

recognition ; with female attendants, whose countenances indicated kindness and intelligence, standing around, rather as companions and friends than the dreaded wardens of the room ; with patients led by kind ministrations to yield a ready assent, we felt indeed, that in the science of medicine, a new era had arrived, and that brighter hopes might awaken in the hearts of the afflicted.

Your committee were also favorably impressed with the excellent order, judgment, economy, aptitude and general facilities, which in all the minor departments, as refectory, &c., were manifestly visible, giving the strongest evidence of the care and interest manifested in the institution by its generous and efficient curators.

Your committee were peculiarly pleased with the admirable manner in which the temperature was uniformly maintained through all the wards and avenues of the spacious edifice. We looked around and found no blazing hearth or cumbrous furnace sending forth its heat, yet in each chamber and each lengthened avenue, the balmy atmosphere of summer seemed to float. The secret was unfolded. Beyond the walls, and in close proximity to the building, arose a modest structure containing a most beautiful furnace of immense capacity, and generating the balmy heat that cheered the deep recesses of the vast and stately mansion.

Turning from this splendid specimen of mechanical genius, our attention was directed to the vast garden spread out before us, and which, under the direction of a Superintendent, aided by some of the more improved patients, had furnished a supply to the Institution that would have cost some seven hundred dollars.

The last object of attraction that ministered to our gratification was the beautiful collection of housed flowers, in which were commingled the fair japonica, the rose of various and beautiful hues, and other blossoms of varying tint, and rich in odorous perfume. In this bright field of flowers your committee closed their labors, and completed the pleasant task assigned.

Re-entering the magnificent building, your committee were escorted to a sumptuous banquet, and partook of the hospitalities generously tendered by those accomplished and worthy patrons of this time-honored Institution. Having recorded our names as the delegated visitors from the Maryland Legislature, beside those of the energetic and faithful curators of the Hospital, we parted with the best wishes for the enterprise, and felt, as we left that circle of friends, that the poor, afflicted and benighted beings entrusted to their care, were blessed indeed with kind benefactors ; and as we turned from the threshold of the edifice, we gazed with