REPORT OF THE

DIRECTORS OF THE POOR

—AND—

HOUSE OF EMPLOYMENT

—OF—

Somerset County, Pa.,

For the Year Ending December 31, 1897.

To the Honorable the Judges of the Court of Quarter Sessions of the Peace and Grand Jury of Somerset County:

In compliance with the sixth section of the Act of Assembly approved the 15th day of April, 1845, providing for "the erection of a House of Employment and support of the Poor of said County," the undersigned Directors herewith respectfully submit and lay before you their report for the year ending December 31, 1897, showing the number and sex of all persons maintained and employed in said House of Employment and supported or assisted elsewhere, as well as the names of those who have died at said House of Employment during the year, and of the children by them indentured, with the names of their masters, their occupations and callings.

We also herewith submit an account of all sales, donations, devises and bequests, and moneys received by or for them.

In addition to the information required by the Act of Assembly, the Board of Directors herewith furnish under suitable headings the names of those who have been assisted elsewhere, and also the children who were maintained in private families under the Act of Assembly, approved June 13, 1883, and those placed with the Children's Aid Society for maintenance and placing in homes, and the amounts paid for their maintenance; also the names of all persons removed to other institutions for medical treatment and teaching.

We also submit an account of the repairs made during the year, condition of the farm, products of the same, materials made and manufactured, improvements made or added, together with such other items as may be of interest to the Court, Grand Jury and public.

All of which is respectfully submitted and certified this 31st day of December, A. D. 1897.

Attest:— William Dull,
L. C. Colborn, Harrison Golin,
[Seal] Clerk. J. W. Peck,
Directors of the Poor and House of Employment of Somerset County.

With the constantly rolling wheel of Time we lay before you our fifty-second annual report, with another year's experience of the best institution of the county, one in which all should be interested.

How well and efficiently we have fulfilled the trust and managed the business affairs of the institution, after a reading of this report, you must judge. The office of Director of the Poor is one of the most responsible of any in the county. As well as being an honorable one, it is an office that requires a wise judgment and brings out the noblest promptings of the heart. It calls on one to decide the difference between giving and charity, between truth and error, and judge of the capacity of one by the surroundings.

It is not always charity to give, or be moved by the tale of woes and stories of wrongs sympathetically related; yet, withal, have a heart that can be "touched by the feeling of another's infirmities," and whose tenderest sympathy is enlisted to all deserving and honest poor. The Directors of the Poor are the dispensers of the county's charity, having both the keys of office and the office.

To us the law commits the care, well-being and happiness of our unfortunate, aged and infirm poor, those whose condition must excite your sympathy on every visit you make to the home, those to whom "pity gave ere charity began." To us is also committed the distribution and use of the funds so generously provided by the laws of the Commonwealth to the greatest advantage of those whose comfort, health and happiness the law makes it our especial duty to provide.

We are aware that it is expected that the Director of the Poor should have "a tear for pity and a hand open as day for meeting charity," and it is also expected that he should keep an eagle eye upon every department of the institution to detect and prevent extravagance and waste. The duties are numerous and onerous, and in the performance of them we have made it a point of honor. We do not claim perfection, nor do we think the Home has reached the standard that the citizens desire it should have, yet we can say without boasting that the Poor Home of Somerset County, and the inmates thereof, are better kept, more comforts with less expense, in proportion to the number of inmates, than any other in the State. This assertion is made upon the authority of the Secretary of the Board of Public Charities.

The public is invited to visit the Home and make such criticisms as will be beneficial to it. The Grand Inquest of the county made two special visitations to the Home during the year, besides a large number of taxpayers, and the encouragement given us and the favorable comments made were greatly appreciated.

During the year no contagious diseases or accidents were visited upon the Home, for which all should be thankful.

THE FARM.—In all the history of the Poor House, never before has the farm produced so abundantly as last year. It is in a fine state of cultivation, and will soon rank among the model farms of the county, the earnings of the farm alone amounting to $2,419.85, with a cost of $442.22 for the entire year.

THE BUILDINGS.—During the year the large frame white house was thoroughly renovated, painted nicely inside and out, and papered throughout. The buildings were never in better repair, or presented a finer appearance.

FURNITURE.—There were thirty-two iron bedsteads placed in the men's department to take the place of the old wooden ones that were worn out long ago, and were simply a disgrace to the House, besides being a rendezvous for vermin and bugs. It is needless to say they are enjoyed by the occupants. We also placed one dozen large rockers and two dozen good substantial chairs for the use of the occupants. These were badly needed, and are a comfort to the old in their feeble condition.

Lightning rods were placed on two of the buildings; whether this was essential or not, you must decide; yet, in our judgment, we deemed it our duty to provide all protection for the safety of our charge, and if there is any virtue in them, we were desirous that the Home should have the benefit of it. We hope in this our action may have your approval.

