

THIRD REPORT

MARYLAND
OF
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THE LUNACY COMMISSION

TO HIS EXCELLENCY,

THE GOVERNOR OF MARYLAND.

DECEMBER 1, 1888.



BALTIMORE:
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1889.

THE LUNACY COMMISSION.



STATE OF MARYLAND.

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CHAS. W. CHANCELLOR, M. D.....Baltimore, Md.
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Baltimore, Maryland.

ANNUAL REPORT.

To his Excellency, E. E. JACKSON,

Governor of Maryland:

SIR—The Lunacy Commission herewith present, as required by law, the Third Annual Report of their proceedings; also a report of the condition of the different institutions, public, corporate and private, including almshouses where the insane or idiotic are kept.

The Commission have held four regular and two special meetings during the year, and at each the Secretary submitted written reports, which have been carefully read and considered. Besides, the various communications were answered, reports of investigations heard, and resolutions passed looking to the further consummation of the objects and aims of the Lunacy Act.

From the Secretary's reports, which were in the main details of visits made by the Secretary and members of the Commission, we are assured that an increased interest has been manifested in the care and treatment of the insane in the State; also, that different institutions, public, corporate and private, including almshouses, have generally been conducted more to our satisfaction during the past year, and that, in compliance with our suggestions, some substantial improvements have been effected beyond the ordinary repairs necessary for maintaining them in a proper state.

In a number of the counties preparations are being made to provide accommodations at the almshouses for their chronic insane and feeble-minded poor, many of whom are now being supported by the county authorities at the Maryland Hospital for the Insane, hoping in this way to make room at that institution for the better care of the acute and violent insane cases. The judiciousness of this step we shall not question, but certainly until our State recognizes the fact that the indigent insane are its wards, and sufficient asylums provided, the plan now being adopted by the county authorities will at least temporarily meet the object they have in view.

We again have to report that in many of the almshouses no provision has been made to separate the sexes. This is a very important matter, for in no other way can the shocking exposures be overcome, which now are instanced both as to women and young girls, with such results as have been mentioned in our former reports.

RECOMMENDATIONS.

The Commission respectfully call the attention of your Honor to the need of an asylum or hospital for the separate care and treatment of the colored insane of this State, and they do so only after mature consideration of the facts in the case, which are mainly as follows: First, as will be seen from our report of the Maryland Hospital for the Insane, that institution is overcrowded; secondly, because the number of colored insane of this State have so increased that it is impossible for the State, as now provided, to properly care for this class of her afflicted wards; thirdly, because it has been shown that in hospitals exclusively for the colored insane their treatment was more satisfactory and the chances of cure greater than where both white and

colored are crowded in the same institution. The Commission also advise that your Honor request the officers in charge of the House of Correction to be more vigilant in their supervision over those of its inmates whom they believe to be insane before making application for their pardon, as it has been demonstrated that such inmates, after being pardoned, have feigned insanity.

MARYLAND HOSPITAL FOR THE INSANE.

(Near Catonsville, Baltimore County.)

BOARD OF MANAGERS—J. Pembroke Thom, M. D., *President*; Hon. Barnes Compton, *Secretary and Treasurer*; John W. McCoy, Francis White, John H. Fowler, Wilmot Johnson, Gilmor Meredith, and Chas. G. W. Macgill, M. D.

OFFICERS OF THE HOSPITAL—Richard Gundry, M. D., *Medical Superintendent*; B. D. Evans, *Assistant Physician*; S. Thomas Brown, *Steward*; J. S. Graham, *Clerk*; Mrs. M. M. Gundry, *Matron*.

Four visits have been made to this Institution, and on each occasion its various halls, rooms, etc., which were carefully inspected, found orderly, clean and comfortable. Most of the males were out doing light work or enjoying the freedom of the grounds, and the females were either sewing or recreating in the halls.

At time of our last visit, the whole number of insane was—(white) males 194; (white) females 161; (colored) males 27; (colored) females 24; total 406. Of this number 8 were in seclusion, none under restraint. There had been removed as recovered 36; discharged improved 17; deaths 23; one by suicide, which upon investigation of our Secretary, the Commission adjudged not due to avoidable cause; escapes 6.

The attendance at this Institution was very good, and owing to the kind and gentle guiding hand of its matron, all seemed eager to administer to the comforts of those under their care.

Amusements, etc.—Magic lanterns, exhibitions, calisthenics, fancy work, dancing, lectures, painting, lawn tennis, croquet, billiards and sometimes concerts.

Improvements.—Besides an addition which is being built (a description of it is given below) structural improvements have been made in some parts of the hospital, and its halls paneled and ornamented, this latter work being done by the insane inmates of this Institution.

Remarks.—Notwithstanding that a number of insane have been removed by the County authorities (under whose direction they were originally committed) from this hospital to their County Asylums, it is still crowded, so much so indeed that in one of its male wards we found both colored and white insane living together.

ADDITION TO THE MARYLAND HOSPITAL FOR THE INSANE.

The Legislature of 1888 having granted an appropriation of fifteen thousand dollars for "*addition to buildings*" of the Maryland Hospital for the Insane, the Managers decided to extend the rear wing of the central building, containing the kitchen, pantry and the Assembly Hall. The new building now being erected joins this rear wing and will be of stone, corresponding in external appearance with the present building. Its size will be 80 feet by 40 feet and of three stories. In the first story will be a large kitchen to

replace that now used, which is too small for the number of inmates in the Hospital. It will also include store rooms, sculleries, &c. The second floor will in part be an extension of the Assembly Hall and a large dining room 60 feet by 40 feet, for the male patients. By this arrangement a general dining-room will be substituted for the several dining-rooms in the wards, which can be converted into dormitories, with space for forty beds, and thus relief for the over-crowded wards for male patients may be obtained. In the third story will be sleeping apartments for the persons employed in the Institution, who now occupy rooms in the basement of the central building, which are neither healthy nor comfortable. The present kitchen, pantry and scullery will, after the new building is completed, be reconstructed so as to form suitable dining-rooms for the female patients. In this way the capacity of the female department can be enlarged to the same extent as the male department. When the whole of these changes shall be completed additional room for 80 beds will be secured. The enlargement of the Assembly Hall and a new and larger kitchen are both urgently demanded for the large number provided for in the Hospital, and this addition will secure these and other advantages. The contract for the new building has been let to Mr. Lewis McCusker, and the work has been carried up to the first layer of joists. The excavation of the basement and the quarrying of the stone for the foundation and basement walls were done by the patients with their attendants.

MOUNT HOPE RETREAT.

(Five miles from Baltimore, on the W. M. R. R.)

MANAGERS—Sisters of Charity.

SISTER SUPERIOR—Sister Catherine.

MEDICAL ATTENDANT—Chas. G. Hill, M. D.

