

by their employment. Indeed, within a few days an engagement has been concluded for the employment of twenty boys of medium age at a light manufacture, which number will probably be increased to seventy-five or one hundred, as new inmates are committed by magistrates.

In this connection it may be stated that every article of their clothing is made by the inmates themselves, and in the tailoring department a little has also been done for outside employers. A reference to an appended tabular statement will show too, that the garden and farm have afforded a somewhat profitable employment for the boys during the past season. The grounds belonging to the Refuge, for many years lay as a common, and the soil not being naturally of the best quality, it will require some time to bring it into productive cultivation. Still, to do this, will be a special object of attention, and will repay the labor and expense bestowed, both by the healthful occupation afforded and the supply of a sufficiency of vegetables for the use of the House.

With the foregoing exposition of the financial condition and management of the Refuge, the Board may safely submit their administration to the consideration and judgment of the Legislature, believing that with the single object of the institution distinctly understood and constantly kept in view, it will be perceived that their duties and responsibilities have not been lightly estimated nor carelessly performed. While they feel that their labors have not been all in vain, neither are they unmindful that much still remains to be done to perfect the systematic and full efficiency of their work. It will be made their study, as far as may be, to cure these deficiencies.

Before closing their report, it is only proper that the Board should briefly notice the condition of several departments of the Refuge, at the same time referring to the reports and statements of the Superintendent and other officers for any required details.

The *Ladies' Committee* have been efficient helpers, by the performance of their peculiar duties. In their faithful ministrations they have given good evidence of the interest they feel in the reclamation of the female inmates, and besides the consciousness of well-doing, we trust that they have their reward in seeing that this interest, as it has been so judiciously exercised, has not been without its beneficial, and it may be hoped, its lasting results. Attention is asked to their Report for an expression of their own sentiments in this regard.

While speaking of this department, it may be added, that the subject of erecting a separate building for the girls outside of the present walled enclosure, referred to in our last Report, has lost nothing of interest by the delay in carrying out the intention. Indeed the Board are daily more and more convinced of the absolute necessity of such an improvement. The financial difficulties which have affected the country so universally, have preven-