and which may hereafter be authorized or law to be constructed; and the plans and location of the new pier and bulkhead lines and portions thereof on both sides of the Harlem river from the line of the Third avenue in the city of New York to the East river or Long Island Sound; also the plan and location of pier and and bulkhead lines and the grades thereof, in and along all other tide waters bounding and adjacent to said area. Maps are to be filed, with field notes and any explanations that may be deemed expedient. Upon the filing thereof they are declared to be final and conclusive, and all such streets, avenues, roads, public squares and places, and such locations, widths, courses, windings and grades, together with such plans for sewerage and drainage, and the plans for the supply and distribution of pure and wholesome water (except as to which the Legislature by a subsequent part of the act were required to confirm before becoming final), and plans, maps, grades and locations of railroads and simiar modes of communication and transportation, and the plans and locations of the pier and bulkhead lines, and the grades thereof, thereon shown, laid out, retained or established, shall thereupon and henceforth be retained and established accordingly; and all streets, avenues, roads, and public squares and places thereon discontinued and closed shall thereupon and thenceforth be discontinued and closed accordingly, and the bridges, tunnels and other means of transit across or under Harlem river and Spuyten Duyvil creek, as therein planned, located and shown shall thereupon and thenceforth be planned and located accordingly. And no proceeding shall be had or taken by any officer or body for any street opening or any public improvement within the area described, or within the tide-waters adjacent thereto (except that work under contract already made may be done and completed), until the Board of Commissioners of this department shall have so filed such maps; provided, however, that this act shall not be construed as interfering with any improvements which have been authorized by acts of the Legislature in the district aforesaid. Upon the filing of such map the officers and bodies authorized to make other improvements of like character in the towns within the area shown thereon shall have power to open, extend, widen, regulate, grade, drain and sewer all such streets, roads, avenues and public squares and places as shall be as aforesaid retained or established.

The department was authorized to file maps showing the improvements proposed to be made in certain sections of the district referred to, but upon the completion of the work it is required to make and file a map showing the whole of the improvements contemplated and authorized. The expenses to be incurred under this act are required to be paid by the Treasurers and Comptrollers of the counties of New York and Westchester respectively, moneys therefor to be provided by the Supervisors of those counties respectively, except that the several towns in Westchester county are to bear the particular portion of such expense incurred in making the necessary investigations for the improvements of those towns respectively, and no greater sum than $10,000 shall be collected for the purpose from either of those towns in any one year.

It was further provided that the Board of Commissioners of the Department of Public Parks, on behalf of the city of New York and the chairman of the Board of Supervisors of Westchester county and the supervisors of the towns which include the Westchester county end of any such tunnel or any such means of transport, or the majority of them, on behalf of the county of Westchester, shall have full power and authority to build and construct, by contract or otherwise, as they shall deem most expedient, any and all bridges, tunnels and other means of transportation across or under the Harlem river or Spuyten Duyvil Creek, which shall be planned or located as aforesaid; and they are authorized to forthwith commence the building or construction of a suspension bridge north of the bridge known as "The High Bridge," and not more than one half-mile therefrom; also that a bridge or tunnel may be planned or located near or at the northerly end of Seventh avenue, in this city, and next thereafter that a bridge or tunnel may be planned or located near the northerly end of Fifth avenue, in this city; provided, however, that not more than two such bridges, or one bridge and one tunnel or other means of transit, shall be in course or process of being built or constructed at the same time. The same officers are authorized to build or construct, by contract or otherwise, any and all improvements of the navigation of the Harlem river and Spuyten Duyvil creek which may be planned or located as before provided; and the department was directed to maintain and keep in order and repair all bridges now existing across the Harlem river so far as the Board shall consider it advisable, the expense of such building and construction, maintenance and repairing of all such bridges, tunnels and other means of transit, such improvements of Harlem river and Spuyten Duyvil creek to be borne by the counties of New York and Westchester in proportion to the jurisdiction of each, and the line of such jurisdiction shall be established and defined by the Board of Commissioners of this department; provided, however, that such portions of the improvement of navigation in said river and creek, and the works appertaining to the same, within the county of Westchester, as the officials above referred to shall determine may be advantageously built and constructed without interfering with or impeding in any manner the other portions of the improvement of the navigation of said river and creek, and works appertaining to the same within and adjacent to the county of New York, may be built and constructed solely by the officers and bodies authorized by law to make other improvements of a like kind in the towns of the county of Westchester adjacent to that in which such works may be situated. The Treasurer or Comptroller of each of said counties shall issue and deliver to the person authorized by this department, and the other officials referred to, to receive the same, bonds of their counties respectively, for such sum as may be necessary to be raised for and on account of such bridges, tunnels, or other means of transportation and improvement above referred to. The department is directed to make a report of the surveys and plans authorized and directed by this act to be made within the area specified, for the supply and distribution of pure and wholesome water, to the Legislature at its next session after the completion of the same, together with field notes, explanatory remarks and such recommendations as the nature of the subject may require, as to which works the plans relating thereto, exterior to the area therein described, shall not be finally conclusive nor established until the Legislature shall have approved the same. During the progress of all the works so authorized the Commissioners are also directed to make annual reports to the Legislature of their proceedings under this act.

