

GIRLS' WORK DEPARTMENT.

The instruction in this department is of an eminently practical character. Undoubtedly our girls can be taught many kinds of fancy work, but experience proves that a knowledge of the sewing and knitting needles is in the end more advantageous to them. The girls' work-class receives instruction between the hours of two and four daily, and while at work the pupils are read to aloud from interesting and instructive books.

HEALTH.

The general average of the health of our pupils has been somewhat below that of former years; but this is due mainly to constitutional weakness, with which it is difficult to cope. Two of our pupils are now at home on sick leave, and I might say that three young children, who were to have been enrolled as new pupils during the present year, have been obliged to postpone entering the school on account of ill-health. The pupils at present in attendance are free from sickness.

LOAN FUND.

This fund now amounts to \$982.07. \$600 of which has been safely invested, \$240 has been loaned to deserving graduates, \$50 has been expended in the purchase of willow-work tools, and the remainder \$92.57 has been placed in the bank to the credit of the President of the Board of Managers and the Superintendent of the school, who are trustees of the fund.

CLOSING.

It is a constant source of regret that more parents do not avail themselves of the provision made by the Provincial Government for giving to their blind children a free and practical education; and yet no efforts have been spared to advertize the Institution and to make its true character understood. We send each year 1200 copies of our Annual Reports broadcast throughout the Maritime Provinces. These are copied and commented upon by the daily and weekly newspaper in the city and country. The prospectus of the school, circulars to clergymen, physicians and legislators, have been sent out by thousands. The country has been flooded with advertisements of concerts and lectures given for the benefit of the Institution,