

and self-respect, where only vice and profligacy prevailed. So great is the pressure of applicants that an additional building is already needed, to give place to all who seek the shelter and protection which the Institution affords.

Your Committee were strongly impressed with the great benefits which the House of the Good Shepherd must inevitably work out, and they know of no Institution which appeals more strongly and more justly to the fostering care of the State. The Children of Preservation are those who are rescued from the control of vicious parents, that their young minds may be trained in the paths of virtue and industry before being subjected to the temptations and snares which beset the young. Your Committee cannot too highly commend this Institution to the serious attention of the General Assembly, as in every respect worthy of support and encouragement in the good work which it is doing.

#### ST. VINCENT'S INFANT ASYLUM

Your Committee visited St. Vincent's Infant Asylum, under the direction of the Sisters of Charity, and were highly pleased with the working of the Institution. As its name indicates, it is an Asylum for infants ranging in age from birth up to six years. Here they found one hundred and seven children, of whom, about thirty are under six months of age, and require constant care and attention. These children are little waifs who have been abandoned by their parents after having been born in shame, and children who have been left without a kind hand to lead them up into a life of usefulness. This Institution has been in existence for a number of years, and has constantly preserved from death those children who were abandoned. Of course great labor is requisite in the care of so many infants, and the Sisters are obliged to employ nurses to take care of the little ones. This Institution cannot be productive, and is entirely dependent upon charity for its support. The children, at least those of them who are old enough, appeared as happy as the more favored children of wealth and luxury, and fatherless and motherless, as they are, their condition makes a strong appeal to the benevolent, and especially to their common mother, the State. These now destitute children will become citizens of the State, and as He, who spoke as never man spake, suffered little children to come unto Him, the State should carefully guard the lives of the helpless children, that in after years they may reflect credit upon her. None more than children challenge our sympathies, and none more than children demand that protection and care which the State can afford.

#### ST. FRANCIS ORPHAN ASYLUM.

St. Francis Orphan Asylum, under the charge of the Oblate Sisters of Providence, a Colored Institution, was also