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FIETH ANNUAL REPORT
OF THE
NEWS-BOYS' LODGING
AND
INDUSTRIAL HOME,

FOR YEAR ENDING 31ST MARCH, 1874.

TORONTO:

DUDLEY AND BURNS, PRINTERS, COLBORNE-ST.

1874.

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1874.

HON. C.
C. S. C.
JOHN J.
ROBERT
B. HO
G. L.
A. T.
F. W.
JOHN J.

MANAGING COMMITTEE.

HONORABLE G. W. ALLAN, CHAIRMAN.

DANIEL WILSON, Esq., LL.D., DEPUTY-CHAIRMAN.

HON. CHIEF JUSTICE HAGARTY.

C. S. GZOWSKI, Esq.

JOHN MACDONALD, Esq.

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CHARLES G. WALKER, Esq.

GEORGE HARCOURT, Esq.

JOHN MCCARTER, Esq.

ROBERT BALDWIN, Esq.

Medical Officer.

WILLIAM OLDRIGHT, Esq., M.D.

Treasurer.

GEORGE L. BEARDMORE, Esq.

Secretary.

ROBERT BALDWIN, Esq.

Superintendent—MR. WILLIAM WELLS.

Matron—MRS. WILLIAM WELLS.

Ladies' Committee.

MRS. DANIEL WILSON, PRESIDENT.

Mrs. Beardmore.
Mrs. Blain.
Mrs. G. Brown.
Mrs. Mortimer Clarke.
Mrs. Dunlop.
Mrs. R. Gilmor.
Mrs. Geo. Gooderham.
Mrs. H. Gooderham.
Mrs. Grant.

Mrs. Gzowski.
Mrs. Kay.
Mrs. Macdonald.
Mrs. Mitchell Macdonald.
Mrs. McMurrich.
Mrs. Wm. McMurrich.
Mrs. John Morphy.
Mrs. Henry Thompson.
Mrs. Watson.

Mrs. Sutherland Taylor.

Visitors.

Hon. G. W. Allan.
Hon. Vice-Chancellor Blake.
Dr. Daniel Wilson.
Messrs. Sutherland Stayner.
" R. Wilkes, M.P.
" F. W. Kingstone.
" George M. Evans.
" S. Trees.
" J. J. Woodhouse.
" James McDunnough.

Messrs. George Harcourt.
" Warring Kennedy.
" R. W. Laird.
" W. S. Finch.
" R. Merryfield.
" S. G. Wood.
" David Cowan.
" William Crombie.
" George Goulding.
" William Reid.

Mr. A. W. A. Finch.

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FIFTH ANNUAL REPORT
OF THE
NEWS-BOYS' LODGING
AND INDUSTRIAL HOME.

The Managing Committee of the News-boys' Lodging are gratified in being able to report at the close of its fifth year, that this Institution continues to reward its friends by the success attendant on their efforts on behalf of the neglected children of the street. Every year's experience confirms the necessity there exists for providing such a home for the friendless boys who seek a precarious substance on the streets of Toronto. At the most critical period of life they are exposed to every temptation; and yet, in many cases require only a little well-timed help to direct them to a course of settled industry, so as to become useful members of society.

I. LODGERS IN THE HOME.

During the past year, 138 boys have lodged in the Home. Of these, 121 have been admitted since last report. They may be described as friendless and deserted boys, from nine to seventeen years of age, and wholly dependent on their own earnings for support.

During the most inclement periods of the past winter, vagrant children have been brought to the Lodging, who had been sleeping in wood-sheds, or otherwise, exposed to the severity of our climate.

One wretched child, deserted by drunken, criminal parents, was in such a state of filth and vermin, that his hair had to be cropt, and his miserable rags stript off him and burnt in the

yard, before he could be taken into the Home. Another boy had become so habituated to vagrancy, that he repeatedly slunk into the wood-shed on returning after dark, instead of accepting the unfamiliar comforts of a home, and a clean bed.

In such cases it is obvious that but for the friendly aid and training which this institution affords, the career of such street vagrants can end only in the police cell and the gaol.

