

and the proceeds of sales thereof, derived from the Lottery which has been mentioned, or which were under the care of the City for the purposes of a House of Industry.

It does not appear that any such appropriation has been made by the City of Baltimore. Meanwhile has sprung into existence from the provident kindness of the State, an institution most beneficent in its views, and assuring to society the highest moral advantages. The House of Refuge Incorporated at the last session of our General Assembly, an institution embracing all the excellencies of a House of Industry, while its protecting and purifying agency far exceeds the scope of such an establishment. An institution so needed by the varied miseries and moral perils of a large community must, to meet the general necessity, be unavoidably very costly. Although, it is true, the Legislature made a contingent provision for its support out of future profits of the Penitentiary, yet that resource is not yet available and may never be so except by very slow degrees and in scanty results, while, on the other hand, the occasion for the immediate consummation of the Institution is pressing, and the subjects dedicated to its care are daily increasing.

Your committee are of opinion that the fund in question, created by the authority of the State for a social good—for a public object—belongs to the State and may by it be applied to any purpose of public utility that it may select. To no other case can it more happily be devoted than to the achievement of a plan—the realizing of the blessings of an institution—which in the purest charity offers a parental shelter, with all the endowments of knowledge and the influences of morals and religion, to the wayward youth of Maryland, degraded by example and associations threatening in maturer years the good order and security of the community, and tempted to their own ruin in the recklessness of their poverty. Such an object for our bounty is not only a kin to a house of Industry, but also to that liberal institution of Public Schools to whose aid the State permitted the City to apply this fund. The memorial seeks not to divert the benevolence of the State from its course and aim, the cause of morals, of mental cultivation, of useful habits and salutary labor. Under the original scheme for a house of Industry, under the act which substituted for it the interests of public schools, under the expanded philanthropy of a house of Refuge, and finally under the suggestions of this memorial, we find congenial views and pursuits all concentrating in one object of individual improvement and social peace and happiness.