

NINTH ANNUAL REPORT

OF

THE TRUSTEES

OF THE

State Industrial School for Girls,

AT LANCASTER,

TOGETHER WITH

THE ANNUAL REPORTS

OF THE

OFFICERS OF THE INSTITUTION.

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OCTOBER, 1864.

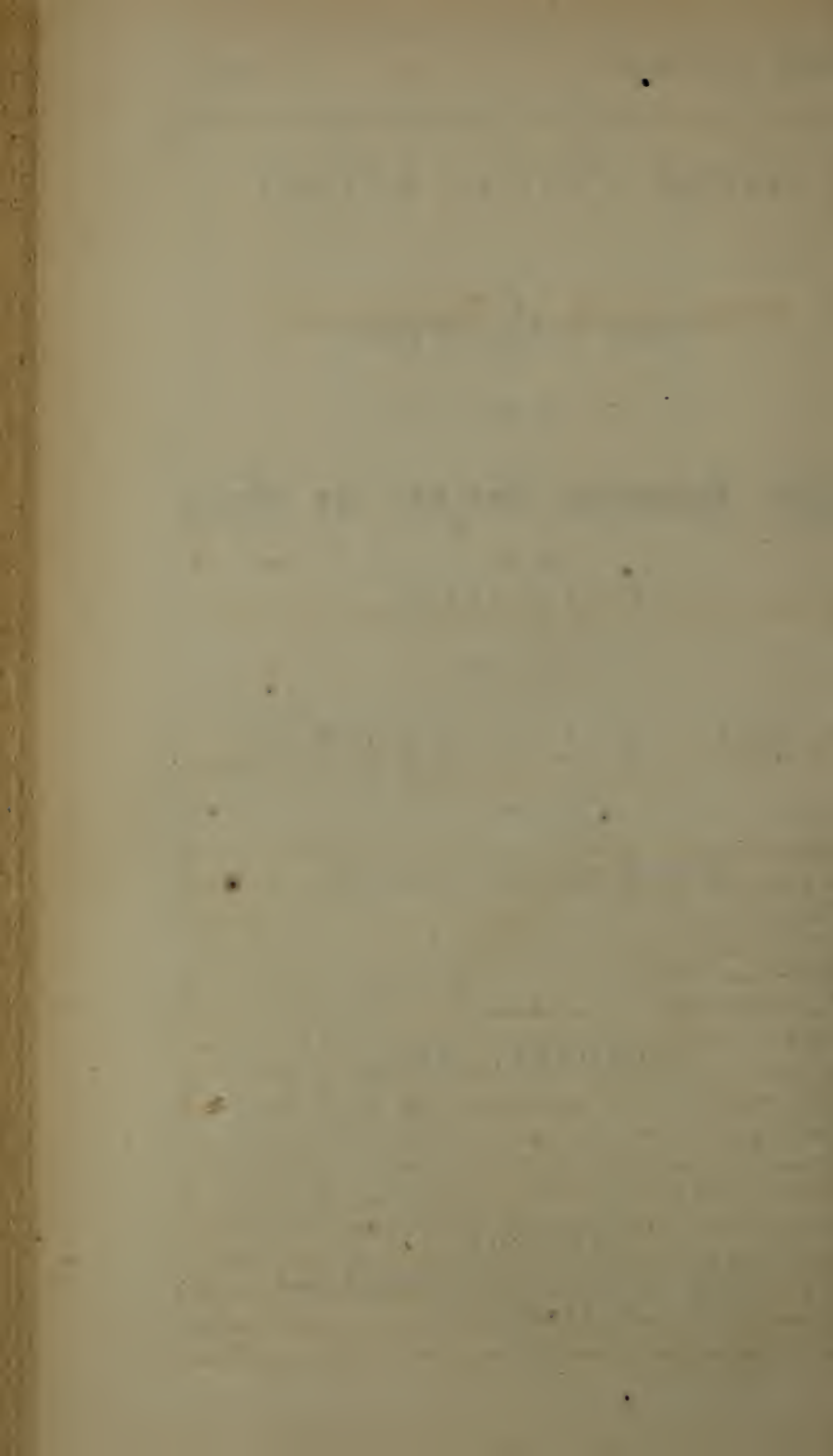
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# Commonwealth of Massachusetts.

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## NINTH ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE

TRUSTEES OF THE STATE INDUSTRIAL SCHOOL FOR GIRLS.

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*To His Excellency the Governor, and the Honorable Council  
of the Commonwealth:*

In presenting their Ninth Annual Report, the Trustees of the State Industrial School for Girls at Lancaster take great pleasure in assuring you of the excellent condition of the institution, and its fulfilment for another year of all reasonable expectations.

The fitness of the school, by the plan of its foundation, for the beneficent ends it contemplated, removed it at the first from the class of mere doubtful experiments, and gave it at once a claim to the public favor as one of the noblest charities of the Commonwealth. It was seen and felt that, with proper working material, the institution must needs be a success.

