

N. B.—Donations and Subscriptions will be thankfully received by Mr. Sterling, the Treasurer of the Association, at the Union Bank. It is hoped that friends of the Association will not wait to be called upon for contributions.

REPORT.

The Central Board of the ASSOCIATION FOR IMPROVING THE CONDITION OF THE POOR have pleasure in reporting, at this, the Third Annual Meeting of the Association, that its operations during the past year have tended to confirm their belief in the wisdom of the principles upon which it has been established, and of the fundamental rules by which all who connect themselves with it are expected to abide. The evils of indiscriminate alms-giving are more and more forced upon the attention of those engaged in the distribution of charity; and the absolute necessity for thorough investigation into the particulars of every case before administering relief becomes increasingly apparent with every day's experience. The stringency of our rules has been abundantly justified, and ample proof is afforded of the beneficial results with which they may be rigorously applied. It is only in so far as they may at any time be disregarded that failure in the grand object of our organization is likely to occur.

With satisfaction the Central Board advert to the fact, that whilst during the past year every imperative claim for assistance, brought to the notice of your visitors, appears to have been promptly met; the amount distributed in gratuitous relief has fallen in every district of the city very considerably below that of the previous year. No doubt much of the success of the Association has arisen from