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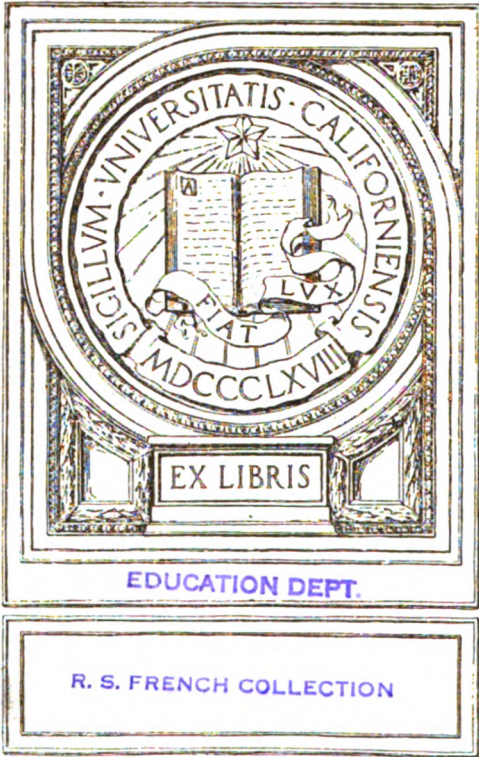
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FIRST ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE
DEPT. OF
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BOARD OF VISITORS

OF THE

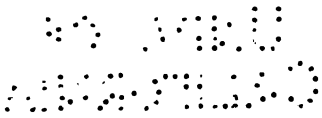
KENTUCKY INSTITUTION

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FOR THE

EDUCATION OF THE BLIND.

FRANKFORT, KY.
A. G. HODGES.....STATE PRINTER.
1843.



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1842 - 1874/75

Edue
dept

OFFICERS OF THE BOARD OF VISITORS.

WILLIAM F. BULLOCK, *President,*
SAMUEL CASSEDAY, *Treasurer,*
BRYCE M. PATTEN, *Secretary.*

OFFICERS OF THE INSTITUTION.

BRYCE M. PATTEN, M. A., *Director,*
OTIS PATTEN, *Teacher,*
MRS. M. T. BOYNTON, *Matron,*
MISS ELVESSA J. RUTH, *Teacher of work in the girls' department.*

EDUCATION DEPT.

ANNUAL REPORT

TO THE

BOARD OF EDUCATION.

WHEREAS, by an act of the General Assembly of Kentucky, approved February 5, 1842, entitled, "An act to establish the Kentucky Institution for the education of the Blind," it is provided that the Board of Visitors of said Institution shall, annually, make to the Board of Education, a report, embracing an account of the receipts and disbursements, the funds on hand, and a general statement of the condition of the Institution—the Visitors of the Institution, in compliance with said law, respectfully present this, their

FIRST ANNUAL REPORT:

The account of the Treasurer of the Institution, shows that he has received, from the citizens of Louisville, donations amounting to six hundred and twenty two dollars and fifty cents; and from the Common School Fund, seven hundred and seventy five dollars, it being a part of the ten thousand dollars appropriated by the General Assembly of Kentucky—making the entire receipts, one thousand three hundred and ninety seven dollars and fifty cents.

The expenditures up to the first of January, 1843, amount to one thousand and forty one dollars and ninety six cents, leaving in the Treasury three hundred and fifty five dollars and fifty four cents. The Treasurer also holds uncollected subscriptions, amounting to six hundred and fifty dollars; giving, as the nominal value in the hands of the Treasurer, one thousand and five dollars and fifty four cents.

The Visitors, immediately after their appointment, made arrangements for opening the Institution, by appointing the necessary officers and renting a suitable house, which was furnished by the liberality of the citizens of Louisville, who also generously contributed funds sufficient to sustain the Institution during the first six months of its existence. A circular was issued and extensively circulated through the State, giving notice of the open-

ing of the Institution, making known its nature and objects, and soliciting pupils, and information respecting blind children, from all sections of the State. On the 9th of May last, the Institution was opened with five pupils. Since that time, five additional pupils have been admitted, making the present number ten, all of whom are supported by the Institution, except one, who pays a part of his expenses.

The following table contains the names, places of residence, causes of blindness, dates of admission, and ages of the pupils :

Name.	Residence.	Date.	Cause of blindness.	Age.
Sarah J. Clark, -	Jefferson county,	May 9, 1842, -	Congenital, -	13
Araminta A. Hodge, -	Louisville, - -	May 9, 1842, -	Measles, - -	13
Elessa J. Ruth, -	Louisville, - -	May 9, 1842, -	Accidental, -	22
Sarah J. Lund, -	Louisville, - -	May 9, 1842, -	Accidental, -	16
John A. Metcalf, -	Louisville, - -	May 9, 1842, -	Accidental, -	10
Jonathan Sandsberry,	Jefferson county,	June 6, 1842, -	Measles, - -	16
Francis Ratliff, -	Daviness county, -	Oct. 26, 1842, -	Scarlet fever, -	18
Samuel Seay, -	Washington co.,	Nov. 21, 1842,	Accidental, -	16
Mary A. Gibson, -	Louisville, - -	Dec. 28, 1842,	Inflammation,	18
Pierce P. Price, -	Louisville, - -	Jan. 4, 1843, -	Small pox, - -	7

The officers of the Institution have performed their duties with faithfulness and ability, and merit public confidence.

The pupils are diligent and orderly, and have improved much in manners and personal appearance during the short time they have been members of the Institution. The proficiency they have made in their studies, has been equal to the most sanguine expectations of the Board of Visitors and other friends of the Institution, who have witnessed their improvement.

The branches to which they are attending, are reading and spelling from books printed in embossed letters; arithmetic, taught mentally, and by use of the slate, frames and types, prepared for the blind; geography, taught orally, and by means of maps and atlases in raised characters; writing and music.

All the pupils who have been in the Institution two months, can read with considerable fluency in the Bible and other books printed for the blind. Several write a legible hand, and can correspond with their distant friends by letter. They write with a lead pencil instead of a pen, as a blind person cannot see to the regular supply and flow of the ink, nor the perfection of the pen. They place their paper on a pasteboard, in which are grooves to guide the pencil of the writer.

Most of the pupils have made good progress in Arithmetic and Geography. Several beautiful maps have been received recently, on which they feel out rivers, lakes, bays, oceans, mountains, towns, &c., with surprising facility.

In Music the pupils take great delight, and their progress has been most satisfactory. All can sing—some very well—and two little girls, thirteen years of age, perform on the piano. This branch is a very important one in the education of the blind, as it is not only a source of great pleasure to themselves and others, but affords to many of them a respectable means of support as organists, tuners of instruments, and teachers of vocal and instrumental music.

A commencement has been made in the department of mechanical labor, which is of prime importance in an institution for the blind. It is desirable that all, even those destined to be teachers and musicians, should be exercised in some handicraft work, as it not only conduces to health, but gives a command of the limbs, a freedom in motion, and a confidence in their physical powers, that can be acquired in no other way.

Our pupils have not yet attained to that degree of skill of which they are capable, yet they already manufacture good mattresses, brushes, fancy baskets, lamp mats, and watch guards, and are improving rapidly in every branch. The female pupils also sew, knit and weave. We believe this department will soon not only pay all its expenses, but become a source of profit to the Institution. Although the pupils devote a very large portion of their time to intellectual instruction and music, they can, with little or no expense to the Institution, learn trades by which they may earn an honorable livelihood.

Miss Ruth, one of our female pupils, has already become qualified to be teacher of work in the girls' department.

The exercises of the pupils commence at 7 o'clock, A. M., and continue, with a short recess of fifteen minutes at the end of every hour, until 1 o'clock, P. M. The afternoon is devoted to work and music. Two hours every evening are occupied in reading history, biography, miscellaneous literature, the news of the day, &c. to all the pupils.

By frequent short recesses, and changing the subject of study so as to call into operation the different faculties in succession, the pupils go through with much intellectual and physical exercise in the course of the day, without fatigue.

Strict attention is paid to the manners, morals, and health of the pupils.

They attend church on the Sabbath, without any restraint, at places of their own choice.

The following are some of the regulations of the Institution :

“ *Director.* The Institution shall be under the charge of a Director, who shall reside in the house with the pupils, direct their studies, labor and recreation, and take such part in their instruction as to him may seem expedient. He shall report, monthly, to the Board of Visitors, and make,

from time to time, such suggestions as he may think the interest of the Institution require.

The Teachers, Matron, and all subordinate officers, shall be under the general supervision of the Director.

Matron. The Matron shall, under the direction of the Director, have charge of the domestic concerns of the Institution. She shall superintend the clothing of the pupils, and endeavor to promote their health, morals, and happiness, and co-operate with the Director and Teachers in their government and education.

Admission of Pupils. No person can be admitted as a pupil who is under six or over fifteen years of age, unless by special vote of the Board of Visitors. Candidates for admission must present certificates from some respectable Physician of incurable blindness, and of freedom from epilepsy, and all offensive and infectious diseases. They must bring satisfactory testimonials of unexceptionable moral character.

The male pupils must be provided with at least five shirts, two vests, two coats or jackets, two pairs of pantaloons, six pairs of socks or stockings, two stocks or cravats, four pocket handkerchiefs, two pairs of boots or shoes—all in good condition.

The female pupils must be provided with at least three changes of garment. All the articles of clothing must be marked with the name of the owner. The clothing must be renewed by the parents or friends of the pupils, from time to time, as may be necessary.

Course of study. Reading, Spelling, Writing, Geography, English Grammar, Arithmetic, the higher branches of the Mathematics, Ancient and Modern Languages, Vocal and Instrumental Music, and other branches of learning usually taught in Academies for seeing children.

Expenses. For board, washing, tuition, music, books, and stationery, \$200 per year.

Beneficiaries. Indigent children, resident in the State, may be received and educated at the expense of the Institution. In addition to the above requirements, they must produce certificates from some Magistrate, or other known respectable citizen, that they are inhabitants of the State of Kentucky, and that their parents and immediate relations are unable to defray the expenses of their education."

Since nearly all the blind are in indigent circumstances, the Institution must ever be chiefly dependent upon the liberality of the Legislature. In the confident expectation that that liberality will not be withheld, we have received all the indigent blind children who have applied for admission, and shall continue to do so. We feel confident that as the Institution becomes more thoroughly known, and as the blessings it is diffusing are more plainly seen, the firmer will be its hold on the sympathies of the community, and the

surer will it be of retaining them. We have no fear that the generous inhabitants of Kentucky will suffer their blind to remain in intellectual and moral darkness, after they are convinced that they can be educated and made happy.

<p>WILLIAM F. BULLOCK, JOHN I. JACOB, SAMUEL CASSEDAY, THEODORE S. BELL, JAMES PICKETT, BRYCE M. PATTEN.</p>	}	<p><i>Board of Visitors.</i></p>
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LOUISVILLE, JANUARY 7, 1843.



THIRD ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE

BOARD OF VISITERS

OF THE

KENTUCKY INSTITUTION

FOR THE

EDUCATION OF THE BLIND.



BOARD OF VISITERS.

**WILLIAM F. BULLOCK,
JOHN I. JACOB,
SAMUEL CASSEDAY,
THEODORE S. BELL,
WILLIAM RICHARDSON,
GEORGE W. BRUSH,
CHARLES J. CLARKE.**

OFFICERS OF THE BOARD.

**WILLIAM F. BULLOCK, PRESIDENT.
WILLIAM RICHARDSON, TREASURER.
BRYCE M. PATTEN, SECRETARY.**

OFFICERS OF THE INSTITUTION.

**BRYCE M. PATTEN, DIRECTOR.
OTIS PATTEN, TEACHER.
JOSEPH B. SMITH, TEACHER OF VOCAL MUSIC.
MRS. S. P. SPOONER, MATRON.**

ANNUAL REPORT

TO THE

BOARD OF EDUCATION.

The Board of Visitors of the Kentucky Institution for the Education of the Blind, in compliance with the requisitions of the charter, respectfully present their

THIRD ANNUAL REPORT.

The Institution is in a very prosperous condition, in all its departments, except its finances.

The receipts of the Institution, for the year ending January 1, 1845, have arisen from the following sources:

Balance in cash, from account of preceding year,	-	-	\$ 46 26
Paying pupils,	-	-	279 00
Proceeds of an Exhibition by the pupils,	-	-	38 00
Sales of articles manufactured by pupils,	-	-	336 98
Individual donations,	-	-	37 25
Appropriation by the State in 1844,	-	-	5,000 00
Common School Fund,	-	-	2,940 00

\$8,677 49

The expenditures during the year, for house rent, repairs, fuel, provisions, furniture, stable expenses, raw materials, and tools for the work shops, musical instruments, school apparatus, expenses of exhibition before the General Assembly, wages of servants and laborers, and salaries of officers, have amounted to

	-	-	\$3,373 38
Amount expended in the new building,	-	-	4,994 22
Insurance,	-	-	34 00
Call and interest on note given for lot of ground,	-	-	376 36

\$8,777 96

Giving a balance against the Institution,	-	-	\$ 100 47
Of the ten thousand dollars appropriated out of the revenue of the Common School Fund, in 1842, there remains unpaid,	-	-	4,682 50

Leaving a balance in favor of the Institution, \$4,582 03

Amount carried forward, \$4,582 03

Amount brought forward, - - -	\$4,582 03
In our last report, we stated that the Institution was indebted to the Bank of Louisville, \$1,500, the amount expended in a lot of ground intended for the site of the buildings of the Institution; of this sum there remains unpaid, - -	\$1,200 00
Giving a nominal balance in favor of the Institution, - -	<u>\$3,382 03</u>

In conformity to an act of the General Assembly, approved February 29, 1844, a building for the accommodation of the Institution, has been erected, and the above balance, \$3,382, has been pledged to finish it, it having been estimated that that amount will be required to complete it according to the design. From these statements, the members of the General Assembly will perceive the absolute necessity of making some provision for keeping the Institution in operation during the present year, as it is entirely destitute of the means of support.

On the 10th day of April, 1844, in pursuance of an act of the General Assembly, entitled, "an act to incorporate the Louisville and Portland Railroad Company," approved 2d March, 1844, the corporators named in said act, were duly organized and accepted of the charter, for the purposes therein mentioned. And on the 8th January, 1845, the President and Secretary of said Board, made the following communication to the President and Visitors of the Kentucky Institution for the Education of the Blind, to-wit:

"LOUISVILLE, 8th January 1845.

The undersigned, a committee appointed by the President and Managers of the Louisville and Portland Railroad Company, make the following report of its condition and prospects: Immediately after the organization of the Board of Managers, in April, 1844, a thorough examination of the condition of said road was made. It was found that a large sum of money would be required to place the road in a condition to be at all beneficial to the Institution for the Blind; and it was, therefore, determined, to save from loss, with the least expense, whatever belonged to said road; this has been effected, thus far, by letting said road for the small sum of sixty dollars. We are of opinion that this cannot be longer done than April next. If we are right in this conjecture, then the iron rails must be taken up, and, together with the other apparatus, stored away, to protect them from loss, which will require an expenditure of money much larger than the sum received.

Very respectfully,

DAVID L. BEATTY, }
CH. J. CLARKE, } *Committee.*

To the President and Managers of the Ky. Inst. for the Blind."

The funds entrusted to the Board of Visitors hitherto, have, it is believed, been expended in the most judicious and economical manner, and valuable property has thus been secured to the State, at a cost much below its real value. The services of faithful officers have been obtained, and a flourishing school, which is an honor to the State, has been kept in operation, at very small expense; and we now commend all the interests of the Institution to the representatives of a generous and enlightened people.

The new edifice, though commodious and beautiful, has been built in the most economical manner, and on the most favorable terms, as all admit, who

compare the cost of the work with the extent and character of it. The building is 96 feet in length, 50 feet in width, 3 stories high, and contains 35 rooms, one of which is a hall for concerts, exhibitions, &c. Though complete in itself, it is, in accordance with the directions of the General Assembly, so constructed that it can hereafter be enlarged by the addition of one or two wings, should the increase in the number of pupils ever require it.

We have twenty two pupils; a number as large as the house now occupied will accommodate. In a few months, when the new building shall be ready for the reception of the pupils, we shall considerably increase the number, by receiving others who have already applied for admission, but who cannot be received at present, for want of room. It is greatly to be regretted that any applicants should be rejected, as out of about 9,000 white blind persons in the United States, less than 400 are now enjoying the blessings of instruction in the various schools that have been established for their benefit.

The health of our pupils has continued to improve from the opening of the Institution, in the year 1842, to the present time; they now generally enjoy good health, and it is very rarely necessary to call a physician. This is peculiarly gratifying, as the blind are much more liable to disease than seeing persons, and most of our pupils enter the Institution with constitutions enfeebled by the inactive and irregular habits into which they have fallen, through the neglect or mistaken tenderness of their parents, or other persons to whose care they have been entrusted. The improvement in their health is to be ascribed, under Providence, to the healthy location of the Institution; to the skill and attention of the attending physician; to the cleanliness that is required of the pupils; to their healthy diet; to the regularity in the hours of eating, study, labor, amusement, and repose, and more especially, to the careful and judicious physical training which they receive. The officers of the Institution justly regard physical education as scarcely less valuable than intellectual culture; and consequently, a considerable part of each day is devoted to gymnastic exercises in the open air, and to handicraft in the shops. To the generous physicians in this city, who have offered their services gratuitously, whenever the pupils need medical aid, we tender our grateful acknowledgments.

The progress of the pupils in their studies has been very satisfactory. Their improvement in reading affords us peculiar pleasure. From the course pursued with adult pupils in other similar Institutions, we were not prepared to expect that our older pupils would learn to read the embossed books with any facility; but so great have been the efforts both of teachers and scholars, that all our pupils, with the exception of one little boy, who entered a few days since, can now read the Bible with considerable fluency. Long and painful efforts have, in several instances, been necessary to produce this pleasing result; and often have some of our pupils, notwithstanding their earnest desire to learn to read, been ready to yield to discouragement; but stimulated by their teachers, and by their own thirst for knowledge, they have returned to their books with increased resolution. The difficulties have been happily overcome, the Bible is no longer a sealed book to them, and nothing could now purchase from them the privilege of reading with their own fingers, that volume which brings to light the life of immortality. They justly prize the Bible very highly, for to the influence of its precepts are schools for the blind, and all other benevolent institutions, indebted for their existence.

We consider reading the most important branch to which the blind can attend; as it not only affords them, while at school, profitable and interesting occupation for many leisure hours that would otherwise be mis-spent, but it will, more than any other branch, be a means of consolation and improvement in their lonely habitations after they leave the Institution. From the success that has hitherto attended the efforts of our teachers, we believe that if the same attention be given to the instruction of the blind in reading, that is usually devoted to the seeing, the progress of the former will generally be equal to that of the latter.

Our thanks are due to the American Bible Society, for four copies of the Book of Psalms, and one copy of the entire Bible, presented to our indigent pupils during the last year. We have been prevented from purchasing books, by the low state of the funds of the Institution, and the above mentioned donation was therefore peculiarly acceptable.

In Writing, Spelling, Arithmetic, Algebra, Geography, English Grammar, Latin, &c. the pupils have made creditable proficiency.

The hours of study and labor are arranged as follows :

At 5 o'clock, A. M., the pupils rise and prepare for school.

From 5½ to 6½, they read the embossed books.

6½ to 7¼, Breakfast and recreation.

7¼ to 8, Devotional exercises.

8 to 9, All listen to the reading of History, news of the day, &c.

9 to 10, Writing and Arithmetic.

10 to 11, Vocal Music.

11 to 12, Geography and English Language.

12 to 1, Algebra and Arithmetic.

1 to 2½, Dinner and recreation.

2½ to 5, Instrumental Music and Handicraft.

5 to 7, Recreation and supper.

7 to 7½, Vocal Music.

7½ to 8, Reading. At 8, the younger pupils retire to rest.

8 to 9½, The older pupils read, or prepare lessons for the ensuing day. At 9½ they retire.

At the end of every hour in the forenoon, there is a short recess.

The object of education, however, is not the cultivation of the intellect alone—it has to do with the moral powers. To cultivate the former is to place in the hands of the pupil a powerful instrument for good or for evil; to cultivate the latter is to enable him to use that instrument aright. Desirable as it is that the blind should possess well cultivated intellectual powers, it is vastly more important that they should become useful and happy members of society. The moral training of the pupils requires the most arduous and constant efforts on the part of the officers of the Institution. In the intellectual department, their duties are, for the most part, confined to specified hours, and to particular subjects; but in cultivating the morals and affections of the pupils, their labors are unlimited and incessant. The extent and success of their efforts may be less apparent in this department than in any other, as they can be duly appreciated by those only who are aware of the cruel indulgence or unkind neglect which the blind too frequently experience at home; in consequence of which many of them enter the Institution destitute of moral, as well as intellectual, culture.

It gives us pleasure to state that a great change has been effected; permi-

cious habits have been eradicated, a love of learning has been awakened, self-reliance and self-respect have been greatly increased, conscience has been improved, and a regard for the Bible, as the standard of feeling and action, has been strengthened. In producing these happy results, a course of lectures by the Director has had an important influence.

In music, the improvement of the pupils has been great. They already perform many difficult pieces in a manner that would do credit to any choir in the city; and from the increased facilities we hope to afford them hereafter, we may expect still more rapid progress during the present year. We have recently secured, in the department of Vocal Music, at very small expense, the valuable services of Mr. Joseph B. Smith, a graduate of Harvard University, and formerly a pupil in the Institution for the Blind in Boston. He is a scientific musician, and ardently devoted to his profession, and having been blind from infancy, he is the better qualified to appreciate the difficulties of the blind, and to adapt his instructions to their peculiar wants.

Music deserves a prominent place in every system of education, on account of its happy influence on the moral and intellectual powers; but it is especially important in the education of the blind. Excluded as they are from the enjoyments of visible beauty, many of their leisure hours must be dull indeed, unless they are taught to enliven them by music. Music is not, however, merely a source of amusement to the blind; to many of them, at least, it offers the best means of gaining an honorable livelihood, as organists, as pianists, or as teachers of music. Our pupils take great interest in this branch, and all, with one exception, receive instruction in it daily. They do not learn by rote, as some suppose, but become accurately acquainted with the principles and rules of the science.

Several pianos, and an organ, are much needed in the Institution; but here too we have been deterred from purchasing, by the want of means. We trust the liberality of the Legislature will enable us to furnish the blind with all needed aid in this important branch, which more than any other, perhaps, offers them compensation for the loss of the blessings of vision.

The progress of the pupils in handicraft has been highly creditable. The brushes, cushions, mattresses, and fancy articles, manufactured by them, are greatly admired by visitors, and give general satisfaction to purchasers, to whom they are sold at low prices, in order to bring them into the market. The citizens of Louisville are learning, that by purchasing the articles made by our pupils, they not only confer a favor on the blind, but make a good bargain for themselves. The female pupils have been taught by Mrs. Spooner, the matron, to make many kinds of worsted articles, which are both beautiful and useful, and it is believed that the profits from this kind of work will hereafter be large, and that many of the girls will be able to support themselves by it after they leave the Institution. The females also prepare the covers for the cushions and mattresses, besides doing much of the plain sewing for the Institution. In the various kinds of handicraft, our pupils, with few exceptions, feel much interest, and regard the mechanical operations as a pleasant and valuable part of the regular school exercises; and, while engaged in them, they often enliven their labors with sprightly conversation, and sometimes, when the nature of the work will allow it, with singing. The more indolent boys at first manifested some repugnance to work, arising, in part, from the erroneous idea that manual labor has something of degradation necessarily associated with it. The officers have taken great pains to remove

this mistaken notion ; and all the pupils are required to devote a portion of every day to exercises so essential to their present and future well-being; for while to many, the trades, thus acquired, will be the only means of support, to all, the exercises in the shops are necessary, as a part of physical education. From the happy influence of this part of our system, we cannot but believe that schools for seeing pupils might, with great advantage, adopt a similar course with regard to manual labor.

The profits arising from sales of articles manufactured by our pupils during the past year, have amounted to one hundred dollars.

The Officers of the Ohio and Virginia Institutions for the Blind, will please accept our thanks for some beautiful specimens of brushes and worsted work, manufactured by their pupils.

Mr. Patten, the Director of our Institution, during the present session of the General Assembly of Indiana, accepted an invitation to visit Indianapolis with some of the pupils, and gave exhibitions before the Legislature ; and so great was the interest awakened, that an appropriation will probably be made for the support of the indigent blind children of that State.

Exhibitions have also been given in New Albany, Ia., and in Covington, Maysville, Nicholasville, and Lexington, in this State, and much important information with respect to the wants and capabilities of the blind, has in this manner, been diffused among the people. It is desirable that the pupils should travel more extensively in Kentucky during the present year, and thus make known the munificence of the Legislature, and the character and privileges of the Institution to the remotest parts of the State.

At a meeting of the Board of Visitors of the Kentucky Institution for the Blind, held on the 9th day of January, 1845, the above report was presented, read, and adopted.

BRYCE M. PATTEN,
Secretary of the Board of Visitors.

EXTRACTS

FROM THE

REGULATIONS OF THE INSTITUTION.

BOARD OF VISITERS.

The Board shall, at every monthly meeting, designate one of its members to visit the Institution every week of the ensuing month, examine the School and Boarding House, ascertain the condition and progress of the same, and report at the next regular meeting of the Board.

DIRECTOR.

The Institution shall be under the charge of a Director, who shall reside in the house with the pupils, and direct their studies, labor, and recreation. He shall report weekly to the Visiter appointed for that purpose, the state and progress of the School, and make, from time to time, such suggestions as he may think the interests of the Institution require.

The teachers, matron, and all subordinate officers, shall be under the general supervision of the Director.

MATRON.

The Matron shall, under the direction of the Director, have charge of the domestic concerns of the Institution. She shall superintend the clothing of the pupils, and endeavor to promote their health, morals, and happiness; and co-operate with the Director and Teachers in their government and education.

COURSE OF STUDY.

Reading, Spelling, Writing, Geography, English Grammar, Arithmetic, the higher branches of Mathematics, Ancient and Modern Languages, Vocal and Instrumental Music, and other branches of learning usually taught in Academies for seeing children.

EXPENSES.

For board, washing, tuition, music, books, and stationery, \$100 per year. Payments to be made quarterly in advance.

ADMISSION OF PUPILS.

No person can be admitted as a pupil, who is under six or over fifteen years of age, unless by special vote of the Board of Visitors. Candidates for admission must present certificates from some respectable physician, of incurable blindness, and of freedom from epilepsy and all offensive and infectious diseases. They must also bring satisfactory testimonials of unexceptionable moral character.

The male pupils must be provided with at least five shirts, two vests, two coats or jackets, two pairs of pantaloons, six pairs of socks or stockings, two stocks or cravats, four pocket handkerchiefs, two pairs of boots or shoes, all in good condition.

The female pupils must be provided with at least three changes of garment. All the articles of clothing must be marked with the name of the owner. The clothing must be renewed by the parents or friends of the pupils, from time to time, as may be necessary.

BENEFICIARIES.

Indigent children, resident in the State, may be received, and educated at the expense of the Institution. In addition to the above requirements, they must produce certificates from some magistrate or other known respectable citizen, that they are inhabitants of the State of Kentucky, and that their parents and immediate relatives are unable to defray the expenses of their education.

The expenses of traveling and clothing must, in all cases, be paid by the friends of the pupils, as the Institution has no funds for these purposes.

N. B. In every case of application for the admission of a pupil into the Institution, answers must be made in writing to the following questions:

1. What is the name of the applicant?
2. When and where born?
3. What are the names of the parents?
4. Are they living?
5. What is the name of the Post Office nearest to their residence?
6. What are the pecuniary circumstances of the parents and relations?
7. Is the blindness total?
8. If not, what degree of vision remains?
9. How was the blindness produced?
10. Is the applicant of good natural capacity, and free from bodily defects, and offensive and infectious diseases?
11. Are there other instances of blindness in the same family, or among their relations?

☞ Communications respecting pupils or the Institution, may be addressed to "BAYNE M. PATTEN, Director of the Kentucky Institution for the Education of the Blind, Louisville, Ky." and letters must be post paid.

☞ The Institution is open to the public from 10 to 12 o'clock, every Saturday morning.

The new building is located on Broadway, between First and Second Streets.

FIFTH ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE

BOARD OF VISITORS

OF THE

KENTUCKY INSTITUTION FOR THE EDUCATION OF THE BLIND,

AND

CATALOGUE OF THE OFFICERS AND PUPILS

FOR THE YEAR 1846.

**FRANKFORT, KY:
A. G. HODGES—STATE PRINTER.
1847.**

OFFICERS OF THE INSTITUTION.

BRYCE M. PATTEN, A. M.

DIRECTOR AND PRINCIPAL TEACHER.

OTIS PATTEN,

TEACHER.

JOSEPH B. SMITH, A. B.,

TEACHER OF MUSIC.

MRS. SUSAN M. VAN DEMAN,

MATRON.

MRS. MARY H. PARIS,

ASSISTANT MATRON.

BOARD OF VISITORS.

	Time of first appointment.	Time of resignation.
HON. WILLIAM F. BULLOCK, <i>President.</i> - - - -	1842,	
WILLIAM RICHARDSON, <i>Treasurer.</i> - - - -	1843,	
JOHN I. JACOB, - - - -	1842,	1846.
SAMUEL CASSEDAY, - - - -	1842,	
THEODORE S. BELL, - - - -	1842,	
JAMES PICKETT, - - - -	1842,	1843.
EDWARD JARVIS, - - - -	1842,	1843.
BRYCE M. PATTEN, - - - -	1842,	1843.
GEORGE W. BRUSH, - - - -	1843,	1845.
CHARLES J. CLARKE, - - - -	1843,	
GARNET DUNCAN, - - - -	1843,	1843.
EDWARD P. HUMPHREY, - - - -	1845,	
WM. F. PETTIT, - - - -	1846,	

BRYCE M. PATTEN, Secretary.

CATALOGUE OF PUPILS.

NAMES, MALES.	RESIDENCE.
John A. Metcalfe,	Louisville.
Francis W. Ratliffe,	Daviess county.
Jonathan Sansberry,*	Jefferson county.
Samuel N. Seay,	Washington county.
Pearcy Price,*	Louisville.
William Love,*	Louisville.
Owen Waters,	Maysville.
William H. Bartlett,	Versailles.
John Searce,*	Woodford county.
John Richardson,*	Louisville.
Walker Hulett,	Lexington.
Thomas Deboe,	Jessamine county.
Robert B. Green,	Louisville.
Thomas W. Masterson,*	Lexington,
Albert R. Armstrong,	Montgomery county.
Joseph Simonis,	Louisville.
William Dickson,	Jefferson county.
David A. White,*	Bullitt county.
William E. Read,	Ohio county, Ia.
Lorenzo T. Tucker,	Jackson county, Ia.
James A. Tucker,	Jackson county, Ia.
James M. Heady,	Spencer county.
Thomas W. Nevil,	Henderson county.
Swebston Banghan,	Bullitt county.
Isaac M. Easley,	Montgomery county, Ia.
*Dismissed.	
NAMES, FEMALES.	RESIDENCE.
Sarah J. Clarke,	Jefferson county.
Araminta A. Hodge,	Louisville.
Elvessa J. Ruth,	Louisville.
Sarah J. Laud,*	Louisville.
Mary A. Gibson,	Louisville.
Louisa Levi,	Louisville.
Mary Ogden,	Louisville.
Mary P. Bartlett,	Versailles.
Catherine J. Eastin,	Richmond.
Mary A. Mitchell,	New Orleans, La.
Joanna Diamond,	Lexington.
Melissa Kendall,*	Grant county.
Nancy E. Emmons,	Clarke county, Ia.
Mary A. King,*	Louisville.
Eveline Van Vechten,	Louisville.
Mary J. Green,	Louisville.
*Dismissed.	

ADMISSION OF PUPILS.

Applications for admission must be addressed to the Director; but no person who is under six or over fifteen years of age, can be admitted without a special vote of the Board of Visitors.

Candidates for admission must be of good mental capacity, and must present certificates from some respectable physician, of incurable blindness, and of freedom from all offensive and infectious diseases; and they must furnish satisfactory testimonials of unexceptionable moral character.

Every application must also state the name, residence, and Post Office address of the applicant; the year, month, day, and place of his birth; the names of his parents, and whether they are living; the pecuniary circumstances of the parents or other relations who have the care of the applicant; at what age and by what means the blindness was produced; whether it is total; and whether there are other instances of blindness in the same family, or among their relatives.

Indigent children resident in this State, will be received and educated at the expense of the State. In addition to all the above requirements, they must furnish certificates from some magistrate or other well known respectable citizen, that they are inhabitants of Kentucky, and that their parents and immediate relations are unable to defray the expenses of their education.

Both State and paying pupils, must come provided with a full supply of comfortable clothing, which must be marked with the name of the owner, and renewed from time to time, as may be necessary. Traveling expenses to and from the Institution, must also be paid by the pupils or their friends.

The annual term of study commences on the 15th day of July, and closes on the 20th of September. It is important that pupils should be present at the commencement of the term, remain till it closes, and then return to their homes and spend the vacation among their friends.

ANNUAL EXPENSES FOR PAYING PUPILS.

For board, tuition, washing, books and stationery, and music, *one hundred dollars*. Payments must be paid quarterly, in advance. If a pupil remains at the Institution during the vacation, an additional charge of \$20 is made.

COURSE OF STUDY.

Reading, Spelling, Writing, Geography, Arithmetic, Algebra, Geometry, English Grammar and Composition, Rhetoric, Logic, Ancient and Modern Languages, Natural, Mental and Moral Philosophy, History, Anatomy, Physiology, Vocal and Instrumental Music, and various kinds of handicraft.

ANNUAL REPORT
TO THE
BOARD OF EDUCATION.

The Board of Visitors of the Kentucky Institution for the Education of the Blind, in conformity to law, respectfully present their

FIFTH ANNUAL REPORT.

The year that has just terminated, has not, like most of the preceding, been one of uninterrupted prosperity. While we repeat the statement made in our last annual report, that all who have ever been connected with the Institution as pupils, are now in the enjoyment of life and health, we regret to be under the necessity of adding, that during the last year death has entered the Institution, and removed a most valuable officer, Mrs. Spooner, the highly esteemed matron, of whose character and services favorable mention has been made in former reports, died in June of the last year, after an illness of two weeks. In the removal of this most estimable lady, the Institution has experienced no ordinary loss. She possessed qualifications of an uncommon kind for the important station which she so acceptably filled. When solicited, two years since, to accept the office, forgetful, as she ever was, of self, she consented to leave an interesting circle of relations and other friends, and come among strangers, influenced solely by the hope of benefiting the unfortunate blind. Her benevolent hopes were realized; and though the sacrifices she made were great, they were small in her estimation compared with the satisfaction derived from the assurance that she was daily and hourly promoting the happiness and improvement of those who, having no richer return to make, repaid her with the warmest gratitude and affection. To the Institution she was a most faithful officer, ever regarding its interests as her interests, and to the pupils her devotedness was unlimited as a teacher in health, a nurse in sickness, and a guide and friend in all circumstances. Her self-denying efforts in behalf of the pupils and the Institution have ceased, but the remembrance of her many virtues will not easily be erased from the memories of those who, by her unequalled kindness were made to forget they were blind and orphans.

Deprived thus suddenly, of a matron so eminently qualified for the office, we were apprehensive that we might not be able, without much delay, to find a suitable successor; and it affords us, therefore, peculiar satisfaction to be able to state that we have secured the services of Mrs. Van Deman, who, for several years, filled the same office in the Ohio Institution for the Blind. Mrs. Van Deman entered upon the duties of her office in September last, and we have reason to regard her a worthy successor of Mrs. Spooner.

For the continued improvement of the health of the pupils our grateful acknowledgements are due to the Author of all good. A few cases of illness somewhat severe occurred during the last uncommon sickly summer, but the efforts of skillful physicians, and faithful and experienced nurses, have, with the blessing

of Providence, been instrumental in restoring all to health ; and never, perhaps, during the existence of the Institution, have the pupils been so free from disease as at the present time ; and hereby additional proof is afforded, that the course of training pursued in the Institution is promotive of the physical, no less than the moral and intellectual health of the pupils.

We cannot, in this connection, refrain from again expressing our grateful sense of the many obligations we are under to the generous physicians of the city, who have rendered gratuitous professional services whenever the pupils have needed medical aid. For nearly five years our pupils, have, whenever medical attendance was necessary, received the attentions of the best physicians of the city, and as yet not a dollar has been paid or demanded for such services. For the first three years of the existence of the Institution this important service was rendered almost exclusively by Dr. Bell, to whom, for this as well as many other favors, the Institution is under heavy obligations.

To secure to the pupils, at all times, the attentions of an experienced and responsible nurse, as well as to relieve the matron from some of her many onerous duties, we have during the year appointed Mrs. Paris, a lady of extraordinary fitness for the place, assistant matron.

At the commencement of the year just terminated, the number of pupils was twenty four. During the year seven have been honorably discharged, thirteen have been admitted, and one has been restored, making the present number thirty one.

Of these, twenty one are received as beneficiaries of the State, under the act of the General Assembly, approved February 8, 1845. As the amount to be drawn for, according to the provisions of that act, is limited to two thousand five hundred dollars, annually, it will be seen that we have now the largest number of pupils, provided for by law. Others have applied for admission, but as we could not receive them without involving the Institution in debt, or encroaching on the fund set apart by the General Assembly, at the last session, for the purchase of books, apparatus, instruments, &c., we thought it advisable to postpone action, with respect those applicants, in the hope that the General Assembly would, at the present session, authorize us to receive them. It seems impolitic, and indeed unjust, to reject any applicant resident in this State, of suitable age and capacity, and we do therefore respectfully and earnestly recommend that the aforesaid act for the benefit of the Institution, approved Feb. 8, 1845, be so amended as to embrace in its provisions, all the indigent blind children of Kentucky, who have applied, or who may hereafter apply for admission. The petition of a portion of the blind children of the State has been heard and granted, and they are now enjoying the blessings of instruction, in the Institution established and sustained by the munificence of the State; and now others who have claims no less strong, look with the hope to the Legislature, and ask that they may be permitted to participate in the privileges now exclusively enjoyed by their more favored fellows; and we feel confident that Kentucky, so famed throughout the world for her generosity, will not be wanting in justice to her own unfortunate children. While other and younger States are gaining renown by their noble efforts in behalf of the blind, and other unfortunate classes, Kentucky surely will not consent to be far behind. Her benevolent institutions have already done her honor; and fostered by the representatives of an enlightened, generous, and just people, they will, we trust, continue to shed imperishable lustre on her fair name.

It may be proper to state, that during the last two years there has been drawn from the Treasury of the State, a sum less by one thousand and fifty three dollars, than that contemplated in the act of February 8, 1845.

Of our pupils who are not beneficiaries of this State, four pay their own expenses, one is sustained by the Poydras Female Orphan Asylum of New Orleans, and five are supported by the State of Indiana. In a former report it was stated

that Mr. Patten, the Director of our Institution, had visited Indianapolis with some of his pupils, and given exhibitions of their attainments before the Legislature of that State. As the result of that visit, provision was made for the education of a portion of the blind youth of Indiana, and five have been placed in our Institution during the last year, as beneficiaries of that State.

The amounts received from paying pupils, during the last year, have been as follows :—From Mary A. Mitchell, for 1846 and 1845, in part, \$204; from James M. Heady, Thomas Deboe, William E. Read, Nancy E. Emmons, Lorenzo T. Tuckèr, James A. Tucker, for part of 1846, \$50 each, \$300; from William H. Bartlett and Mary P. Bartlett, \$100 each, \$200. Total, from paying, \$704. From several of these pupils there will shortly be due \$300.

Several of the pupils who have been discharged in the last year, had been in the school but a short time, and from age, or want of capacity, gave little promise of being much benefited by a longer continuance in the Institution. And here it may be well to repeat what has been heretofore stated, that the Institution is strictly a *school* for the education of blind youth of good mental capacity, and not an *asylum* for the old or imbecile, for whom suitable asylums should be, and are elsewhere provided, as they can derive but little advantage from associating with the young and active, while the latter may suffer immensely from such association. We, therefore, urge upon all friends of the blind, who may apply for the admission of pupils into the Institution, the importance of making known, as far as may be, the mental capacity, character, and habits of each candidate. By care, in this respect, the expenses of fitting out and transporting children to the Institution may, perhaps, in some instances be avoided. Nor can we too earnestly press the importance of sending pupils at an early age. The circumstances by which the blind are too frequently surrounded at home, are exceedingly unfavorable to mental, moral, and physical improvement; and the most serious difficulties with which the officers of our Institution have to contend, had their origin in the early homes of the pupils, where untaught, if not uncared for, they passed their childhood, and, in some cases, their youth. The nobler powers, neglected, go to decay, while the lower faculties, without culture, increase in strength—the proper balance of the mind, destroyed, is with the utmost difficulty restored; and not only the school days, but the entire life may be wasted in unavailing attempts to restore to their appropriate place, passion and reason and conscience. If the consequences are confined to the unfortunate individuals, the evil is less, but, placed in a school, they exert a most unfavorable influence on all their fellow pupils. A proper regard, therefore, for the best interests of the pupils and the Institution, makes it incumbent on us to scrutinize very carefully the character of every candidate for admission.

It gives us pleasure to state, that the two pupils who were dismissed, in 1845, for disorderly conduct, have, within the last year, confessed their errors to the officers of the Institution, and applied for re-admission. In the case of one of these young men, the evidences of reformation were so satisfactory, that he has, at the urgent petition of his father and himself, been received on probation; and so far, there is every reason to hope that the influence of his dismission will be most salutary on his conduct and character through life. In the case of the other, the application for re-admission was made but recently, and under such circumstances, as gave less ground to believe that there was a thorough reformation.

By an act of the General Assembly, approved February 23, 1846, the sum of \$3,500 was appropriated to the Institution, a part of which was to be applied to the payment of the debts of the Institution; and the balance to the purchase of a suitable library, apparatus, instruments, and the erection of the necessary improvements, for the use of the Institution; and it was by said act made the duty of the Board of Visitors to report to the General Assembly the manner of the application of the fund, with a complete list of the books, apparatus, and instru-

ments, purchased by virtue of said act, with the prices thereof. In accordance with the requisitions of said act, we report as follows :

The amount of the appropriation has been received, - - -	\$ 3,500 00
Of this sum, there has been applied to the extinction of the debts, - - - - -	\$ 1,662 50
For the erection of stable, - - - - -	350 00
Grading, paving, and other improvements, - - -	282 93
For piano forte, - - - - -	150 00
For books, and school apparatus, - - - - -	207 50
Freight and charges on same, and boxes, - - -	33 44
	<hr/>
	2,686 37

Leaving a balance of - - - - - \$ 813 63
to be expended during the coming year, in musical instruments, maps, globes, and other apparatus and improvements, which are greatly needed, but which could not be furnished the last year, as the second instalment of the above appropriation was not received until the present month.

Below, we give a list of the books, &c., purchased and presented during the last year, as well as of those on hand at the commencement of that year.

LIST OF BOOKS, APPARATUS, &c., PURCHASED IN 1846.

11 metallic slate frames, type, &c., - - - - -	\$ 37 00
2 doz. writing cards, - - - - -	1 50
Freight, boxes, and other charges on books, &c., - - -	33 44

	No. of copies.	No. of vols.	Price.
The Bible, - - - - -	3	24	\$60 00
New Testament, - - - - -	9	18	45 00
English Reader, - - - - -	1	2	4 00
Lardner's History, - - - - -	1	3	9 00
Natural Philosophy, - - - - -	1	1	2 00
Natural History, - - - - -	2	2	5 50
Cyclopedia, - - - - -	1	2	6 00
Constitution of the United States, - - - - -	6	6	4 50
Atlas of the United States, - - - - -	1	1	2 00
Blind Child's First Book, - - - - -	12	12	9 00
Blind Child's Second Book, - - - - -	6	6	4 50
Principles of Arithmetic, - - - - -	1	1	1 00
Pierce's Geometry, - - - - -	2	2	3 50
Harvey Boys, - - - - -	1	1	1 00
Life of Melancthon, - - - - -	2	2	2 00
Pilgrim's Progress, - - - - -	2	2	5 00
Baxter's Call, - - - - -	1	1	1 50
Classical Dictionary, (common print,) - - - - -	-	-	2 00
Book of Nature, (common print,) - - - - -	-	-	50
Smillie's Philosophy of Natural History, (common print,) - - -	-	-	1 00

Number of embossed volumes purchased in 1846, 86, - - -	\$240 94
One Piano Forte, - - - - -	150 00

Cost of books, instruments, &c., in the year 1846, - - - \$390 94

LIST OF BOOKS, &c., ON HAND JANUARY, 1846.

	No. copies.	No. vols.
The Bible, - - - - -	2	16
Book of Psalms, - - - - -	6	6
Book of Proverbs, - - - - -	1	1
Ruth and Esther, - - - - -	1	1
Guide to Spelling, - - - - -	3	3
Select Library, - - - - -	1	4
English Grammar, - - - - -	1	1
Howe's Geography, - - - - -	1	1
Atlas of the United States, - - - - -	1	1
General Atlas, - - - - -	2	2
Atlas of the Islands, - - - - -	1	1
Student's Magazine, - - - - -	1	1
Viri Romæ, - - - - -	1	1
Book of Diagrams, - - - - -	1	1
Total, - - - - -		40
5 Slate Frames and Types,		
1 Map of the World,	1 Map of Asia,	
1 Map of North America,	1 Map of Africa,	
1 Map of the United States,	1 Map of South America,	
1 Map of Kentucky and Tennessee,	8 Writing Cards,	
1 Map of Europe,	1 Printing Box,	
	1 Piano Forte.	

In addition to the books purchased during the year, we have received from the American Bible Society, for the use of indigent pupils, the very valuable and acceptable donation of four copies of the Bible, making our entire number of volumes printed in raised letters, 158.

For the repeated instances of liberality on the part of the American Bible Society, we tender our most grateful acknowledgements.

In a former report, it was stated that this Society had, at an expense of nearly ten thousand dollars, prepared stereotyped plates for the Bible, in raised letters. Until recently, the printing of this work was done on the plates of the Society, at the Massachusetts Institution for the Blind, where presses of a peculiar kind, manufactured expressly for printing books for the blind, were established; and it was believed that such printing could not be done in ordinary presses. The managers of the Society, however, have recently ascertained by experiment that, by means of steam presses, such as they use in ordinary printing, they can obtain as good impressions as on the Boston presses, and with much greater rapidity. Already a considerable number of copies of the Bible have been printed by the society on one of their presses, and it is confidently hoped that hereafter the blind will not, as heretofore, be obliged to wait long months for a copy of the word of life, but that whenever they or their friends can furnish the mere cost of the work, they will be readily supplied. A valuable improvement in binding books for the blind has recently been made by Mr. Schoals, the intelligent binder in the employment of the society. All the Bibles received at our Institution the last year, were printed at the rooms of the Society, and bound in the improved style.

We have also received from several friends of the blind 180 volumes of books printed in the ordinary manner, which are read by one of the officers to the pupils when they are not otherwise engaged. These books form an important part of the library of the Institution, the number of books in raised letters being very small; and similar donations will at all times be most thankfully received, espe-

cially as we do not feel authorized to expend any of the funds of the Institution in the purchase of such books. For most of the above named 180 volumes the Institution is indebted to the American Tract Society, and to the Misses C. H. I. and J. Jones, of Penn Yan, N. Y.

The entire receipts of the Institution for the year ending January 1, 1847, have arisen from the following sources:

Balance in cash from account of preceding year,	-	-	\$ 267 28
State appropriation in 1846,	-	-	3,500 00
From State, for beneficiaries,	-	-	2,081 66
From paying pupils,	-	-	704 00
Sales of articles manufactured by pupils,	-	-	211 29
Donation by Dr. D. Drake,	-	-	50 00
Donations by several individuals,	-	-	28 10
Total,	-	-	\$6,842 33

The entire expenditures for the same year, have been as follows:

For books, apparatus, improvements, and payment of debt, as above,	-	-	-	\$ 2,686 37
For salaries,	-	-	-	1,529 85
For wages of servants,	-	-	-	374 60
For provisions, furniture, fuel, provender, rent of store and piano, materials for work-shop, clothing of indigent pupils, medicines, advertising, discount, interest and insurance, &c.,	-	-	-	1,639 71
				<u>\$6,230 53</u>
Leaving in the Treasury of the Institution,	-	-	-	\$ 611 80

which, together with a portion of that due from paying pupils, it is proposed to expend during the present year in books, apparatus, and improvements, as may be necessary.

To meet the ordinary expenses of the present year, we must depend on the amount to be paid by paying pupils, and by the State for beneficiaries.

No income has been received the last year from the Louisville and Portland Railroad Company, the road remaining in the same condition as was stated in our last annual report.

In the mechanical department, the pupils continue to make commendable progress; and, as in former years, the income of the department exceeds its expenses, as may be seen from the following statement:

	DR.	
To value of manufactured articles on hand, Jan. 1, 1846,	\$ 70 71	
To value of unmanufactured stock;	174 54	
To cost of raw materials, tools, and rent of store,	267 06	
To amount paid pupils for extra work,	57 18	
		<u>\$ 569 49</u>
	CR.	
By value of manufactured articles on hand, Jan. 1, 1847,	\$ 126 57	
By value of unmanufactured stock,	256 00	
By sales during the year 1846,	211 29	
		<u>593 86</u>
Leaving a balance in favor of the department of		\$ 24 37

It being impracticable to retain the sales-room mentioned in our last report, without paying a much larger rent than was anticipated, it was relinquished in August last; since which time the sales have been materially diminished. The same mechanical branches have been pursued as in former years, with the addition of cane work, which is found to be a suitable branch for the blind. We hope to give increased interest to this department during the coming year, by the employment of a mechanical teacher, and the introduction of some other branches of labor.

The interest of the pupils, in their studies, continues to increase from year to year. The same system and studies have been pursued as in former years, with the addition of Natural History, the French Language, and Constitution of the United States. The state of the school exhibits, at all times, the most gratifying evidences of industry on the part of the pupils, and of ability and faithfulness on the part of the officers.

From a review of the history of this and similar Institutions, in our own and other countries, we may safely say that no other is, in proportion to its pecuniary means, accomplishing more for the Blind.

In addition to the stated duties of the school, the pupils have, of their own accord, formed Literary, Musical and Temperance Societies, the members of which meet frequently and engage in such exercises as tend, no less than their ordinary studies, to prepare them for future usefulness and happiness.

In conclusion, we commend the interests of the school and of the Blind of the State, to the General Assembly, and to that ever kind and wise Being, who has hitherto blessed the Institution.

All of which is respectfully submitted.

At a meeting of the Board of Visitors of the Kentucky Institution for the Education of the Blind, held on the 19th day of January, 1847, the above report was presented, read and adopted.

BRYCE M. PATTEN,
Secretary of the Board of Visitors.

COMPOSITIONS BY THE PUPILS.

TO FRIENDSHIP.

Hail, Friendship! mother of all social joy,
True source of happiness without alloy,
Thou foe to pride, and comfort of the poor,
Within thy circle all is chaste and pure.
Sweet is thy influence, given to sooth mankind,
To cheer, illumine, and elevate the mind;
Thine is the power to link each kindred heart,
Bid from the breast each jealousy depart,
Exert o'er man a mild and gentle sway,
And lead him in a pure exalted way.
Thine is the stream whose genial currents bear,

Balm for each wound, a solace for each care.
 Oh, Friendship ! heavenly messenger of peace,
 Where thou beginnest, corrupting discords cease;
 Malice and envy seek their hiding place,
 Fell treachery withdraws her impious face;
 The rancor of impotent spleen no more,
 The right of humble merit tramples o'er;
 But men, with one accord, unite to share
 Each other's joys, each other's ills to bear.

SERENADE,

Sung by four of the pupils at the door of the Director's room, at 3 o'clock, A. M. January 1, 1847.

WORDS BY FRANCIS W. RATLIFF.

Awake! for the song of a merry hand
 Should never be lost on a slumbering ear;
 Awake! for Old Time, with a noiseless hand,
 Hath stolen away another year.

When Spring tripped along with her youthful train,
 Rejoicing the wild wood with mirth and song,
 Old Time the fair nymph to his wheels did chain,
 And bear her away with her gladsome throng.

When Summer appeared, in her glorious form,
 With clustering bowers and zephyrs light,
 Old Time on his wings bore the Autumn storm
 To breath a cold blast, and her loved ones blight.

Nor Autumn remains;—for Old Time rolled on,
 Fierce Winter has come with its frost and snow,
 The forest is stripped, and the song-birds gone.
 Now, ice-bound, the streams have ceased to flow.

Awake! let us laugh at the raging winds,
 And mock the mad storms that so rudely blow;
 And say to old Winter, that cheerful minds
 Dread not his fierce chilling winds and snow.

Awake! we have come, in the spirit of love,
 To wish you a happy—a happy New Year;
 Awake! for those lamps, brightly shining above,
 Must fade ere the rosy morn appear.

SIXTH ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE

OF

BOARD OF VISITORS

OF THE

Kentucky Institution for the Education of the Blind,

AND

CATALOGUE OF THE OFFICERS AND PUPILS.

FOR THE YEAR 1847.

FRANKFORT, KY.
A. G. HODGES—STATE PRINTER.
1848.

OFFICERS OF THE INSTITUTION.

BRYCE M. PATTEN, A. M.,

DIRECTOR AND PRINCIPAL TEACHER.

OTIS PATTEN,

TEACHER.

JOSEPH B. SMITH, A. B.,

TEACHER OF MUSIC.

MRS. MARY H. PARIS,

ACTING MATRON.

WILLIAM D. GOTSHALL,

TEACHER OF HANDICRAFT.

R. C. HEWITT, M. D.,

PHYSICIAN.

BOARD OF VISITORS:

HON. WILLIAM F. BULLOCK, *President.*

**SAMUEL CASSEDAY,
THEODORE S. BELL, M. D.,
CHARLES J. CLARKE,
EDWARD P. HUMPHREY, D. D.,
WILLIAM F. PETTIT.**

**WILLIAM RICHARDSON, *Treasurer.*
BRYCE M. PATTEN, *Secretary.***

CATALOGUE OF PUPILS.

NAMES, MALES.	RESIDENCE.
Francis W. Ratliffe,* - - -	Daviess county.
William A. Bartlett, - - -	Versailles.
Jonathan Sansberry, - - -	Jefferson county.
Samuel N. Seay, - - - -	Washington county.
Pearcy Price, - - - -	Louisville.
Owen Waters, - - - -	Maysville.
Walker Hulett, - - - -	Lexington.
Thomas Deboe, - - - -	Jessamine county.
Robert B. Green, - - - -	Louisville.
Albert R. Armstrong, - - -	Montgomery county.
William Dickson, - - - -	Jefferson county.
Swebston Baughan, - - -	Bullitt county.
John A. Metcalfe, - - - -	Louisville.
Robert N. Bradley, - - - -	Scott county.
Melville Malcom, - - - -	Georgetown.
Daniel J. Lyons, - - - -	Louisville.
Walter Robertson, - - - -	Barren county.
James R. Golloday, - - - -	Trigg county.
Richard P. Diamond, - - -	Lexington.
William E. Read, - - - -	Ohio county, Ia.
Lorenzo T. Tucker, - - -	Jackson county, Ia.
James A. Tucker, - - - -	Jackson county, Ia.
Isaac M. Easley, - - - -	Montgomery county, Ia.
George M. Knighton, - - -	Bowlinggreen, Ia.
Joseph Simonis,† - - - -	Louisville.
Thomas W. Nevil,† - - - -	Henderson county.
James M. Heady,† - - - -	Spencer county.
NAMES, FEMALES.	RESIDENCE.
Mary P. Bartlett,* - - - -	Versailles.
Sarah J. Clarke, - - - -	Jefferson county.
Araminta A. Hodge, - - - -	Louisville.
Elvessa J. Ruth, - - - -	Louisville.
Mary A. Gibson, - - - -	Louisville.
Mary Ogden, - - - -	Louisville.
Catharine J. Eastin, - - -	Richmond.
Mary A. Mitchell, - - - -	New Orleans, La.
Joanna Diamond, - - - -	Lexington.
Ellen Emmons, - - - -	Louisville.
Mary J. Green, - - - -	Louisville.
Rachael M. Davis, - - - -	Taylorville.
Martha J. Arnold, - - - -	Anderson county.
Sallie Smith, - - - -	Lincoln county.
Rosanna Sercy, - - - -	Anderson county.
Eliza Kinnear, - - - -	Jefferson county, Ia.
Louisa Levi,† - - - -	Louisville.

* Honorably discharged.

|| Returned to Indiana.

† Discontinued.

ADMISSION OF PUPILS.

Applications for admission must be addressed to the Director; but no person who is under six or over fifteen years of age, can be admitted without a special vote of the Board of Visitors.

Candidates for admission must be of good mental capacity, and must present certificates from some respectable physician, of incurable blindness, and of freedom from all offensive and infectious diseases; and they must furnish satisfactory testimonials of unexceptionable moral character.

Every application must also state the name, residence and Post Office address of the applicant; the year, month, day, and place of his birth; the names of his parents, and whether they are living; the pecuniary circumstances of the parents or other relations who have the care of the applicant; at what age and by what means the blindness was produced; whether it is total; and whether there are other instances of blindness in the same family, or among their relatives.

Indigent children resident in this State, will be received and educated at the expense of the State. In addition to all the above requirements, they must furnish certificates from some magistrate, or other well known respectable citizen, that they are inhabitants of Kentucky, and that their parents and immediate relations are unable to defray the expenses of their education.

Both State and paying pupils, must come provided with a full supply of comfortable clothing, which must be marked with the name of the owner, and renewed, from time to time, as may be necessary. Traveling expenses to and from the Institution, must also be paid by the pupils or their friends.

The annual term of study commences on the 20th day of September, and closes on the 15th of July. It is important that the pupils be present at the commencement of the term, remain till it closes, and then return to their homes, and spend the vacation with their friends.

The annual expenses for paying pupils for board, tuition, washing, and music, are *one hundred dollars*. If a pupil remains at the Institution during the vacation, an additional charge of twenty dollars is made. Payments must be made quarterly in advance.

COURSE OF STUDY.

Reading, Spelling, Writing, Geography, Arithmetic, Algebra, Geometry, English Grammar and Composition, Rhetoric, Logic, Ancient and Modern Languages, Natural, Mental and Moral Philosophy, History, Anatomy, Physiology, Geology, Mineralogy, Conchology, Vocal and Instrumental Music, and various kinds of handicraft.

ANNUAL REPORT
TO THE
BOARD OF EDUCATION.

The Board of Visitors of the Kentucky Institution for the Education of the Blind, respectfully present their

SIXTH ANNUAL REPORT:

It affords us high satisfaction to be able to report, that the Institution, intrusted to our care, has, during the last year, enjoyed its accustomed prosperity; that the lives of officers and pupils have been preserved; that the few cases of severe illness that have occurred, have readily yielded to the treatment of skillful and faithful physicians and nurses; that the pupils have, with but few exceptions, been attentive to their studies, and exemplary in their deportment; and that the officers have continued to discharge the duties of their responsible offices with ability and fidelity.

The number of pupils at the commencement of the year 1847, as given in our last annual report, was thirty-one; one of whom left at the beginning of the year. During the year, twelve new pupils have been admitted; one, who left the Institution in the year 1843, on account of illness, has returned; one, who was dismissed in 1846, for misconduct, having furnished satisfactory evidence of reformation, has been re-admitted; four, who gave little promise of being much benefited by a longer continuance in the Institution, have returned to their friends, and will not again be admitted; six have been returned to Indiana, to become pupils in the Institution recently opened in Indianapolis, under the auspices of that State; and three have received an honorable discharge.

From the above statement, it will be seen that the number of pupils connected with the Institution, at the present time, is thirty-one; of whom seventeen are males, and fourteen females. One is from the State of Louisiana, and thirty are inhabitants of Kentucky. Two are supported by their parents, and twenty-eight are beneficiaries of the State. One of the paying pupils, a son of Rev. Howard Malcolm, D. D., President of Georgetown College, is not blind, but so excessively near-sighted, as to make it extremely difficult, if not impossible, for him to acquire a knowledge of music, and some other branches, by the modes of instruction ordinarily pursued by teachers of seeing pupils.

The entire number of pupils received into the Institution, since it was opened for the reception of pupils in 1842, is fifty-three; thirty-two males, and twenty-one females. Of these, only fifteen were born blind; the blindness of thirty-eight was the result of disease or accident.

The Director of our Institution has made increased efforts during the past year, to diffuse more extensively among the people of the State, accurate knowledge as to the character and objects of the Institution, the capabilities of the Blind, and the munificence of the State towards this unfortunate and interesting class. In addition to the means heretofore employed, he has, accompanied by one or more of the pupils, visited the counties of Bullitt, Nelson, Hart, Barren, Green, Adair, Casey, Lincoln, Boyle, Mercer, Anderson, Shelby, Kenton, Campbell and Boone; and he proposes, during the present year, to visit the counties in the extreme Southern and Eastern sections of the State, from which but few pupils have hitherto been sent to the Institution.

The Director, in his expeditions, found many blind persons sitting in darkness, ignorance, and helplessness, without hope either for the present or future state of existence. Some of these were induced to enter the Institution, and they have already learned that the world presents, even to the blind, much of light, and hope, and happiness. Others, we regret to state, still drag out useless, miserable lives in their secluded homes—shut out from almost every means of physical, intellectual, and moral culture. This, however, does not result from indisposition on the part of the blind to avail themselves of the privileges offered to them in the Institution, which has been established for their benefit. It most frequently results from ignorance on the part of parents as to the importance of education, or from their unwillingness to send from home, and intrust to the care of others, their unfortunate children, who are often the most interesting, and almost always the most beloved, of the family. Misfortune of any kind tends strongly to endear to parents the child that is visited with it; and of all misfortunes, blindness, perhaps, has this tendency in the highest degree. To sever, in any measure, the bonds which affection and misfortune have combined to unite in the closest ties, often requires a more powerful effort than parents are willing to make, though urged to it by conscience, and the entreaties of their unhappy children, who, sometimes, with tearful eyes, and the most eloquent petitions, beg of their parents permission to leave their homes and enter the Institution. These petitions, so reasonable, and so well calculated to reach the heart of an affectionate parent, are sometimes disregarded, and the hapless petitioners consigned to other long years of rayless gloom and inaction.

We trust that members of the General Assembly, coming as they do from all sections of the State, and possessing, as they must, no inconsiderable influence in their respective districts, will take pleasure in making known to the people the existence of our Institution, the advantages it offers to the blind, and their capabilities under appropriate means of instruction. It is hoped, also, that members of the learned professions, and other gentlemen of influence, and, indeed, all friends of the blind, will esteem it a privilege to co-operate with us in searching out, and drawing from the seclusion of their cheerless homes, the uneducated blind, who exist in almost every county of the State, and who are generally in indigent circumstances. Many have already manifested praiseworthy zeal in this respect, and, in consequence of their efforts, some, who but for them, would still be enduring a kind of living death, in physical, intellectual, and moral darkness, are now rejoicing in the light and gladness shed around them in the Institution.

The improvement of the pupils of our Institution during the last year, has been highly satisfactory. The same course of instruction and study, as heretofore reported, has been pursued, and the interest of the pupils generally, in their various studies, continues to increase. And while their love of literature and of science, and their anxiety to become qualified to gain an honorable livelihood by their own industry, are constantly strengthening, we are happy in the assurance, that the improvement of their moral powers, is equally satisfactory.

Of the ability and faithfulness of the officers of our Institution, as well as of the condition of the Institution itself, some proper estimate may be formed from the following extract from a notice of the Institution, from the pen of Miss D. L. Dix, so well and favorably known in this State, and throughout the Union, for her self-sacrificing, well-directed, and successful exertions in behalf of the unfortunate, and, particularly of the insane :

“The proficiency of the pupils is no less surprising than it is gratifying. They are thoroughly instructed, and are remarkably fortunate in having competent teachers wholly devoted to their happiness and improvement. I have rarely visited any Institution for children and young persons, under State patronage, so thoroughly well organized, and so judiciously managed throughout, as is this. Go when you will, at morning, noon, or evening; in storm or sunshine, expected or unlooked for, you will find that here’s

“A place for all things, all things in their place;”

and so, too, each hour marked by appropriate study, refreshment, labor, exercise, and rest. It is not possible to visit this Institution even but once, (my visits have been renewed and repeated) and not perceive that all is fair, open and true, in the domestic circle, and in the school. There is no need to prepare for visitors, because, as in all rightly regulated establishments, *order, method, and good government* so prevail, that you cannot find them at any time amiss. Careful attention is paid to the personal habits of the pupils. Cleanliness and neatness are obligatory. While the high-principled and discreet superintendent of this school exacts the most correct habits in the pupils, the same are required of all the inmates; and while the mental capacities are trained and educated, it is never forgotten that the moral nature is to be enlightened and directed, and the manners and conversation made to harmonize. A good example enforces good counsels. Firmness, kindness, and fidelity characterize the teachers; obedience, good will, and industry, with but few occasional exceptions, distinguish the pupils.

“Here, these children and young persons from whom the natural sun is veiled, who are, through privation of vision, prevented from joining in the general bustle, and cares, and amusements of life—here, they find happiness in the acquisition of knowledge, in the various exercise of their faculties, and in learning how, in time to come, they may best benefit their friends, and become useful members of society. The bounty of the State is here well bestowed: these blind, but intelligent children, will repay to the public an hundred fold all they are now receiving. Thoroughly educated, and trained to virtuous and industrious habits, they will not return to their own homes, without extending good influences in their own families and communities. They are taught that it is a duty they owe the State to be assiduous in study, and correct in habits. No harsh impositions or severe restraints enforce the one or secure the other.

"It may be thought by some readers that possibly a too favorable estimate is placed upon the Louisville Institution by the writer. She can only say it is open to all, and of easy access; let the public and individuals judge for themselves. More might very justly have been added in commendation, but it is uncalled for; without ostentation it reveals and sustains a fair and beautiful character. I have, on my various and distant journeys, heard this school referred to by those whose children have enjoyed its benefits, and oftener by persons who have casually visited it, and on no single occasion have I heard it named in any but terms of confidence and interest. The attachment of the pupils of the Institution to their companions and teachers, is a guarantee that "all is well there" in the domestic and social relations."

The grateful acknowledgments of the Board of Visitors are tendered to Miss Dix for the donation of valuable pamphlets and books to our pupils.

We are indebted, also, to the publishers of the Presbyterian Herald, Star in the West, Catholic Advocate, Louisville Journal, and Morning Courier, for copies of their papers, gratuitously sent to the Institution during the last year. We hope these will be continued, and that the proprietors of other journals in Kentucky, will grant us similar favors, as the pupils derive much pleasure as well as valuable information from these papers, which are read to them daily by one of the officers.

The number of books in common print, belonging to the library of the Institution, has been increased since our last report, from 180 to 215 volumes. To these books the pupils have access, at all times, by means of seeing readers; and they are permitted, at the close of the session, to take to their homes such works as they may wish to have read to them by their friends during vacation. Regarding these books as an important means of instruction, we solicit, from the friends of the Institution, additional donations to our library. We hope that authors and publishers of new books will present to the Institution a copy of each volume issued from the press.

Nor can we forbear calling the attention of the Legislature and of the community, generally, to the importance of increasing the number of books in raised letters for the use of the blind. As but few volumes of this character have been printed, and as Kentucky has, in no way, contributed to increase the number, it is hoped that the Legislature, or some of our wealthy and benevolent citizens will, ere long, furnish the means of embossing some of the more valuable standard works in English literature.

We also solicit, for the cabinets of the Institution, donations of minerals, shells, models of animals, and works of art, and all kinds of curiosities, especially such as are addressed to the sense of touch. A thousand objects in nature and art, with which the seeing necessarily become familiar in early childhood, will never be accurately known to the blind, unless the objects themselves, or exact models of them, be presented to their feeling.