A telephone was also recently placed in the Home, a necessity that has been long felt. We feel that the saving by it, on account of transporting persons to the Home from the station at Somerset, will repay the cost. A glance at the costs of Constables' bills will convince all of the necessity. And notice is given to all Constables and others bringing inmates to the Home—instead of incurring a bill for a conveyance to the Home, telephone to the Steward of the Home, and he will meet you with the teams of the county and convey them out.

A new wash-stove was also placed in the wash-house, the old one being completely worn out.

INMATES.—There was an average of 76 inmates at the Home during the year, all of whom were well cared for, comfortably clad and housed.

There were nine (9) deaths at the Home, mostly of those who had passed their allotted time, and had been great sufferers for years, and when death came it was a relief.

DIVINE WORSHIP.—Divine worship was held at the Home once each month, and at each funeral, by Rev. J. S. Harkey, up to October 1st, and since then by Rev. Hiram King. These services are, indeed, helpful to many and a great comfort to those who are nearing the Valley of the Shadow of Death. Invitations have been extended to all ministers to hold services at the Home, or spend a short time in visiting, but none have responded. They forget the divine injunction, "Inasmuch as you have done it unto the least of these, my brethren, you have done it unto me."

CHILDREN.—During the year there were more children committed to the care of the Directors of the Poor than in many former years. Under the wise provisions of the Act of Assembly of June 13, 1883, the Directors are prohibited from keeping or maintaining any children at the Home between the ages of two and sixteen years under a penalty of one hundred dollars, except it be a deformed, idiotic or maimed child.

A number of children were placed by the Directors, and the balance placed in the care of the Children's Aid Society, who have acted in harmony with the Directors of the Poor in placing children in good homes. The children, after being placed in good homes, are regularly visited by the Aid Society, insuring good treatment and their comforts provided for. We return our thanks to the Children's Aid Society for their help and aid in the care of the children.

INSANE.—This class of dependents have, and should have, our tenderest sympathy, and in every instance all was done for them that could be done, and in several instances we were rewarded, as they were restored, and are now home with friends.

During the last Legislature an Act of Assembly was passed providing that to all counties that made provisions for the keeping and care of their insane the State would pay $1.50 per week toward their maintenance. Recently we have received a letter from the Committee on Lunacy of the State urging the Directors to take immediate steps toward making arrangements to keep and care for the insane of our county. It is known as the Wisconsin Plan of caring for the insane, and those who have given the subject much thought and consideration say it is greatly to be commended, and is in every respect more satisfactory and better results are obtained than by sending them to the hospitals; besides, it is a saving both to the State and the county. We have thirty inmates at the State Hospitals. We believe with $1.50 in addition to what we are now paying, our insane could be better cared for than at present. We have taken no action in the matter, as it would incur an expense upon the county of about five thousand dollars to provide a place to keep them, but lay the matter before the public for some expression for our future action.

The visits, as required by law, were made to the various hospitals where the insane of the county are kept, and inquiry made as to their care and treatment. In several instances some were removed from one hospital to another, and in others discharged from the hospitals. The Board of Public Charities urges all Directors to visit the hospitals and look carefully after the insane of the county. Much valuable information has been received from these visits and the attendance of the meetings of the Associated Charities of the State.

The thanks of the public are due Mr. William Dull, the retiring Director, for the efficient manner in which he has performed his duties.

We commend the work and superintendency of the Steward and Matron, Mr. and Mrs. William Ream, for their untiring work at the Home, and in the management of the various departments, and in the treatment and care of the inmates. Their services should be appreciated by all who are interested in the Home.

SCHEDULE A.—Males.

Names of inmates who were admitted and maintained at the Poor House during the year ending December 31, 1897, and those who were discharged, eloped, and removed, and the date.

Name, Age, When Admitted Discharged, When and How.

