

The Second Report of the Managers of the Halifax Asylum for the Blind—1872.

The Managers of the Halifax Asylum for the Blind, have much pleasure in again meeting the Members of this Institution, and in submitting to them a Report of its progress, and statement of its finances, for the year now drawing to its close.

They are pleased to say that a gradual increase has taken place in the number of its pupils, as great as they had at its commencement any reason to expect. From six in all, at the first of the year, there are now 8 males and 3 females, all of whom have been as attentive and devoted to their studies, as could be found in any Institution; their conduct has also in every respect, been most exemplary, which has been a great source of pleasure, and satisfaction, to the various Committees and Teachers, who have had the oversight of them. It is pleasant to reflect that those who in the Providence of God have not enjoyed the blessing of sight, can be so instructed, and benefitted by education, that their lives can be made pleasant to them, and that they can be taught such duties as will enable them to do something toward their own support.

In addition to bead and wool work, a commencement has been made this year, in cane seating chairs, the material for which is furnished by Messrs. Alex. Stephen & Son, of this City; most of the pupils can do this neatly, but as only two hours a day can be spared for it, from their studies, no great amount can be accomplished, or much earned at it, this will shortly be followed by other manufactures, such as brooms, brushes, &c., so that as each pupil leaves the Institution, he will have a knowledge of what will be useful, and may probably give him his living in the future.

Several pupils give promise of a talent for music, and every care is taken to cultivate it; in addition to the Lady Teachers, they are now enjoying the advantages of lessons from Mr. Saffery, Teacher of Music, who kindly and generously devotes two evenings in the week to their improvement, from which good results are anticipated. Satisfactory progress is being made in Vocal, as well as Instrumental Music.

The Lady Teachers have been most attentive to their duties. It was deemed advisable by the Board, to obtain for Superintendent, the services of a lady somewhat more experienced than the first employed in that office. Miss

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