

ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE

OFFICERS

OF THE

New Jersey State Lunatic Asylum,

FOR THE YEAR 1861.

JERSEY CITY:

PRINTED BY JOHN H. LYON.

1862.

OFFICERS OF THE ASYLUM.

M A N A G E R S.

ALEXANDER WURTS, esq., Flemington, *President*.
THOMAS J. STRYKER, Trenton, *Secretary*.
Rev. S. M. HAMILL, Lawrenceville.
Hon. GEORGE F. FORT, New Egypt.
J. J. SPENCER, M. D., Moorestown.
JAMES S. GREEN, esq., Princeton.
P. B. KENNEDY, esq., Belvidere.
RICHARD T. HAINES, esq., Elizabeth.
JOHN H. PHILLIPS, M. D., Pennington.
JAMES T. SHERMAN, esq., Trenton.

R E S I D E N T O F F I C E R S.

SUPERINTENDENT AND PHYSICIAN,
H. A. BUTTOLPH, M. D.

ASSISTANT PHYSICIAN,
HENRY F. CARRIEL, M. D.

STEWARD,
CALEB SAGER.

MATRON,
MISS MARY TABOR.

TREASURER,
JASPER S. SCUDDER, Trenton.

JOINT COMMITTEE REPORT.

The joint committee on the Lunatic Asylum report :

That taking on themselves the duties assigned them, they visited the asylum, and were cordially received by the superintendent and other officers of the institution. On an examination of the premises everything was found in good order, and the patients cared for in a proper manner, making the institution not only the pride of Jersey-men, but a source of consolation that that class of our community who have the misfortune of being bereft of reason are here placed in a situation favorable to the recovery of health and energy of mind.

The report of the managers, herewith submitted, shows fully the prosperous condition of the institution, and that the personal property has increased during the past year \$1,111.83.

The treasurer's report, an abstract of which is herewith submitted, shows a balance in his hands, January 1, 1861, of \$220.94. And likewise the steward's account is herewith submitted, substantiating the treasurer's account.

The report of the superintendent, herewith submitted, shows the conditions and wants of the institution better than your committee can, and the appropriations therein asked for of \$2,500 for repairs are considered by your committee necessary to protect and keep in repair the buildings, and a further appropriation of \$800 is recommended for finishing the extension, making in all \$3,300. The extension is built with a slight variation from the original plan, consisting of a semi-octagonal front, which embraces the flight of steps, and secures them from the vicissitudes of the weather, rendering them more safe, besides adding much to the architectural appearance of the building, and in the opinion of your committee, fully justifies the amount asked for, and is, therefore, recommended to the favorable consideration of the Legislature.

JOHN BLANE,
JONA. COOK,

Committee of Senate.

JOHN B. PERRY,
CHAS. E. P. MAYHEW,
JOHN M. HIGBIE,
JOHN FLINTOFT,
JOHN G. SCHENCK,

Committee of Assembly.

Dated Trenton, March 6, A. D. 1862.

MANAGERS' REPORT.

To his Excellency CHARLES S. OLDEN, *Governor of the State of New Jersey:*

The managers of the New Jersey state lunatic asylum respectfully present their annual report.

The operations of the institution have been conducted during the year with their usual good order and success.

It was stated in our last report that the number of patients was greater than the buildings were calculated for. There has been a considerable increase in this number since that report was made.

Although the crowded state of the asylum has caused no little inconvenience to those having charge of it, it is gratifying to know that the health of the patients has not suffered; while the benefits of the institution have been extended to a much larger number of patients than the buildings were designed to accommodate.

It will be seen, by reference to the report of the superintendent, that the same remarkable degree of health which has been heretofore enjoyed in the asylum has continued through the year.

No pestilential or contagious disease has ever prevailed among the patients; for the exemption of the institution from such diseases, and its general healthfulness, it is, no doubt, indebted, under Providence, to the skill and faithfulness of the superintendent, the attention paid to the cleanliness of the rooms and patients, the copious supply of wholesome water, and the constant and thorough ventilation of every part of the buildings.

On the first of January, 1861, there were 310 patients in the asylum, and 178 were admitted during the year, making the whole number, under treatment, during the last twelve months, 488. Of these, seventy-five were discharged recovered, fifty-four improved, two unimproved, twenty-three died—leaving three hundred and thirty-four patients in the asylum on the first of January, 1862.

The proportion of incurable cases in the institution continues to increase, because comparatively few of this class are removed.

The ordinary income has been sufficient to meet the current expenses of the year. In this connection, it is but just to acknowledge the judicious management of the steward.

The extension of the central building, authorized by the last Legislature, has been nearly completed.

