

1819

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THE  
THIRD ANNUAL REPORT

FOR THE YEAR 1819,

OF

THE MANAGERS

OF THE

*Indigent Widows and Single Women's Society.*

WITH

A LIST OF THE OFFICERS AND MANAGERS, AND OF THE  
CONTRIBUTORS SINCE THE LAST ANNUAL REPORT.

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PHILADELPHIA:

PRINTED BY ORDER OF THE SOCIETY.  
William Fry, Printer.

1820.



OFFICERS FOR THE YEAR 1820.

*First Directress,*  
Mrs. Sarah Ralston.

*Second Directress,*  
Mrs. K. Chew.

*Treasurer,*  
Mrs. Mary Hodge.

*Secretary,*  
Miss S. P. Bayard.

MANAGERS.

Mrs. Sarah Ralston,  
Mrs. K. Chew,  
Mrs. Mary Richards,  
Mrs. Elizabeth Haskins,  
Mrs. Susanna Latimer,  
Mrs. Elizabeth Archer,  
Mrs. Catherine Bache,  
Mrs. Sarah W. Fisher,  
Mrs. Hannah Jones,  
Mrs. Mary Hodge,  
Mrs. Catherine Comegys,  
Mrs. Sarah Henry,

Mrs. Christiana Finney,  
Mrs. Maria Stille,  
Mrs. Ann Collins,  
Mrs. M. Ewing,  
Mrs. Theodosia Graydon,  
Mrs. Elizabeth Brodhead,  
Mrs. Mary Griffith,  
Mrs. Mary Yorke,  
Mrs. Sarah Lippincott,  
Miss S. P. Bayard,  
Miss Elizabeth Latimer,  
Miss Ann F. Wheeler.

REPORT.

THE Board of Managers of the Indigent Widows and Single Women's Society, in presenting their Annual Report to the subscribers, feel assured they will continue to be interested in the success of an Institution, whose existence is owing to the liberality they have heretofore manifested.

During a season of almost unexampled pecuniary distress, when the pressure of the times has been universally felt, the generous patrons of this Society have not forgotten that "the poor they have always with them," nor that at such a season their assistance was peculiarly essential. They have been actuated by the pure spirit of benevolence to relieve the necessities of the aged and friendless, and the Managers are happy to state that their kind efforts have not been unavailing.

The Managers have found it impracticable to comply with all the applications that have been made for admission into the Asylum; during the last year but two persons have been received, two have left the house, and there



have been six deaths; this is a greater number than has occurred in any former year, but a greater proportion of deaths may be reasonably expected in consequence of their increasing years and infirmities. There are at present, twenty-seven belonging to the family, and these are blessed with as great a degree of health as is usual for persons at their advanced period of life. The members of the household have been willing to contribute by their industry to the maintenance of the Institution; and whenever work could be procured, they have been diligently employed; there has not however, this year been the usual demand for articles made in the house, nor has such constant occupation been afforded them as during the preceding years, but still they have been enabled to furnish some addition to the funds of the Society.

It is truly gratifying to observe the order and harmony which reign in the Asylum; the members of the establishment generally regarding the superintendant as a kind and judicious friend, whilst she is attentive to their wants, and neglects nothing that can contribute to their comfort, the order of the house, or the interests of the Society.

A large and commodious building has been erected as an Asylum, on a lot adjoining that on which the Orphan House is situated, and

it is expected will be in readiness for the reception of the family in the course of the present month; it contains every desirable accommodation, and the hope is indulged, that when established in it, a feeling of gratitude and happiness will pervade every heart. By a reference to the reports of the building committee accompanying this it will be seen what have been the expenses incurred on the Asylum, and the Treasurer's account will show the present state of the funds, which, from recent collections, exhibits a balance in favour of the Society, although debts exist to a greater amount which *must* be discharged. The Board of Managers are happy to express the gratitude they feel for several valuable legacies and donations; of the former, 2,000 dollars, in six per cent stock of the United States, have been received from the estate of Joshua Byron, Esq. deceased, and 100 dollars from the estate of Miss Sarah Pemberton, deceased, and a second donation of 100 dollars, from Robert Barclay, Esq. London, per Dr. Parke: particularly they tender their acknowledgments to the proprietor of the house, at present occupied as an Asylum, for the liberal terms on which he has accommodated them; they also request the Building Committee to accept their sincere thanks for the services they have so kindly tendered.



