

Thirty-sixth annual report of the directors of the Dundee Royal Asylum for Lunatics : submitted, in terms of their charter, to a general meeting of the directors, 16th June, 1856 with the report of the medical officers.

Contributors

Dundee Royal Asylum for Lunatics.
Wingett, T. T.

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183 Euston Road
London NW1 2BE UK
T +44 (0)20 7611 8722
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REPORT BY THE DIRECTORS
OF THE
DUNDEE ROYAL LUNATIC ASYLUM,
TO THE
ANNUAL GENERAL COURT,

16TH JUNE 1856.

As the Medical Superintendent will lay before you the details of domestic management and medical treatment, and as the Treasurer will present his statement of accounts for the bygone year, there is no necessity for a lengthened report by the Directors ; in fact, there is very little left for them to say. The events of a general nature which they have to notice are so few, and the working of the Institution has been so smooth and uniform, that were it not for the purpose of bearing an independent testimony to the excellent management and thorough efficiency of the Asylum, this separate report by the Directors might almost be dispensed with.

In conformity, however, with what is usual at the annual meeting, they submit the following statement :—

During the past year 36 patients have been admitted, labouring under various forms and in different stages of mental disease. Within the same period 20 have been discharged cured ; 5, more or less improved, have been removed by their relatives or natural guardians ; and 11 have died within the walls of the Asylum.

Besides the 36 who have been admitted, there have been 25 applications which the Directors were reluctantly compelled to refuse for want of suitable accommodation. These were all of the class for which a low rate of board is charged, and whose admission it is very desirable to secure. There was, however, no alternative, as their reception would have overcrowded the department to which they must necessarily have been assigned.

It is to be regretted that the refusal of such applications should be a matter of yearly recurrence, and that it can be remedied only by what there seems little prospect of at present, viz., the completion of the original plan of the buildings. The part which remains unaccomplished, belongs to the department intended for the class referred to.

The statement of accounts it is believed will be found altogether satisfactory, notwithstanding the large expenditure which has been necessarily occasioned by the high price of provisions during the greater part of the year, and another large outlay of money which will be mentioned immediately. The provisioning of such an establishment, comprising on an average 240 persons of all classes, necessarily forms the chief item in the expenditure ; and it is one which varies according to the price of provisions. This year it is £50 larger than last ; and last year it was £277 larger than the year before. Notwithstanding this, the Treasurer's statement will show that the income for the year has been sufficient to meet the entire expenditure, and to leave a surplus of £295.

It affords much satisfaction to the Directors that they have been able to complete the new chapel which was in progress at the time of last report ; and that they have been able to complete it very nearly in accordance with the tradesmen's estimates which were laid before the Quarterly Court, and sanctioned by it in April last year. The entire estimated cost, *not* including painting nor stoves, was £680, 0s. 6d. The actual cost, after paying everything, and *including* £16, 13s. for painting, and £10, 12s. for stoves, has been £714, 7s. 8d. ; so that the difference between the estimates and the price of the work estimated is only £7, 2s. 2d.

This necessarily absorbs the entire surplus arising from the year's income, and adds about £419 to the debt of the Institution, but it adds at the same time £714, 7s. 8d. to the value of the property.

By the erection of the chapel a double advantage has been gained, for besides the comfortable accommodation for religious exercises which it affords, the room which was formerly occupied for this purpose has been converted into sleeping berths for ten additional patients, and space has been found for increased store-room accommodation, which was greatly needed. The cost of these alterations was not included in the estimates above referred to. It amounts to £45, and is included in the general expenditure of the year.

The new chapel, which is much admired, and exceedingly suitable for the purpose for which it is intended, was opened by the Rev. Dr Adie on the 30th of December last. The average attendance is about 100. The exercises are efficiently conducted by the Chaplain, Mr Stirling, and appear to be highly appreciated by the patients.

The Directors attach peculiar importance to this arrangement, as they believe the due observance of Divine worship to be not only a duty and a moral benefit in so large an establishment, but also an important part of the remedial system which is pursued in it.

It will be in the remembrance of those who were present at last annual meeting, that Patrick Scott, Esq., requested he might no longer be called upon to act as chairman of the Weekly Committee. For eighteen years he had performed the duties of that office with signal advantage to the Asylum, until at length the infirmities of age compelled him to relinquish all further continuance in it. He has since died, full of days, and rich in the affectionate regards of those whose esteem it is most desirable to possess. In token of his unabated interest in this Institution, he has bequeathed to it the sum of £200. Captain Scott's successor in the chairmanship of the weekly committee was Alexander Balfour, Esq., another long-trying and wise friend to the Asylum. He had held the appointment

but five months when he also died, within a very short period of the decease of the esteemed friend whom he had succeeded. It is not often that an Institution such as this loses so many of its old friends and supporters within the course of a single year, for there is yet another to be mentioned, who may most fitly be classed with the two that have been named. Dr Patrick Nimmo had for twenty years been the attending and consulting physician to the Asylum, and he discharged the duties devolving upon him with zeal and ability till the close of his long life. The Directors had to record his death within a month after the last annual meeting.

These three gentlemen had each passed the ordinary term of human life, but they retained much of the mental activity and all the largeness of heart which had characterised their early days. In them great natural excellences were blended, as we all know, with the matured wisdom of old age, and they exerted themselves unweariedly to the very last in caring for the welfare of this Institution. Most sincerely do the Directors hope that, as the originators and first supporters of it are removed by death, which must necessarily happen in the course of thirty or forty years, others will be found, possessing similar zeal and sagacity, to fill their places in the management of its affairs. There is nothing by which one earns so fair a title to the grateful remembrances of his fellow citizens as by steady, long-continued, and courteous co-operation with them in enterprises of benevolence.

Upon the death of Provost Balfour, Thos. Weston Miln, Esq., was requested by the Weekly Committee to act as their Chairman, and his appointment, which was reckoned peculiarly appropriate, was confirmed by the next Quarterly Court that was held.

The bye-laws regarding the duties of the attending and consulting physician had remained unchanged from the beginning, but after the appointment of a resident medical superintendent, these duties became neither so heavy nor so responsible as they had been before. This was duly considered in the appointment of Dr Nimmo's successor; the bye-laws were

altered to meet the altered circumstances of the Asylum ; and at a General Court specially convened, Dr Cocks was appointed to the vacant office, with a salary of fifty guineas per annum.

