

REPORT

OF

The Halifax Dispensary,

FOR THE YEAR

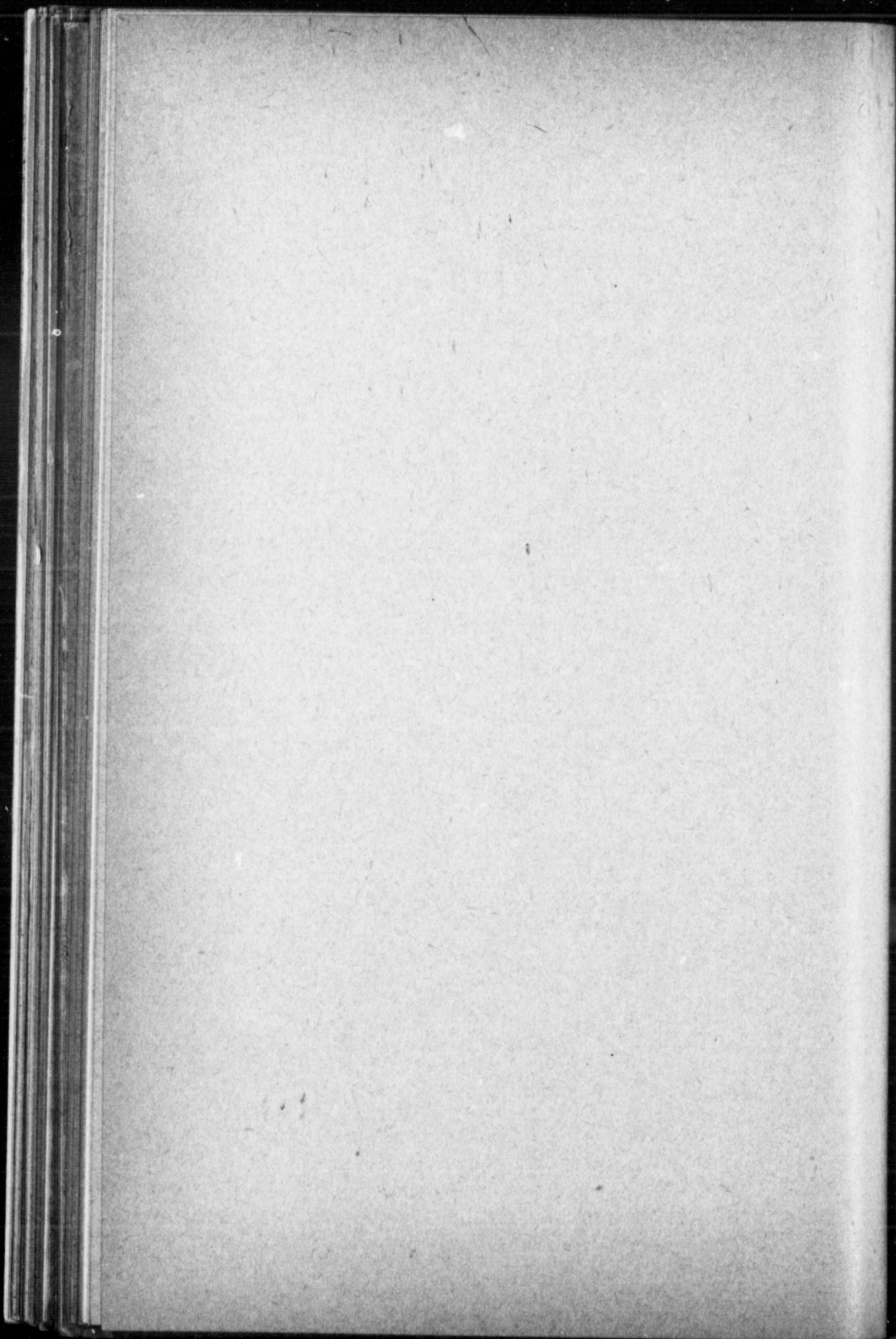
1899.



