

SIXTH ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE

MAGDALENE ASYLUM,

OR

Industrial House of Refuge

FOR FEMALES.

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TORONTO, JULY 1860.

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TORONTO:

LEADER & PATRIOT STEAM PRESS PRINT, LEADER BUILDING, KING ST. EAST.  
1860.

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MRS. McCUTCHON. | MRS. DUNLOP.  
MRS. BALDWIN.

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## TREASURER:

MRS. DICK.

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## SECRETARY:

MRS. BURNS.

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## VISITING PHYSICIAN:

DR. ROBINSON.

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## SIXTH ANNUAL REPORT

OF

# The Toronto Magdalene Asylum,

OR

## INDUSTRIAL HOUSE OF REFUGE FOR FEMALES.

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The Managers of the Magdalene Asylum, or Industrial House of Refuge for Females, in submitting this their Annual Report to its friends and to the public generally, have much reason to express their gratitude to God for the success which has been vouchsafed to the Institution from its commencement, and which has especially marked its operations during the past year.

In the early part of the summer of 1853, two or three friends of the Redeemer being deeply moved with the case of the numerous female outcasts who nightly wander our streets in hopeless wretchedness, crowding our Police Court and Prison, corrupting and being corrupted, determined in the strength of God to provide a refuge for them, not only to rescue the early victim of the destroyer, but to reclaim the more obdurate and hopeless of that unhappy class.

During the first year comparatively little was accomplished, but sufficient was done to satisfy the friends of the humane enterprise that it was capable of doing much good. For some months only two individuals were under the shade of the Asylum, but at the end of the year nineteen had been partakers of its benefits, upwards of a fourth of whom were happily restored to their friends or to respectable places in society.

Engaged thus in a labor essentially Christian, for Jesus came that he might "*seek and save that which was lost*," and encouraged by the blessing which had attended their earliest efforts to cultivate this most arid spot in the moral desert, as well as by the general sympathy and co-operation of Christians of all denominations, the Managers of the Institution have persevered hopefully in the work of the Lord, and they believe that from many hearts, broken and healed again, a testimony is now given that their labor has not been in vain.

The number received into the Asylum since its commencement appears

by the Return of the Matron to be three hundred and thirty-six, of which number from a fourth to a third perhaps have been rescued and restored to society. If there be joy in heaven over *one* sinner that repenteth, how much reason have all its friends for gratitude and joy that so many have been rescued from the paths of vice—so many have been brought under the benign influence of Christian sympathy and truth, and that some poor wanderers have been gathered into the fold of the great and good shepherd, who gave his life for the sheep, and whose blood cleanseth from all sin.

To those who have always lived amidst the blessings of Christian society and the endearments of a happy home, it is perhaps impossible adequately to comprehend or realise the wretchedness and misery from which many of those victims of the great destroyer have been rescued. "*The heart knoweth its own bitterness, and a stranger intermeddleth not with its joy,*" but the judgment of the great day and the records of eternity will bring all to light, when we hope many a down-trodden out-cast—washed in the blood of the Lamb, and clothed in immortal beauty—will celebrate the praises of God, her Saviour, who, through the instrumentality of this Society, has been led to holiness, to happiness and heaven.

The previous Reports of the Institution give ample evidence of the gratitude which swells many a heart in view of the deliverance which has been extended to them by the Asylum. Like the widow's mite which exceeded in the estimation of Jesus the rich gifts of the opulent, some poor girls now settled in their peaceful homes, have during the year given out of their wages tokens of their love towards the Institution and its friends, while fathers and mothers and other relatives have evinced their deepest gratitude for the restoration of those whom they had regarded as lost.

A letter received by Mr. Johnson, the City Missionary, during the present month, (July), from one of three sisters (rescued through his instrumentality) now in a respectable family under Christian influence and professing the Christian hope, expresses the gratitude and joy which she feels for her great deliverance. One of the Directresses also received a letter recently from one of the inmates who had been restored to her husband, a respectable man in comfortable circumstances, some months ago, expressing her gratitude for the benefits conferred upon her through the agency of the Institution, and inviting any of the ladies who might visit the locality to call upon her and see how changed and happy are now her circumstances. An amiable young girl led astray by the arts of the seducer and driven by distress and shame from her home was received into the refuge with her child and provided with a respectable place as a wet nurse. With the deepest feelings of gratitude she said "Oh what a blessing that there is such a refuge as this! Without it what would I have done?"

