

WORK DEPARTMENT.

Notwithstanding the somewhat excessive cost of this department during the past two years, as compared with previous years, I have reason to believe that the outlay will ultimately prove a good investment for the Institution, as it will certainly place us in a far better position to prepare our pupils for the business of life.

The cost of introducing a new trade, such as that of the manufacture of willow-work, has been a heavy drain upon our already meagre resources; but we have faith to believe that the public will second our enterprise and aid us in improving the efficiency of each department of the school.

It would be unwise, under the existing circumstances, to make any positive statement as to the wage earning capacity of those who will in time graduate as willow workers from this department; but up to the present time has confirmed us in the opinion previously expressed, which was to the effect that no trade offers to the industrial blind a more certain means of obtaining a livelihood than does the manufacture of willow baskets, chairs, and other articles. The work so far produced has found a ready sale, and has given entire satisfaction to our customers. Mr. Nodwell, the trade instructor, has been attentive and diligent, and his pupils have made satisfactory progress.

We would respectfully call the attention of the public to our large assortment of willow-baskets, which will be found superior to anything of the kind now in the market, both as to the quality of the material and the perfection of the workmanship. The cane-seating department, under the control of D. A. Baird has been efficiently managed, and the quality of the work performed, has elicited the praise of several of the wholesale furniture dealers.

Our girl's work department, under the management of Miss McKenzie has been carried on faithfully and systematically. Sewing, knitting, and the use of the knitting machine have received special attention, and I feel confident that the instruction given is of such a character as to prove a lasting benefit to the pupils.

HEALTH.

We have great reason to feel thankful to a kind Providence in that we have been preserved in our school from infectious disease, sickness, and death; the past year having been remarkable in this respect. No doubt the excellent sanitary condition of the Institution, the wholesome diet, and the regular and systematic exercise in the gymnasium, and in the open air have greatly improved the physical condition of our pupils, thus rendering them less liable to ill health and increasing their power of endurance.