

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

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1875.



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THE Sixth 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 6th, 1875, at 11 o'clock A. M.

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

After the Sixth Annual Report had been read, the Bishop made an earnest address, full of sympathy with the Sisterhood and interest in the work to which they have devoted themselves.

THE SIXTH ANNUAL REPORT.

On the second Tuesday after Easter, April 6th, 1869, our beloved Bishop organized our Sisterhood, and gave us his blessing. Soon after this the Trustees of the New York Protestant Episcopal City Mission Society invited us to continue the charge of the work at St. Barnabas' House. We gladly accepted the invitation, and from that time to the present have tried to discharge with fidelity the duties providentially placed upon us. We have deemed it best from year to year to present to these and other friends a brief report of our work, and to-day call their attention to a few facts illustrating the sixth year of our Sisterhood life.

On the Festival of the Conversion of St. Paul, at a service held in St. Ann's church, the Bishop received Sister Lizzie, the first of the class of Assistant Sisters. This young woman, by several years of faithful service in the special care of the House children, had endeared herself to us all as a Sister "beloved in the Lord," and it was with joy that we welcomed her to our number. This class of Assistant Sisters was provided for in our organization, with the

feeling that there was work in Sisterhoods for persons in every rank of life. Time will show how far this will prove to be the case. We shall be glad to hear from any who may be drawn towards working permanently with us as Assistant Sisters.

During the year just closed ten have been with us at St. Barnabas' House as *Visitors*, for different periods of time. Eight have been received as Associates, making the whole number at present twenty-five. Thus have the different departments of our work been carried on, though we have as yet but four full Sisters. We trust that the time is not far distant when, from our Visitors, Associates, or other devout women in the Church, this number may be increased.

In alluding to the full Sisters, we love to cherish the memory of one who, though resting in Paradise, is still with us in the Communion of saints. We refer to Sister Serena, the second on our short list of five.

Believing in the guidance of the unseen hand, we are thankful that our growth thus far, though slow, seems to indicate reality. The lesson has come home to us that it is not an easy thing to bring together Christian

women who are fitted to work in community life.

We are getting the wisdom which comes only by experience. We are willing to persevere in efforts to overcome difficulties, and add to encouragements, hoping that we may have the sympathies and prayers of all who believe in systematized work for Christ and the Church, among the poor and afflicted.

The work has continued the same as reported last year, *i. e.*, the charge of St. Barnabas' House and Day Nursery; weekly visits to Bellevue and the Hospitals on Ward's Island; the Bible-class and visits in the wards of the Fifty-first street Hospital; visits to the poor in our neighborhood; the charge of the infant-class of the Sunday-school of St. Barnabas' Chapel, and as much aid as we could render to the other classes.

The number of inmates received into St. Barnabas' House from April 1st, 1874, to March 31st, 1875, was 1663, and the number of children in the Day Nursery 102, making a total of 1765. The amount paid by the mothers of children towards the support of the Day Nursery was \$137.98. 106,865

meals and 20,548 lodgings were furnished. The increase over last year was 12,507 meals and 1327 lodgings. This increase is principally accounted for by the unusual severity of the Winter, and the difficulty of obtaining employment for the women. They were thus kept for longer periods than usual, the house being at times overcrowded. The number in the Day Nursery was somewhat reduced from the prevalence of the whooping cough for several months, and also from the fact that mothers being unable to obtain work kept their children at home.

1140 persons enjoyed bountiful dinners at the House on Thanksgiving and Christmas days, in addition to the families who received provisions for their dinners at home. Christmas and Easter festivals were also provided for the children of the House and the Day Nursery. On these happy occasions the mothers of the latter also received gifts. We offer our sincere thanks to all our friends whose generous donations enabled us to fill so many hearts with gladness. We mention again with gratitude the kindness of Miss Wolfe in providing the means by which Sisters, Visitors, and House children had a

bright Summer vacation of two weeks in the Cove House of St. Johnland. We thankfully acknowledge the support given by several friends to the Day Nursery, the free-pass given by Mr. Goetchius for the steamboats to Fort Lee, enabling us to give several excursions to the children and their mothers ; the contributions to " the fresh-air fund," which provided for rides in the Central Park ; the alms entrusted to our care for the sick and poor in our neighborhood, and the money for coal, tea, and sugar for the sick in the 'hospitals, and bedding for those who needed it.

We have been greatly encouraged in our work by the kind attentions of Dr. Armstrong, the faithful coöperation of the Chaplain, the Rev. S. F. Holmes, the Superintendent of City Missions, the Rev. C. T. Woodruff, the courtesies of the House Committee, and the Executive Committee of the City Missionary Society. We have received from one of our Associates the gift of an altar cloth and frontal, and a complete set of altar linen ; and from one, who was our first Associate, now living in a distant city, and another, who was a short time

Visitor, several gifts of money for our poor and sick and little children. All this shows that our work both in Summer and Winter has a hold on loving hearts. Our Sisterhood Fund has been remembered in various ways. The giving of \$150 for a year's support of one Sister, mentioned in the last report, led another, since received as an Associate, to pledge herself for a like sum. Two other Associates more than support another Sister, while a young lady, who was prevented from putting into execution her wish to give a portion of her time to the house, with a few of her friends, is giving more than half enough to support some one who will give her whole time. We feel sure that it will be considered right for us to try and provide this small sum each year for all those who need it when they give themselves to the work to which we have been providentially called. To all our friends, the names of many are unknown to us, we say, God bless you for your loving sympathy and support.

