

TWENTY-SECOND ANNUAL REPORT
OF THE
TORONTO MAGDALENE ASYLUM,
OR
INDUSTRIAL HOUSE OF REFUGE.

In a few months, this Institution will have completed its twenty-fifth year, having been established in 1852—a quarter of a century ago—and was carried on for about seven years in a small two-story house in Richmond Street. Afterwards, it was removed to the old building on Yonge Street, Yorkville, which was recently sold in order to assist in building the present commodious premises.

Let us look back over all these years, and answer faithfully, for the information of our friends and the public, the following questions:—

1st. Are the rules and regulations of the Institution such as are suited to the purpose for which it was established, viz.: To give to every woman who wishes to reform a chance of doing so?

2nd. Are the results such as should justify us in carrying it on?

3rd. Could these results not be greatly increased, and by what means other than those at present employed?

To the first of these, we answer in the affirmative. The experience of all these years is decidedly in their favour. We never reject any, however low or degraded, who ask admittance, and are willing to stay the prescribed time and submit to the rules. They have comfortable work-rooms and dormitories, have plain but nourishing food supplied to them, and are kept busily employed on remunerative work, such as washing, sewing, &c., as well as the household duties, and are encouraged to fit themselves for the places of service to which they will be sent at the end of their term, while religious instruction on week, as well as Sabbath days, is regularly afforded them. And when they leave the Home, it is with the knowledge and feeling, that the Managers, as well as the Matron, have a deep interest in their welfare, and will do all in their power to cheer and help them through the trials and temptations which are almost sure to assail them.

To the second question: Those ladies who have been longest connected with its management—and some have been since it was established—can point, in answer, to many, very many, who, having