The Board of Managers cannot conclude without respectfully soliciting the continued kindness and attention of their patrons to this Institution; in extending the hand of charity to those, who, devoid of the attractions of infancy, can perhaps claim but little from mere sensibility, they will have the satisfaction arising from the performance of that important duty, "to visit the widows in their affliction," nor can they want any other incentive to a perseverance in their kind exertions than a knowledge that they "smooth the pillow of declining age," and a recollection that "blessed are the merciful."

*January, 1820.*

The subscribers are respectfully requested to pay their annual contributions to Mrs. Mary Hodge, the Treasurer, No. 19, Walnut Street, or to any of the Managers.

## ABSTRACT

### OF THE ACT OF INCORPORATION.

SECT. I. All such persons of the female sex, as were subscribers at the date of the law, or subsequently becoming so, incorporated into a Society, by the title of "The Indigent Widows and Single Women's Society of Philadelphia." The annual value of Society's estate not to exceed 8,000 dollars, nor to be applied to any other purposes than those for which the Society is formed. Society to establish bye laws for their regulation and for the preservation and application of their funds.

SECT. II. Every female subscribing to the constitution and paying three dollars annually, to be a member; members neglecting to pay annual contribution, liable to be removed. The payment of thirty dollars to constitute a member for life.

SECT. III. Society to meet on the second Thursday of January in every year. Thirteen members competent to transact business. At each yearly meeting, twenty-four managers to be chosen, who shall manage, direct and dispose of all concerns of the Society. Board of managers may supply vacancies in their own body.

SECT. IV. Managers to meet within three days after their election, upon notice from the officiating secretary of the Society—shall choose from their number, a first directress, a second directress, a secretary and a treasurer. Five managers requisite to transact business—may make bye-laws for their government, and shall annually report their proceedings and the state of the funds to the Society—must give two weeks previous notice of meetings of the Society.

SECT. V. Corporation shall not be dissolved by annual election of managers not being made on the stated day; but the managers and officers shall continue in office till a new election, to be held after such notice as the managers shall prescribe.

SECT. VI. Lot of ground, and buildings thereon erected, for the use of the Society, exempted from tax.

*Enacted March 23, 1819.*



DR.		CR.		
1819.		1819.		
Jan. 7th	Upon order of the board of managers paid to the purchasing committee,	300 00	By balance of account of the last year,	68 76
February	To the purchasing committee,	300 00	By life subscriptions,	350 00
March 4th	To do.	200 00	By donations,	426 00
	To Mr. Henry for one year's rent of the Asylum,*	300 00	By cash on account of pensioners,	432 35
April 1st	To the purchasing committee,	200 00	By amount of sales and work done in the Asylum,*	332 63
	For recording a deed,	4 00	By interest on stock,	53 78
	Sundry payments to the purchasing committee from the 6th of May, to the 3d of December,	1250 00	By a legacy from Mrs. M'Lane,	30 00
Dec. 13th	To Messrs. M'Ewen, Hale, and Davidson, for six per cent. stock,	206 50	By cash from charity box,	8 81
		2760 50	By fines from managers,	6 50
		152 83	By annual subscriptions,	1204 00
	Balance Dec. 31st, 1819,			
		Dollars,		Dollars,
		2912 83		2912 83

The Committee appointed to settle the Treasurer's account have attended to that business, and find the same to be correct.

\* Work done in the Asylum: 9 Bed quilts, 2 Comfortables, 57 fine and 1000 common Shirts, 50 yards Sheetting, 83 yards of Huckaback, 114 yards of Carpeting.

ANN F. WHEELER,  
CHRISTIANA FINNEY.

