

the child is the mainspring 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.

The building used for the purpose, your committee deem wholly unsuited to the accommodation of any large number of inmates and not adapted to the purpose, it was an old family dwelling and laid out and arranged with no view to the purposes to which it is now applied. Your committee found the management as good as the nature of things would admit, and that so far as facilities went, the Institution was administered with proper views of usefulness and economy. This Institution is an applicant for relief at the hands of the General Assembly and should have it.

The Maryland Hospital used for the cure of the Insane, your committee found well administered in all its departments and its sanitary police in the best possible condition; cleanliness, neatness and order everywhere prevailed to the highest degree. Your committee cannot but speak in the highest terms of praise of the whole economy and management of this Institution; it is governed and conducted on the most enlarged principals of science and liberality. The inmates we found as comfortable as the nature of their unfortunate condition and the means of the Institution would admit. There is a great defect as well as danger in the means of heating the building—this is very imperfectly as well as expensively done by the use of thirteen furnaces and several stoves, rendering the opportunities and facilities of ignition too convenient and great, and hazarding not merely the safety of the building but also the lives of the unfortunate inmates. When persons are rendered mentally irresponsible the utmost vigilance and care should be exercised to withhold and remove from them the means and facilities of their own injury or the destruction of others. The present means of warming the building is inefficient, dangerous and expensive and should be remedied. This Institution is an applicant for relief and should have it so far as is in the power of the State.

The Maryland Insane Asylum was not visited by your committee, on account of the President of the Board failing to meet your committee at the time appointed. Your committee, however, had an interview with the architect from whom they learned that nothing had been done towards its prosecution or completion since the last session of the Legislature. Your committee have seen enough in this examina-