Thirty-fourth annual report of the resident physician of the Belfast District Hospital for the Insane Poor of the counties of Antrim and Down, and the county of the town of Carrickfergus : from 1st April, 1863, to the 31st March, 1864.

Contributors

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THIRTY-FOURTH ANNUAL REPOR

THE RESIDENT PHYSICIAN

OF

OF THE

BELFAST DISTRICT

Hospital for the Insane Poor

OF THE

COUNTIES OF ANTRIM AND DOWN, AND THE COUNTY OF THE TOWN OF CARRICKFERGUS,

FROM 1ST APRIL, 1863, TO 31ST MARCH, 1864.

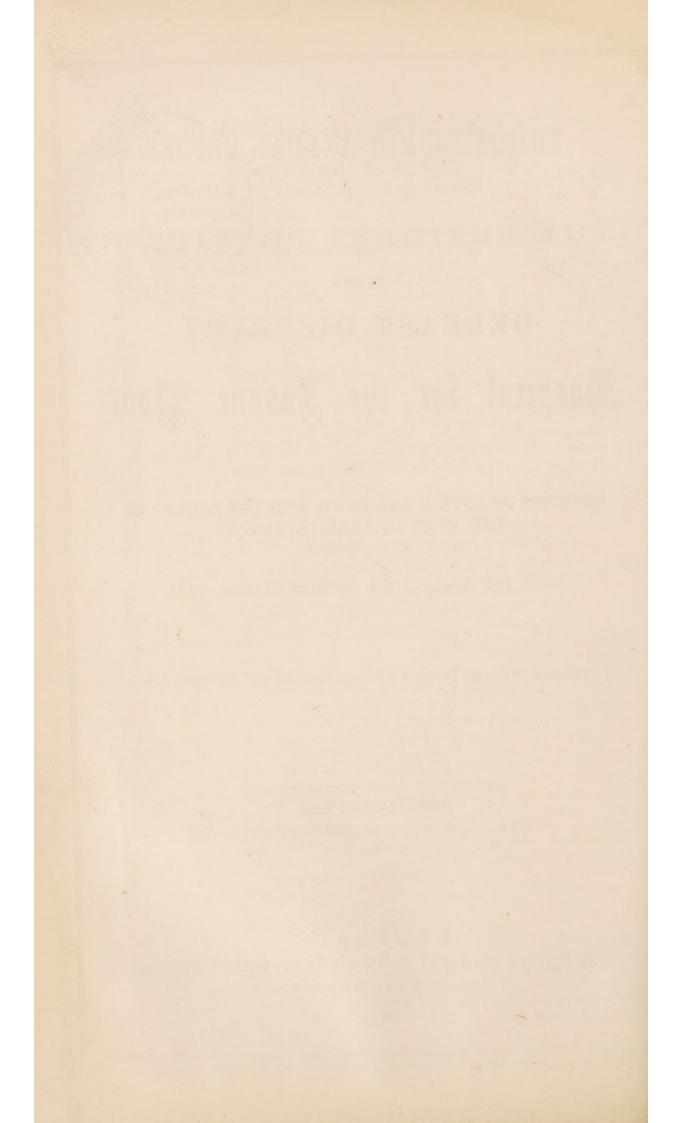
[ORDERED BY THE BOARD OF GOVERNORS TO BE PRINTED.]

ESTABLISHED 1829.

BELFAST:

PRINTED AT THE DAILY "NORTHERN WHIG" OFFICE, CALENDER STREET.

1864.



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GOVERNORS

OF

The Belfast District Bospital for the Insane,

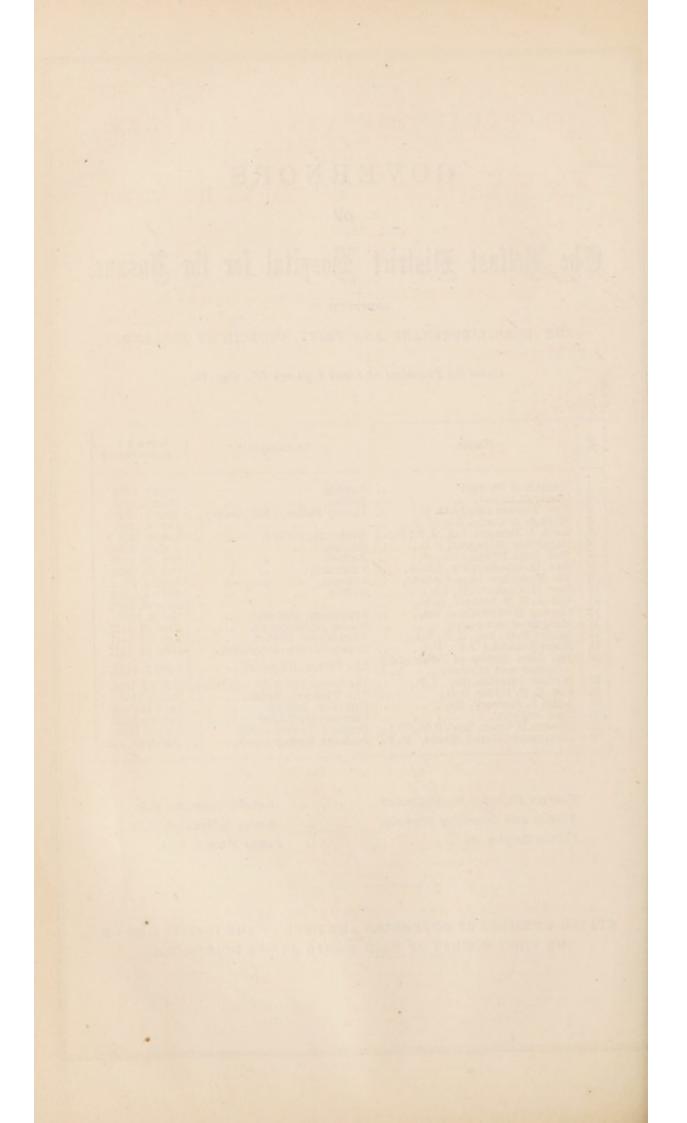
APPOINTED BY

THE LORD LIEUTENANT AND PRIVY COUNCIL OF IRELAND.

Under the Provisions of 1 and 2 George IV., Cap. 33.

No.	NAME.	RESIDENCE.	DATE OF Appointment.	
$\begin{array}{c}1\\1\\2\\3\\4\\5\\6\\7\\8\\9\\10\\11\\12\\13\\14\\15\\16\\17\\18\\9\\20\\21\\22\end{array}$	Marquis of Donegal, Mayor of Belfast,	Belfast, Finvoy Rectory, Ballymoney, Rushpark, Belfast, Belfast, Dunmurry, Lisburn, Belfast, Sydenham, Belfast, Castle, Hillsborough, Purdysburn, Belfast, Crawfordsburn, Holywood, The Palace, Holywood, Richmond Lodge, County Down, The Vicarage, Belfast, Duncairn, Belfast, Duncairn, Belfast, Belfast, Clandeboye, Belfast, Belmont, County Down,	March, 1829. March, 1829. March, 1829. Jan. 4, 1836. Jan. 4, 1836. Jan. 4, 1836. Oct. 28, 1836. Oct. 28, 1836. Oct. 28, 1836. Oct. 28, 1836. April 4, 1842. July 13, 1842. July 13, 1842. July 13, 1842. July 13, 1847. Nov. 16, 1847. Nov. 16, 1847. Nov. 16, 1847. April 9, 1850. May 22, 1851. June 15 1852. Dec. 10 1855. Jan. 59 1856. March 26, 1862.	

