

THIRD ANNUAL MEETING.

The third annual general meeting of the Governors and Subscribers to the Montreal Protestant House of Industry and Refuge, was held 18th April, 1866, in the Governors Room of the Institution.

John Redpath, Esq., President of the Institution, in the chair.

The meeting was opened with prayer by the Rev. Dr. Jenkins.

Mr. Lunn, on the call of the Chairman, read the following Reports:—

- 1st. Of the Board of Management.
- 2nd. Of the Poor Relief Committee.
- 3rd. Of the Finance Committee.
- 4th. Of the Ladies' Committee of the Industrial Rooms.
- 5th. Of Dr. Tew, the Visiting Surgeon.
- 6th. Treasurer's Annual Statement of the Industrial Rooms.

Report of the Board of Management of the Protestant House of Industry and Refuge to the Board of Governors for the year ending April, 1866:

The Board of Management has the honour to present to the Governors of the Institution its report for the past year.

It will be remembered that at the date of the last Annual Report the new buildings had only been occupied during the winter months, and the Board had not at that time sufficient experience to enable it fully to estimate their fitness for the purposes intended.

After a year's experience, however, your Board finds that the corridor connecting the front and rear in the lower story only, ought to have been carried to the whole height of the house, so as to have afforded direct communication between all the floors of the two buildings.

Your Board has had plans and estimates of the expense required to make this improvement, and would strongly recommend its adoption.

The cost of the alteration would be about eight hundred dollars.

The following Committees were appointed by the Board:

1st. The Poor Relief Committee, to look after the internal management of the House and its inmates.

2nd. The Ladies' Industrial Committee, to

find employment for as many families as possible, and to furnish them with work at their own homes.

3rd. The Finance Committee, to take charge of the receipts and expenditure of the Institution.

It has been deemed advisable that each of the reports furnished by the above committees should be appended to this, in order that the Governors and the public may have before them a detailed account of the working of the Institution; we shall therefore make reference only to their principal features. It is also necessary to mention here that there has been formed during the winter an Out-door Relief Committee composed of the leading members of the different National Societies, and of the Young Men's Christian Association who, acting in concert with our own Poor Relief Committee, make this Institution a centre from which to furnish out-door relief to all the Protestant poor of the city. This has been carried on by means of voluntary subscriptions alone, entirely independent of the funds of this Institution, and your board while bearing willing testimony to the zeal and self-denying labours of these gentlemen, who often sit for the whole day once or twice a week while prosecuting their arduous duties, believes that this, the first effort to centralize out-door relief, has proved itself most successful. In the undertaking the out-door relief committee has received most valuable assistance from the city Missionaries who visited the applicants at their homes.

It will be seen by the report of the Poor Relief Committee that shelter for the night has been given in some two thousand nine hundred cases, two thousand four hundred and forty seven of those thus relieved being males, and four hundred and forty-seven females. This remarkable decrease, especially in the number of female applicants, as compared with that of the preceding winter, they justly attribute in a great measure to the opening of another Institution by our Roman Catholic fellow citizens, and also to the increased stringency of our rules. The report also shows that the average number of "permanent" inmates during the past summer was about eighty, which increased during the winter to one hundred and fifteen, the exact number on the 12th of April, being one hundred and eight, viz.