

The prosperous condition of the Institution may be truly ascribed to the very satisfactory way in which the County Councils of Wellington, Simcoe, and Carleton have made cash advances to enable me to purchase provisions at the right time, thus realizing 10 per cent. profits for the benefit of the Institution. The donation grants of the County Councils of Halton, Wentworth, Lambton, Durham, Haldimand, Waterloo, and Perth, have also been equally beneficial. For example, I purchase tea, sugar, molasses, barley, rice, at wholesale prices, for which I pay cash down, thus saving $2\frac{1}{2}$ per cent. on three months' credit, or 10 per cent. for one year.

THE BLIND.

In this country, as well as in Britain, and in the United States, the Annual Reports of Charitable and Endowed Institutions, serve not only as historical and statistical records, but constitute a sort of periodical literature for the blind and the mute, the idiotic, and insane, and furnish an opportunity to those engaged in the amelioration of human affliction, for setting forth the results of their experience and reflection. The knowledge thus attained in Britain and in the United States, is made useful in Canada, and the institutions of these countries become mutually advantageous to each other. The Reports of Superintendents contain valuable hints and suggestions, which, when carried into practical effect, are productive of beneficial advantages in the mitigation of human suffering. The observation of simple and earnest men engaged in philanthropic, or indeed, in any pursuit involving anxious solicitude and weighty responsibility are almost necessarily worth more for practical purposes than the speculations even of superior men, who, at best, give but a passing attention to the matter. I would presume to say that if the deaf and dumb, and the blind be educated in one institution, under the supervision of one man, it will prove, in Ontario, as in Great Britain and the States, *a great failure*.

The number of blind in the Province of the proper school age is 25, while 100 are eligible to learn a handicraft trade suited to their condition, and thus become self-supporting. This latter class can devote their time after labor hours to learn to read, &c.

BLIND GIRLS.

Employment in household duties is the most suitable for this class, as a larger proportion of them can be so employed with advantage to themselves and those with whom they live than was formerly anticipated. We must not infer that the loss of sight precludes the possibility of overcoming difficulties that seemed even to them insuperable. They are handy at the needle; do various kinds of netting, knitting and crochet-work.