

Medical report of the Royal Lunatic Asylum of Aberdeen, for the year ending 31st December, 1870.

Contributors

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Publication/Creation

Aberdeen : Printed by Leslie & Russell, 1871.

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MEDICAL REPORT

OF THE

ROYAL LUNATIC ASYLUM

OF ABERDEEN,

FOR THE YEAR ENDING 31ST DECEMBER,

1870.

Aberdeen :

PRINTED BY LESLIE & RUSSELL,
CROWN COURT, UNION STREET.

1871.





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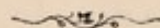
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WILLIAM YEATS, M.B.,	.	}	<i>Medical Assistants.</i>
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REV. ALEX. FERGUSON,	.	.	<i>Chaplain.</i>
WILLIAM CARNIE,	.	.	<i>Clerk and Treasurer.</i>

MEDICAL REPORT.

At the commencement of the year 1870, there were four hundred and thirty-one (431) patients resident in the Aberdeen Lunatic Asylum, of whom one hundred and ninety-four (194) were males, and two hundred and thirty-seven (237) were females.

During the year, sixty-nine (69) males were admitted, and eighty-one (81) females, making an addition of one hundred and fifty (150) persons, and a grand total of five hundred and eighty-one (581).

Of these, one hundred and ninety-one (191) were private patients, and three hundred and ninety (390) were sent into the Asylum by the parishes belonging to the County, with one or two exceptions.

During the year twenty-six (26) patients died, a hundred and nineteen (119) were removed in various conditions, about 57 per cent. of them being so far recovered as to justify their liberation, and to allow most of them to return to their occupations; and at the end of December, 1870, four hundred and thirty-six (436) patients remained in the Establishment.

The increase of inmates during the period reported upon was but slight, and took place on the number of private patients.

Twenty-one incurables were removed to the Fatuous Wards of Poor-houses, being mostly those on

whom the Establishment could be thought to have much or any profit; the noisy, the extremely feeble, the sickly, the turbulent, the destructive, and all requiring much expense or care being left behind, a circumstance very much calling for the consideration of the Managers in relation to reductions made some years ago in the charge fixed for Parochial Lunatics. In reference to this matter, there is appended to the Report a Letter recently laid before the Managing Committee.

The condition of the Hospital, so far as it is capable of being deemed financially a thriving one, will be found to be due to the large proportion of private patients which it receives, which is probably as large as that of any other Asylum of a mixed character undertaking to discharge the duties of a District Hospital, and also to the great attention given to its economical administration by the Visiting Committee of Management. The good results should undoubtedly be made to tell to the advantage of Parochial Boards, and not less to the advantage of the Hospital and its inmates.

The usual medical statistics are added to the Report, and will, it is believed, be found on examination to present pretty much the average results. These have been always considered, by those entitled or competent to criticise them, to be of a creditable sort; and it will be observed, on investigation, that during the long period of the Asylum's history, the standard of recoveries and the ratio of mortality have both been advanced in the right directions.

In such an Institution many things that are not desirable will continue to occur, and in something like average number, as if they were not preventible by possible foresight or ordinary practicable care, and accordingly the year did not pass by without its contribution of annoying occurrences. Several cases of Scarlet Fever made their appearance during the month of July on the east side of the house. One escape was effected by a patient while travelling under the guardianship of an Attendant; and various other attempts were partially successful, putting the Hospital to some expense and friends to no little anxiety. A patient in a depressed and weakly condition, bent on committing suicide by starvation, died when being fed by hand. One Attendant was discharged for rough usage to a patient, and another for habits rendering him unsuitable for the discharge of night duty; although it is but justice to the staff of Attendants, both male and female, to state, that as a body they have very creditably discharged difficult, harassing, and dangerous duties.

A pressure of female cases had rendered an enlargement of the house necessary, and accordingly an extension of the east wing was determined upon by the Managers, which, with certain re-arrangements of that side of the Hospital, will effect a considerable increase of accommodation, and be, while in harmony with connected buildings, it is believed, an improvement upon them in various important particulars.

ROBERT JAMIESON, M.D.

TABULAR

TABLE I	
Showing the results of the experiments on the effect of the temperature of the water on the rate of the reaction of the potassium permanganate with the oxalic acid	
Temp. of water, °C.	Rate of reaction, g. of oxalic acid per g. of potassium permanganate per hour
10	0.000
20	0.000
30	0.000
40	0.000
50	0.000
60	0.000
70	0.000
80	0.000
90	0.000
100	0.000

TABLES.

TABLE I.

GENERAL RESULTS OF THE YEAR.

	Males.	Females.	Total.
Patients in Asylum, 1st January, 1870,	194	237	431
Admitted during the year,	69	81	150
Under care and treatment during the year,	263	318	581
Removed during the year :—			
Recovered,	30	38	68
Relieved,	7	16	23
Unimproved,	15	9	24
On Probation,	0	4	4
Dead,	12	14	26
Remaining in Asylum, 31st Dec., 1870,	199	237	436

TABLE II.

