

SIXTH ANNUAL REPORT

OF

The Toronto Magdalene Asylum,

OR

INDUSTRIAL HOUSE OF REFUGE FOR FEMALES.

The Managers of the Magdalene Asylum, or Industrial House of Refuge for Females, in submitting this their Annual Report to its friends and to the public generally, have much reason to express their gratitude to God for the success which has been vouchsafed to the Institution from its commencement, and which has especially marked its operations during the past year.

In the early part of the summer of 1853, two or three friends of the Redeemer being deeply moved with the case of the numerous female outcasts who nightly wander our streets in hopeless wretchedness, crowding our Police Court and Prison, corrupting and being corrupted, determined in the strength of God to provide a refuge for them, not only to rescue the early victim of the destroyer, but to reclaim the more obdurate and hopeless of that unhappy class.

During the first year comparatively little was accomplished, but sufficient was done to satisfy the friends of the humane enterprise that it was capable of doing much good. For some months only two individuals were under the shade of the Asylum, but at the end of the year nineteen had been partakers of its benefits, upwards of a fourth of whom were happily restored to their friends or to respectable places in society.

Engaged thus in a labor essentially Christian, for Jesus came that he might "*seek and save that which was lost*," and encouraged by the blessing which had attended their earliest efforts to cultivate this most arid spot in the moral desert, as well as by the general sympathy and co-operation of Christians of all denominations, the Managers of the Institution have persevered hopefully in the work of the Lord, and they believe that from many hearts, broken and healed again, a testimony is now given that their labor has not been in vain.

The number received into the Asylum since its commencement appears