

REPORT

OF THE

Halifax Dispensary,

FOR THE YEAR 1870.

RE-ORGANIZED 1867.

HALIFAX, N. S.

PRINTED BY WILLIAM MACNAB 11 PRINCE STREET.

1871

REPORT

FOR THE YEAR 1870

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Halifax Dispensary.

1870

President.

REV. CANON COCHRAN, M. A.

Vice-Presidents.

HON. JAS. COCHRAN, M.P.P. | REV. G. M. GRANT.

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Secretary.

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A. G. HATTIE,

Attending Physicians.

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T. R. ALMON,

DRS. T. TRENAMAN,
J. F. BLACK,
T. MILSOM.

Visiting Physicians.

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South District.

DR. E. FARREL,
North District.

DR. H. A. GORDON, Central District.

Dentist.

MR. C. E. PUTNER, Jr.

Resident Apothecary.

MR. C. E. PUTNER, Jr.

Public Dispensary

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REV. G. M. GRANT

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DR. D. MON. PARKER
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Attending Physicians
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DR. J. BLACK
T. MASON

Visiting Physicians
DR. A. A. WOODILL
DR. H. A. GORDON, Genl. Surg.

Physician
MR. C. H. TURNER, Jr.

Executive Secretary
MR. C. H. TURNER, Jr.

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Report of the Directors

For the year ending December 1st, 1870.

THE Directors of the HALIFAX DISPENSARY, at the commencement of another year, beg leave to present, for the information of the subscribers, the Corporation, and the Legislature—from which sources their funds are derived—a brief account of the working of the Institution since the date of their last report. They feel satisfied that all concerned will agree, after perusing the annexed document, from the Medical Board, that money was never better bestowed in the city of Halifax than that which has been applied to this Institution. When it is considered that no less than fourteen medical practitioners—eleven of them gratuitously—have been engaged from year's end to year's end, in carrying out the objects of this charity; that on every day of the year, the poor and the stranger, afflicted by disease, have resorted to the Dispensary for relief if able to come, or otherwise have been attended to in their squalid dwellings; that in this way no less than 6,164 applications have been received, 2,902 visits paid, 7,052 prescriptions dispensed; 346 prescriptions for other charitable institutions; and 507 cases of dentistry attended to; besides a large number of vaccinations during the small pox visitation; and when the long catalogue of diseases dealt with by the medical officers of the Institution,

as detailed in the annexed list, is perused, the Directors feel that no further argument is necessary to elicit the continued and enlarged support of the charitable community of Halifax. What indeed, it may be asked, would have become of these thousands of sick and suffering poor if the doors of our Institution had been shut against them? Some might have had their wants relieved gratuitously through the well known humanity of our city practitioners; but it would have been utterly impossible for them, in addition to their private practice, thus to overtake one-tenth part of the work now performed at the Dispensary, even if the same certainty and readiness of access could have been insured to the applicants. Now, however, they all know where to find relief, and when the mid-day gun gives the signal that their Bethesda—their house of mercy—provided for them by the public and private bounty of our country, is open, they may be seen, of all ages, and both sexes, the lame and the halt and the blind, wending their way to the place where they are sure to find those in attendance who will do their best to help their infirmities, and, from the plentiful stock of medicines at their disposal, will send home with the poor patients, the needful remedies for their manifold ills. Whoever desires to satisfy himself of the necessity of this Dispensary, and of its practical working, should drop in between 12 and 1 o'clock, and take note of the class of applicants there to be daily found, and of the systematic attention which is promptly given by the Physicians in the front, and the Apothecary in the rear, to the motley group that come to be relieved. And here, in the first place, the Directors feel bound to acknowledge on their own part, and to impress, upon the whole community, the obligation due on theirs

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to the medical men connected with the Institution, for their general attention to their respective duties. Pleasing testimony from their patients as to the benefit of their services is given on all sides. Only three of those gentlemen, besides the Apothecary, receive any thing in the shape of remuneration, but the allowance (\$100 a year) is so very small as to be no compensation for their labors. The consulting and attending physicians give their time and thought and attention with praiseworthy regard only to the charitable character of the Institution, and the relief of suffering humanity, in that form which we "have always with us," agreeably to the Divine Word. But it must be remembered, that to maintain this medical staff in its present honorable relations to the children of poverty in our midst, we must have the cordial and liberal co-operation of the whole community, in supplying the funds and otherwise aiding in the support of the Institution. With the abundant evidence now presented, of the usefulness, and indeed the absolute necessity, of the establishment in question, the Directors are confident that donations and subscriptions, to insure its permanent maintenance, will be forthcoming to a larger extent than ever. The citizens of Halifax have never turned a deaf ear to applications for aid to any worthy object of Christian benevolence, and there can be no fear that they will do so now.

x And here the Directors beg to call the attention of the Meeting and of the public to the absolute necessity for providing at once, a suitable building for the purposes of the Dispensary. A glance at the premises now in occupation is enough to convince any one of their absolute unfitness, as to their surroundings, capacity, healthiness or any

x *Necessity for new premises stated*

thing else, for a Dispensary enjoying the patronage of the Legislature, the civic Corporation and the wealthy and charitable inhabitants of the city of Halifax.