ASSISTANT MEDICAL ATTENDANT—W. E. Wyse, M. D.

CONSULTING PHYSICIAN—Wm. H. Stokes, M. D.

This well-conducted Institution was last inspected on October 8th, and on that occasion the whole number of its insane was—292 males (~~white~~); 253 females (~~white~~); total 545. Of this number 1 was colored male and 2 colored females; 4 were restrained and 3 secluded; 18 had been removed; 49 discharged improved; 66 cured; 40 had died, and 5 escaped.

The cleanliness of the various apartments of this Retreat, the comfort and contentment of the patients, gave evidence of the kind and considerate supervision which was being exercised by the Sisters who act as nurses.

Employments.—Many of the female inmates were seen sewing or knitting, and most of the males playing or exercising in the spacious grounds attached to the Institution. General amusements consist of games: billiards, cards, croquet, tennis, checkers, dominoes, &c.; music, piano, accordion and violin; also weekly concerts and theatricals.

Besides these there is a library for the use of the insane, which comprises many volumes.

Improvements.—Upon the recommendation of this Commission, new bath and water closets have been put up, with the latest sanitary improvements; then, too, an addition to one wing of this building has been erected, which gives two more rooms for each of its stories.

THE FONT HILL PRIVATE HOME AND TRAINING
SCHOOL FOR FEEBLE-MINDED CHILDREN.

(Postoffice, Ellicott City, Maryland.)

SUPERINTENDENT—S. I. Fort, M. D.

MATRON—Mrs. S. I. Fort.

This admirably conducted private Home and Training School was on our last visit found cleanly, and every attention being paid to the wants of its inmates.

The little children were being taught in an admirably arranged kindergarten, and the boys were seen doing light work and amusing themselves in the grounds.

Mrs. Fort and the Doctor show great interest in their enterprise; having good nurses and attendants, and do all that is possible for this unfortunate class of the afflicted.

Number of inmates, 3 white females and 7 white males; total 10. None secluded or restrained.

No deaths, discharges, removals, &c., have been reported to this office.

BAY VIEW ASYLUM.

(Baltimore City Almshouse, Apartment for the Insane.)

BOARD OF TRUSTEES—Joseph Friedenwald, *President*; John Black, *Secretary*; Simon Kemp, George Blake, John J. Hoffman, Jacob Pappler and Joseph Martini.

OFFICERS—John F. Stone, *Superintendent*; John M. McElroy, *Purveyor*; John R. Hammett, *Clerk and Storekeeper*; Susanna McCahan, *Matron*; William Kaiser, *Engineer*; James J. Farrall, *Assistant Engineer*; John F. Barranger,

Gardener; Thomas Connor, *Messenger*; Charles Jones, *Baker*.

Wm. E. Ramsay, M. D., *Resident Physician*.

C. L. Sommers, M. D., *Assistant Physician*.

James A. Tierney, *Apothecary*.

Three official visits have been made to this Institution during the year, and at the time of our last, there were 111 white males, 122 white females, 38 colored males, and 35 colored females, total 306; 10 were in seclusion, none under restraint. Number of patients removed during the year were 9; discharged improved, 38; recovered, 28; died, 41; escaped, 7.

A large portion of both the male and female inmates were found recreating in the well-arranged grounds.

The interior of the building was cleanly in all its apartments, appearance of inmates tidy, and a home-like aspect was everywhere manifested. Besides this, it gives us pleasure to state that the attendance was then better than on the occasion of any of our former visits.

This Institution has been fortunate in securing as its Medical Attendant, Dr. W. E. Ramsay, and every department gave evidence of his kind care and supervision. During the past year, amusements have been inaugurated for the insane, and it is hoped before long some arrangement will be made whereby the inmates may be employed.

No structural improvements have been made at this Institution during the past year, which is to be much regretted, as the building was found to be overcrowded.

MATLEY HILL SANITARIUM.

(Located Eight Miles from Baltimore, near the Relay Station, Baltimore & Ohio Railroad.)

SUPERINTENDENT—J. S. Conrad, M. D.

This well-conducted Institution has been twice visited during the year, and on our last inspection its apartments were neat, orderly, and well provided with kind attendants.

The building is supplied with all modern conveniences and good sanitary arrangements. Number of insane, 19; 6 white males, 13 white females; 1 was restrained and 1 secluded. During the year 4 have been removed, 2 discharged cured and 2 have died. Here the treatment of the insane consists largely of indoor amusements and outdoor exercises.

For description of building, see first Report, page 21.

MONTEVUE HOSPITAL:

(Frederick County—One mile from Frederick City.)

PHYSICIAN—Dr. S. T. Heffner.

OFFICERS—Eyster M. Edmonds, *Superintendent*; Joseph W. Egbert, *Clerk*.

BOARD OF TRUSTEES—G. T. Whip, Henry C. Keefer, Lycurgus E. Hedges, Thomas M. Wolfe, Harrison Miller.

At the time of our last inspecting this Institution, there were in the insane department 39 males and 42 females, total 81; of this number 8 were colored males and 12, colored females. None were in seclusion, two were under

mechanical restraint. The departments of this hospital were quite cleanly, but we found the attendants insufficient and inexperienced.

No exercising grounds have yet been provided by which the sexes could be separated when recreating, and, besides this, the patients have no amusements to divert their minds and thus lighten their sad affliction. Our Secretary has made several appeals to the Commissioners of the County in regard to this point, and we hope soon for an active result.

Removed, 6 males and 4 females.

Discharged, 3 males and 4 females.

Cured, 1 male and 1 female.

Died, 6 males.

GARRETT COUNTY.

This county has no almshouse.

SYLVAN RETREAT FOR THE INSANE.

(Allegany County—One mile from Cumberland.)

BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS—S. J. Edwards, *President*; B. Stone, J. Willison, John S. Hannesy; Howard M. Fuller, *Clerk*.

OFFICERS—Levi W. Wickard, *Superintendent*; F. Henry Charles, *Medical Attendant*; Mrs. Levi W. Wickard, *Matron*.

This new and hitherto undescribed Institution was opened for the insane on October 1, 1888, and inspected by the Commission on November 22, 1888.

At that time there were 15 white females, 21 white males and 1 colored female, total 37; of this number, 1 was in seclusion, none under restraint. The various hall rooms and dormitories were found clean and nicely furnished, and every attention seemed to be given to the comforts of the insane. The following is a detailed description of this Institution :

The Allegany County Insane Asylum, known as "Sylvan Retreat," is situated in a beautiful valley just outside the city of Cumberland, Md. It is composed of three large brick buildings designed especially for the use of the insane and erected with great care and at a large expense.

