

REPORT.

To the Honorable,

THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF MARYLAND:

GENTLEMEN:

In presenting their Fifteenth Annual Report of the "condition" of the House of Refuge for Juvenile Delinquents, its Board of Managers are gratified in being able to state, that at no time since the opening of the Institution has it been so free from disease; The infirmary for the greater part of the year has been without a patient, and at this date, there is not a single case requiring medical attendance. Endemic ophthalmia, that odium of all public institutions where large numbers of children are congregated, has entirely disappeared for the present; and it is specially worth mentioning, that not a single death has occurred among the inmates since March, 1864. All this is truly an object of heartfelt thankfulness, and with the sanitary improvements that have already been and will continue to be made in the House, as well as in the better regulation of its internal police, the hope may be sanguinely indulged that this happy condition will remain undiminished for the future. When it is considered that the whole number of inmates during the year was five hundred and seventy-six, with a daily average of about four hundred and two, the board may well be permitted to express their congratulations at so signally marked a condition of healthfulness.

The whole number of children received since the opening of the Refuge, December, 1855, is 1470, of whom 1245 were boys, and 225 girls. There were in the House, December 31st, 1864, 341 boys and 50 girls; and at the same date, 1865, 364 boys and 35 girls; the total of last year being a slight excess over that of the preceding period.

The financial condition of the institution will be seen in detail by reference to the annexed annual statement of the