

Report of the Managers of the Halifax Asylum for the Blind.

The first meeting under the Act of Incorporation, to elect Managers and Officers, was held at the City Council Chamber, 27th April, 1868, since then there has been no annual meeting, as until the present year it was found impossible to get the Institution into operation; it therefore becomes necessary to report progress from the commencement.

The building was contracted for by Mr. H. Peters, in the summer of 1868, and was completed in the fall of the following year, at a total cost of \$14,027.08. In the following year the fences enclosing the lot and outhouses were erected at an additional cost of \$1068, and \$356.75 were expended in improving the grounds, and it will require further outlay during the next year or two for the same purpose, and for the planting of trees.

The total amount of subscriptions towards the building fund, including a grant of \$2,000 from the Government, was \$15,557.38. The securities for the bequest of the late Wm. Murdoch, Esq., £5,000 N. S. Cy. were handed over by Chas. Murdoch, Esq. in October last, together with the interest due on it, which will enable the Directors to make the total amount of investments \$24,000 N. S. Cy.

As soon as the building was ready for occupation, public notice was given in the newspapers, and a resolution was passed by the Managers that, as soon as the number of applicants amounted to 5 within the ages of 8 and 18, the Institution would be opened. The Corresponding Secretary was at the same time in communication with similar Institutions in the United States for suitable Teachers, and it was only last spring that he learned from Mr. Chapin, Superintendent of the Asylum at Philadelphia, that he could send a blind female as Assistant Teacher who had been under his instruction for some years, and being thankfully accepted, she arrived here in July, bringing with her such books, &c., as were necessary for a commencement. The Managers are under great obligations to Mr. Chapin for the warm interest he has always evinced and the offer to aid as far as lies in his power.