

are cut-off, would seem naturally to produce in their minds discontent and dissatisfaction; and to find them otherwise, under the peculiar circumstances of their affliction, was as much a gratification to your Committee, as it is a recommendation for the merit of the asylum. One of the best evidences of the good government of the institution, and that it fully meets all of its requirements, is the fact of the cheerfulness and apparent happy content of its unfortunate inmates, who attend their studies and daily duties with spirit and lively good humor.

In visiting the various class-rooms, we found there ninety-one human beings, ranging from nine to twenty years of age, whose communications to each other, as well as to all, can only be conducted in pantomimic gestures and sign language, but in such a graceful manner and degree of intelligence, that is creditable to those under whose instruction they have been and are now being taught.

Their progress, as shown in the examinations, in the various branches of learning to which we put them separately, is truly wonderful, and is a good guarantee of the fitness of their instructors and the efficiency of the course and mode of instruction.

There are some pupils there who are being taught vocalization, and who have progressed so far as to speak comparatively plainly, although they cannot hear the sound of their own voice.

Your committee take especial pleasure in reporting that the mutes are also taught the trade of shoe-making, in which from the specimens of their work, which we carefully inspected, they show considerable proficiency.

All these worthy and laudable results could not have been accomplished except through the zeal and interest exercised by the officers and attachees of the Institution. The general health of the pupils is excellent, the location of the Asylum perhaps, being a co-contributor with the uniform cleanliness of the buildings and all their departments and their judicious ventilation, and the care exercised over the pupils by the officers, to this desired end.

We are firmly convinced, that under its present management, the Institution is daily progressing, and becoming more and more useful in the relief of its unfortunate charges, whose deplorable condition cannot fail to arouse every sympathy of the human heart, and enlist every emotion and feeling of pity.

Your Committee therefore recommend the appropriation of a sufficient sum of money for the maintenance of the Institution for the years 1876 and 1877, and from proper estimates,