

FOURTH ANNUAL REPORT

—OF THE—

Home for Friendless Women.

IN presenting the Fourth Annual Report of the Home, the Board desires to embrace the opportunity of making more fully known, not only the record of work for the past year, but its nature and management.

There is no work, perhaps, that is looked upon with more disfavor and suspicion as work among the friendless and fallen, and the Home is not an exception, having been regarded by some as an institution for the encouragement of vice. That it has for its aim and object, the salvation of each individual inmate, body and soul, will be seen from the following facts :—

(1) Those who give no evidence of a desire to forsake a life of sin are refused admission.

(2) Every effort is made to lead each inmate to a knowledge of her lost condition and to trust in the finished work of Christ for salvation.

(3) That maternity cases are admitted solely on the following conditions, viz :—

(a) That a paper drawn up by a magistrate has to be signed by all applicants in the presence of four witnesses, pledging themselves to remain in the Home for twelve months. (b) That each should be required to care for her infant and to take it with her on being discharged. (c) That no one can be admitted a second time.

The work of the year has embraced features and elements not strictly in the line proposed at the organization of the Institution, and this has been in a manner forced upon the Board because of the want of other much needed institutions such as the Burnside Home in Toronto. In February it was decided to send a petition from the Board, signed also by the Boards of other benevolent institutions in the city, requesting the managers of the Protestant Hospital to make provision for a maternity ward. In June a