

and moral reformation will ensue wherever the courses of vice have not been so long pursued as to leave no room for the entertainment of virtue and good morals.

Your committee were highly gratified by the exhibition of the musical knowledge of the inmates, both vocal and instrumental, not merely by the pleasure afforded by sweet and musical sounds, but also, by the proficiency manifested in the knowledge of a science so well calculated to develop and elevate the moral nature and refine the social feelings and habits of the individual.

This institution is an applicant for the aid of the Legislature, and is worthy of its liberal care. Additional buildings are much needed, and if afforded will doubtless, as in the case of the Penitentiary, render it a self-sustaining institution and thus lessen the annual drain on the State Treasury directly and indirectly.

The Childrens' Aid Society is an organization of a kindred character, seeking to accomplish its ends by a different process; the former acts as a congregated organization, the latter in a segregated capacity. It takes the street loafers, beggars and others who have no sufficient home protection against hunger and the inclemencies of the season, no restraints from vicious courses, and who, if suffered to run at large on their own resources, would be most likely to become tenants of the penitentiary or ornaments to the gallows. They take charge of these, and find homes for them in the country, where they are taken out of the influences of their former habits and associations, and reared to useful employments and virtuous knowledge. It is a useful means of supplying much needed help caused by the new state of things recently inaugurated in our State. They take charge of destitute and friendless children between the ages of eight and fifteen years of both sexes, and thus are able to fill vacuums in many families needing juvenile help. This is a good and useful reformatory organization, and deserves the fostering aid of the State as well as the community.

The "Home of the Friendless" is a combination of ladies, married and single, illustrating the loveliest and most excellent traits of the female character and life. In the Home, your committee found congregated about 100 children from the age of one year up to twelve years, of both sexes. They receive the homeless and the friendless infant; bestow upon it all a parent's care, and rear it for a useful and virtuous life. Some of these infants were picked up, to use the language of the excellent Secretary, as "bundles of rags;" little masses of starvation and destitution, rescued from impending death, and prevented from that worse than death, a youth of poverty, hardship, ignorance, brutality, vice and crime, terminat-