

1887.

NEW ZEALAND.

HOSPITALS IN NEW ZEALAND

(REPORT ON), BY DR. MACGREGOR, INSPECTOR-GENERAL OF HOSPITALS AND ASYLUMS.

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

The INSPECTOR of HOSPITALS to the Hon. the PREMIER.

SIR,—

30th May, 1887.

I have the honour to lay before you the following report on the hospitals of New Zealand for the year 1886:—

I have made a careful inspection of every hospital in the colony; but I find that a sufficient time has not elapsed since the introduction of "The Hospitals and Charitable Institutions Act, 1885," to enable me to pronounce on its working.

There is no doubt that it marks a momentous epoch in the history of our public charities, and must produce complicated and far-reaching consequences. On the one hand it concentrates local attention on institutions which have to be locally paid for and managed; and it is already evident that a great reform is in progress in this respect. On the other hand it is a matter of grave concern that, in some districts at least, it threatens to dry up the springs of voluntary charity. I propose during next year to make a careful study of its operations, and in the present report I confine myself to the condition of the various hospitals.

AKAROA.

THIS hospital is beautifully situated beside a mountain-stream, in a reserve of about a quarter of an acre, close behind the town. Along the front is a neat picket-fence; to the right it is flanked by a fine row of walnut-trees growing in the next section. This season has been so dry that the flower-beds in front and even the grass are quite burnt up. The building is 39ft. by 33ft., surrounded on three sides by a fine verandah, with honeysuckle, geraniums, and fuchsias growing up against the pillars. It is covered with shingles, and has a very cosy look. The entrance is at the back, through a small lobby, 8ft. by 9ft., used as an office. The hospital is divided into four rooms, two being wards, 17ft. by 15ft., by 12ft. high, with a recess on each side of the fireplace; the other rooms are used, one for the Master Penrose and his wife and two children, and the other as a kitchen. The two wards are similar in all respects, each containing four beds, some iron and some wood, with canvas stretchers, all very much sunken in the middle. One of the beds has an air-mattress; the rest of the mattresses are all made of flock. The bedding is all very clean. Strips of matting are laid across the floors and between the beds. The walls are plastered, painted of a lavender colour, with the ceilings white. There are to each ward three sash-windows, with holland blinds. Ventilation is well provided for by means of three Sherringham's ventilators in the walls, and fretwork openings in the roof communicating with the flue of the open fireplaces. At the time of my visit the hospital contained five patients: two of these were old men who had been here four years and upwards (one of them had just been admitted for the third time within eight months), the third case had a bad cut in his palm; the fourth was an unfortunate young man who had his hand cut off by an accident with a reaping-hook, the fifth patient was very much reduced from necrosis of the tibia. The food is ample and good, comfortably served, and well cooked. I complained to the matron of untidiness in the kitchen, but it was explained by her recent illness, and the defective accommodation. Close to the back-door is a row of wooden buildings, containing a convenient washhouse, with built-in copper boiler, and fixed tubs lined with zinc; as well as a bathhouse, with a closet and urinal; all having cement floors. At right angles to this is another shed, containing a coalhouse and a suitable mortuary, in which, however, there is neither a sink nor lavatory. The drainage from the laundry, bath-room, and urinal is discharged into the harbour. The whole of the water-supply is obtained from the roof. I formed a favourable opinion of the steward and his wife, and all the patients spoke in the highest terms of their treatment. The hospital is managed by the Secretary of the Christchurch Hospital as a receiving-ward; and I find there is considerable local irritation in consequence of the parsimonious way in which the arrangements are conducted. All prescriptions used to be made up at the local chemist's; but his prices were so high that considerable friction has arisen, and this has spread so far that at present the relations between this and the superintending body are somewhat strained. The roof being shingle, the tanks of the main building are very dirty, and they cannot

be cleaned out without stopping the water-supply. A stop-tap on a connecting-pipe would meet the difficulty. The spouting needs repairing, and the whole outside ought to be painted, as well as the wards, which have rather a smudgy appearance. I found that Dr. Woodford gave every satisfaction in the discharge of his duties, though I think the salary he receives (£50) is inadequate.

28th January, 1887.

ARROWTOWN.

THIS hospital stands in a reserve of about four acres of land one mile and a quarter from the town. The building faces the north, is well designed, and looks very neat. It consists of a central part containing two rooms for the doctor, who does not occupy them, as he is a married man, and lives in the town. The male ward, 33ft. by 15ft., occupies the west wing. It is well lighted and ventilated, and the walls and ceiling are neatly painted. From the entrance to the male ward a long passage, 36ft. by 4ft., covered with linoleum, leads to the other wing, opening into a bath-room which has never been fitted up. The female ward, 15ft. by 15ft., like the male ward, is well lighted and ventilated, and very comfortably furnished. The two wards together contain seven beds with straw palliasses and good flock mattresses, all exceedingly neat and clean. I noticed that there were no lockers and no head-cards. At the time of my visit there was only one patient, who had received a slight injury. The kitchen is a large, airy room, with a good Leamington range, a fine large dresser and table, with a suitable pantry adjoining. The dispensary opens nearly opposite the front door, and, like everything in the hospital, is kept admirably neat and clean. There is a good supply of instruments. The whole condition of this hospital is most creditable to Mr. and Mrs. Rintoul, and it is in all respects as comfortable a home for sick people as could be desired. The fever ward stands a little way off in the rear, containing a room, 18ft. by 12ft., with a window at each end. The whole is neatly painted, and contains two beds. The outbuildings contain a mortuary, a carriage-shed, a store, a coalhouse, and a fowlhouse. An abundant supply of pure water is got by means of a ram in the gully behind. The slops are discharged lower down by means of a superficial wooden drain. There are suitable and well-kept closets for males and females at the back. Admission of patients: non-subscribers pay £1 10s. per week; subscribers pay £1; all others according to their ability. A ticket from a subscriber is necessary, except in case of accidents. Voluntary subscriptions in 1885 amounted to £170; in 1886, £68. The in-patients for the year were sixty-five and out-patients sixteen. From the inquiries I have made I am satisfied that Dr. Donaldson's attention to his work is all that could be desired.

11th January, 1887.

ASHBURTON.

THIS hospital is an ambitious-looking structure, very badly adapted for its purpose. The original plan was evidently made by somebody who either knew or cared nothing about hospital requirements, and no subsequent expenditure can remedy the matter. It stands in a reserve of about eight acres, half a mile from the railway-station. A large part of the land is an old river-bed, and the rest very light shingly soil. The approach is through a handsome gate, and is spacious and well-gravelled, flanked by straggling flower-beds and a few trees. The building consists of two separate blocks, built of red brick, with white-stone facings and slate roof, patched together in front by means of large enclosed corridor filled with pot-plants, and communicating behind by means of a tortuous passage from the large male ward to the kitchen. The male ward stands at the far end of a long passage, flanked by single rooms—three on the one side and four on the other—at right angles to the front corridor. Its dimensions are 28ft. by 22ft., with two windows at each end. Ventilation is secured by fretwork openings in the ceiling, and four Sherringham's ventilators half-way down the walls; besides these at the top of the windows are glass louvres, moveable by a string. The whole ward is spoiled by a huge brick stalk in the middle like a factory-chimney. It contains ten iron beds, one being a patent lever-bed for surgical cases, all with hair mattresses and good, clean bedding. Seven of these were occupied at my visit. The lavatory, closets, and bath-room are well constructed and well kept. The male ward and the single rooms are all painted in a monotonous puce colour. All, however, are kept scrupulously clean, and, on the whole, are very comfortable. The original square block is of two stories, with a fine concrete balustrade at the entrance. The matron's rooms, which are large and comfortable, stand to right and left of the entrance, and are separated by an inner double door from the inner hall, 21ft. by 9ft., with a suitably-furnished surgery to the right, and the kitchen, and pantry, and scullery, and store-room to the left. The surgery contains an operating-table and bed, a neat instrument-case well stocked and well cared-for, but no medicine-press. The first floor is reserved for female patients. On the left of the landing are two wards—one, the public ward, 16ft. by 16ft., with one large window with three divisions, having holland blinds. The ventilation is defective, there being no openings in the walls to correspond with the fretwork opening in the ceiling. This ward contains three beds, and is neatly and comfortably furnished. The private ward, next door, is similar, but a little smaller, and contains two beds. Separating this ward from a similar unfurnished room opposite is a very neat linen closet, cut off from the landing by a glass-panelled partition. The space over the kitchen is occupied by a very good bath-room, with hot and cold water, a servant's room, and a small lavatory. Close behind the hospital is a detached laundry with cement floor, with good boiler and fixed-in tubs. Further to the rear is a row of small buildings, containing a fever hospital, with two small wards and accessories, a neat kitchen, pantry, and nurse's room overlooking the ward. Next come a neat mortuary, and a cold, damp, padded room with leaky roof, which any active lunatic could get out of. Next in the same line come a two-stalled stable and a store. There is a garden of about three-quarters of an acre of an old river-terrace, very dry and badly fenced, but fairly stocked with vegetables. Rain-water is collected in a large underground

tank for use in the laundry. For domestic use an abundant supply is got from an artesian well, from which the water is raised into four tanks, on a platform, by means of a windmill. The sewage is carried by a 9in. pipe into a concrete tank, which overflows into the shingle of the old river-bed. I found all the stores of good quality, and the register properly kept. Dr. Trevor is very assiduous in the performance of his duties. The matron, Mrs. Mackay, is in charge of the hospital, and the way in which it is kept shows most manifestly that there is no neglect on her part. The patients were unanimous in their praises both of the doctor and the matron, and I have no doubt that their treatment is all that could be desired.

1st February, 1887.

AUCKLAND.

THIS hospital stands on the brow of a hill overlooking the town and giving a commanding view of the harbour and the islands in the gulf. The reserve in which it stands is $9\frac{1}{4}$ acres in extent, adjacent to the Domain, and unequalled as a site for a large hospital. The building forms a parallelogram, with two towers at each end and a central projection. There are three floors, the lower of which, containing the kitchen, administrative offices, resident surgeon's rooms, a convalescent ward, and servants' quarters, is badly lighted and dismal-looking. The first and second floors are occupied by four large wards, two in each wing, one over the other. In the central part there are, on the first floor, a large well-lighted operating-room and a nurses' dining-room. The corresponding space on the second floor is occupied by two small wards, containing, the one seven, the other five beds. Besides these six wards some of the small rooms on the ground-floor are used as separate wards. The four large wards are all alike except the female ward, which is 65ft. by 24ft. by 12ft.; while the three male wards are 72ft. by 24ft. by 12ft. From the central transverse corridor the wards open to right and left through a long passage, which is badly lighted, having a nurses' room on one side, a pantry on the other. At the far end of each ward, in corner towers, are suitable lavatories, bath-rooms, and closets. All along the front of each ward is a magnificent balcony, which, in this climate, is an invaluable addition to the ward-space, and enables all the patients who are able to move to spend most of their time in the open air, enjoying one of the finest prospects in the world. Each of the four large wards has six windows on either side, with movable ventilator above, worked by levers and screw-handle; while there is a large square window at the far end. Ventilation is secured by nine openings in the ceiling and grated openings at the head of each bed. There is only one fireplace, containing a basket-grate, half-way up one side, so that the patients at either end are very far from it, and, besides, most of the heat goes up the chimney. The walls are very nicely painted and distempered above. A wide strip of linoleum is laid along the middle of the floor. A handsome and well-designed ward-table, with presses, shelves, and wash-hand-basins, of polished kauri, stands in the centre. There is a convenient locker at the head of each bed, and on the wall is hung, in a suitable frame, particulars of each case, showing the diet, extras, and treatment, as well as the name of the doctor in charge. Beds are all old and worn-out; the mattresses, hair, and bedding very clean. All along, the walls are hung with neatly-framed pictures, and there is a plentiful supply of flowers on the tables. The chairs are ordinary cane-chairs, and there is a large American wheeled chair for each floor. Water and gas are laid on from the town mains, and hot water is distributed all over the hospital from the boiler-room in the south-west corner of the central projection on the ground-floor. On the basement floor are suitable general and linen stores, which are well kept, and there is a linen-press for each floor and a smaller one in each ward. On the date of my last visit there were in the hospital seventy-one males and twenty-one females. I made careful inquiries of the patients alone, and found that they spoke in the highest terms of their treatment both by the doctor and nurses—in fact, it is quite apparent that the patients are well attended to in all respects. Especially I formed a very high opinion of the care and ability of the lady superintendent, Miss Crisp. At my last visit in May I found the staff and Miss Crisp herself nearly worn out by nursing the large number of fever cases, nineteen of which were then in the hospital; and to this cause I attribute the somewhat untidy appearance of some of the wards at that time. At present everything is working smoothly, and order and neatness are manifest everywhere. The one drawback is the old worn-out bedsteads, which I hope will soon be replaced by new ones. I was surprised to find that no record is kept of the days and hours at which the honorary staff visit the hospital, so that I found it impossible to ascertain with sufficient definiteness the facts required to prove a complaint I heard from many patients—viz., that some of the staff are irregular in their attendance. The effect of this, or, as some say, the cause, is that Dr. Bond practically conducts the treatment of many patients, who never see any other doctor at all. However this may be—and I regret I cannot make my complaint more specific—I am quite satisfied that Dr. Bond is most painstaking and efficient in the discharge of his duties. The question whether his zeal is such as to lead him to encroach on the functions of the visiting staff I must leave to the local authorities. I would simply remark that a hospital like this, besides its primary object of healing the indigent sick, has further most important uses for the benefit of the community. The community and the medical profession have a profound interest in seeing that due advantage is taken of the opportunities for the scientific study and treatment of disease that such a hospital affords. It is a very serious matter if ever the leading doctors in a town are allowed to forget that the hospital is the place where disease can be most successfully studied, and the basis of a lucrative practice most securely laid. It is also a very great advantage to the community, as well as the profession, that the position of resident surgeon in a hospital should not be confined to one man for too long a time, but that as many young men as possible should have the experience which such a position gives. The hospital is quite full, and, indeed, more than full, as some beds have to be made up on the floor. I hope that the long-talked-of plan for increasing the accommodation may be carried out. The steward, Mr. Schofield, is most careful and attentive

to his duties, and all his books are in admirable order. Apart from the strained relations between the honorary staff and the house-surgeon, and the overcrowding, I think this hospital is in a highly satisfactory state. I have no doubt that when the extension of the hospital is taken in hand a new mortuary will be provided, and the other defects which have been pointed out in previous reports will be remedied.

1st December, 1886.

BLLENHEIM.

No detailed description of this hospital is necessary, for a new hospital has been built, and will soon be ready for occupation. The total number of patients at the date of my visit was ten males and one female. In No. 1 male ward I found four beds and only two patients, one an old man suffering from chronic rheumatic arthritis, whose skin was very dirty. I was told, in explanation, that it was very difficult to get him to take a bath. In No. 2 male ward there were three beds and three patients, one suffering a recovery from a drinking-bout, one with an enlarged prostate and urinary trouble, and one case of chronic bronchitis. In No. 3 male ward, upstairs, there were five patients and six beds. The only female patient was an old woman suffering from senile decay. She was labouring under the delusion that her food was drugged, and was at times very restless and unmanageable. Of the male patients, four were really paupers, who were too old to work and had no home. Three more belonged to the same category except that they had slight ailments. Thus only three were proper subjects for hospital treatment. The rooms occupied by patients were all scrupulously clean, but having a bare and comfortless appearance. The beds are all iron, with straw palliasses and flax mattresses. The bedclothes were in all cases sufficient for warmth, and very clean. The dinner was abundant and well cooked; but I find that there are at present no vegetables, owing to the gardens being allowed to go uncultivated in view of removal. I satisfied myself that Dr. Porter attends carefully to his duties, and that all the patients are properly treated. Mr. and Mrs. Bax are careful and attentive, and great credit is due to the former for the zeal and energy with which he makes the best of the means at his disposal. I conversed with all the patients, and they speak in the highest terms of the kindness with which they are treated. No case-book is kept. The patients' register is entered up to date, and the day-book, in which all stores received, &c., are shown, was examined. All prescriptions are dispensed by the local druggist, at a cost of £30 per annum. The meat, bread, tea, and other stores were all of good quality. The secretary's books were all found in proper order. I made a careful inspection of the new hospital, but it will be better to defer any account of it till my next visit.

4th September, 1886.

CHARLESTON.

THIS hospital stands in a reserve of about an acre of rough land, badly fenced, and planted with a few stunted willows and poplars. The building is of wood, with a shingle roof; containing one large ward, with accommodation for seven patients. It is faced on the north end by a verandah, and at the south end there is a lean-to, containing a dispensary with a meagre supply of drugs and instruments, and a lavatory, as well as a closet in a separate projection. The ward is 33ft. by 21ft. The lining-boards are covered to the height of 6½ft. by white painted calico, with here and there a page of the illustrated papers stuck on. It is lighted by means of three square windows with three divisions in each, and is airy and well ventilated. The furniture is of the plainest description, and the appearance of the whole is poverty-stricken. The beds are of iron, with straw palliasses and flock or coir mattresses. The bedding is very clean, though the quilts are nearly worn out. There is an open fireplace with a common grate, and a clock on the mantelpiece. At the right-hand corner, near the door, a space is boarded off by a faded green screen, behind which the blankets and linen are kept on an empty bed, the linen-press being too damp for use. Close by, in a detached building, are the kitchen, steward's room, a small store, and an out-patient's room. The kitchen occupies a recess built of corrugated iron, and contains a good "Mistress" stove, with a suitable dresser and shelves. Behind is a coal-shed, which serves as a mortuary. The whole surroundings of the place are squalid in the extreme, and the buildings are sadly in need of being painted; but there is no doubt, from the evidence of the patients, that a rude comfort is enjoyed by them, and that their treatment, both by Dr. Simpson and Mr. Dickens, the warder, is all that can be desired. The stores are got by contract, and are of good quality. The books are properly kept. The drug-bill is very moderate. The medical comforts for 1886 amounted to £11 10s. The committee are attentive in looking after the hospital, and whenever it is possible to exact it £1 a week is charged for each patient.

3rd November, 1886.

CHRISTCHURCH.

THE situation of this hospital is most beautiful—close to the town, and yet possessing all the advantages of being part of the public gardens, while absolute privacy is secured by the river which intervenes. The reserve is about eight acres in extent, part beautifully sloping down to the river and admirably kept, and part cultivated as a vegetable-garden, from which the patients are abundantly supplied. The building, taken as a whole, is a large and very intricate block; but, on a nearer view, it is seen to consist of two parts—an ancient and a modern. The older and more intricate part is at present undergoing a process of reconstruction, which will greatly improve it. For the present I will confine myself to the part where the patients are lodged. This consists of a noble corridor parallel to the river, with three large wards opening off it on the left hand. Ward No. 6, at the far end of the corridor, has just been transformed at a cost of £280 into what is for the present the

model ward of the colony. The two others are soon to be subjected to the same operation, so one description will suffice. To right and left of the short passage leading from the corridor to the ward are a nurse's room and a small private ward for one patient, with a neat ward-kitchen and pantry opposite. The ward itself—as regards its size, lighting, heating, and ventilation—is admirable. The miserable broken-backed beds in use all through the hospital of themselves are sufficient to mar the general effect, and I hope they will be replaced by Rowcliff's patent beds as soon as possible. At my visit this ward contained twenty-two beds, twenty of which were occupied. All the rest of the ward-furniture is plain, but suitable. There is a handy locker for each bed, and head-cards giving particulars of each case, with the treatment. There are suitable cushioned easy-chairs for each ward, and a couch and bath-chair in the corridor. The ward-tables are supplied with abundance of flowers. At the far end of each of the three large wards, in projections at either end of a cross passage, are situated suitable lavatories, bath-rooms, and closets, all of which either have already or soon will have been refitted. A splendid new operating-room, fitted in the most elaborate style, has been built on the left-hand side of the main corridor. In a central projection in front of the new building are situated comfortable rooms for the house-surgeon, a well-furnished dispensary with waiting-rooms, a room for the use of the honorary staff, and the secretary's office. The number of patients in the hospital was seventy-six, distributed as follows: In No. 1 Ward, 12; No. 4 Ward, 22; No. 5 Ward, 22; and in No. 6 Ward, 20. I gave every patient an opportunity of making complaints without the presence of any member of the staff, and I heard none. On the contrary, I heard testimony on every hand of thankfulness and contentment. I was present, both in the kitchen and the wards, during the dinner-hour, and, with the exception that in some of the wards there was a little want of despatch in the distribution, I was perfectly satisfied with what I saw. The dinner consisted of boiled mutton and potatoes, with abundance of vegetables. Whitebait, nicely cooked, was served to special cases, and the whole meal was excellent in quality and well cooked. I am satisfied that the house-surgeon, Dr. Westenra, is very attentive to his duties, and the attention of the honorary staff was universally spoken of with satisfaction. The one point on which I found reason to complain was an all-pervading want of attention to little things—for instance, in Ward No. 6 I found the cross-passage at the back of the ward, leading to the bath-room and closets, festooned with cobwebs that had not been disturbed for weeks. This and other similar defects I attribute to want of proper discipline among the nurses, and want of authority on the part of the matron. No doubt much of the want of neatness in the wards is due to the worn-out beds and the difficulty of keeping them tidy; but, besides this, there is a lack of ruling-power which must in some way be remedied. Mr. Miller, the secretary, does not sleep in the house, and perhaps a change in this respect might strengthen the hands of the matron, whose difficulties may be owing to her not being sufficiently supported. The outbuildings and other accessories of the hospital have been sufficiently described in previous reports, so that I content myself with saying that I found everything was vigilantly looked after by Mr. Miller. A fever hospital is about to be built, with accommodation for twelve patients, in a reserve of four acres granted by the Acclimatization Society. I found the books were admirably kept by Mr. Miller, who seemed to me to be entirely devoted to his duties. A casual ward is kept open at Lyttelton at a cost of £30 3s. 7d. for the year.

