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REPORT

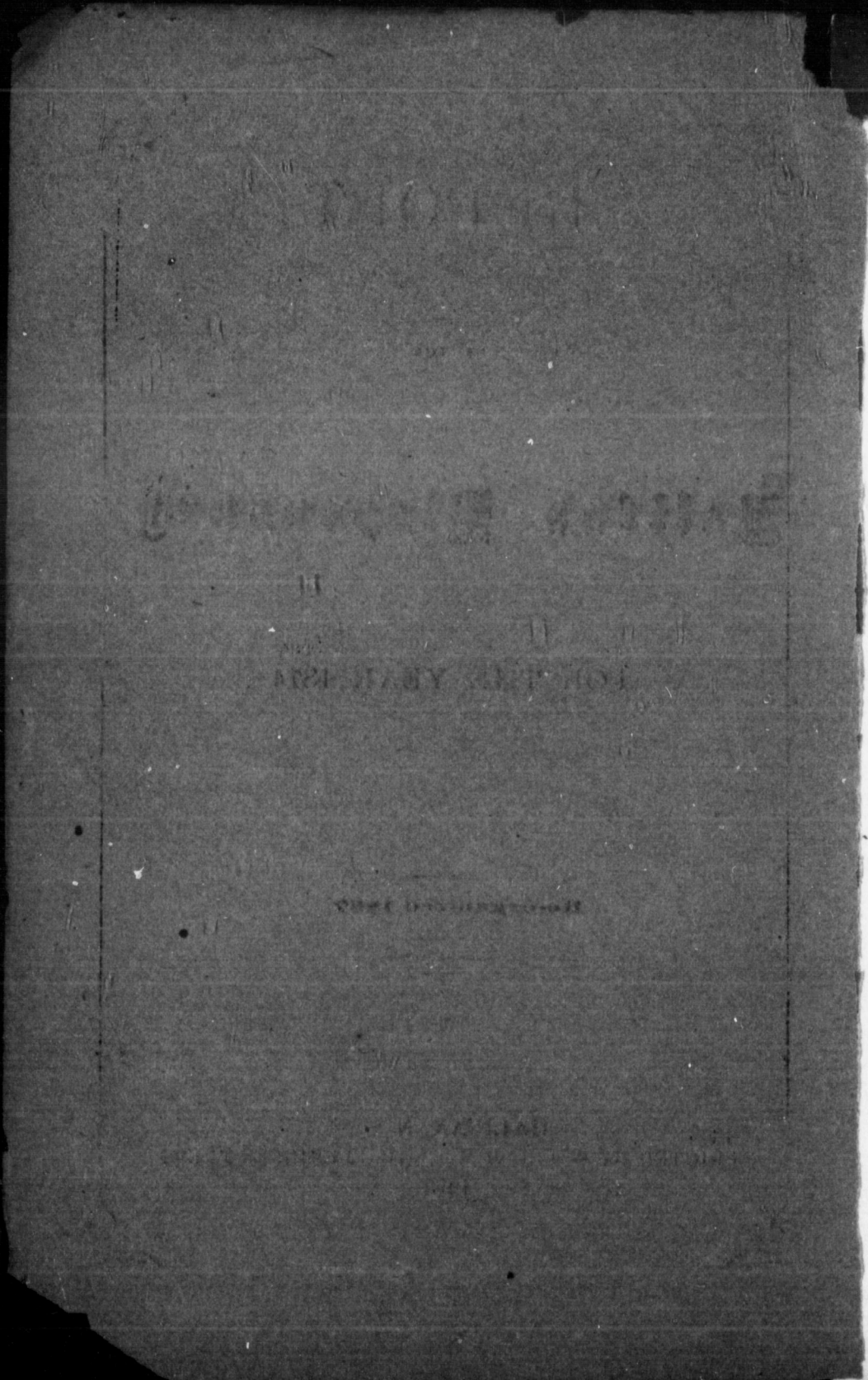
OF THE

Halifax Dispensary,

FOR THE YEAR 1874.

Re-organized 1867.

HALIFAX, N. S.:
PRINTED BY WILLIAM MACNAB, 12 PRINCE STREET.
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HALIFAX DISPENSARY.

PRESIDENT.

REV. J. C. COCHRAN, D. D.

VICE-PRESIDENTS.

HIS WORSHIP THE MAYOR, | JAMES BUGGAN, Esq.

DIRECTORS.