STATED MEETINGS OF GOVERNORS ARE HELD AT THE INSTITUTION ON THE FIRST MONDAY OF EACH MONTH AT ONE OCLOCK P.M.



THIRTY-FOURTH ANNUAL REPORT

OF

The Belfast District Hospital for the Insane,

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31st MARCH, 1864.

Table I-General Stat				admissio	ons &c.	
	Males	Females	Total	Males		
In House on 1st April, 1863,				200	161	361
Admitted since, New Cases,						
Relapses,	7		16			
	-			45	47	92
Total under Treatment duri	ng the	e year,		245	208	453
Discharged Recovered,	29	23	52			
Do. Relieved,			19			
Died,	8	4	12			
	-	-		45	38	83
Remaining under Treatment	on 31	lst Marcl	h, 1864	, 200	170	370
				Males	Females	
The total Admissions during						92
Do. for the preceding yea	ar,			38		82
Daily Average Number of Pa	atient	s during	the ye	ar,		366.02
Do. for the preceding yes	ar,					362.90
Per centage of Recoveries	and	Relieved	t on t	he		No. and No.
Average Daily Number un						19.39
Do. for the preceding yes	ar,					19.01
Do. on year's total Admi	ssions	3				
Do. for the preceding year Average per centage of Deat	ar,	the total	Numh		•••	22.59
under Treatment during t						2.64
Do. for the preceding yes						
Do. on the Average Daily	v Nur	nher dur	ing the	vear		3.27
Do. for the preceding ye	ar	mber um	ing the	c year,		3.85
"Dangerous Lunatics" adm	nitted	by Way	rrants	of		0.00
the Lord Lieutenant durin	gthe	year (as e				
in the year's total Admiss	sions),	viz :				
		s Females		Males	Female	s Total
From County Antrim Jail,			5			
From County Down Jail,	5	1	6			
			-	9	2	11
Average Annual Expense of	each	Patient	for the	past)	010	11 0
year, including every char	ge,			· }	£18	11 0
year, including every char Do. for the previous ye	ear,				18	
Total Expenditure for the ye	ear en	ded 31st	March	, 1863,	6,790	17 3
Do. for the ye					6,847	
Net Profit on Farm and Gar	den.				£299	17 9
Do. for the previous y					260	
Free Pression of	,					

		Males	Females	Total
Under 20 years,	 	 6	1	7
20 to 30 years,	 	 23	12	$\frac{35}{15}$
30 to 40 "	 	 6	9	
40 to 50 "	 	 7	13	$ \begin{array}{c} 20 \\ 12 \end{array} $
50 to 60 "	 	 3	9	12
60 to 70 "	 	 0	3	3
Totals,	 	 45	47	92

Table II.-Ages of the 92 Patients admitted during the year ending 31st March, 1864.

Table III.-Alleged Causes of Insanity as given in the Printed Forms, in the 92 Cases admitted during the year ended 31st March, 1864.

					Males	Females	Total
Ambition,					1	0	1
Bodily Ailments					3	5	8
Child Birth,				*	0	1	1
Deformity of Ch	ild afte	r Birth,			0	1	1
Fever,					0	1	1
T3 1 1 1					6	2	8
Grief, Disappoin			2	6	8		
Hereditary,					1	2	3
Imagination,					6	2	8
Intemperance,					1	0	1
* 1					1	1	2
Love of Money,					0	1	1
0 01 I					3	0	3
Puerperal Condi					0	1	1
Religious Excite					3	7	10
Seduction,					0	1	1
Totally Unknow					18	16	34
round onnon	,						
To	FALS,				45	47	92

Table IV.-Forms of Disease in the 92 Patients admitted during the year ended 31st March, 1864.

			Males	Females	Total
Mania,		 	 30	28	58
Melancholia,		 	 10	15	25
Monomania,		 	 5	4	9
Т	OTALS,	 	 45	47	92

(9)

Table V.-Religion of the 92 Patients admitted during the year ended 31st March, 1864.

	Males	Females	Total
Methodists,	 0	1	1
Presbyterians, and Protestant Dissenters,	 22	18	40
Roman Catholics,	 13	13	26
United Church of England and Ireland,	 10	15	25
Totals,	 45	47	92

Table VI.-Social Condition of the 92 Patients admitted during the year ended 31st March, 1864.

			Males	Females	Total
Married,		 	 14	25	39
Single,		 	 31	19	50
Widows,		 	 0	3	3
T	OTALS,	 	 45	47	92

Table VII.-Occupations of the 92 cases admitted during the year ended 31st March, 1864.

				Males	Females	Total
			1	7	0	1
Book-keepers,			 	1		1
Carpenters,			 	3	0	3
Clerks,			 	2	0	2
Confectioners,			 	0	1	1
Dealers,			 	0	2	2
Dressmakers,			 	0	4	4
Farmers,			 	6	0	6
Housekeepers,			 	0	17	17
Labourers,			 	12	0	12
Linen Lappers,			 	2	0	2
Mechanics,			 	1	0	1
Millworkers,			 	2	1	3
Servants,			 	3	12	15
Shoemakers,			 	2	0	2
Tailors,			 	1	0	1
Teachers,			 	1	1	2
Weavers,			 	2	0	2
Without any kn				7	9	16
without any kn	IOWII	occupation,	 			
Tot	ALS,		 	45	47	92

			Males	Females	Total
No Education,		 	 1	8	9
Read only,		 	 4	9	13
Read and Write,		 	 38	28	66
Well Educated,		 	 2	2	4
Тота	ls,	 	 45	47	92

Table VIII.-Degree of Education in the 92 cases admitted during the year ended 31st March. 1864.

Table IX.-Ages of the 52 Patients Discharged Recovered during the year ended 31st March, 1864.

					Males	Females	Total
From	20	to 3	0 years,	 	 13	6	19
		to 4		 	 6	5	11
**	40	to 5	0 "	 	 5	5	10
"	50	to 6	0 "	 	 5	7	12
		T	OTALS,	 	 29	23	52

Table X.-Shewing the period of time the 52 Patients Discharged Recovered were under treatment, during the year ended 31st March, 1864.

			Males	Females	Total
Under	3 months,	 	 2	4	6
	3 to 6 months,	 	 8	6	14
"	6 to 12 "	 	 7	8	15
"	1 to 2 years,	 	 5	1	6
"	2 to 5 "	 	 6	3	9
"	5 to 10 "	 	 1	1	2
	TOTALS,	 	 29	23	52

Table XI.—Ages of the 12 Patients who Died during the year ended 31st March, 1864.

				Males	Females	Tota
From	20 to 30 3	years,	 	 1	1	2
**	30 to 40	"	 	 0	1	1
"	40 to 50	"	 	 2	2	4
"	50 to 60	"	 	 2	0	2
**	60 to 70	**	 	 2	0	2
"	70 to 80	"	 	 1	0	1
	Tor	ALS,	 	 8	4	12

(11)

DURATION OF DISEASE.		OVERED RELIEVED		DIED.			
	Males	Females	Total	Males	Females	Total	
Under 3 months,	4	6	10	0	0	0	
From 3 to 6 months,	9	11	20	2	0	2	
" 6 to 12 months,	10	9	19	1	0		
" 1 to 2 years,	6	3	9	2	0	2	
" 2 to 5 "	6	4	10	0	1		
" 5 to 10 "	2	1	3	0	3	3	
" 10 to 20 "	0	0	0	1	0	1	
" 20 to 30 "	0	0	0	2	0	2	
Totals,	37	34	71	8	4	12	

Table XII.—Shewing the Duration of Disease in the 83 Patients Discharged Recovered, Relieved, and who Died, during the year ended March 31, 1864.