25th October, 1886.

CROMWELL.

THIS hospital stands in a reserve of twenty acres, neatly fenced and planted, at the foot of the terrace about two miles from the town. This site, however excellent in many respects, is so far from the town that a great deal of inconvenience results. It was placed here because at the time there was no water-supply in the town, and the race just behind afforded an admirable supply. The building is substantially built of stone in the form of a cross. The central part contains in the front projection a private ward, 14ft. by 12ft., and a wardsman's room, 14ft. by 12ft., separated by the entrance-hall, 16ft. by 5½ft. At right angles to this hall is a passage, 37ft. by 4ft., leading to the male ward on the left, 27ft. by 14ft. by 14ft., and the female ward on the right, 20ft. by 14ft. by 14ft. This is less than the male ward by the space required for the passage and the surgery, which is 10ft. by 8ft. In the back projection are situated the kitchen, 16½ft. by 13½ft., with a lavatory and pantry. In an iron lean-to behind the kitchen are a washhouse (which is badly in need of a proper floor and a suitable boiler) and a stall for the doctor's horse. From the centre of the back wall of each of the main wards opens a door, which had in each case to be protected from the wind by a rough porch. These doors serve to admit of patients being carried in on a stretcher, the main doors by an oversight having been made too narrow. The male ward and female ward have a neat dado, with linoleum along the floor and between the beds. They are well lighted with sash-windows. The fireplaces had to be covered with removable wooden covers, and neat cottage stoves have been substituted in all the occupied rooms. The reason was that it was found that the chimneys smoked so from standing just under the high terrace behind that warmth in winter could not otherwise be secured. To some extent this interferes with the ventilation, though this is still sufficient owing to the openings along the floor and ventilators in the ceiling, all connected with a ventilating-tower in the roof, which at the same time serves to adorn the building. The male ward contains five beds only, one of which is occupied by a boy suffering from pyæmic abscesses in the joints of the legs. The walls of all the wards are plaster, and the ceilings of wood painted white. All are neatly and suitably furnished, and have a very comfortable appearance. The beds and bedding are comfortable and scrupulously clean, and the walls are adorned with very nice pictures; altogether this is a most satisfactory hospital. It is well built and well designed and well managed. Mr. Bell and his wife keep it in admirable order, and the patients are almost luxuriously provided for. There are substantial earth-closets a little distance in the rear, which are suitable and well looked after. Further to the rear, and a little to the right, is the mortuary. The patients' register shows that fifty-

nine patients were admitted in 1886. The cash-book is entered up to the 1st December, at which date all the books and documents were handed over to the new secretary by Mr. Gudgeon, honorary secretary, who had all the books and documents in admirable order. The receipts from patients for the three quarters ending the 31st December amounted to £35; the voluntary contributions for the last year, ending the 31st March, were £167 17s. Conditions of admission: Life-members, for £20, can nominate three indoor and two outdoor patients; subscribers of £5, two indoor and one outdoor patient; subscribers of £2, one indoor and one outdoor patient; subscribers of £1, one indoor patient; contributing local authorities can nominate three indoor or outdoor patients; in-patients, non-contributing, pay £1 5s.; contributors of less than 15s. pay 15s.; contributors of 15s. and upwards pay 10s. per week. The total cost of the institution has for the last few years averaged £800. This year the cost will be about £950, which includes £80 for a telephone, which is urgently required. The drug-bill for the year amounts to £19 0s. 7d., and the medical comforts to £8 7s. Salaries: Dr. Stackpole, £250; Bell, the warder, and his wife, £100; Mr. Marshall (secretary), £20. There were only two patients on the date of my visit, one male and one female.

12th January, 1887.

COROMANDEL.

THIS hospital is a plain wooden building, standing on a rising ground on the right side of the road, a little distance from the town. The reserve is about three acres, all of which is unfenced except a small piece of garden-ground, which is stocked with potatoes, peas, turnips, and cabbage. A good stream of pure water bounds the reserve. The building consists of a central part, with verandah in front and two projecting wings. The central part contains the male ward, which is 20ft. by 15ft., a small fever ward, and a bare and draughty bath-room with two doors, one leading into the ward and the other into the kitchen. The other rooms in the building are a dispensary, a Board-room, and a kitchen. At the back of the hospital there is a separate cottage, containing three compartments, one of which contains a good carpenter's bench, the others being used as lumber-rooms. The male ward contains four beds, three of which are occupied with recent cases. One of the beds has a wire-mattress, but it belongs to the patient. The others are ordinary military beds, with straw mattresses. The bedding is kept scrupulously clean. The ward furniture consists of a plain deal table and a few chairs. There is a strip of matting along the floor, a few prints adorn the walls, and there is a table with some books in the corner. The walls are roughly papered and dingy. There are three sash-windows and no fireplace. The kitchen has a good range, and is of good size, and is suitably furnished. The crockery and other table appointments are good and very clean. The water-supply consists of one square iron tank, supplied from the shingle roof. In an open press off the back ward are kept a few blankets and some odds and ends of spare bedding. The stores are kept in a meat-safe and are supplied daily. I found the meat, bread, and butter of good quality. The out-patients for the month of November numbered four. All paid for their medicine except those who come from Whangapaoa, the Committee of which place pay £25 a year, and £1 a week for every patient treated in the hospital. The workmen at Whangapaoa, besides this, subscribed £29. Fear of a rate has this year stopped voluntary contributions altogether. The withdrawal of Piako County will make the rates very heavy on the Coromandel and Thames districts; for it has the great bulk of rateable property, and few, if any, sick and destitute people. The patients spoke in the highest terms of the treatment they received from the doctor and the wardman. The register of patients is well kept, and there are no other books. The interior of the hospital requires renovating throughout.

30th November, 1886.

DUNEDIN.

I HAVE visited this hospital three times during 1886. My last inspection was made on the 20th January, 1887, when I examined every part of the institution, including the outbuildings and the grounds. Though not originally intended for a hospital, this large and handsome building has, with great skill, been so converted that it serves its purpose reasonably well. The site is in the centre of the most populous part of the city, and, though it is exceedingly convenient from its accessibility, it is not such a situation as would commend itself for a hospital, being very low-lying, and having a swampy subsoil. Everything possible, however, has been done to obviate these disadvantages. The basement has been ventilated and properly floored, so that now, instead of being foul and damp, it is utilized for kitchen- and store-accommodation, and contains the boiler and furnace-room besides. This arrangement, though convenient in some respects, is evidently a great drawback so far as the wards above are concerned. The great and saving feature of the building is the great hall, around which on the ground-floor and first floor the wards and accessory offices are arranged, those on the first floor opening off a projecting corridor. This central space extends from the floor to the roof, and has an area of 120ft. by 51ft. It is suitably furnished with linoleum and matting, which covers the right- and left-hand staircases, and is carried all round the corridor on the first floor. On the ground-floor the right-hand side of the hall is occupied by the secretary's room and the staff-room, which is mostly used by the students. On the left-hand side are the operating-room, the staff dining-room, and one room off the dining-room for Mrs. Burton, the matron. The remaining two sides of the central hall are occupied by four large male wards, two on each side, all arranged and furnished in the same way. Ward No. 1 is 54ft. by 24ft. 6in., and 16ft. high. It has two large windows in the end wall, and five windows on the north-west side. In each window there is a movable division, regulated by a supporting arm resting on a nail, besides a flap-ventilator at the foot, with perforated iron sides. Three of the holland blinds are very dilapidated and creased. There is a neat dado, painted dark brown, all round, with a yellowish-brown grained border. The walls are distempered of a lavender colour, and the ceilings white.

The beds are seventeen in number, all occupied. One of these is a patent folding-bed, with elaborate fittings, patented by Mr. Jowsey, of Timaru; six are ordinary wooden beds; nine are common iron beds; and there is one chair-bed used for accident cases. Seven beds have chaff mattresses; the rest are all hair. There is a neat locker, with tray top, for each bed. The head-cards give particulars about the patient and his diet; and a thermic chart shows the changes of the pulse, respiration, skin, tongue, bowels, and urine; also the patient's weight and the duration of the disease. There is also a card showing the treatment and the doctor's notes. The furniture of the ward is plain and substantial. There is a chair for each bed, and an easy-chair for the ward; a large deal table for dressings, basins, &c.; a large commodious press at the end for bandages, linen, &c., fitted with a medicine-press above. The whole appearance of the ward is comfortable, and everything is scrupulously clean and neat. Flowers are plentifully supplied to all the wards. Ventilation is secured by openings in the walls a little below the ceiling—one opens into the chimney-shaft, covered with a perforated-iron plate, and two open into the large central hall. One of the large wards is always kept vacant for purification, and I hope this will be continued. The bath-room, lavatory, and closet are separated from the ward simply by a painted and grained partition. This is perhaps the greatest blemish in the hospital, and, unfortunately, it is incurable. The baths are lined with zinc, and heated by means of steam supplied from the boiler, as are also the small casks which supply hot water for use in the wards. The closets throughout the hospital are fitted with cisterns: some are newly fitted with Jennings's patent; but the closet in No. 2, though it cost £6, does not work well. It was locally made; but a mistake was made in not giving it sufficient force. The best closet in use is the Eos patent, which answers admirably. All the other wards are similar to this in their appointments, and the same description will serve for all. The female wards all open off the corridor round the first floor, and are also four in number. In addition to this there is a ward for venereal cases, and over against it an ophthalmic ward. Off the left side of the corridor open (1) a comfortably furnished nurses' dining-room, (2) a dispenser's room, (3) a bath-room, and (4) a large and airy sitting-room for the house-surgeon. On the right side of the corridor are situated (1) nurses' bed-room, (2) nurses' bath-room, (3) charge-nurse's room, (4) secretary's room, all suitably furnished. On the day of my last visit there were 108 patients in the hospital: in No. 1 there were 17, in No. 2 15, in No. 3 13; in the female wards there were 11 in No. 5, 10 in No. 6, 17 in No. 7, 15 in No. 8, 5 in the venereal ward, and 4 in the lying-in ward. I gave every patient the opportunity of making any complaints to me privately, and, instead of complaining, all were unanimous in praising the treatment they received. This hospital stands pre-eminent in the colony for the admirable completeness of its arrangements for the medical and surgical treatment of the patients. Although the building is inferior to several of the other hospitals from the fact that it was not designed originally for its present purpose, yet the advantage it possesses from its connection with the thriving and vigorous Medical School of Dunedin gives it in all the essentials of hospital treatment and management an unmistakable superiority. There is simply no comparison between it and any other hospital in the colony in this respect, and I hope that the Hospital Committee will not forget what this superiority depends on. I am glad to hear that there is a movement afoot to remove the lying-in ward from the hospital, and I hope it will speedily be merged in what may ultimately become a Maternity Hospital for the city. The removal of the old chronic cases who used to cumber the institution is a great gain, and I hope the staff will steadily resist all temptations to allow the accumulations to begin again. I made a careful inspection of all the parts of the annexe behind the hospital, as well as of the garden and grounds, and I content myself with saying that I found everything in admirable order. Of the skill and ability with which Mr. Burns manages the institution I cannot speak too highly, and all Dunedin is aware of the enthusiastic devotion of the chairman, Mr. Houghton.

DUNSTAN.

THIS hospital stands on a reserve of about five acres on the left bank of the Molyneux River, about a mile below the township. It is fenced in by a dilapidated sod-fence, and some of the gates, especially the one nearest the town, are falling to pieces. At one time one can see the grounds were well cared-for. They are planted with poplars, oaks, elms, willows, and a few blue-gums. Now they have a neglected squalid appearance, whereas a little attention would make the whole place beautiful. The doctor's residence, a plain six-roomed cottage, stands at some distance from the hospital, nearer the town. The hospital itself faces the north, and is approached by a gravel-walk. It consists of a central portion and two wings, in each of which is a good-sized ward for male patients. Female patients are lodged in a small comfortable room on the right side of the entrance-hall, while the dispensary and surgery stands on the opposite side. The hall is 18ft. by 6ft., and at right angles to it there is a corridor leading from one wing to the other, with the wardens' rooms and the kitchen opening off it to the right. The entrance to the kitchen passes under a verandah with a worn-out floor. Behind the kitchen is a store-room, and at the end of the kitchen projection is a lean-to containing a washhouse and a coalhouse. The male ward in the right wing (the Alexandra Ward) is 25ft. by 19ft. by 12ft. (in centre). The walls are coloured with a lavender wash and the ceiling white. There are two windows in front and one behind, with holland blinds on rollers. The floor has a strip of matting along the middle of it. The ward is warmed by a cottage-stove, with the pipe led into the chimney of the fireplace, which is closed by a wooden cover. Ventilation is secured by external openings under level of the floor, and a ventilator in the ceiling. It contains seven iron beds, none of them occupied at present. The mattresses are of winnowings, with straw paillasses. The bedding is exceedingly clean and tidily folded, and the counterpanes, red and white, are nearly new. A plain screen, covered on one side with faded green baize, is placed opposite the door to prevent a draught. Along the walls are unframed pictures. At the head of each bed is a small locker, which could be greatly improved by a coat

of paint. The table is of deal, and very rickety, with two forms, one on each side. Near the door is a bookcase filled with well-selected, well-bound books and a few magazines. The general effect of the ward is comfortable, but one feels that by a very slight expenditure and a little taste it might be greatly improved and brightened. The lavatory to right of the door ought to be enlarged for a bath-room, and the door closed up. The ward in the other wing is similar in all respects except that it is unfurnished, containing only a few old beds and other articles not required for immediate use. The female ward to the right of the entrance-hall is the most comfortable of all. It is 17ft. by 14ft. It has a neat striped matting along the floor, with strips of carpet in front of each bed. There is a plain dado all round. The walls and ceiling are papered, and are somewhat dingy, especially the ceiling. A few unframed pictures are stuck on the walls. The table, forms, and lockers are the same as in the male ward; so are the stove and ventilation. There is a neat new commode and an easy-chair with one arm. Like the male ward, this has also a look of comfort, which might be greatly improved by a little taste and very slight expenditure. I did not see a flower in the building. The dispensary across the entrance-hall is so large and well stocked with drawers and drugs that it would serve for a hospital with a hundred beds. Here a good deal of money has been quite wasted. There is a fine large instrument-press, with a fair stock of instruments and surgical appliances. The water-supply at present comes mainly from the roof; but when the new pump, which is now in hand, is finished, and the windmill is in working order, an abundant supply for all purposes can be got from a well in the grounds. The tank on an elevated stand to secure pressure is the most ornamental thing about the institution. The kitchen is very clean and commodious. It has an "Economist" range, with the lids nearly all cracked, but still quite serviceable. It has a concrete floor, a fine large dresser and plate-rack, and the whole is scrupulously clean. The store behind has a neat row of bins lined with zinc as a protection against rats. The stores are all carefully kept, except the tea-box, which was left uncovered. They are all of good quality. The washhouse in the iron lean-to at the end of the kitchen projection has a cement floor, a built-in copper boiler, a washing-machine, and a wringer. There are suitable and well-kept closets for males and females, made of corrugated iron, and standing at some distance. The mortuary is also an iron building at some distance in the rear. It has a sand floor, and contains a zinc-covered table and a bath-chair, which is kept here when not in use. There is a very large meat-safe, which is placed in such a position that it is exposed to the sun, and is useless. There are two small patches of garden, one under potatoes and the other stocked with vegetables, greatly suffering from the drought. The books are a well-kept case-book and the register, which shows that twenty-three patients have been admitted since March. Paying-patients from March to December contributed £40 4s. 6d. Voluntary contributions for same period amount to £65 19s. 2d.; the same for 1885 amounted to £161 12s. 8d. Salaries: Doctor, £250; Warder Fountain and wife, £84; secretary, £25. Non-contributing patients pay £1 10s., subscribers from 5s. to £1 pay £1, subscribers of £1 and upwards pay 15s.

13th January, 1887.

GISBORNE.

This hospital is situated on a reserve of about five acres about a mile and a half from town. The reserve is in a state of squalid neglect, rough and unfenced, except a small space in front containing flower-beds and a few trees. The garden is much too large for one man to manage, and the consequence is that it is a wilderness of weeds. The hospital-building faces the south-east, and consists of a central part and two wings, with a verandah along the front of the central part. It is a great pity it does not go round the front and sides of the two wings, for the wards must be very hot in summer. The central block contains a comfortable private ward, occupied by a fever patient, two rooms for the matron, Miss Guilbride, a good dining-room, and a kitchen. The male ward, 40ft. by 20ft., is lined with boards, and the ceiling distempered of a lavender colour. It is well lighted, and ventilation is provided for by large open spaces in the ceiling, which had to be guarded by boards to keep the draught from being excessive. There are nine beds in this ward, one of which is a patent lever-bed, and one is fitted with a wire-mattress. The others are ordinary iron beds, with flock mattresses and feather pillows. There is a small locker and head-card for each patient. Along the floor there is a strip of linoleum, and a few pictures and Scripture-texts adorn the walls. The remaining furniture is plain but suitable. There is a small harmonium for the use of the patients, and the ward on the whole has a home-like, comfortable look. Separated from each of the wings by a well-ventilated passage are suitable lavatories, bath-rooms, and earth-closets, which are very carefully attended to. For the female ward the same general description will suffice. The want of a proper slop-sink tempts the servants to empty slops into the bath, and it is found very difficult to keep it clear in consequence. The separate dining-room, which is a great feature of this hospital, is conveniently situated near the kitchen. It is comfortably furnished, and contains a well-stocked book-case. The linen-press is empty, there being no spare blankets or sheets. In all there are sixteen beds, and there is only bedding for twelve. The kitchen has a good range, and is kept very clean; but the room behind, occupied by the nurses and cooks, is disgraceful. There is at the back of the female ward a detached building containing a washhouse with built-in copper boiler. Behind this there is a room which is used as a separation ward. In the courtyard behind there is a concrete tank underground to contain the roof-water. Attached to this there is an ordinary pump, but there is no fire-hose. A small hand-engine and hose should be got at once. The drainage of the back premises, including the washhouse, is allowed to run under the nurses' and cook's bed-room. Besides this, the overflow from the water-tank leads into an open drain, and is not trapped. This open drain runs through a small paddock to the river, and during the hot weather its contents simply fester in the sun, poisoning the atmosphere all round. The whole of the inside, especially the wards and the back offices, needs to be repainted, for in some places, especially under the

window-sills in the wards, the walls are very unsightly. All the faults I have mentioned are due to the parsimony and neglect of the Hospital Committee; for, so far as Dr. Pollen and the matron, Miss Guilbride, are concerned, I have nothing but commendation. On the day of my visit there were in the hospital 13 patients—9 males and 4 females—and they all, with one consent, spoke of the kindness and attention which they received in the highest terms. I examined the books and found them all in order.

