



THE COUNTY OF
WESTLAND GAZETTE.

Published by Authority.

HOKITIKA, MONDAY, JUNE 8, 1868.

Hokitika, 18th May, 1868.

THE Chairman of the County Council directs it to be notified that the next Sitting of the Council is convened for Tuesday, the 16th of June, at noon, at the Supreme Court House, Hokitika.

JAMES HEAWOOD,
Clerk of the Council.

WE, the undersigned Commissioners of the Waste Lands Board of the County of Westland, in accordance with the provisions of Section 32 of the Regulations for the Sale, Letting, Occupation, and Management of the Waste Lands of the Crown, in the County of Westland, do hereby proclaim that the lands described in the Schedule hereunto annexed are open for sale.

Given under our hands at Hokitika, this eighth day of June, one thousand eight hundred and sixty-eight.

G. S. SALE, Chief Commissioner.
MALCOLM FRASER,
JAS. A. BONAR, } Commissioners.
G. WINTER, }

SCHEDULE.

TOTARA DISTRICT.

Block No. XI. (Suburban).

Commencing on the Totara River at its intersection with the boundary of Block No. X., thence along the Eastern Boundary of the said block to a point ten chains distant from the direct Road to the Beach; thence Easterly at a right angle a distance of about 40 chains to the Main Road; thence along the Western side of the said road to Donnelly's Creek, and

thence in a line crossing the creek at right angles a distance of 12 chains 50 links, and from thence keeping a mean distance of 12 chains 50 links from Donnelly's Creek to the commencing point.

ARAHURA DISTRICT.

Block No. XII. (First-class Rural).

Bounded on the North by Kapitea Creek; on the East by Reserve No. 7, in red; on the South by a line five chains North of and parallel to the Chesterfield Road; and on the West by the Ocean Beach.

Exclusive of all lands sold or reserved within such boundaries.

Block No. XIII. (Suburban).

Bounded on the North by Road line D I; on the West by the Ocean Beach; on the South by a line 12 chains and 50 links from the Northern Boundary; and on the East by a line four chains from the Western Boundary.

Hokitika, 5th June, 1868.

MR. BONAR directs it to be notified that he has appointed

GAVIN GORDON
to be a Warder at the County Gaol, Hokitika vice Cornelius Whelan, deceased.

G. S. SALE,
County Secretary.

Hokitika, 5th June, 1868.

MR. BONAR directs it to be notified that he has appointed

SAMUEL BESWICK, Esq.,
And **FITZHERBERT DERMOTT, Esq.**
to be Honorary Consulting Surgeons to the Hospital, Hokitika.

G. S. SALE,
County Secretary.

ERRATUM.—In the *County of Westland Gazette*, No. 7, page 21, in the description of Block No. V., for "North-East corner" read "South-East corner."

REPORT on HOKITIKA HOSPITAL, by the
SURGEON SUPERINTENDENT, for the
twelve months ending 30th April, 1868.

Remaining in Hospital on 1st May, 1867	...	...	...	47
Admitted since	...	...	...	428
Total treated	...	...	...	475
Discharged cured	...	...	380	
" relieved	...	...	12	
Committed to Lunatic Asylum	1	
Died	36	
				429

Remaining in Hospital on 30th April, 1868	46
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DISEASES.