Table XIII .- Employment during the year ended 31st March, 1864.

			Males	Females	Total
Assisting Servants,			 14	11	25
Basket Making,			 2	0	2
Breaking Freestone,			 3	0	3
Cultivating the Farm,			 80	0	80
Embroidering,			 0	4	4
Gardening Labour,			 5	0	5
Knitting,			 1	30	31
Making and Repairing C			4	16	20
Making and Repairing S.			 2	0	2
Pumping Water,			 24	0	24
Smith Work,			1	0	1
	•••	•••	 ō	24	24
Spinning,	Coole A		 27	0	27
Sweeping Yards, Carryin	-		 2	0	2
Tailoring,			 3	24	27
			 6	0	6
Warping, Weaving, and	winding,		 0	U	0
TOTALS,			 174	109	283

Table XIV .- Shewing the State of the Cases remaining on 31st March, 1864.

	-		Males	Females	Tot 1
Chronic Cases, Probably Curable Cases,			 $\begin{array}{c}140\\60\end{array}$	$\begin{array}{c}104\\66\end{array}$	$\begin{array}{c} 244\\ 126 \end{array}$
TOTALS,			 200	170	370

			Males	Females	Total
Dementia,		 	6	7	13
Mania,		 	132	106	238
Do. Complicated	with Epilepsy,	 	12	10	22
Melancholia,		 	33	25	58
Monomania,		 	17	22	39
TOTALS,		 	200	170	370

Table XV.—Forms of Disease of the Total Number of Patients remaining on 31st March, 1864.

Table XVI.-Shewing the Religious Persuasions of the 370 Patients remaining on 31st March, 1864.

				Males	Females	Total
Covenanters,				 3	0	3
Methodists,				 1	2	3
Presbyterians,				 80	54	134
Roman Catholics	з,			 60	65	125
Unitarians,				 1	1	2
United Church	of Engl	and and	Ireland,	 55	48	103
Тота	LS,			 200	170	370

Table XVII.-Obituary for the year ended 31st March, 1864.

Cause of Death.		General Debility, and refus- ing to take sufficient food.	Phthisis Pulmonalis. Epilepsy.	Apoplexy, complicated with Epilepsy.	General & gradual Debility.	Apoplexy.	Strangled by another Fa- tient. (Inquest).	Chronic Phthisis.	Hemiplegia.) Mania, complicated with Dvsenterv.	Disease of Heart.	General exhaustion of the vital powers, latterly com-	(purchase in the manual)
ite.	Days.	1		4	1	c1	20	C1 1	•	63	1	03	
Period an Inmate.	Yrs. Mos. Wks. Days.	0	c7 c7	00	¢1	0	٦	00	ŝ	I	days.	0	
Period a	. Mos.	1	6 19	61	3	3	4	9	0	1	1 less 4 days.	6	
	YIB	0	10 00	I	24	0	61	9	34	00	1	15	
Occupation.		Builder.	Sewer. Flowerer.	Farmer.	Sailor.	Labourer.	Mill-worker.	None.	Weaver.	Mill-worker.	Sawyer.	Soldier.	
Social State.		Married.	Single. Single.	Single.	Single.	Married.	Single.	Single.	Single.	Widow.	Married.	Married.	
Form of Insanity and alleged Exciting Cause.		Mania—Loss of Business.	Melancholia-Hereditary. Mania-Epilepsy.	Mania-Injury on Head.	Mania-Unknown.	Mania—A hurt from carrying hurdens	Mania-Unknown.	Mania-Unknown.	Mania-Intemperance.	Mania – Pecuniary embarrass-	Dementia-Jealousy.	Mania-Unknown.	
Age.		40	33 26	63	52	41	24	42	68	43	54	11	
Sex. Age.		M.	मम	W.	M.	M.	M.	E.	M.	F.	M.	M.	
No.		H	c3 50	4	20	9	1	00	6	10	11	12	

HEALTH OF INMATES.

The Establishment throughout the past year was remarkably healthy, as usual, any deviation from this condition having been of a comparatively trifling nature ; no serious attack of illness occurring but only such as might have been expected in any large community of individuals under ordinary circumstances.

DEATHS.

But twelve deaths (eight males, four females) are contained, it will be seen, in the past year's obituary, which, when averaged over the whole number under treatment during the year, makes the per centage less than three, a surprisingly low mortality, especially when it is kept in mind that the subjects of insanity easily succumb to direct attacks of physical disease, their power of resistance constitutionally being admittedly low. One of the year's deaths, besides, was entirely out of the ordinary course, having resulted from strangulation by another patient during the night when the deceased was asleep, in which case a coroner's inquest was held, and a verdict of "wilful murder" returned against the inmate charged with the act, and for which he was committed to gaol, and subsequently arraigned at the recently held Lent Assizes, but found incapable of being put upon his trial, being insane, and who will accordingly be confined for the future in the Dundrum Criminal Asylum. The following is the Report of the case as it appeared in the public press during the late Assizes :---

COURT-HOUSE, BELFAST, WEDNESDAY, 16TH MARCH, 1864. — William Smith was charged with the wilful murder of Thomas Fearon, in the Belfast District Hospital for the Insane.

Sir THOMAS STAPLES—I am instructed this man is in such a state of mind that he is incapable of pleading.

Judge FITZGERALD—Very well. We will send up an issue to that effect. A jury was then empanelled to find whether the prisoner was capable of pleading.

Dr. T. H. Purdon examined—I am physician to the gaol of this County. The prisoner has been under my charge since committed to the prison. From my observation and medical skill, I consider the prisoner of unsound mind, and incapable of doing a rational act. Prisoner-I disagree with you.

The jury found that the prisoner was incapable of pleading to the charge, and he was removed.

His LORDSHIP stated that he would be kept in safe custody during the remainder of his life.

Another had been but four weeks altogether in the House, having come under treatment in an entirely prostrated state, from long-continued refusal to take a sufficiency of food, and from the effects of which he gradually sunk. A third had been only three months an inmate, whose assigned cause of insanity was that of a hurt from carrying heavy burdens, and ultimately death supervened on an attack of an apoplectic nature. In a fourth case the deceased had been under treatment a little less than a year, and died suddenly from disease of the heart. The next shortest term was a male of fifteen months' standing, whose mental disease arose from an injury he had sustained on the head, and who was the subject of partial paralysis on admission, apoplexy being the immediate cause of death in this instance, complicated with his previous paralytic affection. Three others of the deceased males had been for lengthened periods receiving the benefits of the Institution, their periods respectively as residents being thirtyfour, twenty-four, and fifteen years. This last one was aged seventy-one, and had been engaged on the celebrated Field of Battle of Waterloo, being then a Private in an infantry regiment. He was always very amenable in his conduct, and disposed to be taciturn. During the last three years of his existence he was altogether confined to bed, from a generally enfeebled condition, but still taking all his meals regularly, with increased nourishment besides, until within a few days preceding his dissolution. He was admitted here from gaol by order of the Lord Lieutenant, having been tried for some minor offence, and acquitted on the ground of insanity. He appeared to have survived all with whom he might have been connected, never having been visited by any one during the lengthened period of his inmateship. There is nothing remarkable to be noted in either of the other inmates of such long treatment in the House, except that both were also silent to a degree, not speaking or entering into any conversation of themselves, and when spoken to scarcely making any answer : their ages were

sixty-eight and fifty-four. The four females who died during the year had been inmates eight and a-half years, six and a-half years, five years, and three and a-half years ; and the causes of their deaths, respectively, were Epilepsy, Chronic Bronchitis with Pulmonary Disease, Pulmonary Disease, and Exhaustion from continued Mania : their ages were twenty-six, forty-two, thirty-three, and forty-three. The oldest deceased male was seventy-one, and the youngest twenty-four. The oldest female was forty-three, and the youngest twenty-six. The average age of all, male and female, was forty-six and a-half years.

