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1821. Female

At a Meeting of the Governesses of the Society for the relief of Women during their confinement, held at the Government House on the 12th November 1821:—The following Report of the proceedings was read and adopted.

As twelve months have elapsed since the establishment of the Society for the relief of Women during their confinement, the Governesses beg leave to Report their proceedings to the Subscribers, as the best means of securing their continued patronage to so excellent a Charity,—a charity which was first suggested by several applications having been made to different Ladies, by poor women, strangers, without any connivance, or even a home, when they expected to be confined. Their deplorable situation excited the powerful sympathy of the persons to whom they applied: and in order to provide the means of more liberal and extensive assistance than detached individuals could afford, it was resolved to form a general association for that purpose, under the special patronage of Lady Sarah Maitland. Upwards of thirty-four Ladies signed the Subscription Paper, and many gave sums which entitled them to become Governesses. Hardly were the requisite preparations finished, when applications for relief were made by several women, under circumstances of peculiar affliction. During the first month, (November,) three cases were relieved: one, a woman whose husband had been accidentally drowned, a few months before, leaving her with one infant, and near her confinement with the second. To all these, one of the Governesses (for each Lady in her turn discharges the duties of the Society, during one month,) sent comfortable cloathing of all kinds, a midwife, and physician (if required,) and the best nourishment. Proper dresses were likewise provided for the child. The consequence of this humane treatment was, that the patients rapidly recovered. In December, two women solicited and obtained from the Governess of the month the benevolence of the Society, and were visited frequently by her during their illness to see that every thing was as comfortable as the situation of the patient would admit. The case of one woman who required assistance during this month, was very distressing: her husband had died four months before her confinement leaving with her five young children. Applications were made almost every month: and, during the year, seventeen women have experienced the benevolence of the Society: and what is matter of grateful praise, not one of the patients has died, or experienced a tedious confinement. All this good has been accomplished at a very little expence; for the greater part of the subscription was laid out for such articles of cloathing as were necessary for the mothers and children: some of which were given, and some lent during the confinement. The economy practised by the Society has been, however, liberal, and not parsimonious, for all the relieved will most willingly attest that no comfort was wanting that could contribute to their recovery.

It was also Resolved, that an annual subscription of £1 5 0, should in future constitute the Subscriber a Governess.

NAME.	DIET.	ATTENDANCE.	Total Expenditure.	Given for the Infant	Lent for the Mother	TOTAL EXPENDITURE.		
						£	s.	d.
Rebecca Edwards, - - -	0 4 2	Mrs. Bennet,	£ 0 15 0	0 30 2	two flannel bed gowns, 2 flannel gowns & linen	5 11 0		
Sarah McBurnie, - - -	0 7 6	Not applied for,	0 0 0	0 7 6	A set do.	6 5 0		
Jane Paisley, - - -	0 7 6	Dr. Duncanson,	0 0 0	0 7 6	two gowns & wrappers Bedding and clothes	6 15 11		
Catharine Water, - - -	0 10 2	Dr. Duncanson,	0 0 0	1 0 2	A set of Baby Linen	do.		
Hannah Parsons, - - -	0 7 1	Attendance,	0 10 0	1 0 2	ditto	do.		
Judith Fielding, - - -	0 7 1	Mrs. Bennet,	0 15 0	1 2 1	do.	47 12 10		
Mary Lennie, - - -	0 6 2	Mrs. Bennet,	0 15 0	1 1 2	do.	do.		
Elizabeth Digley, - - -	0 7 0	Mr. Lyons,	0 0 0	0 7 0	do.	do.		
Rebecca Mason, - - -	0 12 3	Mrs. Carnegie,	0 10 0	1 2 3	Two shirts, caps, &c.	do.		
Isabella Manning, - - -	0 6 0	Mrs. Bennet,	0 15 0	1 1 0	do.	Balanc'd		
Mary McLean, - - -	0 5 6	Dr. Duncanson,	0 0 0	0 5 6	A set of Baby Linen	11 5 10		
Ellen Hunt, - - -	0 5 1	Mrs. Bennet,	0 15 0	1 0 1	do.	hand		
Catharine Robinson, -	0 5 6	Mrs. Bennet,	0 15 0	1 6 0	do.	do.		
Esther Tynan, - - -	0 6 0	Mrs. Bennet,	0 0 0	0 6 0	do.	do.		
Eliza McConnel, - - -	0 8 9	Mrs. Bennet	0 15 0	1 3 9	do.	do.		
Elizabeth Shaw, - - -	0 6 0	Mr. Lyons	0 0 0	0 6 0				
			£5 11 10½	£6 5 0	£11 16 10½			

SUBSCRIPTIONS.

Lady Sarah Maitland	£ 2 0 0	Mrs. Purcell	£ 1 0 0
Mrs. Price	2 10 0	Mrs. Goodman	1 0 0
Mrs. Grant Bell	2 10 0	Mrs. Black Junc.	1 0 0
Mrs. Dugay	2 10 0	Mrs. Nation	1 0 0
Mrs. Stevenson	2 0 0	Mrs. Dugay	1 0 0
Mrs. Macmillan	2 0 0	Mrs. Etteman	1 0 0
Mrs. Robson	2 0 0	Mrs. Baldwin	1 0 0
Mrs. Rutherford	2 0 0	Mrs. Forrest	1 0 0
Mrs. Broughton	2 0 0	Mrs. W. Smith	0 10 0
Mrs. Fitz Gerald	2 0 0	Mrs. Stellius	0 10 0
Mrs. Henry Boulton	2 0 0	Mrs. Jarvis	0 10 0
Mrs. Hillier	2 0 0	Mrs. Small	2 10 0
Mrs. Grant Powell	2 0 0	Mr. Macmillan	0 10 0
Mr. Wells	2 0 0	Rev. Mr. Macaulay	1 3 4
Mrs. Cameron	2 0 0	Sunday Diners col.	2 42 0
Mrs. Macaulay	1 3 4	do.	
Mrs. Baines	1 0 0	do.	
Mrs. D'Arcy Boulton	1 0 0	Mr. R. C. Lashk	1 15 0
Mrs. Allan	1 0 0	Mr. James Macaulay	0 10 0
Mrs. Givings	1 0 0	Mr. Peter Robinson	0 10 0
Mrs. Howard	1 0 0	Mrs. Bennett	0 15 0
Mrs. Russell	1 0 0		
			58 13