Fever—Typhoid, 16; Bilious Remittent, 3; Simple, 5. Rheumatism—Acute, 9; Chronic, 41. Dysentery—Acute, 8; Chronic, 4. Bronchitis—Acute, 12; Chronic, 11. Phthisis Pulmonalis, 3. Ophthalmia—Purulent, 1; Rheumatic, 7; Gonorrhœal, 1; Scrofulous, 1. Rheumatic Synovitis, 5. Rheumatic Sciatica, 5. Pneumonia, 6. Hepatitis, 3. Hepatitis, with single Pneumonia, 1. Chronic Anæmia, 1. Ascites, 2. Colic, 3. Delirium Tremens, 10. Quinsey, 1. Measles, 1. Purpura, 6. Hysteria, 2. Pericarditis, 1. Deafness, 1. Pleuritis, 1. Enteritis, 1. Pregnancy, 1. Emphysema, 3. Acute Bursitis, 1. Cystitis, 1. Catarrh, 5. Insanity, 1. Temporary Insanity, 1. Amaurosis, 1. Apoplexy, 2. Apoplexy, with Hemiplegia, 1. Erysipelas—Simple, 3; Phlegmonous, 1. Urinary Fistulæ, 1. Lumbago, 11. Hæmatemesis, 1. Renal Dropsy, 1. Menorrhagia, 1. Dyspepsia, 8. Gonorrhœa, 7. Gonorrhœa with Phimosi, 3. Conjunctivitis, 1. Spasmodic Asthma, 3. Constipation, 2. Œdema, 1. Melancholia, 1. Cerebral Hemiplegia, 1. Chronic Hepatic and Splenic Disease, 1. Inflammation of Brain, 1. Pemphigus, 1. Prostatitis, 2. Puerperal Convulsions, 1. Nervousness, 1. Ovarian Dropsy, 1. Neuralgic Headache, 1. Simple Skin Diseases, 16. Balanitis, 1. Hypochondriasis, 3. Congestive Headache, 1. Aneurism of Aorta, 1. Iritis, 1. Partial Paralysis, 2. Brow Ague, 1. Imaginary, 1. Rheumatic Gout, 3. Hamaturia, 1. Fractures—Simple, 23; Compound, 9; Compound Comminuted, 1; Complicated, 2; Compound Fracture of Skull, 1. Dislocations—Simple, 3; Compound, 1. Wounds, 16. Bruises, 16. Sprains, 12. Burns, 6. Buboes—Acute, 1; Chronic, 9. Syphilis—Primary, 7; Secondary, 8. Orchitis—Simple, 9; Rheumatic, 1. Phimosi, 2. Gonorrhœal Warts, 1. Morbus Coxæ of both Hip-joints, 1. Tumours, 3. Bleeding Piles, 2. Compression of Brain, 1. Concussion of Brain, 8. Abscesses—Simple, 14; Diffuse, 2. Abscess of Liver, 1. Psoas Abscess, 1. Ulcers—Simple, 5; Chronic, 5; Inflamed, 2; Varicose, 1. Hydrocele, 2. Carbuncle, 1. Whitlow, 1. Sub-Luxation, 1. Cut Throat, 1. Necrosis, 5. Cancer, 2. Incarcerated Hernia, 2. Stricture of Urethra,

4. Stricture of Urethra, with Hydrocele, 1. Inflammation of Wrist, 1. Chronic Rheumatic Arthritis, 1.

CAUSES OF DEATH.

Typhoid Fever, 2. Acute Bronchitis, 1. Chronic Bronchitis, 1. Pneumonia, 4. Acute Dysentery, 3. Hepatitis, 2. Pulmonary Dropsy, 1. Hepatic Dropsy, 1. Phthisis Pulmonalis, 3. Inflammatory Fever, 2. Paralysis, 1. Chronic Anæmia, 1. Rheumatic Meningitis, 1. Inflammation of Brain, 1. Concussion of Brain, 1. Compression of Brain, 1. Fracture of Skull, 1. Erysipelas, 1. Enteritis, 1. Pericarditis, 1. Sanguineous Apoplexy, 1. Serous Apoplexy, 1. Aneurism of Aorta, 1. Urinary Fistulæ, 1. Shock from Severe Burn, 1. Shock from Compound Comminuted Fracture, 1.

LUNATIC ASYLUM.

Numerical Return.

Remaining in Asylum on 1st May, 1867	...	...	...	5
Admitted since	...	...	...	29
Total treated	...	...	...	34
Discharged cured but liable to a relapse	...	...	...	12
Sent to Christchurch Asylum	...	...	...	11
Died from an attack of pulmonary dropsy	...	...	...	1
				24
Remaining in Asylum on 30th April, 1868	...	...	...	10

Forms of Insanity.

Mania, 4 (1 relapse). Epileptic Mania, 1. Monomania, 19 (4 relapses). Religious Monomania, 3 (1 relapse). Melancholia, 1. Imbecility, 1. Delirium Tremens, 5.

It will be seen from the numerical statement at the head of this report that the total number of patients treated for the year 1867-68 was 475, being 64 less than the previous year. Of these 431 were males, and 44 females; there being 16 females more this year than last year. Of the males 300, or upwards of 69 per cent., were miners. The patients, as usual, came from all parts of the coast, as follows:—Waimea District, 174 males and 3 females; Town of Hokitika, 140 males and 35 females; Kanieri District, 36 males and 4 females; Ross District, 24 males and 2 females; Grey District, 19 males; Pakihi District, 10 males; Buller District, 10 males; Okarito District, 3 males; Haast, 1; Seamen, 14.

The nationalities of patients will be interesting, as showing the heterogeneous elements of which the population is made up.—England and Wales, 168; Ireland, 138; Scotland, 69; Denmark, 15; Sweden, 8; Norway, 6; Spain, 1; Germany, 9; Austria, 2; Prussia, 1; Russia, 1; France, 4; Belgium, 2; Holland, 2; Switzerland, 2; Hanover, 2; Italy, 1; Greece, 1; Corsica, 2; America, 9; Cape of Good Hope, 3; East Indies, 1; West Indies, 3; Prince Edward Island, 1; Mauritius, 1; Australia, 13; Tasmania, 6; New Zealand, 3; Fiji Islands, 1.