SUICIDAL AND HOMICIDAL PATIENTS.

There were nineteen suicidally-disposed patients in the admissions of the year—viz., five males and fourteen females. Two of the suicidal males attempted to cut their throats before admission, one to strangle himself, and two to drown themselves. The remainder threatened, but did not actually attempt, the suicidal act. Four of the females attempted self-destruction by submersion, two by hanging, two by precipitation from windows, one by poisoning, and one throwing herself over the balustrades of the stairs. The others had the suicidal intention strongly developed, but did not put it into practice.

The homicidal patients numbered fourteen, six of whom were males and eight females.

It is only to be repeated here, as in former Reports, that the above two classes of patients, more especially the first one, are a constant source of the greatest uneasiness and disquietude indeed, in some instances, nothing short of misery to those in their charge and responsible for their safety, for, let what will be done for their protection, some will accomplish the one fell object upon which they are bent, and which no ordinary human supervision, however constant or conscientious, could by any possibility prevent.

ACCOMMODATION.

During the past year the House was more crowded than during any time since its opening—the average daily number having been three hundred and sixty-six, whereas the proper accommodation is but for three hundred and thirty. The number at the present time on the books is three hundred and seventy-one, there being so many as forty-one in excess, which is a serious difficulty in the daily and general conduct of such an Institution. The outstanding cases in ordinary, awaiting admission as vacancies may fall in, are six, which is, of course, quite irrespective of those committed temporarily to the gaols of the district as "dangerous lunatics," of which class there are between thirty and forty in County Down Gaol, and seven in that of the County Antrim.

THE NEW DISTRICT HOSPITAL FOR THE INSANE AT DOWNPATRICK FOR THE COUNTY OF DOWN.

More than three years have now elapsed since the initiative was taken for the erection of this much-required Institution, and to the present time the only advance made, besides that of the purchase of the land and the completion and approval of the building plans, is that an advertisement has been published within the last few weeks for tenders for the building, which are required to be furnished next month for consideration; and, granting that one is then approved of, it can scarcely be hoped for that this new Hospital will be sufficiently completed for the transfer of its patients from this one before the expiration of two years more at the earliest.

IMPROVEMENTS.

Since last year the further extension of papering and panelling the walls of the corridors and covering the floors with matting has been gradually going on, and the degree of comfort and homeliness thus effected, together with the more contented appearance generally of the inmates, and their greater happiness under the circumstances of their much to be sympathised with condition, has been an ample return for the additional but comparatively trifling expenditure which has been thus incurred. Ornamenting the walls, too, with pictures, engravings, &c., is another advance in the right direction in the public Hospitals for the Insane, and this one of the number, which is productive of the best effects on the patients, thus affording new trains of thought, and adding greatly to the whole appearance and cheerfulness of the day rooms, &c. In the last issued able annual report of the Commissioners in Lunacy the following most judicious and well-conceived remarks on the importance of attending to such matters as the above in the internal economy of these establishments are so apposite, and so entirely *ad rem*, that they deserve the best consideration of all charged directly with the care of the Insane, as well as the widest publicity :---

"Generally we have to record during the past year, as to public Asylums, an increased attention on the part of those responsible for the care of the Insane, to the necessity, not merely of providing them with means for employment and recreation out of doors, but of surrounding them in their wards with small comforts of domestic furniture, making their dormitories more homelike by triffing outlay on carpeting and curtains, and putting into their galleries and day-rooms pictures and objects of ornament of an inexpensive kind, which may serve to engage their attention, occupy their thoughts, and exercise them in habits of care and self-control.

"The reasoning that would prescribe and justify in this respect a total absence of everything not strictly necessary, is now very little used. We have much less frequently to reply to the argument that the poor have not carpets and curtains in their homes. It is precisely because their homes too frequently are wanting in them, as well as in sufficiency of food, that hardly less than the better and more ample diet, these triffing luxuries are wanted in Asylums.

"It was with regret that, at the opening of the past year, we had to notice an exception to the now almost general mode of discussing these subjects in the instance of one of the large Metropolitan County Asylums. Having occasion to point out the bare and cheerless condition of the furniture in one of the wards, reply was made by a reference to the character and class of its inmates as belonging to the hopelessly idiotic and demented, by whom any comforts or attractiveness of furniture could not be properly appreciated, and to whom their presence would be simply an incentive to violence, and the too probable result a great destruction of property.

"We think it important thus publicly to state that this argument is directly opposed to the wide and various experience acquired by the members of this Commission during many years' incessant observation of all the Asylums in the Kingdom. There are individual exceptions, no doubt; but it is not within our experience that, as a class, any portion of the Insane are ever reduced so low as to be incapable of some measure of improvement. Nor is it less certain that improvement of any kind will never be effected in the worst patients by associations belonging to the habits that have degraded them. Influences directly contrasting with those habits constitute the only chance of redemption. It is upon the endeavour to open to them, in their darkened and deplorable condition, that glimmering prospect of something better from which humanity is never entirely shut out, that the chief expectation must rest of at last arousing in them anything allied to self-respect. *This* is the basis of all amendment, and it is for this that unceasing effort should be made."

GREEN HOUSE.

Dr. Hatchell having suggested in his Minute of Official Visitation in September last, that a Green House would be very desirable to erect on the premises for propagating geraniums, &c., to place in the day rooms, corridors, &c., and the Board having fully and unanimously approved of the suggestion as made by him, directions were given to carry the same into effect, and which, when completed, will, there is no doubt, be a most important and valuable addition, as well as ornament to the Establishment, in many respects.

OUTSIDE WALKS AND VISITS TO PUBLIC PLACES OF AMUSEMENT.

Frequently during the past year large parties, one hundred and upwards, as heretofore, of both sexes of the inmates have been taken out upon walking expeditions, which they always enjoy to the utmost, and whilst thus as it were on their parole behave themselves with the greatest propriety and steadiness. Another of the good effects of these appearances in public is, that it affords unmistakable proof to the many -who even at this day have the most erroneous notions as to the treatment of the inmates of these Institutionsthat they are treated like rational beings and permitted the enjoyment of their freedom and free commingling with the outer world to the utmost, thus removing those mistaken and prejudiced views from a large section of the public, and giving the immediate relatives and friends of the Insane increased confidence in establishments of this kind, and greater promptness (so all-important) in placing them under that unceasing care which can alone be procured and carried into effect within their walls. The patients during the year also were privileged to be present at the Panorama in the Victoria Hall of the Holy Land, and of Views in America; also at the exhibition of the Marionettes in the same place,

the proprietors of both having very kindly given a free admission to as many as could conveniently be brought, and their attendance at which afforded them a large amount of entertainment. At the Annual Flower Shows held last year at Downpatrick and Newtownards, the Band with some of the inmates attended, the respective Committees of both having given with the greatest kindness an invitation for them to be present, and not only this, but abundantly supplied them with refreshments also. The Board of Directors of the Belfast and County Down Railway very generously and at once had the party accommodated with carriages to and from both shows without any charge, thus affording two most agreeable excursions to the patients, and for which they were grateful in the largest sense.

THE PATIENTS' BAND.

