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TENTH CELEBRATION OF **BENDIGO HOSPITAL SUNDAY**

(FIRST INAUGURATED—IN THE COLONIES—AT SANDHURST, MARCH 1873.)

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COMMITTEE FOR THE YEAR 1882:

PRESIDENT:

THE RIGHT WORSHIPFUL THE MAYOR OF SANDHURST,  
W. G. JACKSON, Esq., J. P.

REV. CANON McCULLAGH  
" J. NISH, D.D.  
" DR. REVILLE, V.G.  
" P. USSHER  
" R. LEWERS  
" J. LEYPOLDT  
" I. MEYER  
" W. COOKE  
" J. ROSS  
" T. E. ICK  
" W. C. MACDONALD  
" E. A. THOMAS  
" J. SMITH  
" A. POWELL  
" R. C. FLOCKHART  
" J. H. A. INGHAM  
" D. F. O'CONNELL

REV. M. GILSENAN  
" T. H. COPELAND  
" J. T. CORY  
" J. GREGSON  
" W. BETTISS  
CAPTAIN SIBLEY  
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HON. R. CLARK, Esq., M.L.A.  
W. D. C. DENOVAN, Esq.  
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J. A. WOODWARD, Esq., J.P.  
P. HAYES, Esq., J.P.

HON TREASURER:

GEO. ASPINALL, Esq., J.P.

AUDITORS:

I. E. DYASON, Esq.

W. D. C. DENOVAN, Esq.

HON. SECRETARY:

JOSEPH HENRY ABBOTT.

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COMMITTEE ROOM,

Town Hall, Sandhurst.

Dear Sir—

At the Meeting of the above Committee, held in the Town Hall, Sandhurst, on the 19th June, last, it was resolved that the 15th October should be the day upon which the Simultaneous Collection should be made; it was also resolved that for the current year, the following Institutions should participate in the amounts received, in equal proportion:—

The Bendigo Gold District General Hospital.
The Bendigo Benevolent Asylum.

Appended, I have the pleasure of handing some general particulars of the claims and positions of these Institutions, as supplied by their respective officers, and to ask the favor of your valuable aid and kind co-operation in this important work of practical benevolence.

I am,

Very obediently yours,

JOSEPH HENRY ABBOTT,

Honorary Secretary.

HOSPITAL.

Notwithstanding that the number of patients received into the BENDIGO HOSPITAL, and also the number treated as out-patients, during the year just ended, do not exceed the average numbers respectively, of the past few years, yet, owing to the diminished amount of subsidy apportioned by Parliament to this Institution, together with the increased cost of almost every article of consumption, the overdraft at the Bank has been unavoidably increased.

The Board of Management regrets having to draw attention to the gradually diminishing amount of subsidy granted by the State, for the alleviation of suffering in this district. For many years past, ending in 1880, the amount apportioned to this Institution was £4500 per annum; in the year 1881 it was reduced to £4000; and for the year 1882, £3500 only was available out of the Public Treasury. Under these circumstances, the Board of Management has not only been compelled to still further delay the erection of suitable premises for the treatment of Diptheria, Measles, Erysipelas, and such forms of disease as modern science has unmistakeably shown should not be treated in the same building where surgical operations are performed: but if the State continues to withhold a fair amount of subsidy from this Charity, it will become a matter for serious consideration, whether the Hospital can continue its usefulness to any but surgical cases, in which event the number of beds would have to be reduced, and many cases of chronic disease would have to be refused admittance, thereby entailing an amount of human suffering fearful to contemplate.

BENEVOLENT ASYLUM.

During the past year, the efficiency and usefulness of this charity has, through the liberality of the public, been maintained.

365 persons have received in door relief; the daily average being 212 inclusive of children. 12,272 distributions were made to heads of families, and other necessitous applicants, at a cost of £1967 1s. 6d., the weekly average being 236, exclusive of children.

The high rates which have ruled for the necessaries of life, has contributed considerably in the increased cost incurred.

The strain upon the accommodation of the ASYLUM has been severe, and necessitated the Management entering into building arrangements, by which 20 additional beds will be provided.

29 deaths from Senility and general decay, occurred during the year; and the ages of the adults at present within the institute are as under:—

4 under 30 years of age; 4 from 30 to 40; 7 from 40 to 50; 27 from 50 to 60; 36 from 60 to 70; 41 from 70 to 80; and sixteen 80 years old and upwards.

The younger portion of these suffer from Phthisis or other incurable disease, and the remainder from Paralysis, Chronic Rheumatism, Blindness and Age or other infirmities which preclude them from further toil.

The present indebtedness to the Bank on the maintenance account is £3252 18s.

It is a matter for sincere congratulation that for the past 20 years, this charity has been able successfully to alleviate distress, whether in Sandhurst proper or its extensive and widely scattered surroundings, whether in the distribution of material relief to needy outdoor applicants, or the permanent admission of those, who, from their age and infirmity, are compelled to seek a home within the walls of the Institution.

It is worthy of particular notice that the whole of the proceeds of the Collections on Hospital Sunday, is handed over to the Charities, without any deduction for cost of collection, and that since its establishment here, the sum of £5888 has been received from this source.