RELATIVE NUMBER OF PRIVATE AND PAROCHIAL CASES.

	Males.	Females.	Total.	Males.	Fem.	Total.
Private Cases in Asylum, {						
1st January, 1870,	71	72	143			
Do. admitted during the year,	26	22	48			
Total of Private Cases dur- {						
ing the year,				97	94	191
Parochial Cases in Asylum, {						
1st January, 1870,	123	165	288			
Do. admitted during the year,	43	59	102			
Total of Parochial Cases {						
during the year,				166	224	390
Total number of Cases,			263		318	581
Private Cases removed dur- {						
ing the year,	20	21	41			
Parochial do.,	44	60	104			
Total number of Cases re- {						
moved during the year,				64	81	145
Private Cases remaining {						
31st December, 1870,	79	73	152			
Parochial do.,	120	164	284			
Total number of Cases remaining,			199		237	436

TABLE III.

AGE OF PATIENTS ADMITTED.

	Males.	Females.	Total.
From 10 to 20, . . .	6	3	9
„ 20 to 30, . . .	18	16	34
„ 30 to 40, . . .	19	22	41
„ 40 to 50, . . .	9	20	29
„ 50 to 60, . . .	9	13	22
„ 60 to 70, . . .	6	5	11
„ 70 to 80, . . .	2	2	4
	<hr/> 69	<hr/> 81	<hr/> 150

TABLE IV.

CLASSIFICATION OF ADMISSIONS ACCORDING TO PLACE OF RESIDENCE.

	Males.	Females.	Total.
From Aberdeen and Suburbs, . . .	34	42	76
„ Aberdeenshire, . . .	23	34	57
„ More distant localities, . . .	12	5	17
	<hr/> 69	<hr/> 81	<hr/> 150

TABLE V.

SOCIAL CONDITION OF PATIENTS ADMITTED.

	Males.	Females.	Total.
Married, . . .	24	31	55
Single, . . .	42	38	80
Widowed, . . .	3	12	15
	<hr/> 69	<hr/> 81	<hr/> 150

TABLE VI.

OCCUPATION OR STATION IN LIFE OF PATIENTS ADMITTED.

MALES.

Accountant,	1	Porter,	1
Artist,	1	Printer,	1
Butchers,	2	Quarriers,	2
Carter,	1	Ropemaker,	1
Clergyman,	1	Sailors,	2
Clerks,	4	Shepherd,	1
Crofter,	1	Shoemakers,	3
Doctor of Medicine,	1	Soldiers,	2
Farmers,	4	Sheriff Officer,	1
Farm Servants,	7	Solicitor,	1
Fisherman,	1	Students,	2
Game Dealer,	1	Tailor,	1
Gardener,	1	Tanner,	1
Grocer,	1	Teacher,	1
Iron Moulder,	1	Telegraph Clerk,	1
Jeweller,	1	No Occupation,	8
Labourers,	10		
Merchant,	1	Total,	69

FEMALES.

Bootbinders,	2	Wife of Combmaker,	1
Dressmakers,	2	„ Cabinet-maker,	1
Fisherwomen,	2	„ Hawker,	1
Governess,	1	„ Medical Man,	1
Housekeepers,	2	„ Miller,	1
Message Girl,	1	„ Sailor,	1
Millworkers,	2	„ Yarn Winder,	1
Sempstresses,	4	Wives of Farm Servants,	4
Servants,	12	„ Crofters,	2
Shop Girl,	1	„ Gardeners,	2
Widow of Engineer,	1	„ Labourers,	2
„ Land Agent,	1	„ Masons,	2
„ Seaman,	1	„ Shopkeepers,	2
Widows of Farmers,	2	No Occupation,	24
Wife of Baker,	1		
„ Butcher,	1	Total,	81

TABLE VII.

COMPLICATION OF CASES ADMITTED WITH DISEASED IMPULSE.

	Males.	Females.	Total.
Suicidal Impulse, with Mania,	1	0	1
Suicidal Impulse, with Melancholia,	2	4	6
	<hr/> 3	<hr/> 4	<hr/> 7

TABLE VIII.

NATURE OF CAUSES ASSIGNED.

Causes Assignable, in	about 44·0	per cent.
Hereditary Predisposition, in	„ 18·66	„
Moral Cause, in	„ 5·04	„
Physical Cause, in	„ 16·85	„
Previous Attack,	„ 14·0	„

TABLE IX.

FORM OF INSANITY IN CASES ADMITTED.

	Males.	Females.	Total.
Dementia,	20	14	34
Mania,	32	46	78
Melancholia	10	15	25
Monomania,	7	6	13
	<hr/> 69	<hr/> 81	<hr/> 150

TABLE X.

COMPLICATION OF CASES ADMITTED WITH NERVOUS DISEASE.