Amongst all the advances making of late years in the treatment of the Insane there is nothing more calculated for their benefit, or for promoting their improvement insensibly and agreeably, than the cultivation of music amongst themselves, especially Band Music, which has a most enlivening effect upon the whole mass, even those whose condition in ordinary is that of an utterly apathetic character. Every year's experience of the formation of a Band here has proved its usefulness individually and collectively, and the degree of perfection arrived at on the part of the respective performers is a cause both of surprise and admiration to strangers, and at the same time redounds largely to the credit of their assiduous teacher, Mr. Dornan, who spares no trouble in their instruction.

NUMBER OF INSANE OF ALL CLASSES IN THE WORKHOUSES OF THE COUNTIES OF DOWN AND ANTRIM.

Amongst the general tables in the Appendix will be found one containing a carefully and elaborately drawn-up "Return of the Number of Lunatic, Idiotic, and Epilectic-Insane Inmates of the Union Workhouses in the Counties of Antrim and Down on the 31st of December, 1863," which has been obtained through the ready and obliging courtesy of the Poor Law Commissioners, at the request of the Governors, and now

appears for the first time in this Report. It is a return of a very valuable and important kind, as it, at one sight, gives a most complete rationale of all classes of the Insane in each workhouse in the district, the Return containing three divisions, viz.:-I. The number requiring curative treatment, which, in the seven Unions of the County Antrim, embrace a total of twenty-two, and those of the County Down-viz., five Unions-a total of eight. II. That of persons whose cases are of an incurable nature, but who require medical treatment or constant care and attention, not being able to perform the commonest offices for themselves, and which in the seven Unions of Antrim amount to 152, and in the five Down Unions to 48. III. Harmless cases—that is, such as are not unfit to remain in the Workhouses, and mix generally with the inmates, the same amounting in the Unions of Antrim to 56, and in the County Down Unions to 68. Supposing, therefore, that the County Down patients at present under treatment here, and numbering 168, were removed altogether, and the seven Unions of the County Antrim relieved of their cases embraced in Divisions I. and II. of this Return-cases certainly which appear much more fitted for this Institution-the same amounting to 177, there would not be accommodation for them, and this quite irrespective of the so-called "dangerous lunatics" in the County Gaol, in Belfast, the proper number of patients capable of being duly accommodated here being but 330. The County of Antrim and the County of the Town of Carrickfergus patients now under treatment amount to 202, which, if supplemented by the above 177 Workhouse cases, would make an aggregate of 379, or 49 more than the Establishment, as such, is suited to hold.

ATTENDANTS' CONDUCT AND SUPERANUATIONS.

The conduct of the attendants generally throughout the past year was deserving of every praise, their arduous and confidential duties having been performed in an entirely satisfactory and creditable manner. During the year there were two of the domestics superanuated owing to failing health with both parties and inability to continue to discharge their duties—viz., the gate porter and the cook, and who had been in the service of the Establishment fourteen years and twelve years, respectively, and both very efficient servants.

OFFICIAL INSPECTIONS.

The following are copies of the entries made on the books by Doctors Nugent and Hatchell, the Government Commissioners and Inspectors in Lunacy, on occasion of their official visits here during the past year :—

24th April, 1863.

" On my inspection this day of the Belfast District Asylum, I found it in admirable order, clean, cheerful, and well ventilated. The corridors, dormitories, and day rooms looked comfortable and homely. I saw all the patients who appear to be carefully attended to. They are 363 in number-201 males, 162 females. Of the total, 203 are chargeable to the County Antrim, including Belfast and Carrickfergus, and 160 to Down. The men are principally employed out of doors, the women within sewing, spinning, or in the laundry, &c. The House is remarkably healthy, five patients only being confined to bed in the infirmaries by illness-at the same time it is overcrowded. I examined the provisions, and consider them of good quality. Since my last visit the female divisions have been all materially improved by the papering and panelling of corridors 5 A and B, and I am glad to find a similar improvement is being extended to No. 1 corridor at the male side. Though not exactly the same, the present books used in the Asylum are similar to those directed by the Privy Council; on being filled the prescribed ones should be adopted. On inquiry I regret to learn that the visitations of clergymen to this Institution containing 363 inmates, are very exceptional indeed, about once in three weeks.

" The grounds are in an advanced state of cultivation.

" (Signed),

"JOHN NUGENT."

24th July, 1863.

" I have to report very favourably of the Belfast District

Asylum, which, in the various details of management, appears to be satisfactorily conducted. At this date so far from their being a vacancy in the Institution, it is overcrowded by fully thirty patients, still I am happy to say that its sanitary condition was never better, only six of the inmates being confined to bed by illness, and none nuder restraint of any kind. There can be no doubt but that the substantial comforts of lunatics in Irish District Asylums are sedulously regarded in the Belfast as much as in any other; and no matter what may be said or insinuated to the contrary, the public Institutions for the Insane in this country, if examined into by the telling test of cures, of immunity from accident, of tranquillity, and kindliness of treatment, are, if not superior, at all events equal to those elsewhere. I could wish, however, to see, not omitting the Belfast Asylum, somewhat more of neatness, of cheap ornamentation and better furniture in the day rooms, galleries, and corridors of Irish Lunatic Establishments. Much progress has been already made here, and I trust that the apartments in the tranquil and convalescent divisions, both male and female, will soon present the same cheerful and homely appearance as those in No. 1 and No. 5. There is a subject to which I have already referred on various occasions. I am sincerely sorry there still exists the same necessity for my doing so again-I allude to the utter absence of clergymen as visitants at the Belfast Asylum, and the opposition of the Board (a solitary opposition in the whole Empire), to the attendance of regular chaplains on their Insane fellow creatures.

" (Signed),

"JOHN NUGENT."

"September 9th, 1863.

"I have this day inspected the Belfast District Lunatic Asylum, and have to report most favourably on its general condition. The several corridors, day rooms and dormitories are particularly clean and orderly, and since they have been papered and wainscoted, present a most cheerful and civilized appearance, tending much to the comfort and happiness of the patients. I must, however, observe, that the wood work, both inside and outside is much in need of painting, which, when done, will not only add much to the general appearance of the Institution, but what is also of great importance, tend to preserve the timber which, in some places, is beginning to show symptoms of decay. I have examined all the patients, both male and female, they were all, with some few exceptions, quiet and orderly, being evidently carefully attended to. The sanitary state of the House is very satisfactory, there being only five patients confined to bed, viz.-three males and two females.

Furnishing the day rooms and corridors with cheerful looking flowers and plants, is so very desirable in an Institution of this kind, that I would suggest for the consideration of the Board, their directing the erection of a small Green House, where such flowers and plants could be propagated and reared.

"(Signed), "George H. HATCHELL."

2nd November, 1863.

"I, this day, attended at the Board, and subsequently went through the Asylum with one of the Governors, Major Craw-I found the corridors and day rooms, at the female side, ford. which have been just papered and painted, very cheerful and in every respect a great improvement. A similar change going on in the male division will, no doubt, be alike advantageous. The House generally I consider to be in admirable order. The refractory corridors and bed rooms, however, are overcrowded and cheerless, and require a very constant supervision. I think it would be advisable to have one superior class head attendant on the male division. In the scullery I found milk intended for the patients : it should be kept in the dairy till immediately required. It appears to me that an undue proportion of bone is taken in the meat contract-viz., one pound of bone to five pounds of solid meat. The Green House suggested by my Colleague I was glad to perceive met the approval of the Board this day.

" (Signed),

"JOHN NUGENT."

11th March, 1864.