A good organ is greatly needed in our Institution, as several of the pupils might be qualified for organists in churches, were the means afforded for becoming acquainted with the instrument. All the older schools for the blind, in the United States, are supplied with organs, and it is exceedingly desirable, that the Kentucky Institution should not longer remain, in this respect, behind them. We hope that the blind youth educated in this school will, at the end of their course, go out prepared to support themselves by their own industry; but if we would not be disappointed in these hopes, we

must give them the best possible preparation. While, therefore, the friends of the blind in New England, New York, Pennsylvania, Ohio, and other States, are making liberal donations to the Institutions in those States, it is hoped the benevolent in Kentucky, will remember the wants of our Institution in this and other departments.

Several pianos, also, are needed, in addition to the two belonging to the Institution, but the want of funds has deterred us from procuring them. As, however, fifteen of the pupils have taken lessons on this instrument the last year, we have been under the necessity of continuing to rent one, and still the opportunities for practice, are not at all adequate to the wants of the pupils.

On account of the greater number of pupils in music, we have increased the salary of Mr. Smith, who has the entire charge of the classes in vocal music, and of instrumental in part, and who devotes to them three hours daily.

Considerable interest has been added to the musical department, the last year, by the formation of a musical band, consisting of a number of the male pupils most advanced in this science.

For the use of the band, and of several of the female pupils who were desirous of receiving instruction on the guitar, the following instruments have been purchased:

Three Clarinets,	-	-	-	\$23 00
One Cornet, Piston,	-	-	-	21 00
Two French Horns,	-	-	-	20 00
One Bass Trombone,	-	-	-	11 95
One Flute,	-	-	-	2 50
Two Guitars,	-	-	-	25 00
				<hr/>
				<u>\$103 45</u>

The office of Matron was vacated in August last by the resignation of Mrs. Van Deman. In the mean time, the place has been filled very satisfactorily by Mrs. Paris, who had previously been employed as Assistant Matron.

In October last, we appointed Dr. R. C. Hewitt, Physician to the Institution, believing that justice to the school, as well as to the generous physicians who, for more than five years, had rendered gratuitous medical service, required it. Dr. H., for the last two years, has, without any compensation, taken charge of most of the patients that have needed medical attendance, and his treatment has been unusually successful. The friends of the pupils may be assured, that, under the care of Dr. H., aided, when circumstances may require it, by the best medical talent of the city, the pupils will receive every needed attention.

The mechanical department of the Institution, it gives us pleasure to state, continues to defray all its expenses, and afford a small profit from year to year. This result, which is altogether unprecedented in the early history of similar Institutions in this country, and, therefore, unexpected, is the more gratifying, when the disadvantages under which this department has labored, are taken into consideration. Not only have we been prevented, by want of funds, from furnishing the stock, tools, and instruction, that

seemed necessary to secure success, but we have been able to allow to all the male pupils engaged in handicraft, only one small shop room, seventeen feet square. This, being in the basement of the edifice occupied by all the members of the Institution, is very unsuitable for the purpose, in many respects, especially on account of the danger from fire, as a considerable quantity of combustible materials necessarily accumulates in this room. We would, therefore, respectfully suggest to the General Assembly the need of funds for the erection of a shop, as well as ground on which to erect it—the lot occupied by the Institution being so small as to forbid our devoting any portion of it to this object. Moreover, additional land is absolutely necessary to furnish room for play grounds for the pupils of both sexes, as only the scantiest limits for exercise are now enjoyed by them, in consequence of which, their health is greatly endangered. No other Institution for the Blind in the United States, is so poorly furnished with respect to grounds, as our own. The grounds of the Ohio Institution consist of nine acres, and yet the Trustees in late reports, recommend that several additional acres be purchased. The Trustees of the Institution recently opened in Indiana, have purchased eight acres at a cost of five thousand dollars. The Massachusetts, New York, Pennsylvania, and other State Institutions, are also furnished with ample grounds. We will only add, on this point, that strict economy requires that an immediate purchase be made, as ground in the vicinity of the Institution is rapidly increasing in value.

The only branches of mechanical labor pursued by the male pupils, during the last year, are matress-making, and brush-making, in which they have attained to a good degree of skill. They manufacture matresses, and cloth, hair, hat, shoe, horse, and scrubbing brushes, that compare favorably with any in the market. A deeper interest than formerly is manifested by the pupils in the mechanical department, and several of them devote most of their time to it, and hope, on leaving the Institution, to be able to gain an honorable and independent livelihood by their labor. At the commencement of the present year, we engaged the services of Mr. W. D. Gotshall, a blind gentleman, educated at the Ohio Institution, as teacher of brush-making, to which branch the attention of our pupils will be confined, until a suitable shop shall be provided.

The following statement exhibits the profit of the mechanical department the last year:

	Dr.	
To value of manufactured articles on hand, Jan. 1, 1847,	\$ 126 57	
To value of unmanufactured stock on hand, Jan. 1, 1847,	256 00	
To cost of raw materials during year 1847,	7 95	
To amount paid mechanical teacher, - - - -	20 00	
	<hr/>	
		\$ 410 52
	Cr.	
By value of manufactured articles on hand, Jan. 1, 1848,	\$ 178 14	
By value of unmanufactured stock on hand, Jan. 1, 1848,	174 75	
By sales during year 1847, - - - -	118 38	
	<hr/>	
		\$ 471 27
Leaving a balance in favor of the department, of -		<hr/> <hr/> \$ 60 75

The receipts of the Institution for the year ending January 1, 1848, have been as follows:

From State of Kentucky for beneficiaries, - - -	\$ 2,555 40
From State of Indiana, - - - - -	435 00
From paying pupils, - - - - -	415 00
From sales of embossed books, - - - - -	41 80
From sales of articles manufactured by pupils, - - -	118 38
Donation by Dr. D. Drake, - - - - -	50 00
Donation by strangers, - - - - -	17 50
Balance reported on hand, Jan. 1, 1847, - - -	\$ 611 80
To which, add \$75, due at that time for im-	
provements and paid a few days after, - - -	75 00
	687 60
	\$ 4,320 68

The expenditures for the same year, have been as follows:

Salaries of officers, - - - - -	\$ 2,193 70
Wages of servants, - - - - -	430 69
Clothing of pupils, - - - - -	38 27
Furniture, provisions, &c., - - - - -	1,090 45
Fuel, - - - - -	211 04
Cows, and stable expenses, - - - - -	69 65
Materials for work department, - - - - -	7 95
Musical instruments, - - - - -	103 45
Rent of piano and tuning instruments, - - -	47 66
Expenses of expeditions & exhibitions with pupils,	146 21
Repairs, - - - - -	66 55
Brick for pavement, - - - - -	75 00
Insurance, - - - - -	30 00
	4,510 62

Leaving against the Institution, a balance of - \$ 189 94 which, with \$ 4 48, in the hands of the Treasurer, is due Mr. Patten, the Director, for money advanced by him for provisions, &c., in December, 1847.

In addition to the above receipts, the Institution has received from the benevolent ladies of Louisville, a donation of venitian blinds, oil cloth, chairs, and other furniture, amounting to more than five hundred dollars, the proceeds of a tea party, given in Louisville, in May last, for the benefit of the Institution. These articles, which had been greatly needed for several years, were peculiarly acceptable, as the want of funds prevented us from purchasing them. To the ladies, the managers of the above party, and to Dr. Drake, who for the last three years, has made to the Institution an annual donation of fifty dollars, we tender our grateful acknowledgments.

We conclude this report with the recommendation, that an appropriation be made by the General Assembly, for the erection of a work shop, and for the purchase of additional ground, three pianos, and an organ.

All of which is respectfully submitted.

At a meeting of the Board of Visitors of the Kentucky Institution for the Blind, held on the 22d day of January, 1848, the above was read, and adopted as the Annual Report of the Board.

BRYCE M. PATTEN, *Secretary.*

SEVENTH ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE

BOARD OF VISITORS

OF THE

Kentucky Institution for the Education of the Blind,

AND

CATALOGUE OF THE OFFICERS AND PUPILS,

FOR THE YEAR 1848.

FRANKFORT:

**A. G. HODGES & CO.....STATE PRINTERS.
1849.**

BOARD OF VISITORS.

HON. WILLIAM F. BULLOCK, *President.*

SAMUEL CASSEDAY,

THEODORE S. BELL, M. D.,

EDWARD P. HUMPHREY, D. D.,

CHARLES J. CLARKE,

WILLIAM F. PETTET,

WILLIAM KENDRICK.

WILLIAM RICHARDSON, *Treasurer.*

BRYCE M. PATTEN, *Secretary.*

OFFICERS OF THE INSTITUTION.

BRYCE M. PATTEN, A. M.,
DIRECTOR AND PRINCIPAL, TEACHER.

OTIS PATTEN,
TEACHER.

JOSEPH B. SMITH, A. B.,
TEACHER.

WILLIAM D. GOTSHALL,
TEACHER.

MRS. SARAH J. SMITH,
ACTING MATRON.

ROBERT C. HEWETT, M. D.,
PHYSICIAN.

CATALOGUE OF PUPILS FOR THE YEAR 1848.

NAMES.	RESIDENCE.
Jonathan Sansberry,	Jefferson county.
Percy Price,	Louisville.
Owen Waters,	Maysville.
Walker Hulett,	Lexington.
Thomas Deboe,	Jessamine county.
Robert B. Green,	Louisville.
Albert R. Armstrong,	Montgomery county.
Swebston Vaughan,	Bullitt county.
John A. Metcalfe,	Louisville.
Robert N. Bradley,	Scott county.
Daniel J. Lyons,	Louisville.
Samuel N. Seay,	Washington county.
William Dickson,	Jefferson county.
Melville Malcom,	Georgetown.
Walter Robertson,	Barren county.
George W. Robertson,	Barren county.
James R. Golloday,	Trigg County.
Richard P. Diamond,	Lexington.
Thomas J. Jennings,	Caldwell county.
Albert G. H. Cobb,	Hopkins county.
Isaac P. Harper,	Covington.
Sarah J. Clarke,	Jefferson county.
Araminta A. Hodge,	Louisville.
Elressa J. Ruth,	Louisville.
Mary A. Gibson,	Louisville.
Mary Ogden,	Louisville.
Catharine J. Eastin,	Richmond.
Mary A. Mitchell,	New Orleans, La.
Joanna Diamond,	Lexington.
Ellen Emmons,	Louisville.
Mary J. Green,	Louisville.
Rachel M. Davis,	Taylorsville.
Martha J. Arnold,	Anderson county.
Rosanna Searcy,	Anderson county.
Arzelia E. Parker,	Lexington.
Julia Taylor,	Bath county.
Sarah J. Nash,	Boyle county.
Mary A. Edward,	Muhlenburg county.

COURSE OF INSTRUCTION.

PRIMARY CLASS—FIRST YEAR.

Reading,
Arithmetic,
Spelling,
Geography,
Vocal Music.

SECOND CLASS—SECOND YEAR.

Reading,
Spelling,
Arithmetic,
Geography,
English Grammar,
Music, (optional.)

MIDDLE CLASS—THIRD YEAR.

Moral Philosophy,
English Grammar,
Natural History,
Writing,
Mathematics and Music, (optional.)

JUNIOR CLASS—FOURTH YEAR.

History,
Composition and Declamation,
Rhetoric,
Physiology and Anatomy,
Natural Theology,
Mathematics, Languages and Music, (optional.)

SENIOR CLASS—FIFTH YEAR.

Natural Philosophy,
History,
Astronomy,
Constitution of the United States,
Mineralogy, Geology, Chemistry and Music, (optional.)

ADMISSION OF PUPILS.

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Candidates for admission must be of good mental capacity, and must present certificates from some respectable physician, of incurable blindness, and of freedom from all offensive and infectious diseases ; and they must furnish satisfactory testimonials of unexceptionable moral character.

Every application must also state the name, residence and Post Office address of the applicant ; the year, month, day, and place of his birth ; the names of his parents, and whether they are living ; the pecuniary circumstances of the parents or other relations who have the care of the applicant ; at what age and by what means the blindness was produced ; whether it is total ; and whether there are other instances of blindness in the same family, or among their relatives.

Indigent children, resident in this State, will be received and educated at the expense of the State. In addition to all the above requirements, they must furnish certificates from some magistrate, or other well known respectable citizen, that they are inhabitants of Kentucky, and that their parents and immediate relations are unable to defray the expenses of their education.

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ANNUAL REPORT

TO THE BOARD OF EDUCATION :

The Board of Visitors of the Kentucky Institution for the Education of the Blind, respectfully present their

SEVENTH ANNUAL REPORT.

At the commencement of the year just terminated, the number of pupils was thirty-one, and eight have since been admitted, making the entire number during the year thirty-eight. One has left on account of illness caused by exposure on her journey to the Institution; another remains at home, under surgical treatment, with the hope of improving her vision; and four who had made such attainments in their respective studies as they proposed to themselves on entering, have left the Institution, without a regular discharge.

One pupil who, early in the year was dismissed for insubordination, having furnished evidence of reformation, has been re-admitted on probation.

We are aware that there are serious objections to reinstating, indiscriminately, pupils that have been expelled; still we believe that, during the infancy of our Institution, cases may occasionally occur, in which it will be advisable to reinstate a pupil who gives clear and undoubted evidence of penitence for past misconduct, and of thorough reformation. As long as we continue to receive pupils of all ages from six to twenty-five years, most of whom, before their admission, enjoy only the very scantiest opportunities for physical, mental, and moral culture, their teachers will find occasion for the exercise of a very unusual degree of patience and benevolence: And if, notwithstanding all their efforts to reclaim the wayward, regard for the interest of the whole school require their expulsion, the same benevolence will follow them, and if they give evidence of reformation, will probably, in some cases, suggest that they be re-admitted, provided the improvement and harmony of the other pupils will not be thereby endangered. The three pupils, who have at various times been dismissed from this Institution for misconduct, have, after longer or shorter intervals, been re-admitted. One of them has become a very exemplary pupil. In the case of another, the reformation was only temporary; in a short time after his return to the Institution, he relapsed into his former bad habits, and the Board were again under the necessity of dismissing him. The third was re-admitted too recently to furnish any ground for confidence, as to the result of the experiment in his case, though there is reason to hope that it will be favorable.

The entire number of pupils received into the Institution, since it was first opened for the reception of pupils, is sixty-one; thirty-six males, and twenty-five females. Of these, seventeen were born blind; the blindness of forty-four being caused by disease or accident.

Thus it will be seen, that no inconsiderable number of the blind youth of Kentucky have been gathered into the school, where they are receiving such training as we hope will qualify them to earn an honorable and independent livelihood.

Efforts have been continued the last year, to increase the usefulness of the Institution, by extending a knowledge of its existence among the people of the State. By these efforts, not only are many of the blind induced to avail themselves of the privileges of the Institution, but we are collecting important statistical information with regard to the blind of the State. It has been ascertained that the United States census furnishes no very reliable statistics respecting the unfortunate, and especially, the blind, in most of the States of the Union. For correct information as to these classes, each State must rely upon other means. And although there is reason to believe that the census of Kentucky is more correct than that of most other States, with respect to the blind, yet, in many of the counties of this State, the actual number of blind persons is found to differ widely from the last census. For instance, the county of Jefferson, in which the Institution is located, and which, according to the last census, contained only *seven* blind persons of all ages, has already sent to the Institution no less than *eighteen* pupils. When all parts of the State have been as carefully explored, many similar discrepancies will probably be found to exist. We would therefore respectfully suggest that an act be passed by the General Assembly, requiring the County Commissioners to ascertain, annually, and report to the Secretary of State, the number of blind, deaf and dumb, and insane persons, in their respective counties, with the name and age of each. And in this connection, we cannot refrain from again calling the attention of the benevolent in all portions of the State to the importance of their aid in searching out and gathering into the Institution, the neglected and hapless blind, scattered over our widely extended territory. In this work, the most humble, and the most influential citizen may alike engage, and often, with but little effort, do much toward rendering the children of misfortune happy, by placing them in this school of industrious and cheerful blind youth, where all the means of instruction are adapted to their peculiar condition. Some of the pupils who have been sought out in their helplessness, and brought to the Institution, regard those by whom they have been thus befriended, as their greatest benefactors. Shall not scores of other blind youth in the State, to whom life is every hour a burden, be made, by similar means, equally grateful and happy? Who would not prize above all earthly price, the gratitude of a blind child, rescued from ignorance and wretchedness, through his instrumentality?

The health of the pupils, with few exceptions, has been unusually good, during the last year. Dr. Hewett continues to discharge, with perfect satisfaction to all interested, the duties of Physician to the Institution; and the Board hope to be able to retain him in that capacity. For his remarkably faithful, and, to a large extent, uncompensated labors, the Institution is under the highest obligations.

In the intellectual department of the Institution, the same general course has been pursued as heretofore, with the usual gratifying results.

The course of study pursued by candidates for graduation, is appended to this report. In several of the studies enumerated in this course, in-

struction is imparted to the pupils in familiar oral lectures. It is somewhat difficult to arrange a course of instruction adapted to the various ages, capacities, and circumstances of the pupils; and yet, in an Institution of this kind, a systematic classification is peculiarly necessary, as so much is to be accomplished, and so short a period allowed, in which to accomplish it. In the short term of five years, we are under the necessity of endeavoring to impart to pupils, who have never been favored with any previous training, a good English education, and to teach them the art and science of music, and a mechanical trade. To effect all these objects, with the present means of instruction, the most economical classification is demanded, and yet so greatly do the pupils differ in age and mental capacity, at the time of their admission, that a desirable classification appears impracticable. It is hoped, as the character of the Institution becomes more extensively known, that parents of blind children will generally place them in school at an early age. When this shall be done, the labor of the teachers will be much lighter, and far more effective; the improvement of the pupils will be greatly enhanced, and a larger proportion of them, it is believed, will leave the school, at the end of their course, qualified to earn their support, with honor to themselves, and benefit to the community.

The cultivation of the moral powers of the pupils continues to receive the careful and constant attention of the officers of the Institution, and the improvement of most of them, in this respect, has been highly satisfactory.

In the musical department, the pupils continue to make commendable progress. By the liberality of the General Assembly, at the last session, the Board have been able to furnish much greater facilities than heretofore, for the cultivation of the musical powers of the pupils: indeed, the Kentucky Institution now offers, in this department, advantages hardly inferior to those of any of the older Institutions in the United States; and the more rapid improvement of the pupils gives pleasing evidence, that the privileges are properly appreciated. In addition to the other instruments procured during the last year, the Board have purchased an organ of unusually fine tone, and of sufficient power; and several of the pupils are receiving instructions thereon, and give promise of becoming skillful organists.

In the mechanical department, the same branches of handicraft have been pursued, as in the previous year; brushes being the principal articles manufactured by the boys, and a variety of fancy articles, of silk, worsted, and beads, by the girls.

Throughout the entire year, the male pupils labored under the disadvantages alluded to in the last annual report, with respect to room; a small room in the basement being the only one that could be devoted to the mechanical operations. We have, however, with a portion of the fund granted by the General Assembly, at its last session, purchased a lot of ground, and erected thereon a small workshop, which, though not adequate to the wants of this department, will enable us to carry it on with much more comfort to the pupils, and profit to the Institution, than heretofore. We regret that the scantiness of the funds at our disposal compelled us to erect the workshop on so small a scale, that we shall be under the necessity of confining the mechanical operations of the male pu-

pills, almost entirely to the manufacture of brushes, until larger accommodations can be furnished. Whenever the shop shall be sufficiently enlarged, not only may this department be rendered more profitable, by the introduction of other branches of labor, but the interest of the pupils may be greatly promoted, by offering them a greater variety in the choice of a trade, thereby affording them an opportunity to consult, to some extent, their different tastes.

A larger amount of work has been performed by the pupils the last year, than in any previous one; and the interest in this department is constantly increasing. The female pupils, in addition to the fancy articles made by them, have done a considerable amount of plain sewing for the Institution, of which no account has been taken; so that the actual amount of their work is greater than appears in the statement of the profit of the work department, hereto appended.

One of the four pupils who have left the Institution, since the date of our last report, deserves, on one account, special notice. At the age of twenty-five years, without even an ordinary English education, he was, by an accidental explosion, while engaged in blasting rocks, deprived of both eyes, and a considerable portion of his right hand, including three fingers, the remaining finger being also badly injured. Deprived, by this terrible calamity, of all hope of earning a support by any ordinary means, he applied for admission into the Institution, though without any very strong expectation on his part, or that of his friends, that one so dreadfully mutilated, could be much benefited by the privileges of the school. Although beyond the age at which it is customary to admit pupils, he was received into the Institution, where he remained a little more than two years, during which time he not only learned to read the Bible, but gained such a knowledge of a mechanical trade, as would, he thought, enable him to earn his own livelihood; and he has recently commenced business on his own account, in the vicinity of Louisville; and there is reason to hope that, from being such a burden to himself and his friends, as caused him to desire death, rather than life, he will become, by the aid thus received from the Institution, an independent, as well as cheerful man. Such is the work which the Institution is accomplishing; converting the helpless and wretched blind, into industrious, useful, and happy citizens.

The following statement exhibits the profit of the mechanical department the last year:

	DR.
To value of manufactured articles on hand, Jan. 1, 1848,	\$ 178 14
To value of unmanufactured stock on hand, Jan. 1, 1848,	174 75
To cost of raw materials during the year 1848, - - -	140 50
To salary of teacher of handicraft, - - - -	150 00
	\$ 648 39
	CR.
By value of manufactured articles on hand, Jan. 1, 1849,	\$ 375 84
By value of unmanufactured stock on hand, Jan. 1, 1849,	195 84
By sales during the year 1848, - - - - -	136 10
	707 78
Balance in favor of the department, - - - -	\$ 64 39

The entire receipts of the Institution, for the year ending January 1, 1849, have arisen from the following sources :

Special appropriation by the General Assembly, at the last Session, - - - - -	\$ 5,000, 00
From Treasury of State, for beneficiaries, - - - - -	3,113 33
From paying pupils, (T. Deboe, \$ 11, J. M. Heady, \$ 25.)	86 00
Sales of articles made by pupils, - - - - -	186 10
Donation of Mr. I. I. Keely, - - - - -	70 00
Balance in hands of Treasurer, at date of last report, -	4 48
	<hr/>
	\$ 8,359 91

The expenditures of the same year have been as follows :

Salaries of officers, - - - - -	\$ 2,238 08
Wages of servants and seamstress, - - - - -	476 93
Provisions, groceries, &c., - - - - -	1,000 12
Fuel, - - - - -	333 76
Cow, and provender, - - - - -	30 15
Cooking stove, - - - - -	75 00
Books, stationery, and printing, - - - - -	83 78
Furniture, dry goods, cutlery, stove, - - - - -	207 89
Raw materials for work department, - - - - -	140 59
Rent of piano forte, and repairs of instruments, - - - - -	28 27
Expenses of travelling, and exhibition, - - - - -	132 47
Insurance and repairs, - - - - -	51 87
Miscellaneous expenses, - - - - -	37 06
Cost of work-shop, and stove for same, - - - - -	833 50
Organ, - - - - -	790 00
Two piano fortes, and bass drum, - - - - -	475 00
Lot of ground, - - - - -	650 00
Balance due B. M. Patten, at date of last report, -	194 42

7,778 89

Leaving in hands of Treasurer, - - - - - \$ 581 02

The thanks of the Board of Visitors are tendered to the publishers of the KENTUCKY YEOMAN, LOUISVILLE JOURNAL, (daily,) MORNING COURIER, (daily,) PRESBYTERIAN HERALD, CATHOLIC ADVOCATE, and STAR IN THE WEST, for copies of their respective papers during the last year.

It is hoped that these favors will be continued to the Institution, as these periodicals are read to the pupils daily, and are to them a source of great pleasure as well as valuable information.

In closing this report, the Board of Visitors would earnestly commend to the General Assembly, the Institution in all its interests. And as the year for which the Institution was committed to our care is about to expire, we may be permitted again to recommend a liberal support of this school for the afflicted children of the Commonwealth.

The condition of the blind is, at best, a most pitiable one, and one that the benevolent every where are disposed to commiserate, and, if possible, alleviate : and we feel assured, if an expression could be had from the mass of the people of Kentucky, that there would be an unequalled majority in favor of a liberal endowment of this Institution.

Wherever we have had an opportunity to exhibit to the people the character, object, and success of the school, but one sentiment has been expressed as to the propriety and importance of affording to it the most liberal support; and the almost entire unanimity with which appropriations have been made to it, furnishes gratifying evidence, that the members of the General Assembly are faithful exponents of the benevolence of the people. But, although the Legislature has, in no instance, refused to afford aid to the Institution, when appealed to in its behalf, the resources within the control of the Board, are by no means sufficient to sustain the school in such a manner, as to confer honor upon the State, and offer to the blind advantages equal to those found in similar Institutions in some other States. Should nothing be realized from the "Louisville and Portland Rail Road," of which there appears, at present, but little hope, it will doubtless be necessary by some other provisions, to supply the deficiency caused by the failure of that enterprise.

Whatever funds have been intrusted to the Board of Visitors hitherto, have been faithfully devoted to the good of the blind; and all that may be entrusted to our successors, will, without doubt, be as carefully consecrated to the same object.

The Board of Visitors are merely the stewards of the State, and it is desirable that they should be enabled to place this Institution on a level with any similar Institution in the Union.

Kentucky's name is ever associated in the minds of her people, with all that is noble and generous—much, therefore, is expected from her, with respect to her benevolent Institutions; and we trust that these expectations, so honorable to her, will never be disappointed.

Since the foregoing report was prepared, the Board of Visitors have received the annual report of the Superintendent* of Public Instruction to the General Assembly of Kentucky; and they regret to find that officer has made representations of the state of the Kentucky Institution for the Blind, which are calculated to injure the usefulness of an Institution devoted to philanthropic objects, and which has thus far enjoyed the confidence, and commanded the admiration of the people of Kentucky.

The Board of Visitors were appointed by the Commonwealth for the purpose of carrying into effect the wishes of the General Assembly, by providing suitable means of instruction for the blind of Kentucky; and, in the performance of that duty, they have done all that zeal, industry, and devotion to the cause enabled them to do, with the means placed at their disposal. They organized the Institution, and gave it all the time and attention they could bestow upon it. One of the members of the Board, at the request of the other members, undertook the immediate superintendence of the Institution, which duties he continued to perform, without salary, and at no inconsiderable sacrifice of his own business, for nearly two years, when, at the solicitation of the Board, he relinquished the charge of a Literary Institution, which had yielded him about two thousand dollars annually, and devoted his entire time to the

* Rev. Robert J. Breckinridge, D. D.

Institution for the Blind, at the sacrifice of nearly a thousand dollars every year.

As soon as the number of pupils demanded a larger building than the Visitors were able to rent, they determined to purchase a lot for the purpose of erecting a suitable building upon it for the wants of the school. A desirable lot, on Broadway, was accordingly selected, with a front of 140 feet, (since increased to 170,) and a depth of 400 feet. This they purchased, and erected thereon a large, commodious, and healthy edifice, and furnished it in good order, for the remarkably low sum of about ten thousand dollars. The committees of the Legislature, that personally inspected the property, expressed surprise that property so valuable could have been secured for the small sum it actually cost.

The Board of Visitors have, in every way within their power, endeavored to discharge, with zeal and fidelity, the responsibilities entrusted to them by the General Assembly; and they have been cheered in their arduous labors by the approbation and confidence, not only of the representatives of the people, but of the people themselves.

The people of Louisville, who know the capacities of the Board of Visitors, have been liberal and constant in their support of the Institution. Under the charter of the Institution, granted by the Legislature, an obligation was imposed on the people of Louisville, to contribute funds sufficient to put the school into actual operation, before one dollar should be received from the State. This unusual requisition was cheerfully and liberally met by the citizens of Louisville; and fully did they acquit themselves of the duty. All classes of citizens gave a hearty co-operation in the benevolent work. Mechanics gave their work; merchants, their goods and money; coal-dealers supplied fuel; the ladies of the city were very active in the exercise of their charities; and we have already reported to the Legislature the fact, that one of the Physicians of the city, not only performed his duties as a member of the Board of Visitors, but attended every case of sickness among the pupils for several years, without charge to the State. And, during the first six years of the existence of the Institution, the pupils, whenever they needed medical aid, received the prompt and careful attention of some of the best Physicians of the city, without any expense to the Institution or State.

In referring to the liberal spirit manifested by the citizens of Louisville towards this Institution, we cannot refrain from an act of justice to John I. Jacobs, Esq., who sold to the Board of Visitors the ground on which the Institution stands, in consideration of its philanthropic objects, at less than half the price his ground was yielding him along side of it. He thus liberally made a donation of between \$1,500, and \$2,000, to the Institution. And the people of Louisville, generally, have cherished and sustained the Institution in every way in their power, with a liberal hand and a cheerful spirit.

The intimation in the report of the Superintendent of Public Instruction, that the situation of the Institution is unhealthy, at certain seasons of the year, and undesirable, is calculated to have an injurious effect upon the public mind.

The Board of Visitors have been endeavoring, by all proper means, to secure the confidence of the public, and to have the unfortunate blind children of the State placed under the benign influences of the Institu-

tion, which has been established for their benefit, by the munificence of the people of Kentucky. The effect of the statement of the Superintendent of Public Instruction is, to create distrust and apprehension, and therefore demanded the notice it has received from the Board of Visitors.

It is true that the Institution is in the "suburbs of Louisville;" but the improvements of the city are so rapidly extending in that direction, and even beyond the Institution, that it is probable that it will very soon be entirely surrounded by a thriving and respectable population. It is convenient, by means of paved streets, to the whole city; and if a sufficient quantity of the adjacent land could be purchased, it is believed that a more eligible site for such an Institution, could not be obtained within the limits of the city. With a portion of the fund granted by the General Assembly, at its last session, the Board of Visitors purchased, for the purpose of erecting a work-shop thereon, a lot adjoining the Institution on the east, and every reasonable effort has been made to procure additional ground on the west, but it has been found impracticable to do so, at present, on satisfactory terms.

In the immediate vicinity of the Institution for the Blind, the Jesuits purchased ground for the erection of a great College, which they were ordered by their superiors to abandon, for want of funds. The fact that those intelligent gentlemen selected a site for their college, somewhat in the rear of the Institution for the Blind, is some evidence that the locality is not so open to the objections of the Superintendent of Public Instruction, as that gentleman imagines.

High, airy, and well ventilated buildings are frequently healthy in localities, in which low and badly ventilated dwellings are sickly; and the Institution for the Blind is of the former class.

The land on the west of the Institution is annually cultivated; the land on the south is neither marshy nor malarial, and a number of dwelling houses have been erected on the eastern side of the Institution, and immediately along side of it. In front of the Institution, Broadway has been graded and paved, for which the Mayor and Council of Louisville liberally paid, instead of taxing the State with the expense.

What then are the sources of the unhealthiness of this site? Why should many of the citizens of Louisville select this region for the erection of their dwelling houses, if it is so very obnoxious?

In vindication of their judgment in selecting the site complained of, for the Institution, the Board of Visitors confidently appeal to the records of the Institution, as exhibited in their annual reports. Not a death has ever occurred among the pupils of the Institution; there is no unusual, intractable disease among them; nor have they been more sickly in the present locality than they were when the Institution was located at one of the healthiest points in the heart of the city; and the Board have been gratified in finding, that the health of new pupils is almost invariably improved, soon after their admission into the Institution. These facts should be conclusive.

The Superintendent of Public Instruction states in his report, that "the Institution for the Blind was originally endowed out of the funds of the Board of Education, and *considerable sums, from the same fund, have been, from time to time, given to that Institution, by the State.*" This is an error. There has been but one small appropriation of \$3,500, made to

this Institution, out of the fund referred to, in addition to the original endowment, instead of "considerable sums from time to time."

Again, the Superintendent says : "This original act makes it the duty of the Board of Education to appoint, annually, the Visitors of the Institution for the Blind, and it makes it the duty of those Visitors, to report, annually, to the Board of Education. I have seen that the duty required of the Board of Education has been performed ; but the Board of Education has not received from the Visitors of the Institution, as far as I am informed, any report, either this year or last ; nor am I aware of any change in the law requiring such report to be made to them."

We would respectfully refer the Superintendent to "changes in the law," of which he seems not to be aware :

The third section of an act of the General Assembly of Kentucky, approved February 8, 1845, is in these words : "The President and Board of Visitors shall, in all cases, require satisfactory proof, by affidavit or otherwise, of the residence of any applicant, who may hereafter apply for the benefit of said Institution ; and in every annual report, the names and residences of the pupils, setting forth specifically, the amount paid by each, *shall be reported to the General Assembly of the Commonwealth of Kentucky.*" This appears to be a material change in the law.

Again, the second section of an act, approved February 23, 1846, says : "That it shall be the duty of the President and Board of Visitors of said Institution, *to report in the next annual report, to the General Assembly,*" &c.

The Board of Visitors have endeavored to comply with all these requisitions, by making, annually, a report to the General Assembly, addressed invariably to the Board of Education, and whenever the President of that Board could be found at the seat of Government, their report has been delivered to him, "to be laid before the General Assembly." Only one manuscript copy of the report has usually been sent to Frankfort, and it being the imperative duty of the Board of Visitors to report to the General Assembly, their report has, in the absence of the President of the Board of Education, been presented to the General Assembly by some other officer.

We may also state, that a printed copy of the last annual report of this Board was, during the last session of the Legislature, mailed at Frankfort to the address of the President of the Board of Education.

But, although without design on the part of the Board of Visitors, the Board of Education did not receive the report of last year, it is a source of gratulation that it was received by the General Assembly of the State, a large number of copies printed at the public expense, for general distribution among the people, and its recommendations generously complied with, by an appropriation of \$5,000, from the public Treasury.

To supply so far as it can now be done, any omission of duty heretofore, a copy of the last report, printed by order of the General Assembly, is herewith furnished to the Board of Education.

The Board of Visitors have ever felt a lively interest in the success of the Institution entrusted to their care. Several of the present members have been in the Board from its organization to the present time ; and have thus shown their devotion to this great interest. The interrup-

tions in their business, the sacrifice of time, and the repeated calls made upon them by the wants of the Institution, have been cheerfully endured under the consciousness that they were performing a great public duty. These original members have remained in the Board, not in obedience to their desires, but in accordance with the conviction, that, having been there in the commencement of the Institution, their continued presence gave a guaranty to the people, favorable to the school. These members bear cheerful testimony to the zeal and fidelity of those gentlemen who have entered more recently upon their duties as members of the Board.

Nor can we close this report without bearing testimony to the excellence of the officers, who have charge of the "interior affairs" of the Institution. We feel confident that no similar Institution in the Union is entrusted to better officers. They are the praise of all who have had an opportunity of judging of their labors.

We commend the school to the General Assembly, with the confident assurance, that justice will be rendered to an institution that is a public blessing, and a monument to the philanthropic and enlightened liberality of the General Assembly of Kentucky.

All of which is respectfully submitted.

WILLIAM F. BULLOCK,
T. S. BELL,
CHAS. J. CLARK,
E. P. HUMPHREY,
WILLIAM KENDRICK,
SAMUEL CASSEDAY.

} *Board of Visitors.*

KENTUCKY INSTITUTION FOR THE BLIND,
LOUISVILLE, *February 3, 1849.*

EIGHTH ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE

BOARD OF VISITORS

OF THE

Kentucky Institution for the Education of the Blind,

TO THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY,

FOR THE YEAR 1849.

FRANKFORT, KY.

A. G. HODGES & CO.—STATE PRINTERS.

1850.

ANNUAL REPORT.

TO THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF KENTUCKY :

The Board of Visitors of the Kentucky Institution for the Education of the Blind, respectfully present their

EIGHTH ANNUAL REPORT.

The number of pupils, during the last year, has been thirty-eight—nineteen males, and the same number of females. Ten have been admitted since the date of the last annual report, and two have received a regular discharge; one of whom, we regret to state, died, a few months after his dismissal, at the residence of his parents.

It is also our painful duty to record the death of another, the first and only pupil that has ever been removed by death from the Institution. She was a child of remarkable loveliness, possessed of intellectual and moral endowments of the highest order; and, in her death, the Institution, as well as her relatives, has sustained a severe loss. At the time of her death, which occurred on the second day of the present month, she had been connected with the Institution only six weeks; yet, in that brief period, she had greatly endeared herself to all, by the interesting and lovely traits of character which she constantly exhibited. Throughout her illness, which was long and painful, she bore her sufferings with almost unexampled fortitude; ever manifesting a patient endurance, an unmindfulness of self, and a regard for the comfort of others, which are very unusual, even in persons of mature years, and altogether unlooked-for in a child of but seven summers. Though in a few days after her arrival at the Institution, she was attacked with the disease, (contracted, probably, while at home,) which terminated fatally, she expressed no regret that she had left her home, but constantly manifested the deepest gratitude for the kindness of those who had the care of her. The Director, and other officers of the Institution, spared neither pains nor expense in ministering to her comfort; she was attended by the kindest and most skillful physicians, who visited her daily; she received the constant attentions of the tenderest nurses; and, if human efforts could have availed, she would have been restored.

But while we deeply lament the early removal of this interesting and loved pupil, it becomes us to acknowledge, with gratitude, the kindness of that Providence that has granted to the Institution the remarkable exemption from death, with which it has been favored, for nearly eight years. Since the school was first opened for the reception of pupils, more than seventy have been admitted, few of whom enjoyed vigorous health at the time of their admission; and yet we have been called to record the death of only one, within the walls of the Institution.

During the last year, the Director, accompanied by two of the pupils, visited the counties in the western section of the State, and gave, in the principal towns, exhibitions of the attainments of the pupils, and the

mode of instruction pursued in the Institution. The deepest interest in the exercises, and the highest satisfaction were every where expressed; and the Institution, itself, as in all other parts of the State where we have had an opportunity to make known its character and success, was regarded with universal favor. In consequence of this tour, a number of pupils have entered the school, and more are expected; most of whom would probably never have reached the Institution, but for personal efforts of this kind. Should the funds of the Institution justify it, the Director will continue, from time to time, to make excursions, with one or more of the pupils, until every county seat in Kentucky shall have been visited, and all the blind youth in the State shall be made acquainted with the existence of the Institution, and the inestimable privileges that have been secured for them, by the enlightened liberality of the General Assembly and the people of Kentucky.

It is made the duty of the County Commissioners in Kentucky, to ascertain, annually, and report the number of blind persons in their respective counties; but this duty, so important to the interests of the unfortunate blind, scattered over our extended territory, has, as yet, been but partially performed in many of the counties, while in others it has been totally neglected. When the benevolent design of the law, requiring this information to be reported, shall be generally understood, it is believed that the Commissioners, as well as others, will take pleasure in seeing that its requisitions are carefully complied with.

No important changes have been made in the course of study and labor of the pupils since the last report was presented. The pupils generally manifest great interest in all their studies, and their improvement has been highly satisfactory. All have done well, and some have made remarkable progress. To those members of the Legislature who have examined the previous reports of this Board, and the reports of the committees from the General Assembly who have visited the Institution, as well as those who have visited the Institution in person, or witnessed the examinations of the pupils in the Capitol of the State, it is unnecessary to state, that the pupils attend to the various branches of learning usually taught in the best Academies of the State, and that, in the acquisition of knowledge, and in the cultivation of their mental powers, their improvement is generally equal to that of pupils who are blessed with all the senses. Deprived, as they are, of all participation in the enjoyment of visible beauty in the works of nature and art, they seem more fully to appreciate the intellectual and moral beauties presented in the studies of the school; and rarely need to be urged to greater diligence in the pursuit of knowledge. Study is, to them, no less a delight than a duty.

The thanks of the Board are again tendered to the proprietors of the Louisville Daily Journal, Louisville Morning Courier, Presbyterian Herald, Catholic Advocate, Kentucky Yeoman, and Methodist Quarterly Review, for copies of their respective publications, which have been sent gratuitously to the Institution for several years. Selections from these periodicals are read to the school daily; and the news of the day, as well as other important information contained in them, is eagerly sought for by the pupils. We hope, therefore, that these favors will be continued, and that the proprietors of other journals in Kentucky will place the Institution under similar obligations.

The usual attention has been given, during the last year, to the various kinds of handicraft, taught in the Institution; but we exceedingly regret that we have not been able to devote to the mechanical department the amount which its necessities and importance demand. To many of our pupils this department is by far the most important branch of the Institution; for in it, if any where, they must gain the knowledge and skill necessary to enable them to support themselves by their own industry.

The following statement exhibits the profit of the mechanical department the last year:

	Dr.	
To value of manufactured articles on hand, January 1, 1849, - - -	\$175 84	
To value of unmanufactured stock on hand, January 1, 1849, - - -	195 84	
To cost of raw materials in the year 1849 - - - - -	81 73	
To salary of teacher of handicraft, - - - - -	124 53	
	<u>787 99</u>	787 99
	Cr.	
By value of manufactured articles on hand, January 1, 1850, - - -	\$521 24	
By value of unmanufactured stock on hand, January 1, 1850, - - -	225 00	
By sales during the year 1849, - - - - -	120 00	
	<u>866 24</u>	866 24
Balance in favor of mechanical department, - - - - -	\$78 25	<u>78 25</u>

The receipts of the Institution for the year ending January 1, 1850, have been as follows:

From Treasurer of Kentucky, for support of State beneficiaries, - - -	\$2,927 99
From Poydras Female Orphan Asylum, for board and tuition of M. A. Mitchell, - - -	325 00
For board and tuition of E. Fazakerly, - - - - -	50 00
Sales of articles made by pupils, - - - - -	120 00
Balance in hands of Treasurer, at date of last report, - - - - -	531 02
	<u>\$4,004 01</u>

The expenditures of the same year have been as follows:

Salaries of officers, - - - - -	\$2,223 07
Wages of servants, laborers, and seamstress, - - - - -	532 03
Provisions, groceries, &c., - - - - -	1,109 80
Fuel, - - - - -	199 73
Dry goods, furniture, &c., - - - - -	123 55
Repairs, - - - - -	61 61
Expenses of traveling and exhibitions, - - - - -	101 15
Insurance, - - - - -	30 00
Lumber, - - - - -	21 84
Balance due on work shop, - - - - -	83 00
Raw materials for work department, - - - - -	81 73
Miscellaneous expenses, - - - - -	56 72
	<u>4,624 23</u>
Leaving against the Institution, a balance of, - - - - -	\$620 29

An examination of the preceding portion of this report, will show that the Institution for the Blind needs a larger share of the fostering care of the Legislature than it has hitherto enjoyed, if the unfortunate blind, who are receiving education and a knowledge of handicraft, under the endowment of the State, are to have these benefits in any thing like their fullness. And in the discharge of our duties, as Trustees under the Commonwealth, we feel it incumbent on us to urge upon the attention of the General Assembly, the necessities of the Institution. Year after year we have felt hampered and pinched in the discharge of our responsibilities, by the want of means. We have been compelled to stint the Institution, and thereby cripple its usefulness, in those depart-

ments that are essential to its highest usefulness. We do not allude to those accomplishments that may be considered more showy than useful, but to those advantages that promote the welfare of the pupils, by preparing them to earn a livelihood by their own exertions.

When we took charge of this trust, the character of the Institution was so novel to the people of Kentucky, that we determined, while the education of the blind could be considered, in any degree, a matter of experiment, to practice the most rigid economy in all departments of the Institution. That we have done so, may be easily demonstrated to those who will examine the history of our operations, given in our annual reports. A rigid system of economy has been constantly practiced; every item of expenditure is presented to the Board, with a voucher, before any money can be drawn from the Treasury; and we are, therefore, enabled to speak of the excellence of the economic arrangements of the Institution. But, in spite of all our care, we have long been satisfied, that, without some other resources than the sum allowed by the State for eleemosynary pupils, the Institution must either be shorn of its usefulness, or discontinued altogether; and we cannot believe that either result would be satisfactory to the representatives of the people, or to the people themselves. Too many of the blind of Kentucky have enjoyed the blessings of this noble Institution, to justify a cessation of that munificence of the State, that has already been attended with so many good results; results not only highly honorable to the State, but of inestimable advantage to a worthy and unfortunate class of the people of Kentucky. The charity of the State, thus bestowed, in fitting this unfortunate class for usefulness and independence, has been diverted from that expenditure, without ulterior good, formerly made for the support of paupers. Many of those who are educated in this school were formerly dependent on charity; and others are, without doubt, prevented from becoming so, by the privileges here afforded to them.

As one of the many illustrations, that might be given, of the declaration that we have been constantly hampered in giving to the blind those advantages which they should enjoy in a school intended for their benefit, we refer to the fact that we have never been able, with the limited means entrusted to us, to employ a teacher for the work department of the females; and have been forced to depend, for instruction in this important branch of the Institution, upon such occasional attention as some of the Matrons have been able to give to it. This state of things should be brought to a close. The female pupils should receive instruction, not only in the ordinary branches of education, but also in such kinds of handicraft as will enable them to obtain an honest support by their own industry. We feel the deepest interest in the welfare of all these unfortunate beings, the girls as well as the boys; and we are satisfied that it is our duty to urge their claims upon the justice and liberality of the General Assembly; and we trust that we shall be furnished with the funds necessary to enable us to impart to them the means of usefulness and independence, which they are unable to secure without the assistance of the State. We are confident that we shall not fully discharge our duty, by persevering longer in a system of economy that deprives the pupils of facilities essential to their advancement in the useful arts of handicraft, as well as other departments of education.

And when the members of the General Assembly notice that the expenses of this Institution have been much below those of similar establishments in other States, we feel assured that none will be disposed to withhold from it the comparative pittance necessary to its prosperity.

At the time we undertook the management of the Institution, upon the annual provision made by the State, we hoped that we should receive pupils from Indiana, Illinois, and Tennessee; but those States have already established Institutions of their own, with a liberal hand, and we have thus been disappointed of anticipated aid.

But the most material disappointment has arisen from the failure to derive any benefit from the charter of the Louisville and Portland Railroad Company. While we are confident that we may, with suitable amendments to the charter, look to the completion of that improvement as a source of support to the school, we have to report that we have not, as yet, derived any income from it. Various causes have combined to prevent the successful prosecution of the work. The Institution for the Blind having no means at its disposal for the construction of the road, the Railroad Company was compelled to barter the privileges of the charter to capitalists.

No responsibility, with respect to the construction of this road, was bestowed on the Trustees of the Institution; but an independent Board, to whom was committed that duty, was appointed by the Legislature. Notwithstanding this, such was the interest felt by the Trustees, in enlarging the usefulness of the school entrusted to them, that they labored as sedulously in endeavoring to prepare the way for the construction of the road, as if that duty had been assigned to them by the General Assembly. As a Board, we bear testimony to the zealous and efficient labors of two gentlemen, especially, who were, at the time, our colleagues, in furthering the objects of the Railroad charter. By their diligent and laudable exertions, the subscription of stock, to the full amount of the capital of the Company, was secured. The chartered rights, bestowed in favor of the Institution, were then transferred to the stockholders, on the best terms that could be obtained; and if the improvement could have been made, we doubt not that the Institution for the Blind would have been placed in a prosperous condition. But the body to whom the General Assembly committed the duty of constructing the road, failed to accomplish the work. It was found impossible to obtain the right of way through Portland, on such terms as were deemed proper. The municipal authorities of that town felt themselves bound to protect the interests of a wharf, that had cost them a large sum of money; and, in the protection of those interests, there were difficulties presented, under the present charter, which materially interfered with the construction of the road. With the municipal authorities of Louisville, also, difficulties presented themselves. Those authorities refused the right of way through the streets of the city, on any terms, under the present arrangements of the charter; and the capital of the Company was not sufficient both to construct the road and to force it through the city. But it is believed, that, with suitable amendments to the charter, we shall be able to command the co-operation of the authorities of Louisville. The Institution for the Blind has entirely failed to draw any support from this source, in accordance with the liberal intentions of the General Assem-

bly. But we are by no means disheartened. We feel confident that we shall be able, ultimately, to secure benefits to the Institution from this Railroad charter, and thus relieve the State Treasury from a portion of its charge; and, in order to commence new efforts for the accomplishment of this desirable object, we have called upon the President and Directors of the Railroad Company to vacate the stock subscribed, and restore the charter to the corporators originally named by the Legislature. We have no doubt that this reasonable request will be complied with. When the charter is returned, application will be made to your honorable body, for some essential amendments, which cannot fail to command your favor; and we shall then hope to succeed in constructing the road.

In the mean time, however, we must ask of the General Assembly additional means to support the school. Notwithstanding the constant practice of the most rigid economy, the expenditures of the Institution, for the last year, have exceeded its receipts for the same period, by the sum of \$1,201 24. A balance of \$581 02, in the hands of our Treasurer at the commencement of last year, reduces the balance against the Institution to \$620 22. It is necessary that provision be made for the payment of this debt, and for the support of the school, until the Louisville and Portland Railroad shall yield some income.

We need means not only to maintain, but to extend the usefulness of the Institution; and we ask this, not as a dead investment, but as a loan to enable us, by education, to continue to remove the blind from your list of paupers, and to make them industrious and useful producers, instead of mere consumers of the county levies. We ask not for means to make linguists of the blind, nor to give them accomplishments more ornamental than substantial and useful; but we ask for means to give them full range in those limited fields of knowledge adapted to them; we ask for means to place in the reach of these children of misfortune, copies of every one of the very limited number of books that have been printed for the blind. The library of the blind is, at best, a meagre one, but the Kentucky Institution is not supplied with all the books composing it. The books printed for the blind have been judiciously selected; they are of such kinds as impart substantial and useful knowledge; and the blind of Kentucky ought not to be debarred from this limited source of enjoyment, by the absence of the books adapted to their peculiar condition. The library of the Kentucky Institution is composed, in part, of donations from the benevolent; for its enlargement, we appeal to the liberality of the General Assembly. The number of embossed books, the only kind that the blind can read, is so small, that the purchase of a sufficient number of copies of each will not be a burden to the State, while it will be productive of great and lasting benefits to the pupils of the Institution.

As but few of the blind are able to supply themselves with books, on leaving the Institution, we recommend that the Board of Visitors be empowered, and furnished with the requisite means, to present to each indigent pupil, who passes creditably through the Institution, a copy of the Bible, printed in raised letters. To the State, this would be but a small sum annually—to the recipients of the gift, it would be a blessing at *ove* all price.

When the funds of the Institution will justify it, the Trustees desire to

make some addition to the library of the blind, by printing school books that are greatly needed, as well as some of the standard works in English literature. For the few books that now gladden the lives of the blind, they are indebted to the benevolence and liberality of other States. Kentucky has not yet raised a single letter to enlighten the dark hours of this unfortunate class. We feel solicitous that our own State should contribute her part to this benevolent work, and therefore commend the subject to the consideration of the General Assembly.

In view of the condition and wants of the Institution, we respectfully, but earnestly, recommend that an annual appropriation be made by the General Assembly, sufficient to place this Institution on an equality with similar Institutions in other States, and to make it worthy of the enlightened and liberal character of Kentucky. The amount requisite to meet the ordinary expenses of the Institution, and purchase the necessary furniture, books, maps, globes, and other apparatus, is, according to our estimates, three thousand dollars, annually, in addition to the present provision.

The Institution is in want of many comforts, which our straightened means have forced us to deny to it; and we feel confident, from the past liberality of the Legislature, that it is only necessary to let the essential wants of the school be known, to have them provided for. The education of the blind, in Kentucky is no longer an experiment. That unfortunate class has had its condition immensely improved by this school; and, in looking upon that improvement, the Trustees cannot but regret that they have not been able to make it greater.

The duties devolved on this Board have been severe, and often of a trying nature; but they have been cheerfully performed, in view of the philanthropic character of the endowment of the State. Under the genial influence of Kentucky benevolence, the deplorable condition of an unfortunate class has been cheered by the light of knowledge; their rayless orbs have pierced the darkness to which they were consigned, and they have been permitted to enjoy the blessings of a sound and useful education. Instead of being dependent upon county levies for a doleful pittance, they have been cheered by the knowledge that the liberal hand of the Commonwealth was opened to them; that they were invited to the fountains of knowledge, and that the means were offered to enable them to become industrious, useful, and independent members of society. Many have already been elevated from a deplorable ignorance to the pure and ennobling joys of knowledge; and, instead of being dependent on a cold charity, they have been taught to labor with their own hands for an independent and honorable livelihood. The hours that were once spent in cheerless idleness, are now devoted to the improvement of their mental and physical powers, and the voice of melody and harmony, tuned by thorough tuition in the science of music, now enlivens the hours of labor and recreation. Such pupils as pass through the necessary requirements of the school, are able to go forth into society, and make an honest support, by means of their skill as teachers or mechanics. These are invaluable returns for the endowment bestowed by the State on the Institution, and it is our earnest desire to see these blessings greatly enlarged.

A part of the members of the Board have participated in the manage-

ment of the School from the earliest dawn of its fortunes to the present time; and in all the labors and sacrifices consequent upon this trusteeship, they have been constantly sustained by the results of their efforts for the good of the blind; and they would rejoice to feel, before their retirement from the Board, that the Institution had been placed in the most prosperous condition possible. Though the labor has been severe, it has been a labor of love to all who have shared in it; and it has been fruitful in joy to the unfortunate, and has blessed their forlorn estate with the inestimable treasures of knowledge. It is impossible that an unfortunate class of Kentucky society, which has secured the warmest sympathies of those who labor most for it, can plead in vain, in appealing to the justice and liberality of the representatives of the people of Kentucky, to whose fostering care we now earnestly commend the interests of this State School. It has constantly grown upon our affections, and is endeared to us by many ties. It makes its appeals to the best feelings of humanity; the christian and the mere moralist find in its character all that enlivens the highest philanthropy—justice, gentleness, and mercy to the virtuous, well-deserving unfortunate.

Wherever an exhibition of the benefits of this Institution has been made before the people of Kentucky, it has roused the deepest sympathy, and they have unanimously declared themselves in favor of granting the most liberal support to the School. And the members of the General Assembly, by the unusual degree of unanimity with which they have granted appropriations for the support of the Institution, have proved themselves to be faithful representatives of a generous people. In no single instance have they refused aid, solicited in behalf of the Institution; and we trust that they will, by making the small annual appropriation necessary, perfect the noble work which has been so successfully begun.

All of which is respectfully submitted.

At a meeting of the Board of Visitors of the Kentucky Institution for the Education of the Blind, held on the 17th day of January, 1850, the foregoing report was read and adopted, as the Annual Report of the Board to the General Assembly.

BRYCE M. PATTEN, *Secretary.*

KENTUCKY INSTITUTION FOR THE BLIND,

LOUISVILLE, *January 18, 1850.*

CATALOGUE

OF THE

OFFICERS AND PUPILS

OF THE

INSTITUTION FOR THE EDUCATION OF THE BLIND,

FOR THE YEAR 1849.

BOARD OF VISITORS.

WILLIAM F. BULLOCK, *President.*

THEODORE S. BELL,

EDWARD P. HUMPHREY,

CHARLES J. CLARKE,

WILLIAM KENDRICK,

LEWIS RUFFNER,

BLAND BALLARD.

WILLIAM RICHARDSON, *Treasurer.*

BRYCE M. PATTEN, *Secretary.*

OFFICERS OF THE INSTITUTION.

BRYCE M. PATTEN,
DIRECTOR.

OTIS PATTEN,
TEACHER.

JOSEPH B. SMITH,
TEACHER.

WILLIAM D. GOTSHALL,
TEACHER OF HANDICRAFT.

MRS. MARY H. PARIS,
MATRON.

ROBERT C. HEWETT, M. D.,
PHYSICIAN.

CATALOGUE OF PUPILS.

NAMES.	RESIDENCE.
Jonathan Sansberry, *	Jefferson county.
Pearcy Price,	Louisville.
Owen Waters,	Maysville.
Walker Hulett,	Lexington.
Thomas Deboe,	Jessamine county.
Robert B. Green,	Louisville.
Albert R. Armstrong,	Montgomery county.
Swebston Vaughan,	Bullitt county.
John A. Metcalfe,	Louisville.
Robert N. Bradley,	Scott county.
James R. Golladay,	Trigg county.
Richard P. Diamond,	Lexington.
Thomas J. Jennings,	Caldwell county.
Albert G. H. Cobb,	Hopkins county.
Isaac P. Harper,	Covington.
Sarah J. Clarke,	Jefferson county.
Araminta A. Hodge,	Louisville.
Mary Ogden,	Louisville.
Mary A. Mitchell, †	New Orleans, La.
Ellen Emmons,	Louisville.
Mary I. Green,	Louisville.
Rachel M. Davis,	Taylorville.
Martha J. Arnold,	Anderson county.
Rosanna Searcy,	Anderson county.
Arzelia E. Parker,	Lexington.
Julia Taylor,	Bath county.
Sarah J. Nash,	Boyle county.
Mary A. Edward,	Muhlenburg county.
Elizabeth Fazakerly,	St. Louis, Mo.
William Martin,	Boyle county.
Samuel W. Stivers,	Bourbon county.
David C. Anderson,	Marshall county.
Sidney C. Nance,	Cadiz.
Nancy L. Reynolds, ‡	Hopkins county.
Margaret R. Clark,	Marshall county.
Sarah M. Clark,	Marshall county.
William T. Ellison,	Calloway county.
Sarah Smith,	Lincoln county.

* Honorably dismissed, and afterwards deceased.

† Honorably dismissed.

‡ Deceased.

ADMISSION OF PUPILS.

Applications for admission must be addressed to the Director; but no person who is under six or over fifteen years of age, can be admitted without a special vote of the Board of Visitors.

Candidates for admission must be of good mental capacity, and must present certificates from some respectable physician, of incurable blindness, and of freedom from all offensive and infectious diseases; and they must furnish satisfactory testimonials of unexceptionable moral character.

Every application must also state the name, residence, and Post Office address of the applicant; the year, month, day, and place of his birth; the names of his parents, and whether they are living; the pecuniary circumstances of the parents or other relations who have the care of the applicant; at what age and by what means the blindness was produced; whether it is total; and whether there are other instances of blindness in the same family, or among their relatives.

Indigent children, resident in this State, will be received and educated at the expense of the State. In addition to all the above requirements, they must furnish certificates from some magistrate, or other well known respectable citizen, that they are inhabitants of Kentucky, and that their parents and immediate relations are unable to defray the expenses of their education.

Both State and paying pupils, must come provided with a full supply of comfortable clothing, which must be marked with the name of the owner, and renewed, from time to time, as may be necessary. Traveling expenses, to and from the institution, must also be paid by the pupils or their friends.

The annual term of study commences on the 20th day of September, and closes on the 15th of July. It is important that the pupils be present at the commencement of the term, remain till it closes, and then return to their homes, and spend the vacation with their friends.

The annual expenses for paying pupils, for board, tuition, washing, and music, are *one hundred dollars*. If the pupil remains at the Institution during the vacation, an additional charge of twenty dollars is made. Payments must be made quarterly in advance.

COURSE OF INSTRUCTION.

PRIMARY CLASS—FIRST YEAR.

Reading,
Arithmetic,
Spelling,
Geography,
Vocal Music.

SECOND CLASS—SECOND YEAR.

Reading,
Spelling,
Arithmetic,
Geography,
English Grammar,
Music, (optional.)

MIDDLE CLASS—THIRD YEAR.

Moral Philosophy,
English Grammar,
Natural History,
Writing,
Mathematics and Music, (optional.)

JUNIOR CLASS—FOURTH YEAR.

History,
Composition and Declamation.
Rhetoric,
Physiology and Anatomy,
Natural Theology,
Mathematics, Languages, and Music, (optional.)

SENIOR CLASS—FIFTH YEAR.

Natural Philosophy,
History,
Astronomy,
Constitution of the United States,
Mineralogy, Geology, Chemistry, and Music, (optional.)

REPORT

OF THE

Joint Committee appointed to visit the Institution for the Education of the Blind, in Louisville.

The undersigned having been appointed a Joint Committee, by a resolution of the Legislature of Kentucky, "to visit the Institution for the Education of the Blind, in the city of Louisville, and to examine into the present condition and prospects of said Institution, and ascertain whether any further legislative action be requisite for promoting the usefulness, and extending the benefits thereof," respectfully beg leave to report:

That under and by virtue of said resolution, we proceeded to the city of Louisville on the 21st ultimo, and on the next day, having been met at the Galt House, in said city, by the Hon. W. F. BULLOCK, President of the Board of *Visitors*, he received us with his wonted urbanity, and kindly conducted us to the Institution, where we were introduced to the Superintendent thereof and his several assistants. In *Mr. Patten*, we found a gentleman, whose acquaintance we are proud to acknowledge; and of whose merit and worth we take pleasure in bearing our highest testimony to the people of Kentucky. In *Mr. Patten, Jr.*, his assistant, and in *Mrs. Paris*, the officiating Matron, and *Mr. Gotshall*, the teacher of Handicraft, we found combined those traits of character and qualifications so essentially requisite for their respective stations. The *building* is a spacious edifice of brick, well constructed, and conveniently laid off, and divided into divers rooms, passages and apartments. It has a fine airy location on Broadway, entirely remote from the scenes of bustle and the active business operations of the city. We were forcibly struck with the appearance of neatness and order, presented to our view, on entering the premises. Every thing seemed invested with its Sunday garb, and to bear an impress of taste and skill, care and diligence, in the highest degree creditable to those entrusted with the management of the Institution. We carefully scanned the interior of the mansion, and examined, particularly, its appendages. We were much pleased to observe the evidences of taste and diligence that every where prevailed. But we were pained to witness the lamentable deficiencies of furniture and

fixtures, and other appliances, so essentially requisite to the profitable and healthful operation of such an establishment. There is but a small fraction of the building either papered or painted; much the greater portion of the floors are utterly destitute of carpeting; and there are scarcely chairs or settees sufficient in any of the rooms, to accommodate a small assemblage of ladies and gentlemen. The *Library* is a scanty collection of books, totally inadequate, as we would suppose, to the exigences of the Institution. The *Literary department* is very indifferently supplied with maps and charts. The *workshop* and *store room*, are small narrow structures, entirely too cramped and diminutive for the purposes contemplated in their erection. Indeed, we might safely say, that in the whole catalogue of real comforts and conveniences, essential to the prosperity of the Institute, there is a *woful* deficiency. Every thing pertaining to the Institute, indicates the exercise of the most rigid economy in its management. The resources hitherto afforded by the Commonwealth, have evidently been well husbanded, and most judiciously expended. Yet, in view of all these difficulties, obstacles and disadvantages—in despite of all these embarrassments and discouraging circumstances—the Institute has prospered; and by dint of the untiring labor and perseverance of those noble specimens of humanity, who have embarked their agencies in this laudable enterprise, its progress has been upward and onward. Its eagle-plumed energies are still in brilliant and active requisition, and if properly stimulated and upheld by the requisite legislative protection and patronage, must, ere long, perch “on the heaven kissed heights” of benevolent achievement.

Of the *Pupils* of the Institute, we find it difficult to employ language fully and appropriately to speak. To say that they are as interesting specimens of intelligent juvenility as we have ever encountered, is certainly no exaggeration. Notwithstanding the veil that pallis their natural vision, and shuts out the grandeur of creation and the beauties of art from their observation, they are merry, cheerful and happy; and furnish in their conduct such evidences of the correct system of indoctrination pursued in the Institution, as at once to establish its claims to the highest consideration of a generous people.

We witnessed the exhibition of these pupils in the various phases of their several employments and studies—in the workshops and school rooms. We saw the females engaged in the manufacture of baskets, purses, and fancy articles, made of beads and other light materials; and their work, when completed, in neatness of finish and elegance of execution, will compare with similar articles, wrought by the assistance of the acutest vision. We, in like manner, saw the males employed in the manufacture of brushes. Every variety of that article, from the coarsest blacking, to the most superbly finished hair brush, is “turned out” by them, with wonderful facility; and their work will challenge competition with the product of the fancy shops of any of our cities or towns. We were highly delighted with the various literary recitations of the pupils, with which we were again and again favored.

The bible was read with great facility by many—a few of them wrote sentences entirely legible—mathematical problems were solved, and *false syntax* corrected by the classes in these several departments of learning—and displays of geographical knowledge were made, most astonishing and wonderful. Rivers were traced on the maps; towns and

cities pointed out; various localities were indicated; and latitude and longitude were reckoned with the greatest perspicuity and dispatch. Several young ladies manifested great proficiency in the science of music. They played on the piano-forte, accompanying the instrument with their melodious voices; displaying an ease, grace and elegance of manners, that would vie with the efforts of the most accomplished *belles* in our fashionable saloons.

Literary compositions in prose and poetry, were repeated—several well selected pieces were spoken by the young ladies and gentlemen. But the most interesting and touching of all the scenes exhibited, was presented in the “large hall,” by Mr. Smith and his pupils. This gentleman (we learn) has been blind from infancy. He is a man of fine intelligence; is a regular graduate of one of the eastern Institutions; is exceedingly bland in his manners, affable and courteous in deportment, and is almost without a peer, as a musician, in his line.

Within this hall, the whole number of inmates belonging to the Institution, were congregated together, in immediate proximity to the magnificent *organ* therein located, where Mr. Smith presided in person. Thence ensued a *concert* of music—vocal and instrumental, which we can ne'er forget. Its influence was overpowering. Our hearts were touched—our eyes overflowed—our tears gushed forth. We could well exclaim, in the language of an author of eminence—

“Our pinioned souls were seized, and cradled in Elysium.”

We repeated our visit on the succeeding day, and were again entertained by a repetition of the same exercises, greatly heightened in interest however, from an increased *confidence* in the pupils, and the disappearance, in some degree, of the diffidence and embarrassment previously evinced. Their performances on this day, were peculiarly attractive.

Having completed the object of our mission, and brought our labors to a termination, we administered to the pupils a few words of counsel and encouragement, and bid each one a kind adieu.

Our visit, throughout, was replete with the highest satisfaction, and it will ever be to us a theme of delightful reflection.

As the result, then, of our deliberations upon the matters submitted to us for consideration and investigation, in the resolutions above referred to, we beg leave respectfully to recommend an immediate and liberal appropriation by the Legislature, for supplying, in part at least, the urgent wants and legitimate demands of this Institution.

The building should be completed forthwith; the interior should be made to correspond with the exterior, by a suitable finish. Let the woodwork be painted, the walls be papered, and such decorations and embellishments be added, as will comport with the requisitions of elegant taste. Let every floor in the house be handsomely carpeted, and each room be provided with a proper supply of furniture.

The workshop and store room should be enlarged, and if possible, additional ground should be obtained, so that a garden could be laid out, of sufficient dimensions to furnish the Institute with all the vegetables requisite for its consumption, and at the same time, afford to the students an extension of the means of open-air exercise. This latter, however, is a consideration, in our opinion, that should be deferred, until others, more exigent, are first accommodated or disposed of.

The library ought by all means to be replenished, by the procurement of a suitable collection of books, maps, charts, and globes. We conceive that each pupil who graduates or is honorably discharged, should be furnished, gratis, by the Institute, with a copy of the Bible, and some other useful works: such, for instance, as the Declaration of American Independence, and the Constitutions of the United States of America, and of the State of Kentucky.

We recommend that all the Acts of the Kentucky Legislature, from the founding of the Institute, in 1842, as well as the Journals of the Senate and the House of Representatives for the same period of time, be placed in this library; and that in the distribution of the Acts and Journals of the Legislature, hereafter to be made in this State, that one copy of each be in like manner furnished to said library, for the benefit of the officers of the Institute.

We further recommend an increase in the number of pupils that may be received. From a late report of the Second Auditor, it appears that there are in the State of Kentucky 219 unfortunate human beings who are deprived of vision, and who are doomed to grope in physical darkness, to the full end and term of their respective pilgrimages on earth. We are satisfied that this number is below the truth, and that another report will show the number to be greater than that. Does not this admonish us of the necessity of expanding our exertions, and of accommodating a larger number of this Providentially-afflicted class of mankind? Every philanthropic spirit will respond affirmatively! Let the number, then, be extended to sixty, and be received on the same terms and conditions as now provided, by law, for indigent pupils.

