

while Mrs. Moore, the minister's wife, with ready presence of mind stepped forward, and taking charge of the Their Excellencies, began to show them the exhibits. As patrons, they bought freely. This example was contagious and in a comparatively short time nearly the entire stock was disposed of, to the immense delight of the promoters of the sale who had feared that some of the beautiful, but expensive articles would scarcely find customers. The most expensive article of all, a handsome chair bearing the Imperial Coat of Arms wrought in Berlin Wool of suitable colors, by Mrs. Thos. McKay of Echo Bank, was bought by the great lumberman, Mr. Jas. MacLaren of Buckingham, Quebec.

A good round sum, \$1,200.00 was cleared, and the ladies felt amply repaid for their long and arduous task when the sale was over and all accounts settled.

The officers of the Association waited upon Her Excellency, to announce the result and to thank her for the kind patronage which had contributed so much to their success. Needless to say the ladies were graciously received by Her Excellency, who expressed her pleasure with both the financial result and the thoughtfulness which had prompted the visit of the deputation.

Six years later the ladies held a Bazaar on the 22nd, 23rd and 24th of May, in the Champness Building, Sparks Street, under the distinguished patronage of the Governor-General and the Countess of Dufferin. By this effort they cleared \$900. The following somewhat modified expression of satisfaction is found in the minutes after the affair was over.

"It was as successful as could have been expected in the depressed state in which Ottawa was at the time." As much as to say, "We did pretty well, of course, but we think we should have done better."

In February 1878, the Poor Fund, now the Benevolent Fund, was established. It was shortly after placed in the hands of the ladies who kindly accepted the responsibility of its administration. Mrs. Benj. Donaldson was the first Treasurer. At first the money needed for the relief of those in distress was raised by sales and socials, and by direct appeals to individuals.

These sources of income were found to be precarious, and the returns from the sales were so disproportionate to the labor and anxiety expended, that the ladies began to look about for some more permanent source of revenue. They resolved to ask the Session to set apart