

THE
FIFTH ANNUAL REPORT
OF THE
SISTERHOOD
OF THE
GOOD SHEPHERD,
NEW YORK.

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1873.



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THE Fifth Anniversary of the "SISTERHOOD OF THE GOOD SHEPHERD" was celebrated by Divine Service and the Holy Communion in St. Barnabas' Chapel, 306 Mulberry Street, on the second Tuesday after Easter, April 14th, 1874, at 11 o'clock A. M.

The service was conducted by the Bishop of the Diocese, assisted by the Pastor.

After the Fifth Annual Report had been read, the Bishop made an address, expressing his full sympathy with Sisterhood work in the Church. There were present representatives of two English Sisterhoods as well as those of New York and Brooklyn.

THE FIFTH ANNUAL REPORT.

It has been our privilege for another year to continue the work entrusted to our care, viz., the charge of ST. BARNABAS' HOUSE and its Day Nursery, calls upon the poor who apply for aid, and weekly visits to Bellevue and the Hospitals on Ward's Island. For a large portion of the year the Hospital at the corner of Lexington Avenue and 51st Street was visited each week at the request of the First Directress, and a Bible-class taught for all those able to attend.

In the House we have had the care of 1,783 persons, an increase of 126 over last year, and in the Day Nursery 105 children, making the whole number 1,888.

The want of work this winter has made an increase of 12,716 meals over those of last year, causing the whole number for this year to be 94,358.

In ST. BARNABAS' HOUSE daily religious instruction is given in addition to the services of the Chapel, and all are gathered as one family for daily morning and evening prayer.

We have been able, as last year, to meet the rent and all other expenses of the Day Nursery by the small sums brought by the children themselves from their parents, and the aid of Miss Wolfe and other faithful friends.

Our visits among the sick poor of our neighborhood have led us to earnestly desire a Dispensary in connection with the House, and we trust the day is not far distant when our eyes shall be made glad with the sight of this necessity in effective ministrations among the afflicted. We hope, moreover, that some Christian physician may be willing to offer his services to the poor whom we are called to visit. We feel very grateful to the kind friends who have made us their almoners, supplying us so generously with the means for furnishing coal, as well as little comforts to the sick and poor, even giving us special funds to meet special cases. We were again made very happy at Thanksgiving and Christmas by being enabled to give so many families good dinners in their own homes, besides feasting 1,155 persons in the House. Never

was our Christmas fund as large as this year. The beautiful Christmas-Tree not only rejoiced the hearts of our children in the House and Day Nursery, but made the mothers comfortable by substantial gifts of clothing.

We feel specially grateful to Miss Wolfe for enabling us to give to all who bore with us the burden and heat of the summer, as well as to our children, a most refreshing rest. A party of twenty-four heartily enjoyed the delightful fortnight at the Cove House, St. Johnland, where the thoughtfulness of the Rev. Dr. Muhlenberg, Sister Anne and the ladies in charge had made every provision for their comfort, Miss Wolfe furnishing the board, and another kind friend defraying all other expenses.

The thoughtfulness of another friend again furnished us with a free pass to Fort Lee for the season, giving to all the children many pleasant trips, and enabling us to take also the wearied, worn-out mothers, or some poor, sick person, to whom the trip was indeed a pleasure.

We desire to thank all who contributed

to the Fresh Air Fund, which gave the children many a ride to Central Park.

On All-Saints' Day, at a service held in St. Ann's Church, the vacant place of the dear Sister who was so soon called to Paradise was filled by the reception of another Sister by the Bishop. Fourteen ladies have been with us at various times during the year as Visitors. Two of these would have been received as Probationers but for Providential hindrances. Three Visitors, one Associate, one Probationer, with the three Sisters, now form the little band of workers in the House. One Associate has resigned and one has been received. Other ladies have assisted us during the winter by giving a portion of their time each week. A former Associate, living at a distance, has recently sent us a handsome sum to be used in the care of the sick and poor and little children. One of our present Associates has promised one hundred and fifty dollars a year for the support of a Sister; another by an offering of gold and silver for a chalice, has led to the presentation of a communion service for the Chapel of St.

BARNĀBAS' HOUSE, while one who was with us some years ago as a Visitor, has sent us from her distant home a set of linen to be used in the private celebration of the Holy Communion among the sick. We must be permitted to say that such appreciative sympathy and help encourage us to persevere in that portion of the Master's Vineyard which seems to have been allotted to us, notwithstanding the trials and obstacles which, from time to time, arise to cast the dark shadows of discouragement upon our labors.

The thanks of the Sisterhood are again due to Dr. O. W. Armstrong for his faithful services during the year, and to the Rev. S. F. Holmes, the Chaplain of the House, who has always been ready to aid us in every way in his power.

We close this brief record of the doings of another fleeting year with devout gratitude to the great Head of the Church, the gracious Bishop and Shepherd of our souls, for all His loving-kindness and tender mercies to us in our venture of faith, trusting that the life of our Sisterhood may have

genuine growth, and thus be ready to respond to every providential opening for systematic work among the poor and the needy of this great city.

THE SISTERHOOD.