We desire not to alarm the Legislature in the amount which we think should be appropriated for the purposes indicated; but without a liberal benefaction at the present crisis, the benefits and blessings of the Institute cannot be disseminated in a ratio commensurate with the hopes of its founders, or the expectations of its friends. These benefits and blessings we regard as "above all price;" not to be weighed or measured by dollars and cents. Kentucky has been munificent in donations to other public institutions of a kindred character. Thousands on thousands have been expended for the comfort and relief of the unfortunate lunatic. The deaf and dumb have been in like manner "looked after," and suitably provided for. Are the blind less objects of our kind compassion and parental regard? Surely not. Whilst then we are looking with a favorable eye upon, and administering our cordials of relief to others, let us not be so criminal in our conduct as to neglect these children of misfortune. We have made a beginning in the work—let us push it on towards completion; and so long as we can diffuse the happiness we have seen flow from the precincts of the Institute, and behold the precious treasures of intellect now collected, and that may hereafter be collected within its portals, and the glories of mental acquisition that are there daily evolved, we feel that Providence will smile upon Legislative effort, directed to so laudable an end as that of "extending the area" of its beneficial agencies, by competent pecuniary provision.

We would recommend an appropriation of three thousand dollars annually until this desideratum be accomplished. In order to supply the vacuum so prominently visible in the wants of the Institution, and to give and impart to it a tone and emphasis correspondent with the "spirit"

of the present age, in works of Philanthropy and Benevolence, we think a *smaller* sum ought not to be dreamed of. By this means we can in a few years place the Institute upon a firm and permanent basis, and relieve it from those spasmodic efforts to sustain its existence, to which it has heretofore been necessitated to resort. We will thus furnish it with ample guaranties of a brighter career of usefulness, and a more exalted measure of benevolent attainments. We have great faith in its ultimate triumph. Let Kentucky give it the desired aid and countenance, and we hazard the assertion that we will never have cause to blush for this object of our regard

We then beg leave to report the bill hereto appended, and ask for its passage.

All of which is respectfully submitted.

WALTER CHILES,	}	<i>Senate committee.</i>
JAS. M. RICE,		
D. HOWARD SMITH,	}	<i>H. R. committee</i>
F. KENNEDY,		
JOHN T. QUARLES,		

ADDENDA.

Although not strictly within the pale of our duties as a committee, yet we feel it due to say, in connection with the above and foregoing report, that whilst in Louisville we were politely waited on by Messrs. BARBEE and POPE, in behalf of the "Marine Hospital," with a request to visit that Institution. To this invitation we yielded our assent, and on the evening of the 22d of January, through the kind assistance of the above named gentlemen, and Dr. FISHER, the Superintendent thereof, we made a cursory examination into its condition, and found everything in admirable order. A large number of invalids, male and female, tenanted and occupied the different apartments of the building, and all the offices of "good Samaritanism" seemed to be actively employed by those entrusted with the care and management of the concerns of the Hospital.

Cleanliness and comfort were everywhere visible, and every want of the sick was apparently supplied.

The rooms of the building are large, comfortable, well lighted, and susceptible of the most excellent ventillation.

We think too much praise cannot be bestowed upon those whose efforts have so potently contributed to smooth the pillow and soften the bed of the afflicted.

The "Marine Hospital" is in close proximity to the "Blind Institute." They are on the outskirts, as it were, of the city of Louisville, and are almost in the forest. Their location invests them with a peculiar charm. Like tutelary genii they rear their heads in their quiet retreat, smile complacently on each other, and with arms extended, and wings outspread, they lure to their life-imparting embraces the sons and daughters of affliction and misfortune, to receive the ministrations of their respective benevolence.

The Marine Hospital is an institution in which the State of Kentucky has an interest that should be annually looked after. We commend it specially to Legislative consideration, as an object worthy our highest admiration and regard.

Respectfully submitted.

WALTER CHILES,	}	<i>Senate committee.</i>
JAS. M. RICE,		
D. HOWARD SMITH,	}	<i>H. R. committee.</i>
F. KENNEDY,		
JOHN T. QUARLES,		

NINTH ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE

BOARD OF VISITORS

OF THE

KENTUCKY INSTITUTION

FOR THE EDUCATION OF THE BLIND,

TO THE

GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF KENTUCKY,

FOR THE YEAR 1850.

FRANKFORT, KENTUCKY.
A. G. HODGES & CO.—STATE PRINTERS.
1851.

At a meeting of the Board of Visitors of the Kentucky Institution for the Education of the Blind, held on the eleventh day of January, 1851, the following report was read and adopted as the annual report of the Board to the General Assembly.

BRYCE M. PATTEN, *Secretary*.

KENTUCKY INSTITUTION FOR THE BLIND,
LOUISVILLE, January 13, 1851.

REPORT.

To the General Assembly of the Commonwealth of Kentucky:

The Board of Visitors of the Kentucky Institution for the Blind, in presenting their ninth annual report, are happy to be able to state that the institution entrusted to their care has, during the last year, enjoyed unusual prosperity. By the liberality of the general assembly at the last session, we have been enabled to furnish to the pupils, in the various departments of the institution, greater facilities for improvement than they have heretofore enjoyed; and their more rapid advancement proves that these increased advantages have been properly appreciated. There still exists, however, great deficiency in respect to books, maps, and apparatus of various kinds, which are essential to the highest success of the school, but which want of the necessary means has prevented us from procuring during the year just closed. When the appropriation for the present year shall have been received, we hope to make valuable additions to the library and apparatus of the school, and thereby remove some of the difficulties which have perplexed teachers and pupils from the origin of the institution to the present time.

By means of the appropriation made at the last session of the legislature, we have been able, for the first time, to employ a teacher in the work department of the female pupils. Such a teacher has long been greatly needed in the institution, and it has been to us a source of deep and constant regret that we have not felt authorized to employ one. The lady whom we have appointed to this place, has, in addition to the attention given to the work department, devoted several hours daily to instruction in the intellectual branches, and her services in both departments have added greatly to the interest and improvement of the school. Another cause to which the improved condition of the school is, in part, attributable, is the marked change which, within twelve or fifteen months, has taken place in the school, by the dismissal of most of the older pupils, and the admission of a younger and far more interesting and promising class.

The number of pupils during the year just terminated has been forty three—twenty four males and nineteen females. Ten have been admitted during the year, and six have received an honorable dismissal. The entire number received into the institution, since it was first opened for the admission of pupils, is eighty one—forty seven males, and thirty four females.

A large number of the pupils now connected with the institution have been brought in by the personal efforts of one of the officers of the institution, who continues to visit, from year to year, sections of the state not previously visited by him, for the purpose of awakening an interest in behalf of the blind, and convincing their friends of the importance of placing them in the only institution in the state in which they can receive such training as will prepare them for independence and happiness. The experience of this and all similar institutions in this country proves that, without efforts of this kind, a large number of the blind children and youth of the state will never apply for admission to the privileges of the school, until they have passed the age when they can be admitted with safety to the institution, or with any great advantage to themselves.

The census of the United States, recently taken, will lessen the difficulties we have heretofore experienced, in ascertaining the residences, names, and ages of the blind, scattered over all sections of our widely extended commonwealth. It is believed that the deputy marshals in those parts of the state visited by the director of our institution, have discharged the duties of their office faithfully, and that their reports may be relied upon as, in a good degree, accurate; and it is hoped that it will be found that they have been equally faithful in other parts of the state.

But we regret to report that the same praise cannot justly be awarded to the commissioners of tax in many of the counties of the state. By an act of the general assembly of Kentucky, approved March 1, 1848, it is made the duty of the commissioners to ascertain and report, annually, the number of blind and deaf in their respective districts; but this important duty has, in many counties, been either imperfectly performed, or neglected altogether. The commissioners should remember that this law is as obligatory on them as any other under which they act, and moreover, that it is benevolent in its design, its object being to enable those interested in the unfortunate, to reach them, and place them in the benevolent institutions which have been established for their benefit by the state. The commissioners, therefore, by neglecting to comply with the requisitions of this law, not only do injustice to the counties in which they are appointed, but they inflict, it may be, an irreparable injury upon one of the most interesting and unfortunate classes in the community. It may be thought that, inasmuch as the United States census gives, in respect to the blind, information to some extent reliable, there is little necessity for reports from the commissioners of tax. That this is an error may readily be seen by any one who will reflect that many are deprived of sight every year by disease or accident, while the United States census is taken at intervals of ten years.

In this connection we may be permitted to correct an error into which some of the commissioners of tax and deputy marshals have fallen, that of supposing it to be necessary to report those only that are totally blind, whereas the laws, requiring these reports to be made, were designed to benefit those also who, though not blind, are disqualified, by defective vision, from acquiring an education in the schools established for the seeing. Such persons are admitted into this and other schools for the blind, and it is the duty of the commissioners, in their reports, to include them, as well as those that are totally blind.

Our gratitude is due to the author of all good for the remarkable exemption from disease with which the institution has been favored during the past year. Not a single case of severe illness has occurred among the pupils since the last report was presented to the general assembly. This is the more remarkable from the fact that the small pox and some other diseases have been unusually prevalent in the city during a considerable part of the year. And it is especially worthy of record, that during the last two years in which the cholera has prevailed so widely and fatally in the country, not a single case of the disease has appeared in this school. Facts like these speak loudly in praise of the internal regulations of the institution, and of the attention and faithfulness of the officers, and are well calculated to convince the parents, guardians, and other friends of the blind, that, in this institution, their friends will be, in all respects, well cared for. As a further proof of the excellence of the internal regulations of the institution, it may be mentioned that in the nine years during which the school has been in operation, though more than eighty pupils have been connected with it, but a single death has occurred among them, and even that was the result of disease contracted before entering the institution. At the time we first assumed the charge of the institution as trustees, we anticipated a large amount of sickness among the pupils, resulting from the many constitutional tendencies to disease in the blind, as well as from the inactive and pernicious habits which blindness is so exceedingly liable to superinduce, and we confess that the history of the institution has most agreeably surprised us; and we cannot award too high praise to the excellence of those regulations which, with the favor of Providence, have had results so happy.

In the intellectual departments of the school, the course of training detailed in our former annual reports, has, without any material modification, been steadily pursued, with gratifying results. The interest of the pupils in their various branches of study and handicraft, has never been greater than during the last year, nor has their progress ever been more satisfactory. The large number of young and active pupils that have recently been admitted, impart to this department a charm which it has never before exhibited; and we cannot too

earnestly urge upon the friends of blind children the importance of sending them to the institution at an early age. We feel it to be our duty to urge this the more strongly, because we are assured that there are, in many parts of the state, blind children of good natural endowments, who have, with tearful eyes and eloquent petitions, often and earnestly, but vainly, entreated their parents or other friends to permit them to enter this institution, and receive that intellectual and moral cultivation which is so essential to their happiness here and hereafter. But while some, under the influence of mistaken tenderness, disregard the affecting appeals of their unfortunate children, and seem willing to consign them for life to dependence and misery, others, more enlightened, or more solicitous for the happiness of their offspring, accept, with gratitude and joy, the privileges offered to them by the liberality of the commonwealth.

No important changes have been made in the mechanical department of the male pupils during the last year. They continue to devote the afternoons of five days in the week to the manufacture of brushes of various kinds, and manifest commendable interest therein. The amount of sales has been small, as has been the case heretofore, on account of the great competition with which we have been obliged to contend in this business. As it is undesirable that any very large quantity of manufactured articles should accumulate in the shops, the prices of the brushes have been considerably reduced since our last report was presented, and it is hoped that, at present prices, most of the stock now on hand, and all that may be manufactured the present year, may be disposed of. We do not, however, expect to render the mechanical department a source of much profit to the institution. Our aim in establishing this department was the higher and more important one, to furnish to the pupils daily systematic exercise for their hands, and impart to them a knowledge of some handicraft, by which they may, after leaving the institution, support themselves by their own industry. If, notwithstanding the blindness and unskillfulness of the pupils generally, and the tender age of some, the work department shall continue to defray its own expenses, we shall feel that it fulfills, in this respect, all our reasonable expectations. Should circumstances justify it, as we hope may be the case, we shall, during the present year, introduce one or more new branches of handicraft, which we trust will add to the interest and profit of this department.

The work department of the females is in a much more prosperous and interesting condition than ever before. This change has been effected by the employment of the female teacher alluded to in a former part of this report. The girls devote the afternoons of five days of the week to sewing, knitting, and various kinds of fancy work, and all manifest in these branches no less interest than in the studies of the school.

The following statement of the mechanical department is presented. In addition to the work reported in our annual statements, the female pupils do a considerable amount of sewing and other work for themselves and the institution.

	Dr.	
To value of manufactured articles on hand, January 1, 1850.	\$ 521 24	
One third estimated value deducted,	173 74	
	<hr/>	\$ 347 50
To value of unmanufactured stock on hand, January 1, 1850,	\$ 225 00	
Value of tools included in last report deducted,	55 00	
	<hr/>	170 00
To cost of raw materials in the year 1850,	-	106 80
	<hr/>	\$ 624 30
	Cr.	
By value of manufactured articles on hand, January 1, 1851—		
Male department,	\$ 344 42	
Female department,	55 25	
	<hr/>	\$ 399 67
By value of unmanufactured stock on hand, January 1, 1851—		
Male department,	\$ 61 00	
Female department,	32 00	
	<hr/>	93 00
By sales during the year 1850,	-	146 50
	<hr/>	639 17
Balance in favor of mechanical department,	-	<u>\$ 14 87</u>

The entire receipts of the institution for the year ending January 1, 1851, have been as follows:

Annual appropriation by the State,	\$ 3,000 00
Amount allowed for support of beneficiaries,	2,929 73
Sales of articles manufactured by pupils,	146 50
Donation by Mrs. C. Ford,	5 00
For board and tuition of E. Fazakerly,	100 00
	<hr/>
	\$ 6,181 23

The expenditures for the last year have been as follows:

Amount of debt at date of last report,	\$ 620 22
Salaries of officers,	2,462 62
Wages of servants,	475 22
Provisions, groceries, and medicines,	1,313 63
Fuel,	263 87
Furniture,	322 85
Dry goods, clothing, shoes, &c.,	143 29
Hardware, tinware, stoves, and repairs,	110 56
Cow, hay, &c.,	74 21
Repairs of musical instruments and blinds,	25 90
Fences, repairs of building, glazing, &c.,	221 21
Painting and whitewashing,	26 50
Bricks, paving, and other brick work,	152 50
Trees, &c.,	45 10
Papering,	112 98
Stone Gutters,	16 90
Funeral expenses of Nancy L. Reynolds,	24 50
Expenses of traveling with pupils, and exhibition at Frankfort,	152 36
Insurance on building,	30 00
Embossed books and cards,	202 75
Slates and figures,	23 87
Writing boards,	10 00
Map of United States,	40 00
Freight on books, maps, &c., boxes and commission,	26 53
	<hr/>
Amounts carried forward,	\$ 6,897 57
	<hr/>
	\$ 6,181 23

Amounts brought forward,	\$ 6,897 57	\$ 6,181 23
Rounding machine,	21 00	
Brushmakers' shears and bits,	16 75	
Bench vices,	14 00	
Bristles, wire, &c.,	45 70	
Beads, silk, and worsted,	61 10	
Stationery, &c.,	17 02	
Miscellaneous expenses,	52 13	
		<u>7,125 27</u>
Balance against Institution,		<u>\$ 944 04</u>

No income has been derived from the Louisville and Portland Railroad, although we have used all the means in our power to secure the reconstruction of the road.

By an act of the general assembly, passed at the last session, we were authorized to present, in the name of the commonwealth, to each pupil who passes creditably through the institution, a copy of the holy bible and the constitution of the United States, printed in raised letters. In accordance with this praiseworthy act of the legislature, which reflects so much honor upon our state, a copy of each of these books has been presented to every pupil that has received an honorable dismissal from the institution since the passage of the above mentioned act. These pupils have gone forth into the world to contend alone with the peculiar difficulties which ever beset the blind in their efforts to secure for themselves an honorable and independent livelihood by their own industry; but we trust that they have not gone out altogether unprepared for the life struggle. The principles which they have imbibed, and the habits of industry which they have acquired, while connected with the institution, will, we hope, enable them to secure for themselves a respectable and useful position in society. Some have gone to remote parts of the union—one to the sunny south, and another to the distant north—but they have taken with them as a precious memento of their school days, and of the liberality and regard of their native state, that sacred volume which will not only cheer and sustain them in the dark and trying hours of their earthly existence, but will, we trust, lead them to that purer and brighter world above, where neither blindness nor any other evil will ever afflict them.

CATALOGUE
OF THE
OFFICERS AND PUPILS
OF THE
KENTUCKY INSTITUTION FOR THE BLIND,
FOR THE YEAR 1850.

BOARD OF VISITORS.

WILLIAM F. BULLOCK, *President.*
THEODORE S. BELL,
EDWARD P. HUMPHREY,
CHARLES J. CLARKE,
WILLIAM KENDRICK,
LEWIS RUFFNER,
BLAND BALLARD.

WILLIAM RICHARDSON, *Treasurer.*
BRYCE M. PATTEN, *Secretary.*

OFFICERS OF THE INSTITUTION.

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**BRYCE M. PATTEN, A. M.,**  
DIRECTOR, AND PRINCIPAL TEACHER.

**OTIS PATTEN,**  
TEACHER.

**JOSEPH B. SMITH, A. B.,**  
TEACHER.

**WILLIAM SIEVERS,**  
TEACHER OF HANDICRAFT.

**MRS. MARY WRIGHT,**  
MATRON.

**ROBERT C. HEWETT, M. D.,**  
PHYSICIAN.

## CATALOGUE OF PUPILS.

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| <b>NAMES.</b>               | <b>RESIDENCE.</b>    |
|-----------------------------|----------------------|
| Christopher David Anderson, | Marshall county.     |
| Thomas Deboe                | Jessamine county.    |
| William Thomas Ellison,     | Murray.              |
| James Richard Golladay,     | Trigg county.        |
| Thomas Jasper Jennings,     | Caldwell county.     |
| William Martin,             | Boyle county.        |
| John Archibald Metcalfe,*   | Louisville.          |
| Daniel Webster McDowell,    | Bourbon county.      |
| Thomas Mings,               | Hickman county.      |
| Reuben McClanahan,          | Logan county.        |
| John Montgomery,            | Louisville.          |
| Philip Troutman Patterson,  | Grayson county.      |
| Pearcy Price,               | Louisville.          |
| Joseph Simonis,             | Louisville.          |
| David Stevens,              | Lexington.           |
| Samuel Wheelock Stivers,    | Bourbon county.      |
| Richard Swebston Vaughan,   | Bullitt county.      |
| James Milton West,          | Christian county.    |
| Mordecai Wells,             | Nicholas county.     |
| Martha Jane Arnold,         | Franklin county.     |
| Martha Ann Boyd,            | Paducah.             |
| Mary Jane Buckner,          | Shelbyville.         |
| Sarah Matilda Clark,        | Marshall county.     |
| Margaret Rebecca Clark,     | Marshall county.     |
| Elizabeth Martha Cox,       | Trigg county.        |
| Rachel Minerva Davis,       | Taylorsville.        |
| Joanna Diamond,             | Lexington.           |
| Ellen Emmons,               | Louisville.          |
| Mary Ann Edward,            | Muhlenburg county.   |
| Elizabeth Fazakerly,        | St. Louis, Missouri. |
| Bettie Henning              | Louisville.          |
| Sarah Jane Nash,            | Boyle county.        |
| Sidney Caroline Nance,      | Cadiz.               |
| Rosanna Searcy,             | Anderson county.     |
| Susan Ann Maria Ward,       | Nelson county.       |

\* Honorably dismissed.

## COURSE OF INSTRUCTION.

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### PRIMARY CLASS—FIRST YEAR.

Reading,  
Arithmetic,  
Spelling,  
Geography,  
Vocal music.

### SECOND CLASS—SECOND YEAR.

Reading,  
Spelling,  
Arithmetic,  
Geography,  
English Grammar,  
Music, (optional.)

### MIDDLE CLASS—THIRD YEAR.

Moral Philosophy,  
English Grammar,  
Natural History,  
Writing,  
Mathematics and Music, (optional.)

### JUNIOR CLASS—FOURTH YEAR.

History,  
Composition and Declamation,  
Rhetoric,  
Physiology and Anatomy.  
Natural Theology,  
Mathematics, Languages, and Music, (optional.)

### SENIOR CLASS—FIFTH YEAR.

Natural Philosophy,  
History,  
Astronomy,  
Constitution of the United States.  
Natural Sciences and Music, (optional.)



## ADMISSION OF PUPILS.

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Applications for admission must be addressed to the director; but no person who is under six or over fifteen years of age, can be admitted without a special vote of the board of visitors.

Candidates for admission must be of good mental capacity, and must present certificates from some respectable physician, of freedom from all offensive and infectious diseases; and must furnish satisfactory testimonials of unexceptionable moral character.

Every application must also state the name, residence, and post office address of the applicant; the year, month, day, and place of his birth; the names of his parents, and whether they are living; the pecuniary circumstances of the parents or other relations who have the care of the applicant; at what age and by what means the blindness was produced; whether it is total; and whether there are other instances of blindness in the same family, or among their relatives.

Indigent children, resident in this state, will be received and educated at the expense of the state. In addition to all the above requirements, they must furnish certificates from some magistrate, or other well known respectable citizen, that they are inhabitants of Kentucky, and that their parents and immediate relations are unable to defray the expenses of their education.

Both state and paying pupils must come provided with a full supply of comfortable clothing, which must be marked with the name of the owner, and renewed, from time to time, as may be necessary. Traveling expenses, to and from the institution, must also be paid by the pupils or their friends.

The annual term of study commences on the 20th day of December, and closes on the 15th of July. It is important that the pupils be present at the commencement of the term, remain till it closes, and then return to their homes, and spend the vacation with their friends.

The annual expenses for paying pupils, for board, tuition, washing, and music, are *one hundred dollars*. If the pupil remains at the institution during the vacation, an additional charge of twenty dollars is made. Payments must be made quarterly in advance.

*List of Books purchased since the last Report.*

|                                                    |          |          |
|----------------------------------------------------|----------|----------|
| American Biography, . . . . .                      | 25 vols. | \$ 18 75 |
| Hildreth's History of the United States, . . . . . | 3 vols.  | 6 00     |
| Irving's History of Columbus, . . . . .            | 4 vols.  | 4 00     |
| Prescott's Conquest of Mexico, . . . . .           | 3 vols.  | 6 00     |
| Prescott's Conquest of Peru, . . . . .             | 2 vols.  | 4 00     |
| Prescott's Ferdinand and Isabella, . . . . .       | 3 vols.  | 6 00     |
| Abbott's Histories, . . . . .                      | 15 vols. | 9 00     |
| Gibbon's Rome, . . . . .                           | 6 vols.  | 2 40     |
| Pursuit of Knowledge, . . . . .                    | 1 vol.   | 90       |
|                                                    | <hr/>    |          |
|                                                    | 62 vols. | \$ 57 05 |
| Deduct donation of . . . . .                       |          | 5 70     |
|                                                    |          | <hr/>    |
|                                                    |          | \$ 51 35 |



## REPORT OF THE BOARD OF VISITORS

OF THE

### Kentucky Institution for the Education of the Blind.

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TO THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE COMMONWEALTH OF KENTUCKY:

The Board of Visitors of the Kentucky Institution for the Education of the Blind, respectfully present their Eleventh Report.

The present report embraces a period of two years and one month, commencing November 1, 1851, and ending December 1, 1853.

The number of pupils during the year 1852, was forty-one—twenty males, and twenty-one females. The number in the year 1853 has been thirty-eight—fifteen males, and twenty-three females.

Since the last report was presented, seventeen new pupils have been admitted into the Institution; five have received diplomas; three have been dismissed without having passed entirely through the prescribed course of study; and two have been returned to their friends with vision so much improved as to enable them to receive their education in the ordinary schools for the seeing.

The improvement of the sight of the pupils, though not originally anticipated, is exceedingly gratifying, and speaks loudly in praise of the skill and faithfulness of the officers of the Institution and the regulations of the school in regard to diet, recreation, cleanliness, labor and study.

The health of the pupils has been remarkably good during the last two years; but it is our duty to report the loss of one, the second pupil that has been removed from the Institution by death during the twelve years of its existence. John P. Fisher, of Boyle county, died in July last, after a short illness, throughout which he manifested the most perfect resignation to the Divine will, and the utmost fearlessness and composure in view of approaching dissolution. His remains were followed by the pupils and officers of the school to the Cave Hill Cemetery, where the Board of Visitors propose, with the approbation of the General Assembly, to purchase a suitable lot for the interment of such pupils as may close their earthly course while connected with the Institution.

The Board of Visitors, in their last report, asked authority from the Legislature to sell the lot of the Institution and purchase a larger lot in West Louisville. Authority to sell the lot in Louisville was granted, but on account of objections in the minds of some of the members to the proposed location at West Louisville, the General Assembly directed the Governor of the State to appoint commissioners to select ten acres of land and to report the same, with plans of all the necessary buildings, to the Governor for his approval. The commissioners were appointed,

and, after careful consideration, recommended, with the cordial approbation of this Board and of the Superintendent of the Institution, a lot near the eastern boundary of Louisville, which, after being visited and examined by the Governor, in person, was fully approved by him, and, by his order, was purchased, in the name of the commonwealth, by the Board of Visitors. The lot thus purchased cost nearly fifty thousand dollars more than the price of the ten acres proposed by this Board, but it has many advantages over that lot, which more than counterbalance the difference in the cost. The purchase was made about eighteen months since, and already the land in that vicinity has so greatly appreciated in value, that the owners of the adjacent land estimate it at nearly three times the price paid for the lot of the Institution.

The lot, as originally laid off by the Superintendent, lies in the form of a beautiful parallelogram, 800 feet in length, with a front of 544½ feet on the Frankfort turnpike road. The site is the highest, most commanding, and most beautiful in the vicinity of Louisville. New Albany, Jeffersonville, Portland and Louisville, are all spread out like a map before it. The Ohio river winds beautifully in view for several miles, until it seems, at last, to lose itself among the blue hills of Indiana. The edifice is in full view of the travel on the Ohio river, the Frankfort railroad, the Shelbyville and Bardstown turnpike roads, and several other great avenues leading into the interior of Kentucky.

The site is in a healthy neighborhood, it has a soil of great fertility, is capable of the most perfect drainage at little or no expense—in short, almost all things combine to render it the most desirable location for a State Literary Institution that could be selected in the vicinity of Louisville.

But while the Institution has been peculiarly fortunate in the selection of a site, it has been equally fortunate in the adoption of a plan for the building, which has been commenced under the most favorable auspices. The history of the plan is briefly as follows: In the year 1851, Mr. B. M. Patten, the Superintendent of the Institution, being in Frankfort, was requested by a committee of the Legislature, then in session, to lay before them plans of such a building as he deemed desirable for the school for the blind. He therefore immediately drew plans and presented them to the committee, who, after an examination of the same, recommended to the General Assembly the passage of a most liberal act, providing for the erection of all the buildings necessary for the Institution. The act was passed with almost unparalleled unanimity, and placed the Institution in a much more favorable position for usefulness than it had ever before occupied.

The plan, which thus, in effect, was sanctioned by the General Assembly, being subsequently examined by the Board of Visitors, received their unqualified and unanimous approval. And the commissioners having requested Mr. Patten to present to them a suitable plan to be recommended to the Governor, he presented the aforesaid plan, which was unanimously approved and recommended by the commissioners to the Governor, who also approved it.

The plan has, moreover, been examined by other intelligent gentlemen, including several eminent architects and officers of similar institutions in other states; and all unite in pronouncing it remarkably well adapted to the purposes for which it was designed.

Immediately after the approval of the plan by the Governor, the Board of Visitors appointed a committee to whom they entrusted the direct management of the erection of the buildings. Upon this committee they placed the Superintendent of the Institution, and directed him to make such disposition of his classes, &c., in the school, as would allow him to give his personal attention to all the building operations. We have thus secured, at all times, the most careful attention to the work; and we feel assured that the enterprise has been conducted with the utmost prudence, economy and fidelity. The work and materials have been obtained on the most favorable terms, all the materials are good, and the work has been executed in the most substantial and workmanlike manner. We have examined and approved all the contracts for work and materials, have given all necessary attention to the building, and have required, from time to time, reports from the Building Committee, who have conformed, in the most faithful manner, to the instructions of the board.

The fund for the purchase of land and the erection of buildings, has been derived from the following sources :

|                                                              |              |
|--------------------------------------------------------------|--------------|
| Sale of lot in Louisville, less cost of removing old bricks, | \$ 12,376 74 |
| W. S. Vernon, on account of insurance, - - - -               | 5,025 00     |
| Sale of old iron, - - - - -                                  | 500 00       |
| Appropriation by General Assembly in 1852, - -               | 10,000 00    |
|                                                              | <hr/>        |
|                                                              | \$ 27,901 74 |
| Deduct amount paid for ten acres of land, - - - -            | 5,500 00     |
|                                                              | <hr/>        |
| Total amount of Building Fund, - - - - -                     | \$ 22,401 74 |
| Deduct amount expended in building and materials, -          | 22,255 79    |
|                                                              | <hr/>        |
| Unexpended balance of Building Fund, in bank, -              | \$ 145 95    |
|                                                              | <hr/>        |

For a detailed statement of the building operations, including the cost of the various kinds of work, materials on hand, &c., we respectfully refer the General Assembly to the accompanying Report of the Building Committee, which has been unanimously approved by this board. The accounts and vouchers of the committee have been examined by the board with great care, and they are explicit, accurate, and complete; and we trust that the entire action of the Board of Visitors and the Building Committee will receive the approval of the General Assembly.

In case a committee should be appointed by your honorable body, as in former years, to visit the Institution, every facility will be afforded for examining the building and all other departments of the Institution.

Since the destruction of the buildings of the Institution by fire in the year 1851, the Institution has been indebted to the University of Louisville for a building in which to continue the exercises of the school. As this building is ill adapted to the wants of such an Institution, and especially as it is probable that it will very soon be needed by the collegiate department of the University, it is important that the new edifice should be hastened to completion within the shortest period possible. We, therefore, recommend that an appropriation of twenty-five thousand dollars be made by the General Assembly at the present session. If

this appropriation be made at an early day in the session, it is hoped that the building may be ready for the reception of the blind school before it will become necessary to relinquish the building at present occupied.

When, through the liberality of the General Assembly and people of Kentucky, the buildings and other necessary improvements of the Institution shall be fully completed, it is confidently believed that no necessity will exist for soliciting aid in support of the Institution, in addition to the means at present enjoyed.

In accordance with "An act in relation to the Louisville and Portland railroad," approved January 9, 1852, the Board of Visitors have sold the charter of said road to a company for the sum of six hundred dollars per annum, the first payment to be made in eighteen months from the date of the contract.

The receipts of the Institution to meet the ordinary expenses for the two years and one month, commencing November 1, 1851, and ending December 1, 1853, have been as follows :

|                                                                                      |             |
|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------|
| Annual appropriation in 1852, . . . . .                                              | \$ 3,000 00 |
| Allowance for beneficiaries from October 1, 1851, to October 1, 1852, . . . . .      | 3,241 96    |
| Annual appropriation in 1853, . . . . .                                              | 3,000 00    |
| Allowance for beneficiaries from October 1, 1852, to October 1, 1853, . . . . .      | 3,626 99    |
| For board and tuition of paying pupils in year 1851, . . . . .                       | 135 00      |
| Rent of building on Broadway, . . . . .                                              | 50 00       |
| Sale of old iron, . . . . .                                                          | 33 37       |
| Sale of cow, . . . . .                                                               | 26 00       |
| Sale of grass, . . . . .                                                             | 25 00       |
| Sale of manufactured articles from November 1, 1851, to December 31, 1852, . . . . . | 354 57      |
| Sale of manufactured articles from January 1, 1853 to December 1, 1853, . . . . .    | 688 25      |
| Balance in hands of Treasurer at date of last report, . . . . .                      | 67          |

**\$ 14,181 81**

The ordinary expenses of the Institution for 25 months, commencing November 1, 1851, have been as follows:

|                                                                                                         |             |
|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------|
| Salaries of Superintendent and teachers, from November 1, 1851, to December 31, 1852, . . . . .         | \$ 2,813 00 |
| Salary of matron for same time, . . . . .                                                               | 323 34      |
| Salary of physician " . . . . .                                                                         | 175 00      |
| Wages of foreman and workmen in work department, same time, . . . . .                                   | 668 17      |
| Wages of servants and seamstress, same time, . . . . .                                                  | 704 29      |
| Wages of cook in year 1851, . . . . .                                                                   | 150 00      |
| Expenses of traveling and exhibition in 1851, . . . . .                                                 | 53 63       |
| Provisions, groceries, medicines, &c., from November 1, 1851, to December 31, 1852, . . . . .           | 1,760 70    |
| Insurance in years 1852 and 1853, . . . . .                                                             | 200 00      |
| Salaries of superintendent and teachers, from January 1 to June 30, 1853, . . . . .                     | 1,330 50    |
| Salary of matron for same time, . . . . .                                                               | 135 83      |
| Salary of physician, " . . . . .                                                                        | 75 00       |
| Wages of foreman and workmen in work department, from December 31, 1852, to December 1, 1853, . . . . . | 274 00      |
| Wages of servants and seamstress, for same time, . . . . .                                              | 499 96      |
| Provisions, groceries and medicines, &c., for same time, . . . . .                                      | 1,525 68    |
| Fuel, from November 1, 1851, to December 1, 1853, . . . . .                                             | 494 11      |
| Rent of shop, from October 25, 1851, to December 1, 1853, . . . . .                                     | 314 50      |
| Raw materials for work department, for same time, . . . . .                                             | 1,383 58    |
| Hay, &c., \$ 25 50, feathers, \$ 11 60, . . . . .                                                       | 37 10       |
| Hardware, \$ 74 99, broom machines, \$ 85 50, . . . . .                                                 | 160 49      |
| Lumber, carpenter work, &c., . . . . .                                                                  | 232 91      |
| Stoves, tin ware, repairs of roof, &c., . . . . .                                                       | 145 53      |
| Repairs of blinds and cistern, . . . . .                                                                | 31 00       |
| Repairs of musical instruments, . . . . .                                                               | 18 10       |

Amounts carried forward, . . . . . **\$ 13,506 42** **\$ 14,181 81**

|                                                       |              |                 |
|-------------------------------------------------------|--------------|-----------------|
| Amounts brought forward, . . . . .                    | \$ 13,506 49 | \$ 14,181 81    |
| Funeral expenses of John P. Fisher, . . . . .         | 17 00        |                 |
| Dry goods, \$ 199 86, furniture, \$ 160 15, . . . . . | 360 01       |                 |
| Queensware, &c., . . . . .                            | 88 23        |                 |
| Books and stationery, . . . . .                       | 40 85        |                 |
| Grading and paving, . . . . .                         | 37 55        |                 |
| Miscellaneous expenses, . . . . .                     | 93 50        |                 |
|                                                       | <hr/>        | 14,143 56       |
| Balance in hands of Treasurer, . . . . .              |              | <u>\$ 36 25</u> |

*Statement of business of the Work Department for fourteen months, ending  
December 31, 1852.*

|                                                                                              |           |                    |
|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------|--------------------|
| To value of manufactured articles on hand, November, 1851, . . . . .                         |           | \$ 226 45          |
| To value of unmanufactured stock, " " " " . . . . .                                          |           | 110 40             |
| To cost of raw materials, from November 1, 1851, to December 31, 1852, . . . . .             |           | 610 81             |
| To wages of foreman and workmen, " " " " . . . . .                                           |           | 668 17             |
| To rent of shop, from October 25, 1851, to December 31, 1852, . . . . .                      |           | 177 00             |
|                                                                                              |           | <hr/>              |
|                                                                                              |           | \$ 1,792 84        |
| By value of manufactured articles on hand, December 31, 1852, . . . . .                      | \$ 138 96 |                    |
| By value of unmanufactured stock on hand, " " " " . . . . .                                  | 272 51    |                    |
| By sales of manufactured articles, from November 1, 1851, to<br>December 31, 1852, . . . . . | 354 57    |                    |
|                                                                                              | <hr/>     | 766 04             |
| Cost of supporting the work department for 14 months, ending Dec. 31, 1852, . . . . .        |           | <u>\$ 1,026 80</u> |

*Statement of business of the Work Department for eleven months, ending  
December 1, 1853.*

|                                                                                              |          |                  |
|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------|------------------|
| To value of manufactured articles on hand, January 1, 1853, . . . . .                        |          | \$ 138 96        |
| To value of unmanufactured stock, " " " " . . . . .                                          |          | 272 51           |
| To cost of raw materials, from January 1 to December 1, 1853, . . . . .                      |          | 772 77           |
| To wages of foreman and workmen, " " " " . . . . .                                           |          | 274 00           |
| To rent of shop, from January 1 to December 1, 1853, . . . . .                               |          | 137 50           |
|                                                                                              |          | <hr/>            |
|                                                                                              |          | \$ 1,595 74      |
| By value of manufactured articles on hand, December 1, 1853, . . . . .                       | \$ 63 35 |                  |
| By value of unmanufactured stock on hand, " " " " . . . . .                                  | 677 18   |                  |
| By sales of manufactured articles, from January 1, 1853, to De-<br>cember 1, 1853, . . . . . | 688 25   |                  |
|                                                                                              | <hr/>    | 1,428 78         |
| Cost of supporting the work department for 11 months, ending Dec. 1, 1853, . . . . .         |          | <u>\$ 166 96</u> |

Soon after our last report was presented, Mr. Sievers resigned his place as teacher of handicraft, and we were not able, during the year 1852, to fill his place with a man of the qualifications necessary for that important department of the school. On this account less work was done and fewer sales were made than we had reason to anticipate, and the expense of supporting the work department was greater than in any previous year.

Early in the year 1853, we secured the services of an energetic and faithful man in the work department, and we are gratified to be able to report, that a greater amount of good work has been done, and larger sales made, during the eleven months ending December 1, 1853, than in any other year since the Institution was established; and we have good reason to believe that the mechanical department will be still more prosperous and useful during the next year.



In the intellectual and musical departments of the school the same general course, detailed in former reports, has been steadily pursued, with the usual gratifying results.

In November last, Mr. Otis Patten, who had for more than eleven years discharged the duties of teacher in the Institution, to the entire satisfaction of the Trustees, having been elected Superintendent of the Louisville Orphans' Home, tendered his resignation as teacher.

In May last, Mrs. Wright, having been appointed matron in the Lunatic Asylum, of Indiana, presented her resignation, and the vacancy was immediately filled by the appointment of Miss Esther Pergrin, a lady of extraordinary fitness for this responsible and important office.

Miss Earle, Miss Melcher, and Mr. Marion, who have been appointed teachers since the commencement of the present session, have discharged their onerous duties with fidelity and ability.

The thanks of the Board are again tendered to the proprietors of the Louisville Daily Journal, Louisville Daily Courier, Daily Louisville Times, Kentucky Yeoman, Presbyterian Herald, and Western Recorder, for copies of their papers sent gratuitously to the Institution during the last two years. Our grateful acknowledgments are also due to the American Bible Society, for the donation of five copies of the Bible for the Blind; and to the Directors of the Louisville and Frankfort Railroad, for valuable favors to the inmates of the Institution.

In closing this report, we ask leave again to call the attention of the county commissioners to the duty of returning the names and ages of the blind children of this State, in accordance with the requirements of the following "Act in relation to the Blind Children in Kentucky," approved January 9, 1852:

"Be it enacted by the General Assembly of the Commonwealth of Kentucky, That from and after the present year, it shall be the duty of the commissioners of tax in each county in this Commonwealth, to ascertain and return on the back of their books, respectively, the names and ages of all blind children under twenty years of age in their respective counties, together with the name of the post office nearest to the residence of each."

Since the passage of the foregoing act, many of the commissioners appear to have been as remiss in their duty to the unfortunate blind as in former years, and we have satisfactory reasons to believe that not one-fourth of the names of the blind in Kentucky were returned by the commissioners in the year 1853. As proof of the great remissness of some of the commissioners we may state, that in one of the counties of the State the commissioners reported only one blind person, while upon the books of the Institution were the names of more than thirty blind persons resident in that county.

According to the last census of the United States, there are in Kentucky 530 blind persons; but we believe that the real number of blind in the State is much larger.

The General Assembly of Kentucky, with a liberality worthy of our time-honored Commonwealth, has made provision for the education of all the blind children and youth within her borders. She has ordered the erection of a building of sufficient size for their accommodation, and decreed that its doors shall be thrown open freely to all who are worthy of admission, to the rich and poor alike. That the blind may

be reached in their dark and cheerless homes, scattered all over our widely extended territory; that they may learn what inestimable treasures of knowledge and happiness have been opened to them by the State, the above law has been enacted, and it is hoped that the commissioners in every county of the State will see that its benevolent provisions be strictly complied with.

Respectfully submitted.

KENTUCKY INSTITUTION FOR THE BLIND, }  
 LOUISVILLE, December 31, 1853. }

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At a meeting of the Board of Visitors of the Kentucky Institution for the Education of the Blind, the foregoing report was adopted as the Eleventh Report of the Board to the General Assembly of Kentucky.

BRYCE M. PATTEN,

*Secretary.*

**BOARD OF VISITORS.**

---

**WILLIAM F. BULLOCK, *President.***  
**THEODORE S. BELL,**  
**LEWIS RUFFNER,**  
**EDWARD P. HUMPHREY,**  
**BLAND BALLARD,**  
**WILLIAM TANNER,**  
**ROBERT J. BRECKINRIDGE.**

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**WILLIAM RICHARDSON, *Treasurer.***

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**BRYCE M. PATTEN, *Secretary.***

## OFFICERS OF THE INSTITUTION.

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BRYCE M. PATTEN,

DIRECTOR.

MISS ELIZABETH EARLE,

TEACHER.

MISS MARGARET M. MELCHER,

TEACHER.

EDMUND P. MARION,

TEACHER.

JOSEPH B. SMITH,

TEACHER OF MUSIC.

MISS ESTHER PERGRIN,

MATRON.

FRANCIS VELAD,

FOREMAN IN MECHANICAL DEPARTMENT.

ROBERT C. HEWETT,

PSYCHOLOG.

# CATALOGUE OF PUPILS

FOR THE YEAR 1892.

| NAMES.                     | RESIDENCE.         |
|----------------------------|--------------------|
| ALBERT RUSSEL ARMSTRONG,*  | Montgomery county. |
| THOMAS DEBOK,*             | Jessamine county.  |
| Martha Jane Arnold,        | Franklin county.   |
| George Bennett,            | Ohio county.       |
| Martha Ann Boyd,           | Paducah.           |
| Mary Jane Buckner,         | Louisville.        |
| Margaret Rebecca Clark,    | Marshall county.   |
| Sarah Matilda Clark,       | Marshall county.   |
| Elizabeth Martha Cox,      | Trigg county.      |
| Rachel Minerva Davis,      | Taylorsville.      |
| Joanna Diamond,            | Lexington.         |
| Ellen Eminons,             | Louisville.        |
| Mary Ann Edward,           | Muhlenburg county. |
| Mary Street Edwards,       | Logan county.      |
| Lucy Innis Edwards,        | Logan county.      |
| William Thomas Ellison,    | Murray.            |
| John Patton Fisher,        | Boyle county.      |
| Madison Jones Garrison,    | Christian county.  |
| James Richard Golladay,    | Trigg county.      |
| Elizabeth Henning,         | Louisville.        |
| Susan Hannah Krusor,       | Lexington.         |
| William Martin,            | Boyle county.      |
| Reuben McClanahan,         | Logan county.      |
| Mary Francis M'Attee,      | Louisville.        |
| Thomas Mings,              | Hickman county.    |
| Sidney Caroline Nance,     | Paducah.           |
| Sarah Jane Nash,           | Boyle county.      |
| Philip Troutman Patterson, | Grayson county.    |
| John Raymond,              | Harrison county.   |
| Mary Jane Saddler,         | Jefferson county.  |
| Rosanna Searcy,            | Anderson county.   |
| Elizabeth Shevals,         | Hawesville.        |
| James Shevals,             | Hawesville.        |
| Joseph Simonis,            | Louisville.        |
| Robert Marshall Short,     | Muhlenburg county. |
| David Stevens,             | Lexington.         |
| Samuel Wheelock Stivers,   | Bourbon county.    |
| Richard Sweebston Vaughan, | Bullitt county.    |
| Susan Ann Ward,            | Nelson county.     |
| Mordecai Wells.†           | Nicholas county.   |
| James Milton West,         | Christian county.  |

\* Graduates.

† Honorably dismissed.

# CATALOGUE OF PUPILS

FOR THE YEAR 1853.

| NAMES.                     | RESIDENCE.         |
|----------------------------|--------------------|
| JAMES RICHARD GOLLADAY,*   | Trigg county.      |
| JOANNA DIAMOND,*           | Lexington.         |
| SARAH JANE NASH,*          | Boyle county.      |
| Martha Jane Arnold,        | Franklin county.   |
| Martha Ann Boyd,           | Paducah.           |
| Mary Jane Buckner,         | Louisville.        |
| Weedon Black,              | Laurel county.     |
| Margaret Rebecca Clark,    | Marshall county.   |
| Sarah Matilda Clark,       | Marshall county.   |
| Elizabeth Martha Cox,      | Trigg county.      |
| Mary Costello,             | Louisville.        |
| Rachel Minerva Davis,      | Taylorsville.      |
| Ellen Emmens,              | Louisville.        |
| Mary Ann Edward,           | Muhlenburg county. |
| Mary Street Edwards,       | Logan county.      |
| Lucy Innis Edwards,        | Logan county.      |
| William Thomas Ellison     | Murray.            |
| John Patton Fisher         | Boyle county.      |
| Madison Jones Garrison,    | Christian county.  |
| Elizabeth Henning,         | Louisville.        |
| Henry Lyter Kidd,          | Lexington.         |
| Susan Hannah Krusor,       | Lexington.         |
| William Martin,            | Boyle county.      |
| Reuben McClanahan,         | Logan county.      |
| Mary Francis M'Atée,       | Louisville.        |
| Thomas Mings,              | Hickman county.    |
| Sidney Caroline Nance,     | Paducah.           |
| Philip Troutman Patterson, | Grayson county.    |
| Rebecca Rogers,            | Fayette county.    |
| Elizabeth Shevals,         | Hawesville.        |
| James Shevals,             | Hawesville.        |
| Robert Marshall Short      | Muhlenburg county. |
| Rosanna Searcy, †          | Anderson county.   |
| Mary Jane Saddler          | Jefferson county.  |
| Joseph Simonis, †          | Louisville.        |
| Samuel Wheelock Sitvers,   | Bourbon county.    |
| Richard Swehston Vaughan,  | Bullitt county.    |
| Susan Ann Ward,            | Nelson county.     |

\* Graduates.

† Honorably dismissed,

|| Deceased.

## ADMISSION OF PUPILS.

---

Applications for admission must be addressed to the Director of the Institution; but no person who is under six or over fifteen years of age, can be admitted without a special vote of the Board of Visitors.

Candidates for admission must be of good mental capacity, and must present certificates from some respectable physician, of freedom from all offensive and infectious diseases; and must furnish satisfactory testimonials of unexceptionable moral character.

Every application must state the name, residence and Post-office address of the applicant, the year, month, day and place of birth; the names of his parents, and whether they are living; at what age and by what means the blindness was produced; whether it is total, and whether there are other instances of blindness in the same family or among their relatives.

Blind children resident in Kentucky will be received and educated at the expense of the State. In addition to all the above requirements they must furnish certificates from some magistrate or other well known respectable citizen, that they are inhabitants of the State of Kentucky.

Pupils must come provided with a full supply of comfortable clothing, which must be marked with the name of the owner, and be renewed from time to time, as may be necessary. Traveling expenses to and from the Institution must be paid by the pupils or their friends.

The annual expenses for paying pupils, for board and tuition, washing and music, are one hundred dollars. If the pupil remains at the Institution during the vacation, an additional charge of twenty dollars is made.

The annual term of study commences on the 20th day of September, and closes on the 15th day of July. Pupils should be present at the commencement of the term, remain till it closes, and then return to their homes and spend the vacation with their friends.

## REPORT OF BUILDING COMMITTEE.

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### *To the Board of Visitors:*

The Committee to whom you entrusted the management of the erection of the buildings of the Institution, respectfully present the following Report :

On entering upon the work assigned to them, the committee determined to guard, with the greatest circumspection, against any unnecessary expenditure in the erection of the buildings, to use none but the most approved materials, to employ no mechanics but those of undoubted skill and strict integrity, and to require all the work to be executed in the most faithful manner.

We therefore invited general competition by public advertisement, having it distinctly understood that contracts would neither be recommended by the committee nor awarded by the Board of Visitors to any but skillful and reliable men. All the work that could be thus disposed of to advantage, was given out by contract, and, with a single exception, to the lowest bidder; each contractor being required to furnish ample security for the faithful performance of his engagements. We thus secured superior workmanship and materials on the most favorable terms; and it affords us high gratification to be able to report that, so far as the work has advanced, the contractors, generally, have fulfilled their engagements with remarkable punctuality and fidelity, that not a single untoward accident has occurred to interrupt the progress of the work, and that harmony has, at all times, prevailed between the contractors and your Committee.

In order to secure constant, faithful and responsible supervision of the work, by direction of your Board, one of the undersigned has given direct personal attention to all the building operations, and the committee moreover called to their aid F. Costigan, Esq., an architect of great experience, refined taste, and rare ability. To the working plans prepared by Mr. Costigan, under the direction of the committee, and approved by your Board, we are greatly indebted for the success that has attended our labors.

In pursuance of the determination to avoid all unnecessary expense, in adopting working plans, the thickness of the walls of the building, as given in the former plans, was so considerably reduced in parts that would not be injuriously affected by the change, as to effect a saving in the cost of brickwork of fifteen hundred dollars. By dispensing with



The building fund, for the last two years, has been derived from the following sources :

|                                                                 |           |
|-----------------------------------------------------------------|-----------|
| Balance in hands of committee at date of last report, - - - - - | \$145 95  |
| Cash from treasurer of Kentucky, - - - - -                      | 25,000 00 |
| Cash from L. Ruffner for old iron, - - - - -                    | 1,048 35  |
| Cash from Louisville and Portland railroad, - - - - -           | 600 00    |
| Cash for old bricks, - - - - -                                  | 339 76    |
|                                                                 | <hr/>     |
|                                                                 | 27,134 06 |

The following sums have been expended in materials for building, and work on same:

|                                                           |            |
|-----------------------------------------------------------|------------|
| Paid McClelland & Pettit, bricks, - - - - -               | \$3,385 70 |
| Paid H. T. Kerlin, bricklaying, - - - - -                 | 4,394 80   |
| Paid J. Foster & Co., stone-sills and caps, - - - - -     | 146 45     |
| Paid Vincent & Struby, stone setting, - - - - -           | 297 40     |
| Paid D. Smith & Son, lumber, - - - - -                    | 395 85     |
| Paid Laviolle & Thornberry, lumber, - - - - -             | 1,230 19   |
| Paid J. Smith & Co., lumber, - - - - -                    | 401 64     |
| Paid J. N. Breeden & Co., lumber, - - - - -               | 648 35     |
| Paid J. Hite, for lumber, - - - - -                       | 40 74      |
| Paid George Rader & Brother, lumber, - - - - -            | 1,287 24   |
| Paid W. Hullings & Co., lumber, - - - - -                 | 1,436 16   |
| Paid John Graham, lumber, - - - - -                       | 37 62      |
| Paid Quinn & Buckner, making sash, - - - - -              | 361 37     |
| Paid Epperson & Bree, making doors, - - - - -             | 336 50     |
| Paid Wm. Kennedy, stairs, - - - - -                       | 162 07     |
| Paid Dougherty & McCorkhill, turning, - - - - -           | 191 50     |
| Paid F. Costigan, services, - - - - -                     | 950 00     |
| Paid Beaverson & Martin, - - - - -                        | 20 00      |
| Paid Wallace & Lithgow, tin, - - - - -                    | 1,232 93   |
| Paid Green & Stealey, roofing, - - - - -                  | 361 20     |
| Paid Hickman & Marcus, painting roof, - - - - -           | 133 36     |
| Paid W. Bennet, priming and glazing, - - - - -            | 270 80     |
| Paid Livingston, Tilton & Co., painting, - - - - -        | 339 71     |
| Paid Hegan & Escott, glass, - - - - -                     | 522 59     |
| Paid T. Williams & Co., gas and water pipe, - - - - -     | 253 09     |
| Paid J. N. Glover, plastering, - - - - -                  | 1,149 76   |
| Paid W. B. Mahone, banisters, - - - - -                   | 110 90     |
| Paid J. N. Stickles, flooring, - - - - -                  | 331 25     |
| Paid steamboat Wm. Garvin, flooring, - - - - -            | 282 00     |
| Paid steamboat Tishomingo, flooring, - - - - -            | 341 21     |
| Paid Eli Gardner and others, hauling, - - - - -           | 21 00      |
| Paid T. Savage, grading, removing rubbish, &c., - - - - - | 399 42     |
| Paid P. Hynes and other laborers, - - - - -               | 367 50     |
| Paid C. Wohlman, &c., sundries, - - - - -                 | 90 72      |
| Paid Wohlman, Humes, &c., carpenters, - - - - -           | 5,846 03   |
|                                                           | <hr/>      |
|                                                           | 27,788 05  |
| Balance due building committee, - - - - -                 | <hr/>      |
|                                                           | 653 99     |

Of all money expended in the building, we have kept accurate accounts, sustained by explicit vouchers, which are herewith submitted for your inspection.

Only such parts of the building have been completed as are necessary for the accommodation of the pupils at present connected with the Institution. A portion of the lower story has been completed, and the second or principal story is entirely completed, except the water-closets in the wings, and the warm and cold air registers. The floors are laid in the third story, and most of the rooms in the same are fitted up temporarily as dormitories, and are all occupied. The other parts of the house are unfinished, and, of course, must remain so, until the Legislature make an additional appropriation, as the building fund is now entirely exhausted.

The Committee have endeavored, at all times, to conform to the directions and wishes of your Board, expressed or understood; and, from the commencement of the work to the present time, we have had the satisfaction of perceiving that, in all things pertaining to the building, the views of your Board have accorded with our own; so, that in conforming to your wishes, we have acted in accordance with the decisions of our own judgment, and subserved, as we trust, the best interests of the Institution and the State.

Respectfully submitted,

L. RUFFNER, }  
 B. M. PATTEN, } *Building Committee.*

KENTUCKY INSTITUTION FOR THE BLIND, }  
 December 31, 1855. }



THIRTEENTH REPORT

(THIRD BIENNIAL REPORT)

OF THE

BOARD OF VISITORS

OF THE

KENTUCKY INSTITUTION

FOR THE

EDUCATION OF THE BLIND.

TO THE

General Assembly of Kentucky

FOR THE YEARS 1856-7.

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FRANKFORT, KENTUCKY.  
A. G. HODGES, PUBLIC PRINTER.  
1857.



## REPORT.

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TO THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF KENTUCKY :

The Board of Visitors of the Kentucky Institution for the Education of the Blind respectfully present their Thirteenth Report.

The progress of the Institution, since our last report was presented, has, in most respects, been unusually gratifying.

The school has enjoyed, during the last two years, a new and more favorable location, and an edifice much more commodious than any it ever before occupied.

One of the results of the change of location has been what we anticipated, and indeed predicted in our last report to the Legislature—a large increase in the number of the pupils. In the two years preceding the removal of the school to the new edifice, the number of pupils was as follows: in the year 1854, *thirty*; in the year 1855, *thirty-eight*. Immediately after the removal, the number began to increase with unusual rapidity. In the first year after the removal, (1856) the number of pupils was 50—17 males and 33 females. In the second year, (1857) the number has risen to 75—28 males and 49 females—about twice the average number for several years prior to the change of location. The entire number of new pupils admitted into the Institution since the removal to the new building, is 55—22 males and 33 females. The number of blind persons connected with the Institution at the present time is 60—24 males and 36 females.

The prosperity of the Institution has been greatly promoted, during the last two years, in consequence of the act of the Legislature, at the last session, by which the annual allowance for the support and education of State pupils in this Institution was increased to one hundred and forty dollars—the same allowance that had for several years been made for the support of the State pupils in the Asylum for the Deaf and Dumb.

By means of this addition to the income of the Institution, we have been enabled to supply some of those many urgent wants, alluded to in our last report, that had seriously retarded the prosperity of the school during its entire existence. We have, since the commencement of the present year, employed an additional teacher; have purchased a few maps, and some bedding and other plain furniture for the accommodation of new pupils; and have made greater efforts than ever before, to extend the benefits of the Institution to those more remote parts of the State that had not availed themselves of its privileges.

The benefits resulting from the expenditure are very perceptible in the increased number of the pupils, and their more rapid advancement

in their various studies. The interest and progress of the pupils generally in their studies, were never more satisfactory than under the very faithful and devoted teachers now employed in the Institution.

Many of the wants alluded to in our last report, still demand attention, as we have not been able to supply them without creating a debt that we had neither the right nor the inclination to impose upon the Institution. An organ, piano, maps, globes, and other school apparatus, as well as furniture for the dormitories and other rooms, are greatly needed; but we hope to be able, from year to year, gradually to supply these wants without soliciting from the Legislature aid for these purposes

The receipts of the Institution, to meet the ordinary expenses for the years 1856 and 1857, have been:

|                                             |             |
|---------------------------------------------|-------------|
| Annual appropriation, 1856,                 | \$ 3,000 00 |
| Allowance for beneficiaries, for 1856,      | 4,595 30    |
| Annual appropriation, 1857,                 | 3,000 00    |
| Allowance for beneficiaries, 1857,          | 5,371 50    |
| Balance in Treasury at date of last report, | 1 08        |
|                                             | <hr/>       |
|                                             | \$15,968 48 |

The ordinary expenses of the Institution, for the same time, were:

|                                                                                                 |             |
|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------|
| For provisions and groceries, including soaps, candles, cow and horse feed, &c., in 1856,       | \$ 2,213 56 |
| Salaries of officers, 1856,                                                                     | 2,045 00    |
| Salary of physician from January 1st to October 1st, 1856,                                      | 112 50      |
| Medical attendance on C. Smith, by Dr. Steele,                                                  | 25 00       |
| Medicines, &c., in 1855 and 1856,                                                               | 52 52       |
| Provisions and groceries, including soap, candles, &c., from January 1st to December 1st, 1857, | 2,015 98    |
| Salaries of officers, from January 1st to October 1st, 1857,                                    | 1,919 65    |
| Medical attendance, from October 1st, 1856, to December 31st, 1857,                             | 90 50       |
| Wages of servants, gardener and laborer, 1856,                                                  | 821 00      |
| Wages of servants and seamstress, 1857,                                                         | 633 50      |
| Wages of gardener and laborer, 1857,                                                            | 368 55      |
| Fuel in 1856 and 1857,                                                                          | 731 72      |
| Traveling expenses of pupils and wages of agent, 1856,                                          | 593 45      |
| Two horses in 1856, (\$250,) 2 horse wagon, (\$90,)                                             | 340 00      |
| Harness, chains, plows and horse shoeing,                                                       | 55 25       |
| Rent of pasture in 1856,                                                                        | 9 00        |
| Ice, (\$31 20,) pump, (\$10,)                                                                   | 41 20       |
| Dry Goods, 1856,                                                                                | 287 43      |
| Clothing of servants and destitute pupils,                                                      | 81 00       |
| Furniture in 1856 and 1857,                                                                     | 478 74      |
| Table cutlery, crockery ware, &c.,                                                              | 166 91      |
| Cooking range, stoves, tin ware, &c.,                                                           | 271 79      |
| Wages of agent in 1857,                                                                         | 450 00      |
| Funeral expenses of S. M. Clark,                                                                | 25 00       |
| Dry goods, &c., 1857,                                                                           | 212 06      |
| Insurance 1856 and 1857,                                                                        | 553 00      |
| Horse and harness, 1857,                                                                        | 120 00      |
| Cart, scraper, &c.,                                                                             | 47 75       |
| Eight cows and calves,                                                                          | 280 00      |
| Sewing machine, stand, needles, &c.,                                                            | 163 45      |
| Rent of Pope place,                                                                             | 150 00      |
| Grass seed, potatoes, garden seeds, &c.,                                                        | 116 15      |
| Hardware, &c.,                                                                                  | 88 13       |
| Maps, books, slates, stationery, &c.,                                                           | 178 14      |
| Conveyance of pupils to church 1855, 1856 and 1857,                                             | 177 75      |
| Balance in Treasury for ordinary expenses,                                                      | 17 77       |

\$15,968 48 \$15,968 48

All the foregoing expenditures have been made by direction of the Board of Visitors. In accordance with the by-laws, adopted by the Board at the time the Institution was opened, in the year 1842, not a single dollar has been paid out of the Treasury without the approval of the Board and the endorsement of the President. We are, therefore, enabled to speak with confidence, as to the rigid economy practiced in all departments of the Institution. Vouchers for all the foregoing expenditures, though examined and approved by the Board before payment, have this day been very carefully re-examined and found to be correct, and to agree with the accounts of the Treasurer. These vouchers are in the hands of John Milton, Esq., Treasurer, ready to be sent herewith to the State Auditor.

The report of the Building Committee, which is herewith presented, as a part of this report, has been unanimously approved and adopted by this Board. The accounts and vouchers of the Building Committee have been carefully examined by the Board and found to be accurate, explicit and complete. The original bills for all material, labor, &c., paid for out of the building fund, are herewith reported to the State Auditor.

The vouchers for all money entrusted to, and expended by this Board, since the Institution was opened, in the year 1842, are in the hands of the Treasurer, and are at all times subject to the order of the General Assembly, and ready for examination by any legislative committee.

Since the removal of the school to the new edifice, which is more than two miles distant from most of the churches of the city, some conveyance is needed to enable the pupils, especially the girls and small boys, to attend religious service in the churches of their choice. As we have been prevented, by want of means, from purchasing the necessary carriages, an arrangement has been made with the proprietor of a line of omnibusses, to take the pupils to the city every Sunday morning and return with them in the evening. This arrangement proves quite pleasant and satisfactory for the present, but we intend, as soon as practicable, to purchase a car, or omnibus, in which the pupils can be conveyed to church on Sunday, and to concerts, lectures and other meetings during the week. Privileges of this kind are highly prized by the pupils, and as they greatly promote their mental and moral improvement and happiness, they ought not to be withheld.

It is worthy of remark, that the male pupils, in pleasant weather, generally prefer a walk to a ride, and often when invited to ride into the city, solicit permission to walk. There are but few boys in the school who cannot, without a guide, walk to any part of the city. They walk carefully, but as fearlessly as those who are blessed with eye-sight. While to some, who are unacquainted with the habits of



the educated blind, it may seem unsafe for a blind boy to walk, unattended, through the crowded streets of a large city, we are satisfied that to deprive them of this privilege, would not only greatly detract from their present happiness and vigor, but would prevent them from ever acquiring that independence so necessary to their success in life, and would expose them to far greater evils in the future, than they might possibly avoid in the present. The pupils of this Institution have been permitted for sixteen years to go unattended to all parts of the city and its vicinity, and as yet, no serious accident has happened to any of them.

In view of the utterly helpless and destitute condition of many blind children in Kentucky, we would earnestly renew a recommendation, heretofore made, that a small annual appropriation be made to this Institution, to enable the Board to furnish clothing for such blind children as are prevented from availing themselves of the privileges of the school by their inability to procure the necessary clothing. The sum required, though small, would, in our opinion, be productive of incalculable good to the most afflicted portion of the most unfortunate class of sufferers in the State.

That commendable law of the State, authorizing the officers of this Institution to present, in the name of the State, and at the expense of the Institution, a copy of the Bible, in raised letters, to every graduate of the school, makes a severe draft upon the Treasury of the Institution. The very great cost of books, maps, and other school apparatus for the blind, may be properly appreciated, when it is recollected that the price of a Bible, printed in raised letters, which (in proportion to its size,) is by far the cheapest book ever printed for the blind, is more than sixty times the price of an ordinary Bible printed for the seeing.

It affords us great pleasure to acknowledge the receipt of the following very acceptable donations to that part of the library of the Institution, which is printed in the ordinary manner for persons with sight :

|                                       |                  |
|---------------------------------------|------------------|
| From Austin Dupuy, of Henry county,   | \$ 150 00        |
| From C. F. Rogers, of Fayette county, | 100 00           |
| From Charles Ford, of Hawesville,     | 20 00            |
|                                       | <u>\$ 270 00</u> |

This sum has been expended in the purchase of well selected books, and we hope to be enabled, by the liberality of other friends of the school, to make, from time to time, additional purchases, until a very valuable and extensive library shall be collected for the use of the Institution. As the number of books printed in raised letters is very small, the pupils are dependent for much of their reading upon books printed in the ordinary manner, which are read to them daily by the officers of the Institution.

We also take great pleasure in acknowledging our obligations to Mr. J. M. Heady, a former pupil of this Institution, for a very large and valuable addition to that part of the library consisting of embossed books. A few years since, Mr. Heady, being desirous that the blind should enjoy the privilege of reading with their own fingers the unequalled productions of the sightless but immortal bard of England, solicited from a few of the benevolent citizens of Kentucky, funds sufficient to print, in raised letters, Milton's *Paradise Lost*. To the funds obtained by Mr. Heady, Dr. Howe, of Boston, added sufficient to print *Paradise Regained* and the other poetical works of Milton; and thus, by the joint efforts of these two gentlemen, a small edition of Milton's complete poetical works was published about two years ago.

After paying for the printing of *Paradise Lost*, and furnishing institutions and individuals with the copies of the work for which they had subscribed, Mr. Heady had on hand more than a hundred copies of *Paradise Lost*, which, together with some other embossed books, he generously determined to present to this Institution, in consideration of the fact, that the funds to print the work had been contributed by citizens of the State of Kentucky. In pursuance of this determination, he presented to the Institution twenty-three bound copies of *Paradise Lost*, five copies of Milton's *Complete Works*, twelve smaller volumes, ninety unbound copies of *Paradise Lost*, and forty dollars in money, the proceeds of the sale of a few copies of *Paradise Lost*, to be expended in binding a portion of the unbound books, presented by him to the Institution. The amount thus contributed by Mr. Heady to the library of the Institution, is more than five hundred dollars—the largest donation ever made to the Institution, at one time, by one person.

To the benevolent gentlemen named above, and to all others who have contributed to the usefulness and advancement of the Institution, we tender our grateful acknowledgments.

We have, in our former reports to the Legislature, frequently alluded to the great want of books printed in raised letters, for the blind. Within the last few days we have been highly pleased to learn, that an effort has been recently commenced in one of our sister States, that promises to supply this pressing want, and, in a few years, to furnish a judicious and extensive selection of historical, scientific, poetical, and other useful books, printed in raised letters, for that unfortunate and interesting class, for whose benefit institutions similar to our own have been established in most of the States of the Union.

Mr. D. Sherrod, a highly respectable blind gentleman, has succeeded in obtaining an appropriation from the Legislature of the State of Mississippi, and considerable donations from the citizens of that

State, to establish a national house, to print books in raised letters for the blind.

The charter granted by the State of Mississippi provides, that this house shall be located in Louisville, Kentucky, and Mr. Sherrod is at present on a visit to this State to procure the incorporation of a board of trustees, to conduct the business of the establishment. He also proposes to visit in person, or by agents, the Legislatures and private citizens of the other States in the Union, to solicit appropriations and donations in aid of this noble enterprise, and to procure the incorporation of a Board of Trustees in each State, to receive and forward to the publishing board in Kentucky, such donations as may be made to this object by the Legislature and citizens.

Inasmuch as the blind in Kentucky will receive their full share of the benefits of this praiseworthy and benevolent undertaking, and as the State of Mississippi has already made a liberal appropriation in aid of it, and as the other States will, without doubt, make similar appropriations, we respectfully recommend that an appropriation be made to it by the Legislature of Kentucky, in which the institution is to be located.