Massachusetts is distinguished for the generous practical ideas to which she has given birth. She enjoys everywhere an enviable fame for her noble system of common schools, but has still higher claims to reverence as being foremost in every work of love and mercy. For the State to regard the vicious and unfortunate as its own children, and then to adopt them into homes of the largest attractions and for the most tender cul-

ture, is indeed to open a new field of public operations. When it thus looks with an eye of kindness on the moral orphans of the by-ways and the street, when it seeks as a fostering parent, to gather into the fellowship of domestic life the wretched victims of neglect or coarse brutality, then it rises to the dignity of a Christian Commonwealth, instead of being only a machine for fulfilling mere political functions. We do not prize our school for what it is in itself alone, but as an important step towards some general system of controlling vice in all its stages. Hitherto, society has partly failed to comprehend its true relation to the erring and degraded. Often vindictive and stern in the awards of justice, it has cast out many a life to the chances of sin and despair that would have richly repaid the work and cost of saving and improving.

No imagination can fully depict the contrast between the past condition and prospects of the children in our school, and their present lot with its growing hopes. Some of them were taken from the lowest associations of poverty and vice; some from the misery of home neglect; some, from actual experiences of early crime, and thus were candidates for a life of mingled bitterness and shame. To-day they are seen in neat attire, restrained by healthy moral influences, happy in their privileges and with a goodly future opening to their view. All this supplies a picture beyond the power of language to describe. Such a contrast gives us one of the finest illustrations of that Scripture, "mercy rejoiceth against judgment."

Changes among the heads of the several families of the institution have been more frequent than in some former years. This has not been owing, however, to unfitness on the part of any of the matrons for their holy work. The Trustees congratulate themselves that they have been almost uniformly successful in securing the right individuals to serve in this relation. For the highest success as a matron, is required a rare combination of qualities, — firmness, order, dignity, economy, intelligence, self-command at all times, a knowledge of human nature, and a fountain of the richest love. But when all the excellencies of true womanhood and the tender sensibilities of maternal love may be united in the same person, then sometimes physical endurance is partially wanting. In the management of our families, the demand upon the nervous energy and vital power

of the matrons is very great. Hence it is that some find themselves compelled to resign their post, after a longer or shorter period of service. If any class of women in the world deserve the meed of highest praise, they are the faithful, conscientious matrons of our institution. When we have noticed the uniformly kind relations of the matrons to the children, their patience, care and tenderness, we have been constrained to feel that they must each have been influenced by the same noble spirit which once moved a certain woman, in adopting a boy whose habits proved offensive, to pray, "Lord, give me a mother's heart." To the credit of the several heads of our families be it said, that this prayer seems to have been fully answered;—they have each a true mother's heart.

Care has always been taken to avoid indoctrinating the pupils in the special creed of any particular sect. While religious instruction necessarily forms and should constitute a part of their training, it has been confined chiefly to the truths which are summed up in the doctrines of Duty and Love, in which all Christian hearts agree. Religious motives have always proved to be a happy and important influence among the means by which the minds of even the youngest have been enlightened and their hearts improved. It was the testimony of a mother once, that to take her child alone with her in prayer proved effective as a discipline, when all other means had failed. So with us; religious incentives, drawn from the principles of Love and Truth, have either powerfully enforced judicious penalties or suspended their necessity.

The Trustees are glad to refer to the continued services of the excellent Superintendent of the school in terms of the highest approval. Time only makes more certain that his appointment was an eminently wise one. In his careful and prudent management of the affairs of the institution, in his fidelity to his duties, and in the wisdom of his moral teachings, he shows himself the right man in the right place. The increasing burdens of his position, however, have rendered it expedient and necessary to allow him the services of an assistant. A suitable individual has been obtained in the person of his sister, Miss Elisabeth Ames, and at a salary not exceeding \$400 per year. This is, considering the times, regarded as a moderate compensation.

During the year, thirty-six of the pupils have been indentured to families, respecting whose fitness for so grave a trust the Trustees made all suitable inquiries. Sixty-three new pupils have been received into the different families. The average number for the year, in the whole institution, has been one hundred and forty.

The economy of the school is certainly not its least striking feature. No great public charity that promises so well is sustained at so small an expense. This fact should commend to favorable notice the call which the Trustees hereby respectfully make for appropriation to erect another building. The institution is almost daily pressed with calls to open wider its hospitable doors which are now well nigh made in vain. Applications are repeated from courts and judges in behalf of such as they are anxious, in the mercies of the law, to assign to our protection and training. As it has been demonstrated by sufficient experiment that our school is able to achieve results of unspeakable moral value, it now seems to us almost inhuman to deny the virtue of its merciful provisions to any of the unfortunate or erring. Besides, society owes a debt to all such children, for it is chiefly through the public indulgence or indifference that the very vices exist and thrive by which their early life has been so sadly tainted, and hence to save and serve them is less a matter of benevolence than a point of simple justice. Still further, whatever may be spent in restraining youthful folly may be so much saved from the cost of punishing later and more aggravated crime. For a thousand reasons it is good economy to prevent depravity rather than wait to avenge it in its extreme degrees.

