

by a supply of fruit, and the old men in the House of Providence received a present of Tobacco.

The Libraries in the Hospital and Gaol have been replenished, donations of books made to the Libraries in the House of Providence and Sunnyside Orphanage, and a new library started in the St. Nicholas Home for boys. Two little musical entertainments with a distribution of light refreshments were gotten up for the children in the House of Providence and Sunnyside during the Christmas season. Those who took part in the entertainments were chiefly members of the Society, and many of the clergy of the city showed their approval by being present.

This branch of the work done by the Hospital Board is certainly deserving of commendation and encouragement. Taking an interest in the children and endeavouring to attract them towards virtue and religion is the constant theme of the instructions given to us by the heads of the Society. It is a work than which none is more needed and more urgent, particularly in a large city like this, where there are snares of all sorts to snatch them from us. In the reports we receive from our brothers in Britain, Ireland and the United States this work figures prominently. Every conference makes it a point to state what efforts are being made to help the children, and in a circular issued last year by the Superior Council of New York to the Presidents of Councils and Conferences, the following appeal is made which we cannot do better than repeat to our brothers of Toronto.

"We especially call your attention to the children. Never permit your patience to be exhausted when the souls of the little ones are at stake, never lose sight of them while there is the slightest hope of preserving them in the Faith. The number of children lost to the Church each year is frightful to consider. This is particularly noticeable in our large cities. It is our duty to use every influence to prevent this loss. Our familiarity with the condition and habits of the poor, will be of great assistance in this work. Wherever there is a family of little ones exposed to this danger, redouble your care and attention. Induce the parents to send them to the parochial schools or the Sunday School. Spend some spare time teaching them religion. Interest yourself in their studies and show them the attractive side of religion. Let the parents see how our Holy Mother Church carefully watches over them and provides