The enterprise has the cordial approval of this Board, and we commend Mr. Sherrod to the members of the Legislature as a worthy and intelligent gentleman, well qualified for the great and philanthropic work in which he is engaged.

Since our last report was presented to the Legislature, Mr. Otis Patten, who was for several years engaged as a teacher in this school, has been employed to visit many parts of the State most remote from the Institution, to awaken an interest in the education of the blind, and induce these unfortunate children to avail themselves of the inestimable privileges that are freely offered to them by the wisdom and liberality of the Legislature and people of Kentucky. He visited one-half the counties of the State, and found nearly one hundred blind children and youth of suitable age to enter school. Many of these he induced to apply for admission into the Institution, and many others, it is hoped, will do so before they become too old to be received.

We deem it our duty to allude, once more, to the neglect of the Commissioners of Tax to ascertain and return, according to law, the names, ages and post-offices of the blind, in their respective counties. As evidence of this neglect, and of the general inaccuracy of the returns of the Commissioners, we may state, that of fifty pupils in the Institution in 1856, only eight are reported by the Commissioners of that year—and those eight only partially and inaccurately reported. Of seventy-five pupils in the Institution in 1857, only fifteen are reported by the Commissioners in 1856 and 1857. Of several hundred

blind pupils connected with the Institution during the sixteen years of its existence, only twenty-six are reported by the Commissioners in 1856, and twenty-five in 1857.

The only county in which the Commissioners made accurate returns, including names, ages and post-offices, in 1856 and 1857, is Franklin. In consequence of the faithfulness of the Commissioners in that county, all the blind reported by them in the last two years are now enjoying the privileges of the Institution, as pupils. Were the Commissioners in the other counties of Kentucky equally attentive to the duties prescribed for them by the Legislature, the same pleasing result might be anticipated in all parts of the State.

In the year 1848, a small shop was erected for the accommodation of the mechanical department of the Institution, and was used for that purpose, until the removal of the school from that location in 1851, after the destruction of the main building by fire. A building was rented for the work department, during the next four years and until the removal of the school to the building now occupied. For the first eighteen months after the removal, it was not practicable to rent a shop, and not having the means to erect one, the work in the mechanical department was necessarily suspended.

In addition to the want of a shop, a stable and pasture for the cows and horses belonging to the Institution, were greatly needed. Early in the present year we had a favorable opportunity to supply all these wants, by renting, on reasonable terms, the property of Wm. H. Pope, Esq., adjoining the lot of the Institution, on the west. This place contains about eighteen acres, including an extensive, fertile, and well watered pasture, an orchard, stable and buildings for the accommodation of the mechanical department and gardener.

In these buildings the work department has been re-opened, on a plan somewhat more satisfactory than that upon which it was formerly conducted. Mr. Martin, a graduate of this Institution, who was for some years employed as foreman in the work department, has taken charge of the shops on his own responsibility, purchasing the materials, paying the pupils for extra work, and receiving the profits of the department. In consideration of Mr. Martin's services as teacher of the pupils in the various kinds of handicraft, the Institution furnishes the shops free of rent, boards the pupils connected with the work department, and has loaned to him, on good security, the small balance on hand December 31st, 1855, on account of the work department, to enable him to purchase materials, &c., and commence the enterprise under more favorable auspices. The pecuniary result, so far as the Institution is concerned, will not be materially different from what it has been heretofore, while the profits to the foreman will, it is hoped, be at least equal to the small salary formerly paid to him. The su-

perintendent of the Institution, of course, still has the supervision of the work department and the boys engaged in it, as heretofore.

The articles manufactured by the boys, are, as in former years, brooms, brushes and mattresses. The girls sew, knit, and manufacture a variety of fancy articles. No teacher of handicraft has been employed for the female pupils for several years; but, since the commencement of the present session, the matron has devoted to their instruction in sewing, &c., a part of each afternoon, with pleasing results.

Since we secured the use of the pasture, already alluded to in this report, a sufficient number of cows have been kept upon the place to supply the pupils with an abundance of milk, and furnish a considerable quantity of butter.

A garden has been laid out and successfully cultivated, during the two seasons that have passed since the removal of the school to the new edifice. The products of this garden and of that upon the rented place have been, one hundred and twenty barrels of Irish potatoes, eight barrels of sweet potatoes, three hundred cabbages, and a great variety of other vegetables, as well as fruits, consisting in part of beets, parsnips, tomatoes, asparagus, okra, peas, beans, corn, grapes, strawberries, raspberries, peaches, apples and quinces.

The health of the pupils, generally, has been remarkably good during the last two years. Until the first day of October, 1856, we had for several years paid a physician a salary of one hundred and fifty dollars, for medical attendance upon the pupils, but, after the removal of the school to the new location, learning that the calls upon the physician were much less frequent than formerly, we deemed it advisable to discontinue the salary of the physician and to pay him three dollars for each visit—the usual price paid to the physicians of Louisville for visiting patients in the vicinity of the Institution. The result has been, as we anticipated, a considerable diminution of the amount paid for medical attendance. From October 1st, 1856 to the date of this report, a period of fifteen months, the physician's bill has amounted to but \$90 50, less than one-half the salary formerly paid for the same length of time. And we may add, that the greater part of the physician's bill for the last fifteen months, has been for attendance upon a single pupil, who entered the Institution some years ago, in very poor health, and who, from year to year, has required more attention from the physician than all the other pupils.

But while we make the foregoing statement as to the health of the pupils generally, it is our painful duty to report the death of one of the most promising pupils since the commencement of the present year. Miss Sarah M. Clark, of Marshall county, an amiable and interesting young lady, of very remarkable promise, as a vocalist, died on

the 12th day of January, 1857, after a short illness, contracted during the previous vacation, while on a visit to some of her schoolmates in Carter county. Funeral services were held in the chapel of the Institution, in the presence of the pupils, who followed her remains to Cave Hill Cemetery, where we have secured a beautiful lot for the interment of such pupils as may close their earthly course while connected with the Institution.

But while we record, with sincere sorrow, the loss of this interesting pupil, it becomes us to acknowledge with gratitude, the kindness of that Providence that has so long watched over and protected the lives of the pupils of our Institution, from which only three pupils have been removed by death during the sixteen years of its existence.

We are here painfully reminded of the death of Mrs. Mary Earle Patten, wife of B. M. Patten, Esq., the able and faithful superintendent of our Institution. She departed this life, after a short illness, on the 13th day of August, 1856. To the officers and pupils of the Institution, Mrs. Patten's death was a most severe and incalculable loss. Although not employed as a teacher or officer of the Institution, yet her kindly and generous sympathies were ever extended to its blind and helpless inmates, and she received in return their heartfelt gratitude and love. To them, in their bereaved and lonely condition, she occupied the endearing relations of mother, sister and friend. Her intercourse with them was so gentle and affectionate, that though separated from family and friends they realized all the endearments of home. No one was more earnestly devoted to the interests of the Institution, or contributed more to the happiness of its unfortunate inmates, than this lovely and noble woman, and we feel that we cannot do less than pay this humble tribute to her memory.

Respectfully submitted.

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At a meeting of the Board of Visitors of the Kentucky Institution for the Education of the Blind, held on the 30th day of December, 1857, the foregoing Report was adopted, as the Thirteenth Report of the Board to the General Assembly of Kentucky.

LOUISVILLE, December 30th, 1857.

WM. F. BULLOCK, *President.*

BRYCE M. PATTEN, *Secretary.*

**BOARD OF VISITORS.**

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**WILLIAM F. BULLOCK, *President.*****THEODORE S. BELL.****LEWIS RUFFNER.****BLAND BALLARD.****ROBERT J. BRECKINRIDGE.****WILLIAM S. BODLEY.****WILLIAM GARNETT.**

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**JOHN MILTON, *Treasurer.***

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**BRYCE M. PATTEN, *Secretary.***

OFFICERS OF THE INSTITUTION.

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BRYCE M. PATTEN,  
DIRECTOR.

MISS SUSAN M. WELD,  
TEACHER.

MISS MARY I. WELD,  
TEACHER.

JOSEPH B. SMITH,  
TEACHER OF MUSIC.

MRS. MARY H. PARIS,  
MATRON.

WILLIAM MARTIN,  
FOREMAN IN MECHANICAL DEPARTMENT.

ROBERT C. HEWETT,  
PHYSICIAN.



## CATALOGUE OF PUPILS FOR THE YEAR 1856.

| NAMES.               | RESIDENCE.             |
|----------------------|------------------------|
| Eliza L. Allen,      | Larue county.          |
| Martha J. Arnold,    | Franklin county.       |
| Lucy C. Boyd,        | Caldwell county.       |
| Robert Briggs,       | Campbell county.       |
| Mary J. Buckner,     | Louisville.            |
| Angelina Clark,      | Edmonson county.       |
| Margaret R. Clark,   | Marshall county.       |
| Sarah M. Clark,      | Marshall county.       |
| Mary Cline,          | Louisville.            |
| Mary Costello,       | Louisville.            |
| Rachel M. Davis,     | Taylorsville.          |
| Frances A. Dupuy,    | Henry county.          |
| Lucinda Darning,     | Louisville.            |
| Ellen Emmons,        | Louisville.            |
| Mary S. Edwards,     | Logan county.          |
| Lucy J. Edwards,     | Logan county.          |
| Sarah J. Fitch,      | Lewis county.          |
| Reuben Gill,         | Covington.             |
| Bettie Henning,      | Louisville.            |
| Thomas J. Hill,      | Woodford county.       |
| Wealthy J. Hill,     | Woodford county.       |
| Elizabeth Jasper,    | Washington county.     |
| Samuel T. Johnson,   | Lewis county.          |
| Henry L. Kidd,       | Lexington.             |
| Caroline M. Kouns,   | Carter county.         |
| Emily L. Kouns,      | Carter county.         |
| Susan H. Krusor,     | Lexington.             |
| Reuben M'Clanahan,   | Logan county.          |
| Richard Meade,       | Greenup county.        |
| Isaac S. Morris,     | Frankfort.             |
| Sidney C. Nairce,    | Faducuh.               |
| Susan F. Oots,       | Anderson county.       |
| Philip T. Patterson, | Grayson county.        |
| Milton D. Peters,    | Aberdeen, Mississippi. |
| Simeon Peyton,       | Lincoln county.        |
| Rebecca Rogers,      | Fayette county.        |
| Mary J. Sadler,      | Jefferson county.      |
| Catherine Salmon,    | Louisville.            |
| Elizabeth Shevels,   | Hawesville.            |
| James Shevels,       | Hawesville.            |
| Robert M. Shevels,   | Hawesville.            |
| Nancy C. Shields,    | Washington county.     |
| Robert M. Short,     | McLean county.         |
| Christiana Smidt,    | Louisville.            |
| Martha Swope,        | Lagrange.              |
| Zenobia Toms,        | Washington county.     |
| William D. Toole,    | Owen county.           |
| Richard S. Vaughn,   | Bullitt county.        |
| Mary Williams,       | Greenup county.        |
| William W. Wight,    | Owen county.           |

CATALOGUE OF PUPILS FOR THE YEAR 1857.

| NAMES.               | RESIDENCE.         |
|----------------------|--------------------|
| Eliza L. Allen,      | Larue county.      |
| Martha J. Arnold,    | Franklin county.   |
| Susan M. Barnard,    | Nelson county.     |
| Sarah N. Beauchamp,  | Nelson county.     |
| Jacob Bogard,        | Hardin county.     |
| Lucy C. Boyd,        | Caldwell county.   |
| Ella B. Bunsom,      | Franklin county.   |
| Robert Briggs,       | Campbell county.   |
| Mary J. Buckner,     | Louisville.        |
| Angelina Clark,      | Edmondson county.  |
| Sarah M. Clark,*     | Marshall county.   |
| Elizabeth J. Clay,   | Johnson county.    |
| Martha Clay,         | Johnson county.    |
| William Clay,        | Johnson county.    |
| Mary Cline,          | Louisville.        |
| Martha A. Coker,     | Calloway county.   |
| John Colville,       | Covington.         |
| Susan Conner,        | Larue county.      |
| Mary Costello,       | Louisville.        |
| Josephine Daily,     | Fayette county.    |
| Elizabeth Dale,      | Russellville.      |
| Rachael M. Davis,    | Taylorsville.      |
| William Day,         | Rowan county.      |
| Michael Dorr,        | Covington.         |
| Frances A. Dupuy,    | Henry county.      |
| Lucinda Durning,     | Louisville.        |
| Ellen Emmons,        | Louisville.        |
| Reuben Gill,         | Covington.         |
| Cynthia A. Green,    | Franklin county.   |
| Elizabeth Green,     | Franklin county.   |
| Catharine M. Hardin, | Davis county.      |
| John C. Hardin,      | Davis county.      |
| Bettie Henning,      | Louisville.        |
| Thomas J. Hill,      | Woodford county.   |
| Wealthy J. Hill,     | Woodford county.   |
| Daniel Hoskins,      | Estill county.     |
| Nancy Hoskins,       | Estill county.     |
| Elizabeth Jasper,    | Washington county. |
| Samuel T. Johnson,   | Lewis county.      |
| Henry L. Kidd,       | Lexington.         |
| Caroline M. Kouns,   | Carter county.     |
| Emily L. Kouns,      | Carter county.     |
| Susan H. Krusor,     | Lexington.         |
| Reuben M. Clanahan,  | Logan county.      |
| Richard Meade,       | Greenup county.    |
| Joseph P. Mitchell,  | Owensboro.         |
| Isaac S. Morris,     | Frankfort.         |
| Susan F. Oots,       | Anderson county.   |
| Philip T. Patterson, | Grayson county.    |
| Simeon Peyton,       | Lincoln county.    |
| John Porter,         | Louisville.        |
| Mary G. Porter,      | Louisville.        |
| Virginia Porter,     | Louisville.        |
| Nancy Prewitt,       | Russell county.    |
| George W. Robertson, | Barren county.     |
| Tapley Robertson,    | Batren county.     |
| Rebecca Rogers,      | Lexington.         |

\* Deceased.

## LIST OF PUPILS 1857—CONTINUED.

| NAMES.              | RESIDENCE          |
|---------------------|--------------------|
| Mary J. Sadler,     | Jefferson county.  |
| Catharine Salmon,   | Louisville.        |
| Elizabeth Shevels,  | Hawesville.        |
| James Shevels,      | Hawesville.        |
| Robert Shevels,     | Hawesville.        |
| Nancy C. Shields,   | Washington county. |
| Robert M. Short,    | McLean county.     |
| Christiana Smidt,   | Louisville.        |
| Martha Swope,       | Lagrange.          |
| Thomas M. Swift,    | Newport.           |
| John Summers,       | Elizabethtown.     |
| William D. Toole,   | Owen county.       |
| Zenobia Toms,       | Washington county. |
| Richard S. Vaughan, | Bullitt county.    |
| Melvina Wallace,    | Henry county.      |
| Mary S. Wallace,    | Henry county.      |
| Susan M. Ward,      | Washington county. |
| Mary Williams,      | Greenup county.    |



## TERMS OF ADMISSION.

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### TO THE FRIENDS OF THE BLIND IN KENTUCKY :

The Kentucky Institution for the Blind has been in successful operation, under the superintendence of the undersigned, for nearly sixteen years. It is under the management of a Board of Visitors, consisting of several of the most enlightened and benevolent citizens of the State, some of whom have been members of the Board ever since the origin of the Institution, in the year 1842.

The Institution was established by the Legislature, for the instruction of those children who are blind, and for those whose sight is so imperfect, that they cannot see to read. All such children, of suitable age and of good moral character, are received and educated at the expense of the Institution, which is a State school, equally free to the rich and the poor.

The pupils are instructed in vocal and instrumental music, and in the branches usually taught in public schools and academies for seeing pupils. The boys are also taught mechanical trades, to enable them to support themselves independently after leaving the Institution.

The pupils, generally, are very happy and industrious, and many of them make wonderful advancement in their studies, and qualify themselves to be teachers of music, mathematics and other branches of learning.

The Legislature provides for the board and tuition of the children of Kentucky. Pupils from other States pay one hundred and forty dollars a year.

The annual school session commences on the 20th day of September, and terminates on the 15th day of July. It is very desirable that pupils should enter at the commencement of the session, but *new* pupils will be received at any time during the session.

Persons desiring to send children to this school, will please to send the name, age and post-office address of the applicant to the undersigned, who will, at all times, cheerfully communicate any necessary information pertaining to the Institution.

B. M. PATTEN, *Director.*



## REPORT OF THE BUILDING COMMITTEE.

TO THE BOARD OF VISITORS :

The Committee to whom you entrusted the management of the erection of the buildings of the Institution, and the improvement of the grounds, respectfully present the following report, embracing the history of the building operations for the years 1856 and 1857.

The receipts for the building, &c., during the last two years, have been as follows :

Appropriation by the Legislature of Kentucky, . . . . . \$20,000 00

The expenditures have been as follows :

|                                                                                  |             |
|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------|
| Carpenter work, . . . . .                                                        | \$ 2,819 84 |
| Hand-rails and banisters, . . . . .                                              | 247 05      |
| Lumber, . . . . .                                                                | 2,706 51    |
| Painting, (\$262 81,) paints, oils, &c., (\$313 14,) . . . . .                   | 675 95      |
| Plumbing, gas-pipe, water-pipe, &c., . . . . .                                   | 807 83      |
| Iron girders, (\$132 63,) grates, for cellar windows, &c., (\$137 79,) . . . . . | 270 42      |
| Locks, bells, pulleys, sash weights, nails, hinges, &c., . . . . .               | 1,462 14    |
| Working plans, &c., . . . . .                                                    | 591 50      |
| Roofing tin, copper, and galvanized iron, . . . . .                              | 525 32      |
| Roofing, cornice and water-spouts, . . . . .                                     | 486 00      |
| Lightning rods, . . . . .                                                        | 69 00       |
| Plastering and terra-cotta work, . . . . .                                       | 1,506 94    |

Amounts carried forward, . . . . . \$12,168 50 \$20,000 00

|                                                                 |                    |                    |
|-----------------------------------------------------------------|--------------------|--------------------|
| Amounts brought forward, -                                      | \$12,168 50        | \$20,000 00        |
| Bricks, (\$422 60,) bricklaying, (\$300 50,) - - - -            | 723 10             |                    |
| Lime, (\$67,) caps and bases for columns, (\$40 83,) - - -      | 100 83             |                    |
| Cut stone work, -                                               | 2,780 85           |                    |
| Fence, glass, oven, advertising, &c., &c., - - - -              | 288 14             |                    |
| Excavations for sewer, (\$98 55,) building sewer, (\$398 75,) - | 497 30             |                    |
| Foundation for steps and portico, - - - -                       | 302 50             |                    |
| Grading, trees, and planting trees, - - - -                     | 1,409 07           |                    |
| Four cisterns and filters, - - - -                              | 1,065 35           |                    |
| Cash to Building Committee due December 31st, 1855, - - -       | 653 99             |                    |
| Balance of building fund in Treasury, - - - -                   | 10 37              |                    |
|                                                                 | <u>\$21,010 01</u> | <u>\$20,010 00</u> |

For all money disbursed by the Building Committee, for the purposes named above, we herewith present, as a part of this report, explicit vouchers, to which we invite your careful inspection. A report from John Milton, Esq., treasurer of the Institution, stating the amount of building fund received by him and expended by the Building Committee, is also herewith laid before you.

Messrs. Breden & Garnett, Irvine, Dix, Smith & Gregory furnished the lumber, and the carpenter work was done by Messrs. Wohltman, Frey, &c. The painting was done by Messrs. Springer & Livingston. The paints, oils, &c., were furnished by Messrs. Bell & Talbot, and Messrs. Wilson, Waters & Co. The plumbing in the kitchen, laundry and bed-rooms was executed by Messrs. T. Williams & Co., who also laid the pipes conducting to the cisterns and sewer—a portion of said pipe being furnished by Mr. G. Meadows. Mr. C. S. Snead furnished grates for the cellar windows; Messrs. Baker & Gault the iron girders; Mr. A. C. Harig the locks, bells and hinges; Mr. Semple the pulleys, &c.; Mr. Belknap and Mr. McBride the nails, sash-weights, &c.; Messrs. Wallace, Lithgow & Co. the roofing-tin, copper and galvanized iron. The roofing-tin was laid by Messrs. Johnson & McAllister; the lightning-rods were put up by Mr. C. Carder; the bricks were furnished by Mr. Ehrer, and laid by Messrs. Hooton, Payne & Davis.

Twenty-five rooms and two large halls, in the first and third stories, have been plastered since the last report was presented, by Mr. P. Bannon, who also executed the terra-cotta work. The plastering, interior painting, and some other parts of the work, were done in the vacations, so that the health of the pupils was not endangered, nor the exercises of the school interrupted by the work.

All the rooms and passages in the first story have been finished, and the rooms in the third story have been fitted up for dormitories, though they are not fully completed. The three ventilating cupolas and dome have been erected and finished. All the floors have been laid in the fourth story, and the rooms can be made ready for occupancy at small expense, whenever the increase in the number of pupils shall require additional dormitories.

A large amount of stone work, including all work of this kind embraced in the plan of the building, not heretofore executed, has been completed since the last report was presented. The extensive front steps, leading into the principal story of the edifice, the platforms, buttresses, ashlers, and five flights of steps leading into the first story, have been built of a very superior kind of stone, by Mr. M. Fillion, who has fulfilled his contract in such a manner as to secure the highest approval of the Committee, and of every one who examines the work. The outside steps, leading to the cellar, the coal-slides and the stone grate frames for the cellar windows, were executed by Mr. A. D. Tichenor, in a satisfactory manner. The stone foundation for the portico was built, in a very substantial manner, by Mr. J. G. Lyors.

Most of the interior and exterior wood work of the building has received but two coats of paint, and the exterior work, especially, requires an additional coat to protect it from injury, by exposure to the weather.

Water-closets are needed for night use, and for the accommodation of the sick, as must be perfectly apparent to all who consider the helpless condition of the pupils of the Institution. Outside shutters would add greatly to the comfort of the inmates, at all seasons of the year. But the most urgent want is that of heating apparatus. The safety of the pupils, and even of the building itself, requires that the stoves, at present in use, should be removed, and that a more safe, neat and economical mode of warming the house, should be introduced. In a building occupied by the blind, the danger to be apprehended from the use of stoves or grates, is much greater than in one occupied by seeing persons, and the original plan of the building contemplated the introduction of steam-heating apparatus—the stoves being used as a temporary expedient.

The Building Committee, in accordance with the instructions of your Board, have given much attention, during the last year, to the grading of the grounds of the Institution, in order to secure thorough drainage. The original condition of the grounds, made very heavy and expensive grading absolutely necessary for the comfort and health of the inmates of the Institution. All parts of the lot have been completely graded, except that part used by the female pupils as a play-ground, lying east of the main edifice. The grading, so far as completed, is entirely satisfactory, adding greatly to the beauty of the grounds and to the comfort and safety of the pupils. Those parts of the lot that were finished in season last spring, were sown with grass-seed, and already beautiful grassy lawns afford a soft carpet for the sports of merry blind children, and promise profitable crops of hay from year to year.

A gravel road, from the edifice to the Shelby road, and various walks for the use of the pupils, are greatly needed; but we have been compelled to postpone these improvements until the funds of the Institution shall justify the expense thereof.

The most hilly portion of the grounds towards the north, has been properly graded and planted with valuable fruit trees, consisting of the most approved varieties of apple, pear, quince, plum, apricot, nectarine and cherry trees, which will, it is believed, in a few years, furnish to the Institution an abundant supply of the most desirable fruit. These trees have been tastefully planted, in groups, in such a manner as to render that portion of the grounds one of the most beautiful, as it will, without doubt, become one of the most profitable parts of the lot.

The Building Committee take pleasure in stating, that the Institution is indebted for these fruit trees, and for many of the evergreens, and other ornamental trees that have been planted upon the lot, to the liberality of that never-tiring friend of the school, James W. Henning, Esq., who ever greatly enhances the value of his favors by the generous manner in which he confers them. On this, as on former occasions, he authorized the superintendent to order from the extensive nurseries of Messrs. Hobbs & Walker, without expense to the Institution, such trees (without limit as to quality or quantity,) as he deemed desirable for the grounds of the Institution.

The superintendent has planted upon the lot several hundred shade and ornamental trees, evergreen and deciduous—most of the latter being from the forests in the vicinity of the Institution. These trees were planted with very great care, and they have lived and flourished, although some of them were evergreens nearly twenty feet in height.

A garden has been laid out and planted, at considerable expense, and a sufficient quantity of strawberry and grape vines, raspberry, canes, &c., &c., have been planted.

In order to avoid the necessity of surface drainage from the laundry, kitchens, bath-rooms, water-closets, &c., the Building Committee, by direction of your Board, caused to be constructed a large sewer in the rear of the building, into which all the waste water from the various parts of the house, is readily conducted by iron and lead pipes. This sewer is three hundred and nineteen feet in length, and of sufficient height and width to enable a man to pass through it from one end to the other, and remove any obstruction that may possibly, at any time, prevent the free passage of the water. The sewer was built in a very substantial manner, by Mr. J. G. Lyons. This work, though expensive, was rendered absolutely necessary, by the nature of the ground upon which the Institution is located. The sewer and the grading will make the drainage of the grounds, in all respects, very perfect.

A substantial but cheap fence has been built on the eastern boundary of the lot, and the old fences in front of the Institution, and on the northern and western boundaries have been repaired for present use ; but, as these fences are very old and afford only uncertain protection to valuable trees, and other property pertaining to the Institution, the Committee recommend that the entire lot should be securely enclosed, as soon as practicable.

Four large cisterns, containing in the aggregate twenty-three hundred barrels, have been built in the rear of the building. These cisterns are supplied by the extensive roof of the house with an abundance of good water, which, by filters, is rendered as agreeable and healthful as the purest spring water.

In prosecuting the important work assigned to us, we have, at all times, endeavored to conform strictly to the instructions of your Board, and now, at the end of five years from the time of our appointment, we trust that our efforts have not been in vain. No difference of opinion, in regard to the building and other improvements, so far as we recollect, has ever arisen between your Board and the Building Committee. In no single instance have the Trustees disapproved of the manner in which the Committee discharged the duties assigned to them. The labors of the Committee have been arduous, but they have been, at all times, cheered and lightened by faithful supervision, judicious counsel, uniform confidence, and kind approval of the Board of Visitors.

LEWIS RUFFNER,  
B. M. PATTEN,  
*Building Committee.*

KENTUCKY INSTITUTION FOR THE BLIND, }  
Louisville, December 23d, 1857. }









**FOURTEENTH REPORT**

**(FOURTH BIENNIAL)**

**OF THE**

**BOARD OF VISITORS OF THE KENTUCKY INSTITUTION**

**FOR THE**

**EDUCATION OF THE BLIND,**

**TO THE**

**GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF KENTUCKY,**

**FOR THE YEARS 1858 AND 1859.**



**FRANKFORT, KY.:**  
**PRINTED AT THE YEOMAN OFFICE**  
**JNO. B. MAJOR, STATE PRINTER.**  
**1859.**



## REPORT.

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### TO THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF KENTUCKY:

The Trustees of the Kentucky Institution for the Education of the Blind, are happy to be able to report that the interesting State Institution intrusted to their care, is, under the favor of a kind Providence, in a highly prosperous condition, and fulfilling, in the most satisfactory manner, to the extent of its means, the benevolent designs of its founders.

The Trustees of this State Institution, some of whom have been members of the Board ever since the Institution was founded by the Legislature of Kentucky, in the year 1842, have constantly watched over its interests with paternal care, from its first feeble beginning with five blind pupils, in a small rented house; and as they contemplate the blessings it has dispensed to the most afflicted and interesting class of the children of Kentucky, during the eighteen years of its existence, and as they witness the prosperity to which it has attained, they feel that they have been abundantly recompensed for all their arduous and gratuitous services in behalf of this great trust.

The Trustees of this State Institution feel it due alike to themselves, to the friends of the education of the blind, and to the best interests of that sacred cause, that they shall make some reference, at least, to the services of Mr. Bryce M. Patten, the Director of this Institution. His services have been thoroughly known to some of the members of this board from the commencement of the Institution, and for varying periods of time they have been known to all the Trustees. It is mainly due to his early and thorough recognition of the necessity and practicability of educating the blind, that the attention of the people of Kentucky was called to this important work. When the State authorities created this Institution, the first Board of Trustees sought the services of Mr. B. M. Patten for the directorship, and at a great pecuniary sacrifice on his part he accepted the post, and continued for years to discharge its high responsibilities, at a salary greatly below what he had readily commanded before he was called to this position. Throughout all his connection with the Institution, he has ever been equal to all the demands of his responsible trust, and has ever performed his duties to the entire satisfaction of the various

boards of trustees, who have managed this State endowment. To his fidelity, his thorough scholarship, his perfect mastery of the entire subject of the education of the blind, and an unwavering integrity that has constantly been alive, not only to the education of the blind, but to a faithful recognition of all that is due to the State authorities, in their connection with this philanthropic enterprise, the trustees cheerfully award a very large share of that success and prosperity which the Legislature of Kentucky has constantly acknowledged as the merits of the State Institution for the Blind.

The Director is aided in the management and instruction of the school by a matron and two teachers, who reside in the institution.

Mrs. Paris, the matron, has filled that responsible office for more than ten years. In addition to her duties as housekeeper, including the superintendence of the servants, she has the supervision of the clothing of the pupils, and the care of the pupils themselves, in all cases of illness. The duties of the matron are exceedingly onerous, and we would deem it our duty, if the means of the institution justified the expense, to employ an assistant matron, especially at times when the pupils are visited by sickness.

In the department of instruction we have secured the services of skillful and faithful teachers, who are earnestly devoted to the moral and intellectual improvement of the pupils.

Mrs. Haines, previously to her appointment as teacher in this institution, had experience and success as a teacher of seeing pupils; and entered upon her duties in this school with the promise of great usefulness, which has been fully verified. She has charge of the classes in Reading, Arithmetic, English Grammar, Rhetoric, English Composition, and History; and in all these branches she is a most excellent and acceptable teacher.

As the want of means prevents us from employing a regular teacher in the work department, Mrs. Haines, in addition to the other numerous duties of her office, kindly devotes two hours daily to the instruction of the female pupils in sewing, knitting, and fancy work; and their improvement in this department is highly gratifying to the pupils and their friends. Many of the pupils sew and knit very well, and manufacture a great variety of beautiful articles of silk, worsted, and beads; some of which will be exhibited to the members of the Legislature during the present session.

Miss M. I. Weld, a young lady, who, without previous experience as an instructor, but with fine talents and attainments as a scholar, was appointed teacher in this institution more than two years since, has, during her connection with the school, given proof of very superior qualifications as a teacher. Gifted with remarkable aptness to teach, endowed by nature with musical talents of a high order, and favored with superior educational advantages for the cultivation of her musical powers, with ardent devotion to the science of music, she has become an accomplished and successful teacher in this interesting and important department of the institution. When the declining health of the lamented Professor of Music in the School, compelled him, a year ago, to discontinue his daily visits to the institution, Miss Weld,

at the request of the Director, and with the sanction of the board of trustees, kindly consented to take charge of his pupils, and she has, with such aid as two of the female pupils could give, very successfully conducted the musical department of the school from that time to the present. In addition to her duties as teacher of vocal music and the piano, she has preferred to retain the classes in geography, of which she had charge before she assumed the entire charge of the musical department.

The teachers in this school have not only succeeded in advancing the pupils rapidly in their studies, but they have been uncommonly successful in winning the confidence and affection of the pupils. By unceasing kindness they unite with the other officers in making the institution a happy home to those pupils who enter it homeless, and in preventing the more favored ones, who come to it from pleasant homes, from sighing after the joys of the home circles they have left behind them. We regard the institution as peculiarly fortunate in having secured the services of teachers of such eminent fitness for the offices to which they have been elected.

Mr. John Horn, a gentleman of fine musical attainments and of great ability as a teacher, visits the institution twice every week, and gives instruction upon the violin and guitar, to several pupils, who are making improvement which is alike creditable to pupils and teacher.

At the close of the session in July last, Miss S. M. Weld, a young lady of untiring devotion to her pupils, and of great energy of character, who had for more than two years filled very acceptably the office of teacher in this school, offered her resignation, and accepted a situation in a female seminary in the interior of Kentucky. She bore with her to her new field of usefulness our best wishes for her success. The vacancy caused by her resignation has not been filled; and the care of her classes has devolved upon the other officers in addition to their other duties.

Miss Ellen Emmons, the oldest pupil and most advanced scholar in the institution, who has for several years rendered very important service as an assistant teacher in music, has, since the commencement of the present session, been prevented by serious illness from participating in any of the exercises of the school. She is a young lady of extraordinary talents and wonderful attainments in music; and the loss of her instructions and example is very seriously felt, and we earnestly hope that she may be permitted again to enter the school where her example has ever exerted so salutary an influence over all the pupils.

In the early part of the present year, we employed, at considerable expense, Mr. L. Colliere, one of the most distinguished teachers of vocal music in the United States, to give one lesson a week to the pupils in vocal music; and he continued to make weekly visits to the school for that purpose, until flattering offers from a distant State induced him to remove from Kentucky.

It is our melancholy duty here to record the loss of one who, for the last fifteen years, has had a connection with this institution, highly honorable to himself, to the institution, and to the afflicted class



to which he belonged. Mr. Joseph B. Smith, Professor of Music in this Institution, departed this life on the 6th day of May, in the present year. He resided with his family in Louisville, but visited the institution daily, devoting to the instruction of the blind three hours each day. Mr. Smith became totally and incurably blind in very early infancy. At the age of nine years he was placed in the institution for the blind in Boston, where he remained eight years. At the end of that period he entered Harvard University, and passing, with great credit to himself, through the regular collegiate course, he graduated in the year 1844; being the first totally blind man that ever graduated at any University in the United States. Immediately after his graduation he was elected professor of music in the Kentucky Institution for the Blind; and he filled that office, with great honor to himself, and with incalculable good to the school, until the time of his decease. He was a very remarkable—a very wonderful man. Endowed with an intellect uncommonly active and vigorous, a memory remarkably capacious and retentive, and an insatiable thirst for knowledge, he failed not to improve, in the best manner possible, the superior opportunities for intellectual culture with which he was favored from his tenderest years: He was ever a faithful student, an earnest thinker, and a patient and eager seeker for knowledge from early childhood to the close of his wonderful life. He was thus enabled, notwithstanding his blindness, to make large attainments in literature. He became well acquainted with the Latin and Greek languages; he was a proficient in mathematics; he understood well, and spoke fluently, the French and German, and he had an extensive acquaintance with the best English literature. He was, moreover, a beautiful and vigorous writer; and many of his productions in prose and poetry, will long live to adorn the literature of the blind. But in that interesting department to which he especially devoted his life, his talents and attainments were pre-eminent. While a boy he manifested extraordinary musical powers, and his subsequent life abundantly fulfilled the promise of his early years. In the knowledge of the theory of music, he rarely, if ever, in the maturity of his powers, met an equal—never a superior. Some of his musical compositions are worthy of a place beside those of the great masters from whom he drew inspiration, and in whose productions he found sources of unending delight. In ability, zeal, and faithfulness as a teacher in his favorite department, he was unsurpassed. The remarkable improvement of his pupils in this institution, their grateful appreciation of his instructions during his life, and their affectionate regard for him now, attest alike his ability and his devotion. But he had far higher and nobler aims than perfection in any mere science or art, however exalted. He was a philanthropist. One of the cherished aims of his life was to be a light to that afflicted class from whom the visible beauties of creation are ever veiled in impenetrable darkness. He well knew the formidable obstacles that ever beset the pathway of the blind. He knew, by observation and by bitter experience, with what distrust even the educated blind are too often regarded by their more favored fellows. He knew that honesty, industry and ability, are often to the blind no certain pass-

port to honorable and remunerative employment. He knew all these difficulties well, for they made the most trying part of his daily experience. But he was not disheartened. He felt that it was his mission to aid in enlightening public sentiment in regard to the blind, in removing the obstacles that lie in the way of their success, and in teaching them reliance upon themselves, and that Being whose especial care is ever over the afflicted. On leaving the university, pecuniary aid was proffered to him by kind friends; but gratefully declining their offers, he heroically determined, with the blessing of God, to make his own way through the world, and thus to animate the blind with the hope of self-support. He manfully girded himself up for this noble work, and pursued it with tireless perseverance and unflinching energy to the close of his earthly career. To his lofty aim he was ever true, and he was crowned with success. His example will ever live to cheer and inspirit the blind. As he had lived the life, he died the death of the Christian. He was perfectly resigned to the will of God for time and eternity. His earthly remains were borne to Cave Hill cemetery, and a beautiful marble tablet, erected by his affectionate and grateful pupils, marks the place of his repose.

It will be perceived that fewer teachers are employed in this institution than in former years; and we regret to state that the limited means at the disposal of the trustees will probably prevent us from increasing the number for some time to come. The same rigid economy which we have been obliged to practice in all other departments of the institution has been extended to the important department of instruction. The want created by the diminution of the number of teachers has been supplied, in part, by the aid of some of the more advanced pupils, who ever render willing assistance in the instruction of the smaller classes; and, in part, by the extra labor that has been so generously and cheerfully assumed by the other teachers. The Director, moreover, being relieved from the constant supervision of the workmen, by the discontinuance of the building operations and other improvements, which have occupied so large a part of his time heretofore, has been able to devote more of his time to the instruction of the pupils, and the benefits resulting therefrom are very apparent in the improved condition of the school. In addition to the superintendence of all departments of the Institution, he has the entire charge of the classes in the Languages, Mathematics, and Astronomy.

The number of pupils connected with the institution in the year 1858, was 56; 21 males and 35 females. The number in the year 1859, has been 51; 16 males and 35 females. All the pupils, with one exception, are in the enjoyment of good health; and none have been removed by death since the last biennial report was presented to the General Assembly. The remarkable preservation of the lives and health of the pupils demands renewed expression of gratitude to that Providence that has so long watched over this institution from which only three pupils have been removed by death during the eighteen years of its existence.

The general deportment of the pupils connected with the institution at the present time is worthy of high commendation. They are indus-

trious and studious, and ever manifest a grateful appreciation of the privileges that have been secured for them by the wisdom and kindness of the Legislature of Kentucky. Their ready compliance with the rules of the school especially merit the approval of the trustees and other friends of the institution. They are, with few exceptions, remarkable for gentleness and docility. In no literary institution in the State do the pupils manifest more lively interest in study, or a more cheerful and willing compliance with the wishes of their teachers. If a stranger should enter the institution in time of study or recreation, he would not, by the ear alone, receive any intimation that the active, cheerful, sportive beings around him were destitute of that glorious gift of Heaven, vision, without which so many erroneously believe life must be altogether unjoyous and inactive. The same love of play, the same love of knowledge that prevail in schools for the seeing, are in full activity here. The halls of the institution, the play-grounds, the neighboring groves and hill-sides, resound with laughter no less joyous than that which is heard from other happy children and youth all over our favored land. The blind regard themselves as happy as those who are blessed with all the senses; and those who witness their cheerfulness are forced to the same conclusion. Our pupils are gathered from all parts of the State and from every condition in life, and there is, of course, in the school, a great diversity both of native intellect and of mental culture. While there are some pupils of the finest natural endowments, there are others of powers so exceedingly feeble as to be but a few removes from idiocy; and yet every pupil in the school is, in some regard, an interesting pupil, and deserves commendation for industry, and even for progress, in at least one direction. So truly is this the case that some of the feeblest intellects in the school have, by unceasing application, outstripped in some pursuit all their more highly endowed school-mates.

Rev. J. D. Matthews, D. D., in his last report to the Governor of this Commonwealth, makes the following report with regard to this institution:

"I visited this flourishing State institution in the month of February, and found it very much improved in its outward appearance, and in the accommodations it offers for this class of unfortunate youth.

"The improvement in the various departments of the institution, since its removal to its present location, is apparent, even to the most casual observer.

"The site, which was selected with great care by the State authorities, is, in all respects, admirably adapted to the purpose of the institution. The grounds are extensive and beautiful, and on the highest elevation in the vicinity of Louisville. They have been properly graded, and handsomely laid out by the Superintendent, and ornamented with hundreds of fruit and shade trees, which will, in a few years, add greatly to the beauty of the place, and to the comfort and health of the pupils.

"The edifice, the plan of which was made in accordance with legislative enactments, and approved by Gov. Powell, fulfills the highest anticipations of the officers of the institution, and reflects great credit

upon all concerned in securing the adoption of the plan, and the erection of the building. It is, in all its parts, remarkably well adapted to the purpose for which it was designed, and commands the approval and admiration of all competent persons who have examined it.

“Of the school itself I am able, after several visits, to speak in the most favorable terms. It is well organized, and judiciously managed in all its departments. The pupils are remarkably fortunate in having so able and kind and devoted a principal, and competent teachers, wholly absorbed in their improvement and happiness. These unfortunate but interesting children and youth, who are deprived of one of the most important inlets of knowledge and pleasure, here find happiness in the exercise of their faculties, in the acquisition of knowledge, and in preparing themselves to become useful and independent members of society. The bounty of the State is here well bestowed, and the grateful recipients will ere long repay to the public a hundred-fold all that they are now receiving.

“The trustees of the institution have been selected with the greatest care by the board of education, and I am perfectly satisfied that the interests of the institution could not have been intrusted to a more able and faithful board. They exercise at all times a paternal care over the institution; and to their faithful, arduous, and unrequited labors, the school is, under a kind Providence, greatly indebted for the high degree of prosperity which it now enjoys.

“I trust that the next Legislature will not only continue the provisions hitherto granted, but will enable the board to *purchase lots adjacent to the edifice*, for protection against annoying buildings and uncongenial neighbors. A few hundred dollars invested for this purpose, will, in coming years, not only enhance the value of their noble institution, but add vastly to the comfort and ends of the asylum.

“I feel so deeply interested in this *State Institution*, that I will venture to call the attention of all the commissioners and trustees and teachers, throughout our Commonwealth, to an extract from the circular of the auditor for 1857 :

“I again earnestly invite the attention of the commissioners to the duty of *ascertaining* and *reporting* the name, age, and post-office, of every blind child in their respective districts, as required by An act in relation to the blind children of Kentucky, approved January 9, 1852, which may be found on page seventeen of the auditor's circular to the commissioners of tax for the year 1857. The State of Kentucky; having provided for the education of all the blind children within her limits, makes it the duty of the commissioners to ascertain and return the name, &c., of these unfortunate children, that they may be duly notified by the proper officers of the inestimable privileges offered to them in the school established for their benefit in Louisville. If the commissioners neglect this important duty—as I regret to say some of them have hitherto done—many unfortunate blind and purblind children will probably be forever deprived of the priceless advantages that are so freely offered to them through the liberality of the Legislature and the people of Kentucky.

“I would moreover particularly remind the commissioners that it is their duty to report not only the names of all children that are *totally blind*, but also of all those who, by defective vision, are prevented from pursuing their studies in the schools established for seeing persons. It is the duty of the commissioners to inquire of the head of every family whether there are in the family any *blind children* or any with *eye-sight so imperfect that they cannot see to read*, and to return the name, age, and post-office address of each.”

In our last report to the General Assembly we invited attention to an enterprise, which had been commenced in the State of Mississippi, to print books in raised letters for the blind; and we recommended the incorporation of a board of trustees to manage the affairs of the institution. The institution was accordingly chartered under the name of the “*American Printing House for the Blind*,” and intrusted to the following board of trustees, viz: Hon. James Guthrie, Hon. W. F. Bullock, T. S. Bell, M. D., and Messrs. Bryce M. Patten, John Milton, H. T. Curd, and A. O. Brannin. The trustees met in accordance with the provisions of the charter, and organized the board by the election of officers; but as no funds have been transmitted from Mississippi or other States, no further action has been taken by the trustees of the Printing House, and they do not deem it necessary to make any formal report to the General Assembly at the present time. We are, however, gratified to state that agents are now employed to solicit subscriptions in Mississippi, Louisiana, and other States; that the sum of eight thousand dollars has been already collected for this important object, and that reliable subscriptions for a much larger amount have been obtained. It affords us still greater pleasure to state that the Legislature of Mississippi has appropriated two thousand dollars for the aforesaid object, and granted, for the same purpose, an annual allowance of ten dollars for every white blind person within the limits of that State. It is believed that in the course of the ensuing year sufficient funds will be obtained to enable the trustees to put the institution into actual operation, and that before the commencement of the next session of the General Assembly of Kentucky it will have commenced the work of printing books in raised letters for the blind. As the institution is located in Kentucky, as the blind of this State will be entitled to their full share of the books to be printed by it, and as other States have made liberal donations to establish and sustain it, we respectfully recommend that an appropriation be made to it by the Legislature of Kentucky.

The means of the Institution to meet the ordinary expenses in the years 1858 and 1859, have arisen from the following sources:

|                                                 |             |             |
|-------------------------------------------------|-------------|-------------|
| Allowance for State pupils, paid in 1858.....   | \$6,638 35  |             |
| Annual appropriation in 1858.....               | 3,000 00    |             |
|                                                 |             | \$9,638 35  |
| Allowance for State pupils, paid in 1859.....   | \$ 5,939 65 |             |
| Annual appropriation in 1859.....               | 3,000 00    |             |
| Balance in treasury at date of last report..... | 17 77       |             |
|                                                 |             | 8,957 42    |
|                                                 |             | <hr/>       |
|                                                 |             | \$18,595 77 |
|                                                 |             | <hr/>       |
| Amount carried forward.....                     |             | \$18,595 77 |

|                                                                                              |            |                   |
|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|------------|-------------------|
| Amount brought forward .....                                                                 |            | \$18,595 77       |
| The ordinary expenses of the Institution for the same two years have been as follows :       |            |                   |
| Provisions, groceries, &c. ....                                                              | \$4,630 59 |                   |
| Hay, straw, corn, and other feed .....                                                       | 317 17     |                   |
| Cows, &c. ....                                                                               | 211 00     |                   |
| Horse, harness, saddle, repairs, &c. ....                                                    | 222 85     |                   |
| Carriage, &c. ....                                                                           | 321 00     |                   |
| Dry goods, clothing, &c. ....                                                                | 565 55     |                   |
| Shoes for pupils and servants .....                                                          | 110 90     |                   |
| Furniture, table-ware, feathers, &c. ....                                                    | 547 90     |                   |
| Stoves, tin-ware, wire, burning fluid, &c. ....                                              | 333 14     |                   |
| Venitian blinds .....                                                                        | 132 00     |                   |
| Globe, maps, and books .....                                                                 | 432 36     |                   |
| Two pianos and melodeon .....                                                                | 808 60     |                   |
| Salaries of teachers and officers .....                                                      | 5,690 00   |                   |
| Wages of agent .....                                                                         | 209 00     |                   |
| Wages of gardener, seamstress, and servants .....                                            | 2,095 75   |                   |
| Medical attendance .....                                                                     | 213 50     |                   |
| Medicines, &c., in 1857, 1858, and 1859 .....                                                | 134 05     |                   |
| Insurance on building .....                                                                  | 441 00     |                   |
| Postage in 1857, 1858, and 1859 .....                                                        | 35 00      |                   |
| Fuel .....                                                                                   | 909 58     |                   |
| Rent of pasture and garden, 1858 .....                                                       | 150 00     |                   |
| Traveling expenses of pupils and expenses of exhibition in Frankfort ..                      | 94 00      |                   |
| Conveyance of pupils to churches, funeral, &c. ....                                          | 208 00     |                   |
| Lumber, carpenter work, painting, stone, making road, iron work, and repairing cistern ..... | 987 56     |                   |
|                                                                                              |            | <u>19,800 50</u>  |
| Balance due J. Milton, Treasurer .....                                                       |            | <u>\$1,204 73</u> |

From the preceding statement it will be seen that the expenditures of the Institution for the last two years have apparently exceeded the receipts for the same time by the sum of *twelve hundred and four dollars and seventy-three cents*. This sum has been advanced by the Treasurer of the Institution, in anticipation of the quarterly allowance for State pupils, falling due December 31, 1859, and amounting to *fourteen hundred and seventy dollars*; so that, in reality, the expenses have, as in former years, been confined strictly within the means of the Institution. Portions of the foregoing expenditures, amounting to nearly one thousand dollars, and including the cost of carpenter work, and a stone and gravel avenue from the Institution to the Frankfort road in front thereof, do not strictly belong to the account of ordinary expenses; but they have been so charged, as the trustees were not authorized to charge them to the building account. In this, as in all matters pertaining to the Institution, the trustees and the director have endeavored to act in strict conformity to the acts of the Legislature respecting the benevolent institutions of the State.

We will allude, in this connection, with the highest satisfaction, to an important item of the ordinary expenses of this Institution, for which, so far as our information extends, no similar institution in the world is authorized by law to provide. In the year 1850, in accordance with the recommendation of Dr. T. S. Bell—a gentleman who gratuitously gave to the Institution his valuable services as physician, for several years, and whose unwearied devotion to the interests of the Institution as a trustee, during the eighteen years of its existence, is well known to the people of Kentucky, and most gratefully appreci-

ated by the pupils—the Legislature passed an act, alike honorable to the distinguished gentleman who suggested it, and to the State and the age in which we live, authorizing the officers of the institution to present to every graduate, in the name of the Commonwealth of Kentucky, a copy of the entire Bible, printed in raised letters for the blind. Although no special provision has ever been made by the State to meet the cost of these very expensive donations to the graduates, but, on the contrary, the amount required for this purpose is, in the language of the aforesaid act, “considered and accounted as an item of the ordinary expenses of the Institution,” we have ever regarded the act as one of the most benevolent and commendable ever enacted by any Legislature in behalf of the blind.

No duty of the director of the Institution is more cheerfully performed than that of placing in the hands of the blind graduates, as they go out into the dark world, the Holy Scriptures, to enlighten the cheerless pathway of their earthly pilgrimage. No act of the Legislature more beautifully illustrates the generosity of the people of Kentucky, nor more impressively shows that the representatives are the true exponents of an enlightened and liberal people.

The receipts and expenditures for building purposes have been as follows:

|                                                                                                                                                |                          |
|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------|
| Special appropriation in 1858 .....                                                                                                            | \$7,500 00               |
| Balance on hand as per last report .....                                                                                                       | 10 37                    |
|                                                                                                                                                | <u>\$7,510 37</u>        |
| Paid T. Williams & Co., on account of steam-heating apparatus.....                                                                             | \$3,000 00               |
| Paid on account of laundry and kitchen ranges, plumbing, &c.....                                                                               | 426 80                   |
|                                                                                                                                                | <u>\$3,426 80</u>        |
| Balance required to complete steam apparatus.....                                                                                              | 2,000 00                 |
| Balance for fitting up laundry, bath-rooms, wash-rooms, water-closets, and tanks, to be paid on completion of work, according to contract..... | 2,083 57                 |
|                                                                                                                                                | <u><u>\$7,510 37</u></u> |

The treasurer of the Institution will place in the hands of the State auditor his report and explicit vouchers for every dollar of the foregoing expenditures. In accordance with the by-laws of the Institution, not a single dollar has been paid out of the treasury without the approval of the board of trustees and the indorsement of the president. We are, therefore, enabled to speak with the greatest confidence as to the rigid economy practiced in all departments of the Institution.

Messrs. T. Williams & Co., in the year 1858, entered into a contract with this board to furnish the Institution with Gold's steam-warming apparatus, and they have executed a part of the work, including the boilers, furnaces, radiators in two stories, and pipes in three stories; but as the work is not yet satisfactorily completed, the trustees, in conformity with their invariable custom, will retain in the hands of the treasurer a part of the price until the apparatus shall be completed in accordance with the contract.

Messrs. Donally & Strader have contracted to fit up the bath-rooms, wash-rooms, laundry, and water-closets; and they have executed a part of the work in the most satisfactory manner, and we

have good reason to believe that they will, as soon as favorable weather will permit, fulfill their contract to the entire satisfaction of all parties.

It is the duty of the trustees in this report to invite the attention of the members of the General Assembly to the condition of the buildings of the Institution. The General Assembly passed an act, which was approved January 7, 1852, directing the Governor of the State to appoint a board of commissioners to select a suitable lot of ten acres of land, for the permanent location of the Institution, and to report to the Governor the site selected, and the terms on which it could be obtained, and also a plan of the buildings necessary for the accommodation of the school. Said act also required "that if the Governor shall approve of the selection of the ground and the plan of the buildings, he shall order and direct the purchase of the ground and the erection of the buildings." In accordance with this liberal act, a very desirable and beautiful site, in the most healthy part of Jefferson county, was selected with great care by the commissioners, and recommended to Governor Powell, who, after a careful examination of the site in person, gave it his unqualified approval, and directed its purchase by the trustees of the Institution, in the name of the Commonwealth of Kentucky. The commissioners also presented well-matured plans of a building to the Governor, who carefully examined and approved the same, and ordered the building to be erected, in accordance with said plans, on the aforesaid site. The building is in all its parts most admirably adapted to the wants of the school, and commands the approval of all competent persons who have examined it. The correspondence between the board of commissioners and Governor Powell, and a description of the building approved by them, may be found in the House and Senate journals of 1853-4, pages 26, 27, 28, 29, 30, and 31. An examination of that correspondence will show that the Institution was located and the building erected in strict conformity with legislative enactment. An examination of all the laws pertaining to this Institution will show that this is strictly a State school. It was called into existence by the Legislature of Kentucky; its trustees are appointed by the State authorities; its grounds, buildings, furniture, books, apparatus, and every thing belonging to it, are the property of the State; it is, in the language of the act which created it, "in all things and at all times subject to the control of the Legislature;" and it necessarily depends solely upon the Legislature for support.

The money appropriated by the Legislature to enable the trustees to purchase the land and erect the building, which had been approved by the Governor and commissioners, has been expended as directed by the General Assembly, and, we confidently believe, in the most judicious and economical manner; and the accommodations afforded by the new edifice are far superior to any the school ever enjoyed, before its removal to the present location. But important parts of the building remain unfinished, and we deem it our duty to recommend an appropriation sufficient to complete the building according to the original plan. The parts of the edifice now unfinished include the sleeping-rooms of the teachers and pupils, the infirmaries for the sick, and the



exhibition hall or chapel. In cold weather it is impossible to make the sleeping rooms comfortable in the present unfinished and open condition of the upper stories of the building. The erection of the portico and window blinds will add very greatly to the comfort of the inmates of the Institution during the summer.

We would also invite the special attention of the General Assembly to the importance of erecting and furnishing a suitable work-shop for the male pupils. In the earlier years of the Institution we were able to rent a shop on favorable terms, and the male pupils were instructed in several mechanic arts; and some of these pupils are now gaining an honorable and independent livelihood by means of the mechanical skill acquired in the Institution. During the last two years we have not been able to rent a suitable shop in the vicinity of the Institution, and not having the means to erect one, we were under the necessity of discontinuing operations in the mechanical department, which is to many of the male pupils the most important department of the Institution. We are confident that we cannot fully discharge our duty to the blind of the State without offering to them an opportunity to acquire some mechanical trade. In our opinion, as to the great importance of a mechanical department for the blind, all the managers of institutions for the blind everywhere perfectly agree.

An organ has been very greatly needed in this Institution since the year 1851, when a small but valuable organ, which had been purchased by direction of the General Assembly, was consumed by fire. Since that time we have had neither the means nor the authority to procure another to supply the place of the one that was destroyed. By placing a good organ in the Institution, we may qualify many of the pupils to become organists in churches, and thereby enable them, with little trouble or labor, to secure a salary of several hundred dollars a year.

To complete the building according to the original plan, to erect a work-shop, to inclose the grounds of the Institution with a substantial fence, and to procure a suitable organ, the sum of fifteen thousand dollars will be required, according to the estimates of Mr. G. Shryock, an experienced architect, and of Mr. Patten, the director of the institution; and the trustees very respectfully solicit the appropriation of that sum for the purposes herein specified.

The grateful acknowledgments of the trustees and members of the school are again tendered to the proprietors of the Kentucky Yeoman, Louisville Journal, Louisville Courier, Louisville Democrat, Presbyterian Herald, and Christian Union, and to Mrs. J. Rhoads, Mrs. J. F. Speed, Mrs. Breckinridge, Mrs. J. A. Miller, R. G. Moorman, Esq., Rev. J. D. Matthews, D. D., and the ladies of the Christian Church, under the pastoral care of Rev. D. P. Henderson, for their highly valued favors.

The catalogue of the officers and pupils of the institution, and several specimens of literary compositions by the pupils, are appended to this report. The compositions are inserted as they came from the pupils, without any corrections or alterations.

The director of the Institution will visit the capital of the State, during the present session of the Legislature, with several of his pupils, and give an exhibition of their attainments before the members of the General Assembly.

The trustees have noticed, with great pleasure, that a committee has been appointed by the General Assembly to visit and examine this Institution during the present session of the Legislature. It is the earnest desire of the managers of the Institution that the members of the General Assembly will examine the school and thoroughly inspect the edifice, and form their own judgment as to the character of the work, the present condition of the building, and the amount required to finish it according to the original plan.

We close this report with an extract from a notice of "The Kentucky Institution for the Blind," written several years since by the philanthropic Miss D. L. Dix, so eminently distinguished throughout the United States and Europe, by her successful exertions in behalf of the unfortunate :

"The proficiency of the pupils is no less surprising than it is gratifying. They are thoroughly instructed, and are remarkably fortunate in having competent teachers wholly devoted to their happiness and improvement. I have rarely visited any institution for children and young persons, under State patronage, so thoroughly well organized, and so judiciously managed throughout, as is this. Go when you will, at morning, noon, or evening, in storm or sunshine, expected or unlooked for, you will find that here's

"A place for all things, all things in their place ;"

and so, too, each hour marked by appropriate study, refreshment, labor, exercise, and rest. It is not possible to visit this institution even but once, (my visits have been renewed and repeated,) and not perceive that all is fair, open and true, in the domestic circle and in the school. There is no need to prepare for visitors, because, as in all rightly regulated establishments, *order, method, and good government* so prevail, that you cannot find them at any time amiss. Careful attention is paid to the personal habits of the pupils. Cleanliness and neatness are obligatory. While the high-principled and discreet superintendent of this school exacts the most correct habits in the pupils, the same are required of all the inmates ; and while the mental capacities are trained and educated, it is never forgotten that the moral nature is to be enlightened and directed, and the manners and conversation made to harmonize. A good example enforces good counsels. Firmness, kindness, and fidelity characterize the teachers ; obedience, good will, and industry, with but few occasional exceptions, distinguish the pupils.

"Here, these children and young persons from whom the natural sun is veiled, who are, through privation of vision, prevented from joining in the general bustle and cares and amusements of life—here they find happiness in the acquisition of knowledge, in the various exercise of their faculties, and in learning how, in time to come, they may best benefit their friends, and become useful members of society. The bounty of the State is here well bestowed ; these blind, but intelligent children, will repay to the public an hundred-fold all they are now

receiving. Thoroughly educated, and trained to virtuous and industrious habits, they will not return to their own homes, without extending good influences in their own families and communities. They are taught that it is a duty they owe the State to be assiduous in study, and correct in habits. No harsh impositions or severe restraints enforce the one or secure the other.

“It may be thought by some readers that possibly a too favorable estimate is placed upon the Louisville institution by the writer. She can only say it is open to all, and of easy access; let the public and individuals judge for themselves. More might very justly have been added in commendation, but it is uncalled for; without ostentation it reveals and sustains a fair and beautiful character. I have, on my various and distant journeys, heard this school referred to by those whose children have enjoyed its benefits, and oftener by persons who have casually visited it, and on no single occasion have I heard it named in any but terms of confidence and interest. The attachment of the pupils of the institution to their companions and teachers, is a guarantee that ‘all is well there’ in the domestic and social relations.”

The Kentucky Institution for the Blind, under the fostering care of the enlightened Legislature and generous people of Kentucky, has advanced to a much more elevated position than that which it occupied at the time the favorable notice above was written by Miss Dix; and with the aid of the appropriation solicited from the Legislature at the present time, we hope soon to make it, in all respects, equal to the oldest and most prosperous institutions for the blind in the world.

Respectfully submitted,

WILLIAM F. BULLOCK,  
THEODORE S. BELL,  
BLAND BALLARD,  
WILLIAM S. BODLEY,  
ROB'T J. BRECKINRIDGE,  
WILLIAM GARNETT,  
JOHN MILTON,

*Trustees.*

KENTUCKY INSTITUTION FOR THE BLIND,  
December 15, 1850.

OFFICERS OF THE INSTITUTION.

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**BRYCE M. PATTEN, A. M.,**

DIRECTOR AND PRINCIPAL TEACHER.

**MRS. ELIZABETH F. HAINES,**

TEACHER.

**MISS MARY J. WELD,**

TEACHER OF MUSIC.

**MISS ELLEN EMMONS,**

ASSISTANT TEACHER OF MUSIC.

**JOHN HORN,**

TEACHER OF GUITAR AND VIOLIN.

**MISS MARY H. PARIS,**

MATRON.

**ROBERT C. HEWETT, M. D.,**

PHYSICIAN.

**VOL. 3.—3**



## CATALOGUE OF PUPILS

FOR THE YEAR 1856.

| NAMES.               | RESIDENCE.        |
|----------------------|-------------------|
| Eliza L. Allen,      | Larue county.     |
| Martha J. Arnold,    | Franklin county.  |
| Susan M. Barnard,    | Nelson county.    |
| Jacob Bogard,        | Nelson county.    |
| Ella Bransom,        | Frankfort.        |
| Mary J. Buckner,     | Louisville.       |
| James L. Canavan,    | Franklin county.  |
| Angelina Clark,      | Edmonson county.  |
| Elizabeth J. Clay,   | Johnson county.   |
| Martha Clay,         | Johnson county.   |
| William H. Clay,     | Johnson county.   |
| Mary Cline,          | Louisville.       |
| Martha A. Coker,     | Calloway county.  |
| Mary Costello,       | Louisville.       |
| Josephine Dailey,    | Fayette county.   |
| Elizabeth Dale,      | Russellville.     |
| Rachel M. Davis,     | Taylorsville.     |
| Eliza Davis          | Nelson county.    |
| William Day,         | Rowan county.     |
| Michael Dorr,        | Covington.        |
| Marie D'Owville      | Louisville.       |
| Frances A. Dupuy,    | Henry county.     |
| Lucinda Durning,     | Louisville.       |
| Ellen Emmons,        | Jefferson county. |
| Cynthia A. Green,    | Franklin county.  |
| Elizabeth Green,     | Franklin county.  |
| Catherine M. Hardin, | Daviess county.   |
| John Hardin,         | Daviess county.   |
| Thomas M. Hazlep,    | Edmonson county.  |
| Elizabeth Henning,   | Louisville.       |
| Daniel E. Hoskins    | Estill county.    |
| Nancy Hoskins,       | Estill county.    |
| Henry L. Kidd,       | Lexington.        |
| Reuben McClanahan,   | Logan county.     |
| Clara Mattingly      | Louisville.       |
| Joseph P. Mitchell,  | Owensboro.        |
| Frances Moorman,     | Owensboro.        |

|                      |   |   |   |   |                    |
|----------------------|---|---|---|---|--------------------|
| Philip T. Patterson, | - | - | - | - | Grayson county.    |
| Simeon Peyton,       | - | - | - | - | Lincoln county.    |
| John Porter,         | - | - | - | - | Jefferson county.  |
| Georgiana Porter,    | - | - | - | - | Jefferson county.  |
| Virginia Porter,     | - | - | - | - | Jefferson county.  |
| Nancy Prewitt,       | - | - | - | - | Russell county.    |
| George Robertson,    | - | - | - | - | Barren county.     |
| Tapley Robertson,    | - | - | - | - | Barren county.     |
| Rebecca Rogers,      | - | - | - | - | Fayette county.    |
| Mary J. Sadler,      | - | - | - | - | Jefferson county.  |
| Catherine Salmon,    | - | - | - | - | Jefferson county.  |
| Robert M. Short,     | - | - | - | - | McLean county.     |
| Thomas M. Swift,     | - | - | - | - | Newport.           |
| Martha Swope,        | - | - | - | - | Lagrange.          |
| John Summers,        | - | - | - | - | Elizabethtown      |
| Henry B. Townsend,   | - | - | - | - | Trimble county.    |
| Richard S. Vaughan,  | - | - | - | - | Bullitt county.    |
| Susan A. Ward,       | - | - | - | - | Washington county. |
| Adeline Wildes,      | - | - | - | - | Louisville.        |

## CATALOGUE OF PUPILS

FOR THE YEAR 1859.

| NAMES.                         | RESIDENCE.        |
|--------------------------------|-------------------|
| Eliza L. Allen, - - - - -      | Larue county.     |
| Martha J. Arnold, - - - - -    | Franklin county.  |
| Jacob Bogard, - - - - -        | Hardin county.    |
| Mary J. Buckner, - - - - -     | Louisville.       |
| James L. Canavan, - - - - -    | Franklin county.  |
| Angelina Clark, - - - - -      | Edmonson county.  |
| Elizabeth Clay, - - - - -      | Johnson county.   |
| Martha Clay, - - - - -         | Johnson county.   |
| William H. Clay, - - - - -     | Johnson county.   |
| Mary Cline - - - - -           | Louisville.       |
| Martha A. Coker, - - - - -     | Calloway county.  |
| Mary Costello, - - - - -       | Jefferson county. |
| Eliza Davis, - - - - -         | Nelson county.    |
| William Day, - - - - -         | Rowan county.     |
| Michael Dorr, - - - - -        | Covington.        |
| Marie D'Owville, - - - - -     | Louisville.       |
| Frances A. Dupuy, - - - - -    | Henry county.     |
| Lucinda Durning, - - - - -     | Louisville.       |
| Ellen Emmons, - - - - -        | Jefferson county. |
| Cynthia A. Green, - - - - -    | Franklin county.  |
| Elizabeth Green, - - - - -     | Franklin county.  |
| Catherine M. Hardin, - - - - - | Daviess county.   |
| John Hardin, - - - - -         | Daviess county.   |
| Timothy Hartill, - - - - -     | Louisville.       |
| Elizabeth Henning, - - - - -   | Louisville.       |
| Daniel E. Hoskins, - - - - -   | Estill county.    |
| Nancy Hoskins, - - - - -       | Estill county.    |
| Thomas M. Hazlep, - - - - -    | Edmonson county   |
| Henry L. Kidd, - - - - -       | Lexington.        |
| Reuben McClanahan, - - - - -   | Logan county.     |
| Clara Mattingly, - - - - -     | Louisville.       |
| Edward E. Martin, - - - - -    | Boone county.     |
| Mary Miller, - - - - -         | Louisville.       |
| Joseph P. Mitchell, - - - - -  | Owensboro.        |
| Frances Moorman, - - - - -     | Owensboro.        |
| Simeon Peyton, - - - - -       | Lincoln county.   |
| Georgiana Porter, - - - - -    | Jefferson county  |



|                     |   |   |   |   |   |                    |
|---------------------|---|---|---|---|---|--------------------|
| John Porter,        | - | - | - | - | - | Jefferson county.  |
| Virginia Porter,    | - | - | - | - | - | Jefferson county.  |
| Nancy Prewitt,      | - | - | - | - | - | Russell county.    |
| Julia Purnell,      | - | - | - | - | - | Maysville          |
| Rebecca Rogers,     | - | - | - | - | - | Fayette county.    |
| Mary J. Sadler,     | - | - | - | - | - | Jefferson county.  |
| Martha Swope,       | - | - | - | - | - | Lagrange.          |
| John Summers,       | - | - | - | - | - | Elizabethtown.     |
| Susan Ward,         | - | - | - | - | - | Washington county. |
| Adeline Wildes,     | - | - | - | - | - | Louisville.        |
| Anastatia Stafford, | - | - | - | - | - | Jefferson county.  |
| Mary E. Stafford,   | - | - | - | - | - | Jefferson county.  |

## TERMS OF ADMISSION.

## TO THE FRIENDS OF THE BLIND IN KENTUCKY :

The Kentucky Institution for the Blind has been in successful operation, under the superintendence of the undersigned, for nearly sixteen years. It is under the management of a Board of Visitors, consisting of several of the most enlightened and benevolent citizens of the State, some of whom have been members of the Board ever since the origin of the Institution in the year 1842.