The additional rooms, thus obtained, will be of much use in many of the operations of the institution.

The new chapel, with its tasteful, but not expensive decorations, will, it is believed, be found to have its appropriate influence, and a very salutary one, upon the patients. The appropriation made by the Legislature for this improvement will prove nearly sufficient for the purpose.

The annual inventory has been taken, and it is ascertained that the personal property of the institution amounts to \$28,276.69—an increase of \$1,111.83 during the year. The reports of the superintendent, treasurer and steward are herewith submitted.

The superintendent recommends an appropriation of \$2,500 for necessary repairs.

It is fourteen years since the erection of the principal buildings.

It will be obvious that, in this time, repairs must have become necessary, and that true economy requires that they should be made.

We commend this suggestion of the superintendent to the favorable consideration of the Legislature.

In conclusion, we feel bound to acknowledge again the skill and ability of the superintendent, and his devotion to the trusts confided to him; and also the faithfulness and attention to their duties of the other officers of the institution.

All which is respectfully submitted.

ALEXANDER WURTS,
SAM'L M. HAMILL,
GEORGE F. FORT,
J. J. SPENCER,
JAMES S. GREEN,
P. B. KENNEDY,
RICHARD T. HAINES,
JOHN H. PHILLIPS,
JAMES T. SHERMAN,
THOMAS J. STRYKER,
Managers.

New Jersey State Lunatic Asylum, January 2, 1862.

SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT.

To the Managers of the Asylum:

GENTLEMEN:—In compliance with the law for organizing the asylum, the superintendent submits his annual report.

	Men.	Women.	Total.
Patients in the asylum, December 31, 1860.....	154	156	310
Patients received since to January 1st, 1862.....	94	84	178
Under treatment during the year.....	284	240	488
Discharged recovered during the year.....	44	31	75
Discharged improved during the year.....	22	32	54
Discharged unimproved during the year.....	1	1	2
Died.....	16	7	23
Total discharged.....	83	71	154
Remaining December 31st, 1861.....	165	169	334
Of this number there are.....	County. 272	Private 62	Total. 334
Whole number of cases received from opening of asylum May 15, 1848, to January 1, 1862.....	Men. 924	Women. 991	Total. 1915
Of this number there have been discharged re- covered.....	364	389	753
Discharged improved.....	230	298	528
Discharged unimproved.....	20	22	42
Escaped.....	5	0	5
Not insane.....	1	0	1
Died.....	139	113	252
Total discharged and died.....	759	822	1581
Remaining December 31st, 1861.....	165	169	334
Total discharged and remaining.....	924	991	1915

GENERAL RESULT AND OBSERVATIONS.

The number of cases received and treated during the past year was four hundred and eighty-eight, of whom seventy-five were discharged recovered, fifty-four as improved, two unimproved, and twenty-three died. Death occurred in one case of consumption; in eight from chronic exhaustion; in seven from exhaustion of acute mania; in three from apoplexy and congestion of brain; in two from paralysis; in one from epilepsy, and in one from congestion of the lungs.

Several of the deaths resulting from acute mania occurred as is usual in that class, soon after admission, and as a direct result of the over-excitement, inordinate exertions, loss of rest, &c., incident to that form of the malady.

In such cases we do all that is possible to save the strength of the patients by keeping them in the recumbent posture, administering tranquilizing and invigorating remedies, &c.

Several of the cases of death from chronic exhaustion were of long standing, death coming as a friend to release them from suffering, after years of gradual decline in the physical and mental forces.

Notwithstanding the very crowded state of the house during the past year (averaging about fifty more than the proper number), the health of the inmates has been remarkably good.

It is believed that we are indebted to a very considerable extent for this degree of health to the system of forced mechanical ventilation now in use, and which is kept up without intermission, at all seasons, both day and night.

The general affairs of the institution have been quietly prosperous during the past year. A pretty large number have been discharged recovered or improved, and a still larger number made safe and comparatively comfortable by the protection and care of the institution.

These results are great and gratifying as connected directly with the welfare of the insane; but if, in estimating the value of the institution to the state, we add to these benefits the relief to families and neighborhoods, arising from the care of the institution over nearly five hundred of this most afflicted class of citizens, its true character can be more fully understood and appreciated.

