RECORD OF BENEVOLENT EFFORTS
IN BEHALF OF
SEAMEN'S DESTITUTE FAMILIES
IN THE CITY OF NEW YORK,
PREVIOUS TO, AND SINCE, THE ORGANIZATION AND INCORPORATION OF THE
MARINERS' FAMILY INDUSTRIAL SOCIETY
OF THE
PORT OF NEW YORK,
AND THE FOUNDING OF THE
MARINERS' FAMILY ASYLUM,
ON THE GROUNDS OF THE
SEAMEN'S FUND AND RETREAT, STATEN ISLAND.

COMPiled BY
Mrs. C. W. HAWKINS, Mrs. CAPT. T. LAMBERT and
Mrs. CAPT. S. LOVELAND
AT THE REQUEST OF THE
MARINERS' FAMILY INDUSTRIAL SOCIETY,
AT THEIR TWENTIETH ANNIVERSARY, JUNE, 1864.

NEW YORK:
MARINERS' FAMILY INDUSTRIAL SOCIETY.
1865.

March 25, 1865
Entered, according to Act of Congress, in the year 1865, by
Mrs. Almira C. Loveland,
In the Clerk's Office of the District Court of the United States for the Southern District of New York.
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OFFICERS AND MANAGERS,
FOR THE YEAR 1864-5.

Mrs. C. W. Hawkins, 53 E. 28th St., - First Directress.
Mrs. Capt. A. A. Coitinge, Clermont Av. near Lafayette Av. Brooklyn, - Second Directress.
Mrs. G. W. Johnson, 276 Adelphi St., Brooklyn, - Treasurer.
Miss M. Annesley, 54 Rivington St. - Secretary.

Managers.

Mrs. Capt. J. Bovee, 149 Oxford St., Brooklyn.
" " E. W. Marsh, 57 Seventh St.
" " J. L. Roberts, S. I.
" " J. Eaton, 83 Schmerhorn St., Brooklyn.
" " J. Davis, 199 East Broadway.
" " L. J. Briggs, 46 Jerolamen St., Brooklyn.
" " Adams, 64 Rivington Street.
" " Wm. Johnson, Cumberland Street, Brooklyn.
" " S. P. Chase, Brooklyn.
" " C. A. Irwin, (at S. C. Hill's, 12 Platt Street, New York.)
" " G. Jarvis, 30 First St.
" " Wm. Alexander, 37 Greene Av., Brooklyn.
" " C. M. Rogers, Willoughby Av., near Carlton, Brooklyn.
" " A. Mills, St. Germain Hotel.
" " Francis Hall, Clifton, Staten Island.
" " Wm. Wilson, Washington Av., near De Kalb, Brooklyn.
" " F. McDonald, S. I.
" " E. W. Page, 449 Sixth Avenue.
" " Dr. Fowler, 70 West 35th Street.
Miss E. J. Gedney, 24 Bleecker St.

Board of Counsel.

George Ricard, Esq., Pres't. | Capt. A. Snow,
Richard J. Thorne, Esq., Treas. | " N. Briggs, Secretary,
W. D. Harris, Esq. | C. N. Bovee, Esq., Legal Counselor.
Capt. J. Briggs,

Auditing Committee.

Capt. N. Briggs, | C. N. Bovee,

At the annual meeting of the M. P. I. Society, June 23d, 1864, it was moved and seconded that certain former official members of the Board be elected honorary managers. On motion the following ladies were elected:

Honorary Managers.

" " T. Lambert, San Francisco, Cal. " Wm. M. Harris, " "
" " K. W. Welch, Brooklyn. " T. Truslow, " "
" " S. Candler, Orange, N. J. " C. M. Saxton, Piermont.
Miss S. Moody, New York.
The Board of Counsel of The Mariners' Family Industrial Society of the Port of New York, cheerfully endorse this historical summary of the Society's labors since they have been identified with its proceedings, and feel the fullest confidence in its accuracy, (from what they know of the ladies compiling this record,) as to matters occurring prior to their organization as a Board of Counsel.

GEORGE RICARD, President.
R. J. THORNE, Treasurer.
JEREMIAH BRIGGS.
NATHANIEL BRIGGS, Secretary.
C. N. BOVEE, Counsel.
To look back thirty-two years, over a pathway strewn with opportunities for usefulness to our fellows, must be to an individual no common privilege. But to stand thus as the historians of a society, with its records accessible, its Ebenizers, reared amid opposition and misrepresentation, visible on either hand—the gratulations of its friends ringing in our ears, making the enforced silence of its enemies more striking by contrast—with the knowledge that we have out-lived misunderstanding, imputations of selfishness, and the many petty trials that sometimes made the days dark and the nights sleepless, is surely allowed to very few! Yet such is our present position. Some of those who began with the dawn of our Society's day, thirty-two years ago, remain to rejoice over the "desire accomplished;" and, fearful lest the lessons taught us by God's good providence should lose their vitality, or the labors of those who wrought and suffered for the cause that banded us together, and whom the Master has called to give an account of their stewardship, fail of appreciation, the effort is made at this time to embody the salient points of our history in a simple form, that those who come after us may thank Him who directed all our way.

There was a time when none cared for the sailor's family but the Female Bethel Association, in our great commercial city. In 1841, "before the public mind was leavened with the ethics of the present day, now so widely diffused and so
noblly evidenced in industrial schools, children's aid societies, &c., &c.,” one of our present number (A. C. L.) received from her who for so many years since has been our faithful and efficient First Directress, (Mrs. Charles W. Hawkins) several Annual Reports of the Boston Aid Society, showing what had been accomplished there in providing work at fair wages for the female relatives of seamen. The seed thus sown, at a time when unusual effort was being made by Mrs. Capt. I. E. Turner and other friends to provide alms for distribution among seamen’s needy families, germinated finally in 1843, in the merging of the Female Bethel Association into the organization now known as the Mariners’ Family Industrial Society, of the port of New York. The following Report, prepared at the time, brings before us the actual position of their affairs.

SYNOPTICAL REPORT OF THE FEMALE BETHEL ASSOCIATION, FROM 1832 TO 1843 INCLUSIVE.

At the last meeting of the Female Bethel Association, prior to its merging into the Mariners’ Family Industrial Society of the Port of New York, it was resolved, “That the books of the Association be examined, and a synopsis of their receipts and expenditures, together with the average number of applications for aid, attended to by the members of the same during each winter since their organization, be given, with whatever more may seem proper to be embodied therein, and that the same be prefixed to the Constitution of the Mariners’ Family Industrial Society.

According to the accounts kept by the Secretary and Treasurer the sum of $2447.49, in dues and donations have been received, and $2443.66, expended. Between four and five thousand garments, and eleven hundred pairs shoes have been distributed, besides quantities of bedding, provision, fuel, &c.

The number of applications for aid during the winter season has never exceeded five hundred, the usual average being three hundred. From forty to fifty seamen’s widows with young children, have been aided from the funds; and from time to time very aged women, the mothers, wives or widows of seamen, have been steadily pensioned. Six of these aged females have deceased, some have been provi-
ded for by friends, and there are now but four who remain to be transmitted to the Mariners' Family Industrial Society as Pensioners.

The number of Annual Members has ranged from thirty to fifty. But two persons have been constituted Life Members. The Rev. Henry Chase in 1833, and Mrs. A. C. Loveland in 1841.

To the Port Society, we would tender our most grateful thanks for the gratuitous use of a room in the basement of the Mariners' Church, ever since our organization, and we trust the blessing of many ready to perish may descend upon them.

To the Board of Brokers, whose munificent donation, at a time of great pecuniary embarrassment, enabled the Association to continue their charitable labors among the deserving; we would also proffer our thanks, and gladly acknowledge the gratitude we feel.

The Association would also thankfully record the generosity of Mr. David Williams toward them, when friends were few and applicants importunate.

To all who have at any time aided the Association, either as Donors or Members, we desire and hope that they will extend to our successors in this sphere of labor, equal or greater favor—conscious that even greater obligations cannot elicit deeper thankfulness.

Having, to the best of our ability, discharged the duty assigned us—we leave it to the consciences of those who read, whether in view of so wide a field for exertion they will not come to our assistance.

MRS. E. BENNET, MRS. B. BOVEE, MRS. A. C. LOVELAND,

On behalf of the Female Bethel Association.

PREAMBLE.

WHEREAS, the Female Bethel Association having for years labored among the destitute families of seamen, their widows and orphans, striving by counsel and charity to ameliorate their condition; hoping from year to year to see something more wrought out for the objects of their care, than their Constitution permitted them to undertake; and having thus far been disappointed, feel impelled by a solemn sense of duty, to enlarge their sphere of labor, revise their Constitution, and under a new name, and new management undertake the establishment of the “Charity of
Wages" in connection with their former plan of distribution to the needy; and to this end do agree to transfer to the "Mariners' Family Industrial Society, of the Port of New York," all the books and other property of the above organization, together with the names of those individuals who have constituted themselves Life Members of the "Female Bethel Association," stipulating that those persons be considered Life Members of "The Mariners' Family Industrial Society, of the Port of New York."

**Constitution of the Mariners' Family Industrial Society of the Port of New York, adopted Dec., 1843.**

*Article First.*—This Society shall be called "The Mariners' Family Industrial Society of the Port of New York."

*Article Second.*—The object of this Society shall be two-fold: to provide work, at a fair remuneration, for the female members of the families of seamen; and to relieve the necessities of such families of the same as are incapable of labor, including their widows and orphans.

*Article Third.*—The business of this Society shall be conducted by a Board of Officers and Managers, to be chosen annually, by ballot, which Board shall consist of a First and Second Directress, Secretary, Treasurer, and twenty Managers.

The Board shall have power to hold meetings, enact by-laws, fill any vacancy in their body between the annual meetings, make contracts, appoint agents, and control all the arrangements necessary to carry into effect the industrial and benevolent purposes of the Society. Five shall constitute a quorum. The meetings of the Society shall be opened by reading a portion of scripture and prayer.

*Article Fourth.*—It shall be the duty of the First Directress to preside at all meetings of the Board; and in case of her absence the Second Directress; or in the event of both being absent, the Board shall elect a Directress pro tem.

The Directress may at any time, by and with the concurrence of two Managers, call a special meeting of the Board.

*Article Fifth.*—The Secretary shall keep a register of the names of both life and annual members, the names of donors, the amount of donations and subscriptions, and pay over to the Treasurer at each meeting of the Board the money in her possession, and faithfully record all business transacted by the Society at their meetings. In case of her
absence, a Secretary pro tem. shall be appointed by the Board.

Article Sixth. — It shall be the duty of the Treasurer to receive and hold, subject to the order of the Board, all moneys entrusted to her care.

Previous to each annual meeting the accounts of the Treasurer must be audited by a Committee, chosen by the Board. At the first meeting in each month a written report of the financial business of the Society must be presented to the Board.

Drafts on the Treasury must be drawn by the Secretary, and countersigned by the First or Second Directress and one Manager.

Article Seventh. — It shall be the duty of each Manager, if possible, to be present at all meetings of the Board, and conform scrupulously to the by-laws the Board shall enact for the furtherance of the objects contemplated; and also exert herself in every proper manner, to extend the influence and advance the interests of the Society.

Article Eighth. — Every person who shall annually pay one dollar to the Society, shall thereby become a member, and ten dollars shall constitute a life-member.

All members shall have a vote in the deliberations of the Society, and the privilege of recommending suitable persons for employment or relief; such persons only as are related to sea-faring men being eligible.

Article Ninth. — The Society shall hold their regular annual meeting in December, at which time a written report of their proceedings must be submitted, by the Board, and upon its acceptance, the Society shall take measures to ensure its publicity.

Article Tenth. — Any amendment of the above Constitution must have been proposed in writing at a previous meeting of the Board; and may be adopted by a vote of the majority of the Society, either at its annual meeting, or a special one called for that purpose — provided — the amendment refer to no appropriation of the funds of the Society other than those specified in this Constitution.

By-Laws adopted by the Board of Managers, Jan. 9th, 1844.

Article First. — The regular meetings of the Board shall be held every Tuesday, at 2 P. M., in the basement of the Mariners' Church, Roosevelt street; from the first Tuesday
In November, the last in March; after which time the meetings shall be on the last Tuesday of each month, until the expiration of the year.

Article Second.—The meetings shall be opened with reading a portion of scripture and prayer; 2d, Reading the minutes; 3d, Unfinished business and reports of committees; 4th, The appointment of new committees; 5th, reports of Managers; 6th, New business.

Article Third.—It shall be the duty of the Managers to supply themselves with a book, in which they shall record the names of new members obtained by themselves; solicit subscriptions and donations, rendering an account of the same at the next meeting of the Board; and as soon as work can be given out, they shall instruct such members of seamen's families as are ignorant of good sewing, in some branch of female industry, and also, in their visits endeavor to lead them and their families to a love of religion and morality.

Article Fourth. Suitable members of the Society may be appointed on committees in connection with some member of the Board.

Article Fifth.—The nomination of persons to serve on committees must proceed from the Board, unless the Chair be requested to nominate.

Article Sixth.—As soon as the fund designed for business operations amounts to $1000, a store shall be opened, and a suitable person employed to take charge of it, to be termed a Supervisor, whose compensation shall be determined by the Board, and whose duty it shall be to enter on a book the sales effected by the Society's store, the number of articles given out to be made, the number returned, together with the price paid for making; which book must be open for the inspection of members of the Board. At each meeting of the Board, the book, or a correct copy of the entries upon it, must be submitted.

Article Seventh.—A committee of four shall be appointed monthly; whose duty it shall be to visit the store frequently, and see that a cash basis is maintained, make reports, etc., two members of the old committee remaining on with the new each month.

Article Eighth.—Before a fund sufficient to open a store is obtained, a committee of proper persons may be appointed to purchase and superintend the cutting and making of some articles of gentlemen's wearing apparel; the requisite amount
for that object to be drawn from the $300 separated for immediate use.

Article Ninth.—Any amendment or alteration of these By-Laws can be made by a vote of a majority of the Board at the next meeting after such amendment or alteration shall have been submitted in writing.

We append hereto the following extracts from the First Annual Report of the Mariners' Family Industrial Society.

"It may be proper here to take a retrospective view of the steps taken to establish among seamen's families, and commend to the public, the Charity of Wages.

In December 1843, the Female Bethel Association, (which had labored for eleven years in collecting and disbursing alms among the needy of this class with little satisfaction to themselves, and perhaps less real benefit to the recipients of their charity,) opened a fair for the purpose of raising funds to enable them at some future period to open a store on the plan of the Seamen's Aid Society of Boston, but reserving the right to appropriate $300 of the proceeds to distribute among the needy on the former basis, if applied to for aid, by the deserving poor, prior to its establishment.

The amount realized by the fair was $935.44, of which sum $635.44 was immediately deposited in the Seaman's Saving Bank, and the remainder on special deposite, subject to the order of the Treasurer.

In compliance with a Constitution previously adopted by the Society, a Board of Officers and Managers were duly elected, and members immediately engaged in visiting the poor; relieving such as came within the bounds of their Constitution, and directing those who did not to other sources of relief.

About 700 such visits were made during the winter by the Board and membership, of which number but a small proportion could be adequately relieved, but cases of the most thrilling interest were constantly taxing the sympathies of the visitors to the utmost. The aged pensioners of the Female Bethel Association were rendered comfortable, and many respectable females, reduced by sickness, were saved from the Alms House, and some of them have since recovered, and now aid the fund which preserved them.
But from the healthy and respectable poor on every side came the cry for work. "We thought you would give us work," was reiterated again and again, so earnestly, so sorrowfully, that with many fears and prayers, it was resolved in January, 1844, to appoint a purchasing committee, and authorize them to procure material for gentlemen's underclothing, and thus anticipate the establishment of the industrial intentions of the Society. Other committees took charge of cutting and giving out the work, thus testing, on a small scale, the principle we had adopted; nor were we disappointed in its operation. Afflicted but grateful hearts blessed us for the opportunity of laboring, who would have rejected our alms. Some invalid women, who could not come out to obtain work, were supplied by the kind exertions of the members of the Visiting Committees, and were thus enabled to earn a slight pittance though enfeebled; others, ignorant of the use of the needle, were supplied with knitting, and some instructed in plain needle-work by the patient visitors."

"To the trustees of the Port Society we feel under deep obligations, not only for the use of the basement of the Mariners' Church in Roosevelt street, for two fairs in the course of a twelvemonth, and the continuance of the same for our weekly meetings, but for many encouraging words and kind exertions in our behalf. May the good pleasure of the Lord prosper in their hands.

We now wish to make a suggestion to those who desire to aid us in the future. Many who apply for work have no trades, and can only be employed on shirts and underclothing; they are the ones who suffer most from the low prices paid for women's work; they may be industrious and intelligent, and yet working with all diligence can earn but twelve, or at most eighteen cents per day.

It is principally to aid this class that we labor, and we beg those who would aid us to throw the work they require into our hands. We will be responsible for its being well wrought, and thus these helpless ones be relieved and the Society assisted.

Oh, that the truly benevolent in our midst would rebuke the unchristian and unholy principle of trade, which feels justified in going to the cheapest market, though by so doing they rob the fatherless of bread and the widow of hope.

By a reference to the books kept by the supervisor, we find the Society have employed, during the past eight months, sixty-two workwomen; have made 1,037 garments;
have paid out in wages to workwomen during the same time $631.76, and distributed in charity during the year $282.10, among 149 families.

The officers have entered upon their duties with a determination to do all in their power to advance the interests of the Society, relying upon Him whose blessing maketh rich and brings no sorrow with it, and a discriminating community who are apparently desirous to establish charities which degrade not the recipient.

On behalf of the Board,

E. REIMER, Sec.

From the Second Annual Report we take the following:

Satisfied that the principle of removing poverty by furnishing the poor with employment at a fair remuneration, presents the only true and reasonable foundation on which to build a system for their permanent relief, we have made it a prominent object to render the business of the store as extensive and productive as our limited and scanty resources would allow. We have not, however, forgotten the sick and aged pensioners on the Society's bounty, but have contributed to their necessities by a regular monthly allowance, and have also rendered assistance to others in cases of sickness and of peculiar emergency.

During the year, application was also made to the Board of Trustees of the Sailors' Snug Harbor, requesting that the manufacture of the large amount of clothing annually required at that institution might be placed at our disposal. It was deemed reasonable that the female relatives of the aged and disabled seamen there comfortably sheltered, fed and clothed, should receive the profit derived from the manufacture of their clothing. Our petition was favorably entertained, yet after the reception of one or two orders, we were told that unless we would perform the work at the same low prices as other clothing establishments, it must be placed in other hands.

The amount received from sales, including cash received for manufacturing garments from furnished materials, has been $2,914 40

The number of garments made, 1949

Average number of workwomen employed, 45

To whom there has been paid wages, $1,287 39

Distributed in charity to pensioners and beneficiaries, $152 88
Goods and clothing on hand, Dec. 17, 1845,  
valued at $741.97

Like the little rill, that, gently and unnoticed, ripples along its way to the majestic river, and helps to fill the bed of the mighty ocean, we would help to swell the tide of kindly and benevolent effort, that shall yet humanize, renovate and fertilize the widely-extended field of human degradation and woe.

In behalf of the Board,  
Mrs. C. TRACY, Sec.

