

New York Kindergarten Association, 1896-1897.

The fifteen Free Kindergartens supported by the Association have cost and will cost from July 1, 1896, to June 30, 1897, \$26,500.

Apart from all regular income, such as annual dues, regular donations, special subscriptions for particular Kindergartens, etc., the Association must raise for the remainder of the fiscal year 1896-97, \$8,400.

This amount will enable the Association to keep open its present schools, but it will not enable it to admit to them the hundreds of children who now have to be turned away from them; and it will not enable it to open the new schools for which there is most urgent need.

The Association employs no collectors, pays no salaries to anyone except teachers, janitors and nurses, and has not a dollar of endowment. Every cent it receives is used in giving the little children of the poor the only thing which can be safely given—education.

The New York Kindergarten Association needs (1) annual members, at \$5; (2) donors of \$10 to \$1,000 annually; (3) men and women who will support a particular Kindergarten. The cost of supporting a Kindergarten of fifty children, with two Kindergarteners, for one year, is \$1,400, exclusive of rent. The donors of this sum can give the school whatever name—in memoriam, or otherwise—he or she wishes.

The officers of the New York Kindergarten Association are as follows:

Hamilton W. Mabie, President; Alfred B. Mason, Treasurer; Mrs. Kate D. Riggs, First Vice-President; Daniel S. Remsen, Corresponding Secretary; Mrs. Henry D. Sedgwick, Jr., Second Vice-President and Recording Secretary.

The New York Kindergarten Association held its annual meeting on Saturday, December 12th, in the assembly room of the United Charities Building. Mr. Hamilton W. Mabie, the president, presided. Short addresses were given by Miss Smith, of Barnard College; President Hervey, of Teachers College, and Miss Dozier, Superintendent of the Kindergartens of the New York Kindergarten Association. Mr. Mabie gave a few encouraging words about present and future prospects in the educational world. The financial outlook for the Kindergartens was less encouraging. It was announced that only three hundred, out of eight hundred subscribers to the Kindergarten Association, have

paid this year's dues, and that \$8,400 must be raised to meet the expenses of the year (1896-97). It was also announced that President Low, of Columbia University, has expressed his opinion as to the value of Kindergartens, by giving \$5,000 to the Association.

Miss Smith said all educators are working with the same material for the same ends; some with the raw material, others with that which has been more or less elaborated; and that the success of the latter depends much upon the treatment to which the raw material has been submitted. Miss Smith also pointed out a weak point in present education—neglect of the mother tongue. She urged a holding to high standards, and a greater effort all along the line toward the speaking of purer English.

Miss Dozier compared the cost and value of forming with that of reforming—of education as a healthful preventive, with reform schools and prisons as painful and often useless remedies. She read a paragraph of statistics gathered by one who has searched out the descendants of a woman, a drunkard. The number of drunkards, imbeciles, paupers, suicides, murderers and other criminals was appalling, and seemed undeniable proof that he who saves a soul from death, not only covers a multitude of sins, but saves the world from a multitude of sinners.

Mr. Hervey took for his text a clever article in which the new education is humorously criticised for taking out of the child's early life old-time freedom, games and tales, and giving in their stead undue restraint, artificial plays and dull, diluted history and science. While he held this as a caricature of true work, he rang upon it an alarm for all teachers, high and low—for Kindergartners especially—to beware of blind routine, stereotyped science, and games that bring sober weariness instead of rosy merriment. Three necessary qualities he named for the teacher—mother instinct, that shall place her at one with the child; insight or intelligence, to guard and guide; and taste, the power to know and choose the beautiful and true.

M. A. W.

Again the Alumnæ House has received generous Thanksgiving donations from the Training Department. A large quantity of food and clothing traveled to schools in the arms of many little men and women, and made Miss Parsels's room look like the abode of a Thanksgiving genius.

Packages were treated just as children who enter the Training School are treated—they were examined and classified. Apples, oranges, tea, coffee, sugar and rice were admitted to