The main building has four stories and cellar, and is occupied as a residence for the Superintendent and his assistants. It also contains large reception rooms, parlors and offices of the Institution. The two large wings of three stories each, are devoted entirely to patients. In these buildings the ceilings are high, the dormitories large and well ventilated. There are bath rooms and water closets on every floor. The supply of water, both for household use and fire protection, is obtained from mountain springs, and is collected in a large reservoir, from which it is served to every part of the building at a high pressure. The entire Institution is perfectly heated by steam. The sanitary arrangements are good throughout. Attached to each wing are large recreation grounds of several acres, where the patients enjoy out-of-door exercise whenever the weather will permit. The Retreat is lighted entirely by gas. This asylum has accommodations for about one hundred patients. The physician in charge visits every patient in it twice a day. Both private and county patients are received into this Institution.

ALMSHOUSES.

ANNE ARUNDEL COUNTY.

(Seven miles from Annapolis.)

Dr. B. R. Davidson visits the Institution regularly, and every effort is being made by him to have the building put in good repair.

SUPERINTENDENT—R. L. Larrimore.

TRUSTEES—Joseph Fowler, Philip Isreal, Dr. H. B. Gantt and Henry League.

No structural improvements have been made at this Institution since our last report.

The building was out of repair and greatly in need of furniture and bed clothing.

Among the inmates were two feeble-minded colored persons—a male and female—usefully employed, both old cases formerly reported.

No insane have been admitted during the past year. There was one death before our visit.

BALTIMORE COUNTY ALMSHOUSE.

(Situated near Texas, on the N. C. R. R.)

SUPERINTENDENT—A. H. Cole.

MEDICAL ATTENDANT—B. F. Bussy, M. D.

COUNTY COMMISSIONERS—Thomas Todd, Dr. L. A. Monmonier, John Smith.

At the last visit of inspection, two of which have been made in the year, the main building was clean and in fair repair, but no improvements were noted, nor had recreating grounds been provided.

The outbuilding, used for the colored inmates, was filthy and without the necessary furniture. Better attendance, specially in the female department, is needed at this Institution.

Number of insane 14—5 white males, 6 white females; 1 colored male and 2 colored females. Three were in seclusion, none under restraint.

Number of deaths, 3.

It is regretted that Dr. B. F. Bussy, who takes much interest in this Institution, no longer resides at the building.

CARROLL COUNTY ALMSHOUSE.

(One mile from Westminster.)

PHYSICIAN—Dr. Leonard Sepp.

SUPERINTENDENT—Emmanuel Shaeffer.

COUNTY COMMISSIONERS—George Miller, W. Weaver.

Two visits were paid to this Institution during the year. The interior of the main building was comfortable and orderly; but in the outer, the rooms were in disorder and dirty. Bath and water closets are needed here; also better furniture. The white man, who for two years had been in seclusion suffering from homicidal mania, was out recreating in the grounds and almost cured. A vicious colored boy was under restraint.

Number of insane 15; 8 white and 2 colored males; 4 white and 1 colored female.

CECIL COUNTY ALMSHOUSE.

(Two and a half miles from Elkton.)

PHYSICIAN IN ATTENDANCE—John W. Cooper, M. D.

SUPERINTENDENT—K. P. Racine.

TRUSTEES—J. T. England, T. H. Warburton, Alfred Kirk, J. E. Wells, E. W. Jennings.

Three official visits were made to this Institution during 1888—the first being in January of that year.

The insane appeared well cared for, and were seen recreating in the halls of the building. The rooms, although in need of furniture and repair, were clean and orderly. It should be looked to that better attendance is secured here, especially in the way of a night watchman.

Seventeen insane were being provided for, at the close of the year. Of this number, 9 were white males, 7 white females, and 1 a colored female. Discharged 2, deaths 2.

For description of building, see pages 18 and 19 of Second Annual Report.

CAROLINE COUNTY ALMSHOUSE.

(Four miles from Denton.)

COUNTY COMMISSIONERS—Grensbury Barcus, Peter Hagedone, W. E. Lord.

TRUSTEES OF THE POOR—Robert Jarrell, Henry Rawlins, Henry E. Fisher, W. S. Evitts and John T. Fleetwood.

PHYSICIAN—Dr. Thomas Saulsbury.

SUPERINTENDENT—Nathaniel Roe.

Several visits were paid to this Institution, the last being in company of the physician in charge. We are glad to

report that inmates formerly under restraint were found at liberty, and that more attention is being paid to the requirements of the Lunacy Act. The building needs repair; the rooms more furniture; but we are led to suppose all this will be attended to in the near future.

Number of inmates, 5; 1 white and 2 colored males, 1 white and 1 colored female. Of these, four are idiotic and one imbecile. One death reported during the year.

CALVERT COUNTY.

This county has no almshouse.

CHARLES COUNTY ALMSHOUSE.

There are no insane at the county almshouse.

DORCHESTER COUNTY ALMSHOUSE.

(Fourteen miles from Cambridge.)

ATTENDING PHYSICIAN—Robert J. Price.

SUPERINTENDENT—T. Lard, Esq.

TRUSTEES—Thomas Wingate, William T. Craft, John W. Mace, Edward Rumley, Thomas J. Le Compte.

COUNTY COMMISSIONERS—Ashbury Insley, *President*; Jeremiah Creighton, James Payne, Samuel Lawson.

This Almshouse was visited twice in the past year. The interior of the building was clean and its inmates seemed well clothed and fed; beyond this we can only report that the Almshouse is more dilapidated than ever—that it is a

disgrace to the county and should be condemned, and a more healthy location selected upon which to erect a new one. Several interviews have been held with the County Commissioners of Dorchester county, and they were urged to take some steps in the matter. Amongst the inmates were found three old colored women, imbecile; also, one idiotic white boy and two colored boys, imbeciles.

HARFORD COUNTY ALMSHOUSE.

(Situated two miles from Belair.)

PHYSICIAN—J. C. Butler, M. D.

SUPERINTENDENT—W. H. Chenowith; *Assistant*, B. Hitchcock.

COUNTY COMMISSIONERS—W. A. Hope, *President*; C. W. Proctor, *Clerk*; G. B. Silver, Jr., W. Dalos Scarborough, Ed. G. Hooker, J. E. Bateman.

The apartments were comfortable and tidy and its inmates being carefully looked after by the Superintendent, whose abilities well adapt him for the duties of his responsible position.

This is one of the best almshouses in the State, and was the first to make proper provision for the care and treatment of the insane as directed by this Commission.

Much credit is due the County Commissioners, as also the Attending Physician, for their untiring efforts in behalf of both the sane and insane inmates of this Institution. Number of insane, 25; 11 of whom were white males, 2 white females, 6 colored males and 6 colored females. None were under restraint or in seclusion.

For description see second Report, page 40.

HOWARD COUNTY.