THE Sisterhood of the Good Shepherd is under the charge of the Bishop of New York, Rev. T. Gallaudet, D.D., being the Pastor.

Its object is to minister to the poor, the sick, the homeless, and the outcast, and to care for little children.

No new work is undertaken or new rule made without the approval of the Bishop.

The Sisterhood embraces five classes—Sisters, Assistants, Probationers, Visitors, and Associates, over all of whom the Presiding Sister has control.

The Associates are those who, residing in their own families, are able to give only a portion of their time each week or year to the work.

The Visitors are those who wish to become Probationers, or those who desire to give themselves to the work for a limited time, residing with the Sisters during this time.

The Probationers are those who, having passed six months as Visitors, and then desiring to give themselves wholly to the work, and being approved by the Presiding Sister, shall assume the dress and be received by the Pastor.

The Assistants are those who wish to devote themselves to work for Christ, but whose lives have been so ordered that they are not fitted for the position of full Sisters. They are Probationers two years, then (if approved by the Presiding Sister and Pastor) are received by the Pastor, and take the name of Sister.

The Sisters are those who, having passed a probation of two years, still desire to devote themselves to the work, and being approved by the Presiding Sister, Pastor and Bishop, are received by the Bishop and known as Sisters.

Family ties being of the most sacred obligation, any Sister may leave the work of the Sisterhood at any time that family duties require it. In such case, if she desires to continue to be a Sister, she may do so, with the consent of the Presiding Sister and Pastor, returning to the work of the Sisterhood when Providence permits her.

Probationers may withdraw at any time by giving due notice to the Presiding Sister and Pastor.

A Sister wishing to withdraw gives written notice thereof, with her reasons, to the Presiding Sister; but that due provision may be made for the work in which she has been engaged, such withdrawal does not take place less than two months after the notice has been given, unless by special consent of the Presiding Sister.

Probationers must not be over forty, or under twenty-one years of age, without the special consent of the Presiding Sister and Pastor.

Application for admission to the Sisterhood may be made to SISTER ELLEN, St.

Barnabas' House, No. 304 Mulberry Street,
or to the Pastor, the REV. DR. GALLAUDET,
No. 9 West Eighteenth Street, New York
City.

DONATIONS

*To the Sisterhood for their work among the outside
sick and poor, since April 1, 1873.*

A Churchwoman—for the poor.	\$50 00
Mrs. M. H. Throop—for the sick poor of your district.	10 00
Mrs. M. H. Stellenwerf—for sick.	3 75
Mrs. H. H. Bean—for your poor.	2 00
Miss Mary S. Jones—for the sick poor.	25 00
Mites for the poor—through Miss Emery.	10 00
Mrs. James I. Jones—for the poor.	25 00
Mrs. Wm. A. Smith—for the sick.	10 00
A Sister—for the sick.	2 00
Sam'l B. Ruggles—to make some poor fami- lies comfortable at Christmas.	20 00
Mrs. P. M. Clapp—for coal in small quantities to the poor.	5 00
Mrs. James I. Jones—for outside poor.	25 00
Through Rev. Dr. Ogilby—for coal for the poor.	30 00
Mrs. James I. Jones—for funeral expenses of a poor man.	31 00

The Sisterhood of the Good Shepherd. 13

Anonymous—for the sick.....	5 00
A Friend—for rent for sick.....	10 00
Miss Cobb—for the poor.....	10 00
Mrs. J. J. Astor—to use as Sister Ellen thinks best for special cases.....	50 00
Mrs. James I. Jones—for special cases among the poor.....	25 00
Through Rev. C. T. Woodruff—for coal for some suffering family.....	5 00
Miss Daniels, Boston—for whatever Sister Elizabeth thinks best.....	25 00
Mr. Wm. B. Duncan—for special cases.....	20 00
Easter Offering. A Former Associate—for sick, outcasts, or the nursery, as you think best.....	50 00
<i>To send a poor family to Bremen.</i>	
Mrs. Hicks.....	20 00
Mrs. James I. Jones.....	20 00
Mrs. Stewart.....	10 00
An Associate.....	10 00

Other Donations.

For Thanksgiving Dinners in their own Homes.

12 turkies and 2 barrels potatoes, through T. M. Rodman.

For Christmas Dinners in their own Homes.

13 turkies and 3 bags of potatoes, through T. M. Rodman.

15 pounds of candy for Christmas Tree on Ward's Island, through T. M. Rodman.

Beef jelly and arrow root. Mrs. F. A. Hall.

To the Sisterhood Fund.

Miss S. L. E. Carter, Concord.....	\$ 5 00
An Associate	1 50
Mrs. Wm. Alex. Smith.....	10 00
Miss Emily V. Clark....	50 00
C. D. W., through an Associate.....	5 00
A Friend, Burlington, N. J.....	5 00
An Associate.....	10 00
Mrs. John H. Clark, Yonkers.....	10 00
A. S., through an Associate.....	10 00
Thank Offering.....	10 00
Through Offeratory at "Midnight Mission," for Permanent Fund	5 00
Prov. iii. 27.....	5 00
An Associate.....	150 00
A Visitor in 1871.....	10 00
Thank Offering.....	10 00