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THE
SIXTEENTH
ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE
HALIFAX METHODIST FEMALE
BENEVOLENT SOCIETY,

“ He that giveth unto the poor shall not lack.” Prov.
28,27.

“ She stretcheth out her hand to the poor, yea, she reach-
eth forth her hands to the needy.” Prov. 31, 20.

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1833.

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REPORT, &c.

TIME in its unremitting progress has brought us again to the anniversary of this Institution, which owes its existence to the claims of the poor. This class of citizens except in cases of sickness is rarely sought after or their acquaintance coveted, because they cannot advance our temporal interests or amuse with elegant dissertations, ingenious essays, or a detailed account of the fashions of the day, that serve to beguile the slumbering hours.

In the poor sad penury depresses their native energies of mind, which cherished under happier circumstances, might have rivalled the genius of a Newton or a Locke, or developed the philanthropy of a Howard.

The word of Inspiration informs us that the poor is hated even of his own neighbour ; but the rich hath many friends. This, like most general rules, admits of exceptions. The poor, however, have the gospel preached unto them as well as the rich, and the former most commonly embrace the glad tidings of salvation through the preaching of the unsearchable riches of Christ. This renders them truly estimable, being thereby made rich in faith and heirs of the kingdom of heaven.

Mercy and compassion bestowed on the poor, God deems as done to himself : see Math, 25ch, 34—40. It is painful to have to remark that several firm friends of the Institution have, from the necessity they were under of quitting this country, with one illustrious exception, withheld their donations. May this circumstance operate as a stimulus to others to enlarge their benefactions and so help forward an establishment, embracing in its humble means of relief the distressed and indigent of every sect and party in this community.

By the benevolent and gratuitous exertions of the Ladies who assemble annually for the express purpose of relieving the distresses of the poor, 178 Garments were made and impartially distributed, in the course of the last unusually severe winter, to the most necessitous of the poor—the materials for which were supplied by Merchants and others, whose feelings were tenderly alive to

the calls of suffering humanity. And it is confidently hoped that an appeal in behalf of the same, when again made, will be met, with the usual, or with increased sympathy and generosity.

The Balance at the commencement of the last year, £1 5 3, together with £41 11 0 the amount of subscriptions and donations, received in the course of the year ending 7th November instant, amount to the sum of £42 16 3d. The monthly distributions to the poor made by the Treasurer subject to the controul and sanction of the Committee, amount to the sum of £39 14 3.

At the sixteenth Annual Meeting of the members of the Halifax Methodist Female Benevolent Society, held in the Wesleyan Sunday School Room, on the 21st November 1832, the Rev. Wm. Dowson in the chair, it was resolved,—

1st, That the Report now read, be received and printed under the direction of the Committee.

2dly,—That this Society rejoices in the success of similar institutions, and views with undiminished pleasure every effort made to ameliorate the condition of the suffering poor.

3dly,—That the cordial thanks and best acknowledgments of this Society are owing to His Excellency Sir

Peregrine Maitland, K. C. B. our late much respected and highly esteemed Lieutenant Governor, for the decided interest he has condescended to take in the prosperity of this humble Institution, and the liberal patronage conferred by him on the same; and that the Society's best thanks are also tendered to other distinguished characters, and generally to the remaining classes in the community, who in any manner have come forward to the furtherance of its object; and that a renewal of their exertions and zeal for the ensuing year, is hereby humbly solicited and warmly anticipated.

4th,—That the following names compose the Committee of Management for the present year.

Mrs. Desiah Starr,	Mrs. Esther Grant,
Mariah Morris,	Celia Hamilton,
Ann Bell, sen.	Mary Barry,
Ann Bell, junr,	Livinia Starr,
Mary Levingston,	Martha Black,
Rebecca Black,	Fanny Black,
Mary Ann Harvie,	Sarah Ann Valintine,
	Mrs. Anne Anderson, Treasurer.
	Mrs. Mary Loveland, Secretary.

5thly—That the Rev. Mr Black be requested to accept the thanks of this Society, for his continued liberal support of its interests.

6thly.—That the thanks of this Society, be presented to Mrs Mary Levingston and Mrs Esther Grant for their persevering and efficient endeavours in soliciting and carefully collecting from merchants and other friends, donations in money, cloth, and other articles, including worn apparel, which serve to promote the benevolent views of the Institution, and that the said Mrs. Levingston be requested to resume the said Office for the present year calling to her assistance some member of the Committee before mentioned.

7thly—That the thanks of this meeting be presented to Mr. Edmd. Ward for printing gratuitously the Fifteenth Report of this Institution, and furnishing stationery at his own charge.

8thly—That the thanks of this Meeting be presented to Mr Alexander Anderson, for his unweried attention to the interests of this Society.

Dr. { Dr. Anne Anderson, Treasurer, in Account with The }
 { Halifax Methodist Female Benevolent Society. } Cr.

		1832.	
1831.	Nov. 5.	To Bal. last Acct.	1 5 3
	1832.		
	Nov. 7.	To sundry dona- tions and sub- scriptions, recvd. between the 5th 1831, and this date,	42 16 3
			44 1 6
			£44 1 6

To balance in hand £4 7 3

ANNE ANDERSON, Treasurer.