The Third Annual Report says:

"The year now closed, though commenced with many fears and much solicitude has been one of decided progress. More than a hundred women have received employment to a greater or less extent, to whom has been paid in wages $1845. We think no one can doubt the elevating tendency, and healthful influence of our method of aiding the poor and its superiority over that of almsgiving. In our last report we were compelled to complain, that although in answer to our petition, the Board of Trustees of the Sailors' Snug Harbor had passed a resolution to give us the manufacture of the clothing required at that Institution, yet the orders were few and that we were obliged to fill some of them at such low prices as to defeat so far as they extended, the designs of our organization. We are happy to be able to say that during the year now closed they have given us the whole amount of work required and at such prices as not only to enable us to pay our workwomen the accustomed remuneration but to aid us materially in defraying the expenses of our establishment.

Gov. De Peyster of the S. S. H. assures us, that the clothing has never before given so much satisfaction.

The patronage of the Seamen's Retreat with which we have been favored ever since the establishment of our Society has during the past year been withheld; but not, we are assured, from any unwillingness to facilitate our enterprise.

Having been advised to make an effort to obtain from government an order for manufacturing some of the clothing required for the navy, Rev. B. C. C. Parker volunteered to act as our agent in this matter, and visit Washington for the purpose of obtaining the necessary information, and through friends produce an influence in our favor. One or-
der only resulted, although the venerable Mrs. Alexander Hamilton—now in her ninety-second year—made personal and persevering exertions in our behalf.

From the best data in our possession we are satisfied that not less than one thousand widows of seamen besides a very large number of widowed mothers whose sons have been lost at sea, are residing in this city and vicinity. Many of these are in comfortable circumstances and need no aid, but a large proportion need sympathy and effort. Deeply feeling the necessity of some measure for their relief, and convinced that to aid them with the greatest economy and advantage, it must be in an associated capacity, we were induced during the winter to make a special effort to provide for them a Home.

It is well known that the Retreat for sick and invalid seamen on Staten Island, is sustained by a direct tax on the sailor, and that a large surplus fund has accumulated and is constantly and rapidly increasing. It seemed to us reasonable that a portion of this fund, accruing as it does from the hard-earned wages of the sailor, thus abridging the comforts of his family, should be appropriated to sustain an Asylum for the aged and destitute females connected with him by kindred ties. With this view we have petitioned the Legislature now in session to empower the Board of Trustees of the Seamen's Fund and Retreat, to use such portion of the surplus funds as may be necessary to establish and sustain such an asylum. From conversation with a large number of masters, officers and sailors we are satisfied that such an appropriation would be hailed with joy by the whole class, and render them willing to continue the payment of a tax now considered so burdensome. Many who had signed a petition praying for a remission of the tax, have withdrawn their names and attached them to our petition.

With a determination to use every possible exertion to procure a favorable answer to the petition one of our managers, (Mrs. R. H. Lambert,) was sent to Albany with the hope of enlisting the interest of our legislators by rendering them more familiar with the grounds on which we base the reasonableness of this request, than could be done by any other method.

During eighteen days, with a degree of moral courage and self-denial which entitle her to the warmest thanks of the Society, and with a degree of perseverance and laborious effort worthy the cause in which she was engaged she suc-
ceeded in obtaining a personal interview with the Governor, Lieutenant Governor and one hundred and thirty-four members of the Senate and Assembly, to whom she presented the claims of our petition. At the Annual meeting of the Society it was unanimously resolved "That the thanks of this Society be presented to the members of the Legislature who gave to our agent a kindly hearing; for the ardor with which they espoused our cause, and the assurance given of their continued interest and active efforts in its behalf."

While a majority of the Board of Trustees of the Seamen's Fund and Retreat are favorable to the petition, and have pledged themselves to sustain it, we are pained to know that other members of that body are exceedingly hostile to the measure and are leaving no means untried to defeat the object. Should this measure, through their influence, be defeated, and we be still compelled to witness the desolation and anguish of these bereaved and helpless ones, and see them one after another with feeble, tottering footsteps wending their way to the Almshouse, that last resort of the neglected, there to die—while we can appeal to Heaven and say "we have done what we could," we will express the hope that the partners and children of those who have prevented a result which would be "like life from the dead" to many a broken-hearted widow, may never know the want of such a refuge in the helplessness of age.

Mrs. C. Tracy, Sec.

"It pleased God, in His providence," (thus writes one, long after the 3d Report was published,) to bring Capt. T. B. Vermilyea, (then superintendent of the Seamen's Retreat) to the residence of one of our managers—Mrs. R. H. Lambert—in Oct. of 1846, at the time some of the aged pensioners of the Mariners' Family Industrial Society, were leaving her door with their share of the weekly provision set aside for them by Mrs. Lambert from her own table. The sight moved his pity, and entering into conversation with some of the aged women deepened the conviction of their worth, and after they left he exclaimed, "Could I but see those old ladies comfortably housed on some portion of the grounds of the Retreat, and provided for by their ample fund, I would say like Simeon of old, 'Lord, now lettest Thou Thy servant depart in peace!"" Farther inquiry showed the extent of the resources controlled by said Board, and the impression of the feasibility of some plan looking to such result was
soon the subject of thought and action on the part of Mrs. Lambert. Repairing to Mayor Mickle, (Ex-officio member of the Board of S. F. and Retreat,) the course to be pursued was decided upon and a petition drawn up by Lawyer McKene immediately, for presentation to the Board of Trustees of S. F. and R., which petition, on being presented for adoption and signature to the Board of Managers of the Mariners’ Family Industrial Society, received their sanction and signature, and Mrs. R. H. Lambert was appointed their committee to present it to said Board, and second its presentation with remarks furnished by her own observation and experience. At the same time Mrs. A. C. Loveland was requested to prepare a suitable petition for shipmasters and sailors to sign, asking such legislative action as to the surplus moneys of Board of S. F. and Retreat as would secure to the poor of their class the help needed, and also a petition to the Legislature of the Mariners’ Family Industrial Society together with a memorial and a circular letter to the members of the Senate and Assembly, and the state officers, which documents were prepared, submitted and approved at the meeting of the M. F. I. Society in December. A committee of two—Mrs. Lambert and Loveland—were requested to proceed to Albany, and follow out the suggestion of Senator Folsom, “that the ladies should attend to their own business before the Legislature.” When the time came for the committee to make the journey, the funds of the M. F. I. Society were so low that but one could proceed, consequently Mrs. Lambert had to face the perils of her new position alone.

Early in February, the petition signed by shipmasters and sailors, numbering some six hundred, was presented by Hon. Daniel Sickles in the Assembly, and shortly thereafter the petition and memorial of the Mariners’ Family Industrial Society was presented by the same gentleman. The reading of the memorial was called for and listened to with seeming interest, and in a few days a bill was reported by Hon. Mr. Crosby, favorable to the petitioners. In due course, the bill passed the Assembly almost unanimously.

Previous to this, however, through the influence of some of the Trustees of the Seamen’s Fund and Retreat a bill had been introduced in the Senate “preventing any appropriation of the funds to other than sick and invalid seamen and reducing the tax,” hoping thus to defeat the action of the Assembly. This bill might have passed the Senate but at a
request from our committee, a member moved "that it be laid on the table," and no farther action was ever had in the matter.

In April, Mrs. Charles W. Hawkins—the first directress of the M. F. I. Society—having been requested to act with Mrs. Lambert in the business before the Legislature, as our committee, found themselves and their project confronted as soon as this bill reached the Senate with opposition of all kinds and from all quarters. Letters, remonstrances, from the Chamber of Commerce, and the New York Common Council, resolutions emanating from so-called seamen's meetings, petitions, delegations both male and female, &c., &c., gave the friends of our cause enough to do in combating falsities and explaining the object sought by the M. F. I. Society. The most alert of our city friends at this juncture were Capts. Jeremiah and Nathaniel Briggs and Capt. W. C. Neilson, who by their presence at the capital with our committee, and in private circles strengthened their hands. On the 27th of April, "Hon. Orville Clark, of Sandy Hill," Chairman of the committee to whom our bill was referred, reported the bill favorably, with amendments. This being near the close of the session, and Mr. Clark being called away, no further action was had in reference to the bill at that time.


With feelings of no common interest the Board of Managers of the M. F. I. Society review the past year, and present to their friends and the public their fourth Annual Report. They feel that the presence of Him, who emphatically styles Himself the God of the widow and the fatherless, has been with them even as in former years;—guiding, directing and upholding them by His Spirit, Word and Providence. Their efforts have been put forth in hope, which though sometimes deferred almost to heart-sickness, has yet proved "an anchor to the soul" amid the heaving surges of doubt, care and anxiety, by which their trembling bark has been assailed. With faith in God and the justice of their cause, they are determined to pursue their work until all in whom they feel so deep an interest shall be enabled to support themselves by the labor of their hands, while God gives them strength to toil, or be sheltered and sustained when age or sickness deprives them of this resource.
Feeling as we do that *well remunerated employment* is the only safe way of aiding the poor, and that a continued system of alms-giving, not only destroys self-dependence and self-respect, but inevitably tends to pauperism, our first object as a Society is to have a Clothing Store established on such a basis as to furnish work at fair prices to all the female members of seamen’s families who may apply for it. By this method of relief, we are enabled to discriminate between those who truly deserve assistance, and those who prefer to eat the bread of idleness; and while we encourage, sustain and elevate the former, we are also secure from bestowing the benefactions we receive upon the latter. In carrying out this principle, we have, during the past year, furnished employment to 131 women, who have made 9150 garments; and have paid in wages the sum of $2225.48. We are ourselves astonished at the amount thus paid, when we consider the paucity of our means. Our friends have enabled us to increase our stock of goods to the value of $1414.46.

As in former years, work to a considerable amount has been furnished from the Sailors’ Snug Harbor, and we are under renewed obligations to A. De Peyster, Esq., the Governor of that Institution, for his kindness in securing us this work, and for the encouragement to expect still larger orders during the coming year. To Mr. Reynolds, manufacturer of oiled clothing, we are indebted for a continued supply of work for our aged women; also for orders from many private individuals, who appreciate our efforts to furnish the poor with employment.

Those who perused our last report, will anticipate that much of our energies as a Board, during the year, have been expended in the effort therein mentioned as being made by Seamen and their friends, in connection with this Society, to secure by Legislative action a *Home* for aged and infirm female relatives of Seamen. Meanwhile, the action taken by the Board of Trustees of S. F. and R., necessitated an entire change of plan on the part of the M. F. I. Society, and a compilation by their Legislative Committee, (Mrs. C. W. Hawkins and Mrs. R. H. Lambert,) of a succinct history of the “Mariners’ Fund,” from original documents on file at the Capital, Comptroller’s Office, and City Hall, New York,
These efforts resulted in the passage of the following Act, Nov., 1847, amendatory of the law of 1831 and the subjoined history:

AN ACT. To amend an Act, entitled, "An Act to provide for sick and disabled Seamen, passed April 22, 1831."

§ 1. As soon after the passage of this Act as may be convenient, there shall be provided by the Trustees of the Seamen's Fund and Retreat of the City of New York, on the grounds now owned by said Institution, a suitable building or buildings which shall be exclusively appropriated to and for the use of the following persons, viz.: The destitute, sick or infirm mothers, wives, sisters, daughters or widows of Seamen; but no person shall be received into the Retreat unless satisfactory proof be furnished to the Trustees, that the husband, brother, son or father of the applicant, as the case may be, hath, previous to the time of making such application to be admitted, paid the tax imposed by law on seamen arriving at the port of New York, for the term of two years.

§ 2. The sum of Ten Thousand Dollars is hereby appropriated out of so much of the surplus of the moneys paid to the credit of the Mariners' Fund as was excepted from the operation of the Act entitled "An Act concerning passengers in vessels arriving at the City of New York," by the Trustees of the Seamen's Fund and Retreat, to defray the expenses which may be incurred by the Trustees aforesaid, in carrying out the foregoing provisions of this act; and the said Trustees are hereby authorized and directed to provide annually for the support and care of the persons mentioned in this Act, out of any funds which shall accrue in their hands, levied and collected by law upon masters, mates, mariners and seamen arriving at the City and port of New York, over and above which shall be required to meet the current charges for the support of the Seamen's Retreat.

§ 3. The said Trustees shall have power to appoint such additional attendants as may be required in the said Retreat for females, and to fix the amount of salary or other compensation which shall be allowed to them, and to make such rules and regulations for the government of said Retreat as they may from time to time deem necessary.

Provided that the Board of Managers of the Mariners' Family Industrial Society of the Port of New York may recommend to the said Trustees suitable persons to be employed as Matrons, Nurses and Assistants in the said Retreat; and provided, also, that the said Society may recommend upon such conditions, as shall be prescribed by the Trustees aforesaid, persons to be relieved from said fund or received into the said Retreat for Females, subject to an approval of the said Trustees.

§ 4. The said Trustees shall annually, on the first Monday of January, render to the Comptroller of the State, an exact and minute specification of the purposes to which the moneys appropriated and directed to be disbursed by this Act, have been applied, and of the items expended for each object; also, they shall state the number of persons relieved from said fund, or received into said Retreat for Females; the number discharged; the number then remaining in said Retreat, and the number of those who applied for admission and were rejected.
§ 5. After the passage of this Act the said Trustees of the Seamen’s Fund and Retreat, and the said Fund and Retreat shall be discharged from the payment to the Commissioners of Health of the City of New York, or to the fund collected from passengers, all sums of money here- tofore loaned by the said Commissioners of Health, out of the fund collected from passengers to the said Trustees of the Seamen’s Fund and Retreat, by virtue of the Act entitled “An Act to enable the Trustees of the Seamen’s Fund and Retreat to borrow money from the Passenger Fund,” passed April 6th, 1837.

§ 6. All laws and parts of laws, now in force, inconsistent with the provisions of this Act, are hereby repealed.

§ 7. This Act shall take effect immediately.

To enable the Trustees to give immediate aid, the Act was amended December 14th, as follows:

§ 1. The Commissioners of Health of the City of New York are hereby directed to pay into the Treasury of this State the sum of ten thousand dollars, from the sum paid by the Trustees of the Seamen’s Fund and Retreat to the said Commissioners, and when so paid into the Treasury the same shall be paid out, on the warrant of the Comptroller, to the Trustees of the Seamen’s Fund and Retreat, to be applied by them in pursuance of the provisions of the first and second sections of the Act entitled “An Act to amend an Act entitled an Act to provide for Sick and Disabled Seamen, passed April 22, 1831.” Passed Nov. 16, 1847.

§ 2. The Trustees of the Seamen’s Fund and Retreat are authorized to pay out of any surplus moneys in their hands such sums as they shall think proper for the support and relief of the necessitous, destitute, sick or infirm mothers, wives, sisters, daughters or widows of Seamen, who have contributed to the funds of said Retreat, as provided in the Act hereby amended, at such times and places as shall by them be deemed best calculated to promote the objects of this section of this Act.

By reference to Sec. 5 of the Bill passed Nov. 16, it will be seen that the Trustees of the Seamen’s Fund and Retreat were indebted to the State for moneys borrowed from the Mariners’ or Passenger Fund, which debt, amounting to $45,000, had been but partially liquidated. By the same Section of the Act, the balance still due the State, being nearly $29,000, was canceled. The amount previously paid by the Trustees, was $16,166.13, of which sum, $10,000 was replaced in their hands, to be appropriated to building the Home. (See Sec. 2.)

In thus canceling the debt due from the Trustees of the Seamen’s Fund and Retreat, no injustice was done the State, as we will presently show.

As the history of the “Mariners’ Fund” has not been generally understood, even by those who pay the tax, and some discussion having arisen in reference to it, it will not be deemed irrelevant if we here give some account of its origin, and the manner in which it has been appropriated.
HISTORY OF THE MARINERS' FUND.

As early as 1754, the establishment of a Hospital for Quarantine purposes, having become necessary for the preservation of the health of the city, a tax was then imposed, by the city authorities, as part of the police regulations, upon sailors and passengers arriving at this Port; and among the earliest subjects of legislation by this State in 1784, was the establishing and regulation of said Quarantine. From 1784 to 1831, the Hospital tax continued to be collected equally from seamen and passengers, and paid into a joint fund, called the "Mariners' Fund," and was applied to the building and support of that immense establishment, known as the Marine Hospital, on Staten Island. But a surplus continually accruing, various laws and regulations were passed from time to time, in reference to its disposal. Among other appropriations, in ten years, $80,000 was granted for the support of the House of Refuge, and for some time, from $4000 to $5000, was annually given to the City Dispensaries. The injustice of appropriating these funds from their legitimate object, having attracted the attention of those interested—in 1830, at a meeting of Ship Masters and Mariners, a committee was appointed to investigate the subject, and petition the Legislature to cause the tax, collected from seamen and passengers, to be paid into separate funds, and applied to the support of separate Hospitals. This measure seemed the more necessary, as the Quarantine Hospital was closed from Nov. to May, and a manifest injustice was done the sailor, who, although he paid a heavy hospital tax of $1 a voyage, was, in case of sickness during the intervening months, obliged to be sent to the Alms House, as a pauper.

This Committee also placed before the Legislature, documents, which are now on file with other state papers, showing, by a careful investigation made of the Custom House records, and other books relating to Quarantine accounts, that, after deducting all expenses incurred for board, nursing and physicians' fees, for every sailor up to that time, there remained in favor of seamen, the sum of $341,000.

A law was accordingly passed, in 1831, creating a new Board of Trustees, to take charge of funds collected from seamen, and apply the same to their exclusive benefit during sickness; they relinquishing thereafter all claims to
the privileges of the Marine Hospital. This Fund has been, and still is designated, the "Seamen's Fund and Retreat." The tax on passengers continued to be paid into the Mariners' Fund, which, since 1831, has often been called "Passenger Fund," thus frequently occasioning misunderstanding in reference to it.

In 1836 and 7, the Trustees of the Seamen's Fund and Retreat, having commenced the erection of an extensive Hospital, obtained from the State a loan of $45,000, from the Mariners' Fund; and as this was but a small part of the $341,000 left in that Fund by the sailor, it was not expected that its repayment would ever be called for by the State. (See General Clark's report on this subject, in Senate Documents, No. 95, in 1847.)

In 1845, the Trustees reported property, real and personal, belonging to the Fund and Retreat, as valued at $128,000, also, certain surplus moneys, invested in State Stocks and in Bank.

On the first of January, 1847, the surplus funds amounted to about $25,000. At this time, many intelligent Mariners, thinking it desirable that this money, as it was not needed for the sailor, should be appropriated to what most nearly concerned him, viz.: his destitute family, whom, by the laws of Heaven and society, he is bound to remember, to aid and support—petitions were prepared, and the effort mentioned in our last Report was commenced.

A Bill was favorably reported, and passed the House, but was delayed in the Senate, in consequence of the opposition of some of the Trustees of the Fund and Retreat, for the alleged reason, among others, that they owed the State $45,000. During the delay, the Commissioners of Health, by whom the Mariners' or Passenger Fund was then controlled, actually called on the Trustees for the payment of the same, and a resolution having passed the Board to liquidate the debt, State Stocks belonging to the Fund and Retreat were sold, and the receipts, amounting to $16,166.13, paid the Commissioners.

On the 5th of May, an Act was passed, creating the "Commissioners of Emigration," and placing the Mariners' Fund under their control; but so convinced were the Legislators that in equity and right the sum paid by the Trustees belonged to the Sailor, it was excepted in that law.

The change of the position of these moneys requiring that the Bill in relation to Seamen's families, then pending
before the Senate, should be materially amended, it will be seen, by reference to the Act, that the sum granted for the Home was from this $16,166.13, of Seamen's Funds. We say, Seamen's Funds, since, at three different times, it has been specially excepted in the passage of bills, and at last reserved, when all other funds, together with the real estate belonging to the Mariners' Fund, were conveyed to the Commissioners of Emigration, in whom not only the fund but the name is now merged.

In summing up the whole matter it will be seen;—That a tax was first imposed on seamen and passengers arriving at this Port, while this State was yet a Colony, in 1754. That it became a State tax in 1784.