Richard Sanderson 55, Jan'y 16, 1897.
Joseph Saiynsky, 33, Jan'y 28, 1897, discharged 23 Feb'y, 1897.
John Whit-, 47, Jan'y 29, discharged 22 Feb'y, 1897.
Charley Good, 8, Feb'y 3, placed with Elmer Moore, Feb'y 15, 1897.
Charley Gnesenger, 4, Feb'y 6, placed with Children's Aid March 6, 1897.
Jacob Hinkeidle, 25, Feb'y 13, eloped March 13, 1897.
William Hinkeidle, 2, Feb'y 13, eloped March 13, 1897.
James Rooney, 44, Feb'y 22.
James Calling, 58, Feb'y 25.
William Becker, 23, March 1, removed to Dixmont, March 3, 1897.
Harvey Hufmaster, 31, March 13, discharged April 3, 1897.
William Brunderick, 43, April 5, 1897.
Uriah Brook, 29 April 28, 1897, eloped July 24, 1897.
Austin Zimmerman, 17, May 3, 1897, eloped October 14, 1897.
Samuel Errisman, 66, May 17, 1897.
J. C. George, 49, May 20, 1897.
John H. Hoyle, 38, May 28, 1897, removed to Dixmont, June 5, 1897.
William Brooks, 45, June 1, 1897, eloped.
Alex. Sintzman, 75, June 5, 1897.
Robert Good, 11, June 8, 1897, placed with S. Durst by Children's Aid, July 8, 1897.
Conrad Hinkeidle, 77, June 21, 1897, died July 11, 1897.
George Proft, 20, July 12, 1897, discharged August 30, 1897.
Thomas Cook, 56, July 15, 1897, eloped July 19, 1897.
William Johnson, 18, July 24, 1897, discharged Oct. 14, 1897.
Casper Driller, 78, July 28, 1897.
Emanuel Albright, 54, July 29, 1897.
Charles Lawrence, 39, August 4, 1897, eloped August 12, 1897.
Josiah Risheberger, 71, September 3, 1897.
W. W. Dengen, 57, May 10, 1897, removed to Hospital, May 12, 1897.
Perry W. Lowry, 15, June 16, 1897, placed with Children's Aid, June 17, 1897.
James Walker, 65, Sep't 3, 1897, died September 26, 1897.
Edward Durst, 8, April 12, 1897, placed with Children's Aid April 13, 1897.
Samuel Durst, 5, April 12, 1897, placed with Children's Aid April 13, 1897.
William Hessong, 70, October 8, 1897.
George Burrest, 43, October 12, 1897, discharged October 29, 1897.
Charles Hempe, 66, November 5, 1897.
Thomas Smith, 49, November 11, 1897.
Solomon Reber, 76, November 26, 1897.
William Reber, 21, November 26, 1897, eloped December 22, 1897.
James Callihan, 40, December 8, 1897.
John A. H. Brant, 70 December 18, 1897.
John Fisher, 66, Nov. 29, 1875, died June 6, '97.
Frederick Suder, 78, August 14, 1882, died May 17, 1897.
Andrew Kelley, 70, December 1, 1891, died October 12, 1897.
Clarence Staub, 21, May 8, 1894, eloped Feb'y 6, 1897.
Simon Boyer, 32, June 15, 1896, eloped June 15, 1897.
Joseph Nickel, 67, July 3, 1896, eloped April 1, 1897.
Frank Picking, 67, Sep't 9, 1896, died April 8, 1897.
John C. Smith, 60, Sep't 18, 1896, died Feb'y 8, 1897.
Thomas Forsythe, 68, Oct. 30, 1896, eloped March 22, 1897.
Owen Smith 65, Nov. 21, 1896, eloped Feb'y 15, 1897.
John Devine, 65, Dec. 24, 1896, eloped April 19, 1897.
Samuel Spriggs, 24, Nov. 19, 1896, discharged May 1, 1897.
George Sweitzer, 66, Nov. 19, 1896, eloped April 15, 1897.
William Look, 55, April 2, 1895, died March 1, 1897.
Elmer Nickel, 2, July 2, 1896, taken by parents April 27, 1897.
Lloyd Hartman, 1, Nov. 30, 1896, taken by mother July 3, 1897.
Edward Baker, 16, Oct. 9, 1897, sent to Feeble-Mind School Oct. 15, 1897.
Harry Acres, 21, Dec. 24, 1897, sent to Mercy Hospital Dec. 22, 1897.

SCHEDULE A.—Females.

Susan Rice, 52, March 21, 1868, died January 5, 1897.
Annie Frow 38, Nov. 30, 1896, discharged July 5, 1897.
Mary Boyer, 34, June 15, 1896, eloped June 15, 1897.
Sarah Boyer, 3, June 15, 1896, eloped June 15, 1897.
Mary Nickel, 39, July 3, 1896, eloped April 25, 1897.
Sarah Edwards, 61, July 10, 1896, discharged August 9, 1897.
Elizabeth Massey 69, Nov. 23, 1896, eloped July 15, 1897.
Martha Stark, 55, Jan'y 12, 1897, died June 13, 1897.
Mary Peterson, 30, Feb'y 6, 1897.
Catharine Hinkeidle, 20, Feb'y 13, 1897, eloped March 13, 1897.
Elizabeth Thompson, 24, March 9, 1897, discharged March 24, 1897.
Emily Mimmi, 54, March 26, 1897, discharged April 3, 1897.
Maggie Dempsey, 21, May 1, 1897, removed to Hospital, May 3, 1897.
Agnes Ott, 71, April 24, 1897, died May, 14, 1897.
Sarah King, 25, July 20, 1897, discharged October 4, 1897.
Belle Durst, 6, April 12, 1897, placed with Children's Aid April 13, 1897.
Annie Callehan, 38, December 3, 1897.
Hazel Callehan, 3, Dec. 3, 1897.
Number admitted during year—41 males; 11 females; total 55.