13th November, 1886.

GREYMOUTH.

THE Greymouth Hospital is situated about a mile and a half to the south of the town, on a low terrace facing the road. The reserve is about four acres in extent. About two acres at the foot of the terrace behind the hospital is used as a paddock. At the north end of the building is a large well-cultivated garden, well stocked with vegetables, and enclosed by a neat quick hedge. The building is not well designed for its purpose. It consists of two blocks, one behind the other, connected by a central corridor at right angles to the front. Between the two blocks, and separated by the corridor, are two small courts, open at the ends. The northern court is bordered on three sides with flowers; the other is bare, and flanked with the tanks which collect the roof-water. In a line with the posterior block, from which it is separated by a cross-passage, the building is continued to the left, forming a separate block, which looks externally a neater building than the rest, the front line being broken by three rectangular projections. At right angles to this part, some distance away, there is now being erected a structure which is to contain a laundry and drying-room, a gardener's room, and a store. The front block is divided into two large and one small male ward. The male accident ward opens from the corridor to the left of the entrance. Its dimensions are 26ft. 8in. by 23ft. 4in. by 13ft., with high sloping ceiling. It is neatly lined with boards, and painted, the dado, with border, a dark lavender, the rest of a lighter shade. It has two large sash-windows on each side, with venetian blinds. It is ventilated by Tobin's tubes in the corners and two circular openings in the ceiling. On the walls hang a few bordered pictures, and over the open fireplace, where a good fire is kept, there stands a neat clock. This ward contains ten beds, nine of which are occupied. All except one, a wooden stretcher, are made of iron. All have flock mattresses and pillows. The bedding is very clean, but the coverlets are much worn. At the head of each bed there is a neat locker. A plain deal table with clean white cover, stands in the centre, flanked by two benches. Two green-baize screens complete the furniture of this ward. The other wards are furnished exactly the same. In both large male wards the closets, bath, and lavatory open behind a 6ft. partition, shelved on the side next the door. The closet is an earth one, and is emptied every day. The small ward to the north, 23ft. by 13ft. by 13ft. 6in., contains 5 patients. The large male ward opens on the left side of the corridor, 42ft. by 23ft. by 13ft. 6in. In this ward there are three windows on each side. It contains 13 patients. In the back block the female ward opens to the right, separated from the male ward by a flower-bordered court open at the northern end. It contains eight beds, all occupied. It is furnished in all respects like the male wards. It has two sash-windows on each side, and one large window, with three venetian blinds, at the end. At the entrance to this ward there is a vestibule, on the left of which is the nurse's room. On the right a door opens to the court, and on the same side there are situated the ward-closet, lavatory, and bath-room. Opposite to the front door, at the far end of the corridor, stands a well-lighted operating-room, with a good operating-table and two large presses, one used as a linen-press, the other containing splints and other surgical material. There is a basin and tap in the corner. Off this to the left opens the dispensary, a fine large room fitted up with a large stock of bottles and drugs. In one press is contained a large stock of well-kept surgical instruments, in another the poisons and more costly drugs. The drug-bill is about £120 per annum. This room contains a telephone, has a large open fireplace, and a clock on the mantelpiece. There are neat shelves all round the walls, with presses below. In front there is a small waiting-room. Across the passage, at the south end of the posterior block, stands the kitchen, presided over by a male cook in the orthodox garb. The kitchen has a good large range, a large dresser and press, with a slop-sink in corner. The staff, all except the steward, take their meals in the kitchen. Opposite the kitchen, and separated from it by a passage to a male ward beyond, stands a large well-kept store and a room for the wardmen, who, being married men, do not reside in the hospital. On the other side stands a lumber-room. The passage opens into what used to be the dining-room, 25ft. by 24ft., now used as an additional male ward, furnished like the rest. It contains 9 patients. Here stands a press containing a meagre supply of books, which are the whole supply of the institution. Separated from this by still another cross-passage is a room of the same size as the last, which is at present, pending the completion of the new building, used as a laundry. The gardener sleeps in a space partitioned off in one corner. All along the back of what is called the new building there is a fine large verandah, with a potato-store at one end of it. The steward's house (Mr. Williams), a neat five-roomed cottage, stands behind the hospital, facing the sea. In the middle of the garden stand three separate edifices, the nearest containing neat and well-kept closets and urinal. The next is a stable, and the farthest off a well-designed mortuary, with cement floor, lead-lined table, semicircular sink with straight downpipe, and a hand-basin. There are three windows a suitable height from the floor. The total number of patients on the day of my visit was 29 males and 8 females. I conversed with each separately, and found them loud in their praises of Dr. Morice; indeed, his attention to them and his skilful treatment deserve the fullest recognition. Mr. Williams, the steward, and the rest of the staff are most attentive to their duties. I was much struck with the kindly feelings that pervaded the institution. I found the patients' register, the patients' property-book, and the cash-book all in good order. Salaries—Dr. Morice, £250; steward, £250; day-warder, £156; night-warder, £120; cook, £2 2s. per week; gardener, £1 per week;

matrons, £1 10s. and £1 8s. per week. The total annual expenditure is about £2,400. The drug-bill seems to me to be too heavy, being £120. The hospital as a whole is badly planned and wrongly placed. Instead of facing the road it ought to have faced the north. The pathways in front and all around are sadly in need of gravelling.

31st October, 1886.

HOKITIKA.

THIS hospital is beautifully situated on the front of a high terrace overlooking the sea. The grounds are about fifteen acres in extent. A large space in front is laid out with walks and trees, but is not properly looked after; to the left and rear a large garden stretches, a very wilderness of disorderly cultivation. There is only one man to look after this large extent of grounds and garden, and he gets little or no assistance from the patients, while he has to act as messenger besides. The consequence is that the whole surroundings of the building have an untidy appearance. The hospital itself consists of two parallel blocks, with a wide corridor in the middle connecting the two. In the front block, to the right and left of the entrance, are situated the two male wards. The rear block is divided into the female ward to the left, while the right half is occupied by a convalescent ward, at present empty, and the operation-room, which is suitably furnished and well lighted. At right angles to the rear block, and separated by a passage, stands a smaller building, containing the kitchen and a good-sized store. The three wards—two male and one female ward—are large—51ft. by 25ft.—and lofty, airy, and well lighted and ventilated. In each there is a double central fireplace. The windows are large sash-windows, with holland blinds. The walls and ceilings of all the wards are sadly in need of painting. The ceilings especially look as if they were made of old materials, which had been forgotten by the painter. The appearance of the whole is bare and cheerless; and yet a little judicious expenditure in paint and a few pictures would completely remove this effect, and transform them into really admirable wards. The male wards are rendered still more depressing by the inevitable neglect of details, caused by having only one man in charge of these two large wards, each containing seventeen beds, eleven of them occupied in each. Besides this, the same man has to look after the boiler which supplies hot water for the baths. The beds are all iron, with thin flimsy straw paillasses and straw mattresses, though in each ward there are a few hair mattresses for special cases. All the bedding is clean, and each bed has enough for warmth. The food is good, abundant, and well cooked. I made personal inquiries of all the patients, and heard not a single complaint. All expressed themselves satisfied with the attentions of the doctor and his staff. In fact, in all essentials this hospital is well managed, and the patients are contented. I found abundant evidence that Dr. King is most attentive to his duties, and the overtaxed wardsman, Sutor, is a prime favourite. The female ward is kept very clean and tidy, but looks cheerless at the best. An assistant wardsman, whose services for part of the day might be devoted to the grounds and garden, would be a great improvement. The male wards could then be kept neatly, and the neglected appearance of the grounds and garden put an end to. I have suggested to Dr. King and the Chairman that a large part of the cost of this could be met by reducing the expenditure on medical comforts, which averages about £16 a month. All the stores are got by contract, and are of good quality. The steward manages the dispensary, and has, under the doctor, the general charge of the hospital. He is quartered in a small room off the dispensary. The salaries of the various officers are as follows: Doctor, £300; steward, £156; wardsman, £150; gardener and messenger, £80; cook, £80; female nurse, £78; laundress, £65; housemaid, £52. The water-supply is all collected from the roof in tanks, and is found to be sufficient. There is a hand-pump and a large number of buckets for use in case of fire, as also suitable ladders. At the far end of each ward are suitable closets and lavatories. The whole sewage of the institution is conducted into a gully. All the pipes from the interior of the building fall into open receptacles, so that no gases can find their way inside. For patients able to walk there are suitable closets behind. There is a very good system of book-keeping in use, and the case-books in particular are very carefully kept, giving a complete record of the treatment of each case. There is a fair supply of surgical instruments, which are carefully kept. There are no restrictions on the admission of patients, and no inconvenience results. The clergy of the town are assiduous in their attention to the sick. The supply of books and papers is rather meagre.

28th October, 1886.

INVERCARGILL.

THIS hospital is situated at the north end of the main street of the town, in a reserve of about five acres of level land. About three acres of this consists of the hospital-grounds proper, the remainder being used for a grazing-paddock. The whole is surrounded by a good fence and hedge, neatly kept, with trees all round. There is a small porter's lodge, built of brick, at the main entrance, from which a wide asphalt approach leads to the front of the building. The hospital consists of three square blocks of brick and cement, connected by a corridor. The northern block is devoted to the male patients, and is the oldest and worst-planned part of the institution. The original wards are about twenty-five years old, but the kitchen and dining-room have been added much later. The central square contains a good large waiting-room and dispensary on the ground-floor, from which a narrow stair, with a sharp turn in it, leads to the female ward and the dispenser's private rooms, on the first floor. The southern square block is the doctor's residence, which contains eight good rooms. The aspect of the building is substantial and comfortable. The grounds in front are trim and well laid out, while the recesses between the blocks, which are planted with shrubs, give the whole a cheerful and homelike appearance. The most striking fact about this hospital is that all the male patients—i.e., the whole of the inmates proper except two or three female patients, for whose accommodation there is a small female ward in the middle block—are crowded into one end

of the building—the original hospital. This consists simply of four rooms, two above and two below, each 24ft. by 17ft., connected by a stair so narrow and tortuous that it is a matter of great difficulty to get a bedridden patient taken to the upstairs wards. Each of these male wards contains five or six beds, which are nearly all very good, a large proportion having wire-mattresses, and all very clean and comfortable bedding. The walls of the ward are unplastered brick, distempered; but all have a dingy, blotchy, appearance, while the windows are much too small to light them properly, and in all the ventilation is inadequate. I am informed that a contract has been entered into for enlarging some of the windows in the two wards on the ground-floor. This will be a great improvement, provided the ventilation is attended to at the same time. It is intended also to remove the stairs; but it seems to me impossible, without gutting the block, to make them really suitable for their purpose. I believe it would be much better to leave them alone till such time as the committee are able to pull down the partition-walls in the old part of the block—which must by this time be saturated with hospital products—and rearrange the whole space. I would suggest that what is now the spare ward over the dining-room be used to accommodate the patients of No. 2 Ward, for it is much more cheerful than the dismal room they have at present. The furniture of these wards is of the plainest description, but quite suitable for the purpose. I am, however, strongly impressed with the fact that no attempt has been made to please the eye in any of the internal fittings or arrangements of this hospital. For example, the roomy and convenient dining-room might at a very small cost be made beautiful as well as useful. It strikes one as incongruous that a town whose streets are so beautiful should be so careless of effect in the wards of its hospital. On the day of my visit there were fifteen patients on the male side and two on the female side. I made the most careful inquiries regarding their comfort and treatment, and found them unanimous in their approval. Their beds are clean and comfortable, their food is abundant, good in quality, well cooked, and promptly served. Every case was receiving suitable medical treatment, and all spoke in the highest terms of the care and attention of Dr. Lowe. A fever hospital has just been built some distance in the rear. It is a neat, substantial building of brick and cement, with a wide asphalted footpath all round it. It consists of two wards, well lighted and ventilated, with cement floors, and walls plastered with Keen's cement. The windows are fitted with venetian blinds, and there is a handsome double gas-pendant in each ward. A suitable nurse's room is placed between the wards, with a small window opening on each. To the left of the entrance—which by a singular oversight is so placed that a patient on a stretcher cannot be carried in—there is a small ward for special cases. Like all the other rooms, this has a neat grate with marble mantelpiece, cement floor, and venetian blinds. A sufficient sum has been raised by subscription to keep this hospital for the present a separate institution. The trustees are able to begin the new year with a credit balance of £823 13s. 9d. The expenditure for the nine months ending 31st December, 1886, was £2,690 18s. 7d. The surgeon's salary, with free house and a right to private practice within a mile radius, is £230 11s. 6d. for the same period. Other salaries amounted to £366 10s. 2d.; drugs, £94 17s. 3d.; wines and spirits, £14 12s. 10d. From 1st April to 31st December the admissions were 179 males and 19 females, while there were 639 out-patients, requiring 1,096 attendances. Medicines are in nearly all these cases given free; hence the amount of the drug-bill. The Government subsidy for the nine months was £778, while the cash received from patients was £188 2s. Voluntary subscriptions from all sources amounted to £192 11s. 8d. The contributions of the Southland Hospital and Charitable Aid Board amounted to £467 8s. 6d.

6th January, 1887.

KUMARA.

This is a neat, well-designed cottage-hospital. It stands on the brow of a beautiful terrace, in a reserve of about five acres, facing the sun, with a verandah in front. To the left of the entrance, opening off the corridor which goes straight from the front to the back of the building, the first door opens into the female ward. Its dimensions are 21ft. by 15ft. by 11ft. It is lined with boards, and has a neat dado. The whole is painted a light lavender colour. It has three ordinary sash-windows, with holland blinds. It contains three iron beds, with bedding exceedingly fresh and clean. Alongside of each bed is a plain wooden locker with two shelves: the rest of the furniture consists of a plain deal table with white cover, and a few chairs. The fireplace is an open one, for burning wood. On the opposite side of the corridor opens No. 1 male ward, similar in all respects, except that its dimensions are 27ft. by 17ft. by 11ft. Here there are six beds, all occupied. Four beds are iron, and two of wood. All have flock mattresses except two, which are of straw. Here, as in the female ward, the bedding is good and very clean (quilts new). In addition to the usual plain deal table and chairs, this ward has a shelf, rather untidily kept, on which are huddled a few books and papers. Three daily papers are supplied. The male accident ward, 17ft. by 16ft. by 11ft., contains three beds, two of which are occupied. One of these is a patent lever-bed, at present unoccupied. At the head of each occupied bed is a card showing the treatment. On the right-hand side of the corridor, next the back, is a lumber-room very untidily kept, off which opens Mr. Ross the steward's room, still more slovenly in appearance. Just behind the female ward there is a door leading under a back verandah, which serves as scullery, into the kitchen, which is very clean, with large open fireplace, in which is fixed a colonial oven, with boiler for supplying water to baths fitted in behind it. This boiler causes the chimney to smoke badly. An earth-closet opens off the corridor just behind. I have suggested that this should be built further out, so as to cut it off from the corridor by cross ventilation. Just before coming to back door on the left there is a suitable bath-room, with one wash-hand-basin fixed in. The rain-water from the roof is collected in seven tanks, and gives an ample supply. The drainage is all directed into a large deep gully. A washhouse and fowlhouse stand behind, and also a suitable mortuary. Of the nine inmates, four are chronic cases, suffering from old age and rheumatism. The food is good, abundant, and well cooked. All the patients were

satisfied with their treatment. There were eighty-one out-patients in the month of September. Advice is given at the hospital every day at 11 a.m., except Sundays. All medicine is free. Dr. McBrearty is very assiduous in the discharge of his duties; but as regards the steward, the sooner he is got rid of the better.

30th October, 1886.

TUAPEKA.

THIS hospital stands in a reserve of about three acres, with a hedge all round, and well laid out with walks and trees. The western hedge is in bad order. The building is brick, painted red, with white pointing, having a central part, with verandah and two wings. The foundations are of concrete, well ventilated under the floors by gratings. The hall is laid with matting (eked out with linoleum), and has a double pendant lamp. The dispensary opens on one side, the nurse's room on the other. The male ward occupies the west wing, and opens off the end of the cross-corridor. Its dimensions are 52ft. by 21ft. 6in. by 15ft. There is a large square window in the north end, with three pairs of sash-windows facing the west—all holland blinds. There are two fireplaces in the right-hand wall, with fire-bars let into bricks. The walls are whitewashed bare bricks, and the ceiling is daubed with whitewash which is flaking off. A few unframed pictures are stuck here and there on the walls; there are no flowers. There are twelve beds, in two rows, with two strips of matting along the floor. There are two deal tables with white cloths, flanked by forms. A mirror stands over the far mantel-piece. There are rag rugs in front of the fireplaces, and plain fenders. The ventilation is regulated by a cord. Of the beds, five are wooden—some very rickety—and two are stretchers, the rest of the ordinary iron pattern. One of the wooden beds is a Monckton's patent, with wire-mattress; the other beds have either flock or chaff mattresses. To each bed there is a large locker, painted of a very ugly colour. There is a bookcase containing a good stock of books. Two double pendant lamps light the ward. Two very rough commodes are provided. At the back end of the ward there is a short passage with cross ventilation, leading to a bath-room on the left, and an earth-closet, well kept, on the right; under the end window are two basins. In bath-room there is hot and cold water, with a shower. The female ward occupies part of the east wing, the back part of which is made into a third ward. Its size is 28ft. 6in. by 21ft. 6in., and it is similar to the male ward in every respect, except that it is smaller, and is much more cheerful and tidy, being newly whitewashed. The bath, closet, and lavatory are the same as in the male ward. The spare ward, 23ft. 6in. by 21ft. 6in., is used for the more chronic cases, and contains six beds, two of which are occupied. All have an untidy look, caused by the old discoloured quilts. Closets, lavatory, and bath as above. The space between the male ward and the central passage is occupied by the warder's room, which is very poorly furnished. The corresponding room on the other side is the store, which is large and commodious, and well fitted with shelves. The kitchen occupies a separate building, approached in the line of the front door by a neat covered way, with narrow wooden bars underfoot. The back doors of the wards are at right angles to this covered way. The kitchen is very commodious and well furnished, having a cement floor, a good dresser, and a sink. There is also a pump for filling a tank for the boiler. In the yard in front of kitchen there is a meat-safe and a coal-box on each side of back door. Behind the kitchen is a wooden building, containing a room for the cook, and a space behind it, with room for three beds, not at present in use. The fever hospital is a brick building, badly built, with one side very damp, and the bricks scaling off. It has three windows with holland blinds, and an open fireplace. To the left of the entrance is a padded room, with the padding rotting from damp, and of a very musty smell. To the right there is a nurse's room full of rubbish. The whole west wall is very damp. At the back of the kitchen is a fine large louvred safe. The water-supply is from the roof, and is stored in a large underground tank. There is a row of wooden sheds at rear of all, containing a stable with two stalls, a carpenter's shop with a few tools and a grindstone; also a coalhouse and lumber-room. The washhouse occupies the east end, with a tank to supply it at the back. It contains a built-in boiler. The cement floor is full of holes. There is a tub with a wringer, and sink in corner. There are two brick closets enclosed by 6ft. iron, and a covered-in ashpit into which closets are emptied, and this itself is emptied once a week. The mortuary, 9ft. by 10ft. has a cement floor, and table faced with cement and grooved all round. The walls are damp. Two pivot-windows come within 5ft. of the floor. The doctor's residence stands in front—a neat brick building, with six rooms and no verandah. The whole drainage goes into a large cesspool, with charcoal filter, of which the outlet is nine inches lower than the inlet. It is now choked up. There are eight patients, all males and chronic cases except one. The total number of patients for 1886 was 121; no record of out-patients. Of the in-patients, four were admitted twice; two admitted three times; and one was admitted four times. Senile cases are kept here because it is cheaper than sending them to the Benevolent Institution. One shilling is charged to all out-patients who can pay for medicines. The books kept are the register, a prescription-book, and a diet-roll, which is submitted every month to the Committee. The salaries are—doctor, £300; warder, £52; nurse, 15s.; gardener (old patient), 5s. Dr. Withers has been absent for a year's holiday, and it looks as if the hospital and its surroundings needed his presence to smarten things up a bit, though I am bound to add that Dr. McLean seems to have been exceedingly attentive, so far as the treatment of the patients is concerned.

