

No one was in restraint or seclusion, and it is noteworthy that the latter form of treatment has only been once employed since my last visit. The only form of restraint used has been the use of locked-gloves, in the case of a very troublesome and destructive Maori patient, since deceased.

No illness whatever prevails, the only person in bed to-day being an old man suffering from paralysis.

All the patients were suitably clothed. I was present during the dinner meal, which was well served, and disposed of in a very orderly manner. All the patients, male and female, with the exception of some six males, dine together in the hall.

In the wards, dormitories, and other parts of the establishment I found good order and cleanliness universal. No patient was labouring under excitement, and no complaints made had any material foundation.

Some material improvements have been carried out. The drains, which were in very bad and dangerous condition, have been relaid. The labour employed was that of the patients.

An additional area of two acres of land has been acquired, and will prove a valuable addition to the limited estate. Every inch of land available is utilized, and excellent crops of vegetables are to be seen. All must be cultivated by spade-labour, no portion of the estate being level enough for the plough. Two cows at present supply all the milk consumed, but there is a difficulty in finding a sufficient area of pasture for them.

The produce sold this year from the estate has yielded £68, or £38 more than last year (1883).

The internal improvements are, the painting of the dining-hall and re-decoration of the stage. The billiard-room also has been nicely furnished with book-cases, tables, and settees. The latter are particularly good, and were constructed by one of the patients. A very nice library has been procured by means of the proceeds of an entertainment.

I find that only 18 of the patients are not employed in some useful manner.

The grounds are kept in really beautiful order, and are well worthy of a visit. A new fence is being constructed to replace the old and dilapidated one.

Regarding the overcrowded state of the female portion of the asylum I need only draw attention to my former remarks upon the subject.

The laundry ought certainly to be in some other situation than its present one: the steam was pouring into the adjoining dormitories to-day; and the rooms occupied for washing and ironing would provide the much-needed accommodation for female patients.

Better store-rooms are wanted: at present articles of a very varied character have necessarily to be kept together in a limited space, and with evil results.

Exception was taken by the City Council to my report of November, 1883, in which I animadverted upon the deficient water-supply. I will therefore point out that at 1 o'clock, and again at 3, I tested the water-taps and found them dry. This, I am told, is not an exceptional occurrence. It is not creditable that a contribution of £800 by the Government to the waterworks should give this poor result.

All books, papers, registers, &c., I find well kept. Maintenance-money is well collected wherever practicable.

Mr. and Mrs. Mills, the Superintendent and Matron, have brought this institution to a state of efficiency which it would be difficult to surpass. They are deserving of the highest praise, and of material encouragement.

Dr. Boor attends with great regularity, and is thoroughly conversant with the mental and bodily condition of every patient.

#### *Seacliff.*

The number of patients on the 1st January, 1884, was 350, 230 males and 120 females. During the year 38 males and 26 females were admitted for the first time, and 18 males and 12 females readmitted. The total number treated was 444, viz., 286 males and 158 females. Of these there have been discharged as "recovered" 26 males and 22 females, as "relieved" or "not improved" 7 males and 1 female; 20 males and 6 females have died; leaving a total at the end of the year of 362, viz., 233 males and 129 females.

The recoveries were 51·06 per cent of the admissions; the death-rate 7·34 per cent of the average number resident.

A vast deal requires to be done before this asylum can be considered complete. The airing-courts in use at the back of the building were only intended to be temporary ones, and are completely shut in from all view of the outer world. The formation of permanent courts in front, as originally designed, has not yet been commenced.

The water-supply still at times is a cause for grave anxiety.

The gasworks, for which the necessary sum has been voted, have not been commenced, but are urgently wanted both for lighting the building and assisting in warming it. I have reason to believe that a much smaller sum will suffice for this work than has been estimated.

An Assistant Medical Officer has been appointed as a matter of necessity, the asylum being situated in an outlying district, far away from any medical practitioner who might assist in Dr. Neill's absence.

My visits of inspection were paid on the 27th, 28th, and 29th November, 1884, and on 1st, 2nd, 3rd, 4th, 5th, and 6th May, 1885. The following entries were made by me in the Inspector's book;—