The above recommendation for a new building deserves the more attention from the fact, that by an Act of the last legislature, the age to which the Trustees might continue their control over the pupils was extended from the age of eighteen to twenty-one. If any of our indentured girls have ever failed to meet the expectations of the parties who received them, one reason may have been the fact that they were insufficiently confirmed in the habits of their new kind of life. Possibly, a few may have left the institution prematurely, or at least too early for their best good; but if so, the mistake has arisen from a desire, by relieving the school of some of the better and older

pupils, to make room for new applicants, and thus extend its blessings to the largest possible number. The legislature doubtless intended by the Act referred to, that the girls should have a longer connection with the institution than heretofore, in order to insure to them the formation of characters more beyond probable danger of perversion. But, *with our present accommodations, the longer we retain* our older pupils, the more new applications we must necessarily refuse; we hope therefore that our means of usefulness may be enlarged, whenever the other pressing demands upon the State will admit.

The Trustees have agitated the question of classifying anew the members of the school. By the present arrangement they are mingled in the families without respect to age, so that the youngest and the oldest are in constant communication. It is true that this method better meets the idea and relations of a family circle than any other; but at the same time it fails of some advantages which it is very important to attain. The benefits of the institution to the younger children might possibly be more speedy and sure, if they were gathered together into one or two families, and were thus separated from those who have been more exposed to temptation and have had a larger experience in sin. The Westborough Report of last year makes reference to the adoption of the plan of grading the boys of that school according to age, and commends the experiment as having been successful in all respects. Still, the Trustees, before consummating so grave a change, wish to give to its consideration their most careful thought and patient attention.

We beg leave to refer to the Report of last year for an exposition of the routine and specific workings of the institution in all its parts, that Report having been intended to give an idea of the exact nature and design of the school.

That the institution may work out all the good for which it was designed, it is not only necessary that the children should be kindly cared for, and kept under Christian influences while here, but that, upon leaving the place, they should continue to be under the guidance of kind and just women, who may feel their responsibility, and be willing to supply the place of a Christian mother's care, the want of which is the true reason why most of these children are here.

The character of a domestic depends vastly more than is often thought, upon the character of the employer, and the spirit which prevails in this relation ; kindness, gentleness, and considerate forbearance, on the part of the one, usually produces industry, frugality, ready obedience, and fidelity in the other. As these latter are the qualities which are carefully fostered in the Industrial School, it is extremely desirable to meet with the former in the homes which these girls may find.

In visiting the children, in the families in which they are indentured, as the Superintendent or Trustees are bound to do, they find striking differences of treatment ; sometimes the greatest kindness and a feeling almost parental in the employer ; sometimes hardness, indifference and selfishness. The generous treatment seldom fails to make the girl exert her best efforts, in a happy, cheerful spirit, to please her employer ; selfishness and cruelty never fail to engender discontent, repining and resentment.

It is in homes where the Christian spirit prevails that the Trustees are anxious to have the girls placed. The relation of mistress and servant is so close and intimate that there is scarcely any limit to the good that may be done to the servant by a just woman, of generous and compassionate nature, who remembers that it is only perhaps some slight accident, some circumstance which we call casual, which has, in the providence of God, made one the servant and the other mistress, and who asks herself how she should like to be treated, if it were her lot to serve.

There are always in our institution little girls who have been sent here as vagrants and because they had no other home, and who are as innocent, as bright, as well behaved, as winning, as any children in the most favored families. For these we should be glad to get homes in the families of good women, who would adopt them, and treat them as their own children.

There must be, in almost every town, some families who have not the great blessing of children,—no objects on which the parental instinct can exercise itself, and where, therefore, the purest happiness of humanity is wanting. There must be others from which, by the inscrutable ordination of Providence, the happy light of children's faces, and the music of children's voices have been removed, and sadness and silence have taken

the place of their joyous voices and angelic looks. Into such lonely homes we earnestly wish that our orphaned little girls might be taken, to give and to receive the happiness for which the mother's and the child's hearts are aching.

Such little innocent children, pleasant as they are to see, in our school, are objects of great anxiety. We think they ought not to be sent here. Homes ought to be provided for them by that benevolence to which our earnest appeal is made in our Superintendent's Report; and we hope that, hereafter, the judges and other magistrates who have the control, will give such children some other destination than to this Industrial School.

The report of the Treasurer exhibits an increase of expenditures, which of course has been made necessary by the advance in price of all articles of consumption.