SCHEDULE B.—Deaths.

Names, ages, and when deceased of those who died at the Poor House for the year ending December 31, 1897, with the date of admission to the home.

Susan Rice, 52, March 21, 1865, Jan'y 5, 1897.
Frank Picking 67, Sept. 9, 1896, April 8, 1897.
Frederick Suder, 78, Aug. 14, 1882, May 17, '97.
John C. Smith, 60, Sept. 18, 1896, Feb. 8, 1897.
Andy Kelley, 70, Dec. 1, 1891, Oct. 12, 1897.
William Look, 55, April 2, 1895, March 1, 1897.
James Walker, 65, Sept. 3, 1897, Sept. 26, 1897.
Simon Ott, 71, May 1, 1897, May 14, 1897.
Martha Stark, 55, Jan. 12, 1897, June 13, 1897.
Total number of deaths 9, males 6, females 3.

SCEDULE—C.

Children maintained in private families, placed by directors of the poor.

Name, Age, When Admitted, with amount paid.

Henry L. Speicher, 5, August 1, 1894, Susan Yoder $30.00
Bertie Nickle, 4, July 5, 1896, Henry Gumbert 30.00
No. of children placed in hands of Children's Aid Society, 25.
Whole number of children, 27. Males 12; females 15.
Amount paid for maintenance of children, $519.07.

SCHEDULE—D.

Park Zimmerman, aged 12, sent to Reform School, June 6, 1894.
Mary S. Rugg, aged 10, placed in care of Children's Aid Society, and sent to Deaf and Dumb School, September 6, 1894.

SCHEDULE—E.

Children in Feeble-mind Institute at Polk, Pa.

Effie Blanect aged 20, placed in school May 5, 1886.
W. H. Saylor, aged 18, placed in school Oct. 22 1888.
George Fullerton, aged 9, placed in school August 11, 1887.
Edmund Baker, aged 14, placed in school Oct. 13, 1897.
Number at school, 4 males 3; females 1.
Total amount paid for clothing ..... $57.44.

SCHEDULE—F.

Names of patients under treatment in the Western Pennsylvania State Hospital for the Insane at Dixmont, Allegheny county, with their ages, when admitted to the Poor House, and when sent to the hospital, when discharged and how.

William Engle, 24, Nov. 10, '96, Dec. 14, 1896, eloped August 9, 1897.
William Fitzgerald, 41 August 31, '96, Aug. 6, 1896.
Conrad Queer, 29, Nov. 21, '92, March 14, '93.
Irvin Swartzentruber, 26, Dec. 21, '83, July 8, '96, died March 20, 1897.
Samuel Swank, 34, June 17, '91, Aug 6, 1896.
John J. Wilt, 75, December 7, '95, April 16, '96.
Mariah E. Clay, 36, Nov. 23, '96, Dec. 4, '96, died June, 20, 1897.
Elsie M. Critchfield, 18, May 19, '93, Dec 22, '96.
Lillie Hoffman, 16, Dec. 10, '93, Dec. 21, 1896, died July 11, 1897.
Mary Miller, 47, May 16, '93, June 21, 1893.
Emily Tile, 22, Oct. 3, '96, Oct. 16, '96, discharged March 31, 1897.
Sarah Ringler, 53, April 25 '96, October 19, '96.
Mary Saylor, 48, Nov. 9, '93, Jan. 19, '94, died July 18, 1897.
Olive Stull 45, June 5 '95, June 10, 1895.
Anna Shupe, 39, May, 28, '95, May 3, '96, died May 19, 1897.
Caroline Wolf 42, August 13, '88, August 18, '88, died December 2, 1896.
William Becker, 24, March 3, '97, discharged June 23, 1897.
W. W. Davis, 37, May 11, '97, died May, 29, 1897.
Maggie J. Demsey, 25, May 5, 1897.

The above were paid by the Directors of the Poor.

The following were sent to the Hospital by the Directors of the Poor, by order of the Court, and paid by the County Commissioners:—

John Fritz, 60, Sept. 15, 1893, Aug. 6, 1896.
Henry Heisbaugh, August 2, 1895.
David Lohr, Dec. 8, 1892.
Samuel Poleman, 45, Jan. 18, 1892, April 25, '92.
Ed. R. Stuffi, May, 30, 1893.
Irvin Stuffi, 31, Mar. 22, 1888, March 27, 1888.
Jacob Spoory, July 6, 1896, discharged April 19, 1896.
Bridget Grasser, 42, Nov. 11, 1895, Jan. 14, 1896.

Inmates at the Hospital at Wernersville:

George Leydig, age 55, removed to hospital August 7, 1896.
Albert Sorber, age 36, removed to hospital, August 7, 1896.

At State Hospital at Harrisburg.