RE-ORGANIZED 1867.



HALIFAX, N. S. :
HOLLOWAY BROS., PRINTERS, 69 & 71 GRANVILLE ST.,
1900.



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Halifax Dispensary, 1900.

President.

W. C. SILVER.

Vice-Presidents.

HIS WORSHIP THE MAYOR AND HON. H. H. FULLER.

Directors.

ROBERT TAYLOR, CHAS. ARCHIBALD,
HON. SENATOR POWER, A. M. BELL,
W. H. TROOP, WILLIAM ROBERTSON,
J. F. KENNY, *Hon. Treasurer.*

Secretary.

W. H. WISWELL.

Consulting Physicians.

DRS. HON. D. MCN. PARKER, DR. EDWARD FARRELL,
D. A. CAMPBELL, J. F. BLACK,
F. U. ANDERSON, M. A. CURRY.

Attending Physicians.

EYE AND EAR DEPARTMENT.—DR. E. H. LOWERISON.
MEDICAL DEPARTMENT.—DR. JAMES ROSS.
SURGICAL DEPARTMENT.—DR. A. F. BUCKLEY.
WOMEN AND CHILDREN'S DEPARTMENT.—DR. WALLACE.
DENTAL DEPARTMENT.—DR. E. P. ENNIS.

Visiting Physicians.

DRS. W. F. SMITH, North District 1.
O'SHAUGHNESSY, " " 2.
F. A. R. GOW, Central District.
South "

Apothecary and Dispenser.

E. F. LUGRIN.

House Committee.

R. TAYLOR, W. ROBINSON AND HON. L. G. POWER.

Dartmouth Branch.—General Physician.

DR. CHAS. J. GOSSIP.

Auditors.

ROBERT TAYLOR AND WM. ROBERTSON.

AN ACT TO INCORPORATE THE HALIFAX VISITING
DISPENSARY.

(Passed the 18th day of April, A. D., 1872.)

Be it enacted by the Governor, Council, and Assembly, as follows:—

1. James C. Cochran, James Cochran, William Dunbar, John S. Maclean, George M. Grant, Henry N. Paint, Thomas E. Kenny, William H. Neal, D. Henry Starr, John Doull, and their associates, for the medical treatment of the sick poor in the City of Halifax, known as the "Halifax Visiting Dispensary," and such other persons as shall be members of the Association, according to the Rules and By-Laws thereof, are hereby Incorporated under the name of the Halifax Visiting Dispensary.

2. The corporation may purchase, take, hold, and enjoy real estate to the value of Twenty-Five Thousand Dollars, and may sell, mortgage, lease, convey or otherwise dispose of the same for the benefit of the Dispensary and the furtherance of its objects.

3. The present Constitution and By-Laws of the Dispensary shall be valid legally binding until altered or repealed.

4. All property, real and personal, and all debts and liabilities of the Halifax Visiting Dispensary, are vested in the corporation hereby created, who may collect all arrears due to them under the present By-Laws and Rules of the Dispensary.

CONSTITUTION.

ARTICLE I.

This Society shall be called "The Halifax Visiting Dispensary."

II.

The object of this Society shall be to provide and furnish medical and surgical aid, and medicines, to such persons as may be in need thereof, and unable, by reason of poverty, to procure the same.

III.

Any person paying annually the sum of Four Dollars shall be a member of the Society, and a subscription of Forty Dollars constitutes a member for life.

IV.

It shall be the duty of the President to preside at all meetings to enforce the Constitution and By-Laws, and to call special meetings when required. In his absence one of the Vice-Presidents shall perform these duties.

V.

The duty of the Secretary shall be to collect all subscriptions and dues to the Society, to pay over all monies received by him to the Treasurer, and report to the Directors annually, or as often as they may require it, and keep reports of all meetings. Also to give notice of the same, examine accounts, and conduct correspondence as may be required.