The powers and duties prescribed by this act are declared not to apply to the streets, roads and avenues laid out in the town of Morrisania by the commissioners appointed for that purpose, except such portions and grades thereof as are located and situated along and adjacent to the Harlem river, and as the Commissioners of this Department may deem necessary for the public interest to modify, change, or discontinue for the purpose of facilitating plans, locations, proper connections and approaches, and the construction of bridges, tunnels, and other means of transit across or under the said river and creek. The Board of Commissioners of the Department of Parks is declared to have full and exclusive power to lay out, regulate, govern, manage, and direct all the works, buildings and constructions authorized to be built and constructed by this act, and to pass ordinances for the regulation, control and government thereof, and of the various works and constructions of the kind, nature and character therein referred to, within the area described, and upon or adjacent to the Harlem river or Spuyten Devil creek, and imposing and enforcing proper penalties and fines for the violation of such ordinances, and defining methods for the enforcement and collection thereof, and punishing any person or corporation violating or offending against the same. Except as therein provided, no public or other works shall be constructed or carried on within the limits of the area aforesaid, or within the county of New York, that shall interfere with the exercise of the powers and duties conferred by this act without the consent of the Commissioners, until their said powers and duties shall have been discharged. Further, it was declared that in reference to any street, avenue or road now laid out or established, or which may be hereafter laid out or established under the provisions of this act, which shall cross the line, road or track of any railroad now or hereafter to be constructed, or now authorized by law to be constructed, the railroad company owning the same shall change or modify the grade of their railroad as may be directed by the Commissioners of this department, and in such manner that it shall pass above or under the grade of such street, avenue or road, and at such distance from the same as will permit of engines or cars moving upon said railroad to pass securely above or under said street, avenue or road, and as not to interfere with, impair or endanger at any time the free and lawful use thereof. Further, that whenever any railroad shall be so adapted or constructed as to pass above any such street, avenue or road, it may construct and maintain, under the direction of the Commissioners of this department, a safe and convenient bridge for such road, and such bridge shall be so constructed as to screne all engines and cars when passing over it from view from the street, avenue or road, and the railroad company is authorized to make and maintain such changes in the grades of their road adjacent to the crossings of streets, avenues and roads as aforesaid, as may be necessary for the convenient use of the road and as the Board of Commissioners may authorize and direct. Provision was also made for acquiring title to lands in Westchester county, and also for lands within the county of New York, for the purpose of the improvements authorized by this act. Finally, the Board of Commissioners of this department were authorized to ordain and establish such rules, ordinances and regulations respecting the fencing and covering of any part of the tracks of any railway in the county of Westchester for any distance which said Board shall consider expedient or proper, on each side of the central bridge crossing Harlem river in the county of Westchester, and also at such other point or place, or points or places, in any road or avenue hereafter to be established in such county of Westchester, crossed by any railway by its rail tracks, as shall be considered by said Board expedient for the protection and safety of travel on such road or avenue; such ordinances, rules and regulations prescribing, declaring and ordaining penalties for any violation thereof, and for not conforming thereto or therewith, shall be enforced by all courts against any person or railway company or corporation offending or violating the same, or for not acting in conformity therewith; actions for the enforcement or violation of such rules or ordinances to be brought in the name of the people of the State of New York, by and under the direction of this department. All moneys received from the same over and above the costs and expenses thereof are by the act directed to be received by the department and paid over by it for the benefit of the poor of the town wherein the violation or offence sued for may have occurred.

From this statement of the various acts of legislation relating to this department and to the late Board of Central Park Commissioners, which by law are made applicable to us, it will be seen that the powers, duties and jurisdiction of the Department of Public Parks in the city of New York are varied, extensive and exceedingly important, not only to the interests of the people as property owners, but to the welfare of all classes who now or may hereafter reside within the district committed to the care of the Commissioners having the control of the department. Not only do their powers, duties and jurisdiction extend over all the city parks and public squares, over the streets, boulevards and avenues above Fifty-ninth street, upon the island of New York; to the improvement of the Harlem river, Spuyten Duyvil creek, and to the laying out of the wharves on each side thereof, but also to a large portion of the county of Westchester, which, in all probability, will at a future day form and become part of the corporation of the city of New York.