	Males.	Females.	Total.
Blindness, with Dementia,	0	1	1
Epilepsy, with Mania,	3	1	4
Paralysis, with Dementia,	4	0	4
	<hr/> 7	<hr/> 2	<hr/> 9

TABLE XI.

CAUSES ASSIGNED IN CASES ADMITTED.

	Males	Females.	Total.
Age,	0	1	1
Amenorrhœa,	0	1	1
Death of Friends,	0	4	4
Disease of Brain,	1	0	1
Disappointment,	3	1	4
Hereditary Predisposition,	14	14	28
Intemperance,	9	5	14
Lactation,	0	2	2
Parturition,	0	6	6
Phthisis,	1	0	1
Poverty,	1	1	2
Quarrel,	0	1	1
Rheumatism,	0	1	1
No cause assigned in	40	44	84
	<hr/> 69	<hr/> 81	<hr/> 150

TABLE XII.
CASES DISCHARGED RECOVERED.

No.	Sex.	Form of Mental Disease.	Cause of Disorder.	Residence.			
				Y.	M.	W.	D.
1	F.	Dementia	Hereditary Predisposition	0	6	2	6
2	F.	Dementia	Hereditary Predisposition	1	1	0	2
3	F.	Dementia ... ..	..... ..	0	7	1	0
4	F.	Dementia ... ..	..... ..	0	4	0	2
5	F.	Dementia ... ..	..... ..	0	11	3	2
6	M.	Mania ... ..	..... ..	0	3	3	7
7	M.	Mania	Intemperance	0	4	1	0
8	M.	Mania	Hereditary Predisposition	0	2	3	6
9	M.	Mania	Intemperance	0	6	0	2
10	M.	Mania	Intemperance	0	5	2	0
11	M.	Mania	Intemperance	0	0	3	5
12	M.	Mania	Scrofulous Disease	0	4	2	1
13	M.	Mania	Hereditary Predisposition	0	11	1	6
14	M.	Mania ... ..	..... ..	0	2	1	0
15	M.	Mania ... ..	..... ..	0	3	0	0
16	M.	Mania	Intemperance	0	1	1	3
17	M.	Mania	Intemperance	0	3	1	2
18	M.	Mania	Hereditary Predisposition	0	6	3	1
19	M.	Mania	Disease of Chest	0	4	0	5
20	M.	Mania	Hereditary Predisposition	0	3	0	3
21	M.	Mania	Disappointment	0	3	3	6
22	M.	Mania	Intemperance	0	3	3	2
23	M.	Mania	Intemperance	0	6	1	2
24	M.	Mania ... ..	..... ..	0	7	0	4
25	M.	Mania ... ..	..... ..	0	1	3	5
26	F.	Mania	Intemperance	0	0	3	2
27	F.	Mania	Quarrel	0	1	2	3
28	F.	Mania	Hereditary Predisposition	0	5	3	5
29	F.	Mania ... ..	..... ..	0	7	2	6
30	F.	Mania ... ..	..... ..	0	5	2	1
31	F.	Mania	Intemperance	0	3	3	6
32	F.	Mania	Overnursing	0	9	0	3
33	F.	Mania ... ..	..... ..	0	4	4	2
34	F.	Mania ... ..	..... ..	0	3	0	3
35	F.	Mania	Death of Husband	0	1	2	6
36	F.	Mania ... ..	..... ..	0	7	4	0
37	F.	Mania	Scrofulous Disease	0	9	3	1
38	F.	Mania	Child-birth.....	0	1	2	4
39	F.	Mania ... ..	..... ..	0	3	4	2
40	F.	Mania ... ..	..... ..	0	4	2	6
41	F.	Mania	Hereditary Predisposition	0	4	0	1
42	F.	Mania	Intemperance	0	1	3	3
43	F.	Mania	Hereditary Predisposition	1	1	1	0
44	F.	Mania	Poverty	0	2	3	4
45	F.	Mania	Overnursing	0	1	3	6
46	F.	Mania	Child-birth.....	0	6	2	2
47	F.	Mania	Hereditary Predisposition	0	5	3	5
48	F.	Mania	Intemperance	0	3	0	2
49	F.	Mania ... ..	..... ..	0	6	1	5
50	M.	Melancholia	Hereditary Predisposition	0	2	3	6
51	M.	Melancholia ... ..	..... ..	0	5	3	6
52	M.	Melancholia	Intemperance	0	1	3	3
53	M.	Melancholia	Hereditary Predisposition	2	2	2	6
54	M.	Melancholia	Hereditary Predisposition	0	2	3	3
55	M.	Melancholia ... ..	..... ..	0	7	1	5
56	F.	Melancholia ... ..	..... ..	0	8	0	3
57	F.	Melancholia	Death of Husband	0	6	1	6
58	F.	Melancholia ... ..	..... ..	0	2	1	2
59	F.	Melancholia ... ..	..... ..	0	10	3	2
60	F.	Melancholia	Hereditary Predisposition	6	6	0	1
61	F.	Melancholia	Hereditary Predisposition	0	1	4	0
62	F.	Melancholia	Death of Husband	0	7	1	5
63	F.	Melancholia ... ..	..... ..	1	0	1	4
64	F.	Melancholia	Hereditary Predisposition	0	2	2	6
65	M.	Monomania ... ..	..... ..	0	3	1	3
66	M.	Monomania	Quack Publication	0	3	3	3
67	M.	Monomania ... ..	..... ..	0	11	4	1
68	F.	Monomania ... ..	..... ..	0	3	0	1
Average duration of Residence,				0	6	2	3

TABLE XII.

