

1899.
NEW ZEALAND.

LUNATIC ASYLUMS OF THE COLONY

(REPORT ON) FOR 1898.

Presented to both Houses of the General Assembly by Command of His Excellency.

The INSPECTOR of ASYLUMS to the Hon. the MINISTER of EDUCATION.

SIR,—

5th May, 1899.

I have the honour to lay before you the following report on the lunatic asylums of the colony for the year ended 31st December, 1898:—

The number of registered insane persons on the 31st December, 1898, was 2,480—Males, 1,472; females, 1,008.

The insane of the colony are distributed as follows:—

	Males.	Females.	Total.
Auckland	275	163	438
Christchurch	282	241	523
Dunedin (Seacliff)	385	251	636
Hokitika	87	38	125
Nelson	82	54	136
Porirua	199	142	341
Wellington	141	97	238
Ashburn Hall (private asylum)	21	22	43
	<u>1,472</u>	<u>1,008</u>	<u>2,480</u>

The proportion of the male insane to the male population is,—

New Zealand (exclusive of Maoris)	3·75	per 1,000, or 1 in 265
New Zealand (inclusive of Maoris)	3·55	" 1 in 281

The proportion of the female insane to the female population,—

Exclusive of Maoris	2·87	" 1 in 349
Inclusive of Maoris	2·73	" 1 in 367

The proportion of the total insane to the total population,—

Exclusive of Maoris	3·34	" 1 in 300
Inclusive of Maoris	3·17	" 1 in 316

ADMISSIONS.

On the 1st January, 1898, the number of insane persons in our asylums was—Males, 1,436; females, 990: total, 2,426. The number of those admitted during the year for the first time—221 males, 170 females: total, 391. The readmissions (including 101 males and 46 females transferred) were 134 males, 88 females: total, 222.

DEATHS.

The percentage of deaths on the average number resident during the year was 6·14, as compared with 6·28 for the previous year.

RECOVERIES.

The percentage of recoveries on the admissions was 48·07, as compared with 36·69 for the year 1897.