That it continued a joint fund, known as the "Mariners' Fund" till 1831, and was used for the support of a Quarantine Hospital.

That, prior to 1831, various appropriations were made from this fund to the House of Refuge, City Dispensaries, and other public institutions.

That since 1831, the tax on seamen has been paid into a separate fund, which is known as the "Seamen's Fund and Retreat." That passengers continued to pay their tax into the old "Mariners' Fund," and that all the joint funds collected prior to the above date were retained in that Fund together with the Hospital buildings, in which sailors had an equal interest with passengers.

That in 1831, the amount shown to have been paid by the sailor, more than had been expended for his benefit, was $341,000.

That of this sum, he has drawn only $45,000, being the loan granted by the Legislature of 1836 and 7, to complete the Retreat Hospital.

That in April, 1847, the Commissioners of Health having called for the payment of this loan, the Trustees made a partial payment of $16,166.13.

That in Nov. 1847, the Legislature canceled the remainder of the debt, and appropriated $10,000, out of the sum already paid, for the erection of a Home for the aged and infirm female relatives of seamen.

That in the same year, all the "Mariners' Fund" excepting the $6,166.13 remaining of the sum paid by the Trustees, together with the Quarantine and Hospital buildings, passed into the hands of the Commissioners of Emigration.

And, that the above balance of $6,166.13 still remains
unappropriated in the State Treasury to the credit of the “Mariners’ Fund.”

It will be seen from the above, that by canceling the remainder of the debt due from the Trustees of the “Fund and Retreat,” the State performed only a partial and long delayed act of justice to the widow and orphan of the sailor, as from the taxation of the sailor long since, the surplus fund accrued;—and also that the Act does not contemplate the taxation of the present or future generations of seamen, for the support of the Home, but that the interest on the canceled debt, may justly be appropriated for this purpose.

Those members of our Board on whom principally devolved the responsibility and the labor of prosecuting the effort of which the passage of the Act of Nov. 16, 1847, was the result, were aware of its difficulty, and anticipated that no ordinary degree of patience and perseverance would be necessary to surmount the obstacle that lay in their path. But, remembering the adage, “A man can do what he thinks he can,” and knowing no reason why woman could not do the same,—conscious also that their design was founded in justice and benevolence, and that even failure in a good cause, is better than the listless indolence, that will attempt no difficult enterprise, however worthy,—they applied themselves to the work with vigor and resolution, and remained firm and unyielding at their post, until the object was attained. But the true secret of their success lay in this; that knowing their own impotence, and want of all worldly wisdom in the business in which they engaged, they trusted alone in Him who is the widow’s mighty and prevailing Advocate.

To those members of the Legislature, whose hearts were graciously inclined to listen to our petition, and to whose earnest and continuous devotion to our righteous cause, the happy result is to be attributed, we wish to tender our warm and grateful acknowledgments. Nor ours alone. We are happy to be the medium through which many a lonely widow and destitute mother would present the humble but heartfelt tribute of gratitude, for the kind and faithful efforts thus made in their behalf, the first fruits of which they have already tasted, and the more permanent and effective results of which, they hope soon to experience.

To Capt. C. H. Marshall, and Capt. N. Briggs, we would express our thankfulness, not only for pecuniary assistance, but for friendly counsel and words of kind encouragement. In hours of deep anxiety, when we were well nigh over-
whelmed with cares incident to our position, these gentlemen proved themselves "friends in need."

To the Marine Society, and to many gentlemen whose names we would gladly mention, if our limits permitted, we are, as a Board, under deep and lasting obligations for attention, sympathy and energetic co-operation.

The Legislative committee of the M. F. I. Society never received any compensation for their services, and frequently paid their expenses months in advance of any action taken by the Society. To the People's Line of Steamboats they were frequently indebted for free passages back and forth to Albany. The committee desire thus publicly to acknowledge their indebtedness to many, very many, (whose names could not be inserted here,) for efficient help in numberless ways.

Mrs. M. H. Griswold,
Sec. M. F. I. Society.

The Fifth Annual Report, though quite brief, affords evidence of "the many fears, anxieties and disappointments through which we have passed, and the obstacles we have overcome." "One hundred and eighty-seven individuals have shared in the work given out. 13,377 garments have been made, and 10,000 grain-bags. We have paid in wages the sum of $2,781.41." "The Trustees of the Seamen's Fund and Retreat having refused to be governed by the first section of the Act, complied with certain provisions thereof, and in order to assure themselves of its proper application, decided to employ a member of our Board (Mrs. R. H. Lambert) as their agent, and placed in her hands the sum of $1,900, which has been disbursed, since our last Report, among ninety-six families; each family having been visited previous to receiving assistance, and accepted by a committee appointed for the purpose from the Board of Trustees of the Seamen's Fund and Retreat. In these visits there has been found an amount of want, destitution and wretchedness which baffles description. The agent has made one thousand an thirty-one visits, exclusive of those made by other members of the Board. Twenty-five aged pensioners have been cared for."

An application to the Legislature for an Act of incorporation, resulted successfully, and greatly encouraged us. We subjoin the Act.

Mrs. J. I. Perry, Sec.
AN ACT to incorporate the Mariners' Family Industrial Society, of the Port of New York. Passed April 9, 1849.

The people of the State of New York, represented in Senate and Assembly, do enact as follows:

SECTION 1. Mary A. Hawkins, Almira C. Loveland, Jane F. Adams, Margaret E. Perry, Hannah Williams, Belphame Bovee, Elizabeth H. Chase, Rebecca H. Lambert, Ann E. Turner, Elizabeth Skatts, Ann M. Egbert, Maria C. Tracy, Rebecca Bird, Melinda G. Ludlam, Eliza Child, Eliza Cowdrey, Mary C. Moreland, Marcia A. Welch, and all such persons as now are members of the Association called, "The Mariners' Family Industrial Society" and all who shall hereafter become members of the corporation hereby created, shall be and they are hereby constituted a body corporate by the name of "The Mariners' Family Industrial Society of the Port of New York," whose object and business shall be to aid the destitute families of seamen by providing work at a fair remuneration for the female members of said families, and to relieve the necessities of such as are incapable of labor, including their widows and orphans.

§ 2. There shall be a Board of Female Managers of the said Society, who shall conduct the business of the Society in the manner prescribed by the Constitution and By-Laws of the aforesaid Association, as the same now exist or as the same shall be adopted or altered by the corporate body hereby constituted, and such Managers shall be elected annually or otherwise as is or may be prescribed by such Constitution and By-Laws.

§ 3. Said corporation shall have power to purchase real estate sufficient for the occupancy and for conducting the business of the Society, also to receive by gift or devise, hold and convey real estate, and shall be deemed to be possessed of the rights and to be subject to the liabilities of corporations according to the provisions of title three, chapter eighteen, part one of the Revised Statutes so far as the same may be applicable; provided however that the annual income of any real estate belonging to said corporation shall not exceed the sum of five thousand dollars.

§ 4. The said Managers shall be jointly and severally liable for all funds placed in their hands during their term of office.

§ 5. There shall be a Board of Counselors consisting of seven male members, whose duty it shall be to advise the Board of Managers of said Society from time to time in reference to its business transactions; no purchase or sale, lease or mortgage of real estate shall be made or taken by said corporation without the approval of a majority of the Board, certified to in writing by the Secretary for the time being of said Board.

§ 6. John C. Brigham, Nathaniel Briggs, Henry Chase, Benjamin C. C. Parker, William Tyack, Samuel Candler, and Charles H. Marshall shall compose the first Board of Counselors, and shall act until the next annual meeting of said association or corporate body and until their successors shall be elected; such Board of Counselors shall be elected annually, at the annual meetings of the said Society, or in such other manner as shall be prescribed by the association; they shall also designate at the time of their election the President and Secretary of said Board of Counselors.
§ 7. The legislature may at any time alter or repeal this Act.
§ 8. This Act shall take effect immediately.

STATE OF NEW YORK,

SECRETARY'S OFFICE.

I have compared the preceding with an original law on file in this Office, and do certify that the form is a correct transcript therefrom, and of the whole of said original.

CHRISTOPHER MORGAN,
Secretary of State.

ALBANY, April 30, 1849.

From the Sixth Annual Report we quote:

"The number of orders filled by the Supervisor has exceed those of any previous year, but have all emanated from individuals, the public institutions of our city having perfected arrangements by which they can supply themselves. The work done, has, so far as we have been able to ascertain, given entire satisfaction, and we trust that, under the direction of our very efficient Supervisor, we shall continue to give satisfaction to all who may favor us with their patronage."

"We have furnished employment to one hundred and forty-four individuals, who have manufactured five thousand one hundred and thirty-four garments, and have received in wages the sum of one thousand eight hundred and seventeen dollars thirteen cents.

"The member of our Board, appointed to visit among the beneficiaries of the Society, and distribute such moneys as the Board of Trustees of the Seaman's Fund and Retreat may from time to time appropriate, under the law of 1847, has made during the year one thousand three hundred and sixty-five visits, has aided eighty-seven families, and distributed two thousand one hundred and thirty-two dollars and twenty-eight cents, besides various articles of bedding and wearing apparel.

"During the prevalence of cholera and while it raged most fearfully, she was ever ready to minister to the wants of the sick and dying, and while others fled in terror, she remained firm at her post, until she was herself prostrated by disease engendered by her constant attendance upon and anxiety for others."

"An act of incorporation was obtained last year, the benefits of which have been already felt. In Sept. the Board were notified that Miss Elizabeth Demilt had bequeathed to the M. F. I. Society the sum of $2000. In January we received information that Miss Sarah Demilt, a sister of the
lady named above, had deceased, leaving us a similar bequest! He who heareth the cry of the needy, had put it into the heart of one eminent among our mercantile community, Mr. George T. Trimble, to mention among his friends our cause and our discouragements from want of capital, &c., and these aged ladies, knowing his judgment could be relied upon, decided to aid us in this manner. Gratefully do we record our indebtedness to Mr. G. T. Trimble for advice, donations and sympathy in many a trying hour of our Society's history.

In reply to the oft-repeated inquiries of our friends, in regard to the erection of the Home, we can only answer, that it is not yet commenced, and we have not been able to obtain any official statement from the Board of Trustees relative to their plans in regard to it. From Madam Rumor we have learned that there is some under-current at work, endeavoring to prevent the benevolent designs of the Legislature from being carried into effect, and as over two years have elapsed since the passage of the law, and no definite action taken upon it, notwithstanding our numerous written petitions to the Board, as such, entreat them to take immediate action on the subject, in consideration of the necessities of those aged women whom it was designed to benefit, and as we have not spared personal solicitations, by committees and otherwise, from our Board, we fear that the present Board of Trustees will not find it "convenient" to erect the "Home." Be this as it may, God sparing us, we have resolved to give ourselves no rest till this thing is accomplished. We may not trust ourselves to speak further upon this subject at present, only to add, that we cherish no feelings of animosity or ill-will toward any individual or association, but our hearts bleed for the homeless, and we will not cease our efforts in their behalf until we see justice done them. Mrs. J. I. Perry, Sec. M. F. I. Society.

The Seventh Annual Report reprints the "History of the Mariners' Fund" and the amended Acts of the Legislature, &c., and in regard to the industrial operations of the Society, states: "While we have been so much engaged in making provision for the future comfort of the old and helpless, the business of the store has been conducted as usual. 3800 garments have been made, 103 women employed, and wages to the amount of $2,154.52 have been paid.

The Committee appointed by the Board of Trustees to visit
among the aged and sick, has distributed among this class of persons $2,404.15, besides a large amount of clothing, shoes, and bedding; and has made 1294 visits. Since the passage of the Act of 1847, appropriating funds for the erection of an Asylum, 13 of those for whose benefit this appropriation was made, have died. From their wretched garrets, from the Almshouses of this city and of Brooklyn, they have passed, as we trust, to that better land whose inhabitants shall never say, "I am sick," and where they shall hunger and thirst no more.

Our especial thanks are again due to Mr. George T. Trimble, for the kindly interest manifested by him in securing the early payment of the liberal bequests of the Misses Elizabeth and Sarah Demilt, of which mention was made in our last Report.

They also thankfully refer to the following Act:

An Act to amend an Act entitled "An Act to provide for Sick and Disabled Seamen," passed April 22, 1831.

Passed April 11, 1849—Three-fifths being present.

The people of the State of New York, represented in Senate and Assembly, do enact as follows:—

§ 1. The sum of six thousand one hundred and sixty-six dollars and thirteen cents, now remaining in the State Treasury to the credit of the Marine Fund, shall be paid out on the warrant of the Comptroller to the Trustees of the Seamen's Fund and Retreat to be applied in pursuance of the Act of April 22, 1831, entitled "An Act to provide for Sick and Disabled Seamen."

§ 2. The said sum shall be invested by the said Trustees in the Stock of the State of New York, and the interest thereon, if any surplus remain in their hands after paying the expenses of the said Retreat, shall be applied to the relief of the distressed families of seamen and their orphan children, unless otherwise specially required for the wants of the Seamen's Retreat.

§ 3. The said Board of Trustees shall pass proper laws and ordinances for regulating the manner of distributing such surplus.

§ 4. This Act shall take effect immediately.

It was hoped, that immediately after the passage of the Act of 1847, the "Mariners' Family Asylum" would have been erected, but the Board of Trustees of the "Seamen's Fund and Retreat," having it in charge, for reasons which they never communicated to us officially, continued to defer it from time to time, notwithstanding our numerous petitions, as a Board and otherwise, entreating their immediate attention to the subject, because of our poor, aged, sick, and suffering beneficiaries.
Yet as the convenient time seemed not to have arrived after three full years had elapsed, it was decided, after our First Directress, Mrs. C. W. Hawkins, had called personally on each of the Trustees of the Seamen’s Fund and Retreat, to hold a meeting for prayer. Earnest and fervent were our supplications that God would move the Trustees to accede to our oft-repeated plea, or remove from their hands the moneys consecrated by solemn act to the erection of the building! The action resolved on after said meeting, was a decision to again appeal to the Legislature, and endeavor to have the fund for building, with the addition of the $6,166, 13, placed in the hands of another Board of Trustees. The results will be seen in the following Act, passed March 17, 1851.

AN ACT

To amend the Act entitled "An Act to provide for Sick and Disabled Seamen," passed April 22, 1831, also to amend the several Acts passed November 16, 1847 and April 11, 1849, amendatory of the said Act. Passed March 17, 1851.

The People of the State of New York, represented in Senate and Assembly, do enact as follows:

Section 1. The Mayor of the city of New York, the President of the Chamber of Commerce of the city of New York, the President of the Marine Society of the Port of New York, together with the Board of Counselors of the Mariners' Family Industrial Society of the city and county of New York, and their successors, are hereby constituted a board of trustees for the purposes named in the acts entitled "An act to provide for sick and disabled Seamen," passed April 22, 1831, and in the act entitled, "An act to amend an act entitled, 'An act to provide for sick and disabled Seamen,'" passed April 22, 1831, passed November 16, 1847, and in the act entitled, "An act to amend an act, entitled, an act to amend the act entitled, an act to provide for sick and disabled Seamen," passed April 22, 1831, passed Nov. 16, 1847, passed Dec. 14, 1847, also in the act entitled, An act to amend an act entitled, "An act to provide for sick and disabled Seamen," passed April 22, 1831, passed April 11, 1849.

§ 2. The Trustees of the Seamen’s Fund and Retreat of the city of New York, shall pay over to the Trustees above named on demand, the sum of sixteen thousand one hundred and sixty-six dollars and thirty-one cents, paid to them by the Comptroller of the State of New York agreeable to acts passed December 14, 1847, entitled, An act to amend an act entitled an act to amend an act entitled, "an act to provide for sick and disabled Seamen," passed April 22, 1831.—passed Nov. 16, 1847, and April 11, 1849, entitled, "An act to amend an act entitled, an act to provide for sick and disabled Seamen," passed April 22, 1831, together with the interest thereon which shall have accrued and which is unexpended.

§ 3. The Board of Trustees named in the first section of this act, shall from the funds so received from the Trustees of the Seamen’s Fund
and Retreat, apply so much thereof as may be necessary to the immediate erection of a suitable building and suitable furniture for the same, either on the grounds named in the act of Nov. 16, 1847, entitled, "An act to amend an act to provide for sick and disabled Seamen," passed April 22, 1831, or any other suitable grounds as may be deemed most expedient by the said board of trustees hereby created, for an asylum for the purposes named in the act last aforesaid, and the surplus, if any, shall be applied by the said Trustees created by this act, for the relief of the persons whose relief is contemplated by the aforesaid act.

§ 4. All laws and parts of laws now in force, inconsistent with the provisions of this act, are hereby repealed.

§ 5. This act shall take effect immediately.

STATE OF NEW YORK,

Secretary's Office.

I certify that I have compared the foregoing with an original law on file in this office, and that the same is a correct transcript therefrom and of the whole of said original.

Given under my hand and seal of office, at the City of Albany, this second day of April, one thousand eight hundred and fifty-one.

CHRISTOPHER MORGAN,
Secretary of State.

This result was not, however, attained without strenuous efforts on the part of our friends, who were forced to encounter a strong tide of opposition; but, conscious that the cause they advocated was a just one, and feelingly alive to the necessities and sufferings of the class of persons who were to partake of the benefits which the passage of this bill would secure, they moved steadily forward in the prosecution of their work, until they had the satisfaction of witnessing the triumph of justice.

We trust this Society is soon to take a prominent stand among the chartered benevolent associations of our land, and that it is destined to become the favorite channel through which the charities of those who represent the great maritime interests of this city shall flow.

In closing, we only add for ourselves, that we have enlisted for life, and, God helping us, we will continue our labors, not expecting our release until He calls us to share "in the rest that remaineth."

In behalf of the Board,

MRS. J. I. PERRY, Sec.

Board of Counsel for the Year 1851.

MR. LAMBERT SUYDAM, President. CAPT. NATHANIEL BRIGGS, Sec.
" JOHN B. GRAHAM, " RUSSELL STURGES,
" RICHARD I. THORNE, " WM. B. ORNE,
FREDERICK G. FOSTER.
Eighth Annual Report.

In taking a retrospective view of the way through which we have been led during the year now ended, we are compelled to pause ere we cross the bound which chronicles the completion of another period in the history of our Society, to contemplate an event which we have never before had occasion to record. For the first time since our organization, death has been among us, and taken from our Board two of its members:—Miss Elizabeth Skaats, and Mrs. Hannah Williams, relict of the late Captain John Williams, who was lost, as is well known, in the ill-fated Albion.

Both of these ladies were active and efficient members of the Female Bethel Association, from which our present organization emanated, and both have been faithful, laborious, untiring members of our Board of Managers, from the time of our first feeble effort as an industrial association. Neither of them ever shrank from any duty their office imposed, however undesirable the scenes they were called to frequent, or however painful to witness the distress they were called to alleviate. Both labored, we have every reason to believe, with a sincere and earnest purpose to benefit their suffering, poverty-stricken fellow-creatures, and by thus exhibiting the spirit and the fruits of the gospel of Christ, sought to glorify their Father in heaven.

Mrs. Williams, with time, means and influence at command, consecrated them to the melioration of the condition of the class for which her relations in life, as well as the promptings of her benevolent heart, strongly enlisted her sympathies. For years, since the infirmities of age had been gathering about her, and her head has been whitened by the frosts of many winters, she has been at her post, exciting and encouraging, by her own energetic and hopeful spirit, the labors and exertions of others. During the last few months of her life, as if conscious that what she would do for our cause must be done quickly, she was incessant in her efforts for the prosperity of this Society; and the amount of benefactions obtained through her instrumentality—which we have placed conspicuously in our list of donations—testifies to the spirit by which she was actuated, and to the zeal which prompted her efforts, till suddenly called to give account of her stewardship. She rests from her labors and her works do follow her.