II. ENCOURAGEMENTS TO INDUSTRY.

The News-boys' Lodging is open for the reception of any homeless boy, however dirty, ragged or vicious, so long as he is willing to conform to the rules of the Home. Personal cleanliness is enforced by the use of the bath-room, on his first entrance. He is taught that the Lodging is not a charitable institution, but a Home for industrious boys. If he is not able to pay the daily charge of 10 cents immediately, it becomes a debt which he is taught to regard as an obligation binding on him to discharge with his first earnings.

III. MUTUAL AID FUND.

The Superintendent has full discretion as to the admission of destitute children; and, in point of fact, none are ever rejected, unless the Home is already so crowded as to render the reception of another inmate impossible; as has occasionally occurred in the depth of winter.

The boys continue to maintain a Mutual Aid Fund, derived from their own voluntary contributions from their savings. They are allowed to vote the admission of any destitute applicant at the charge of this fund; and he is expected to repay the money advanced to him, into the Fund, for the benefit of some other poor claimant, when he himself begins to have some spare savings.

During the past year, 23 boys have been admitted in this way, at a charge on the Mutual Aid Fund of \$6.24.

IV. THE LOAN FUND.

The Superintendent has at his disposal a small loan fund for advances to destitute boys, to start them with their first stock of newspapers, their snow-shovel, shoe-blackening appliances, or other requisites for entering on a life of industry.

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At times, also, the same fund is drawn upon when the demands for winter clothing are beyond a boy's present savings.

During the past year the Superintendent has made advances to forty-seven boys, amounting in all to \$119.68; and it is a gratifying evidence of the success of the system, that of this whole sum, lent solely on the honour of those vagrant outcasts of the street, the only loss has been \$2.60, which was lent to a newly admitted boy, who never returned.

It is the duty of the Superintendent to endeavour to start every boy in some steady pursuit. But when first admitted, many of them have been so accustomed to vagrancy and idleness, that it is impossible to recommend them for any regular employment. They are accordingly set to work selling papers, or snow-cleaning in winter, and shoe-blackening in summer. But this is merely employed as the preparatory training for habits of providence and settled industry.

V. THE SAVINGS BANK.

The Boys' Savings Bank continues to flourish. Every encouragement is held out to induce the boys to save their surplus earnings. The Superintendent keeps a regular account with each boy; and the managers give a bonus of 5 per cent. at the end of each quarter to every depositor. The influence is most beneficial. So soon as the first genuine desire is manifested to lay by spare earnings, new motives and habits are brought into action; and the greatest difficulty is over. The Superintendent and managers, ere long, have to be on the look-out for some regular and permanent employment in town or country.

VI. INMATES OF THE HOME.

It need scarcely be said that disappointments are, from time to time, experienced. From the class of boys to be dealt with, this is inevitable. They include deserted vagrants, sometimes the wanderers, or orphan children of emigrants; but more frequently the outcasts of dissipated or criminal parents; or of those actually in the gaol or penitentiary. More than once, indeed, a poor boy's accumulated savings have been withdrawn to give his father a chance of starting anew, when dismissed from the Penitentiary.

Cases occur which show that in committing criminals to the gaol no attempt would seem to be made to ascertain the fate of the children thereby deprived of their natural guardians. Doubtless in many cases the loss of such guardianship may be little to be deplored ; but if such children are turned into the street, it must be either to beg or to steal.

The record of the entrants to the News-boys' Lodging not unfrequently run thus: age, 10, 11, 12, or 13 ; mother a drunkard, father in gaol, or run away ; or again, both parents criminal drunkards, gone they know not where. With such materials to deal with, the Managers have tried the experiment of appealing to their gratitude, and their honor. A few simple statistics will best show the results.

VII. RESULTS.

During the past year, one hundred and thirty-eight boys have lodged in the Home. Seventy of these have been sent to situations ; and in some cases apprenticed to regular trades.

From the opening of the News-boys' Lodging in 1869 till now, 627 boys have been received into the lodging ; many of them of the class already described. Of those we are able to report in all 264 sent to situations, chiefly in the country, and many of them known to be doing well.

