

# Halifax Visiting Dispensary.

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## DIRECTORS' REPORT

FOR THE YEAR ENDED NOVEMBER 30, 1880.

The supporters of this institution, and others who are interested in its welfare, are doubtless waiting the issue of the customary yearly statement of its work and progress. In presenting herewith the more interesting reports of the Medical staff, with that of Dr. Dodge, and the financial exhibit of the Treasurer for the past year, the Directors beg to submit a few practical observations relating to the present aspects and future prospects of affairs affecting the Dispensary. They are hopeful that this combination of facts, figures and sentiment may result in eliciting an increase of sympathy and more extended support on the part of the general public.

Though gradually augmenting, the claims upon the Dispensary, by its beneficiaries, have hitherto been met, but the corresponding drain upon its financial resources is likely to become, ere long, too great for the ordinary limited revenue to supply. At the close of 1879 a few bills had to remain unpaid, the outlay for that year, notwithstanding strict economy and careful oversight, being greater than the income. The Directors were unable to discover in what way further retrenchment could be practiced in order to make both ends meet. Needful improvements were deferred, and as the bill for medicines has continuously increased, it was deemed advisable to discontinue the supply of prescriptions to such other charitable institutions in the city as were self-sustaining, and more of a private than public nature. Reluctant to adopt this course, they curtailed the list no further than absolute necessity demanded.