In closing this brief report, the Directors desire to bear emphatic testimony to the excellent management and thorough efficiency of the Establishment. They believe it will bear comparison with any similar establishment in the kingdom. The unfortunate beings whose mental condition renders them fit inmates of a Lunatic Asylum receive there the benefit of skilful medical treatment. Their personal comfort is admirably cared for by the Matron, whose ability and quiet energy in the management of her department are beyond all praise. Almost all the servants have been long in the house, and have acquired the experience which is needful for the proper management of the insane. So far as can be judged, all of them are well qualified for their work. This, it is believed, is a matter of great importance, and contributes not a little to the efficiency of the Dundee Asylum ; for, let the regulations and superintendence be what they may, the comfort of the patients, and even their chances of recovery, must largely depend upon the character and qualifications of the servants who are constantly among them, and from whom they experience very much either of the harsh or mild treatment which they receive.

ABSTRACT OF THE AFFAIRS
OF THE
DUNDEE ROYAL LUNATIC ASYLUM,

For the Year ending 31st March 1856.

I N C O M E.

Board from Patients,	£4,698	7	4	
Patients' Labour,	124	7	2	
Profit on Store,	65	17	0	
Profit on Straw,	20	18	4	
	£4,909	9	10	

E X P E N D I T U R E.

SALARIES—

Superintendent,	£300	0	0	
Matron,	100	0	0	
Physician,	64	4	5	
Chaplain,	40	0	0	
Secretary,	30	0	0	
Treasurer,	75	0	0	
	£609	4	5	
Less Fees from Patients,	51	9	0	
	£557	15	5	
Interest,	£195	13	6	
Servants, Wages,	552	14	0	
Soap,	41	0	0	
Taxes,	9	0	11	
Advertising, Printing, Stationery, Books, &c.,	53	1	7	
	£851	10	0	
Carried forward,	£557	15	5	

	Brought forward,	£851	10	0	£557	15	5
Coals and Firewood,	.	247	2	2			
Fire Insurance,	.	13	11	7			
Feu Duty,	.	84	11	0			
Gas,	.	34	10	0			
Incidents,	.	55	0	10			
Patients' Extras,	.	21	2	10			
					<hr/>	1,307	8 5
Butcher Meat,	.	553	9	5			
Butter,	.	91	2	7			
Beer,	.	90	4	8			
Bread,	.	513	19	0			
Barley and Pease,	.	68	12	6			
Cheese,	.	16	15	2			
Eggs,	.	1	13	0			
Fish,	.	30	7	8			
Groceries,	.	51	7	2			
Milk,	.	324	1	6			
Meal,	.	326	12	3			
Medicines,	.	35	0	0			
Potatoes and Turnips,	.	45	12	2			
Sugar,	.	59	14	3			
Tea,	.	71	14	1			
Water,	.	40	13	0			
					<hr/>	2,320	18 5
Furniture,	.	92	1	9			
Grounds,	.	26	19	1			
Mason Work,	.	36	4	2			
Plumber Work,	.	43	14	4			
Plaster Work,	.	3	19	11			
Painter Work,	.	48	1	3			
Smith Work,	.	37	1	11			
Wright Work,	.	139	10	10			
					<hr/>	427	13 3
					<hr/>	£4,613	15 6
Excess of Income from Patients,	.					295	14 4
					<hr/>	£4,909	9 10

ABSTRACT VIEW

OF THE

AFFAIRS OF THE ASYLUM

From 1820 to 1856.

Amount of Income from 1821 to 1856,	£122,540	19	5
Amount of Expenditure from 1820 to 1856,	105,466	10	7½
Excess of Income,	£17,074	8	9½
Add Donations and Legacies			
from 1820 to 1855,	£13,344	8	6½
Do. from 1855 to 1856,	2	3	6
	<u>13,346</u>	12	0½
	£30,421	0	10
Amount of Debt at 31st March			
1855,	£3,633,	19	1
Add Expenditure on Buildings			
for New Chapel,	714	7	8
	<u>£4,348</u>	6	9
Deduct 1st, Excess of Income from			
the Patients for the year ending			
31st March 1856, £295	14	4	
And 2d, Amount of			
Donations during			
the year,	2	3	6
	<u>297</u>	17	10
Amount of Debt due by the Asylum at 31st			
March 1856,	4,050	8	11
Total Expenditure on Buildings and Furniture,	£34,471	9	9
Deduct sum written off for depreciation,	455	18	0
Amount of Expenditure in General Balance Sheet,	<u>£34,015</u>	11	9

AT THE

ANNUAL COURT OF DIRECTORS

OF THE

DUNDEE ROYAL LUNATIC ASYLUM,

HELD IN TOWN HALL OF DUNDEE,

ON MONDAY 16TH JUNE 1856,

THOMAS WESTON MILN, Esq., IN THE CHAIR,

The Annual Report of the Directors was read.

Mr ROLLO moved that the Report be approved and printed, and that the thanks of the Meeting be given to the Rev. Mr LANG for drawing it up, which was unanimously agreed to.

Dr WINGETT read the Medical Report, for which, on the motion of Mr BLAIR, the thanks of the Meeting were unanimously tendered.

The following parishes, having contributed £20 or upwards to the Funds of the Asylum, are entitled to have their pauper patients admitted into class first, and are charged the lowest rate of board; but no other parish, since 1824, can claim the privilege. The parish of St Andrews was privileged in 1837, and the parish of Kingsbarns in 1852, to have each one patient only in the Asylum at the lowest rate of board.

Airlie.	Kettins.
Alyth.	Kingsbarns, one patient only.
Arbroath.	Liff and Benvie.
Auchterhouse.	Longforgan.
Brechin.	Mains aud Strathmartine.
Dundee.	Monifieth.
Dunnichen.	Monikie.
Forfar.	Murroes.
Glammiss.	Newtyle.
Guthrie.	Rescobie.
Inverarity.	St Andrews, one patient only.
Kirriemuir.	Tannadice.
Kinnettles.	Tealing.

MEDICAL REPORT TO THE DIRECTORS,

16TH JUNE 1856.

It is always a matter of deep thankfulness to the Superintendent of an Asylum, when giving his annual account of the field of his labours, to find that no accident or act of violence involving serious consequences has occurred during the period falling to be reported upon. So many of his daily avocations consist in making provision against untoward events, the responsibility for which would attach to his office, and living in the habitual apprehension of their advent, success in this preventive service brings with it the highest satisfaction. Every annual retrospect presents many incidents of danger and difficulty suddenly encountered and narrowly averted. The details of these, however, as well as the alarm and prolonged mental tension which they entail, do not enter into these reports, for the obvious reason that you are already aware that it was the tendency to such events which called this Institution into existence, and which it was appointed to meet and treat. They are hinted at here simply for the purpose of serving as the medium for conveying a grateful acknowledgment for the happy issue of many events having most unpropitious beginnings.