T. E. KENNY.

W. H. NEAL, Esq.

D. HENRY STARR, Esq.

C. MURDOCH, Esq.

REV. G. M. GRANT,

HON. JAMES COCHRAN.

TREASURER.

T. E. KENNY, Esq.

SECRETARY.

MR. CHARLES FLETCHER.

CONSULTING PHYSICIANS.

DRS. W. J. ALMON,

HON. D. MCN. PARKER.

RUFUS BLACK,

ED. FARRELL, M. P. P.

DRS. J. F. BLACK,

J. SOMERS,

H. A. GORDON.

ATTENDING PHYSICIANS.

DR. ARCH'D LAWSON,

DR. G. A. SINCLAIR,

DR. S. DODGE.

VISITING PHYSICIANS.

DR. MEAGHER,

South District.

DR. CAMERON,

North District.

DR. VENABLES, Central District.

DENTIST.

MR. C. E. PUTNER, JR.

APOTHECARY.

MR. C. E. PUTNER, JR.

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HALIFAX VISITING DISPENSARY.

Directors' Report,

FOR THE YEAR ENDING DECEMBER, 1874.

THE Directors of the Halifax Dispensary, according to custom, have now to present their Annual Report for the past year. They feel that it is not needful for them to say much, in the face of the very excellent Report of the Medical Board, embracing, as it does, in a concise form, all that is needful to show the absolute necessity to our sick poor of the Institution under our charge. But still the work is going on so noiselessly,—day after day the charitable doctors glide into their appointed places with so little show,—that there is danger of the very existence of the Dispensary being forgotten in the community; therefore, it is well to give at least an *annual* call at everybody's dwelling in this favored city, to remind its inmates where to send the needful for keeping up the poor man's and the poor woman's house of refuge from those ills which flesh is heir to, and of which that long list of diseases, to the number of 200, and covering some three or four pages at the end of the Medical Board's Report, form a large portion. But it is not enough to drop a copy of our Report at every man's door. The next thing is to get him to read it. And it may be feared that that is the very thing which is not done. A clerical wag in England once said that if anybody wants a safe place to keep a bank-note, he had better put it between the leaves of a missionary report, for it will be sure never to be disturbed.

It may be feared that such is often the fate of our Halifax

reports of various kinds. But to save ours and enable it to do its work, if the man will not read it himself, it is hoped that the wives and mothers will interfere to save its life, and get the head of the house to "read, mark, learn, and inwardly digest it," so that he may feel it his duty to contribute forthwith to the support of the Dispensary. Surely if anybody thinks for a moment that 6,100 applications or visits at the houses of patients have engaged the attention of the physicians, and 481 persons have been under Mr. Putner's gentle hands for dental purposes, and that the same person has dispensed no less than 6,530 prescriptions intended to relieve distress, besides other 90 for charitable institutions, he must, if he has a spark of charity in him, feel it his duty to help in keeping up such an establishment; and, besides what is here stated, for three-fourths of the year the poor have had the advantage of the gratuitous services of Dr. Dodge, for diseases of the eye and ear, to the number of eighty cases, involving 735 visits to the Dispensary. This will be regarded as an important element, in the benefits of the Institution, to have a gentleman who makes that branch his speciality, and has so good a reputation in it. It will be seen that the Medical Board once more press on the attention of the Directors the crying necessity for the erection of a building for carrying on all this work; and the Directors heartily join them in all they say on the subject. Let any of our rich men give us a call between 12 and 1 o'clock, some fine morning, and examine our surroundings, so graphically and *nasally* described by the medical gentleman. Besides horses below stairs, let them scan the little cubby-holes called rooms, where the healing art is to be practiced; let them snuff the aromated

air of the premises before and behind, and then say whether an Institution which for years has been conferring such benefits on this community does not deserve to be better housed;—whether it is not a disgrace to this City of Charities to leave us in such a place. Would not the supposed visitor go away disgusted, and resolve that, as far as depends on him, we should not be doomed any longer to such deplorably insufficient premises? We should have a building that would be an ornament to the city, which we could show strangers, without shame, at all events, if not with pride. But the Directors have not the funds even to buy a small lot of land to build upon, while there is money enough rusting in Banks or in iron chests to build a row of Dispensaries, and still have enough and to spare—too much, indeed, for any man to leave behind him, to be squandered, perhaps at his death, on a spend-thrift son, or to become the marriage portion of some adventurer's wife, to be carried off from the country where it has been made. We have had a William Murdoch to endow an Institution for the Deaf and Dumb, an Asylum for the Blind, an Hospital for the Insane. We have an Edward Jost, who, in his life-time, when he can see the good of his bounty, has built a church which is a noble monument to his name. We have just parted with the lamented Miss Cogswell, whose name will be held in grateful remembrance by future generations, who has diffused her wealth far and wide for noble purposes.

