

PICTON HOSPITAL.

Number of patients on 31st March, 1897	...	...	...	18
Admitted during the year	...	...	...	—
Total under treatment	...	...	...	30
Discharged	...	...	...	17
Died	...	...	...	3
Remaining on 31st March, 1898	...	...	...	10

Sex.—24 males, 6 females.

Localities from which Patients came.—Pelorus Road District, Havelock, Cullensville, Kaituna, Tuamarina, Sounds, Picton.

Country.—No record.

Religion.—No record.

Total collective days' stay in hospital, 3,863; individual average days' stay, 128·76. Daily average cost per head, 3s. 2½d.; less patients' payments, 3s. 0½d.

Outdoor Patients.—Individual cases, 7.

REVENUE AND EXPENDITURE.

Revenue.				Expenditure.			
		£	s. d.			£	s. d.
From Government	...	274	3 1	Rations	...	147	18 1
Local bodies	...	274	3 0	Wines, spirits, ale, &c.	...	15	14 0
Donations	...	1	0 0	Surgery and dispensary	...	20	14 3
Patients' payments	...	24	0 0	Fuel and light	...	35	9 11
Other sources	...	43	12 7	Bedding and clothing	...	17	8 8
				Salaries and wages	...	268	16 0
				Water-supply	...	3	10 0
				Repairs	...	12	14 6
				Printing, advertising, postage, and stationery	...	11	11 11
				Interest	...	0	2 6
				Insurance	...	5	0 0
				Other expenses	...	77	18 10
Total	...	£616	18 8	Total	...	£616	18 8

Date of inspection, 28th January, 1898. After years of friction between two parties in the district, one favourable to the retention of Dr. Scott, the other anxious to get rid of him, a solution of the difficulty seems at last to have been hit upon, which, I hope, will have the effect of healing this chronic sore. Dr. Scott has entered into partnership, with equal interest in the practice as well as the surgeonship to the hospital, though, so far as the Secretary, Mr. Blizzard, could inform me, there was some vagueness as regards the exact terms of the agreement. At any rate, Dr. Scott was re-elected on the understanding that Dr. Anderson's services should be available for the hospital. I found a great deal of ill-feeling among the patients, most of whom are simply broken-down old men. This was, I concluded after careful inquiry, entirely due to the slackness of the Board, who time after time readmitted a disreputable, drunken old ruffian to the hospital, where he made the most odious charges against the management without any foundation, and treated the caretaker and doctor in my hearing with the most shameful insolence. I wrote a letter to the Trustees, and I am glad to find that they at once turned him out, and now there is peace. It is impossible to maintain discipline in a hospital where the Trustees are deterred by fear of popular clamour from doing their duty.

QUEENSTOWN HOSPITAL.

Number of patients on 31st March, 1897	...	...	...	13
Admitted during the year	...	...	...	99
Total under treatment	...	...	...	112
Discharged	...	...	...	91
Died	...	...	...	10
Remaining on 31st March, 1898	...	...	...	11

Sex.—87 males, 25 females.

Localities from which Patients came.—Lake, Vincent, Southland, and Clutha Counties, Dunedin, England, Ireland.

Country.—New Zealand, 42; England, 12; Ireland, 20; Scotland, 18; Australia, 8; Holland, 1; Prussia, 1; Tasmania, 2; Denmark, 1; Canada, 2; China, 2; Germany, 1; France, 1; Sweden, 1.

Religion.—Church of England, 31; Roman Catholic, 26; Presbyterian, 47; Wesleyan, 3; Lutheran, 2; Buddhist, 2; Baptist, 1.

Total collective days' stay in hospital, 3,800; individual average days' stay, 33·93. Daily average cost per head, 5s. 2d.; less patients' payments, 3s. 8½d.

Outdoor Patients.—Individual cases, 81; attendances, 154.