"I have to report in favourable terms of the condition in which, on my visit this day to the Belfast Asylum, I found the whole Establishment, it being remarkably clean, fresh, and orderly—in fact, making allowance for the refractory wards, neatness in detail is observable throughout—the patients appear to be carefully attended to, one alone was under restraint, and of a very mild form, the camisole, the party being very violent and malicious. The Infirmary wards are kept in a most creditable way. I could desire, however, a few moveable screens to be introduced into them to separate offensive cases from the view of others. I examined all the attendants' sleeping rooms, which, too, were very orderly. The provisions were of good quality, and the dairy clean and well ventilated. Nothing can give a more homely appearance and an air of comfort than the corridors and day rooms which have been greatly improved by painting, pictures, and commodious furniture.

"The Down patients amount to 163; and the Antrim, including Carrickfergus and Belfast, to 205—thus Down has a full complement. The House is so crowded I think no new ones should be admitted.

" (Signed),

"JOHN NUGENT."

DECEASED GOVERNORS.

Since last year the Board has lost three of its members by the deaths of John Clarke, Esq., Sir Robert Bateson, Bart., and Robert Gordon, Esq., of Florida Manor. The annexed resolution was adopted at the Board immediately succeeding Mr. Clarke's much and sincerely-lamented removal, who had been, until within a short period of his demise, a regular attendant of the stated monthly meetings, always taking a warm and lively interest in the prosperity of the Institution :—

"That the Members of this Board cannot allow the occasion of the death of John Clarke, Esq., to pass without leaving on their Minutes a record of their high estimate of his worth, and their deep regret at the loss of his companionship in counsel and work, as well as of his punctual attendance and faithful and effective services; that as individuals they mourn the death of a highly-esteemed personal friend; and as members of a public body they bear testimony to the greatness of the loss to the interests of benevolence and charity.

For several years preceding Sir Robert Bateson's death he

had given up attending the Board, and during the last two years the late Mr. Gordon had not been present here, the great distance at which he lived from Belfast and other causes rendering a frequent attendance impossible; but when any business of importance was in question he, as well as Sir Robert Bateson, failed not to give the benefit of his presence and valuable advice.

ATTENDANCE OF GOVERNORS.

The Governors who attended during the year were as follow:— Thomas M'Clure, Esq., High Sheriff of the County of Down (9), Major Crawford (8), C. B. Grimshaw, Esq. (8), A. J. Macrory, Esq. (7), the Right Rev. Bishop Denvir (6), the Lord Bishop of Down and Connor and Dromore (5), Lieutenant-Colonel Forde, M.P. (4), the Rev. Dr. Edgar (4), the Rev. Dr. Cooke (3), the Rev. Dr. Montgomery (3), the Rev. Dr. Miller (2), and William Dunville, Esq. (2).

CONCLUSION,

It is a matter of great thankfulness to the Giver of All Good that another year has run its course in so generally satisfactory a manner in an Institution whose occupants, whether of longer or shorter duration, are each and all the subjects of a dispensation so peculiarly afflictive as to command the warmest sympathies of their fellows, and withal so impulsive as to be always a source of unceasing anxiety to those accountable for their charge-an accountability which needs to be sympathised with nearly as much as the patients themselves. None but those immediately in the daily and hourly treatment of, and attendance upon, the Insane can in fact have the most remote idea of what those arduous and never-ending responsibilities are, and the peculiar requirements which are so essential for the due fulfilment thereof on the part of those whose privilege and lot it is to "minister to a mind diseased;" or "raze out the written troubles of the brain."

That the Resident Physician continues to enjoy the warm support of the Governors generally, together with that of his brother officers, Dr. M'Cormac and Dr. Moore, in the discharge of his duties, he again records, on a stated occasion like the present, with the utmost satisfaction, a support, he may add, which is a sheet anchor in the many difficulties which are the rule and not the exception, and are inseparably connected with an office such as his.

ROBERT STEWART, M.D.,

Resident Physician-Superintendent.

GENERAL TABLES OF STATISTICS.

Table XVIII.-Shewing the Admissions. Discharges, &c., from each County in the District, during the year ended 31st March, 1864.

AD	MITTED F	ROM EACH	COUNTY		1010	
			-	Males	Females	Total
Antrim,				27	29	56
County of the Town of Down,				0 18	0 18	0 36
Totals,		,		45	47	92
DISCH.	ARGED, E	PC., TO EA	CH COUN	TY.		
				Males	Females	Total
Antrim,				27	27	54
County of the Town of Down,				0 18	0 11	0 29
Totals,				45	38	83
REMAINING	IN THE	HOUSE, 31	ST MARC	н, 1864.		
				Males	Females	Total
Antrim,				100	94	194
County of the Town of	f Carricki	fergus,		3 97	5	8
Down,				- 97	71	168
TOTALS,				200	170	370

Table XIX.-Shewing the Per Centage of Discharges and Deaths, and the Average Per Centage calculated on the Average Number of Patients for Ten Years ended 31st March, 1864.

Years ending	Yearly	RECO	OVERED.	REI	LIEVED.	DIED.		
31st March.	Average Number.	No of Cases.	Rate Per Cent.	No. of Cases.	Rate Per Cent.	No. of Cases.	Rate Per Cent	
1855	266.43	36	13.50	21	7.88	39	14.63	
1856	291.96	50	17.12	14	4.79	19	6.50	
1857	323.25	66	40.21	15	4.64	35	11.75	
1858	342.59	82	23.93	26	7.58	25	7.29	
1859	347.20	65	18.17	18	5.18	18	5.18	
1860	358.97	75	20.89	22	6.12	25	6.96	
1861	356.98	47	13.16	31	8.68	22	6.16	
1862	359.50	73	23.05	21	5.08	19	5.02	
1863	362.90	59	16.25	10	2.75	14	3.85	
1864	366.02	52	14.20	19	5.24	12	3.27	

1	2	0	1
	4	0	1

				Males	Females	Total
Unde	er 20 Years		 	 5	2	7
	1 20 to 30 1		 	 33	33	66
"	30 to 40	**	 	 56	48	104
"	40 to 50	"	 	 52	41	93
44	50 to 60	"	 	 40	33	73
"	60 to 70	"	 	 12	12	24
- "	70 to 80	"	 	 2	1	3
	TOTA	ALS.	 	 200	170	370

Table XXI.-Shewing the Duration of Residence of the 370 Patients remaining under Treatment, 31st March, 1864.

						Males	Females	Total
From	n 1 to	21	Ionths,		 	5	6	11
"	2 to		"		 	4	2	6
"	3 to		**		 	4 5	3	8
"	6 to		"		 	8	6	14
**			hs to 1	Year,	 	6	8	14
"			to 18 M		 	3	7	10
"			hs to 2		 	5	7	12
"	2 Y			"	 	18	35	53
"	4	"	to 6	"	 	15	26	41
**	6	"	to 10	"	 	37	21	58
"	10	"	to 15	"	 	43	22	65
66	15	"	to 20	"	 	15	13	28
"	20	"	to 25	"	 	20	7	27
	25	"	to 30	"		5	5	10
"	30	"	and up	wards,	 	11	2	13
				,				
		To	TALS,		 	200	170	370

Table XXIISh	newing the Articles	Manufactured	l and made by	y the Patients
	during the year e	nded 31st Marc	ch,1864.	

1,384 Hanks Linen Yarn.	107 Petticoats.
1,342 Yards Plain Linen.	50 Wrappers.
456 Pairs Stockings and Socks.	98 Day Caps.
140 Sheets.	71 Gowns.
307 Shirts.	196 Pillow Slips.
137 Shifts.	140 Neck Ties.
94 Aprons.	64 Towels (Woven).

