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# ANNUAL REPORT

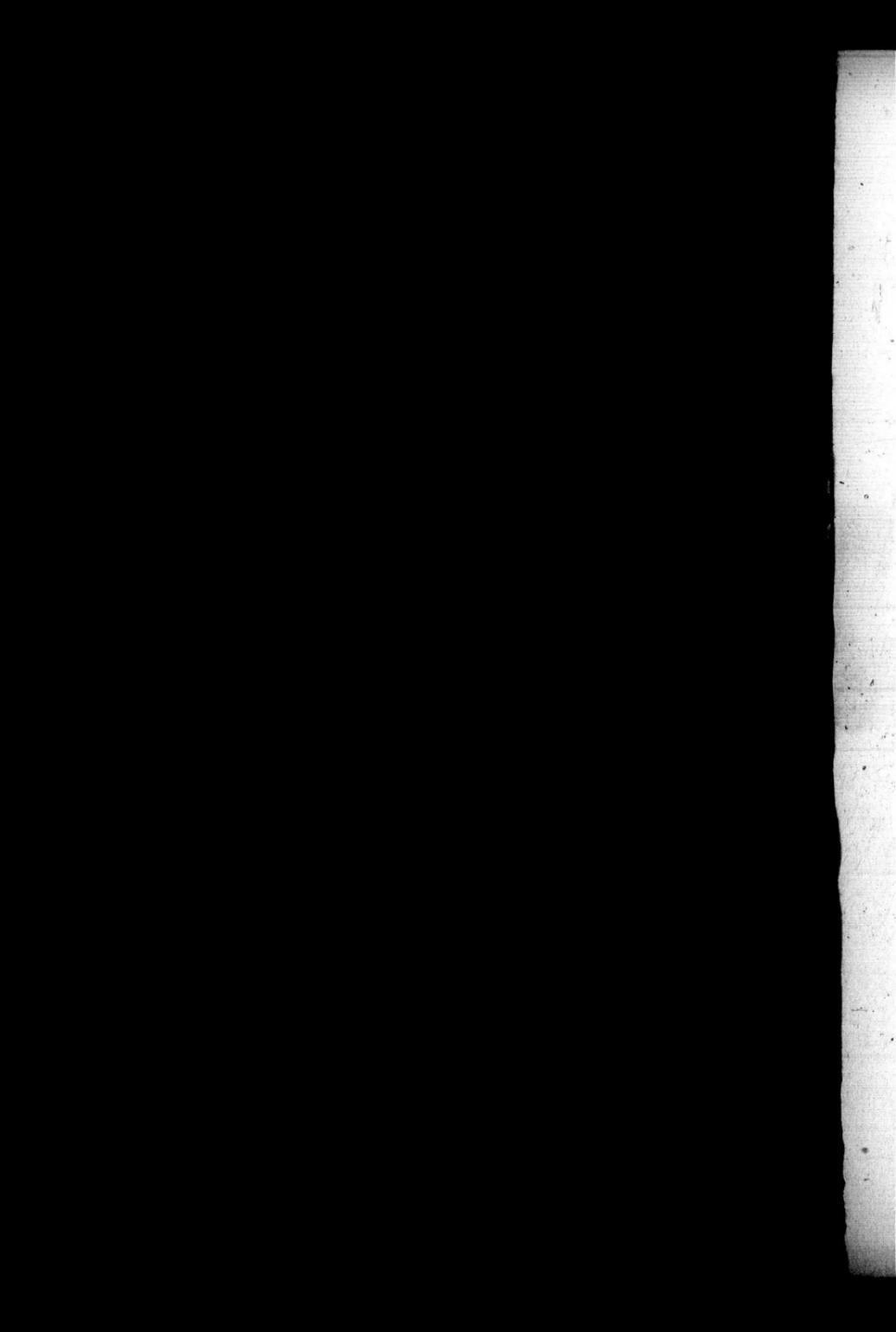
OF THE

## PROTESTANT

# Industrial House of Refuge.

Montreal :

