

## ANNUAL REPORT.

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The Managers have pleasure in reporting that the apparent improvement in the condition of the City Poor, referred to in their Report for 1880, has been fully maintained during the past season. The statistics herewith submitted, shew a continued diminution in the number of applicants, and also in the amount of relief granted.

This improved state of things is, no doubt, owing in great measure to the abundance of employment offered during the past season. The Managers cannot, however, flatter themselves with the idea that poverty will ever entirely disappear from among us: when one family or individual emerges from its slough, another is pretty sure to be engulfed therein,—and thus are continually verified the words of Our Lord, “The poor you have always with you.”

In view of the unusual mildness of the season thus far, the Managers wish to impress upon the Visitors and Weekly Committees, the necessity of economy in the distribution of coal. Experience shows that a mild and open Winter, such as we have hitherto enjoyed, is often followed by a cold and protracted Spring, at which time the slender savings of the poor will be entirely exhausted, and the full rigour of the climate most sensibly felt.

The Managers cheerfully recognize the benefit conferred upon many poor families by the Fuel Clubs, which, for some years, have been worked in connection with several of the City Churches; through the instrumentality of these Clubs,