DEATHS.

No.	Sex.	Age.	Form of Mental Disorder.	Causes of Disorder.	Duration of Resid.				Causes of Death.
					Y.	M.	W.	D.	
1	M.	22	Dementia .....	.....	0	8	1	0	Epilepsy.
2	M.	38	Dementia .....	.....	1	5	0	4	General Paralysis.
3	M.	31	Dementia .....	.....	0	2	0	2	General Paralysis.
4	F.	82	Dementia .....	.....	11	2	4	0	Exhaustion from Age.
5	F.	57	Dementia .....	.....	22	3	1	2	Hepatic Abscess.
6	F.	36	Dementia .....	.....	0	3	1	4	General Paralysis.
7	F.	66	Dementia .....	.....	0	9	2	2	Pleurisy.
8	M.	71	Mania	Hereditary Predisposition.....	0	1	0	1	Peritonitis.
9	M.	63	Mania .....	.....	8	9	1	0	Cerebral Disease.
10	M.	22	Mania	Hereditary Predisposition.....	0	3	2	6	Choking.
11	M.	30	Mania .....	.....	1	1	4	2	General Paralysis.
12	F.	44	Mania	Overnursing	4	3	1	2	Phthisis.
13	F.	50	Mania .....	.....	2	8	2	4	Pneumonia.
14	F.	76	Mania .....	.....	46	1	0	6	Bronchitis.
15	F.	83	Mania	Intemperance.....	12	1	1	1	Exhaustion from Old Age.
16	F.	82	Mania .....	.....	30	10	2	6	Exhaustion.
17	F.	27	Mania .....	.....	3	1	4	2	Epilepsy.
18	F.	46	Mania .....	.....	0	8	2	6	Paralysis.
19	F.	55	Mania .....	.....	0	0	3	0	Exhaustion from Mania.
20	F.	78	Mania .....	.....	0	1	0	5	Exhaustion from Old Age and Insanity.
21	M.	65	Melancholia .....	.....	3	2	1	5	Dysentery.
22	M.	32	Melancholia .....	.....	0	2	1	6	Diarrhoea.
23	F.	61	Melancholia .....	.....	3	2	1	5	Exhaustion.
24	M.	56	Monomania .....	.....	0	3	1	0	Bronchitis.
25	M.	50	Monomania .....	.....	2	7	1	5	General Paralysis.
26	M.	61	Monomania .....	.....	30	11	4	0	Exhaustion.
Average Age,					7	2	2	6	
					Average Duration of Residence.....				

TABLE XIV.

RESULTS, AT PRESENT DATE, OF ADMISSIONS OF LAST 47 YEARS.

Year.	Admitted.	Recovered.	Relieved, &c.	Dead.	Remaining 31st Dec., 1870.
1800-24.	563	443		117	1
1825	52	23	19	9	1
1826	41	22	11	8	0
1827	36	15	13	8	0
1828	32	16	9	5	2
1829	46	16	18	12	0
1830	59	30	12	17	0
1831	33	13	7	13	0
1832	33	15	6	11	1
1833	42	19	14	9	0
1834	50	19	23	6	2
1835	42	22	8	10	2
1836	41	17	14	10	0
1837	43	17	12	14	0
1838	53	23	10	17	3
1839	74	32	18	18	2
1840	48	25	11	8	4
1841	56	21	16	16	3
1842	51	19	17	12	3
1843	71	35	19	15	2
1844	74	30	25	17	2
1845	93	45	24	21	3
1846	67	26	23	15	3
1847	95	43	25	23	4
1848	83	41	23	16	3
1849	81	36	23	15	7
1850	69	34	17	16	2
1851	85	38	25	16	6
1852	95	48	29	12	6
1853	107	48	27	26	6
1854	65	27	18	12	8
1855	61	34	12	6	9
1856	103	57	22	18	6
1857	84	32	23	19	10
1858	102	40	26	21	15
1859	84	30	25	19	10
1860	78	43	17	12	6
1861	104	55	24	15	10
1862	88	49	21	11	7
1863	128	60	29	20	19
1864	116	58	30	12	16
1865	111	51	26	20	14
1866	148	73	35	17	24
1867	144	64	39	20	21
1868	132	49	32	9	42
1869	168	70	35	12	51
1870	150	34	13	5	98
	4181	2982		760	434

TABLE XV.

GENERAL RESULTS OF THE LAST 41 YEARS.

