

It has been customary for a number of years past for this Society, to distribute at Christmas-tide a liberal supply of fuel and provisions of various kinds to indigent English families of good repute. To meet the expenses of such a distribution, (not contemplated or in any way provided for in the By-laws of the Society), it has been usual to appeal to the sympathies of the members and their friends in order to obtain the needful funds, and further to solicit contributions in kind or goods, year after year.

Your Committee did not consider themselves justified in making such an appeal last Christmas, for reasons which will be best explained by quoting a Resolution adopted at a Meeting of the Board of Management held on the 3rd of December last :—

“That this Committee entertaining as it does, a hope that the abundance of work of all kinds offered to industrious Englishmen and others in this city, during the past season, has been the means of enabling many of them to provide, to a considerable extent, against the rigors of winter, thus obviating the necessity of their applying this year to the Society for the usual Christmas bounty, hereby decides on dispensing with the annual entertainment in aid of the Christmas Special Fund, and will rely solely on the voluntary contributions of the members of the Society and their friends, to meet such deserving cases as may be presented to their (the Committee's) notice.”

It is with no ordinary feeling of gratitude, Your Committee acknowledge the receipt of the following among other donations in aid of the Christmas Special Fund, to wit:—From H. V. Noel, Esq., \$20; Thos. Reynolds, Esq., \$25. These gentlemen are Life Members of the Society and have repeatedly contributed, to a most generous extent, on similar occasions to the one now referred to.

Nor must the liberality of two other members of the Society, namely, that of Messrs Satchell Brothers, be forgotten; like the gentlemen whose names have just been mentioned, they do not require to be solicited, but whenever the glad season which proclaims

“Peace on earth, good will to all men”

approaches, their names are found among the first and most important contributors to the St. George's Special Fund.

It is right to mention that early in the month of December Messrs. Satchell Bros. voluntarily placed at the disposal of Your Committee in the event of a distribution taking place 300 lbs of meat. Happily they did not find it necessary to avail themselves of this generous offer beyond the extent of one-half, not the less however do they appreciate the charitable spirit which prompted the esteemed donors. Such men as those whose names have been mentioned reflect honor on the Society.

To a number of widows and others 13 loads of wood were supplied in addition to the quantity of meat referred to, the cost of the wood amounted to \$43.82 and the contributions to \$49; a sum more than ample to defray this particular expense, by \$5.18.