The Institution was established by the Legislature for the instruction of those children who are blind, and for those whose sight is so imperfect that they cannot see to read. All such children, of suitable age and of good moral character, are received and educated at the expense of the Institution, which is a State school, equally free to the rich and the poor.

The pupils are instructed in vocal and instrumental music, and in the branches usually taught in public schools and academies for seeing pupils. The boys are also taught mechanical trades, to enable them to support themselves independently after leaving the Institution.

The pupils, generally, are very happy and industrious, and many of them make wonderful advancement in their studies, and qualify themselves to be teachers of music, mathematics, and other branches of learning.

The Legislature provides for the board and tuition of the children of Kentucky. Pupils from other States pay one hundred and forty dollars a year.

The annual school session commences on the 20th day of September, and terminates on the 15th day of July. It is very desirable that pupils should enter at the commencement of the session, but *new* pupils will be received at any time during the session.

Persons desiring to send children to this school, will please to send the name, age, and post-office address of the applicant to the undersigned, who will, at all times, cheerfully communicate any necessary information pertaining to the Institution.

B. M. PATTEN, *Director*.

## THE CLOCK OF TIME.

BY MARY J. BUCKNER.

"Now is the constant syllable ticking from the clock of Time."

I stood within the spacious halls,  
 Where many thousands stood, and stand—  
 I stood and gazed upon its walls,  
 Where hangs the clock with ready hand,  
 Pointing the way to all who pass :  
 Telling the time in one short word,  
 To man or woman, lad or lass—  
 By all the clock of Time is heard,  
 Slowly, slowly, sadly ticking,  
 Now, now, yesterday is past!  
 Now, now, it still keeps ticking,  
 And this, perhaps, will be the last!

Now come the groups of children fair,  
 With rosy cheek and laughing eye;  
 They listen, wonder at it there,  
 But, heading not, pass slowly by,  
 Pausing to gaze and catch the sound;  
 Then, lest the day will soon be gone,  
 They, with a merry shout and bound,  
 Still onward rush—the clock ticks on,  
 Slowly, slowly, sadly ticking,  
 Now, now, yesterday is past!  
 Now, now, it still keeps ticking,  
 And this, perhaps, will be the last!

Now come the maidens, O, how gay!  
 Dancing and singing their songs of glee;  
 We need not mind the time, they say,  
 We need not listen, need not see;  
 The clock will never cease to rest  
 Upon these walls with ready hand,  
 Pointing the way to each new guest.  
 When years have past, then we will stand  
 List'ning to its constant ticking;

And O how bright each golden link  
 Of Memory's chain to us will be!  
 When here we stand, we can but think  
 Of brighter days when we were free,  
 Within these halls where oft we've stood,  
 Amid the gayest of the gay—  
 The old, the young, the loved and good;  
 And then the clock to us will say,  
     Now, now, yesterday is past!  
     Now, now, 'twill still be ticking  
     Until it ticks for us the last!

Now come the noble youths, and brave,  
 Proudly marching through these halls;  
 Not once they heed the clock so grave,  
 As here it hangs upon the walls;  
 They dream of honor and of fame,  
 They have no thought of time that's gone;  
 To win a great and glorious name,  
 Their watch-word is, "Forever on!"  
     Yet slowly, slowly, sadly ticking,  
     Now, now, yesterday is past!  
     Now, now, it still keeps ticking,  
     And this, perhaps, will be the last!

Old age comes by with tottering feet,  
 With hoary locks, and care-worn brow,  
 And as he hears the solemn beat,  
 He pauses, gazes, listens now;  
 Before the clock he mournful stands,  
 And thinks how oft, in days gone by,  
 He heeded not those warning hands,  
 Now pointing to Eternity!  
 He, living in his memories now,  
 Its crowding thoughts within his brain,  
 And slowly o'er his wrinkled brow  
 Passes his hand again, again.  
 Then slowly to the youths he turns,  
 Beck'ning with feeble, trembling hand,  
 And each from him a lesson learns,  
 "Write not your lives upon the sand!"  
     And still they hear that slow, sad ticking,  
     Now, now, yesterday is past!  
     Now, now, it still keeps ticking,  
     And this, perhaps, will be the last!

Oh! as we stand within these halls,  
 Where many thousands stood and stand;  
 When Death each one to slumber calls,  
 May we be heeding that true hand;

## INSTITUTION FOR THE BLIND.

And when within the grave we lie,  
 And others stand within these halls,  
 May they not pass unheeding by,  
 But may they listen as it calls,  
 Listen while it still keeps ticking,  
     Slowly, slowly, sadly ticking,  
     Now, now, yesterday is past!  
     Now, now, it still keeps ticking,  
     And this, perhaps, will be the last!

KENTUCKY INSTITUTION FOR THE BLIND, December, 1859.

## THE LOST BROTHER.

BY ELLEN EMMONS.

Moonlight dances o'er the waters  
     Of the calm and slumbering sea,  
 On whose shore a lovely maiden  
     Stands and watches wearily.  
 Gently play the evening breezes  
     With her flowing wavy hair,  
 Gorgeous flowers of sweetest fragrance  
     Deck her brow so white and fair.  
 Why so anxiously and lonely  
     Waits that maiden on the shore?  
 She is watching, watching, watching  
     For the barque she'll see no more!

'Tis the barque her noble brother  
     Launched upon the stormy sea,  
 And of all its gallant sailors  
     There was none so brave as he.  
 Golden dreams of fame and fortune  
     Charmed him from his quiet home,  
 From his young devoted sister,  
     On the raging sea to roam.  
 Now so anxiously and lonely  
     Waits that maiden on the shore—  
 She is watching, watching, watching  
     For the barque she'll see no more!

Must that brave and youthful brother  
 Never see his home again?  
 Must that fair and gentle sister  
 Wait for his return in vain?  
 Yes, in vain; for he reposes  
 Far below the rolling surge,  
 While the wave in plaintive music  
 Nightly sings his mournful dirge!  
 Still, so anxiously and lonely,  
 Waits that sister on the shore—  
 She is watching, watching, watching  
 For the barque she'll see no more!

INSTITUTION FOR THE BLIND, January, 1859.

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### THE CHILD'S DREAM.

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I dreamed of Heaven, that bright abode,  
 Which darkness never veils;  
 Where joy and gladness never cease,  
 And sin no more prevails:—  
 Where angels with their golden harps  
 Praise Him who reigns on high,  
 Whose love for us will never cease,  
 Whose power can never die!

I dreamed that round the throne of God  
 There flowed a crystal stream,  
 O'er whose calm waters came no storm,  
 Nor fading sunset gleam.  
 And from this clear and flowing stream  
 Legions of angels drank;  
 And then they stood with one accord,  
 And praised upon its bank.

I watched, and heard at God's command  
 The holy angels sing,  
 All glory, honor be to Him  
 Who reigns, our Heavenly King!  
 To Him who sits upon the throne,  
 Who reigns o'er all the earth,  
 Who gives new light to every soul,  
 And blesses from our birth.

The stream made music as it flowed  
Around our Maker's throne,  
While with it blended angel songs  
E'en sweeter than its own.  
And while I list these angel songs,  
And watch the flowing stream,  
I wake within my little couch,  
And find it but a dream !

INSTITUTION FOR THE BLIND, May, 1859.











**FIFTEENTH REPORT**

**(FIFTH BIENNIAL)**

**OF THE**

**BOARD OF VISITORS OF THE KENTUCKY INSTITUTION**

**FOR THE**

**EDUCATION OF THE BLIND,**

**TO THE**

**GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF KENTUCKY,**

**FOR THE YEARS 1860 AND 1861.**



**FRANKFORT, KY.:**  
**PRINTED AT THE YEOMAN OFFICE.**  
**JNO. B. MAJOR, STATE PRINTER.**  
**1861.**



## FIFTEENTH REPORT.

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### *To the General Assembly of Kentucky:*

The Trustees of the Kentucky Institution for the Education of the Blind are happy to be able to report that the benevolent Institution intrusted to them by the State is, under the favor of Providence and the fostering care of the General Assembly, in a highly prosperous condition, and fulfilling, in the most satisfactory manner, the philanthropic designs of its founders, by cultivating the physical, intellectual, and moral powers of the blind children and youth of the State, and preparing them for lives of industry, usefulness, and happiness.

The lives of all the inmates of the Institution have been preserved during the last two years, and but a single case of severe illness has occurred among the pupils since the last Biennial Report was presented to the General Assembly.

This Institution was founded by the State of Kentucky at the commencement of the year 1842, nearly twenty years ago. During that entire period only three pupils have been removed from the Institution by death; the rate of mortality being one third of one per cent., and less than in any other benevolent State Institution with which we are acquainted. This favorable result will appear more remarkable when it is remembered that very few of the pupils enjoy vigorous health at the time of their admission into the Institution; partly because the influences that produce blindness generally affect unfavorably the entire system of the patient, and, more especially, because blind children and youth are by the privation of vision debarred from much of the salutary active exercise which is so eagerly sought and highly enjoyed by those who are favored with the sense of sight.

Of the three pupils of this Institution, whose decease it has been our painful duty to report at different times, the first was afflicted, at the time of her admission into the Institution, with an incurable disease which prevented her from entering the school rooms, and in a few weeks resulted in death; the second died in the annual vacation; and the third contracted, in the country during vacation, a disease which terminated fatally soon after her return to the Institution.

While the loss of these three loved pupils is sincerely lamented, it becomes us to acknowledge with profound gratitude the kindness of that Providence that has watched over the Institution for twenty years, and granted to its inmates the remarkable exemption from disease and death which the Trustees have been permitted to report from year to year.

The number of pupils connected with the Institution in the year 1860 was 50; 17 males and 33 females. In eleven months of the year 1861 the number has been 42; 12 males and 30 females.

The number of pupils at present is less than usual, on account of the invasion of the Southern part of Kentucky by the Confederate armies. Since the commencement of the present session none of the pupils who reside in that section have returned to the Institution, nor have any new pupils been received from that part of the State, although several had made application for admission before the session commenced.

The general deportment of the pupils is worthy of high commendation. They are, with few exceptions, amiable, cheerful, docile, and studious, and ever manifest a lively interest in the various exercises of the school.

The course of study continues the same as in former years, embracing reading, orthography, writing, English grammar, history, arithmetic, algebra, geometry, Latin and French languages, vocal and instrumental music, and other branches of learning usually taught in the best academies of the State.

All the pupils who have been connected with the school one quarter can read the Bible and other books printed in raised letters, and many write legibly and are making satisfactory progress in the other studies of the course.

At the close of the annual session in 1860, Miss Mary J. Weld, who had for two years very ably and satisfactorily conducted the musical department of the Institution, presented her resignation, and Miss Augusta Woodman, a young lady of rare musical powers and extraordinary fitness for the position, was elected teacher of music. The interest manifested by the pupils in this important department, and their rapid improvement, furnish abundant proof of her ability and fidelity.

At the commencement of the present session, Miss Marie Woodman and Miss Georgiana Harlow, young ladies of fine natural endowments and high cultivation, were elected teachers, and they give promise of great usefulness in their respective departments.

Miss Ellen Emmons, the blind young lady to whose remarkable attainments and valuable services we have alluded in former years, has, during the last two years, given such aid in the musical department as her declining health would permit, and several of the most advanced pupils have rendered willing assistance in the instruction of pupils in the primary department of the Institution.

A special report of this Board, presented to the Senate of Kentucky in March last, in response to a resolution of the Senate, is appended to this report, as it contains important information in regard to this Institution, and presents a very succinct statement of the receipts and expenditures of the Institution during the first nineteen years of its existence.

The means of the Institution to meet the ordinary expenses in the years 1860 and 1861, have been as follows :

|                                                |             |
|------------------------------------------------|-------------|
| Allowance for State pupils, paid in 1860 ..... | \$6,099 75  |
| Annual appropriation in 1860 .....             | 3,000 00    |
| Allowance for State pupils, paid in 1861 ..... | 5,355 00    |
| Amount carried forward .....                   | \$14,454 75 |

|                                                   |             |
|---------------------------------------------------|-------------|
| Amount brought forward.....                       | \$14,454 75 |
| Annual appropriation in 1861.....                 | 3,000 00    |
| For board of R. Pike .....                        | 40 00       |
|                                                   | <hr/>       |
|                                                   | \$17,494 75 |
| Balance due Treasurer at date of last report..... | 1,204 73    |
|                                                   | <hr/>       |
|                                                   | \$16,290 02 |

The ordinary expenses of the Institution for the years 1860 and 1861, have been as follows :

|                                                                                                                                                             |            |
|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|------------|
| Provisions, groceries, hay, cows, &c. ....                                                                                                                  | \$5,029 47 |
| Salaries of officers and teachers .....                                                                                                                     | 4,837 60   |
| Wages of servants, seamstress, and gardener.....                                                                                                            | 2,000 25   |
| Medical attendance \$105; medicine, \$75 40 .....                                                                                                           | 180 40     |
| Fuel, \$890 42; dry goods and clothing, \$431 32 .....                                                                                                      | 1,321 74   |
| Shoes, \$75 95; postage and advertising, \$44 .....                                                                                                         | 119 95     |
| Maps, books, binding of books, stationery, slates, and printing special report.....                                                                         | 530 18     |
| Piano and melodeon.....                                                                                                                                     | 361 00     |
| Furniture, hardware, tin-ware, table-ware, lamps, oil, stoves, and wagon .....                                                                              | 940 28     |
| Harnesses and repairs of same, saddle, repairs of carriage, wagon, cart, and plow, horse-shoeing and other iron work, and medical attention to horses ..... | 267 50     |
| Grass seed, garden seed, and potatoes .....                                                                                                                 | 48 20      |
| Rent of pasture and garden 1859, 1860, and 1861 .....                                                                                                       | 670 00     |
| Wages of mechanical teacher and materials for mattresses and brooms for Institution.....                                                                    | 278 10     |
| Conveyance of pupils to church, &c. ....                                                                                                                    | 177 00     |
| Lot in Cave Hill Cemetery, &c., &c.....                                                                                                                     | 322 00     |
| Traveling expenses of pupils, and expenses of exhibition before Legislature .....                                                                           | 262 00     |
| Insurance on building 1860 .....                                                                                                                            | 220 00     |
|                                                                                                                                                             | <hr/>      |
|                                                                                                                                                             | 17,565 67  |
| Balance against the Institution .....                                                                                                                       | \$1,275 65 |

The receipts and expenditures for building purposes, and other improvements, during the last two years, have been as follows :

|                                                                                                                                               |             |
|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------|
| Special appropriation in 1860.....                                                                                                            | \$15,000 00 |
| Balance at date of last report .....                                                                                                          | 4,083 57    |
|                                                                                                                                               | <hr/>       |
|                                                                                                                                               | \$19,083 57 |
| Paid Donaly and Strader & Hart for boilers and fitting up laundry, scullery, bath-rooms, wash-rooms, water closets, force-pump, &c., &c. .... | \$1,700 03  |
| Paid Mitchell & Gathright for iron tanks, &c.....                                                                                             | 416 71      |
| Paid O'Brien & Bell for plastering.....                                                                                                       | 2,044 46    |
| Paid Davis & Story, Breeden, Dix, Munn, Young, Ferguson, and McClaran, for lumber .....                                                       | 2,080 03    |
| Paid carpenters.....                                                                                                                          | 2,406 27    |
| Paid J. Sackstedor for painting, &c.....                                                                                                      | 425 00      |
| Paid Green & Richards for tin roofing .....                                                                                                   | 425 10      |
| Paid for repairing roof, &c. ....                                                                                                             | 123 60      |
| Paid for iron work and expressage .....                                                                                                       | 94 40       |
| Paid McBride & Deally for hardware.....                                                                                                       | 234 50      |
| Paid for cistern, stone, and brick work.....                                                                                                  | 334 20      |
| Paid for insurance, 1861 .....                                                                                                                | 220 00      |
| Paid for fruit and shade trees and grading.....                                                                                               | 149 32      |
|                                                                                                                                               | <hr/>       |
|                                                                                                                                               | 10,653 03   |
| Leaving a balance.....                                                                                                                        | \$9,429 95  |

The work, executed since the last biennial report was presented to the Legislature, includes a large amount of lumber; all the joiner's



work of the concert hall ; all the rooms and passages in the fourth and fifth stories ; twelve small rooms in the first, second, and third stories, and three flights of stairs ; the plumber's work in the dining-room, laundry, scullery, bath-rooms, and water closets ; three cold and hot water iron tanks, containing eighty barrels ; boilers' force pump, gas pipe, hardware, cistern, stone work, the painting of all the rooms and passages in the fourth and fifth stories, six rooms in the first, second, and third stories, the roof, cupolas, and cornice of the edifice, repairs, grading, and the planting of shade and fruit trees.

The unexpended portion of the appropriation for the completion of the main building, the erection of a work-shop, and the purchase of an organ, will be sufficient for those purposes.

Mr. Patten, who so successfully conducted the erection of the buildings and the improvement of the grounds from the commencement of the work, has continued to direct these important operations in such a manner as to secure the highest approval of the Board. Under his constant supervision the entire work has been executed in the most faithful manner and on the most favorable terms.

We cannot close this report without a brief allusion to the loss of one who, for the last few years, has been prominently associated with us in the management of this Institution, and who, since our last report was presented to the General Assembly, has been removed from his earthly labors to his Heavenly reward. For the first time in the history of the Institution, it is the painful duty of the Trustees to report the removal, by death, of one of their number. John Milton, Esq., a member of the Board of Trustees, and the Treasurer of the Institution, departed this life near the close of the year 1860. To this Institution, and to the various other benevolent institutions of which he was an honored manager, the loss of this estimable man has created a void not easily filled. His accurate and ready judgment, his unwavering integrity, his unsullied honor, his lively sympathy, his wonderful amiability, his untiring benevolence, his earnest and humble piety, and all the lovely and noble qualities that adorned his character, rendered him, in all the relations of life, a most remarkable man. In all his numerous and onerous duties he was ever ready to give to the Trustees of this Institution the aid of his clear and vigorous intellect, and to the officers and pupils his kindly sympathy and valuable counsel ; and the Institution ever retained a high place in his affections until the time of his lamented death. He labored not for human praise nor any earthly reward, and his record is in Heaven ; but we could do no less than render this humble tribute to his memory.

Respectfully submitted,

W. F. BULLOCK,

T. S. BELL,

BLAND BALLARD,

W. S. BODLEY,

} Trustees.

KENTUCKY INSTITUTION FOR THE BLIND, *Louisville*, December 16, 1861.

## OFFICERS OF THE INSTITUTION.

---

**BRYCE M. PATTEN, A. M.,**  
DIRECTOR AND PRINCIPAL TEACHER.

**MISS AUGUSTA J. WOODMAN,**  
TEACHER OF MUSIC.

**MISS MARIE WOODMAN,**  
TEACHER.

**MISS GEORGIANA M. HARLOW,**  
TEACHER.

**Mrs. MARY H. PARIS,**  
MATRON.

**ROBERT C. HEWETT, M. D.,**  
PHYSICIAN.



CATALOGUE OF PUPILS

FOR THE YEAR 1860.

| NAMES.                        | RESIDENCE.           |
|-------------------------------|----------------------|
| Eliza L. Allen, - - - - -     | Larue county.        |
| Martha J. Arnold, - - - - -   | Franklin county.     |
| Jacob Bogard, - - - - -       | Hardin county.       |
| Mary J. Buckner, - - - - -    | Louisville.          |
| Elizabeth J. Clay, - - - - -  | Johnson county.      |
| Martha Clay, - - - - -        | Johnson county.      |
| William H. Clay, - - - - -    | Johnson county.      |
| Mary Cline, - - - - -         | Jefferson county.    |
| Martha A. Coker, - - - - -    | Calloway county.     |
| Mary Costello, - - - - -      | Louisville.          |
| Elizabeth Dale, - - - - -     | Russellville.        |
| Eliza Davis, - - - - -        | Daviess county.      |
| William Day, - - - - -        | Rowan county.        |
| Michael Dorr, - - - - -       | Covington.           |
| Frances Dupuy, - - - - -      | Henry county.        |
| Ellen Emmons, - - - - -       | Louisville.          |
| Michael Glynn, - - - - -      | Barren county.       |
| Cynthia A. Green, - - - - -   | Franklin county.     |
| Elizabeth Green, - - - - -    | Franklin county.     |
| Catherine Hardin, - - - - -   | Daviess county.      |
| Elizabeth Harry, - - - - -    | Hickman county.      |
| Timothy Hartill, - - - - -    | Louisville.          |
| Thomas Hazlep, - - - - -      | Breckinridge county. |
| Elizabeth Henning, - - - - -  | Louisville.          |
| Daniel E. Hoskins, - - - - -  | Estill county.       |
| Nancy Hoskins, - - - - -      | Estill county.       |
| Edward E. Martin, - - - - -   | Boone county.        |
| Clara Mattingly, - - - - -    | Louisville.          |
| Reuben McClanahan, - - - - -  | Logan county.        |
| Florence Miller, - - - - -    | Louisville.          |
| Mary Miller, - - - - -        | Louisville.          |
| Joseph P. Mitchell, - - - - - | Owensboro.           |
| Frances Moorman, - - - - -    | Owensboro.           |
| Isaac S. Morris, - - - - -    | Frankfort.           |
| Simeon Peyton, - - - - -      | Lincoln county.      |
| Georgiana Porter, - - - - -   | Louisville.          |
| John Porter, - - - - -        | Louisville.          |
| Virginia Porter, - - - - -    | Louisville.          |
| Nancy Prewitt, - - - - -      | Russell county.      |
| Julia Purnell, - - - - -      | Maysville.           |

|                     |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |                   |
|---------------------|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|-------------------|
| Rebecca Rogers,     | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | Fayette county.   |
| Mary J. Saddler,    | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | Jefferson county. |
| Anastatia Stafford, | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | Jefferson county. |
| Mary E. Stafford,   | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | Jefferson county. |
| John Summers,       | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | Elizabethtown.    |
| Martha Swope,       | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | LaGrange.         |
| William G. Taylor,  | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | Clarke county.    |
| Minnie Troendle,    | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | Louisville.       |
| Adeline Wildes,     | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | Louisville.       |

CATALOGUE OF PUPILS

FOR THE YEAR 1861

| NAMES.                        | RESIDENCE.           |
|-------------------------------|----------------------|
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| William H. Clay, - - - - -    | Johnson county.      |
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| Mary Costello, - - - - -      | Louisville.          |
| Elizabeth Dale, - - - - -     | Russellville.        |
| Eliza Davis, - - - - -        | Daviess county.      |
| William Day, - - - - -        | Rowan county.        |
| Michael Dorr, - - - - -       | Covington.           |
| Ellen Emmons, - - - - -       | Louisville.          |
| Michael Glynn, - - - - -      | Barren county.       |
| Catherine Hardin, - - - - -   | Daviess county.      |
| Elizabeth Harry, - - - - -    | Hickman county.      |
| Timothy Hartill, - - - - -    | Louisville.          |
| Thomas Hazlep, - - - - -      | Breckinridge county. |
| Elizabeth Henning, - - - - -  | Louisville.          |
| William Holsclaw, - - - - -   | Louisville.          |
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| Edward E. Martin, - - - - -   | Boone county.        |
| Clara Mattingly, - - - - -    | Louisville.          |
| Reuben McClanahan, - - - - -  | Logan county.        |
| Florence Miller, - - - - -    | Louisville.          |
| Mary Miller, - - - - -        | Louisville.          |
| Joseph P. Mitchell, - - - - - | Owensboro.           |
| Frances Moorman, - - - - -    | Owensboro.           |
| Celoza d'Ouville, - - - - -   | Louisville.          |
| Marie d'Ouville, - - - - -    | Louisville.          |
| Georgiana Porter, - - - - -   | Louisville.          |
| Virginia Porter, - - - - -    | Louisville.          |
| John Porter, - - - - -        | Louisville.          |
| Nancy Prewitt, - - - - -      | Russell county.      |
| Julia Purnell, - - - - -      | Maysville.           |
| Rebecca Rogers, - - - - -     | Fayette county.      |
| Mary J. Saddler, - - - - -    | Jefferson county.    |
| John Summers, - - - - -       | Elizabethtown.       |
| Martha Swope, - - - - -       | LaGrange.            |
| Minnie Troendle, - - - - -    | Louisville.          |
| Naomi Wells, - - - - -        | Harrodsburg.         |
| Adeline Wildes, - - - - -     | Louisville.          |

## TERMS OF ADMISSION.

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The Kentucky Institution for the Blind has been in successful operation for twenty years. It was established by the Legislature for the instruction of those children who are blind, and for those whose sight is so imperfect that they cannot see to read. All such children, of suitable age and of good moral character, are received and educated at the expense of the Institution, which is a State school, equally free to the rich and the poor.

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## SPECIAL REPORT.

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*To the Senate of Kentucky:*

The Trustees of the Kentucky Institution for the Education of the Blind, in accordance with the resolution of the Senate, adopted February 9, 1861, present a statement of all the money received from the State, from paying pupils, from benevolent individuals, and from all other sources, each year, from the origin of the Institution in 1842 to the end of the year 1860; of the uses to which the same has been

applied; of the annual expense to the State of each pupil; and of the percentage of deaths among the pupils.

The following table exhibits at one view the income of the Institution from all sources, each year, and the total receipts and expenditures for nineteen years. The expenses of some years differed considerably from the receipts of those years as presented in the table, and, sometimes, especially during the earlier years of the school, there was, at the end of the year, a balance against the Institution, for which it was necessary to anticipate, in part, the income of the ensuing year. The table does not include any receipts or expenditures since the first of January, 1861.

The expenditures for land and buildings include, of course, the cost of the land on Broadway and the buildings erected thereon, which were destroyed by fire in the year 1851, as well as the cost of the land and buildings on Main street, now occupied by the Institution. The land was selected and the plans of the buildings approved by the Governor of the State, and a board of commissioners appointed by act of the Legislature.

*Financial Statement.*

| YEARS.                                                      | From State for ordinary expenses. | From State, &c for land and buildings and other improvements. | Paying pupils. | Donations. | Total income. | No. of pupils. | Deaths. |
|-------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------|----------------|------------|---------------|----------------|---------|
| 1842                                                        | \$775 00                          |                                                               |                | \$622 50   | \$1,397 50    | 10             |         |
| 1843                                                        | 1,612 50                          |                                                               | \$70 00        | 170 00     | 1,842 50      | 19             |         |
| 1844                                                        | 2,569 42                          | \$5,370 58                                                    | 279 00         | 37 25      | 8,256 25      | 22             |         |
| 1845                                                        | 2,362 25                          | 4,901 80                                                      | 482 45         | 643 35     | 8,389 85      | 24             |         |
| 1846                                                        | 3,286 23                          | 2,295 43                                                      | 704 00         | 78 10      | 6,363 76      | 38             |         |
| 1847                                                        | 2,480 40                          | 75 00                                                         | 850 00         | 67 50      | 3,472 90      | 44             | 1       |
| 1848                                                        | 6,554 83                          | 1,558 50                                                      | 36 00          | 70 00      | 8,219 33      | 38             |         |
| 1849                                                        | 2,844 99                          | 83 00                                                         | 375 00         |            | 3,302 99      | 38             |         |
| 1850                                                        | 5,647 35                          | 282 38                                                        | 100 00         | 5 00       | 6,034 73      | 43             |         |
| 1851                                                        | 5,719 40                          | 554 93                                                        | 10 00          |            | 6,284 33      | 35             |         |
| 1852                                                        | 6,941 96                          | 10,500 00                                                     | 135 00         |            | 16,876 96     | 41             |         |
| 1853                                                        | 7,358 15                          |                                                               |                |            | 7,358 15      | 38             | 1       |
| 1854                                                        | 6,075 83                          | 20,000 00                                                     |                |            | 26,075 83     | 30             |         |
| 1855                                                        | 5,911 65                          | 6,648 35                                                      | 150 00         |            | 12,710 00     | 38             |         |
| 1856                                                        | 7,595 30                          | 15,000 00                                                     |                | 270 00     | 22,865 30     | 50             |         |
| 1857                                                        | 8,371 51                          | 5,000 00                                                      |                | *500 00    | 13,871 50     | 75             | 1       |
| 1858                                                        | 9,638 35                          | 7,500 00                                                      |                |            | 17,138 35     | 56             |         |
| 1859                                                        | 8,939 65                          |                                                               |                |            | 8,939 65      | 51             |         |
| 1860                                                        | 9,099 75                          | 10,000 00                                                     |                |            | 19,099 75     | 50             |         |
| Total.                                                      | \$103,074 51                      | \$89,769 97                                                   | \$3,191 45     | \$2,463 70 | \$198,499 63  | 744            | 3       |
| Deduct present value of land, buildings, and other property |                                   |                                                               |                |            | 94,000 00     |                |         |
|                                                             |                                   |                                                               |                |            | 744)          | \$104,499 63   |         |
|                                                             |                                   |                                                               |                |            |               | \$140 45       |         |

\* Donated in books.



Of the entire amount received from all sources, the sum of \$89,769 97, has, in strict conformity to the requirements of the Legislature, been expended in the purchase of land, and in the erection of buildings and other improvements; and the remainder has been expended in provisions, clothing, furniture, salaries, wages, books, maps, globes, and other school apparatus, pianos, organ, melodeons, and other musical instruments, medical attendance and medicines, traveling expenses of pupils and agents, rent of land and buildings, horses, cows, carts, carriages, stable expenses, repairs, printing, insurance, and many items not strictly belonging to the ordinary expenses of such an institution. The details of these expenditures have been presented to the Legislature in the annual and biennial reports of the Institution, and the vouchers deposited with the State Auditor.

This Institution is strictly a State institution. It is without endowment, and entirely dependent upon the State for support. Its buildings, grounds, furniture, apparatus, and every thing belonging to it, are the property of the State of Kentucky. An examination of the foregoing table will show that, making a proper allowance for the present value of the property of the Institution belonging to the State, the average annual expense of supporting and educating each pupil in this school has been *one hundred and forty dollars and forty-five cents*.

In order to appreciate fully the economy which has confined the expenses of the Institution within so narrow limits, it is necessary to take into account the extraordinary expenses required in a school for the blind. Books, maps, globes, and all kinds of educational apparatus for the blind, are exceedingly expensive. A Bible printed in the ordinary manner for the seeing can be purchased for *thirty cents*; a Bible in raised letters for the blind costs *nearly as many dollars*; and yet the Bible is, in proportion to its size, the cheapest book ever printed for the blind. A slate for a seeing pupil can be bought for a *few cents*; a good slate, with the necessary figures, prepared for the blind, costs *ten or twelve dollars*. An ordinary map, which can be purchased for *four or five dollars*, will, when properly adapted to the blind, cost *sixty or seventy dollars*. Globes, and all other apparatus for the blind, are proportionally expensive. Not only are books for the blind very costly, but the raised letters being continually subjected to the pressure of the pupils' fingers, soon become obliterated, and the books must be replaced by others. As music is a necessary branch in the education of the blind, pianos, organs, and other musical instruments must be procured and kept in repair at great expense. The necessity for instructing the blind in various mechanical arts subjects the Institution to the expense of erecting workshops, purchasing tools and raw materials, and employing teachers of mechanics. In schools for the seeing, visible illustrations can be presented at the same moment to a large number of pupils. In a school for the blind, whenever the teacher employs tangible apparatus, as globes, maps, diagrams, &c., he must necessarily address himself successively to every pupil; consequently a school of this kind requires, in the intellectual department, in proportion to the number of pupils, more teachers than are needed in any other school.

There is, moreover, one important item of the ordinary expenses of this Institution for which, we believe, no similar institution in the world is required by law to provide. By an act of the Legislature of Kentucky, the officers of the Institution are authorized to present, in the name of the Commonwealth, to every graduate of the school, a copy of the Bible in raised letters, and other books, amounting to twenty-five dollars. To make these donations to all the pupils connected with the school at the present time, will subject the Institution to an outlay of *twelve hundred dollars*. No special provision has ever been made to meet this expenditure; but, in the language of the act of the Legislature that requires it, "it is considered and accounted as an item of the ordinary expenses of the Institution."

Only three pupils have been removed by death from the school during the nineteen years of its existence—making the percentage of deaths *two fifths of one per cent*.

There are in the Institution no paying pupils. All the blind children and youth of Kentucky, without regard to their pecuniary circumstances, are, by authority of the Legislature, now admitted into the Institution and educated as State pupils. In the earlier years of the Institution pupils were received from Missouri, Indiana, Mississippi, Louisiana, and Texas, but all those States have, in the last few years, established schools for the blind within their own borders, and those pupils have been returned to the States from which they came.

The money received from paying pupils, and from benevolent individuals, was placed in the treasury to aid in defraying the ordinary expenses of the Institution. Every dollar received has been faithfully devoted to the benevolent work for which the school was founded by the Legislature of Kentucky.

Mr. B. M. Patten, who has ever had the immediate direction of all departments of the Institution, has cordially united with the trustees in the most vigilant attention to the finances of the Institution. When invited to the office which he has so acceptably filled for nineteen years, he accepted it at a great pecuniary sacrifice on his part, and has continued to discharge the arduous duties of that responsible office at a salary greatly below what he readily commanded before he was called to this position.

Several of the undersigned have served as Trustees of this Institution from its origin in the year 1842, to the present time; and are therefore enabled to speak with great confidence as to the remarkable economy that has ever prevailed in its management. Every item of expenditure has been presented to the Board for examination, and not a dollar has been drawn from the treasury for any purpose without the approval of the Board and the indorsement of the President.

One of the members of this Board has not only performed, for nineteen years, his duties as Trustee, but, for several years, he attended gratuitously every case of sickness among the pupils.

For all their long and arduous services in behalf of the blind of

Kentucky, the Trustees have never received, nor desired to receive, any pecuniary compensation.

W. F. BULLOCK,  
T. S. BELL,  
WM. S. BODLEY,  
BLAND BALLARD,  
R. J. BRECKINRIDGE, } Trustees.

KENTUCKY INSTITUTION FOR THE BLIND, *Louisville*, March 20, 1861.

**SIXTEENTH ANNUAL REPORT**

**(SIXTH BIENNIAL)**

**OF THE**

**TRUSTEES OF THE KENTUCKY INSTITUTION**

**FOR THE**

**EDUCATION OF THE BLIND,**

**(AT LOUISVILLE, KENTUCKY,)**

**TO THE**

**GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF KENTUCKY,**

**FOR THE YEARS 1862 AND 1863.**

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**FRANKFORT, KENTUCKY.**

**PRINTED AT THE COMMONWEALTH OFFICE.**

**WM. E. HUGHES, STATE PRINTER.**

**1864.**



## SIXTEENTH REPORT.

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*To the General Assembly of Kentucky:*

The Trustees of the Kentucky Institution for the Education of the Blind respectfully present their sixteenth report, embracing a period of two years, commencing December 16, 1861.

The lives of all the pupils have been preserved during the last two years, and the few cases of illness which have occurred among them, have readily yielded to the means employed by the officers of the institution.

The institution has been in existence nearly twenty-two years, with an average attendance of forty pupils, very few of whom enjoyed vigorous health at the time of their admission into the school; and yet we have the satisfaction of reporting that only three of the pupils have been removed by death from the institution since it was founded in the year 1842.

The remarkable preservation of the lives and health of the pupils demands renewed expression of gratitude to Divine Providence, which has watched over the institution for so many years, and granted to its pupils the singular exemption from disease and death which the trustees have been permitted to report from year to year.

No efforts are wanting to improve the health of the pupils in this school. All the sanitary regulations of the institution are judicious. The site of the building is one of the most healthful, and the edifice itself one of the most commodious in the State of Kentucky. The dormitories and other rooms are spacious, well ventilated, and neat; the beds are cleanly and comfortable; the diet is plain, plentiful, varied, and nutritious. Daily exercise in the open air, and frequent bathing, are required of the pupils. A variety of agreeable employment, for mind and body, is provided for all; and, in cases of sickness, the attention of kind and faithful nurses, and of the most skillful physicians, is promptly secured, and the pupils are constantly surrounded with all the conveniences, comforts, and sympathies of a well-regulated family.

While the efforts of the officers of this institution have been so singularly successful in protecting the pupils from disease and death, we regret to report that a vastly greater proportion of the self-denying officers, too unmindful of themselves in their earnest and generous devotion to their pupils, have fallen at their posts while actively engaged in their arduous work. We have, in former years, reported to the General Assembly the death of a matron, a teacher, a trustee, and the wife of the superintendent; and it is now our painful duty to report the death of another teacher, a graduate of this institution, who, as a pupil and a teacher, was for many years one of the brightest orna-

ments of the school and of the afflicted and interesting class to which she belonged. Miss Ellen Emmons, a teacher of music in this institution, departed this life on the 15th day of February, 1862. An obituary notice, which appeared editorially in the Louisville Journal a few days after her death, and a biographical sketch, written by the Superintendent of the Institution, and read at her funeral, are appended to this report.

The course of study in the institution continues the same as in former years, embracing reading, orthography, writing, geography, English grammar and analysis, Latin, arithmetic, algebra, geometry, history, astronomy, physiology, vocal and instrumental music, and other branches of learning usually taught in the best academies and high schools of the State.

Mr. Otis Patten, who was connected with this institution as a teacher during the first eleven years of its existence, has, after an absence of ten years, returned and resumed the duties of the office which he resigned in the year 1853. He has, for the last four years, had charge of the Arkansas Institution for the Blind, which was suspended in September last on account of the financial difficulties in that State, resulting from the civil war which is so fatal to all the institutions in most of the States of the South.

Miss Georgia M. Harlow, one of the teachers of whom favorable mention was made in the last report of the institution, continues to discharge the important duties of her office with the greatest ability and fidelity, and merits the unqualified approval of all the friends of the institution.

Miss Marie Woodman, at the end of the annual session in 1862, with health somewhat impaired, felt it to be her duty to resign the office of teacher which she had filled with the greatest honor to herself and with perfect satisfaction to all. The finest natural endowments, the highest mental culture, and an unusual aptness to teach, rendered this young lady one of the most acceptable and successful teachers ever connected with the school, and we greatly regreted the loss of her valuable services.

The place vacated by the resignation of Miss Woodman, was filled by the appointment of Miss Emma I. Day, a young lady of fine genius, of extensive literary attainments, of great ability as a teacher, and of earnest devotion to the pupils and the interests of the institution.

The institution is under the deepest obligations to Miss Day and Miss Harlow, not only for the faithful performance of all their duties as teachers, but for important extraordinary services in the severe trials through which the institution passed in the latter part of the year 1862. In all the difficulties and dangers of that memorable year, these teachers ever manifested vigilance, fearlessness, energy, fidelity, and forgetfulness of self, that are above all praise, and that rendered their services truly invaluable.

The number of pupils in the school in the year 1862, was 35; 10 males and 25 females. The number in the year 1863 has been 42; 13 males and 29 females.

The average number of pupils in the five years immediately preceding the commencement of the rebellion in the South, was 56. The average number during the last three years has been 40—a decrease

of more than twenty-eight per cent. since the commencement of the rebellion.

This decrease was to be anticipated as the direct and necessary consequence of the rebellion. Situated in the very centre of a distracted country, and in a State which has been the theatre of war, it was not to be expected that the institution would wholly avoid loss, if it escaped annihilation. Beyond the decrease in the number of pupils the institution suffered no very serious injury during the first eighteen months of the war. But at the end of that period, and for months following, the school was subjected to many severe trials. When Louisville was threatened by the rebel forces under General Bragg, the grounds and building of the institution were occupied by Federal soldiers, and we were compelled to abandon them. And scarcely had they been restored, and the exercises of the school commenced, when Dr. J. F. Head, the Medical Director at Louisville, at the instance, we believe, of his assistant, Dr. M. Goldsmith, formed the cruel design of driving the blind children from their home, and converting it into a military hospital. To effect this object they endeavored to procure military orders, but failed. The lamented General Nelson, who was then in command of the Federal forces in Kentucky, not only refused to sanction such use of the building, but positively forbade it. Scarcely, however, had General Nelson fallen, when these heartless doctors again set about their work; and they then accomplished, by an artful stratagem, what they had before and would then have failed to accomplish by direct appeal. They had more than once applied to General Boyle, the immediate commander of this department, for authority to convert the buildings of the institution into a hospital; but their application was at all times denied. Finally, the battle of Perryville created a necessity for large hospital accommodations; and they applied for and obtained from General Wright, authority to use any building suitable for hospital purposes in Louisville or its vicinity. Under this general authority, which was never intended to authorize the occupation of the buildings of the blind school, and authority for the occupation of which, we believe, never would have been obtained under a direct and open application, the medical director, without any previous notice to the Trustees or Superintendent, took immediate possession of the buildings; and it was with difficulty we could obtain from him permission for the blind children to remain in the house twenty-four hours, until another house could be found to accommodate them, or any time whatever to remove the furniture and costly apparatus of the institution. Fortunately, we soon found a house, which we leased, sufficient to accommodate, in tolerable comfort, about twenty of the pupils; and to it we removed such of the furniture as the medical director or his assistant was pleased to allow, and such of the pupils as could not be sent to their homes.

The Trustees, personally and in writing, remonstrated with Dr. Head against this use of the buildings of the institution. They pointed him to the United States Marine Hospital, which was almost entirely without patients, and was likely to remain so. They exhibited to him other large buildings, which they believed could be fitted up for hospitals at less expense than the buildings of the institution. They



pleaded with him that the unfortunate blind were objects of charity and homeless as well as the wounded soldiers, and that while he was clothed with authority to procure other accommodations for the soldiers, they had no means of providing for the blind children if they were driven from the house provided for them by the State. But he was as deaf to their remonstrances as he was heartless. They then appealed to General Wright to restore the house to the school; but the medical director and his assistant had anticipated them, and had made to him such representations of the absolute necessity for a continued occupation of the building as a military hospital, that he was unwilling to interfere without a personal investigation of the matter, which, on account of his other pressing duties, he was unable to make.

The trustees therefore appealed to the War Department at Washington, and then promptly came an order that the buildings be vacated and restored to them immediately. But the medical director, instigated by his assistant, under one pretence or another, evaded an execution of this order for months, and, indeed, endeavored to create an apparent necessity for a continued occupation of the building, by sending to it other patients after he was notified of the order of the War Department. To the trustees he represented that some of the patients could not be removed without great danger to life; and the trustees, under the circumstances, forbore to insist on an immediate execution of the order, being assured that the building would be vacated as soon as the sick could be removed from it. But they found the medical director and his assistant not more disposed to observe his promises to them than to obey the orders of the Secretary of War; and it was not until his assistants and nurses, without a patient, were expelled from the building on the 5th day of January, 1863, by the trustees, under an order authorizing them to use a file of soldiers for that purpose, that the trustees discovered that the heartlessness of these officers was only equalled by their duplicity.

The school returned to the building on the 17th day of March, 1863; but as most of the hospital furniture and stores remained in it until the 5th day of June, we did not obtain full possession of the house until that time—more than seven months from the day on which the school was driven from it.

We have never received, nor have we formally demanded, compensation for the use of the building while occupied as a hospital, nor for the injury done to the buildings and grounds. Although the house was first occupied under an order which, we believe, was not intended to apply to it, and although the U. S. Government, through the Secretary of War, promptly did all that could be done to restore it, we believe the State of Kentucky has a just claim upon the U. S. Government for compensation, and we respectfully submit the whole matter to the consideration and direction of the General Assembly.

After the return of the pupils and officers of the institution, under the protection of the U. S. Government, to the house from which they had been for nearly five months excluded, no one ventured again to molest them.

The presence of military encampments, at various times during the last two years, on the lands immediately surrounding the institution,

the occupation of the buildings and grounds of the school by armed soldiers and by hospital patients, the destruction of the lumber and every kind of movable property on the grounds, and in the outbuildings of the institution, have greatly interfered with the progress of the work on the buildings, and with the operations of the mechanical department of the pupils, and rendered it advisable to postpone to the next year a part of the work necessary to the completion of the main building, the erection of a workshop for the male pupils, the purchase of an organ for the concert hall or chapel, and the erection of a permanent fence on the lot of the institution.

The joiners' work on all the rooms, unfinished at the date of our last report, has been completed; and the painting has been finished in all parts of the building except the rooms in the second story.

The pupils have manufactured and renovated a large number of mattresses for the use of the institution, and arrangements have recently been made to enable them to manufacture mattresses quite extensively, in a rented building, during the ensuing year.

|                                                                                                |          |                   |
|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------|-------------------|
| The balance on hand at the date of last report, for building and other improvements, was ..... |          | \$8,429 95        |
| Paid for lumber .....                                                                          | \$585 14 |                   |
| Paid carpenters .....                                                                          | 1,436 58 |                   |
| Paid for painting .....                                                                        | 524 84   |                   |
| Paid for plumbing, castings, locks, lightning-rod, &c. ....                                    | 441 94   |                   |
| Insurance in 1862 .....                                                                        | 300 00   |                   |
|                                                                                                |          | <u>3,288 50</u>   |
| Leaving a balance. ....                                                                        |          | <u>\$5,141 45</u> |

The means of the Institution to meet the ordinary expenses in the years 1862 and 1863 have been as follows:

|                                                              |                    |
|--------------------------------------------------------------|--------------------|
| Allowance for State pupils, 4th quarter, 1861 .....          | \$1,225 00         |
| Allowance for State pupils in 1862 .....                     | 4,245 00           |
| Allowance for State pupils in 1863 .....                     | 3,626 32           |
| State appropriation in 1862 .....                            | 3,000 00           |
| State appropriation in 1863 .....                            | 3,000 00           |
| Board and tuition of pupil from Tennessee .....              | 100 00             |
|                                                              | <u>\$15,196 32</u> |
| Balance against the institution at date of last report ..... | 1,275 65           |
|                                                              | <u>\$13,920 67</u> |

The ordinary expenses of the institution, for the years 1862 and 1863, have been as follows:

|                                                                 |            |
|-----------------------------------------------------------------|------------|
| Provisions, groceries, cows and provender, 1862 .....           | \$1,674 55 |
| Provisions, groceries, cows and provender, 1863 .....           | 2,233 60   |
| Board of pupils when removed by order of Federal officers ..... | 95 00      |
| Wages of servants, seamstress, &c., in December, 1861 .....     | 62 00      |
| Wages of servants, seamstress, gardener, &c., in 1862 .....     | 777 25     |
| Wages of servants, seamstress, gardener, &c., in 1863 .....     | 851 95     |
| Salaries of officers, 4th quarter, 1861 .....                   | 725 00     |
| Salaries of officers in 1862 .....                              | 2,330 00   |
| Salaries of officers in 1863 .....                              | 2,131 75   |
| Salary of treasurer, 1862 and 1863 .....                        | 70 00      |
| Medical attendance in 1862 and 1863 .....                       | 55 50      |
| Medicines, &c. ....                                             | 60 85      |
| Fuel .....                                                      | 311 00     |
| Dry goods, &c. ....                                             | 128 34     |
| Shoes in 1862 and 1863 .....                                    | 30 35      |
| Books, musical tablets, and writing cards .....                 | 68 75      |
| Sheet music, musical instruments, and tuning .....              | 79 07      |
| Lamps, oil, &c. ....                                            | 91 73      |

Amounts carried forward ..... \$11,775 49 \$13,920 67

## INSTITUTION FOR THE BLIND.

|                                                                     |             |                     |
|---------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------|---------------------|
| Amounts brought forward.....                                        | \$11,775 49 | \$13,929 07         |
| Hardware and queensware .....                                       | 35 70       |                     |
| Furniture .....                                                     | 227 89      |                     |
| Insurance, 1863.....                                                | 300 00      |                     |
| Carriage of pupils to church, 1862 and 1863 .....                   | 129 00      |                     |
| Rent of land, 1862 and 1863.....                                    | 490 00      |                     |
| Rent of house .....                                                 | 187 50      |                     |
| Horses, shoeing of horses, saddle, repairs of harness and carriage. | 241 05      |                     |
| Cedar posts.....                                                    | 52 45       |                     |
| Funeral expenses of Ellen Emmons.....                               | 44 00       |                     |
| Filling entrenchment and repairing fence.....                       | 44 10       |                     |
| Removal of furniture, pupils, &c.....                               | 160 20      |                     |
| Hire of watchmen .....                                              | 168 00      |                     |
| Cleaning house after removal of soldiers.....                       | 68 37       |                     |
|                                                                     | <hr/>       | \$13,833 63         |
| Balance in hands of the treasurer.....                              |             | <hr/> <hr/> \$87 01 |

The prices of labor, provisions, and all articles consumed in the institution, have very greatly advanced during the last two years, and the institution has, moreover, been subjected to many extraordinary expenses on account of the occupation of the building by soldiers and hospital patients; and yet, under the judicious management of the Superintendent, the expenditures have not exceeded the income of the institution.

Since the return of the school to the building of the institution in March last, the number of pupils has more than doubled. As soon as the completion of the building shall render the constant presence of the Superintendent for the supervision of the workmen no longer absolutely necessary, he proposes, in case the present degree of quiet shall continue in Kentucky, to visit those sections of the State not yet visited, to awaken an interest in the education of the blind; and we may, therefore, anticipate a considerable addition to the number of pupils during the coming year.

In closing this report, we respectfully commend the institution to the fostering care of the General Assembly, which called it into existence, and which has kindly sustained it from its origin to the present time.

W. F. BULLOCK,  
T. S. BELL,  
BLAND BALLARD,  
W. S. BODLEY,

*Trustees.*

KENTUCKY INSTITUTION FOR THE BLIND, *Louisville*, December 31, 1863.

**OFFICERS OF THE INSTITUTION.**

---

**BRYCE M. PATTEN, A. M.,**  
DIRECTOR AND PRINCIPAL TEACHER.

**MISS GEORGIA M. HARLOW,**  
TEACHER.

**MISS EMMA I. DAY,**  
TEACHER,

**OTIS PATTEN,**  
TEACHER.

**JOHN HORN,**  
TEACHER.

**MARY CLINE,**  
**ELIZA DAVIS,**  
**MARY COSTELLO,**  
**ELIZA L. ALLEN,**  
ASSISTANT PUPILS.



## CATALOGUE OF PUPILS

FOR THE YEAR 1862.

| Names.                    | Residence.           |
|---------------------------|----------------------|
| Elizabeth J. Clay.....    | Johnson county.      |
| Martha Clay.....          | Johnson county.      |
| William H. Clay.....      | Johnson county.      |
| Mary Cline.....           | Louisville.          |
| Martha A. Coker.....      | Calloway county.     |
| Mary Costello.....        | Louisville.          |
| Elizabeth Dale.....       | Russellville.        |
| Eliza Davis.....          | Daviess county.      |
| Michael Dorr.....         | Covington.           |
| Elizabeth Harry.....      | Hickman county.      |
| Timothy Hartill.....      | Louisville.          |
| Thomas Hazlep.....        | Breckinridge county. |
| Elizabeth Henning.....    | Louisville.          |
| William W. Holtsclaw..... | Louisville.          |
| Nancy Hoskins.....        | Estill county.       |
| Edward E. Martin.....     | Boone county.        |
| Clara Mattingly.....      | Louisville.          |
| Reuben McClanahan.....    | Logan county.        |
| Florence Miller.....      | Louisville.          |
| Mary Miller.....          | Louisville.          |
| Joseph P. Mitchell.....   | Owensboro.           |
| Louisa Monohan.....       | Louisville.          |
| Fanny C. Moorman.....     | Owensboro.           |
| Celosa d'Ouville.....     | Louisville.          |
| Georgiana Porter.....     | Louisville.          |
| John Porter.....          | Louisville.          |
| Virginia Porter.....      | Louisville.          |
| Nancy Prewitt.....        | Russell county.      |
| Julia Purnell.....        | Maysville.           |
| Rebecca Rogers.....       | Fayette county.      |
| John Summers.....         | Elisabethtown.       |
| Martha Swope.....         | Lagrange.            |
| Minnie Troendle.....      | Louisville.          |
| Naomi Wills.....          | Harrodsburg.         |
| Adeline Wildes.....       | Louisville.          |

## CATALOGUE OF PUPILS

FOR THE YEAR 1863.

| NAME.                     | RESIDENCE.           |
|---------------------------|----------------------|
| Eliza L. Allen.....       | Larue county.        |
| Lawson W. Adams.....      | Paducah.             |
| Fannie Bickers.....       | Perryville.          |
| Charles Barbee.....       | Louisville.          |
| Alice Bradley.....        | Nashville, Tenn.     |
| May I. Campbell.....      | Louisville.          |
| Angeline Clark.....       | Butler county.       |
| Mary Cline.....           | Louisville.          |
| Nannie Cooper.....        | Boone county.        |
| Mary Costello.....        | Louisville.          |
| Eliza Davis.....          | Daviess county.      |
| James G. Green.....       | Louisville.          |
| Kate Hardin.....          | Daviess county.      |
| Elizabeth Harry.....      | Hickman county.      |
| Timothy Hartell.....      | Louisville.          |
| Thomas Haslep.....        | Breckinridge county. |
| Rhoda J. Hill.....        | Campbell county.     |
| William W. Holtzclaw..... | Louisville.          |
| Henry L. Kidd.....        | Lexington.           |
| Edward E. Martin.....     | Boone county.        |
| Clara Mattingly.....      | Louisville.          |
| Reuben McClanahan.....    | Logan county.        |
| Mary Miller.....          | Louisville.          |
| Joseph P. Mitchell.....   | Owensboro.           |
| Louisa Monohan.....       | Louisville.          |
| Fannie C. Moorman.....    | Owensboro.           |
| Joseph M. Morrison.....   | Harrison county.     |
| Lucinda Peggins.....      | Owensboro.           |
| Georgiana Porter.....     | Louisville.          |
| John Porter.....          | Louisville.          |
| Virginia Porter.....      | Louisville.          |
| Nancy Prewitt.....        | Russell county.      |
| Julia Purnell.....        | Maysville.           |
| Rebecca Rogers.....       | Fayette county.      |
| Sarah C. Roberts.....     | Harrison county.     |
| John Summers.....         | Elisabethtown.       |
| Martha Swope.....         | Lagrange.            |
| Zenobia Toms.....         | Washington county.   |
| Minnie Troendle.....      | Louisville.          |
| Mary A. Walker.....       | Louisville.          |
| Susan A. Ward.....        | Nelson county.       |
| Naomi Walls.....          | Harrodsburg.         |

## ADMISSION OF PUPILS.

## TO THE FRIENDS OF THE BLIND IN KENTUCKY :

The Kentucky Institution for the Blind has been in successful operation, under the superintendence of the undersigned, for nearly twenty-two years. It was established by the Legislature of Kentucky for the instruction of those children of this State who are blind, and for those whose sight is so imperfect that they cannot see to read. All such children, of suitable age, of good mental capacity, and of unexceptionable moral character, are received and educated at the expense of the institution, which is a State school, equally free to the rich and the poor.

The pupils are instructed in vocal and instrumental music, and in the branches usually taught in public schools and academies for seeing pupils. The boys are also taught mechanical trades, to enable them to support themselves independently after leaving the institution.

The pupils, generally, are very happy and industrious, and many of them make wonderful advancement in their studies, and qualify themselves to be teachers of music, mathematics, and other branches of learning.

The Legislature provides for the board and tuition of the children of Kentucky. Pupils from other States pay one hundred and forty dollars a year.

The annual school session commences on the 20th day of September, and terminates on the 15th day of July. It is very desirable that pupils should enter at the commencement of the session, but *new* pupils will be received at any time during the session.

Pupils must come provided with a full supply of comfortable clothing, which must be marked with the name of the owner, and be renewed, from time to time, as may be necessary. Traveling expenses to and from the institution must be paid by the pupils or their friends.

Persons desiring to send children to this school will please to send the name, age, and post-office address of the applicant to the undersigned, who will, at all times, cheerfully communicate any necessary information pertaining to the institution.

B. M. PATTEN,  
*Institution for the Blind, Louisville, Ky.*





[From the Louisville Journal.]

## DEATH OF MISS ELLEN EMMONS.

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The trustees, teachers, pupils, and friends of the Kentucky Institution for the Blind were called upon last Saturday night to meet one of the severest afflictions that have visited that noble institution. We allude to the death of Miss Ellen Emmons, who had been an inmate of the school between fifteen and sixteen years, a small portion of the time simply as a pupil, and much the largest portion of it as a teacher. Such were the excellence of her disposition and her remarkable gifts of mind, that she acquired knowledge more as a pastime than as a labor. Nature had endowed her with graces of remarkable excellence. She was a poet in the best sense of that term, and she has rarely been surpassed in her sphere of music as a composer. She entered the school as a little child, destitute of any instruction, but she speedily developed gifts of such rare excellency that, at the age of eleven years, she was an acceptable teacher. She was but a child when the institute building was burned on Broadway; but the next morning after the disaster she composed a dirge upon the calamity, which has been justly admired for years. At the meeting of the Legislature, she sang this beautiful production with such pathos and power that members of the Legislature thanked some of the trustees for not asking for all the money in the treasury as an appropriation for rebuilding, for they said that child could have drawn it all. A great number of gifts were bestowed upon her as tokens of affection, and she cherished them with devotion. Year by year this lovely being expanded her intellect, and charmed all who knew her, not more by the powers of her mind than the loveliness of her disposition. We have seen Catharine Hays stand over this child while at the piano, and weep in thinking that such rare gifts should be deprived of sight. Thalberg and Strakosch have repeatedly declared that they had rarely heard her equal in music. When Thalberg visited the school, Ellen Emmons composed in a few hours a welcome to Thalberg, which was performed upon his entrance into the school room. It drew tears from the heart of that great artist, and he found it difficult to tear himself away from the institution which held such a gem of musical knowledge, and of the most exquisite taste. Among the last of her performances in instrumental music, was on the occasion of General Anderson's visit to the institution. His noble virtues as a man, apart from all military fame, had made a deep impression upon Miss Emmons, and she could not forego the pleasure of doing honor to him. When she, through weakness, staggered in her walk to the piano, the hero of Sumpter sprang from his chair and hurried to her assistance. He was moved to tears in witnessing the results of his native State in the education of her blind. He seemed as if he could not tire in talking of Miss Emmons.

But this was common to all who enjoyed the pleasure of knowing her. We have known her intimately from the day of her admission into the school, and that knowledge has been a perpetual joy. Her rare intelligence, her remarkable musical gifts, and the rare loveliness of her character, make a knowledge of her one of the inestimable treasures of memory. One of the rarest, richest, and purest of the bright gems in the Kentucky Institution for the Blind has left its earthly cabinet for its place in Heaven, but even its place in its earthly cabinet is not all dark. A sweet halo of light lives in all memories of her.

On Monday last the trustees, officers, and pupils of the blind school joined the members of the Christian Church in paying their sad tribute to the memory of Ellen Emmons. She had been an ardent and worthy member of the Christian Church for years, and during her long illness various members of that congregation did all in their power to soothe the sufferings of this cherished sister. She was patient and uncomplaining throughout all her sufferings; but she feared that she was not patient enough. She said to the writer that her great sorrow was that she could no longer use her instrument nor dictate her compositions. Alas! that such gems should have been lost. We can make some estimate of their value from our knowledge of the richness of those she was able to write before her debility overpowered almost every other faculty but her unconquerable love of music.

B. M. Patten, Esq., the superintendent of the blind school, is preparing a biographical sketch of Miss Emmons, which the Rev. D. P. Henderson has announced he will read to-morrow morning at eleven o'clock, at the Christian Church. For this reason we close these remarks.

Oliver Wendell Holmes, in his new work, "Songs in Many Keys," seems to have had one like Ellen Emmons before his poetic eye. He sings:

Her hands are cold; her face is white;  
No more her pulses come and go;  
Her eyes are shut to life and light;  
Fold the white vesture, snow on snow,  
And lay her where the violets blow.

If any, born of kindlier blood,  
Should ask, What maiden lies below?  
Say only this: A tender bud,  
That tried to blossom in the snow,  
Lies withered where the violets blow.

All that was mortal of Ellen Emmons now reposes in the beautiful lot belonging to the Institution for the Blind, in Cave Hill Cemetery. Those who knew her will scarcely pass that endeared spot without pausing to catch inspiration towards a pure life of holiness, from meditations upon her bright example.

## BIOGRAPHICAL SKETCH OF MISS ELLEN EMMONS.

Miss Ellen Emmons was born in Clarke county, Ind., on the 24th day of May, 1840, of very lowly parentage, and in early childhood was left a penniless, friendless, sightless orphan.

At the age of six years she was found, in a state of great destitution, by the Director of the Kentucky Institution for the Education of the Blind, and was admitted into that institution as a beneficiary of her native State. A few months later, her only living relative having removed to Louisville, Ellen became a beneficiary of the State of Kentucky. Her connection with the institution continued, as pupil or as teacher, until the day of her death, Saturday, February 15, 1862, embracing a period of more than fifteen years.

The appearance of the poor, neglected, blind child at the time of her transition from the county almshouse to the benevolent State institution which was ever after to be her happy home, gave little indication of the mental wealth with which she was endowed, little promise of the brilliant future that awaited her. She had received no moral or intellectual culture; she had enjoyed none of those happy home influences with which most of the children of our favored land are blessed, but she was not slow to appreciate and improve the advantages of her new position. Hardly a year had passed away before those remarkable qualities of mind and heart, which so highly distinguished her in later years, began, one by one, to reveal themselves in her daily life. She greatly endeared herself to the officers and teachers of the institution by her gentleness, cheerfulness, docility, patience, gratitude, and by her love of knowledge, which increased with her years, and gave her eminent success in every branch of learning. In mathematics, languages, belles-lettres, and all the studies of the course, her mental power and love of learning were equally manifest.

Her remarkable conscientiousness prevented her from giving undue attention to any favorite study, and from neglecting any unattractive lesson or duty. With her the authority of conscience was ever supreme; and thus she was enabled, day by day, year after year, to build up that symmetrical, lovely, and exalted character which won the admiration and love of all with whom she was acquainted.

During the years of her childhood and youth the Director of the institution was accustomed to take her with him to distant parts of Kentucky, for the purpose of awakening an interest in the education of the blind, and she thus visited, at different times, nearly all sections of the State, from the line of Virginia on the east, to the banks of the Mississippi on the west; and in protracted and critical public examinations, she gave the clearest proof of the great mental capabilities of the blind under appropriate means of instruction, and made evident to

all the duty of the State to offer to these her unfortunate children, whose life is veiled in perpetual darkness, moral, intellectual, and physical cultivation equal to that enjoyed by those who are blessed with all the senses.

In these pleasant journeys which usually continued for several weeks, she never relaxed her efforts for mental improvement, but, under the tuition of her teacher and friend, as they rode over the hills and plains of Kentucky, she pursued her studies with the same cheerfulness and ardor that she ever manifested when surrounded by her classmates in the institution.

In her literary and musical exercises before the citizens of Kentucky, and in the annual examinations of the school in the presence of the State Legislature, she astonished and delighted all by the extent and variety of her attainments; and, at the close of these exercises, intelligent gentlemen frequently expressed the conviction that she was the most highly educated young lady of her age that they had ever seen.

While she cheerfully gave to every study its due share of attention, and secured an elevated position in every class, there was one study in which she pre-eminently excelled, and from which she derived the most intense delight. Endowed with very extraordinary musical gifts, and favored with superior opportunities for their cultivation, she attained to very rare excellence in the intricate science and beautiful art of music. She excelled both in vocal and instrumental music. Her voice was weak, but exceedingly sweet and expressive, and never failed to touch the heart of the listener, and often drew tears from eyes unused to weeping. She was a poetess, and many of her songs are remarkable for pathos and beauty. When Catharine Hays visited Louisville several years since, Miss Emmons welcomed her to the Institution for the Blind in a beautiful poetical address, which Miss H. ever cherished as the most precious of all the gifts she had ever received. She was perfectly acquainted with many musical instruments, and loved them all; but the piano was her favorite instrument. Thalberg, Strakosch, and other great artists, who listened to her performances years ago, declared that they had rarely heard her equal in music. From the day of her admission into the institution to the hour when her pure spirit passed into the invisible world, music continually ministered to her happiness. It gladdened her childhood, it inspired her youth, and it sustained her faith and hope in the last trying hours of her temporal life.

Under the musical guidance of that eminent musician and faithful teacher, Professor Joseph B. Smith, whose instruction she enjoyed for several years, she became thoroughly acquainted with the theory of music, and fully qualified to enjoy music of the highest order. Between the gifted teacher and the equally gifted pupil there ever existed the most beautiful sympathy. Wherever the teacher led the way, the earnest pupil was ever ready and able to follow. In all the intricacies of the most difficult compositions, the hope of the former was never disappointed by faltering or failure on the part of the latter. From teacher and pupil alike all the visible beauties of creation were concealed, during their entire lives, by a dark and impenetrable veil,

but both were eminently fitted to perceive and enjoy all that is beautiful and sublime in the mysterious realm of music.

The musical productions of Miss Emmons furnish abundant evidence of genius of a very high order. She commenced the work of musical composition at the age of ten years, and continued it, as her various duties permitted, to the close of her life. Her compositions are remarkable for their purity, beauty, and power; they are replete with the deepest thought, the tenderest feeling, and the loftiest aspiration, and many of them are worthy of the best masters. Had her life been spared, she must soon have been recognized as one of the brightest lights in the musical world.

Music was to her not merely a source of the highest and purest happiness—she regarded it as an exalted religious duty, obligatory upon all who are endowed with musical gifts. She believed that the great design of the Creator, in the bestowment of musical powers, is to purify and elevate the mind, and that the recipient of these favors should, in the cultivation and exercise of his musical faculties, ever bear in mind this benevolent design. While engaged in one of her greatest compositions she said to a friend, "It is my fervent wish that every one who listens to this, may be ready to exclaim

" Rise, my soul, and stretch thy wings,  
Thy better portion trace;  
Rise from transitory things,  
Towards heaven, thy resting place."

Her richest compositions were produced during her last illness, when she was so enfeebled by disease that she was unable to dictate and preserve them. The thought was inexpressibly painful to her and to all her friends that these beautiful gems, which would be of such priceless value to those who loved her, and, to all true lovers of music, must pass away with her breath.

As this world receded from her view, she drew new inspiration from that glorious world clearly opening before her mental vision, into which she felt an unwavering assurance that she was soon to be permitted to enter. Her last musical composition is considered by the musical friends who listened to it, as with strength that seemed almost supernatural, she performed it in her sick room, the most beautiful, the most spiritual, the most perfect of all her productions. As she entered upon the composition of this splendid piece, she felt that the end was near—that her earthly work was almost completed; and she determined, as a manifestation of her unspeakable gratitude to her earthly benefactors and to the great Author of all her powers, to crown the labors of her life with one, the most perfect, the most grateful of all. To a friend who was near she said: "*This will be my last effort—I shall throw my whole soul into it—I think it will be my best.*" Her entire success in it can be fully appreciated by none but the favored few who heard her perform it. They pronounce it a composition of the highest order, of unsurpassed beauty and power, and fully worthy of the greatest masters.

Language can hardly do full justice to the merits of Miss Emmons as a teacher in her favorite department of vocal and instrumental music.

At the tender age of ten years, influenced by an ardent desire to render herself useful, and to make some grateful return to the institution and the State which she felt had conferred so many inestimable favors upon her, she earnestly solicited the privilege of instructing some of her schoolmates; and at the age of eleven years she attained to such distinction as a scholar, and, especially, as a musician, that she was appointed assistant teacher of music in the institution; and from that time she devoted a part of each day to her own studies, and a part to the instruction of her pupils. How earnestly, patiently, faithfully, and successfully she devoted herself to this labor of love for ten years, can be fully appreciated by those only who were her pupils, or who were associated with her in the instruction of the school. In all the lofty moral qualities essential to form the character of the perfect teacher, she was equalled by few and surpassed by none. So eminent were her abilities, and so perfect her fidelity, that it is no disparagement to any of the able and faithful teachers, who, for longer or shorter periods, have been connected with the Kentucky Institution for the Blind during the twenty years of its existence, to say that no one of them was ever more highly esteemed or more successful as a teacher. No teacher could be more beloved by her pupils. During her long connection with the institution she never failed, in a single instance, to win the affection and admiration of her pupils and of all with whom she was intimately acquainted. She was qualified to teach the most advanced pupils in the school; yet, with the humility and hopefulness that ever characterized her, she was willing to take charge of any pupil in regard to whom other teachers despaired of success. Her wonderful success with some of her most unpromising pupils seemed almost miraculous to the pupils and teachers of the institution.