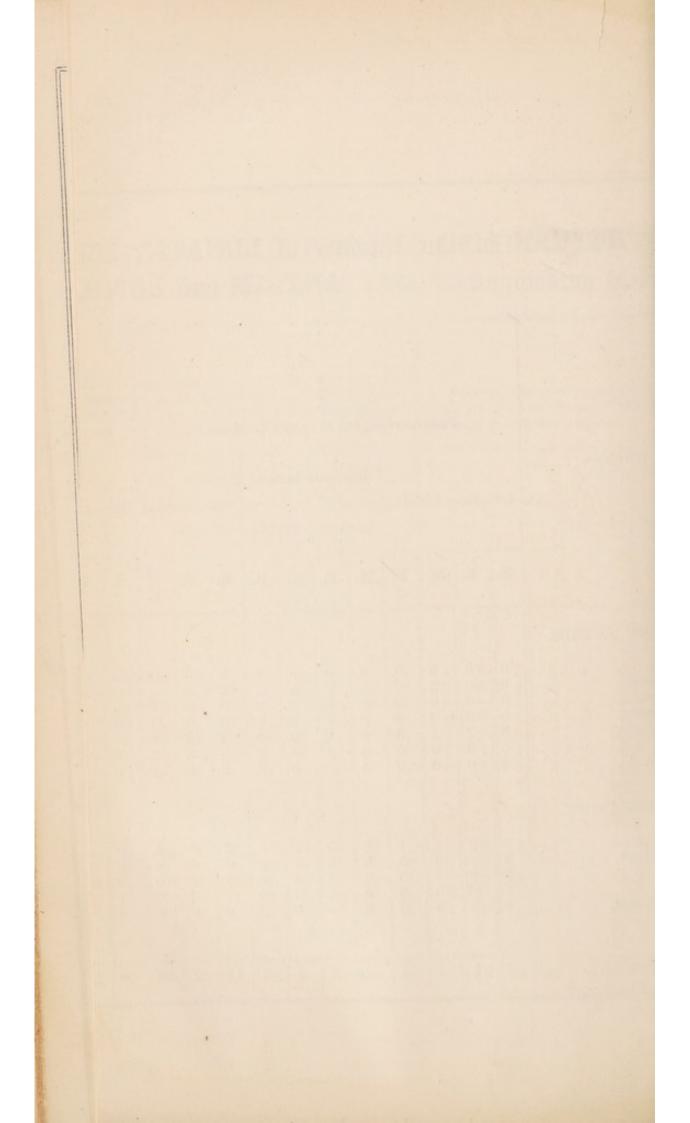
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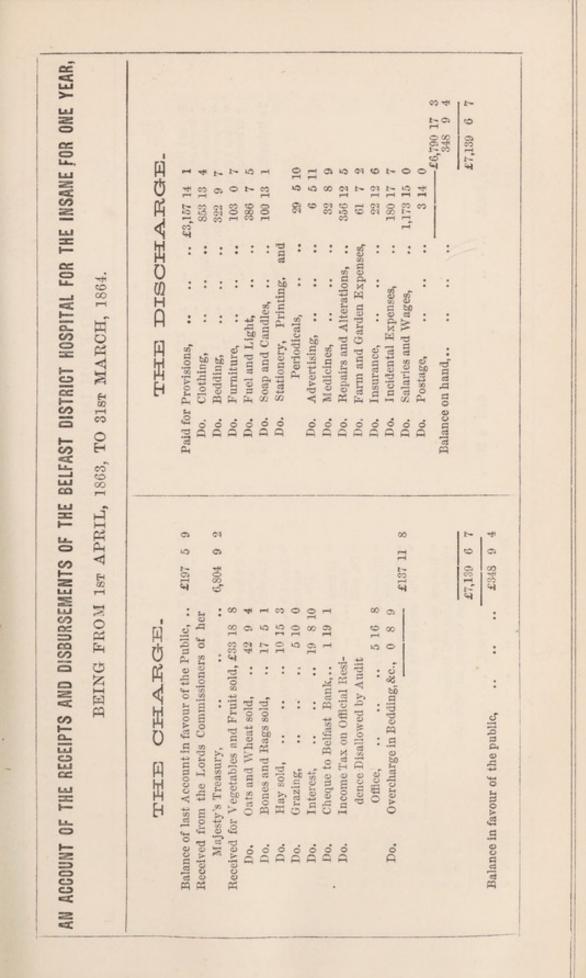
Table XXIII.—Showing the Number of Cases Admitted, Recovered, Relieved, and who Died in each Quarter and each Month, respectively, during the Year ended 31st March, 1864.

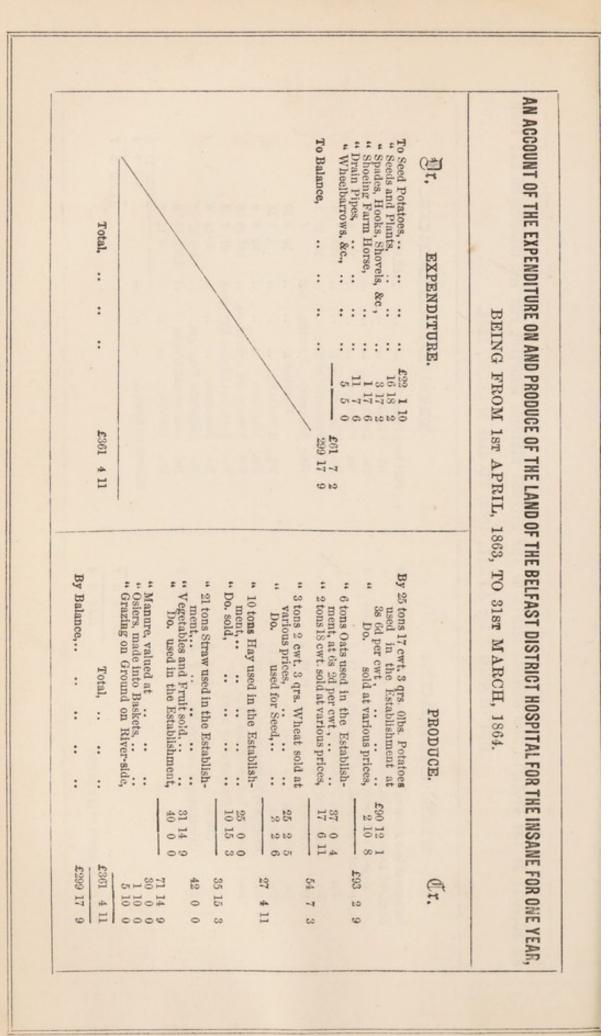
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]	Discha	RGE	D.					
	AI	OMIT	TED.	RE	covi	ERED.	R	ELIE	VED.	Died.			
	Males.	Females.	Total.	Males.	Females.	Total.	Total. Males. Females. Total.		Males.	Females.	Total.		
April, May, June,	3 7 4	4 3 5	$7 \\ 10 \\ 9 \\ -26$	1 3 0	1 5 2	$2 \\ 8 \\ 2 \\ -12$	1 2 0	1 2 0	$2 \\ 4 \\ 0 \\ -6$	0 1 0	$\begin{array}{c} 0\\ 0\\ 2\end{array}$	$0 \\ 1 \\ 2 \\ -3$	
July, August, September,.	2 3 6	2 5 7	$4 \\ 8 \\ 13 \\ -25$	3 3 5	$2 \\ 0 \\ 2$	5 3 7 _15	0 0 0	$ \begin{array}{c} 0 \\ 2 \\ 2 \end{array} $		2 2 1	$\begin{array}{c} 0\\ 0\\ 1\end{array}$	$2 \\ 2 \\ 2 \\ -6$	
October, November,. December,	3 1 3	00 00 00		$\begin{array}{c}1\\2\\8\end{array}$		$2 \\ 4 \\ 13 \\ -19$	0 1 0	0 0 0	$ \begin{array}{c} 0 \\ 1 \\ 0 \\ 1 \end{array} $	0 0 0	0 0 0	0 0 0 0	
January, February, March,	3 7 3		$5 \\ 15 \\ 5 \\ -25$	0 3 0	0 2 1	$ \begin{array}{c} 0 \\ 5 \\ 1 \\ 6 \end{array} $	$\begin{array}{c}1\\2\\1\end{array}$	0 3 1		$\begin{array}{c} 0\\ 0\\ 2 \end{array}$	1 0 0	$\begin{array}{c}1\\0\\2\\-3\end{array}$	
	45	47	92	29	23	52	8	11	19	8	4	12	

RETURN of the Number of LUNATIC, IDIOTIC, and EPILEPTIC-INSANE INMATES OF WORKHOUSES in the Counties of ANTRIM and DOWN, on the 31st December, 1863, distinguishing Males and Females.