Year.	Mean Number Resident.	Admitted.	Recovered.	Dead.	Recovered per Cent. to Ad- missions.	Recovered per Cent. to mean No. Resident.	Deaths per Cent. to Ad- missions.	Deaths per Cent. to mean No. Resident.
1830	102	59	27	8	45.77	26.57	13.56	7.84
1831	100	33	14	12	42.42	14.00	36.36	12.00
1832	106	33	15	10	45.45	14.15	30.30	9.43
1833	107	42	23	14	54.76	21.51	33.33	13.08
1834	114	50	16	6	32.00	14.91	12.60	5.26
1835	116	42	20	11	47.61	18.10	26.19	9.48
1836	109	41	24	5	58.53	22.02	12.19	4.59
1837	113	43	16	8	39.53	14.16	18.60	7.08
1838	124	53	20	14	37.73	16.13	26.41	11.29
1839	140	74	26	10	35.13	18.57	13.51	7.14
1840	144	48	25	19	52.08	17.36	39.51	13.19
1841	150	56	22	10	39.29	14.66	17.86	6.67
1842	152	51	26	11	50.98	17.10	21.57	7.24
1843	167	71	28	12	39.44	17.18	16.90	7.19
1844	183	74	30	7	40.54	16.39	9.46	3.83
1845	200	93	41	13	44.09	20.05	13.98	6.50
1846	213	67	29	12	43.28	13.14	17.91	5.63
1847	222	95	40	23	42.10	18.02	24.21	10.36
1848	229	83	47	17	57.31	20.52	20.73	7.42
1849	229	81	36	16	43.36	15.70	19.27	6.98
1850	230	69	32	17	46.37	13.91	24.91	7.39
1851	245	85	32	20	37.64	13.06	23.53	8.16
1852	263	95	42	18	44.21	15.97	18.94	6.84
1853	280	107	54	21	50.46	19.28	17.75	7.50
1854	281	65	39	19	60.00	13.87	29.23	6.75
1855	274	61	31	9	50.82	11.31	14.75	3.29
1856	291	103	44	20	42.72	15.12	19.41	6.87
1857	299	84	50	21	59.52	16.79	25.00	7.02
1858	295	102	39	15	38.23	13.22	14.70	5.08
1859	307	84	42	9	50.00	13.59	10.71	2.93
1860	308	78	32	22	41.02	10.39	28.29	7.14
1861	318	104	48	19	46.15	15.09	18.27	5.97
1862	323	88	48	20	54.54	14.86	22.74	6.19
1863	340	128	55	22	42.96	16.17	17.18	6.47
1864	346	116	50	25	43.96	14.45	21.55	7.22
1865	362	111	67	23	60.36	18.51	20.72	6.35
1866	369	148	66	31	44.59	17.88	20.98	8.40
1867	391	144	73	22	50.69	18.67	15.28	5.63
1868	410	132	65	15	49.24	15.85	11.36	3.65
1869	420	168	55	22	32.73	13.09	13.09	5.23
1870	423	150	68	26	45.33	16.07	17.33	6.14
Sum and Average of 41 Years.	9795	3411	1557	654				
	238.90	83.19	37.97	15.95	45.92	16.27	20.23	7.13

TABLE XVI.

ABSTRACT OF DAILY RETURNS—SHOWING DISTRIBUTION, &C., OF PATIENTS
REMAINING IN THE ASYLUM.

	Males.	Females.	Total.
Number of Patients in the Asylum, Jan. 1, 1871,.....	199	237	436
" in Front House,.....	35	24	59
" in Back House,.....	51	44	95
" in East Wing,.....	...	99	99
" in West Wing,.....	69	...	69
" in Elmhill House,.....	20	17	37
" in Clarkseat House,.....	24	..	24
" in Barkmill House,.....	0	14	14
" in Gate Cottage,.....	0	17	17
" in Mary Place House,.....	0	22	22
Number of Patients Sick, Jan. 1, 1871,.....	3	4	7
" Usually Employed,.....	90	110	200
" Mostly unemployed except in } exercise and amusement, }	127	140	267
" Usually Attending Chapel,.....	109	115	224

TABLE XVII.

ARTICLES OF CLOTHING, &C., MADE AND REPAIRED, FROM JANUARY, 1870,
TO JANUARY, 1871.