Her grateful devotion to the institution was manifested in the most touching manner during the last year, when the failure of her voice, which was hushed by disease to a whisper, compelled her to relinquish the charge of her pupils. Her interest in her work was so great, that, although every effort was accompanied by pain, she earnestly pleaded for permission to devote a small part of each day to the instruction of her pupils, and proposed to refrain from all use of her voice, during the remainder of the day, and converse with her friends by means of the manual alphabet only, which, notwithstanding her entire blindness, she used with the greatest rapidity. When convinced that the want of strength and voice rendered it impossible for her to continue to instruct her pupils in her accustomed manner, she devised a plan to enable her to teach without the aid of her voice; but her rapidly failing strength prevented her from carrying this plan into execution. Her active labors for the good of her pupils terminated, but her interest in their mental and spiritual improvement knew no abatement even to the last hour of her life.

The trustees and director of the institution fully appreciated the many rare excellencies of Miss Emmons' character, and her extraordinary qualifications as a teacher; and they fondly cherished the hope of offering to her, on the day of her graduation, the honorable office of principal teacher of music in the institution—a design which well accorded with her own grateful and long cherished wish to devote her

life to the institution in which she had received her education and passed her brightest years, and which she loved as her happy home. But her pure and faithful life had won for her a far more exalted position than earth could offer. Before the day of her graduation she was attacked by a fatal disease, and, after a long and painful illness, was removed from her earthly labors to that higher state of existence for which she was so fully prepared. Throughout her illness she derived great consolation from the assurance that, though her earthly work was finished, she had, by her fidelity as a pupil and as a teacher, contributed in a high degree to the prosperity of the institution which had been to her an Alma Mater indeed; and that, through her instrumentality, many a poor blind child had been led from the darkness of ignorance into the intellectual and moral light that had made her own life so happy; for, notwithstanding the terrible cloud that darkened her pathway from the cradle to the grave, life was to her very bright and beautiful. For the blessings that made her life so happy she was profoundly grateful to her Heavenly Father and her earthly benefactors, and her life, spent in doing good, was a beautiful illustration of her gratitude. When prevented by disease from continuing her active labors for the good of others, she devised new plans of usefulness, freely devoting to benevolent objects the pecuniary means which she had accumulated by the industry and economy of years. She had freely received, and she freely gave; and she experienced the truth of the declaration of the Great Teacher, "It is more blessed to give than to receive."

Passing by many of the rare excellencies that adorned the character of this gifted and lovely young lady, we dwell for a moment upon the crowning excellence, the union and perfection of all, without which all other excellencies were vain, and life a failure.

She was a Christian. She remembered her Creator in the days of her childhood, and on the elevated pages of His Word she faithfully endeavored to feel her way through this dark world to Him and to Heaven. Her entire life seemed one act of religious worship. At the age of sixteen years she made a public consecration of herself to God, and entered with new zeal upon life's great work. She honored her holy profession, and became a bright ornament to the Christian Church. Faith, hope, love, and all the Christian graces were beautifully illustrated in her pure and holy life. But she attained not to the rare excellence of character, of which this brief sketch conveys but an imperfect idea, without great, and earnest, and life-long effort. In the estimation of all who were intimately acquainted with her,

"Her faults were slight and few  
As human faults could be;"

and her character seemed almost perfect; yet she saw in herself much to condemn, and of her own feelings she was a most severe judge. Life was to her a continual conflict and a continual victory.

During her illness she was constantly sustained by the consolation of that religion to which she had given her young heart. All the graces that she had so long and so carefully cultivated shone out with unusual brightness. In the years of health she had treasured up in memory the promises of God, and she was cheered and sustained by those promises when so enfeebled by disease that she could neither



read nor listen to the reading of others. None who visited her sick room can ever forget the peace, the joy, the faith, the hope, that made that room of suffering bright and glorious—the very gate of Heaven. Her resignation to the Divine will was perfect. On the confines of the invisible world, joyfully anticipating the glories beyond, and yet loving with an undying love all that is beautiful, and true, and good in the present state, she was ready to accept with equal gratitude the prolongation of her life on earth, or the renewal of it in Heaven.

Her last hours were a beautiful termination of her beautiful life. The peace that passeth all understanding, the triumph that only the dying Christian knows, were hers. A few hours before her purified spirit took its flight to Him who gave it, she repeated, again and again, with great emotion; the lines of Pope, addressed to the soul of the dying Christian, dwelling with special interest on the last stanza:

“The world recedes; it disappears;  
Heaven opens on my eyes; my ears  
With sounds seraphic ring:  
Lend, lend your wings! I mount! I fly!  
O Grave, where is thy victory?  
O Death, where is thy sting?”

Soon after, she repeated the lines,

“Jesus can make a dying bed  
Feel soft as downy pillows are,  
While on his breast I lean my head,  
And breathe my life out sweetly there;”

and, with a heavenly smile, added, “*Breathe my life out sweetly there! O, how beautiful! Breathe my life out there! Beautiful! Beautiful!*” In a little while she breathed her life out there as sweetly and peacefully as ever a child fell asleep in the arms of its mother.





**SEVENTEENTH REPORT**  
**(SPECIAL)**

**OF THE**

**TRUSTEES OF THE KENTUCKY INSTITUTION**

**FOR THE**

**EDUCATION OF THE BLIND,**  
**(AT LOUISVILLE, KY.)**

**TO THE**

**GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF KENTUCKY,**

**FOR THE YEAR 1864.**

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**FRANKFORT, KY.:**  
**PRINTED AT THE STATE PRINTING OFFICE.**  
**GEORGE D. PRENTICE, STATE PRINTER.**  
**1865.**



## OFFICERS OF THE INSTITUTION.

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DIRECTOR AND PRINCIPAL TEACHER,  
BRYCE M. PATTEN, A. M.

TEACHER OF MUSIC,  
MISS MARY J. WELD.

TEACHER,  
MISS EMMA I. DAY.

TEACHER,  
MISS GEORGIA M. HARLOWE.

TEACHER,  
MISS ABBIE F. CROCKETT.

TEACHER OF HANDICRAFT,  
ROBERT B. GREEN.

MATRON,  
MRS. C. M. CLARK.



## SPECIAL REPORT.

*To the General Assembly of Kentucky:*

The Trustees of the Kentucky Institution for the Education of the Blind respectfully invite the attention of the General Assembly to the following report of the financial condition of the benevolent State institution intrusted to their care, during the year 1864.

The means of the Institution to meet the ordinary expenses in the year 1864, have arisen from the following sources :

|                                           |          |            |
|-------------------------------------------|----------|------------|
| Balance in Treasury, January 1, 1864..... | \$87 01  |            |
| Allowance for State pupils in 1864.....   | 4,529 33 |            |
| Cash from pupil from Tennessee.....       | 65 00    |            |
| State appropriation for year 1864.....    | 3,000 00 |            |
|                                           |          | \$7,681 34 |

The ordinary expenses of the Institution, for the year 1864, have been as follows :

|                                                                                                                           |            |            |
|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|------------|------------|
| Provisions, groceries, medicines, cow, provender.....                                                                     | \$3,146 02 |            |
| Wages of servants, seamstress, and laborers.....                                                                          | 1,125 25   |            |
| Salaries of officers, teachers, and physician.....                                                                        | 3,221 33   |            |
| Fuel, oil, &c.....                                                                                                        | 1,028 58   |            |
| Furniture, dry goods, table ware, &c.....                                                                                 | 740 89     |            |
| Rent of pasture, \$100 ; horse \$110.....                                                                                 | 210 00     |            |
| Books and stationery.....                                                                                                 | 72 75      |            |
| Insurance.....                                                                                                            | 606 49     |            |
| Miscellaneous expenses.....                                                                                               | 57 28      |            |
|                                                                                                                           |            | 10,208 59  |
| Leaving against the Institution, due for provisions, fuel, salaries of teachers, and wages of servants, a balance of..... |            | \$2,527 25 |

This Institution is strictly a State Institution, without endowment, and entirely dependent for support upon the State Legislature, which called it into existence, and which has ever kindly sustained it from its origin to the present time. Before the commencement of the rebellion in the South, the Legislature made an annual allowance for the support of the Institution, which, with the most rigid economy ever practiced in any State institution of which we have any knowledge, enabled the managers to keep the school in successful operation without creating any debt, and to offer freely its inestimable privileges to all the blind children and youth of the State. When the war commenced, and the cost of supporting the school increased, the directors, anxious to avoid the necessity of applying to the Legislature for pecuniary aid in the existing condition of affairs in Kentucky, earnestly endeavored, by all possible retrenchment in every department of the Institution, to prevent the expenditures from exceeding the income; and for a time



their efforts were successful beyond their highest expectations, and in two of their reports to the Legislature they were enabled to present the gratifying statement that the Institution was free from debt. But the long continuance of the war, the occupation of the grounds and buildings of the Institution by regiments of soldiers, the injury to the principal buildings, the destruction of out-buildings, fences, and other property, the unauthorized seizure of the buildings by the Medical Director of this Department, the expulsion of the blind pupils, and the occupation of the buildings as a military hospital, in open opposition to the repeated orders of the Secretary of War, and the great advances in the prices of labor, provisions, fuel, and all articles consumed in the Institution, have, for so long a time, continued to make extraordinary demands upon its very limited income, as to leave a deficit at the end of the year 1864 to the amount of \$2,527 25. Accounts for stoves, coal, hardware, &c., due January 1st, 1865, but not yet presented, will increase the balance against the Institution to \$3,000. In order to provide for the payment of this debt and the future support of the school, we respectfully recommend an additional annual appropriation to the Institution of three thousand dollars. Several of the undersigned have held a long official connection with the Institution. Several of our number were elected Trustees during the first year of its existence, and the President of the Board has served as Trustee from the origin of the Institution, in 1842, to the present time. We are therefore enabled to speak with entire confidence as to the management of the Institution. We are confident that no State institution in the Union has been more economically, faithfully, and ably conducted. Not a dollar has ever been drawn from the treasury without the approval of the Board of Trustees; and the accounts of the Superintendent, sustained by explicit and accurate vouchers, show how every dollar has been expended since the Institution was founded by the Legislature of Kentucky, twenty-three years ago. These accounts have been frequently examined by members and committees of the Legislature, and other State authorities, and have never failed to receive their unqualified approval.

The male pupils have, during the year, made satisfactory progress in the mechanical department. In October last Mr. Robert B. Green, a graduate of this Institution, undertook the charge of this department of the school for a salary of five hundred dollars per annum and the profits of the department. Since he entered upon his duties in October, 1864, the pupils have manufactured 560 mattresses.

The number of pupils during the year 1864 has been 45. The average number of the inmates of the Institution has been 55.

The general deportment of the pupils has been worthy of high commendation. They are industrious, studious, and cheerful, and manifest a grateful appreciation of the privileges that have been secured to them by the wisdom and liberality of the Legislature of Kentucky.

The Principal of the Institution, accompanied by several of his pupils, will probably visit the capital of the State, and give an exhibition of their attainments before the members of the Legislature during the present session of the General Assembly.

In concluding this Special Report, the undersigned earnestly invite the members of the Legislature, at any time, to visit the Institution, and examine its management and condition, in the confident assurance that, as ever heretofore, the entire management of the Institution will receive their most cordial approval.

T. S. BELL, *Pres't.*  
J. G. BARRET,  
JOHN L. McKEE,  
WM. KENDRICK,  
D. P. HENDERSON,  
G. W. BRUSH,  
FLOYD PARKS,

} *Trustees.*

KENTUCKY INSTITUTION FOR THE BLIND, *Louisville*, December 31st, 1864.

## CATALOGUE OF PUPILS FOR THE YEAR 1864.

| NAMES.                | RESIDENCE.         |
|-----------------------|--------------------|
| Lawson W. Adams,      | Paducah.           |
| Eliza L. Allen,       | Larue county.      |
| Fanny Bickers,        | Perryville.        |
| Alice Bradley,        | Nashville, Tenn.   |
| Richard Brackett,     | McLean county.     |
| May I. Campbell,      | Louisville.        |
| Mary Cline,           | "                  |
| Nannie Cooper,        | Boone county.      |
| Mary Costillo,        | Louisville.        |
| Elizabeth Dale,       | Russellville.      |
| Eliza Davis,          | Daviess county.    |
| William Gibbs,        | Louisville.        |
| James G. Green,       | "                  |
| Sandy R. Gunter,      | Anderson county.   |
| John W. Hall,         | Campbell county.   |
| Richard J. Hambleton, | Ashland.           |
| Kate Hardin,          | Daviess county.    |
| Elizabeth Harry,      | Hickman county.    |
| Timothy Hartill,      | Louisville.        |
| Rhoda J. Hills,       | Campbell county.   |
| William W. Holtzclaw, | Louisville.        |
| Thomas B. Jagggers,   | Hart county.       |
| Henry L. Kidd,        | Lexington.         |
| Edward E. Martin,     | Boone county.      |
| Clara Mattingly,      | Louisville.        |
| Reuben McClanahan,    | Logan county.      |
| Kate McDonald,        | Louisville.        |
| Mary Miller,          | "                  |
| Joseph P. Mitchell,   | Owensboro.         |
| Louisa Monohan,       | Louisville.        |
| Fannie C. Moorman,    | Owensboro.         |
| Georgianna Porter,    | Louisville.        |
| John Porter,          | "                  |
| Virginia Porter,      | "                  |
| Nancy Prewitt,        | Russell county.    |
| Julia Purnell,        | Maysville.         |
| Sarah C. Roberts,     | Harrison county.   |
| John Summers,         | Elizabethtown.     |
| Martha Swope,         | Lagrange.          |
| Zenobia Toms,         | Washington county. |
| Minnie Troendle,      | Louisville.        |
| John Vernon,          | Hardin county.     |
| Mary A. Walker,       | Louisville.        |
| Naomi Wells,          | Harrodsburg.       |
| Susan A. Ward,        | Nelson county.     |

**EIGHTEENTH REPORT**

**OF THE**

**BOARD OF TRUSTEES OF THE KENTUCKY INSTITUTION**

**FOR THE**

**EDUCATION OF THE BLIND,**

**TO THE**

**GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF KENTUCKY,**

**FOR THE YEAR 1865.**



**FRANKFORT, KY.:**  
**PRINTED AT THE STATE PRINTING OFFICE.**  
**GEORGE D. PRENTISS, STATE PRINTER.**  
**1866.**



## OFFICERS OF THE INSTITUTION.

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**BRYCE M. PATTEN,**  
DIRECTOR.

**MISS MARY I. WELD,**  
TEACHER OF MUSIC.

**MISS ABBIE T. CROCKETT,**  
TEACHER.

**W. D. GALE,**  
TEACHER OF HANDICRAFT.

**MISS L. A. HASKELL,**  
BOYS' MATRON AND HOUSEKEEPER.

**MRS. C. M. CLARK,**  
GIRLS' MATRON AND TEACHER OF FANCY WORK.



## EIGHTEENTH REPORT.

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### TO THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF KENTUCKY:

The Trustees of the Kentucky Institution for the Education of the Blind respectfully report, that the benevolent State Institution, intrusted to their charge, is, under the favor of Providence, and the fostering care of the Legislature, in a highly prosperous condition, and that it is fulfilling, in the most satisfactory manner, the philanthropic designs of its founders.

Bryce M. Patten, Esq., the Director of the Institution, to whose ability, integrity, and fidelity the prosperity of the school is chiefly due, has held that important office from the origin of the Institution to the present time; and we reiterate all that has been said in commendation of him in the former Reports of the Trustees to the General Assembly. The position which he occupies is one of great responsibility, very onerous in its exactions, and one demanding scholarship of a high character, unremitting vigilance, firmness, and kindness. In every emergency of the Institution, during the twenty-four years of its existence, and in all the various duties of his responsible office, he has been fully equal to all the demands made upon his administrative abilities. In former reports the Trustees bore cheerful testimony to the excellence of those to whom were intrusted the care and training of the pupils in this Institution, and they esteem themselves singularly fortunate in having secured the services of the able and faithful corps of officers and teachers at present connected with the Institution. At no period of its prosperous career has the Institution been more worthy of support and confidence than at the present time. We know of no Institution of any kind to which pupils may be intrusted with better securities for faithful care and earnest zeal for the promotion of their best interests on the part of the officers and teachers.

The number of pupils connected with the Institution since the last Report was presented to the General Assembly, has been *fifty-three*.

No special efforts have been made in the last five years to increase the number of the pupils; and the military condition of the country, the unprotected situation of the inhabitants of Kentucky, the perils incident to travelers in the State, the occupation of the Institution by armed soldiers, the repeated removals of the pupils, and the conversion of the edifice into



a military hospital, greatly diminished the number of the pupils, interrupted the prosperity of the school, and seriously threatened its very existence; and yet, through the vigilance, energy, and devotion of the Director of the Institution, the school has been kept in successful operation, and now, in the first year of returning peace, the number of pupils has risen to the average number of the six years immediately preceding the rebellion; and the number in the ensuing year will probably exceed that of any previous year in the history of the Institution.

The number of blind persons of all ages reported annually by the assessors of tax in Kentucky, is about two hundred; a large majority of whom are unfitted by their age for admission into school, or have already been educated in this Institution. There are, however, in the State, many others of suitable age for admission into school that have never been reported by the assessors, who are especially liable to overlook those that are not *totally* blind, forgetting that the school was established for the benefit of children whose imperfect vision prevents them from learning to read, as well as for those that are entirely destitute of sight.

In this school are no paying pupils from any part of Kentucky. The regulations of this Institution in regard to the children of Kentucky differ widely from those of the other charitable schools of the State. All blind children and youth resident in Kentucky, the poor and the rich alike, without regard to their pecuniary circumstances, are, by the authority of the Legislature, admitted into this school, and educated at the expense of the Institution as State pupils. In the other charitable schools of Kentucky pupils who are not in destitute circumstances are expected to pay, each according to his ability, in addition to the annual allowance made for the education of each pupil out of the State Treasury.

Of the pupils connected with the Institution at the time the last report was presented to the Legislature, two, who gave little promise of being essentially improved by a longer connection with the school, and whose influence upon other pupils was unfavorable, were dismissed.

Another pupil, a little girl twelve years old, who entered the school at the age of seven years, removed a few weeks since with her parents to Germany. This interesting child merits the highest commendation as a pupil. Afflicted with total and hopeless blindness, and with very defective hearing, she has made attainments in learning and in mental discipline that are truly marvelous in a child of twelve summers. She is a fluent, beautiful, and impressive reader of the books printed in raised letters; she excels in Orthography, Geography, Writing, English Grammar, English Composition and Analysis, Latin, Arithmetic, Algebra, History, Music, &c.; and though in delicate health at the time of her admission into the Institution, she excels in gymnastic exercises and needle and fancy work, and is exceedingly graceful and independent in all her movements. She

is a remarkably unassuming and retiring child, and yet she has so perfect command of her literary acquirements and her mental powers, that she is enabled, in the presence of the largest congregations, with the greatest composure and dignity, to pass triumphantly through the most searching and critical examinations in the various studies of her school course. The crowning excellence of her character, however, is in her moral attainments. She is docile, amiable, grateful, truthful, and conscientious. Not a single instance of untruthfulness or willful disobedience is recorded against her during the five years of her pupilage. Such a pupil, we hardly need say, secured the admiration and affection of her teachers and school-mates, and bore with her across the ocean their sincere wishes for her future happiness, and the earnest hope that ere long she will return to Kentucky and complete the education so nobly commenced, and attain to the highest honors in the school of which she has been so graceful an ornament.

In July last it became our unpleasant duty, as faithful guardians of the blind children and youth of the State, to expel four blind men, *nineteen, twenty-one, twenty-five, and twenty-six* years of age—the only pupils ever expelled from this Institution since its origin, twenty-four years ago. About twenty years ago three pupils were temporarily dismissed for disorderly conduct; but soon after, on giving satisfactory evidence of reformation, they were reinstated. The misdemeanors of those pupils, however, were exceedingly slight in comparison with the offenses of the pupils who were expelled in the year just terminated. The Trustees entered upon the examination of these cases with the earnest hope that they might be spared the necessity of inflicting the extreme penalty of expulsion; but, after a most deliberate, careful, patient, and protracted investigation, they were forced to the painful conviction that they could not discharge their duty to the State and to the blind children and youth who were intrusted to their protection, without removing these misguided men from the school, with a decided condemnation of the offenses of which they were found to be guilty; and they were therefore unanimously expelled by the Trustees in the presence of the officers and pupils of the Institution. The expulsion of these offending pupils had a most salutary effect upon the peace and happiness of the school, and was unanimously and cordially approved by the pupils.

At the same time, and in the same presence, three young ladies who had passed creditably through the prescribed course of study in the Institution, were presented by the Director to the Board of Trustees as candidates for graduation. The President, in behalf of the Board, made an appropriate address to the graduates, and presented to each, in the name of the Commonwealth, a copy of the Constitution of the United States and of the Holy Bible, printed in raised letters for the blind. The exercises were exceedingly interesting, and made an indelible impression upon the minds of all who were present.

It is our painful duty to report the death of one of the most interesting and promising pupils—the fourth that has been removed from the school by death out of the hundreds that have been connected with it during the twenty-four years of its existence. Fannie Bickers entered the school in the autumn of 1863, in delicate health, and in the latter part of 1864, she, with many of her school-mates, had an attack of measles, from which she never fully recovered; and on the 15th day of January, 1865, at the age of 11 years, she fearlessly breathed her last in the confident hope of a glorious immortality. She was endowed with very superior intellectual and moral gifts. She had early received the most careful moral and religious training from pious and intelligent parents; she attained to remarkable loveliness of character, and greatly endeared herself to her teachers, school-mates, and all her friends, by a most beautiful exhibition of the Christian graces very rare in one of her tender years. Funeral services were held in the Chapel of the Institution in the presence of her afflicted parents and the officers and pupils, who followed her remains to their last resting-place in one of the most beautiful dells of Cave Hill Cemetery.

While we record with sincere sorrow the early removal of this lovely and loved pupil, we acknowledge with profound gratitude the goodness of Providence that has so kindly protected the pupils and granted to the Institution the remarkable exemption from death with which it has been favored for so many years of its existence.

The protracted illness of a few pupils in the early part of the year 1865, made very unusual demands upon the attention of the physicians, nurses, and officers of the Institution. For several months the physician was almost a daily, and sometimes even a semi-daily visitor. The charges for medical attendance upon the pupils during the first three months of the year were greater than in the entire years 1862, 1863, and 1864; and the charges for the first six months of the year were larger than in the five years, from 1860 to 1864, inclusive. Most of the charges were for attendance upon a pupil whose disease was caused by accidentally cutting his hand, and the greater part of the remainder for attendance upon a pupil suffering with the small-pox. In April, 1865, this disease made its appearance in the school for the first and only time since the origin of the Institution, in the year 1842. A young girl, who had been exposed to the disease on her way to the Institution, was attacked with it soon after her arrival. The Director immediately removed her to the part of the edifice most remote from the other pupils, and placed her in the care of one of the women connected with the Institution, who constantly and faithfully devoted herself to the little sufferer for twenty-five days without ever leaving the room for a moment during that time. The case was a very severe one; but the paternal care of the officers of the Institution, the constant attention of the faithful nurse, and the daily visits of the skillful

physician, were, with the favor of Providence, instrumental in the speedy restoration of the patient to perfect health; and we most gratefully record the remarkable fact, that not another case of the disease occurred among the inmates of the Institution, although several of the officers and pupils were directly exposed to it.

In accordance with the laws of the Institution, the accounts for medical attendance upon all pupils except the poor have been presented to the pupils or their friends; and all but one have made prompt settlement.

The health of the pupils during the last six months of the year has been unusually good. Never, since the origin of the Institution, have the pupils been more free from disease than at the present time. This is more gratifying from the fact that an unusual amount of sickness prevailed the last summer in those sections of the State where most of the pupils reside, and many of them returned to the school in feeble health at the commencement of the present session. The rapid improvement in the health of these pupils immediately after their return to school, and the improvement in the health of the pupils generally after their admission into the Institution, is peculiarly gratifying, and furnishes to the parents of the blind in Kentucky the strongest assurance that in this school of the State the health of their afflicted children will be guarded with the greatest care.

The course of training pursued in this Institution is designed to promote the physical health and vigor as well as the moral and intellectual improvement of the pupils. The location of the Institution is the most elevated and healthful in the vicinity of Louisville; the grounds are extensive, perfectly drained, and beautifully ornamented with shade and fruit trees; and the edifice itself is one of the most commodious in the United States. All the sanitary regulations of the Institution are judicious. The dormitories and other rooms are spacious, well ventilated, and singularly neat; the beds are cleanly and comfortable, and the food is plentiful, varied, and nutritious. A variety of pleasant employment for body and mind is provided for the pupils; regularity as to study, recreation, bathing, eating, handicraft, and repose, is carefully enjoined upon all; they are ever surrounded with all the conveniences, comforts, and sympathies of a well-regulated family; and in case of illness they are provided with every comfort, and cared for with the tenderest solicitude by kind and faithful nurses and by attentive and skillful physicians.

The usual course of study has been steadily pursued during the year with the most gratifying results. The pupils generally manifest commendable interest in their various school exercises, and their improvement merits the highest praise. A part of each day, as heretofore, is devoted to the literary branches, a part to music, a part to handicraft, a part to gymnastic exercises, and a part to recreation. The aim of the entire course is an even and thorough cultivation of the physical, intellectual, and

moral powers that will secure, as far as possible, to each pupil, a *sound mind in a sound body*; and prepare them all for usefulness, independence, and happiness. To accomplish, in a time so limited, purposes so varied and difficult, we employ able and faithful teachers wholly devoted to the improvement of the pupils.

Miss Emma I. Day, who for three years was employed as teacher in the literary department, resigned her situation in December of the present year. She was a most able, energetic, faithful, and successful teacher, and her resignation is deeply regretted by the managers and pupils of the Institution.

The musical department of the school, under the skillful instruction of the able and devoted teacher, of whom most favorable mention has been made in former reports to the Legislature, fulfills our highest expectations, and continues to be, as in former years, one of the most interesting and important departments of the Institution. It affords to the pupils a vast amount of pleasure while connected with the school, and promises to many of them happiness and the means of honorable support in years to come. This department labors under great disadvantages for want of musical instruments. Most of the pianos belonging to the school have been in constant use for many years, and are unfit for longer service. We hope in the coming year to procure such instruments as are required by the increasing wants of the school.

The mechanical department of the Institution is sustained at considerable expense, as it furnishes to the pupils an important means of physical culture, and offers to many the surest hope of an honest livelihood after leaving the school. The pupils generally manifest a deep interest in this department, and make satisfactory progress. The female pupils devote three hours daily to plain sewing and fancy work, and manufacture a variety of useful and beautiful articles that are greatly admired by every visitor.

The man who was employed in the latter part of the year 1864 as teacher of handicraft, failed to fulfill his contract satisfactorily to the managers and pupils of the Institution, and was discharged at the end of the year. At the beginning of the year 1865, the older male pupils, who had previously devoted a part of each day to the manufacture of mattresses, were confined to the infirmary by sickness, and, with one exception, did not regain their usual health before the commencement of the annual vacation. No mechanical teacher, therefore, was employed during the remainder of that session. At the commencement of the present session it was deemed advisable to direct the attention of the pupils to the manufacture of brooms, a mechanical branch well adapted to the blind, and one which had been pursued by the pupils in former years with pleasing results. The services of an experienced and skillful broom-maker were accordingly secured,

materials were purchased, and the work commenced; and now these sightless, but hopeful and cheerful workers, are earnestly engaged in the manufacture of an article that commands a ready sale, and gives them the cheering promise of an independent and honorable support in future life.

The general deportment of most of the pupils connected with the Institution at the present time is worthy of the highest commendation. In no literary institution with which we are acquainted do the pupils appear more happy, manifest a more lively interest in their studies, or yield a more ready compliance with the directions of their teachers and the rules of the Institution. With few exceptions, they are gentle, kind, cheerful, docile, and manifest the most grateful appreciation of the inestimable privileges that have been secured for them by the wisdom and liberality of the Legislature and people of Kentucky. We would that all who have generously aided in establishing and sustaining this Institution, could visit it and witness the happy results of their benevolent efforts.

The want of books printed in raised letters for the blind is becoming more and more serious from year to year among the pupils and graduates of this Institution; and we therefore rejoice in the assurance that the AMERICAN PRINTING HOUSE FOR THE BLIND will soon commence the great and good work of printing an extensive and judicious selection of embossed books, for which the educated blind have so long, so earnestly, and, hitherto, so vainly, prayed.

The convenience and comfort of the school rooms of the Institution have been greatly increased the last year by the introduction of Rankin's school desks, so modified by the patentee as to adapt them to the large and ponderous books used by the blind.

The extension of the Louisville City Railway to a point near Beargrass creek, within five minutes' walk of the Institution, furnishes to the pupils the safest and most pleasant conveyance to the churches of the city, and relieves us of the expense of hiring an omnibus for that purpose, as we were accustomed to do for several years after the removal of the school to its present location; or of the greater expense of purchasing and keeping horses and carriages sufficient to accommodate a school of sixty pupils. In pleasant weather the most active pupils often prefer to walk over the well-paved streets and sidewalks to the churches in the eastern part of the city, which are about a mile and a half distant from the school. The Director, during the last year, purchased for the inmates of the Institution five hundred railway tickets, and Gen. J. T. Boyle, President of the Louisville Railway Company, liberally presented for the same purpose five hundred more, with the generous promise of larger donations in time to come.

On rented ground adjacent to the Institution a sufficient number of cows are kept to supply the pupils with milk through the year. The products

of the garden and field the last season consisted principally of eight tons of hay, forty bushels of oats, one hundred and twenty bushels of corn, two hundred and thirty bushels of potatoes, and a quantity of peas, beans, asparagus, and other vegetables.

The means of the Institution to meet the expenses in the year 1865, have been as follows :

|                                                         |             |
|---------------------------------------------------------|-------------|
| Allowance for State pupils in 1865.....                 | \$4,073 50  |
| Cash from Tennessee and Indiana pupils.....             | 210 00      |
| State appropriations.....                               | 9,000 00    |
|                                                         | <hr/>       |
|                                                         | \$13,283 50 |
| Deduct balance against Institution January 1, 1865..... | 2,527 25    |
|                                                         | <hr/>       |
|                                                         | \$10,756 25 |

The expenditures for the year 1865 have been as follows :

|                                                          |            |
|----------------------------------------------------------|------------|
| Provisions, groceries, &c.....                           | \$3,573 84 |
| Dry goods, carpeting, &c.....                            | 695 59     |
| Mattresses, slacks, &c., \$99 00; grafting, \$18 48..... | 117 48     |
| Furniture, sewing machine, and Venetian blinds.....      | 324 00     |
| Stoves, tinware, hardware, and tableware.....            | 553 41     |
| Pumps, repairs of pumps, and locks.....                  | 48 66      |
| Shoeing horses, \$43 20; horse, \$150 00.....            | 193 20     |
| Salaries of officers.....                                | 3,297 20   |
| Wages of servants, seamstress, and laborers.....         | 1,404 00   |
| Medical attendance.....                                  | 304 50     |
| Medicines.....                                           | 64 85      |
| Funeral expenses of Fannie Bickers.....                  | 42 00      |
| Fuel, oil, lumps, &c.....                                | 722 59     |
| Shoes, &c., in 1864 and 1865.....                        | 61 80      |
| Books, stationery, and printing.....                     | 48 72      |
| Expenses of traveling and exhibition, &c.....            | 279 30     |
| City railway tickets.....                                | 25 00      |
| Rent of land.....                                        | 300 00     |
| Insurance.....                                           | 625 00     |
|                                                          | <hr/>      |
|                                                          | 12,631 14  |
| Leaving a balance against the Institution of.....        | \$1,924 89 |

The treasurer of the Institution will place in the hands of the State Auditor his report, with vouchers for all these expenditures.

Several of the undersigned have held a long official connection with this Institution. The President of the Board has served as Trustee ever since the origin of the school. Another member of the Board received his first appointment as Trustee twenty-two years ago; another, seventeen years ago; and the other members of the Board have, with one exception, been connected with it for years. We are therefore enabled to speak with the greatest confidence in regard to the management of the Institution. We are entirely confident that no State Institution in the Union has been more economically and faithfully conducted. Every item of expenditure has been examined by the Trustees, and not a dollar has been drawn from the treasury without their approval. The accounts of the Director, sustained by explicit and accurate vouchers, show how every dollar has been expended since the origin of the Institution twenty-four years ago. These accounts have been often examined by members and committees of the

Legislature, and by other State authorities, and have never failed to receive their unqualified approval.

The medical member of this Board for several years attended gratuitously to every case of illness among the pupils; another member of the Board serves as Treasurer; and the duties of the Trustees generally have been severe, and sometimes of a very trying nature; but for all their efforts and sacrifices in the cause of the blind they have been abundantly recompensed by the happy results of their labors, which have been labors of love to all who have shared in them. For all their long and arduous services in behalf of the blind, no one of the Trustees has ever received or desired to receive the least pecuniary compensation.

In closing this Report, we commend the Institution to the care of the General Assembly which called it into existence, and which has kindly sustained it from its origin to the present time; and we respectfully invite the members of the Legislature to visit the school and examine its condition, in the confident assurance that, as ever heretofore, its entire management will receive their unanimous and cordial approval.

T. S. BELL, *Prest.*,  
 J. G. BARRET,  
 D. P. HENDERSON,  
 W. B. BELKNAP,  
 WM. KENDRICK,  
 JOHN L. McKEE,  
 G. W. BRUSH,

} Trustees.

KENTUCKY INSTITUTION FOR THE BLIND,  
 LOUISVILLE, KY., December 31, 1865. }



## CATALOGUE OF PUPILS FOR THE YEAR 1865.

| NAMES.                | RESIDENCE.        |
|-----------------------|-------------------|
| MARY CLINE,*          | Louisville.       |
| ELIZA DAVIS,*         | Daviess county.   |
| ELIZABETH HARRY,*     | Hickman county.   |
| Fannie Bickers,       | Perryville.       |
| Alice Bradley,        | TENNESSEE.        |
| Josephine Burns,      | INDIANA.          |
| Mary J. Campbell,     | Louisville.       |
| Anna E. Cochran,      | Spencer county.   |
| Nannie F. Cooper,     | Boone county.     |
| Mary Costello,        | Louisville.       |
| Jennie Dixon,         | TENNESSEE.        |
| Frank Ellis,          | Louisville.       |
| Betty Gualder,        | Barren county.    |
| Covington B. Guion,   | Louisville.       |
| Sandy R. Gunter,      | Anderson county.  |
| John W. Hall,         | Campbell county.  |
| Richard J. Hambleton, | Ashland           |
| Catherine M. Harding, | McLean county.    |
| John J. Harding,      | McLean county.    |
| Richard A. Harding,   | McLean county.    |
| Timothy Hartill,      | Louisville.       |
| Eliza J. Hedges,      | Daviess county.   |
| Lucinda Hedges,       | Daviess county.   |
| Rhoda J. Hills,       | Campbell county.  |
| William W. Holtzclaw, | Louisville.       |
| Annie B. Kendall,     | Jefferson county. |
| Robert L. Kendall,    | Jefferson county. |
| Edward E. Martin,     | Boone county.     |
| Clara Mattingly,      | Louisville.       |
| *Reuben McClanahan,‡  | Logan county.     |
| Catherino McDonald,   | Louisville.       |
| Louisa Monohan,       | Louisville.       |
| Fannie C. Moorman,‡   | Owensboro.        |
| George Nevill,        | Shelby county.    |
| Virginia Porter,      | Louisville.       |
| Julia Purnell,        | Maysville.        |
| Sarah C. Roberts,     | Harrison county.  |
| Elizabeth Ross,       | Meade county.     |

| NAMES.                          | RESIDENCE.         |
|---------------------------------|--------------------|
| Mary E. Scott, - - - - -        | Meade county.      |
| Walter Shepherd, - - - - -      | Shelby county.     |
| John Summers, - - - - -         | Elizabethtown.     |
| Zenobia Toms, - - - - -         | Washington county. |
| Minnie Troendle, - - - - -      | Louisville.        |
| John Vernon, - - - - -          | Hardin county.     |
| Mary A. Walker, - - - - -       | Louisville.        |
| Naomi Wells, - - - - -          | Harrodsburg.       |
| William A. Whitehead, - - - - - | Frankfort.         |
| Lawson W. Adams, † - - - - -    | Paducah.           |
| Richard Brackett, † - - - - -   | McLean county.     |
| James G. Green, † - - - - -     | Louisville.        |
| John Porter, † - - - - -        | Louisville.        |

\*Graduated.    †Deceased.    ‡Dismissed.    †Expelled.

TERMS OF ADMISSION.

The Kentucky Institution for the Blind has been in successful operation twenty-four years. It was established by the Legislature for the instruction of those children who are blind, and for those whose sight is so imperfect that they cannot see to read. All such children, of suitable age and of good moral character, are received and educated at the expense of the Institution, which is a State school, equally free to the rich and the poor.

The pupils are instructed in vocal and instrumental music, and in the branches usually taught in public schools and academies for seeing pupils. The boys are also taught mechanical trades, to enable them to support themselves independently after leaving the Institution.

The pupils, generally, are very happy and industrious, and many of them make wonderful advancement in their studies, and qualify themselves to be teachers of music, mathematics, and other branches of learning.

The Legislature provides for the board and tuition of the children of Kentucky.

The annual school session commences on the 20th day of September, and terminates on the 15th day of July. It is very desirable that pupils should enter at the commencement of the session, but *new* pupils will be received at any time during the session.

Persons desiring to send children to this school, will please to send the name, age, and post-office address of the applicant to Mr. Bryce M. Patten, Louisville, Ky., who will cheerfully communicate any necessary information in regard to the Institution.

Lines composed by one of the inmates of the Kentucky Institution for the Blind after the interment of the remains of Fannie Bickers, beneath the snows of winter, in the beautiful lot of the Institution in Cave Hill Cemetery:

### IN MEMORIAM.

We have borne her to her rest  
Underneath a shroud of snow,  
Soon above her peaceful breast  
Zephyrs sweet will come and go  
Kissing violets into blow.

Summer's gentle care will bring  
Birds to chant her lullaby;  
And the trees, low murmuring,  
Like a dirge, will sadly sigh—  
*One so young and fair to die!*

When the Autumn winds shall sweep  
O'er her grave, so still and cold,  
They will scatter o'er her sleep  
Crimson coverings bright with gold,  
Softly falling fold on fold.

But the sunbeam's light caress,  
Or the Summer's sweet refrain,  
Or the Autumn wind's unrest,  
Nevermore to joy or pain  
Will awake the child again.

For beneath her Saviour's smile  
Calmly will the dear one sleep,  
And above her dreams the while,  
Angel bands will ever keep  
Ceaseless vigils while we weep.

All along her earthly way  
Patiently her cross she bore,  
And its shadow day by day  
Rested on the path before—  
She shall know it now no more.

We have borne her to her grave,  
Laid her tenderly to rest;  
Christ the blessed slumber gave,  
And no sound shall wake her save  
At the coming of the Blest.

When the Master's gentle voice  
Bids the little one arise,  
Oh! how will her heart rejoice,  
When the realms of Paradise  
Gleam upon her eager eyes.

Then along the golden street,  
Through those gates of precious stone,  
Safely will her little feet  
Wander onward to the throne—  
Christ will claim her as His own.

NINETEENTH REPORT

OF THE

TRUSTEES OF THE KENTUCKY INSTITUTION

FOR THE

EDUCATION OF THE BLIND,

TO THE

GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF KENTUCKY,

FOR THE YEAR 1866.

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FRANKFORT, KY.:  
PRINTED AT THE KENTUCKY YEOMAN OFFICE.  
JOHN H. HARNEY, PUBLIC PRINTER.  
1867.



## OFFICERS OF THE INSTITUTION.

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BRYCE M. PATTEN, A. M.,  
DIRECTOR.

MISS ELIZABETH W. DYER,  
TEACHER.

MISS HENRIETTA W. HARLOWE,  
TEACHER.

MISS ELIZA T. DAVIS,\*  
TEACHER.

THOMAS REEVES,\*  
TEACHER.

MISS LOANNA A. HASKELL,  
MATRON AND HOUSEKEEPER.

LEANDER GETTYS,  
TEACHER OF HANDICRAFT.

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\* Blind.



## NINETEENTH REPORT.

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*To the General Assembly of Kentucky:*

The Trustees of the Kentucky Institution for the Education of the Blind respectfully report, that the school intrusted to their care is in a highly prosperous condition, and that it is still fulfilling in the most satisfactory manner, to the extent of its means, the benevolent designs of its founders. The progress of the school, during the last year, under its able and faithful corps of officers, has, in all respects, been fully equal to our most sanguine expectations.

The Trustees take pleasure in renewing their testimony to the fidelity and efficiency of Bryce M. Patten, Esq., in the arduous and onerous duties of Superintendent of the Kentucky Institution for the Blind. His abilities as a scholar and teacher, his singular capacity in the management of the business affairs of the Institution, his long and unwearied devotion to the best interests of the unfortunate class of pupils confided to his charge, and his intimate and thorough acquaintance with everything that tends to the promotion of the welfare of the blind pupils, have won and secured the confidence of the various Boards of Trustees who have watched, on the part of the State, over the Kentucky Institution for the Blind, from its origin to the present time. The prosperity of the school, the efficiency of its management, and the great economy that has characterized the affairs of the Institution, have been mainly due to Mr. Patten's marked ability, faithfulness, and vigilance, and we commend him as eminently worthy of public esteem and confidence, and as a thorough master of everything connected with the education of the blind.

Teachers of the finest natural endowments and the highest mental culture are employed in the various departments of the Institution, and they devote themselves to the moral and intellectual improvement of the pupils with patience and zeal, that are worthy of the highest commendation. While patiently advancing their pupils in knowledge and mental discipline, they are remarkably successful in winning their confidence and affection. By unceasing kindness they unite with the other officers in making the Institution a happy home to the unfortunate and interesting children and youth for whom it was founded.

Of the faithful and devoted Matron of the Institution, who temporarily occupies the place of mother to the sightless children of the State, we



cannot speak in terms of too high praise. She exercises a maternal care over the pupils in sickness and in health; she has the charge of their clothing, the superintendence of the servants, and the general duties of housekeeper, and she discharges all these various and onerous duties in a manner that secures the approbation of all the friends of the Institution. Her extraordinary fitness for the important and difficult office which she so ably fills, is appreciated by the managers of similar Institutions in several other States, and they have endeavored to avail themselves of her services, by the promise of a larger salary than the limited means of this Institution permit us to offer. Her love for the sightless children of Kentucky has prevented her from accepting their proposals. The duties of the matron are exceedingly onerous, and if the means of the Institution would justify it, we would gladly increase her salary, and, in accordance with the usages of similar Institutions, employ an assistant matron to lighten her burdensome duties.

The Trustees are happy to be able to make a most favorable report in regard to the pupils of the Institution. The general deportment of nearly all connected with the school during the year just terminated, merits the highest praise. With few exceptions they are docile, kind, and gentle, and gratefully appreciate the educational privileges with which they are favored. Their ready compliance with the directions of their teachers and the regulations of the school, their faithful devotion to their duties, and their cheerful submission to the terrible affliction that darkens their lives, command the sympathy and admiration of all with whom they are acquainted. The heroism with which these sightless children contend with difficulties that seem sufficient to appall the bravest heart, the fearlessness with which they look into the dark future, and prepare themselves for it, the faith they manifest in the promises contained in the Holy Bible, whose elevated words their cultivated fingers trace with such marvelous facility, bring to mind the prediction of the prophet in regard to this afflicted class: "I will bring the blind by a way that they know not; I will lead them in paths that they have not known; I will make darkness light before them; I will not forsake them."

The course of study in this Institution embraces, with the exception of drawing and painting, the branches of learning usually taught in the best schools of the State. A part of each day is devoted to the literary branches, a part to music, a part to handicraft, a part to gymnastic exercises, and a part to recreation. The pupils generally manifest commendable diligence in their various school exercises, and their improvement is fully equal to that of former years.

New interest has been given to the literary and musical departments of the school since the commencement of the present session, by the intro-

duction of the Braille system of point-writing and point-printing. In the summer vacation, that able and devoted friend of the blind, Professor Henry Robyn, of St. Louis, visited this Institution, at the request of the Director, and gave a few lessons in this system to a small class of pupils. The result was so satisfactory, that hereafter all the pupils will receive instruction in the Braille, in addition to the other systems taught in this Institution. The value of the Braille system to the blind and their teachers cannot easily be over-estimated, and they owe Professor Robyn a vast debt of gratitude for his earnest efforts to commend it to the schools in America, as well as for his ingenious modification of the types, by which they are so admirably adapted to the use of sightless compositors.

It affords us pleasure to make the following extract from a report of Professor Robyn, which was recently laid before the Legislature of Missouri by the Governor of that State:

“Mr. B. M. Patten, Principal of the Kentucky Institution for the Blind, and Trustee of the National Printing House for the Blind, located in Kentucky, visited our Institution in May last, and invited me to give instruction to some of his pupils in the Braille system. I went there on the 25th of June, and spent two weeks with him, during which time I taught six of his pupils. I commenced at an unfavorable time, at the close of the session, when all pupils are exhausted by study; yet the result achieved, in so short a time, was most astonishing. I taught the class eight days, and the ninth day was spent in reviewing the different characters, and in examples in different studies; and, to my great astonishment, I must confess that my pupils knew, theoretically, every character in reading, arithmetic, and music, as well as I did myself, and nothing remained for them to do but to make practical use of the same, which was not neglected, as I have received several letters in Braille from them. Now, where is a system that can be acquired in so short a time? If any one will present a simpler one I will adopt it immediately, and drop the Braille system. It should be understood that the Braille system is not the thorough education of the blind, but that it only facilitates the teacher and the pupil to impart and receive more easily than by any other system. However, two things are necessary to produce such results as I witnessed in Kentucky. First, a teacher who is able to teach in a practical way; and second, pupils who have the right spirit and determination to learn. Such I found in those pupils in the Institution in Kentucky. I may say, that, during my more than 25 years' instruction, I never found a whole class so attentive, intelligent, patient, and determined to learn. During all the time I never noticed one of them wayward, or, for an instant, indifferent to their studies. It was plain to see what discipline and good behavior the instructors had brought in the pupils, and easy to ascertain how devoted the teachers were to their profession and their pupils.”

The usual attention has been given to music, which is, to the pupils, a source of the greatest pleasure while connected with the Institution; and which promises, to many of them, the surest means of usefulness and independence in time to come. To all the pupils who expect to support themselves as teachers of music and as organists in churches, and especially to those whose school term will soon expire, we desire to offer the best

possible opportunities for a thorough musical education. We therefore greatly regret that the want of pianos and other musical instruments, alluded to in our last report, so far from being lessened, is much greater at the present time than it was a year ago, as the number of music pupils has largely increased, and some of the old pianos, at that time in use, have, by the constant practice of another year, been rendered utterly unfit for longer service. At the commencement of the year we hoped to be able, before its close, to purchase all the pianos needed by the school; but a failure to receive several thousand dollars which we confidently anticipated, compelled us to defer this hope until an opportunity should be afforded at the present session of the Legislature to present to your honorable body these urgent wants of the blind pupils.

The mechanical department of the Institution has greatly increased in interest and importance since our last report was presented to the Legislature. The attention of the pupils engaged in it during the last year, has been devoted principally to the manufacture of brooms; and their improvement has fully equaled our expectations. At the commencement of the year, the factory was destitute of suitable machinery, and the pupils had given but a short time to this branch, and acquired but little skill in it. A pleasing change has been wrought in the course of the year. The imperfect machines that had been in use for many years were removed, and others of the best quality were manufactured in the Institution expressly for the pupils; and now the broom factory of the Institution is, in the extent and variety of its machinery, far superior to any other in Louisville, and probably to any in the State of Kentucky. The older male pupils have devoted a part of each day to broom-making, and merited high praise both for the quality and quantity of their work. All make good saleable brooms that compare favorably with those made by the best seeing broom-makers. Several pupils, since the commencement of the year, have received an honorable discharge, obtained machines from the factory of the Institution, and gone to different parts of the State to establish broom factories of their own. Two married men, who entered the work department in the last year to learn this trade, have already returned to their humble homes with the cheering hope of securing an honest support for their families by their own exertions. To that class of pupils who enter the Institution too late in life to attain to any eminence as scholars or musicians, the mechanical department is invaluable; as it offers the only reliable means in the State to prepare them for useful and happy lives. They often enter the Institution helpless, hopeless dependents, and leave it hopeful, cheerful mechanics, willing and able to sustain themselves, and to aid in sustaining others. We endeavor to comply strictly with that wise law of the Institution which prohibits the admission of any pupils without satisfactory testimonials of good moral character; yet, with the deepest sympathy for the unfortunate blind, and with

the strongest confidence in the elevating influences of cultivated, devoted-teachers, and exemplary, intelligent pupils, we make a liberal allowance for early neglect and unfavorable home influences, and sometimes admit, on probation, homeless and friendless blind persons whose strongest recommendation is their helplessness; and whose only hope of escape from a life of beggary and degradation, depends upon their admission to the privileges of the Institution. Our hopes in regard to some of these may never be fulfilled; but the mental and physical transformation of others, under the refining influences of the Institution, is marvelous. But not to those only who prepare to support themselves as mechanics, does the mechanical department offer its invaluable privileges. Under the vigilant supervision of the Director, it is a most important educational agent in the training of other pupils. It is a powerful lever for the moral and intellectual elevation of some, to whom it presents the kind of mental and bodily exercise best adapted to their condition. In reclaiming the vicious and the idle, it is of inestimable value. To the feeble-minded pupils, of whom we always have a number, it offers the best means to awaken the dormant intellectual and moral faculties, and to strengthen and improve the feeble bodily powers. For these purposes alone, the mechanical department is worth far more than the cost of sustaining it. The amount received from sales of articles manufactured by the pupils, of course furnishes no criterion by which to estimate its value. To the blind children and youth of the State it is of priceless importance.

Broom machinery of the best construction is at all times required in the mechanical department of the Institution, and every pupil who goes out from the school to establish a broom factory of his own needs one or more machines; and as we found no place in Kentucky where such machines were manufactured for sale, we were led by necessity the last year to introduce the manufacture of them into the work department of the Institution, and they will hereafter be manufactured for the pupils, for the graduates, and perhaps for other parties. The machines made during the last year, being of a superior quality, have attracted the attention of broom-makers in different parts of the West, and we have received from Kentucky and other States more orders for machines than we have been able to fill; but we hope soon to complete arrangements that will enable us to supply the demand with superior machines, manufactured, in part, by the industrious pupils of this Institution. In case the Directors of the Eastern and Western Lunatic Asylums, and the Asylum for the Deaf and Dumb, should decide, as we earnestly hope and strongly recommend, to open broom factories in the institutions under their care for the benefit of the inmates, we will be able to furnish them with machines, equal in all respects to the best that can be obtained in the United States; and we know no reason why the directors of the

benevolent institutions of this State may not, by concert of action, secure to the unfortunate inmates of the institutions committed to their charge the monopoly of this single trade in Kentucky.

The Director of this Institution, fully impressed with the great importance of mechanical industry as one of the best means for elevating and improving the feeble-minded children and youth of the State, soon after his appointment, by act of the Legislature at the last session, as a member of the Board of Commissioners of the Institution for the Feeble-minded at Frankfort, urged upon the Superintendent the necessity of giving to the inmates of that Institution instruction in some mechanic art, as provided for and required by act of the Legislature, approved February 17, 1866; and he especially recommended broom-making as a branch well-adapted to the condition of the feeble-minded. We are pleased to know that near the close of the year just terminated, a broom-maker was employed in that Institution, broom-corn and machines were procured, and the work was commenced with a small class of the most intelligent and capable pupils with a flattering prospect of success.

The following statement exhibits the financial condition of the mechanical department for the last year:

## DEBIT.

|                                                                               |            |
|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------|------------|
| To broom corn purchased.....                                                  | \$900 64   |
| To broom-handles, lumber, and irons for machines, tools, wire, twine, &c..... | 649 77     |
| To four broom machines and three presses.....                                 | 170 50     |
|                                                                               | <hr/>      |
|                                                                               | \$1,720 91 |
| To salaries of teachers.....                                                  | 612 50     |
|                                                                               | <hr/>      |
|                                                                               | \$2,333 41 |

## CREDIT.

|                                                |            |
|------------------------------------------------|------------|
| By sales of 3,212 brooms in 1866.....          | \$695 87   |
| By sales of four Delmont broom-machines.....   | 241 00     |
| By sales of two N. Y. machines.....            | 90 00      |
| By sales of four Delmont presses, &c.....      | 60 00      |
| By sale of small broom-machine, &c.....        | 30 00      |
|                                                | <hr/>      |
|                                                | \$1,116 87 |
| By 900 brooms on hand December 31st, 1866..... | \$225 00   |
| By two tons broom corn.....                    | 200 00     |
| By broom-handles.....                          | 35 50      |
| By lumber, twine, wire, &c.....                | 60 00      |
| By tools.....                                  | 80 00      |
| By three broom-machines.....                   | 77 00      |
| By two Delmont broom-machines.....             | 120 00     |
|                                                | <hr/>      |
|                                                | 852 50     |
|                                                | <hr/>      |
|                                                | 1,969 37   |
|                                                | <hr/>      |
|                                                | \$364 04   |
|                                                | <hr/>      |

In addition to the manufacture of more than four thousand brooms reported above, the pupils have renovated, during the last year, most of the mattresses in use in the Institution, and they are prepared to fill orders for mattresses of all kinds, from the cheapest shuck to the best spring and hair mattresses.

The health of the pupils has been good during the year. Not a death, nor a case of serious illness, has occurred among them since our last report was made to the General Assembly. The Institution was founded nearly twenty-five years ago, and in that period only four pupils have been removed from it by death. The first of these was afflicted at the time of her admission into the Institution with an incurable disease, which, in a very short time, resulted in death. The second died in the summer vacation. The third contracted, in the country, during vacation, a disease which terminated fatally soon after her return to school. And the fourth was in very delicate health at the time of her entrance into the Institution.

The rate of mortality in this Institution has been lower than in any other State Institution with which we are acquainted. The exemption from disease and death with which the Institution has been favored for so many years of its existence, is more remarkable from the fact that very few of the pupils enjoy vigorous health at the time of their admission into the Institution, partly because the unfavorable influences that result in blindness generally affect, injuriously, the entire system of the patient, and partly because blind children and youth are, by the privation of vision, debarred from much of the physical exercise which is so salutary to those who are blessed with the sense of sight.

The entire course of training pursued in this Institution is designed to promote the physical health and vigor as well as the moral and intellectual improvement of the pupils. The sanitary regulations of the Institution are judicious. The school rooms and dormitories are spacious and well ventilated. The food is plentiful, varied, and nutritious. A variety of pleasant employment for body and mind is provided for all. Regularity as to study, recreation, bathing, eating, handicraft, and repose, is earnestly enjoined upon all; and, in cases of illness, the patients are provided with every comfort, and cared for with the tenderest solicitude by kind and faithful nurses and skillful and attentive physicians.

The pleasing report which we are enabled to make in regard to the health of the pupils is, with the two following exceptions, equally applicable to the other inmates of the Institution.

In July last, a bright-eyed little boy, a son of one of the domestics of the Institution, was attacked with small-pox of the most virulent character. The Director, taking the same course which he adopted in the previous year, when one of the pupils was attacked with this fearful disease, removed the patient to a part of the house most remote from the other inmates; and, though the case for many days seemed utterly hopeless, with the Divine blessing upon the efforts of faithful nurses and a skillful physician, the little sufferer was restored to perfect health; and

we gratefully report that not another case of the disease occurred among the inmates of the Institution.

It is our painful duty to record the death of an able and devoted teacher of the Institution. In 1864, Miss Abbie F. Crockett was appointed teacher for the session ending in July, 1865; and she discharged the duties of her office so acceptably that in a few months after the close of that session she was invited to fill a vacancy in the Institution, caused by the resignation of another teacher. In January, 1866, she resumed the duties of teacher with health somewhat impaired, but not to such an extent as to alarm herself or her friends. In a few weeks her rapidly declining health compelled her to resign her office and return to the house of her parents; and before the end of the summer, she passed away from this life, deeply lamented by her pupils, and all with whom she was acquainted.

The number of pupils connected with the Institution during the last year has been *sixty-five—twenty-nine* males, and *thirty-six* females—of whom sixty-three are inhabitants of Kentucky, one of Tennessee, and one of Indiana.

The means in the hands of the Trustees to meet the expenses of the Institution in the year 1866, have been as follows:

|                                                              |             |
|--------------------------------------------------------------|-------------|
| Allowance for State pupils in 1866.....                      | \$6,459 21  |
| Cash from Tennessee and Indiana pupils.....                  | 170 00      |
| State appropriation in 1866.....                             | 6,000 00    |
|                                                              | <hr/>       |
|                                                              | \$12,629 21 |
| Deduct balance against Institution, December 31st, 1865..... | 1,924 89    |
|                                                              | <hr/>       |
|                                                              | \$10,704 32 |

The expenditures during the year 1866 have been as follows:

|                                                                      |            |
|----------------------------------------------------------------------|------------|
| Groceries, provisions, medicines, &c.....                            | \$4,210 04 |
| Dry goods, bedding, clothing, and shoes.....                         | 706 20     |
| Medical attendance \$59 00; salary of agent \$520 95.....            | 579 95     |
| Wages of servants, seamstress, and laborers.....                     | 1,460 00   |
| Salaries of officers and teachers.....                               | 3,222 50   |
| Fuel, oil, lamps, &c.....                                            | 912 09     |
| Table ware \$121 84; stoves and tinware \$274 29.....                | 396 13     |
| School desks \$163 50; blinds \$106 00; washing-machine \$37 08..    | 306 58     |
| Embossed bibles and freight \$195 37; books and stationery \$95 86.. | 291 23     |
| Cabinet organ, tuning pianos, music, &c.....                         | 350 21     |
| City railway tickets \$60 00; iron work \$69 00.....                 | 129 00     |
| Horse and cow \$160 00; carriage and repairs \$374 00.....           | 534 00     |
| Rent of land \$300 00; insurance \$625 00.....                       | 925 00     |
| Salaries of mechanical teachers.....                                 | 612 50     |
| Machinery; raw materials for work department, &c....                 | \$1,720 91 |
| Less sales of manufactured articles.....                             | 1,116 87   |
|                                                                      | <hr/>      |
|                                                                      | 604 64     |
|                                                                      | <hr/>      |
|                                                                      | 15,239 47  |
| Leaving against the Institution a balance of.....                    | <hr/>      |
|                                                                      | \$4,535 15 |

The Treasurer of the Institution will, as usual, place in the hands of the State Auditor his report, with explicit vouchers for all the above expenditures. With a generosity which we could not anticipate, the Treas-

urer loaned to this Board, without interest, a sum sufficient to meet the debts of the Institution at the end of the year 1865, amounting to \$1,924 89, and the additional sum of \$2,610 26, to meet the debts of the year 1866; making the entire amount of the Treasurer's loans, \$4,535 15. A few accounts due for furniture, not yet paid, will increase this sum to \$5,000. Without means to discharge this annually increasing debt, and unwilling to impose longer a heavy pecuniary burden upon the Treasurer, in addition to his gratuitous and onerous services as Treasurer and Trustee of the Institution, the Trustees are under the necessity of presenting the wants of the Institution to the Legislature which called it into existence, and which has so kindly sustained it from its origin to the present time. The earnest hope of the Trustees that, by the strictest economy, they might support the Institution without additional aid from the State, has, under the high prices of the last few years, not been fulfilled; and we are convinced by the severe experience of many years, that the school for the blind in Kentucky cannot be properly supported for a less amount than is required for the support of State educational institutions for persons blessed with the sense of sight; and for far less than is found necessary to maintain schools for the blind in other States. The Kentucky Institution for the Deaf and Dumb receives annually from the State Treasury a larger amount than the entire income of the Institution for the Blind; and the former Institution is, moreover, authorized by law to collect from the parents of State pupils such sums as they may be able to pay; amounting to a large sum annually, in addition to the State allowance for each pupil. The Institution for the Feeble-minded, also, with a larger annual allowance from the State than is granted to the Institution for the Blind, has legal authority to make similar collections from the parents or guardians of the pupils, in addition to the allowance from the State for the education and maintenance of those pupils. No such authority has been desired nor obtained by the Managers of the Institution for the Blind. This Institution, like most of the schools for the blind in the great Valley of the Mississippi, is strictly a State Institution, without endowment, and entirely dependent upon the State for support. By authority of the State, it offers its inestimable privileges freely to all worthy blind children and youth in Kentucky, without regard to their pecuniary circumstances—to the poor and rich alike. The law which makes the Kentucky Institution for the Blind a free school of the State, is eminently wise and just; it reflects the highest honor upon the Legislature and people of Kentucky, and there are most weighty objections to its repeal; yet, the exclusive application of that law to the school for the blind, evidently creates the necessity, other things being equal,



for larger appropriations to it than are required by the other educational institutions of the State, to which the law does not apply. But other things are not equal; the education of the blind is vastly more expensive than the education of any other class of pupils, as will be readily seen by a moment's consideration of the following extraordinary expenses in a school of sightless pupils :

1. Books, charts, maps, globes, slates, and many other kinds of educational apparatus, prepared for the blind, are exceedingly expensive, costing from twenty to thirty times as much as those used by any class of seeing pupils; and these articles being continually subjected to the pressure of the pupils' fingers, are much sooner injured, and require more frequent renewal.

2. Many of the blind need a thorough musical education to qualify them to earn a living by their own industry, as teachers of music, and as organists in churches. The salaries of music teachers, and the purchase and repairs of pianos, organs, and other expensive musical instruments, greatly increase the cost of supporting a school for the blind. These expenses are not necessary in any other benevolent institution of the State.

3. The number of teachers is necessarily greater in a school of the blind than in any other containing the same number of pupils. In a school for deaf mutes, or any other seeing pupils, a teacher can, by visible illustrations, instruct, at the same moment, a class of forty or more pupils. In a school for the blind, on the contrary, the teacher, whenever he uses tangible apparatus, must patiently apply himself to each member of the class, separately, and often devote more time to a single pupil than would be required by a class of fifty pupils enjoying the priceless gift of vision. In addition to instruction in literature, music, and mechanic arts, many of the blind need constant supervision and instruction on many important points every hour in the day. Not in the school-rooms only, but in the dining-rooms, on the play-grounds, everywhere, the presence of the teacher is important. Numberless valuable lessons, which seeing children, without effort, take in at a glance, with no instructor but nature, the sightless child learns only from the oft-repeated instruction of the patient and faithful teacher. To teach some of the blind the most ordinary and simple lessons in manners, to enable them to overcome disagreeable personal habits, which, through the neglect of friends, they have been permitted to acquire, is, in some cases, the work of years—a work far more difficult than to guide the more gifted pupils successfully through the entire course of study pursued in the Institution. There are, usually, in this school, several feeble-minded pupils, and, occasionally, one deaf and blind. The peculiar care and instruction which these doubly-afflicted children require, add greatly to the labors of the teachers.

4. The necessity of instructing many of the blind in mechanical arts, to prepare them for independence and happiness, subjects this Institution, from year to year, to considerable expense which the other benevolent institutions in Kentucky avoid; as they either have no mechanical department, or else such departments have been established by special appropriations from the State Treasury. Sightless apprentices require, of course, a much longer and more expensive course of instruction, and waste much more material in their early mechanical efforts than any class of seeing workmen.

5. The other benevolent institutions of Kentucky have been furnished by the State with farms of greater or less extent, and many of the inmates cultivate the land profitably, and thereby relieve those Institutions from the necessity of paying, annually, large sums for the produce of garden and farm. The blind can neither cultivate the land, nor engage in many other kinds of work which the seeing inmates of the other Institutions of the State can so profitably perform.

6. There is, moreover, one important item of expenditure, for which, we believe, no public institution in the world, except the school for the blind in Kentucky, is expected to provide. By an act of the Legislature of Kentucky, the officers of this Institution are authorized to present, in the name of the Commonwealth, to every meritorious graduate of the school, a copy of the Holy Bible, printed in raised letters, and other books, amounting to \$25. Conformity to this act makes a serious draft upon the limited means of the Institution; yet the provision is a most noble one, and has ever received the cordial approbation of the Board of Trustees. No act of the Legislature more beautifully illustrates the generosity of the people of Kentucky. No duty of the officers of the school is more cheerfully performed than that of placing the Holy Bible in the hands of the blind graduates to enlighten their dark pathway through life.

An examination of the foregoing part of this report, and of the entire history of this Institution during the twenty-five years of its existence, as presented in the reports of the Trustees to the General Assembly, will furnish convincing proof that the school has been conducted with a system of economy unsurpassed in any other first-class school for the blind in the United States. The undersigned Trustees have held a long official connection with the Institution. The President of the Board has served as Trustee ever since the origin of the Institution, nearly twenty-five years ago; another member of the Board was elected Trustee twenty-three years ago, another eighteen years ago, and the other members have been connected with it for years. We are therefore enabled to speak with the greatest confidence in regard to the management of the Institution. We are confident that no State Institution in the Union has been more

ably and faithfully conducted. Every item of expenditure has been examined and approved by the Trustees, and the accounts of the Director, sustained by explicit vouchers, show how every dollar has been expended since the origion of the school, a quarter of a century ago. These accounts have been often examined by Legislative Committees and other State authorities, and have never failed to receive unqualified approval. For all their long and arduous services, in behalf of the Institution, the Trustees have never received, nor desired to receive, the least pecuniary compensation. Their reward has arisen from the satisfaction of having labored to promote the improvement and happiness of a most unfortunate and interesting class of the children and youth of our beloved Commonwealth.

In addition to the urgent wants of the Institution, already alluded to in this report, it is our duty as guardians of the blind, as well as of valuable State property, to invite the attention of the General Assembly to another most important want, which greatly endangers the health and lives of the pupils, and the property of the Institution. For the second time, since its removal to the present location, the Institution is destitute of water. The lot upon which it is located was selected by a Board of Commissioners appointed by the State authorities; and, although, in nearly every respect admirably adapted to the purpose for which it was selected, it has neither spring nor stream to furnish the vast amount of water required in a family of seventy persons; and the efforts of the managers to obtain water by sinking a well in the limestone that underlies the Institution, proved a failure. The water that falls from the heavens upon the roof of the house, and is collected into cisterns, upon which the Institution has hitherto solely depended, is now altogether insufficient for the school, which is constantly increasing from year to year. The cisterns are exhausted, and now, in the middle of a severe winter, with an empty treasury, we are under the necessity of hauling water from a great distance at a heavy expense, and with extreme difficulty. In case a fire should break out in the Institution in its present condition, the fate of the buildings could not be doubtful. The entire destruction of the buildings of this Institution by fire in the year 1851, solely on account of the want of water, teaches an impressive lesson. There is one way by which this important want of the Institution may be readily supplied. The main pipe leading from the reservoir of the Louisville water-works into the city of Louisville, passes the Institution at the distance of a third of a mile, and a branch pipe can be laid to the cisterns of the Institution, which will secure an abundant and unfailing supply of water in all time to come. It is estimated that the cost of this pipe,

and the additional tanks, water closets, and other fixtures needed, will amount to twenty-five hundred dollars.