Has no almshouse.

KENT COUNTY ALMSHOUSE.

(Located near Chestertown.)

PHYSICIAN—Dr. J. A. Perkins.

PRESIDENT OF COMMISSIONERS—William Morris.

PRESIDENT OF TRUSTEES—John F. Earnest.

On each visit to this Institution the insane were well clad and intelligently cared for. The number of lunatics, idiots and persons of unsound mind were 12, 5 white and 3 colored females, 1 white and 3 colored males. Of this number three were in seclusion, nine under restraint.

Each of the buildings were clean and fairly well furnished, but no structural improvements had been made. Better provision is necessary for the insane, especially in regard to the separation of the sexes. At each visit, members of the County Commission were interviewed by the Secretary in regard to needed improvements.

Two escapes and one death reported.

MONTGOMERY COUNTY ALMSHOUSE.

(Located three miles from Rockville.)

PHYSICIAN—Dr. Ed. Anderson.

SUPERINTENDENT—John T. Best, Esq.

TRUSTEES—J. Alex. Gloyde, *President*; John Bennet; August Jones, Henry Pumphrey, William Thompson, Dr. J. C. Maddox.

This Almshouse has twice been visited since our last annual report, and on each occasion the insane were found occupied at some light work about the farm which adjoins the Institution. The interior of the building was much out of repair; rooms badly ventilated and greatly in need of furniture and bed clothing.

Number of insane, 5; 2 white males, 1 white female, 2 colored females.

PRINCE GEORGE'S COUNTY.

(Situated eight miles from Upper Marlboro.)

PHYSICIAN—Dr. Chas. Latimer.

SUPERINTENDENT—Thomas Reid.

COUNTY COMMISSIONERS—Thomas Berry, Dr. John L. Warner, Richard J. Swan, William Philps.

TRUSTEES OF THE POOR—Elij. Berry, Richard Brown, Benj. Randall, Charles Walker, Dr. C. C. Lewis.

When last visited, the building, occupied by the Superintendent and white paupers, was in good repair, and its rooms clean and comfortable; but the old frame structure nearby, occupied by the colored poor, was dirty, poorly furnished and entirely unfit for use. The county authorities, however, have promised to repair it, as soon as sufficient funds can be raised.

Number of insane, 4; 1 white male, 2 white females and 1 colored female; none under restraint or in seclusion, most of them doing light work. All of the above-named are old persons who have been at the Almshouse a long time.

QUEEN ANNE'S COUNTY ALMSHOUSE.

(Seven miles from Centreville.)

PHYSICIAN—J. A. Holton.

SUPERINTENDENT—

COUNTY COMMISSIONERS—Richard T. Earle, *President*; W. J. Gibson, *Secretary*; W. J. McKenny, Joel Thornton, James Brown, Edward B. Emory, James Carroll.

The two official visits were made during the months of May and October respectively. On each visit, the rooms in main part of the building were tidy, and the inmates comfortable and well provided for. The rear portion, however, was out of repair, poorly furnished and unfit for use. One idiotic white man, one idiotic colored boy and an imbecile colored female were the only inmates that come under the jurisdiction of the Lunacy Act.

The trustees of the county almshouse have had their attention called to the needed improvements and are very desirous of having the work done.

ST. MARY'S COUNTY ALMSHOUSE.

(Four and a half miles from Leonardtown.)

When last visited this Almshouse was in fair repair and cleanly.

The colored inmates occupy one part of this building and the white inmates the other.

At time of our visit no new insane cases were noticed; of the old ones, one was a colored male and one a colored female, total 2. None under restraint or in seclusion.

No improvements have been made during the year.

Charles Combs, M. D., Medical Attendant, visits this Institution regularly, and takes great interest in the welfare of the poor.

SOMERSET COUNTY ALMSHOUSE.

(One and a-half miles from Princess Anne.)

PHYSICIAN—R. W. Dashiell, M. D.

SUPERINTENDENT—Millard F. Bounds.

COUNTY COMMISSIONERS—E. D. Reid, W. G. Colburn, Sid. R. Riggin, H. P. Dashiell.

TRUSTEES OF THE POOR—W. W. Walker, W. E. Tare, Geo. P. Porter.

There are no insane kept at this Almshouse, not only on account of its dilapidated condition, but because the authorities have recognized that, at least for the present, the insane cases can be better treated at the State Asylums.

Upon the advice of the Trustees, this old structure is soon to be demolished, and a more suitable location chosen, where a new building will be erected with all modern improvements.

TALBOT COUNTY ALMSHOUSE.

(Situated near Trappe, between Oxford and Easton.)

PHYSICIAN—Dr. G. J. Nickerson.

SUPERINTENDENT—William Wright.

MATRON—Mrs. Georgeanna Ayers.

TRUSTEES OF THE POOR—Samuel Stewart, *President*; W. A. Pratt, Edward Lomax, Joseph W. White, Edward T. Roe, William Benson, Thomas W. Stevens.

Two official visits have been made to this Institution during the year. No structural improvements have been made as yet in either of the two buildings which compose this Almshouse; but both were in fair condition, and the rooms, although comfortable, had furniture out of repair and very scanty bed clothing.

Of the five insane—3 white and 1 colored females, and 1 colored male—none were in seclusion or restrained. There is great need in this Institution for the better accommodation of chronic and mild cases of insanity; also, arrangements should be made to better separate the sexes.

For description of this Institution, see First Annual Report, pages 15-16.

WASHINGTON COUNTY ALMSHOUSE.

(Bellevue Asylum, one mile from Hagerstown.)

ATTENDING PHYSICIAN—J. McPherson Scott.

SUPERINTENDENT—

COUNTY COMMISSIONERS—J. W. Cable, *President*; S. M. Bloom, D. L. Leshner, Frisby Doub, D. A. Rohrer.

TRUSTEES—John W. Stonebraker, S. M. Ream, Louis Shindle.

This Asylum, which consists of one wing of the Almshouse, has been inspected carefully during the year, and, on our last visit, its rooms, etc., were found in a much cleaner and more comfortable condition than on any previous occasion. We feel justified in saying that through the untiring efforts of Mr. J. W. Stonebraker, the President of Trustees, further conveniences will be provided and more competent attendants appointed.

Number of insane, 30; 8 males and 22 females, of which 15 were in seclusion but none under restraint.

See Reports of 1887 and 1886 for description of Institution.

WICOMICO COUNTY ALMSHOUSE.

(Eleven miles from Salisbury.)

PHYSICIAN—Dr. W. H. H. Dashiell.

SUPERINTENDENT—

COUNTY COMMISSIONERS—Randolph Humphreys, Geo. W. Messick, Levin J. Dashiell, Lambert H. Cooper, Wm. A. Holloway.

