

(5) From seven to eight hundred foundlings are received yearly in the Institution. They are afterwards given out to hired nurses, who retain them till they are eighteen months old, at which time they are brought back to be reared in the Nunnery. The Sisters visit these nurses unexpectedly several times during the year, in order to assure themselves of the care that is taken of their charges. They have used all means in their power to diminish the mortality amongst these little waifs, but cannot succeed to rear more than one third of the number. It is the same case in all similar Institutions throughout the known world, where the Infants cannot have wet nurses.

The following statement shows the condition of Foundlings when received, during the year 1881 :

535 Partly clad.	274 Half frozen.
7 Naked.	10 Drugged with opium.
25 Syphilitic.	25 Wounded by instruments.
50 Umbilical Hemorrhage.	438 Sick.
23 Hemorrhage of the lungs.	49 Dying.
18 Dysentery.	1 Dead.
20 Unwashed.	16 Infirm.
20 Covered with vermin.	12 Exposed at the door.

These children come from various places, viz. : United States, Halifax, Quebec, St. Hyacinth, Sherbrooke, Ontario, and country places. Others supposed to be born in Montreal must have come from a distance on account of their exhausted state when handed in. A large number of the Foundlings also belong to mothers who come from various places to be received in the Lying-in Hospitals of Montreal.