

The Petoskey Record Wed 2-9-1887

Home Benevolent Society.

The regular monthly meeting of the Home Benevolent Society met Feb 3 in the spacious parlors of the Mrs. Rosenthal. The interest in the welfare of the society is manifested by the large attendance and by the members uniting at that. Its future success is now secured to the public, and the poor and needy may feel assured of immediate aid when their wants are made known. If there is any person in Petoskey who is still in doubt as to the nature of the work of the society, or of the amount accomplished such person can be readily enlightened by attending any one of the regular meetings. The work is now so systematized that details can be given at any moment. The books of the society are open to the inspection of any desiring to know further details than given at meetings. It is certainly very gratifying to the members, that within the short space of one year so much more has been done than anticipated. This is due in a great measure to the assistance rendered by the business men of the place, who have so readily and generously responded to calls upon them for goods, money, and in various other ways greatly enhancing the societie's work. By a vote the following gentlemen have been made honorary members for assistance thus rendered, and doubtless all others not yet called upon would avail themselves of the opportunity to become honorary members:

J.L. Algoe	A. Martin
J.C. Bontecou	W.W. McOmber
Col. Booth	H.O. Plester
G.W. Bump	S. Rosenthal
C.E. Call	J.A.C. Rowan
Ralph Connable	F.J. Smith
Wm. Curtis	W.S. Spencer
R.C. Dart	B.W. Stark
J.R. Davis	J. VanZolenberg
J.E. Dolozenan	D.N. White
M.F. Gulnon	G. Whitton
C.O. Hamill	F. Wilmarth
C.F. Hankey	Thos. Kirkland
L.M. Harner	F.W. Ruddiman
J.C. Razelton	D.J. Cushman
Hugh L. Manon	L.W. Cole

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People wonder why Flavel J. Smith is so popular a man. Don't you see it? Every lady in town thinks he is "just the nicest man." Do you wonder why? It is easy enough. In the first place he loves all the ladies, and love begets love. Then if there is any public enterprise like a supper going off and the night is stormy, Smith's covered stage is very apt to be seen flying around town picking up the ladies for free carriage to the entertainment. The ladies of the Home Benevolent Society have been conveyed to and from their meetings all winter when the weather was bad, in his comfortable rigs, and every now and then he is giving a party of them a free sleigh ride. The ladies were circulating petitions last week asking that they be granted the right of suffrage for all municipal and local elections; and we opine that the reason all the Petoskey ladies signed it was that they hoped thereby to be able to vote for Flavel J. Smith. If they could vote, it would be of no use for any man (with the possible exception of the editor of the RECORD) to attempt to run against him. As we are both republicans however there is no danger of a clashing of interests when woman suffrage becomes a fact.

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HOME BENEVOLENT SOCIETY.

Report of the Secretary.

The regular monthly meeting held at the residence of Mrs. McKenzie March 3rd, was largely attended and several more members received, giving now evidence that the public interest in the welfare of the society, is not only unabated, but on the increase, which is hoped and expected will continue so long as the society accomplishes as much for the people of Petoskey as it now does. Receipts and disbursements for the month of February will be given next week. The following article was read before the meeting, by the secretary, without the acquiescence or knowledge of any person.

The society organized Feb. 12, 1886, performing its first benevolent act, the 20th of the same month, and at every meeting ratifying the noble work of its visiting committees has accomplished a work for the citizens of Petoskey and vicinity, which merits the approval of every individual. The meetings have been well attended, and the society apparently does have the hearty good will of the people. Its work as a unit, reaches out and grasps the condition and wants of the poor and needy whose individual effort is inadequate and unavailing. The committees have worked faithfully and diligently to learn of the necessities of the poor, and to minister to their wants, giving to the well the necessaries, and to the sick a few of the luxuries of life. They are finding homes for the children and less intelligent, where the little ones will be taught to become useful and honorable citizens, instead of future paupers for the community to support. But just here for their best and noblest work is retarded and often cut short by the refusal of the parents of those unfortunate ones, to give them up. The greatest aim and effort of society is to prevent future pauperism, which it can in a great measure do, with the aid of the people, refusing to give to those begging from door to door. Usually this method of giving to those asking aid, fosters and enhances pauperism, instead of aiding and alleviating their wants, as the charitably inclined generally suppose. A printed constitution of the society, containing the names of the committees, should be in every house, and such applications should be referred to the committees or others in the immediate work. Another work of the society is to find and furnish employment for those asking aid. To make this a success, a committee will be required in the near future, whose duty shall be to look after those aided and unemployed. This can easily be done by those persons requiring help, and also those needing work, applying to such committees. The society offers its aid to the

county superintendent where his work, is limited, thus each mutually aiding the work of the other. The members and committees have thus far worked together in harmony and good will towards each other, and the severing of those bonds of unity, by the withdrawal of any member in the work, will necessarily make some slight change, but need not, and should not cause any break in the work but new members take the place of the old, and all work with renewed vigor. Events which have transpired during the past month, outside of the society, having no connection whatever with it, but which does effect my work in the society for the people of Petoskey, have forced me , after much thought and serious reflection, to offer my resignation as secretary of this society.

