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FIRST ANNUAL REPORT  
OF THE  
OTTAWA HOUSE OF REFUGE.

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The origin of the institution will be best explained by the following circular, which was issued on the 9th March, 1870 :—  
(Circular.)

HOME FOR THE DESTITUTE AND THE FALLEN.

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The Christian Public are hereby informed that it is in contemplation to open a House of Refuge for destitute Women and Children, in which they may find food, shelter, and employment,—associated with religious counsel and instruction,—until they can be permanently provided for.

In order to commence the undertaking, the projectors require,—

- 1st.—Pecuniary means to provide for the rent of a suitable House, and to remunerate a Matron or House-keeper for her services.
- 2nd.—Furniture of a plain but substantial kind for Kitchen, Sitting-room and Bed-rooms.
- 3rd.—A supply of wholesome provisions, and wood for fuel.

Satisfied that success in this undertaking can only be secured by prayer, offered in faith to God, to whom the gold and silver belong,—the projectors do not intend to make any personal applications for assistance, and will not publish the names of donors ; but every donation, whether in money or goods, will, at regular intervals, be so described in a published report, as that each contributor will be enabled to recognize his gift ; and a faithful account of expenditure will also be published.

Contributions in money or articles suitable for any of the above purposes, or articles which might realize money by sale, and cast-off clothing, will be thankfully accepted, on communication with

MRS. JAMES JOHNSON, Daly Street, East, or  
MRS. JOHN TILTON, Russell House.

The response to this appeal was not long delayed ; and during the remaining days of the same month (March) the following answers to faith and prayer were received :—

A lady presented \$5, with her blessing on the work ; and

a widow, in humble circumstances, walked over two miles to present an offering of \$2. A gentleman of the Civil Service sent by the hands of a friend \$2. Mr. C., \$5. The sum of \$7 was also received in the following note:—"A small gift for the Home of the Destitute; may God prosper you in your undertaking; A Friend." Another note was received by mail as follows:—"I last evening received your circular, and beg to inclose five dollars in aid of your undertaking; hoping that you will succeed in the worthy object you have in hand, allow me to remain, ———." A gentleman presented \$5.

The following expression of Christian liberality was received with deep thankfulness:—"In response to your appeal, and especially approving of the declaration that the names of donors are not to be made public, I beg to inclose you, at Mrs. ———'s request, a cheque for one hundred dollars, to assist you in beginning the noble work in which you propose to engage. We believe that you rely on the only true source of success, and feel confident that your faith will be rewarded. Wishing you speedy success, and assuring you of our continued interest and prayers in behalf of your work,—Believe me very truly yours, ———."

The only additional cash donations received this month were,—From a Friend, 60 cents; and a young Wesleyan Minister, \$2. A gentleman engaged in the cabinet business, having read the circular in one of the city papers, sent a very kind and encouraging note, with the offer of the following articles of furniture for the Refuge, viz:—1 bedstead, 1 mattress, 1 bureau, 1 looking-glass, 1 washstand and dressing table, and 2 chairs, (value \$16,) which have been since received as promised.

#### APRIL.

The following donations were received this month, viz. :—Mrs. M——, \$20; Mrs. K., \$1; Mrs. T., \$1.25; Mrs. F., \$10; A Friend, \$10; a lady from Halifax, N.S., \$5; Mrs. V., \$5; Mrs. G., \$5; Mr. R., \$1; Mrs. B., \$5; F. S., \$2; Mrs. G——, \$20; also the proceeds of an evening of Penny Readings, a purely voluntary offering on the part of the committee, \$32.45; also, from a merchant, 2 lbs. candles, 4 lbs. sugar, 2 lbs. tea,

20 lbs. soap, and 7 lbs. fish, with a gratifying letter, which it is regretted has been mislaid, expressive of his appreciation of the work.

## MAY.

Received from a lady from New Brunswick, \$10; Mr. L., \$15; the wife of a clergyman, \$4; and Mr. B., Civil Service, \$5. Also, the following donations in goods:—(12th.) 1 lb. crackers, 1 doz. eggs, 1 qt. syrup, 2 lbs. sugar,  $\frac{1}{2}$  lb. tea; (16th.) 6 pillow-cases, 1 patent scrubbing brush; (20th.) set bedroom furniture, before acknowledged; (23rd.) 6 pens, 5 copy books, 4 readers, and 1 bottle ink; (31st.) 3 glass lamps,  $\frac{1}{2}$  gal. oil.

## JUNE.

From the wife of a clergyman, \$2; Mrs. McG., \$5; "With our Saviour's blessing," \$1; Mrs. G., \$5. Also, in goods:—(8th.) 2 pair pillow cases, pieces for quilts; (14th.) 2 lbs. starch, 1 bag potatoes, 4 pairs stockings, lot half-worn clothes.

## JULY.

St. George's Society sent three donations for special purposes of \$1 each; Mr. B., Civil Service, \$1; F. W., 65 cents; a lady from Toronto, "widow's mite," \$2. A lady also presented the sum of \$20, with the following letter:—"Please accept the enclosed small sum for the Female Home, as a token of my high appreciation of the object; with my most sincere wishes for its welfare, and approbation of the manner and spirit in which it has been commenced, and belief that in true faith you must succeed."

Received, also, on the 6th, 6 bands, 1 dress, 1 shirt, 1 sieve. (5th) 4 pinnies, 4 little dresses, 1 quilt, and some Hymn and other books. (14th), 1 hat, 1 pair boots, 1 sacque.

## AUGUST.

Only two donations in cash. A Lady from Eastport \$2, and a Wesleyan Minister \$5. Also, 1 tin pan and 1 porringer.

## SEPTEMBER.

From Mrs. C. \$2, and a Friend 2 babies' dresses, 3 pairs childrens' socks, 1 Garibaldi, 1 baby's flannel night-gown, some yarn. Mr. O. 9 pairs boots and shoes.

## OCTOBER.

A lady from Eastport \$2. (1st), 2 quilts, 6 prs. stockings. (27th), 3 lbs. sugar, 1 lb. tea. (30th), paper black lead.

## NOVEMBER.

From a Friend 50 cents. Miss W. \$2. "In the name of Jesus," \$2.55. Friend, \$2.50. (2nd), some fish and meat.— (7th), 3 boxes potatoes. (21st), 7 yds. red flannel, 6 yds. white cotton. (12th), piece of meat. (23rd), some beets, vinegar, milk, mitts, 1 cloud,  $\frac{1}{2}$  gal. syrup, piece meat. (26th) 1 load coal.

## DECEMBER.

Received from a Clergyman, \$2. Mr. H., Civil Service, \$2. "In the name of Jesus" \$10. Mrs. G. \$2. Mrs. D. \$1. Mrs. S., \$5. Mrs. M., \$4. Mr. B., Civil Service, \$10. From the Mother of an inmate, \$9. A former inmate for her baby, \$2. Also, the proceeds of a juvenile Bazaar, \$52.35. (24th), Christmas presents—1 turkey, 2 geese, 2 loaves plum cake, 1 apple pie, fish, 1 paper corn starch, lemons, currants, raisins, spice; also, 1 snow shovel.

## JANUARY, 1871.

From the wife of a Clergyman, \$4 M. B. for baby, \$3.— M. O. B. for baby \$2. Contribution box 30 cents.

## FEBRUARY.

From a Doctor of Medicine, \$5. M. B., for baby, \$3.— "Trifle for the Refuge," 60 cents. "In humble love," \$2. Mrs. K., \$10. Mrs. M., \$5. Mrs. C., Brockville, \$5. M. O. B., for baby, \$2. Mr. B., Civil Service, \$1. Mr. H., 25 cents. "In the name of Jesus," \$5. Contribution box, 32 cents. Also, from Mr. E., 1 bbl flour. A friend, 1 basket meat. 1 cord wood.

## MARCH.

Miss W. \$1. Mrs. C. of New Brunswick, \$5. "In Christ's name," \$5. Mrs. McL. \$4. Mrs. W. \$2. M. B. for baby, \$3, and Penny Readings, \$21. Contribution box, \$1.47. Also, small donation of oatmeal, potatoes and meat, and from Mr. W. 4 iron Bedsteads, value about \$28; also, a Gold Ring from a

young Lady, and two Tidies and two Table-mats from a friend in the country.

Two of the most eminent Physicians of this City have given their attendance gratuitously, whenever required by the inmates; and on several occasions their kind services have proved to be onerous to themselves, but exceedingly valuable to the patients. Another has recently volunteered similar assistance.

Several Clergymen of the City, of different denominations, have shewn a practical interest in the Institution, by visiting and ministering to the spiritual needs of the inmates.

The aggregate of the cash donations, as detailed, with the sum of \$71.12 earned by the inmates by washing for several families, amounts to \$608.41,—all of which was received in strict conformity with the terms of the Circular, there having been, in no one case, the slightest solicitation made use of. This is recorded to the praise of God, who has thus graciously manifested his readiness to hear and answer prayer.

The house in Augusta street, which has been occupied for the purposes of the Refuge, was taken on the 10th May, 1870, at an annual rental of \$180, and was solemnly dedicated to the service of God in that capacity on the 19th of the same month, several clergymen officiating, and a number of friends, with the conductresses and matron, being present. The occasion was one of great interest, and appeared to leave a salutary impression upon the minds of all present.

There were received into the institution during the year a total of 19 adults, of whom 3 were dismissed, 3 left of their own accord, 1 died, and 5 have been recommended to places as servants, and are still giving good satisfaction to their employers; 4, who belonged to the Roman Catholic Church, left for the purpose of entering an institution of their own faith, and 4 still remain in the Refuge.

Three children, belonging to an afflicted family residing in the country, were received and sheltered for five weeks, when they were enabled to return to their home.

Eight infants have also shared the benefits of the institution, three of whom were born in the house. Of these—3

died, 2 were taken by their mothers to the Roman Catholic Orphan Asylum, 1 went with his mother, and 2 still remain.

The following is a summary of the Cash Expenditure and Receipts from the opening to 31st March, 1871.

Preliminary expenses,—Printing, &c.....	\$ 6 71
Furniture for house,.....	127 29
Repairs and Alterations,.....	33 53
Expenses of Garden,.....	42 75
Clothing of inmates,.....	9 76
Fuel,.....	45 20
Rent, paid on account,.....	115 00
Salary of Matron,.....	76 70
Medicine,.....	2 23
Provisions and small stores,.....	186 53
	<u>\$645 70</u>

CONTRA.

Cash donations received,.....	608 41
Excess of Expenditure over Receipts,.....	\$ 37 29

In addition to this balance, there are some small amounts due to several parties, amounting to \$40. The donations in goods are not included in this account, on either side.

In conclusion, the undersigned are happy to record, that, during the year, the inmates of the Refuge have been regularly instructed, every day, out of Holy Scripture, associated with prayer and praise. and that these exercises have been attended with manifest blessing; several giving pleasing evidence of permanent moral improvement; and they desire to express deep gratitude to Almighty God for such a measure of success, and thanks to the kind friends whose voluntary offerings have helped and cheered them in their work.

A. B. JOHNSON,  
R. E. TILTON.

OTTAWA, 1st April, 1871.