VI.

The duty of the Treasurer shall be to receive all monies payable to the Society, to keep all financial accounts, and make payments as directed by the President and Secretary.

VII.

There shall be a Board of Consulting Physicians, composed of five members.

VIII.

A code of By-Laws shall be appended to the Constitution, embodying necessary details.

IX.

A general meeting of the Society shall be held annually on the second Monday in January, at which the President and Directors shall submit a Report of the proceedings of the previous year, and a Board of Directors for the ensuing year shall be appointed.

X.

This Constitution shall not be altered, except by a vote of two-thirds of the members present, and not unless one month's notice shall be given to the Society, through the Secretary, of the proposed alteration.

THE HALIFAX VISITING DISPENSARY.

The Annual Meeting of the Halifax Dispensary was held at their building, South Brunswick Street, Monday, January 13th, 1900, at 3.30. Hon. H. H. Fuller, Vice-President, occupied the chair. The different reports were read and passed.

DIRECTORS' REPORT for the Year ended December 31st, 1899.

As in duty bound, the Directors of the Dispensary present for the information of its supporters, and the public generally, the several reports of its work and results for the past year.

Of their own proceedings they have merely to state that all matters pertaining to its management and progress have had careful attention and supervision; all essential expenditures have been made with that economy which its limited income demands.

Repairs and improvements have been made to the building and fittings, the medicines fully provided and the equipments supplied as required. An important and somewhat difficult part of the Directors duty of late years has been to obtain sufficient means to carry on the objects of the institution, and the yearly increasing demands upon it.

INSUFFICIENT SUPPORT.

Outside of the special grants, which are fixed amounts, it is dependent upon voluntary contributions by individual subscriptions and collections in the different churches. As regards the first, the number of subscribers and the amounts bestowed are gradually falling off and the observance of "Dispensary Sunday" by the various congregations in the city and vicinity has fallen much short of the Board's hopeful anticipations. Circulars were sent to 42 of the clergy and about 7000 printed appeals to be placed in the pews of the churches were also forwarded. On the day named only two churches made a collection and up to the present time 17 more have responded, while the remainder have made no sign, but the Board earnestly trust that they will avail themselves of the privilege (for it is one) of showing their substantial sympathy with the charitable work of relieving the distress and disabilities of the suffering sick poor in our midst.

PRACTICAL RESULTS REQUIRING INCREASED FUNDS.

For the measure and success of the noble work undertaken and fulfilled by this Society, the Directors refer all parties interested therein to the information and statistics contained in the

valued reports of the several departments, medical, surgical, and dispensing, including the branch at Dartmouth. These form an exhibit which is highly creditable to the medical staff, gratifying to the Board, and which should satisfy the community of the utility of this institution, and of the absolute necessity of making it a permanent charity and sustaining its good undertakings. What would the indigent sick poor do should its work be curtailed or its doors be closed to them?

While several leading denominations are asking for millions to extend missionary effort chiefly, here is a mission which requires but moderate contributions from the many to ensure its sustentation and continuity.

IN MEMORIAM.

During the past year the institution was deprived by death of the greatly appreciated services of two gentlemen connected with its government and practical work, Mr. Wm. Dunbar and Dr. Stephen Dodge. Mr. Dunbar had been a Director for twenty years, a regular contributor to its funds and ever manifested a special interest in its welfare and progress and has left evidence thereof in a bequest which was promptly paid by his executors. Dr. Dodge's sudden decease last February terminated his unremitting skillful performance of duties as physician of the eye and ear department, and the Board desires to bear testimony to his services and worth. In 1874 he offered to take charge of that department gratuitously and so continued until a few years past when the Board desired him to accept a small yearly remuneration. Another good friend and contributor, Mr. E. P. Archbold, passed away remembering in his last will and testament to aid this good work by a generous bequest of which the first ten yearly instalments has been received.

ACKNOWLEDGMENTS.

