

THE HOSPITAL FOR SICK CHILDREN.

TWENTY-FIFTH ANNUAL REPORT.

The Trustees of The Hospital for Sick Children beg to present to the people of Ontario the Twenty-fifth Annual Report of the work of the Charity.

This report covers the work of the institution for the year ending 30th September, 1900. It also marks the closing year, not only of the century, but of twenty-five years of hospital effort in the nursing of sick children who have sought relief within its walls.

The generous people, who, for so many years, have stood by the Hospital in its struggle for life, may look at it to-day with pride, as it stands in the front rank of the hospitals of the Dominion, perfect in equipment, a standard and model for any institution in the world embracing the same field of labour.

Annual reports are generally—indeed mainly—statistical, and, therefore, perhaps uninteresting to the general reader. Yet without figures no idea of the work accomplished can be given.

There are, however, annual reports and annual reports, and this differs in many regards from stereotyped accounts of hospital endeavor.

In some particulars the results attained are unique, while in all regards the work specially commends itself to every father and mother in the land, who love the child-life that this charity seeks to preserve.

Surely no one can read the printed words which tell of great results in this work, so dear to all, without feeling that human interest must be magnetized, and with it all that is loveable in human hearts must go out to those whose day-dream is to give health and strength, life and comfort to sick little ones, and thus gladden homes that but for the Hospital's help would be darkened by the shadow of sorrow and death.

The work that this Trust has in charge has grown by leaps and bounds. The figures marshalled at the end of the year show a record for good that is a credit to this Charity.

The work accomplished has been phenomenal. The daily average of patients last year was $101\frac{1}{2}$. This year it is $111\frac{1}{2}$; and if the proportionate increase of the last months of the official year continue, the daily average for 1901 will show a more material increase than in any previous year.

There are three leading departments of the work which particularly merit attention.

1st. The Indoor Department, which includes all patients who are maintained and treated in the building.

These are both paying and non-paying patients. For the first