DR.		CR.	
The Widows and Single Women's Society in account with the Purchasing Committee.			
1819.		1819.	
To cash paid for Superintendent's Salary,	112 50	Balance in the hands of the Purchasing Committee from the last year,	17
House repairs and furniture,	41 82½	Received in cash by warrants from Mrs. Hodge, Treasurer, at sundry times,	2250 00
Wood,	245 42½		
Bread, milk, and flour,	308 49½		
Groceries,	482 12½		
Servants' wages,	89 50		
Medicines and funeral expenses,	92 72		
Household expenses,	714 11		
Articles for work,	110 08½		
Printing reports of last year,	47 00		
Sundries,	6 12½		
	26		
	Balance,		
	Dollars,		Dollars,
	2250 17		2250 17

Bills to a considerable amount remain unpaid.



## REPORT

## OF THE BUILDING COMMITTEE.

The undersigned beg leave to represent to the Managers of the Indigent Widows and Single Women's Society,—

That, by a statement of the funds of the society, dated the 4th of January, 1819, there appeared to be thirty-nine shares of the capital stock, of the Commercial Bank, which cost 2015 dollars 50 cents, and 756 dollars 71 cents, of six per cent stock, which cost 749 dollars 15 cents, belonging to the general funds, or applicable to the support of the family. And that for the purpose of erecting an Asylum, there was thirty-three shares of Commercial Bank stock, which cost 1774 dollars 12 cents, and 2250 dollars 40 cents, of six per cent stock, which cost 2261 dollars 79 cents. That for meeting the instalments, as they become due on the building, the latter sum of 2250 dollars 40 cents, of six per cent stock, of the funds belonging to the building, and 756 dollars 71 cents, of the six per cent stock, belonging to the general funds, have been disposed of; the last to be reimbursed out of the sales of the Bank stock belonging to the funds of the building, the sale of which, it was considered advisable to delay, for a better market, as the price was at that time, and continues to be under par. To supply the deficiency of funds, whilst the Bank stock was held for a better price, it became necessary, to raise money, through the medium of the Bank of the United States, on the individual responsibility of the undersigned; viz. one note dated the 30th day of July, 1819, for 2500 dollars; and one note dated the 31st of August, for 1500; by which means the whole of the instalments, as they became due, have been discharged; amounting to the sum of 7500 dollars. Two other instalments, of 1500 dollars each remain to be met by the time the building is finished, and, to provide for which, there are no other means, but to dispose of the Bank stock, or, to obtain a further sum on loan at the Bank of the United States. This latter expedient the undersigned are willing to adopt, in the hope that the Bank stock will appreciate, and be of more value. It is, however, necessary, in the opinion of the undersigned, that the Managers of the Society should not only sanction the disposal of the 756 dollars 71 cents of the six per cent stock, belonging to the general funds, and the obtaining of loans from the bank; but also authorize the disposal of the whole of the Bank stock, when it shall appear advantageous so to do. This measure will be considered justifiable, from the necessity of the case, and from the circumstance that the rent of the present Asylum will cease,

when the new building will be occupied. The income of the stock of the general fund, amounts to 162 dollars 36 cents per annum, and the rent which will be saved, to 300 dollars per annum.

Independent of the cash instalments, to be paid to the time of finishing the house, there will be two others of 2000 dollars each, payable in six and twelve months, after the key is delivered, and also the further sum of 250 dollars, in addition to the contract price of the building, which it was subsequently agreed to pay, for a better finish of the dome, and sky light on the roof.\* A building for cow stable, &c. will be indispensable, and which may cost from two to three hundred dollars.

The plastering is considered to be more than half completed, and the prospect is, that the whole building will be finished, and fit for use before the expiration of the year. This information is given, that the Managers may adopt preparatory measures, for a removal of the family, before the winter, if they should think proper.

SAMUEL ARCHER,  
JOSHUA LIPPINCOTT,  
SAMUEL RICHARDS,  
ROBERT RALSTON.

