

ANNUAL REPORT.

The Managers of the House of Industry present their Report for the last twelve months.

The Report for 1879 drew attention to the gradual increase of demands upon their resources for the two preceding years, and expressed a hope that the year just then closed, showing, as it did, a still further increase, would bring those demands to their culminating point. The Managers are happy to state that the hope then conceived has been to a certain extent justified: as compared with the three previous years, the year just passed shows a marked diminution in the number of applicants.

The Managers trust that this fact may be accepted as an indication that no very serious distress now exists among the poor of this city.

In distributing the funds placed at their disposal, the Managers have always endeavoured to avoid *pauperising* the recipients; but notwithstanding the care thus exercised, it is to be feared that many persons depend too exclusively upon relief furnished by the House, and are not sufficiently careful to economise their own means. This may be inferred from the yearly appearance of a number of applicants whose claims are to a great extent based upon the fact that they have for a long time been pensioners of the House. Whether or