

The Board cannot omit here to make reference to the services of Prof. Root of the City Public Schools. His very acceptable aid as a teacher of Music has been given regularly and gratuitously. This portion of the education of the inmates is highly appreciated, and while it affords a means of enjoyment, its influence is most genial and effectual in fastening upon the heart and memory sentiments and precepts that will never be entirely eradicated. It serves also to ensure method and harmony in the devotional singing on the Sabbath, and in every respect cannot be too highly valued. To this estimable gentlemen too, the Board are glad of the opportunity of publicly expressing their gratitude.

On the 9th of December last, the Board celebrated the Anniversary of the opening of the House of Refuge. The exercises were held in the Central Presbyterian Church, when appropriate addresses were delivered by the Rev'd Dr. H. V. D. Johns and Rev'd Dr. J. McCron, to a large and attentive audience. The information imparted and the appeals made on the occasion met with so much favor, that on the written request of several of our most respected citizens, a repetition of the exercises, with the kind consent of the speakers, was held at the Eutaw Street M. E. Church, on the 29th of the same month. A crowded audience was a flattering compliment to the ability of these earnest co-adjutors of the Refuge as well as a grateful evidence of the interest which the community feel in the aims and results of the Institution. A pleasing incident on the last occasion was the choral part of the exercises which was performed by the inmates.

On the 12th of May last, the first Convention of Delegates from the juvenile Reformatories in the United States, was held in New York. Its object was to bring together the statistics of this particular branch of public benevolence, to compare experience, to confirm what was good in all and to suggest improvement in any, where needed. The results of the proceedings on the occasion with much additional interesting matter, have been printed and a copy will be laid on the table of each member.

And now in conclusion,—grateful for the large degree of excellent health that has prevailed during the past year at the Refuge; for the good order and encouraging improvement of the inmates, and for the many manifestations of kindness exhibited for their benefit, by so many friends of the Institution; thankful to the State and City authorities for the aid which has hitherto been appropriated to our service, and above all, impressed with a deep sense of gratitude to the Almighty, for our success thus far, we feel that we have reason to be hopeful for the future and so take courage and press on earnestly and untiringly in the prosecution of the work to which we have set our hands.

In behalf of the Board of Managers,
G. BROWN, President.

JOHN J. GRAVES, Secretary.
Baltimore, January, 1858.