

ANNUAL REPORT.

About thirteen months ago, a few Christian women met, at the invitation of a benevolent lady, in the rooms of the Young Women's Christian Association, to devise ways and means for enlarging and extending in usefulness the quiet and unobtrusive charity founded by herself, situated at 57 Champ de Mars Street, and known as the "Home for Friendless Women," which, up to that time, had been carried on without any public efforts, or any committee of management.

This Protestant Charity provides a shelter for destitute women. No preliminary steps are needed to procure admission; any houseless Protestant woman who applies is at once received by the Matron, so long as there is room, the only needed qualification being, simply, homelessness. In no single instance has any one applied in vain. There is, as is well-known, a continuous influx into every large city of those who have failed in life's work elsewhere, or have lapsed into intemperance, or have gone astray, and who hope to hide themselves in the crowd, and to make a fresh start in life. Many of these, having, of necessity, to struggle against temptation and penury, become disheartened, lose their health, and thus drift, some into the Hospital, and some into the gaol. It is here the Bible-woman has found and benefited them. But, on their leaving the Hospital, where were they to go? No home had the Bible-woman to offer those from the gaol; the Bible-woman, when appealing to their consciences to begin anew, was often met by the despairing answer, "there is naught for us but to die." Then comes the drunkard, this almost hopeless class, an Asylum has been found for them, too, and a helping hand held out.

These are some of the classes represented in the Shelter since December, 1874, while others, such as Sarah A.—