

## REPORT OF THE CHARITABLE COMMITTEE.

TO THE PRESIDENT, COUNCIL AND MEMBERS OF THE IRISH  
PROTESTANT BENEVOLENT SOCIETY.

The Charitable Committee of your Society have held fifteen regular weekly meetings for the distribution of provisions and fuel, and beg leave to lay before you a detailed statement of their work.

The distribution of fuel and provisions was as follows:—

Wood, in cords,	...	...	...	42 $\frac{1}{4}$
Hard Coal, in pounds,	...	...	...	85,500
Soft       "       "	...	...	...	7,000
Coke, in chaldrons,	...	...	...	8
Oatmeal, in pounds,	...	...	...	1,858
Tea,               "	...	...	...	122 $\frac{1}{4}$
Bread,           "	...	...	...	2,796
Sugar,           "	...	...	...	489
Soap,            "	...	...	...	489

The cash distributed by your Committee, as per statement, was \$118.35, to 46 persons.

The Committee have assisted with money, for passages, as follows:

- 1 Family to Port Arthur.
- 1 Woman to Ottawa.
- 1 Man to Kingston.

The amounts paid for above passages are included in current expenses of the Committee.

The number of families regularly assisted in 1887-8 was 52. This year only 39, or a decrease of 25 per cent. A very marked decrease is also to be noted in wood and provisions this year as compared with last year: say, wood,  $\frac{1}{3}$ ; provisions, 40 per cent. The quantity of coal has not decreased in the same proportion, being only 10 per cent. The decrease is accounted for by some few of the old pensioners dying; others being received into the Country Home of the House of Industry; others earning wages sufficient for their support; and also from the fact that your Committee have been more careful in examining into the needs and character of the applicants.