

ant work. A change is especially necessary at the present time because our efforts to concentrate the energies of the institution without the necessary fittings will tend to aggravate rather than lessen the difficulties which have previously existed. It has been the custom on the male side to put two patients in the baths at the same time and to allow from two to three minutes to each man. Each lot of water has had to serve for from five to ten patients, and much time has been wasted during emptying and refilling. In spite of over-pressure and over-crowding the bathing of three hundred men has absorbed almost the entire energies of two out of six working mornings per week.

If you will allow me to have one of the small dormitories on the ground floor (measuring 18ft. by 16ft.) converted into a combined bathing-room with six baths, every objection which now exists will be met. The following are the proposed alterations with estimated cost of materials: Asphalt or concrete floor faced with cement, £6; six galvanised-iron baths, with wooden fittings, at £2 10s., £15; plumber's materials needed for leading water, connection with drain, &c., £15; extras, £4: total, £40. The baths may cost a trifle above £2 10s., but really we shall only need five, because there is an extra one on the upper flat which can be shifted. With regard to the material (galvanised iron), I am quite pleased with the baths already fitted, which have been in use for many years, and are still in thoroughly good repair. They are easily kept clean if properly cleaned after each day's bathing, and are fully as durable as the ordinary enamelled baths, the facing of which is apt to become rough, and to wear away or come off after a time.

The advantage of limiting bathing operations to the ground floor would be very great because leakages frequently occur and saturate the ceiling of the room below. A cement floor is not absolutely needed, but the dampness would soon rot the flooring timbers, and in the end a greater expenditure would be entailed. Further, the seasoned flooring would be valuable for other purposes. Covering the floor with lead would cost twice as much as providing cement floor.

I may mention that the adjacent large day-room with a couple of fires on in winter would afford an excellent drying- and dressing-room, and this would do away with any objection which there might otherwise be to selecting wet days for bathing purposes. As the whole of this work could be overtaken in one morning, there could be no harm in constituting the first wet day in the latter half of the week "bathing day"—the work to be done on Saturday in any case if the two previous days should have been fine.

I am convinced, if the above scheme is carried out, it will increase the useful energies of the staff and patients by fully a tenth. Should you approve the expenditure I shall be much obliged if you will kindly telegraph me.

I have, &c.,

The Inspector-General of Asylums, Wellington.

F. TRUBY KING.

RETURN of Cost of fitting up new BATH-ROOM in C Ward, Male Side.

	£	s.	d.
Iron fittings and material	34	13	9
Two new baths	2	10	0
Plumber, attendant's wages	4	2	2
Timber	5	8	10
Cement	5	5	0
Sand	0	9	0
Earthenware pipes	0	14	6
Buchan trap...	0	12	0
Bricklayer, attendant's wages	3	2	6
	<u>£56</u>	<u>17</u>	<u>9</u>

Four of the six baths fitted up were old stock on hand and are not charged in the above account. The carpenter's wages are not charged as value of wooden flooring taken out more than counterbalances them.

APPENDIX R.

EXPENSES incurred in Providing Music for Patients at Seacliff Asylum for the Years 1888-89 and 1890-91 respectively.

	1888-89.			1890-91.		
	£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.
Miss Rochfort, salary and expenses for playing at Seacliff Asylum (fort-nightly)	16	2	8	...	...	...
Miss Gow, nurse, extra yearly salary as pianist	...	...	...	5	0	0
Yearly interest on organ (£35) at 7 per cent.	2	9	0	2	9	0
Yearly interest on old piano (£10) at 7 per cent.	0	14	0	0	14	0
Yearly interest on band instruments and one new piano (£126) at 7 per cent.	...	...	...	8	16	5
Hire of piano (returned January, 1891)	12	0	0	3	0	0
Tuning piano	0	15	0	1	1	0
New stop to organ (7s. 6d.), new pedal to same (7s. 6d.)	0	15	0	...	...	...
Violin strings	...	...	...	1	5	0
New music	...	...	...	3	7	0
Yearly interest on cottage for bandmaster (£60) at 7 per cent.	...	...	...	4	4	0
Sundries: Clarionette reeds, 5s.; pads, 3s. 6d.; rosin, 1s. 6d.; music paper, 1s.; tail-piece, 1s. 6d.; bridges, 1s.	...	...	...	0	13	6
	<u>£32</u>	<u>15</u>	<u>8</u>	<u>£30</u>	<u>9</u>	<u>11</u>