	Made.	Repaired.		Made.	Repaired.
Aprons,.....	360	382	Hats, Trimmed,.....	18	13
Beds, Strong,.....	38	74	Jackets,.....	78	276
Bed Covers,.....	12	16	Linders,.....	708	983
Bed Gowns,.....	164	203	Neckerchiefs,.....	493	138
Bed Ticks,.....	62	68	Petticoats,.....	567	1186
Blankets,.....	...	205	Pillow Slips,.....	244	330
Bolster Slips,.....	200	404	Pillow Ticks,.....	162	183
Bolster Ticks,.....	168	118	Quilts,.....	2	6
Bonnets, Trimmed,.....	34	18	Quilts, Strong,.....	...	12
Boots, Pairs,.....	34	160	Sheets,.....	362	508
Caps, Day,.....	214	206	Shifts,.....	689	724
Caps, Cloth,.....	3	21	Shirts,.....	184	308
Caps, Night,.....	280	117	Shoes, Pairs,.....	186	844
Carpets,.....	1	16	Slip Bodies,.....	107	115
Coats,.....	33	550	Stays,.....	42	56
Collars,.....	86	94	Stockings, Pairs,....	486	5867
Counterpanes,.....	48	32	Table Cloths,.....	72	49
Drawers,.....	183	1203	Towels,.....	342	164
Dresses, Strong,.....	5	84	Tray Cloths,.....	24	18
Gowns,.....	633	589	Trousers,.....	49	900
Habitshirts,.....	36	93	Vests,.....	44	464
Handkerchiefs,.....	213	85	Window Blinds,.....	15	24
			Wrappers,.....	54	47

ABSTRACT OF THE REVENUE ACCOUNT OF THE LUNATIC ASYLUM, ABERDEEN,

FOR THE YEAR ENDING 31st MARCH, 1871.

INCOME.			EXPENDITURE.		
Patients' Board, Produce of Ground, Joiners' Work, Shoemakers' ditto,	...	£12,355 8 0	Provisions—	...	£631 12 3
	...	...	Meal and Sids,	...	605 16 3
	...	...	Bread and Barley,	...	1,562 6 0
	...	...	Butcher Meat,	...	526 13 3
ENDOWMENTS— Bedlam Fund, Gilcomston Feu-duties, Chalmers' Bequest,	...	...	Butter and Cheese,	...	165 1 6
	...	£30 0 0	Table Beer,	...	416 1 9
	...	15 6 0	Tea and Sugar,	...	656 0 6
	...	30 0 0	Milk,	...	752 19 3
LEGACIES— The late Dr. Tawse, Aberdeen, " Mr. Robert Low, London, " Mr. G. Gavin's Mortification,	...	...	Small Necessaries,	...	26 15 0
	...	...	Medicine,	...	214 9 11
	...	75 6 0	Wine, Spirits, and Porter,	...	£5,557 15 8
	...	...	FIRE AND LIGHT—Coals, Gas, &c.,	...	£573 19 10
The late Dr. Tawse, Aberdeen, " Mr. Robert Low, London, " Mr. G. Gavin's Mortification,	...	£250 0 0	WASHING—Soap, &c.,	...	99 16 6
	...	100 0 0	MEDICAL SALARIES—	...	...
	...	2 5 2	Physician and Superintendent,	...	£500 0 0
	...	...	Consulting Physician,	...	100 0 0
The late Dr. Tawse, Aberdeen, " Mr. Robert Low, London, " Mr. G. Gavin's Mortification,	...	...	Medical Assistants,	...	80 0 0
	...	352 5 2	GENERAL SALARIES AND WAGES—	...	...
	...	...	Chaplain,	...	100 0 0
	...	...	Clerk and Treasurer,	...	166 13 4
The late Dr. Tawse, Aberdeen, " Mr. Robert Low, London, " Mr. G. Gavin's Mortification,	...	...	Auditor,	...	10 10 0
	...	...	Steward,	...	75 0 0
	...	...	Matron,	...	70 0 0
	...	...	Attendants, House Tradesmen, Apothecary, Assistant Clerk, Barber, Officer, and Servants' Wages, ...	...	1,132 4 11
The late Dr. Tawse, Aberdeen, " Mr. Robert Low, London, " Mr. G. Gavin's Mortification,	...	...	REPAIRS AND FURNISHINGS—	...	...
	...	...	Repairs and Additions to Furniture, Building.	...	£258 10 8
	...	...	Do. Do. Bedding,	...	435 4 11
	...	...	Do. Do. Bedding,	...	147 18 9
The late Dr. Tawse, Aberdeen, " Mr. Robert Low, London, " Mr. G. Gavin's Mortification,	...	...	VARIOUS—	...	841 14 4
	...	...	Pauper Clothing and Furnishing,	...	575 4 11
	...	...	Printing and Stationery,	...	48 0 1
	...	...	Insurances and Public Burdens,	...	305 10 11
The late Dr. Tawse, Aberdeen, " Mr. Robert Low, London, " Mr. G. Gavin's Mortification,	...	...	Incidents (including £54 Snuff and Tobacco to Pauper Patients),	...	107 19 6
	...	...	Interest on Borrowed Money,	...	718 13 9
	...	...	Charged for deterioration on Asylum Buildings, at $\frac{3}{4}$ per cent.,	...	£11,063 3 9
	...	...	Ditto, ditto, Elmhill, ditto,	...	£201 0 0
The late Dr. Tawse, Aberdeen, " Mr. Robert Low, London, " Mr. G. Gavin's Mortification,	...	...	Ditto, Household Furniture, at $2\frac{1}{2}$ per cent.	...	84 6 6
	...	...	Excess of Income above Expenditure,	...	363 14 8
	...	...		...	1,721 19 1
	...	£13,148 17 6		...	£13,148 17 6

