

TWENTY-SEVENTH ANNUAL REPORT.

MINUTES OF TWENTY-SEVENTH ANNUAL
MEETING, held April 16th, 1890.

PRESENT :

Charles Alexander, President, in the Chair.
George Cruikshank, Joseph Richards,
Theodore Lyman, E. E. Shelton,
W. G. Murray, S. H. May,
George Childs, Rev. R. Acton,
G. Cheney, Alexander Milloy,
James Moore, Rev. John Ker,
Henry Lyman, J. C. Watson,
Wm. Clendinning, Rev. W. S. Barnes,
George Hague, Mrs. Hague,
Miss Bancroft, Mrs. Jamieson,
Miss Forsyth,

The meeting was opened with prayer by Rev. R. Acton.

The Honorary Secretary read the minutes of last meeting of Governors, which were approved.

Letters of regret were read from Revs. W. J. Smyth, G. C. Heine, Canon Lindsay and James Patterson, after which the President addressed the meeting in the following remarks :

PRESIDENT'S REMARKS.

LADIES AND GENTLEMEN,—This is the 27th Annual Meeting of our Institution, and we may be pardoned before the Report is read in making a few remarks.

First, then, in looking back over all these years from the beginning of our work, and in seeing step by step the ever watchful care and blessing of the Giver of all Good, on the duties confided to us, can it be wondered at that our hearts fill with gratitude to Him who has so largely helped us, and is still giving manifest evidence of His goodness by leading those who are blest with more than they need to think of the homeless, friendless poor.

On the other hand, we have again to mourn the loss by death of some of our Governors, who for years took much interest in the work of the Institution.

Those who, from the first beginning of this work, now remain, are growing less and less every year.

It is of interest to note that with reference to the original Incorporators, of whom there was twenty-two, eighteen have passed away, and now only four remain.

At the first meeting of the Institution, held September 12th, 1863—twenty-six present, only six remain. Of life Governors there were eighty-five. Fifty two have died, leaving only thirty-three. Of the elective Governors there were, up to May, 1883, one hundred and twenty-three, of these sixty-three have died, only sixty now remain. How solemn the lesson to us who remain, and how suitable are the words of Scripture—"Whatsoever your hands find to do, do it with your might, for there is no knowledge, nor device, nor wisdom in the grave, whither we hasten." Teaching those of us who are left to be sincere and faithful in the work entrusted to us, to be in earnest and useful in "Our Father's" work, while our lives are spared, that when we too shall have come to the end of our pilgrimage we may look backward with pleasure at seeing the good work carried on still with usefulness and prosperity.

These remarks are called forth because of the more easy position we are in to-day in comparison to that of last year. Then we were just a little anxious as to our financial ability to do our proper duty, but now, by legacies of departed friends and by judicious economy in the management of the Institution, we are out of debt, except what we owe to the Corporation of the City for widening Dorchester Street.

Though this altered state of things will not lead to waste in any way, yet it has been to the Committee of Management a source of much gratitude and encouragement, and no doubt will nerve them to carry on the good work with increased earnestness.