There have been thirty-four depositors in the Savings Bank during the past year. Their savings amount in all to \$483.19, most of which would have been squandered for useless, and probably vicious purposes, but for the influences thus brought into play.

The mere fact that utterly friendless boys learn to know they have a home they can at any time return to, and friends in whom they have confidence, is invaluable as an inducement to perseverance in steady industry.

During the past month, two boys, sent last year to situations in the country, have come to the Home to deposit their winter's savings, amounting, in the one case, to \$35, and in the other, to \$45. But for the confidence they had learned to feel in the News-boys' Savings Bank, they would probably have squandered the whole sum, for lack of any friend that they could trust.

Since the opening of the Home in 1869, the nightly pay-

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ments of those street boys towards their own maintenance have amounted in all to \$2921.97. The sums deposited in the Savings Bank during the same period, and chiefly expended on their own clothing, have amounted to \$1638.91. Thus a total of \$4560.88 has been saved and judiciously expended on their behalf; while the very process which has led to such satisfactory financial results, has constituted a means for their own education and training as useful members of society.

VIII. MORAL AND RELIGIOUS TRAINING.

The daily payment of 10 cents secures to each boy his supper, bed, and breakfast. But on Sunday a free dinner is given to all who comply with the rules of the Home, which require their attendance on public worship in the morning; and on the Home Sunday school.

In addition to this, most of the boys attend a neighbouring Sunday school. At the same time it is right to state, that while the Managers regard the moral and religious training of the boys as the most essential means for accomplishing the object in view, special denominational connexions are respected, so far as they are consistent with an assured attendance on public worship. Roman Catholic children attend their own church.

IX. EVENINGS AT HOME.

Not the least important among the novel ideas which the street vagrant has to learn, is that which we are accustomed to associate with the word "Home." At the first starting of the institution the utmost difficulty was experienced in inducing the boys to remain in the Lodging in the evening. Yet, without the opportunities of training, both by the Superintendent and the weekly visitors, which is thus afforded, the Home would be little more than a cheap lodging.

All such difficulties, however, have now been effectually overcome; and after the new entrant has passed the indispensable initiatory use of the Bathroom, he is introduced to the pleasures of an evening at home; when with the help of the Superintendent, or the Weekly Visitor, the hours pass pleasantly in reading, singing, listening to a fairy tale, or even at times joining in some innocent game; the whole invariably

closing, in good time for bed, with the evening services of a Christian family.

At times an added charm is given to those Evenings at Home by the welcome presence of a Lady Visitor. The Sunday evenings especially are now regularly conducted by ladies; and the results have been of the most gratifying nature. Their visits are eagerly anticipated by the boys, and reverted to with grateful pleasure.

In addition to the attractions thus presented to the inmates, certain evening hours are regularly set apart for teaching them reading, writing, and arithmetic; and in spite of the unavoidable impediments incident to the circumstances of the pupils, fair progress has in many cases been attained, under the efficient care of the Superintendent.

X. FESTIVALS OF THE YEAR.

The Committee have again to acknowledge the kind liberality of Mr. and Mrs. Walter Mackenzie for a happy Queen's Birthday spent at Castle Frank. A serious accident interfered with the hospitable intentions of Mr. and Mrs. James Leslie; but on finding themselves unable to renew the invitation of former years to spend Dominion Day at the Willows, they provided a bountiful entertainment in the grounds of the Boys' Home for the inmates of both institutions, when the day was pleasantly passed with foot-ball, races, and other welcome pastimes.

XI. SUPERINTENDENT AND MATRON.

Mr. and Mrs. William Wells, the Superintendent and Matron, have fulfilled their duties during the past year to the entire satisfaction of the Managers. Their kindly sympathy with the work in hand, and hearty co-operation in the plans of the Committee and Visitors, have rendered the operations of the year pleasant and satisfactory to all.

XII. THE LADIES' COMMITTEE.

The Managers continue to enjoy the valuable co-operation of the Committee of Ladies, who, in connection with the Matron, have kindly undertaken the oversight of the domestic arrangements so important for the success of the Institution.

