

HOUSE OF INDUSTRY.

SIXTY-FIRST ANNUAL REPORT.

REPORT OF BOARD OF MANAGEMENT.

1. The Trustees and Managers of the House of Industry beg to submit the reports of the affairs of the Charity for the year ending 31st March, 1898, being the Sixty-first Annual Report.

INMATES.

2. Your Directors having exhausted every means to induce the City Council to grant funds for increasing the accommodation for inmates without success—resolved to withdraw a sufficient sum from the invested capital for the purpose and now report to the subscribers that an addition of an East wing is nearing completion at the cost of \$4,500, which will afford accommodation for fifty additional inmates and it is hoped in the near future to still further increase the accommodation by a similar addition of a West wing.

The income for maintenance will by this expenditure be materially reduced and in consequence we must depend upon the charitable public for increased contributions, not only to recoup the loss of income but for maintaining an increased number of inmates.

The number of permanent inmates at present in the House is 103, including 3 blind men and 14 cripples, but this number will be largely increased when the new wing will be ready for occupation about 1st July next. For further particulars attention is directed to the accompanying Superintendent's Report.

OUTDOOR POOR.

3. The number of families relieved during the year ending 31st of March is still large, but less than the number relieved the previous year by 195. The stone-breaking test now being applied to all able-bodied men applying for relief may be a factor in reducing the number relieved as 211 men refused the test and consequently the assistance applied for was not granted.

The following table shows the changes in comparison with the previous year: