

REPORT.

"Take heed that ye despise not one of these little ones; for I say unto you, That in heaven their angels do always behold the face of my Father which is in heaven."

The Committee of the Protestant Infants' Home have much pleasure in laying before the Public their Ninth Annual Report and tender their grateful thanks to the many kind friends and patrons, whose liberality has enabled them to carry on the work of the Institution, through a period of unusual difficulty. The almost unparalleled commercial depression, under which the country has laboured during the past year, has had a marked effect upon our finances, and the immediate prospect of an empty Treasury, has more than once, given rise to anxiety and discouragement, on the part of the Committee. We are thankful, however, though our balance on hand is very small, to be able to commence another year free from debt.

To those, not intimately acquainted with the workings of the Institution, it may not be out of place to mention some of the objects it has in view. Founded in January, 1870, and incorporated January, 1871, the Protestant Infants' Home was established to fill a very important place, not occupied by any of the numerous charities of Montreal, viz. to provide a Home, where destitute and neglected children of tender years could be sent and properly cared for. In a report like this it would be impossible to specify the different cases it receives within its sheltering walls, suffice it to say, that not only children who have lost both parents are provided for, but also the children of indigent widows, or those, whose parents, by sickness, poverty, or other causes, are without means of supporting them. Last but not least, the Institution provides a Home for the illegitimate