One of the most pleasing features in connection with the operations of the past year, is the amount of confidence manifested by families of the highest respectability in the character of inmates who have been recommended to them as domestic servants by the Managers of the Institution, and another is the number that have gone out in that capacity and who have given satisfaction to their employers. The statistics for the year are as follows:

Remaining in the Asylum at the close of last year.....	10
*Admitted during the year.....	47
	—
	57
Sent out to service.....	12
Restored to their friends.....	13
Left of their own accord.....	4
Sent to the General Hospital.....	3
Sent to the Lying-in-Hospital.....	5
	—
	37

Now remaining in the Asylum, (1st July). . . . . 20

Some who are incapacitated for domestic service are allowed to remain in the Institution. One who was formerly regarded as hopeless, and who has been sheltered and taught for five years, desires still to remain, and is reformed, industrious and useful.

Among the various instrumentalities employed to gather in those lost ones into the Refuge, the periodical visitation to the female prisoners in jail by two of our number, is one of the most important. Few persons perhaps are aware that, on an average, from 80 to 100 women, the majority of the most abandoned character, are throughout the year, crowded within its walls, generally without employment, and without the means of classification. The consequences are obvious and inevitable. Their confinement instead of being reformatory is corrupting. The moral virus is only intensified, while crime and misery abound. The remedy for this mighty evil is separation, employment, and instruction. These the Asylum provides for all who can be induced to come within its walls, but it is to be hoped that Government will secure those essential means of reformation generally throughout all the prisons of the Province.

It is gratifying to record that the prisoners generally, not only listen attentively to the counsels and warnings given them from the word of God, but that they look earnestly for the return of the day of visitation, and receive with apparent gratitude the religious tracts provided for them. On each occasion the recalling of the memories of the past, and pointing to the hope still set before them in the gospel, often awaken emotions long buried amidst scenes of revelry and sin, which lead to the tearful exclamation or secret desire—"what shall I do to be saved," and then to avail themselves of the Refuge which they are told is provided for them.

They who express such a desire are waited upon by the matron of the Institution on the day of their release, and conveyed to the Refuge, as the monsters who trade in female dishonor and suffering, are too frequently in waiting to lead the poor homeless outcast again into the paths of the destroyer.

While much is done by visiting the Jail in releasing those victims from the snares of the destroyer, the committee would gratefully record the kind and efficient aid they have uniformly received from the city Missionaries, Messrs. Johnston and Omrod, as well as the services rendered by the

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\* There were 57 received, but some were received twice.

various Clergymen and Christian friends who visit the Institution for the purpose of giving religious instruction to the inmates. The seed thus sown it is hoped is bringing forth its blessed fruit, and, although lay buried, may yet bring forth more abundantly.

To Dr. Robinson, whose professional services and christian sympathy have so long been freely given to the Institution, the ladies desire to tender their grateful acknowledgments.

To Mr. Gurnett, the Police Magistrate, they desire also to tender their thanks for the interest he has manifested in sending or directing the friendless outcasts to the Refuge.

To Messrs. McMurrich and Capt. Dick, their best acknowledgments are due for their kind supervision of the financial affairs of the Institution.

To all the subscribers and friends of the Society whose liberality has enabled the Managers hitherto to meet all the demands made upon them, they beg to express their sincere gratitude. While grateful for the past aid provided for the Institution, the Managers earnestly appeal to Christians of all denominations to enable them to continue and extend the good work in which they are engaged.

The funds in the Treasurer's hands are about exhausted, while the number of the applicants for relief increases, and the prospect of the Society's usefulness is extended. Aid may be given by donations of provisions, clothing, provender for cattle, as well as by money. Essential service may also be rendered by providing work for the inmates. Under the able management of the Matron, Mrs. Munro, some of the finest specimens of needle work have been produced. All kinds of sewing, the washing and dressing of clothes, and any other work suitable for women will be thankfully received and carefully executed, at reasonable prices.