*Philadelphia, October 4th, 1819.*

## SECOND REPORT

## OF THE BUILDING COMMITTEE.

The Building Committee, beg leave to report to the Managers of the Indigent Widows and Single Women's Society,—

That since the date of their last report which was on the 4th day of October, 1819, a further loan of fifteen hundred dollars, has been obtained from the Bank of the United States, making the whole sum borrowed from that Institution, to be 5500 dollars. This has been sufficient to meet the instalments regularly, as they became due, under the contract, and has prevented the necessity of the sale of any of the Commercial Bank stock, until the first day of the present month, when, to be prepared for the ninth Instalment, which occurs on the finishing of the Asylum, a sale of thirty six shares was made, at the rate of 42 dollars per share, by which this last of the cash payments

\* Opposed to these sums will be a claim for articles provided for in the contract, but omitted in the building.



due on the building, will be discharged. There remains unsold an equal number of Bank shares, and subscriptions, to be collected, to the amount of 1060 dollars, which, as converted into money, will be applied towards the reimbursement of the loans obtained at the Bank of the United States.

The two instalments, which will remain to be provided for, are 2000 dollars, payable in six months after delivering the key, and 2000 dollars, payable in twelve months from the same time.

The key of the Asylum, has not yet been delivered, by the contractor, but, the finishing is so nearly completed, as to induce a belief that the building will be tenantable, in a few days.

The erection of a stable, which was in contemplation at the former report, has been accomplished, and it is with great pleasure the committee inform the Managers, will be attended, with comparatively a small expense to the Society. The materials having very generally been obtained, by donations from benevolent individuals, and in some instances the workmanship also.

SAMUEL ARCHER,  
JOSHUA LIPPINCOTT,  
SAMUEL RICHARDS,  
ROBERT RALSTON

*Philadelphia, December 29, 1819.*

## NEW ANNUAL SUBSCRIBERS,

*Since the List was printed in 1819.*

	Dolls.		Dolls.
Bache, Mrs. Catharine	3	McDonough, Mrs.	3
Binney, Mrs. Horace	3	McMullin, Mrs. Robert	3
Barton, Mrs. Matthias	3	Malcom, Mrs. Debby	3
Chapman, Mrs. Dr.	3	Page, Mrs.	3
Cooper, Miss Hannah	5	Redman, Mrs. Sarah	3
Crowell, Mrs. Elisha	3	Smith, Mrs. Matilda	3
Duncan, Miss	3	Stone, Mrs. Mary	3
Evans, Mrs. Cadwalader	3	Sparhawk, Miss Elizabeth	3
Huddle, Mrs. Martha	3	Terrill, Mrs. Elizabeth	3
Jones, Catharine, Blockley T.	3	Vansickle, Mrs.	3
Lightfoot, Miss Julia	3	Watson, Charles C.	3

## LIFE SUBSCRIPTIONS

*Received since 1819.*

	Dolls.		Dolls.
Mrs. Mercer,	30	Daniel Sutter,	30
Mrs. Mary Muhlenberg,	30	Zaccheus Collins,	30
Mrs. Harriet Watson,	30	William Morgan,	30
Mrs. James S. Cox,	30	Miss Mary Hamilton,	30
Dr. J. Wilson Moore,	30	Mrs. Hannah Jones,	30

## LEGACIES AND DONATIONS.

	Dolls.		Dolls.
Joshua Byron, Esq. deceased,	2000	Cash by Mrs. Collins,	10
Mrs. Sarah Barry,	3	Do. do.	8
Mrs. Dr. Barton,	5	Do. do.	2
Mrs. Ellen Connelly,	20	Mrs. Comegys,	11
		Cash by Mrs. Patterson,	2



Miss Hannah Elliot,	10	Mrs. Mary Montgomery,	10
Robert Evans,	5	Miss Catherine W. Morris,	5
John Exley,	1	Miss Sarah Pemberton, (le-	
From a friend,	2	gacy)	100
A friend to the Institution,	2	Miss Elizabeth Taylor,	6
Mrs. Robert Hancock,	5	Mrs. Rachael Wetherill,	50
Hannah Higgins,	3	Mrs. Willington, (Charles-	
Mrs. William E. Hulings,	5	ton, S. C.)	10
Mrs. Rebecca Hahn,	20	Enoch Wheeler,	3
A friend, by Mrs. Haskins,	2	Charles Wheeler,	3
A friend to the Institution,	5	Jane Worral,	2
James Latimer,	20	Mrs. Ann Wager,	3
Richard Milne,	5	Isaac Wampole,	20

