

well for the recovery of the child in its first errings. The evil attending the practice is, that it gives the parent control over the child's release, which sometimes is injudiciously exercised before much influence for effectual good has resulted from the confinement. It relieves the Board, however, from much imposition in the way of gratuitous support, where there is ample ability to make a just compensation for the expense incurred by the charge taken of a child not actually criminally delinquent, but as yet, only truant or incorrigible.

It has long been a most desirable object to add another wing to the main or central building, to be appropriated entirely as school-rooms, shops and other offices, and thus confining the present wings altogether to the purpose of sleeping apartments. If carried into effect, this improvement will largely contribute to the health of the inmates and the better order and convenience of the Institution. To the necessity of this enlargement of the building, for such it has imperatively become, the Board have adverted in former reports. It is again referred to only that we may say, that there is a good prospect of being able to commence the work at an early day, or as soon at least, as the present extremely advanced prices of labor and materials shall have abated somewhat, and will authorize the undertaking with due respect to an economical expenditure of the means at command. In the meantime, the funds set apart for the work are not idle. By investments of legacies, donations, &c., long since commenced for this special purpose, and a like investment of the special appropriations of five thousand dollars each, made by the State and City, last year, we have now available (Treasurer's Statements, 4 and 5) the sum of \$16,607.18. A building committee has in charge the obtaining of plans, specifications and estimates, and we shall thus soon learn the cost of the proposed structure. It is conjectured that at least \$30,000 will be required for its completion. Before deciding upon the actual commencement, however, the Board will cast about among the many friends of the Refuge for contributions to make up the deficiency between the sum at command and that actually required. It is not doubted that the same liberal bestowments will be secured as were extended to the Institution when its foundations were first laid.

What remains to be said will be devoted to the moral condition of the Refuge. The Sabbath services in the Chapel are stately observed. Conducted by pastors of various denominations, and in the most catholic spirit, their Bible teachings are always acceptably received by their young audiences, and doubtless, with a profit that will bring forth its