THE CITY'S CHARITIES.

ELEVENTH ANNUAL REPORT OF THE Commissioners of Public Charities and Correction, FOR THE YEAR 1870.

DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC CHARITIES AND CORRECTION, Corner of Third avenue and Eleventh street, NEW YORK, May 1, 1871.

HON. A. OAKEY HALL, Mayor:—

SIR—I have the honor to transmit herewith, in conformity with section 31, article 4, of the act of May 5, 1870, entitled "An act to reorganize the local government of the city of New York," the annual report of this department. With great respect, your obedient servant,

ISAAC BELL, President.

BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS OF PUBLIC CHARITIES AND CORRECTION.

Commissioners.

ISAAC BELL, O. W. BRENNAN, JAMES BOWEN, JAMES B. NICHOLSON, ALEXANDER FREAR.

Office of the Board of Commissioners of Public Charities and Correction, No. 66 Third avenue, northwest corner of Eleventh street.

Eleventh Annual Report of the Commissioners of Public Charities and Correction for the Year 1870.

DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC CHARITIES AND CORRECTION, NEW YORK, May 1, 1871.

To the Hon. A. OAKEY HALL, Mayor of the city of New York:—

The Commissioners of Public Charities and Correction, in conformity with the act of May 5, 1870, entitled "An act to reorganize the local government of the city of New York," respectfully submit their

ANNUAL REPORT.

The number of persons subsisted in the several institutions of the department during the past year was—in the

HOSPITALS.

Reception Hospital	725
Bellevue Hospital	8,753
Charity Hospital	8,459
Smallpox Hospital	1,081
Typhus Fever Hospital	1,271
Relapsing Fever Hospital	1,533
Randall's Island Hospital	810
Lunatic Asylum	1,890
Epileptic Hospital } Paralytic Hospital }	234
Incurable Hospital	192
Patients treated at their homes by the physicians of the department	4,585
Patients treated at Bureau for Relief of Outdoor Sick	16,850
	46,649

ALMSHOUSES AND ASYLUMS.

Almshouses	4,315
Blind Asylum	175
Nurseries	1,488
Infant Asylum	1,176
Soldiers' Home	576
Inebriate Asylum	1,355
Idiot Asylum	161
Persons relieved by Superintendent of Outdoor Poor in money, fuel and other necessaries, 5,541 families.	
Comprising male adults	1,586
Comprising female adults	5,554
Comprising children	15,642
	22,782
	32,052

SCHOOLS.

Nautical School	769
Industrial School	972
	1,741

REFORMATORIES AND PRISONS.

City Prisons	49,423
Workhouse	20,857
Penitentiary	1,569
	71,849

LABOR BUREAU.

Employment provided for	34,894
Number of persons cared for during the year	188,075

As the population of the city shall increase the number of persons committed to the care of this department will probably increase in the same ratio. With the increase of population there will be a corresponding increase of criminals, of the destitute and the sick and insane.

The current expenses incurred for these several classes during the past six years is herewith submitted, together with the tax per capita on the population of the city of New York.

	1865.	1866.	1867.
For relief of outdoor poor	$74,147	$56,454	$39,246
For hospitals, asylums and nurseries	695,926	649,502	642,699
For prisons, reformatories, &c.	147,890	161,354	198,050
Total	$918,965	$867,310	$879,995

	1868.	1869.	1870.
For relief of outdoor poor	$75,751	$92,426	$77,036
For hospitals, asylums and nurseries	691,810	663,817	826,575
For prisons, reformatories, &c.	181,329	217,199	292,747
Total	$948,890	$973,452	$1,206,358

The constant population of the following classes have been:—

	1865.	1866.	1867.
Hospitals, asylums and nurseries	5,048	5,202	5,034
Prisons, reformatories, &c.	1,584	1,576	1,519
Total	6,632	6,778	6,613

	1868.	1869.	1870.
Hospitals, asylums and nurseries	5,278	5,870	6,858
Prisons, reformatories	1,347	1,671	1,982
Total	6,625	7,541	8,840

And the numbers of persons relieved by Superintendent of Outdoor Poor have been:—

1865.	1866.	1867.	1868.	1869.	1870.
22,034	19,977	17,390	24,938	23,262	22,782

The tax, per capita, on the population of the city for the support of this department has been:—

Estimated Population.	For What Purpose.	1865. Cts.	1866. Cts.	1867. Cts.	1868. Cts.	1869. Cts.	1870. Cts.
1865....760,000							
1866....790,000	For relief of outdoor poor	10	7.15	4.9	8.8	10	8.2
1867....820,000	For support of hospitals.	87	82.17	78.2	80.4	72	87
1868....860,000	For support of prisons and reformatories.	19	20.04	24.14	21.9	23.2	30
1869....920,000							
1870....960,000							

HOSPITALS.