In view of the necessities of the Institution, we most respectfully and earnestly solicit from the General Assembly an appropriation of *five thousand dollars* to pay the debts of the Institution; *two thousand five hundred dollars* for the purchase of the necessary musical instruments; and *two thousand five hundred dollars* for pipe and water-works; making a total appropriation of *ten thousand dollars*. With this appropriation, the ability of the Institution to promote the health and improvement of the blind children and youth of the State, will be greatly enlarged.

In closing this report, we commend the Institution to the care of the General Assembly which called it into existence, and which has kindly sustained it from its origin to the present time; and we respectfully invite the members of the Legislature to visit the school and examine its condition, in the confident assurance that, as ever heretofore, its entire management will receive their cordial approval.

T. S. BELL,  
W. B. BELKNAP,  
W. KENDRICK,  
J. G. BARRET,  
J. L. McKEE,  
G. W. BRUSH.

KENTUCKY INSTITUTION FOR THE BLIND,  
LOUISVILLE, KY., December 31st, 1866. }

## CATALOGUE OF PUPILS

FOR THE YEAR 1866.

| <i>Names.</i>        | <i>Residence.</i>    |
|----------------------|----------------------|
| Josephine B. Burns   | INDIANA.             |
| Alice Bradley        | TENNESSEE.           |
| Mary J. Campbell     | Louisville.          |
| Anna E. Cochran      | Spencer county.      |
| Martha A. Cochran    | Spencer county.      |
| Jefferson Choate     | Jefferson county.    |
| John T. Coffman      | Hardin county.       |
| Nannie F. Cooper     | Boone county.        |
| Henry S. Cook        | Covington.           |
| Mary Costello        | Louisville.          |
| Nancy Cox            | Washington county.   |
| Martha J. Daniel     | Johnson county.      |
| Jennie Dixon         | Jefferson county.    |
| Frank Ellis          | Louisville.          |
| John Ernst           | Louisville.          |
| Betty Goalder        | Barren county.       |
| Ohastina Gross       | Warren county.       |
| Covington B. Guion   | Louisville.          |
| Sandy R. Gunter      | Anderson county.     |
| John W. Hall         | Campbell county.     |
| Richard J. Hambleton | Ashland.             |
| Catherine M. Hardin  | McLean county.       |
| John J. Hardin       | McLean county.       |
| Richard A. Hardin    | McLean county.       |
| John Harp            | Jefferson county.    |
| Timothy Hartill      | Louisville.          |
| Thomas Hazlep        | Breckinridge county. |
| Lewis C. Head        | Hickman county.      |
| Eliza J. Hedges      | Daviess county.      |
| Lucinda Hedges       | Daviess county.      |
| Rhoda Hills          | Campbell county.     |
| William W. Holzelaw  | Jefferson county.    |
| Thomas B. Jaggars    | Hart county.         |
| Patrick Kane         | Jefferson county.    |
| Annie B. Kendall     | Jefferson county.    |
| Ellen Kenny          | Louisville.          |
| Edward E. Martin     | Boone county.        |
| Clara Mattingly      | Louisville.          |

| <i>Names.</i>        | <i>Residence.</i>  |
|----------------------|--------------------|
| Catherine McDonald   | Louisville.        |
| Mary C. Minds        | Louisville.        |
| Alep. M. McLary      | Adair county.      |
| Joseph P. Mitchell   | Owensboro.         |
| Sarah J. Mitchell    | Covington.         |
| Louisa Monohan       | Louisville.        |
| John Moran           | Jefferson county.  |
| George Nevill        | Shelby county.     |
| Clara A. Pearl       | Hardin county.     |
| Lucinda Peggins      | Owensboro.         |
| Virginia Porter      | Louisville.        |
| Julia Purnell        | Maysville.         |
| Sarah C. Roberts     | Harrison county.   |
| Elizabeth Ross       | Meade county.      |
| Mary E. Scott        | Meade county.      |
| Walter Shepherd      | Shelby county.     |
| John Summers         | Elizabethtown.     |
| Algernon T. Flourney | Paducah.           |
| Zenobia Toms         | Washington county. |
| Winnie Troendle      | Louisville.        |
| John Vernon          | Hardin county.     |
| Mary A. Walker       | Louisville.        |
| Josiah J. Washington | Hopkins county.    |
| Naomi Wells          | Harrodsburg.       |
| Mary Williams        | Meade county.      |
| Martha Williams      | Meade county.      |
| William Whitehead    | Frankfort.         |



**TWENTIETH REPORT**

**OF THE**

**BOARD OF TRUSTEES**

**OF THE**

**KENTUCKY INSTITUTION FOR THE EDUCATION OF THE BLIND,**

**TO THE**

**GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF KENTUCKY,**

**FOR THE YEAR 1867.**

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**FRANKFORT, KY.:**

**PRINTED AT THE KENTUCKY YEOMAN OFFICE**

**JOHN H. HARNEY, PUBLIC PRINTER.**

**1868.**





## OFFICERS OF THE INSTITUTION.

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**BRYCE M. PATTEN, A. M.,**  
DIRECTOR.

**THOMAS REEVES,**  
TEACHER.

**CLARA C. PLIMPTON,**  
TEACHER.

**MARY L. WOOD,**  
TEACHER.

**BELLE H. HARRIS,**  
TEACHER.

**LOANNA A. HASKELL,**  
MATRON AND HOUSEKEEPER.

**LEANDER GETTYS,**  
TEACHER OF HANDICRAFT.



## TWENTIETH REPORT.

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*To the General Assembly of the Commonwealth of Kentucky :*

The undersigned, Trustees of the Kentucky Institution for the Education of the Blind, respectfully present their Twentieth Report.

In the various departments of the School, including the literary, scientific, musical, and mechanical branches, the improvement of the pupils generally has been highly satisfactory, and fully equal to that of any former year. Equally satisfactory has been the cultivation of the moral powers of the pupils. With few exceptions their deportment is worthy of the highest commendation. They are studious, cheerful, docile, conscientious, and ever grateful for their educational privileges.

The number of pupils connected with the Institution during the last year has been sixty-five—twenty-three males and forty-two females—of whom sixty-three are inhabitants of Kentucky, and two of Indiana.

The excellent sanitary condition of the Institution, alluded to in all the reports of the Trustees for twenty-five years, has continued through the year just terminated. Not a single case of illness has required the attention of a physician in the year 1867, nor in the last nine months of the year 1866. So singular exemption from sickness, for a period of two years, in an institution with an average of seventy-five inmates, speaks most favorably of the sanitary regulations and the general management of the Institution.

It is the grateful duty of the Trustees to tender the thanks of the Institution to Dr. W. B. Cheatham, a distinguished oculist of this city, for valuable gratuitous services during the last year. For several months this benevolent gentleman made weekly visits to the Institution, and treated the eyes of many of the pupils, with no reward but the satisfaction of having greatly benefited some of the most afflicted children of the State, who will every gratefully appreciate his kindness and skill.

The Kentucky Institution for the Blind enjoys, with a single important exception, all the advantages necessary to insure its greatest prosperity and usefulness. Favored with an able, experienced, and faithful Superintendent, earnestly devoted to its interests, with a Matron of rare qualifications for the office, with accomplished and skillful teachers, intelligent, studious, and exemplary pupils, an attractive and salubrious location, and a commodious building, it only needs a sufficient enlargement of its pecuniary resources to render it, in all respects, equal to the oldest and best schools for the blind in this or any other land. The income of this Institution has never been adequate to its wants; but the impossibility of properly sustaining it with its limited means has become greater during the last few years, in consequence of the large increase in the number of the pupils, the greatly enhanced prices of all articles consumed in the

Institution, the losses caused during the war by the seizure of the buildings of the Institution, and the conversion of the same into a military hospital, without the authority of the National Government, and in bold defiance of the repeated orders of the Secretary of War to restore the buildings to the Blind School, the removal of the School to a distant location, and the loss of live stock, furniture, and other property by theft and impressment, so that, notwithstanding the most rigid economy consistent with the health of the pupils, the Trustees have found themselves, year after year, more and more hampered, and less and less able to meet the ordinary current expenses of the Institution. The long official connection of several members of this Board with the Institution, extending in some cases to twenty and twenty-five years, and our careful attention to the finances, enable us to speak with entire confidence in regard to the management of the Institution. We believe that no State Institution in the Union has been more economically, faithfully, and ably conducted; and we are confident that this School could not have been sustained at less expense without depriving the pupils of the comforts and even the necessaries of life, endangering their health, and utterly defeating the great objects for which the School was established by its benevolent founders, and for which the sightless pupils from all parts of the State have sought admission to its privileges. That enlightened and comprehensive economy, which constantly and carefully guards the lives and health and happiness of the pupils, as well as the money in the treasury, has at all times been practiced by the Managers of this Institution; and, therefore, at the end of a quarter of a century, we are able to report for that long period a lower rate of mortality, as well as a lower rate of expenditure, than has obtained in any other first-class Institution for the Blind with which we are acquainted. We invite, as in all the former years, the most rigid scrutiny into the financial and general management of the Institution. Not a dollar has ever been drawn from the treasury without the approval of the Board and the order of the President, and the accounts of the Superintendent, sustained by explicit and accurate vouchers, showing how every dollar has been expended, from the origin of the Institution, have often been examined by Legislative Committees and other State authorities, and have always received unqualified approval. The Report of the Treasurer, with vouchers for all the expenditures of the year 1867, has been placed in the hands of the State Auditor. The Treasurer, Secretary, and Trustees perform the duties of their respective offices without any pecuniary compensation.

The education of the blind is vastly more expensive than that of any other class of pupils, as may be readily seen by an examination of the following statement, in our last Report, of the extraordinary expenses in a school of sightless pupils:

1. Books, charts, maps, globes, slates, and many other kinds of educational apparatus, prepared for the blind, are exceedingly expensive, costing from twenty to thirty times as much as those used by any class of seeing pupils; and these articles being continually sub-

jected to the pressure of the pupils' fingers, are much sooner injured, and require much more frequent renewal.

2. Many of the blind need a thorough musical education to qualify them to earn a living by their own industry, as teachers of music, and as organists in churches. The salaries of music teachers, and the purchase and repairs of pianos, organs, and other expensive musical instruments, greatly increase the cost of supporting a school for the blind. These expenses are not necessary in any other benevolent institution of the State.

3. The number of teachers is necessarily greater in a school of the blind than in any other containing the same number of pupils. In a school for deaf mutes, or any other seeing pupils, a teacher can, by visible illustrations, instruct, at the same moment, a class of twenty or more pupils. In a school for the blind, on the contrary, the teacher, whenever he uses tangible apparatus, must patiently apply himself to each member of the class, separately, and often devote more time to a single pupil than would be required by a class of forty pupils enjoying the priceless gift of vision. In addition to instruction in literature, music, and mechanic arts, many of the blind need constant supervision and instruction on many important points every hour in the day. Not in the school-rooms only, but in the dining-rooms, on the play-grounds, everywhere, the presence of the teacher is important. Numberless valuable lessons, which seeing children, without effort, take in at a glance, with no instructor but nature, the sightless child learns only from the oft-repeated instruction of the patient and faithful teacher. To teach some of the blind the most ordinary and simple lessons in manners, to enable them to overcome disagreeable personal habits, which, through the neglect of friends, they have been permitted to acquire, is, in some cases, the work of years—a work far more difficult than to guide the more gifted pupils successfully through the entire course of study pursued in the Institution. There are, usually, in this school, several feeble-minded pupils, and, occasionally, one deaf and blind. The peculiar care and instruction which these doubly-afflicted children require, add greatly to the labors of the teachers.

4. The necessity of instructing many of the blind in mechanical arts, to prepare them for independence and happiness, subjects this Institution, from year to year, to considerable expense which the other benevolent institutions in Kentucky avoid; as they either have no mechanical departments, or else such departments have been established by special appropriations from the State Treasury. Sightless apprentices require, of course, a much longer and more expensive course of instruction, and waste much more material in their early mechanical efforts, than any class of seeing workmen.

5. The other benevolent institutions of Kentucky have been furnished by the State with farms of greater or less extent, and many of the inmates cultivate the land profitably, and thereby relieve those Institutions from the necessity of paying, annually, large sums for the produce of garden and farm. The blind can neither cultivate the land, nor engage in many other kinds of work which the seeing inmates of the other Institutions of the State can so profitably perform..

6. There is, moreover, one important item of expenditure, for which, we believe, no public institution in the world, except the School for the Blind in Kentucky, is expected to provide. By an act of the Legislature of Kentucky, the officers of this Institution are authorized to present, in the name of the Commonwealth, to every meritorious graduate of the School, a copy of the Holy Bible, printed in raised letters, and other books, amounting to nearly \$25. Conformity to this act makes a serious draft upon the limited means of the Institution; yet the provision is a most noble one, and has ever received the cordial approbation of the Board of Trustees. No act of the Legislature more beautifully illustrates the generosity of the people of Kentucky. No duty of the officers of the School is more cheerfully performed than that of placing the Holy Bible in the hands of the blind graduates to enlighten their dark pathway through life.

The foregoing extraordinary expenses of the Kentucky School for the Blind, to which the other benevolent institutions of Kentucky have never been subjected, have not probably been duly considered by the Legislature, as may be seen by a glance at the following facts in relation to all the benevolent educational institutions of the State:

The Kentucky Institution for Deaf Mutes received, many years ago, from the Congress of the United States, donations of large tracts of land in Florida and Arkansas, from sales of which the Managers of the Institution, in the year 1861, reported that they had received nearly *sixty thousand dollars*; and they report in the year 1867 a *permanent fund*, derived chiefly from Congressional donations, of more than *twenty-six thousand dollars*; and yet the Institution for Deaf Mutes receives annually from the State Treasury larger appropriations than the entire income of the Institution for the Blind; and the Institution for Deaf Mutes is, moreover, authorized by law to collect from the parents or guardians of State pupils, such sums as they may be able to pay—in the aggregate a large amount annually—in addition to the quarterly allowance for State pupils, and the annual appropriations from the State Treasury.

The Institution for Feeble-minded and Idiotic Children, also, with a larger annual allowance from the State for each State pupil than is granted to the Institution for the Blind, has legal authority to make similar collections from the parents or guardians of the pupils in addition to the State allowance for each pupil.

No such authority is possessed or desired by the Managers of the Institution for the Blind. This Institution, like other schools for the blind in the valley of the Mississippi, is strictly a State school, without endowment, and entirely dependent upon the State for support. By legislative authority, it offers its privileges freely to all worthy blind children and youth in Kentucky, without regard to their pecuniary circumstances—to the rich and poor alike. The law which makes this Institution a free school of the State is eminently wise and just—it reflects the highest honor upon the Legislature and people of Kentucky; and in behalf of the blind children of the State we would most earnestly deprecate its repeal; yet the exclusive application of that law to this Institution increases the many great

pecuniary disadvantages under which it has labored for twenty-five years in the great work of educating the sightless children and youth of the State.

In addition to the sales of manufactured articles reported below, two hundred brooms have been made for the use of the Institution, and broom machines, amounting to three hundred and seventy-five dollars, have been manufactured to order, but not yet delivered. All other manufactured articles and all unmanufactured materials were sold before the close of the year.

The means in the hands of the Trustees, to meet the expenses of the Institution in the year 1867, have been as follows :

|                                                    |             |
|----------------------------------------------------|-------------|
| Annual appropriation, 1867 .....                   | \$6,000 00  |
| Allowance for State pupils, 1867.....              | 7,297 50    |
| From Indiana pupils .....                          | 175 00      |
|                                                    | <hr/>       |
|                                                    | \$13,472 50 |
| Balance against Institution December 31, 1866..... | 4,535 15    |
|                                                    | <hr/>       |
| Balance for support of Institution in 1867.....    | \$8,937 35  |

The expenditures during the year 1867 have been as follows :

|                                                                       |             |  |
|-----------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------|--|
| Salaries of officers and teachers.....                                | \$3,022 50  |  |
| Wages of servants, seamstress, laborers, and auditor.....             | 1,759 50    |  |
| Provisions, groceries, medicines, &c.....                             | 5,242 60    |  |
| Dry goods, carpets, oil-cloth, bedding, and shoes .....               | 753 44      |  |
| Furniture.....                                                        | 231 00      |  |
| Stoves, tinware, tableware, and hardware.....                         | 439 74      |  |
| Water-pipe, iron-work, horse-shoeing, &c.....                         | 232 14      |  |
| Painting, repairs, &c.....                                            | 673 35      |  |
| Hauling water and filling cisterns .....                              | 173 75      |  |
| Repairing and tuning pianos .....                                     | 25 00       |  |
| Expenses of exhibition at Frankfort.....                              | 84 00       |  |
| Horse, harness, and cow .....                                         | 235 50      |  |
| Fuel, oil, lamps, &c.....                                             | 581 29      |  |
| Lumber, carpenter work, fence, &c.....                                | 320 73      |  |
| Books, stationery, and printing .....                                 | 53 28       |  |
| City railway tickets.....                                             | 90 00       |  |
| Rent of land .....                                                    | 300 00      |  |
| Expenses of legislative examination.....                              | 454 00      |  |
| Expenses of work department, 1867.....                                | \$811 42    |  |
| Less sales of manufactured articles, &c.....                          | 580 72      |  |
|                                                                       | <hr/>       |  |
|                                                                       | 230 70      |  |
| Insurance.....                                                        | 625 00      |  |
|                                                                       | <hr/>       |  |
|                                                                       | \$15,527 52 |  |
|                                                                       | <hr/>       |  |
| Leaving against the Institution, December 31, 1867, a balance of..... | \$6,590 17  |  |

We earnestly solicit from the General Assembly an appropriation sufficient to discharge the above debt, to meet the deficit in the income of the next two years, and to supply some of the most urgent wants of the Institution.

A proper regard for the lives and health of the pupils and the property of the Institution, requires a better supply of water than has hitherto been enjoyed. The lot upon which the school is located was selected by a Board of Commissioners appointed by the State authorities ; and while it is in nearly every respect admirably adapted to the purpose for which it was selected, it has neither spring nor



stream to furnish the vast amount of water required in so large an Institution; and every effort of the Managers to obtain water by sinking a well in the limestone that underlies the Institution, has resulted in failure. The rain-water collected from the roof of the building, upon which the Institution has hitherto depended, is altogether insufficient; and during the last two years the cisterns have again and again become exhausted, and it has been necessary to haul water from a great distance, at heavy expense, to meet the ordinary wants of the Institution. The entire destruction of the buildings of this Institution by fire, in the year 1851, solely on account of the want of water, and the narrow escape of the pupils with their lives, teach a most impressive lesson that cannot soon be forgotten. In case a fire should break out again in the night in the Institution while destitute of water and so remote from the firemen and fire-engines of the city, to the destruction of valuable property of the State might be added the loss of the lives of the sightless pupils that would be lamented everywhere in all time to come. By timely precaution, we trust so fearful a calamity may be averted. Apparatus for the speedy extinguishment of fire may be introduced into the Institution at small expense, and a pipe, connecting the building with one of the branch pipes of the Louisville Water-works, a third of a mile distant, will bear an abundant and unfailing supply of water to the Institution, and water may then be as free to all the inmates of the Institution as the air of Heaven. The introduction of water will justify the fitting up of all needed bath-rooms, water-closets, an infirmary in each wing of the building, and an eruptive infirmary in the upper story for patients suffering with contagious diseases. As the Institution must depend upon rain or river water for all purposes, an ice-house is almost indispensable to the comfort and health of the inmates.

A danger of a different kind, but no less fearful than that of fire, threatens the prosperity of the Institution and the comfort and health of the pupils. This danger was foreseen and pointed out ten years ago, by Rev. J. D. Matthews, D. D., then the distinguished Superintendent of Public Instruction, and the earnest friend of this Institution. In his Report to the Legislature, he recommended "an appropriation to enable the Trustees to purchase land adjacent to the Institution, to protect it against annoying buildings and uncongenial neighbors." That recommendation was not urged upon the Legislature by the Trustees, because the most desirable of the adjacent land was not for sale. A year ago, the land on the west of the Institution was placed in the market, and, but for the vigilance and energy of the Superintendent, it would quickly have fallen into the hands of *uncongenial neighbors*, and even now *annoying buildings* would stand within a few yards of the Blind School; and every breeze from the west would bear disagreeable sounds and offensive odors to the afflicted children whose eyes are forever closed to all visible beauty. The land on the north and east of the Institution will be offered for sale in the coming spring, and, without prompt action on the part of the Institution, there is the greatest reason to believe that it will be secured by uncongenial neighbors, who will devote it to such purposes

as will hereafter prevent the Institution from being the pleasant and healthy home for the sightless children of the State which they have hitherto so greatly and gratefully enjoyed.

The want of pianos and other musical instruments in this School, is deeply lamented by the Managers and by all the more advanced pupils. Music is not only a source of the greatest and purest pleasure to the blind—it promises to many of them the surest means of usefulness and independence after leaving the School. To those who expect to support themselves as teachers of music, and as organists in churches, we desire to offer the best opportunities for a thorough musical education; but our facilities for doing this, at present, are very unsatisfactory. The best piano belonging to the Institution, and the only one suitable for the more advanced pupils, has been in constant school practice for ten years; and the other pianos have been in use nearly twice as long, and are unfit for longer service. Many of the pupils have made the best improvement possible under circumstances so unfavorable, but a supply of new instruments is indispensable to their further advancement.

The school-rooms, dormitories, and other parts of the Institution, greatly need furniture; and we would recommend that the floors of all the dormitories occupied by the younger pupils and by the female pupils be covered with plain substantial carpets, especially in the winter.

In view of all these urgent wants of the Institution, we most respectfully and earnestly solicit from the General Assembly an appropriation of eleven thousand dollars, to discharge the debts of the Institution, and to supply the deficit in the income to meet the ordinary expenses for the next two years; two thousand five hundred dollars for the purchase of pianos and other musical instruments; three thousand dollars for water-pipe, fitting up infirmaries, water-closets, bath-rooms, &c., and three thousand five hundred dollars for the purchase of land and furniture; making a total appropriation of twenty thousand dollars. With this appropriation the Trustees will be able to add very greatly to the security of the property of the Institution, and to the comfort, safety, health, and improvement of the pupils.

The Institution early in the year 1867, as it completed the first quarter of a century of its existence, underwent a long and thorough public review in a manner in the very highest degree satisfactory and pleasing to its friends and founders. In the year 1865, four blind men were expelled from the School by the Trustees, as was stated to the General Assembly in the report of that year. Although they were unanimously expelled with the cordial approval of all the pupils in the School, and after a most protracted and patient examination, they complained to the Legislature of their expulsion, and of the management of the Institution. The Trustees and Superintendent, confident that no wrong had been committed, urged the Legislature to investigate the charges of the expelled pupils, and the entire management of the Institution. A joint legislative committee was accordingly appointed, and near the close of the last session of the General Assembly, ten full days were devoted to the examination of witnesses.

The investigation was public, and the opposers of the School were invited to be present, and they took part in the examination and cross-examination of witnesses throughout the investigation. Only twelve persons, including the expelled pupils and their relatives and friends, could be induced to appear before the committee in opposition to the School; and the weight of the combined testimony of these twelve witnesses was decidedly in favor of the Institution and its management. Several other persons of the highest respectability, who were well acquainted with the School from its origin, were summoned by the opposition, but their entire testimony was in the highest degree favorable to the School and the Superintendent. The testimony in defense of the School was overwhelming. Graduates of the Institution from distant parts of Kentucky, and from several other States, as well as parents of pupils, hastened to Louisville to join their testimony to that of the under-graduates and other friends of the Institution in defense of its management; and the most persistent cross-examination throughout the investigation, failed to elicit a single fact unfavorable to the school or the Superintendent. All the graduates and pupils, from the first boy admitted in the Institution in the year 1842, to the last child received in the year 1867, with the above named exceptions, manifested the kindest regard for the School and Superintendent. In the course of the investigation most interesting revelations were made in regard to the early trials of the Institution. It had long been known that the Kentucky School for the Blind was most successfully conducted at comparatively very small expense to the State; some of the causes of that success, and of that low expenditure, were first made known to the public by that investigation. It was known to the older members of this Board that the Superintendent, in the year 1842, relinquished a most flourishing classical institute in the city of Louisville, and took charge of the State School for the Blind at a pecuniary sacrifice of more than a thousand dollars a year; but no member of the Board was aware, until the revelations of that investigation, that for a quarter of a century he had also generously consecrated his entire income to the sacred work of educating the blind of Kentucky.

Most interesting revelations also in regard to the success of the graduates of this Institution were made by the testimony of witnesses in the investigation. Professors, merchants, farmers, mechanics, who are graduates of this Institution, have for years been receiving, in consequence of their training in this school, larger salaries and incomes than their teacher and Superintendent ever received or desired from the State.

Prominent citizens of Kentucky who had been pupils of Mr. Patten prior to the origin of the School for the Blind, offered their testimony in his favor, and manifested the same grateful appreciation of his kindness that was exhibited by his sightless pupils. The gratitude of all his worthy pupils for twenty-seven years, from the honored Senator to the youngest blind child, was singularly touching and beautiful. The testimony taken was very voluminous, and furnishes a most interesting and beautiful history of the Institution for the first twenty-five years of its existence. A copy of all the testimony will be pre-

served in the archives of the Institution. It will furnish a rich fund of information to the future biographer and historian of the Institution. The cost of the investigation to the State is insignificant in comparison with the vast good that has already sprung from it.

The result of the investigation was, as every intelligent friend of the school confidently anticipated, a most triumphant vindication of the Superintendent and the management of the Institution for a quarter of a century, as is evident from the following brief extract from the report of the legislative committee to the General Assembly:

“Your committee take pleasure in stating that the Institution for the Blind has been managed with unsurpassed skill, and that the testimony, without exception, accords to Mr. B. M. Patten the highest qualities as a Teacher and Superintendent; and after a full and thorough examination of the evidence, we have come to the conclusion that Mr. Patten has fully exonerated himself from all the charges preferred against him; and after a full, thorough, and searching investigation into the conduct and management of the Institution from the time of its creation up to the present, it is to us a source of pleasure to announce that Mr. Patten and the Trustees who have had the control of said Institution, have fully vindicated themselves from all charges preferred against them.”

In conclusion, we commend the School for the Blind to the fostering care of the General Assembly which called it into existence, and which has kindly sustained it for a quarter of a century.

Respectfully submitted.

T. S. BELL,  
 JAMES HARRISON,  
 S. A. ATCHISON,  
 WM. KENDRICK,  
 J. G. BARRET,  
 HENRY J. STITES,  
*Trustees.*

KENTUCKY INSTITUTION FOR THE BLIND, }  
 LOUISVILLE, KY., December 31, 1867. }

## CATALOGUE OF PUPILS

FOR THE YEAR 1867.

| <i>Names.</i>        | <i>Residence.</i>    |
|----------------------|----------------------|
| Josephine B. Burns   | INDIANA.             |
| Alice Bradley        | Louisville.          |
| May I. Campbell      | Louisville.          |
| John Cheep           | Ashland.             |
| Anna E. Cochran      | Spencer county.      |
| Martha A. Cochran    | Spencer county.      |
| Nannie F. Cooper     | Boone county.        |
| Mary Costello        | Louisville.          |
| Nancy Cox            | Marion county.       |
| Martha J. Daniel     | Johnson county.      |
| Jennie Dixon         | Jefferson county.    |
| Frank Ellis          | Louisville.          |
| John Ernst           | Louisville.          |
| Algernon T. Flournoy | Paducah.             |
| John M. Forrester    | Boyle county.        |
| Mary E. Gallagher    | Louisville.          |
| Theresa E. Getton    | Grayson county.      |
| Josephus Getton      | Grayson county.      |
| William T. Gibbs     | Louisville.          |
| Louisa C. Glorious   | Louisville.          |
| Elizabeth Goalder    | Barren county.       |
| Franklin C. Godbey   | Christiansburg.      |
| Covington B. Guion   | Louisville.          |
| Richard J. Hambleton | Ashland.             |
| Catharine M. Hardin  | McLean county.       |
| John J. Hardin       | McLean county.       |
| Thomas Hazlep        | Breckinridge county. |
| Eliza J. Hedges      | Daviess county.      |
| Lucinda Hedges       | Daviess county.      |
| Rhoda J. Hills       | Campbell county.     |
| Wealthy J. Hill      | Woodford county.     |
| Wallace W. Holtzclaw | Jefferson county.    |
| Susan Hundley        | Lexington.           |
| Annie Husk           | Jefferson county.    |
| Patrick Kane         | Louisville.          |
| Annie B. Kendall     | Jefferson county.    |
| Ellen Kenney         | Louisville.          |
| Edward E. Martin     | Boone county.        |
| Clara Mattingly      | Louisville.          |
| Catharine McDonald   | Louisville.          |
| Alep McLary          | Adair county.        |
| Joseph P. Mitchell   | Owensboro.           |
| Sarah J. Mitchell    | Covington.           |
| Louisa Monohan       | Louisville.          |
| Sallie M. Neal       | Lexington.           |
| George Nevill        | Shelby county.       |
| Clara A. Pearl       | Hardin county.       |
| Lucinda Peggins      | Owensboro.           |
| Virginia Porter      | Louisville.          |
| Julia Purnell        | Maysville.           |
| Mary F. Rogers       | Fayette county.      |

| <i>Names.</i>        | <i>Residence.</i>  |
|----------------------|--------------------|
| Rebecca V. Rogers    | Fayette county.    |
| Elizabeth Ross       | Meade county.      |
| Elizabeth Schafer    | INDIANA.           |
| John Summers         | Elizabethtown.     |
| Zenobia Toms         | Washington county. |
| Minnie Troendle      | Louisville.        |
| John H. Vernon       | Hardin county.     |
| Mary A. Walker       | Louisville.        |
| Josiah J. Washington | Hopkins county.    |
| Naomi Wells          | Harrodsburg.       |
| William Whitehead    | Frankfort.         |
| Martha Williams      | Meade county.      |
| Mary Williams        | Meade county.      |
| William J. Winfrey   | Adair county.      |



**TWENTY-FIRST REPORT**

**OF THE**

**BOARD OF TRUSTEES**

**OF THE**

**KENTUCKY INSTITUTION FOR THE EDUCATION OF THE BLIND,**

**TO THE**

**GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF KENTUCKY,**

**FOR THE YEAR 1868.**

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**FRANKFORT, KY.:**  
**PRINTED AT THE KENTUCKY YEOMAN OFFICE.**  
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**1869.**





## OFFICERS AND TEACHERS.

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BRYCE M. PATTEN, A. M.,  
DIRECTOR.

Miss CLARA C. PLIMPTON,  
TEACHER.

Miss MARY L. WOOD,  
TEACHER.

Miss ELIZA T. DAVIS,\*  
TEACHER.

Mr. FERDINAND GROSKOPF,\*  
TEACHER OF MUSIC.

Miss LOANNA A. HASKELL,  
MATRON.

DAVID LASCH,\*  
TEACHER OF HANDICRAFT.

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\*Totally blind.



## TWENTY-FIRST REPORT.

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*To the General Assembly of the Commonwealth of Kentucky:*

The Trustees of the Kentucky Institution for the Education of the Blind, are happy to report that the State Institution under their charge has been favored with another year of uninterrupted prosperity. The pupils generally have enjoyed good health since our last report was presented to the General Assembly, and while the number of the inmates of the Institution has been somewhat less than in some previous years, the number of studious, docile, faithful scholars has been greater than ever before, and their moral, intellectual, and physical improvement has been more satisfactory than in any former year.

The appropriation made at the last session of your honorable body has, as we confidently anticipated, contributed very greatly to the improvement of the pupils, especially in the musical department of the School. Four new pianos have been purchased; all the old pianos belonging to the Institution have been repaired; the instruments necessary for a brass band and an orchestra have been procured; two bands have been organized and are in successful operation, and the pupils have attained to a much higher degree of excellence in music than at any former time.

The appropriation of the last session of the Legislature has also greatly promoted the health and comfort of the pupils. Infirmaries for the sick, and water-closets for the use of the pupils at night, have been fitted up in the most substantial manner; furniture has been purchased; new beds and carpets for the rooms of most of the pupils have been procured; an ice-house has been built, and filled with ice; many parts of the main edifice of the Institution, which were injured by Federal soldiers in the year 1862, have been thoroughly repaired; various other improvements have been made; and the School is now, in all respects, in a more prosperous condition than ever before; and its prospects for extensive usefulness are more flattering than at any other time since the origin of the Institution.

The important work of securing to the Institution an unfailing supply of water, which we hoped to accomplish in the last year, has necessarily been postponed. According to the estimate of the present engineer of the Louisville Water Company, the cost of a water-pipe, six inches in diameter, connecting the buildings of the Institution with the main pipe of the Louisville Water-works, will exceed the amount of the funds placed in our hands for that purpose by the sum of two thousand dollars. We have therefore been compelled to defer this important improvement until an appropriation shall be made by the Legislature, or until the Water Company will relieve the Institution of a part of the expense of the work.

The lot of twenty acres of land adjoining the grounds of the Institution on the north and east was, as we anticipated at the date of our last report, sold at auction in October last. It was sold at a low price, but without division, and for a sum far beyond the appropriation made by the Legislature for the purchase of land. We deeply regret that we had not the means and authority to purchase the entire lot for the Institution, in order to protect the School from the annoying buildings and uncongenial neighbors alluded to in former reports. This land is now held at an advanced price; but, for the reasons presented in our last report, we recommend that the Trustees be authorized to purchase, at least, that part of it lying north of the Institution, and between it and the Brownsboro road. The Institution, by act of the Legislature at the last session, is now within the limits of the city of Louisville; and the value of land in this vicinity is rapidly increasing.

The oil lamps by which the Institution is lighted are constant sources of danger to the lives of the pupils and the property of the Institution; and we cannot too earnestly recommend the introduction of gas into all the rooms in which lights are needed by teachers, pupils, attendants and servants.

Suitable walks and avenues, properly laid out through the grounds of the Institution, would greatly promote the health and happiness of the pupils, by inducing them to take more frequent exercise in the open air; but the limited means of the Institution have hitherto prevented us from making these desirable improvements.

It was deemed advisable, in July last, to accept the offer of several reliable insurance companies to insure for three years, at greatly diminished rates, the buildings, furniture, and apparatus of the Institution, to the amount of fifty thousand dollars. Digitized by Google

The receipts of the Institution in the year 1868 have been as follows:

|                                                     |            |             |
|-----------------------------------------------------|------------|-------------|
| Annual appropriation .....                          | \$6,000 00 |             |
| Allowance for State pupils .....                    | 5,926 65   |             |
|                                                     |            | \$11,926 65 |
| Special appropriation .....                         |            | 20,000 00   |
| From pupils from other States .....                 |            | 65 00       |
| From sales of broom machines .....                  |            | 172 25      |
|                                                     |            | \$32,163 90 |
| Balance against Institution December 31, 1867 ..... |            | 6,590 17    |
|                                                     |            | \$25,573 73 |

The expenditures in the year 1868 have been as follows:

|                                                                                                                   |            |            |
|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|------------|------------|
| Musical instruments .....                                                                                         | \$1,882 82 |            |
| Water-works, &c .....                                                                                             | 841 54     |            |
| Furniture, carpets, mattress materials, &c .....                                                                  | 936 95     |            |
| Blinds and curtains .....                                                                                         | 164 70     |            |
| Stone work, painting plastering, &c .....                                                                         | 667 05     |            |
| Ice-house .....                                                                                                   | 395 40     |            |
| Lumber, carpenter work, and repairs .....                                                                         | 801 33     |            |
| Dry goods, bedding, &c .....                                                                                      | 962 88     |            |
| Salaries of officers, teachers, and physician in 1868, and last quarter 1867 .....                                | 5,176 65   |            |
| Wages of servants, seamstress, and nurse .....                                                                    | 1,759 75   |            |
| Provisions, groceries, medicines, &c .....                                                                        | 5,244 72   |            |
| Fuel and oil .....                                                                                                | 1,029 97   |            |
| Cooking range, stoves, and tin ware .....                                                                         | 717 00     |            |
| Hardware, table ware, churn, and wringer .....                                                                    | 348 89     |            |
| Iron work and horse-shoeing .....                                                                                 | 52 00      |            |
| Cows and horse .....                                                                                              | 226 00     |            |
| Cart, saddle, and harness .....                                                                                   | 109 50     |            |
| Repairs of wagons and carriages, difference in exchange of rockaway-buggy and old buggy, and cleaning vault ..... | 476 40     |            |
| Rent of land .....                                                                                                | 300 00     |            |
| Expenses of exhibition at Frankfort .....                                                                         | 134 00     |            |
| Books and stationery .....                                                                                        | 34 43      |            |
| Traveling expenses of indigent pupils, city railway tickets, and omnibus hire .....                               | 256 95     |            |
| Insurance of fifty thousand dollars on buildings, furniture, and apparatus for three years .....                  | 875 00     |            |
| Broom materials, &c., less sales of brooms .....                                                                  | 68 92      |            |
|                                                                                                                   |            | 23,461 85  |
| Leaving in hands of Treasurer a balance of .....                                                                  |            | \$2,111 88 |

The Treasurer of the Institution will, as in former years, place in the hands of the State Auditor his report, with explicit vouchers for all the expenditures of the last year.

From the foregoing financial statement, it will be seen that the regular annual income of this Institution for the support of all its departments is only *eleven thousand nine hundred and twenty-six dollars*, a sum manifestly inadequate to the support of this Institution, and very far less than is annually expended by any other State Institution in Kentucky; and yet, for the reasons presented in our last report, the education of the blind is vastly more expensive than the education of any other class of pupils.

The course of study in this School embraces, with the exception of drawing and painting, the branches of learning usually taught in the best schools of the State. A part of each day is devoted to literary branches, a part to vocal and instrumental music, a part to handicraft, a part to gymnastic exercises, and a part to recreation.

At the close of the year 1867, an arrangement was made with Mr. Gettys, the teacher of handicraft, to take charge of the mechanical department on his own responsibility. He agreed to purchase all necessary materials, instruct the male pupils in handicraft, make all sales, and receive as compensation for his services the profits arising from the sales of manufactured articles. This arrangement proved satisfactory, and continued until Mr. G. removed from the State of Kentucky. After his resignation, Mr. D. Lasch was appointed Teacher, and, under his direction, the older male pupils have spent a part of the day in the manufacture of brooms, and in making and renovating mattresses for the inmates of the Institution. The Institution is now supplied with mattresses, and the pupils are ready, as in former years, to receive orders for brooms and for all kinds of mattresses, from the cheapest shuck to the best curled hair and patent spring mattresses. The sales of brooms and broom machines manufactured in the Institution, have amounted, in the last year, to two hundred and sixty-two dollars.

The sincere thanks of all the inmates of the Institution are tendered to Samuel Gill, Esq., Superintendent of the Louisville, Cincinnati, and Lexington railroad, and to the proprietors of the Louisville Courier, Louisville Journal, and Courier-Journal, for very highly valued favors during the last year.

We cannot close this report without inviting the attention of the Legislature to the importance of extending the school term of some

of the most meritorious students of this Institution. The members of the Legislature will probably be surprised to learn that the educational term of all the pupils in this School, except those who enter at a very early age, is limited by law to five years. This is less than half the time usually devoted to the education of seeing children and youth, and very much less than is allowed in other benevolent institutions in Kentucky and other States, in most of which, indeed, the school term is not limited by law. If five years would manifestly be too brief a term for those who are blessed with the sense of sight to qualify themselves in preparatory, collegiate, mechanical, and professional schools, for the various pursuits of life, certainly no argument is required to prove that it is insufficient for the sightless, with all the innumerable disadvantages arising from blindness with which they contend, not only during their school course, but throughout their entire lives. As the Kentucky Institution for the Education of the Blind is the only elementary, academical, musical, mechanical, and professional school established by the State for her sightless children, we earnestly petition the Legislature to empower the Trustees to extend, at their discretion, the educational term of such meritorious scholars as may be commended to the Board for that purpose by the Superintendent of the Institution.

Respectfully submitted.

T. S. BELL,  
HENRY J. STITES,  
JAMES HARRISON,  
WM. KENDRICK,  
J. G. BARRET,  
S. A. ATCHISON,

*Trustees.*

KENTUCKY SCHOOL FOR THE BLIND,  
LOUISVILLE, KY., December 31, 1868. }



## ADMISSION OF PUPILS.

The Kentucky School for the Blind has been in successful operation twenty-seven years. It was established by the Legislature for the instruction of those children and youth who are blind, and for those whose sight is so imperfect that they cannot see to read. All such children, of suitable age and of good moral character, are received and educated at the expense of the Institution, which is a State school, equally free to the rich and the poor.

The pupils are instructed in vocal and instrumental music, and in the branches usually taught in public schools and academies for seeing pupils. The boys are also taught mechanical trades, to enable them to support themselves independently after leaving the Institution.

The pupils, generally, are very happy and industrious, and many of them make wonderful advancement in their studies, and qualify themselves to be teachers of music, mathematics, and other branches of learning.

The Legislature provides for the board and tuition of the blind children and youth of Kentucky.

The annual school session commences on the first day of October, and terminates on the 15th day of July. It is very desirable that pupils should enter at the commencement of the session; but *new* pupils will be received at any time during the session.

Persons desiring to send children to this school, will please to send the name, age, and post-office address of the applicant to Mr. Bryce M. Patten, Louisville, Ky., who will cheerfully communicate any necessary information in regard to the Institution.

CATALOGUE OF PUPILS

FOR THE YEAR 1868.

| NAMES.                          | RESIDENCE.        |
|---------------------------------|-------------------|
| Josephine B. Burns, - - - - -   | INDIANA.          |
| Alice Bradley, - - - - -        | Louisville.       |
| Laura G. Bean, - - - - -        | Mount Sterling.   |
| May I. Campbell, - - - - -      | Louisville.       |
| John Cheep, - - - - -           | Ashland.          |
| Mary Costello, - - - - -        | Louisville.       |
| Martha J. Daniel, - - - - -     | Johnson county.   |
| Frank Ellis, - - - - -          | Louisville.       |
| Algernon T. Flournoy, - - - - - | Paducah.          |
| John M. Forrester, - - - - -    | Boyle county.     |
| Mary E. Gallagher, - - - - -    | Louisville.       |
| Theresa E. Getton, - - - - -    | Grayson county.   |
| Josephus Getton, - - - - -      | Grayson county.   |
| Louisa C. Glorious, - - - - -   | Louisville.       |
| Elizabeth Goalder, - - - - -    | Barren county.    |
| Franklin C. Godbey, - - - - -   | Christiansburg.   |
| Covington B. Guion, - - - - -   | Louisville.       |
| Richard J. Hambleton, - - - - - | Ashland.          |
| Eliza J. Hedges, - - - - -      | Daviess county.   |
| Lucinda Hedges, - - - - -       | Daviess county.   |
| Rhoda J. Hills, - - - - -       | Campbell county.  |
| Wallace W. Holtzclaw, - - - - - | Jefferson county. |
| Susan Hundley, - - - - -        | Lexington.        |
| Annie Husk, - - - - -           | Jefferson county. |
| Ellen Kenney, - - - - -         | Louisville.       |
| Edward E. Martin, - - - - -     | Boone county.     |
| Clara Mattingly, - - - - -      | Louisville.       |
| Reuben McClanahan, - - - - -    | Logan county.     |
| Charles McClellan, - - - - -    | ALABAMA.          |
| Catharine McDonald, - - - - -   | Louisville.       |
| Joseph P. Mitchell, - - - - -   | Owensboro         |



## OFFICERS AND TEACHERS.

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**BRYCE M. PATTEN, A. M.,**

**DIRECTOR.**

**Mrs. J. B. PATTEN,**

**TEACHER OF GYMNASTICS, CALISTHENICS, &C.**

**Miss Z. S. HUBBARD,**

**TEACHER.**

**Mrs. M. K. EMERSON,**

**TEACHER.**

**Prof. ERNEST ZOELLER,**

**TEACHER OF MUSIC.**

**DAVID LASCH, M. D.,**

**TEACHER OF HANDICRAFT.**

**Miss ANN FLYNN,**

**MATRON, AND TEACHER OF THE SEWING CLASSES.**



## TWENTY-THIRD REPORT.

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*To the General Assembly of the Commonwealth of Kentucky:*

The undersigned Trustees respectfully present the Twenty-Third Report of the Kentucky Institution for the Education of the Blind. The year 1870 has not, like most of the years that preceded it, been a year of uninterrupted prosperity. Several cases of severe illness have occurred among the pupils, one of which terminated fatally. Eliza J. Hedges, of Daviess county, died of pneumonia on the sixth day of May. This loved pupil was left in early childhood a penniless orphan. She was favored by nature with less than ordinary mental endowments, and during the first years of her school life she was regarded as one of the least docile and least promising pupils in a class of more than sixty. More than a year before her lamented decease a remarkable change was apparent in her daily life, and she greatly endeared herself to all by her docility, kindness, gentleness, and grateful appreciation of every favor. The Bible became the rule of her life, and she devoted a part of every day to its careful study. Her love for moral and religious instruction became great and constant, and in her conversation and letters she continually manifested the deepest interest in the spiritual welfare of her school-mates and friends. Funeral services were held in the chapel of the Institution, and the officers and pupils, who mourned her early death as that of a sister and friend, followed her remains to the beautiful dell in Cave Hill Cemetery, which has been secured by the State of Kentucky for the last resting-place of her sightless children who finish their earthly course while connected with the Institution.

Thus passed away from the School the fifth pupil that has been removed from it by death during the twenty-nine years of its existence. Sincere gratitude is due to the Giver of all Good for the remarkable exemption from death with which the Institution has been favored for so many years, as well as for the bright evidence afforded in the beautiful lives and triumphant deaths of these loved and lamented pupils, that they truly remembered their Creator in the days of their childhood and youth.

The number of pupils connected with the School during the last year has been sixty-four—thirty-two males and thirty-two females.

Under the operation of the act of the Legislature at the last session, which authorizes the Trustees of the Institution to extend the school term of certain meritorious pupils from five years, as formerly allowed by law, to seven years, the number of pupils has increased; and if the Trustees had authority to extend, at their discretion, the time of all meritorious pupils, as in other benevolent institutions in Kentucky and other States, the number would be much larger.

The receipts of the Institution in the year 1870 have been as follows :

|                                                                         |            |                  |
|-------------------------------------------------------------------------|------------|------------------|
| Allowance for State pupils last quarter in year 1869.....               |            | \$1,750 00       |
| Allowance for State pupils in year 1870.....                            | \$7,037 48 |                  |
| Annual appropriation in year 1870.....                                  | 6,000 00   |                  |
| From Louisiana pupil.....                                               | 160 00     |                  |
| From sales of 101 dozen brooms, \$275 55; pillows, &c.,<br>\$10 85..... | 286 40     |                  |
| From sales of broom machines made in the Institution.....               | 170 00     |                  |
|                                                                         |            | <u>13,653 88</u> |
|                                                                         |            | \$15,403 88      |
| Balance against Institution January 1, 1870.....                        |            | <u>2,135 27</u>  |
|                                                                         |            | \$13,268 61      |

The expenditures in the year 1870 have been as follows :

|                                                                           |            |                   |
|---------------------------------------------------------------------------|------------|-------------------|
| Provisions, groceries, medicines, &c.....                                 | \$3,786 01 |                   |
| Fuel, oil, &c.....                                                        | 810 66     |                   |
| Wages of servants and laborers.....                                       | 1,446 50   |                   |
| Salaries of officers, teachers, and physicians.....                       | 4,505 55   |                   |
| Louisville Water Company.....                                             | 256 90     |                   |
| Maps and school apparatus.....                                            | 260 90     |                   |
| Books, stationery, and music.....                                         | 103 36     |                   |
| Sewing machines.....                                                      | 152 00     |                   |
| Exhibition at Frankfort.....                                              | 165 45     |                   |
| Materials for mechanical department.....                                  | 686 94     |                   |
| Furniture, &c.....                                                        | 396 00     |                   |
| Dry goods, bedding, carpets, &c.....                                      | 792 85     |                   |
| Rent of garden and pasture.....                                           | 300 00     |                   |
| Funeral expenses of Eliza J. Hedges.....                                  | 91 00      |                   |
| Stoves, tinware, hardware, table-ware, iron-work, lawn-<br>mower, &c..... | 388 67     |                   |
| Lumber, painting, paving, &c.....                                         | 286 72     |                   |
|                                                                           |            | <u>14,429 51</u>  |
| Balance due Treasurer of Institution December 31, 1870.....               |            | <u>\$1,160 90</u> |

On account of the condition of the State Treasury, we failed to receive any part of the appropriation made to this Institution by the

Legislature at the last session ; and most of the improvements, provided for by that appropriation, have been necessarily postponed until the coming year.

We are, however, happy to report that one of the most urgent wants of the Institution has at last been supplied by the introduction of water from the Ohio river. The Louisville Water Company, in accordance with a contract with this Board, laid, in June last, an iron pipe, six inches in diameter, from the main pipe of the company, on Southall street, along the Shelbyville road to the western boundary of the Institution. For the use of the pipe and water the Water Company receives, for the present, ten per cent. per annum on the cost of the pipe.

A contract for connecting the pipe laid by the Water Company, with the buildings of the Institution, by a pipe eight hundred feet in length, was made with Messrs. J. M. Carson & Co., and the Institution is indebted to this firm for work already satisfactorily executed, to the amount of thirteen hundred dollars.

The introduction of steam-heating apparatus into the Institution, and the removal of the stoves now used in all parts of the building, are vastly important for the security of the lives of the pupils and the property of the Institution against the danger from fire. With this and the other improvements which have been necessarily postponed till the coming year, the buildings of this Institution will be unsurpassed by those of any Institution for the Blind in the United States.

The course of study during the last year has differed little from that of previous years. The improvement of the pupils in the various departments of the school has been highly gratifying, and an unusually large number of the pupils, of both sexes, give good promise of ability to secure for themselves an independent and honorable support by their own industry, as teachers of music, literary branches, and gymnastics, and as mechanics.

A noteworthy event in the history of the Institution is the introduction of sewing machines into the school near the commencement of the last year, and the surprising success of the female pupils in the use of the American, Wilcox & Gibbs, Wheeler & Wilson, and Howe machines. One of the most cheerful and interesting rooms of the Institution is that which, for two hours daily, is devoted to the sewing class. A seamstress is no longer needed in this Institution ; the great want now is work for the enthusiastic operators.



The Managers of this Institution set a very high estimate on music, and give it a prominent place in the school; but they believe that part of the money expended in musical instruments in schools for the blind might profitably be invested in sewing machines, and they recommend the introduction of these machines into all schools for the blind in the United States.

The members of this Board are happy to believe that the present pupils of this Institution are receiving such intellectual, moral, and physical training, as will ever prevent them from following the example of those blind graduates, who, after receiving an education at the expense of the State, establish lotteries, travel over the country, and induce kind but credulous persons to purchase tickets, under the vain pretense that the profits of their lotteries will be expended in printing a newspaper for the blind.

The American Printing House for the Blind, established in this city by several States of the Union, is actively engaged in the work of printing books in raised letters for the blind in the United States; and we are pleased to learn that the chief obstacles to the success of this benevolent Institution have been removed. The Institution is extending its operations over larger territory than formerly, and its prospects for extensive and permanent usefulness are constantly increasing. In common with the Managers of other Schools for the Blind, we are deeply interested in the prosperity of this National Institution, and we shall continue to give to it all the aid in our power. In compliance with the wishes of the Trustees of the American Printing House for the Blind, we have authorized Mr. B. M. Patten, the indefatigable founder and director of the Kentucky Institution for the Education of the Blind, to accept the office of Director of the American Printing House for the Blind, and to devote as much of his time to the interests of the latter Institution as he may be able to do without serious interference with his duties as Director of the former.

The attempt to destroy "The American Printing House for the Blind," and to induce the Congress of the United States to incorporate an institution in the District of Columbia, under the name of "The American Printing House for the Blind, and University for the Blind," and to appropriate to it half a million of dollars, has been repeatedly defeated; and as the Managers of Institutions for the Blind, in all parts of the United States, have earnestly remonstrated against the incorporation and endowment of such an institution in

the District of Columbia, and as distinguished gentlemen in various States have forbidden the unauthorized use of their names in support of it, it is not probable that members of Congress will hereafter be annoyed with petitions to induce them to favor it.

In conclusion, we respectfully commend the Kentucky Institution for the Blind to the care of the members of the General Assembly, and cordially invite them to visit and examine the School, in the confident assurance that, as ever heretofore, its entire management will receive their cordial approval.

Respectfully submitted.

T. S. BELL,  
 THOS. E. BRAMLETTE,  
 J. G. BARRET,  
 WM. KENDRICK,  
 JAMES HARRISON,  
 HENRY J. STITES,  
 ALFRED T. POPE,  
*Trustees.*

KENTUCKY INSTITUTION FOR THE BLIND, }  
 LOUISVILLE, December 31, 1870. }

## CATALOGUE OF PUPILS

FOR THE YEAR 1870.

| NAMES.                          | RESIDENCE.        |
|---------------------------------|-------------------|
| Lucy E. Armstrong, - - - - -    | Lexington.        |
| Lillie Armstrong, - - - - -     | Lexington.        |
| William Attebury, - - - - -     | Hart county.      |
| Hamilton Balentine, - - - - -   | Louisville.       |
| Laura G. Bean, - - - - -        | Mount Sterling.   |
| Percy S. Boullemet, - - - - -   | LOUISIANA.        |
| Alice Bradley, - - - - -        | Louisville.       |
| Mary Cavanaugh, - - - - -       | Louisville.       |
| John Cheap, - - - - -           | Ashland.          |
| William Clarke, - - - - -       | Louisville.       |
| William Davis, - - - - -        | Jefferson county. |
| Martha J. Daniel, - - - - -     | Johnson county.   |
| Francis P. Demier, - - - - -    | Louisville.       |
| Frank T. Ellis, - - - - -       | Louisville.       |
| John M. Ernst, - - - - -        | Louisville.       |
| Jane B. Fitzpatrick, - - - - -  | Hart county.      |
| Algernon T. Flournoy, - - - - - | Paducah.          |
| Charles Frederick, - - - - -    | Louisville.       |
| Mary E. Gallagher, - - - - -    | Louisville.       |
| Josephus Getton, - - - - -      | Grayson county.   |
| Theresa E. Getton, - - - - -    | Grayson county.   |
| Franklin C. Godbey, - - - - -   | Bedford.          |
| Robert Green, - - - - -         | Grant county.     |
| Covington B. Guion, - - - - -   | Louisville.       |
| Richard J. Hambleton, - - - - - | Ashland.          |
| Catherine M. Hardin, - - - - -  | McLean county.    |
| Lenora B. Hardin, - - - - -     | McLean county.    |
| John J. Hardin, - - - - -       | McLean county.    |
| Richard Hardin, - - - - -       | McLean county.    |
| Eliza J. Hedges,* - - - - -     | Daviess county.   |

| NAMES.                        | RESIDENCE.        |
|-------------------------------|-------------------|
| Joseph W. Heiser, - - - - -   | Newport.          |
| Rhoda J. Hills, - - - - -     | Campbell county.  |
| Annie C. Homire, - - - - -    | Louisville.       |
| Anna Hussk, - - - - -         | Fayette county.   |
| Ellen Kenney, - - - - -       | Louisville.       |
| Frances Little, - - - - -     | Butler county.    |
| Edward E. Martin, - - - - -   | Boone county.     |
| Clara Mattingly, - - - - -    | Louisville.       |
| Reuben McClanahan, - - - - -  | Logan county.     |
| John McElhone, - - - - -      | Louisville.       |
| Thomas Meddis, - - - - -      | Jefferson county. |
| George M. Miller, - - - - -   | Hawesville.       |
| Louisa Monohan, - - - - -     | Louisville.       |
| Emma Moorman, - - - - -       | Hardin county.    |
| James E. Murray, - - - - -    | Newport.          |
| Benjamin H. Myera, - - - - -  | Nicholas county.  |
| Sallie M. Neal, - - - - -     | Lexington.        |
| George F. Nevill, - - - - -   | Shelby county.    |
| Alice Parsons, - - - - -      | Louisville.       |
| Virginia Porter, - - - - -    | Louisville.       |
| Julia Purnell, - - - - -      | Maysville.        |
| Mary F. Rogers, - - - - -     | Fayette county.   |
| Rebecca V. Rogers, - - - - -  | Fayette county.   |
| Elizabeth Ross, - - - - -     | Meade county.     |
| Georgia Sale, - - - - -       | Louisville.       |
| John Summers, - - - - -       | Elizabethtown.    |
| Henry T. Townes, - - - - -    | Henderson county. |
| Herminia Troendle, - - - - -  | Louisville.       |
| John H. Vernon, - - - - -     | Hardin county.    |
| Mary A. Walker, - - - - -     | Louisville.       |
| James M. West, - - - - -      | Christian county. |
| Mary Williams, - - - - -      | Meade county.     |
| Martha Williams, - - - - -    | Meade county.     |
| William J. Winfrey, - - - - - | Columbia.         |

\*Deceased.

## ADMISSION OF PUPILS.

The Kentucky School for the Blind has been in successful operation twenty-nine years. It was established by the Legislature for the instruction of those children and youth who are blind, and for those whose sight is so imperfect that they cannot see to read. All such children, of suitable age and of good moral character, are received and educated at the expense of the Institution, which is a State school, equally free to the rich and the poor.

The pupils are instructed in vocal and instrumental music, and in the branches usually taught in public schools and academies for seeing pupils. The boys are also taught mechanical trades, to enable them to support themselves independently after leaving the Institution. The girls are taught to use sewing machines, and to do various kinds of fancy work.

The pupils, generally, are very happy and industrious, and many of them make wonderful advancement in their studies, and qualify themselves to be teachers of music, mathematics, and other branches of learning.

The Legislature provides for the board and tuition of the blind children and youth of Kentucky.

The annual school session commences on the first day of October, and terminates on the first day of July. It is very desirable that pupils should enter at the commencement of the session; but *new* pupils will be received at any time during the session.

Persons desiring to send children to this school, will please to send the name, age, and post-office address of the applicant to Mr. Bryce M. Patten, Louisville, Ky., who will cheerfully communicate any necessary information in regard to the Institution.

**TWENTY-FOURTH REPORT**

**OF THE**

**BOARD OF TRUSTEES**

**OF THE**

**KENTUCKY INSTITUTION FOR THE EDUCATION OF THE BLIND,**

**TO THE**

**GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF KENTUCKY,**

**FOR THE YEAR 1871.**

---

**FRANKFORT, KY.:**  
**PRINTED AT THE KENTUCKY YEOMAN OFFICE.**  
**S. I. M. MAJOR, PUBLIC PRINTER.**

**1872.**



## PRESIDENT'S LETTER.

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**To His Excellency, PRESTON H. LESLIE, Governor of Kentucky :**

**I herewith submit to your Excellency the Twenty fourth Report of the Trustees of the Kentucky Institution for Educating the Blind.**

**I am, with great respect, yours,**

**T. S. BELL, *President.***





## BOARD OF VISITORS OR TRUSTEES.

---

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SECRETARY OF THE BOARD.

B. B. HUNTOON, A. M.

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---

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SEAMSTRESS AND TEACHER OF SEWING.



## TWENTY-FOURTH REPORT.

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*To the General Assembly of the Commonwealth of Kentucky :*

The Trustees of the Kentucky Institution for the Education of the Blind, respectfully present to the General Assembly of the Commonwealth of Kentucky the Twenty-fourth Report of the condition of the Institution. And they are gratified in being able to say, that, at no time in its history, has this Institution given brighter promise of the success of all the enlightened, philanthropic, and just objects of the representatives of the people of Kentucky, than it does now. The past year has devolved an unusual amount of labor on the Trustees of this Institution, through which they have undoubtedly acquired a more intimate acquaintance with all its affairs, than has been possessed by any other Board connected with its management. These unusual labors exacted an immense amount of the time of the Board; but each member contributed his time and labor, under the conviction that the trust confided to him is too sacred to be neglected.

At the opening of the thirtieth session of this Institution, the Board were fortunate enough to secure the services of Mr. B. B. Huntoon as Director. His scholarship, his excellent gifts as a teacher, his genial character, his great fidelity to every duty he has undertaken during his long residence in the city of Louisville, and the industrious use of all his endowments, commended him to the Board as well qualified for this high trust. Our experience of his management, founded on almost daily observation, has amply confirmed our expectations in confiding the Institution to his management. The progress and condition of the school, and the rigid and judicious economy under Mr. Huntoon's management, give promise of a gratifying success in his directorship of this important work. The Board take great pleasure in commending him to the fullest confidence of the General Assembly, the Superintendent of Public Instruction, and the Board of Education; and we feel confident that when the friends of educating the blind have the opportunity of weighing his endowments as we have weighed them, they will place the proper estimate upon him.

One of the most difficult of the duties we have to perform is in awakening the blind of the Commonwealth to the noble provision of the State authorities for the education of these sightless members of the State. The law of January 9th, 1852, provides, that "from and after the present year, it shall be the duty of the commissioners of tax in each county in the Commonwealth, to ascertain and return on the back of their books, respectively, the names and ages of all blind children under twenty years of age, in their respective counties, together with the name of the post-office nearest to the residence of each." We have scarcely ever received any assistance of this kind during the twenty years that this law has been in existence. May we suggest to the representatives of the people in the General Assembly the propriety of enacting a law requiring the presiding judge of each county to annually direct the attention of the commissioners of taxes in his county to the duty devolved on them by the law of 1852? If attention were given to its proper discharge, the blind of Kentucky would be greatly benefited, not only in the opportunity of being blessed with education, but in being raised from absolute dependence on others, to the honoring condition of self-reliance, because many of the educated blind are able to support themselves.

The Kentucky Institution for the Education of the Blind could discharge its educating duties to two hundred pupils, as well as to sixty or seventy, without doubling the expenses of the school. A large portion of the essential expenses of an Institution for the Blind would not be any larger for two hundred pupils than for sixty or seventy. In recognition of the duties confided to us by the State, in order to extend the blessings provided by the Commonwealth for the blind, we addressed a letter to every member of each House of the General Assembly, in which we earnestly pleaded for the help of each member in finding for us every blind child in his county or district, so that we might bring every one of them, capable of being taught, into access with this Institution. In that letter we said, "in accepting our appointments for this Trusteeship of the Kentucky Institution for the Blind, we feel that the blind are our wards, to be looked after, to be hunted up and cared for, at the very least, to the extent of bringing home to them every blessing the Commonwealth has provided for them." While we thus express our sense of the duty given to us to perform, may we not appeal to every citizen of Kentucky, and ask whether this

guardianship of the helpless blind of the State is not an imperative demand upon the citizenship of every Kentuckian? In "duty recognized and duty performed" are embodied the purest conception of Christianity, the highest elements of civilization, the best activities of citizenship in a Commonwealth. If we cannot give sight to the blind, we can and should make an approach toward it, in educating their sense of touch, especially their tactile powers, so that they may securely and beneficially travel over the fairest fields of education, and clothe their minds with abundant fruits of the purest knowledge. A considerable increase of pupils in attendance upon the school will, as a matter of course, increase our labors and responsibilities; but we shall cheerfully meet the call upon us, for the sake of the enlarged amount of good we should be able to render to the people of Kentucky, in giving to the blind of the State the substantial benefits of education. By examining the list of pupils, now reported, it will be seen that the per centage of attendance, based on the number of blind children in Kentucky, who should be receiving instruction in this Institution, is not by any means large, compared with what it should be. We have carefully examined the expenditures of other institutions for educating the blind in the various States of this country, and we know that the expenses of the Kentucky School contrast very favorably with those of any other. These expenses would not, by any means, be proportionally increased, even if the number of pupils were doubled or tripled. We have exhausted all the means in our power for securing a larger attendance of the blind of the State upon the ministrations of this Institution, and submit to the wisdom of the Legislature to devise proper measures for this purpose. In addition to our appeal to the members of the Legislature, one of our colleagues presented the subject to the Conference of the Methodist Church, South, and enlisted the sympathies and activities of that large and influential body.

The vast importance of teaching the seeing by means of tangible objects is now generally recognized by educators, but in the instruction of the blind such aid is almost indispensable. The avenues of the five senses are the means by which sensible objects address themselves to the mind, and when any one of them is closed, means must be resorted to for overcoming the difficulty. One of the best educated girls in this country has but a single sense—that of touch. By a judicious and intelligent training of that single faculty this lady has

been enabled to successfully cultivate large and various departments of knowledge. Some apparatus for instruction was made especially for her use. Her case excited the admiration of all civilized Europe. But many of the blind have very complete possession of four of the senses. The enlargement of their learning can be materially aided by models that instruct through the means of touch. These models are of great value to any school: their value to the blind is almost inestimable. For example: through the anatomy of the hand a blind child can be thoroughly instructed in the Divine mechanism of that great element of human power. One of the most instructive and entertaining of the series of books written under a bequest in 1825 of forty thousand dollars and the accruing dividends, by the Earl of Bridgewater, "on the power, wisdom, and goodness of God, as manifested in the creation; illustrating such work by all reasonable arguments, &c.," is that selected by the Earl of Bridgewater, entitled "The Construction of the Hand of Man," the preparation of which was confided to Sir Charles Bell. This volume has delighted, instructed, and strengthened the wholesome faith of many thousands of the human family; and through the tangible powers of anatomical preparations and lectures on the subject the blind can be made to appreciate and enjoy the forces of this knowledge quite as well as seeing persons. Professor J. M. Bodine, Professor of Anatomy in the medical department of the University of Louisville, has, in obedience to the request of the Trustees of this Institution, consented to deliver lectures to the blind pupils for the purpose of imparting this valuable knowledge. And Professor Edward R. Palmer, of the same institution, has consented to deliver physiological lectures on the subject.

A distinguished Frenchman, some years ago, made a complete set of models of all mathematical figures, and for the purpose of promoting education the State of New York purchased this series at a cost of twenty thousand dollars. But in the mechanical department of Cornell University a full set of perfect copies of these figures are now manufactured and sold at eight hundred dollars. A small portion of these would be of great service in teaching mathematics to the blind, a science for which many of the blind have great capacity. The almost unrivalled mathematician who succeeded Sir Isaac Newton at Cambridge, as teacher of mathematics and of the laws of light, was totally blind from the time he was four years of age. He was one of the first teachers in Europe, and was almost as much renowned as a Greek and Latin scholar as for his mathematical knowledge.

A large variety of objects of the character we have named are made by M. Auzoux. Many of these are very much larger than the natural size of the things represented. The design of these "object lessons" is to make tangible things that are visible to the seeing. They are of great value in schools of seeing persons as important aids for instruction, but in the education of the blind they are peculiarly useful. We respectfully ask the consent of the General Assembly for the purchase of a small number of these models, for the instruction of the blind.

The pupils have made commendable progress in their studies, and the entire spirit of the school is earnest and eager for improvement. Particular attention is paid both to vocal and instrumental music, for which some of the pupils seem to manifest a peculiar talent. The pupils have successfully maintained a band, both of brass and of string instruments, and have gained an excellent reputation. They occasionally give public performances, which yield them some income. At the recent Masonic fair for the Widows and Orphans' Home, the band of the School for the Blind furnished nightly the music for the occasion.

The work in the mechanical department has gone on with considerable success. Several blind persons have learned to make brooms and mattresses, and to cane chairs with sufficient expertness to maintain themselves, and establish a paying business. So far as our experience goes, there seems to be many excellent openings for the blind to profitably exercise, in the sparsely settled parts of the country, any kind of handicraft with which they can be made acquainted. At present the occupations in which the blind can engage are very limited, and we think it the part of wisdom to make experiments every year in new directions, some of which might doubtless prove advantageous, and the great results that would flow from these would more than compensate for any failures in the effort at improvement. The new Director, Professor Huntoon, has many qualifications for conducting these efforts. The enlightened sense of justice on the part of the State has supplied this Institution with many excellent and costly appliances that are needed in the education of the blind, and the evident intention of the Legislature is, that the Kentucky School for the Blind shall be second to none in the country for the completeness of its apparatus for imparting a sound education.



The necessities of the school call for a complete set of standard weights and measures, and for a more extensive assortment of models than the school now possesses.