The farm is in a satisfactory condition. By the returns of the Farmer it will appear that his care and labor have been well rewarded, especially considering the excessive dryness of the season.

The Physician's report indicates that the health of the pupils averages favorably with the record of any year.

The report of the Superintendent furnishes sundry valuable and interesting particulars of results which have been achieved in the working of the school.

All these reports are herewith presented: and the Trustees would respectfully urge the importance of granting the powers asked for in the Superintendent's report and in that of the Physician.

All which is respectfully submitted.

GEO. CUMMINGS,  
THO'S R. BOUTELLE,  
DANIEL DENNY,  
GEO. B. EMERSON,  
JACOB FISHER,  
RUSSELL STURGIS, JR.,  
ALBERT TOLMAN,

*Trustees.*

DR.

INDUSTRIAL SCHOOL FOR GIRLS, in account with FRANCIS B. FAY, Treasurer.

CR.

1863-4.	To cash paid—	1863.			
	For salaries,	Oct. 1,	\$1,952 75	By balance old account,	\$1,498 78
	Trustees' expenses,	23,	339 08	cash of State Treasurer,	3,000 00
	stationery,	1864.	153 25		
	yarn and thread,	Jan. —,	3 24	By cash of Boynton, Farmer,	150 24
	flannels and linseys,		129 55	Hills & Co., for labor,	83 84
	flour,		1,621 88	Ames, for coal,	30 00
	meat,		556 34	Allen, Lane & Co., for socks,	331 04
	sugar,		243 44	" " "	175 74
	syrup,		554 58	State Treasurer,	3,000 00
	cotton goods,		1,825 99	" " "	3,000 00
	furniture,	Apr. 21,	304 32	" " "	3,000 00
	fish,	June 20,	105 43	Hills & Co., for labor,	140 01
	rice,	Aug. —,	102 94	A. E. Boynton, for sales,	242 84
	meal,	" —,	427 70	" " "	141 12
	small groceries,	" —,	263 58	Jacob Fisher, credit,	3 03
	stoves and tinwork,	" —,	297 99	State Treasurer,	3,000 00
	extra labor in houses and on farm,	Sept. 22,	2,082 83	" " "	3,000 00
	apothecaries,	30,	20 32	A. E. Boynton, for sales,	169 55
	prints and gingham,		710 51	Hills & Co., for labor,	78 50
	shawls,		35 25	Gibbs,	6 00
	freight and express,		47 14	sundry towns for board of girls, as	
	oil,		196 20	per book,	671 00
	tea,		88 63		
	postage,		36 80		
	butter,		37 23		
	shoes,		230 30		
	wood and coal, including coal of 1864,		3,386 09		
	crockery,		33 00		

For apples, . . . . .	\$20 00
repairs, . . . . .	368 00
beans, . . . . .	39 00
miscellaneous, . . . . .	509 12
To balance carried to new account, . . . . .	1,999 18
	<u>\$21,721 69</u>

\$21,721 69

October 1, 1864. By balance brought down, . . . . \$1,999 18

LANCASTER, October 1, 1864.

(E. E.)

FRANCIS B. FAY, *Treasurer.*

We hereby certify that we have examined the above account and that we find the same correctly cast and properly vouched.

DANIEL DENNY, }  
GEO. B. EMERSON, } *Auditors.*

## INVENTORY OF PROPERTY.

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Personal property in the Superintendent's office, including Library, . . . . .	\$360 00
Personal property in the chapel, . . . . .	425 00
"        "        "        store-room, . . . . .	500 00
Produce of the farm on hand, . . . . .	2,140 25
Valuation of stock, . . . . .	1,165 00
"        of farming utensils, . . . . .	592 50
Property in House No. 1,—coal, \$300; groceries, \$75; clothing, \$600; furniture, \$1,000, . . . . .	1,975 00
Property in House No. 2,—coal, \$300; groceries, \$75; clothing, \$600; furniture, \$1,025, . . . . .	2,000 00
Property in House No. 3,—coal, \$300; groceries, \$75; clothing, \$600; furniture, \$1,050, . . . . .	2,025 00
Property in House No. 4,—coal, \$300; groceries, \$80; clothing, \$640; furniture, \$1,050, . . . . .	2,070 00
Property in House No. 5,—coal, \$225; groceries, \$50; clothing, \$400; furniture, \$642, . . . . .	1,317 00
	\$14,569 75

## SUPERINTENDENT AND CHAPLAIN'S REPORT.

*To the Trustees of the State Industrial School for Girls,  
at Lancaster:*

GENTLEMEN,—In accordance with the requirements of the statute, providing for the establishment of this institution, I again present a report of its condition and history the past year.

