REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES

THE HOUSE OF INDUSTRY, TORONTO,

FOR THE YEAR 1851.

Trustees :

REV. H. J. GRASETT, M. A. "STEPHEN LETT, L.L.D. A. GEIKIE, HIS WORSHIP THE MAYOR, HON. H. SHERWOOD, J. ARNOLD, Esq. J. W. BRENT, Esq. P. PATERSON, ESQ. J. MATHERS, ESQ. S. SPREULE, FSQ. R. H. BRETT, ESQ. E. H. RUTHERFORD, ESQ. W. M. WESTMACOTT, ESQ. J. ELMSLEY, ESQ.

J. DOEL, ESQ.

Managers :

REV. DR. BEAVEN, " E. BALDWIN, " DR. BURNS, " J. DOWSE, " — MALONEY, " A. GREEN, DR. BURNSIDE, MR. J. TOLFREE, " J. TYNER, " S. SHAW, " T. CHAMPION, " J. S. HOWARD,

DR. HODDER, " BADGLEY, " BOVELL. MR. J. HARRINGTON, "T. J. O'NEILL, S. THOMPSON, H. MILLER, L. BATTERSBY, A. W. GLASHAN, R. CATHCART, H. A. JOSEPH, PETER BROWN, HUGH SCOLLE, G. BILTON, E. G. O'BRIEN, K. WORDSWORTH.

Ex, } Honorary Members, as Medical Officers.

NOTICE TO THE PUBLIC.

Appl' sations on behalf of the Poor to be adddressed to the Weekly Committee of the House of Industry.

TORONTO:

PRINTED BY HENRY ROWSELL, KING STREET.

1852.

Comparative Statement of the assistance afforded to the Poor by the House of INDUSTRY, Toronto, from 1837 to 1851 inclusive.

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REPORT.

The Trustees and Managers of the House of Industry beg to lay before the subscribers (in accordance with the act of incorporation) a statement of the affairs of the charity for the year 1851, from which it will be apparent that the usefulness of the institution has kept pace with its resources, and that the funds have been judiciously and economically expended.

In order to meet the increased demand for admission into the house, the number of beds has been increased from forty to fifty, which will entail an additional permanent outlay of at least $\pounds 100$ per annum.

In addition to this, the trustees have entered into arrangements for the erection of an outbuilding, where the casual poor and those who are not considered proper objects to be received into the Institution may obtain food and shelter for a night; the only recommendation being their distress. It will be calculated to contain twenty beds, and would have been built before the winter had not the lateness of the season prevented it; but immediately on the opening of the spring it will be carried out.

The Trustees are much gratified in being able to refer to the annexed statement of the large number of children who have been received into the establishment, and who have been comfortably provided for with respectable persons in the country. This assistance has not been confined to orphans, but has been extended to the children of those whose parents have either deserted them or who have been sent to prison—more than three hundred having been settled since 1838, many of whom would, in all human probability, have become burthens to society, had it not been for the fostering care of this charity.

It is the anxious desire of the trustees to receive as large a number as possible of such cases, as they feel that the greatest benefit they can confer, not only upon the children themselves but upon society at large, is to rescue them from the scenes of vice and misery into which they are too frequently reared, and placing them in situations where by honest industry they may become useful members of society; and when it is borne in mind how large a proportion of those committed to prison are young in years, the great advantages of such an institution as the House of Industry must be at once apparent.

Regulations have been adopted by which the Trustees will be made acquainted from time to time with the condition of those who are apprenticed by this charity; and all persons who may desire to have children bound to them must produce testimonials of their good moral character, and undertake that the children placed under their care are morally and religiously brought up.

During the last session of parliament the Hon. H. Sherwood carried an act of incorporation, granting to the Trustees and Managers the power of holding lands and money, and also of apprenticing the children under their care; and it is to be hoped that there are benevolent persons who may be induced to endow this corporation, as it is most desirable that it should be placed upon a permanent basis as to funds.

In the last Annual Report the following important recommendations were introduced:

1st. The placing taverns, &c., upon a better footing, and reducing their numbers.

2nd. The providing a House of Correction for juvenile offenders.

3rd. The necessity of permanent provision being made, either in the Lunatic Asylum or in some other establishment, for the numerous incurable idiots who are now at large.

The first has been to a certain extent acted upon by the city corporation, but there is still much room for improvement.

The last two, it is to be regretted, have not yet been carried out; but their necessity is so obvious that the Trustees hope to see them accomplished without any unnecessary delay.

