

TWELFTH ANNUAL REPORT OF THE PRISONERS' AID
ASSOCIATION.

I beg to report that, in addition to the work covered by the reports of the different departments, for the year ending Dec. 31st, 1886, the Association has assisted 693 discharged prisoners ; found employment for 146 ; given provisions to 46 families, and 73 articles of furniture ; paid rent for 18 ; distributed 210 articles of clothing and 78 tools ; paid railway fare to the homes, or to where employment could be obtained, for 34 ; given lodgings and food in the home on Bay St. to 311 ; and advanced the sum of \$455.98 in loans, of which \$325.40 have been repaid. In addition to the amount advanced as loans, the sum of \$142.50 has been expended by the Association, at the request of the Government, in aiding a prisoner who was disabled in the workshops at the Central Prison. We would call special attention to the practical and beneficial results of our system of loaning money as a method of assistance. A large number of those aided are doing well. We are happy to report that the benefit of our inside work in the prisons has this year become very marked, as shewn by the willingness of men to return to their own homes, and retrieve their characters there, instead of throwing themselves into different cities, as has been the case with so great a portion in former years.

We thank and praise God for the great blessing that has attended our work. Very many have been drawn from a life of sin to a happy trust in their loving Saviour.

Before closing this report, we wish thankfully to acknowledge the receipt of parcels of clothing, from Mr. W. N. Clarke, Mrs. Cochrane, Mrs. J. E. Coleman, A Friend, Mrs. Procter, Miss Wallace and Miss Watson, and Bibles from The Upper Canada Bible Society. We also desire to thank the committee of the Toronto Mission Union for the use of the Mission Hall for the Annual Meeting, and all the Officers of the Gaol, Central Prison, and Andrew Mercer Reformatory, for their kind assistance and hearty co-operation.

December 31st, 1886.

S. H. BLAKE,
President.