Number present in the institution October 1, 1863,	129
received during the year, . . . . .	64
returned from indentures, . . . . .	15
returned from hospital, . . . . .	2—207
indentured during the year, . . . . .	37
returned to friends, or placed at service, time having expired, . . . . .	11
discharged as unsuitable, from ill health,	7
discharged as unsuitable inmates, . . . . .	1
discharged to parents, . . . . .	7
transferred to some State almshouse, . . . . .	4
now present in the institution, . . . . .	143—210
received into school from its opening, . . . . .	410
returned from indentures from opening, . . . . .	38
returned from hospital, . . . . .	5—453

Of this number (453) there are

Indentured, . . . . .	59
Delivered to friends at the expiration of their time, or who have completed their term of indenture,	195
Sent to hospitals and almshouses, . . . . .	15
Discharged as unsuitable, . . . . .	26
Dismissed to their parents, . . . . .	10
Deceased, . . . . .	2

Escaped (first year), . . . . .	2
Now present in school, . . . . .	143—453
Number of separate families, . . . . .	5
Present limit of accommodations, . . . . .	140
Average attendance for the year, . . . . .	140

Of the number now in the institution, there were born—

In Massachusetts, . . . . .	118	Of American parentage, . . . . .	68
Maine, . . . . .	6	Irish, . . . . .	41
New York, . . . . .	4	Mixed, . . . . .	12
Ireland, . . . . .	5	English, . . . . .	9
England, . . . . .	3	African, . . . . .	4
Rhode Island, . . . . .	2	German, . . . . .	3
Connecticut, . . . . .	2	Scotch, . . . . .	3
New Hampshire, . . . . .	1	Unknown, . . . . .	2
Canada, . . . . .	1	Swiss, . . . . .	1—143
Germany, . . . . .	1—143		

Both parents living, . . . . .	32	Lived at home, . . . . .	77
One living, . . . . .	82	from home, . . . . .	66—143
Orphans, . . . . .	29—143		

Before coming, attended school—		Attended some religious service—	
For some time, . . . . .	69	Frequently, . . . . .	106
For a short time, . . . . .	69	Seldom, . . . . .	28
Not at all, . . . . .	5—143	Not at all, . . . . .	9—143

Of those now members of the school, we have—

Of eight years of age, . . . . .	2	Of fourteen, . . . . .	21
nine, . . . . .	1	fifteen, . . . . .	25
ten, . . . . .	3	sixteen, . . . . .	29
eleven, . . . . .	9	seventeen, . . . . .	13
twelve, . . . . .	19	eighteen, . . . . .	2—143
thirteen, . . . . .	19		

Of those committed this year, when sent to us, there were—

Of eight years of age, . . . . .	2	Of thirteen, . . . . .	8
ten, . . . . .	2	fourteen, . . . . .	14
eleven, . . . . .	4	fifteen, . . . . .	22—64
twelve, . . . . .	12		

Received this year from

Suffolk County, . . . . .	27	Berkshire County, . . . . .	5
Essex County, . . . . .	6	Barnstable County, . . . . .	4
Bristol County, . . . . .	6	Plymouth County, . . . . .	3
Middlesex County, . . . . .	7	Norfolk County, . . . . .	1—64
Worcester County, . . . . .	5		

Of those indentured this year, there are in

Suffolk County, . . . . . 8	Berkshire County, . . . . . 1
Worcester County, . . . . . 7	Franklin County, . . . . . 1
Middlesex County, . . . . . 4	Plymouth County, . . . . . 1
Norfolk County, . . . . . 3	New Hampshire, . . . . . 2
Hampden County, . . . . . 2	New York, . . . . . 1
Essex County, . . . . . 2	Connecticut, . . . . . 2
Bristol County, . . . . . 2	Rhode Island, . . . . . 1—37

Of the whole number, since the opening of the school, we have received from

Suffolk County, . . . . . 128	Berkshire County, . . . . . 14
Worcester County, . . . . . 61	Barnstable County, . . . . . 10
Essex County, . . . . . 56	Hampden County, . . . . . 8
Middlesex County, . . . . . 56	Plymouth County, . . . . . 7
Bristol County, . . . . . 36	Hampshire County, . . . . . 5
Norfolk County, . . . . . 27	Franklin County, . . . . . 2—410

It will be seen by the figures presented above, that the institution has been full the entire year.

A few vacancies, which were soon filled, existed at the opening of the year, since which the applications for admittance from nearly all portions of the Commonwealth, have been very numerous and urgent. Although we have received sixty girls within the last twelve months, we have been obliged to refuse admittance to many.

It has been one of our painful experiences to return in answer to the applications of friends, judges and commissioners, for girls who were active and capable, but who were directly hastening to ruin, that we could not receive them. They must go back to the influences which had corrupted them. Some of these were brought to our office doors, within sight of these hospitable homes, where they *might be* saved, but had to be turned away.

It is, to me, very evident, that our cities and towns need more extended provision than now exists, for exposed and criminal girls.