There are five general hospitals for surgical and medical cases, besides the bureau for the treatment of the out-door sick, and six special hospitals for specific and contagious diseases.

The general hospitals are:—
Reception Hospital, city.
Bellevue Hospital, city.
Charity Hospital, Blackwell's Island.
Incurable Hospital, Blackwell's Island.
Juvenile Hospital, Randall's Island.

The special hospitals are:—
Smallpox Hospital, Blackwell's Island.
Typhus Fever Hospital, Blackwell's Island.
Scarlet Fever Hospital, Blackwell's Island.
Epileptic Hospital, Blackwell's Island.
Paralytic Hospital, Blackwell's Island.
Relapsing Fever Hospital.

There are also portions of Charity Hospital assigned exclusively for the treatment of diseases of the eye and for syphilitic patients.

The capacity of the general hospitals is for 2,480 beds, and of the special hospitals for 713 beds.

The number of patients treated during the past year in the general hospitals was 18,919

Discharged	15,172
Died	1,904
	17,076
Remaining on 1st January, 1871	1,843
The number of patients treated in the special hospitals was	4,485
Of whom were discharged	3,419
Died	309
	4,328
Remaining 1st January, 1871	177
The aggregate number treated in all the hospitals was	23,324
Discharged	19,091
Died	2,213
	21,304
Remaining 1st January, 1871	2,020

At the Morgue, or receptacle for the unknown dead, there have been received during the past year 174 persons, of whom eighty-nine were identified by their friends.

The reports of the medical officers and wardens of the several hospitals, which are herewith submitted, contain detailed statements of the character of the diseases treated, and the percentage of cures and of deaths.

A new and uniform nomenclature of diseases has been adopted in the hospitals of the department. Tables in accordance therewith are in course of preparation, which will set forth the diseases of the patients, the meteorological character of the days on which they were received, the volume of atmospheric air to each bed, the age, sex, nativity, civil condition of each patient, the time of sojourn in hospital, and if cured, improved or unimproved, and, in case of death, whether by the disease noted or from complications or intercurrent diseases. The surgical tables will contain full reports of surgical operations and the results, and the obstetrical tables special statistics in relation to lying-in women and children. It is believed that the tables will be a valuable contribution to medical science, as well as of great utility in determining the prevalent characters of disease in the various localities of the city.

The ambulance system, established in 1869, has been found of inestimable value as a means of saving life and reducing suffering. Six ambulances have been provided, and, under the rules established, they stand harnessed, day and night, ready to be attached, for the conveyance of persons wounded or taken ill in the public streets. The ambulances are equipped with surgical instruments, bandages, restoratives, &c.; and on notice by telegraph from a police station of the occurrence of a casualty, an ambulance is despatched, in charge of a surgeon, who applies such remedies as may be required, and determines, from the condition of the patient, whether he may be safely removed to his home or to Bellevue or the Reception Hospital. During the past year there have been 1,401 patients thus removed, of which 1,066 were received from the several police precinct stations, 297 transferred from the Reception Hospital to Bellevue Hospital and 38 from private residences. By the demolition of the New York Hospital the city was deprived of hospital accommodation below Twenty-sixth street. The area south of that street comprises six square miles, and contains a resident population of 300,000 persons; but throughout the business hours of the day it may safely be assumed the population gathered from all parts of the city and the adjacent country is at least threefold, or nearly 1,000,000, besides containing three-fourths of the shipping of the port. In that crowded and busy portion of the city the larger number of casualities occur. To atone for the great public loss by the destruction of the New York Hospital the Legislature of 1869 directed the Commissioners to provide a reception hospital at some point south of Grand street, but because of an error in the language of the act the law was inoperative. The Legislature at its last session corrected the error, and the Commissioners endeavored, though unsuccessfully, to find a suitable site, till the Commissioners of the Public Parks generously assigned them the temporary use of a building in City Hall Park. The urgent need of reception hospitals has been demonstrated during the past summer. Since the 27th June last to the 1st January there have been received at the Reception Hospital in the Park 7,25 patients who had been wounded or taken seriously ill in the streets. Of this number, according to the testimony of the physician in charge, 72 patients would have died in the ambulance had the attempt been made to convey them to Bellevue Hospital or to their homes.

