

THIRD ANNUAL REPORT.

READ BY PROFESSOR WILSON.

The Committee at the Infants' Home, 678 Yonge Street, in presenting to the public their FIRST ANNUAL REPORT, feel that it would be of general interest to give a brief history of the origin and object of the Institution.

It was organised by a few ladies, who perceived its necessity, in the summer of 1875, and opened, in a rented house, No. 11 Car Howell Street, on 1st of September of that year.

The original object of the Institution was—

1st.—The care of the children of wet nurses.

2nd.—The care of orphans or motherless children under two years of age.

3rd.—To prevent the system of baby farming.

It was no light task the ladies who originated this Institution had undertaken. The difficult problem of saving infant life was before them. They knew the doors of every charitable institution in the city were closed to children of so tender an age.

They knew there were many infants born in circumstances of great destitution; and that there was an amount of suffering among this helpless class, little thought of by the general public.

There was no place where a wet nurse, or woman obliged to earn her daily bread, could place her infant child with any chance of its living. Rarely, if ever, was the wet nurse's child saved; it was a sacrifice to the nursing; and the lack of effort to save these lives was a reproach to a Christian community.

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