It will be observed that there is a great diminution this year in the number of cases of fever, dysentery, and neuralgic rheumatism, which is owing chiefly to the population having become acclimatised, and confirms the prediction contained in my first report in May, 1865, and the view I then took of the malarial origin of these diseases.

The prevailing disease is rheumatism in its multifarious forms, there being no less than 81 cases—or upwards of 17 per cent.; and this need excite no surprise when we consider the humidity of the climate, and the nature of the employment of the miners.

Of the total, viz., 475, 291 were medical cases, and 184 surgical. 101 of the latter were cases of accident, the most formidable of which were fractures, 36, and dislocations, 5. The chief causes of accident are the slipping of earth and stones from the faces of terraces in ground sluicing; the falling and felling of trees, and the breaking of ropes used in raising and lowering the men in shafts in deep-sinking claims,

The death rate is much the same as last year, a little over 7 per cent., but as usual a large number—12 or one-third of the whole—were admitted moribund and died within a few days after their admission. 7 arose either from hopeless injury, or incurable disease; and of the remaining 17 cases the disease had existed for periods varying from twelve months to a month before admission, except one case of the inflammation of the bowels, which was a fortnight old on admission. Most of the cases had not received any treatment at all before admission.

The sanitary condition of the Hospital is excellent. A number of patients were attacked in the house, in the previous year, with dysentery, two of whom died; but since the cesspool was closed up, and the earth closet system with the utilisation of the night soil introduced, no case of dysentery has occurred in the house.

I cannot conclude my remarks on the Hospital at this time without congratulating the Canterbury and Westland Governments on the effect of their liberality which has enabled me to bring the Hospital to a state of efficiency second to none other in the Colony.

GAOL.

The health of the prisoners during the year has been remarkably good owing to the excellence of the site and sanitary arrangements. Only one death occurred, that of a prisoner committed for vagrancy, who died in May last, a few days after incarceration, of delirium tremens, it being to my own knowledge his fifth attack. The diseases consist chiefly of catarrh and rheumatism, and would be much diminished by the introduction of some regular system of heating, as that by hot air or hot water.

LUNATIC ASYLUM.

It will be seen from the tabulated statement that 34 patients have been treated during the year, 12 cured, 11 sent to Christchurch for want of accommodation; and 1 died shortly after admission from pulmonary dropsy. Five only of the cases treated were

cases of Delirium Tremens or temporary insanity. The accommodation—viz., 5 cells, with offices—is wholly inadequate for the requirements of the district; and the absence of the necessary appliances for the treatment of the insane—especially a properly fenced yard for exercise—renders the asylum little more than a place for safe keeping.

PUBLIC HEALTH.

Since my last report no case of zymotic or infectious disease has, to my knowledge, occurred in the town or district, which, considering the almost total absence of sanitary regulations, is remarkable. Two of the deaths, which occurred in the Hospital, I have traced directly to miasmata arising from open privies, gutters, and trenches, reeking with fetid miasms. I took occasion in my last report, dated 1st May, 1867, to point out the probability of cholera—which was then raging at Panama, within 30 days' sail—visiting these colonies at no distant date; and I have since observed from the *Colonist* that a public meeting was held at Nelson, on the 3rd May—two days afterwards—for the purpose of adopting sanitary measures for its prevention, which meeting was attended by three members of the medical profession, all of whom entertained my views on the matter. It has now been established beyond a doubt that cholera is a disease strictly preventable by sanitary and hygienic measures. In the report of the medical officer of the Privy Council the following passage occurs:—"It cannot be too distinctly understood that the person who contracts cholera in this country is *ipso facto* demonstrated with almost absolute certainty to have been exposed to excremental pollution; that what gave him cholera was mediate or immediately cholera-contagium discharged from another's bowels; that, in short, the diffusion of cholera among us depends entirely upon the numberless filthy facilities which are let exist, and specially in our larger towns, for the fouling of earth, and air, and water, and thus, secondarily, for the infection of man with whatever contagium may be contained in the miscellaneous outflowings of the population. Excrement-sodden earth, excrement-reeking air, excrement-tainted water, these for us the causes of cholera." I need not dwell on the fearful facilities afforded in this town for the spread of cholera; and would suggest that measures be taken immediately for the abolition of open privies, and the substitution of earth-closets. Those who could not afford to pay £6 or £7 for a patent self-acting apparatus, could by means of a pan of earth and moveable box fitted into the privy accomplish the object in view quite efficiently; and at a very small cost the contents of these closets might be removed daily or weekly, and the value of the material, as a commercial product, would go far to defray the expense of scavenging,

J. RUTHERFORD RYLEY,
F.R.C.S.E.,
Surgeon Superintendent.

Hospital, 28th May, 1868.

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