The State has generously and wisely provided for *boys*, in the school at Westborough, and on the school-ship, to the extent of over 500; but the accommodations for girls, as you well know, are but 140. Whether it is wise for the State to provide increased accommodations for poor, friendless, exposed girls,

is a question worthy of serious consideration, especially when it is remembered, that a girl, once fallen, finds it harder to rise and secure the confidence of society, than a boy.

I am confident that there is a great and pressing demand for homes similar to ours.

My eye just rests upon this extract from one of our leading journals: "The number of idle, useless girls, in all our large cities, seems to be steadily increasing. They lounge or sleep through their morning, parade the streets during the afternoon, and assemble in frivolous companies of their own, and the other sex, to pass away their evenings. What a store of unhappiness for themselves and others, are they laying up for the future." Would that *this*, even, exhibited the whole! But far from it! What is here written, is true of many who belong to worthy, respectable families in nearly all our cities and large towns; indeed, I have been credibly informed, is true of some girls in attendance upon our High Schools, and this course, to our knowledge, has already brought sorrow and grief to many friends. Some of these girls are now with us, and it would be well if *more* were, for too many are hastening to ruin. Besides this, there is a large class of girls without parents, or whose parents are poor, intemperate and vicious, who are totally unfit to guide and train their children. They are left to run upon the streets, and, learning nearly every species of evil, become adepts in crime and vice.

The increase of Intemperance is very manifest, in bringing to us larger numbers than heretofore. It is painful to know, that in some of our cities, the traffic in liquors is more unrestrained; that its subjects are increasing, and in a very large number of cases, we can directly trace the necessity of girls being committed to us, to the influence of intemperate parents or friends.

We have been led to inquire whether the friends of children and youth, philanthropic men and women, could not be stimulated to provide, in their respective cities and towns, some school, refuge, or home, where the girls, who are running upon the streets, stealing, begging, associating with each other in vice, might be taken, placed under judicious restraint, and trained to domestic labor. Would not the cities and towns, to a considerable extent, maintain such Industrial Schools, organ-

ized and controlled by the benevolent, wise, and philanthropic of their respective cities?

After *intemperance*, as the cause of ruin to so many girls, I am inclined to believe that ignorance of *domestic labor*, stands next. The great majority of the girls, who come to us, know almost nothing about general household work, and are very averse to it. This spirit characterizes multitudes in all our communities. But let a girl grow up in a home of intemperance and vice, without a knowledge of the general work to be performed in the household, what will be the result? Nearly all other branches of labor for girls, are more than full, but the demand for good, neat, capable house-girls, *never*. There is scarcely a girl, who might not secure a good living and home by household work, if she were only instructed and trained in it. We have more applications of this nature than we can possibly fill. This, then, we regard as one great part of our work in this institution; and seeing and knowing its importance, both to the individual girl and to society, we could wish that similar homes might be opened in every large place,—as near London, they have what is termed “a Servant’s School,” where girls are trained to household work, cooking, washing, and needle-work. They are also instructed in reading, writing, and arithmetic. Admission is obtained partly by payment by friends, and partly by the nomination of benevolent persons. I am certain that here is a wide, open, and inviting field, for all thoughtful, benevolent men and women to enter.

Why may we not hope to see homes established in all our cities, for such a training of girls, who are now exposed to evil influences, and will, otherwise, soon be in our jails and houses of correction, or in “the house of her, whose guests are in the depths of hell,” or dying in almshouses and hospitals?

We rejoice in the opening of a home for *boys* through private benevolence, in the vicinity of Boston, during the past year. Will not others start similar ones for girls? Let them adorn all our cities, and be training schools to supply the continual demands for help in our families.

I may here remark, that herein exists one of the excellencies of our family system, in that the labor to be performed is more like that of an ordinary family than can be in an institution on the congregated plan. Attention is given by our housekeeper

to instruct every girl, according to her age and strength, in the work of the kitchen, so that, before she shall become of age, she shall have had experience in cooking, washing and ironing, as also, in knitting, sewing, and chamber-work. The work of each of the thirty girls of the family, thus comes directly under the vigilant eyes of the careful and pains-taking matrons. Instruction is given, day after day, line upon line, in all departments of labor. I need not say, perhaps, that work is the law of this institution. Officers and girls must here perform their appropriate share of labor.

“They that will not work, neither shall they eat.” It is our uniform and earnest endeavor, by precept and example, to commend labor, *work*, to our girls, as most honorable; to scorn to eat the bread of idleness, or to be in the future dependent upon others, but each to labor, working with her own hands for her own support, and that she may be useful to others. It is now our especial ambition “to make good bread,” and as I pass from house to house, I am sought by one girl after another, to test her bread. An increasing number of inviting loaves we now see as evidences of their improvement. I have just learned that one girl, who went out from this institution, now earns her living wholly, by making bread, in the island of Santa Cruz, which art she learned while here.