The Managers have much pleasure in communicating that the interests of the Institution have been greatly promoted by the removal to larger premises, in a healthy situation, a short distance from the city, a little north of the first toll gate on Yonge Street. With ample accommodation within the new building, and a large plot of ground, (three acres,) which is being cultivated by the aid of the inmates, there has been a marked change for the better, both as to health and discipline, and it is believed that it will also prove of pecuniary advantage to the Society. The ground and premises however are only rented for a short period, but it is to be hoped that means will ere long be provided to erect a suitable building on ground belonging to the Society, which has now arrived at that stage demanding a permanent location among the benevolent institutions of the city.

It cannot fail to interest every Christian to learn of the success which has attended recent remarkable efforts in London, England, to rescue fallen women. An officer in the British Navy, moved with Christian compassion towards that class, suggested their being gathered together at the midnight hour to a festival prepared for them. Notices were handed round by Christian agency on the streets to all they met. Two hundred and fifty attended the first meeting, and several Ministers were there with other Christians, who addressed them affectionately as to their life and its

end, warning and encouraging them to return from their sinful course into the paths of virtue, life and peace. The assembly broke up at 3 a.m. after a quiet and affecting meeting. Many were received into the Reformatories as the fruit of this effort, and many more have been rescued since by similar means.

In concluding their Report, the managers of the Institution deem it important to refer to the fruitful sources of the evil which they seek to remove. First perhaps among these is the want of early religious training, and wholesome parental discipline in families. From the statistics of the Homes of the Rescue Society of London, (England,) of 367 cases of fallen women; 265 had lost one or both parents; 216 were of the ages from fifteen to twenty, and 291 were domestic servants. It appears therefore that the young orphan, driven by necessity into the position of a domestic servant, becomes peculiarly a prey to the seducer, and surely then the case of such demands the peculiar care and sympathy of Christians.

Another cause of the prevalence of this social evil is the false estimate too generally set upon character. The erring female is at once crushed by public sentiment, while the notorious seducer and profligate is received into respectable society, even perhaps although boasting of his crimes.

Were mothers and daughters to frown the well known seducer or the licentious from their presence; and were the heads of respectable families peremptorily to exclude him from their society, until he repented of his crimes, the number of fallen women would be greatly diminished.

An eminent Minister of the present day thus alludes to such a case in a recent sermon. "All is cheerless to the eye, and her ear catches the sounds of sighing and mourning, wails and laments; and far down at the horizon of the vision, the murky cloud for a moment lifts, and she sees the very bottom of infamy, the ghastliness of death, the last spasm of horrible departure, the awful thunder of final doom. All this the trembling betrayed creature sees through the open door of the future; and with a voice that might move the dead, she turns and clasps his knees in awful agony, "Leave me not!—Oh spare me—save me—cast me not away!" "Poor thing, she is dealing with a demon! Spare her? Save her? The polished scoundrel betrayed her to abandon her, and walks the street to boast his hellish deed! It becomes him as a reputation! Surely society will crush him. They will smite the wolf and seek out the bleeding lamb. Oh my soul! believe it not! what sight is that? the drooping victim is worse used than the infernal destroyer! *He* is fondled, courted, passed from honor to honor! and she is crushed and mangled under the infuriate tramp of public indignation! On her mangled corpse they stand to put the laurels on her murderer's brow! When I see such things as these I thank God that there is a Judgment, and that there is a hell!"

To these causes which people the regions of the dead with that unhappy class may be added the instrumentality too generally employed to ensnare the victims to their ruin—*Intemperance*.—It is a sad truth that a very large proportion of fallen women are drunkards, and that this fatal habit forms one of the chief barriers in the way of their return to the paths of virtue.

Yet amidst all these difficulties and discouragements, cheered by the success which has so far, attended the operations of the Institution, and animated by the hope which the truth of God inspires, that such labours are never found to be in vain, and believing also that "the Gospel is the power of God unto Salvation to every one that believeth," however fallen and depraved, the managers are encouraged to go forward in the discharge of the arduous duties before them, relying as heretofore upon the support, the sympathy and prayers of their Christian friends, and trusting in the overruling Providence and blessing of God.