Miss Skaats, though placed by Providence in a position
requiring her to labor with her own hands, yet found time and embraced opportunities to be greatly useful in our Board; and her zeal and perseverance in obtaining funds for our cause have often furnished reproof to those of us who, in more eligible circumstances, have been less active and efficient co-workers. "She hath done what she could," and we doubt not is now reaping the reward and partaking the joy of the approved and faithful servant. May we catch the mantle falling from these beloved sisters, and with a firmer purpose and more devoted consecration, seek the good of those for whom they toiled; remembering that to us also the day of our departure may be near, and that what we do must be done with our might.

In reviewing the business of our industrial department during the past year, and in observing the developments of our system of relief to the indigent, we have abundant reason to "thank God and take courage." The report of the treasurer and store-committee shows a gratifying increase of patronage, in sales, receipt of donations, and in orders for the manufacture of furnished materials. We have been able to furnish employment, more or less continually, to 124 women, who have made 9425 articles; and to whom, in connection with our supervisor, cutter and runner, we have paid in wages, the sum of $2,384.82. To this item we would solicit special attention, and would ask, in what way the amount of capital invested in our business, could be made to produce a greater profit by which to furnish bread to the hungry, and clothing and shelter to the destitute, leaving out of the account the moral benefits resulting to those employed from earning with their own hands the means of providing for the necessities of life.

In this connection, we would respectfully ask gentlemen, who are about furnishing hotels, ships, and steamboats, whether their patronage extended to the Mariners' Family Industrial Society, might not be made as conducive to their own interests, and afford to many a widow and dependent orphan the means of a comfortable subsistence, thus securing the gratification of doing good, while guaranteed as surely against loss, as under the present system.

From the Sailor's Sung Harbor, we have, as heretofore, received liberal orders, for which, in the name of our workwomen, we tender our thanks to the Governor, A. De Peyerster, Esq. It seems meet that the garments of the aged or disabled sailor, so kindly housed and provided for by the
generosity of Captain Randall, should be made up by those connected with his own class by the tenderest ties; and that the provision for life's wants, which this work supplies, should be secured to those of them, who are now dependent on the labor of their own hands or the charity of others.

From many private sources we have received employment for our poor women,—employment which has not been grudgingly or stintedly remunerated. A blessed reward have such in the sweet consciousness of having conferred a double benefit to the poor; that of supplying their necessities, and at the same time relieving them from the pressure of conscious obligation for charity bestowed.

To Dr. Frank Tuthill, who has kindly permitted us to refer our invalid applicants gratuitously to his notice and care, we would tender our grateful thanks.

In reference to our charitable department, we would observe that much time and attention have been devoted to it by our Board. From the Trustees of the Seamen's Fund and Retreat we have received the sum of $1,387, which has been distributed in small sums monthly to the sick, the aged and infirm, and to others, whose circumstances deprived them of ability to earn the necessaries of life. From the treasury of our Society we have also expended in charity, the sum of $163 89. The number of visits made by our managers to those seeking and requiring aid during the year is about 1400; and while the toil and sacrifice of personal comfort involved in so many errands of mercy to those who are scattered over the length and breadth of this great city and its extensive sister towns, have been very great, yet the satisfaction of carrying bread to the hungry, means of shelter and clothing to the houseless and destitute, and joy and gladness to the disconsolate and despairing bosom, have richly repaid our toil. Several of our aged pensioners have deceased during the year, giving comforting evidence that they are now where they hunger no more, where mansions of rest are provided for their eternal habitation, and where all tears are wiped forever from their eyes.

Mrs. Erskine, the widow of Captain Erskine, of revolutionary memory, died in Dec., aged 79. For many years her main dependence was upon the Society, and we are thankful to have been the channel through which some few alleviations reached and cheered her heart.

Her husband was commissioned by Gen. Washington to cruise between Cape Cod and Cape Sable; received the rank
of lieutenant, and highly distinguished himself in 1781 by the capture of the fortress of Annapolis Royal, whereby one hundred and fifty British seamen were made prisoners, and as many Americans released. He likewise assisted in destroying the tea in Boston harbor and took part in constructing the works on Bunker's Hill. Although reverses were experienced before his death, yet none could have foretold that his widow would have been allowed to drain the cup of poverty so to its dregs, as she has done. Ere she became one of the pensioners of this Society, want and sorrow were twin dwellers at her hearth; since then, want has been repelled, but sorrow ever remained her guest. Disappointed in her hopes of obtaining a pension from the government, her constitution broken by sickness and old age, she clung to the members of our Society, watched for their periodical visits, and prayed for the erection of the Mariners' Family Asylum with all the fervor of middle life.

It is with sorrow which we cannot dissemble that we are once more compelled to say that the Asylum for this class of our poor, for which we have so long labored, and plead with both God and man, and which we confidently anticipated would have arisen and been occupied by them, has yet to see the corner-stone of its foundation laid. While we would simply say, we have the utmost confidence in the benevolence, integrity and prudence of the trustees, and believe them to have been actuated by conscientious motives in thus deferring the work which was given them to do, we here present to the public a statement from their own Board of the reasons which have influenced them in delaying the erection of the building, which was furnished in reply to the following note:

"New York, February 26, 1852.

L. Suydam, Esq., President, &c.

Dear Sir,—At a meeting of the Board of Managers of the Mariners' Family Industrial Society, held the 24th instant, it was resolved, that the First Directress and Secretary be a committee to inform the President of the Board of Trustees of the Mariners' Family Asylum, that the annual meeting of our Society will take place on Tuesday, the 30th of March ensuing, when our Annual Report will be submitted.

And in view of this fact, that by legislative enactment, in March, 1851, funds were appropriated, and a Board of Trustees created for 'immediately' erecting an Asylum for our sick and aged pensioners, and that the erection of such Asylum during the summer, was confidently anticipated by our Society and the community,—that the committee request him to cause to be prepared a written statement, showing wherefore the erection of said Asylum has been deferred to the present time—that the same
may be embodied in our Report, and thus presented to the Society and the public."

New York, 17th March, 1852.

To the Officers and Managers of the Mariners' Family Industrial Society of the Port of New York.

Respected Ladies:

At a meeting of the Trustees of the Mariners’ Family Asylum, held on the 15th instant, your communication of 26th February, with a copy of the Resolution passed by your Board, were submitted, and after due consideration they were unanimously referred, with full powers, to the undersigned, the Building Committee, with instructions to conform thereto, who now submit this brief Statement and Report:

That, on the 2d May, 1851, the Board of Trustees for the purposes named in the act passed the 17th March, 1851, organized and elected their President, Vice-president, Secretary and Treasurer, and among other things, resolved, that the Trustees, as a Committee of the whole, would proceed on Friday, the 9th May, 1851, to Staten Island, to visit the farm owned by the people of the State of New York, and occupied by the Seamen’s Fund and Retreat, in relation to a location for the building to be erected for the destitute, sick or infirm mothers, wives, sisters, daughters or widows of seamen.

That, at a meeting held on the 12th May, 1851, after adopting their by-laws, the following Report was accepted and adopted, when Messrs. Graham, Suydam and Sturges, were appointed the Building Committee:

REPORT.

"The Committee to whom was referred the Resolution passed on the 2d instant, to visit the grounds of the Seamen’s Fund and Retreat on Staten Island, in relation to the site for the New Asylum to be erected, &c.,

RESPECTFULLY REPORT:

That, on Friday, the 9th of May, 1851, Messrs. Suydam, Graham, Foster, and Briggs proceeded to the Farm of the Seamen’s Fund and Retreat on Staten Island; the Trustees of which Institution having been previously invited to meet your Committee, and the object named. On arrival they were joined by Judge Clawson, the Superintendent and Chaplain of the Retreat. The Committee were also honored with the company of the first and second Directresses and Secretary of the Mariners’ Family Industrial Society of the Port of New York.

After viewing the lands, and on due consideration, it was unanimously agreed, that the ground on the southerly side of the Farm, and directly in the rear of the garden, would be the most desirable location, and all that could be wished for in many respects, as the elevation of the north-easterly part commanded a full view of the bay and harbor, and would present the New Building to be erected for ‘the destitute sick or infirm mothers, wives, sisters, daughters or widows of seamen’ prominently and conspicuously to the view of the warm and generous-hearted seaman, on his arrival as well as to all others who visit the southerly side of the Island.

"Your Committee would further report, that several of the members have visited the city of Brooklyn and other lands on Long Island, and also made inquiry for a site on the island of the city and county of New
York, but find none to compare with the advantages of those referred to
on the grounds of the Seamen's Fund and Retreat.

"From the Acts passed by the Legislature, it would appear that it was
their intention that the new buildings should be erected on these
grounds, and the Legislature, by the 3d section of the Act passed the
17th of March, 1851, has made it the duty of the Trustees, 'immediately'
to erect a suitable building," &c.

"From the Diagram herewith presented, annexed, it will be seen the
ground required will be considerably less than the one-sixth part of the
grounds now in possession of the Seamen's Fund and Retreat, and
through a part of which, a road, (or street) in all probability will shortly
be opened, so that the entrance to the Female Asylum will be entirely
separated from the Hospitals of the sick and disabled seamen. The dis-
tance from the Female Asylum to the principal Hospital for Seamen will
be about the one-eighth part of a mile, and near half that distance to the
old Hospital now occupied for Lunatics, &c., and much greater distances
from the residences of the Superintendent, Resident Physician and Chap-
lain.

"Resolved, that this Board of Trustees accept and approve of the
location and site named in the foregoing Report, and that they will
immediately enter on their duties in procuring plans, specifications,
estimates, &c., preparatory to the erection of the Asylum for 'desistute
sick or infirm mothers, wives, sisters, daughters or widows of seamen,'
and that the Secretary give notice to the Board of Trustees of the Sea-
men's Fund and Retreat, and respectfully request their concurrence and
cordial co-operation in carrying out the law of the Legislature, passed
the 17th March, 1851, and the foregoing Report, for the immediate
erection of this new edifice of Christian charity.

(Signed) "Lambert Suydam,
"John B. Graham,
"Frederick G. Foster,
"Nathaniel Briggs,"

In behalf of the Committee of the Whole.

New York, 12th May, 1851.

At a meeting on the 16th May, 1851, the Secretary reported that he
had enclosed to Mr. Perit, the President of the Board of the Seamen's
Fund and Retreat, the Report of the Committee of the Whole, submitted,
at the last meeting of the Board (on the 12th instant) also the certified
copy of the Act of 17th March, 1851.

Messrs. Marshall and Suydam stated, they were happy to report, that
at the stated monthly Meeting of the Trustees of 'the Seamen's Fund and
Retreat,' held on the 13th instant, the following preamble and resolution
had been unanimously adopted, viz.:

"Whereas the Legislature of the State of New York passed an Act on
the 17th March, 1851, constituting a Board of Trustees for certain pur-
poses named in said Act, and empowering said Trustees to erect a building
on the Retreat grounds, for an Asylum for the destitute, sick or
infirm mothers, wives, sisters, daughters or widows of seamen,
"Resolved, that this Board concur in the same.

"Carried unanimously."

And further—
"That Messrs. Perit, Britton and Clawson were at the same meeting
appointed a Committee to confer, in relation to the selection of a site for
building on the Retreat grounds, &c., whereupon Messrs. Suydam, Marshall, Graham and Sturges were appointed on behalf of this Board, to confer with the above-named gentlemen."

Committee of Conference. May 22, 1851.

"At a meeting of the Committee of Conference, held at the Seamen's Retreat, Staten Island, present, on the part of the Mariners' Family Asylum, Messrs. Suydam, Marshall, Graham, and Sturges, and on the part of the Trustees of the Seamen's Fund and Retreat, Messrs. Perit, Britton and Clawson.

"Mr. Suydam was chosen President, and Mr. Sturges, Secretary.

"On a full examination of the whole grounds by the gentlemen,—the Committee, on behalf of the new Building, proposed the two lots of ground in the rear of the garden, from the lane to the south line of the Retreat property, reserving the Burial grounds and way to it in rear, it being the same site which was unanimously selected by the Committee of the Whole, on the 9th May, 1851.

"Mr. Clawson, on the part of the Retreat, proposed a piece across the extreme rear of the grounds, reserving passage to the cemetery.

"The gentlemen then returned to the city to await the next meeting of Trustees of Seamen's Retreat.

(Signed) "R. STURGES, Sec."

Meeting of the Board of Trustees, &c., June 10, 1851.

"The Building Committee, through Mr. P. Holly, Architect, presented plans and printed specifications for the erection of the New Asylum, which, after examination, were referred to the said Committee, to obtain estimates thereon: said estimates and specifications to be reported to a future meeting of this board."

The President verbally informed the Board of Trustees of the Mariners' Family Asylum, that at a special meeting of the Seamen's Fund and Retreat, held on the 27th ultimo,—

"A question having arisen as to the right of Capt. J. H. Vanderbilt holding his seat as Trustee, his term having expired, and his nomination having been rejected by the Honorable the Senate.

"The following Resolution was offered by Capt. Marshall:

"Resolved, that in the opinion of this Board, Capt. J. H. Vanderbilt is not a member of this Board."

The ayes and noes being called, the result was—

Ayes, 2;—blank, 1.

Noes, 4:—Captains Bromley, Funk and Merry, and Mr. Clawson.

Immediately after which—

On motion of Mr. Clawson, seconded by Capt. Vanderbilt:

"It was Resolved that the preamble and resolution (unanimously) passed at the last meeting (13th May,) reading as follows, viz: —

"Whereas the Legislature of the State of New York passed an Act on the 17th March, 1851, constituting a Board of Trustees for certain purposes, named in said Act, and empowering said Trustees to erect a building on the Retreat grounds, for an Asylum, &c.

"Resolved that this Board concur in the same,

"Be reconsidered."

Ayes, 5:—Captains Vanderbilt, Bromley, Funk and Merry, and Mr. Clawson.
Noes, 2:—Suydam and Marshall.
One blank; one declined voting.
When (on motion of Mr. Clawson, seconded by Capt. Vanderbilt) said Preamble and Resolution were declared "null and void."

July 28, 1851.

At a special meeting of the Board of Trustees of the "Mariners' Family Asylum."

Mr. Graham, Chairman of the Building Committee, reported progress, and presented several estimates from carpenters and masons, for the erection of the New Asylum on Staten Island, from which it would appear the lowest estimates amounted to $15,610, a sum exceeding the first estimate of the Committee from 1,500 to 2,000 dollars.

"Mr. Graham further stated, that the First Directress had been absent some weeks from the city, but that he had conferred with several of the other lady officers and managers of the Mariners' Family Industrial Society, some of whom had fears and doubts as to the expediency of commencing the building at present, for it was well known that Mr. Clawson (of Staten Island) and Captains Bromley and Funk, Trustees of the Seamen's Fund and Retreat, were violently opposed to the building being erected on the grounds of the Retreat, and that the former had threatened to take out an injunction on the commencement of the work on the site selected."

Captain Groves and Mr. Suydam expressed themselves in favor of immediately proceeding to the erection of the New Asylum, and on the site so unanimously chosen, and then submitted a copy of the legal opinion, &c., of Daniel Lord, Esq., yet they were desirous of acting in harmony, and with the approbation of all present.

After due consideration and a full exchange of opinions, Capt. N. Briggs presented the following Preamble and Resolution, which was adopted.

"Whereas the present high price of building materials, &c., and the late period of the season, together with the opinions and in accordance with the wishes of the ladies; Managers of the Mariners' Family Industrial Society (now present by invitation), therefore be it

"Resolved, that the erection of the New Asylum be deferred for the present, and that a Committee be appointed by the Chair, to obtain the legal opinions of the Attorney General, or other counsel, in relation to the several Acts passed by the Legislature," &c.

Messrs. Briggs, Graham and Groves, were appointed said Committee.

A copy of the legal opinions of Daniel Lord, Esq., and J. P. Girard Foster, Esq., are herewith annexed.

Copy of Daniel Lord's Opinion.

At the request of the Trustees of the Seamen's Fund and Retreat, I have examined the deed of June 30, 1831, and the act of March 17, 1851, in relation to the two following questions, namely:
First,—Can the Trustees in the act of 1851 be allowed to build on the lands contained in the deed?
Second,—If they can, is the right and power of locating the building vested in the latter (or new) Trustees?
First,—The deed vests the land in the people of the State of New York, absolutely and without condition. The recital of the purpose in
the premises of the deed has not the effect of embarrassing or restricting
the grantees in the mode of their enjoyment. It only restricts the Trus-
tees named in that deed from applying the lands to other purposes
without the consent of the people. The people, too, hold this land, as
themselves, seeing to the execution of a charity, growing out of acts
of the Legislature, and by way of public, rather than private donation; it
is therefore for the people, acting by the Legislature, to sanction any
use whatever of the lands.

The legal title is in them, and they cannot be called to account even
if there were a misapplication of the trust lands, which in a legal sense
there is not. My answer to the first question therefore is affirmative.

Second—The Legislature having the power to limit even the application
of these lands, their will, expressed in the act of 1851, must be
carried out, and the only question is, what is the fair interpretation of
this act.

By the third section, the new Trustees are to apply the funds to the
immediate erection of a suitable building either on the grounds in the
deed, or on other suitable grounds, "as shall be deemed most expedient
by the Trustees hereby created." This gives the selection to the new
Trustees, whether to come on the ground of the deed or not. If they
determine to come on these grounds, they who are to determine the
suitableness of the building, must have the determination of the site
(which cannot be omitted in determining the suitableness of the build-
ing,) subject to two qualifications.

They must not locate it so as to impair or defeat the prior erections
by the earlier Trustees, or the lands substantially necessary for its ac-
commodation and enjoyment. The land selected must be in the range
of a fair judgment, of what is expedient both in quality and site. In
other words the power of selection must be fairly and honestly exercised,
and not capriciously, with a pretence of expediency, but really for other
purposes or views; but within these limits, it seems to me that the
choice of site is with the Trustees in the New Act.

June 11, 1851.

(Signed) DANIEL LORD.

Copy of J. P. Girard Foster's Opinion.

Upon an act passed 17th March, 1851, entitled,
"An act to amend the act entitled, "An act to provide for sick and
disabled Seamen," passed April 22, 1831, also to amend the several acts
passed November 16, 1847 and April 11, 1849, amendatory of the said act."

And upon the right of the Trustees thereby created.

It is with great hesitancy that I offer my opinion on this subject,
as the distinct and extensive expressions of the first section, and the more
particular enumerations in the second and third seem so contradictory,
that it leads one to suppose that the Legislature have not fully and
clearly expressed their intention by the act in question.

But the intention of the Legislature must be collected from the words
of the act, and it is on this well-settled rule of construction that this opin-
ion is forwarded. The words of the first section are clear and unequivocal,
and by it (taken in connection with the fourth) the Trustees thereby
created are substituted for the Trustees of the Seamen's Fund and Ret-
treat, for all purposes, as the acts therein enumerated comprise all by
which any receipt of moneys and disposition thereof is made, or by
which powers are given to these Trustees, the other acts relating to the Seamen's Fund and Retreat not therein enumerated, merely changing the Trustees, the mode of appointment, regulation of officers, &c., and releasing them from claims of the State. And although the second and third sections, may apparently destroy the force of the first, inasmuch as they prescribe to the Trustees of the Seamen's Fund and Retreat the performance of certain things, and recite acts to be done by them, yet we may consider that the Legislature allowed these Trustees to have an existence for the mere purpose of paying over the moneys as therein stated, as a Trustee in Chancery is directed to do, after the termination of the trust.