Rarely have the members of our large family been more free from acute physical disease than during the past year. No epidemic or unusual sickness has invaded our dwelling to complicate afflictions already of the heaviest nature. And it is gratifying to believe that the means employed in the treatment of the patients have been instrumental in restoring to health and their family circles a large proportion of the cases admitted, often after hope of such a result had well nigh vanished; and in other cases relieving and palliating much suffering that did not admit of entire removal, sometimes to such an extent as to have induced a condition of comparative comfort and happiness.

During the past year 35 patients have been admitted into the Asylum, of whom 22 were males, and 13 females.

At the date of the last Annual Court there were 210 patients resident; thus 245 individuals have been treated in the Institution during the year. The daily average number resident having been 216.

35 have been removed during the year, of whom 19 were recovered, 5 not recovered, and 11 have died; leaving at the close of the year 210 inmates.

The number discharged recovered was thus in the proportion of 54 per cent. to the admissions. The number of patients admitted since the opening of the Institution amounts to 1625; and of these 742 have recovered, being within a fraction of 46 per cent. If, however, the patients still remaining under treatment be deducted, the per centage is raised to 52½. And it is obvious that this deduction must be made if we would render the calculation as accurate as possible, otherwise the quota of recoveries which we may happily expect to be drawn from the 210 sufferers still under our care is unrecognized, and is made actually to throw its weight into the scale of non-recoveries.

The mortality during the year has been 5 per cent. upon the average number resident, or 4½ upon the whole number under treatment during the year. The average annual mortality during the last six-and-twenty years has been 5.78 per cent. Thus showing that the number passing away from our community by death has been somewhat below the average of past years, although exactly the same number of deaths have occurred this year as during the previous year. The measure of physical health and longevity with which our community has been blessed will be more easily appreciated, if it be mentioned that the most experienced authorities have arrived at the opinion that in an Asylum such as this, devoted to the treatment of both upper and lower classes of patients, a mortality which exceeds 9 or 10 per cent. is usually to be considered as unfavourable, and one which is less than 7 per cent. as highly favourable. Our average annual mortality having been 5 and a fraction per cent., as above stated, indicates that the conditions tending to maintain bodily vigour are uncommonly complete, affording matter for much satisfaction.

One of the patients whom want of room prevented our receiving,

was an idiot boy of mischievous tendencies and untrained habits. Although there had existed no such reason as want of room for refusing admission to this child, it is obvious that a Lunatic Asylum was not the most fitting retreat for him. He would have been a constant source of annoyance and irritation to every class of patients into which he might be introduced; and a due regard to the comfort and convenience of the other patients, as well as his own safety, would have necessitated his separation from all society here. He must have been isolated from those even who had themselves suffered isolation. In fact, a separate establishment would have been required for his accommodation; and inasmuch as we do not possess that special organization for dealing with the immense difficulties of idiot training, much injustice would have been inflicted upon him by depriving him of those opportunities for amelioration which are provided in such an Institution as that founded by the bounty of Sir John and the Lady Jane Ogilvy.

One idiot, who had attained to manhood in every characteristic save that of intellect, was admitted during the year. He had been permitted to wander about one of the country parishes, under the cognomen of "daft Davie," until the perpetration of an act of violence brought upon him the interference of the Procurator-Fiscal, and the application of that admirable Act of Parliament which owes its existence to the wise statesmanship of one of the Directors of this Asylum, the Right Honourable Lord Panmure.

During the first years of the Asylum, and when the accommodation available was limited to 40 patients only, it was considered proper to establish a rule authorising the dismissal of those patients whose maladies appeared to be hopeless, after treatment had been persevered in for twelve months. This rule was never put in force. It is obvious that to have applied it indiscriminately would have entailed serious disadvantages and dangers upon the sufferers so ejected, as well as upon their guardians. It was necessary, however, to do something to relieve the inconvenience of the constant accumulation of chronic and incurable cases which threatened to stop the admission and treatment of the recent and curable. The effectual remedy was the enlargement of the Institution. The inconvenience repeatedly returned, and was relieved by a resort to the same remedy. Thus, gradually and by successive additions, it has reached its present proportions. It now numbers 210 patients,

and in consequence of further additions completed during the year the unusual announcement can be made that some spare accommodation remains available.

The wise and liberal rule has hitherto been acted upon of devoting the Institution to cases of every description of insanity, of whatever duration, and whether considered curable or incurable. Had the practice been to give it the character exclusively of an hospital for the cure of insanity, rather than a retreat likewise for the incurable insane, the relative number of recoveries must have been thereby much increased, the obituary would have recorded fewer names, and the history of the establishment would have presented an amount of success equally gratifying and attractive with that reported of the few Institutions in this country devoted solely to the cure of the curable, and from which all patients are dismissed whose maladies resist the curative influences for more than twelve months. Our doors have been opened indiscriminately to idiots who, of course, never recover; to the insane affected with general paralysis, regarding whom the infallible prediction can be made that death will put a period to their sufferings in a space of time averaging two years; to patients also afflicted with epilepsy, who are usually among the most violent and dangerous, as well as the most hopeless; and again, those in whom the wreck of humanity has been settling down for many years. In short, no applicant has ever been rejected save upon the ground of want of space. Moreover, sufferers from all the forms and complications of the malady are now resident who have carried about their afflictions for periods varying from the first to the thirty-fifth year.

Considering the open and perfectly unrestricted rule for the admission and residence of patients, the results exhibited by reference to the tables of recovery and mortality accord with the most prosperous achievements to be looked for in the present state of curative science. Incessantly the objects kept in view have been to collect around our afflicted charges as many sources of health and happiness as are attainable: to give a diet ample and generous; carefully considered medical and moral superintendence; occupation, instruction, and amusement wherever these could be made available; and it must be a very gratifying reflection for the Directors of this Asylum, that they have never permitted an acknowledged want or a reasonable wish to exist, without a prompt and liberal gratifi-

education. This remark is especially applicable to their treatment of the poorer classes depending upon them, in regard to whom they have never lost sight of the important fact and warning of an enlightened experience, that although human life may be supported, and the insane lodged, less expensively than they are in the Dundee Asylum, that if the spirit of economy be allowed to co-operate with erroneous notions regarding nervous diseases and their requirements, a most humiliating influence will have been thereby brought to operate upon the rate of bodily disease, mortality, and recovery. They have carefully avoided being lavish, and the liberality which has been their rule has been uniformly commended for the gratifying nature of its results.

