

REPORT.

The Committee appointed at a Public Meeting held in October last, to devise and carry through means for the temporary relief during the then approaching winter of the destitute Protestant Poor of this city, have now to Report.

The first act of the Committee was by their Chairman, to follow out the express instruction of the Public Meeting, and to invite the co-operation of existing Institutions which had to some extent been giving out relief to the destitute poor, but without receiving them as inmates. These were the Protestant Industrial House of Refuge and the Home of Industry. It was felt desirable that these Institutions should cease to give out door relief and confine themselves to their primary object as Institutions of Refuge and Industry—as gathered from their published papers,—of giving work and refuge to the poor, and would cooperate towards one central place, where street and door beggars, and all Protestant poor, supposed to need help, should be sent for temporary relief, in the way of food, fuel and clothing, and where it would be given to such persons only as, after due inquiry and investigation at their abodes, should be found deserving. They were not asked as Institutions to contribute funds, nor to assume any responsibility, nor any further than has just been stated to change their way of working, but to name some of their number who would be willing to act on this Committee organized only for the winter emergency.

The Ladies of the Executive of the Industrial House of Refuge did not favorably entertain the proposal, saying, "We think it best to work on as we did last year until the first of May; unless the Committee (taking up this poor relief effort,) are willing to take the whole management and responsibility of this House upon them, to which we would gladly accede." And after reference to their general Committee, we were informed "that they unanimously deemed it