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57, NICHOLAS STREET.  
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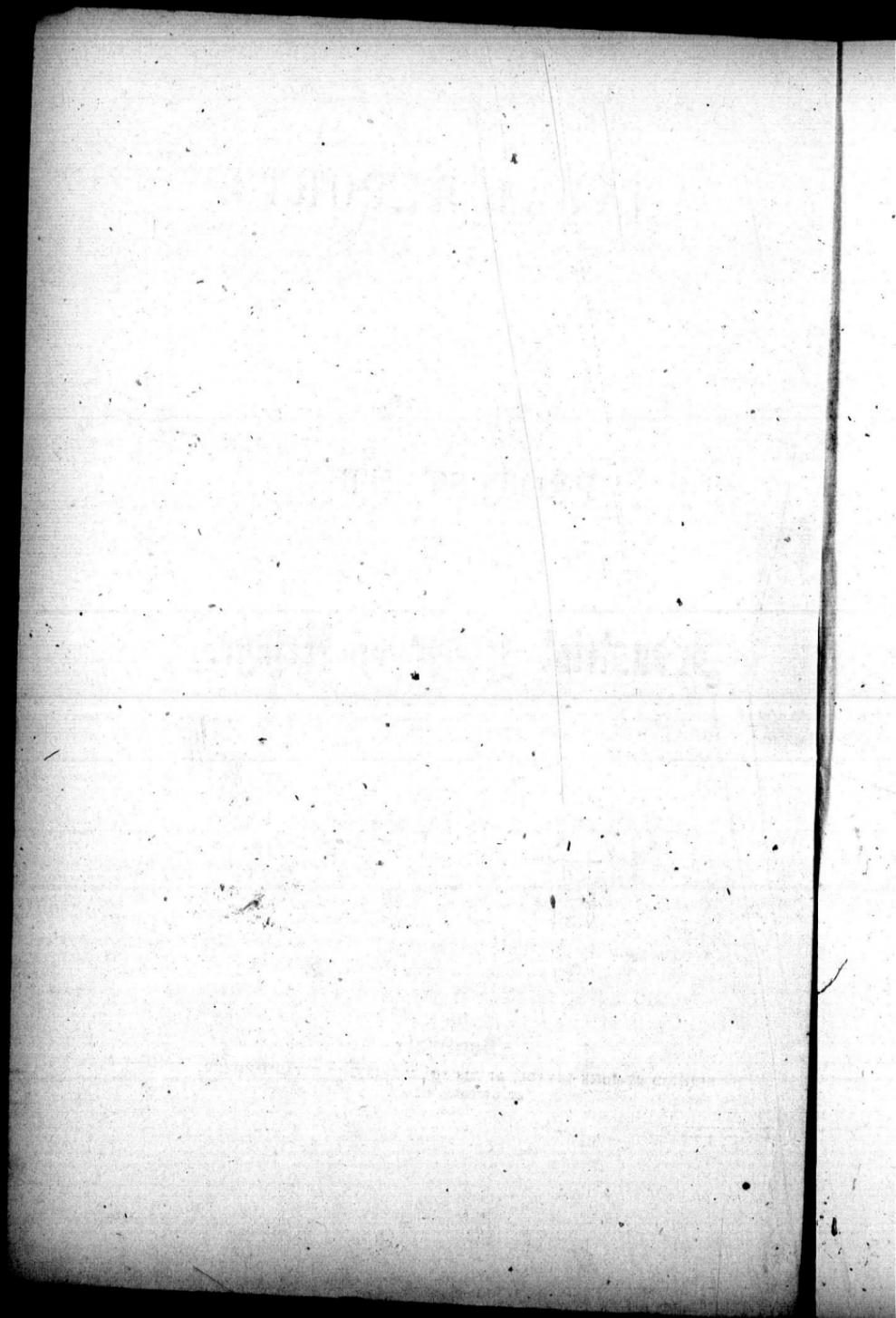
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## PROTESTANT INDUSTRIAL HOUSE OF REFUGE.

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The Annual General Meeting of the Friends and Patrons of this Institution was held in the Mechanics Hall on Tuesday afternoon, His Lordship the (Anglican) Bishop of Montreal in the Chair. The attendance was very small; numbering half a dozen gentlemen, and twice as many ladies.