We may add, more work has been accomplished this year, than ever before. Besides performing all the work of the household, with the making and repairing of all clothing, our girls have knitted over 1,200 pairs of stockings, and braided palm-leaf to the extent of 35,000 yards.

The health of the institution has been generally good. A few cases of scarlatina occurred in the winter, and several of a dysenteric nature in the summer. But we have experienced far more embarrassment from girls committed to us, who are afflicted with some chronic disease, or whose systems are so weak and depraved, as to require nursing and attendance, and are wholly incapable of performing their appropriate part of the household labor. It is to be hoped that our judges and commissioners will especially regard this, as some of our families have been burdened with a large number, who could do nothing for the general support, and who, if retained by us, would never possess physical strength enough to be useful by

their labor, in society. It will be seen by our tables, that we have discharged as unsuitable, a much larger number than ever before. Others ought, perhaps, for this cause, to be removed.

I am satisfied that the location, diet, discipline, labor and recreation, all are such as contribute to health and general comfort. I know not that any change is needed in respect to these.

We sometimes experience great inconvenience from want of hospital arrangements, temporarily; but if arrangements can be made to transfer some of our cases of peculiar disease to some of the State hospitals, where they can be more legitimately treated, it will bring us great relief.

I still deem it very desirable that some provision should be made for girls, who are *too incorrigible* and *vicious* to remain as inmates of our families; that they be not, as now, simply discharged as unsuitable, and returned to the evil influences they have been under, and to corrupt society more and more by their presence. The effect upon the girls in the institution would be very salutary also, to know that in case of continued disobedience and pernicious influence, a girl would not be discharged, to run loose and act without restraint, but might be sent to some house of correction. The result now is, that a girl, thus discharged, goes directly to a house of disrepute; and not only is *herself* forever ruined, but aids in leading *many others* astray. If some provision were made by law to meet such cases, it seems to me that society would be greatly the gainer. Far better would it be that such girls should be under restraint somewhere, than free to roam, corrupting all about them.

Our schools have made evident and very gratifying progress during the year. Especial attention is given to the simplest and most important studies, and, I think, they will, as a whole, compare favorably with the common district schools. Some of our older classes, I think, excel in reading, in simple, general exercises in arithmetic and in singing. Most of the girls love their school-room, and manifest commendable earnestness and enthusiasm in their studies. Every girl can here acquire knowledge sufficient to enable her to guard her own interests, and prepare her to enjoy the ordinary intercourse and reading in daily life, and some do much more than this.

The discipline of the institution has been more easily administered than in some previous years. Few have shown a spirit of determined obstinacy and wilfulness, which has required exclusion from the family for some length of time. This is our severest punishment, and one which we find very effectual.

Our system of "marks" usually secures a proper regard for the rules of the family, as all greatly enjoy the privilege of writing to their friends once every month. If a certain number of marks is received during the month, the girl forfeits this privilege. Its operation is salutary. But all outward appliances for restraint, however valuable, are by no means to be relied upon to secure thorough and permanent reform. We, have had those with us whose conduct for months was *outwardly* perfectly correct, but who, in a few months after leaving us, have been drawn away into paths of vice and sin; not only hastening to ruin themselves, but leading others downward with them to death.

Hence, we feel that a good knowledge of domestic labor, whereby they may obtain their support, and a very respectable amount of knowledge acquired in the school-room, together with the outward restraint here imposed, one and all, are not sufficient to reform from evil habits, and prepare our girls to go forth to meet trial, and struggle with temptation, and become useful members of society; but that their inclinations, dispositions and purposes must be changed to new directions; that they must be led to see, not only the sad and terrible consequences of a life of sin and vice, but, also, the loveliness and excellence of a life of purity—the inestimable worth of an upright and virtuous character; that they may be led to feel their own weakness and tendency to sin, and to believe that there is a Friend, almighty and compassionate, who will not only forgive the past, but will impart strength and a disposition to turn away from their evil courses, and enable them to walk in the narrow path of obedience and purity.

It is my firm conviction that herein lies the great hope of their reformation and salvation. My hope of the future of our girls was never so great as now, because, in addition to faithful instruction in the school-room and careful teaching and daily practice in household labor, there is given the most faithful, simple, constant counsel morning and evening, by as true, self-

sacrificing, devoted women, as were ever banded together for a noble work. Their counsels are invaluable, their example and prayers are of incalculable worth.

We feel that they have not labored in vain. Says one matron: "If an unusual and increasing interest in religious things; a marked quietness in the family and a lady-like demeanor; a growing sympathy for the cares and illnesses, not only of the matrons, but of each other; a pride in doing well while "mother" was away, during her vacation, that she might be made happy by hearing of good behavior upon her return; and, above all, the increasing frequency of the solemn question, 'What shall I do to be saved?' 'How may I become a noble, virtuous woman?'—if all these are symptoms of progress and improvement, then is our family progressing and improving."