The required number of visits were paid to this old Almshouse, where no improvements had been made. The idea is being entertained of rebuilding in a more suitable location. Only three inmates come under the Lunacy Act; all of these were reported in 1887. Two were idiots, colored, and one imbecile white. The County Commissioners now send all their insane to the Maryland Hospital for the Insane, and most of the sane paupers are pensioned out in the various districts of the county.

Description of the Almshouse page 16 of first Report.

WORCESTER COUNTY ALMSHOUSE.

(Located 3 miles from Snow Hill.)

PHYSICIAN—Dr. Paul Jones.

SUPERINTENDENT—

COUNTY COMMISSIONERS—Charles H. Coburn, John B. Dall, Charles Bishop, E. A. Marrimar, M. W. Pitchard.

TRUSTEES—T. H. Bratton, S. S. Townsend.

This Almshouse was twice inspected since our last report. On the date of the last visit, October 30, 1888, there were but 5 insane in the Institution—3 white males and 2 colored females. Two of these were restrained by means of chains and in seclusion. One, a colored female suffering from acute mania, was in a filthy condition. The physician in charge was written to about the case, and instructed to have her sent to an asylum for the insane, and on December 11th the Commission was notified of her removal to Spring Grove. One patient, who on a former occasion was in chains, was noticed at liberty and much improved.

The rooms in the main building were clean and comfortable, but the outer frame structure used for the colored race was in such a horrible condition as to call forth severe censure. The County Commissioners and the Trustees of the Poor were interviewed on this point, as also to its general management.

Table showing the whole number of insane in the different Institutions, public, corporate and private, including Almshouses and the Maryland State Penitentiary :

White males.....	725	
White females.....	680	
		<hr/>
Total white.....		1,405
Colored males.....	120	
Colored females.....	133	
		<hr/>
Total colored.....		253
		<hr/>
Grand total		1,658

Respectfully submitted,

ALEX. H. BAYLY,

President.

APPENDIX A.

SOME REFLECTIONS ON THE CAUSES OF INSANITY AND ITS INCREASE.

BY WILLIAM LEE, M. D., Secretary.

Is insanity on the increase? is a question upon which authorities differ, and much has been written on both sides of the question. That there is a large increase of patients at the various institutions for the insane, is a fact established beyond a doubt. Yet this may be attributed to various causes: first, that more attention being given to this class of unfortunates, more cases are brought under immediate observation; then there is less disposition on the part of relatives to believe that imputations are cast upon them when insanity occurs in their family, and therefore they give up more readily for treatment those so afflicted, recognizing this to be the truest proof of affection. Admitting all this, however, there is a certain increase of insanity beyond that which could be ascribed to increase of population, and only by examining into some of the most active causes of insanity can one expect to find light upon the subject.

From reports of the various institutions for insane and

other data, we learn that of the many causes to which insanity may be ascribed, the following are the most frequent :

1. Hereditary predispositions.
2. Anxiety and too close application to business.
3. Ill health.
4. Intemperance.
5. Family troubles and affliction.
6. Masturbation.
7. Injury to the head.
8. Exposure and hardship.
9. Poverty and want.

Every one is familiar with the frequency with which this terrible malady is transmitted from parent to offspring ; in fact, in no disease is this hereditary character more strikingly manifested than in insanity, and where persons have this inheritance to combat, any severe illness may hasten the disorder which otherwise might have laid dormant through a life time.

Again, the extraordinary resemblance sometimes manifested in the nature of the attacks and their periodical recurrence is most striking. It is by no means unusual for the suicidal or homicidal form to develop itself for successive generations in the same family and sometimes at the same period of life. Moreau relates the case of a man who, greatly wrought up by the events of the French Revolution, shut himself up in one room and there immured himself in profound melancholy for a period of ten years. His daughter on reaching the same age at which her father had been attacked, fell into the same condition and remained so until her death.

Anxiety or too close application, one of the most

fruitful causes of mental derangement, is doubtless found in the unwonted wear and tear of mind in the great battle of life, which is but too often carried on without regard to any consideration but gratified ambition, which leads men of every rank and degree to sacrifice present happiness and health for future wealth and pre-eminence.

In this country certainly, and in the last quarter of a century especially, though remarkable for the prodigious advances in every department of arts and sciences, yet there never was a period when happiness and contentment were less generally diffused through the different classes of society. Pick up the daily papers and the columns are teeming with suicides, divorces, etc. Sift them all and you will find they have their origin in disappointed ambition, competition and extravagances.

There is perhaps no mental influence which, if examined in all its bearings and relations, exercises so extensive and such a controlling power upon men in civilized countries, more especially in the United States, as that arising from pecuniary condition, for upon this men base their hopes and schemes of ambition, preferment and aggrandizement.

Injury to the head.—That mechanical injuries to the head, or some more trivial accident may cause insanity, is well shown by the severe head symptoms that are exhibited as the consequence entailed upon the nervous system by some injury, and this too, in cases where there was apparent recovery without inconvenience; this is not difficult to comprehend when one is reminded of the fact that the prick of a pin, a needle or a slight gunshot wound has frequently exerted so potent an influence as to result in such a terrible disorder as what is popularly known as lock-jaw.

Family troubles—affliction.—Family troubles, affliction, ill health, poverty, etc., all are causes of mental depression which frequently obscure reason and superinduce insanity. That moral causes exert a potent sway over the healthy operations of the mind, has been shown by all able writers. Sudden terror, paroxysms of rage, grief, jealousy, religious and political excitement, sudden loss of fortune, all help to overbalance the mind. The obvious deduction from all these facts is, that every man, woman and child has a brain capacity, which he cannot go beyond without entailing upon him evils which, accumulating sooner or later, bring about a diseased condition of the brain.

Intemperance is another predisposing cause of insanity, and indeed the records of the various institutions show this to be a most active cause too, not only in the inebriate himself, but entailing the curse upon his offsprings; and thus we see in descendants of victims to this vice, deviations from the normal type of humanity, which display themselves in some of the incurable forms of insanity. Such cases, besides deriving from their parents this unhappy organization of the cerebro-spinal nervous system, have to contend against the home influence, which is too well calculated to bring into activity the latent tendency and dethrone reason.

Owing to the great prominence which is now given to intemperance as a predisposing cause of insanity, I feel impelled to dwell more fully on the subject. It must strike the reflective mind with wonder, that notwithstanding Christianity has become more widespread, and civilization more advanced, that this degrading vice should have gained such great hold on man, and since neither religion nor self-respect seem to exert a restraining influence, it is

now imperative that some stringent legal step should be taken to cure those in whom this vice has become a mania.

