

OPENING THE BAREFOOT MISSION.

MUCH GOOD IS EXPECTED FROM YOUNG TELLO D'APERY'S SCHEME.

Tello d'Apéry, the boy philanthropist, opened his Barefoot Mission yesterday afternoon at 59 West Twenty-fourth Street. A number of persons interested in charity work were present.

The aim of the mission is to furnish a clubhouse for poor and unfortunate children, and also to clothe and feed them.

As the guests entered the parlors yesterday afternoon they saw practical evidence of the work of the mission. Piled on chairs and tables was clothing of all sorts that had been repaired, and scattered around were children's books and playthings.

It is intended that the building shall be open for boys and girls who are friendless and homeless, or whose homes are not those which can be called homelike. The basement of the building is used as the office of the *Sunny Hour*, the little publication which aids the young philanthropist in carrying on his work.

On the first floor are two rooms, which are to be used as a parlor and a place for the distribution of shoes, stockings, and clothing generally. These rooms are very nicely fitted up. New carpets are on the floor and the wall is hung with pictures. Of the two rooms on the second floor, one is to be used as a library and the other as a playroom. The library will be provided with books and furnished by a wealthy person interested in young d'Apéry's work. The rooms on the top floor will be rented, to help pay the house rent.

The house is dependent upon the subscriptions of charitably-disposed people for existence. About \$1,500 has already been received to help to pay the expenses for this year. Of this, \$3,000 was given in memoriam. Mr. d'Apéry did not care to give the name of the donor, who wished to remain unknown.

At the opening and inspection of the building yesterday Mr. Hiram Torrey, Miss Baldwin, and young d'Apéry spoke informally about what it was hoped to accomplish and about what had been done. Those present expressed themselves as satisfied that the Barefoot Mission would do a far greater work than it had already done, on account of the increased facilities that the new home would give.

Among the many present in the afternoon were Mrs. Charles P. Cassidy, Mr. and Mrs. J. C. Goodrich, Mrs. Ella Wheeler Wilcox, Miss Josephene L. Baldwin, Miss M. J. Downs, Dr. Amelia Barnett, Miss Lula Bennett, Miss C. T. Goldsmith, Mrs. M. E. Crawford, Miss Pauline McKinnon, W. E. Whitehead, Mr. and Mrs. Hiram Barney, and H. Mahoney.

THE SUNNY HOUR CHRISTMAS TREE

About 2,000 Children Supplied with Shoes, Hats, and Clothing by the Barefoot Mission.

The big meeting room of Tammany Hall presented a gay and brilliant scene yesterday morning when 2,000 happy little children danced around two enormous Christmas trees loaded with lights and presents.

The occasion was the sixth annual Christmas celebration by the Barefoot Mission, of which Tello J. d'Apéry, the young publisher of *The Sunny Hour*, is Superintendent. Children flocked to the hall by the hundreds from 9:30 o'clock in the morning to 3 o'clock in the afternoon.

The Sunny Hour Christmas Tree, as it is called, is looked forward to every year by the little ones who are cared for by the Barefoot Mission, and yesterday the festivities were, if possible, more successful than ever.

There was not a child in the vast throng who did not receive at least one present. The trees were loaded down with shoes, gloves, shirts, hats, stockings, toys, and playthings of all sorts.

Seats were arranged round the hall, and as the little ones sat on them while trying on their presents their faces were radiant with pleasure and their laughter rang out merrily.

"The busiest time," said one who took part in the distribution, "seemed to be from 1 to 3 o'clock. I saw some children going away with baskets full of presents. They were just as happy as they could be." The Sunny Hour Christmas Tree was spread last year in Chickering Hall, but there was not so large an attendance as there was today."