

DISEASES OF THE EYE AND EAR.

DR. DODGE'S REPORT TO THE DIRECTORS OF THE DISPENSARY.

GENTLEMEN,—The report annexed shows the amount of work done in this department during the past year, as well as the various diseases treated. There have been under treatment 185 cases—142 of the eye, and 43 of the ear.

Since I assumed the charge of this department, in March, 1874, there have been under treatment up to November 30th, of the year 1880, 1,040 patients—814 of the eye, and 226 of the ear. In the treatment of so many, extending over such a period, a large amount of time has necessarily been employed in attendance at the Dispensary, in addition to the strictly professional work. Yet there has been much to please, as well as to encourage. The relations between your Board and myself have been of the most harmonious kind. Having nothing to do with the management, but simply to attend to the professional work in my own department, I have been left free to do whatever I thought was necessary for the patients under my care. And it is to be hoped that in the future management of this institution, as in the past, the Executive Board will be selected from the citizens who pay the money for its support, and that the strictly professional work alone shall belong to the medical men connected with it. Whether we consider the amount of work done in the several departments, the sufferings relieved, or the benefits conferred, this institution is emphatically the cheapest charity in the city.

I now desire to say a few words more particularly of my own department. It has been a rule with me ever since I became connected with the Dispensary to impress upon all who applied to me for treatment the importance of seeking relief early in their diseases; and to attend punctually until well. It is to be borne in mind that the patients are not only poor, but, as a rule, uneducated, knowing little of the laws of health and caring less for them, devoid of habits