It is absolutely necessary, for the credit of the community, and the comfort and health of the medical men employed, the suitable accommodation of the patients, and a due regard to their classification, that the establishment be removed as soon as possible to some more eligible building. In this connection the Directors call attention to the suggestion of the Medical Board as to the desirableness of obtaining the present Engine House, if the City Corporation will grant it, when vacated by the Fire Companies. The Directors lost no time in sending an earnest application to the City authorities on the subject, and it is hoped that they will accede to it. If that plan proves impracticable, then it is hoped that a vigorous appeal will be made to the community to obtain means for the erection of such a building as will be worthy of the object, and ornamental to the city of Halifax. A suggestion has been thrown out, which has very generally commended itself, that such a building might not only promote the interests of the Institution, but be converted into a suitable memorial of those lamented fellow-citizens who, in the inscrutable dealing of Providence found a watery grave about a year ago, some of them long associated with the benevolent enterprises of our community. Among these the Directors feel that the name of Mr. John Barron, one of their own members, is deserving of special remembrance, as having always taken a personal interest in the institution, and as having expressed the hope, just before he left us, never to return, that a suitable building for its reception might be erected. Such was also the earnest desire of another

*Lost in City of Boston 1869 }
and at Dundee and others }*

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friend of the poor, the late Mr. Brookfield,^x who has also passed away. Now that they are gone, may those that remain, and are perhaps soon to follow them, be up and doing in this and every other good work, while the short day of life lasteth.

In conclusion, it only remains for the Directors to commit the Institution under their care to the continued patronage, the sympathy, and the prayers of all christian people in this community, confined as it is to no sect or creed, or nationality—that the blessing of Him who is the Creator and the great Physician of ALL may rest upon it in the future as in the past, and make it instrumental to the relief of His poor who dwell among us.

Jan. 1st, 1871.

REPORT OF THE MEDICAL BOARD.

The Medical Board of the Halifax Dispensary beg leave to submit the following as their Report for the year ending November 30th, 1870 :

The number of patients treated at the Dispensary has been one thousand seven hundred and sixty-four, while seven hundred and twenty-seven have been visited at their homes. The entire number of applications for advice at the Dispensary, and visits made, amounts to six thousand one hundred and sixty-four ; of these three thousand three hundred and one have been treated at the Dispensary, and two thousand nine hundred and two at their places of residence.

The number of prescriptions dispensed by the Apothecary for Dispensary patients during the year, amounts to

x John Brookfield Sr

seven thousand and fifty-two; and those for other charitable institutions, three hundred and forty-six. Five hundred and seven dental cases have been treated at the Dispensary. Appended is an alphabetically arranged list of the diseases treated, the number of deaths, fourteen in all, and their cause.

The Medical Board would again call the attention of the Directors to the want of proper accommodation, and would urge the necessity of its being obtained as early as possible.

The Board would suggest that as the Engine-house on the south-west corner of the Parade will, in all probability, be soon vacated by the Engine Companies now occupying it, your body should make application as early as convenient to the proper authorities, to ascertain if that building cannot be obtained, and rendered available for the use of this charitable institution.

Number of Patients treated at the Dispensary.....	1764
“ Applications “ “	3301
“ Patients visited.....	727
“ Visits made.....	2863
“ Prescriptions dispensed.....	7052
“ For other charitable Institutions.....	346
“ Dental cases.....	507
Total number of Patients treated.....	6671
Deaths	14

D. McN. PARKER, *Chairman*

Halifax, January 3, 1871.

— 1871 —
 * The Engine House on the Parade suggested as a better location for the Dispensary.

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 Do.
 Coryza.
 Cracked
 Croup..
 Cystitis

DISEASES TREATED AND NUMBER.

