

than, in view of the present position and prospects of the State, ought to be appropriated for the purpose; and they hope that the liberality so often exercised on former occasions, will not be withheld from the present undertaking—the last hope of the fatherless, and of the hundreds who, knowing of no kind friend to guide them, now lead a life of abandonment and shame. For thirty-eight years, the “House of Refuge” has been in contemplation, and now that the attainment of the long cherished design is within our grasp, let us hope that our efforts at success will not be in vain.

Many a friendless child now depending on the cold charities of the world—many a wandering outcast from the pales of society—many a tender bud just opening into life, with a parent’s evil example encouraging to crime, will then have cause to rejoice—and the heart of many a fond mother, whose wayward daughter trembling on the brink of ruin, shall have been reclaimed from the paths of vice, and trained by the Refuge to habits of virtue and industry, and once more restored as an ornament to society, will leap with joy at the fostering care and aid granted by the State. It is for those we plead; and may the God of the poor and destitute hear our prayer, and guide the hearts of those on whom the responsibility rests, to incline a willing ear and lend a helping hand to this benevolent enterprise.

WM. A. STEWART, Chairman.