There is one class of persons to whom the benefits of this institution cannot be extended, for want of accommodation and the means of placing them under control. The persons alluded to are the unfortunate females who infest our streets, many of whom would no doubt gladly abandon their vicious career were an asylum provided for them, instead of being constant inmates of a prison, from which they are too frequently discharged more depraved than when committed from their being associated with those more abandoned than themselves, and thus sink from one degree of misery to another until an early death terminate their wretched earthly career.

The Trustees are aware that the duties devolved upon them do not embrace the above characters; but anxiety for the welfare of all classes of persons in distress will, they are sure, excuse their allusion to the subject; and they earnestly trust that in this large and prosperous community, benevolent individuals will be found to provide a remedy for so melancholy a state of things.

The Trustees beg to express their obligations to the Committee of the Widows' and Orphans' Fund, who have placed £50 at the disposal of this charity for the purchase of an additional supply of wood to be distributed among the poor during this winter. The Trustees have pleasure in stating that the duties of the Superintendent and Matron have been performed to their entire satisfaction by Mr. and Mrs. Perry.

A Committee meet every Monday, Wednesday and Friday during the winter, and on Tuesdays and Fridays during the summer, to consider all cases that may be brought before them; and prompt attention is always paid to any recommendation forwarded to them.

In conclusion, the Trustees look forward to an increased measure of support, this being a charity where all can unite in benefitting their less fortunate fellowcreatures. Want and misery are the only recommendations required; and no one, however prosperous to-day, can assure himself that his prosperity will continue several of those who have been or are inmates of the institution having in more prosperous days contributed towards its funds, little expecting that they would require the assistance they afforded to others.

RESOLUTIONS

Adopted at the Annual General Meeting.

Moved by Mr. A. DIXON, seconded by Mr. BRETT-

That this meeting have heard with much gratification the Report and very satisfactory statement of the affairs of the Corporation of the House of Industry for the year 1851, and request that the Trustees will cause them to be published for the information of the public, in the hope that a much larger amount of subscriptions may be received towards its support.

Moved by Mr. HARRINGTON, seconded by Mr. P. BROWN-

That the thanks of this meeting are cordially offered to the medical gentlemen of this charity—Drs. HODDER, BADGLEY and BOVELL—for their valuable gratuitous services in attending the sick in the institution.

Moved by Mr. TYNER, seconded by Mr. S. SPREUL-

That this meeting beg to return their sincere thanks to the Press of this city for their constant advocacy of the interests of this charity.

Moved by Mr. BRETT, seconded by Mr. J. G. BROWN-That the thanks of this meeting be presented to the Treasurer and Secretary for their gratuitous services during the past year.

Moved by Mr. RUTHERFORD, seconded by Mr. DIXON-

That the following gentlemen be elected Trustees and Managers for the year 1852, in place of those disqualified or who have gone out of office :—

TRUSTEES.—Hon. H. Sherwood and R. H. Brett, Esq., in place of J. Ewart and W. Cawthra, Esqs., disqualified.

MANAGERS.—Revs. Dr. Beaven, E. Baldwin, Dr. Burns, J. Dowse, — Malony and A. Green; Dr. Burnside; Drs. Hodder, Badgley and Bovell (honorary members as medical officers); Messrs. J. Tolfree, J. Tyner, S. Shaw, T. Champion, J. S. Howard, J. Harrington, T. J. O'Neill, S. Thompson, H. Miller, L. Battersby, A. McGlashan, R. Cathcart, H. A, Joseph, Peter Brown, H. Scobie, G. Bilton, E. G. O'Brien, and R. Wordsworth.

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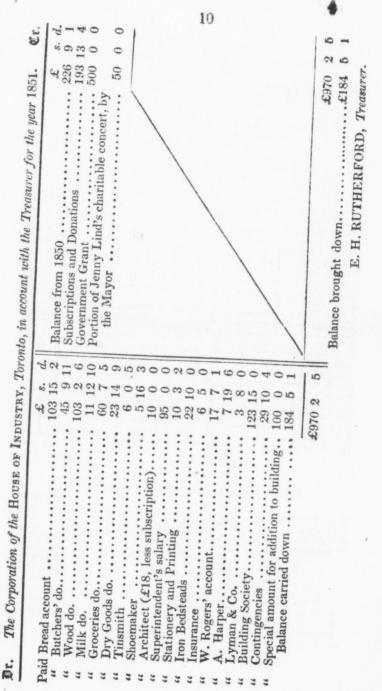
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