The following statement shows the wards in which the casualties occurred:—

	Cases.		Cases.
First ward	57	Thirteenth ward	24
Second ward	18	Fourteenth ward	44
Third ward	14	Fifteenth ward	34
Fourth ward	79	Sixteenth ward	50
Fifth ward	26	Seventeenth ward	53
Sixth ward	44	Eighteenth ward	18
Seventh ward	54	Nineteenth ward	54
Eighth ward	43	Twentieth ward	78
Ninth ward	46	Twenty-first ward	100
Tenth ward	46	Twenty-second ward	73
Eleventh ward	36		
Twelfth ward	63	Total	1,066

In addition to the Park Hospital the Commissioners propose to provide a small building as a reception hospital for casualties occurring in the Twelfth, Nineteenth and Twenty-second wards.

To complete the system of hospital charities there are required an asylum for lying-in women and a hospital for the treatment of syphilitic diseases. A portion of Bellevue Hospital is now assigned to lying-in women, but the accommodations are inadequate for this class of patients, and it is improper that they should be lodged in a building already crowded to excess with every form of disease. The syphilitic patients are received at Charity Hospital. During the past year there have been there treated 1,151 patients. They are a reproach to the hospital and impair its usefulness, for reputable patients are reluctant and sometimes refuse to be treated in a hospital so largely occupied by persons whose diseases are the fruits of licentiousness. The conspicuous situation of Charity Hospital is a further objection to their reception. They should be assigned to a building erected in the interior of one of the islands of the department, and secluded from public observation.

The plan which was adopted last year of dividing the city into eleven medical districts, and the appointment in each of a resident physician to visit and prescribe for the sick poor of his district, has been satisfactory in its results. Large numbers of the sick, who from their avocations cannot visit the dispensaries at the hours prescribed without the loss of a day's employment, and of those too ill to rise from their beds and too poor to employ a physician, have now the benefit of medical attention. A message sent to the district physician insures his attendance, and continued attendance. The benefits derived from the system are found to be manifold. The hospitals are greatly relieved, the sick are more tenderly nursed by their relatives and friends than by the paid nurses of the department, and families which would, in many instances, be broken up by the removal of their heads to the hospitals are kept together. Many, alas, are the honest and commendable pride, prompting to bear their afflictions rather than confess their poverty by crowding the doors of the public dispensaries, gladly and gratefully avail themselves of the services of the district physicians. The reports of the several physicians are herewith submitted. The following table shows their aggregate service for the year:—

Number of patients	4,585
Number of visits to patients	7,063
Number of office consultations	3,725
Number cured	3,305
Number relieved	725
Number died	132
Number sent to hospital	134
Number under treatment	638
Number of accouchements	69
Number kept from hospital	1,071
Number of days' treatment of patients kept from hospitals	38,102

ALMSHOUSES AND ASYLUMS.

To guard against the increase of pauperism the doors of the almshouses are closed to all but the old and decrepit. The able-bodied who apply for maintenance are either assigned to the Workhouse, where they are required to labor, or they are granted temporary aid by the Superintendent of Out Door Poor, after a careful scrutiny into their condition by the officers attached to his bureau.

The number of inmates in the almshouses on—
January 1, 1860, was 1,335, or one in 425 of the population of the city.
January 1, 1869, was 1,651, or one in 432 of the population of the city.
January 1, 1870, was 1,114, or one in 808 of the population of the city.

The Legislature, at its last session, appropriated $25,000 for the relief of such of the indigent blind as had resided in the city for three years. There were 514 applicants within the conditions prescribed, and the sum appropriated has been disposed as follows:—

To 15 having five minor children, $80 each	$1,040
To 43 having three minor children, $70 each	3,010
To 88 having one or less than three, $60 each	5,280
To 372 having no children, $40 each	14,920
Total	$24,250

Besides the foregoing, there are on Blackwell's Island ninety-four blind persons. Though domiciled in the almshouses they have separate wards, a more generous diet and better clothing than other inmates, and are provided with attendants and nurses.

The Nurseries on Randall's Island are for children over four years of age abandoned by their parents or taken up by the police, and for those whose parents cannot from their avocations maintain them at home. They are educated in the schools established on the island by the Board of Education, and at suitable ages are apprenticed to useful trades.

Prior to 1858 it was the practice to send infants to the Almshouse and place them in charge of the female inmates of that institution. In 1858 the Commissioners erected a hospital on Randall's Island exclusively for infants, and appointed in charge a skilful physician, a matron and paid nurses. Since the change the mortality has steadily diminished, until now, under the judicious administration of Dr. Dunster, the resident physician, it is reduced to nearly the average rate of infant mortality in the city.