The enlargement of the centre building, authorized by the legislature at its last session, and for which an appropriation of eight thousand dollars was made, is nearly completed. It is a very substantial structure of stone, forty by sixty-five feet in extent, with a half-octagon projection in front. The building is three stories, with cellar under all. The lower story will be used for additional cooking and store-rooms, the second for receiving rooms, offices and bed-rooms, and the upper for a chapel. The ceiling and walls of the latter have been tastefully decorated in fresco, by Mr. J. S. D'Orsay, of New York, finished with permanent seats, with cane bottoms, with colored enamelled glass windows, and lighted with gas from two points at the ceiling, by aid of double reflectors. Last, but not least, it is supplied with an organ, having two banks of keys, twenty-two stops, and possessing great strength, variety and richness of tone. The instrument

was made by Mr. W. A. Johnson, of Westfield, Mass., and does much credit to his skill as a builder.

Though frequent allusion has been made in previous annual reports to the interest taken by the members of our household in the exercises of the chapel, both on the Sabbath and the usual daily evening family services, yet in view of the extended and improved architectural arrangements about to be finished in our new building, it may not be amiss again to recall attention to the subject. And first, it may be remarked, that here as elsewhere, tasteful architectural designs and decorations are duly appreciated by a large number, and the pleasant associations of the place rendered stronger and more endearing thereby. This is mentioned partly as the statement of a simple fact, and in part, also, in justification of the slightly increased expenses incurred by the mode of finish adopted.

On the general subject of the utility of judiciously conducted religious exercises in institutions for the insane, there can scarcely be a difference of opinion among those who have cheerfully observed their influence. This truth is more fully established also, when the bearing of the moral and religious sentiments or feelings on the other faculties of the mind is correctly estimated, and this to a greater extent, even, in some cases of mental disorder, than in health.

That the healthy balance of mind is not unfrequently disturbed by the irregular and excessive exercise of religious with other feelings is quite true, but this should no more be regarded as an objection to their natural and legitimate exercise than should the effect of the abusive use of any physical agent on the bodily health. The important point to gain in the use of moral and religious, as of all mental and physical agencies used, is to restore, if possible, the lost balance in the faculties of the mind; or, if this be impossible, to place the individual in such circumstances as to favor the greatest enjoyment in his broken and disordered state. The calamity to an individual of a state of permanent mental disorder is so great as fairly to entitle the sufferer to all the aid that can be furnished by the most enlightened action and sympathy of his fellow-men.

With these principles and sentiments in view, we recommend and urge attention to such architectural arrangements and religious exercises in institutions of this kind as are adapted to call forth and strengthen the moral and religious feelings, believing that, if successfully done, these, like other mental agencies, will prove highly salutary.

The large room heretofore used as a chapel, and which became too small for the purpose as our numbers increased, has been repaired and will be fitted and used as a place for evening entertainments of an instructive and amusing character to the patients. With this view a permanent platform or stage, with a curtain and scenery, will form a portion of the fittings, and furnish facilities for entertainments by tableau, dialogues, illustrated lectures, &c., &c., by all of which we hope to make the institution a place of great and increasing usefulness to those who may require its care.

During the year several changes have been made in the working fixtures of the establishment, and among them may be mentioned the construction of fixtures for coal, instead of resin, gas, the change having

become necessary by the advance in the price from two to five or six dollars per barrel on the latter article. We have also made many needed repairs to the building to the extent of our means, but there still remains so much to be done, both internally and externally, to preserve the house from premature dilapidation and decay, that I regard the appropriation of \$2,500 for this object by the Legislature at its next session as very essential.

Among the important items of repairs required is the relaying, and, in some cases, the removal of floors, the painting of nearly all the exterior, and some of the interior woodwork, the repair of roofs, &c.

I feel confident that this suggestion will not be considered unreasonable, when it is remembered that the building, which is eight hundred feet in extent, has been constantly occupied for several years by persons, many of whom are destructive in their tendencies, and has received repairs, but to a small extent beyond what we have been able to supply from current income. If means of this kind are drawn upon too largely, we abridge the comfort and welfare of the inmates in some respects, and perhaps prolong their period of convalescence.

Humanity and the most enlightened economy would therefore seem to favor the small appropriation named for this object.

By reference to the steward's abstract of accounts, it will be perceived that the receipts of the institution, from all sources, have been equal to its expenses, and leave a balance of \$220.94 in favor of the treasurer.

ACKNOWLEDGMENTS.

We have, as in former years, been placed under obligations by the clergymen of Trenton and the vicinity for their kindness in conducting the religious services of our chapel during many Sabbaths of the year.

From Miss D. L. Dix we have been kindly remembered, as heretofore; and not the least among her gifts was the American flag, the sight of which, on a flag staff in front of the centre building, has gratified and encouraged many loyal hearts.

From the Hon. J. L. N. Stratton, we have received valuable public documents.