J. LESSLIE,  
*Secretary, pro. tem.*

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# LIST OF SUBSCRIPTIONS AND DONATIONS

FROM JULY, 1858, TO JULY, 1859.

*Collected by MRS. DUNLOP and MRS. MULHOLLAND.*

	\$.	c.		\$.	c.
Wm. McMaster & Nephew ...	8	00	Brought Forward, 102	70	
M. M. & Co .....	4	00	R. Wright .....	1	00
Gilmour & Coulson .....	5	00	W. H. Jones .....	0	50
Mrs. Woodside .....	3	00	Thmoas Hornibrook .....	0	50
John Thornton .....	1	00	W. H. Edmunds .....	0	50
George Michie .....	5	00	J. Riddell .....	2	50
R. G. Dunn & Co .....	5	00	Mrs. Freeland .....	4	00
C. S. Paterson .....	2	00	Mrs. James Paterson .....	1	00
J. M. Hector .....	4	00	C. & C— .....	2	00
Fred. W. Jarvis .....	4	00	A. B— .....	2	00
A. Mercer .....	4	00	Turner & Co .....	2	00
Mrs. Stayner .....	3	00	B. Moore .....	1	00
Gordon & Mackay .....	8	00	R. D. Macpherson .....	6	00
Mr. McKay .....	0	40	Samuel Crabbe .....	0	50
Friend .....	1	00	Childs & Hamilton .....	2	25
F. Clarke & Co .....	2	00	Wm. Ross & Co .....	5	00
A Friend .....	1	00	J. G— .....	2	00
M. J. Borst .....	5	50	W. W— .....	1	00
H. A. Joseph .....	8	00	Boyd & Arthurs .....	5	00
Christopher Robinson .....	5	00	Cash .....	1	00
H. Gray .....	1	00	Joseph Rogers .....	1	00
W. Kerr .....	1	00	A Friend .....	0	25
H. M— .....	1	00	James H. Rogers .....	1	00
Charles Veith .....	1	00	Edward Cooper .....	1	00
C. Moore .....	1	00	James Foster .....	1	00
Mrs. Milroy .....	2	00	Wm. Leys .....	1	00
R. H. Bethune .....	1	00	Mr. James Smith .....	0	48
C. H. Wilson .....	2	00	Miss Palmer .....	1	00
M. G. Telfer .....	1	00	Mr. Lumley .....	1	00
George Wightman .....	0	80	A Friend .....	2	00
Forbes McHardy .....	1	00	J. Atman .....	1	00
A. J. Fulton .....	2	00	Boyd & Nichol .....	0	25
Watson Groundwater .....	1	00	W. P. Howland .....	4	00
John Gardener .....	2	00	Gooderham & Worts .....	10	00
W. H. Dow .....	1	00	A Friend .....	2	00
Larratt W. Smith .....	2	00	J. Young .....	2	50
A Friend .....	1	00	Mrs. Angus Morrison .....	2	00
James Michie .....	2	00	Allan McLean Howard .....	2	00

Carry Forward, \$102 70

Carry Forward, \$175 93

Collected by MRS. DUNLOP and MRS. MULHOLLAND—continued.