Frank Fleischaure, aged 27, sent to hospital in 1885.
Total number in hospitals, 30; males 18; females 12.
Am't paid by the Directors of the Poor $1,331.08
Am't paid by the County Commissioners 871.09
Total amount paid $2,202.17

Schedule G.—Children Indentured.

Name, age, with whom indentured, when free.	
William Summey, 16, S. L. Korns March 1, '98.	
John Cramer, 15, Hermon Zerfoss March 9, 1900.	
Daniel Boyer, 17, Joseph Altfather, Apl. 14, '99.	
Fred. Galling, 17, Jos. B. Miller, Aug. 11, 1900.	
Thomas Jamison, 17, Balaam Younkin, April 27, 1898.	
Charles Dallas, 17, J. R. Swindell, Nov. 1, 1898.	
J. K. McClintock 14, D. A. Musser, June 3, 1901.	
William H. Rhonds, 12, J. Gallentine, June 13, 1901.	
John E. Nicklow, 13, F. N. Simpson, January 1, 1898.	
Joseph Baldwin, 15, H. Hershberger, March 19, 1901.	
Norman Baldwin, 12, J. H. Morrison, January 16, 1905.	
George Miller, 13, H. C. Hubbard, Mar. 20, 1902.	
Richard Baldwin, 11, George Hay, Mar. 19, 1905.	
A. McClintic, 11, M. L. Bowman, July 29, 1904.	
Isabel Harrison, 13, J. O. Kimmell, Aug. 9, 1901	
Cora Kline, 16, W. H. Vann, April 2, 1899.	
Lillian V. Dallas, 13, C. Cober, March 5, 1900.	
Lydia Ringler, 10, C. M. Gnagey, Aug. 4, 1905.	
Araminta Hummel, 14, F. G. Hoover, June 1, 1901.	
Ella Masters, 14, J. S. Bowser, Sept. 22, 1901.	
Maggie McClintock, 12, C. J. Miller, Mar. 17, 1903.	
Matilda Miller, 13, Peter Beard, June 3, 1905.	
George Bailey, 7, John C. Miller, Aug. 9, 1907.	
Eliza Boyer, 13, H. W. Saylor, March 2, 1902.	
Lulu S. Kelley, 7, P. W. Trimpey, Aug. 2, 1907.	
Jacob Keyser, 17, J. M. Glessner, June 3, 1899.	
Albert Devault, 8, Martha Griffith, February 16, 1906.	
Elsie Nickle, 12, J. and Amanda Baker, September 3, 1903.	
George Hoover, 18, G. B. Dull, April 15, 1898.	
James McClintock, 15, D. A. Musser, June 3, 1901.	
Bertha Nickle, 4, J. H. Gumbert, —— 1911.	
Ella Brown, 6, S. J. Weimer, August 29, 1910.	
Irvin Nickle, 14, Rev. Wolfe, September 1, 1908.	
Estella Hempe, 14, Jacob Vought, May 14, 1904.	

The following named children became free during the year 1897:

Charles Scott, February 10 1897, Eliza Duffy, October 1, 1897, Ira Gallagher, March 1, 1897, Robert Dallas, October 1, 1897.

Whole number indentured, 38, males, 22 females, 16.

Charles Good was placed with Elmer Moore, but not indentured; Percy Lowry was placed with H. G. Will, but not indentured.

SCHEDULE.—H.

Account of moneys received by the Directors of the Poor for the year ending December 31, 1897, on account of sales, donations, and maintenance of inmates 1897.

Jan. 4,	William Engle on maint.	$ 7.00
Feb 1,	Levi S. Koontz, comm. of J. J. Wilt,	14.00
" "	Jacob Swartzentruber, Maint of son.	20.00
" "	Wilson Trent, sale of hides,	2.30
" "	Samuel Arisman's Comm. on maint.	10.00
Mar "	M. M. & U. M. Saylor, on maint. of sister.	91.00
" "	N. B. Cramer, on Agt. of Ira Gallagher,	40.00
April "	Wilson Trent, sale of hides.	7.91
" "	J. S. Harkey, maint of John Smith	10.00
May "	Peter S. Hay, maint of Patton boys.	233.57
" "	C. Barkley estate, maint of daughter.	80.00
" "	Wilson Trent, sale of calves.	10.00
" "	J. F. Moyer, maint.	75.00
June "	Wilson Trent, sale of calves.	12.00
" "	Alex Coleman, est. of I. Swartzentruber,	12.75
July "	Wilson Trent, sale of calves	5.50
" "	William Shaffer, sale of ice.	.10
Aug "	Samuel Arisman, comm. on costs.	12.65
Sept "	Wilson Trent, sale of calf,	5.00
" "	Philip Will, sale of wheat.	5.00
" "	William Pritts, sale of wheat.	10.00
" "	Levi Walker, sale of wheat.	10.00
" "	William Rhonds, sale of wheat	10.00
Sept. 1	Charles Frank, sale of wheat.	15.00
" "	Manasses Rhonds, sale of wheat	5.00
Oct. "	C. W. Knepper, on Agt. Robert Dallas,	40.00
" "	Russel Martz, sale of Boyer property.	5.40
" "	Jona. Barkley, sale of sheep.	38.00
" "	Wilson Trent, sale of calf.	6.00
Nov. "	Josiah Risheberger, maint.	5.00
" "	Wilson Trent, sale of calf.	5.00
" "	Samuel Arisman's comm. on costs,	9.27
" "	Casper Driller, on maint.	12.00
Dec. "	Wilson Trent, sale of hides and calf.	18.81
" "	Levi Koontz, comm. of J. J. Wilt, maint.	91.00
" 30	Joseph L. Miller, on maint. of daughter	31.00
" "	N. E. Yoder, on maint. of S. Ringer,	91.00
" "	Wilson Trent, sale of hides.	10.85
" "	Harvey Schrock, labor of hand.	1.00
" "	Josiah Risheberger, on maint	15.00
" "	Annie Shupe's comm, on maintenance,	40.25
	Total	$ 1,185.91