Have we none left to follow their examples and rear a house for the benefit of God's poor,—the lame, the halt, the diseased, the blind, whom our Saviour says we are to have always with us, that we may do them good? Cannot a man be found, or ten men, in all Halifax,—benevolent,

charitable, Halifax,—who will supply our need, and raise a monument better than the cold marble of the cemetery? Is there no one among those who are hastening to their graves, that would like to have this answer made in after years to the enquiring stranger who ask who erected that great building and Dispensary? That generous man was one of our philanthropic merchants, who felt that God gave him wealth to be used for His glory and the benefit of man. Let us hope that such a man is now ready, in his life-time, to do this good deed. No matter what church he calls his own: it is for *all* that we plead. Let us not plead in vain; let not the new-born year grow older without action in this behalf. The poor are waiting for it; the generous doctors are longing for it, who give their time and labor for next to nothing; the character of the city demands it.

Come one, come all, to our present abode in Grafton street, and see whether you will consent to our remaining there any longer, and then go home and at once make up your minds to give the largest donation to the new Dispensary that you and your wives can afford; provided that no single individual will step forward and take all the honor to himself; and, if high encouragement to such action is wanting, take it from your Bible. “Blessed is the man that provideth for the sick and needy: the Lord shall deliver him in the time of trouble.” “He that hath pity on the poor lendeth unto the Lord; and look what he layeth out shall be paid him again. Charge those who are rich in this world, that they be ready to give and glad to distribute.” Let us hope that the wonted liberality of our citizens, so often displayed, will be shown in supplying the means for attaining the object now once more pressed upon their notice.

REPORT OF THE MEDICAL BOARD FOR YEAR ENDING NOVEMBER 30TH, 1874.

To the Directors of the Halifax Dispensary :

GENTLEMEN,—The Medical Board of the Halifax Dispensary herewith submit the following Report for the year ending November 30th, 1874.

The number of patients who have been treated by the Dispensary Physicians during the year is one thousand six hundred and two. The number of applications or visits made by patients to the Dispensary, and visits made to patients at their own homes, has been six thousand one hundred and two. One thousand and sixty-three have been treated at the Dispensary by the Attending Physicians, and five hundred and thirty-nine have been visited at their homes by the Attending Physicians. The dental cases number four hundred and eighty-one. The number of prescriptions dispensed is six thousand five hundred and thirty-three, besides ninety-three for other charitable institutions. Twenty-eight deaths have occurred during the year.

Since the first of March, 1874, those patients with diseases of the eye and ear,—formerly embraced in the Surgical Department, but since that date classed in the new department—the Eye and Ear—have been under the care of Dr. Dodge. During the period of nine months, which has since intervened, eighty cases have been treated: fifty-seven of the eye and twenty-three of the ear. These patients have made, in all, seven hundred and thirty-five visits to the Dispensary, averaging a little more than nine visits for each person. It will be seen that a large increase has fol-

lowed this arrangement. Many of these cases were of long standing and their treatment was, necessarily, tedious, but with scarcely an exception, attendance on the part of the patients has been regular and punctual.

It is to be regretted that a permanent building has not yet been secured for Dispensary purposes,—the premises now occupied being unsuitable both from its size and situation,—there being but three rooms for four departments. Neither is it creditable to a city like Halifax, which has provided so well for other Charities, to take no further interest in its sick poor than to rest satisfied with a tenement that has in front of it, during the greater part of the time, vehicles of all descriptions, and in its rear a stable, the emanations from which are neither pleasant nor wholesome. To defer action in the vain hope that some of our wealthy citizens will bequeath a handsome legacy towards this object, is but a useless waste of time; and the Medical Board would again respectfully urge the Directors to take immediate action with a view to the purchase of a site, that an appeal be then made to the citizens generally for the purpose of raising means to erect a suitable building. We are of opinion that, when the nature of this charity is fully understood,—that one thousand and sixty-three patients have been treated at the Dispensary and five hundred and thirty-nine have been visited at their homes during the year, that the medical men are willing to do so much to ensure its success,—many will be found to contribute to so deserving an object. We think that the Institution is an important and essential one—equally so with the Poors' Asylum and similar institutions,—and that the public would, no doubt, give increased aid and support to a permanent building in a suitable locality.