This earnest endeavour on the part of the Directors to employ their whole means of doing good has again been most agreeably manifested by the opening of the new Chapel. It is now a quarter of a century since the introduction of public worship into this Asylum, and during that period every recurring Sabbath has been enlivened by its observance. At the commencement, when these exercises were regarded in the light of an interesting but doubtful experiment, the services were kindly performed by the ministers of the Presbytery, who acted alternately. The gratifying effects produced were soon followed by the appointment of the Rev. Mr Stirling, to whose care was committed the continuation of these ministrations, and who has ever since laboured amongst his interesting flock with much happy result. The discordant opinions which formerly prevailed upon the propriety of introducing public worship to a congregation circumstanced like our own, no longer prevail. The notion that there is something absurd and impracticable in the statement that mental derangement is compatible with an appreciation and performance of religious duty, had its origin in an erroneous view of the natures and susceptibilities to be found in an insane community. It is only the minority who exhibit the wreck of intellect in its complete form. The greater number manifest those partial obscurities and extravagancies which, although they may interpose as a barrier to the performance of the duties of every-day life, do not destroy the operation and enjoyment of religious influences. Another objection was raised in the opinion that religion itself becomes occasionally a cause of insanity, and that accordingly the performance of ordinary church services could not act otherwise than as a source of excitement and irritation. There can be no

doubt that there are certain precursory conditions of insanity in which the mind and feelings are so delicately balanced, that the overthrow may be determined by a violent commentary upon the denunciatory portions of scripture; but in this case the individual has been frightened out of his senses, and he must now be diverted from the contemplation of religious subjects for a season. This is, however, a rare occurrence. The extreme despondency and terror and abandonment of every ray of hope, frequently considered as being of a religious origin, are usually the consequences of a morbid condition with which devotional exercises and meditations have had nothing whatever to do in producing. A variety of bodily states, or injurious moral influences, quite remote from a religious nature, may be at the bottom of this formidable trouble. In the so-called religious melancholy, the feeling of melancholy or vague despondency arises first, and the characteristic delusion becomes grafted upon it at a future period, often coincidently with an anxious poring over the Scriptures, with a view to find relief for the unaccustomed alarm. The important fact to be noted is, that the erratic workings of the stomach or brain, rather than the teachings of the Bible, have acted as cause of the mischief we deplore.

The new Chapel, completely separated as it is from the Asylum, fitted up with much taste and comfort, and showing little or no deviation from the ordinary plan of a place of worship, has afforded the congregation a high degree of gratification. An unaccustomed interest and attention have been excited; the habitually pious are comforted and refreshed; and it is curious to observe that some individuals who never joined in the services before, now do so in order to gratify their curiosity, or to exhibit a gay garment, or because they suspect it will be the means of proving the competency of their intellects. Although it would be too much to affirm that as much decorum and composure prevail as in a sane congregation, yet the propriety of demeanour far exceeds what could have been anticipated, and the self-control exerted is greater than under other circumstances.

11 patients have died during the year, of whom 9 were males, and 2 females. The diseases to which they succumbed were principally of that intractable nature which afforded little room for hope that the impending danger could be averted. 4 males and 1 female died of marasmus, or the exhaustion of the vital powers induced apparently by protracted and agonising delusions. One of

these male patients presented the only instance during the year of abstinence from food to so determined an extent as to require the use of the stomach pump. Several instances occurred in which, under the influence of various delusions, there was a temporary repugnance to take food, but the difficulty was always overcome by some other expedient short of the means referred to. In one of these instances, a gentleman refused all food under the impression that it was the vehicle of poison. No persuasion could shake his conviction. Interference became necessary; but when the stomach pump was produced, and preparations made for its use, he took food voluntarily.

There were 2 deaths, both males, during the year from pulmonary consumption.

2 persons, a male and a female, died of that formidable complication named the general paralysis of the insane.

Of the remaining 2 male patients who died during the year, one was cut off by chronic bronchitis. The other sunk from an attack of inflammation of the lungs, following upon a very severe and almost fatal fit of epilepsy. During the last six years his mind had been quite a blank; he never uttered a rational sentence; and the jargon which occasionally fell from his lips was broken and disjointed, as if he had great difficulty in articulation. His movements of both extremities were unsteady and ill-balanced. His whole nervous system seemed to have undergone a process of disorganisation; nevertheless, it was a remarkable fact that the *post mortem* examination failed to reveal any departure from the ordinary structure of the nervous apparatus. The usual appearances of recent and extensive inflammation were found in the lungs, which explained his death; but the epilepsy, together with the total destruction of the mental powers, and the impairment of the volitional movements, left no impress behind them, appreciable either to microscopical or other means of detection, to explain the formidable malady exhibited during life.

It cannot fail to give you much pleasure to be informed that the servants of the Institution have gained for themselves a high character for efficiency and faithfulness to their charge. The abandonment of physical restraint which has for many years been carried out here in the treatment of the patients, demands that vigilance and patient nursing shall be employed as substitutes for the mechanical contrivances discarded; tasks which, when faith-

fully discharged by intelligent servants, merit the highest commendation and reward. It will readily be understood that the duty is often harassing, disagreeable, and difficult; and that the only mode for inducing qualified individuals to undertake and to persevere in such offices is for those in authority over them to do everything possible to promote their happiness and contentment—to encourage them to feel an attachment for their afflicted charges—and to induce them to understand that their position, although apparently lowly esteemed, is really one of high importance and responsibility. Twelve of the servants at present in the Institution have held their situations for periods varying from the tenth to the seventeenth year. And it is a very gratifying and laudable fact, affording at the same time a trustworthy measure of the efficiency and respectability of this humble but most useful class of public servants, that, since the time when the last annual report was presented to you, not one of the 29 individuals forming the entire *corps* of servants of the Institution has incurred either reprimand or penalty for any violation of the rule of sobriety, morality, and humanity which it is well understood must be scrupulously followed. The system of management is such, that I have reason to believe that abuses could not have existed without my knowledge. And not only do I confidently bestow my praise upon the servants for freedom from the grosser faults, such as intoxication and cruelty to patients. It has been a source of great gratification to me to observe the intelligence and carefulness which have been displayed under circumstances of difficulty and danger, and the appreciation manifested of the sovereign efficacy of kindness and moral discipline in attaining the object sought after.

The facilities for the occupation, amusement, and instruction of the patients continue to give a good return in augmenting the sum of health and happiness. It is unnecessary to enter into details under these heads, as they have been fully commented upon in former reports, and you are sufficiently familiar with their working.

