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THE
Twelfth
ANNUAL REPORT
OF THE
HALIFAX METHODIST FEMALE
BENEVOLENT SOCIETY,

I delivered the poor that cried, and the fatherless, and him that had none to help him. The blessing of him that was ready to perish came upon me: and I caused the widow's heart to sing for joy.

I was a father to the poor.

Was not my soul grieved for the poor?

Job, C. 29, 30.

HALIFAX :
PRINTED BY J. H. WHITE.

1828.

THE HISTORY OF THE

STATE OF NEW YORK

FROM 1784 TO 1808

BY

J. M. WHELAN

NEW YORK

1808

BALTIMORE

PRINTED BY J. M. WHITE

1808

Public Archives of Nova Scotia
HALIFAX, N. S.

REPORT, &c

THE necessity which the season from its coolness imposes on us to have recourse, for the relief of our feelings to the aid of fire, which powerful agent when kept under proper controul constitutes, we know, one of the first of our temporal blessings in this inclement latitude, reminds the *Committee of the Halifax Methodist Female Benevolent Society* of the various incumbent duties to which the return of this season invites them, in order to alleviate the increasing sufferings of the poor, the unfriended, the distressed, the wretched, the widows and orphans of the community.

Winter, we allow, comes like an armed man to those persons whose lot it is, not to possess the means of warding off its asperities, by laying in a sufficiency of fuel, with other necessaries imperiously called for, to render existence barely tolerable, not to say comfortable. Even the affluent feel it a period replete with disadvantages, and abatements in point of health and recreation; and the means resorted to, as substitutes for the absence of the sweetness and embellishments of summer, not unfrequently impair the constitution, insensibly waste the spirits, and disappoint hope. Where then, are the tattered, shivering, heartless mendicants to look for relief, oppressed and encompassed, as they are, with poverty and pain, with the want of almost every thing connected with the cravings of human nature, but to an ever watchful Providence which feeds the ravens, and succours distress, through the instrumentality of the benevolent, the humane, the liberal minded, the opulent, and to those who can and do "feel another's woe," and thereby are willingly led, to sacrifice of their substance at the shrine of philanthropy?

It appearing, notwithstanding repeated explanations for elucidating the point, that a notion still obtains with sum of the patrons and friends of this humble institution, that the money aud clothing contributed from time to time are, in their application, limited by the Committee to the members of a *certain* congregation, exclusively of all consideration for other denominations. No position, however, they are warranted in saying, can be more at variance with facts ; neither do the principles, nor persuasions of the individuals who petition for help, fall within the province of the Committee, their business being solely with poverty, with perplexity, with distress, with misery, in all their varied shapes and aspects, bearings and gradations ; distributing according to the best of their knowledge and judgement what may have been confided to their management and care ; yet not altogether without exercising discrimination in regard to character in the applicants.

By the disinterested and magnanimous aid of their friends, who generously volunteered their services in the honourable cause of cha-

rity, the Committee have been enabled gratuitously to make up into plain garments, of the sorts best adapted to the requirements of female indigence, some hundred yards of cottons, &c. derived from the munificence of the mercantile interest, and other respectable sources. These garments, together with a few others kindly provided, and punctually transmitted to the Committee, accompanied with money by some subscribers, and worn clothes by other benefactors, amount in the aggregate to 330 articles.

So characteristically benevolent are the good feelings of the Ladies, in the furtherance of relief to the necessitous poor, that it is no more than doing them justice to state, that, not without inconvenience, they often exert themselves in no ordinary degree, and continue their sewing parties to a late hour, for the laudable purpose of attaining a favourite object with them, the covering the almost naked with a garb; and when any open door is presented to invite them to those social and pleasing operations, sweetened by sympathy, they gladly enter therein.

In a town far-famed for prompt liberality, when solicited in behalf of distress as Halifax is, little need be offered, by way of appeal, to urge the subscribers and friends of this institution to renewed efforts, and augmented perseverance in the cause of beneficence and charity: "Their own works praise them in the gates."

The balance at the commencement of last year was, by the Treasurer's Acct. £1 14 3½, and the sum total of subscriptions and donations since received, during the course of the year ending 5th November inst. is £69 17 0. In the said period the Treasurer's distributions and purchase made, subject to the controul and sanction of the Committee, amount to the sum of L67 8 0, which leaves a balance in hand of L4 3 3½ as set forth in the last page.

At the Twelfth Annual Meeting held in the Wesleyan Sunday School House, on Wednesday the 19th November, 1828, the Revd. Stephen Bamford in the Chair, it was resolved :

- 1.—That the Report now read to this meeting be received and printed, under the direction of the Committee.
- 2.—That this Society rejoices in the prosperity of similar institutions, and views with unfeigned pleasure every exertion made to meliorate the condition of suffering humanity.
- 3.—That the warmest thanks of this Society are owing to His Excellency Sir James Kempt G. C. B. our late much respected and highly esteemed Lieutenant Governor for the patronage he has condescended to confer on this humble institution ; and also the other honourable and distinguished characters, as well as generally to all the individuals who have been pleased in any manner to aid its funds ; and that a continu-

ance of their beneficence is hereby most earnestly and very respectfully solicited.

- 4.—That the following Ladies do compose the Committee of management for the present year :

Mrs. Desiah' Starr,
 Maria Morris.
 Ann Bell. Sen.
 Ann Bell. Jun.
 Mary Livingston.
 Rebecca Black.
 Esther Grant.

Mrs. Jane Bamford.
 Mary S. Starr.
 Mary Barry.
 Lavinia Starr.
 Martha Black.
 Anne Crosscombe.

Mrs. Anne Anderson. *Treasurer.*
 Mary Loveland. *Secretary.*

- 5.—That the Revd. William Black be requested to accept the cordial thanks of this Society for his attention and liberality to its concerns and interests.
- 6.—That the thanks of this Society be presented to Mrs. Mary Livingston and Mrs. Ann Bell, Jun. for their prompt and persevering efforts in soliciting and receiving donations from Merchants and other persons in money, cloth, or any other articles, in-

cluding worn apparel, which do promote the benevolent views of the Committee, and that they be requested to direct their zeal afresh in prosecution of the said laudable object.

- 7.—That Mr John Munro is entitled to the thanks of this Society for printing *gratuitously* the Eleventh Annual Report of the Committee.

Dr. ANNE ANDERSON, Treasurer, in Acct. with the H. M. F. B. Society. Cr

<p>1827 Nov. 5 To balance of last acct. 1 14 31-2</p> <p>1828 Nov. 5 To sundry donations } and subscriptions recei- } ved between 5th } 69 17 0 November 1827 and } this date }</p>	<p>1828 Nov. 5 By distributions to sundry } poor persons including a } purchase of flannel, &c. to } 67 3 0 be made-up between 5th } Nov. and this date . . . }</p>
<p><u>L71 11 31-2</u></p>	<p><u>4 3 31-2</u></p>
<p>Tobalance in hand L4 3 31-2</p>	<p>E. E. <u>L71 11 31-2</u></p>

ANNE ANDERSON, Treasurer.