### CONTRIBUTIONS

*Received for the erection of an Asylum, from the following Persons, since the last publication.*

	Dolls.		Dolls.
Robert Barclay, Esq., London, per Dr. Parke, a second donation,	100	James Hemphill,	25
Thomas Badaraque,	20	Jsaac C. Jones,	50
Paul Beck,	50	James Lyle,	50
William J. Bell,	30	A Lady,	30
John Coulter,	50	From a Friend to the In-	
Isaac Cooper,	50	stitution,	500
Cash, D. W.	20	Dr. Thomas Parke,	30
Miss Hannah Fox,	30	Mathias Roush,	50
A Foreigner,	20	Asaph Stone,	30
Charles Graff,	10	Mrs. Anthony Slater,	20
A Lady,	2	Edward Thomson,	100
George M'Callmont,	50	Thomas Willing, Esq.	40
		Silas E. Weir,	50

*The following articles of Materials and Workmanship, have been gratuitously furnished by the respective Individuals, viz.*

A Plan and Elevation of the Asylum, presented by William Strickland, Esq.\*

Mrs. Turner Camac,	Bricks.	15,000
Michael Fox,		1,500

\* The construction of this building is very justly admired; and the design throughout reflects great credit on the Architect,—who has very generously devoted much time to the work, and rendered essential services to the Institution.

Samuel Fox,	Bricks.	1,500
Michael Lybrand,		1,500
George Lybrand,		2,250
John Moore,		750
George Krebs,		800
John Krider,		1,000
John J. Snyder,		2,000
P. and M. Benner,		1,500
James Harper,		1,500
James Harper, Jun.		1,500
John D. Huhn,		1,000
Peter Grim,		1,000
William Steinmetz,		2,000
Weaver and Thorn,		2,500
Clayton G. Atkinson,		500

Samuel Richards, a set of iron backs and jams,	Dolls. Cts.	
Jesse Richards, do.		
John M'Cauley, a large copper boiler,		
John Gullen and Son, two marble steps and curb for back door,		20 00
Adam Herkness, three stones for pumps and water-spouts,		
Christian Frank, paint and painting cow stable, pump, &c.		7 00
— Keyser, plaistering cow stable, &c		
Joseph F. Williams, lumber,		6 04
Gorgas, Son, and Keyser, do.		12 50
Henry Bell, do.		11 73
John Crean, do.		5 00
J. B. Remington, do.		10 00
Keyser and Gorgas, do.		12 24
Stephen Simmons, do.		10 00
Charles Bird, nails,		3 60
J. S. Skerrit and Son, hinges,		3 75
Earp and Brothers, hinges & bolts,		2 00
Henry Nixon, stone,		7 00
— Webster, lime,		7 50
Alexander Crawford, do.		7 50

### Donations received at the Asylum.

Mrs. Lynch, a barrel of apples.  
 Mrs. Comegys, a barrel of flower.  
 Mrs. James Thomson, a bushel of potatoes.  
 Mrs. Oliphant and Mrs. Johnson, fruit at different times.  
 Mrs. Day, two bushels of salt.



Mrs. Graden, poultry.

Mrs. Ralston, a small chest of tea.

Miss Redman, muslin.

The professional services of Dr. Thomas Sargeant, and Dr. J. Wilson Moore, rendered gratuitously to the Institution, have been of the most acceptable and important nature.

Dr. Dyott, a donation of a valuable assorted medicine chest.

Dr. Edward Lowber, a second donation of medicine.

Temple and Smith, a donation of medicine.

Elisha Crowell, do. do.

☞ Donations of provisions, &c. will be thankfully received at the Asylum.

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#### FORM OF A LEGACY.

"I hereby give and bequeath unto 'The Indigent Widows and Single Women's Society of Philadelphia,' and their successors, for ever, (if real estate) all that, &c. (if personal) the sum of, &c."