If I have in any manner helped to further the interest and work of this society, I am thankful in having even given the widow's mite. Thanking you each and all for your heart cooperation in the past; I hereby for the present, withdraw from the Home Benevolent Association.

Mrs. R.C. Dart, Sec.

The Petoskey Record Wed 4-13-1887

Home Benevolent Society.

Secretary's report of the meeting of Home Benevolent Society held April 7th:

Met at the residence of Mrs. D.C. Page.

Number of ladies present, 16.

Meeting called to order by the president.

Minutes of last meeting read and approved.

Reports from districts as follows:

No. 1.- No families visited.

No. 2.- Seven families visited and assisted. To money expended \$14.52.
To clothing \$22.60.

No. 3.- Two families visited and assisted. To money expended \$2.43. To
clothing \$15.58.

No. 4.- Two families visited and assisted. To money expended \$5.32. To
clothing \$5.80.

Treasurers report showed \$33.72 in treasury.

Bills were presented amounting to \$25.07. On motion they were allowed and
ordered paid.

The president stated she had with her some blank reports for the conscience of
the district committees and to insure a more accurate account.

The subject of giving an entertainment was discussed and it was decided to
defer action for one month, the committee still retained.

The president read a very interesting letter from the president of a similar
organization at Lansing.

A motion was made and carried to take Mrs. Dart's resignation from the table.

Motion was made to accept the resignation of Mrs. Dart as secretary of the
society. After many had expressed their regret at having to take such action the
motion was carried.

Mrs. Jane Blanchard and Mrs. J.G. Brann were admitted to membership.

Dr. Owen for medical services donated to the society was made an honorary member thereof.

Mrs. C.E. Call was unanimously elected secretary for the remainder of the year.

Adjourned to meet at the home of Mrs. Chas. Pratt May 5th.

Mrs. C.L. Topsley, Secretary pro tem.

The Petoskey Record Wed 11-16-1887

Annual Meeting of the Home Benevolent Society.

Twelve ladies met at the home of Mrs. Thomas Kirkland and organized the Home Benevolent Society on the 12th of February, 1886. New members have been added from time to time until the names have reached seventy-five. Of the number fifty-six have been active workers during the past year. Some of the remainder have removed from the place, while others have been unable to work. There are also the names of fifty gentlemen who were made honorary members for donations to the society. The society held ten meetings during the year, eight regular and two special. The amount of money paid into treasury \$55.42, amount of orders given, \$67.31. The society has distributed clothing to the amount of \$200.08 among the twenty-five families aided by them, the clothing have been donated and solicited by the visiting committees. A Christmas dinner was given by the society to all persons who have received aid, and in this various benevolent ladies and gentlemen helped generously. Remembering that the society is still in its infancy the past year may be considered a very successful one. As it grows in years it will naturally gain strength and means to more fully administer to the wants and alleviate the suffering of the needy. Through the perseverance of Mrs. R.C. Dart, the society has become legal and will be recognized as such.

Annual report of the treasurer of the H.B. Society:

Am't in treasury Oct. 6, 1886	\$23 31
Amount received during year.....	55 42
Total amount in treasury.....	78 73
Amount paid out for society.....	76 17
Balance on hand, Nov. 3 rd , 1887.....	2 56

The officers and standing committees of the association for the ensuing year are as follows: - President, Mrs. Thos. Kirkland; vice-presidents, Mrs. S. Darling, Mrs. H.O. Rose; secretary, Mrs. C.E. Call; treasurer, Mrs. L.M. Rowan. The visiting committees are in District No. 1.- Mrs. H.O. Rose, Mrs. W. Judson. District No. 2.- Mrs. D.J. Cushman, Mrs. L. Herrick, Mrs. H.T. Calkins, Mrs. S. Rosenthal. District No. 3.- Mrs. B.W. Stark, Mrs. C.F. Hankey, Mrs. Earl Brackett. District No. 4.- Mrs. A.R. Clark, Mrs. D.N. White, Mrs. M.F. Guinon, Mrs. Charles Pratt.

The Petoskey Record Wed 12-14-1887

The Home Benevolent Society held a very pleasant meeting at the residence of Mrs. H. O. Rose, Dec. 1st. All present seemed ready to enter the winter's work with much zeal, and the prospects for a successful year are very encouraging. The treasurer reported \$79.63 in the treasury. The society desire to express their sincere thanks to the following: Rev. C.E. Stout and congregation for thanksgiving contribution; the committee on arrangements for charity ball; to Mrs. Guinon and Chalmers Curtis for the assistance they rendered and to the "Willing Workers", who so promptly and cheerfully assisted the society with funds from their treasury during the past season. The society desire the co-operation of the people in the village, and cordially invite all to attend the meetings and hear the reports from the visiting committees. Clothing is needed by the society to distribute, and if those who have clothing for men, women, or children to donate, they will confer a great favor by sending or leaving it at the Clifton House.