

REPORT

OF THE

Toronto Prisoners' Aid Society.

In presenting the Fourth Annual Report of the Toronto Prisoners' Aid Association, the Board of Managers would gratefully acknowledge the liberality of the response with which their appeal for funds during the past year has been met, and with confidence, again ask the continuance during this year of a like support and sympathy.

The work of the Association has been steadily maintained during the past year both in the Central Prison and Toronto Jail; and the Managers have every reason to feel encouraged to go forward in their work, knowing that the blessing of God will rest upon His word, even though the good seed is sown in such apparently unpromising soil. There are many who feel it useless to attempt the reformation of habitual criminals, and are slow to believe in the genuineness of their professions when they claim to have experienced a change of heart, and are determined to live a new life. No one can so well understand the reasonableness of such a doubt as those immediately engaged in the work; hence, although none are neglected, it is to the younger prisoners who have not become hardened in crime, that the most earnest efforts of the Association are directed. It will be seen by the report of the Agent that some who have spent a considerable portion of their life in sin are now striving to do better. The managers have been careful in the following paragraphs to refer to the more hopeful cases who since their liberation from prison have shown themselves worthy of confidence and sympathy.

In order to fully understand the extent and importance of the work of the Association. The Managers respectfully refer all who have kindly aided in this good work, by their contributions or otherwise, to the following reports: