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THE
THIRTY-THIRD ANNUAL REPORT
OF
ST. ANDREW'S CHURCH
FEMALE BENEVOLENT SOCIETY,
FOR THE YEAR 1863.

WITH A LIST OF THE

SUBSCRIBERS AND COMMITTEE FOR 1863.

"Give alms of such things as you have."

HALIFAX, N. S.
PRINTED BY JAMES BOWES & SONS.
1863.

COMMITTEE FOR 1863.

MRS. JOHN McCULLOCH, *President.*

" JAMES THOMSON, *Treasurer & Secretary.*

MRS. GEORGE BOYD.

" A. MCLEOD,

" W. HAYS.

MRS. D. CALDER.

MISS M. MITCHELL.

" ANN THOMPSON.

RULES, &c.

OF

St. Andrew's Church Female Benevolent Society.

A NUMBER of Ladies belonging to this Congregation, sympathising with the Poor in their afflictions, and anxious to relieve their necessities, after due deliberation resolved to form themselves into a regular Society, that their usefulness might be more extensive and permanent, and their bounty administered with greater care, prudence, and tenderness.

At a meeting held on the first Monday in the month of November, 1828, the following regulations were adopted for the guidance of the Society:—

I. The designation of the Society shall be, SAINT ANDREW'S CHURCH FEMALE BENEVOLENT SOCIETY.

II. The object of the Society, shall be, to afford relief in clothing, provisions, and, if judged necessary, in money, to destitute widows and orphans, to the sick, to the aged, and to the friendless, belonging to the congregation, and to the poor throughout the community, as far as their means extend.

III. Every person subscribing five shillings a year, shall be considered a member of this Society, and be requested to afford the Committee information respecting those cases of distress, which come under his or her immediate observation.

IV. As clothing is an article indispensably necessary for the comfort of the poor, particularly in this severe climate, it shall be the business of the Members of Committee to procure, either from their own funds, or from the donations of the charitable and humane, suitable apparel for those who have a claim upon their liberality.

V. The business of the Society shall be conducted by a Committee, consisting of a President, Treasurer, Secretary, and thirteen ladies, chosen from the Subscribers.

VI. The Committee shall appoint two ladies, either of their own number or from the Subscribers, as collectors, who shall call upon the Subscribers within the space of two weeks after the commencement of the quarter, for their quarterly subscriptions, and remit them immediately to the Treasurer.

VII. The Committee shall also appoint two ladies as visitors, who shall call once a month, or oftener, if they can find leisure, upon each of the persons receiving aid from this Society, and ascertain when and how the assistance of the Society shall be continued, extended, or withheld. They shall also visit all applicants to the Society, and report to the Committee their claims for support.

VIII. The Committee shall meet on the first Monday of every month at 2 o'clock, afternoon, for transacting the business of the Society; and no business shall be done unless at least eight of the members be present.

REPORT.

Among the principles and precepts inculcated by the Bible, that of compassion or mercy to the poor, is certainly among the prominent and oft repeated ones. The Bible does not lose sight of man in his standing and character as a social being, whilst it trains him as a religious being. And it exhorts him not merely to a practical respect for the rights of others, but also to cultivate a practical regard for the social condition of the afflicted, distressed and poor. Moreover, practical sympathy with the poor is set forth by the Word of God as the essence of acceptable worship;—yea, as a high development of the religion of Jesus Christ. The vital connexion between true religion and practical compassion for the poor, is brought out in Scripture, with much frequency and force. “Is not this the fast that I have chosen to loose the bands of wickedness, to undo the heavy burdens, and to let the oppressed go free, and that ye break every yoke? Is it not to deal thy bread to the hungry, and that thou bring the poor that are cast out to thy house? When thou seest the naked that thou cover him; and that thou hide not thyself from thine own flesh? Then shall thy light break forth as the morning, and thine health shall spring forth speedily.” “Pure religion and undefiled before God the Father is this, to visit the fatherless and widows in their affliction, and to keep himself unspotted from the world.”

And then, it is surely a manifestation or fruit of the *indwelling* love of God, to be touched with compassion in behalf of the indigent and afflicted. "Whoso hath this world's goods, and seeth his brother have need, and shutteth up his bowels of compassion from him, how dwelleth the love of God in him?"

There are many reasons and rules for the practical carrying out of compassion and benevolence to the poor. These the Committee of this Female Benevolent Society do not undertake to point out. They will readily occur to the minds of those who may glance over these lines. Remember that the poor are *our brethren*. For "God hath made of one blood all nations of men for to dwell on all the face of the earth." They are never to cease out of the land. And in our midst there are the poor and afflicted. May we all be reminded of the special obligations under which God has placed us, whom His goodness has blessed with wealth and competency in this world.

SUBSCRIBERS' NAMES FOR 1863.

Mrs. Boyd.....	5 0	Mrs. J. Hunter.....	5 0
Mrs. Williamson....	5 0	Mrs. W. Neal.....	5 0
Mrs. Williamson....	5 0	Mrs. McCulloch.....	5 0
Miss Mitchell.....	5 0	Mr. J. MacDonald ..	5 0
Miss Little.....	5 0	Mrs. R. McDonald...	5 0
Mrs. A. Keith.....	6 3	Mr. C. McDonald....	5 0
Mrs. W. Creighton..	5 0	Mr. D. Kerr.....	2 6
Miss Brander.....	3 1½	A Friend.....	2 6
Mrs. Brehm.....	2 6	Mrs. McLeod.....	5 0
Mrs. John Taylor....	5 0	Mrs. Mitchell.....	5 0
Mrs. Wier.....	5 0	Mrs. Sinclair.....	5 0
Mrs. Doull.....	5 0	Mr. C. Pearce.....	5 0
Miss McGill.....	2 6	Mr. A. McLeod.....	20 0
Mrs. P. Scott.....	5 0	Mr. Gibson.....	5 0
Mrs. McLean.....	5 0	Mrs. Calder.....	5 0
Mrs. Richardson....	5 0	Mrs. McKenzie.....	5 0
Mrs. Bauld.....	5 0	Mrs. J. Thomson....	5 0
Mrs. Robie.....	10 0	Mrs. Dr. Brown.....	5 0
A Friend.....	1 3	Mrs. LeCain.....	5 0
Capt. Jehn Taylor...	5 0	A Friend.....	1 10½
Rev. John Martin...	5 0	Mrs. W. Bauld.....	5 0
Mrs. W. Hays.....	5 0	Mrs. Smith.....	5 0
Mrs. W. Kandick...	5 0	Miss Burket.....	5 0
Mrs. Urquhart.....	5 0	Mrs. Noble.....	10 0
Miss Thompson.....	5 0	Mrs. T. Forrester...	5 0
Mrs. J. Scriven....	2 6	Mrs. J. Malcom.....	5 0
Mrs. J. Scott.....	5 0	Mrs. A. Anderson...	5 0
Mrs. J. Rhind.....	5 0	Mr. John Finn.....	1 3
Miss Bauld.....	3 9	Miss Jamieson.....	5 0
Mrs. D. Thom.....	2 6		

ACCOUNT CURRENT FOR 1862.

The Treasurer in account with St. Andrew's Church Female
Benevolent Society.*

DR.

To amount subscriptions for 1862.....	£14	12	6
Proceeds Bazaar	5	9	4
	£20	1	10

CR.

By Cash paid for Groceries.....	£9	18	1
Do. Clothing, Fuel, &c.....	9	11	8
Do. Printing Reports.....	0	17	6
	£20	1	10

HALIFAX, N. S., Dec. 31st, 1862.