SCHEDULE I.—Steward's Report.

LIVE STOCK.—5 horses, 17 cows, 5 two-year old and 5 one-year old cattle, 8 sucking calves, 1 bull, 12 sheep, 225 chickens, 19 pigs.

Implements on the farm—Same as last year, with the addition of one mower.

PRODUCE ON THE FARM.—81 tons hay; 30 tons corn fodder; 25 tons straw; 1000 bushels corn; 480 bushels wheat; 1116 bushels oats; 140 bushels buckwheat; 20 bushels beans; 30 bushels peas; 49 bushels peas; 1800 heads cabbage; 1468 pounds pork killed; 2521 pounds beef killed; 50 pounds wool; 1300 pounds butter, 300 pounds tallow; 300 pounds lard; 1½ barrels dried corn; 10 bushels onions; 25 bushels turnips; 12 bushels carrots; 10 bushels parsnips; 1½ bushels onion sets; 4 barrels cucumber pickles; 25 barrels soft soap; 1 barrel dried elderberries; 140 cans canned fruit; 1 barrel dried apples; 900 bushels potatoes.

ARTICLES MANUFACTURED.—For women: 42 dresses; 10 drawers; 23 skirts; 75 aprons; 33 chemises; 8 bonnets; 21 gowns; 26 sauces; 35 stockings; 24 stockings footed. For men: 69 socks; 16 socks footed; 64 shirts; 47 handkerchiefs; 56 mittens. For children: 20 chemises; 42 dresses; 14 waists; 14 pants; 13 shirts. Miscellaneous: 2 shrouds; 159 pillow-cases; 52 bolster cases; 35 towels; 30 long towels; 46 sheets; 36 dish cloths; 5 bed comforts; 5 bed ticks.

I do hereby certify that the above is a correct statement of the stock and improvements on the farm, produce raised, and articles manufactured at the Poor House, for the year ending December 31, 1897. WILLIAM REAM, Steward.

SUMMARY.

	M	F	T
In home December 31, 1896	49	27	76
Received during the year	44	11	55
Totals	93	38	131
Died during the year	6	3	9
Removed to hospital	3	1	4
Children placed in care of C. A. S.	4	3	7
Children indentured	2	2	4
Children sent to Feeble-mind school	2	0	2
Discharged, got well, or eloped	27	6	33
Totals	44	15	57
Number in home December 31, 1897	49	25	74
Children in private families	2	2	4
" indentured	24	16	40
" in care of C. A. S.	11	14	25
" in reform school	1	0	1
" in feeble-mind school	3	1	4
Persons in hospital at Dixmont	15	12	27
Persons in hospital at Wernersville	2	0	2
Persons in hospital at Harrisburg	1	0	1
Total persons in care of directors of poor	108	70	178

MONEYS PAID.

Out-door relief	$ 62.86
Maint. of children under act of 1883	519.07
Treatment of patients in State Hospitals	1,331.08
Clothing for children in Feeble-mind school, and deaf and dumb school	65.10
Coffins for out-door paupers	151.80
Medical attendance to out-door paupers	301.25
R. R. fare for out-door paupers and conveying to the hospitals	132.86
Telegrams, Justice fees, and visitors traveling expenses	68.28
Directors' traveling expenses on official business	31.25
Permanent improvements	483.85
Total out-door expenses, improvements	$ 3,148.39
Total expenses of maintaining inmates at the home, farm expenses, ordinary repairs, extraordinary xpenses, salaries and wages	5,905.82
Total receipts at home during the year	1,185.91
Cost to county maintaining poor house proper for '97	$4,719.91
Number of days given support to inmates during year ending Dec. 31, '97	25,841
Average weekly cost per capita	$1.33

CLASSIFICATION OF INMATES.

