

A more than ample water-supply is one of the greatest advantages of the property. For a total expenditure of less than £700 we shall have an average delivery of several hundred thousand gallons of water per diem, with a head of over 150 ft. It need scarcely be pointed out that, besides serving for fire-prevention, drainage, and household-supply, this will provide enough power to light the place by electricity, and drive such machinery as may be needed for washing, wood-cutting, and general farm purposes. I may mention that for the Seacliff Asylum one-tenth of the water-supply has cost nearly ten times the money needed for the same purpose at Orokonui.

The complete furnishing of the buildings, including pianos, &c., will, when completed, have cost about £1,100.

A large amount of work in the way of road-making, draining, and general development of the estate has been carried on during the year by working-parties from Seacliff, and much help has been afforded by them in connection with the repairs and alterations to buildings. All employees have worked with excellent spirit, and we have had no sickness to contend with.

Male inebriate patients have been sent to the home in the course of the last two months, and there are now six resident. The home for women is on the verge of completion, and one female patient is now resident.

I cannot speak too highly of the enthusiasm and energy of the manager (Mr. Chapman) and of the matron (Miss Thomson) of the Retreat for Women in the carrying-out of their responsible and difficult duties. Messrs. Farrant, Harris, Newman, and Gordon from Seacliff Asylum have throughout rendered excellent and willing service.

I have, &c.,

F. TRUBY KING, Superintendent.

The Inspector-General of Hospitals, &c., Wellington.

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