The appeal which we made last year for a physician to visit the sick and poor of our neighborhood was promptly answered by one ; but unfortunately for us, he was soon

obliged to go to Europe. We renew the request.

The wants of our work are numerous. We need new buildings with enlarged accommodations, especially a new Chapel, in which our services could be more impressively performed, and in which larger congregations could be gathered. We need a dispensary, with a diet kitchen; a Sisters' house in the country, where the Sisters and other workers could go for rest, and the children could have their Summer holiday, and where we might add a convalescents' home. We need somewhere in the city a small Hospital for children sick with contagious diseases. We will continue our prayers that God in His good time will put it into the hearts of those who love His dear Son to make our work more comprehensive and effective.

Notwithstanding the imperfections which are incident to all human exertion, and the trials of faith which must ever characterize the gracious discipline of Him who expects His followers to bear the Cross, we can truly say, in closing this Report, that for another year we have cause for heartfelt

gratitude to our Heavenly Father for His watchful care and abounding love.

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 Bishop, 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 May 1, 1874.

Mrs. H. S. Fearing—"for special cases of poor and sick".....	\$30 00
H. P. Egleston—"for the sick during the summer"	25 00
H. E. Pellew—for special cases.....	5 00
Mrs. Steward—"for anything you please".....	10 00
Mrs. Cobb—"for the sick".....	6 00
Through Rev. Dr. Ogilby—"for the purchase of delicacies for the sick in the hospitals under the direction of the Sisters," "X."..	100 00
H. E. Pellew—for special cases.....	25 00
Mrs. H. H. Bean, S. I.—"thank offering for your poor".....	2 00
Mrs. Williamson Bacon—"to give some little sick girl fresh air".....	5 00
Through P. C. T.,—"medicine and help for sick children," J. M. F. D. D.....	5 00
Mrs. Rumney—for the same.....	5 00
Mrs. J. M. Richmond, Buffalo, N. Y.—"where most needed".....	50 00
"D." an Associate—"for anything you wish"	20 00
Mrs. Clarkson, Rochester, N. Y.—"for the sick"	10 00
Miss Mary S. Jones—"for the sick poor"....	20 00
H. E. Pellew—to send sick family to relatives in England.....	5 00
"H." an Associate—for the same.....	2 00

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Mrs. John Steward—"for out-door poor".....	50 00
John Rudderow H. Richmond, Buffalo, N. Y. Thank-Offering (one half),.....	25 00
H. E. Pellew—for poor in November.....	10 00
Miss Ferguson—for the poor.....	10 00
Wm. B. Duncan—"as you think best".....	30 00
A Friend—"for the poor, especially for the household of faith".....	50 00
A Friend through Rev. C. T. Woodruff—"for poor sick child at Christmas".....	3 00
Mrs. C. E. Patterson, through Rev. C. T. W. —for the poor.....	5 00
A Friend, Burlington, N. J.—"for some poor sick body".....	5 00
Mrs. P. M. Clapp—"for coal in small quantities" 5 00 "Y," through Offeratory of Trinity Church— "for coal in small quantities for St. Barnabas' poor".....	30 00
Mrs. C. L. Spencer—"for relieving the wants of worthy persons this very cold weather".	100 00
"D." an Associate—for bedding for poor....	5 00
A Friend—"Use for me".....	5 00
Dr. T. B. Gunning, through Mrs. G.—for English family.....	10 00
A Friend—for sick children.....	2 00
A Visitor- Easter offering for sick.....	5 00

For Thanksgiving Dinners in their own Homes.

9 turkeys through T. M. Rodman.

For Christmas Dinners in their own Homes.

11 turkeys through T. M. Rodman.

To the Sisterhood Fund.

Miss Harison.....	\$ 5 00
C. D. W.....	10 00
A Visitor.....	5 00
Mrs. Alfred Roe.....	10 00
Through an Associate.....	25 00
“ the same, C. D. W.....	20 00
Miss N. M. S.....	10 00
Miss Murphy	4 15
Miss Murphy.....	1 00
Mrs. H. E. Pellew—annual subscription....	50 00
Through Miss Morgan—monthly subscription	7 50
A Friend, through Mrs. A. Roe.....	5 00
Through Miss Kittie Morgan—for two months	15 00
“C.” an Associate, subscription for six months	60 00
“R.” an Associate—subscription for nine months.....	112 50

Other Donations.

Six linen pillow cases “R.” an Associate.

Flowers for Anniversary from Sisterhood of Holy Communion and Mrs. H. E. Pellew. A Visitor for flowers, \$1 00.