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They report their entire satisfaction with the kind and efficient manner in which Mrs. Wells fulfils the duties entrusted to her.

The Managers desire to tender to them their grateful thanks.

The thanks of the Managing Committee are also due to Dr. Oldright for his continued gratuitous services as medical officer, which have included, during the past year, the vaccination of all the inmates of the Home.

XIII. INCOME AND EXPENDITURE.

The Treasurer's report shows the receipts and expenditure for the past year. There still remains a debt of \$1400 on the building, in the form of a mortgage to W. Cawthra, Esq.

During the past winter the applicants for admission have at times taxed our utmost accommodation. Among the boys for whom regular employment is procured in town, the wages are generally too small to enable them to board elsewhere; and the oversight of the Superintendent is of great value in maintaining them in a course of steady industry. On this, and other accounts the Managers look forward to the necessity at no distant period of enlarging the building.

It is a gratifying evidence of the continued success attending the efforts made by means of this Institution on behalf of the neglected children of the street, that the Treasurer is able to report, among the sources of income for the past year, daily payments of the boys, amounting in all to \$808.50, in addition to their own savings during the same period, amounting to \$483.19.

The Managers have the gratification to acknowledge the receipt of a grant of \$240 from the Provincial Parliament, which has enabled them to carry out their plans on a scale, the results of which they trust will be regarded as proof that it has been well bestowed. They have pleasure also in again recording their special thanks to the Mayor and Aldermen for a grant of \$200.

The special thanks of the Managers are tendered to Samuel Platt, Esq., for a generous donation of \$100. They would further add their grateful acknowledgments to all kind and liberal friends, by whose aid the expenses of the year have been met. They doubt not, that to all such the best return

will be found in the part they have thus been privileged to take in rescuing so many friendless and destitute children from wretchedness and vice; and bringing them not only under influences conducive to habits of virtuous industry, but where they are subjected to religious training and the kindly charities of Christian sympathy.

Adams, Dr.
Do. Bu.
Brown, Ho.
Bryce, Mo.
Blaikie &
Brown, Go.
Buchan, I.
Bronsdon
Blain, Mrs.
Bugg, Joh.
Beardmor
Baldwin, I.
Booth, Ge.
Cawthra,
Cameron,
Cooper &
Chapman,
Campbell,
Currie, R.
Clarke, W.
Christian,
Cawthra,
Dixon, B.
Dixon, Mr.
Draper, Cl.
Friends, \$
Fensom, J.
Fiskin, Jo.
Freeland,
Finch, W.
Gurney, E.
Gillespie &
Gordon &
Gzowski, C.
Hagarty, C.
Hallam, J.
Hobbs, Ja.
Harcourt,
Knapp, F.
Kingstone
Kerr, John
Little, R.

ADDE

Allan, Ho.
Woodhouse

LIST OF SUBSCRIPTIONS TO APRIL 1st, 1874.