Abortion.....	6	Dachrocystitis.....	1	Indigestion.....	46
Abrasion.....	1	Deafness.....	12	Inf. of finger.....	1
Abscess.....	64	Debility.....	54	“ Phleg. of hand... 4	
Adenitis.....	6	Delirium Tremens... 7		“ Phleg. of Axilla.. 1	
Amaurosis.....	1	Debauch.....	6	Influenza.....	7
Amenorrhœa.....	35	Dentition, Dis. of... 18		Injury.....	20
Aræmia.....	57	Diarrhœa.....	116	Insomnia.....	2
Anasarca.....	1	Dislocation.....	3	Intestinal Irritation.. 5	
Aneurism.....	2	Dropsy.....	18	Iritis.....	2
Do. Traumatic 1		Dysmenorrhœa.....	7	Keratitis.....	7
Aphonia.....	1	Dysentery.....	6	Laryngitis.....	4
Apoplexy.....	3	Dyspepsia.....	193	Lepra.....	1
Ascites.....	1	Dysuria.....	1	Leucoma.....	1
Asthma.....	13	Echymosis (Conjunct) 1		Leucorrhœa.....	10
Blenorrhœgia.....	2	Ecthyma.....	15	Lichen.....	1
Bright's Disease... 7		Eczema.....	18	Lithiasis.....	1
Bronchitis.....	173	Erysipelas.....	17	Liver, Hypertrophy of 4	
Bow-legged.....	1	Erythema.....	2	Lumbago.....	10
Burn.....	9	Epididymitis.....	1	Lupus.....	1
Bursitis.....	4	Epilepsy.....	3	Malformation	
Cancerum Oris.....	1	Epiphora.....	1	Hered. of Toe } 1	
Cardiac Disease.... 25		Febricula.....	42	Malaise.....	13
Caries.....	6	Fever.....	115	Marasmus.....	10
Carcinoma.....	1	“ Puerperal.....	1	Menorrhagia.....	34
Carbuncle.....	4	Fracture.....	11	Meningitis Tubercular 2	
Cataract.....	1	Frost-Bite.....	1	Necrosis.....	1
Catarrh.....	101	Furuncle.....	3	Neuralgia.....	56
Cerebritis.....	1	Gastritis.....	3	Obstruc. of Steno's } 1	
Cerebral Irritation.. 1		Gangrene.....	1	Duct.	
Cephalalgia.....	14	Gravel.....	1	Do. Wharton's Duct. 1	
Chalazion.....	1	Gonorrhœa.....	4	Do. Lachrymal Duct. 3	
Chilblains.....	3	Gout, Rhematic.....	1	Edema.....	1
Chlorosis.....	8	Hare Lip.....	1	Ophthalmia neonotorum 2	
Cholera Eng.....	1	Hæmicrania.....	2	Do. Tarsi.....	7
Do. Infantum.....	12	Hæmatemesie.....	3	Orochitis Externa.... 8	
Colic.....	11	Hæmaturia.....	1	Paralysis.....	4
Confinement.....	6	Hæmoptysis.....	2	Paronychia.....	12
Conjunctivitis.....	21	Hæmorrhoids.....	7	Parotiditis.....	6
Do. Purulent 1		Hernia.....	8	Pedicle capitis.....	4
Congestion of Choroid 1		Herpes.....	5	Do. Vestimtorium. 5	
Do. of Throat 1		Do. Circinnatus .. 2		Pemphigus.....	1
Constipation.....	74	Do. Zoster.....	5	Pericarditis.....	1
Corneal Abrasion... 1		Hydrocele.....	4	Periostitis.....	3
Do. Opacity.....	3	Hysteria.....	4	Pertussis.....	13
Coryza.....	1	Icterus.....	4	Phthisis.....	30
Cracked Nipple.... 4		Impetigo.....	8	Photophobia.....	1
Croup.....	2	Inanition.....	2	Pleuritis.....	14
Cystitis.....	1	Incontinence of Urine 1		Pneumonia.....	17

Porrigo 3	Spinal Irritation..... 2	Uterine Disease 10
Pregnancy Dis. of... 13	Stomatitis 16	Uterus, Introversion of 1
Prolapse of Rectum.. 1	Strain..... 2	Vaccinia 1
Prurigo..... 2	Stricture of Urethra.. 1	Vaccination..... 5
Psoriasis..... 1	Synovitis..... 13	Varicella..... 3
Ranula..... 1	Syphilis..... 41	Variola..... 8
Retention of urine... 1	Tabes Mesenterica... 2	Varioloid..... 2
Rheumatism 76	Tænia..... 2	Vermes..... 67
Rupia..... 1	Tongue-tie..... 6	Verucæ..... 4
Ruptured muscle... 1	Tonsilitis..... 59	Vulvitis..... 13
Scabies..... 18	Tumor 24	Wryneck 3
Scald 1	Typhoid..... 5	Wounds..... 49
Sciatica..... 4	Ulcer 24	Refused to treat... 10
Scrofula..... 15	Do. of Cornea..... 5	Not diagnosed 63
Senilis 5	Ustio..... 1	
Spermatorrhœa..... 4	Urethritis..... 1	
Sprain 21	Urticaria 3	
		Total— 2278

CAUSES OF DEATH.