When a man makes his life one long debauch, when he sacrifices home and its ties to the love of drink, when each day brings him nearer to destruction of mind and body, it is but mercy to remove him from the haunts of vice and bad associates to some institution where he can be properly treated with a very great chance of recovery, particularly if this measure be resorted to at the onset before all self-respect is deadened. And again, if it was once understood that the law required the penalty of seclusion as now applied to the insane, many would then hesitate to expose themselves to the horrible influences which are brought about by intemperance.

Much more might be said on this and other points of this most interesting subject; in fact, it is generally conceded that it is easier to write a long paper on a great subject than a short one, but out of consideration to those whose duty it may be to examine this report, I will maintain brevity, even at the risk of being incomplete.

APPENDIX B.

MARYLAND HOSPITAL FOR THE INSANE.

TABLE No. 1.

Showing the general operations of the Maryland Hospital for the Insane during the year ending October 31, 1888.

	<i>Males.</i>	<i>Females.</i>	<i>Totals.</i>
Number in Hospital November 1st, 1887	220	176	396
" admitted during the year.....	56	55	111
Total number under treatment.....	276	231	507
Discharged—	<i>Male.</i>	<i>Female.</i>	<i>Total.</i>
As recovered.....	20	16	36
As improved.....	7	7	14
As unimproved.....	2	3	5
Died... ..	18	11	29
	47	37	84
	229	194	423
The daily average for males.....			225
" " " " females.....			187
" " " " both.....			412

TABLE No. 2.

Showing the number at each age admitted during the year.

	<i>Males.</i>	<i>Females.</i>	<i>Totals.</i>
Under 15 years of age.....	..	1	1
From 15 to 20 years of age.....	4	1	5
" 20 to 30 " " 	12	11	23
" 30 to 40 " " 	15	12	27
" 40 to 50 " " 	10	15	25
" 50 to 60 " " 	7	7	14
" 60 to 70 " " 	6	5	11
" 70 to 80 " " 	1	3	4
" 80 to 90 " " 	1	..	1
	56	55	111

TABLE No. 3.

Showing the civil condition of those admitted.

	<i>Males.</i>	<i>Females.</i>	<i>Totals.</i>
Single.....	28	20	48
Married	22	19	41
Widowed	5	16	21
Unknown.....	1	..	1
	<hr/> 56	<hr/> 55	<hr/> 111

TABLE No. 4.

Showing nativity of those admitted during the year.

	<i>Males.</i>	<i>Females.</i>	<i>Totals.</i>
Maryland.....	35	36	71
Pennsylvania.....	3	3	6
District of Columbia.....	1	1	2
Virginia.....	2	4	6
New Jersey.....	1	..	1
Delaware.....	1	..	1
New York... ..	2	1	3
South Carolina.....	..	1	1
Louisiana.....	..	1	1
Germany.....	5	4	9
Ireland.....	3	1	4
England.....	1	..	1
Scotland.....	..	1	1
Canada.....	1	..	1
Russia.....	..	1	1
Poland.....	..	1	1
Unknown.....	1	..	1
	<hr/> 56	<hr/> 55	<hr/> 111
Born in the United States.....	46	47	93
Born in Foreign Countries.....	10	8	18

TABLE No. 5.

Showing the Occupations of those admitted during the year.

	<i>Males</i>	<i>Females.</i>	<i>Totals.</i>
Farmers, wives and daughters of.....	8	15	23
Laborers, wives and daughters of.....	18	9	27
Merchants, wives and daughters of.....	4	6	10
Clerks, wives and daughters of.....	8	2	10
Shoemaker, wives and daughters of.....	1	3	4
Physician, and daughters of.....	1	2	3
Mason, and wife of.....	1	1	2
Tobacconist, and wife of.....	1	1	2
Carpenter, and wife.....	1	1	2
Baker, and wife.....	1	1	2
Clergymen.....	2	..	2
Painters.....	2	..	2
Oysterman.....	1	..	1
Tailor.....	1	..	1
Engineer.....	1	..	1
Student.....	1	..	1
Schoolboy.....	1	..	1
Dentist.....	1	..	1
Blacksmith.....	1	..	1
Miller, daughter of.....	..	1	1
Tinner, wife of.....	..	1	1
Teachers.....	..	2	2
Housekeepers.....	..	4	4
Laundress.....	..	1	1
Milliner.....	..	1	1
Seamstresses.....	..	2	2
Unknown.....	1	2	3
	<u>56</u>	<u>55</u>	<u>111</u>

TABLE No. 6.

Showing the support of those admitted during the year.

	<i>Males.</i>	<i>Females.</i>	<i>Totals.</i>
Supported by friends.....	12	16	28
“ by counties.....	26	22	48
“ by City of Baltimore.....	18	17	35
	<u>56</u>	<u>55</u>	<u>111</u>

TABLE No. 7.

Showing form of mental disorder of those admitted during the year.

	<i>Males.</i>	<i>Females.</i>	<i>Totals.</i>
Melancholia.....	13	19	32
Mania.....	29	23	52
“ with Epilepsy.....	2	1	3
“ with Paralysis.....	1	..	1
Dementia.....	3	5	8
“ Acute.....	..	1	1
“ Senile.....	1	3	4
“ with Epilepsy.....	1	1	2
“ with Paralysis.....	..	1	1
General Paresis.....	3	..	3
Imbecility.....	2	1	3
Idiocy.....	1	..	1
	<u>56</u>	<u>55</u>	<u>111</u>

TABLE No. 8.

Showing number of attacks and duration of last attack before admission of those admitted during the year.

	<i>Males.</i>	<i>Females.</i>	<i>Totals.</i>
First Attack—			
Less than 3 months.....	15	13	28
“ “ 6 “.....	10	7	17
“ “ 12 “.....	8	11	19
“ “ 2 years.....	1	8	9
“ “ 3 “.....	..	1	1
“ “ 5 “.....	4	1	5
“ “ 10 “.....	3	1	4
“ “ 20 “.....	4	2	6
More than 20 years.....	1	1	2
Second Attack—			
Less than 1 year.....	5	6	11
More than 1 year.....	..	1	1
Third Attack—			
Less than 1 year.....	1	..	1
Several Attacks—			
Less than 1 year.....	1	3	4
Unknown as to attack and duration.....	3	..	3
	<u>56</u>	<u>55</u>	<u>111</u>

TABLE No. 9.

Showing the alleged causes of Insanity of those admitted during the year.

