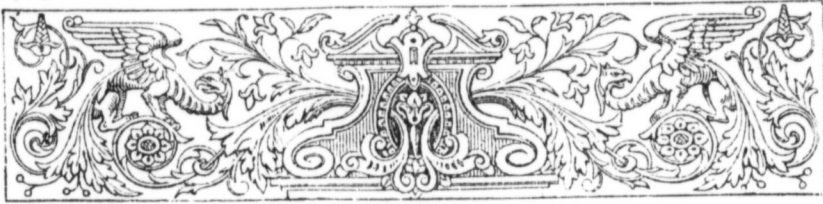


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Y. W. C. A.

DIET DISPENSARY,



FIFTH ANNUAL REPORT.

April, 1884.

The work of the Diet Dispensary has progressed quietly and systematically during the past year, under the careful supervision of the Convener.

As we still find that many are unaware of the nature of the charity carried on under the name of the Diet Dispensary, perhaps we cannot do better than quote a short account of the work as given in the report of last year (1883). "It is intended to supply the needs of sick persons who, for any reason, are unable otherwise to procure the nourishing and delicate food suitable for invalids. To the poor everything is given on presentation of an order signed by a physician, clergyman, or other authorized person known to the Committee. Most of the orders are free, but experience has proved to us that the Diet Dispensary has often been a very great comfort and convenience, if not an actual necessity to people who are able and willing to pay for their supplies. For them, therefore, a moderate price is set upon the different articles prepared.

"For three years the cooking and dispensing were done by the ladies of the committee, assisted by a woman who was engaged two days in every week for that purpose. But as the work grew this was found to be too laborious and not entirely satisfactory in its results, so it was decided to engage a suitable person to do all this work under the supervision of the committee, and on the first of June (1882) this change was made."

(To continue). At the monthly meeting held on the 25th of April, 1883, it was decided, owing to the increased work of the Dispensary, to appoint a secretary, to relieve Miss Gould, she having filled the combined offices of secretary and treasurer since the institution of the charity. Accordingly Miss Macpherson was appointed to that position. In April our assistant, Annie Moore, who served us conscientiously during the eight months of her stay with us, was replaced by Mrs. Martin, who is still with us. We may say that we consider ourselves fortunate in securing the services of a person so devoted to the charity, and whose executive abilities leave nothing to be desired.