Again, this construction is much more reconcilable than entirely to exclude that clause of the first section which constituted the Board of Trustees for the purposes named in the act entitled "An act to provide for sick and disabled Seamen," passed April 22d, 1831, which must be done if we admit the Trustees of the Seamen's Fund and Retreat to have existed after the passage of this act, save for the mere purpose of paying over money.

Again, if the Trustees of the Seamen's Fund and Retreat existed after the passage of this act, the later clauses of Section 2 of act of 16th November 1847, is rendered nugatory, as the new Trustees could, in that case, have no funds accrue in their hands, levied and collected by law upon Masters, Mariners, Mates, and Seamen, arriving at the city and port of New York.

We can only judge of the intention of the Legislature from the act itself, and we must endeavor so to construe it as to reconcile all parts, and Courts have no right in order to give effect to what they suppose to be the intention of the Legislature, to put upon the provisions of a statute a construction not supported by the words, though the consequence should be to defeat the object of the act.

I would, however, for greater certainty, recommend, that a new act of the Legislature be obtained, re-creating the Board of Trustees named in the act under examination, and giving them a corporate name, and fully and particularly expressing their rights, powers, duties and resources.

Respectfully Submitted,

(Signed) J. P. GIRARD FOSTER.

NEW YORK, January 14, 1852.

The Committee are aware and believe it will not be disputed by any, that most of the Farm of the Retreat has proved of little or no profit for farming purposes. And as there are about 30 acres in the rear of the garden, with several desirable locations for buildings, there is an abundance of room, not only for these two benevolent Institutions, but for several other public buildings and charities.

On the 9th August, 1851, the Seamen's Fund and Retreat paid over the 16,166 dollars and 31 cents, together with the interest, agreeably to the " act passed the 17th March, 1851." The principal sum is at interest, amply secured, and held for the erection of the Asylum and furniture. The balance of the accumulated interest having since been paid to aid your Society in relieving the distresses of sick and aged pensioners, mothers and widows of seamen, there are no funds on hand for the purchase of land for a location and site.

It now remains with you, Ladies, Officers, and Managers of the Mar-
iners’ Family Industrial Society, with some degree of unanimity to
determine upon a suitable location and site for the Asylum, either on
the island of New York, Long Island, or Staten Island, and if deemed
expedient by the Board of Trustees of the Mariners’ Family Asylum, the
undersigned Committee in behalf of the Board of said Trustees hold
themselves in readiness to aid you with their best advice and exertions,
and if necessary (to some extent) in furnishing “material aid” for the
purchase of the site, and “immediately” to commence the erection of the
Asylum, which you are desirous of having prepared for the destitute and
sick, as a nucleus, which will attract not only the attention and sympath-
ies of the seafaring man, but the benevolent of our land.

In conclusion, permit us to say, that in the foregoing statement refer-
ence has been had to the minutes of the two excellent benevolent Institu-
tions so immediately connected in interests, trusteeship, and charities,
and as a committee and individuals we ardently hope, that these two
excellent Institutions may continue to live and work in harmony and
love; provoking each other only to “good works,” and that this sum-
mary will satisfactorily explain, “wherefore the erection of the said
Asylum has been deferred to the present time.”

Respectfully submitted,
J. B. GRAHAM, Chairman, } Building Committee
RUSSELL STURGES, } of the Mariners’
LAMBERT SUYDAM, } Family Asylum.

The above Report from the Board of Trustees of the Mar-
ers' Family Asylum, showing conclusively the necessity of
decisive action by the Board of the Mariners’ Family Indus-
trial Society, at an adjourned meeting of the Society held
April 13, the following resolution was passed unanimously:
“Resolved,—That this Board request the Trustees of the
Mariners’ Family Asylum to locate the Institution on the
grounds selected by them on May 9, 1851, at Staten Island;
and trust that no untoward influences will now retard their
generous efforts.”

* * * * * * * * *

The preceding pages must carry conviction to every
mind that patient, persevering labor, has been bestowed
upon every department of our work, as far as the health and
energy of the ladies composing the Board could possibly per-
mit; and trusting to the benevolence of the community to
appreciate their efforts, they respectfully await their verdict.

By order of the Board,
MRS. C. TRACY, Sec.

** Since the Report went to press, a note has been received from the
President of the Board of Trustees of the Mariners’ Family Asylum, L.
SUYDAM, Esq., that, at a meeting held April 20th, every member being
present, it was unanimously resolved, “To locate and build the Mariners’
Family Asylum on the ground selected May 9, 1851, at Staten Island.
Ninth Annual Report.

The expiration of another year finds us in possession of vantage ground far beyond what the first few years of our existence as an Association emboldened us to hope; and for the measure of success that has cheered us in our labor, we desire to be grateful to God, and to the many friends He has interested in our enterprise. Industrial organizations kindred to ours, have sprung up in the city, and many more women are in the receipt of fair wages for a fair day’s work, than was formerly the case. The smallness of the profits accruing to our funds from the sales at the store, have not curtailed our efforts; for well have we known, and participated in the increased comfort afforded to many a humble home, by the remuneration of the wife, or mother’s toil, according to our scale of prices. The past winter not having been severely cold, our sympathies have not been so sadly taxed by hearing of, and attending to cases of extreme destitution in our midst, as in former years; yet enough misery has met our eyes to affect our hearts deeply, and make us resolve to redouble our efforts to secure others’ co-operation, ere another winter with its long catalogue of storms and wrecks frown on our horizon. The latter part of the year has been fraught with ruin to many a sailor’s family, by the violent gales along our own, and the European coast, and the fearful epidemic also has decimated many a ship’s company in the South American and West Indian trade, and from many a darkened dwelling the cry of the desolate rises up into the ears of the Lord of Sabaoth!

To some of these bereaved ones there arises light in the darkness from various quarters; but to others, our Society alone extends a ray of hope, or whispers a word of encouragement. Who, that peruses this Report, can deny themselves the privilege of aiding, either by donations or purchases, an aim so laudable, as the one that animates the Managers of this Society, to do all that can be done: “To provide work at a fair remuneration for the female members of Seamen’s families.” Who will be held guiltless in the great day of account, “if they oppress the hireling in his wages,” or sanction by their conduct and patronage, the maxims and practices of those, who make gain their god, and wring from the toiling widow and burdened mother, the means of a luxurious living.

The arduous labors of our Supervisor and Cutter, have
merited and received our kind appreciation, and the fact that ninety women have been either fully or partially employed in making 10,023 garments, affords us great satisfaction.

The amount paid them for this service, as shown by the Treasurer's account, is $1,838.64.

The Board feels greatly indebted to Mr. W. B. Campbell for the interest manifested, and the assistance afforded by him in securing the exhibition of specimens of our work, at the Fair of the American Institute, in October last.

He generously empowered the Supervisor to obtain the materials, and have the garments wrought in the best manner our work-women could accomplish, guaranteeing ample remuneration for their labor, and increased publicity to our enterprise, from the exhibition.

For his personal exertions previous to, and during the Fair, we feel our thanks are but a poor return, yet coupled with the assurance, that to each of us, his kindness has been an encouragement to persevere in efforts to secure a proper remuneration for woman's labor; we know they will not be despised.

The Governor of the Sailor's Snug Harbor, A. De Peyster, Esq., has from time to time favored us with orders, and our workwomen, as well as ourselves, appreciate his patronage. He has not only our thanks, but the blessing of many whom we employ.

Custom work of various kinds, executed for seafaring gentlemen and private families, has been remunerative and encouraging; and, we hope, these special orders may increase in value and frequency.

MARINERS' FAMILY ASYLUM.

The one great event of the year to us as a Society, was the laying of the Corner-stone of the Mariners' Family Asylum, at Staten Island, on the 19th of June.

This act that seemed to bring so near, and render so certain, the ingathering of the aged wives, widows and mothers of Seamen within walls erected by the Sailor's own money, set apart by a solemn act of the Legislature of 1847, for this especial purpose, and in answer to many an importunate prayer, filled our hearts with emotions of the deepest gratitude and liveliest joy.

Ere this, we anticipated the pleasing task performed, of bringing forth our aged pensioners from their comfortless
attics and crowded rooms, to the airy and cleanly home; where benevolent persons would watch over their interests, add to their comforts, and smooth their pathway down to the dark valley and shadow of death; leaving to them but the care of that spiritual preparation of the heart, that enables the poor as well as the rich to stand accepted before God. Alas, alas! that anticipation is as yet unrealized, although above the Corner-stone stands the stately domicile, complete to the smallest minuten of the builder's art, but all unfurnished, bare, and uninhabited! And here the debt of gratitude, we as a Society owe to the Building Committee and especially to the untiring exertions of J. B. Graham, Esq., their Chairman, finds but slight satisfaction in words of thankfulness. Yet as thanks are all we can tender, we beg these gentlemen to accept them, and may they in every assumed duty hereafter be enabled as satisfactorily to discharge their trust. We were encouraged early in the winter to solicit donations of money or furniture, towards filling the empty rooms of the Asylum, and fitting them for their eager occupants. A Committee of ladies from our Board, began immediately to discharge this duty, determined that nothing should be wanting on our part to carry out the idea involved in our first application to the Legislature. This Committee met a kind reception in general, and up to this date have collected §580, of which §283 24, have been expended.

The balance, §296 76, together with many articles of furniture promised, (but not collected) remains subject to the demands of the Standing Committee appointed for that purpose.

In the meantime, the Trustees of the "Seamen's Fund and Retreat" have notified our Society, that they will not take upon themselves the oversight of the "Mariners' Family Asylum," as directed by the law of November 16th, 1847, as here inserted:

§ 2. The sum of Ten Thousand Dollars is hereby appropriated out of so much of the surplus of the moneys paid to the credit of the Mariners' Fund as was excepted from the operation of the Act entitled "An Act concerning passengers in vessels arriving at the City of New York," by the Trustees of the Seamen's Fund and Retreat, to defray the expenses which may be incurred by the Trustees aforesaid, in carrying out the foregoing provisions of this Act; and the said Trustees are hereby authorized and directed to provide annually for the support and care of the persons mentioned in this Act, out of any funds which shall accrue in their hands, levied and collected by law upon masters, mates, mariners and seamen arriving at the City and Port of New York, over and above
what shall be required to meet the current charges for the support of
the Seamen's Retreat.

§ 3. The said Trustees shall have power to appoint such additional
attendants as may be required in the said Retreat for Females, and to fix
the amount of salary or other compensation which shall be allowed to
them, and to make such rules and regulations for the government of said
Retreat as they may from time to time deem necessary.

Provided, that the Board of Managers of the Mariners' Family Indus-
trial Society of the Port of New York may recommend to the said
Trustees suitable persons to be employed as Matrons, Nurses and
Assistants in the said Retreat; and provided, also, that the said Society
may recommend, upon such conditions as shall be prescribed by the
Trustees aforesaid, persons to be relieved from said fund or received
into the said Retreat for Females, subject to an approval of the said
Trustees.

The Trustees, (created by the act of March 17th, 1851,) who have built the Mariners' Family Asylum, are now seek-
ing a legal opinion as to the amended law of 1847, from the
highest legal authority of the State.

Our Board of Counsel, who form a part of the Board of
Trustees for building said Asylum, (and some of whom are
also Trustees of the Seamen's Fund and Retreat,) unanimously
desire our success; and we tender to each of them our
sincere thanks for their courteous attention to our interests,
and their patient zeal in this great effort. In the meantime
our Pensioners are cast into the deepest anxiety; for the
pittance doled out to them through our hands, they know,
may at any moment be cut off, and they be compelled finally
to enter the pauper's home, and lie down at last in a pauper's
grave.

The visits among the needy amount to about five hundred
only, as many of our Board have been unable to devote as
much time to visiting as in former years.

From the Trustees of the Seamen's Fund and Retreat we
have received the sum of §1804, which latterly we have only
distributed among those aged ones who intended entering
the Asylum on its completion; and we know not (at the
date of writing this report) whether we shall ever receive
another dollar to meet their wants, while shut out from its
shelter.

Of one thing we are certain; we cannot, we dare not take
the money entrusted to us for providing work for the meri-
rous and deeply-oppressed needlewomen, to feed the help-
less and infirm; when for them other sources had been
sought and secured previous to the erection of the Mariners'
Family Asylum.
Too many widowed and worse than widowed wives and mothers are looking up to us for means to eke out a subsistence in a way that shall not derogate from their self-respect—entail upon their children the curse of pauperism, or leave them exposed to the nameless evils that gyrate in the moral maelstrom of our great city; to allow us to wreck our industrial enterprise, because of the guilt incurred by those who shut their eyes, and steel their hearts against the sailor's family; and the suffering endured by those thus estranged from their sympathies.

At the bar of God we feel competent to meet both the classes alluded to, conscious that not to us as individuals will cling the curse.

"She hath done what she could," cheers us now, because uttered by Him, "who spake as never man spake," we trust it will cheer us then, relative to what we have done for the sailor's female relatives, for twenty-two years, and what we have left undone. Mrs. Capt. S. Loveland, Sec. M. F. I. S.

* * After the Report went to Press, the sudden decease of J. B. GRAHAM, Esq., was announced to the public, and among the various societies and institutions called to mourn his death, none have greater reason to deplore this afflictive providence than the Mariners' Family Industrial Society, and the Board of Trustees of the Mariners' Family Asylum. To both of these associations the loss of his business talents, energetic philanthropy and faithful services are irreparable—may we all lay to heart the solemn warning, "Be ye also ready."

From the Tenth Annual Report we extract the following:

"Originating as did this Society among those women most familiar with the needs of the Sailor's family, and the necessity of opening some way to them more safe than the receipt of alms; when shipwreck or sickness in a foreign land, or death upon the waste of waters, of their manly guardians or loved friends, extorted the cry of despair, or woke the pangs of hunger around their uncheered hearthstone; and recognizing (what many then disregarded) the grudging pittance doled out to the seamstress by too many of the wholesale and retail dealers in ready-made clothing, and the depressing and depraving effect of public charities as ordinarily administered, upon the recipients of such aid; we, though few in numbers, decided to do what we could toward giving the operative a fairer share of the profits on
the ready-made garment, and trust to the generosity of the public to sustain us in the enterprise. Doubts of the feasibility of our plans were freely expressed, and gentlemen, grown grey in posts of honor, as almoners of public and private almsgiving, tendered us the benefit of their experience—but judging from our own hearts what to us would be the difference in value between a dollar honestly earned by industrious effort, and one solicited as an alms, whether personal or by proxy, we refused to surrender our capital—the hope of success! For awhile after the first opening of our store, many vague ideas were broached concerning it, but at length when the feelings and opinions of the worthy and industrious poor were ascertained, and the worthless and lazy discountenanced and separated from our sympathies, by the wholesome test of work and wages, we were recognized by many philanthropic persons as not altogether quixotic. Yet the utter impossibility of competing with the "unholy spirit of trade" without funds or resources, save in occasional fairs, donations, and patronage of the conscientious (always a minority) made our business leap but lamely for years.

The question as to disbanding had been pressed upon us; but we waived it; and solicited a charter! This obtained, gave us confidence.

During the past year we have employed one hundred women, have manufactured 4659 garments, and paid for that service (as shown in the Treasurer's and Store Committee's Report,) the sum of $1637.41, attesting alike the value of our enterprise to our employees, and the untiring assiduity of our Supervisor and Cutter.

Our orders from A. De Peyster, Esq., Governor of the Sailors' Snug Harbor, have been frequent, and to him we gratefully tender our acknowledgments. To Mr. B. F. Buck we are greatly indebted for many evidences of appreciation of our work and assistance in various ways, and from the seamen boarding with him, we have secured a large share of patronage, and hope to retain their custom by furnishing them with garments of better make and material than they could purchase elsewhere for the same prices.

To the firm of Williams & Guion, who have favored us so largely with orders for the making up of the bed linen, towelling, &c. of different ships belonging to them, we tender our warmest thanks and earnestly hope their good example may be followed by many who can control such orders,
until it shall become a rule (not an exception) among ship-builders and owners to patronize the only store in the city where the profits go mainly to the employees.

THE MARINERS' FAMILY ASYLUM.

When our last report was published the Mariners' Family Asylum was completed, but left unoccupied, and our aged pensioners were still hoping for admission. Conscions of our inability as a Society to sustain the Asylum, we dared not offer to forego the legal maintenance thereof secured by the law of 1847, and aware of the danger of compromises, stood silently watching the current of events, until at length in April, our Board of Counselors advised our assuming such occupancy, if the Board of Trustees of Seamen's Fund and Retreat concurred therein—and in reply to a request of the Managers of the Mariners' Family Industrial Society, asking for the necessary authority for opening the Asylum erected on the Retreat grounds for the aged, sick and destitute female relatives of seamen, we received the following extract from their minutes of April 15th, "On motion resolved—That as the Trustees of the Seamen's Fund and Retreat regard the building as already in possession of the Mariners' Family Industrial Society, and doubting whether the Trustees of the S. F. and R. have any control over it, they accord in the possession of the said building by the Mariners' Family Industrial Society for the purposes for which it was erected," and at our board meeting, held April 26th, the Directress presented a note received from one of the Trustees, informing her of the appointment of Capt. C. H. Marshall and Capt. H. Russell, as a committee from the board of S. F. and R. to wait on the ladies to Staten Island when convenient to them, and give the Society formal possession. A Committee from our Board were accordingly appointed, and on the 28th of April said Committee received the keys of the Asylum, and were formally inducted. Early in May twenty-three pensioners, together with the furniture purchased by our Committee for furnishing the Asylum, were conveyed thither, the services of a Matron, Nurse, &c., &c., were put in requisition, and as soon as matters could be arranged, viz., on the 9th of June, the to us solemn and holy services of its dedication were performed. Several addresses were made by friends of the enterprise, among whom we numbered the Reverend Henry Chase; his remarks elicited warm sympathy for this and kindred efforts in behalf of both seamen and their fami-
lies. Little did those who listened to his eloquence on this his favorite theme, imagine that in a few short weeks he would be summoned "to give an account of his stewardship."

From the first inception of charitable efforts for seamen's destitute families—up to the organization of the Mariners' Family Industrial Society, and thence to the dedication of the Mariners' Family Asylum, Mr. Chase was ever active, sympathizing and efficient. His decease leaves us one friend and Life Member the less, to aid us in our work in this sorrow-stricken world; and the Seamen of this port are bereaved of one whose words of warning have been to many a sailor a blessing both for time and eternity.

Of the inmates admitted—seventeen are natives of America; six of Ireland; three of Scotland, and one of Holland. Their religious preferences are as various as the places of their nativity. Several of the inmates count fathers, husbands, and brothers, as participants in the war of 1812, and there are two aged sisters of one who lingered out many weary months of captivity in Dartmoor Prison.

Six of the inmates are the widows of shipmasters; ten the widows and mothers of seamen; three are upwards of eighty years of age; nine between seventy and eighty; the youngest (a cripple, the orphan child of a ship-master) is twenty-five, the eldest, still quite helpful and healthy, eighty-three.

In examining the papers of one applicant for admission, three of whose sons had been lost at sea, we found mournful evidence "of what the heart can bear" in the following letter addressed to her by another of her children, dated—

Tampico Prison, Dec. 13th, 1838.

Dear Father and Mother,

For the last time on this earth, I take the opportunity of writing, to inform you that in a few hours I shall be in my grave. I will state to you for your consolation, that I shipped for Brazoria, Texas, and was forced to land at Tampico, and have been made prisoner, and am to be shot, with twenty-seven others, to-morrow morning at 7 o'clock.

I left my trunk with some other things with Edward Parker, in New Orleans. None of my friends knew anything of my departure from New Orleans.