The Library continues to be frequented with profit and pleasure by the inmates of both sexes. The sum of £10, voted by the last Quarterly Court for the purchase of additional books, is in process of being expended upon works which will supply a want to the varied tastes and requirements of the readers. As was mentioned in the last report, there was a deficiency of books of the amusing and imaginative class, the customary supply of works of this de-

scription having been for many years past obtained by subscription to the various libraries in Dundee. It will still be necessary to continue this olden method for giving the upper class of patients their accustomed supplies of reading, inasmuch as the humble proportions of our domestic Library cannot be expected to gratify their craving for new works of the highest class, which can be so easily accomplished by the means above alluded to, and which has hitherto been the privilege of this class of patients. There are 40 patients who use the Library. These are, however, only a portion of the general reading class. There are many patients who cannot concentrate their attention sufficiently long to read a book, and who delight in the promiscuous reading of newspapers and periodicals. And as a general rule it is observed that newspapers are sought for by the insane more than books. They have a craving for news regarding the localities with which they are acquainted, and they find in them matters interesting because they have transpired near their homes. Many are pleased apparently with the mere possession of a book, and seem to be as much pleased with the title page only as others are with the subject matter which follows. There are, however, many earnest and attentive readers, who actually digest and profit by their readings, and to whom the Library is a great boon and solace. The literature which is most in request, and which diffuses the highest amount of enjoyment, is the illustrated variety. The *Illustrated London News* and *Punch* enjoy a popularity here quite enthusiastic. The pictures and caricatures convey with rapidity a large amount of information regarding current events and persons in whose career they feel an interest, and without study or attention, and this is a matter of the highest import to many who are so restless that they cannot be induced to collect information or amusement in any other way. Moreover, pictures, of whatever description they may be, have much power to arrest the attention and amuse the insane. It is a frequent occurrence to see an individual, apparently so sunk in fatuity that the light of reason seems almost eclipsed, attracted by a picture, and looking it carefully over with an unwonted expression of intelligence and interest. Flowers have a similar influence. We were agreeably surprised a few months since to see a young lady, who was in a state of advanced imbecility, manifest the most marked tokens of admiration and delight at the gift of a few snowdrops and crocuses; and the season of flowers has continued to be to her a

season of unaccustomed enjoyment. They have been her constant companions. The power to perceive and to enjoy the beautiful either in nature or art is not in proportion to vigour of intellect, and does not necessarily pass away when the intellectual powers have faded and fallen. Recognising this fact, it would be advantageous if certain of our public rooms were decorated with paintings, for it is certain that they distract and rouse the morbid and obtuse attention of some of the mentally afflicted, and all such distraction and rousing is beneficial. The patients themselves have initiated the artistic advantage alluded to by preserving the most attractive sketches in the *Illustrated News* and *Punch*, and arranging them in certain groups forming large picture sheets, which are placed upon the walls with pretty good effect. But good oil paintings would fulfil the intention aimed at most effectually. The Library has received several donations from kind friends, and it is not too much to hope, perhaps, that those same kind friends may yet have the opportunity, as it is certain they have the inclination, to minister to that appreciation of the fine arts which is to be found in our household.

The Medical Superintendent has been upon many occasions under great obligations to the Consulting Physician, whose kindness and experience have been at all times promptly made available.

To the Directors, the Medical Superintendent respectfully offers his personal thanks for the countenance granted to him in the discharge of his duties. His gratitude is especially due on behalf of those whose guardian he is for the kindness and liberality which they have displayed in their government of the Institution. The same generous spirit which originated it still presides over its progress, and watches anxiously over the interests intrusted to its care. Since the last meeting of this Court our household has mourned over the death of three of its oldest and best friends. The names of the late Mr Scott, Mr Balfour, and Dr Nimmo will be here long cherished in grateful recollection, and the memorials of their many valuable and important services endearingly revered.

T. T. WINGETT, M.D.

STATISTICAL TABLES

FOR THE

YEAR ENDING 16TH JUNE 1856.

(*The Year ending on the 3d Monday of June, agreeably to Charter.*)

TABLE I.

YEARLY STATEMENT.

From 18th June 1855 to 16th June 1856.

	Males.	Females.	Total.
Remained 18th June 1855,	115	95	210
Admissions during the year,	18	9	27
Re-admitted,	4	4	8
Total,	137	108	245
<i>Discharges and Deaths,—</i>			
Discharged, cured,	9	10	19
Do. improved,	1	1	2
Do. by desire,	1	2	3
Died,	9	2	11
Total,	20	15	35
Remaining 16th June 1856,	117	93	210
Total,	137	108	245
Daily average number of patients in the House,	120	96	216

II.—TABLE OF CAUSES OF DISEASE OF PATIENTS ADMITTED
DURING THE YEAR.

	Males.	Females.	Total.
Disappointment,	3	0	3
Grief,	4	3	7
Fright,	1	3	4
Drunkenness,	2	0	2
Injuries of the head,	2	0	2
Unknown,	10	7	17
Hereditary predisposition was ascertained in	4	5	9

III.—ADMISSIONS RELATIVE TO AGES.

	Males.	Females.	Total
From 10 to 15 years of age,	1	1	2
15 to 20 "	1	1	2
20 to 25 "	3	0	3
25 to 30 "	2	2	4
30 to 35 "	3	3	6
35 to 40 "	3	2	5
40 to 45 "	3	1	4
45 to 50 "	2	3	5
50 to 55 "	1	0	1
55 to 60 "	2	0	2
60 to 65 "	1	0	1
	—	—	—
	22	13	35

IV.—FORMS OF DISEASE OF PATIENTS ADMITTED DURING THE YEAR.

	Males.	Females.	Total.
Mania,	6	3	9
Dementia,	9	3	12
Monomania,	4	0	4
Melancholia,	2	7	9
Idiocy,	1	0	1
	—	—	—
	22	13	35

V.—ADMISSIONS RELATIVE TO THE SOCIAL CONDITION.

	Males.	Females.	Total.
Married,	6	8	14
Unmarried,	15	4	19
Widows,	0	1	1
Widowers,	1	0	1
	—	—	—
	22	13	35

VI.—DURATION OF DISEASE PREVIOUSLY TO ADMISSION.

	Males.	Females.	Total.
Not exceeding 1 month,	6	5	11
... 3	3	2	5
... 6	3	2	5
... 9	1	0	1
... 1 year,	1	0	1
... 2	6	2	8
... 7	0	1	1
... 9	1	0	1
... 10	0	1	1
... 36	1	0	1
	—	—	—
	22	13	35

VII.—TIME OF TREATMENT OF THE 19 PATIENTS DISCHARGED CURED.

	Males.	Females.	Total.
Not exceeding 3 months,	2	2	4
... 6 ...	2	3	5
... 9 ...	3	1	4
... 2 years,	1	2	3
... 3 ...	1	0	1
... 6 ...	0	1	1
... 12 ...	0	1	1
	—	—	—
	9	10	19

VIII.—CAUSES OF DEATH.

	Males.	Females.	Total.
General Paralysis,	1	1	2
Marasmus,	4	1	5
Pneumonia,	1	0	1
Bronchitis,	1	0	1
Pulmonary Consumption,	2	0	2
	—	—	—
	9	2	11

IX.—TABLE OF CURES AT DUNDEE ASYLUM FROM 1820 TO 1856.

