

THE CHILDREN'S HOME.

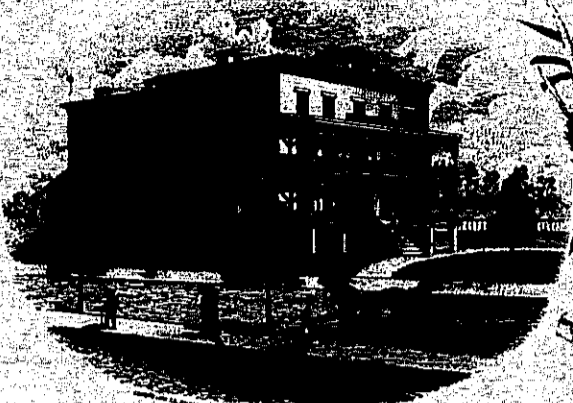
INCORPORATED 1878.

New York Society

Matron,
Miss CELIA BENNETT
Home Physician,
M. C. HAWLEY, M.D.

FOR THE PROTECTION AND

HOMELESS AND DEPENDENT CHILDREN



SUSTAINED BY BENEVOLENCE.

"Inasmuch as ye have done it unto the least of these, my little ones, ye have done it unto me."



Randolph, N.Y.

March 4th, 1893.

Mrs. Abbie Tourgee:-

My Dear Madam,

We have received through our Mrs. Spragge your contribution for the benefit of our Children and I thank you very much for the same, you will find enclosed my receipt.

We have a large family to provide for, over one-hundred and twenty Children and our expenses are necessarily large and having no endowment fund it requires constant and energetic efforts on our part to raise the funds sufficient to pay current expenses.

We would be glad to have you visit the Home if at any time you can make it convenient.

Yours Very Truly,

Chas. Merrill Secy.

(m)

The Report of the Committee of the Board of Supervisors, Appointed by Resolution of the Board at its Annual Session in November, 1892, to visit the Home.

To the Board of Supervisors of Cattaraugus County:

YOUR Committee would respectfully report that on Wednesday, the 23d inst, they visited the Western N. Y. Home, located at Randolph and made a careful and thorough examination of the grounds and buildings in all their various departments. We also met and conferred with the president, Judge Wm. H. Henderson, and the secretary, Mr. Charles Merrill, who are spending a large portion of their time and considerable means for the success of this institution. These gentlemen kindly gave us all desired information regarding past achievements and the present financial condition of the Home, the work accomplished and being performed in all its departments, and we find everything progressing and we fully confirm the correctness of the report of the Home to this Board of Supervisors in all its details.

The buildings of the Home are located on a ten acre tract of land midway between Randolph and East Randolph, on high ground, overlooking the beautiful Conewango Valley and the foot-hills of the Alleghenies beyond.

These buildings consist of "The Home," a large four-story brick building with wide halls, high ceilings, large windows, and broad verandas on three sides, affording not only excellent fire escapes, but also a fine place for the children to run and play. The Home is plain, both without and within, but the polished floors, wide stair-cases, beautiful ceilings and wainscotings are so well kept, dusted and cleaned that they are indeed quite ornamental. We believe cleanliness is the first order of things in and about this institution.

There is a new three-story and basement fire-proof brick school building nearly completed, costing about \$10,000. This building is a model of its kind and will accommodate probably one hundred and fifty children. The first floor will be devoted to school rooms, the second will be used as a chapel, the third as a gymnasium and the basement for the present will be used for play rooms in bad weather.

There is also a substantial barn with a basement stable for stock, and a good cellar, in which are stored the vegetables. The first floor of this building is used for laundry purposes, which keeps two women busy every day of the week. Besides the buildings mentioned there are the old frame school house which now may be used for kindergarten purposes, the coal building and ice house, all are finely kept in good repair and painted.

There are one hundred and twenty-one homeless and dependent children in the Home, all of whom are clean and warmly clad. Their mental and moral growth are subjects of careful consideration on the part of the managers. Here they are instructed during the entire year with a greater degree of regularity than prevails in the ordinary district school. While these little waifs of humanity are thrown together by adversity from various localities they are all under thorough discipline, healthy and cheerful looking, and in a point of scholarship compare favorably with scholars of the same age in any school.

We consider the matron, Miss Celia Bennett, the right person for her position, and the superior discipline of these children, as shown by their speech and actions, speak volumes for her love of these waifs and her ability to instruct them for worthy and industrious members of society.

This institution has no endowment, its only source of revenue being from the voluntary contributions of its friends, and from the maintenance of the few who are either taken there by the poor authorities or by friends able to pay for their support.

The lot at the rear of the main building in front of the new school building has been graded at considerable expense, a new and necessary veranda has been added to the main building, and the new school building are the principal improvements of the year. We believe all of these are necessary and important, and the expense incurred will be met largely by philanthropic and generous individuals. We also believe that this worthy institution is not only a credit to the managers and a blessing to humanity, but also a living monument for and an honor to the people of Cattaraugus county. We therefore recommend that this Board of Supervisors make an appropriation to the Home, thereby evincing to some degree at least our appreciation of its work.

We are of the decided opinion that in so doing we are not making merely a charitable donation, but are performing an act of justice.

Dated Nov. 29th, 1892.

G. A. MATTESON,
M. E. SMITH,
WM. S. MORTON,
D. H. CARROLL,
W. S. O'BRIEN. } Committee.