CAPITAL ACCOUNT OF

For the Year

	Amount at 31st March, 1870.	Decrease during the year.	Increase during the year.	Amount 31st March 1880
	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.
To Debts due by Asylum :—				
Legacy by George Hogg,	1,600 0 0	.....	.....	1,600 0 0
Mortification by John Burnett,	263 5 10	0 5 6	.....	263 5 10
Loans,	16,800 0 0	500 0 0	.....	16,300 0 0
Bank Current Account,	1,671 14 11	1,290 13 5	.....	381 0 6
Gas Company, ... ..	.....	.....	72 9 10	72 9 10
Income Tax,	8 15 7	0 4 5	.....	8 11 2
Amount of Debt, ...	20,343 16 4	1,791 3 4	72 9 10	18,625 3 2
To Stock,	33,047 8 10	.....	.....	33,047 8 10
Increase from Surplus Revenue, ... ..	.....	.....	1,721 19 1	1,721 19 1
	53,391 5 2	1,791 3 4	1,794 8 11	53,394 14 3

VATIC ASYLUM, ABERDEEN,

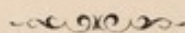
March, 1871.

	Amount at 31st March, 1870.	Decrease during the year.	Increase during the year.	Amount at 31st March, 1871.
	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.
Asylum Buildings and Ground, ... }	32,797 10 0	.....	.....	32,596 10 0
Written off Buildings for deterioration for year, ... }	.....	201 0 0		
Elmhill Buildings and Ground, ... }	16,245 0 6	.....	.....	16,160 14 0
Written off Buildings for deterioration for year, ... }	.....	84 6 6		
Household Furniture, Written off for deterio- ration for year, ... }	3,136 4 6	.....	.....	3,135 7 0
New Furniture added, Stores in hand, ... }	.....	78 8 2		
Board of Patients to recover, ... }	690 5 11	.....	77 10 8	736 3 11
Susan Elrick, Matron, in hand, ... }	139 4 3	52 8 5	45 18 0	86 15 10
Euphemia Johnstone, Housekeeper, in hand, ... }	10 0 0	.....	.....	10 0 0
Gilcomston Feus, ... }	5 0 0	.....	.....	5 0 0
Asylum Extension — Builders to account, ... }	368 0 0	.....	.....	368 0 0
	.....	.....	296 0 0	296 0 0
	53,391 5 2	416 3 1	419 8 8	53,394 10 9

W. CARNIE, *Treasurer.*

JAMES TYTLER, C.A., *Auditor.*

APPENDIX.



Royal Lunatic Asylum,

ABERDEEN, 13th July, 1870.

*To the COMMITTEE of MANAGEMENT
of the ROYAL LUNATIC ASYLUM.*

GENTLEMEN,

I beg to call to your remembrance a Committee appointed to review the Finances of the Asylum, which gave in its report on the 8th March, 1869; because, although it represented that the income arising from the board of patients was then too low for the well-being of the establishment, as yet, no steps have been taken by the Managers to remedy the matter.

I have myself been for years persuaded that the charge made for some classes of patients, and particularly for our paupers, is much under what it ought to be, and that the Managers in adhering to present rates, and that too, under altered circumstances, are inconsiderately sacrificing the interests of the Asylum to the pressure of the Parochial Boards of Aberdeenshire, more especially of the Parishes of the Town, which are never without Members of their Boards on the Asylum Committee of Management. The agreement which had been entered into, about eleven years ago, as to the amount of payment to be made for individuals sent by the Aberdeenshire Parishes to the Asylum, had scarcely been in operation, when a reduction was injudiciously allowed, and in this way the balance in favour of the Hospital, necessary for repairs, extensions, accidental occurrences, requiring outlay, and for the gradual extinction of debt—was given up to a cry raised about the supposed high scale of charges. After one reduction was submitted to, another was urged and made; and while the household expense was certainly not declining, the most legitimate source of the Asylum's income was gradually being diminished, and all the results of care and economy of management made to tend, not to the credit, but to the disadvantage of the Institution.