	Males.	Females.	Total.
Sane	29	9	38
Insane	14	8	22
Idiotic	3	6	9
Blind	1	—	1
Deaf and Dumb	2	1	3
Totals	49	25	74

Natives, 60; foreigners, 14.
Tramps relieved during the year—Males 304, females, 5; total, 309.
Meals, 587. lodgings 309.

VALUATION.

Assessed valuation of personal property	$ 8,287.80
Estimated value of buildings and farm	40,000.00
Total	$48,287.80

Insurance carried on property, $39,000.00.

We, the undersigned, Auditors of Somerset County, have examined the foregoing report of the Directors of the Poor and of the House of Employment of said County, and do approve the same. Witness our hands, this 31st day of January, A. D. 1898.

R. J. BOWMAN,
PETER SIPE,
JEREMIAH RHOADS,
County Auditors.

Attest:—
A. J. HILEMAN,
Clerk.

February 28, 1898, presented to the Court, and ordered to be laid before the Grand Jury.

H. F. BARRON,
Clerk.

We, the members of the Grand Jury, through our Foreman, do hereby certify that we have examined the very full and complete report of the Directors of the Poor and of the House of Employment for the year ending December 31, 1897, and we do approve the same.

M. H. BOUCHER,
Foreman.

March 3, 1898.

Filed March 3, 1898. H. F. BARRON, Clerk.

HE IS A RAT DRIVER.

LUMINOUS PAINT SUCCEEDS WHERE CELLS, TAR AND TRAPS FAILED.

A Man Who Makes Good Money Clearing Warehouses and Other Concerns Around New York of Troublesome Rodents—Began the Business In Stockholm.

Halftues of Riverside drive, between Seventy-fifth and Eightieth streets, on very sunny days have noticed a middle aged man carrying a case, which appears to be about three feet long by one foot deep and two feet wide. It is apparently a black leather case with an ordinary grip handle to the upper part, and the man, seeking some unfrequented piece of wall, generally one of the embrasures, places his case on the wall, smokes his pipe and loiters around, looking at the ever changing river and its traffic. If others come around, he moves on, but if not he may stay there from two to three hours in the full sun. He is a rat catcher, or rather a rat driver. He works only in large warehouses and does not touch the smaller dwelling houses or flats except in rare cases.

He is a Scandinavian whom nothing will warm to conversation but his native tongue. His case is wood on the back, ends and bottom and wire on the front and top. There are neat spring shades which roll down over front and top. In this cage are eight or ten large rats. If any one comes near, down go the shades, but as long as the coast is clear the shades are up and the rats are running around basking in the sunlight. If he takes you into his confidence, he will tell you that it is with these rats he clears buildings. The other day he said:

"When I was living in Stockholm, the large granaries were full of rats, and a reward was offered to clear them. Many tried. Traps were set by the hundred.

"One man built a room as large as an ordinary parlor, cased it with tin and fed the rats with oatmeal scented with oil of aniseed, gradually laying trains of this feed to the room until he had all the rats on a string. Then he fitted an automatic drop to the entrance, and when his rats were feeding he caged them all, several hundred. The first man who did this went into the room with dogs to kill them and was nearly eaten himself, like that farmer out west a few weeks ago. The second man starved and then poisoned his, but in a week there were just as many rats as ever. The supply was inexhaustible from the rivers and quays. Poisoning was no good because of the terrific smell, and so I took the matter in hand.

"I thought it over and finally set a trap and caught some rats. Then I tied a piece of wire round their necks, to which I slung a little tinkling brass bell, and then I let the bell ringers loose in the building they had been caught in. They knew the runs and went to join their friends and relatives, who of course ran from the bells. The more they ran the more ran the bell carriers, until the building was 'hoodoo' in rat language and not a rat would enter.

"If I could have lured back my bell carriers, all would have been well; but, familiarity breeding contempt, the rats grew accustomed to them and in a few months were back again, and as building after building had been cleared by this trick there was not a rat in the city who did not know of the bells. Then I tried tarring some rats with strong smelling coal tar, which rats cannot bear and will avoid if possible, and this answered for awhile, but a fire occurred, and a rat, tar coated, ran out of the blazing building with his fur ablaze and, going into another building not in danger, set it on fire—wood gets very dry in those old buildings over there—and so an ordinance was passed prohibiting the use of tar.