The Directors close their report with thankful acknowledgments to all who have manifested their substantial sympathy and interest in its undertakings and results.

WM. H. WISWELL,
Secretary.

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The Hon. Treasurer read his abstract of income and expenditure for the year. The receipts, which were much less than heretofore, make an adverse balance of \$200, with insufficient funds in hand to effect the ensuing year's work.

TREASURER'S REPORT HALIFAX DISPENSARY, 1899.

J. F. KENNY, *Hon. Treasurer.*

1899.		Dr.	
Jan.	2.	To balance cash on hand	\$1006 39
"	"	Donation from R. I. Hart	5 00
"	6.	" The Archbishop	10 00
"	"	Amt. collected by Messrs. Power and Bell for 1898.	52 00
"	13	Donation from the Lieutenant Governor	10 00
Feb.	2.	Legacy estate William Dunbar	200 00
July	22.	Interest on Sir Wm. Young bequest	426 27
Oct.	17.	Provincial Government grant	400 00
Nov.	4.	Amount collected by Messrs. Fuller and Robertson	142 00
"	"	" " Archibald and Kenny.	178 00
Dec.	23.	Donation from the Lieutenant Governor	10 00
"	27.	" Archbishop	10 00
"	"	" Senator Power	5 00
"	31.	" R. I. Hart	5 00
"	"	City grant for 1899	750 00
"	"	Hospital Sunday collections as per list attached hereto	675 62
			\$3884 68

1899.		Cr.	
By Gas and fuel, truckage, &c			\$ 175 75
Brown & Webb's account for drugs for the year		591 29	
Fire Insurance on building and contents		22 35	
Medical and Surgical requirements		28 74	
Printing, Advertising, &c		75 54	
Cleaning Morgue		12 17	
12 months Telephone		15 00	
Allowance to Janitress		10 00	
Water Rates		14 00	
Snow shovelling		1 75	
9th Instalment of Sewerage		4 90	
12 months rent Security Box		10 00	
Sundry repairs to Gas and Water pipes, &c		55 24	
" interior of building		51 75	
" exterior "		59 60	
Salary of Dispenser		900 00	
" Physicians		1015 00	
" Secretary		75 00	
Postages, Post Cards, &c		6 94	
Balance Cash in Bank per Bank Book		759 66	
			\$3884 68
1900.			
Jan.	2.	Balance	\$759 66

J. F. KENNY, *Treasurer.*

Examined and found correct, Jan. 6th, 1900,

WM. ROBERTSON, *Auditor.*

E. & O. E.

Halifax, N. S., Jan. 8th, 1900.

REPORTS OF THE MEDICAL BOARD.

Happily, during the past year the city has been free from any serious epidemic, though the average number of the more common varieties of infectious diseases, naturally occurring in a city with over 40,000 inhabitants, were met with, particularly during the warmer months. The small proportion of cases of infantile diarrhoea existing during the past summer season was particularly marked and therefore due credit must be conceded to the gentlemen superintending the health department of our city. This is in great part owing to an abundant supply of pure water and a more careful inspection of the milk supply. At no distant date, we trust, that compulsory inspection of milk and regular examinations of all cows will be systemically carried out by proper legislation.

Since the beginning of the cold season a large number of children have been afflicted with the whooping cough, but fortunately the greater proportion of cases has not been of a serious type.

CONSUMPTION AND ITS TREATMENT.

The prevention and treatment of consumption has more than ever occupied the minds of physicians during the year that has just expired. The Board of Health has taken steps to teach the general public that consumption is an infectious disease and are now distributing pamphlets containing valuable ideas for the prevention of the spread of the greatest enemy to human existence.