	<i>Males.</i>	<i>Females.</i>	<i>Totals.</i>
Business perplexities (loss of money, &c.).....	6	3	9
Domestic troubles	5	9	14
Disappointed affection.....	1	1	2
Grief at loss of friends, &c.....	4	5	9
Religious excitement.....	2	1	3
Poverty and want.....	..	2	2
Old age.....	1	1	2
Sunstroke.....	1	..	1
Dissipation	3	..	3
Intemperance.....	5	2	7
Overwork.....	..	2	2
Injury to head.....	3	..	3
Epilepsy.....	3	3	6
Typhoid fever.....	1	2	3
Masturbation.....	6	..	6
Ill health.....	1	5	6
Change of life.....	..	2	2
Puerperal condition.....	..	1	1
Erysipelas.....	1	..	1
Paralysis.....	1	2	3
Chorea.....	..	1	1
Rheumatism.....	..	1	1
Use of narcotics.....	..	1	1
Congenital.....	1	1	2
Unknown	11	10	21
	<u>56</u>	<u>55</u>	<u>111</u>

TABLE No. 10.

Showing hereditary influence in causing insanity of those admitted during the year.

	<i>Males.</i>	<i>Females.</i>	<i>Totals.</i>
Hereditary taint denied.....	11	11	22
Hereditary taint, but relationship not stated.....	2	1	3
Father insane.....	5	7	12
Paternal relatives insane.....	3	..	3
Mother insane.....	1	..	1
Maternal relatives insane.....	2	3	5
Brothers and sisters insane.....	5	2	7
	<u>29</u>	<u>24</u>	<u>53</u>
Total ascertained.....	29	24	53
Unknown.....	27	31	58
	<u>56</u>	<u>55</u>	<u>111</u>

TABLE No. 11.

Showing number of Private Patients and those from Baltimore City and the Counties admitted during the year and those remaining in Hospital at the close of the year.

	Quota under Census of 1880	ADMITTED DURING THE YEAR.			REMAINING AT CLOSE OF THE YEAR.		
		Males.	Females.	Total.	Males.	Females.	Total.
Private Patients.....	..	12	16	28	22	15	37
Allegany County.....	10	2	6	8	17	14	31
Anne Arundel County.....	8	1	..	1	7	10	17
Baltimore County.....	22	4	3	7	16	14	30
Calvert County.....	3	1	1	2	5	2	7
Caroline County.....	4	..	..	..	2	1	3
Carroll County.....	8	2	1	3	8	8	16
Cecil County.....	7	..	..	..	..	..	..
Charles County.....	5	1	..	1	3	3	6
Dorchester County.....	6	2	4	6	4	11	15
Frederick County.....	13	..	..	..	4	..	4
Garrett County.....	3	1	..	1	4	3	7
Harford County.....	8	2	1	3	11	6	17
Howard County.....	4	1	..	1	7	10	17
Kent County.....	5	..	..	..	3	4	7
Montgomery County.....	7	3	1	4	6	6	12
Prince George's County.....	7	..	..	..	1	1	2
Queen Anne's County.....	5	..	..	..	6	3	9
St. Mary's County.....	5	1	..	1	1	3	4
Somerset County.....	6	..	1	1	9	8	17
Talbot County.....	5	2	1	3	8	6	14
Washington County.....	10	2	1	3	4	6	10
Wicomico County.....	5	1	1	2	8	5	13
Worcester County.....	5	..	1	1	..	4	4
Baltimore City.....	89	18	17	35	73	51	124
	250	56	55	111	229	194	423

APPENDIX C.

MOUNT HOPE RETREAT.

TABLE No. 1.

Giving the General Statistics of the Population of Mount Hope Retreat for the Year up to October 31st, 1888.

	<i>Males.</i>	<i>Females.</i>	<i>Totals.</i>
Number of Patients in Hospital on Jan. 1, 1887.....	215	269	484
Number of Patients admitted during the year.....	122	64	186
Whole number under treatment during the year....	337	333	670
Number discharged during year as cured.....	50	22	72
Number discharged during year as improved.....	19	13	32
Number discharged during year as unimproved....	3	2	5
Number of deaths during the year.....	31	22	53
Number remaining on October 31, 1888.....	234	274	508

TABLE No. 2.

Showing Ages of all Patients Admitted during the Year up to October 31st, 1888.

	<i>Males.</i>	<i>Females.</i>	<i>Totals.</i>
Under 10 years of age.....	..	..	..
Between 10 and 20.....	8	1	9
“ 20 and 30.....	25	7	32
“ 30 and 40.....	26	19	45
“ 40 and 50.....	34	19	53
“ 50 and 60.....	20	10	30
“ 60 and 70.....	8	6	14
“ 70 and 80.....	1	2	3
Over 80 years.....	..	..	..
Total.....	122	64	186

TABLE No. 3.

*Showing the Civil Condition of all Cases Admitted during the Year up to
October 31st, 1888.*

	<i>Males.</i>	<i>Females.</i>	<i>Totals.</i>
Married.....	51	25	76
Single.....	60	30	90
Widow.....	..	9	9
Widower.....	10	..	10
Divorced.....	1	..	1
	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>
Total.....	122	64	186

TABLE No. 4.

*Showing the Present Residence of all Cases Admitted during the Year up to
October 31st, 1888.*

	<i>Males.</i>	<i>Females.</i>	<i>Totals.</i>
Maryland.....	72	36	108
Pennsylvania.....	12	6	18
New York.....	2	2	4
Virginia.....	3	2	5
West Virginia.....	2	2	4
District of Columbia.....	10	4	14
Massachusetts.....	2	2	4
New Hampshire.....	1	1	2
Delaware.....	..	2	2
North Carolina.....	1	3	4
South Carolina.....	4	..	4
Georgia.....	1	..	1
Ohio.....	3	1	4
Louisiana.....	1	1	2
Tennessee.....	1	1	2
Michigan.....	1	..	1
Kansas.....	1	..	1
Kentucky.....	1	1	2
Rhode Island.....	2	..	2
England....	2	..	2
	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>
Total.....	122	64	186

TABLE No. 5.

Showing Occupation of those Admitted during the Year up to October 31st, 1888.

	<i>Males.</i>		<i>Females.</i>
Laborers.....	8	Wives of Laborers.....	6
Farmers.....	10	“ Farmers.....	8
Merchants.....	15	“ Merchants.....	4
Clergymen.....	3	Wife of Clergyman.....	1
Clerks.....	4	“ Clerk.....	1
Students.....	4	Students.....	2
Carpenters.....	3	Wives of Carpenters.....	6
Physicians.....	6	“ Physicians.....	2
Lawyers.....	2	Wife of Lawyer.....	1
Soldiers.....	3	Domestics.....	4
Sailor.....	1	Seamstresses.....	4
Plumber.....	1	Wife of Plumber.....	1
Police Officers.....	..	“ Policeman.....	1
Tobacconists.....	2	Editress.....	1
Tailors.....	2	Actress.....	1
Book Keeper.....	1	Book Keepers.....	2
Insurance Agent.....	1	Teachers.....	4
Brick Maker.....	1		
Conductor on Railroads.....	1	Wives of Machinists.....	2
Machinist.....	1	“ Saloon Keepers.....	4
Saloon Keepers.....	4	“ Painters.....	3
Painters.....	2		
Peddlers.....	2	Wives of Shoemakers.....	2
Shoemakers.....	3		
Speculators.....	2		
Gambler.....	1	Wives of Blacksmiths.....	2
Teachers.....	5		
Blacksmiths.....	4		
Plasterer.....	1		
Waiters.....	2		
Salesmen.....	5		
Printers.....	2		
Tinners.....	2		
Fireman.....	1		
Cabinet Makers.....	2		
Moulders.....	2		
Without Occupation.....	10	Without Occupation.....	2
	122		64
Total.....			186

TABLE No. 6.