In the statistics of the hospital the infants are classified as—

Foundlings and orphans.
Mothers' infants, or infants nursed by their mothers.

The mortality of foundlings in—
1868 was 76.71 per cent.
1869 was 70.34 per cent.
1870 was 58.08 per cent.

And of mothers' infants in—
1868 was 20.57 per cent.
1869 was 20.61 per cent.
1870 was 15.03 per cent.

Dr. Dunster is of opinion that the annual mortality will be still further reduced by the full development of the plans of the Commissioners.

The condition of many of the volunteer soldiers who served in maintaining the Union during the late rebellion is deplorable. Large numbers of them are unable to work because of disease contracted by exposure in the field, and are without pensions, while others who receive pensions for lost arms and legs have families dependent on them. The general government has established hospitals in Maine and Ohio, but if the soldier shall himself of the relief they afford he is deprived of his pension and separated from his family for whom the pension may be the sole means of support. Many of the soldiers sought refuge in the almshouses and hospitals of the department as sick and destitute citizens of New York, and the Commissioners have assigned to them the east wing of the Inebriate Asylum until further provision shall be made for them by the State or general government. There have been received at the Soldiers' Retreat during the year 511 soldiers, and there were there on 1st January 251.

There have been received at the Inebriate Asylum during the year 165 paying patients, of whom thirty were females. There have also been transferred to it from the Workhouse 1,105 persons who had been committed for drunkenness.

At the Idiot Asylum, on Randall's Island, there were on 1st of January 141 patients, being an increase of twenty-five over the number on 1st of January of the previous year. The asylum is greatly overcrowded, and it will be necessary to erect an additional building for the increasing numbers. The school attached to the asylum has been eminently successful, there are in attendance 109 pupils, all of whom have made perceptible progress in their studies. The report of Miss Dunphy, the principal of the school, encourages the belief that many of the children will be enabled to earn their livelihood.

The new Lunatic Asylum on Ward's Island will be completed and ready for occupancy in July next. It will contain 500 patients, but notwithstanding the enlarged provision which has been made, the accommodation will still be inadequate for this class of patients. The capacity of the asylum on Blackwell's Island is for 576 patients. The number committed to the care of the Commissioners was on—

January 1, 1869	1,035
January 1, 1870	1,181
January 1, 1871	1,305

The ascertained proportion of lunatics to population in England and France is as 1 to 400, and though the percentage of poor insane to the population may be less than in Europe, the difference is probably more than counterbalanced by the practice of surreptitiously bringing to the city the insane from adjacent States and abandoning them in the streets to be taken up by the police. It requires the unremitting attention of the officers of the department to ascertain the residences of the foreign insane and return them whence they were brought, or the asylums would be filled with patients who have no claim on the public charities of the city.

A nautical school was established by the Legislature at the session of 1868. The ship Mercury, of 1,200 tons burden, was purchased and the school established in the autumn of that year. There have been received on board 836 boys to the 1st of January, and discharged 555, of whom many have shipped as sailors in the United States Navy and on ships in the merchant service on long voyages. The Mercury returned on the 20th inst., from a practice cruise of four months, with 258 boys. The commanding officer reports that nearly the whole number have acquired the skill to rank as ordinary seamen. A large number of boys are now at the Industrial School at Hart's Island waiting the discharge of the present crew to be received on board.

There have been received at the Industrial School on Hart's Island, since the 1st of January, 572 boys between the ages of ten and seventeen years, and there are now there engaged in pursuing their studies or employed in light labor, 121 boys.

The Commissioners again call public attention to the inadequate and defective provision for the custody of prisoners at the Tombs, or First District Prison. The necessity of a larger and more commodious prison for the confinement of persons charged with or convicted of grave crimes has repeatedly been laid before the Legislature and the authorities of the city. The prison has been condemned by the courts by grand juries as unsafe for the custody and injurious to the health of prisoners. The capacity of the prison is for the proper care of 120 prisoners, but at one period during the past year there were confined in it 300 persons, many of whom were held for trial or convicted of murder and other capital offences. The Commissioners again respectfully urge that a prison of sufficient capacity for the safe confinement of persons may be erected in a more central and beautiful portion of the city.

The Workhouse, for the custody of vagrant and disorderly persons, well fulfils the purpose for which it was erected. There were committed during the year 20,857 persons, of whom there were remaining on 1st of January 1,416.