		\$. c.			\$. c.
Brought Forward, 175		93	Brought Forward, 275		58
Wm. Pyper	1	00	Brewer & McPhail	5	00
A Friend	2	00	James Scott	1	00
James Burns	0	50	J. E. Smith & Co.	4	50
Stevens & Fidler	2	50	J. Burns	4	00
Wm. Keighly	0	75	Paul Richmond & Co.	1	00
B. Hagarman	1	00	Thomas Lailey	1	00
T. G. Cottell	1	00	James Girvin	1	00
Henry E. Parsons	0	18	Walker & Paterson	1	00
Wm. Ince	1	00	Mathews & McClean	1	00
Mrs. Dewe	0	50	Wm. Miles	2	75
Mrs. Captain Boyd	1	00	John Mitchell & Co	5	00
Robert Davis	2	00	M. S. Jeffery	1	00
T. H. Swann	0	24	G. Perkins	3	00
A Friend	0	50	G. H. Wyatt	5	50
Mrs. Coleman	0	50	J. M. Clarke	1	60
Mr. Beverly	0	48	F. H. Heward	1	00
Dickson & Logan	20	00	James Macdonell	1	00
G. S. Gzowski & Co.	10	00	Ross Mitchell	2	00
Samuel B. Harman	2	00	W. Murray	1	00
Mrs. J. Lyons	2	00	John Scott	1	00
Thompson & Keith	1	00	R. Spence	1	00
Wm. Wharin	1	00	Wm. Campbell	1	00
Mrs. Joslin	2	00	Mrs. Doctor Adams	2	00
Miss Home	2	00	A. Henderson	2	00
Mrs. S. Fleming	2	00	J. McBride	1	00
Mrs. C—	2	00	J. O. Heward	1	00
George Boyd	2	00	John W. R. Bartlett	1	00
E. Hooper	2	00	Mrs. Jacques	1	00
Globe Office	5	00	Mrs. Stewart	1	00
Joseph C. Morrison	5	00	Howland, Fitch & Co.	5	00
Betley & Kay	5	00	Mr. Severs	1	00
J. W. Elliott	0	50	Mrs. Doctor Jennings	1	00
Wiman & Co.	1	00	Mr. Todd	2	00
Joseph Robinson	2	00	Mrs. Robert Kay	2	00
J. Ellis	1	00	Mrs. Hagarty	4	00
Kivas Tully	1	00	Mr. Shedden	4	00
George Bostwick	1	00	Mrs. Mulholland	4	00
C. & W. Walker	2	00	Mr. F. Richardson	2	00
Maclear & Co	5	00	Miss A. Anderson	2	00
G. S. Elliot	1	00	Mrs. Dunlop	4	00
Robert Walker	2	00	Mrs. Topp	4	00
J. E. Ellis	1	00	Mr. Reford	4	00
Thomas Sargent	1	00	Bunton Brothers	4	50
H. Jackson	1	00			
S. P. C—	1	00			
J. H. C—	1	00			

Carry Forward, \$275 58

\$374 43  
 Subscriptions not yet paid.. 12 38  
 Amount Collected.....\$362 05





*Collected by MRS. BURNS and MRS. WILSON,—continued.*

		\$. c.			\$. c.
Brought Forward,		47 50	Brought Forward,		61 75
Mrs. McBride.....	1 00		Mrs. Touzeau.....	0 50	
Mrs. Webb.....	1 00		Mr. Merryfield.....	0 40	
J. J. Burns.....	1 00		Miss Jameson.....	0 40	
Mr. Stephens.....	1 00		Mrs. Miller.....	0 40	
Rev. D. Edgar, (Ireland).....	1 00		Mrs. Fraser.....	0 38	
Mr. D. Cowan.....	1 00		Mr. West.....	0 25	
Mrs. Simpson.....	1 00		Mr. Bishop.....	0 25	
Mrs. Wallace.....	1 00		Mrs. McGee.....	0 25	
Miss McCord.....	1 00		Mrs. Fowler.....	0 25	
Mrs. Kane.....	1 00		Mrs. Humphries.....	0 25	
Mrs. Fleming.....	1 00		Mrs. J. White.....	0 25	
A Friend.....	0 75		Mrs. Oliver.....	0 20	
Mrs. Rose.....	0 50		Mrs. Stanley, Mrs. Wilkinson &		
Mrs. Mason.....	0 50		Mrs Stewart, each 12½ cts....	0 38	
J. A. H.....	0 50		Mrs. Taylor.....	0 10	
Mr. Jeffrey.....	0 50		Mrs. Boyd.....	0 10	
Mrs. Parker.....	0 50				<u>\$66 10</u>
Carry Forward, \$61 75					

*Collected by MRS. McMURRICH and MRS. DICK.*

		\$. c.			\$. c.
Brought Forward,		13 00	Brought Forward,		13 00
Robt. Cathcart, Esq.....	2 00		Mrs. Grant.....	1 00	
Mrs. Geo. Dennison.....	2 00		Mrs. Jos. Bell.....	0 50	
Mrs. Judge Harrison.....	2 00		Mrs. Henderson.....	0 50	
Dr. Workman.....	2 00		Mrs. Dellion.....	0 25	
Mrs. Angus Cameron.....	1 00				<u>\$15 25</u>
Mrs. Judge Spragge.....	2 00		Less unpaid.....	1 00	
Mrs. Peck.....	1 00				<u>\$14 25</u>
Mrs. W. Bell.....	1 00				
Carry Forward, \$13 00					

