .. | 3,785 | 14 | 6 |
|-------------------|-------|----|---|

Balance due to Treasurer 31st December 306 6 8

£14,976 12 4½

## STATEMENT

*Accounts from the 1st of Jan. to the 31st of Dec., 1868.*

## PAYMENTS.

## MAINTENANCE ACCOUNT.

|                                                                                                           | £.    | s. | d.  | £.     | s. | d. |
|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------|----|-----|--------|----|----|
| Salaries and Wages ... ..                                                                                 | 2,006 | 3  | 7   |        |    |    |
| Provisions (including all articles of Diet<br>excepting Wine and Spirits) ... ..                          | 5,199 | 12 | 5   |        |    |    |
| Wine and Spirits ... ..                                                                                   | 39    | 4  | 0   |        |    |    |
| Necessaries (Fuel, Light, Washing, &c.) ...                                                               | 1,496 | 9  | 9   |        |    |    |
| Surgery and Dispensary ... ..                                                                             | 59    | 19 | 1   |        |    |    |
| Clothing ... ..                                                                                           | 754   | 18 | 6   |        |    |    |
| Furniture and Bedding ... ..                                                                              | 457   | 16 | 10  |        |    |    |
| Funeral Expenses ... ..                                                                                   | 27    | 5  | 1   |        |    |    |
| Garden and Farm ... ..                                                                                    | 539   | 0  | 2½  |        |    |    |
| Rates and Taxes ... ..                                                                                    | 9     | 0  | 10½ |        |    |    |
| Miscellaneous—Books, Advertising, Print-<br>ing, Stationery, Postages, Travelling<br>Expenses, &c. ... .. | 153   | 7  | 9   |        |    |    |
|                                                                                                           |       |    |     | 10,742 | 18 | 1  |

## BUILDING ACCOUNT.

|                             |       |    |     |         |    |    |
|-----------------------------|-------|----|-----|---------|----|----|
| Building and Repairs ... .. | 585   | 14 | 11½ |         |    |    |
| Loan and Interest ... ..    | 3,647 | 19 | 4   |         |    |    |
|                             |       |    |     | 4,233   | 14 | 3½ |
| Total Payments ... ..       |       |    |     | £14,976 | 12 | 4½ |

SIR R. N. C. HAMILTON, BART., }  
J. T. ARKWRIGHT, ESQ., } AUDITORS.

P. P. SANDERS, *Clerk.*

\*\*\* *For Building Loan Account, see next Page.*



## BUILDING LOAN ACCOUNT.

|                                               | £.      | s. | d. |
|-----------------------------------------------|---------|----|----|
| Amount of Money borrowed from the ECONOMIC    |         |    |    |
| ASSURANCE COMPANY ... ..                      | 55,000  | 0  | 0  |
| Paid off ... ..                               | 31,166  | 13 | 4  |
| Balance remaining due 31st December, 1868 ... | £23,833 | 6  | 8  |