18th January, 1887.

MASTERTON.

TO-DAY I found this hospital empty of patients. It is beautifully situated on a healthy, well-drained site near the town. The garden, grounds, and outhouses are so well kept that it is a pleasure to visit the place, and the internal cleanliness and order confirm one's first impressions. With some faults of construction which cannot now be remedied, the zealous care of the Committee, Mrs. and

Miss Bulpit, and Dr. Hosking, have made this institution a credit to the town. The furniture is admirable in every respect, the wards are a model of comfort and cleanliness, and nothing is wanting but patients.

I have called the Chairman's attention to the fact that the well receives the surface-drainage from the yard, which might be dangerous. I have no doubt that by the time of my next visit this will be remedied.

16th September, 1886.

GREYTOWN.

LIKE the hospital at Masterton, I found this empty, but not nearly so well found by the Committee, nor so well kept by Mr. Wright and his wife. The site is, no doubt, ill adapted for gardening purposes, though exceedingly healthy for a hospital; still, that is no excuse for the slovenly way in which the ground is kept. A few loads of gravel, which is surely plentiful enough in this neighbourhood, and a little paint bestowed on the building would greatly improve the appearance of things. As regards the internal arrangements, they are very plain, but sufficient. The wards are airy and well ventilated; the beds are clean and comfortable. There is a suitable kitchen with a good range, which is well kept. Behind the kitchen are the store and scullery; the store is at present empty, and the scullery is very small and has no sink. In the rear of the hospital two old immigrants' cottages have been fixed up, the one on the right to serve as a sort of general annexe, containing a washhouse with a boiler built in, a good mangle, and galvanized-iron washing-tubs. This also contains a place which serves as a bath-room. For contagious cases there is a good portable bath. Another similar dilapidated cottage to the left serves as a fever ward: it is plain-deal-lined, cheerless, and draughty. It has recently been roofed with iron, as the old shingle-roof was very leaky. Two privies and a fowlhouse complete the outbuildings. Only one small room is provided for the steward and matron. There is a room which serves as a dispensary, with a good medicine-press well stocked with drugs, got from the local druggist. Books—a diary and register; the latter very well kept. English and Catholic clergymen visit regularly. A visitor is appointed monthly.

18th September, 1886.

MOUNT IDA.

THIS hospital stands in a reserve of four acres, at the foot of a high terrace, not far from the centre of the town. The ground is surrounded with a broom hedge, is well laid out, and planted with poplars, pines, and willows. It is approached through a handsome gate by a well-kept gravel-drive, with a well-stocked vegetable-garden next the gate on the left, sheltered by well-grown trees; and nearer the hospital on the same side is a beautiful flower-bed. The building is of the ordinary cottage plan, with a verandah in front, from the left end of which a door opens direct into the male ward, which occupies the north end of the house. The front door opens from the middle of the verandah into the hall, 15ft. by 4ft. To the left of the entrance opens an exceedingly neat well-kept dispensary, with a counter, on which everything is in apple-pie order. Under the window is a commodious kauri sideboard, with large drawers for surgical appliances. It contains also a wash-hand-basin, seltzogene, and filter. The female ward is on the left of the entrance, opposite the dispensary, is 12ft. by 18ft., with two windows, venetian blinds. It has a very neat light-blue dado, with walls covered with paper of a neat pattern. The furniture is very comfortable, consisting of a small square of carpet, a neat deal table with suitable cover, a wash-hand-basin, a commode, and some chairs. There are a few pictures on the wall, flowers on the table, and the grate and mantelpiece are very neat. It contains three beds, with good spring mattresses and very good and clean bedding. It is well ventilated by means of a grating in the ceiling, adjustable by a cord. In the right-hand corner are two brackets, for basin, looking-glass, and medicine-bottles. The male ward, with one door from the verandah, one from the dispensary, and one from the corridor (back passage), has a white dado with walls light blue, two windows with venetian blinds, heated by a fireplace with a grate, but a stove is used for winter. It is very comfortably furnished, with six beds, one a Monckton lever bed; of the others four are wood and one iron. Two of the beds have wire mattresses, two hair mattresses, and one mattress is flock. There are no lockers and no head-cards. There are five wicker chairs, and one folding easy-chair. As in the female ward, ventilation is provided by means of a square grating adjusted by a cord. A support over each bed hangs from the roof. There is a neat, well-stocked book-case. At right angles to the entrance-hall is a back corridor, 30ft. by 4ft., covered with matting, one end of which is converted into a neat conservatory. To the rear of this corridor are situated the kitchen, steward's room, and another small spare ward containing two beds and a chest of drawers, in which a fair stock of instruments is very carefully kept. A suitable instrument-press ought to be provided. Next comes a bath-room and lavatory combined, containing a zinc-lined bath supplied with hot water from the boiler of the washhouse. Besides this boiler the washhouse contains fixed wooden tubs, with a wringer. A mangle fits on the table, and there is an ordinary cottage-boiler. About twenty yards from the south end of the hospital stands a fever hospital, built of concrete. It contains two neat wards, with a lean-to, in which is situated the kitchen, suitably fitted. At the rear stands an iron shed used as a mortuary. At the date of my visit the hospital contained five patients—three males and two females—all of whom spoke (as well they might) of the care and attention with which they are treated. This hospital is well found and well looked after in every respect by the Committee. Indeed, in all my travels I have never seen more pride and interest manifested in a local institution, and the way in which it is supported reflects the greatest credit on the district. A most striking fact is that here there are no pauper patients. In January, 1886, £112 was locally raised to keep the hospital a separate institution. The drug-bill for the nine months amounts to £6 6s. 4d., and the medical comforts £12 11s. The attention of Dr. Whitton to his duties is beyond all praise.

14th January, 1887.

NAPIER.

THIS hospital occupies a site which could not be excelled. It is near the town, situated on a hill, with a noble prospect all round. Its water-supply, drainage, and all other important requirements are amply provided for, and the building is worthy of its site. The wards and their accessories are grouped round a neat courtyard with flower-plots in its centre. The surgical ward opens on the left and the medical ward to the right of this court. Opposite the main entrance, opening off the far side of the court, is a fine corridor 99ft. by 9ft., having on its right a fine large well-furnished convalescent room for male patients, a very comfortable female private ward containing two beds, and a well-furnished and well-lighted operating-room. On the left side of the central corridor are situated a fine large well-furnished kitchen, with scullery, stores, pantry, and servants' dining- and sitting-rooms and a bath-room for the household. At the far end of the corridor is situated the new fever ward, while the large female ward opens on the right and the children's ward on the left. All the large wards are similarly furnished, and have similar accessory rooms. For instance, the surgical ward—48ft. by 29ft. 4in. by 16ft.—is well lighted, well ventilated, and very comfortably furnished. It contains fifteen very comfortable iron beds, with straw palliasses and hair mattresses. Alongside of each bed is a neat kauri locker, with a box above and a drawer below. At the head of each bed are cards showing the diet and treatment. Neatly-framed pictures adorn the walls. There are two ward-tables set off with flowers, and suitable chairs—one of them a very comfortable bath-chair on wheels. There are very neat screens to secure privacy when desirable, and there is a wide layer of linoleum all along the centre of the ward. At the far end of the ward, in well-ventilated projections, are situated well-planned and well-kept closets, lavatory and bath-room. Like the other wards, this has opening off the passage leading to it a very comfortable private ward and a nurse's room, as well as a ward-kitchen, with small range, a sink, and a convenient press. One of the chief features of this hospital is a comfortable Children's Ward, 27ft. by 15ft. It contains four beds and two cribs. At present there are three patients, who evidently feel quite at home. The floor is all laid with wax-cloth. Neat pictures, a toy-press, and shelves well filled with children's books, and a clock, gives the whole a very home-like look. The bath-room, lavatory, and closet belonging to the ward are admirable. The fever hospital, situated at the far end of the main corridor, and completely isolated from the rest of the hospital, contains two wards and their accessory rooms. The female ward, which is similar to the male ward, is 23ft. by 18ft., with two sash-windows on each side and a large square window at the end. The ventilation of the ward is provided for by Sherringham's ventilators in the walls and openings in the ceiling. There is a magnificent view from the windows. A double gas pendant hangs in the middle of the ward. The furniture consists of neat white-pine lockers and linen-press. The beds are furnished with straw and flax mattresses and feather pillows. The walls are faced with Keen's cement. The bath-room, lavatory, and earth-closet, with special ventilating-pipe, are kept with very great care. There is a suitable kitchen and well-furnished nurses' room. The total cost of the building was £1,100, and the furniture cost £130. There were no patients in the fever hospital. During my visit there were twenty-eight patients—twenty-two males and six females. I conversed with them all without any member of the staff being present, and without exception they spoke in the highest terms of the attention of the doctor and the care and kindness of the nurses. The remarkable economy of the steward's management led me to make special inquiries as to whether the patients were pinched in any way, and Dr. Menzies assured me that they were not. I found only one patient who had been over six months in the hospital, one who had been more than three months, and two who had been more than two months. The out-patients average about seven daily. They get medicine free, but a charge is made for the bottles to all who can afford it. Four cases were brought under my notice in which persons took advantage of the hospital charity who could afford to pay a doctor outside. The hospital-books are kept with very great care. The register, case-book, and prescription-books kept by the doctor I found in a very satisfactory state. There is a daily issue of rations according to the diet-scale; and this, along with a daily abstract of entries, is entered in the general diet-sheet for the monthly meetings of the Committee. The nursing-staff and its organization struck me as being admirable, though the number of nurses is large for the number of patients, owing to the size of the building, and the administration of the steward is energetic and economical in the highest degree, though I cannot rid myself of the feeling that it errs a little on the side of military rigidity. The dispensary is well furnished and well managed, though the drug-bill is very heavy considering how the stock was replenished just before the hospital was taken over from the Government. The amount of the bill for October was £15 12s. 11d. The cost of medical comforts is very small. The outbuildings attached to the hospital are all suitable and well looked after. The fire-apparatus I found in good order; but the pressure was only sufficient to reach the eaves of the building.

11th November, 1886.

OAMARU.

THIS hospital stands in a commanding position, overlooking the town and the harbour, in a reserve of about seven acres, well fenced and planted. The building is of the beautiful local stone, with an iron roof. It consists of a central part, with a verandah in front, and two wings. The central block contains a waiting-room, in which there is a large press full of rubbish; a suitable dispensary, which is used as an operating-room, in which there is a fair stock of surgical instruments; while the sitting-room and bed-room of the steward and his wife occupy the right side of the entrance-hall. The right wing contains two small wards in front and a larger ward behind, while the left wing contains also three small wards. This breaking-up of the available space into so many small wards is the great fault of the hospital. It greatly increases the labour of the steward and his wife, and gives the steward more to do than he could rightly manage even if he were young and active, which he is not. These wards are all plainly and suitably furnished, but are not kept very tidy from the cause I have

mentioned. No. 1 male ward, the description of which will serve for all the others, has the walls unplastered, consisting of the smoothed local stone, painted, which answers admirably. It is well lighted and ventilated. It contains three beds of the ordinary iron pattern, with straw palliasses and chaff mattresses, and very clean bedding. For each patient there is a suitable locker, and head-cards showing the diet and treatment. The rest of the furniture is plain and suitable. The beds are the same all through the hospital, except that there are two or three special patent beds for severe surgical and other cases, with their mattresses. A few unframed pictures adorn the walls. For the use of the patients in the right wing there is a good bath with hot and cold water, and a suitable closet, the passage to which is shut off by a neat kauri partition; while the whole is admirably ventilated by means of a cross draught. The back door of this right wing opens into a very neat concrete yard, which contains two tanks and a meat-safe. In the passage alongside Ward No. 3 there is a press for basins, &c., which was very dirty inside. The same general description will apply to the three small wards on the female side. All through the wards I was struck with the total absence of any attempt to please the eye or gratify the taste. If only the ladies of the town would interest themselves in the matter a very great deal might be done to beautify the wards and give that indefinable homelike appearance which gratifies so much and costs so little. At the time of my visit there were eight patients in all—five males and three females. They all spoke in the highest terms of the attention of Dr. Garland and the steward. With regard to the matron I noticed they were not quite so emphatic. The kitchen is a fine large well-furnished one, and kept exceedingly clean. The register- and prescription-books are well kept. At the rear of the right wing there is a neat stone building containing a coalhouse and a convenient dairy, which yields an abundant supply of milk and butter. A little further to the rear is a neat wooden mortuary, well furnished, except that it has no sink. There is a row of wooden sheds behind the left wing containing a washhouse with concrete floor, a built-in boiler, and fixed tubs; a lumber-shed; and a fowlhouse. The fever hospital is built of stone, and contains two wards 22ft. by 16ft., with a neat grate, two beds, lockers, tables, &c. A neat cream-coloured dado is painted on the stone. There is a neat kitchen, with a suitable stove. At the end of the passage, and opening to the back, is a room, 16ft. by 16ft., containing a bed and a movable bath. The closet is placed in a well-ventilated wooden projection. All round the building there is a concrete walk 4ft. wide, ending in a court behind also floored with concrete. I observed that the rain soaks through the southern side of the building. The out-patients for the nine months numbered sixty-nine; while the average number resident was nine and a half patients, at an average cost of 6s. per day.

25th January, 1887.

NELSON.

I HAVE this day made a careful inspection of this hospital. The estate consists of eight acres, pleasantly situated about a mile from town, and separated from the Asylum grounds by the Waimea Road. Close behind the building about two acres are planted with trees, which are well grown, and afford a series of shady walks. The rest of the ground lies fallow, there being no labour available for gardening. The hospital is a wooden building of one story, all except the central part, where the doctor's rooms are situated on a first floor over the main entrance. It is divided into a male and female side, each consisting of one large ward with the necessary offices. Behind there is a large separate ward at present unoccupied, but which serves as a fever ward when required. Externally the building has a very comfortable appearance: the large verandah which extends the whole length of the wards gives it a very pleasing and comfortable look, and is of immense advantage to the patients. The central part of the ground-floor, underneath the doctor's quarters, is occupied by a consulting-room, a waiting-room, a dispensary, kitchen, stores, and bath-room, as well as by a private room occupied by the dispenser and his wife. The wards are large, and well ventilated by means of sash-windows and openings in the walls and ceilings; the dimensions are 54ft. by 25ft., and 16ft. high. In the male ward there are twenty-four beds, and at present only sixteen patients; in the female ward there are five patients: total, twenty-one. Of these, I find eighteen have been in the hospital for periods varying from fourteen years to ten weeks—five have been over two years, nine have been from four to fourteen months, and five from ten to eight weeks. There remain, therefore, only three cases which ought in ordinary circumstances to be inmates of a hospital: such as are permitted to remain a longer period because of special reasons ought to bear a much smaller proportion to the whole than is the case in this institution. Even with the large proportion of chronic cases allowed to accumulate, the wards are too large for the population. The female ward especially is absurdly large for the number of patients. The furniture is plain, suitable, and substantial. The beds are of iron, with straw palliasses and hair mattresses; the bedding is clean and comfortable, though a good deal worn in some cases. A few unframed pictures adorn the walls, while books and periodicals are freely supplied from local contributions. I was present during the dinner-hour. The food was abundant and well cooked. It consisted of a fine piece of beef and a leg of mutton, with plenty of good potatoes; besides this, there was a sufficient quantity of fine fish (moki) for every patient who wanted it, while beef-tea, rather insipid in quality, was provided for such as needed it. I conversed with all the patients, and heard no complaints. Warm water for bathing purposes is provided by means of geysers, which serve the purpose well. Though in all essential respects this institution is evidently well managed, yet it strikes a stranger very forcibly that there is a certain slackness prevailing throughout. The rooms of the administrative part, as well as the wards and accessory offices, have all a somewhat slovenly appearance; while one or two of the stores, and especially the closet behind the kitchen, were untidy. The patients are not provided with hospital clothing, but there is a convalescent fund locally raised, from which clothes are furnished to poor people. The out-patients, I am informed, amount to about four hundred annually, and, as a rule, medicine is given free. I carefully examined the stores, drugs, and surgical

instruments, books, contracts, diet-scales, &c., and found that everything is carefully looked after by the Committee. I heard accidentally of one patient who had just left the hospital, and made bitter complaints of his treatment; but on paying him a visit he professed satisfaction with all that had been done to him. His only source of dissatisfaction was that, being very ill (phthisical), he could not eat the food provided, and they refused to let him send for sausages, which he could not eat if he got them.

31st August, 1886.

NEW PLYMOUTH.

THE New Plymouth Hospital stands on a piece of rough, hilly ground about four acres in extent, within easy reach of the centre of the town. The land is almost in its natural state, but recently a few residents have collected a sum of £36, which is to be expended in improving the grounds. The Chairman informs me that it is contemplated to include in the cost of the new hospital the cost of properly laying off the surroundings, so that it will no longer be left in its hitherto neglected condition. The existing building is the outcome of a long series of disjointed additions and improvements. The nucleus round which the present heterogeneous structure has taken shape consisted of portions of the old asylum, to which additions have been made from time to time. Recently considerable improvements have been effected. The two main wards have been refurnished, and have a wonderfully comfortable and cosy appearance. Most of the beds are good, and nearly all the bedding is new, and of good quality. Privacy is secured, where necessary, by means of very neat folding and other screens. There is also a good clock in each of the male wards, and a fine American organ, the gift of some benevolent ladies, in the female ward. At the rear of the female ward a scullery, water-closet, and bath with hot and cold water laid on have been put up, and all are carefully trapped. A small concrete yard has also been laid down, which is a great convenience in the working of the kitchen and its accessories. The kitchen has been furnished with a new high-pressure range and boiler at a cost of £50, and is kept remarkably clean. There were in all thirteen patients at the time of my visit—nine males and four females. I conversed with them all separately, and found none had any complaints to make: one difficulty was mentioned, but I satisfied myself and them that it was inevitable in the circumstances. I was present during the dinner-hour, and found it all that could be desired. There is also a reasonable amount of variety in the dietary. I advised that soup should be given more frequently for the future. The care and attention devoted to his duties by Dr. O'Carroll were very evident from my examination of two cases of severe accident, which I found to have been very carefully and skilfully treated. All stores are got by contract, and I found them all of good quality, though some of the items, as, for instance, tea and candles, were rather dear. The dispensary is not very neatly kept: the shelves present rather a heterogeneous collection of bottles variously labelled. There is an elaborate case of surgical instruments; but on examination I found the quality inferior. The drugs are purchased in the town. An excellent supply of readable books and papers is provided by local contributions. The staff consists of Dr. O'Carroll, who receives £200 per annum (Dr. Gibbs and Dr. Leatham are honorary officers); Miss Blackley, the matron, who receives £100; an assistant nurse, who gets £55; and one male attendant at £112. Besides these there is a cook, and washerwoman who comes four days a week. The change to female nurses seems to have resulted in a great improvement, and I was favourably impressed with the style in which they did their work. I found the hospital books proper, as well as those kept by the Secretary, to be all in good order; and I made an examination into the details of the expenditure for the past year. The governing body are careful and attentive: two members especially, Messrs. Richmond and Elliott, who reside in the town, are frequent in their visits. I am glad also to be able to say that considerable interest is being taken in the institution by the ladies of the town. I hope that when the new hospital is built local energy will insist on making it in all its details and surroundings a credit to the town. The religious wants of the patients are attended to by the clergy of the Anglican and Roman Catholic Churches.

29th and 30th September, 1886.

PATEA.

