

The Christmas season was rendered happy and joyous for the little ones, by the holding of a festival, when, after a plentiful repast, amusements were provided for them, including a magic lantern, which Mr. Topley, with his usual kindness, exhibited to the children.

For all the donations which have, by the kindness of Messrs. Holland, been acknowledged from month to month in *The Citizen*, the Managers return their sincere and heartfelt thanks, also for the ready response which the collectors have always met, when in the different districts of the City, they have presented to the public the claims of the Orphans, and they still rejoice at the interest which is taken in the work in which they are privileged to engage. They would also here express their indebtedness to Mr. Lees, their legal adviser, and to Drs. Grant and Hill, consulting physicians.

It is now about nine years since this charity was first organized, and a little over eight since a small house was opened, with *one* child. Since then, through many difficulties and discouragements, yet with much to cheer, the Managers have striven to perform aright the work given them to do; until now it has become one of the established Institutions of the city. Although perhaps not attracting a large share of public attention, it has yet, in its quiet and unobtrusive way, been doing much to alleviate the condition of helpless childhood and old age.

Upon the sympathy and support of the generous and Christian hearts of this community, the Committee therefore cast this Institution, hoping that from the overflowings of happy and comfortable homes, there may still be sufficient to supply the wants of the destitute, and may the good thus done be returned a hundred fold, "For whosoever shall give to drink unto one of these little ones a cup of cold water only, in the name of Christ, he shall in no wise lose his reward."

The whole is respectfully submitted.

MARIA J. J. THORBURN,

*Recording Secretary,*

*Orphans' Home of the City of Ottawa.*

January 21st, 1874.

---