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ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE

HALIFAX METHODIST FEMALE

BENEVOLENT SOCIETY.

It has been said, "Benevolence in any form is delightful, in a female form peculiarly so; but most of all—in a female form soliciting aid for the poor and needy. In that form she appears before NOU. Will you send her away without your mite?

Public Archives of Nova Scotia

HALIFAX, N. S.

Printed by J. H. White, for the Society.

1826.

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REPORT, &C.

THE period at which it is the duty of the Committee of the Halifax Methodist Female Benevolent Society to present to its friends and members a Report of its proceedings during the lapse of another year, has at length arrived.

In discharge of this duty, your Committee have little else to do than to reiterate the language of Reports in former years; to say that the poor have been still with us; and that during the past year they have been enabled by the benevolence of contributors to the funds of this humble Institution, in some small degree to relieve the wants, assuage the griefs, and mitigate the sufferings of many of the most wretched and destitute of our fellow creatures.

The Treasurer's last annual account exhibited a balance of L5 77, and the amount of subscriptions and donations received during the past year, ending 5th November inst. has been L69 73; besides 67 yards of various stuffs for clothing, several pairs of shoes, and sundry parcels of apparet.

The disbursements of the Society during the year, have amounted to L66 3s. 8 1-2d. leaving a balance in the hand of their Treasurer of L8 8s. 3 1-2d; and the number of articles of clothing of different descriptions distributed, has been no fewer than three hundred and five.

But although the progress of a year has removed some, perhaps many, who have been hitherto the recipients of your bounty, beyond the continued necessity of such relief, yet "the poor have not vanished out of the land." The rigours of a coming winter have been anticipated, and provided for by those who have the means to secure themselves against their effects, and from this we would be taught the instructive lesson, that it becomes those whom Heaven has blessed with somewhat more than the means to provide for their own necessities not wholly to forget the miseries and wretchedness, of those whose unhappy lot it is to be cast upon the benevolence of a wide, and but too often, an unfeeling world.

Your Committee, however, in appealing to your continued benevolence, and to that of a liberal public, have nothing more than the ordinary claims of poverty to urge, nor any thing less than the ordinary sanctions by which to press the sacred and important duty of relieving the necessitous: a duty to the discharge of which we should be prompted, if not by higher motives, at least by considerations for our own welfare, if there be any truth in the saying of the wise man, "He that hath mercy upon the poor, happy is he."

It is not reasonable to expect that a vast extent of good can be effected by the limited means of this Society, but your Committee feel assured that while it has steadily pursued "the noiseless tenor of its way" in a very humble path, it has proved a great blessing to many.

Your Committee know not that it is needful, at this late day of the Society's existence, for them to observe, that, although its designation may possibly favor the idea of restriction in the dissemination of its funds to the members of the *Methodist* Society or Congregation, yet this is far from being the fact; but as this Report may occasionally reach the hands of some who are unacquainted with its constitution and rules, they deem it not inexpedient nor improper, to state that the relief afforded from its funds is not measured by the religious creed of the applicant, but that every case which is considered by the Committee to be one of REAL distress, is relieved according to their best judgment; and to the extent warranted by the amount of their funds.

Your Committee, in concluding this short Report, would respectfully solicit the aid of those benevolent persons who may consider this Institution as a fit medium through which to convey a portion of their bounty to the distressed poor; and to inform such that their smallest donation or subscription, shall be thankfully received, and conscientiously applied to a mitigation of the sufferings of afflicted humanity.



At the 10th Annual Meeting held in the Wesleyan Sunday School House, on Wednesday, 29th November, 1826, the Rev. STEPHEN BAMFORD in the chair, it was resolved—

I. That the Report which has now been presented to the Meeting be received and published under the direction of the Committee.

II. That this Society views with satisfaction and heartfelt pleasure every effort to lesson the sufferings of humankind, and to carry the balm of consolation and comfort into the habitations of misery and want.

III. That the most respectful thanks of this Society are justly due to our highly esteemed Governor Sir James Kempt, for the various expressions of his liberality and kindness towards this humble Institution; and to those other honourable and benevolent persons who have contributed in any way to the increase of its funds; and that the continuance of their benevolence is most respectfully solicited.

IV. That the following persons compose the Committee for the present year:—

Mrs. A. Anderson, Mrs. Esther Grant,_

" Desiah Starr, - " J. Bamford, -

" Maria Morris, " " M. S. Starr, "

,, Ann Bell, senr, - ,, Mary Barry, -

" Ann Bell, junr. - " Helen Porter,

" Mary Livingston, " Lavinia Starr. -

" Rebecca Black, _

Mrs. Mary Black, Treasurer.

" Mary Loveland, Secretary.

V. That the Rev. Wm. Black be requested to accept the most cordial thanks of this Society for his indefatigable attention to its business and interests.

VI. That Mrs. Livingston and Mrs. Esther Grant be respectfully requested to solicit and receive donations of clothing, and any thing which may be suitable for manufacturing into articles of apparel.

VII. That the thanks of the Society be presented to Mr. J. S. Cunnabell, for his kindness in printing the 9th Annual Report gratuitously,

1825. Nov. 1.	To balance in hand,		L 5 7 7	Jan. 26.	Jan. 26. By paid for Blank Book, L 0 2 10	0	10,
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	ed between 1825, and this	Nov. 5, date.			date, , Balance,	8	8 8 8 1-2
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MARY BLACK, Treasurer.