THIS hospital stands, high and windy, on a hill overlooking a bend in the river. The fences are dilapidated, the ground uncared-for, and no attempt is made at growing shelter. A few young plants of *Pinus insignis* are stuck in the turf, and are, of course, all dead or dying. A small sandy corner is enclosed in a fashion to serve as a garden; it looks more like a fowl-yard. The building is of two stories, the upper unfinished. On the ground-floor there are two male and one female ward, all very untidily kept, and very badly furnished. The beds are mostly iron, of old military pattern; some are mere rough wooden structures, with canvas stretchers. The mattresses are of flax and straw, without any palliasses, and the blankets are of poor quality. The rest of the furniture is of the meagrest description. There were three male patients, two of them chronic cases, and one suffering from cancer, notwithstanding a recent operation for its removal. There were eleven patients treated since the beginning of the year, and no deaths. The whole institution, so far as I can see, is run by a young girl, the daughter of the steward, who, so far as I can see, does little or nothing himself. He was absent during most of my visit, but returned before I left. When I pointed out to him the wretched state of the house and grounds he seemed to think it was all right, and carried himself as if he had no responsibility in the matter. The dispensary is a wretched room, containing four sides of an old medicine-chest standing on a rough chest of drawers. The supply of drugs and instruments is very poor. The store contains fourteen very poor new blankets, a few towels, sheets, and quilts. As regards sanitary arrangements, they are of the most primitive kind. The rain-water is collected in tanks, which are so placed that the overflow runs under the building: the well is used

only if there is a drought. There are two closets, which I was informed were emptied twice a year. The washing is done in the back porch, and the boiler is set on a few stones behind. In short, there ought to be no hospital here at all : I conclude it is only kept up chiefly to avoid contributing to a proper hospital elsewhere, and partly to induce a second doctor to stay in the place, and thus prevent a medical monopoly.

28th September, 1886.

PICTON.

THIS hospital is beautifully situated on a hill overlooking the bay and the town. The estate is eight acres in extent, of which about half an acre is kept in very slovenly fashion as a garden. There is a good water-supply from a reservoir in the gully above. The hospital is a wooden building of two stories, with a verandah and a fine large balcony in front, on which are kept a large collection of flowers in pots. The general appearance of the building is rather dilapidated; the spouting all round is in a very bad state, and the pantry, store, &c., in lean-to at the back are very leaky. It has accommodation for twenty-four patients if all the wards were furnished and occupied, with suitable kitchen and other offices. In a rickety outhouse provision has been made for a workshop, laundry, mortuary, lavatory, &c. The wards have a bare and cheerless look, but are kept very clean; the walls are whitewashed and there is a lavender-coloured paint dado. The beds are mere wooden frames with canvas nailed all round, supporting hay mattresses. The bedclothes are clean and sufficient for warmth. The rest of the ward-furniture consists of plain deal tables and benches, with a few cane chairs and a few unframed pictures. The food is of good quality, plentiful and well cooked, and in all essential respects the patients are very well cared for. I conversed with them all, and they spoke in the highest terms of the treatment they received. I found that practically this hospital is a Benevolent Asylum for bedridden and homeless old people. Of the nine inmates five men and one woman answered to this description; while the remaining three cases were, one man suffering from fracture, one from acute rheumatism, and one from spinal disease. The only female patient was sixty-seven years old, and had been an inmate for nineteen months, suffering from cardiac dropsy. I called both on the Chairman and the secretary, and examined all the books, which I found in proper order. There was some confusion of the finances at the time of coming under the Act, but I find on comparing notes with the auditors that there is nothing calling for interference. Dr. Scott visits daily, and is highly spoken of for his kindness and attention. The patients' register is carefully kept up to date. The stores are of good quality; but one item—namely, tea—costs 2s. 6d. per pound, which I think is excessive. The Committee and secretary are very zealous in discharge of their duties; indeed, I think the secretary might be requested to moderate his zeal. The contracts are yearly; and I am informed there is sufficient competition. The doctor gets £120; Mr. and Mrs. Bowden, £78; Mr. Price, secretary, £20.

3rd September, 1886.

REEFTON.

I HAVE this day made a thorough inspection of this hospital. It is a neat, commodious building, standing in a piece of ground a little over an acre in extent. All round the front is a well-kept garden containing shrubs and flowers, while behind there is a well-cultivated kitchen-garden. The building consists of a central administrative part, traversed by a corridor 53ft. by 5ft., with a transverse block at each end, in which the wards are situated—the large male ward in the southern wing, and two smaller wards in the northern wing. In all, the hospital contains thirteen beds and, at present, ten patients. Two of these are chronic cases, one consumptive and the other paralytic. The large ward contains seven beds, and the other two wards three beds each. All the wards are exceedingly neat, well-lighted by sash-windows, well-ventilated, and very comfortable-looking. The beds are mostly iron, with straw paillasses and flock, coir, or hair mattresses. There is one patent lever-bed, and one with a woven-wire mattress, for special cases. The bedding is good and scrupulously clean. The rest of the ward-furniture is all very suitable. At the head of each bed there stands a large and convenient locker, while in the large male ward there is an electric bell for each bed, and a broad strip of linoleum extends from end to end of the ward. Particulars of each case and the treatment are given on a card fixed in a neat frame at the head of the bed. Suitable ward-tables for meals are provided, each having a neat cover. In each ward there are common wicker chairs, and folding hammock-chairs for the weaker patients. There is a good supply of books and newspapers. The kitchen is well furnished with a convenient American range, a fine large set of drawers, and a substantial dresser. Opposite the kitchen there is a large, well-stocked, and admirably-arranged dispensary, which also serves as a consulting-room. Here, in a separate set of fine cedar drawers, are arranged a large and well-kept stock of surgical instruments. Next the dispensary, in the centre of the building, are the rooms of the steward and his wife, the matron; and their comfortable well-furnished look reflects the character of the whole institution. Beyond the steward's rooms stands a well-stocked and well-kept linen-store, at one end of the corridor. Near the opposite end there is a fine large bath-room, with a convenient lavatory. There are no closets in the building—they are placed some distance in the rear, and are suitable and well looked after. A little beyond these there is a suitable mortuary. The other outbuildings are, a small washhouse, with five tubs and copper boiler, a coalhouse, and a lumber-room, in which is fixed a carpenter's bench. A small conservatory has been erected by Mr. Preshaw himself at the north end of the hospital. The books kept are, the patients' register, a rough diary, kept, one by Dr. Whitton, and one by the steward. From this diary the doctor writes up his case-book. The other books are the ledger, minute-book and letter-book, kept by Mr. Preshaw, who also acts as secretary to the Committee. The annual cost of the hospital is £1,100; the drug-bill amounts to £70; the

medical comforts cost £12. The salaries are: Doctor, £250; steward, £150; matron, £78; temporary assistant to matron for two months, at 12s. a week. The water-supply is got from the roof. A force-pump attached to a well, and furnished with a hose 66ft. long, throws a jet of water over the roof. This is the best-arranged, best-furnished, and best-managed hospital on the West Coast, and it is a credit to the town, and particularly to its officers, each of whom is most efficient and conscientious.

1st November, 1886.

RIVERTON.

THIS hospital stands on a reserve about a mile out of town. It is a plain wooden building, originally built for an immigrants' barracks, and is now somewhat dilapidated. The main building has a verandah in front, which has been enclosed with glass and is filled with flowers. Off either end of this verandah there is a door, the one to the right leading to the waiting-room and dispensary. This room occupies the whole width of the building at the south end, and is large and commodious, containing a suitable table and sofa, a chest of drawers which serves as a linen-press, a weighing-machine, and a wash-hand-basin. There is an admirable press for instruments and surgical appliances, of which there is a good supply, and a book-shelf with a miscellaneous collection of literature. A portrait of Dr. Monckton adorns the room. The male ward, 24ft. by 24ft. by 9ft., occupies the northern end of the building. There are three small windows on one side, and one ordinary sash-window on the other. The walls are pasted over with pictures from the illustrated papers. The ceiling is strengthened by beams with wooden supports, round each of which is fixed a round table, which is very convenient. This ward contains six beds, four of which are stretchers and two plain wooden bedsteads. Five of the mattresses are chaff and one flock. The bedding is good and clean. There are no proper lockers—old boxes are made to serve the purpose—and there are no bed-head cards. The ward-table is very roughly constructed of plain boards. Ventilation is provided for by a large zinc tube led up through the garret above to the roof, besides the draught secured by the open fireplace and windows. There are a few ordinary chairs and one very comfortable easy-chair. The female ward is separated from the male ward by a passage leading from the front door to the kitchen and the warders' rooms, which occupy a lean-to behind the main building. It is 21ft. by 13ft., lined, like the male ward, with newspaper-pictures. It has two ordinary sash-windows opening into the covered-in verandah. It contains three beds—all stretchers, with chaff mattresses, except one, which is a feather bed. A box set on end serves as a dressing-table. There is an open fireplace, with a clock over it. Old, rather worn matting is laid along the floor. The window-blinds have no rollers, and there is no ventilation except what is provided by the windows and fireplace. The kitchen-fittings are a colonial oven, a plain deal table, and a plainer dresser. In the rear stands the fever ward, a neat brick-and-cement building, 17ft. by 15ft. by 15ft., with four windows, plastered walls, open fireplace, bare floor, and two beds, one of which is occupied at present by a man suffering from aneurism of the aorta. It has a neat kauri ceiling. The outbuildings are a mortuary and lumber-room under one roof. A woodhouse has recently been put up, which is a great convenience. The books kept are the register, day-book, prescription-book, and I.O.U. book. The patients, notwithstanding the meagre appointments of the hospital, enjoy a rude comfort, and are evidently well attended in all respects.

6th January, 1887.

ROSS.

THIS hospital stands in an acre of land facing the north, on an area levelled by cutting into the hill. It contains three wards, two male and one female, all furnished after the meagrest possible fashion. They are sufficiently well lighted by means of ordinary sash-windows, and ventilated by the large open fireplaces and ventilators in the roof. The beds and bedding are clean and sufficient, but the appearance of the whole is spoiled by the ragged, wretched-looking quilts. In all there is accommodation for about twelve patients, but at present there are only three. The steward and his wife are a kindly old couple, who evidently treat the patients well; but I am afraid that Mrs. Markham finds the work too heavy from advancing years. Suitable accommodation is provided in detached outbuildings for washhouse, closets, mortuary, and bath-room. This last, however, I find is very seldom used, being at some distance from the wards. In the emergency ward I noticed one very objectionable arrangement: one of the corners is boarded off for the purpose of a closet, which, to all intents and purposes, is a part of the ward. I hope that this will be at once removed. The doctor's house is quite close to the hospital, and contains seven rooms, and is a comfortable residence. All the stores are of good quality and are got by contract. The doctor's salary is £200, besides an allowance of £20 for dispensing. The steward and his wife get £100. The general appearance of the interior of the institution is meagre and poverty-stricken. I had an interview with the Chairman, Mr. Grimmond, and pointed out the matters which required to be put right, and was assured they would be attended to at once.

29th October, 1886.

ROTORUA.

THE marvels of Sulphur Point Reserve, on which this hospital is situated, have been so often reported on that I can confine myself at present to the simple statement that the marvellous advantages of this sanatorium have not been diminished in any way by the late volcanic outburst. No doubt the bed of the lake has been raised slightly by the quantities of mud which have been washed into it by the rains; but the only effect of this has been to cause the Priest's Bath to be slightly lowered in temperature, a difficulty which is now in process of being remedied by means of

a concrete wall to shut out the cooler water of the lake. When the improvements which Mr. Malfroy has in hand are complete, not merely will there be available a magnificent supply of cold water, brought in from beyond the Whakarewarewa Gorge, but there will be greatly-increased facilities for extending the advantages of the Madame Rachel and the Priest's Baths. The marvellous resources of this place, if only they were properly advertised, and access by rail provided, would cause sufferers to congregate from all parts of the world in such numbers as would astonish the most sanguine believers in its future. I believe there is nothing in the world to compare with this as a city of refuge for persons who suffer from rheumatism, which has not gone to the length of organic changes in the joints; from neuralgias; from chronic congestions of such viscera as the uterus, liver, and kidneys; from functional paralyses generally; and from skin-diseases of all kinds. I make these statements on the authority of Dr. Ginders, the able and painstaking resident medical officer, who also informs me that in most cases of lung-affections it is useless, if not positively injurious, to send people here. It ought not to be forgotten in this connection that the Government has not been able to do anything more than make merely two or three springs available out of the dozens that are running to waste in this wonderful locality. The various mud-springs all over the place would of themselves be simply invaluable for thousands of despairing sufferers from gouty and rheumatic affections and skin-diseases, who, if they knew their properties, would hasten from the ends of the earth to take advantage of them. Perhaps the following case, of which all the facts came under my own observation, may be useful: A.B., a young man became afflicted with rheumatism while serving as a common sailor on the coast, and was reduced to helplessness. He had spent his all without gaining relief. When he had got half-way to Rotorua he found himself at a roadside hotel, unable to go further; but a good Samaritan, coming along, conveyed him in his carriage to Rotorua, and confided him to the care of Dr. Ginders. In less than a month that man was discharged quite cured. The part of the reserve on which the hospital and the accessory baths stand has been beautifully laid out under the supervision of Mr. Johnston, the local Government agent. The building consists of a central part and two square cottages, which are now united by a short corridor on each side at right angles to the main entrance, and by a verandah all round the front and sides. To the right and left of the entrance are the dispensary and the doctor's office, and just opposite the front door is a large and very comfortably-furnished dining-hall. The right wing, or the female side, is similar to the male side. It contains a central parlour, with two comfortably-furnished bedrooms to the left and three to the right. Both on the male and female sides, opposite the parlour there is a fine large linen-press, neatly kept and well stocked. At the date of my last visit there were nine patients in the hospital, eight males and one little girl. All spoke highly of the treatment they received, and I heard no complaints of any sort. Miss Manix, the matron, is very kindly and devoted to her duties. No sitting-room is provided for her, and she is obliged to use the patients' parlour on the female side when it is not occupied. I have already mentioned that extensive alterations affecting the Priest's Bath and Madame Rachel's Bath are now in hand, and that a great increase of convenience in their use will result. The Blue Bath, recently opened, is a great addition to the attractions of the sanatorium. It is a tank of concrete, 62ft. by 23ft., with suitable rooms on three sides of it, containing all necessary conveniences, shower-bath, &c. It contains 32,000 gallons of water from the Oruawhata or Chameleon Spring. A great feature of this bath is the sulphur vapour-bath, supplied by a cavity which was broken into during the excavations. The composition of the vapour is $2\text{SH} + \text{SO}_2 = 3\text{S} + 2\text{H}_2\text{O}$. The galvanic-room is elaborately fitted with the most modern electrical apparatus—a Davy's constant-current battery, with fifty sulphate-of-mercury cells, a Weiss's Faradic battery, with Radcliff's positive-charge electrodes of every kind. The room, however, is only 15ft. by 10ft., and is found to be much too small. Besides this, there is no cold water laid on (though this will shortly be done), and a great deal of time is wasted before the bath can be got to the right temperature. There ought to be a dressing-room annexed, where patients can wait their turn, and dress and undress without keeping others out of the bath-room. It is found that ladies require a good deal of time, so that the operation of bathing several persons is very tedious, besides keeping the bath-room idle. A great improvement has been made at my suggestion in the organization of the staff, and now all who are concerned in the working of the hospital and the baths are directly under the doctor's authority.

18th November, 1886.

THAMES.

THIS hospital stands in the middle of the town, in about an acre of good, rich garden-land, which is well cultivated. The whole is surrounded with a neat picket-fence and hedge on two sides; the other two sides are fenced in a very dilapidated way. There is no drainage except into the ordinary street-channels. Since my former visit the Committee have got rid of the dangerous pool at the back into which all the washing-water, &c., was emptied: this is now carried along a fluming from the back to the front; but this fluming has warped in places, so that the water stands in places, and in places leaks. This will soon become just as offensive as the old pool. The garden, which at my last visit was a wilderness of weeds, is now well cultivated, and presents a much better appearance. A great improvement has been made in adding a female ward at the north-east corner of the building. I made this day a thorough inspection of every part of the hospital, and found every part of it very clean. All the wards have a comfortable, cheerful look except the medical ward, which is the oldest part of the building: this ward is divided into two parts by a partition, which ought to be pulled down, and the fireplace, if possible, should be shifted to near the middle of the room. The door opening to the front verandah should be closed and converted into a window. This would greatly remove the present dismal and badly-lighted appearance of this ward. The windows only open from the top for a few inches, so that it is impossible either to properly light or ventilate this ward. In fact, all the windows except those in the accident ward and the new female ward require

to be rectified in this respect. The male accident ward and the female ward are very well lighted, ventilated, and neatly furnished. All the beds are iron, with woven-wire mattresses, clean and comfortable bedding. There are suitable lockers beside the beds, and the floors have a wide strip of linoleum down the centre. A few pictures in frames are hung round the wards, and flowers are supplied by the ladies of the town twice or thrice a week, by which the wards are made much more cheerful. The kitchen has been greatly improved by being freshly lined with white-pine boarding. It is, however, still very dirty outside, and ought to be painted. I find also that the gardener's room is still uninhabitable, owing to the heat from the kitchen range, from which it is separated only by the weatherboards. The closet which stands at the end of the passage from the western front entrance is so situated that it cannot be used without being offensive to the inmates of the surgical ward and the dining-room. What was formerly the eye ward is now used as the head-nurse's room. It is not so comfortable as it ought to be, the floor being merely covered with bits of old carpet. The total number of patients in the hospital is nineteen, fourteen males, and the rest females. Of these, eleven have been under two months in the hospital, three have been six months, three over a year. Of the remaining two, one has been three years (urinary fistulæ), and the other, a paralytic, has been five years in the hospital. I made careful inquiries, and heard no complaints, except that the meat was sometimes tough. The diet is abundant and good. The dinner to-day consists of mutton, stewed and boiled, with potatoes and vegetables; soup is given twice a week. I find that the medical comforts used have steadily diminished in amount. In July, under Dr. Payne, the amount was—ale, 52½ pints, and 13 bottles English ale; gin, 10oz.; wine, 80oz.; brandy, 576oz. In August, under Dr. Callan, the amount was—malt-liquor, 80½ pints; wine, 88oz.; brandy, 361oz. In September, under Dr. Williams—wine, 42oz.; gin, 12oz.; brandy, 106oz.; and in October, wine, 64oz.; brandy, 7oz. For October, the total expenditure for salaries and supplies was £145. The books kept are the patients' register, general cash-book and ledger, a book for daily receipts and petty cash, patients' maintenance book, out-patients' attendance register (daily average of new patients, 4; attendances, 8½). The case-book is carefully kept, as well as a *post-mortem* book. All *post-mortems* and operations are conducted with the assistance of the honorary surgeon, Dr. Davey. At Parawai, about two miles from town, an old and somewhat dilapidated house, but occupying a beautiful site containing about five acres, has been acquired for a fever hospital. It was occupied at the time of my visit only by an old woman as caretaker.

24th November, 1886.

TIMARU.