The Chairman having opened the Meeting with prayer, called upon Mr. Henry Lyman to read the Secretary's Report, which that gentlemen did, as follows:—

### REPORT.

The friends and patrons of this Institution are convened, upon this occasion, to receive a Report of operations for the past year, and to determine if any, what arrangements it will be expedient to make for the future.

The Committee of management have endeavoured to discharge the trust confided to them with Christian fidelity; and they have reason to believe that by the blessing of God, their efforts have not been entirely fruitless. Without making special reference here to the sentiments of the aged and infirm persons who have at various times found a home in this House, it may not be improper to state that the uniform testimony of those who have been furnished with employment, and who have in consequence

been enabled to provide for their helpless families, is most distinct and positive with regard to the beneficent operation of the Institution, while the general satisfaction expressed by the patrons of the establishment, with regard to the quality of the work performed, is equally gratifying. For the sake of convenience the results of your Committee's management for the past year will be considered under the classification of the various departments embraced in their plan of operations.

#### LAUNDRY.

Thirty-six women have been furnished with work during the year; several of these have continued in the employ of the House during the whole year, and a few nearly since the commencement of the Institution.

The amount paid in wages is, .....	£150	9	9
Amount received for washing, .....	187	1	2

#### NEEDLEWORK.

Eighty-four women, many of them widows, have been employed in this department. The amount

paid in wages is, .....	75	2	5
Amount paid for materials, .....	37	7	3
Amount received for work done, and articles sold, ..	112	16	2

This part of the establishment has been conducted for the two past years under the efficient supervision of the second directress, to whose untiring efforts its success in chiefly attributable.

#### REFUGE.

One hundred and two adults and thirty-four children have been inmates of the House, at various times during the year. Several have been received from the Montreal General Hospital, who, though sufficiently convalescent to be discharged, were not yet able to labour for their maintenance.

#### SERVANTS' HOME.

Sixty-eight young women have obtained situations as domestic servants through the agency of the House; of this number 34 were immigrants from the mother country. The importance of

similar provision to that furnished in this Institution, especially to the latter class, cannot be questioned.

#### CASUAL POOR.

Seventy-four persons have been temporarily relieved either by being furnished with a meal, or some provision for their families. The sum of £12 10s. received in May last from the City Treasury was retained until the autumn and then expended in the purchase of bread for the destitute; two hundred loaves were distributed to various applicants, according to the instructions received from the Civic Authorities.

It appears from the foregoing statement that, at least, four hundred persons, many of whom are heads of families, have received more or less assistance, (exclusive of the beneficiaries of the Corporation Fund.)

The grant from the Provincial Government, of £150, was received on the 10th July, and the sum of £540 17s. 9d. from private and other sources.

The funds of the Institution having become exhausted, a Promenade Concert was held in the City Concert Hall on the 29th Dec. last; this entertainment was well attended, but the net proceeds were only £60.

The thanks of the friends of this Institution are due to all those who kindly aided the Committee, especially to Mrs. Bell, whose superior vocal services were rendered gratuitously, and to T. S. Brown, Esq., who, with equal ability and zeal, rendered most valuable assistance. The thanks of this Institution are also due to Dr. Wright for gratuitous professional services, and to Messrs. John Birks & Co. for medicines supplied without charge. Religious instruction has been given during the past year by Mr. Mitchell, the Agent of the Montreal Religious Tract Distribution Association.

The Treasurer's statement will show the amount of receipts and disbursements.

Having given a succinct statement of what has been accomplished during the past year, your Committee have now to call your attention to the important question of the continuance of this

Institution as a distinct branch of Catholic benevolence. From the foregoing it is clear that good has been done, and your Committee are fully persuaded that it has supplied a want felt in this community. Persons in destitute circumstances have been relieved without being pauperised; and the difficult question of *paying fairly* for work performed, and so adjusting the scale of charges as not to interfere with persons engaged in similar occupations outside the Institution, and at the same time securing the approbation of the patrons of the establishment, has received to some extent, at least, a satisfactory solution. In the view of your Committee, it admits of a question whether such an Institution as this, designed exclusively for Protestant women of every sect, whether Canadian or foreign, can properly be dispensed with—even should the long contemplated Civic House of Industry become successfully established.