Admissions from 1st April 1820 to 16th June 1856.

	Cured.	Per Cent.
Number admitted, 1625,	742	45.66

X.—RETURN OF PATIENTS ADMITTED ANNUALLY INTO THE DUNDEE LUNATIC ASYLUM,
 From its Opening upon the 1st April 1820 to the 16th June 1856, including Re-Admissions, together with the Cures, Discharges, and Deaths.

No.	Years.	Remained.			Admitted.			Total.			Discharged.						Died.			Remaining 16th June, 1856.			
											Cured.			Relieved.									
		M.	F.	T.	M.	F.	T.	M.	F.	T.	M.	F.	T.	M.	F.	T.	M.	F.	T.	M.	F.	T.	
1	1820	22	28	50	22	28	50	3	5	8	1	4	2	3	1	0	0	1	0	1
2	1821	16	21	37	12	12	24	28	33	61	5	8	13	4	4	8	1	0	1	1	0	0	1
3	1822	19	19	38	13	13	26	38	32	70	4	4	8	2	2	4	1	1	1	1	0	0	1
4	1823	32	22	54	17	20	37	49	42	91	8	5	13	1	1	2	1	1	1	0	0	0	0
5	1824	40	34	74	28	24	52	68	58	126	14	15	29	8	2	10	6	2	2	0	3	3	3
6	1825	43	38	81	28	29	57	71	67	138	15	13	28	3	7	10	3	2	2	2	0	2	2
7	1826	51	47	98	24	10	34	75	57	132	10	11	21	4	6	10	3	2	2	3	1	4	4
8	1827	59	37	96	20	15	35	79	52	131	8	3	11	9	6	15	2	0	2	3	1	4	4
9	1828	60	43	103	17	14	31	77	57	134	10	9	19	5	3	8	10	4	1	0	0	1	1
10	1829	56	41	97	15	18	33	71	59	130	8	7	15	6	4	10	2	2	0	0	0	0	0
11	1830	55	46	101	15	18	33	70	64	134	8	8	16	5	3	8	3	1	0	0	1	1	1
12	1831	55	52	107	21	16	37	76	68	144	2	4	6	5	5	10	7	3	2	2	0	2	2
13	1832	67	54	121	23	24	47	90	78	168	11	13	24	7	4	11	10	4	2	2	2	4	4
14	1833	65	58	123	22	18	40	87	76	163	9	8	17	2	6	8	6	4	2	0	0	2	2
15	1834	70	58	128	19	21	40	89	79	168	9	13	22	6	3	9	4	4	0	0	1	1	1
16	1835	70	59	129	20	18	38	90	77	167	7	4	11	7	7	14	6	5	2	2	3	5	5
17	1836	70	64	134	24	16	40	94	80	174	8	8	16	9	8	17	5	2	2	3	0	3	3
18	1837	72	59	131	30	12	42	102	71	173	13	3	16	2	3	5	7	1	2	2	3	5	5
19	1838	80	64	144	26	27	53	106	91	197	14	9	23	4	7	11	6	5	3	3	0	3	3
20	1839	82	70	152	29	28	57	111	98	209	23	20	43	3	5	8	5	2	2	2	2	5	5
21	1840	80	71	151	33	25	58	113	96	209	6	16	22	4	3	7	5	3	3	3	0	3	3
22	1841	98	74	172	34	19	53	113	93	225	16	11	27	8	2	10	8	2	2	1	1	1	1
23	1842	100	78	178	29	32	61	129	110	239	21	10	31	9	7	10	5	4	2	2	4	4	4
24	1843	94	89	183	25	22	47	119	111	230	6	14	20	8	7	15	10	2	2	1	1	1	1
25	1844	95	88	183	34	26	60	129	114	243	9	9	18	7	8	15	8	6	6	6	6	12	12
26	1845	105	91	196	24	26	50	129	117	246	15	15	30	8	7	15	6	2	2	4	4	6	6
27	1846	100	93	193	28	29	57	128	122	250	7	19	26	10	11	21	5	5	5	5	6	11	11
28	1847	106	90	196	23	29	52	129	119	248	13	13	26	1	6	7	14	5	2	2	3	8	8
29	1848	101	95	196	22	24	46	123	119	242	11	14	25	3	7	10	7	5	4	5	5	9	9
30	1849	102	93	195	30	32	62	132	125	257	13	15	28	4	10	14	8	3	3	7	5	12	12
31	1850	107	97	204	32	25	57	139	122	261	11	13	24	10	11	21	12	2	2	9	5	14	14
32	1851	106	96	202	19	21	40	125	117	242	16	8	24	3	6	9	5	5	6	6	3	9	9
33	1852	101	98	199	23	20	43	124	118	242	10	13	23	4	5	9	4	5	4	4	5	9	9
34	1853	106	95	201	26	15	41	132	110	242	7	12	19	4	2	6	7	5	7	7	3	10	10
35	1854	114	91	205	26	25	51	140	116	256	12	9	21	7	7	14	6	5	10	10	12	22	22
36	1855	115	95	210	22	13	35	137	108	245	9	10	19	1	1	2	9	2	11	16	9	25	25
					861	764	1625				371	371	742	184	191	375	190	105	295	117	93	210	210

XI.—THE TIMES OF THE PATIENTS' DEATH AFTER THEIR ADMISSION
INTO THE ASYLUM,

From the Opening of the Institution to June 16th 1856.

Times of Death.	Males.	Females.	Total.
Within 1 fortnight, . . .	11	9	20
... 1 month, . . .	8	2	10
... 3	22	11	33
... 6	15	7	22
... 9	10	4	14
... 1 year, . . .	8	2	10
... 2	33	14	47
... 3	12	5	17
... 4	14	6	20
... 5	4	4	8
... 6	8	4	12
... 7	7	4	11
... 8	2	6	8
... 9	5	4	9
... 10	2	3	5
... 11	2	2	4
... 12	2	2	4
... 13	1	2	3
... 14	6	2	8
... 15	3	0	3
... 16	2	1	3
... 17	0	3	3
... 18	2	1	3
... 19	2	1	3
... 20	0	0	0
... 21	0	1	1
... 22	1	1	2
... 23	0	2	2
... 24	1	1	2
... 25	0	0	0
... 26	1	0	1
... 27	0	0	0
... 28	0	1	1
... 29	2	0	2
... 30	2	0	2
... 31	0	0	0
... 32	1	0	1
... 33	1	0	1
Total,	190	105	295

XII.—ANNUAL PER CENTAGE OF DEATHS,

From June 16, 1830, to June 16, 1856.