Adams, Dr. J.....	\$ 5 00	Lesslie, J.....	\$ 10 00
Do. Building Fund	5 00	Do. Building Fund	10 00
Brown, Hon. George	20 00	Leys, J	2 00
Bryce, McMurrich & Co.....	8 00	Lewis, Rice & Son.....	5 00
Blaikie & Alexander	3 00	Lawless, J. P.....	1 00
Brown, Gordon	5 00	Middlemore, G. T	32 55
Buchan, D.....	5 00	Manning, A.....	20 00
Bronsdon & Paton	5 00	Michie, James	25 00
Blain, Mrs.....	10 00	Millichamp, J	1 00
Bugg, John.....	20 00	Myles, Wm. & Son	7 50
Beardmore, G. L.....	5 00	Munroe, Mrs.....	5 00
Baldwin, Rev. E	10 00	Mulholland, Mrs	2 00
Booth, George	4 00	Moffat, Lewis	5 00
Cawthra, Wm	70 00	Moore, C. & Co.....	5 00
Cameron, Hon. M. C	8 00	McCabe, W.....	5 00
Cooper & Smith.....	10 00	McMaster, Hon. Wm	10 00
Chapman, Mr.....	10 00	McMaster, A. R. & Bro.....	10 00
Campbell, C. J.....	4 00	McCausland, Jos.....	5 00
Currie, R.....	5 00	Macdonald, John.....	20 00
Clarke, W. Mortimer	4 00	McPherson, Hon. D. L.....	25 00
Christian, A	2 00	McBean, John	5 00
Cawthra, John.....	2 00	McCord, A. T.....	4 00
Dixon, B. Homer.....	25 00	Nicholson, Professor.....	5 00
Dixon, Mrs	10 00	O'Brien, H.....	5 00
Draper, Chief Justice.....	5 00	Platt, Samuel.....	100 00
Friends, \$5, \$2, 50c., \$2	9 50	Pollard, Mrs.....	5 00
Fensom, J.....	7 00	Page, L. R	1 00
Fisken, John & Co	2 00	Rowsell, Henry	5 00
Freeland, Mrs. P.....	4 00	Rushton, Thos.....	10 00
Finch, W. S. & Son.....	2 00	Richie & Son, Thos..	10 00
Gurney, E. & C.....	10 00	Robertson & Son, J.....	5 00
Gillespie & Co	10 00	Smith, A. M.....	5 00
Gordon & McKay	10 00	Scott, James.....	5 00
Gzowski, C. S	50 00	Stayner, Sutherland.....	20 00
Hagarty, Chief Justice	20 00	Thomson, Mrs.....	1 07
Hallam, John.....	5 00	Thomson & Burns.....	5 00
Hobbs, James.....	1 00	Vandersmissen, W. H	2 00
Harcourt, George	2 00	Wilson, Dr	5 00
Knapp, F. A	2 00	W. E	2 00
Kingstone, F. W.....	5 00	Wilkes, Robert, M.P	10 00
Kerr, John	4 00	Wilson, W.....	5 00
Little, R	5 00		

ADDENDA.—SUBSCRIPTIONS FOR 1873, SINCE 1st APRIL.

Allan, Hon. G. W.....	\$ 10 00	Reid, Rev. W.....	\$ 2 00
Woodhouse, J. J.....	4 00	Cash from Boys in March ...	87 70

TREASURER'S ACCOUNT,

For the year ending 31st March, 1874.

RECEIPTS.

To Sundry Subscriptions received	\$ 829 62
" Proceeds of Entertainment, per Mrs. John Ridout	80 00
" " of Easter Assembly, balance.....	21 00
" St. Peter's Sunday School, per Rev. S. J. Boddy	4 20
" Grant from Province of Ontario	240 00
" " from City of Toronto	200 00
" Yorkville Sunday School, per E. Buchan, Esq	10 00
" Bond Street Sunday School	3 25
" Proceeds of Dr. Wilson's Lecture	163 91
" Sale of Mr. Allan's books	9 50
" Grand Jurors' Fees, per J. K. Macdonald, Esq.....	3 60
" Proceeds of Miss De Montford's Entertainment... ..	50 00
" Fee from Odell & Trout, for Mr. Wilkes' Lecture.....	10 00
" "Mail" Printing Account presented.....	6 00
" A. A. Davis, for Christmas Dinner.....	1 00
" Received for Meals and Lodgings from the Boys	720 80
Total	<u>\$2352 96</u>

EXPENDITURE.

By House Expenses.....	\$1495 13
" Repairs and other Expenses.....	165 23
" W. Cawthra, for Interest	112 00
" Insurance	32 50
" Furniture and Bedding.....	147 54
" Due the Treasurer, 1st April, 1873.....	13 53
Total	<u>\$1965 93</u>
Balance on hand.....	\$ 387 03

\$ 829 62
80 00
21 00
4 20
240 00
200 00
10 00
3 25
163 91
9 50
3 60
50 00
10 00
6 00
1 00
720 80

\$2352 96

..\$1495 13
.. 165 23
.. 112 00
.. 32 50
.. 147 54
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..\$1965 93

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