I enclose for a remembrance of me, a lock of my hair and a breast-pin. I have nothing more to say, but give my love to my brother and sister, and inquiring friends. I hope you nor none of my friends will grieve on my account; for I die happy. Your affectionate son,

Wm. C. Barkley.

The kindness and harmony that characterize their intercourse with each other, and their grateful appreciation of the comforts of their home, make it a delightful part of our
Managers' duties to visit the Asylum and attend to its interests.

As nearly all the inmates can either knit or sew, (by which to earn their clothing) and idleness is by them so deplored, we have instructed our Supervisor to give as much work from the store to them as she possibly can, without wronging the workwomen who have families to support and rent to pay. Seventy pair of socks have been knit and one hundred and thirty-five garments, and two bed-quilts completed for the Mariners' Family Industrial Society's store; besides the work entrusted to them by individuals.

A flag-staff having been elevated on the roof of the observatory, the old ladies requested material to be given them that they might manufacture a flag. The bunting was purchased—and with untiring assiduity they wrought the completion of their desire and rejoiced to see the stars and stripes waving over their heads—but the staff caused the roof to leak, and we were obliged to have it removed; it was then found necessary to sell the flag, as it was too lengthy to float from an ordinary elevation, a good price was obtained for it, and material for a smaller one purchased with part of the proceeds, and the balance appropriated by the inmates toward the purchase of a sofa for the chapel pulpit. We hope ere long to gratify them with a suitable flag-staff from which to display their token of patriotism and industry.

The Committee on Applications for admission to the Mariners' Family Asylum, report having admitted twenty-seven applicants—rejected eleven, as not coming within the rules or undeserving its benefits, and have on record the names of as many more entitled to its sheltering care, but whom they hesitate to admit, lest sufficient means to sustain them be not forthcoming. One individual has left the Asylum rather than yield to expostulation and respect the rules.

The Church Committee report with gratitude the kind services of Reverend Mr. Frambes, Chaplain of the Seamen's Retreat, every Sabbath afternoon in the chapel of the Asylum.

Our means have not warranted us to undertake the expense of painting or in any way beautifying the outside of the Mariners' Family Asylum, and thus render it less unsightly to its more prosperous neighbors. We hope to render the grounds around it more inviting however, and in a degree make them tributary to both the health, comfort and
support of the Asylum. To the physicians of the Seamen's Retreat our aged women are greatly indebted for unwearying kindness and attention; and to both them and Capt. Hart, superintendent of the Retreat, our thanks are gratefully tendered. Emergencies have arisen in which the aid and counsel of these gentlemen has been invaluable to us.

To the gentlemen composing our Board of Counsel we are greatly indebted for encouragement and sympathy. They have cheerfully given many hours' attention to the interests of the Mariners' Family Asylum as well as to the general business of the Society, and as a faint expression of our gratitude, the Board of Managers by vote constituted them Honorary Life Members of the Mariners' Family Industrial Society. To Capt. C. H. Marshall the Board extended the same compliment.

"The desire accomplished is sweet to the soul," says the proverb, and truly has it proved so to many of us who have worked and watched and waited the developments of man's will and of God's providence in this enterprise! The trials surmounted in the past, the work wrought out to this present, certainly warrants this Board of Managers to say to their successors in official duties, "Greater is He that is for you than all they that are against you," and commending the interests of this Society to the care of Him "who went about doing good," and to the kind appreciation of a discriminating community, we surrender our charge.

On behalf of the Board,

Mrs. Capt. S. Loveland,
Sec. M. F. I. Soc.

March 16th, 1854.

In regard to the furnishing the M. F. Asylum, we desire to acknowledge the energy and efficiency of the Furnishing Committee, Mrs. Capt. R. W. Welsh and Mrs. J. I. Perry, whose tireless zeal, aided by Mrs. S. C. Hills, (now deceased) Mrs. C. A. Irwin, Mrs. R. H. Lambert, and others, made up an aggregate of $1621, in cash, besides large donations in articles of domestic utility.

From minutes of Board meetings held April 25th, 1854, we extract:

"Mrs. R. H. Lambert, of the Legislative Committee reported incidents connected with her business at Albany, and congratulated the Board on the success of their efforts to
secure a competent support for the aged, sick and destitute female relatives of seamen.

The thanks of the Board to their Legislative Committee, Mrs. Hawkins and Lambert, were voted, recounting their many sacrifices in aid of the Society's plans and labors, and assuring them of the high appreciation felt by all their associates.

June 27th, 1854, Mrs. R. H. Lambert tendered her resignation as Manager, in consequence of her intended removal to California.

Eleventh Annual Report.

The time has again arrived when it becomes the duty of the Managers of this Association to render their Annual Report of the varied aspects of the work entrusted to their charge.

The past year has not been marked by striking incident within our little circle, or extra efforts on behalf of the good cause in which we have enlisted; still the constant mercies of Him from whom cometh every good gift have been about our path. The pestilence has not been permitted to remove any of our number, yet sickness and the various removals of many of our heretofore efficient laborers, have so weakened our strength, together with the unprecedented state of the commercial world, that we cannot report our usual progress; nevertheless, we have endeavored to stand in our place, and as "they also serve, who wait their master's bidding," we trust our abiding will not have been in vain.

We have one hundred and twenty names on our work-book, of which about one hundred have been employed, more or less, during the year, some of whom we have aided with money and clothing when we could not furnish work. After so many years' experience of the value of the "charity of wages," we only wish our means and strength were equal to the necessity that exists to meet the call. We once had the presumption to think that we should be able, as we became known as a society, to meet the demand, limited as we are to a class; but we did not allow for the rapid increase of our city, particularly by immigration, as there have been nearly five hundred applications the last year for whom we could make no provision, most of whom are healthy young women, with one, two, or more small children, many of them widows. We perceive a marked change in the families applying to us since our organization eleven years ago,
and we feel a necessity laid upon us for renewed and continued exertion on their behalf, as most of them are strangers to our country, as well as the city.

The Mariners' Family Asylum.

This portion of our work is separated from the other inasmuch as it only contemplates providing for the sick, aged, and destitute, who are incapable of labor. Our friends will recollect that at the time of our last report we numbered twenty-six which was not as many as we could accommodate in our building, but was all we had the means of supporting; indeed at that time we were nearly a thousand dollars in arrears. About the time of our last annual meeting, the Trustees of the "Seaman's Fund and Retreat" had asked the Legislature to define the laws relative to the several Institutions on Staten Island, and the following "Act" was the result, so far as the Society are interested:

An ACT in relation to the Moneys levied by law on masters, mates, mariners and seamen arriving at the City and port of New York, and the disposal of the same by the Trustees of the Seaman's Fund and Retreat, and of the Governing of the Mariners' Family Asylum.

Passed April 12, 1854.

The People of the State of New York, represented in Senate and Assembly, do enact as follows:

§ 1. The Mariners' Family Industrial Society, of the Port of New York, together with their Board of Counselors and their successors in office for the time being, shall have the control and management of the building erected on the grounds of the Seamen's Retreat, agreeably to an act passed March 17, 1851, and known as the "Mariners' Family Asylum," and the ground selected by the committee on the ninth day of May, eighteen hundred and fifty-one, and approved of by the Trustees of the Seamen's Fund and Retreat, and also the right of way to and from said asylum, through the grounds of the Seamen's Retreat, until a public street or highway shall be opened, and then such ingress and egress shall be by said street or highway.

§ 2. The Trustees of the Seamen's Fund and Retreat in the city of New York, are hereby authorized and instructed to pay over, monthly, to the Treasurer of the Mariners' Family Asylum for the maintenance of said Asylum, ten per cent of the amount of money collected the previous month by law, upon masters, mates, mariners, and seamen arriving at the city and port of New York.

§ 3. The above-named society, together with their Board of Counselors, shall apply such hospital moneys as shall come into their hands through the Trustees of the Seamen's Fund and Retreat, for the support and relief of destitute sick or infirm mothers, wives, sisters, daughters or widows of seamen in said asylum, and at such other places as shall by
them be deemed best calculated to promote the objects of this section of this act. But no person shall be relieved from said fund or received into said asylum unless satisfactory proof be furnished to the society, that the husband, brother, son or father of the applicant, as the case may be, hath, previous to the time of making such application to be admitted, paid the tax imposed by law on seamen arriving at the port of New-York for the term of two years.

§ 4. The said society, together with their Board of Counselors, shall have power to appoint such attendants, matrons, nurses and assistants as may be required in said asylum for females, and to fix the amount of salary or other compensation which shall be allowed to them, and to make such rules and regulations for the government of said asylum as they may from time to time deem necessary; and said society shall annually, during the month of January, render to the comptroller of the State of New York an exact and minute specification of the purposes to which the moneys appropriated and directed to be disbursed by this act have been applied; also they shall state the number of persons relieved from said fund, or received into the said asylum for females, the number discharged, the number remaining in said asylum, certified by the president and secretary of the Board of Counselors.

§ 5. All acts and parts of acts inconsistent with this act are hereby repealed.

§ 6. This act shall take effect immediately.

STATE OF NEW YORK,

Secretary's Office.

I have compared the preceding with the original law on file in the office, and do hereby certify that the same is a correct transcript therefrom, and of the whole of said original.

Given under my hand and seal of office at the city of Albany, this 12th day of April, in the year eighteen hundred and fifty-four.

A. G. Johnson, Dep. Sec. of State.

In reference to the Asylum, our Funds were somewhat increased by it, but with a large debt on hand, and the high price of provisions, we have not been prepared to enlarge our family materially as yet, but hope soon to be able to receive all deserving applicants.

A just appreciation of the value of such a resting-place for weary age, can only be gained by contrasting it with the wretched tenements where but recently they were found in want, sorrow, and hopelessness. In the one, an ill-ventilated, comfortless, hired room, where few or none cared for their wants or anticipated their necessities, and where, at best, they could anticipate no certain abiding-place. In the other is found neatness, order, quiet, and comfort; the fullest and purest supply of a glorious atmosphere; while from every window, on every side of their delightful asylum, the eye may rest upon richly varied landscape, sketched and adorned with the most perfect beauty by the hand of the Infinite Architect, and pointing ever "from nature up to nature's
God ;” while the great sea, so far as the eye can reach, sings ever to the listening ear a holy requiem to “the beloved and lost,” “mournful and pleasant to the soul.” In the one, their place to die had no affinities with hope and heaven. In the other, the heart cheered by the smile of the Lord, and the joy of sin forgiven, may find a type of the house of “many mansions,” and the love of Him who said to the beloved disciple, “Behold thy mother.”

We cannot conclude this report without reference to some of the voluntary laborers whose duties have been almost of daily or weekly occurrence, as that of the Chaplain, Physician, and Superintendent of the “Seaman’s Fund and Retreat,” in their attention to the inmates of the Asylum.

Mrs. M. I. Hubbard, Sec. M. F. I. Society. The winter of 1853-4 witnessed the last struggle of the Legislative Committee of the Mariners’ Family Industrial Society at our State capital. Defeating then the persistent efforts of those who had so long differed from us, as to the righteousness of the claim preferred, for the sick and aged female members of seamen’s families, to benefit in some degree from the taxation imposed on seamen in previous years, and securing a reduction of said tax, by righteous legislation, and the sympathy and respect of many of our opponents, by the tenacity of purpose, and unwearied patience, confidence in our cause developed; with hands unstained, and conscience approving, and many friends gained in the conflict, our eight years of legislative lobbying, writing, hoping, fearing, ended, amid the blessings of many ready to perish.

The Twelfth Annual report says:

“In reviewing from our present position our work for years past, we are brought to a point where the paradox in St. Paul’s history presents itself, “sorrowing yet always rejoicing.” We have reason to sorrow that so little has been done, and that the means afforded for the advancement of our benevolent mission have been so limited; while we cannot but rejoice that so much has been accomplished, both pecuniarily and by missionary effort among the classes whom we seek to aid. It has been indeed a feeble and a cramped instrumentality which has been employed, but the Lord has seen fit to bless it, that the glory might be His.”

The business of the Store netted to the employees $1,985. Many incidents of interest from the Visiting Committee’s reports are detailed, proving for the thousandth time the
propriety of keeping alive some such agency for good, even when but little means can be expended. The Asylum with its large family had been the center of interest to many, and the thanks of the Board to the Superintendent, Physician and Chaplain of the S. F. and Retreat for many kindly services, and to the Visiting Committee and Committee of Supplies, are named by the Secretary (Mrs. G. W. Johnson) with deep gratitude.

The Thirteenth Report begins thus:

The Managers of the Mariners' Family Industrial Society, in reviewing the year would gratefully acknowledge the goodness and mercy of God in preserving their little band unbroken by death. Sickness, both severe and prolonged, has visited individual members and their families, from the last of which loved members have been severed; so that much time has been unavoidably occupied that would otherwise have been cheerfully given to the Society.

The Store

holds a prominent place, as it not only gives to those who wish to sustain themselves, the opportunity, but secures the aid and sympathy of their own sex, when most in need, while it enables the Managers soon to detect the idle and unprincipled applicant, and thus protect themselves from imposition, in bestowing the charities entrusted to their charge. It also opens a large field for missionary effort, of the most promising character, and tends to promote the attendance on public worship in our Bethel churches.

During thirteen years past, this Society has prosecuted its plans and so far as they could furnish remunerative work—with undoubted success; but the per centage system of sailor boarding-houses, and the control of the landlords over seamen, and the capital and competition of trade, together with the change incident to the introduction of sewing-machines, may, perhaps, make it necessary to relinquish these efforts, unless the co-operation and liberal patronage of individuals and benevolent public institutions, also some of the "Sailor's Homes" under the care and patronage of the Christian community, can be secured. Our books show 4,285 garments cut and made, and between 70 and 80 employees, during the last year—less, it will be observed, than formerly, owing to the conviction which existed in the minds of the Managers, that it was better the number should be fewer and the aid more liberal, that thus the most needy,
who were generally mothers, with little children, in many instances afflicted with sickness, might not find themselves thrown upon the chance support which is but too often meted out to the lone woman in a great city. The most pressing cases have thus been selected, and permanent employment (for the year) given. A number of families also have been aided with provision and money. There have been some five or six hundred applicants for work.

The Asylum.

The Mariners' Family Asylum, for aged, indigent female relatives of seamen, is still in a prosperous condition. Visits have been made to it semi-weekly by a Visiting Committee, regularly appointed from the Board, besides occasional visits from members of the Society, and others interested. Religious services have been attended statedly on the Sabbath, and one evening during the week, by the Chaplain of the Retreat, which have been both profitable and interesting. We regret that we are not able to report any hopeful conversions, but we would ask the prayers of God's people, that the word thus spoken may not be in vain.

From the minutes we extract the following, showing the indomitable courage of the ladies composing the Board of Managers. March 31st, 1857, a proposition to open and furnish a religious boarding-house for seamen, was received and discussed, and a Committee appointed to attend to the business. May 19th, the house having been secured and furnished, a special meeting was held there, and the place was opened with appropriate religious services and named "The New York Mariners' House." The furnishing Committee stated their expenditures to have been $495.38.

Miss M. F. Holbrook, Sec. Mar. F. I. Soc.


In coming before the Society at this time, the Board are happy to state that the additional efforts which were contemplated and alluded to in their last Report, have been undertaken, and by the blessing of God prosecuted successfully throughout the year, notwithstanding the universal and almost unprecedented commercial reverses which have swept over the country, spreading devastation and dismay in every direction, and shaking to their foundations the oldest and best established benevolent organizations among us.
The Sea-Bird (a little monthly started by the Society the preceding year) enriched by gratuitous contributions from many of the Managers, Rev. C. J. Jones, Bethel Chaplain, and others is thus referred to.

The receipts of The Sea-Bird have been less than two hundred dollars, which is considerably short of the outlay; but we have been encouraged by referring to the statistics of the Sailors' Magazine, from which it appears that its receipts the first year were not more than this, although its price was three-fold, but the second year it was nearly self-sustained.

While the Board greatly desire to promote the best interests of seamen and their families by the circulation of the paper among them, they also hope through this medium to extend the knowledge, and increase the patronage of

The Society's Store,

and thus enlarge their ability to render material aid to destitute families of seamen, who prefer to work for remunerative wages, rather than to receive assistance as a gratuity.

It has been a primary object of this Association from its foundation to assist destitute families to help themselves, and thus promote their permanent relief; every additional year's experience increases their appreciation of the importance and utility of this feature of their work; they believe the "charity of wages" is the noblest yet devised for the distressed, inasmuch as it leaves the recipients in possession of independence of spirit and self-reliance, which are indispensable to future improvement. To furnish such persons with work by which they can earn their bread, is to do them a greater kindness than to place them in ease and luxury at the cost of self-respect; and their acknowledgments often evince a delicacy and refinement of feeling which is more affecting than the most profuse expressions of gratitude would be. In many cases a little timely aid has helped them through emergencies, and into circumstances where farther assistance has become unnecessary.

Our Missionary's Services

are invaluable, and we might say, indispensable. Her labors have been arduous and unflagging, and we earnestly hope we shall be enabled to continue her in a field of usefulness to which she is peculiarly adapted. From the beginning of May to the last of February, she has kept a record
of visits which amount to between six and seven hundred; and they have occupied about fifteen hundred hours of time. The labor expended in these visits may not be estimated by that occupied in taking a district, and visiting from house to house; for her calls are widely scattered through Williamsburgh, Brooklyn, and this city. She feels much hindered in usefulness by the limited provision placed at her disposal for the poor, which, though all the Society can allow, is quite inadequate to meet the demand. "I could make many more visits among the poor," says the missionary, "but I cannot go to them and say, 'Be ye warmed, and be ye filled,' and preach righteousness to them, and have nothing with which to relieve their present necessities; I cannot do it."

The Board refer with pleasure to another effort commenced early in the year; the

New York Mariners' House

was opened with appropriate dedicatory exercises, May 19th, 1857. A goodly company convened on the occasion, many of whom passed through the building, and noted with pleasure its orderly and comfortable arrangements. The furniture was provided by the friends of the enterprise. One room was furnished by Miss M. B., and is called the "Pacific," another is called the "Atlantic," and is furnished by Mrs. H. M. A., the "Puritan Room" is fitted up by the ladies of Dr. Cheever's Church, one room by the ladies of Rev. Mr. Rankin's church, one by Mrs. B., the widow of a sea-captain; one is partially furnished by the ladies of St. Stephen's Church, and one by the ladies of the Madison Street Mariners' Church.

The house is under the care of Mr. W. S. Wilder; it will accommodate about fifty persons; it is lighted throughout with gas, and has the Croton on every floor. It is upon the whole one of the most comfortable seamen's boarding-houses in New York.

Mariners' Family Asylum.

The benediction of a kind Providence has rested upon this Institution during the year.

A Missionary Committee was appointed in the beginning of the year to attend especially to the religious interests of the inmates. These ladies have visited the Institution statedly; they have held meetings semi-monthly, and having an opportunity for personal conversation, and more free communion than public service allows, they are encouraged to
believe that their visits are not only a source of instruction, but a solace to these aged pilgrims.

A regular system of visitation and general care and oversight has been sustained throughout the year by members of the Board.

In concluding this summary of the year's labors, the Board commend the cause anew to the guidance and watchful care of their Father in heaven, and to the active sympathy and aid of his children, desiring that whatever aid they render, they may do it as unto the Lord, not grudgingly, for he loveth the cheerful giver; and "that which he hath given will he pay him again."

Miss M. F. Holbrook, Sec.

Fifteenth Annual Report.

