

for the season, the amount was reduced to \$128.39. The receipts for the year amounted to \$780.84, and the expenditure was \$952.37, a detailed statement being appended. For financial assistance we desire especially to thank Mr. E. E. Sheppard, of *Saturday Night*, Mrs. Stuart W. Johnston, the City Council, "Kit," of the *Mail*, J. S. Robertson, of the *Advance*, H. C. Dixon's Bible Class, Miss Mara, who arranged "garden party," Wm. Bayley and the Island Amateur Aquatic Association.

### CHRISTMAS ENTERTAINMENT.

The annual Christmas entertainment for poor children, which is undertaken as an auxiliary to the Fresh Air Fund, was not forgotten last year, and in addition the Christmas distribution of packages of candy, each containing five new coppers, was handed over to us by Mr. H. C. Dixon's Bible Class. The entertainment was held on Christmas Eve from 5.30 until 8.30 in Victoria Hall, and besides an abundance of good cheer a capital musical entertainment was provided by James Fax, humorous vocalist; Prof. F. H. Torrington, pianist; Eddie Reburn, soloist, and the Broadway Orchestra. Outside entirely of the entertainment, and to different children, one thousand presents were distributed, each package containing half a pound of candy and also five new cents. It is hardly necessary to add that these gifts were greatly appreciated by the little ones and their gratified parents.

The contributions to the Christmas Fund, chiefly through Mayor Clarke, amounted to \$210.05, and the expenditure to \$205.60, leaving a balance of \$4.45. This, added to the balance from the summer's Fresh Air Fund work, gave a total of \$132.81. Subsequently Mr. W. D. Grand very kindly and generously gave a Horse Show in aid of the Fund, the amount realized, after expenses, being in the neighborhood of \$300.

### DEVOTED WORKERS.

No mere words printed here can record or acknowledge in any adequate manner the services of those who gave their time during the summer to looking after and ministering to the wants of the children on the excursions. One of the chief advantages of the Fresh Air Fund is that it gathers under its banners many noble-hearted women who love poor children, and are glad to labor in any cause that seeks to ameliorate their condition and bring pleasure to their lives. We have many such, and so gentle and patient are they with their turbulent little charges that one never hears from them any angry, hasty word, nor even sees in their countenances the expressions of annoyance or anger. In fact, "kindness to the children" is the strictest rule known in the management of the excursions, though no word has ever been spoken or printed to that effect. Sometimes it has been hard for workers to hide signs of vexation at the unruliness of which all children will be guilty at times, but they have managed somehow to maintain discipline without resorting to any iron rod. We do not attempt to do more than acknowledge their devotion, because we know that they have all been amply compensated in witnessing the pleasure and happiness of the children.



"LITTLE SISTER AND ME."