Showing the Nativity of all Patients Admitted during the Year up to October 31st, 1888.

	<i>Males.</i>	<i>Females.</i>	<i>Totals.</i>
United States.....	79	47	126
South America.....	1	..	1
England.....	6	1	7
Ireland.....	21	8	29
Germany.....	12	7	19
France.....	..	1	1
Russia.....	1	..	1
Bohemia.....	1	..	1
Scotland.....	1	..	1
Total.....	122	64	186

TABLE No. 7.

Showing the Form of Insanity of those Admitted during the Year up to October 31, 1888.

	<i>Males.</i>	<i>Females.</i>	<i>Totals.</i>
Mania, Acute.....	34	20	54
“ Chronic.....	15	5	20
“ Puerperal.....	..	2	2
“ Recurrent.....	2	6	8
“ a Potu.....	4	..	4
Melancholia, Acute.....	23	10	33
“ Chronic.....	13	7	20
“ Puerperal.....	..	1	1
“ Recurrent.....	2	1	3
Dementia, Primary.....	1	..	1
“ Secondary.....	1	..	1
“ Senile.....	2	2	4
Paresis.....	4	..	4
Dipsomania.....	17	7	24
Epileptic Insanity.....	2	2	4
Toxic.....	2	..	2
Idiocy.....	..	1	1
Total.....	122	64	186

TABLE No. 8.

*Showing the Cause of Insanity in all Cases Admitted During the Year up to
October 31, 1888.*

	<i>Males.</i>	<i>Females.</i>	<i>Totals.</i>
Hereditary Predisposition	26	10	36
Ill Health.....	4	6	10
Alcoholic Excess.	22	10	32
Domestic Trouble.....	8	2	10
Pecuniary Losses.....	10	2	12
Business Worries.....	15	3	18
Defective Education or Injudicious Early Training ..	6	4	10
Syphilis.....	1	1	2
Political Excitement	3	..	3
Religious Excitement	1	4	5
Masturbation.....	6	1	7
Sexual Excesses	3	..	3
Epilepsy.....	1	2	3
Puerperal State.....	..	2	2
Senile Decay of Faculties	3	3	6
Climacteric Period.....	..	8	8
Poverty and Exposure.....	..	1	1
Injury to Head.....	4	1	5
Abuse of Opiates or other Narcotics.....	4	1	5
Fright and Fear .....	..	1	1
Apoplexy.....	2	1	3
Congenital.....	1	1	2
Sunstroke.....	1	..	1
Unknown.....	1	..	1
Total.....	122	64	186

APPENDIX "D."

Details Showing Progress so far made for the Opening, etc., of the Asylum and Training School for the Feeble-Minded of the State of Maryland.

The General Assembly of Maryland, by an Act passed during its last session, and approved March 31, 1888, authorized the establishment of the Institution above-named, and appointed, under the name of "The Visitors of the Asylum and Training School for the Feeble-Minded of the State of Maryland," the following gentlemen to take steps for its organization and government:

Charles Ridgely Goodwin, of Baltimore.

Henry King, of Baltimore.

Levin F. Morris, of Baltimore.

Dr. John Morris, of Baltimore.

G. S. Griffith, of Baltimore.

James A. L. McClure, of Baltimore.

Thomas Hill, of Baltimore.

J. Clarence Lane, of Hagerstown.

J. Walter Carpenter, of St. Mary's County.

Richard H. Edelen, of Charles County.

Herman Stump, of Harford County.

Charles B. Roberts, of Carroll County.

W. P. T. Turpin, of Queen Anne's County.

Dr. John W. Dashiell, of Somerset County.

Dr. Richard Gundry, of Catonsville.

Dr. J. Pembroke Thom, of Baltimore.

Milton G. Urner, of Frederick.

An appropriation of ten thousand dollars, payable on or after January 1st, 1889, was made for the purchase of land for the purposes of the Institution, any selection to be subject to the approval of the Board of Public Works before acceptance and payment therefor. Five thousand dollars are also appropriated annually towards the support of the Institution when established. The Visitors are to receive, care for and educate idiotic, imbecile and feeble-minded persons free of charge, when the County Commissioners or Orphans' Court certify, that they, their parents or guardians, are unable to educate or support them, and in all other cases a charge not exceeding two hundred and fifty dollars may be made yearly.

Under this Act, the Board of Visitors met on the 1st day of May, and organized by the election of the following officers :

President—Dr. J. Pembroke Thom.

Vice-President—Milton G. Urner.

Secretary—Levin F. Morris.

Treasurer—Henry King.

The Board of Visitors have negotiated for the purchase of a tract of land of 185 acres at Owings' Mills in Baltimore County. It is situated on the Reisterstown turnpike and is less than a mile from Owings' Mills Station of the Western Maryland Railroad. It was formerly the residence and farm of the late Dr. Wood. There is a good house upon the farm and two small tenants' houses. The land is beautifully situated, is well watered, a part under good cultivation and a part in woodland. They propose, as soon as practicable, to commence operations by opening a school for feeble-minded youth, and will defer all steps looking to the establishment of the Asylum Department

for custodial care of more mature imbeciles until their resources are larger. They can only, with the limited means at their disposal, begin in a small way to care for and educate a few feeble-minded children who can be improved by the special mode of training, hoping that in time the progress made will secure increased means, and thus enable them to extend their facilities. The house, an excellent dwelling house, is not large and cannot accommodate many. The Visitors hope that means will hereafter be found to build detached cottages, so that they may be able to adopt the family system in their care of the feeble-minded, by which they may be grouped together in small companies rather than congregated together in one large edifice. This system admits of gradual extension from time to time, as their resources will justify, and makes the classification of the inmates according to their condition and progress in education more perfect.

The officers and teachers will soon be appointed, and in the course of the next year it is hoped that this new but much needed Institution will be doing good work. No class of unfortunates appeal more strongly to our sympathy for help than the feeble-minded. The success of the schools already in operation elsewhere justifies the hope that much good may be accomplished here in elevating many of this class. It is to be regretted that the first efforts of the Visitors must necessarily be circumscribed by the small amount at their command.