The Nova Scotia branch of the British Medical Association, which meets in Halifax regularly during the winter months, has been foremost in bringing this important matter to the attention of the local government. A committee has been formed to arrange a public meeting at an early date, when several prominent physicians will endeavor to enlighten the audience on the most useful rules necessary to lesson the spread of consumption in our midst. It is to be hoped that such knowledge will awaken those in authority to a sense of active duty and that soon we will have a well-equipped sanitarium where the consumptive poor, whose means will not permit a change of climate or a sojourn to some expensive institution, will be able to receive in this province the best care in the way of dietic, hygenic and medicinal treatment.

APPLICANTS WHO ARE NOT CITIZENS.

There is one point we would like to bring to the notice of the Directors, and that is concerning the treatment of the poor visiting our Dispensary, but residing outside the districts of the city. We are well aware that nothing in the constitution prevents aid to any

applicant, but some change is needed in this rule.

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deserving poor, but we would respectfully ask the Directorate if there is any limit to such charity.

VARIOUS MATTERS.

The extremely sudden death of our old colleague, Dr. Stephen Dodge, early last February, was a great shock to the community. He had faithfully served many years on the Dispensary staff, and now doth rest from his labors.

We cannot speak too highly about the courtesy of our dispenser, Mr. Lugin, who is ever anxious to promote the interests of the Dispensary and carry out any details suggested by the attending physicians. The janitress has satisfactorily looked after the care of the building.

The staff wish to extend their thanks to the Directorate for re-appointing every member who re-applied, thus implying that their efforts in the best interests of the sick poor have not been in vain.

JAMES ROSS, M. D., C. M.,
Secretary to Medical Staff.

STATISTICAL REPORT OF THE MEDICAL BOARD.

The statistical statement of the work done by the staff of the Halifax Dispensary during the year 1899 is as follows:

INDOOR WORK.

Medical Department—Consultations, Dr. Ross.....	1793
Surgical Department—Consultations, Dr. Buckley.....	850
Women and Children's Department—Consultations, Dr. Wallace...	1254
Eye and Ear Department—Consultations, Dr. Lowerison.....	266
Dartmouth Department—Consultations, Dr. Gossip.....	466
Dental Department—Consultations, Dr. Ennis.....	678

OUTDOOR WORK.

North District, No. 1—Visits, Dr. O'Shaughnessy.....	709
North District, No. 2—Visits, Dr. Smith.....	613
Central District—Visits, Dr. Gow.....	973
South District—Visits, Dr. Silver.....	487
Dartmouth District—Visits, Dr. Gossip.....	510

PRESCRIPTIONS DISPENSED.

City prescriptions.....	10727
Dartmouth prescriptions.....	523
Charity prescriptions.....	430
Total prescriptions.....	11680

GENERAL SUMMARY.

Patients visited at their homes	944
Number of visits	3292
Patients attended at Dispensary	2913
Number of attendance	4721
Total number of patients	3857
Total attendances	8021
Total number of prescriptions dispensed	11680

DARTMOUTH BRANCH.

REPORT FOR 1899.

To Directors of Halifax Dispensary :

I herewith submit the report of the Dartmouth Branch of the Dispensary for the year 1899.

Inclosed is a tabulated statement of the work done during the year. The number of patients given in the monthly record is slightly larger than actual as some names are necessarily carried from one month to another.

I have to record seven deaths during the year of which 2 from consumption and one from Bright's disease were of long standing. Two from bronchitis in infants, one from old age, and one from dyptheritic croup.

Visits and consultations are more numerous than in previous years, but with the exception of a few mild cases of scarlet fever in the spring and an epidemic of whooping cough prevailing at the end of the year there is nothing special in a medical way to report.

The town has been free from the usual mild epidemic of typhoid fever which has visited it every autumn for several years past.

By procuring from Mr. Lugin a small supply of medicine I have been able to prescribe in emergency cases when there has not been time to send to Halifax.

STATISTICS—DARTMOUTH BRANCH.

No. of Patients	534
No. of Consultations	474
No. of Visits	518
No. of Confinements	8
No. of Deaths	7

CHAS. J. GOSSIP, M D.,
Physician Dartmouth Branch.