Notwithstanding these considerations, it is the duty of your Committee to state that their convictions of the importance and usefulness of this Institution have not been shared by several of those who have been nominally associated in the management; and the entire burden of labour, and responsibility of no ordinary weight, has been thrown upon the officers, and a few others who constituted a minority of the Committee.

Your Committee also regret to say that although in some quarters appeals for funds have been generously responded to, a larger number considerably reduced the amounts of their several subscriptions; and the public generally, for some reason unknown to your Committee, have not shewn the same willingness, as in the prior year, to sustain the Institution. Whether or not the lack of funds adverted to is attributable to commercial depression or to the establishment in some quarters of other modes of relief your Committee will not undertake to decide.

Under these circumstances, however, the present officers feel that it will be utterly out of their power to carry on the Institution for a longer period, as its management requires a larger amount of time and labour than they are able to afford. Its discontinuance, they are happy to observe, however, will be less severely felt from the circumstance that another Institution for

the relief of the Protestant poor has been carried on under the management of a numerous Committee of gentlemen and ladies for several months past. If, however, it should be thought expedient to continue this organization, and an efficient Committee of management will assume the responsibility, it is more than probable that the present officers will be happy to give their individual personal co-operation, but in a less prominent capacity.

In thus yielding up the trust confided to them, your Committee may be permitted to state that any failure on their part has not been occasioned by lack of interest in their work; and if it may be admitted that the Institution has not met the full expectations of its friends in any respect, the failure must be largely attributed to the withholding of those who had both ample time and means at command.

The whole, nevertheless, respectfully submitted.

MARY C. LYMAN,

*Secretary.*

The Chairman then read the Treasurer's statement, showing that the Institution at the present time was upwards of £75 in debt.

Rev. Dr. WILKES moved the adoption and publication of the Report. He regretted much that the pecuniary affairs of the Institution did not present a more flattering appearance; and was afraid that the determination of the Committee to withdraw from the management could not be found fault with. But he expressed his firm conviction, founded upon personal knowledge and observation, that the Institution had since its commencement been conducted on the broadest Catholic basis. He was aware that there were surmises abroad on this subject, which, on the part of those who entertained them, were very improper, and, he was bound to say, very incorrect. What their motives were in giving rise to them, he could not, of course, judge. But he had found the Institution always open, fully and perfectly open to receive the poor connected with every denomination; and for what they had done, the ladies under whose direction it had been conducted deserve all honour and praise. In one particular the Institution had been found exceedingly useful,—in affording a reception for young females out of employment. Parties had come to him in one or two instances whom he thought in extreme danger; who could scarcely have escaped destruction had he been compelled to send them away from his door. They were kindly received at the Institution, and very soon provided with situations. He mentioned this to show how beneficial such an Institution really was, what good it had been the means of doing, and how deserving it was of public encouragement and support.

A letter was read from Ira Gould, Esq., regretting his inability to attend the meeting, and recommending a union of this Institution with the Ladies Benevolent Society.

HON. P. MCGILL seconded the motion. The Report just read had given him such information of the great amount of good that had been done by this Institution that he felt sorry it must be discontinued from want of support. He thought such an end was deeply to be regretted. He could not say if a renewed effort to keep it up would be successful, but from what had been stated in

the Report he feared not. There were so many Institutions in this city, each professing to have the same object in view, that all could not be equally well supported; and from what was said in the Report he supposed some of the other Institutions thought they could do what the Protestant House of Refuge had been doing better. It was a pity some of the charities could not be combined, and he thought the idea of Mr. Gould to unite this charity with the Ladies Benevolent Institution was a good one, if it could be carried into effect. If the Ladies connected with both charities would only take the matter into consideration and receive it with favor, they might both be continued in an efficient state. We ought all to be thankful for the zeal and ability with which the charity had been conducted since its commencement. And he trusted when the Report went out to the public it would stimulate others to give the Committee some support and enable them to get out of debt.