		Pe	ersons	requ	uiring	L Curi	ativo	Tread	tment	•		but	who and	atte	ndano	ases Mod ce, as ices fo	ical t	reath	able	or c	onsta	int	and	not	unfit	to res	f pers main inma	in the	e Wo	ble b	ut ha	rmle nd n	ss, aix	TOTAL INSANE.																																																																						
UNIONS.		. 1	***		Epi	eptic	Insa	ne.		ITeres	ane.					Epi	leptic	Insa		Teste	J Inc	ane.	Lun	tio	Lilio	tio	Epile	eptic	Insa																																		The later		Total Incom		Total Incom		Total Inc		The later		mar I Trans		mar 1 Francis		These I Tree		Peter		mark 1 mark		The later		The later		The later		Total Insane		The later			Tur	atla	TH	atta .	Ep	ilepti	c Ins	ane.	Tet	al Tree	
	Lun	atic.	Idio		Lun	atic.	Idio	tie.	Tota	I Ins	ane.	Luna	stic.	Idio	ALC.	Lun	atic.	Idio		100	in This	ane.	Lun	MIC.	Idio		Luna	tic.	Idio		Tota	d ins	ane.	Lan	iatac.	Idiotie.		Lunatic.		Idiotie.		Total Insane.																																																														
	М.	F.	М.	F.	М.	F.	М.	F.	М.	F.	Total.	M.	F.	М.	F.	М.	F.	М.	F.	М.	F.	Total.	М.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	М.	F.	M.	F.	Total	М.	F.	М.	F.	М.	F.	M.	F.	М.	F.	Total																																																												
COUNTY ANTRIM. Antrim,	0 0 0 3 0 2	00000720	0 2 0 0 1 0 0	0000300	00000000	0 0 0 0 0 1 0	0000000	0100000	0 2 0 0 4 0 2	0 1 0 10 3 0	0 3 0 0 14 3 2	0 0 0 11 0 0	0 0 1 1 36 0 0-	0 2 0 18 0 0	3 2 5 1 10 3 1	00002500	0 0 7 1 9 0 0	0000000	4000403	0 0 2 0 2 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0	7 2 13 3 59 3 4	7 15 3 121 3 4	$ \begin{array}{c} 1 \\ 0 \\ 2 \\ 0 \\ $	0000022	2401059	0 10 0 0 0 0 0	0 0 0 0 0 0	0001000	0 0 1 0 3 2 3	3001209	3 4 1 3 3 7 12	8 8 0 9 9 4 9	6 7 1 5 5 11 21	1 0 2 14 2 2	0 0 1 1 43 4 2	2 6 2 1 19 5 9	3 5 5 1 13 5 6	0 0 0 25 0 0	0 0 7 2 9 1 0	0 0 1 0 11 2 3	7 1 0 1 6 0 5	3 6 3 69 7 14 105	10 6 13 5 71 10 13 128																																																													
COUNTY DOWN. Banbridge, Downpatrick, Kilkeel, Newry, Newtownards,	000000000000000000000000000000000000000	2 0 0 2 0	1 0 0 0 0	1 0 0 0	00000	000000	1 0 0 0	00000	2 0 0 1 0	80020	5 0 0 3 0	0 0 0 1 4	00098	1 0 0 3 0	0 0 0 4 0		0 0 0 1 0	2 0 0 1 1	0 0 1 2 8	40065	0 0 1 16 16	4 0 1 22 21	0 0 1 0 0	24000	2 4 1 5 8	5 12 1 9 4	0 1 0 0	0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0	20000	1 0 1 0 0	445 81 15 88	8 16 2 14 4	12 21 4 19 12	0 0 1 2 4	4 4 0 13 8	4 4 1 8 8	6 12 1 13 4	1 1 0 1 0	0 0 0 4 0	5 0 1 1	10228	10 5 12 13	11 16 3 32 20	21 21 5 44 33																																																												
Total,	6	13	4	4	0	1	1	1	11	19	30	16	55	24	29	27	18	12	22	79	124	203	4	12	41	41	1	4	11	10	57	67	124	26	80	69	74	28	23	24	33		82 210	100000																																																												
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DIETARY

OF

The Belfast District Hospital for the Insane.

BREAKFAST.

One quart stirabout (made with 8 oz. fine or 7 oz. coarse) meal (and three-fourths of a pint mixed milk,	A. I.	Every
One-and-half pint stirabout and one half pint mixed	Females.	Morning.

DINNER.

One half-pound loaf bread (or 31bs. potatoes), 6oz.)		
solid meat, and one pint soup, \$	Females.	a week.
One half-pound loaf bread (or 3lbs. potatoes) and one quart soup (made with ox-heads and bones cut out of meat, vegetables, oatmeal, barley, pease, &c.),	Males.	3 days a week.
One half-pound loaf bread (or 3lbs. potatoes), and a one-and-half pint soup,	Females.	
Three-fourths of a pound loaf bread (or 34lbs. pota- toes) and one pint mixed milk,	Males.	once
One half-pound loaf bread (or 3lbs. potatoes) and one } pint mixed milk, }	Females.	a week.

SUPPER.

One half-pound loaf bread and three-fourths of a pint of new milk,	Males.	Summer
One half-pound loaf bread and one half-pint new milk,	Females.	6 months.
One quart stirabout and three-fourths of a pint new milk,	Males.	Winter
One-and-half pint stirabout and one half-pint new milk,	Females.	6 months

63^m Patients who are actively employed are allowed a portion of meat, in addition to the soup, five instead of three days in the week. When the state of the patient's health requires it, the diet is changed accordingly, and any other substituted that may be considered requisite by the Medical Officers.

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# LIST OF REPORTS, &c.,

RECEIVED FROM 1st APRIL, 1863, TO 31st MARCH, 1864.

# Erish.

- Armagh District Hospital for the Insane, report to 31st December, 1862, pp. 12. By Robert M'Kinstry, M.D., Physician-Superintendent.
- Carlow Do., annual report to 31st December, 1862, pp. 22. By M. E. White, A.M., M.D., J.P., Physician-Superintendent.
- Clonmel Do., report to 31st December, 1863, pp. 20. By James Flynn, M.D., Physician-Superintendent.
- Do. Additional Do., report for 1863, pp. 12. By J. Edmundson, M.D., Physician-Superintendent.
- Deaf and Dumb, the Blind and the Imbecile, Necessity of a State Provision for the Education of, pp. 14. Read before the Statistical and Social Inquiry Society of Ireland, by Jonathan Pim.
- 6. Derry District Hospital for the Insane, A Paper on the Treatment of the Insane, submitted to the Governors by a Member of the Board.
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