The charge for paupers was held up by those, more zealous in the popular cause of the reduction of rates, than considerate for the good of the Asylum, as being beyond what was requisite in itself, or countenanced by the scale of charges elsewhere. The average cost of patients in the Aberdeen Asylum—of whom the great bulk are parochial or indigent cases—is £27 upwards; while the amount paid for every furnishing for pauper lunatics, even of the most refractory and expensive kind, is but £23 10s.—although the charge even for District Paupers in Scotch Asylums has at the same period reached in some so high as £32, which very recently, and it may be so now, was charged for Invernessshire patients in the county Asylum at Inverness. (*Vide Lunacy Commissioners' Parliamentary Report for 1869, p. xxxii.*)

There is no reason for the Aberdeen Asylum undercharging for Pauper Lunatics, but various reasons why it might charge more than some others. It was not built by a rate, nor is it upheld by any tax on the community. It is neither richly endowed, nor highly encouraged by benevolent contributions. It is self-supporting, and until interfered with by the pressure externally of Lunacy Boards and Parochial interests, was successfully so, in a considerable degree. By its ready admission to all classes, moderate charges for board, and administration of certain small charitable funds connected with it, it helps undoubtedly to lessen the number of cases that might otherwise come upon the parish. The Aberdeen Asylum by its existence, and readiness to undertake the work of a District Hospital, saved the County the burden of building and maintaining an Hospital for three hundred Lunatics. In order to fully accommodate the County and the Town Parishes, the Asylum discharged many patients, whom their guardians would gladly have left in its care, at even an advanced scale of rates. Various Counties would, some years ago, have been very willing to have come to arrangements sufficiently profitable to the establishment for the admission of their patients, and probably some of the recently-erected Asylums might not, in such a case, have been in existence. Besides foregoing opportunities of obtaining large boards from distant places, the Aberdeen Asylum has within the last twelve years, been at a great expense in enlarging its grounds and improving its accommodation, for the purpose of acquiring and retaining the sanction of authority to its assuming the position and discharging the function of a District Lunatic Asylum. For such and similar reasons, it is unfair but that the Hospital should be adequately remunerated, and not underpaid, as it is, for District Paupers.

The present rate of board is under what was paid as a fair thing, after much consideration, ten years ago, when it was the declared intention of legislation that all the Pauper Lunatics of the District should be kept in the District Asylum. Since then much loss has resulted, after the expenditure which the Managers were thus led into, from subsequent alterations on the original Act of 1857, and the removal of Patients from the Asylum, to the fatuous wards of Poor houses. During a period of twelve months past about sixty persons have been so transferred, that is the Asylum suffers a loss nearly equivalent to £1500 per annum. The Town Poor-houses are gradually becoming Asylums, and if the movement goes on in its present current, may in a few years be licenced as such. Those patients, who are cheaply or easily accommodated, or who, by their more tractable character and domestic usefulness, help to balance the expense of keeping the more infirm and more dangerous classes, are now removed by the Parochial authorities, and only such left as cost the house considerably more than the contract charge, in care and medical treatment.

The Institution is in a bad way financially, I conceive, unless its annual income for some years to come exceeds its expenditure by a sum not less than £2000. The burdens upon it are heavy, and the house, by age and condition, of a kind to require an annual outlay in repairs, independently of the necessity for development, in the way of improvement, or possible extension. The income cannot be increased but by a rise on the boards charged, for I scarcely see how much can be effected by any practical increase of economy; and the relation of the Hospital to the Infirmary nearly deprives it of the chances which similar institutions enjoy of being bettered by legacies, donations, and payments for right of management. This proposed rise on boards would be quite inadequate if limited to the amounts charged for private patients, unless this class was much more extended than it is at present, or likely in future to become. The advance must be made on the reduced rate at which Parochial cases are received, by recurring to the charge which was originally agreed to for County patients. A consideration of circumstances will show such an advance to be both just and feasible. Many of the Aberdeenshire Parishes have been withdrawing a number of those whose keep, under bargain made, was to have contributed permanently to the income of the Institution: and recent changes in the Statute give them (the Parochial authorities) the power of removing any patients deemed incurable and not dangerous,

to be more cheaply kept elsewhere. The required increase on the charge for those allowed to remain may be safely gone into, without detriment to the Asylum, as the District Aberdeenshire Lunatics cannot find admission into any other public Asylum, for want of room, and, if they could, only at an expense which, in connection with delay, travelling charges in receiving and removing, and various other inconveniences, would make any charge, such as would be contemplated as necessary here, appear in reality but a reasonable and moderate one.

I am,

GENTLEMEN,

Your obedient Servant,

ROBERT JAMIESON,
Medical Superintendent.

NOTE.—The following Charges made for Pauper Lunatics, in the Scottish Asylums, are extracted from the Eleventh and Twelfth Parliamentary Reports of the Commissioners in Lunacy :—

	1869.	1870.
Inverness District Asylum, . . .	£32 0 0	£28 0 0
Glasgow Royal do. . . .	31 12 8	31 12 8
Edinburgh do. do. . . .	27 0 0	27 0 0
Argyll District do. . . .	25 2 8	25 2 8
Haddington do. do. . . .	25 0 0	25 0 0
Fife do. do. . . .	24 0 0	24 0 0
Ayr do. do. . . .	.....	26 0 0
Banff do. do. . . .	.....	26 0 0
Montrose Royal do. . . .	23 10 0	23 10 0
Aberdeen do. do. . . .	23 10 0	23 10 0

And except Perth Asylum, which charges Ten Shillings less, and Dundee Asylum, which charges only Two Shillings less, there are none lower but Elgin and Dumfries Asylums.