"I had made money, and I came to this country. I did well for some years, but in the depression my capital ran short and I failed; so then I took to clearing business places of rats again and am doing quite well. The first thing is to learn the lay of the building where the rats come from. If a grain elevator is near, clear the elevator and trap those in the other places. Rats very seldom run around more than one building, except as an overflow. Then, having determined that point, try the tar, then the bell, and after that these fellows in the cage. They are coated with luminous paint, and being exposed to the sunlight here can be taken to a building tonight, loosed and will fly through the runs, spreading fear wherever they go and creating a stampede. If you have ever seen luminous paint effects, you can readily understand it. The great beauty of this plan is that the rats do not live more than 24 to 48 hours after a coating with this paint, so the novelty never wears off. It is a preparation of lime, which I discovered for myself, and has to be newly made and mixed like a varnish. This closes the pores of the skin, and after chasing around to catch up with the flying relatives the rat is in a sweat, and that finishes him, and they never get used to it. Will a rat sweat? Well, you cage a rat, and then let a terrier roll the cage around for a few minutes, and you will see a rat as damp as if dipped into a pail of water. I get as high as $20 a month for keeping some places in this city clear of rats, and I work several other cities as well. The only thing I am afraid of is the society (Prevention of Cruelty to Animals), but I have nearly made enough to start in my own business again, and then I will cease rat driving. Sell my business? No, I may want again in this city of ups and downs."—New York Sun.

Chicago Modesty.

"Did she have a church wedding?"

"No. There's no foolish desire for ostentation about her. Why, every time she's been divorced the case has always been heard in the judge's little side room."—Cleveland Plain Dealer.

"I can say one thing for Chamberlain's Colic, Cholera and Diarrhœa Remedy; and that is that it excels any proprietary medicine I have seen on the market, and I have been in the practice of medicine and the drug business for the past forty years," writes J. M. Jackson, M. D., Bronson, Fla. Physicians like Chamberlain's Colic, Cholera and Diarrhœa Remedy because it is a scientific preparation, and because it always gives quick relief. Sold by all druggists.

The best mode of giving salt is to sprinkle a little over the hay or cut food. Such method is probably not as easy as leaving salt where the animals can help themselves, but it is much better than giving too much salt at one time and not enough at other periods.

Bucklen's Arnica Salve.

The Best Salve in the world for Cuts, Bruises, Sores, Ulcers, Salt Rheum, Fever Sores, Tetter, Chapped Hands, Chilblains, Corns, and all Skin Eruptions, and positively cures Piles, or no pay required. It is guaranteed to give perfect satisfaction or money refunded. Price 25 cents per box. For sale at J. N. Snyder's Drug Store, Somerset, Pa., or G. W. Brallier's Drug Store, Berlin, Pa.

The auditors of Clarion county have surcharged the commissioners of that county with $1,255 on a bridge contract, they having paid contractors that amount in excess of the lowest bid for the indicated work.

A wheelman's tool bag isn't complete without a bottle of Dr. Thomas' Electric Oil. Heals cuts, bruises, stings, sprains. Monarch over pain.

A Life Saved.

A FOND DAUGHTER WAS NIGH TO DEATH.

Frank B. Trout Tells a Reporter of How His Daughter's Life Was Saved. All Parents Should be Interested in This Narrative.

From the Evening News, Detroit, Mich.

Using as a nucleus for his investigation the rumor that the life of the daughter of Frank B. Trout, well known in Detroit, Mich., real estate circles, had been saved, a reporter called on Mr. Trout at his office, 103 Griswold Avenue. Mr. Trout showed some hesitancy in giving his opinion for publication, but finally said: "Circumstances and a father's love for his child forced me to try Dr. Williams' Pink Pills for Pale People, but not until the whole medical profession had exhausted their skill. At the age of fourteen we had to take our daughter from school owing to her health. Before this she had been in the best of health, happy and in the best of spirits. She began to fall away and became pale and languid. She was so weak that she would fall down in a faint every time she tried to walk unsupported. The best of physicians attended her, but she continued to grow weaker and seemed to be gradually fading away.

"When she was fifteen she weighed only ninety pounds, and the doctors said it was anæmia. Several physicians said she might outgrow it, but that it would no doubt terminate in consumption. No doctor we had could help her, and we concluded ourselves, we must lose our child, as she was growing weaker every day.

"We had tried all the well-known remedies, and finally about a year ago I bought a box of Dr. Williams' Pink Pills for Pale People and took them home. That day I had read of a case about the same as my daughter's, and decided to give them a trial, though I must confess I did not have much faith. Before she had taken all of the first box we noticed a change for the better. She, however, gained strength daily and looked brighter. Every one noticed the change, and I bought two more boxes for her.

"When she had taken two boxes she was strong enough to leave her bed, and in less than six months was something like herself. To-day she is entirely cured, and is a big, strong, healthy girl, weighing 130 pounds, and has never had a sick day since.

"I do not think she uses them now, though I always keep them in the house. My wife and I have recommended them to our neighbors, and sent a few to another young girl who seems to be in the same condition as my daughter. Had not Dr. Williams' Pink Pills saved my daughter's life, I would not recommend them to any one. I know they