

could not even go over the building. We had, therefore, no help but to return to Boston, leaving our letters to be given to the Doctor on his return home.

The first Blind Asylum in Boston was established by Colonel Perkins, who gave up his house for the purpose, and afterwards liberally subscribed to erect the present extensive building, in which he was much aided by Mr. Prescott. An important object was to find a man capable of managing it, and, after a long search, Mr. Prescott heard that Dr. Howe was much interested in the subject, and that he was a man who enthusiastically carries out whatever he undertakes. He gladly accepted the office, and, setting to work with the warmest devotion, so admirably did he form his system, that it has been adopted in all the institutions of a similar character throughout the United States. His success in instilling abstract notions into the mind of Laura Bridgeman, a girl born deaf, blind, and dumb, is most wonderful. He had taste, touch, and smell alone to work on, but touch was the only faculty perfect. She knows the whole of Longfellow's "Evangeline" by heart; and, when Kossuth came to Boston and visited the institution, she made him a long speech. That is to say, she expressed her sentiments on Dr. Howe's hands, one of the modes by which she makes herself understood. She can also write perfectly, and she has a very sweet expression of countenance, proving that her existence is a source to her of extreme happiness.

Dr. Howe is now engaged in establishing an institution for the education of idiots, in which he has, it is said, been very successful. He has, we were told, instilled knowledge and comprehension into the minds of apparently the most hopeless idiots. On returning to Boston,