*Collected by MRS. McCUTCHON and MRS. FREELAND.*

		\$. c.			\$. c.
Brought Forward,		2 20	Brought Forward,		2 20
Mrs. Thompson.....	0 40		Mrs. Clark.....	0 10	
E. G.....	0 25		A Friend.....	0 20	
A Friend.....	0 08		M. A. Edwards.....	0 30	
G. M.....	0 50		A Friend.....	0 10	
Mrs. Ferguson.....	0 25		Mrs. Barber.....	0 15	
Thomas Dexter.....	0 25		Mrs. Ebbs.....	0 06	
Miss Iredale.....	0 10		Mrs. Henry.....	0 10	
Mrs. Fitzgerald.....	0 12		Mrs. Moor.....	0 20	
N. L. Innes.....	0 25				<u>\$3 41</u>
Carry Forward, \$2 20			Carry Forward, \$3 41		

Collected by Mrs. McCutcheon and Mrs. Freeland,—continued.

	\$.	c.		\$.	c.
			Brought Forward,	6	41
Mrs. Harwood	0	20	Mrs. McArthur	0	58
Mrs. J. Wright	0	10	A Friend	0	20
Mrs. Haines	0	20	Mrs. Chaffey	1	00
Miss Wilson	2	00	Mrs. McCutcheon	5	00
Mrs. Brooke	0	50			
					\$13 11
Carry Forward,	\$6	41			

**DONATIONS.**

	\$.	c.		\$.	c.
			Brought Forward,	38	70
Mrs. James Lesslie—Flour &c.	18	75	R. Reynolds—Shoes	2	50
Mrs. Burns—Cake	1	75	Mr. Tyner—Shoes	4	00
Mrs. McCutcheon—Pie, Goose, &c.	1	55	H. Walker—Tea	0	50
J. G. Beard—1 Ton Coal	6	00	Mr. G. Lesslie—Vegetables	4	00
Mrs. T. Dick—Vegetables	0	50	Brown, Esq., (Yorkville)—Hay	4	00
J. Skinner—a Ham	1	00	The U. C. Tract Society—12		
Mrs. Freeland—a Goose	0	80	Hymn Books	1	40
Mrs. Dunlop	0	40	Messrs. Lyman Elliot & Co	84	72
Mrs. Mulholland	0	40	Dr. Clark, (Yorkville)—Load		
Mrs. Watson—Pudding	0	75	Potatoes	6	00
Dr. Beaty—1 Cord of Soft Wood	2	50	Mr. Macnab, (Attorney)—Load		
James Young—1 Bag of Flour	2	50	Turnips	5	00
Mrs. Blake—Beef	1	20			
Mr. Strand—Tea	0	60			\$150 82
Carry Forward,	\$	38 70			

J. McMURRICH.



The following List came in too late for insertion in its proper place:

*Collected by Mesdames GILMOR and MACDONALD.*

Jno. Macdonald .....	\$6.25
Mrs. Jno. Macdonald .....	5.00
Mrs. Jno. Baldwin .....	4.00
Maurice Baldwin .....	5.00
Mrs. Edmund Baldwin .....	4.00
Mrs. T. G. Ridout .....	2.00
Mrs. Zimmerman .....	2.00
A Friend .....	1.00
Mrs. M. S. Millar .....	1.00
Mrs. M. C. Cameron .....	1.00
Mrs. Dr. Ross .....	1.00
Mr. R. W. Lawson .....	1.00
Mr. Jno. M. A. Cameron .....	1.00
Miss Helliwell .....	1.00
Mrs. Storm .....	1.00
Mrs. Lee .....	1.00
Mr. J. Carty .....	1.00
A Friend .....	0.60
Mrs. Walker .....	0.50
Thos. Collier .....	0.50
B. Parsons .....	0.50
Mrs. Matthews .....	0.50
A Friend .....	0.50
Another Friend .....	0.50
	<hr/>
	\$41 85

TORONTO, August 21, 1860.