

The big doors of the main hall swing outwards as you enter, and on all lawful days, that is every day but Saturday and Sunday, the latch hangs on the outside from 10 a.m. till noon and from 2 o'clock until 4 p.m. Your footstep in the hall brings "Matura," the blind attendant, to your side, who will conduct you to the visitors' reception-room. The room is comfortably, but not luxuriously, furnished. A handsome desk-table stands in the middle of the floor, and is littered with papers, periodicals, blue books, and all the usual etceteras found on such tables. The principal proved an easy subject to interview, and on the slightest provocation drifted off into a pleasant chat upon just such subjects as were necessary to this sketch. To the suggestion that I might go over the building and see the classes at work, he readily assented; nay, more, he offered to conduct me himself. I gladly accepted, of course, but where there were many agreeable lady teachers, I thought—but that is neither here nor there.

Somehow I had an idea that the pupils contributed something towards their keep. That is altogether a mistake. It is supported entirely by provincial funds, and no charge is made for board or instruction. Total blindness is not necessary before admission can be had. The fact of one's sight being so defective as to prevent one from receiving the ordinary education afforded by the Public Schools is a sufficient qualification. It will be understood, therefore, that many of the pupils can see more or less.

The period of instruction varies according to the circumstances and abilities of the pupils, the object being in all cases to fit them for usefulness in life, and for supporting themselves, if necessary, by their own efforts. No intelligent young person who has taken a course of instruction at the institute is without the means of contributing substantially towards his or her maintenance.

I have been in a number of kindergarten rooms here and there, and a somewhat ripe experience in this connection bids me say I never saw a more interesting one than that of Mrs. Murray, nor one where the results were so surprisingly good as compared with the opportunities and materials at hand. With deftly tender hands, a kind motherly manner, and a deep personal interest in the welfare of the little mites, with whom she is brought so much more into touch than other teachers, the kindergarten directress moves about among these little ones like the good spirit she is. There must have been some ten or a dozen little people in the room, the greater portion of whom