

MEDICAL OFFICER'S REPORT.

I have much pleasure in presenting this my Twenty-fourth (24) annual report, and in doing so, it is gratifying to state that, notwithstanding the very inadequate accommodation that has been at the disposal of the Managers during the greater portion of the year, both prior to their removal from George street and subsequently during their residence in the Queen's Park (so ill adapted for our purposes), there were no fatal cases. In the early part of the year many of the boys suffered from the Mumps, a painful disease, which in three cases was metastatic, and in the latter part many of them were affected with diseases of the respiratory tract, viz., Croup and Pneumonia, and a still more general attack of Catarrhal Conjunctivitis, from which scarcely a boy escaped. This disease is very contagious, and in the crowded condition of the building, with no means of ventilation and a sparse supply of water, it was impossible to get rid of it; in fact it is only since we returned to our Old Home, made New, that any great improvement has taken place. This disease is one which requires the utmost cleanliness and isolation, and the only wonder is that nothing more serious occurred considering the bad conveniences, etc. I may here mention that, since the opening of the Home in 1859, there have been admitted thirteen hundred and ten (1310) boys, who have remained in the Home on an average of two (2) years each, and during the whole of this time there have been only eleven (11) deaths. Is this not a source of congratulation to the friends of the Institution? I am thankful for the result.

I will not occupy your time in discussing the additions and alterations in this building, as the report of the Secretary has fully informed you upon this subject. I may here add my testimony to that already given, especially in reference to the increased space and with it accommodation. The Gymnasium is a good addition to the Institution; the judi-