In the annual report for 1869 the Commissioners referred to the large number of persons committed for simple acts of intoxication unaccompanied by disorderly conduct or breach of the peace. The law imposes a penalty of $10 upon every person found intoxicated in the public streets, and in default of payment they are committed to the Workhouse for ten days. Many of the persons so committed are strangers in the city, and others not habitually intemperate. It was submitted in that report whether it be just to punish by imprisonment occasional or accidental intoxication, and the Commissioners stated that the cases which had come under their observation led them to believe that while the severity of the law does not diminish the frequency of intoxication, it is the cause of suffering wholly incommensurate with the offence, involving the loss of character, and oftentimes the means of support. It was suggested that the removal of any person found intoxicated in the streets to the police station house, and there detained till sober, would be sufficient punishment for the offence. On the other hand, the punishment for habitual drunkenness is wholly inadequate. A large portion of the inmates of the Work House are common drunkards. They are sent up by the magistrates clothed in rags, covered with vermin and broken down in health by their debauchery. They must be clothed at the expense of the city, and by the time they are discharged from the hands of the physician and capable of the exertion of imprisonment is ended and they are released, to be in a few days sent back, their clothing destroyed, again to be reclothed and assigned to the hospital. It would be difficult to devise a more expensive or ineffectual means of reformation than is by law established.

PENITENTIARY.

In their last annual report the Commissioners recommended the removal of the Penitentiary to Hart's Island. The time will soon arrive when it will be necessary to provide additional room for the increasing number of prisoners. Though two-thirds of the prison are for males, it has been necessary to assign male prisoners to the limited area of the female prison. The close proximity of the Penitentiary to the city, and the large numbers of visitors daily to the hospitals and asylums on the island, render it difficult to prevent communication with the prisoners when at work. The quarries of the island will soon be exhausted and the means of employment and of discipline will then be seriously diminished. Hart's Island is in every respect a more eligible site. It is a mile from the main shore and sixteen miles from the city, healthy, and, with the exception of the Industrial School, at the extremity of the island, unoccupied. The expense of removing the structure from Blackwell's Island would be inconsiderable, for it could be done by the labor of the prisoners.

OUT-DOOR RELIEF.

The extent of pauperism is largely contingent upon the administration of out-door relief, or the assistance to the destitute poor, or indiscriminate pauperism will increase, and in the precise ratio in which such assistance may be granted, so that the lavish expenditure of the public money for the support of the poor would soon result in a pauper population for the city as large as that of Naples. But while guarding against the evils of pauperism care must be taken that none shall perish from cold or starvation. To this end the city is subdivided into twelve districts, and a resident visitor appointed to each, whose duty is to personally examine into the condition of every applicant for relief resident in his district, and to report in writing to the Superintendent of Out-door Poor the cause of destitution, the number in family, the amount and kind of relief required, and the time it should be afforded; but in no instance is relief granted beyond ninety days without re-examination. The beneficial effects of a systematic examination into the condition of every applicant for aid has been clearly established. Prior to the organization of a Board of Visitors the number relieved by the Superintendent of Out-door Poor and through the almshouses were, in respect to the population, greatly in excess of the number relieved since the Board was established. Under the mode which has been superseded the Superintendent was compelled, from the necessity of the case, to assume that the applicant was in want, and the only instances which he could refuse were those of which he had personal knowledge.

The number who were receiving out-door relief on

1st February, 1870, were—male adults	1,517
Female	4,416
Children	12,409
Total number of persons	18,433
1st May, 1870, male adults	19
Female adults	55
Children	124
Total number of persons	208
1st August, 1870, male adults	174
Female	466
Children	1,419
Total number of persons	2,063
1st November, 1870, male adults	268
Female	815
Children	2,357
Total number of persons	3,440

LABOR BUREAU.

The Labor Bureau and Intelligence Office, established by authority of the Legislature in 1866, to correct the petty frauds on persons seeking employment at intelligence offices, has been eminently successful.

The number of applicants for the employment of labor during the year was 42,046
The number seeking employment was 40,205
Males 8,822
Females 31,373
The number for whom employment was obtained was 34,894
Males 4,386
Females 29,848

The report of the Superintendent, herewith annexed, shows in detail the nature of the various kinds of labor sought and obtained

HOUSELESS POOR.

There is an urgent need for the establishment of one or more houses of shelter for the houseless poor. The police stations receive nightly respectable poor, ejected at nightfall from their homes from inability to pay their rent, and strangers arriving in the city without means to procure lodgings. They are thrust in among persons arrested for intoxication and disorderly conduct and vagrants. If they apply to this department they are sent to the hospitals or the prisons for the night, but the accommodations are wholly inadequate, and the Commissioners have not the legal ability without the action of the Common Council to provide such as are required. It is respectfully recommended that provision be made for their better accommodation.