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The Medical Board acknowledge, with pleasure, the cheerful aid afforded by Mr. Putner in the daily management of the Institution, and cannot close this Report without stating that he has been punctual in his attendance, and performed the duties of Apothecary and Dentist to the entire satisfaction of this Board.

The following is a tabular statement of the diseases and accidents, causes of death, &c.:

ENTIRE NUMBER OF PATIENTS TREATED FROM NOV. 30TH, 1873,
TO NOV. 30TH, 1874:

Attending Physicians, In-door Department.

Medical.....	477
Surgical, including Eye and Ear, to March 1st, 1874.....	347
Women and Children.....	159
Eye and Ear, from March 1st to Nov. 30th, 1874.....	80—1063

Visiting Physicians, out-door Department.

North District.....	200
Central do.	246
South do.	93— 539
Dental.....	481

Number of Visits of Patients at Dispensary.

Medical.....	834
Surgical, including Eye and Ear, to March 1st, 1874.....	800
Women and Children.....	327
Eye and Ear, March 1st to Nov. 30th, 1874.....	735
Dental	481

Number of visits made to Patients at their homes.

North District.....	997
Central do.	1344
South do.	534—6102
Prescriptions Dispensed	6533
do. do. for other Charitable Institutions.	93—6626

DISEASES AND ACCIDENTS.

Abscess	41	Chancre	5	Foreign body in	
Abortion	2	Cataract	3	throat	1
Adenitis	19	Choroiditis	1	Gastritis	1
Anæmia	44	Diarrhoea	67	Gonorrhoea	7
Amenorrhoea	23	Delirium tremens	2	Gastrodynia	6
Aneurism	2	Diphtheria	3	Hæmorrhoids	6
Anasarca	2	Dropsy ovarian	2	Hæmaturia	2
Asthma	9	Dysentery	10	Hernia	6
Ascaris Lumbracoides	2	Dysuria	3	Hemiplegia	3
Ascites	4	Dentition	12	Hypochondriasis	3
Astheopia	1	Debility	25	Hysteria	8
Acne	1	Dyspepsia	48	Hydræcele	2
Auditory canal, in-		Lacryocystitis	8	Hæmoptysis	4
flam. of	3	Deafness	1	Hepatitis	2
Aphonia	1	Debauch	1	Herpes	2
Angina Pectoris	1	Diabetes	1	Hordeolum	1
Anorexia	1	Dysmenorrhoea	9	Hydrocephalus	3
Aptæ	1	Dysphagia	1	Indigestion	36
Apoplexy	1	Dog-bite	1	Influenza	10
Anthrax	1	Dislocation of "avi-		Inanition	6
Burns	5	cle	3	Injury	43
Bursitis	6	" " Phalanges,	1	Intertrigo	1
Bright's disease	2	" " Humerus,	3	Icterus	3
Bronchitis	68	Eizerna	22	Iritis	2
Brain, cong. of.	1	Emphysema	10	Irido Choroiditis	2
Cirrhosis	2	Epilepsy	7	Keratitis	20
Concussion of brain	2	Endocarditis	3	Laryngitis	2
Colic	13	Erysipelas	10	Lixir, disorder of	11
Cephalalgia	6	Elephantiasis (of pe-		Leucorrhoea	6
Convulsions	6	nis	1	Lithiasis	2
Cystitis	4	Enteritis	1	Lumbago	12
Contusion	22	Epistaxis	1	Morbus Coxæ	2
Constipation	37	Erythema	2	Metrorrhagia	2
Climacteric	8	Frost-bite	7	Menorrhagia	16
Conjunctivitis	29	Forniculus	2	Melancholia	3
Catarrh	35	Febricula	14	Myopia	3
Cerumen, impaction		Fracture of ribs	4	Meningitis	4
of	2	" Radius	1	Marasmus	2
Cardiac, dis	10	" Tibia	1	Metritis	3
Caries	1	Fever, cont.	4	Myalgia	7
Chlorosis	4	Fistula, in ano.		Mastitis	3
Cholera Infantum	2	" of Mastoid		Neuralgia	35
Chorea	1	process	1	Necrosis	7
Coonea, opacity of,		Foreign body in arm	1	Nephritis	2
" ulcer of	3	" " nose	1	Nævus	3

