

found to be impracticable owing to lack of funds for the purpose, the result being that a larger and more suitable house was hired and equipped, and this latter is at present in our tenancy.

"You will see by our reports that our charge, so far, consists entirely of girls, ranging in age from seven to sixteen years, and who number now twenty-three. Most of them come from our small fishing villages, where the people are, as a rule, very poor, and from which we receive very little pecuniary assistance, nearly all the money being collected here in St. John's, the institution thus becoming an additional burden upon an already over-taxed community.

"Some years since an effort was made to secure a grant from the funds of the General Conference, but was unsuccessful, the refusal being based upon technical grounds. Here your society stepped in, and, beginning with a grant of \$200, made an annual appropriation to our funds, increasing it from time to time, the sum thus appropriated for the current year being \$500, one-half of which has just been received, and which grant has, needless to say, been of very great assistance to us in our work.

"A few year ago, under the will of the late Hon. C. R. Ayre, who had always taken a great interest in the Orphanage, and to whose efforts the inception of the undertaking was largely due, we received a legacy of about \$12,000, which was to be devoted to the erection of an Orphanage building, and which was to be paid in instalments as the work progressed.

"Steps were at once taken to avail ourselves of this sum, and plans for a building were procured, and, with a view to the reception of boys as well as girls, a small tract of land was purchased about two miles from the city, where it was designed to give some training in farming, etc.

"Some opposition to this scheme developed, it being thought by many that such an institution would impose too great a burden upon the connexion for maintenance, and the result was that the larger idea was abandoned, and it was decided to erect the building upon a piece of ground situated within the town limits and which had been donated for the purpose by our Government.