

EXTINCTION OF OLD DEBT, AND PROPOSED NEW BUILDING.

In our last annual Report we mentioned that there was an old debt of about \$1500 on us and that we proposed to call on our friends during the summer to enable us to pay it off. Miss Cogswell and several other ladies spoke of a bazaar, but when they met to consider it they concluded that the amount could be raised more easily by direct subscriptions, more especially as one gentleman offered \$400 on that condition. The readiness with which the sum was made up was a striking proof of the liberality of the Christian public, and was a great encouragement to the Committee. A list of three special donations is appended. Since that, indeed just as the year was drawing to a close, Mr. Cunard, who had long seen the necessity for better and more enlarged premises than those we have, offered not only to give \$2000 towards a new building capable of accommodating from 80 to 100 boys but also to assist us in raising the rest of the money. His offer was accepted and a hearty effort was at once put forth the result of which is that we have already a subscription list of \$11,000 towards the new undertaking, and we have no doubt that \$2000 more can be collected, when we would be in a position to begin and we believe end without debt. In the meantime however another proposal has been put before us, and that is, that we should sell our present site and buy a larger property farther out of town. Such a move on account of the growth of the city and the institution is by no means uncommon in other places. Thus in New York three moves had at one time after another to be made before the present premises on Randall's Island were built. The question is now before the Committee and it is fortunate that it is so just when the annual meeting is to be held that they may have an opportunity of hearing the opinions of their friends for or against it. In this report it would be out of place to refer either to the anticipated advantages or disadvantages. The question is so momentous to the whole future prosperity of our School that we would like to hear it calmly and widely discussed before any step is taken. But whether it is decided to build a brick building on the present site, or to buy a property two or three miles out of town on which wooden buildings could be erected and where the boys could be taught gardening and farming rather than trades, our gratitude to the people of Halifax for their liberality in the matter is the same. A list of subscriptions up to date is appended. The large amounts represent truly the liberal way in which they were given. Only one or two refusals were encountered, and from all sides were heard expressions of sympathy for the objects of the School that prove that it will always be sustained by the people of Halifax.

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