Another year, replete with unnumbered mercies, has marked its departure on the calendar of time, and as a Board of Managers we are called upon to record those mercies, and note the varied dealings of Providence with us as a Society. As we stood upon the threshold of the year just passed, we confess to some gloomy forebodings. True, the clouds which had lowered so heavily above the commercial horizon were partially lifted, and the sun of prosperity seemed again rising; but the effect of the revulsion was still upon us, and it was only while we could keep our eye steadily fixed upon Him from whom cometh every good and perfect gift, that we had courage to go forward. He has been our help, and we have not only lived but prospered; and have been enabled to add a new and important feature to our work, that of a "Missionary-at-large." The object of the arrangement was to extend a knowledge of the various features of our work among the churches of Christ throughout the country, and to increase the circulation of the Sea-Bird, thus hoping to awaken the public generally to the spiritual and eternal interests of Seamen and their families. We also hoped by this means to obtain increased power to aid them in this locality, it being our legitimate field of operation, as we are the only Society acting on behalf of this class in this port.

Our Female City Missionary

Still continues her "walks of usefulness," though often with weary step and a sinking heart. Weary, for she reasons thus: "If I take a stage to see poor Mrs. W., or that new-made widow, Mrs. N., or those destitute orphans, I may find them wanting bread, which the six cents I have
just spent might supply. I will walk that I may have to give." We need not add to this why her heart sinks, for where the purse is empty how can we visit the suffering poor with other than an aching heart? How speak joyfully to them of a home in heaven when the landlord has just threatened to deprive them of their home here, and we cannot secure it to them for want of means? How tell them to think of their immortal souls, when their bodies are suffering from cold, and nakedness, and we have no means to relieve them? Thus from the Society’s inability to provide her with sufficient means to aid them, her work has been greatly retarded; yet it has not been all in vain.

The Sea-Bird.

This little sheet is all abroad, and as we have reason to believe, is gaining favor with those whom it is designed to benefit, both at home and abroad. In its varied flights across the Atlantic, it has rested in the hands of numerous seamen, who have since visited the Mariners’ House and Store—The Sea-Bird notices and advertisements being their directory. The results of these visits may be far-reaching, far beyond the mere supplying of physical wants, as our Report of the Mariners’ House will show. We believe, too, its circulation has awakened an interest in the minds of many who, in their secluded homes in the interior, were almost wholly unacquainted with the wants and woes of seamen and their families; and as a result, we have already received contributions of bedding and clothing, with which to aid and comfort the widow and her helpless little ones. The average monthly issue has not exceeded thirty-five hundred, but its paying list is about fifteen hundred. Most of these, however, are taken in clubs, so that a less amount is realized from them than if taken by single subscribers. The surplus numbers are distributed gratuitously. We should like to increase this distribution to at least ten thousand, and we look to our friends with the hope that they will aid us in this good work.

The Mariners’ House,

Established two years since, by this Society, has met, perhaps, with all the encouragement we could expect; though, for various reasons, its self-sustaining power has not been quite equal to our hopes. It is not calculated to accommodate many boarders, and has been, in some sense, an Asylum for the shipwrecked, and for homeless boys—not unfre-
quently sent there by some friend, and whose destitution rendered them only a charge upon the house; still, as a Christian family boarding-house, it has maintained its character, and shared largely in the blessings with which God has visited His people during the past year.

**THE SOCIETY'S STORE.**

We have the names of more than 100 women on our books, who have been employees of the Society; but we regret to say, owing to various causes, this department of our work has been less prosperous than for some years previous, and many a poor wife and mother who has come to present her claim to our assistance, has been but sparingly supplied with work, and, as a consequence, has gone to her dependent family with a sad heart, when, had the demand for clothing been greater, we might have said, "Do all you can—we will supply you with work;" and thus, have saved her from want—or worse, the feeling of self-degradation which is the result of an appeal for charity. Our Treasurer's report will show that from this cause we have been obliged to make larger appropriations from the Society's funds for the beneficiaries, than formerly.

**THE MARINERS' FAMILY ASYLUM**

Has been an established Institution for six years. The family has varied from thirty-five to forty in number. From year to year, it has been our privilege to report the general good health of the family, although its inmates were composed of only the aged and infirm; but during the past year, death has invaded this retreat, and four aged women have passed into the world of spirits. Three of these were upward of eighty years of age, and one sixty-seven. Most of these lone women had not any immediate surviving relatives or friends, to be interested in their life or death. They have all, as we hope, been subjects of that blessed revival that has more or less pervaded the institution during the past year. The visits of our Missionary Committee to this Institution have been seasons of peculiar interest.

In view of past mercies, most of all, in that God has given us, as seals to our labor, about sixty souls led to Him, and redeemed by the blood of Jesus, we bow low before Him, while from our inner hearts comes the utterance, "Not unto us, but unto Thy name be all the glory."

Mrs. C. M. Saxton, Sec.
Sixteenth Annual Report.

Again does the Mariners' Family Industrial Society plant its footsteps on the threshold of another year, and again turn to review the way in which the Lord hath led it. Light and shadow alternate upon the pathway; but still we can truly say, "Hitherto hath the Lord helped." Amid the varied features of our work,

THE MARINERS' FAMILY ASYLUM.

stands most prominent on the Society's annals. As, during the year previous, death entered the household, and several of the aged inmates were borne thence to the narrow house appointed for all living, so again we are called to record the departure of two. Their work is done; their days of care and anxiety are ended; and, while we have robed and coffined them for the grave, it has been a source of comfort to know that, through the instrumentality of this Society, the closing years of their lives have been rendered less dreary and sorrowful. Kind physicians have visited them; Christian friends have administered to their spiritual necessities; and as far as practicable, every want has been supplied.

During the past year, a greater number of applicants have been admitted than on any other since the first year of opening the Institution. Of these, most are very aged, and others quite helpless and dependent. Several are from that class who most keenly suffer in the chilling blasts of adversity—those who have enjoyed comfortable homes of their own—and others have been in positions of affluence.

The Visiting, Supply, and Missionary Committees have been very faithful in the different departments of their work; so that the entire operations of the Institution have been almost daily under the supervision of the Board of Managers. The Missionary Committee has held weekly religious meetings with the inmates; so that, although without the regular services of a chaplain, they have not been without stated religious privileges; and not unfrequently have our ministerial friends devoted a part of the Sabbath to their instruction. We have now forty-one inmates, whose ages vary from sixty to ninety years. The general health of the inmates, considering their age and circumstances, has been remarkable, and every year's experience increases our satisfaction in regard to the favorable locality of the Asylum. We believe no spot could have been selected more advantageous,
as it regards purity of air, beauty of prospect, and whatever tends to promote health and comfort.

To the Trustees and Physicians of the Retreat we owe our warmest thanks for their ready response to every call of necessity; and to the warm-hearted Superintendent, Captain Hart, we are, as ever, indebted for many acts of kindness.

If our friends would remember how much such an Institution is benefited by a library, and from their store of books which the household have read, send an occasional addition to the few volumes now on the shelves of the Asylum, they would be doing a truly-good work; and adding greatly to the entertainment and real benefit of these aged women.

**MARINERS' HOUSE.**

The Superintendent of the Mariners' House, having given notice that he wished to vacate the House on the 1st of May last, an effort was made to provide a suitable person to take the place; but, failing of success, the Board decided it better to discontinue the House, and dispose of the furniture—appropriating the proceeds of that sold to the benefit of the poor in charge of the Society. That remaining unsold, being much the larger portion of the furniture, was removed to the Asylum, where it was much needed, for the accommodation of the increased number of inmates.

**THE STORE.**

The Society finds great difficulty in carrying out its original design of an Industrial Association, and has been compelled, in some measure, to change its plan of operations. It has been an unsettled question with the Board, during the past year, whether or not the Store be continued. In the month of June, measures were taken to reduce the expenses, in order, if possible, to meet its own claims, and still continue to supply work to its usual employees at a price that would pay them; but still large establishments, with a liberal supply of sewing-machines in their employ, and various other advantages over their store, made it difficult to compete with them, and, while paying anything like a liberal price for work, keep the Store out of debt.

Still, however so unwilling are the Board to withheld from the poor sailor's widow, sister, and daughter, who have looked to this source for means to feed themselves and their dependent families, the work which hitherto they have supplied them, the Society have resolved to still give out light work, such as under-clothing, summer-wear, etc. In
this case, they dispense with the necessity of a tailor, and employ only their former Superintendent and a boy. The rent of the Store is moderate, and, as an office of inquiry and applications for aid, and a general centre for the business of the Society, it seems indispensable.

There has been paid in wages seven hundred dollars, which might be multiplied to an indefinite extent, had the Society the facilities of disposing of the manufactured garments. But, in lieu thereof, they have been compelled, by the necessities of the one hundred and twenty-five families—representing about four hundred individuals, mostly widows and orphans under their watchful care—to distribute eight hundred dollars more, in money, provisions, clothing, etc.

SEWING-MACHINES.

In addition to that donated to the Society by Wheeler & Wilson, the appropriation of the Common Council has enabled the Society to purchase five other sewing-machines, which it loans to women who have the capacity to learn its use, that they may become expert, and thus be encouraged to procure one for themselves. These loans have already, in several instances, been productive of good results, and the Society hopes to see many families thus benefited.

MISSIONARY.

The Society's Missionary at large, having, in the month of June last, sent in his resignation to the Board, declining to act as their missionary for the remainder of the year, it was accepted, and no other appointment made to fill the vacancy.

THE CITY MISSIONARY.

Our City Missionary still continues her walks of usefulness among the poor and suffering, and her list of beneficiaries is constantly increasing. In no department of our work were we so cheered by the gift from the city funds, as in this. We have the utmost confidence in the sister who is the almoner of the Society's charities in this direction, that they will be judiciously distributed, and that, while the wants of the suffering body are met, the soul will be fed with the Bread of Life.

When we cast our eye over the wide field we in our feebleness attempt to work, we are ready to cry out, almost in despair, "Alas! Master, what shall we do?" Over three cities we are sometimes led by our scattered families; and
as far out on Manhattan Island as 122d street, we go to visit one who has received work and aid from the store, and who still needs our sympathy and oversight. We have also aided in returning two large families to their friends in Great Britain.

In closing, we again desire to express our renewed obligations to our Board of Counsel, and all those friends and donors who have so kindly aided us in prosecuting our work; and may the blessing of those ready to perish come upon them.

C. M. Saxton, Sec.

THE SEA-BIRD.

It was stated at the Annual meeting that the April number of the Sea-Bird would complete the three years of its publication; also that the Seamen's Friend Society now issued a paper of about the same size and character, known as the Seamen's Friend; consequently the necessity which originated the Sea-Bird (as no paper of the kind was then published in the United States) is now obviated. It was then unanimously resolved to discontinue the publication of the Sea-Bird for the present. We would cordially recommend the Seamen's Friend to our subscribers and friends.

The Seventeenth Annual Report says, with regard to the store.

We regret to say that the force of changing circumstances makes it necessary to close this department of our work. Competition in trade, and the habit of making the sale of clothing to seamen a part of the business of almost every sailor boarding-house, and shipping masters, have so diverted the channels of this business, as to make demands for the work of our women exceedingly small; while the almost universal use of the sewing machine has rendered the time-honored needle incapable of paying its way, much less of keeping up in any degree the interests of the Society's store.

Added to this, the faithful and efficient Supervisor, Miss S. A. Colwell, who has for years labored here, giving to the poor women who came to her for work, not only the "work and wages," but the word of sympathy and counsel, which cheered them at their labor, and whose praise is the theme of many a sailor's family, has announced her intention to leave.

These, and other considerations, the result of much deliberation, have led your executive to decide, that the remain-
ing stock be disposed of at the best possible advantage, previous to the first of May next, and thereafter the store be finally closed.

SEWING MACHINES.

Six new machines have been purchased for our workwomen during the year, making twelve in all; about half have been paid for in full either by the parties themselves or their friends. The Society has appropriated $200 to this fund, so that when a machine is paid for, (which is generally in small installments) another is purchased for the next needy applicant, and so on. For the present it is intended thus to continue the use of that fund for the benefit of our poor workwomen.

MISSIONARY WORK.

In no other department of your Society's labor for the sailor's family, have they been so encouraged, as in the field occupied by their City Missionary. Through this instrumentality the kind hand of a sympathizing sister is extended to these children of want and suffering, and often, as if guided by a voice behind her saying, "This is the way, walk ye in it," has she gone into their desolate dwellings, carrying hope and help, at the very moment when they were ready to perish for want of the common necessaries of life. Her visits have indeed been less numerous than in the year previous. There have been fewer applications for aid at the store; not, perhaps, on account of less destitution, but from the fact that no appropriation from the Common Council has this year made for us a fund from which we could give, and the tide of want and suffering has been turned in other directions. Many families, however, principally among those who have for years obtained work from your Society, and have thus been considered especially under its care, have been frequently visited by the Missionary, and as their several cases demanded, been aided, encouraged and comforted.

It is with gratitude we refer to disinterested kindness, and as we recall the varied mercies we have received, in new friends and helpers raised up for us, and most of all in the recognition of our labors by the Saviour of lost men, in that souls have been given as our hire. We feel that although the past may not have been the most prosperous year of your Society, it is nevertheless one for which to thank God and take courage. C. M. Saxton, Sec.
The Eighteenth Annual Report states:

With pleasure we turn from the noise and strife of war, to the peaceful doings of a ladies' benevolent society. The subjects of this Society's care, are those whose trials come upon them in the ordinary allotments of God's providence, through the casualties of foreign commerce, &c.

THE ASYLUM.

In the commencement of our national troubles, the Board feared they would have to restrict their large-hearted plans, and that their missionary would listen to the cry of the mariner's widow in vain, without power to help or aid them in their necessities; or that they might be obliged to reduce the number of inmates in their beautiful Asylum, and say, "Only so many are we able to support." But we have found the widow's God has been to us, in our stewardship, better than our fears, and by carefully husbanding our means, together with some donations from the friends of those admitted, we have been enabled to add eleven to the former number of inmates. Yet the number of applications have greatly surpassed our ability to provide for them, and we would most gladly enlarge the bounds of relief to sailors' widows and children, of whose destitution we are continually hearing.

The health of the family has been remarkable, considering the variety of constitutions which compose it; the quiet regularity and peacefulness of the Institution has a tendency of course to preserve life and health. Two deaths have occurred in the past year. The whole number now in the asylum is 46. The Board never, perhaps, felt more alacrity in this service of public good than at present, although the prolonged and severe illness of their valuable secretary has compelled her to resign her place among them for a season.

We are still under renewed obligations for services rendered to the Society by its various friends, particularly Mr. R. J. Thorne, Treasurer of the Asylum.

INDUSTRIAL AND MISSIONARY WORK.

Upon deliberate consideration, the Board found it necessary to give up the responsibility of the store, which gave the name "Industrial" to their Society. Yet they endeavor to supply poor women with work, and would be glad to receive from masters of vessels and ship-owners, the bedding, table-linen, towels, &c., to make up; this would greatly aid
many families, in whom they now feel a deep interest, and who cannot be helped in any other way. The missionary, accustomed as she is to the exigencies and necessities of sailors' families, often has the heart-ache in seeing so much suffering she cannot relieve. The temptations kindred to their circumstances, make her sad because she can do so little to save them. Yet she has in the past year been in many and many a case, by her counsel and the temporal relief afforded, an angel of mercy to despairing minds; she has poured in oil and balm upon stricken hearts. Hers is indeed the work of the good Samaritan. M. Annesley, Sec.

Nineteenth Annual Report (1862 & 1863) says of the MARINERS' FAMILY ASYLUM.

In the Institution under our care, we aim at making the inmates comfortable and happy, and think few in their own homes could enjoy more tranquillity, or have their wants better supplied. No anxious care for food or rent, gives them a wakeful hour, and although want and distress has visited once wealthy households in our land the past year in the ruins of war, yet those in this asylum, for whom we are laboring year after year, have not lacked any necessary good, or felt any restriction of comfort. Truly, we have been obliged to economize, and are greatly indebted to our indefatigable Committee on Supplies.

Three inmates have been received, and only one removed by death in the past year. Mrs. E. had been a Christian from her youth, and being quite alone in the world, she was thankful for this Home. Her usual saying, the year and a half she was here, was, that she was "all packed up," and ready for her final departure.

The Missionary reports:

New cases of interest are continually occurring, but we shrink from taking more families on our list, as our resources are so limited; for words of sympathy and kindness, pleasant though they may be, fall but sadly on the ear of one who is in want of every comfort. And it is useless, if not folly to give spiritual counsel, for it must be powerless upon the heart of those who are perishing for want of food and raiment. We now have on our list fifty-one families, who need our care and help. "He that giveth to the poor, lendeth to the Lord."

Owing to the present suppressed state of our commerce,
we cannot perhaps receive as much as in other years from the permanent fund, and with the support of nearly fifty aged women, we are at present in debt $600. The Society have felt it necessary to apply to friends who have ever helped them in time of need. The Managers cannot think of casting off the helpless and infirm, and therefore have undertaken the present Fair and Festival, trusting in a kind Providence, who has so largely opened the hearts of friends on the Island, and in the city, to aid in this labor of love.

Our Missionary's report in her outside work, will powerfully prove the necessity of this Home for the aged and feeble of sailors' families. If the more youthful endure such trials, what would be the condition of those past work?

It is indeed an unwonted privilege to be the channel through which many temporal, and we trust some spiritual blessings, have flowed into such aching hearts; and if all knew by experience how "much more blessed it is to give than receive," our Society would not be so frequently out of funds for this department of our work.

The Board are greatly indebted to Dr. Moffat and his assistant, at the Retreat, for their free attendance upon the sick of the Asylum these many years.

The Society gratefully acknowledge the receipt of five hundred dollars, through Alderman Gedney, from the city of New York, for the benefit of seamen's widows and orphans coming under the care of the Society.

M. ANNESLEY, Sec.

New York, June 18th, 1863.

Note.—Since writing the Report, the Fair and Festival have closed, and the receipts ($1,686 02) show the liberal patronage bestowed by friends and visitors. The Managers desire to express their grateful acknowledgments to the several churches on Staten Island, together with many other friends there and elsewhere. Also to one and all, for the very timely aid thus afforded to the Asylum under their care.
Completing a score of years in any one work, necessarily makes a review of the way interesting to those who have toiled along over the difficult places, or enjoyed the sunshine of its prosperous hours, or bowed beneath the sorrows so long a period may have embosomed. Comparative successes—deep disappointments—occasional triumphs, have marked the past of our history as a Society; and now we are reminded not only of the flight of time, but the mortality of the laborers employed by God in His providence to lessen human woe.

Regretfully do we mark the past, as a memorable year to our Society, by the decease of him who so long and so ably has been associated with us as president of our Board of Counsel—Lambert Suydam, Esq. Since 1850 he has freely given time, influence, and money to our work in behalf of seamen's families; and to the Mariners' Family Asylum, from nearly the first step taken towards its erection until its completion, and through all the years, since our aged pensioners have slept beneath its roof, he has always been devoted to its interests, and ready to assume responsibilities from which many would have shrunk. Honored and beloved by every one of the officers and managers of the Mariners' Family Industrial Society, naught is left us now but the privilege of mournfully condoling with his stricken family and our Board of Counsel; and praying that we and they may be, like him, enabled to live the life of the righteous, that we may die their death. One of our number, who was present at his interment, contributes the following stanzas to his memory.

As one waited for his coming,  
At the portal of his tomb,  
In the sweet November gloaming,  
'Mid the fading Autumn bloom;
While awaiting thus in Greenwood
The sad funereal train,
Many olden fields of labor
Passed the watchers' eyes again!
Long past times, when Christian women,
Guided, counseled by such men,
Cared for sailors' wives and children,
Precious fruits were garnered then!

