

ful examples to imitate. Our task has been easier than theirs was, since our members have doubled within eight years, and again this year new members have associated themselves with us. Let not our zeal relax. There is a field of labor that I would suggest, although more eloquent voices than mine have already spoken; a few figures will be my plea. The Hospital has grown even as the mustard seed, marvellously.

Founded in 1880 with a few beds, soon amounting to fifty, thanks to the liberality of a few zealous citizens, it now counts about one hundred and fifteen. Alas! those beds are nearly continually occupied, so numerous are the miseries which assail our poor humanity.

The expenses naturally increase with the number of patients; thus the amount paid for bread in 1882 amounted to six hundred dollars, and now attains one thousand; unhappily, the number of subscribers is not what would be desired, as in six months the Hospital had to fill a deficit of two hundred dollars. This alms is so easy and so small: one loaf a month, Ladies: twenty-five cents! Let us knock anew at all doors; success comes only to perseverance.

This bread subscription is very important and exceedingly useful to the Hospital, and as you know, Ladies, it is about all the devoted Governors have left us to see to. It seems suitable to here recall the brilliant result of their zeal, the Albani concerts, which gave to the dilettanti of Montreal such rare artistic enjoyment and to the Hospital such a round sum. And, all without any exertion on our part.

Another, and not the least important event, Ladies, was the visit of the Rev. Father Babonneau, the eloquent preacher of the lenten season at Notre-Dame. It was most intimate and due to the zeal and initiative of our devoted Lady President. I crave pardon if I spare not her modesty, but as secretary, to me, the remembrance of her wise benevolence on this occasion is inseparable from that of the eloquent words of our illustrious Dominican visitor.

In concluding, Ladies, let us forget neither the kindness received, nor the increasing wants of our Hospital nor the part which is ours in the work necessary to secure its prosperity. Let us be devoted; let us be zealous. Let us make known our work and draw hearts towards it.

Mrs. L. D. PROVENCHER,

*Secretary.*