From the Rev. S. M. Hamill, of Lawrenceville, one of the managers of the asylum, we have received \$20, to be applied at the discretion of the superintendent.

From Mr. John Levy, of Long Branch, N. J., a handsome engraving, framed, for one of the wards of patients.

From the publishers of the following daily and weekly papers we have received gratuitous copies, viz.:

Daily True American, Daily State Gazette and Republican, and Daily True Democrat, Trenton; Mount Holly Herald, Mount Holly; Monmouth Democrat, Freehold; Ocean Emblem, Tom's river; Somerset Messenger, Somerville; Dollar Weekly, Burlington; Sussex Democrat, Newton; Democratic Banner, Morristown; Weekly Jerseyman, Camden; Independent, New York; and, from Messrs. Fowler and Wells, copies of Life Illustrated, the Phrenological and Water Cure Journals.

To the members of your board I am placed under renewed obligations for much personal kindness and sympathy.

To the other resident officers, and to many faithful attendants and assistants, I desire to express my obligation and thanks for their endeavors in behalf of the institution and its inmates.

Respectfully submitted.

H. A. BUTTOLPH,
Superintendent of Lunatic Asylum.

January 1, 1862.

TREASURER'S REPORT.

TRENTON, January 1, 1861.

To his Excellency CHARLES S. OLDEN, *Governor of the State of New Jersey*:

DEAR SIR:—Below please receive an abstract of my accounts as treasurer of the New Jersey State Lunatic Asylum, for the last year:

RECEIPTS.

Balance in the treasurer's hands.....	\$112 60
Amount received from the state for board of patients....	9,811 38
Revenue account from asylum.....	45,977 98
	<hr/>
	\$55,901 96

PAYMENTS.

By amount paid Caleb Sager, steward's orders.....	\$55,681 02
Balance in the treasurer's hands.....	220 94

Respectfully submitted by

JASPER S. SCUDDER,
Treasurer Lunatic Asylum.

The New Jersey State Lunatic Asylum, in account with J. S. Scudder, Treasurer, from December 30, 1860, to December 30, 1861.

DR.		CR.
Amount paid for grounds ad account	9 33	Balance from last year \$112 60
Freight account.....	\$76 15	Received from funeral expense account... 174 00
Smith and wheelwright ac- count.....	13	Postage account..... 92 01
Light account.....	200 31	Board of patients' ac- count50,379 62
Laundry account.....	548 38	Provision account.... 256 00
Harness account.....	197 66	Clothing account 4,449 77
Books and stationery account.	30 96	Gas works account... 437 96
Funeral expense account	117 54	
Wages account.....	259 95	
Postage account.....	11,087 14	55,789 36
Petty current expense account.	141 09	
Straw account.....	427 60	
Refunding account.....	298 13	
Medical account.....	360 46	
Incidental account.....	361 94	
Fuel account.....	792 66	
Provision account.....	5,661 29	
Flour account.....	14,012 95	
Fruit account.....	3,412 92	
Farm and garden account	533 62	
Furniture account.....	830 08	
Groceries.....	1,350 34	
Repairs.....	4,609 23	
Feed.....	3,158 83	
Gas works.....	840 77	
Clothing.....	502 31	
Fixtures.....	4,139 83	
Newspapers.....	1,559 55	
	30 00	
	\$55,681 02	
Balance.....	220 94	
	\$55,901 96	\$55,901 96

Respectfully submitted to J. S. Scudder, treasurer.

CALEB SAGER, *Steward.*

ADMISSION OF PATIENTS.

PRIVATE PATIENTS,*

Or those supported by themselves or their friends, are admitted to the asylum when there are vacancies, on their complying with the directions and forms contained in chapters nineteen, twenty, twenty-one and twenty-two, of the by-laws of the institution, which are in substance as follow :

That patients of all classes be made perfectly clean and free from all contagious or infectious disease ; that they be provided with suitable clothing, and sufficient in quantity for one or more changes ; that a written history of patients be sent with them, or that they be accompanied by a person capable of giving such information ; that a "request for their admission" be made by some friend ; that a "certificate of insanity," by one respectable physician, be brought with the patient ; and lastly, that a bond, with satisfactory sureties, be given for the payment of their expenses, such payment being made quarterly in advance, and for their removal when discharged.

The price of board per week, for those supported at public charge, is two dollars ; for those supported by friends, three dollars fifty cents and upwards, according to the nature of the case and their ability to pay.

The forms of "request for admission," "certificate of insanity," and "bond for support," are as follow :

FORM OF REQUEST.

