

One of the military bands in the city is largely composed of former inmates, and it is gratifying to know that, profiting by the experiment commenced and successfully prosecuted in the Refuge, other Institutions and large Schools have followed the example with as complete satisfaction.

The Superintendence of the Refuge still continues under the charge of Mr. William R. Lincoln, who with his corps of assistants, have used their best endeavors to perform their difficult duties aright, and to earn the respect and thanks of the Board by their faithfulness and labors.

In casting over the history of the Refuge for the past year, the Board sensibly feel their indebtedness to a merciful Providence for the many benefits bestowed upon the Institution. For this they would desire to express their sincere thankfulness, and while they would thus gratefully acknowledge the blessings of the past, they would also earnestly look forward in reverent trust for the future. The children have singularly enjoyed good health, the appliances for their moral and mental instruction have been well supplied, and all their necessary wants abundantly provided for.

From those who have gone to homes provided for them, we have generally good reports, as may be learned from the letters in the appendix. That here and there an exception may be found, cannot be denied, but when we recur to the antecedents of these, and remember the advanced age at which they were committed to the House, the only wonder is, that there are not found more who defiantly spurn all human instruction and restraints, and wilfully pursue a course that can only end in shame. An Almighty hand can alone control them. Notwithstanding such failures, however, so much is found to cheer us on in our labors, that we gladly accept the responsibilities imposed upon us. Seeking no other reward than the grateful consciousness, that we have been able to do some little good in our day, in the special sphere allotted to us.

Respectfully submitted,

CHARLES M. KEYSER,  
President.

JOHN J. GRAVES,  
Secretary.

Baltimore, January 1st, 1867.