

Treasurer. The estimates for general maintenance in our last report were acknowledged to have been loosely calculated, for the reason, that from the war then existing, the sensitive condition of money values, and the excessively advanced prices of every article of subsistence, clothing, &c., nothing more than an approximate sum based on the cost on the same general accounts for the preceding year could be made. Since then, a somewhat different state of events has taken place, but although there has been a restoration of peace, prices, nevertheless, still remain their previous advance, and from present indications there appears but little room for the hope that there will be any amelioration during the current year. Our wants then will be as great as heretofore, and our estimates will be made accordingly. On the 31st December, there is shown to have been a cash balance on all accounts of \$3,052.22, but by Statement No. 2, the true sum immediately available was but \$2,255.06 with which to commence the year's expenditures. Besides this sum, however, in May next, we will have the proceeds of two notes of the City remaining unpaid from last year's appropriation. These with the real cash balance as above, amount to \$7,138.80, and to this add the State's appropriation of \$15,000, payable in quarterly instalments in all the year of 1866, and we will have at command the actual sum of \$22,138.80. Now, the amount paid as per Statement No. 1 of the Treasurer, for the maintenance of the House, insurance, &c., was \$44,027.76; from this deduct the sum already available as above, and we have \$21,888.96 as our estimated actual deficiency. But, there is besides this, as shown by the Superintendent's books, a suspended debt remaining unpaid for current expenses of last year, the sum of \$4,116.26, so that it will require at least \$25,000 for the support of the Refuge for the current year over its existing available resources. It is true that we have an item of income that will cover all contingents, as necessary improvements and other incidentals that are always occurring in such an Institution as ours. But this source of revenue is extremely uncertain, and dependent upon so many circumstances beyond the control of the Board, that at the best, it can only be placed as a conjectural sum in the margin of our estimate. The amount received during the past year from the labor of the boys was \$7,851.67. This accrued from the employment of two hundred and thirty-eight boys under contracts. How long these last may continue, it is impossible to say. The compensation for board authorized by an Act of the Legislature has yielded for the year \$1,481 95. These short terms of residence in many cases operate