



❀ DIET ❀ DISPENSARY ❀

(Recommended by the Medical Faculty.)

EIGHTH ANNUAL REPORT.

APRIL, 1887.

In presenting the Eighth Annual Report of the Diet Dispensary, we are happy to record a year of increased usefulness and prosperity. The proportions which this charity has now assumed are most encouraging to those who have actively engaged in promoting its work, as well as to the benefactors who, at all times, have supplied liberally the necessary funds.

The Committee which set out on this enterprise eight years ago, with a capital of \$18 and a fund of energy beyond price, has changed to some extent in the body, but the old spirit lingers. And it is largely to this spirit of unanimity and faithfulness that we attribute the success of our efforts.

A very interesting feature of the Dispensary work is the visiting nurse department. Our first venture in this direction was an unqualified success, but, unfortunately, her marriage deprived us of her services. Several other nurses have, during the year, occupied the situation, and we are happy to report that the person at present engaged is eminently suitable for the post she has undertaken and discharges her work with zeal and ability. The visits made during the year average 40 each week—besides extra work, such as soliciting the aid of doctors, and national societies, in cases of great poverty, accompanying patients to the Hospital when able to go, and attending to the neglected children of suffering mothers. The area traversed extends from the St. Jean Baptiste quarter and Hochelaga to the outskirts of Point St. Charles.

The dispensing department, under the vigilant care of Mrs. Martin, has relieved 4649 applicants. Of these 3611 are free, 935 cost and 103 half-price. To fill these orders, have dispensed 3961 ½ pints beef-tea, 333 pints chicken broth, 385 pints wine jelly, 259 pints calf s-foot jelly, 833 quarts milk. Also a variety of delicacies, such as arrow root, farina, puddings, eggs, fresh fruit, and fruit jellies and syrups to tempt the variable appetite in cases of tedious illness, in addition to the unfailing supply of meat-cakes.