Woman faces—paled by sorrow,
Seem from out the mist of years,
Saddened hearts to whom no morrow,
Could ere speak of aught but tears—
Were remembered; and the weary,
Grey and pallid, who had died,
'Neath the shelter he helped rear them,
Seemed as standing by my side!
And the kindred works he aided!
And the sick to him endeared,
On the hills whose outline faded,
As the evening star appeared;
Human wrecks—from you dark ocean
anchored moveless near the shore,
Till sweet health unloosed their moorings,
Or death's gulf were ferried o'er!

In the distance rose the city,
With its haunts of woe and sin,
And the "Hospital of Pity,"
Dear St. Luke's amid its din;
With its doors thrown widely open
To man, woman, little child.
There that loved form threw its shadow,
There that kind face often smiled.

Then the thought of his sick chamber,
Where he laid him down to die,
With loved wife and children round him,
And the pitying Saviour nigh,
Hark! They bring him! all that's mortal,
Now on "Oaken Bluff" I to bide!
Cross and chaplet pass the portal,
"Vale!" He loved the Crucified!

Our Board of Counsel have also been deprived by death of the companionship and influence of Capt. E. E. Morgan, who, since 1860, has been associated with them in the discharge of their duties. Few of the members of our Society knew him personally, but we had all felicitated ourselves on his willingness to serve being made known to us, as his probity and good judgment have long been well known and highly valued in this community.

Well may we, as a Society, grieve to record the death of another friend and co-laborer, who has passed away, during

* "Mariners' Family Industrial Society, of the Port of New York."
† "The Mariners' Family Asylum on Staten Island," dedicated 1853.
‡ "Seamen's Retreat Hospital" on Staten Island, of which he was a Trustee.
§ "St. Luke's Hospital" of which he was a Corporator and Manager.
| The eminence whereon is his family vault in Greenwood.
the last year, to the better home on high. Capt. James Hart, for fifteen years Superintendent of the Seamen's Retreat, will be remembered with sincere regret by all our membership, and the inmates of the Mariners' Family Asylum. Kind and sympathetic to the feeble and aged, full of zeal for his Master, and honoring Him in the persons of the lowly, Capt. Hart's visits to the Asylum were ever highly prized. For years the records of our society teem with acknowledgments of his willing exertions and hearty sympathy; and to his bereaved widow and children, we tender our condolence at their loss and ours, and will unite with them in striving to meet him in "the house not made with hands."

The industrial operations of the Society have not been extensive, but the Committee having that branch of our work in charge, has accomplished something in our old way of "the Charity of Wages." Thankful will we, as a society be, if ever God prospers us sufficiently to take the field again under our old banner.

Through the kind interposition of Mr. Richard J. Thorne, Treasurer of our Board of Counsel, a very welcome and generous gift of $5,000 was obtained in January from Chauncey Rose, Esq., of the city of New York, for the Mariners' Family Asylum. This liberal donation could not have come more opportunely, as the prostration of our commerce has decreased the revenues of the Seamen's Fund and Retreat, and made us anxious for the future. This benefaction, thanks to the prudent foresight of our Treasurer, Mr. Thorne, is now profitably invested.

The privilege of welcoming back to our hearts and homes those of our friends who have long been absent, can be by few more highly appreciated than by those long associated in works of usefulness. This pleasure, in its highest degree, was the portion of the old friends and managers of the Society, when they welcomed back from a nine years' sojourn in California, Mrs. R. H. Lambert, a former manager, for years, of the Mariners' Family Industrial Society, and the one who first touched the spring that by its vibrations, prolonged but steady, resulted in the erection of the Home, in which we are now assembled. A public reception of Mrs. Lambert was held at the Mariners' Family Asylum, on the fourteenth of January, and in addition to the pleasure of meeting her former fellow-laborers and later friends, Mrs. L. was made
the recipient of tangible evidence of the feeling her return elicited, in the shape of a photographic album, filled with the photographs of many of those present, and of some who, during her absence, "had ceased to work and live." The presentation address was made by Dr. Moffat, to whom, after her surprise at this unexpected denouement had partially subsided, Mrs. Lambert responded in language appropriate and affecting.

An album exactly similar had been provided for our beloved Directress, (associated with Mrs. L. for years, on the Committee for obtaining Legislative enactments with regard to the building and sustaining the Mariners' Family Asylum,) but which could not be presented then, as illness prevented her attendance at the reception.

**MARINERS' FAMILY ASYLUM.**

In regard to the Asylum, the Committee on supplies have justified the former estimate of their good judgment and economy. Increased expenditure has been necessary, not only owing to the rise in price of all articles of family use, but in consequence of the sickness and death of many of the inmates.

Thirteen of the number comprising the Asylum family at our last report, are now of the household of the dead. Some of them while living, adorned the doctrine of God our Saviour, and to them death had no terrors; others lived regardless of God, and "dying, left no sign." It is our prayer that henceforward none of our inmates may live prayerless lives, or die the death of the ungodly.

Amid the varied duties of the Managers of this Society, none bring a sweeter reward than those growing out of our relation to the aged ones of our Asylum family.

To Drs. Moffat and Washburn, whose time and sympathies have been so deeply taxed by our suffering and dying inmates, our appreciative gratitude is due. Whenever requested, and to the last that could be done with hope of cure, and to all that could in the least mitigate their dying pangs, their skill and attention were alike directed.

To the Rev Mr. Van Buskirk, who has officiated as Chaplain, our grateful thanks are tendered; and also to the Rev. Mr. Carr, for his daily visits to the sick and dying. May they, in the great day, find their "labor of love" "was not in vain in the Lord."

The efficient and faithful services of our Matron during
such a year of trying anxieties and toil, are warmly appreciated.

OUR MISSIONARY REPORTS:

"That the sum of $500 has been disbursed among the sick, the widowed and the fatherless; and He who has thus relieved their necessities the past year, is their and our Father. Five of our beneficiaries have died, trusting in the merits of Jesus; a number of others have deceased, who left behind them no evidence that they had a "house not made with hands, eternal in the heavens." Oh, how many, cumbered with the cares of this life, fail to regard the life to come as they ought, and will not hearken to the injunctions of God's word."

Our missionary's field is extensive, and her duties lead her into many scenes of suffering, not only in the sorrow-smitten homes, but in the crowded hospitals, the dreaded Alms House, and at the pauper funeral.

The oversight of motherless and orphaned children, the effort to make the scanty store supply the needs of worthy families, until "the ship shall arrive," or the husband and father "be heard from," often taxes both her sympathies and ingenuity to the utmost.

We have 57 families on our list now needing aid and sympathy. To give lengthy extracts from the Report is not in our power; but the necessity of keeping up such an intercourse as this agency affords, is daily deepening in our minds, and we entreat those who remember the sailor, the soldier, and the soldier's family, also to regard our plea for the sailor's family:

"For 'mid our City's wild unrest,
Heaves the young widow's aching breast,
The sailor's child is here;
The sailor's mother, grey with care,
For her lost boy sends up a prayer,
While few her anguish cheer."

Our Treasurer, R. J. Thorne, Esq., so long and so faithfully discharging the onerous duties of his office, has our highest appreciation—our warmest thanks. So often appealed to for advice, so heavily burdened at times with our cares, and yet so patient as to challenge our admiration, and so willing a co-laborer, bearing with the imperfections of his coadjutors—the Managers of the M. F. I. Society—through all these years, we can but record our sense of all this as
If our gratitude, in order to convince others of the debt of grateful consideration we owe Mr. R. J. Thorne, we subjoin the tenth article of the by-laws of the Society:

"The Board of Counsel shall elect one of their number to act as Treasurer for all moneys received from the Board of Trustees of the Seaman's Fund and Retreat, for the support of the Mariners' Family Asylum, in accordance with the law of 1854, who shall examine all bills presented by the Committee of Supplies for the Mariners' Family Asylum, and (if approved by him,) sign them, paying over to said Committee a sufficient amount to meet all obligations."

To our heavenly Father would we ascribe the praise, and bless Him for permitting us to see so many good results from so feeble a beginning.

Mrs. Capt. S. Loveland,

The Fair held at the time of the Annual Meeting at the Mariners' Family Asylum, netted $775.70 besides donations in kind, valuable in a family like that at the Mariners' Family Asylum.

The thanks of the Board and Fair Committee are gratefully tendered to all who aided by their gifts, labor, or patronage, towards such a result.

To those who have accompanied us thus far through the records of the Mariners' Family Industrial Society, we may say without egotism, "the half has not been told" of the opprobrium and personal sacrifices endured in behalf not only of the "aged sick and destitute female relatives of seamen," but also because of our Quixotic (as some declared) effort to establish a fair day's wages for a fair day's work, in other words "the Charity of Wages."

Whether the battle were bravely fought or no, the following are some of the results:

In establishing and sustaining from 1844 to 1862 the charity of wages, the Mariners' Family Industrial Society expended for merchandise $45,768, for wages $33,270, for rent $6,657.

From 1843 to 1864 had distributed among seamen's destitute families the sum of $14,414, and in addition $40,541, to support the Mariners' Family Asylum, making a grand total of moneys disbursed for these various purposes of $126,236.00.
The expenditure connected with our efforts to obtain legislative sanction to our plans for the best good of our aged, sick and destitute, involved an outlay of $±10, an insignificant sum as compared with the resultant good.

BOARD OF COUNSEL.

It seems proper at this time to make some reference to matters, other than the foregoing, especially concerning the induction of our Board of Counsel. Up to, and during the fourth year of the M. F. I. Society's existence, they had an "Advisory Committee of Gentlemen," the first, consisted of Rev. H. Chase, Rev. B. C. C. Parker, E. D. Hurlbut, Esq., Wm. H. Aspinwall, Esq., Capt. C. H. Marshall, Augustus Whitlock, Esq., Capt. W. L. Hudson (of the Navy) and Capt. Nath'l Briggs. A change was then made, and the services of gentlemen were requested as a Board of Counsel, and after petitioning the Legislature for, and obtaining a Charter, said charter named the following gentlemen as our first Board of Counsel, viz.: Rev. J. C. Brigham, Rev. H. Chase, Rev. B. C. C. Parker, Capt. Tyack, Capt. S. Candler, Capt. C. H. Marshall, Capt. Nath'l Briggs.

In 1851 our Board of Counsel stood thus: Mr. Lambert Suydam, President, Mr. John B. Graham, Mr. Richard J. Thorne, Treasurer, Mr. Frederic G. Foster, Capt. Russell Sturgis, Capt. Wm. B. Orne, and Capt. Nath'l Briggs, Secretary. Other gentlemen have filled vacancies caused by death or resignation, and prominent among those who have served, or who are at present serving as our Counselors, we may name Capt. Jeremiah Briggs, Frederick G. Foster, Esq., Charles W. Hawkins, Esq., Capt. E. E. Morgan, and C. N. Bovee, Esq., Legal Counselor.

The changes made by death were first, John B. Graham, Esq., in 1853—our highly-esteemed President, Lambert Suydam, Esq., in 1863—and Capt. E. E. Morgan in the present year.

From the commencement of our work as a Society, we were for years favored with the countenance and co-operation of the Bethel Chaplains of the Port, and gratefully do we acknowledge our indebtedness to Rev. H. Chase, Rev. B. C. C. Parker, Rev. I. R. Steward, Rev. Mr. Remington, and Rev. C. J. Jones, for counsel, sympathy and personal effort on our behalf.
We reprint the names of the Officers and Managers of the M. F. I. Society, for the first two years of its existence, and rejoice that so many are still identified with us.

First Board of Officers and Managers of the M. F. I. Society, 1844. Mrs. Capt. S. Loveland, 1st Directress; Mrs. C. W. Hawkins, 2d Directress; Mrs. J. O. Taylor, Treasurer; Mrs. E. Reimer, Secretary.

Managers:—Mrs. Capt. John Williams, Mrs. E. Bennet, Mrs. D. G. Taylor, Mrs. B. Bovee, Mrs. J. McComb, Miss E. Skaats, Miss E. Gelston, Mrs. U. P. Ward, Mrs. R. Demilt, Mrs. F. Hennell, Mrs. Capt. T. Lambert, Mrs. C. Richardson, Miss A. Stewart, Miss M. Vale, Mrs. L. Mills, Mrs. C. Patrick, Mrs. G. T. Hall, Mrs. Capt. Wogloom, Miss Burns, Mrs. C. Pendleton.

Second Board of Officers and Managers of the M. F. I. Society, 1845. Mrs. C. W. Hawkins, 1st Directress; Miss M. Vale, 2d Directress; Mrs. J. O. Taylor, Treasurer; Mrs. C. Tracy, Secretary.

Managers:—Mrs. Capt. J. Williams, Mrs. Capt. J. Bovee, Mrs. Capt. S. Loveland, Mrs. Capt. T. Lambert, Mrs. Capt. F. B. French, Mrs. Capt. I. E. Turner, Mrs. Capt. A. Adams, Mrs. E. Bennett, Mrs. A. Silvey, Miss E. Skaats, Rev. Mrs. H. Chase, Mrs. C. Buckhout, Mrs. S. G. Steele, Mrs. Wm. Avery, Mrs. S. A. Peach, Mrs. R. I. Brown, Mrs. U. P. Ward, Mrs. A. L. T. Chisholm, Miss E. Whittlesey, Miss A. Stewart.

Ladies' Committees.

The arduous duties of Store Committee were for years faithfully discharged by Mrs. C. Tracy, Mrs. Capt. R. W. Welch, Mrs. Capt. I. Bursley, Miss S. Moody, and for a shorter period by Mrs. C. N. Bovee.

The Treasurer's office has been filled by the following ladies: Mrs. Capt. A. Adams, Mrs. Capt. J. I. Ludlam, Mrs. Capt. T. J. Bird, Mrs. Capt. S. Candler, Mrs. Capt. R. W. Welch, Mrs. C. A. Irwin, Mrs. J. O. Taylor, Miss C. Baker, Mrs. J. B. Corning, Mrs. J. I. Perry, Mrs. G. W. Johnson.

The "Committee on Supplies" for the Mariners' Family Asylum has been one of the posts of duty occupied in turn, (or associated) by Mrs. Capt. T. Lambert, Mrs. Capt. R. W. Welch, Mrs. J. I. Perry, Mrs. G. W. Johnson, Mrs. M. Alexander, and Mrs. M. E. Rogers.

Committee on Applications.—The duties of this committee have been discharged by Mrs. Capt. J. Bovee, Mrs. E. Bennett, Mrs. C. A. Irwin, Mrs. Capt. J. L. Roberts, Mrs. Capt. A. A. Corning, Mrs. Capt. A. Mills.

<table>
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<tr>
<th>Applicants admitted</th>
<th>94</th>
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<tr>
<td>&quot; dismissed</td>
<td>12</td>
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<td>&quot; left of their own accord</td>
<td>10</td>
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<td>Deceased</td>
<td>32</td>
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<td>Present number</td>
<td>40</td>
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Whole number of Life-Members of the M. F. I. Soc. 187

Honorary Members 9
Scores of applications on behalf of those not legally entitled, have been investigated, and papers returned.

The ages of those who have been admitted have ranged from sixty to eighty generally, but in a few instances persons under fifty have been accepted.

For twelve years (from 1848 to 1862) Miss Sarah A. Colwell served as Supervisor in the Society's store, meeting the obligations of her position with tact and energy, and bearing with her into private life the assurance of appreciation by the Board.

The industry of our managers is well attested by the fact that the Fairs held by them have netted to the Society the sum of $8,810.

As Officers or Managers, the following ladies have served:

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<tr>
<th>Mrs. C. W. Hawkins</th>
<th>20 years.</th>
<th>Mrs. M. Egbert</th>
<th>5 years.</th>
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<tr>
<td>&quot; Capt. J. Bovee</td>
<td>&quot;</td>
<td>&quot; Wm. M. Harris</td>
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<td>&quot; J. I. Perry</td>
<td>15 &quot;</td>
<td>&quot; Capt. I. E. Turner</td>
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<td>&quot; C. A. Irwin</td>
<td>14 &quot;</td>
<td>&quot; A. Mills</td>
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<td>&quot; Capt. J. Eaton</td>
<td>11 &quot;</td>
<td>Miss M. Vale</td>
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<td>&quot; T. Lambert</td>
<td>10 &quot;</td>
<td>Mrs. Wm. Avery</td>
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<td>&quot; R. W. Welch</td>
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<td>&quot; C. Tracy</td>
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<td>&quot; S. Loveland</td>
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<td>&quot; C. M. Saxton</td>
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<td>&quot; G. W. Johnson</td>
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<td>&quot; E. W. Marsh</td>
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<td>&quot; E. Cowdrey</td>
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<td>&quot; T. Truslow</td>
<td>9 &quot;</td>
<td>&quot; S. C. Hills</td>
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<td>&quot; Capt. J. Williams</td>
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<td>&quot; U. P. Ward</td>
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<td>&quot; J. Davis</td>
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<td>&quot; Capt. J. L. Pendleton</td>
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<td>&quot; Wm. Alexander</td>
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<td>&quot; S. Candler</td>
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<td>Miss Skaats</td>
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<td>&quot; A. Adams</td>
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<td>&quot; E. Bennett</td>
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<td>&quot; E. C. Waterman</td>
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<td>&quot; G. Jarvis</td>
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<td>&quot; M. Thompson</td>
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<td>&quot; C. N. Bovee</td>
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<td>&quot; L. B. Gorham</td>
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<td>Miss S. Moody</td>
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<td>&quot; L. J. Briggs</td>
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<td>&quot; Rev. H. Chase</td>
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<td>&quot; H. Chase</td>
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<td>Mrs. Capt. T. J. Ludlam</td>
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<td>&quot; H. Kerr</td>
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<td>&quot; I. Bursley</td>
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<td>&quot; J. L. Roberts</td>
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<td>&quot; N. W. Eveleigh</td>
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<td>&quot; A. A. Corning</td>
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<td>&quot; T. J. Bird</td>
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With the subjoined extract from a poem, written seventeen years ago, (1847) for a Fair opened by the Managers of the M. F. I. Society, we close our record.

Ask you—why, we only plead
For the Sailer's loved ones' need,
And heed their tale of woe?
'Tis ours to to blanch beneath their tears,
'Tis ours their loneliness and tears,
Their anxious cares to know.

'Tis ours to shrint when tempests roar,
And wrecks are strewn along the shore,
And ships go down at sea;
Or when our flag half-mast high floats,
Amid war's harsh, discordant notes,
With pestilence a lee.

What though our homes are girded round
By gladsome sight and pleasant sound,
And theirs by misery?
A sunken rock—a darksome night—
A parted rope our path may blight,
And we ask sympathy.

The ocean rolls o'er shattered wreck,
O'er broken spar and splintered deck,
And spoil more rich and rare:
*Formis,* cast in Nature's manliest mold,
*Hearts,* freighted with affection's gold,
All crushed, lie wasting there.

And 'mid our city's wild unrest,
Heave the young widow's aching breast—
The Sailer's child is here;
The Sailor's mother, grey with care,
For her lost boy sends up her prayer,
While few her anguish cheer.

Ah! selfish motives sway us not—
We fain would cheer the mourner's lot,
The widow's tear would dry;
Would loose the orphan's cry for bread,
And bid the hungry all be fed,
And every want supply.

While aiming thus, we do not seek
From the poor, destitute and weak,
Their self-respect to tear:—
No! if with our *alms* we would not sink
Those who are struggling on the brink
With want and woe and care.

We would to industry extend
The aid on which it may depend,
Nor blush the fact to own;
*Just remuneration* we
Proclaim the *noblest* charity:—
Let us not stand alone.'

ALMIRA C. LOVELAND.