

HOUSE OF INDUSTRY.

ANNUAL REPORT.

In submitting their Reports for 1876 and 1877 the Managers thought themselves justified in considering those years exceptional with regard to the demands made upon their resources. They regret to say that the year just closed has been, in this respect, no improvement upon its immediate predecessors, as will appear evident from the following comparative statements, which shew the numbers relieved in each year, exclusive of inmates and casuals :

1876.	1877.	1878.
Families..... 961	Families..... 1020	Families..... 1161
Individuals. 3887	Individuals..... 4112	Individuals 4754

In distributing out-door relief, the object contemplated by the founders of the Institution, and to which the Managers have always endeavoured to conform, was not to create a class of persons wholly dependent upon it for the means of living, but to assist in cases of temporary pressure those who were willing to help themselves ; and by timely and judicious aid, to enable its recipients to maintain their independence, to keep their families together, and ultimately secure to them a comfortable and permanent home.

The Managers are fully aware of the inexpediency of training up people to become stated pensioners of the House ; nevertheless during the last few years a class with strong tendencies in that direction, composed chiefly of