This hospital stands in a reserve of four acres, beautifully laid out with trees and flowers, about one mile from the post-office. The building consists of a central block now being rebuilt, a large wing on the right and two wings on the left. The central block is to contain apartments for the house-surgeon and the steward, with Board-room, nurses' room, stores, and other conveniences. The two wards on the left are huddled up together, so that the one spoils the other, being separated only by a plot 26ft. wide; and the right wing, containing two large wards, is removed from the other wards by a space of 54yd. The first glance reveals that this circumstance alone indicates a blunder in construction of the gravest kind, for it greatly increases the difficulty of administration and the cost of working. I am informed that the total cost of this building has exceeded £17,000; yet a much more suitable hospital for the wants of the district could be built for less than half that amount. The two wards on the left, the Hall Ward and the Belfield Ward, are connected by a corridor at the back, with a door opening to the front at the head of the narrow plot between them. A water-tower rises over the corridor at this point; the rest of the space between the two wards is occupied by the dispensary. The Belfield Ward, which may be taken as a sample, opens off the back corridor by a passage 24ft. by 5ft., to the right of which are situated a well-furnished nurses' room and a comfortable special ward, 12ft. by 10ft., containing two beds; while a small ward-kitchen, well fitted, and a small ward, 12ft. by 10ft. (used as a dining-room), fill up the space on the left of the entrance-passage. The ward itself, 96ft. by 24ft. by 16ft., has six windows on each side, and a large square window in a reading-recess at the end. A neat dado, with chocolate border, runs round the lavender-coloured walls. Ventilation is provided for by a movable semicircular division in the top of each window, by three Tobin's tubes in each side wall, and six pairs of ventilators. The ward contains twenty-two iron beds. Of these, fifteen have wire mattresses, the rest hair. There is one elaborately-designed bed, patented by the steward, Mr. Jowsey. This bed seems admirably designed for its purpose, the only drawback being its great expense. All the beds have hair bolsters and feather pillows, and are very clean and comfortable. A strip of linoleum, 15ft. wide, extends along the floor from end to end of the ward. The ward is heated by means of two fireplaces in a central stalk, after the fashion which has proved so unsatisfactory in Christchurch Hospital. A capacious locker, with a door and two shelves, made of varnished kauri, stands beside each bed; and a neat cedar bracket is fixed against the wall for flowers, &c., as well as cards giving particulars of each case, with the diet and treatment. There are two ward-tables, with a writing-desk on one of them; there are, besides, two easy-chairs and one Carter's invalid chair, two excellent adjustable reading-desks, and a couch covered with American cloth. Six commodes are provided. The large reading-recess at the end window is separated from the rest of the ward by a glass-panelled partition. The ward is much too large for the requirements of the town. The elaborately-useless ventilators in the floor should be removed. The internal fittings, as well as the whole plan of the hospital, show great lavishness of expenditure. In the right wing are contained two large wards, the Le Cren and the Luxmore Wards, capacious and well lighted, opening off a covered way, with glass sides and concrete floor. The former is used at present to accommodate the steward and his wife. The latter contains sixteen beds, and the other appointments are on the

same scale of comfort and costliness as in other wards: in addition, there are provided here a Carter's walking-machine and an invalid-carriage. The new back block at right angles to the Le Cren and Luxmore Wards, and enclosing the courtyard, contains an operating-room, a dispensary and consulting-room, a splint-room, an out-patients' waiting-room, a servants' hall, a kitchen and pantry, a store and scullery, a coalhouse, a man-servants' room, a bottle-house, and three closets and a urinal. I pointed out to the architect certain objections to this arrangement, which he undertook to obviate. I pointed out also that the hot-water apparatus proposed for the kitchen was quite inadequate. The outbuildings contain a well-appointed washhouse and laundry, with a cement floor, a washing-machine and mangle driven by water-power. There are two built-in boilers—one for the clothes and one to supply hot water to the tubs—and there is an ironing-stove. The old fever ward is now used as a workshop. The mortuary stands so low that it cannot be drained; besides, it is old and shabby. A garden of about an acre is enclosed with a good hedge, and well cultivated. I found all the books carefully kept. As might have been expected from the straggling plan of the building, I found the staff to be very large and expensive. The salaries are as follows: Doctor, £250; steward and matron, £175; two nurses at £40 each; two under-nurses at £20 each; one cleaner at £20; a night-nurse at £40; cook and laundress, each £40; housemaid, £30; scullery-maid, £20; porter, £45; and gardener, £52. All this staff for 205 in-patients in 1886, or a daily average of $21\frac{1}{4}$ in-patients; while the amount received from the patients amounted only to £179 16s. Voluntary subscriptions amounted to £54 17s. 3d. I must, however, mention in this connection that Mrs. Jowsey collected £120 for furniture. The number of old chronic cases I found to be, one old man, suffering from paralysis—had been for twelve years in hospital; one man, with chronic stricture—three years and a half; one epileptic—admitted permanently; two chronic female cases, one of whom had been twenty years in the hospital, and the other four years and a half. Two other cases had been in the hospital five months and three months respectively. With 487 out-patients, the drug-bill for the year amounted to £290 4s. 11d.; medical comforts cost £78 2s. 11d. The patients all (as well they might) spoke highly of the treatment they received. A quarrel has lately taken place between Dr. Drew and the steward, during which the doctor was struck by his subordinate. The matter is to be investigated by the Committee on Dr. Drew's return from Dunedin.

1st February, 1887.

WAIMATE.

THIS hospital is a memento of the time when the local bodies of South Canterbury had more money than they could usefully spend. It is a handsome, well-designed building, standing in a reserve of fourteen acres on the outskirts of the town. It has a fine wide approach, bordered with poplars and pines and flower-beds. There is a gorgeous mass of geraniums at the end of the building, and a round plot in front. The grounds, as a whole, are well laid out, and well kept in order. The building is of brick, faced with stucco. It consists of a central block, with a verandah and two wings. On the right of the entrance-hall is a sitting-room for the steward and his wife (an old Sunnyside attendant, who will do justice to his position). To the left is the waiting-room and consulting-room. Behind these rooms a cross-corridor extends from the one wing to the other, into which open the two main wards at either end, and their accessory rooms in the intervening space. The male ward, in the right wing of the building, 57ft. by 18ft., is well lighted and well ventilated, and almost luxuriously furnished. A neat dado, with brown border, runs round the ward; the walls are painted of a cream colour, and the ceiling white. The ward contains nine beds, three of which are occupied. Two are accident patent beds, and all are exceedingly comfortable, having good hair mattresses. The female ward, 27ft. by 18ft., containing one patient, is furnished in the same sumptuous fashion, with elaborate and costly appliances and every convenience. Besides the two large wards, there is a ward for special cases containing two beds. Behind the main building stands the fever hospital, containing two neat wards, 24ft. by 30ft., lined with varnished kauri, well lighted and ventilated. Each contains five comfortable beds, and all other requisites of a suitable kind. To the right stands a wooden building, containing well-furnished washhouse, ironing-room and drying-room, and mortuary, all well appointed. The old hospital-building is now used as a dairy and storehouse, which requires suitable bins. There is a vegetable-garden well stocked, containing about half an acre. There are beyond two grass-paddocks, one used for hay and the other for grazing a cow. The drainage is excellent, being directed into the river behind.

31st January, 1887.

WAIPAWA.

THIS hospital occupies a beautiful site a little distance from the town. The reserve is about five acres of good land, well laid out, and surrounded by a belt of fine trees. A considerable portion is cultivated as a kitchen garden and orchard. The building contains a female ward, with five beds; a small isolating male ward, with three beds; and two larger male wards, one of which contains five beds, all occupied. In addition to these rooms, there are a convenient dispensary, a committee-room, a dining-room for convalescent patients, a handsome well-furnished kitchen, and three rooms for the resident staff. The wards are all comfortably furnished and kept very clean. The beds are all very comfortable. All the rooms are well lighted, but the ventilation is very imperfect, for, though there are Tobin's tubes in the walls, there are no corresponding openings in the ceilings.* This defect, as well as the condition of

* At a subsequent visit, on the 24th March, 1887, I found all this altered, and the whole so much improved that this hospital is now one of the most comfortable and best managed in the colony. A detailed description of the additions will appear in next year's report.

the walls of the wards, will be remedied when the proposed extension and alteration of the hospital are taken in hand, and it is not necessary, therefore, to say any more at present. The number of patients on the day of my visit was eight males and two females. It was evident that the greatest care and attention were devoted to their duties by Dr. Reid and his staff. The doctor was spoken of in the highest terms by the patients and everybody connected with the hospital, while Mr. and Mrs. Putman are prime favourites. The hospital, as a whole, is kept in admirable order, and is very comfortable. The fever ward is a well-designed and substantial building. It contains a fine airy ward, well lighted and ventilated, with cemented walls, a convenient nurses' room, with window-slide opening on the ward, and suitably furnished, and containing an iron sink. A closet and bath are provided, which are carefully ventilated and well kept. The ward contains seven beds, all of which are at present empty, although there are four fever cases in the hospital. I found the books all properly kept.

11th May, 1886.

WAKATIPU.

THE accommodation in this hospital is three wards—two male and one female ward. Total cubic space is 26,000ft. There are twelve beds in male wards and on female side eight. There were admitted during last year eighty-four males and twenty-seven females. The deaths during the year were four males and three females. The outdoor patients were twenty males and three females. The total inmates to-day were nine males and three females. The buildings consist of an old building, containing a male and female ward, with the kitchen, warder's room, dispensary, &c., and a new ward, elaborately and rather expensively designed. There is an ancient structure, of peculiar design and meagre accommodation, in which Dr. Douglas has lived contentedly for many years. In the old building the male ward is 34ft. by 21ft. by 13ft., walls boarded, and strapped with old, sticky, patchy varnish. The ceiling was originally painted lavender colour, but is now faded and stained. There are five sash-windows and an open fireplace, as well as three large ventilators in the ceiling. It contains eleven beds, eight occupied. The beds are iron, of an unsuitable pattern. The mattresses are of flock and chaff. The bedding is clean and sufficient. There are rough wooden lockers, but no head-cards. The ward-table is large and shabby, flanked by two plain forms without backs. From the middle of the ward in the back wall opens a door into a corridor, 20ft. long, at the end of which are two earth-closets, one on each side, which are carefully looked after. The female ward is separated from the male ward by a central part, containing on one side of the corridor the warders' and cook's rooms, and on the other, in the back of the building, the kitchen, the dispensary, and a linen-store. This ward is 21ft. by 21ft., exactly like the male ward in its fittings, walls, and ceiling. It contains three beds, all occupied. I noticed that the counterpanes were old and rather worn. The floors in both wards are worn out. A part of this old building has been removed, and the open space is filled up, partly by boards and partly with canvas. The new ward, 27ft. by 27ft. by 12ft., has a cream moulded dado and white plaster walls, with white-painted wooden ceiling. To right and left of the entrance are two small rooms—one a nurse's room, with slide; the other is a small ward, with fireplace. One of these is at present occupied by a special case, who pays £1 15s. a week. This ward is built on Parkes' model. The far end is rounded off to central door, leading by semicircular passage right and left to bath-room and closets respectively. This part is elaborately ventilated by windows moving on central pivots. The ventilating arrangements are imperfectly carried out, there being six grated openings near the floor, but no outlet in the ceiling. There are three sash-windows in the ward. Plans are in preparation for a central block, containing quarters for the doctor and administrative offices. This will have the effect of uniting in a provisional way the old and new wards, and remove the present fragmentary appearance of the hospital. The water-supply is derived by means of a force-pump from the mill at the Kawarau Falls, just below. The water is stored in four tanks, two at each end of the building, a little to the rear, each pair having a special roof, as is also the case with the meat-safe. There is a garden of about a quarter of an acre, well stocked with vegetables, but at present it is very much parched with the drought. The reserve in which the hospital stands is about twelve acres in extent, of very poor land—a mere shingle-bank. The hospital is connected with Queenstown by telephone, for attending to which Wilson, the warder, gets £20 a year. Salaries: Doctor, £275; warder and wife, £80, and £20 for telephone; and a general servant at 15s. a week. Books: Patients' register (carefully kept) and a cash-book. All the stores are of good quality, and are got by contract. The dispensary is well kept, and contains a fair supply of surgical appliances and instruments, which are mostly old. Notwithstanding the many drawbacks, owing to the worn-out and inconvenient character of the buildings, this hospital is so well managed and homelike in its arrangements, and the doctor is so deservedly respected, that patients flock to it from the whole district, and speak in the highest terms of the treatment they receive.

11th January, 1887.

WANGANUI.

I INSPECTED the Wanganui Hospital this day. It stands on a section of two acres or thereabouts on the right bank of the river, in the middle of the town. The grounds are planted with well-grown pine-trees, and are kept in the most slovenly fashion. The buildings are for the most part old, and have been added to from time to time in such a way that now they present no intelligible plan, and are as badly arranged for hospital purposes as can well be imagined. On the right three of the male wards open either into each other, or a passage 6ft. by 4ft. All, with the exception of the new male ward, are badly designed, wretchedly furnished, and generally dreary. The arrangements on the female side are equally faulty; and, in fact, it is necessary for the credit of all

concerned that a new hospital should be built as soon as possible. During the time of my visit the affairs of the institution were in confusion, owing to the dismissal of the former steward, and the fact that a successor had not yet been appointed. In these circumstances it would be unreasonable to be very critical of the management. I satisfied myself, however, that the patients were properly treated by Doctors Bell and Conolly, both of whom are assiduous in the discharge of their duties. The food is ample, of good quality, and well cooked; but I think there is too great sameness (monotony) in the dietary. I heard no complaints except from one man, who was a victim to the opium habit, and who, like all his kind, blamed everybody but himself for his unfortunate condition. The number of patients was eighteen males and five females. Of these, three men and one woman are chronic cases, who have been more than a year in the hospital. All drugs are got from the local chemist. There is no proper supply of instruments or other surgical appliances. Stores for daily consumption are supplied on an order from the secretary, Mr. Bamber, on whom a great deal of the care and management devolves, and he devotes a great deal of time and trouble to his duties as secretary. All the books are properly kept. All the principal contracts are in the hands of one man, who tenders annually for the whole lot. I do not think this method ought to be continued, as it practically excludes the advantages of competition. The present site is not suitable for the new hospital, for it is too small, is too much surrounded by trees, and lies too low. The best site in Wanganui is that of the old gaol, which is shortly to be abandoned, and it ought, if possible, to be secured for the hospital. Failing this, the site on St. John's Hill is perfectly suitable, except that it is a little too far away for the doctor's convenience. It stands high and airy, overlooking the valley and the town; and it is sufficiently accessible for visitors, the suburban railway-station being close at hand. The only possible drawback would be the water-supply, and I find by reference to Mr. Gilmour, the Borough Engineer, that should the present fall be found inadequate, an expenditure of £60 will cover the cost of connecting the building with Westmere.

27th September, 1886.

WELLINGTON.

I HAVE examined this hospital several times during the year. The building stands in a reserve of twelve acres, of which the part in front of the hospital is well laid out with trees and suitably fenced. It is of brick, with a stuccoed front and an iron roof. The administrative offices, with the resident surgeon's rooms, occupy a handsome two-story block in the centre; all the rest of the building has only one story. From a splendid corridor, at right angles to the entrance-hall, four large wards, separated by three neatly-kept but sunless courts, extend backwards, and open behind on a parallel corridor, which gives access to the kitchen, and the bath-rooms, lavatories, and other accessories to the wards. The four wards are similar and similarly furnished, the only difference being that the two middle ones have no outlook except on the enclosed courts and that a free circulation of air around them is impossible. On either side of the entrance to each ward is a good-sized room. One of these is a ward kitchen and the other a nurses' room. A description of one of the wards will serve for all. The No. 1 ward is 88ft. by 24ft. by 20ft. It is well lighted by large windows, with a fanlight to each. Ventilation is provided by means of nine Tobin's tubes, with an opening near the ceiling corresponding to each, in addition to the two open fireplaces, and a circular opening, covered with wire-gauze, round each of the three gas-pendants. At a visit I made lately I found a great improvement in the ventilation had been effected by making the window fanlights movable and capable of regulation by a cord passing over a pulley and fixed to the end of an iron arm. The beds are twenty-four in number, all Rowcliff's patent iron-wire beds, with hair mattresses, and a sufficiency of good clean bedding. Of these, fifteen are at present occupied. Beside each bed there is a suitable locker, and on the wall are fixed bed-head cards, giving personal particulars, and showing the diet, the treatment, and temperature in serious cases. A strip of linoleum, 8ft. wide, runs along the centre of the floor. A handsome ward-table, with drawers, shelves, and basin-stand, occupies the centre of the ward, in addition to two ordinary ward-tables, covered with flowers very neatly arranged. There are suitable easy-chairs and other seats, and a sufficient number of commodes. Pictures in neat wooden frames adorn the walls, and there is a clock over the end fireplace. To the left of the entrance there is a commodious press for bandages, &c., and at the opposite end of the ward a fine large linen-press, besides a convenient medicine-cupboard. The walls are nicely painted, and the ceiling is white. The whole looks exceedingly comfortable and cheery, and is kept very clean. The nursing-staff struck me as being particularly satisfactory. They are well trained, intelligent, and ladylike, being evidently drawn from a class very much superior to the old-fashioned hospital-nurse of former times. The head-nurses are on duty from 6.30 a.m. till 6.30 p.m. They get leave from 2.30 p.m. till 10 p.m. once a week, as well as Sunday afternoon. The assistants come on duty, one from 4 a.m. till noon, the other from noon till 8 p.m., while the night-nurse is on duty from 8 p.m. till 4 a.m. As I have said, all the four wards are similar in construction, furnishing, and management, except No. 4 Ward, which is in charge of a male warder, assisted by a night-watchman. I conversed with all the patients without any member of the staff being present, and found them unanimous in their appreciation of the care and kindness with which they are treated. Great economies and improvements have been effected since the hospital came into the hands of the Trustees. By inquiries which I made after the close of the year I found that under Mr. Rountree's careful management great savings had been made. By introducing a regular diet-scale notable reductions were effected in all the chief items. In the matter of tea alone, taking a period of three months, the consumption was reduced nearly a half. The wines and spirits bill was £127, as against £433 in the previous year. All this has been effected by the energy and vigilance educed by the change from Government control. Considerable improvements have also been made in other directions: the drains have been connected with the town system, the useless ranges in the ward-kitchens have been replaced by suitable grates, the

kitchen has been repainted, and a sufficient supply of hot water provided all over the house. At my first visit I pointed out that a considerable saving might be made in the dispensing of medicines, and I find that this is now being satisfactorily performed by one of the probationer nurses under the directions of Dr. Hassall. The number of in-patients during the year was 615, a daily average of 76. Of these it is significant to find that 46 were cases of typhoid. Provision will be made in the new buildings for the most serious wants of the hospital, namely, a Lock ward, a children's ward, and accommodation for nurses. The management of the whole is admirable, and the hospital is one to be proud of.

13th August, 1886.

WESTPORT.

THIS hospital stands on the outskirts of this straggling town, on a shingle-bank facing the sea, with a swamp close behind. The reserve consists of about four acres, only part of which is enclosed or cared for in any way. All the surroundings of the hospital, with the exception of one small bit at the entrance, are slovenly in the extreme. The building itself, in its present state, is an unintelligible fragment of a plan which may not be completed till the existing part is rotten. It consists of one good large ward, with two ill-lighted, inconvenient, and dismal-looking spaces, one of which is used as a subsidiary ward, 50ft. by 12ft., divided into two rooms by means of curtains. The other is used as a day-room, 50ft. by 18ft., which is poorly furnished, draughty, and cheerless, warmed by means of a large stove, with upright pipe passing through an iron plate in the ceiling. The male side of the hospital contains fourteen beds and nine patients, of whom six are chronic cases, who have been more than a year in the hospital. Of these, one or two have been over seven years; two, three years; and two, about two years in the institution. In fact, only one of the nine is a proper hospital patient, and he has been altogether nine months here. The others ought to be in an old men's refuge, for their complaint is old age and its concomitants; chronic asthma, two cases; paralysis, one case; fits, one case; and chronic rheumatism. The large male ward, containing nine beds and five patients, is 51ft. by 23ft. by 14ft., with concave roof. It has four windows on each side, with walls stuck over here and there with pictures (unframed) from the illustrated papers. All the beds are iron, with straw mattresses, good and clean bedding. There are two long strips of matting along the floor, and short lengths by the bedsides. Besides these, there are the usual ward-tables, benches, cane chairs, and bedside lockers and diet-cards. There is a large fireplace, with a cheerful blazing coal fire. The female ward, which is at present empty, and a suitable nurses' room, are contained in a separate cottage with a lean-to, which was originally a steward's house. The kitchen and the steward's rooms and store open off a passage which leads into the day-room. The kitchen is a rough, unlined weatherboarded room, 21ft. by 15ft. It contains a fine new range and a suitable dresser. The bath-room, water-closet, and lavatory open off a lobby at the end of the large ward. The steward and his wife, who have only just entered on their duties, seem to me very suitable persons, and I hope to find great improvements result from their appointment, for it is evident that heretofore the management has in some respects been very unsatisfactory. The dinner to-day was very good and well cooked. It consisted of roast beef, potatoes, and vegetables, with a sago-pudding. The stores are got by contract, and are all good except the butter, and, especially, the kerosene, which was very bad. I was unable to ascertain from any of those connected with the hospital, including the Chairman and the secretary, the true amount of the drug-bill. An account has been sent in to the Government which nobody seems able to explain. Part of it seems to be for drugs supplied to Dr. Thorpe for his private practice, sent to the Government by mistake, and nobody seems to be able to explain the real state of the case. The patients all expressed themselves as greatly pleased with their treatment by the new steward and his wife, and Dr. Thorpe is very kind and attentive. A very great improvement would be effected in the day-room by opening two or three windows in the long blank wall which gives it such a dismal appearance; and something must be done to improve the squalid aspect of the grounds at the back of the hospital. The only books kept are the patients' register and a book for the quarterly reports.

2nd November, 1886.

I have, &c.,

D. MACGREGOR, M.A., M.B.,
Inspector of Hospitals.

The Hon. the Premier.

TABLE I.—Showing Receipts on Account of Hospitals during the Year 1886.

