

tion and the general routine of work. The good discipline which prevailed and the programme of study pursued were worthy of high commendation. The heartiness with which the teaching was carried on, and the zealous way in which the teachers performed their duties, shewed pretty conclusively that they had a real love for their work; without which the best directed talent would fail in the instruction of the blind.

The course of study is much the same as previously reported, comprising reading, writing, grammar, spelling, arithmetic, geography, history, English literature, object instruction, &c.

The pupils seemed to pay marked attention and respect to their teachers, and they appeared to be anxious to learn. The progress made was very great, even with some who had only been a comparatively short time in the school, but in the cases of those who passed through several sessions, it was most marked. Altogether, I have a most favourable report to make of the Literary Department of this institution.

The musical classes were also found to be effectively organized, although I would be glad to see the instruction in this department take a more practical shape. Twenty-three pupils were receiving lessons on the piano and nineteen on the organ, while a large proportion of the whole school were receiving lessons in point print, besides vocal and general musical instruction. Apart from the pleasure afforded to the blind by music, it should not be lost sight of that unless a very considerable number of these music pupils are fitted to earn a portion of, or the whole of their livings through the exercise of their musical talents, the musical course of this Institution will fall far short of its object.

The industrial training of this Institution continues to sustain its eminently practical and progressive character. In the willow-work shop, twenty-six young men and boys were receiving instruction. The time of ten of these was exclusively taken up with the trade, and the remainder worked from 8 to 9.45 a.m., and from 1.30 to 5 p.m. daily. It is expected that three of these industrial pupils will have fully acquired the trade at the end of the present session, and that they will then leave the Institution quite able to earn their living by it. During the past vacation, a test was made of the capabilities of the most advanced pupils of this shop to earn a livelihood by the manufacture of willow-work. There was distributed to ten pupils 1,500 lbs. of dry willow, which they took home with them. From inquiries made of each of these pupils, I found that they manufactured and sold from twenty to fifty dollars' worth of willow-ware each.

The health of the Institution was very good, only one pupil being confined to bed. The appearance of the inmates also in respect to dress was very satisfactory.

In this, and previous years, an examination of the pupils had been made in the month of May by a skilled oculist, but it was found that the recommendations for special treatment in certain cases could not always be carried out before the commencement of the vacation in the middle of June, as the consent of the parents of a pupil has always to be obtained before an operation can be performed, or the pupil removed to the Eye and Ear Infirmary, for some special and constant treatment. It was, therefore, decided that an oculist should pay two visits to the Institution during the session, instead of one as heretofore. The first visit to be paid early in the term for the more especial purpose making a general examination of the pupils' eyes, and for ordinary treatment and directions; the second visit to be made about two months before the close of the session, for performing operations of a minor kind, and for determining which pupils should be sent to the Andrew Mercer Eye and Ear Infirmary during the vacation, for special operations, with a view to the complete or partial restoration of sight. The first visit under this arrangement was to be made by Drs. Reeves and Ault, the oculists of the Andrew Mercer Infirmary, on the 11th November. When the second visit of the oculists is paid and their report is in the hands of the Principal, it will be his duty to at once enter into communication with the parents or guardians of the pupils recommended for transfer to the Mercer Infirmary, with a view to obtaining their consent to such removal and operations.

The condition of the Institution in respect to cleanliness and order was excellent. The boys' dormitories, in which so much confusion prevailed prior to the opening of the new wing, was in capital order.

It is most important that similar extensions and improvements should be made on the girls' side of the house, for, apart from the necessity which exists for increased dor-