ISAAC BELL, JAMES BOWEN, OWEN W. BRENNAN, JAMES B. NICHOLSON, ALEX. FREAR, } Commissioners.

Board of Commissioners of Public Charities and Correction.

BALANCE SHEET, 31ST DECEMBER, 1870.

Cash		$34,948 79
Comptroller		1,097,362 59
Almshouse	$39,104 78	
Bakery		3,640 80
Bellevue Hospital	125,200 11	
Charity Hospital	135,216 54	
Ward's Island Farm	4,077 87	
City Prisons	55,247 39	
Epileptic and Paralytic Hospitals	12,741 37	
Island Improvement	28,479 94	
Lunatic Asylum	148,021 04	
Infant Hospital	56,358 52	
Indigent Blind	7,780 26	
Colored Home	18,239 20	
Garden Bureau		3,957 78
Colored Orphan Asylum	6,570 00	
Incurable Hospital	11,905 72	
Office	72,472 26	
Outdoor Poor	125,247 35	
Penitentiary	50,244 17	
Randall's Island Nursery	48,064 03	
Randall's Island Hospital	39,575 66	
Smallpox Hospital		3,260 45
Workhouse	30,158 89	
Steamer Bellevue	2,582 80	
Steamer Bellevue, repairs	20,140 31	
Steamer Hope	3,247 98	
Stables	94 17	
Storehouse expenses	6,641 84	
Storehouse, Blackwell's Island		8,571 63
Hospital, outdoor poor	8,410 56	
Inebriate Asylum	13,630 29	
Print ng Office	1,761 61	
General Drug Department		3,013 14
Infant Hospital Building	502 00	
Labor Bureau	22,985 35	
Morgue	187 96	
Steamer Minnahanonck	12,118 62	
Steamer Minnahanonck, repairs	2,961 69	
Appropriation for blind		22,288 05
Industrial School	21,110 29	
Ambulance Department	4,982 72	
New Lunatic Asylum building		60,010 13
Schoolship Mercury	67,414 27	
Schoolship Mercury, repairs	16,337 07	
Schoolship Mercury, wreck	15,828 48	
Schoolship Mercury, cruise	4,989 64	
Permanent improvement	32,678 05	
Soldiers' Retreat	15,467 64	
Steamer Bellevue, repairs	20,140 51	
Printing office	1,761 61	
Infant Hospital building	502 00	
Steamer Minnahanonck—repairs	2,961 69	
Appropriation for blind	2,711 94	
Schoolship Mercury—repairs occasioned by accident	$8,838 48	
Schoolship Mercury—cruise	4,989 64	
Gas works and pipes	27,294 07	
Relapsing Fever Hospitals	56,050 99	
Reception Hospital	15,076 17	
Gas house	414 66	
Ferry house	1,065 50	
Steamer Hope—repairs	186 64	
Hart's Island improvement	90 00	
Photographic Department		39 00
	$1,311,714 04	$1,311,714 04

CASH RECEIPTS AND PAYMENTS.

Of the Commissioners of Public Charities and Correction, from 1st of January to 31st of December, 1870.

To balance due bank 31st of December, 1869		$62,402 64
Comptroller's warrants received	$1,159,765 23	
Comptroller's warrant for new Lunatic Asylum, on account of appropriation, 1869	$50,000 00	
Comptroller's warrant for new Lunatic Asylum, on account of appropriation, 1870	100,000 00	
		$150,000 00
Comptroller's warrant for additional salaries:—		
Central Office	$7,500 00	
City Prison	4,250 00	
Labor Bureau	1,500 00	
		$13,250 00
Comptroller's warrant for appropriation for blind		25,000 00
Comptroller's warrant for Relapsing Fever Hospital		82,600 00
Comptroller's warrant for Reception Hospital		20,000 00
Comptroller's warrant for Gas Works		30,000 00
Comptroller's warrant for Schoolship Mercury		25,000 00
Received for indentures fees	$326 00	
Received for interments	434 00	
Received for sales of groceries	15,764 90	
Received for live stock	1,187 28	
Received for barrels, &c.	5,151 72	
Received for bones, grease, &c.	2,569 01	
Received for sundries—paper, iron, &c., rent of hospitals, students, tickets, passage money, freight, &c.	25,648 23	
Received for board of pay patients	60,261 47	
Received for illegitimates	2,550 50	
Received for Inebriate Asylum fees	10,384 00	
		123,957 22
Balance		54,948 79
		$1,984,521 24
By payment of bills:—		
January		$189,727 21
February		172,256 46