Hospitals.	Subscriptions and Donations.	Received from Patients.	Received from Government.	Received from Local Bodies.	Received from Hospital Boards.	From Rents and other Revenue.	Total.
	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.
Akaroa ..	..	14 5 0	102 19 11	102 19 11	..	..	220 4 10
Arrowtown ..	176 9 5	58 0 0	273 0 4	..	30 14 2	10 14 9	548 18 8
Ashburton ..	..	64 19 9	682 0 0	690 0 0	..	..	1,436 19 0
Auckland (1) ..	35 10 0	950 14 3	2,694 15 0	2,628 2 5	..	2,700 3 5	9,009 5 1
Blenheim ..	135 6 6	48 15 6	345 18 5	395 1 1	..	..	925 1 6
Charleston (2) ..	107 4 0	84 4 6	101 9 0	..	150 0 0	2 0 0	444 17 6
Christchurch ..	35 0 0	303 14 1	3,184 14 10	2,252 13 1	..	..	5,776 2 0
Coromandel ..	120 0 0	..	215 12 2	100 0 0	..	48 0 0	483 12 2
Cromwell ..	199 4 0	34 5 1	478 9 0	..	292 0 0	1 11 3	1,005 9 4
Dunedin ..	191 17 8	598 19 6	2,829 12 4	..	2,680 19 0	36 14 8	6,338 3 2
Dunstan ..	211 8 3	41 14 6	543 10 7	..	261 2 6	25 1 2	1,082 17 0
Gisborne ..	308 12 6	175 4 10	393 3 6	116 0 0	..	20 0 0	1,013 0 10
Greymouth ..	724 7 6	19 1 0	1,744 19 0	..	1,050 0 0	7 18 0	3,546 5 6
Greytown ..	71 2 0	34 15 0	205 14 5	..	..	..	311 11 5
Hokitika ..	394 2 6	62 2 0	1,375 8 2	..	98 0 0	38 8 10	2,857 1 6
Invercargill ..	370 0 2	217 5 0	954 7 5	..	467 8 6	1,279 10 6	(2)3,288 11 7
Kumara ..	315 9 0	17 0 0	770 19 3	..	519 5 0	3 17 6	1,626 10 9
Lawrence ..	17 11 3	124 5 6	805 10 3	514 3 10	..	8 17 0	1,470 7 10
Masterton ..	198 13 10	..	(4)277 18 0	75 0 0	..	..	551 11 10
Napier ..	506 19 0	639 0 0	1,296 0 0	..	1,728 4 9	71 9 0	4,241 12 9
Naseby ..	90 3 8	144 5 6	295 12 0	..	208 12 0	17 10 0	756 3 2
Nelson ..	..	89 13 0	667 0 0	857 0 0	..	79 7 4	1,693 0 4
New Plymouth ..	200 0 0	189 7 9	1,071 5 10	1,171 7 1	..	0 13 6	2,632 14 2
Oamaru ..	348 8 6	73 3 7	282 12 10	..	..	302 4 0	1,006 8 11
Patea ..	13 0 0	15 14 6	140 17 7	132 15 0	..	..	302 7 1
Picton ..	4 13 9	12 10 0	255 6 7	291 17 10	..	6 17 6	571 5 8
Queenstown ..	250 11 9	177 9 2	234 16 3	86 10 0	..	34 19 0	784 6 2
Reefton ..	441 1 2	77 5 0	(5)894 8 2	93 15 0	..	..	1,506 9 4
Riverton ..	83 0 2	54 0 6	629 1 2	..	..	295 14 0	1,061 15 10
Ross ..	90 11 1	..	(6)250 0 0	..	816 14 2	..	1,157 5 3
Thames ..	245 17 1	105 3 7	639 14 6	..	1,096 19 0	10 19 6	2,098 13 8
Timaru ..	54 17 3	179 16 0	1,060 4 0	1,060 4 0	..	..	2,355 1 4
Waimate ..	179 7 0	18 17 6	170 0 9	..	639 0 0	..	1,007 5 3
Waipawa ..	197 1 11	133 3 6	696 16 7	550 0 0	..	..	1,577 2 0
Wanganui ..	..	7 9 6	805 12 10	529 3 11	..	258 17 7	1,601 3 10
Wellington ..	1,078 17 3	529 12 8	3,379 6 7	494 6 11	2,178 5 4	43 0 9	7,703 9 6
Westport ..	..	44 3 8	(7)723 0 0	811 18 7	..	..	1,579 2 3
Totals ..	7,396 8 2	5,340 0 2	31,471 17 3	12,952 18 8	13,106 4 5	5,304 7 3	75,571 17 10

(1) Returns from 1st April to 31st November, 1887.

(2) Balance brought forward from 1885, £1,190 19s. 2d.

(3) Returns from 1st April to 31st December, 1886.

(4) £500 grant towards fever ward.

(5) £400 grant

(6) £250 grant towards building.

(7) £200 grant towards building.

TABLE showing the Number of Cases of Disease and of Deaths from each Cause in the various Hospitals in the Colony during the Year 1886.

Class.	Orders, Diseases, &c.		Auckland.		Thames.		Coro-mandel.		Gisborne.		New Plymouth.		Patea.		Napier.		Waipukuruan.		Wellington.		Wanganui.		Master-ton.		Greytown.		Picton.		Blenheim.		Nelson.		Westport.		Charles-ton.		Reefton.		Grey-mouth.		Kumara.				
	Cases.	Deaths.	Cases.	Deaths.	Cases.	Deaths.	Cases.	Deaths.	Cases.	Deaths.	Cases.	Deaths.	Cases.	Deaths.	Cases.	Deaths.	Cases.	Deaths.	Cases.	Deaths.	Cases.	Deaths.	Cases.	Deaths.	Cases.	Deaths.	Cases.	Deaths.	Cases.	Deaths.	Cases.	Deaths.	Cases.	Deaths.	Cases.	Deaths.	Cases.	Deaths.	Cases.	Deaths.					
I.—ZYMOTIC DISEASES.																																													
ORDER 1.—Miasmatic																																													
	1. Small-pox	
	2. Chicken-pox	
	3. Measles ..	1	
	4. Epidemic Rose-rash	
	5. Scarlet Fever (Scarlatina)	
	6. Typhus Fever	
	7. Relapsing Fever	
	8. Influenza	
	9. Whooping-cough ..	3	
	10. Mumps	
	11. Diphtheria	
	12. Cerebro-spinal Fever	
	13. Simple and ill-defined Fever ..	14	..	1	
	14. Enteric Fever (Typhoid) ..	63	17	3	..	1	..	28	3	3	27	1	6	8	46	6	3	..	2	
	15. Other Miasmatic Diseases	
	Total Order 1 ..	81	17	4	..	1	..	33	3	6	..	1	..	28	7	16	..	53	6	6	..	2
ORDER 2.—Diarrheal.																																													
	1. Simple Cholera
	2. Diarrhoea ..	3	..	1	5	7
	3. Dysentery ..	1	2	3	1	3	1
	Total Order 2 ..	4	..	1	2	8	1	3	1	7
ORDER 3.—Malarial.																																													
	1. Remittent Fever
	2. Ague
	3. Beriberi
	Total Order 3
ORDER 4.—Zoonous.																																													
	1. Hydrophobia ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..</				

DISEASES AND DEATHS IN HOSPITALS—continued.

Class.	Orders, Diseases, &c.	Hokitika.		Ross.		Christchurch.		Akaroa.		Ashburton.		Timaru.		Waimate.		Oamaru.		Dunedin.		Dunstan.		Cromwell.		Arrowtown.		Wakaitipu.		Naseby.		Lawrence.		Invercargill.		Deaths.		Total Cases.		Total Deaths.		
		Cases.	Deaths.	Cases.	Deaths.	Cases.	Deaths.	Cases.	Deaths.	Cases.	Deaths.	Cases.	Deaths.	Cases.	Deaths.	Cases.	Deaths.	Cases.	Deaths.	Cases.	Deaths.	Cases.	Deaths.	Cases.	Deaths.	Cases.	Deaths.	Cases.	Deaths.	Cases.	Deaths.	Cases.	Deaths.	Cases.	Deaths.	Cases.	Deaths.			
	ORDER 1.—Miasmatic																																							
	1. Small-pox ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
	2. Chicken-pox ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
	3. Measles ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
	4. Epidemic Rose-rash ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
	5. Scarlet Fever (Scarlatina)	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
	6. Typhus Fever ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
	7. Relapsing Fever ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
	8. Influenza ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
	9. Whooping-cough ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
	10. Mumps ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
	11. Diphtheria ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
	12. Cerebro-spinal Fever ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
	13. Simple and Ill-defined Fever	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
	14. Enteric Fever, Typhoid	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
	15. Other Miasmatic Diseases	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
	Total Order 1 ..	1	..	..	..	20	1	..	..	5	..	12	1	2	..	..	..	14	2	3	1	1	1	..	..	5	..	7	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
	ORDER 2.—Diarrheal.																																							
	1. Simple Cholera ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
	2. Diarrhoea ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
	3. Dysentery ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
	Total Order 2
	ORDER 3.—Malarial.																																							
	1. Remittent Fever ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
	2. Ague ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
	3. Beriberi ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
	Total Order 3 ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
	ORDER 4.—Zoonous.																																							
	1. Hydrophobia ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..

TABLE showing the Number of Cases and of Deaths from each Cause in the various Hospitals in the Colony during the Year 1886—continued.

Class.	Orders, Diseases, &c.																																							
	Auckland.		Thames.		Gore-mand.		Gisborne.		New Plymouth.		Pateta.		Napier.		Waipukurua.		Welling-ton.		Wanganui.		Master-ton.		Greytown.		Picton.		Blenheim.		Nelson.		Westport.		Charles-ton.		Reefton.		Grey-mouth.		Kumara.	
I.—continued.	Cases.	Deaths.	Cases.	Deaths.	Cases.	Deaths.	Cases.	Deaths.	Cases.	Deaths.	Cases.	Deaths.	Cases.	Deaths.	Cases.	Deaths.	Cases.	Deaths.	Cases.	Deaths.	Cases.	Deaths.	Cases.	Deaths.	Cases.	Deaths.	Cases.	Deaths.	Cases.	Deaths.	Cases.	Deaths.	Cases.	Deaths.	Cases.	Deaths.	Cases.	Deaths.	Cases.	Deaths.
	ORDER 6.—Septic.																																							
	1. Phagedæna ..	1
	2. Erysipelas ..	3	..	1
	3. Pyæmia, Septicæmia
	4. Puerperal Fever, Pyæmia, Peritonitis
	Total Order 6 ..	4	..	1	..	3	1	..	6	1	4	7	1	1	..	1
	Total Class I. ..	120	19	8	..	4	35	3	17	1	1	..	48	8	21	1	97	8	12	1	2	..	1
	I. Thrush ..																																							
	2. Other Diseases from Vegetable Parasites
	3. Hydatid Disease
	4. Worms
	5. Other Diseases from Animal Parasites ..	3
Total Class II. ..	3	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
II.—DIETIC DISEASES.																																								
1. Starvation ..	1	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Want of Breast-milk ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
2. Scurvy ..	2	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
3. Intemperance (a. Chronic Alcoholism ..	6	..	7	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Delirium Tremens ..	13	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
4. Malnutrition ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
5. Others ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Total Class III. ..	22	..	7	..	..	3	..	..	..	..	..	1	1	4	..	11	2	..	..	..	..	3	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
III.—DIETIC DISEASES.																																								
1. Rheumatic Fever, Rheumatism of Heart ..	15	..	6	..	..	3	..	6	..	..	..	2	..	..	..	12	..	1	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
2. Rheumatism ..	22	..	..	..	..	..	..	3	..	..	..	11	..	9	..	20	..	6	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
3. Gout ..	1	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	2	..	2	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
4. Rickets ..	23	7	..	..	..	1	..	1	..	..	..	3	..	2	..	7	2	2	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
5. Cancer ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
6. Tabes Mesenterica, Tubercular Peritonitis ..	1	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	3	1	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
7. Tubercular Meningitis, Acute Hydrocephalus ..	7	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	16	7	13	..	17	6	3	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
8. Phthisis ..	29	10	11	3	..	..	..	7	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
9. Other Forms of Tuberculosis, Scrofula ..	5	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
10. Purpura, Hæmorrhagic Diathesis ..	1	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
11. Anæmia, Chlorosis, Leucocythæmia ..	4	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
12. Diabetes Mellitus ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
13. Other Constitutional Diseases ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Total Class IV. ..	101	19	17	3	1	10	2	19	..	1	..	32	7	27	3	67	15	16	5	2	1	5	..	5	..	10	1	17	2	12	4	3	1	4	..	31	3	8	1	

DISEASES AND DEATHS IN HOSPITALS—continued.

Class.	Orders, Diseases, &c.	Tokitika.		Ross.		Christ-church.		Akaroa.		Ashburton.		Timaru.		Waimate.		Oamaru.		Dunedin.		Dunstan.		Cromwell.		Arrow-town.		Wakatipu.		Nasby.		Law-rence.		Inver-cargill.		Deaths.		Total Cases.		Total Deaths.
		Cases.	Deaths.	Cases.	Deaths.	Cases.	Deaths.	Cases.	Deaths.	Cases.	Deaths.	Cases.	Deaths.	Cases.	Deaths.	Cases.	Deaths.	Cases.	Deaths.	Cases.	Deaths.	Cases.	Deaths.	Cases.	Deaths.	Cases.	Deaths.	Cases.	Deaths.	Cases.	Deaths.	Cases.	Deaths.					
I.—continued.	ORDER 6.—Septic.																																					
	1. Phagedæna .. .. .	..	..	..	..	2	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	2	1	
	2. Erysipelas .. .. .	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	51	8	
	3. Pyæmia, Septicæmia ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	3	1	
	4. Puerperal Fever, Pyæmia, Peritonitis	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
II.—PARASITIC DISEASES.	Total Order 6 .. .. .	..	..	2	..	2	..	1	..	..	7	..	2	..	2	..	1	..	7	..	..	..	..	..	..	3	..	..	..	2	..	9	..	64	6		
	Total Class I.	3	..	2	..	83	2	5	..	6	1	26	1	4	..	1	..	75	2	5	2	3	1	4	..	14	..	8	..	5	..	23	1	2	1	682	60	
	1. Thrush .. .. .	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	..	
	2. Other Diseases from Vegetable Parasites	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
	3. Hydatid Disease .. .. .	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
III.—DIETIC DISEASES.	4. Worms .. .. .	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
	5. Other Diseases from Animal Parasites	1	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
	Total Class II.	1	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	8	2	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	..	..	..	..	..	1	..	19	2		
	1. Starvation .. .. .	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
	2. Want of Breast-milk ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
IV.—CONSTITUTIONAL DISEASES.	Scurvy .. .. .	..	..	..	..	1	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
	3. Intemperance { <i>a.</i> Chronic Alcoholism	10	7	30	1	1	3	1
	{ <i>b.</i> Delirium Tremens	..	..	..	..	2	..	..	..	..	..	8	..	1	..	4	1	10	2	1	1	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
	4. Malnutrition .. .. .	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
	5. Others .. .. .	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
IV.—CONSTITUTIONAL DISEASES.	Total Class III.	10	..	10	..	10	..	..	..	..	..	8	..	3	..	4	1	40	1	3	1	1	..	..	..	3	1	3	2	1	..	..	..	..	167	9	
	1. Rheumatic Fever, Rheumatism of Heart ..	..	..	..	..	13	1	..	..	..	..	7	..	1	..	4	2	23	1	2	..	..	..	..	7	..	6	..	2	..	..	..	..	..	125	4	
	2. Rheumatism	34	..	3	..	35	..	..	..	3	..	..	..	8	..	..	..	29	..	..	..	..	..	4	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	266	..	
	3. Gout	1	..	..	..	6	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	17	..	
	4. Rickets .. .. .	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
	5. Cancer .. .. .	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
	6. Tabes Mesenterica, Tubercular Peritonitis	4	..	..	..	9	7	..	..	3	..	3	..	2	..	..	..	32	10	1	1	..	..	..	1	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
	7. Tubercular Meningitis, Acute Hydrocephalus	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
	8. Phthisis .. .. .	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
	9. Other Forms of Tuberculosis, Scrofula	4	..	..	..	20	11	..	..	3	..	3	..	2	..	..	..	53	14	..	..	..	..	..	5	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
	10. Purpura, Hæmorrhagic Diathesis	1	..	..	..	21	..	..	..	..	..	1	..	..	..	..	..	3	..	1	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
	11. Anæmia, Chlorosis, Leucocythæmia	..	..	..	..	6	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	12	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
	12. Diabetes Mellitus .. .. .	..	..	..	..	2	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
	13. Other Constitutional Diseases	17	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Total Class IV.	62	5	5	..	112	21	..	..	13	2	27	5	13	1	9	2	156	28	3	1	1	..	5	..	13	1	15	1	20	1	45	10	..	897	141		

Class.	Orders, Diseases, &c.	Hokitika.		Ross.		Christchurch.		Akaroa.		Ashburton.		Timaru.		Waimate.		Oamaru.		Dunedin.		Dunstan.		Cromwell.		Arrowtown.		Wakatipu.		Naseby.		Lawrence.		Invercargill.		Cases.		Deaths.		Total Deaths.
		Cases.	Deaths.	Cases.	Deaths.	Cases.	Deaths.	Cases.	Deaths.	Cases.	Deaths.	Cases.	Deaths.	Cases.	Deaths.	Cases.	Deaths.	Cases.	Deaths.	Cases.	Deaths.	Cases.	Deaths.	Cases.	Deaths.	Cases.	Deaths.	Cases.	Deaths.	Cases.	Deaths.	Cases.	Deaths.	Cases.	Deaths.			
VI.—LOCAL DISEASES—continued.	ORDER 7.—Diseases of Urinary System.																																					
	1. Acute Nephritis	12	1	
	2. Bright's Disease	45	16	
	3. Uræmia .. .. .	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	2	1
	4. Suppression of Urine .. .. .	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	3	..
	5. Calculus .. .. .	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	10	2
	6. Hamaturia .. .. .	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	4	..
	7. Diseases of Bladder and Prostate	2	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	59	2
	8. Other Diseases of Urinary System	3	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	29	2
	Total Order 7	5	..	2	1	15	2	1	..	2	..	6	..	..	..	4	..	25	10	1	..	2	1	1	..	4	..	1	..	7	..	8	..	164	24	
	ORDER 8.—Diseases of Reproductive System.																																					
	(a.) Diseases of Organs of Generation.—																																					
	1. Ovarian Disease	16	1	
2. Diseases of Uterus and Vagina .. .. .	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	82	4
3. Disorders of Menstruation	2	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	24	..
4. Pelvic Abscess .. .. .	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	12	2
5. Perineal Abscess .. .. .	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	10	..
6. Diseases of Testes, Penis, Scrotum, &c.	3	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	75	..
(b.) Diseases of Parturition.—																																						
7. Abortion, Miscarriage .. .. .	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	7	2
8. Puerperal Mania .. .. .	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	..
9. Puerperal Metritis .. .. .	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
10. Puerperal Convulsions .. .. .	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
11. Placenta Prævia, Flooding .. .. .	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
12. Phlegmasia Dolens .. .. .	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
13. Other Accidents of Childbirth .. .. .	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Total Order 8	6	..	2	..	33	1	..	..	2	1	10	..	2	..	4	1	86	1	..	..	..	..	3	..	9	..	1	..	7	..	9	..	285	9		
ORDER 9.—Diseases of Organs of Locomotion.																																						
1. Caries, Necrosis	5	1	123	4	
2. Arthritis, Osteitis, Periostitis	1	101	1	
3. Other Diseases of Organs of Locomotion	5	73	..	
Total Order 9	11	1	..	..	19	..	..	..	1	4	11	..	..	..	6	..	65	3	..	..	1	..	..	..	1	..	3	..	8	..	10	2	2	297	5	
ORDER 10.—Diseases of Integumentary System.																																						
1. Carbuncle	3	8	..	
2. Phlegmon, Cellulitis	3	30	..	
3. Lupus	1	3	..	
4. Ulcer, Bed-sore	2	159	1	
5. Eczema	7	65	..	
6. Pemphigus	1	..	
7. Other Diseases of Integumentary System	13	71	..	
Total Order 10	29	..	1	..	23	..	..	..	1	6	..	3	..	2	..	14	..	34	..	5	..	..	..	5	..	4	..	7	..	3	..	17	..	337	1	
Total Class VI.	144	6	13	3	298	29	9	..	39	4	87	1	14	..	74	6	473	45	22	3	12	2	26	1	63	5	34	1	73	5	115	11	26	3	3,088	262		

VII.—VIOLENCE.