Years.	Average Number of Patients.			Number of Deaths.			Per Centage of Deaths.		
	M.	F.	T.	M.	F.	T.	M.	F.	T.
1830.....	57	44	101	2	2	4	3.51	4.52	3.95
1831.....	55	48	103	2	1	3	3.63	2.08	2.91
1832.....	61	52	113	2	5	7	3.27	9.61	6.19
1833.....	65	59	124	7	3	10	10.76	5.08	8.06
1834.....	70	58	128	6	4	10	8.57	6.89	7.81
1835.....	68	58	126	4	4	8	5.88	6.89	6.34
1836.....	70	59	129	6	2	8	5.57	3.39	6.20
1837.....	74	61	135	5	5	10	6.75	8.19	7.48
1838.....	77	60	137	7	1	8	9.09	1.66	5.53
1839.....	84	66	150	6	5	11	7.19	7.57	7.83
1840.....	87	70	157	5	2	7	5.74	2.85	4.45
1841.....	89	75	164	5	3	8	5.61	3.99	4.87
1842.....	102	77	179	8	2	10	5.84	2.59	5.58
1843.....	96	84	180	5	4	9	5.20	4.80	5.00
1844.....	97	90	187	10	2	12	10.31	2.22	6.41
1845.....	100	90	190	8	6	14	8.00	6.66	7.37
1846.....	105	96	201	6	2	8	5.70	2.08	3.90
1847.....	105	95	200	5	2	7	4.70	2.01	3.05
1848.....	103	94	197	14	5	19	13.61	5.30	9.60
1849.....	104	94	198	7	5	12	6.70	5.30	6.00
1850.....	107	93	200	8	3	11	7.47	3.02	5.05
1851.....	108	96	204	12	2	14	11.00	2.00	6.85
1852.....	107	99	206	5	5	10	4.67	5.00	4.85
1853.....	107	98	205	4	5	9	3.73	5.10	4.39
1854.....	109	95	204	7	5	12	6.42	5.27	5.88
1855.....	117	96	213	6	5	11	5.12	5.20	5.16
1856.....	120	96	216	9	2	11	7.50	2.00	5.00
	2444	2103	4547	171	92	263			

AVERAGE ANNUAL MORTALITY,

From 1830 to 1856, inclusive.

Males.	Females.	Total.
6.9	4.3	5.78

THE FOLLOWING ARE THE
 DIRECTORS AND OFFICE-BEARERS
 FOR
 THE CURRENT YEAR,

From June 1856 to June 1857.

EXTRAORDINARY DIRECTORS.

- | | |
|---|---------------------|
| 1. The Right Honourable Fox, Lord Panmure, Lord
Lieutenant of the County | } <i>Of Forfar.</i> |
| 2. The Right Honourable Adam, Viscount Duncan,
the Representative in Parliament for the County | |
| 3. Alex. S. Logan, Esq., Advocate, the Sheriff of the
County | |
| 4. George Duncan, Esq., M.P. for the Burgh of Dundee. the Vine. | |
| 5. The Moderator of the Synod of Angus and Mearns. | |

Directors for Life.

6. Thomas Erskine, Esq. of Linlathen, Broughty Ferry
7. David Blair, Esq. of Craighill, St Andrews.
8. Sir John Ogilvy, Baronet, of Inverquharity.
9. William Thoms, Esq., Bank Court, Dundee.
10. Thomas Weston Miln, Esq., Greenfield Place.

ORDINARY DIRECTORS.

Ex Officiis.

11. The Provost of Dundee.
12. The First Bailie of Dundee.
13. The Dean of Guild of Dundee.

Elected by the Nine Incorporated Trades of Dundee.

14. Mr William Lawson, 20 Long Wynd.
15. Mr David Rollo, 1 Bank Street.
16. Mr George Butchart, 64 Wellgate.

By the Three United Trades of Dundee.

17. Mr David Shepherd, Meadowside.

By the Guildry Incorporation of Dundee.

18. David Hean, Esq., No. 17 Small's Lane, Small's Wynd.
 19. John Miller, Esq., 26 High Street.
 20. John Robertson, Esq., 42 High Street.

For the Maltmen Fraternity.

21. Alexander Kay, Esq., 52 and 54 Overgate.

By the Brethren of the Trinity House.

22. Thomas Ewing, Esq., 10 Shore Terrace.

By the Presidents of the Masonic Lodges in Dundee.

23. David Nicoll, Esq., 170 Hawkhill.

By the Kirk Session of Dundee.

24. The Rev. Andrew Taylor, Greenfield Place.
 25. The Rev. Peter Grant, 27 Springfield.

By the Presbytery of Dundee.

26. The Rev. Thomas Irvine, Lundie.
 27. The Rev. William Ritchie, D.D., Longforgan.

By the Freeholders and Commissioners of Supply of the County of Forfar.

28. John Guthrie, Esq. of Guthrie.
 29. Charles Guthrie, Esq. of Taybank.
 30. Richard Gardner, Esq., Dudhope House.
 31. William Cobb, Esq., Mains of Fintry.

By the Governors of the Dundee Royal Infirmary.

32. T. W. Miln, Esq., Greenfield Place.
 33. Alexander Low, Esq., 19 Cowgate.
 34. Charles Clark, Esq., Westfield Cottage.
 35. William Monro, M.D., 4 Tay Square.
 36. Thomas Nicholson, Esq., 32 Castle Street.
 37. William Curr, Esq., Stannergate, Dundee.
 38. The Rev. Robert Lang, 3 Tay Square.
 39. Robert Bell, M.D., 164 Nethergate.

OFFICE-BEARERS.

COMMITTEE OF MANAGEMENT.

1. Thomas Weston Miln, Esq., *Chairman.*
2. William Thoms, Esq.
3. Charles Clark, Esq.
4. Thomas Smith, Esq.
5. Alexander Low, Esq.
6. Rev. Peter Grant.

HOUSE VISITORS.

1. John Robertson, Esq., to visit during July and October 1856, and January and April 1857.
2. Robert Bell, M.D., to visit during August and November 1856, and February and May 1857.
3. The Rev. Robert Lang, to visit during September and December 1856, and March and June 1857.

OFFICERS.

1. Robert Cocks, M.D., *Consulting Physician.*
2. T. T. Wingett, M.D., *Medical Superintendent.*
3. Mrs Wingett, *Matron.*
4. The Rev. Thomas Stirling, *Chaplain.*
5. John Sturrock, Esq., Junr., *Treasurer.*
6. The Rev. John Robertson, *Secretary.*

RATES OF BOARD.

The following is the present rate of Board—subject, however, to such alterations as the Directors shall judge proper, and which must necessarily vary according to the state of the funds and the expense of the Establishment. The Board in all cases must be paid quarterly, and in advance. Before the entry of a patient, the board is to be paid up for one quarter.