The Chairman, before putting the motion, said he had only one observation to make. The Institution having been formed on the principle that aid, assistance and relief was to be granted to the deserving poor of every Protestant denomination, it was his firm conviction that that principle has been most conscientiously carried out. The managers belonged to the different congregations in the city, and in no way had there been any infringement of the rule and principle he had stated. Although their success had not come up to their anticipations, and from some cause or other public support appeared to have been withdrawn, they had succeeded in establishing one thing. They had worked out the problem of making the Industrial House of Refuge a useful one; and as they would observe by the Treasurer's statement one third of the year's expenses had been borne by the work of the inmates in it. Referring to the remarks of the last speaker as to the number of charities professing the same end, his Lordship said it was his impression that it was unwise, wasteful and improper to go about getting subscriptions towards all these, from the limited number of Protestants in this city, when by a combination like that suggested, they might be worked at far less cost, and to much better purpose. He wished that the Ladies Benevolent Institution would

embrace an industrial department, and he felt convinced that something of the kind in self-defence it would have to do before long. They were going into a large house, their expenses would be considerably increased, and if they had an industrial department it would do all the work of the house, and employ a number of the poor. Though he regretted that want of support had not justified the managers in continuing on, yet if what had been stated would lead to an amalgamation with some other charity, they would, he was sure, lend every assistance to carry it out. A great difficulty they had had to contend with—and one, indeed, which was experienced in almost every charitable Institution, was to get duly qualified and efficient resident Superintendents. The more such Institutions were multiplied, the more of these were required, and the smaller must their salaries become. Whereas if there were but one Institution doing all the work now divided among three or four, a large salary could be given, and the services of a permanent and well qualified superintendent easily obtained. The friends of the Institution owed a great deal of thanks to all the ladies connected with the Institution. They had been earnest and sincere in their efforts to promote its success; and evinced a deep and loving interest in the comfort and happiness of the inmates. Mrs. Simpson particularly deserved notice for her zeal and assiduity; not only was she constant in her attendance at the House, but she had almost taught a large number of women there, who, from not being able to work at all when they were admitted, were now excellent seamstresses and able to earn by sewing their own living.

MR. LYMAN remarked, in reply to an observation made by the Hon. P. McGill to the effect that the Institution was hampered with debt, that the difficulty was one of management purely, and not of money. It was true there was a balance against the Institution, of £75, but the furniture in the House would cover all liabilities, and there was no doubt the Legislature would make as large a grant as before, viz., £150, which might be used in carrying on the Institution, or be added to the funds of any other Association with which this might become united.

Mr. J. J. DAY, said, without the ladies the Institution could not have existed, and the least they could do was to give them a vote of thanks.

JUDGE McCORD seconded that motion,—which was put and carried by acclamation.

JUDGE McCORD then moved the appointment of a Committee to meet the office-bearers of other kindred Institutions, and ascertain whether they were ready and willing to join in the good work, and on what terms and conditions an amalgamation could be attained.

Mr. D. DAVIDSON seconded the motion,—which, after some discussion, was put and carried; the Committee to consist of the Chairman, Judge McCord; Dr. Wilkes, Messrs. Davidson and Lyman; to report on Tuesday the 22nd instant, to which time the meeting was adjourned.

The BISHOP closed the proceedings with the Benediction.

## SUPPLEMENTARY REPORT.

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The Special Committee deputed to confer with the managers of "other kindred Institutions" opened a correspondence with the Committee of the Ladies Benevolent Society, suggesting the expediency of their engrafting upon their system the various operations theretofore carried on by the Industrial House of Refuge, as a practical union of the two Institutions, viz: the reception of immigrant girls desiring to obtain employment as domestic servants, convalescent females from the Montreal general Hospital, and furnishing employment in needlework and otherwise to poor deserving women; stating at the same time their conviction that by entering upon this extended field of operations, the Institution would more emphatically commend itself to the confidence of the Protestant community, and would doubtless receive a more generous support.

In reply, the managers of the Ladies Benevolent Institution stated that it would not be convenient for them to adopt the scheme proposed in full, but that they would receive immigrant girls and patients discharged from the Hospital; at the same time, as their necessities were urgent, they requested that the Parliamentary grant of £150 should be appropriated to their use.

