

REPORT.

The Weekly Committee beg leave to present their Report to the 11th instant, and the Special Committee to whom was committed the drawing up of Rules and Regulations for the House of Refuge and Industry, present also their Draft of those Rules, &c., for the consideration and approval of the General Committee.

The numerous objects requiring the attention of the Superintendent, in the earlier stages of the Establishment, have prevented the regular adjustment of the accounts so as to enable your Committee to give an accurate statement of its affairs to this date; but from the data which have been furnished they can give a general and tolerably correct outline of the proceedings and present condition of the Establishment. Since the house was opened, on the 19th January last, 138 families have received relief—about 100 permanently, and 38 occasionally;—of these, the individuals number 550 in all, receiving steady or temporary relief to their wants, chiefly by the bestowment of provisions, but, in many instances, by giving also firewood, and, where it could be done, clothing. Of those 550 persons, 54 are widows, 360 children—72 are persons sickly and unable to provide for themselves—13 are females, deserted by their husbands—and 51 others in various circumstances of distress from want of employment, &c., &c. The number of inmates in the house, is 36—of these, 10 are widows—2 deserted females—19 are children, and 5 men.

The total outlay of the establishment amounts to about £155—and the average daily cost, about 40s., which, however, will be increased considerably after the 18th instant, when the bread contract expires.

Your Committee respectfully urge the necessity of making diligent exertion to obtain the means of employment for the poor, generally, but especially for the inmates of the house. The good effects of the institution are already perceptible on the character of some who have been received into the house; and many, no doubt, will gladly hail the means thus held out to them, and be rescued from poverty, misery, and degradation, and restored to happiness and usefulness, while others will be delivered from the afflictions peculiarly the lot of those