VIII.—ILL-DEFINED AND NOT-SPECIFIED CAUSES.

DISEASES AND DEATHS IN HOSPITALS—continued.

Class.	Orders, Diseases, &c.	Hokitika.		Ross.		Christ-church.		Akaroa.		Ashburton.		Timaru.		Waimate.		Oamaru.		Dunedin.		Dunstan.		Cromwell.		Arrowtown.		Wakatipu.		Naseby.		Lawrence.		Invercargill.		Riverton.		Total Cases.	Total Deaths.	
		Cases.	Deaths.	Cases.	Deaths.	Cases.	Deaths.	Cases.	Deaths.	Cases.	Deaths.	Cases.	Deaths.	Cases.	Deaths.	Cases.	Deaths.	Cases.	Deaths.	Cases.	Deaths.	Cases.	Deaths.	Cases.	Deaths.	Cases.	Deaths.	Cases.	Deaths.	Cases.	Deaths.	Cases.	Deaths.					
VII.—VIOLENCE.	ORDER 1.— <i>Accident or Negligence.</i>																																					
	1. Fractures, Contusion as ..	41	..	4	1	62	4	1	..	5	..	21	1	3	..	13	..	93	8	1	..	10	1	13	..	17	..	13	..	26	3	62	2	..	8	876	41	
	2. Gunshot Wounds ..	11	..	..	..	18	..	..	..	2	..	4	..	1	..	4	..	10	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	3	..	..	..	..	..	2	..	..	17	1
	3. Cut, Stab ..	3	..	..	..	4	..	..	..	3	1	1	..	2	..	1	..	8	1	..	..	..	..	1	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	4	..	..	135	..
	4. Burn, Scald ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	58	7
	5. Sunstroke ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	3	..
	6. Poison ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	6	..
	7. Drowning ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	2	..
	8. Suffocation ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
	9. Exposure ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
10. Otherwise ..	..	..	..	..	6	..	..	..	1	..	5	1	2	..	3	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	56	1
	Total Order 1 ..	55	..	6	1	90	4	2	..	11	1	32	1	8	..	21	..	114	9	1	..	10	1	15	..	20	..	17	..	31	3	83	2	11	..	1,144	50	
	ORDER 2.— <i>Homicide.</i>																																					
	1. Murder, Manslaughter ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
	2. Wounds in Battle ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
	Total Order 2 ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
	ORDER 3.— <i>Suicide.</i>																																					
	1. Gunshot Wounds ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
	2. Cut, Stab ..	..	..	..	..	2	..	..	..	..	..	1	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
	3. Poison ..	..	..	..	..	1	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
	4. Drowning ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
	5. Hanging ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
	6. Otherwise ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
	Total Order 3	3	1	3	1	
	ORDER 4.— <i>Execution.</i>																																					
	Hanging ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
	Total Class VII.	55	..	6	1	93	4	2	..	11	1	33	1	8	..	21	..	117	10	1	..	10	1	15	..	20	..	17	..	31	3	85	3	11	..	1,162	54	
VIII.—ILL-DEFINED AND NOT-SPECIFIED CAUSES.	1. Dropsy ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
	2. Debility, Atrophy, Inanition ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
	3. Mortification, Gangrene ..	..	..	..	..	3	1	1	..	..	..	9	..	..	..	..	..	8	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
	4. Tumour ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
	5. Abscess ..	10	..	..	..	6	..	..	..	..	..	2	..	..	..	..	..	12	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
	6. Haemorrhage ..	..	..	..	..	7	..	4	..	6	..	..	..	..	..	4	2	21	1	..	..	2	..	4	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
	7. Sudden (cause unascertained) ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
	8. Other Ill-defined and Not-specified Causes ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
		Total Class VIII.	13	..	5	..	18	2	6	..	17	..	20	1	10	..	4	2	41	1	5	..	16	..	5	..	4	..	3	..	14	..	7	..	325	12
		General Totals ..	290	13	32	4	615	58	22	..	86	8205	11	53	1113	11	113	11	921	90	34	7	33	4	68	2119	7	81	4	133	9	287	25	59	5	6,381	548	

TABLE showing the Expenditure on account of Hospitals during the Year 1886.

Hospitals.	Provisions.	Wine, Ale, &c.	Drugs and Instruments.	Fuel and Light.	Bedding and Clothing.	Furniture, Crockery, &c.	Washing.	Salaries and Wages.	Water Supply.	Funerals.	Repairs.	Printing, Advertising, and Stationery.	For Interest.	For Insurance.	For Commission.	Addition to Buildings.	Other Expenses.	Total.
Akaroa	£ s. d. 124 15 10	£ s. d. 20 10 0	£ s. d. 77 7 9	£ s. d. 33 12 3	£ s. d. 37 0 8	£ s. d. 39 11 7	£ s. d. 22 10 0	£ s. d. 131 5 0	£ s. d. 16 10 0	£ s. d. 15 12 6	£ s. d. 2 10 0	£ s. d. 15 12 6	£ s. d. 6 18 0	£ s. d. 2 10 0	£ s. d. 95 2 6	£ s. d. 14 12 9	£ s. d. 14 12 9	£ s. d. 402 3 7
Arrowtown	171 4 7	16 16 0	21 3 8	58 6 1	52 19 3	53 5 8	22 10 0	350 9 0	16 10 0	12 19 2	2 10 0	12 19 2	6 18 0	2 10 0	0	0	16 10 3	631 6 8
Ashburton	367 2 4	64 10 6	96 10 9	419 3 10	110 0 10	583 5 5	5349 9 3	1,835 12 8	79 19 0	104 3 9	17 10 0	104 3 9	1 17 10	17 10 0	95 2 6	40 4 10	17 7 8	1,158 6 6
Auckland (a)	1,908 8 8	81 11 7	659 16 7	32 8 0	37 0 11	583 5 5	5349 9 3	1,835 12 8	15 0 0	14 14 0	17 10 0	14 14 0	1 17 10	17 10 0	95 2 6	40 4 10	31 9 2	8,515 19 5
Blenheim	363 4 5	0 14 6	135 7 1	32 8 0	37 0 11	583 5 5	5349 9 3	1,835 12 8	15 0 0	14 14 0	17 10 0	14 14 0	1 17 10	17 10 0	95 2 6	40 4 10	31 9 2	8,515 19 5
Christchurch	115 1 8	9 15 6	21 18 8	4 3 0	21 9 8	15 6 10	13 19 1	203 11 5	19 14 0	13 11 4	40 12 6	13 11 4	1 17 10	17 10 0	95 2 6	40 4 10	17 5 7	799 19 5
Christchurch	1,292 16 6	160 13 6	464 11 2	568 16 0	112 8 0	88 3 6	8 18 9	2,068 0 0	312 7 0	82 16 3	40 12 6	82 16 3	1 17 10	17 10 0	95 2 6	40 4 10	8 10 5	6,731 18 7
Coromandel	89 8 3	11 19 0	28 2 6	12 19 4	6 14 9	26 0 0	5 12 0	323 6 0	19 14 0	13 11 4	40 12 6	82 16 3	1 17 10	17 10 0	95 2 6	40 4 10	8 10 5	6,731 18 7
Cromwell	160 0 0	11 19 0	47 0 7	29 2 3	6 14 9	26 0 0	5 12 0	323 6 0	19 14 0	13 11 4	40 12 6	82 16 3	1 17 10	17 10 0	95 2 6	40 4 10	8 10 5	6,731 18 7
Dunedin	1,896 13 3	164 6 11	874 19 3	361 7 3	79 3 6	176 3 1	5 12 0	2,090 13 2	63 6 2	28 19 0	5 5 0	28 19 0	11 0 10	5 5 0	6 10 5	12 0 0	12 0 0	798 0 9
Dunstan	103 11 6	7 3 6	14 18 10	25 5 7	79 3 6	176 3 1	5 12 0	2,090 13 2	63 6 2	28 19 0	5 5 0	28 19 0	11 0 10	5 5 0	6 10 5	12 0 0	12 0 0	798 0 9
Gisborne	202 6 7	12 5 0	154 3 6	47 5 3	110 15 0	48 12 4	5 12 0	389 17 6	278 2 0	24 6 3	12 19 6	24 6 3	11 0 10	5 5 0	6 10 5	12 0 0	12 0 0	921 12 10
Greymouth	610 11 5	102 8 6	137 12 11	89 10 3	251 6 10	2 0 0	5 12 0	400 9 4	3 18 6	21 8 7	11 19 6	21 8 7	11 0 10	5 5 0	6 10 5	12 0 0	12 0 0	921 12 10
Greytown	122 10 5	154 3 1	13 2 3	130 15 6	33 10 11	7 0 0	22 0 0	1,186 13 4	4 5 0	7 9 0	2 5 0	7 9 0	11 0 10	5 5 0	6 10 5	12 0 0	12 0 0	921 12 10
Hokitika	922 5 6	154 3 1	176 8 9	130 15 6	33 10 11	7 0 0	22 0 0	1,186 13 4	4 5 0	7 9 0	2 5 0	7 9 0	11 0 10	5 5 0	6 10 5	12 0 0	12 0 0	921 12 10
Invercargill	312 19 11	18 6 10	116 12 2	182 13 5	106 16 2	19 15 6	5 12 0	791 8 5	15 0 0	28 18 3	35 17 6	28 18 3	11 0 10	5 5 0	6 10 5	12 0 0	12 0 0	921 12 10
Kumara	171 9 6	12 1 6	43 19 0	18 4 0	12 19 11	17 18 6	5 12 0	554 10 0	15 0 0	28 18 3	35 17 6	28 18 3	11 0 10	5 5 0	6 10 5	12 0 0	12 0 0	921 12 10
Lawrence	263 18 1	12 1 6	65 16 1	111 7 8	12 19 11	17 18 6	5 12 0	554 10 0	15 0 0	28 18 3	35 17 6	28 18 3	11 0 10	5 5 0	6 10 5	12 0 0	12 0 0	921 12 10
Masterton	99 12 4	36 14 4	125 3 1	114 7 2	23 2 0	185 4 9	4 5 0	301 18 4	15 0 0	28 18 3	35 17 6	28 18 3	11 0 10	5 5 0	6 10 5	12 0 0	12 0 0	921 12 10
Napier	363 15 6	20 13 6	16 10 4	35 8 10	30 16 11	116 2 8	4 5 0	301 18 4	15 0 0	28 18 3	35 17 6	28 18 3	11 0 10	5 5 0	6 10 5	12 0 0	12 0 0	921 12 10
Naseby	115 13 6	60 0 0	183 13 9	152 11 6	30 16 11	116 2 8	4 5 0	301 18 4	15 0 0	28 18 3	35 17 6	28 18 3	11 0 10	5 5 0	6 10 5	12 0 0	12 0 0	921 12 10
Nelson	476 1 6	29 14 0	202 15 5	39 6 0	230 13 11	116 2 8	4 5 0	301 18 4	15 0 0	28 18 3	35 17 6	28 18 3	11 0 10	5 5 0	6 10 5	12 0 0	12 0 0	921 12 10
New Plymouth	346 0 5	29 14 0	51 14 11	51 15 0	230 13 11	116 2 8	4 5 0	301 18 4	15 0 0	28 18 3	35 17 6	28 18 3	11 0 10	5 5 0	6 10 5	12 0 0	12 0 0	921 12 10
Oamaru	141 15 6	112 0 0	8 18 6	14 16 6	21 12 2	2 6 0	7 10 0	377 6 11	13 2 0	15 8 8	6 0 0	15 8 8	7 6 8	6 0 0	29 4 3	1,089 0 0	13 0 0	816 9 7
Patea	89 16 8	12 0 0	18 6 1	14 16 6	21 12 2	2 6 0	7 10 0	377 6 11	13 2 0	15 8 8	6 0 0	15 8 8	7 6 8	6 0 0	29 4 3	1,089 0 0	13 0 0	816 9 7
Pictou	109 2 10	20 7 0	20 9 2	27 11 1	2 6 0	1 18 5	14 9 1	245 8 8	13 2 0	15 8 8	6 0 0	15 8 8	7 6 8	6 0 0	29 4 3	1,089 0 0	13 0 0	816 9 7
Queenstown	286 16 4	11 0 0	102 16 11	127 16 6	37 7 5	49 12 5	14 9 1	245 8 8	6 2 6	10 18 10	5 0 0	4 9 7	0 3 10	5 0 0	0	0	21 15 11	489 19 2
Reefton	232 8 4	11 0 0	75 4 6	49 17 9	37 7 5	57 13 7	4 13 5	401 0 7	6 2 6	10 18 10	5 0 0	4 9 7	0 3 10	5 0 0	0	0	21 15 11	489 19 2
Riverton	152 11 5	10 7 1	36 0 4	31 4 4	11 10 2	24 8 1	13 5 0	401 0 7	6 2 6	10 18 10	5 0 0	4 9 7	0 3 10	5 0 0	0	0	21 15 11	489 19 2
Ross	170 0 4	42 16 2	98 8 0	75 18 5	5 14 5	8 12 5	16 2 3	385 0 0	7 7 0	18 18 6	10 10 0	55 12 7	10 10 0	10 10 0	24 1 0	471 4 0	59 2 2	1,046 3 5
Thames	280 15 9	42 16 2	290 4 11	144 4 4	43 18 1	96 7 7	16 2 3	385 0 0	7 7 0	18 18 6	10 10 0	55 12 7	10 10 0	10 10 0	24 1 0	471 4 0	59 2 2	1,046 3 5
Timaru	597 17 6	78 2 11	43 17 9	21 8 11	11 12 10	48 6 1	13 0 0	385 0 0	7 7 0	18 18 6	10 10 0	55 12 7	10 10 0	10 10 0	24 1 0	471 4 0	59 2 2	1,046 3 5
Waimate	122 17 11	13 17 0	7 16 6	67 6 9	40 4 8	18 12 6	54 3 9	385 0 0	7 7 0	18 18 6	10 10 0	55 12 7	10 10 0	10 10 0	24 1 0	471 4 0	59 2 2	1,046 3 5
Waipawa	319 14 11	95 3 5	127 14 2	96 8 0	69 15 3	18 12 6	54 3 9	385 0 0	7 7 0	18 18 6	10 10 0	55 12 7	10 10 0	10 10 0	24 1 0	471 4 0	59 2 2	1,046 3 5
Wanganui	316 12 0	210 14 7	773 2 0	515 8 7	259 8 6	35 1 14	444 6 10	385 0 0	7 7 0	18 18 6	10 10 0	55 12 7	10 10 0	10 10 0	24 1 0	471 4 0	59 2 2	1,046 3 5
Wellington	1,940 14 2	48 15 6	59 7 10	45 15 0	21 12 0	14 16 9	9 5 5	385 0 0	7 7 0	18 18 6	10 10 0	55 12 7	10 10 0	10 10 0	24 1 0	471 4 0	59 2 2	1,046 3 5
Westport	324 9 4	8 1 525	5 115,494	5 93,769	11 81,894	1 111,884	6 1980	19 524,237	3 8839	17 0465	11 03,538	2 51,123	14 847	8 9315	9 0300	8 85,750	0 62,656	19 070,427
Totals	15,604 4	8 1 525	5 115,494	5 93,769	11 81,894	1 111,884	6 1980	19 524,237	3 8839	17 0465	11 03,538	2 51,123	14 847	8 9315	9 0300	8 85,750	0 62,656	19 070,427

(1) Included in rations. (2) Return for year ended the 31st March, 1887. (3) Freight. (4) Included in furniture. (5) Included in provisions. (6) Included in matron's salary.
(7) Included in salaries. (8) Included in repairs. (9) Included in other expenses. (10) Included in drugs, &c. (11) Included in buildings.

TABLE showing the Accommodation and Amount of Relief afforded in the various Hospitals in the Colony during the Year 1886.

Where situated.	Accommodation.				Patients (Indoor) in 1886.								Relief.			
	Number of Sleeping Wards.	Aggregate Number of Cubic Feet in Sleeping Wards.	Number of Beds.		Remaining on 1st Jan., 1886, from previous Year.	Admitted during Year.	Discharged during Year.	Died during Year.	Remaining 31st December, 1886.	Number of Inmates who received Relief in 1886.	M.	F.	Total.	M.	F.	Total.
			For Males.	For Females.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.						
Auckland	7	101,324	71	21	70	21	164	65	70	23	618	209	827	469	340	809
Thames	6	33,419	25	6	12	..	25	6	17	4	152	29	181	279	151	430
Coromandel	3	8,279	6	..	1	..	21	1	..	..	22	..	22	38	7	45
Gisborne	6	28,000	12	6	5	1	30	5	2	1	95	33	128	..	..	..
New Plymouth	4	23,414	20	5	10	1	27	7	5	2	129	29	158	168	189	357
Patea	4	13,504	8	4	2	..	11	..	..	..	13	..	..	..	..	..
Napier	5	55,940	32	22	17	3	58	24	17	8	212	71	283	493	347	840
Waipukurau	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Wellington	5	25,256	16	5	16	..	33	5	9	1	144	36	180	..	..	..
Wanganui	5	184,320	77	23	56	17	110	50	53	17	470	145	615	334	369	703
Masterton	7	23,440	20	6	24	4	83	13	18	3	114	27	141	..	..	..
Greytown	4	24,648	11	2	2	1	..	6	2	..	29	1	30	..	..	..
Picton	4	6,602	6	3	2	..	21	2	1	..	26	1	27	..	..	..
Blenheim	4	19,000	14	10	5	1	10	1	6	1	17	2	19	3	1	4
Nelson	6	21,866	14	2	14	4	18	5	11	3	100	22	122	166	199	365
Westport	3	96,800	40	28	11	4	54	10	12	4	76	28	104	35	12	47
Charleston	4	24,440	16	2	11	1	3	6	11	..	67	4	71	..	..	..
Reefton	1	9,602	8	..	2	..	15	1	3	..	19	..	..	1	..	..
Greymouth	3	13,550	16	..	5	..	2	3	8	..	65	2	67	18	9	27
Kumara	6	57,400	44	7	30	4	94	17	31	5	142	36	178	236	30	266
Hokitika	3	13,141	11	13	2	..	27	4	9	..	40	5	45	52	14	66
Ross	6	72,777	41	13	29	5	192	8	16	8	216	74	290	(both sexes)	..	468
Christchurch	3	17,280	8	3	3	..	24	2	3	..	29	3	32	..	..	..
Akaroa	5	168,945	60	20	49	16	359	43	48	19	450	165	615	520	674	1,194
Ashburton	2	6,000	4	4	1	..	13	5	4	..	17	5	22	..	..	..
Tinaru	12	35,782	18	5	7	..	62	9	6	1	74	12	86	..	..	..
Waimate	8	121,294	40	26	15	5	123	8	14	7	145	60	205	223	264	487
Oamaru	5	33,347	16	9	25	4	5	1	5	7	40	7	53	20	19	39
Dunedin	7	31,384	12	5	6	82	78	7	3	1	88	25	113	40	29	69
Dunedin	12	208,348	100	50	64	32	419	69	74	39	562	359	921	965	1,157	2,122
Cromwell	3	14,682	13	4	3	..	25	5	..	..	30	4	34	8	2	10
Arrowtown	3	10,000	6	4	..	..	3	4	1	..	30	3	33	3	6	3
Wakatipu	2	10,000	6	3	3	1	25	2	..	..	43	25	68	8	5	25
Naseby	3	26,400	12	6	6	2	77	4	9	2	90	29	119	20	5	..
Lawrence	5	12,000	10	3	8	1	49	4	4	3	57	24	81	..	..	..
Invercargill	4	36,250	16	10	26	3	80	7	9	3	96	37	133	..	..	..
Riverton	10*	32,573	29	10	10	5	205	20	13	1	238	49	287	395	415	810
Totals	4	1,633,522	870	333	515	136	1,442	425	593	156	4,803	1,578	6,381	..	..	9,286

* Including three fever wards.

[Approximate Cost of Paper.—Preparation, nil; printing (1,505 copies), £87 16s.]