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Old Age..... 5	Paronychia 20	Strabismus..... 1
Ophalania (Gonorrhæa)..... 2	Pediculi..... 2	Suppressio Mensum 4
Ovantis..... 5	Peritonitis..... 1	Super Lactatori.... 5
Onychia..... 2	Pterygium..... 1	Staphyloma Cornea.. 1
Optic Nerve, Atrophy of..... 2	Periostitis..... 2	Tonsillitis..... 20
Odontalgia..... 5	Pernio..... 2	Tables Meterica.... 1
Oachitis.... 1	Porrigo Favosa.... 2	Tinea Capitis..... 2
Ophthalmia Tarsi... 3	Prolapsus Ani..... 2	Tongue-tie..... 5
Otagia.. 1	Psoriasis... 3	Typhoid Fever.... 8
Otitis, external.... 3	Rubeola..... 8	Tumor.... 3
" internal..... 12	Rheumatism 55	Ulcer..... 28
Phthisis..... 35	Retention of Urine.. 3	Urticaria 11
Pregnancy, disorder of..... 27	Rupia..... 5	Urethritis..... 1
Pneumonia..... 14	Retuntis..... 1	Vermes..... 22
Pleuritis..... 7	Sphyllis..... 40	Vulvitis 3
Pleuro Pneumonia.. 3	Scrofula..... 10	Varuloid 2
Podagra..... 1	Synevitis..... 7	Varicose Veins.... 4
Pleurodynia..... 19	Stomatitis..... 4	Varicella 1
Paralysis..... 6	Sprain 20	Wounds 9
Pertussis 3	Scabies..... 4	Able to pay..... 5
Paraplegia..... 6	Scald..... 1	Wrong address.... 29
	Sciatica..... 3	No Diagnosis 19
	Spina Bifida..... 1	
	Spine, Curve of.... 2	

CAUSES OF DEATH.

Anasarea..... 1	Thanition..... 2	Phthisis..... 9
Aneurism..... 1	Meningitis 1	Rubeola..... 1
Corn..... 1	Old Age..... 1	Scrofula..... 1
Cardiac disease.... 1	Pneumonia 2	
Diarrhoea 7	Pleuro-Pneumonia.. 1	Total 28

All of which is respectfully submitted,

By order of the Medical Board.

J. VENABLES, M.D.,
Secretary.

TREASURER'S ACCOUNT,

FROM JANUARY 1ST, 1874, TO JANUARY 1ST, 1875.

Expenditure.

Salary of Apothecary	\$399 96
" Secretary	75 00
" Physicians	516 65
Printing	27 25
Medicines	401 60
Rent	240 00
Gas, Fuel, &c., &c.	68 23
Due Treasurer from 1873	105 02
	<hr/>
	\$1833 71

Receipts.

Donations—James Thomson, Esq., Custos	\$ 25 00
Hon. James Cochran	20 00
James R. Lithgow, Esq.	50 00
H. Hesselin, Esq.	10 00
C. I. Society	40 00
N. British Society	40 00
Collected by Messrs. Starr and Secretary	542 00
Amateur Theatricals	50 00
City Grant	500 00
Provincial Grant	400 00
Due Treasurer for excess of Expenditure	156 71
	<hr/>
	\$1833 71

The Treasurer also received from J. Taylor, Esq., M. P. P., and Jas. B. Duffus, Esq., the sum of \$241 (two hundred and forty-one dollars), which has been placed on special deposit to meet the cost of furnishing the new dispensary.

THOMAS E. KENNY,
Hon. Treasurer.

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SUBSCRIPTIONS FOR 1874.

COLLECTED BY D. HENRY STARR AND THE SECRETARY.

