

merely mention a suggestion on this subject, which has been applied to a similar institution in another place. The boys in an orphan house, may with much propriety be continued there until they are old enough to be apprenticed; masters can easily be procured for them on account of their orderly, clean, and moral habits; and such boys frequently become respectable and valuable members of the community to which they owe so much. The girls of the orphan house require more care in the management; it is a melancholy fact, that girls retained in such asylums until the age of thirteen or fourteen, are not found best fitted to take their proper station in society, and too frequently they become victims of temptation, and the hopes of their best friends are fearfully disappointed. A reason seems easily given. A great portion of the education of men and women can only be obtained in the great school, of general society. Abstract rules, and moral maxims are helps, but they are vague, and in a degree like weapons formed to beat the air, when unassisted by the experience only to be gained amid the sympathies and collisions of artificial life. The girl reared to a mature age, in an orphan house, enters the world as it were for a first time; the thousand charities of life which are only to be seen in a family, are unknown to her; the decorum and guards necessary for her sex and age, and which can only be understood from incessant and imperceptible observation, she is ignorant of, although lessons of which she is tired, and which she could not comprehend, endeavoured to warn her of their importance. Such an one, without the powerful controul of parents, and set loose from her guardians, innocent, engaging and ignorant of the world—what fearful odds are against her! Supposing her to escape degradation and crime—she is less likely to be useful and conciliating where she resides, than the girl who has been from her infancy initiated into the little attentions and duties of life. The remedy also seems plain; when girls are reared to the age of 10 or 11 in the Assylum, and are taught reading, writing and first rules of arithmetic, let them be placed out, in such poor or other proper families as may offer. In this community such children might be taken free of expense, or if not, for a sum smaller then would be necessary for their maintenance in the assylum. An affection between them and their new guardians would soon arise; peculiarities in their dispositions would be