

thanks that He has permitted us to work in this part of His vineyard, trying to follow, however feebly, in the footsteps of our blessed Saviour, who, while on earth, did not despise the poor or needy, nor yet the *outcast*. We have, however, very little of what is new or interesting to tell. To quote Mrs. Burns' words, written last February, "We cannot give novelty to our reports; year after year is the same *old story*, now 28 times told. But of this we can assure our kind friends and supporters, that, although our Institution is growing older, it admits of no abatement of appliances nor any cessation of energy and prayerful effort. Our work admits of no holiday." Women come to us sorrowful and apparently most earnest in their desire to do better; but, after a few weeks spent in healthy work and freedom from all stimulants, a craving for these stimulants and desire for excitement takes possession of them, and only in some cases can we persuade them to remain in the Home. Hence the large number who "leave of their own accord." Sometimes coming openly and telling us "they cannot" or they "will not stay"; at other times not daring to face the Managers, but slipping out, jumping the fence, and running off—perhaps to be very sorry the very next day. And yet, we cannot shut the door against such, though we may, and do, make it somewhat difficult for them to get re-admittance; and this we do because we are convinced that to make it easy for them does not help them to exercise any restraint over their desires, but encourages them to yield to the craving which seizes them with a force we have little idea of.

Again I quote from Mrs. Burns: "We open the door as wide and as often as we can, but we insist on a term of probation before sending any out upon the public. However plausible the story or hopeful the case, we would not venture to recommend the *untried*. We owe something to society and its interests as well as to those whom we have taken under our care." Our record for this year is as follows:—

In the Home Oct. 1st, 1881,	28
Admitted since,	70
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Total,	98

Of these, we have sent to service 20, to the hospital 6, to friends 3, died 1, dismissed 2, left of their own accord 34; remaining 32

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