

ing in the ditch, the penitentiary, the gallows and the "second death." Your committee found the Home not only clean but bright and cheerful; its accommodations and departments in the best order; found it indeed a "Home." The scrutiny made by your committee of this establishment, brought to their minds evidences of patient, persevering, kind and maternal care, and labor bestowed on the physical and moral wants of these little "waifs" bespeaking in the guardians of this institutions, a high Christian character, and affording the best evidence that the liberality of the State has in this case been wisely and well bestowed. Your committee dared not say less in this connection, but might say more if the occasion permitted or required it, and will only add, that inasmuch as "ye have done it to one of these little ones, ye have done it unto me."

Your committee cannot, however, close this part of their report with justice to you or the lady managers of the "Home," without giving two extracts from their tenth annual report, as evidence of the motives and principles which guide their actions, and to recommend to your careful perusal that report, they say:

"To clothe the naked and feed the perishing bodies of these children of want or woe, is indeed a great work, but the "more excellent way yet remains." The gift of money or the labor of our hands is easy and pleasant in comparison. We may stand afar off and do this; but to come near and lay our hands on them, can we do this? "There is a deep sense in which we are called upon to give ourselves for their rescue."

And "we lose no opportunity to place a child in a Christian and concientious household, which offers equal advantages to those the Institution can afford; but in many cases the good of the child is a secondary consideration; while in some it is almost forgotten. Experience has taught us that it is better wisdom to keep them a few years in the Institution; train them to habits of industry and needful handicraft, and bring them to an age of some capacity for self-defence and self-reliance, before sending them out to the battle of life. Ours, therefore, is not a temporary home but a training school for these children who so greatly need it; where the welfare of the child is the main-spring of all its machinery, and where every hour is filled up with instruction in books, needles or household duties."

In regard to the Maryland Institution for the Instruction of the Blind, your committee shall have less to say, inasmuch as the inmates have appeared before the members of the two Houses, and thus furnished proofs of the workings of the Institution.