Albro, Edward.....	\$5 00	Dupe, George W.....	\$2 00
Avery, Dr. J. F.....	5 00	Davidson, George.....	1 00
Archbold, E. P.....	5 00	Esson & Co.....	6 00
Anderson, Billing & Co.....	4 00	Ead, John.....	2 00
Almon & Macintosh.....	5 00	Farquhar, Forrest & Co.....	5 00
Anderson, T. A.....	2 00	Fraser, R. W.....	5 00
Bishop of Nova Scotia.....	12 00	Fraser & Co., J. T.....	2 00
Bauld, Gibson & Co.....	8 00	Fuller, H. H.....	2 00
Binney, Edward.....	5 00	Fordham, Arthur.....	2 00
Black Bros. & Co.....	5 00	Gastonguay & Dompierre.....	5 00
Burns, Adam.....	5 00	Grant, Rev. G. M.....	4 00
Butler, James.....	5 00	Grant, Peter.....	4 00
Boak, jr. Robert.....	5 00	Graham, Charles.....	2 00
Brown, Thomas A.....	4 00	Hart, R. J.....	6 00
Black, Samuel H.....	4 00	Howlett & Co., L.....	5 00
Bliss, Judge.....	4 00	Hart, Jairus.....	4 00
Black, W. L.....	4 00	Halliburton, J. C.....	4 00
Bremner, J. J.....	4 00	Hunter, C. D.....	4 00
Brown & Co., M. S.....	4 00	Hogan, Peter.....	4 00
Bennett Bros.....	2 50	Harrington, Wm.....	2 00
Bayne, John.....	2 00	Harrington, W. D.....	2 00
Bayne, Thomas.....	2 00	Jones, A. G.....	4 00
Connolly, Archbishop.....	20 00	Jennings & Clay.....	4 00
Cunard, William.....	10 00	Jost, Edward.....	2 00
Cronan, Daniel.....	5 00	Kenny, Sir Edward.....	10 00
Collins, B. H.....	5 00	Kenny, T. E.....	5 00
Chipman Bros.....	2 00	Kenny, J. F.....	5 00
Chisholm, Wm.....	2 00	Kinnear, T. C.....	4 00
Creighton & Co., J. G. A.....	2 00	Carney, M.....	4 00
Coleman, jr., W. J.....	2 00	Keith & Son, A.....	4 00
Connelly & Kelly.....	1 00	Lithgow, J. R.....	10 00
Doull & Miller.....	15 00	Lawson, Harrington & Co.....	5 00
Duggan, James.....	10 00	Longard, E. J.....	2 00
Duffus & Co.....	5 00	Moran, James A.....	5 00
Dwyer, Michael.....	5 00	Mitchell, Geo. P.....	5 00
Donaldson, James.....	5 00	Mott, John P.....	5 00
Donahoe, Redmond.....	4 00	Menzies, W. C.....	5 00
Dunbar, William.....	4 00	McLeod & Co., A.....	5 00
Daley, M. Bowes.....	4 00	McLean, John S.....	5 00

McLeod, Alex.....	\$5 00	Stayner, C. A.....	\$1 00
Meyer, F.....	1 00	Sweet, Rufus J.....	1 00
Mahon, J. C.....	1 00	Taylor & Co., J.....	5 00
McCarthy, C.....	1 00	Taylor, Robert.....	4 00
Northup, Hon. J.....	5 00	Thomson, Cathcart.....	2 50
Neal, White & Co.....	5 00	Thomson & Co.....	2 00
O'Neil, B.....	5 00	Vose, C. F.....	2 00
Power & Co., P.....	5 00	Worship His, the Mayor.....	10 00
Pickford, R.....	4 00	Walsh, Patrick.....	5 00
Peters, Henry.....	4 00	White, S. A.....	5 00
Phelan, J. F.....	2 50	Wood, J. Taylor.....	5 00
Parker & Grant.....	2 00	West, N. L.....	5 00
Pugh, John.....	2 00	West, W. P.....	5 00
Pallister, W. H.....	2 00	Woodgate, A.....	4 00
Ritchie, Thos. A.....	5 00	Wilkins, Judge.....	4 00
Ritchie, J. N.....	2 00	Webb, W. H.....	2 00
Reily & Davidson.....	2 00	Whytal, J. L.....	2 00
Robertson, W.....	2 00	Wilson, J. E.....	1 00
Stairs, John.....	5 00	Watson & Myers.....	1 00
Scott, James.....	5 00	Woodill, Wm.....	1 00
Stairs, W. J.....	5 00	Walsh & Co., Thos.....	1 00
Starr, G. H.....	5 00	Yates, George S.....	4 00
Stirling, W. S.....	4 00	Yates, John W.....	2 00
Silver & Co., John.....	4 00	S. H. D.....	2 00
Smith, Edward.....	4 00	C. & B.....	1 00
Sircom & Marshall.....	4 00	C. F. R.....	1 00
Smith, J. Wesley.....	4 00	S. T. H.....	0 50
Silver, W. C.....	3 00		