The Bible is made the standard of right, the book of ultimate appeal. Our Sabbath services and morning devotions in the chapel are seasons of interest and, we believe, of great moral and spiritual profit. Never did I preach to a more attentive and orderly congregation than here. Few more readily appreciate simple truth, or are more easily influenced under its appeals than they. The voice of song and humble prayer, most touching and sincere, our matrons often hear in their little rooms; and as genuine penitence and earnest effort is here exhibited, as, perhaps, among any children and youth in our land. We are sometimes disappointed, wearied and sad, but regarding the injunction, "In the morning sow thy seed, and in the evening withhold not thy hand, for thou knowest not which shall prosper, whether this or that, or whether both shall be alike good," we enter upon our work with renewed vigor, confident that such precious seed, accompanied by the earnest prayers of so many Christian laborers, cannot be forever lost.

My obligations to these excellent ladies I cannot adequately express, but deeply grateful am I for their constant, untiring efforts, in the perfect harmony that has prevailed.

Acknowledging my obligations, and returning my hearty thanks for your uniform support in every effort to promote the welfare of the institution, I remain,

Yours, most respectfully,

MARCUS AMES,  
*Superintendent and Chaplain.*

## PHYSICIAN'S REPORT.

*To the Trustees of the Industrial School for Girls :*

GENTLEMEN,—The favorable sanitary condition which has attended the institution under your charge for several years past, has continued during the last ; no death, and but the ordinary amount of sickness incident to like institutions.

But while we have been thus highly favored, and while the physical condition of most of the inmates has been improved, still quite a number of commitments have been made during the last year, wholly unsuited to the design and discipline of an industrial institution ;—cases of long-continued chronic disease, affording but little hope of permanent cure, and demanding the comforts and facilities of hospital treatment, rather than the restraints of an Industrial School. As an unavoidable consequence, they absorb much of the time and attention of matrons and teachers, to the forced neglect of other inmates ; the regular course of instruction and discipline are interrupted, and the harmonious working of affairs is shaken.

As the institution is destitute of all hospital accommodations, and as the Trustees have no power over such cases, except by a summary return of the girl to her parents, which in many instances would be most disastrous to her future welfare, I would therefore most respectfully suggest the necessity of such legislative action, as shall authorize the Trustees, upon the certificate of the physician to the institution, to transfer such inmates either to the hospital at Rainsford Island, or to one of the State almshouses, to be there retained, until such time as they shall be physically competent to endure the restraints and discipline of the institution.

All cases of ordinary disease, ever have been and will continue to be cheerfully attended, and no effort will be wanting either on the part of the physician or matrons, to render them all the aid which such cases demand.

Respectfully submitted.

J. L. S. THOMPSON.

LANCASTER, September 26, 1864.

FARMER'S REPORT.

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*To the Trustees of the State Industrial School :*

GENTLEMEN,—The season has arrived when the farmer must give an account of his stewardship, and his crop will tell if he has been a profitable or an unprofitable steward.

You will see by the valuation of the farm produce this year that our crop has been full an average one, although the severe drouth of June and July has shortened some of our crops, especially our hay, which gave such promise in May.

I have cultivated the past year, five acres of oats, three of rye, two of corn, two and a half of potatoes, three of roots and garden vegetables.

Our potato yield is over two hundred bushels to the acre. We have harvested sufficient since the crop was estimated, to warrant the estimation within rather than to exceed the crop.

For the past five years I have been raising our own stock, and have succeeded in getting some good milch cows. The institution is supplied with milk, and nearly so with butter from our dairy.

By continuing a rotation of crops, and a liberal and judicious application of manure, I have no doubt the farm will be able always to meet its expenses.

Hoping this statement may prove satisfactory to you, gentlemen, I remain,

Your ob't serv't,

A. E. BOYNTON.

DR. STATE FARM, in account with A. E. BOYNTON, Farmer.

Dr.

Cr.

1863.		1864.	
To value of stock on hand, . . . . .	\$1,055 00	By stock on hand, . . . . .	\$1,165 00
value of farming utensils, . . . . .	640 50	farming tools, . . . . .	592 50
produce of farm on hand, . . . . .	1,468 00	produce of farm on hand, . . . . .	2,140 25
expenses of the farm for the year, . . . . .	1,415 01	summer vegetables, . . . . .	100 00
salary of Farmer, . . . . .	650 00	sales during the year, . . . . .	703 75
balance to the credit of farm, . . . . .	575 55	milk for the Institution, . . . . .	537 20
		labor on Institution and grounds, . . . . .	515 36
		miscellaneous work, . . . . .	50 00
	\$5,804 06		\$5,804 06

A. E. BOYNTON, Farmer.