To the Superintendent of the N. J. Lunatic Asylum :

The undersigned, of the township of ———, in the county of ———, is desirous of placing in the State Lunatic Asylum at Trenton, and hereby requests the admission therein of ———, a resident of the township of ———, in the county of ———, who is aged ——— years, and has been [here state what the occupation, profession or

*Application for admission of patients, if made by letter, should be addressed to the superintendent.

business of the person has been.] He (or she) is a native of ———, in the state of ———, and is [here state what the relationship or circumstances of connection may be] of the undersigned.

[Then should follow a written history of the case, stating the alleged cause of insanity, when it commenced, and all the particulars of the case.]

Dated ———, 18 .

FORM OF CERTIFICATE OF INSANITY.

I, A B, physician of the township of ———, in the county of ———, do certify that I have examined into, or am acquainted with, the state of health and mental condition of C D, of the township of ———, in the county of ———, and that he is, in my opinion, insane, and a fit subject to be sent to the State Lunatic Asylum.

Signed,

A B.

Dated ———, 18 .

[The law requiring the certificates of two physicians, under oath, was repealed by supplement of March 1, 1850.]

FORM OF BOND.

Know all men by these presents, that we ———, of the township of ———, in the county of ———, are held and firmly bound unto ———, treasurer of the New Jersey State Lunatic Asylum, and his successors in office, in the sum of five hundred dollars, for the payment of which we jointly and severally bind ourselves firmly by these presents.

Sealed with our seals, and dated this ——— day of ———, 18 .

Whereas ———, of the township of ———, in the county of ———, a lunatic, has been admitted a boarder in the New Jersey State Lunatic Asylum at Trenton: Now, therefore, the condition of the obligation is, that if the said obligators shall pay to the said treasurer, or his successors in office, the sum of ——— dollars and ——— cents per week, for the board of said lunatic, so long as ——— shall continue a boarder in said asylum, with such extra charges as may be occasioned by ——— requiring more than ordinary care and attention, and shall provide for ——— suitable clothing, and pay for all such necessary articles of clothing as shall be procured for ——— by the steward of the asylum, and shall remove ——— from the asylum whenever the room occupied by ——— shall be required for a class of patients having preference by law, or in the opinion of the superintendent to be received into said asylum; and if ——— should be removed at the request of ——— before the expiration of six calendar months after reception, then if such obligors shall pay board for twenty-six weeks, unless ——— should sooner be cured, and if they shall also pay, not exceeding fifty dollars for all damages ——— may do to the furniture or other property of the asylum, and for reasonable charges in case of death; such payment for board and clothing to be made quarterly, in advance, from date of admission, and at the time of removal, with interest on each bill, from and after the time it

becomes due, then this obligation to be void—otherwise, to remain in force.

Signed and sealed in presence of ——— .

FORM OF ORDER, ETC., FOR JUDGES.

I, A B, one of the judges of the court of common pleas of the county of ——— and State of New Jersey, do hereby report that application has been made to me in behalf of C D, a resident of the township of ———, in said county, alleged to be insane (and in indigent circumstances, or a pauper, as the case may be), and that, pursuant to the act of the Legislature in such case made and provided, I have called before me Dr. ———, a respectable physician, and other respectable witnesses, to wit (state their names), and having examined them, and fully investigated the case, and not deeming it necessary to call a jury, I do hereby decide and certify that satisfactory proof has been adduced before me, showing the said C D to be an insane person, and that ——— has not sufficient estate or means to support ——— under said visitation of insanity.

Given under my hand at ———, in the county and state aforesaid, this, ——— day of ———, in the year of our Lord one thousand eight hundred and ———.

A B.

——— county, ss.—I, A B, being duly sworn according to law, do certify and declare that I have examined into the state of health and mental condition of C D, of the township of ———, of said county of ———, and I am of opinion that ——— is insane.

A B, *Physician*.

Sworn and subscribed before me this, ——— day of ———, A. D. 18 .

A B, *Judge, &c.*

Endorse on certificate—"Approved"—A B and C D, chosen freeholders of the township of ———, and county of ———.

STATE OF NEW JERSEY, }
——— county. }

I, A B, clerk of the county of ———, do hereby certify that the foregoing is a true copy of the report and certificate of ———, one of the judges of the court of common pleas of said county, in the case of ———, and also of the certificate of Dr. ———, thereto appended, as filed in my office; that the foregoing is a true copy of the endorsement thereon, and that A B and C D, whose names are signed to the said endorsement of approval, are members of the board of chosen freeholders of said township, in said county, and that said signatures are in their proper handwriting.

In witness whereof, I have hereunto set my hand and seal of office, at ———, this, ——— day of ———, A. D. 18 .

A B, *Clerk*.