Diarrhœa..... 2	Bright's Disease.... 1	Phthisis..... 2
Bronchitis..... 1	Old Age..... 1	
Dropsy..... 2	Gangrene..... 1	14
Pneumonia..... 2	Fever..... 2	

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TREASURER'S ACCOUNT.

From January 1st, 1870, to January, 1st 1871.

EXPENDITURE.

Salary of Resident Apothecary.....	\$300.00
“ “ Secretary.....	50.00
“ “ Visiting Physicians.....	300.00
Rent.....	132.00
Medicines.....	488.08
Printing.....	26.00
Coal, Wood, Oil, Gas, and Tradesmen's bills.....	43.09
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	\$1839.17
Invested on account of Building Fund.....	700.00
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	\$2039.17

RECEIPTS.

Balance in Treasurer's hands.....	\$128.43
Donation of the Lt. Governor.....	20.00
“ “ late John Brookfield.....	30.00
“ “ a " Friend of the Institution.".....	50.00
“ “ C. Irish Society.....	40.00
Provincial Grant.....	400.00
City Grant.....	500.00
Subscriptions collected by J. B. Morrow, Esq., and the Secretary.....	666.25
Grand Jury Fines.....	18.50
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	1851.18
Balance due the Treasurer.....	\$189.99

THOMAS E. KENNY.

JANUARY 1st, 1871

*Medicines 1871 \$488⁰⁸
 Invest New Building \$700⁰⁰*

LIST OF SUBSCRIBERS TO HALIFAX VISITING DISPENSARY, 1870.

His Honor, Lieut Gen.,	} \$10.00	B. H. Collins.....	5.00
Sir C. H. Doyle, sub- scription for 1871...		J. S. McLean.....	5.00
His Grace the Archbishop.....	10.00	T. E. Kenny.....	5.00
The Lord Bishop.....	15.00	Edward J. Kenny.....	5.00
Sir Edward Kenny.....	20.00	J. F. Kenny.....	5.00
Hon. Judge Bliss.....	5.00	Patrick Walsh.....	5.00
Hon. Judge Ritchie.....	5.00	Edward Binney.....	5.00
Hon. Judge Wilkins.....	4.00	John Lithgow.....	5.00
Judge Marshall.....	5.00	George P. Mitchell & Son...5.00	
His Worship Mayor Tobin..	5.00	A. G. Jones, M.P.....	5.00
Rev. G. M. Grant.....	4.00	John P. Mott.....	5.00
Hon. James Cochran.....	10.00	N. L. West.....	5.00
Hon. J. H. Anderson.....	5.00	William P. West & Co....5.00	
Hon. Jeremiah Northup....	5.00	Edward Smith.....	5.00
Hon. Wm. J. Stairs.....	5.00	Moir & Co.....	5.00
Hon. M. B. Almon.....	4.00	David Starr & Sons.....	5.00
Hon. A. Keith.....	4.00	J. F.....	5.00
Robt Noble, subscrip \$6, } for new premises \$14 }	20.00	J. A. Moren.....	5.00
C. Murdoch, subsc. \$10, } for new premises \$10, }	20.00	James F. Avery, M.D....5.00	
Doull & Miller.....	15.00	James Butler.....	5.00
Wm. Cunard.....	10.00	James R. Lithgow.....	5.00
An Exile.....	10.00	James Donaldson.....	5.00
Bauld, Gibson & Co.....	8.00	S. A. White.....	5.00
Thomson, Abbott & Co....	5.00	James B. Morrow.....	5.00
D. Cronan.....	5.00	Miss Vass.....	5.00
James Scott.....	5.00	Alexander McLeod.....	5.00
Duffus & Co.....	5.00	Robert Boak, Jr.....	5.00
Michael Dwyer... ..	5.00	Robert W. Fraser.....	5.00
John Stairs.....	5.00	G. H. Starr.....	5.00
Edward Albro.....	5.00	W. B. Fairbanks.....	5.00
Black, Bros. & Co.....	5.00	T. G. Budd.....	5.00
Lawson, Harrington & Co ..	5.00	Burns & Murray.....	5.00
Patrick Power, M.P.....	5.00	Neal, White & Co.....	5.00
P. C. Hill, M.P.P.....	5.00	W. J. Fraser.....	4.00
		H. N. Paint.....	4.00
		Edward K. Brown.....	4.00
		Joseph J. Northup.....	4.00

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