

would have done had it been in their power, but the omission they do not now regret. It afforded them an opportunity of seeing the every-day life of the pupils, and precluded anything like a special exhibition or preparation for the occasion.

The whole number of pupils in the Asylum is fifty-four, of whom only about eight or ten are blind, the remainder being deaf mutes. Many ingenious inventions are employed to supply in some degree the deprivation of the sense of sight, and by means of these a finished education is possible for those upon whom the light of day has never dawned. Books with letters in relief afford access to many of the sciences; the study of geography is facilitated by maps prepared in the same manner; proficiency in music is easily attainable, and an examination of various articles of work very cleverly executed by them proved that they may be made useful members of society.

The education of the deaf mutes embraces a wider range of subjects. The art of drawing is taught by an accomplished professor, and some of the pupils certainly possess great aptitude for it. It can readily be seen how in many ways such an art can hereafter be employed to their pecuniary profit. The joiners' shop affords an easy and agreeable employment to the male pupils, and much of the furniture in the Asylum has been manufactured by them. The master workman in the shop is a pupil. The exercises in composition on impromptu subjects were highly creditable, and your committee cannot refrain from paying a merited compliment to two of the more advanced female pupils, whose thoughts were expressed with unusual facility, elegance and grammatical correctness.

The inmates of the Asylum appear healthy, comfortably clad and contented, and your committee were informed that not a single death has occurred since its foundation, seven years ago.

The pupils from Maryland number twenty, the whole number being, as before stated, fifty-four, while the institution at present can accommodate seventy. Owing to difference of sex, age, capacity and term of residence, many of the classes are very small and could be instructed more rapidly and to better advantage if they were larger. We have now in the Pennsylvania Asylum a few beneficiaries from this State, and your committee would suggest that there is no good reason why they should not be transferred to this institution, so easy of access, and where they would be at all times under the care and supervision of the Legislature. The expense of maintaining a pupil is one hundred and sixty dollars per