It was agreed subsequently by your Committee that the sum of £100 should be paid to the Treasurer of the Ladies Benevolent Society, and the balance (£50) be retained in the hands of the 1st directress (Mrs. Fulford) to make good any unforeseen deficiencies which might arise in the final adjustment of accounts, and for the purpose of rendering partial assistance to a limited number of the former beneficiaries of the House.

Of this fund there is a balance of £33 4s. 1d. in hand, which will be available for the assistance of persons who would have been considered fit objects for relief, by the management of the Institution, now closed. A statement of accounts and lists of subscriptions are subjoined, to which attention is invited.

MARY C. LYMAN,  
*Secretary late Industrial House of Refuge.*



COLLECTED AT ANNUAL MEETING, OTHER SUBSCRIPTIONS  
AND DONATIONS.

		£	s.	d.	
<i>Collected at Annual Meeting.</i>					From the Rev. W. Morris'
The Lord Bishop of Mon-					Congregation, (Bucking-
treah .....	1	5	0		ham)..... 1 5 0
Mrs. Fulford .....	1	0	0	From a few friends, through	
" Wenham .....	1	5	0	the Rev. J. Cordner .....	20 0 0
" H. Lyman .....	2	10	0	A purse found by Mr. Scott.	0 10 0
" Fisher .....	1	5	0	Miss Evans .....	1 0 0
" Durnford .....	1	0	0	<i>Collected by Mrs. Simpson.</i>	
" Paton .....	1	0	0	Mrs. A. Simpson .....	2 10 0
" Crawford .....	1	0	0	" Gapper .....	0 15 0
" Low .....	1	5	0	" Milroy .....	1 0 0
" Carter .....	1	5	0	Miss Armour .....	1 0 0
" Ross .....	1	5	0	" Ray .....	0 10 0
" A. Simpson .....	2	10	0	" Scott .....	0 10 0
Miss Harvey .....	0	15	0	Mr. Mitchell, (Quebec) .....	1 0 0
" Moffatt .....	1	5	0	" Armour .....	1 5 0
" Rea .....	0	10	0	" Kinnear .....	1 5 0
" Smith .....	1	0	0	J. Mitchell .....	0 13 6
" S. Smith .....	1	0	0	S. Jones .....	5 0 0
" Fulford .....	0	5	0	The Hon. R. Jones .....	5 0 0
" Boston .....	1	0	0	Two Friends .....	25 0 0
" Ross .....	1	5	0	A Friend, through Mrs.	
" Ermatinger .....	0	10	0	Bolton .....	0 5 0
" McCulloch .....	0	15	0	E. S. ....	0 10 0
" A. McCulloch .....	0	15	0	Boots .....	0 10 0
Mr. H. Lyman .....	5	0	0	Lachine .....	0 1 10 ½
" R. Campbell .....	5	0	0	<i>Collected by Mrs. H. Lyman.</i>	
The Mayor .....	2	10	0	Mrs. H. Vennor .....	0 10 0
A Friend .....	0	2	6	Mr. R. Corse .....	6 5 0
<i>Collected by Mrs. Fulford.</i>					" A. H. Campbell .....
Mrs. P. Holland .....	1	5	0	" Glennon .....	1 0 0
" Gough .....	1	5	0	" Jas. Holmes .....	0 10 0
" Esdailo .....	1	5	0	Rev. H. Wilkes, D. D. ....	0 10 0
" Cassels .....	1	5	0	Mesars. Clark & Winks .....	1 0 0
" J. Mitchell .....	1	5	0	<i>Collected by Miss Moffatt.</i>	
" Torrance .....	2	10	0	Mrs. Mussen .....	1 5 0
" Aylwin .....	0	10	0	" Townsend .....	0 10 0
" Morris .....	0	10	0	" T. M. Taylor .....	1 5 0
" J. Johnson .....	0	10	0	" Ord .....	0 15 0
Hon. P. McGill .....	5	0	0	" Campbell .....	1 0 0
Archdeacon Lower .....	1	5	0	" Burns .....	0 10 0
Dr. Holmes .....	1	5	0	" Price .....	0 10 0
Anderson, Evans & Co. ....	6	5	0	" Keith .....	1 0 0