First Class,	£0	6	0	per week.
Second Ditto,	0	8	0	,,
Third Ditto,	0	10	6	,,
Fourth Ditto,	0	15	0	,,
Fifth Ditto,	1	1	0	,,
Sixth Ditto,	1	11	6	,,
Seventh Ditto,	2	2	0	,,
Eighth Ditto,	3	3	0	,,

The First Class—paupers belonging to the parishes that have contributed to the erection of the Asylum. The Second Class—all other paupers. Every patient, who is certified by four respectable householders to be unable to pay 10s. 6d. of board per week, or whatever rate of board may be fixed by the Directors to be paid by Class 3d, and to have no relation able to pay this rate of board, shall be considered a pauper, and admitted in Class 2d; but if the patient shall belong to any of the twenty five parishes* that have contributed £20 and upwards to the erection of the Asylum, such patient shall be admitted into Class 1st.

A fee, on admission, is paid to the Physician by the several classes of patients as under:—

Third Class,	£0	10	6
Fourth Ditto,	1	1	0
Fifth and Sixth Ditto,	2	2	0
Seventh,	3	3	0
Eighth,	4	4	0

On the dismissal or death of a patient, after six and within twelve months the fee is repeated; but, if any patient shall remain longer than one year, the fee is to be repeated only at the end of every successive year of his residence in the Asylum.

No fees are paid for Paupers.

The patients shall have no claim to remuneration for work done in the House.

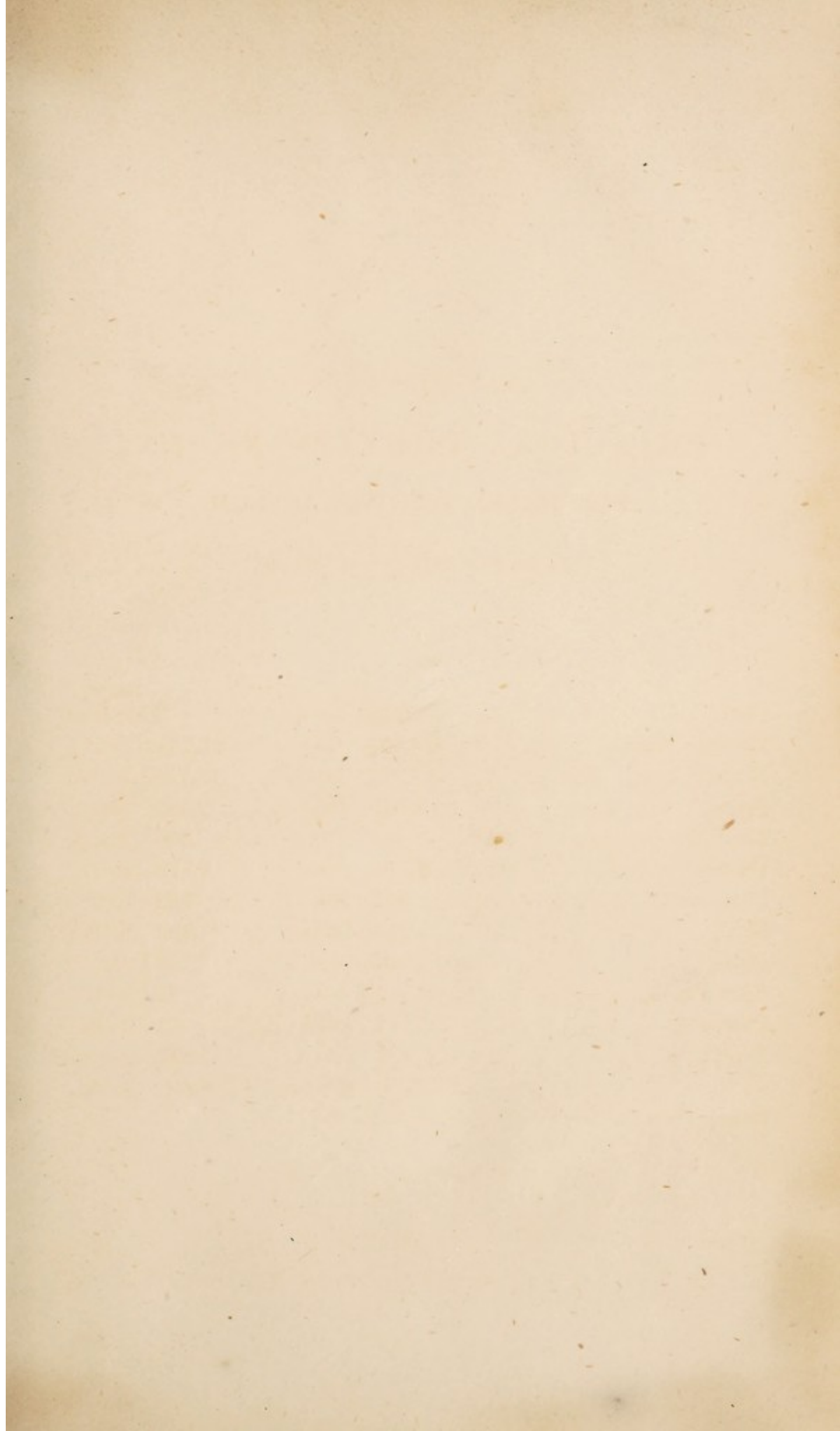
One shilling per quarter is charged for mending Clothes.

* See list of Privileged Parishes, p. 18.

QUANTITIES OF THE
PRINCIPAL PROVISIONS, &C.,
PURCHASED FOR THE ASYLUM,

In the Year 1854-55 and 1855-56.

	1854-55.	1855-56.
Coals,	204 $\frac{1}{2}$ tons.	293 $\frac{1}{5}$ tons.
Butcher Meat,	24,534 lbs.	24,247 lbs.
Bread,	18,317 loaves.	18,789 $\frac{1}{2}$ loaves.
Sugar,	3,360 lbs.	2,492 lbs.
Tea,	399 lbs.	360 lbs.
Butter,	2,188 lbs.	1,799 lbs.
Cheese,	821 lbs.	752 lbs.
Meal,	214 $\frac{3}{4}$ bolls.	296 bolls.
Barley,	65 cwt.	68 $\frac{1}{2}$ cwt.
Split Pease,	8 $\frac{1}{4}$ cwt.	12 $\frac{1}{2}$ cwt.
Potatoes,	41 bolls.	43 bolls.
Beer,	1,902 dozen.	1897 dozen.
Milk,	8,760 gallons.	8,892 galls.
Soap,	3,845 lbs.	



REVISION OF THE
PRINCIPAL PROVISIONS OF
THE ACTS
AND
ORDINANCES
IN FORCE IN THE
PROVINCE OF
WEST BENGAL