Inasmuch as life not only manifests itself in movement, but depends for subsistence on a series of motions, we hold that it should be an integral part of all education to train children in a knowledge of this element of existence, and that they should be taught the proper exercise of this knowledge. A feeble respiration may be very materially and substantially strengthened by exercise in the right direction, or it may be permanently crippled by neglect. An impervious air tube in the lungs produces collapse in all that part of the lung that is dependent on that tube. If blood ceases to run through an artery or vein, the vessel closes and becomes a cord. Muscular motion is absolutely essential to muscular nutrition; inactivity of muscles, therefore, leads to loss of power, which is absolute or temporary in proportion to the persistence of the inactivity. For these reasons we think that a most important element in all successful education, is that called gymnastics. It is difficult to conceive of fullness of excellence of the mental powers when the body is diseased. This fact was well known to the Greeks, and their doctrine of the necessity of exercise of the proper kind for maintaining the health of body and mind was enforced by all their great thinkers, and accepted by the people. To this fact the world is indebted for all its enjoyment of the mental powers of Cicero. He went to Athens pale, slender, and feeble. He was such a victim to indigestion that his stomach refused to retain the sustenance he forced himself to eat. The gymnastics at Athens effected a thorough revolution in his physical condition. These gymnastics, when judiciously used, are of great utility in all kinds of schools, but they are imperatively demanded in schools for the blind. A great many blind children, on account of their helplessness, lead at home a life of inaction that is very prejudicial to health. Many of them are anemic, others are deplorably cachectic. For the relief of these conditions judiciously devised gymnastics are among the most certain means of relief. All kinds of gymnastics are not useful to all kinds of constitution. Like all other potencies, that kind that may be eminently serviceable to one class of bodily infirmities, may be very detrimental to another. Hence the necessity of a proper understanding of the powers and various forces of gymnastics, in order that the blind may be trained in benefits, and not in evils. We pay great attention to this impor-

tant aid, as we do to each element of physical education, in educating the blind.

The Trustees were forced to give an unusual amount of attention for several months to the general condition of the Institution, and in this way we have instituted economic measures of some value. We discovered that we had ten head of cattle, only two of which were giving milk, and that there was very little probability that any of the other cows would yield milk for many months to come, if ever. The expense of feeding these unprofitable cattle the greater portion of the year would have been almost a dead loss. We speak of feeding them the greater portion of the year, because there is no good pasturage accessible to the Institution, except at a ruinous rental, because of the high price of land in convenient reach of the Institution. Upon a full consultation of the members of the board, experienced in these questions, the cattle were sold, and we have an excellent arrangement with an upright dairyman, for supplying the Institution with milk. We found, too, that there were two horses at the Institution, and are satisfied, in which the Director concurs fully, that one will do. We have ordered the sale of one of these horses, and this will cut off the unnecessary expense of feeding a superfluous animal, to say nothing of other expenses incident to the keeping of a horse.

Under the careful guardianship over the supplies of the Institution, and the vigilance exercised by Mrs. Huntoon, who is acting matron, we are confident that numerous leaks have been effectively stopped, and that the appropriations made by the State for the blind children will be so used as to sacredly enure to their welfare. In a peculiar emergency, the President of this Board earnestly entreated, as a personal favor to him, Mrs. Huntoon to take charge of the matron's duties until time should enable us to secure a matron. This estimable lady complied with the request, greatly to the benefit of the pupils, and of the entire Institution. The duties have been performed so thoroughly to our satisfaction, such a beneficial change has been effected in the delights and welfare of the pupils, that we have taken up a forgetfulness that she was asked to take temporary charge, and we have no thought of reminding her of it.

In being brought into a daily supervisorship of the grounds of the Institution, as well as of its internal and educational interests, we found it necessary to cut off the entire water-closet system of

the building. In the first place we neither had, nor could we, in any way, command a drainage of such material away from our grounds. The attempt had been made to do this through an open ditch across private property several hundred feet in width, and the drainage had to be emptied upon private property. In addition to the impropriety of this conduct, and its baleful character, it was a trespass that we determined to stop. In winter time these water-closets in the building became a nuisance, on account either of want of water from its being drawn from the pipes to prevent freezing, or, when this was postponed, from the freezing of water in the pipes. Our experience satisfied us that these were evils that demanded abatement. After a thorough examination of the whole subject, we determined to resort to earth-closet commodes, as by far the most eligible, convenient, remunerative, healthful, and economic method that could be adopted. They have been introduced into the building as far as our pecuniary resources permitted, and they have justified our expectations. The evils of the freezing of the water in the pipes are the result of the failure to heat the Institution with steam or hot-water pipes, a failure, unexpectedly to us, arising from the inability of the State Treasurer to pay the full amount of the appropriations made to the school. That officer, we are well satisfied, did all in his power to meet these appropriations. This failure has exposed the school to the perils of stoves, and has caused much unavoidable expense. Until we secure a proper method of heating the building, the School for the Blind must often suffer in cold weather the deplorable evils of the want of proper supplies of water.

Two notable events connected with the welfare of the blind have occurred within the past year. One of these was the meeting of a Convention of the Superintendents of the Educational Institutions for the Blind, and Teachers of the Blind, for the purpose of unifying the various interests scattered over the country, in connection with the improvement of the blind. Of twenty-seven Institutions for the Blind, twenty-five were in favor of the Convention, and gave it their hearty approval. The Convention met at Indianapolis last August, and accomplished a great deal of useful work. The principal object in the deliberations of the Convention seemed to be, in the language of the Superintendent of the Minnesota Institution for the Deaf and Dumb and Blind, to ascertain, "how can *the men and means employed* be made *more* efficient in educating the blind?" Much was

done by the Convention toward elucidating this important question. In another part of this Report we have spoken of finding new directions for teaching the blind, successful methods of securing, at least a livelihood, by their own efforts. The experiences of the various Superintendents of Schools for the Blind, as detailed at the Convention, give some valuable information on this point, by which we hope to profit in the Kentucky Institution

The second of these important events to the blind is the proposition of Mr. S. P. Ruggles, of Boston, to institute and carry on at his own expense a series of experiments for improving the type, paper, and mode of printing for the blind, for the purpose of cheapening the cost of production, and for the attainment of other objects of great utility. He has, undoubtedly, for the past forty years, been regarded as the best of all inventors in mechanical matters, connected with literature for the blind, that this country has produced. He was originally one of the finest engravers of bank notes in this country, but left that employment to devote himself to improvements in instructive apparatus for the blind. He invented in 1835 the first printing press ever made for the blind, and he was the first that ever succeeded in devising the manufacture of paper for embossed printing for the blind—a paper that does not crack in the operation of printing raised letters for the blind, nor suffer the characters to flatten down by the pressure of the fingers in reading. This invention is a priceless boon to the blind. He also invented movable type, by which the map of any country can be perfectly and beautifully printed for the blind. The type with which a map of Asia is printed may be distributed and then put together to print a map of North America or of any other region. With these map characters Mr. Ruggles has produced a very complete atlas of the United States, and also a general atlas. "Every piece of type matches its neighbor with miraculous cunning, while following the lines and angles or graceful curves of the various rivers, coasts, islands, lakes, bays, &c., with which such works abound." In 1863 Mr. Ruggles invented a large press for the American Printing House for the Blind, located in Louisville, Ky. The work of this press surpassed in excellence all printing for the blind ever previously accomplished. We have specimens of its work printed at the Technological Institute at Boston before it was sent to Louisville, and we have never seen, even in the excellent work of the American Printing House for the Blind, any that surpassed the excellence of the work done by it in Boston as a sample of its power. Mr. Ruggles is ad-

vanced in years, has become wealthy by various inventions apart from those we have mentioned, and he now wishes to devote the remainder of his life and a portion of his fortune for the benefit, as he says, "of all the blind." He has fitted up an elaborate office in Boston, in which he runs two steam engines, by the aid of which he is making experiments with punches and dies and other agencies, for the benefit of the blind. He has also stereotyping and electrotyping departments to aid him in his works for the blind. We feel great confidence that these labors will largely promote the welfare of the blind. He is working, entirely at his own expense, for the American Printing House for the Blind, chartered by the Legislature of Kentucky. It is to Mr. Ruggles that the blind and the friends of the blind are indebted for all that is most valuable in the art of printing for the blind that has been invented in the past forty years. To the perfectness of his inventions in this line, the officials of the French and Belgian Institutions for the Blind bear strong testimony. It is the avowed purpose of Mr. Ruggles to make a free gift of his inventions for the blind, the most valuable of which have not been made public yet.

The following circular of the committee appointed by the Convention of Teachers of the Blind, of which Convention we have spoken very fully, explains the initial steps toward the great work of Mr. Ruggles:

"PHILADELPHIA, December 12, 1871.

"DEAR SIR: The undersigned, members of the committee appointed by the Convention of Instructors of the Blind, at Indianapolis, in August, 1871, met in Philadelphia on the 21st of November, 1871, to consider the following proposition made by Mr. S. P. Ruggles, of Boston:

"If all the Institutions for the Blind in the United States will choose a Publishing Committee, said committee representing all said Institutions, whose duty it shall be to decide what books, maps, etc., shall be printed, the number of copies in each edition, and how to be distributed among the different blind people and Institutions, I will get up an improved printing establishment, supplied with all the necessary printing presses, all the type, of various kinds, for books, maps, and all other work, together with all the conveniences for electrotyping and stereotyping; and also all the appliances necessary for the manufacture of the school apparatus, and all things needed for the successful operation of the entire mechanical departments

of such an establishment, and all at my own expense, without any charge or cost to said committee or Institutions; and I will also superintend the same without pay or cost to any one, my sole object being to give the blind the benefit of all the improvements which I have thought out and perfected within the past ten years, and which I believe will be found to be nearly, or quite, as much in advance of the present modes of instruction, printing, etc., as the improvements which I made in 1835 were in advance of every thing prior to that time.'

"The committee, after due consideration, passed the following resolution :

"*Resolved*, That we do hereby cordially accept, in behalf of all the Institutions for the Instruction of the Blind in the United States, the above very generous offer of Mr. Ruggles.

"The committee repaired to Boston and presented the resolution, in person, to Mr. Ruggles, with their thanks for his contemplated munificent gift to the blind of our country.

"WILLIAM CHAPIN, of Pennsylvania,

"WILLIAM H. CHURCHMAN, of Indiana,

"A. D. LORD, of New York State,

"F. D. MORRISON, of Maryland,

"G. L. SMEAD, of Ohio,

"H. L. HALL, *General Agent, &c.*

*Committee."*

We, in common with all who know the merits of Mr. Ruggles as an inventive genius, unrivalled in the improvements made for the blind, and all who know what he has done in that department of progress, entertain the confident hope that the American Printing House Company for the Blind, in Louisville, Ky., will, through the generous labors of Mr. Ruggles, attain the means of greatly enlarging the methods of instructing blind pupils and of improving and strengthening the enjoyments, in literature, of those already taught in the schools.

We herewith submit our report of the receipts and expenditures of the Kentucky Institution for the Blind, for the year 1871. The Treasurer of the Institution will, as usual, settle with the Auditor of the State, and file with that officer his vouchers.

The following is the report of John G. Barret, Treasurer of the Kentucky Institution for the Blind, and statement of his account as such; up to the 31st December, 1871 :

JOHN G. BARRET, TREASURER,

*In account with Kentucky Institution for the Blind.*

## RECEIPTS.

| 1871.     |     |                                                                                                                |             |
|-----------|-----|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------|
| March     | 2.  | To amount received from Treasurer of State, on annual allowance -----                                          | \$4,000 00  |
| March     | 6.  | To amount received from same -----                                                                             | 6,000 00    |
| April     | 1.  | To amount received from same, on special appropriation by Legislature, the appropriation being \$10,000 -----  | 4,000 00    |
| April     | 20. | To first quarterly allowance -----                                                                             | 1,621 65    |
| July      | 5.  | To second quarterly allowance -----                                                                            | 1,645 00    |
| October   | 5.  | To third quarterly allowance -----                                                                             | 1,295 00    |
| September | 28. | To amount received of D. Lasch from sales -----                                                                | 360 00      |
| March     | 4.  | To amount received of T. S. Bell, being check on the Treasurer of State, on appropriation of Legislature ----- | 1,000 00    |
| March     | 24. | To cash of B. M. Patten, for bull sold -----                                                                   | 35 00       |
| March     | 24. | To cash of Otis Patten, for 4 copies Blind Child's Book -----                                                  | 12 00       |
| March     | 24. | To cash of Otis Patten, for 1 Paradise Lost -----                                                              | 5 00        |
| March     | 24. | To cash of Otis Patten, for 1 Constitution United States -----                                                 | 1 00        |
| December  | 30. | To cash of P. Boullemet, from Louisiana -----                                                                  | 160 00      |
| December  | 30. | To cash of E. Schafer, from Indiana -----                                                                      | 25 00       |
| December  | 30. | To cash for sale of live stock -----                                                                           | 138 80      |
| December  | 30. | To cash from sales of goods from workshop -----                                                                | 167 35      |
|           |     |                                                                                                                | <hr/>       |
|           |     |                                                                                                                | \$20,465 80 |

## EXPENDITURES.

| 1871. |     |                                                    |            |
|-------|-----|----------------------------------------------------|------------|
|       |     | By amount due Treasurer by last report -----       | \$1,160 90 |
| April | 8.  | No. 1. First quarter's salaries -----              | 1,182 50   |
| May   | 10. | No. 2. First quarter's wages -----                 | 423 00     |
| June  | 2.  | No. 3. By amount to Messrs. Pike & Benner -----    | 40 00      |
| June  | 7.  | No. 4. By amount to L. Eisenman -----              | 879 67     |
| July  | 5.  | No. 5. By amount to water rent -----               | 125 00     |
| July  | 17. | No. 6. By amount to salaries, second quarter ----- | 1,040 00   |
| July  | 17. | No. 7. By amount to John M. Carson & Co. -----     | 1,326 63   |
| July  | 18. | No. 8. By amount to Wm. Linton -----               | 262 50     |
| July  | 20. | No. 9. By amount to Eisenman -----                 | 634 34     |
| July  | 21. | No. 10. By amount to Wm. Hoerter -----             | 301 04     |
| July  | 21. | No. 11. By amount to Wm. Hoerter -----             | 245 84     |
| July  | 21. | No. 12. By amount to wages, second quarter -----   | 371 20     |
| July  | 21. | No. 13. By amount to Brown & Jelks -----           | 27 40      |
| July  | 21. | No. 14. By amount to T. Johnston -----             | 24 00      |
| July  | 21. | No. 15. By amount to Wm. Sumner & Co. -----        | 14 50      |
| July  | 21. | No. 16. By amount to H. Buchter -----              | 28 50      |
| July  | 21. | No. 17. By amount to William Bailey -----          | 48 00      |
| July  | 21. | No. 18. By amount to Kennedy & Irvin -----         | 328 44     |
| July  | 21. | No. 19. By amount to Shearer & Mackay -----        | 74 25      |
| July  | 21. | No. 20. By amount to Falls City Steam Bakery ----- | 67 51      |
| July  | 21. | No. 21. By amount to S. Barker & Co. -----         | 142 15     |
| July  | 21. | No. 22. By amount to Fry & Patton -----            | 259 37     |
| July  | 21. | No. 23. By amount to H. G. Van Seggern -----       | 417 93     |
| July  | 21. | No. 24. By amount to Speckman & Dix -----          | 34 25      |

Amount carried forward ----- \$9,408 91

|                              |     |                                                                            |            |
|------------------------------|-----|----------------------------------------------------------------------------|------------|
| Amount brought forward ..... |     |                                                                            | \$9,408 91 |
| July                         | 21. | No. 25. By amount to Grove, Burhlage & Co.....                             | 50 35      |
| July                         | 21. | No. 26. By amount to J. Sacksteder.....                                    | 500 67     |
| September                    | 9.  | No. 27. By amount to B. M. Patten.....                                     | 300 00     |
| September                    | 9.  | No. 28. By amount to B. M. Patten.....                                     | 319 00     |
| September                    | 26. | No. 29. By amount to third quarter's salary .....                          | 600 00     |
| September                    | 26. | No. 30. By amount to wages for August .....                                | 242 00     |
| September                    | 28. | No. 31. By amount to E. McGloughlin.....                                   | 17 85      |
| September                    | 28. | No. 32. By amount to Blum Bros. ....                                       | 9 93       |
| September                    | 28. | No. 33. By amount to G. H. Cary.....                                       | 15 45      |
| September                    | 28. | No. 34. By amount to Speckman & Dix .....                                  | 10 80      |
| September                    | 28. | No. 35. By amount to W. E. Glover .....                                    | 38 50      |
| September                    | 28. | No. 36. By amount to Peters & Webb .....                                   | 15 00      |
| September                    | 28. | No. 37. By amount to Pennsylvania Institution for Blind<br>(2 bills) ..... | 10 93      |
| September                    | 28. | No. 38. By amount to Grove, Burhlage & Co.....                             | 25 00      |
| September                    | 28. | No. 39. By amount to John P. Morton & Co.....                              | 15 78      |
| September                    | 28. | No. 40. By amount to J. M. Armstrong (2 bills) .....                       | 28 25      |
| September                    | 28. | No. 41. By amount to William Bell .....                                    | 10 00      |
| September                    | 28. | N.J. 42. By amount to Johnston & Webster .....                             | 53 00      |
| September                    | 28. | No. 43. By amount to Adams Express .....                                   | 26 60      |
| September                    | 28. | No. 44. By amount to S. Fry.....                                           | 78 00      |
| September                    | 28. | No. 45. By amount to D. Lasch.....                                         | 28 10      |
| September                    | 28. | No. 46. By amount to Charles Safel .....                                   | 13 20      |
| September                    | 28. | No. 47. By amount to M. Boegler.....                                       | 9 25       |
| September                    | 28. | No. 48. By amount to B. M. Patten.....                                     | 75 15      |
| September                    | 28. | No. 49. By amount to B. M. Patten.....                                     | 117 35     |
| September                    | 28. | No. 50. By amount to D. Lasch .....                                        | 73 53      |
| September                    | 28. | No. 51. By amount to D. Lasch .....                                        | 135 00     |
| September                    | 28. | No. 52. By amount to Christian Schafer.....                                | 17 50      |
| September                    | 28. | No. 53. By amount to S. Barker & Co.....                                   | 46 95      |
| September                    | 28. | No. 54. By amount to Baker & Rubell .....                                  | 33 60      |
| September                    | 28. | No. 55. By amount to William Hoeter.....                                   | 38 10      |
| September                    | 28. | No. 56. By amount to L. Eisenman .....                                     | 254 62     |
| September                    | 28. | No. 57. By amount to Schmidt & Bender .....                                | 11 90      |
| September                    | 28. | No. 58. By amount to Bridgeford & Co.....                                  | 37 66      |
| September                    | 28. | No. 59. By amount to B. B. Huntoon .....                                   | 113 72     |
| September                    | 28. | No. 60. By amount to J. S. Danforth .....                                  | 218 75     |
| September                    | 28. | No. 61. By amount to J. S. Danforth .....                                  | 131 25     |
| September                    | 28. | No. 62. By amount to H. H. Wright .....                                    | 70 00      |
| October                      | 28. | No. 63. By amount to Atwood & Nicholas .....                               | 175 00     |
| October                      | 28. | No. 64. By amount to S. Barker.....                                        | 26 47      |
| October                      | 28. | No. 65. By amount to H. Wright.....                                        | 15 00      |
| October                      | 28. | No. 66. By amount to T. S. Bell.....                                       | 61 00      |
| December                     | 30. | No. 67. By amount to salaries, fourth quarter .....                        | 1,092 80   |
| December                     | 30. | No. 68. By amount to William Bailey.....                                   | 72 50      |
| December                     | 30. | No. 69. By amount to wages, fourth quarter .....                           | 584 95     |
| December                     | 30. | No. 70. By amount to Eisenman's bill .....                                 | 732 10     |
| December                     | 30. | No. 71. By amount to Henry Smith (3 bills).....                            | 166 91     |
| December                     | 30. | No. 72. By amount to William Sowders .....                                 | 22 65      |

Amount carried forward .....

\$16,201 02



## INSTITUTION FOR THE BLIND.

|                              |          |                                           |             |
|------------------------------|----------|-------------------------------------------|-------------|
| Amount brought forward ..... |          |                                           | \$16,201 02 |
| December 30.                 | No. 73.  | By amount to F. Van Seggern.....          | 90 00       |
| December 30.                 | No. 74.  | By amount to Kennedy & Irvin.....         | 81 90       |
| December 30.                 | No. 75.  | By amount to J. Frank.....                | 49 00       |
| December 30.                 | No. 76.  | By amount to V. Frank.....                | 30 20       |
| December 30.                 | No. 77.  | By amount to Schmidt & Bender.....        | 21 50       |
| December 30.                 | No. 78.  | By amount to G. H. Cary.....              | 15 90       |
| December 30.                 | No. 79.  | By amount to D. P. Faulds.....            | 7 00        |
| December 30.                 | No. 80.  | By amount to John P. Morton.....          | 20 60       |
| December 30.                 | No. 81.  | By amount to F. Teupe.....                | 18 00       |
| December 30.                 | No. 82.  | By amount to J. Dolfinger.....            | 56 40       |
| December 30.                 | No. 83.  | By amount to James Deally.....            | 20 45       |
| December 30.                 | No. 84.  | By amount to Carson & Mason.....          | 21 00       |
| December 30.                 | No. 85.  | By amount to O. Rawson.....               | 13 88       |
| December 30.                 | No. 86.  | By amount to J. McCullough.....           | 5 00        |
| December 30.                 | No. 87.  | By amount to A. McBride.....              | 54 85       |
| December 30.                 | No. 88.  | By amount to James Bridgeford.....        | 164 18      |
| December 30.                 | No. 89.  | By amount to Turner & James.....          | 110 72      |
| December 30.                 | No. 90.  | By amount to Magens & Co.....             | 61 60       |
| December 30.                 | No. 91.  | By amount to Joseph T. Tompkins & Co..... | 15 33       |
| December 30.                 | No. 92.  | By amount to Grove, Burhlage & Co.....    | 71 16       |
| December 30.                 | No. 93.  | By amount to W. H. Stokes & Co.....       | 26 16       |
| December 30.                 | No. 94.  | By amount to W. H. McKnight.....          | 68 48       |
| December 30.                 | No. 95.  | By amount to Waters & Son.....            | 14 30       |
| December 30.                 | No. 96.  | By amount to S. Barker & Co.....          | 140 30      |
| December 30.                 | No. 97.  | By amount to A. Peter & Co.....           | 5 64        |
| December 30.                 | No. 98.  | By amount to J. C. Reeves.....            | 145 25      |
| December 30.                 | No. 99.  | By amount to J. P. Young.....             | 53 33       |
| December 30.                 | No. 100. | By amount to G. Schram.....               | 5 15        |
| December 30.                 | No. 101. | By amount to Water Company.....           | 125 00      |
| December 30.                 | No. 102. | By amount to Lithgow Fire Works.....      | 120 00      |
| December 30.                 | No. 103. | By amount to T. S. Bell.....              | 43 75       |
| December 30.                 | No. 104. | By amount to B. B. Huntoon.....           | 104 75      |
| December 30.                 | No. 105. | By amount to D. Lasch.....                | 128 80      |
|                              |          |                                           | <hr/>       |
| Balance .....                |          |                                           | \$18,110 60 |
|                              |          |                                           | <hr/>       |
|                              |          |                                           | 2,355 20    |
|                              |          |                                           | <hr/>       |
|                              |          |                                           | \$20,465 80 |
|                              |          |                                           | <hr/>       |

The foregoing is a correct statement of the account of the Treasurer of the Kentucky Institution for the Blind, which shows the balance this day in the hands of the Treasurer of \$2,355 20. All the vouchers and receipts for expenditures are this day, and herewith, filed with the Auditor of the State of Kentucky. Most respectfully submitted.

J. G. BARRET, *Treasurer.*

During the year ending December 31, 1871, fifty-eight pupils have received instruction in the Institution. Their names are as follows:

| NAMES.                          | RESIDENCE.        |
|---------------------------------|-------------------|
| Lillie Armstrong, - - - - -     | Nicholasville.    |
| Lucy Armstrong, - - - - -       | Nicholasville.    |
| *William Alterbury, - - - - -   | Hart county.      |
| Hamilton Balentine, - - - - -   | Louisville.       |
| Laura Grace Bean, - - - - -     | Mount Sterling.   |
| Alice Bradley, - - - - -        | Louisville.       |
| Nancy Peak Brown, - - - - -     | Warsaw.           |
| Percy Boullemet, - - - - -      | New Orleans, La.  |
| Mary Cavanaugh, - - - - -       | Louisville.       |
| John Cheap, - - - - -           | New Albany, Ind.  |
| William Clark, - - - - -        | Louisville.       |
| William Davis, - - - - -        | Jefferson county. |
| Martha J. Daniel, - - - - -     | Johnson county.   |
| John M. Ernst, - - - - -        | Louisville.       |
| Ada Etheridge, - - - - -        | Louisville.       |
| Jane B Fitzpatrick, - - - - -   | Hart county.      |
| Algernon Flournoy, - - - - -    | Paducah.          |
| Charles Frederick, - - - - -    | Louisville.       |
| Mary E. Gallagher, - - - - -    | Louisville.       |
| Josephus Getton, - - - - -      | Grayson county.   |
| Covington Guion, - - - - -      | Louisville.       |
| Richard J. Hambleton, - - - - - | Ashland.          |
| Richard Hardin, - - - - -       | McLean county.    |
| Lorews Haussmann, - - - - -     | Bellville.        |
| Joseph W. Heiser, - - - - -     | Newport.          |
| Rhoda J. Hills, - - - - -       | Campbell county.  |
| Anna C. Homire, - - - - -       | Louisville.       |
| George W. Hughes, - - - - -     | Meade county.     |
| Anna Hussk, - - - - -           | Fayette county.   |
| Anna Bell Kendall, - - - - -    | Jefferson county. |
| Ellen Kenney, - - - - -         | Louisville.       |
| Mary K. MacConn, - - - - -      | Lexington.        |
| John McElhone, - - - - -        | Louisville.       |
| Edward E Martin, - - - - -      | Boone county.     |
| Clara Mattingly, - - - - -      | Louisville.       |

\* Dead.

| NAMES.                         | RESIDENCE.        |
|--------------------------------|-------------------|
| Elizabeth Majors, - - - - -    | Louisville.       |
| Thomas Meddis, - - - - -       | Jefferson county. |
| George M. Miller, - - - - -    | Hawesville.       |
| Louisa Monohan, - - - - -      | Louisville.       |
| Emma Moorman, - - - - -        | Hardin county.    |
| James E. Murray, - - - - -     | Newport.          |
| Benj. H. Myers, - - - - -      | Nicholas county.  |
| Sallie M. Neal, - - - - -      | Lexington.        |
| Alice Parsons, - - - - -       | Louisville.       |
| Nancy Porter, - - - - -        | Louisville.       |
| Julia Purnell, - - - - -       | Maysville.        |
| Mary F. Rogers, - - - - -      | Lexington.        |
| Elizabeth Ross, - - - - -      | Meade county.     |
| Georgia Sale, - - - - -        | Louisville.       |
| Elizabeth Schafer, - - - - -   | New Albany, Ind.  |
| Frederick Telkammer, - - - - - | Louisville.       |
| Henry Townes, - - - - -        | Henderson co.     |
| John H. Vernon, - - - - -      | Elizabethtown.    |
| Mary Alice Walker, - - - - -   | Louisville.       |
| John M. West, - - - - -        | Christian county. |
| Mary Williams, - - - - -       | Meade county.     |
| Martha Williams, - - - - -     | Meade county.     |
| W. J. Winfrey, - - - - -       | Columbia.         |

During the last quarter there were forty names recorded as belonging to the Institution.

The number of teachers employed at present is four: four of the pupils also assist in teaching.

We do not pretend to explain the reason, but from a careful examination of the Reports of the Institutions for educating the blind in the various States of the Union, we are satisfied that the Kentucky Institution for the Blind is the most economically conducted School for the Blind in this country, and we are equally as well convinced that in no other one of those noble institutions of the Commonwealth, that are devoted to the care of the helpless, are the expenses as small as in this Institution. The expenses in providing for the education of the blind are necessarily much greater than for any other class of children. The books, maps, globes, and slates for them, cost much more than this kind of apparatus costs for seeing children. Much

larger classes of seeing children can be taught by one teacher than classes of blind children. We endeavor to be alive to the trust the Commonwealth has confided to us, and we constantly feel the sacredness of the funds placed in our care for the benefit of the blind. We watch over it with the most jealous solicitude, that every cent of it that can be made to minister to the education and general welfare of the blind shall, as far as possible, accomplish that object. While the Institution has often been in want of fullness of means, we have struggled to keep up its reputation as a first-class school for educating the blind. It has furnished the schools of some of the States with teachers of great excellence. One of the pupils educated in the Kentucky Institution of the Blind is now a successful teacher of vocal music in the oldest School for the Blind in the United States. Great numbers of those pupils are rejoicing now in the beauty, strength, comforts, and self-reliance which Kentucky has given them in her recognition of the justice and potency of the claims of the blind upon her protecting care, and we rejoice that, in any degree, we have borne a part in these ministrations.

We do not feel that we are making an unreasonable request of your honorable body, in view of the facts—first, that we give, without any emolument, to the education of the blind a large amount of our labor and time for the proper performance of a duty of a most exacting character; and secondly, that the Commonwealth has scarcely a more sacred trust than the proper and best care of the blind, when we ask that we shall be empowered to discharge this duty in a more satisfactory manner than we have ever been able to perform it, on the annual allowances heretofore made for its welfare. There has been scarcely a year in the existence of this school when we have not been hampered, by want of means, in doing what we knew the necessities of the blind pupils required should be done for them. Not a single dollar of the money appropriated for their education can be drawn without our consent, and it shall be our duty to see that no part of the appropriation shall be improperly expended.

We have shown that the expenses of educating the blind are necessarily greater than for the education of any other class of pupils. The appropriations made by the Legislature for the blind are less than those made for the benefit of any other class of those helpless members of the community who are nobly and justly recognized by the Representatives of the people as entitled to the fostering care of the Commonwealth. The School for the Deaf and Dumb has a per-

manent fund of over twenty-eight thousand dollars, derived from Congressional donations of land in 1826. This land was sold in 1861 for nearly sixty thousand dollars, and from this the liberal permanent fund has been created. In addition to this, that State School is empowered to collect school fees from those able to pay, and in 1871 the collections from this source amounted to over six hundred dollars. The Trustees of the Blind School were once empowered to make similar collections, but experience soon convinced the Trustees that this right was a serious detriment to the school. But, in addition to the two resources we have named of the Deaf and Dumb School, the State appropriations made to it have uniformly been greater than the entire income of the Institution for the Education of the Blind, notwithstanding the more expensive character of the successful teaching of the blind. The Institution for the Feeble-minded and Idiotic receives larger appropriations for each child sent to it than is allowed for the pupils of the Blind School. We mention these facts, not in a carping or fault-finding spirit, for we feel nothing of the kind. The just and noble liberality of the Commonwealth to those Institutions commands our admiration and full approval. But your honorable body has confided the interests of educating the blind to us, and we should be untrue to our trust in failing to present their just claims, and in urging for them the same philanthropic care and action that the Representatives of the people nobly extend to other classes that are helpless, but in no sense more deserving than the blind. We feel that we are performing a duty you asked us to undertake in accepting the Trusteeship of this Institution.

We have often felt solicitude about the Institution in case it should take fire. It is remote from the nearest fire engine-house, a considerable distance from a fire telegraph alarm, and there is a paucity of water supply in the immediate vicinity of the building for extinguishing a conflagration. We keep the building properly insured, and exercise all possible vigilance against the catastrophe of a fire; but as we are yet compelled to use oil lamps in the building, some unavoidable accident may endanger the building. As some protection we have determined to make a lake of water within the grounds. This will answer a three-fold purpose. It will be an ornament to the Institution, afford an abundant supply of clean ice for the inmates of the school, and in case of a fire, may furnish the fire-engines with sufficient water to save the building from destruction. To meet present emergencies in these perils and difficulties, we have obtained

two of the fire extinguishers invented by Dr. Joseph Gardner, of Indiana, and manufactured by Messrs. Lithgow & Co., of Louisville, Kentucky. By a careful examination, we have satisfied ourselves that this is the best of all the fire extinguishers in use, an opinion abundantly confirmed by all the competing tests it has undergone, both in this city and in the city of New York. It has the very decided merit of capacity for standing armed at all times, and through long periods, and for being put to instant use when a sudden emergency demands its powers. It is very efficient, and could perfectly command any ordinary fire at the Institution, and control its headway long before an alarm could be conveyed from the Institution to the nearest fire telegraph station. In the possession of this Gardner fire extinguisher, the School for the Blind has a security against fire it has not previously possessed. We hope soon to introduce the illuminating gas of the city into the building, and this will aid very greatly in relieving the edifice from the perils of fire.

The Board of Trustees gratefully thank the editors of the Courier-Journal, the Commercial, and the Ledger, for their daily ministrations to the enjoyments of the pupils. There are few persons who take a more active interest in those "maps of busy life," the daily papers, than the pupils of the School for the Blind. The papers are read to them every evening.

All of which is respectfully submitted.

T. S. BELL,  
THOMAS E. BRAMLETTE,  
H. J. STITES,  
WILLIAM KENDRICK,  
AEFRED T. POPE,  
JAMES HARRISON,  
JOHN G. BARRET.

## ADMISSION OF PUPILS.

The Kentucky School for the Blind has been in successful operation thirty years. It was established by the Legislature for the instruction of those children and youth who are blind, and for those whose sight is so imperfect that they cannot see to read. All such children, of suitable age and of good moral character, are received and educated at the expense of the Institution, which is a State school, equally free to the rich and the poor.

The pupils are instructed in vocal and instrumental music, and in the branches usually taught in public schools and academies for seeing pupils. The boys are also taught mechanical trades, to enable them to support themselves independently after leaving the Institution. The girls are taught to use sewing machines, and to do various kinds of fancy work.

The pupils, generally, are very happy and industrious, and many of them make wonderful advancement in their studies, and qualify themselves to be teachers of music, mathematics, and other branches of learning.

The Legislature provides for the board and tuition of the blind children and youth of Kentucky.

The annual school session commences, on the first Monday of September, and terminates on the third Friday of June. It is very desirable that pupils should enter at the commencement of the session; but *new* pupils will be received at any time during the session.

Persons desiring to send children to this school, will please to send the name, age, and post-office address of the applicant to B. B. Huntoon, Director, Louisville, Ky., who will cheerfully communicate any necessary information in regard to the Institution.

**TWENTY-FIFTH REPORT**

**OF THE**

**BOARD OF TRUSTEES**

**OF THE**

**KENTUCKY INSTITUTION FOR THE EDUCATION OF THE BLIND,**

**TO THE**

**GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF KENTUCKY,**

**FOR THE YEAR 1872.**

---

**FRANKFORT, KY.:**

**PRINTED AT THE KENTUCKY YEOMAN OFFICE.**

**S. I. M. MAJOR, PUBLIC PRINTER.**

**1873.**





KENTUCKY INSTITUTION FOR THE EDUCATION OF THE BLIND, }  
LOUISVILLE, KENTUCKY, December 30, 1872. }

*To His Excellency, P. H. LESLIE, Governor of the Commonwealth of Kentucky:*

HONORED SIR: Under the instructions of the Board of Trustees, I herewith transmit the Report of the Kentucky Institution for the Education of the Blind for the year 1872.

I am, with great respect, yours,

T. S. BELL,

*President of the Board of Trustees of the Kentucky Institution  
for the Education of the Blind.*



## TRUSTEES' REPORT.

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The Trustees of the Kentucky Institution for the Education of the Blind are gratified, in the thirty-first year of the existence of the school, in saying that in no former period has the Institution shown such unequivocal proofs among the pupils of the success of that act of justice and of benevolence, by which the authorities of the Commonwealth provided for securing to its blind children the means of acquiring education. By this beneficent State action the blind children are enabled, not only to obtain the benefits of a literary education, but a training in methods of handicraft, by which they are raised from a condition of helpless dependence into a sphere of usefulness, and of that self-respect incident to the ability and means for procuring a livelihood by honest labor.

The Trustees of this Institution, in their last report, announced their expectations of benefit to the school, in the appointment of Mr. B. B. Huntoon as Director of the Institution, and of Mrs. Huntoon as Matron of the establishment. They are happy in being able to say to the Legislature that that which was a well-founded hope in the former report, is now a harvest of excellent fruition. In no preceding twelve months of the Institution have there been such abundant proofs of substantial improvement in the entire welfare of the pupils of the school, as in the first year of the labors of Mr. and Mrs. Huntoon. They have been "instant in season, and out of season," in the recognition and performance of their various and onerous duties. The teachers of the school have fully seconded these useful labors, and the children have been benefited in their manners and educational progress beyond any former example in the history of the school. These are matters of knowledge on the part of the Trustees, through the very frequent inspections of the Institution by the President of this Board.

The General Assembly of the Commonwealth has made us the special guardians of the educational interests and welfare of the blind children of the State. While we take pleasure in bearing testimony to the noble work done by the Representatives of the people of Kentucky for the welfare of the blind, in some notable respects surpassing that done for them in any other part of the world, we are painfully aware that there are deficiencies in our means of educating the blind that can be, and should be, remedied. The Institution greatly needs models for object instruction. As nearly as possible the blind children should be edu-

cated as we educate children that see. A superficial knowledge of blind children leads to great mistakes about their capacity. The children of the Kentucky Institution very readily learn to find their way, not only over the edifice and grounds, but all over the city. For example: on Sundays the children find their way to the various churches of their preferences, and return to the Institution without any difficulty. They are sent on errands of business to various parts of the city, and perform the duties as well as seeing children. Numbers of them eminently, probably all in some degree, have the faculty of Facial Perception, as it is very properly called by Mr. W. H. Levy, F. R. G. S., and "Director of the Association for Promoting the General Welfare of the Blind." In his volume, entitled "Blindness and the Blind, or a Treatise on the Science of Typhology," in speaking of "the unrecognized senses," he gives the following account of Facial Perception:

"Whether within a house or in the open air, whether walking or standing still, I can tell, although quite blind, when I am opposite an object, and can perceive whether it be tall or short, slender or bulky. I can also detect whether it be a solitary object or a continuous fence, whether it be a close fence or composed of open rails, and often whether it be a wooden fence, a brick or stone wall, or a quickset hedge. I cannot usually perceive objects, if much lower than my shoulder, but sometimes very low objects can be detected. This may depend on the nature of the objects, or on some abnormal state of the atmosphere. The currents of air can have nothing to do with this power, as the state of the wind does not directly affect it; the sense of hearing has nothing to do with it, as when snow lies thickly on the ground objects are more distinct, although the footfall cannot be heard. I seem to perceive objects through the skin of my face, and to have the impressions immediately transmitted to the brain. The only part of my body possessing this power is my face; this I have ascertained by suitable experiments. Stopping my ears does not interfere with it, but covering my face with a thick veil destroys it altogether. None of the five senses have anything to do with the existence of this power, and the circumstances above named induce me to call this unrecognized sense by the name of '*Facial Perception*.'

"Dr. Sanderson could tell when a cloud obscured the horizon. At one time I could do this with great accuracy, but cannot now trust myself in this respect. Whether long residence in London, where clouds may be said to be 'the rule,' may account for this, I cannot say. I have known several persons totally blind possessing this power; Mr. Farrow among others.

"The presence of the fog interferes greatly with 'facial perception;' the impressions of objects are faint and untrustworthy. I believe experi-

ments will show that the dryer the atmosphere, the more perfect the exercise of this sense; and what relation electricity may bear to it is yet to be ascertained. I have a strong conviction that eventually it will be demonstrated, beyond doubt, that various substances, such as iron, wood, stone, etc., convey different impressions to the face; but a more minute examination of the subject is required. Although, as above stated, fog is an impediment, ordinary darkness is no inconvenience; anything, however, which attracts the other senses, such as noise, partially occupies the attention of the mind, and so interferes with the impressions received through 'facial perception.' What influence the cause of blindness may have on this subject I cannot say, but probably very little; for in my case the sight of one eye was lost soon after birth, and the other by an accident, and Saunderson became blind in infancy. With those, however, who lose their sight from nervous disease, the case may be different, as doubtless with them the whole system suffers from the same disease that produced blindness.

"When passing along streets I can distinguish shops from private houses, and even point out the doors and windows, etc., and this whether the doors be shut or open. When a window consists of a number of panes of glass, it is easier to discover than one composed of an entire sheet. From this it would appear that glass is a bad conductor of sensation, or at any rate of the sensation connected with this sense. When objects below the face are perceived, the sensation seems to come in an oblique line from the object to the upper part of the face. While walking with a friend in Forest Lane, Stratford, I said, pointing to a fence which separated the road from a field, 'Those rails are not quite as high as my shoulder.' He looked at them, and said they were higher. We, however, measured, and found them about three inches lower than my shoulder. At the time of making this observation, I was about four feet from the rails. Certainly, in this instance, facial perception was more accurate than sight. When the lower part of a fence is brickwork, and the upper part rails, the fact can be detected, and the line where the two meet easily perceived. Irregularities in height and projections, and indentations in walls, can also be discovered. The utility of this sense to the blind who walk alone is too obvious to need comment; and we shall, therefore, content ourselves with having merely alluded to the subject. That persons in general possess the sense of 'facial perception' there appears no good reason to doubt; but, in the case of the sighted, its existence is unrecognized, on account of the all-absorbing claims of the eye, and from its existence being of a more secret and subtle nature than that of the other senses. That mankind derive some benefit from it, of which they themselves are ignorant, it

is impossible to doubt. He who considers the pleasurable emotions imparted to man from having an exhilarating breeze play upon his face, can never doubt that there is some connection between the emotion and the existence of the sense above described.

"As bearing upon this subject, it may not be out of place to mention a remarkable circumstance connected with the insectivorous bats. The eyes of this species of quadruped are particularly small, hence the saying, 'blind as a bat.' The defect of vision is, however, fully compensated by a wonderful power of perception analogous of that faculty in man which has been called in these pages 'facial perception.'

"Spallanzani extracted the eyes of bats, and covered the empty sockets with leather. Yet, in this condition, they flew around his room, avoiding the sides, never striking against anything, and flying out of the door, without touching the door-case. In flying through a sewer which made a right-angle they turned at the proper point, though at a distance of two feet from the walls; they found their resting place on a cornice, and flew through threads suspended from the ceiling without touching them, though scarcely further apart than would admit their extended wings; and they avoided all obstacles with equal facility, when the whole head was covered with varnish.

"In the English translation of Blumenbach, it is stated that bats possess the power of avoiding any obstacles, even though the ears, eyes, and nose be closed. Hence some naturalists have ascribed a sixth sense to these animals. Some consider this sense analogous to touch; but it is hard to see why. For touch perceives by *contact*; but it is the essential peculiarity of this sense, that it perceives *without contact*. Saying that it resembles touch seems like affirming that it resembles it, because it is in every way its opposite. All that is above stated as having been done by bats can be done by a highly cultivated blind man—walking, of course, taking the place of flying."

The city of Louisville once had among its citizens a blind man who readily took all the works of a watch apart, ascertained what repairs were needed, successfully made the repairs, and put the works together again. The President of this Board of Trustees has seen him do this work on several occasions. This blind man was one of the early pupils of the Kentucky Institution for the Education of the Blind. He is now a successful farmer in Oregon. One of the most skillful repairers of watches and clocks, especially of musical clocks and watches, in England, was William Huntley, a blind man, who had no recollection of having ever seen a ray of light; and the occurrences were frequent, that where others failed in completely repairing a watch or clock, Huntley succeeded.

A blind man near Camden Town, London, was for many years remarkable as a repairer of clocks and watches.

When opportunities are given to the blind for attaining excellence in any employment, they have shown great capacity, even in works of art that could scarcely have been expected, by ordinary observers, to be within the compass of the powers of the blind. Mr. Levy records, that, toward the end of the seventeenth century, Roger de Piles, the celebrated French painter, saw a blind man, about fifty years old, in Italy, modeling in the Justinian Palace, in wax, a statue of Minerva. The Duke of Bracciano doubted the blindness of the artist, and caused him to work in a cellar. The blind artist requested permission to feel the features of the Duke, and executed a capital statue of the Duke. Upon hearing remarks made that the Duke's face was so covered with hair that it was more easy to perform that work than it would be to make a likeness of one without hair on the face, the artist requested permission to examine the face of one of the Duke's daughters. Of that face he made an exact likeness. Great praise has been given to a statue of Charles I of England, and to one of Pope Urban VIII, executed by this blind artist.

M. Baret, of France, was an eminent sculptor before he lost his sight from small-pox, at the age of twenty-five; but he continued his profession while totally blind, and these latter artistical works were the admiration of the French Academy.

Within our own times, Joseph Kleinhans, an Austrian, who, at the age of five years, lost his sight by small-pox, won great renown as a carver in wood, and as a sculptor. Before he was twelve years of age he made a life-size figure of the Saviour, which caused so much surprise and commendation, that his friends placed him under the instruction of Herr Nissl, an accomplished artist, and in the studio of Herr Nissl he attained great perfection as a carver and modeler. He became famous throughout Germany. His works were numerous and varied; and it is said that he executed more than four hundred statues of the Saviour, which still exist. One of his chief works is a bust of the present Emperor of Austria, which commands great admiration, and is now at Vienna. Kleinhans died in 1853, two months after completing this bust.

John Metcalf was born in Yorkshire in 1717. At the age of six he lost his sight by small-pox. He was an expert rider on horseback, and was one of the best swimmers in England. He was often employed to find property sunk in the river Nid, and to recover the bodies of drowned persons—achievements of great difficulty, because of the cross-currents in the river. These opposing currents carried even light articles to the bottom of the river. To dive to the depth of twenty-one feet among



these cross-currents was one of Metcalf's special exploits. At the age of thirteen he was a skillful performer on the violin. He was a musician in the army of the Duke of Cumberland at the battle of Culloden. He was a successful merchant in a large variety of traffic, and established and run a line of stages between York and Knaresborough. After this he distinguished himself as a builder of fine houses, of bridges and roads; and many of his works still exist as testimonials of his eminent abilities. He occasionally undertook, and successfully accomplished, the building of roads which seeing engineers declined to undertake, because of what they esteemed insuperable difficulties. He discovered quarries of rock, the existence of which was unsuspected until he discovered them. Going one day over a piece of land covered with grass, he told his workmen that he thought a part of the ground was different from that alongside of it. He ordered the laborers to dig for rock or gravel at the spot he indicated, and they soon came to an old Roman causeway, which supplied an abundance of material for road-making. On another occasion he strongly suspected the existence of stone on the land of Sir John Ramsden, and went at night and bored through the earth to a fine quarry; and for this discovery Sir John gave him the use of the quarry free of expense. We cannot enter into all the details of the career of this blind man, but must content ourselves with repeating that he built a number of the best and most difficult turnpike roads in England, some of the finest bridges for turnpike roads, and many excellent dwelling-houses; and he never failed in any one of these undertakings.

Joseph Strong, born near Carlisle, England, lost his sight at the age of four years. He became a very expert mechanic. He manufactured a number of organs and other musical instruments, made household furniture, made his own boots, and built a superior loom for weaving fine cloth, plush, and damask, which was very successfully run.

Thomas Wilson, of Dumfries, lost his sight so early in life that he did not remember that he ever saw light. He was an expert in gardening operations, and in a hundred rows of potatoes was able to find his own row and gather his crop. He made a lathe for himself, and became one of the finest turners in Scotland. He had his tools so arranged that he was never at a loss in picking up the right tool for any part of his work. He sharpened his tools without aid. In making faucets and pails for brewing, dishes, potato-beetles, tin-smiths' mallets, and hucksters' stands, he was unrivaled; and he was often seen purchasing a plank ten feet in length on the sands, raising it on his shoulder, and carrying it to his own house, without coming in contact with a single object. He also constructed a portable *brake* for scutching flax, mounted it on a nice little

carriage, and transported himself and machine to any farm house that required his services.

We might multiply instances of this kind; but we hold that these are enough to satisfy the General Assembly that a class of people who need recognition in the beneficence of legislation, and who have shown capacity for being trained in paths of excellence, of utility, and of great usefulness, cannot plead in vain. We have been limited in our means of training the blind; we earnestly seek a larger sphere of usefulness than we have ever had in our trusteeship over these interesting wards, committed to our care by the Representatives of the people. We have carefully husbanded the means placed in our hands, ever regarding them as so sacred in their object as to require our highest vigilance and the exercise of our best judgment. Our utmost care has ever been the attainment of the greatest usefulness, combined with the most rigid economy, in the management of the funds for the blind intrusted to our guardianship.

The invaluable faculties of the blind, belonging to what are called "the unrecognized senses," instances of which we have briefly detailed, should be thoroughly trained; and, as an essential means to this end, we repeat, we need objects or models for imparting instruction. We cordially and earnestly join the Director of the Kentucky Institution for the Education of the Blind in beseeching the Representatives of the Commonwealth for an appropriation of five hundred dollars for the purchase of these models or objects, and for an additional appropriation for the introduction of the *Kintergarten* instruction into the Kentucky Institution for the Blind. If the law of God, enunciated in Leviticus xix: 14, proclaimed, "Thou shalt not put a stumbling-block before the blind," and in Deuteronomy, xvii: 18, declared, "Cursed be he that maketh the blind to wander out of his way," surely blessings may be reasonably expected by those who remove stumbling-blocks "from before the blind," and that do all in their power to secure "the blind from wandering out of his way." We invoke the Legislature for justice and beneficence toward the blind children of the Commonwealth.

We indulge the hope that the House of Representatives will pass the bill, which has already passed the Senate, to empower the Trustees to extend the terms of study beyond that at present allotted by law to such pupils as may, in the judgment of the Trustees, show a capacity for additional improvement in educational powers. It is a hard duty to turn blind pupils from the school just at the time they are properly equipping themselves for a successful career. The occasions for the exercise, on the part of the Trustees, of the judgment asked for are not numerous; but when they occur we should be pleased to have the privilege of keeping the

doors of the Institution open to such pupils as we have described, and for the period of extension provided for in the Senate bill.

The Trustees take much pleasure in acknowledging the liberality and kindness of the city authorities toward the pupils of the School for the Blind. In going into the city, and in returning from it to the Institution, the pupils were compelled to cross Beargrass creek by the narrow road-bed of a bridge used in common by foot-passengers, almost a constant stream of vehicles, and droves of various kinds of stock. In winter the road-bed of the bridge was a reservoir of mud, washed down from the hills on each side of the bridge. Upon an appeal, by the Trustees of the school, to Messrs. Daniel F. Roberts, Alderman of the First Ward; Daniel Spalding, of the Common Council; and Thomas P. Shanks, City Engineer, a substantial and well-secured wooden bridge was constructed outside of the stone bridge, by which the blind are secured from danger, mud, and other annoyances in crossing the creek. We also owe our thanks to Drs. D. S. Reynolds and Samuel Garvin for their skillful aid to the Institution, in the use of the ophthalmoscope with some of the pupils.

The thanks of the Trustees are also cordially rendered to the Hon. Boyd Winchester, M. C., for numerous favors to the Institution, in furnishing flower seed and excellent varieties of seed for culinary purposes, the latter of which aided us very materially in the economic management of the Institution. We are also indebted to him for a box of very valuable and beautiful plants from the National Garden at Washington City. To Mr. Hills, a florist at Arcola, Louisiana, father of an excellent female pupil and graduate of this school, we owe our thanks for a box of Southern plants, consisting of palms and caladiums. These, with the plants furnished by Mr. Winchester, greatly embellished the grounds last year with their varied beauty, which embellishment will be largely increased in future seasons.

We herewith present the Report of the Director of the Kentucky Institution for the Blind, with our cordial indorsement. The Treasurer's Report will be submitted as soon as he receives all the bills necessary for a complete report.

T. S. BELL,  
JAMES HARRISON,  
THO. E. BRAMLETTE,  
WM. KENDRICK,  
ALFRED T. POPE,  
J. G. BARRET,  
H. J. STITES.

## DIRECTOR'S REPORT.

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*To the Trustees of the Kentucky Institution for the Education of the Blind:*

**GENTLEMEN:** A merciful Providence has vouchsafed to the pupils in your Institution an unusual freedom from sickness during the past year; but a single instance of serious disease has occurred. Martha Williams, of Meade county, was prostrated early in the year with inflammatory rheumatism, from which she had often suffered, and which had brought upon her a chronic disease of the heart; and, after a lingering illness of several weeks, she died March 23d, the day that completed her sixteenth year. Her amiable disposition and gentle character had won the love of her teachers and school-mates; and her remains were deposited in the Cemetery, in the lot belonging to the Institution, with all possible love and tenderness. A wreath of never-fading flowers that the President of the Board, with a thoughtful affection that never wearies, had brought out himself, late at night, to place upon the coffin, was forwarded to the bereaved parents. Several of the Trustees attended the funeral, and all was done that the most tender affection could prompt.

The number of pupils in the Institution December 31st, 1871, was forty; on December, 31st, 1872, the number was forty-eight.

During the year fifty-five children have received instruction in the Institution, whose names are as follows:

|                      |         |                  |
|----------------------|---------|------------------|
| Lillie Armstrong,    | - - - - | Nicholasville.   |
| Laura Grace Bean,    | - - - - | Mount Sterling.  |
| Alice Bradley,       | - - - - | Louisville.      |
| Nannie Peak Brown,   | - - - - | Warsaw.          |
| Percy Boullemet,     | - - - - | New Orleans, La. |
| Mary Cavanaugh,      | - - - - | Louisville.      |
| *John Cheap,         | - - - - | New Albany, Ind. |
| William Clark,       | - - - - | Louisville.      |
| Nancy Cox,           | - - - - | East Texas.      |
| Richard Cox,         | - - - - | East Texas.      |
| Willis Daffern,      | - - - - | Monticello.      |
| Frank Dollins,       | - - - - | Glasgow.         |
| John M. Ernst,       | - - - - | Louisville.      |
| Ada Etheridge,       | - - - - | Louisville.      |
| Jane B. Fitzpatrick, | - - - - | Caverna.         |

|                           |   |   |   |   |                   |
|---------------------------|---|---|---|---|-------------------|
| Algernon Flournoy,        | - | - | - | - | Paducah.          |
| Charles Frederick,        | - | - | - | - | Louisville.       |
| Mary E. Gallagher,        | - | - | - | - | Louisville.       |
| Josephus Gatton,          | - | - | - | - | Grayson county.   |
| Teresa Gatton,            | - | - | - | - | Grayson county.   |
| Richard J. Hambleton,     | - | - | - | - | Ashland.          |
| Joseph William Heiser,    | - | - | - | - | Newport.          |
| Anna C. Homire,           | - | - | - | - | Louisville.       |
| Anna C. Huss,             | - | - | - | - | Fayette county.   |
| Johanna Kearns,           | - | - | - | - | Jefferson county. |
| Anna Bell Kendall,        | - | - | - | - | Jefferson county. |
| Ellen Kenney,             | - | - | - | - | Louisville.       |
| Mary K. McCoun,           | - | - | - | - | Lexington.        |
| *Edward E. Martin,        | - | - | - | - | Boone county.     |
| Richard Meade,            | - | - | - | - | Cannonsburg.      |
| Thomas Meddis,            | - | - | - | - | Jefferson county. |
| George M. Miller,         | - | - | - | - | Hawesville.       |
| Louisa Monohan,           | - | - | - | - | Louisville.       |
| Emma Moorman,             | - | - | - | - | Hardin county.    |
| Pamela Patience Morehead, | - | - | - | - | Webster county.   |
| Noah Bartimeus Morehead,  | - | - | - | - | Webster county.   |
| James E. Murray,          | - | - | - | - | Newport.          |
| Benj. H. Myers,           | - | - | - | - | Nicholas county.  |
| William C. Parker,        | - | - | - | - | Louisville.       |
| Alice Parsons,            | - | - | - | - | Louisville.       |
| Nancy Porter,             | - | - | - | - | Pendleton county. |
| Elizabeth Purdy,          | - | - | - | - | Daviess county.   |
| Helen May Purnell,        | - | - | - | - | Maysville, Ky.    |
| Mary F. Rogers,           | - | - | - | - | Lexington.        |
| Georgia Sale,             | - | - | - | - | Louisville.       |
| Elizabeth Schaffer,       | - | - | - | - | Louisville.       |
| Elizabeth B. Sheets,      | - | - | - | - | Louisville.       |
| Jas. H. Shacklett,        | - | - | - | - | Hardin county.    |
| Frederick Telkammer,      | - | - | - | - | Louisville.       |
| John H. Vernon,           | - | - | - | - | Elizabethtown.    |
| Mary Alice Walker,        | - | - | - | - | Louisville.       |
| James M. West,            | - | - | - | - | Christian county. |
| † Martha Williams,        | - | - | - | - | Meade county.     |
| James Whitty,             | - | - | - | - | Louisville.       |
| W. J. Winfrey,            | - | - | - | - | Columbia.         |
| Ola Wood,                 | - | - | - | - | Jefferson county. |

\* Absent without leave.

† Dead.

The pupils have manifested commendable interest in their studies, and their musical, mechanical, and literary pursuits have been carefully attended to.

The girls are taught sewing, knitting, and crotchet work; and, by means of pasteboard patterns, some have learned to cut out simple articles of dress. Several of the girls, who are totally blind, have become skillful operators upon the sewing machine, and these have learned its use upon the Wilcox & Gibbs' Sewing Machine, which, from its simplicity of construction, seems peculiarly adapted to the use of beginners. A simple change in the American Machine, suggested by Mr. Avard, the agent in this city, has much improved that machine for the use of our pupils. Many of the girls thread the needle of the machine, and the ordinary hand-needle, without aid; but those whose sense of touch is less delicate have found no difficulty in threading their needles by the use of the fine silver-plated wire that is found wrapped around the G string of a violin; when the end of the string is cut off, the wire readily untwists. The unwrapped wire, which is far superior, can be obtained from C. A. Zoebisch & Sons, No. 46 Maiden Lane, New York.

No other mechanical employment has been found for the boys but upholstery work, and caning chairs with the solid and the open-work seats, and broom-making. In all of these branches the progress of the boys has been good; and it is a satisfaction to know that a number of blind boys have left the Institution with a knowledge and skill obtained within its walls that have enabled them to maintain themselves in the world creditably and well.

In the literary department, while considerable progress has been made in those branches in which memory is the chief faculty of the mind employed, there has not been much done where original thought is required.

The power of abstract reasoning is very hard for children to acquire; and the mind should be carefully trained from the first, and gradually be led forward slowly and cautiously from the simplest facts that the child knows to higher and still higher grounds. From the known to the unknown, from the simple to the compound, from the concrete to the abstract, is the natural road to knowledge. If, in schools for the seeing, object-teaching, by which the observing powers of the child are cultivated, is justly deemed important, much more important is it that the mind of the blind child should be developed by systematically placing within its reach things that may be handled and will give clear ideas of surrounding objects; for, with seeing children, only heedlessness is to be overcome; but with the blind, opportunities must be made for bringing to their knowledge what other children become familiar with without conscious effort.

There has already been wisely provided for the Institution a most complete set of wall maps adapted for the use of the blind, and some excellent dissected maps of the United States; and it is pleasant to see how readily the children become familiar with this apparatus. It is possible to obtain tangible apparatus in other branches besides that of geography, and that is quite as well suited to the instruction of the blind, as dissected maps.

The models manufactured in Paris by M. Anzoux represent many things in natural history that can be presented to the conception of the blind in no other way. Among these may be mentioned a model of the eye, showing every part of its delicate mechanism, magnified twenty-five times, and constructed in so substantial a manner that every portion can be examined by the touch without injury; a model of the ear of similar size and construction; and a model of the organs of speech; also models of the honeycomb, of various flowers and seeds, showing the interior construction with wonderful fidelity to nature. A set of thirty-nine models for the explanation of the principal functions in the animal kingdom, in mammals, birds, reptiles, fishes, mollusks, insects, and radiates, showing the digestive, circulatory, and respiratory organs, can be purchased for about three hundred dollars. Catalogues of the entire collection can be obtained from F. G. Lemercier, M. D., No. 49, Rue Mr. le Prince, Paris, France.

There is no doubt that the purchase of a liberal supply of these models would be of incalculable benefit to the school, and would give the pupils ideas of the great truths of creation, that would be far more complete and real than any obtained from mere description.

For the same reason, a teacher, well trained in the Kintergarten culture, might be employed to the great advantage of the younger children; and if the means of the Institution will justify it, an adaptation of this system of training, that has been found so efficacious with very young seeing children, should certainly be tried with the blind.

During the last year some much needed roads and walks, that were actually essential to the comfort of the inmates of the Institution, were laid out and completed; and two necessary out-buildings have taken the place of some that have long been discreditable to the Institution; but have been tolerated by the Trustees in a spirit of careful economy. The extensive and beautiful grounds, that the wise generosity of the State has secured for this Institution, constantly call for an outlay of money to secure for the blind wards of the State a more complete enjoyment of the natural beauties of the place. But there are things far more essential to the welfare of the children than gravel walks, winding delightfully around the shady dells that so beautify these grounds. First and

foremost among these, beside which all other wants are insignificant, is a proper mode of heating and lighting the building. The introduction of steam and gas would remove the danger of fire, that constantly threatens the destruction of the building from the stoves and coal-oil lamps that have to be used in heating and lighting the building under the present arrangements. Should a fire break out in either wing, and once gain access to the stairway of this lofty building, the blind children would find it impossible to escape from the rooms they occupy in its fourth and fifth stories. It has always been evident that the Legislature of Kentucky has desired that the institutions of the State should be second to none in the Union in perfection of plan and completeness of detail, and for that reason this frank allusion is made to what is still lacking to make the Kentucky Institution for the Blind approach nearer to the character its friends wish it to hold.

The promises of great improvements in respect to printing for the blind, that were held out by Mr. S. P. Ruggles, of Boston, and alluded to very fully in the last report of this Institution, have not as yet been realized. At the meeting of the Association of Educators of the Blind, in Boston, last August, the subject was taken up, and a committee appointed to confer with Mr. Ruggles. That committee has not as yet reported; but it is to be hoped that no unworthy motives will be allowed to warp or dampen beneficent purposes.

Little of general interest occurred at the meeting of the Association. The negative character of its deliberations was its sole important feature; and the wise conservatism of its members prevented them from recommending the adoption of any system whose rigid structure might prevent future growth.

The thanks of all the inmates of the Institution are cordially tendered to the proprietors of the *Courier-Journal*, and the *Louisville Commercial*, and *Dwight's Journal of Music*, for the regular issues of their papers (which are systematically read to the children), and to the two first named papers for the free use of their columns in communicating the wants of the Institution to the public.

All of which is respectfully submitted.

B. B. HUNTOON,

*Director of the Kentucky Institution for the Education of the Blind.*



## ADMISSION OF PUPILS.

The Kentucky School for the Blind has been in successful operation thirty years. It was established by the Legislature for the instruction of those children and youth who are blind, and for those whose sight is so imperfect that they cannot see to read. All such children, of suitable age and of good moral character, are received and educated at the expense of the Institution, which is a State school, equally free to the rich and the poor.

The pupils are instructed in vocal and instrumental music, and in the branches usually taught in public schools and academies for seeing pupils. The boys are also taught mechanical trades, to enable them to support themselves independently after leaving the Institution. The girls are taught to use sewing machines, and to do various kinds of fancy work.

The pupils, generally, are very happy and industrious, and many of them make wonderful advancement in their studies, and qualify themselves to be teachers of music, mathematics, and other branches of learning.

The Legislature provides for the board and tuition of the blind children and youth of Kentucky.

The annual school session commences on the first Monday of September, and terminates on the third Friday of June. It is very desirable that pupils should enter at the commencement of the session; but new pupils will be received at any time during the session.

Persons desiring to send children to this school, will please to send the name, age, and post-office address of the applicant to B. B. Huntoon, Director, Louisville, Ky., who will cheerfully communicate any necessary information in regard to the Institution.

**STATEMENT:**

**OF THE**

**RECEIPTS AND EXPENDITURES**

**OF THE**

**KENTUCKY INSTITUTION FOR THE EDUCATION OF THE BLIND,**

**FOR THE**

**YEAR ENDING DECEMBER 31, 1872,**

**MADE TO THE**

**GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF KENTUCKY.**

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**FRANKFORT, KY.:**  
**PRINTED AT THE KENTUCKY YEOMAN OFFICE.**  
**S. I. M. MAJOR, PUBLIC PRINTER.**  
**1873.**



## AUDITOR'S LETTER.

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OFFICE AUDITOR PUBLIC ACCOUNTS,  
FRANKFORT, KY., February 5, 1873. }

HON. J. B. McCREARY, *Speaker of the House of Representatives:*

SIR: You will do me the honor to lay before the House over which you preside, for the information of the General Assembly, the receipts and expenditures of the Blind Asylum for the year ending the 31st of December, 1872, which I herewith transmit to you.

With great respect,

Your obedient servant,

D. HOWARD SMITH, *Auditor.*



# RECEIPTS AND EXPENDITURES

OF THE

# INSTITUTION FOR THE BLIND,

FOR

THE YEAR ENDING DECEMBER 31, 1872.

JOHN G. BARRET, TREASURER.

*In account with Kentucky Institution for the Blind.*

| 1872.    |     | RECEIPTS.                                                                                |             |
|----------|-----|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------|
| January  | 1.  | To balance in hands of Treasurer.....                                                    | \$2,355 20  |
| January  | 1.  | To amount refunded by North America Insurance Company<br>on cancellation of policy.....  | 119 90      |
| February | 24. | To amount received from Treasurer State of Kentucky, on<br>allowance by Legislature..... | 6,000 00    |
| March    | 1.  | To amount received from Treasurer State of Kentucky, on<br>annual allowance.....         | 10,000 00   |
| March    | 12. | To amount from sale of horse.....                                                        | 90 00       |
| March    | 12. | To first quarterly allowance.....                                                        | 1,435 00    |
| July     | 15. | To second quarterly allowance.....                                                       | 1,505 00    |
| October  | 2.  | To third quarterly allowance.....                                                        | 1,540 00    |
| December | 31. | To fourth quarterly allowance.....                                                       | 1,750 00    |
| December | 31. | To receipts from workshop.....                                                           | 501 37      |
| December | 31. | To receipts from sewing room.....                                                        | 27 70       |
| December | 31. | To receipts from sale of vinegar.....                                                    | 60 25       |
| December | 31. | To tuition of pupils from foreign States.....                                            | 130 00      |
| December | 31. | To cash from American Printing House for the Blind.....                                  | 15 00       |
|          |     |                                                                                          | <hr/>       |
|          |     |                                                                                          | \$25,529 42 |
|          |     |                                                                                          | <hr/> <hr/> |

1872.

## EXPENDITURES.

|           |     |                                                                                                                         |          |   |
|-----------|-----|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------|---|
| January   | 25. | By expense of transportation to Frankfort twice, and for copies of papers, reports &c., under resolution of Legislature | \$100 75 | ✓ |
| March     | 14. | By T. S. Bell, for improvements                                                                                         | 100 00   | ✓ |
| March     | 30. | By T. S. Bell, for improvements                                                                                         | 100 00   | ✓ |
| April     | 4.  | By T. S. Bell, for improvements                                                                                         | 200 00   | ✓ |
| April     | 4.  | By first quarter's salaries                                                                                             | 1,117 00 |   |
| April     | 4.  | By first quarter's wages                                                                                                | 432 00   |   |
| April     | 4.  | By T. S. Smith, broom corn                                                                                              | 67 00    |   |
| April     | 4.  | By L. Lasch, drayage                                                                                                    | 8 00     |   |
| April     | 4.  | By Wilcox & Gibbs' sewing machine                                                                                       | 33 25    |   |
| April     | 30. | By T. S. Bell, for improvements                                                                                         | 500 00   | ✓ |
| May       | 20. | By Cornwall & Bro., soap                                                                                                | 112 70   |   |
| May       | 20. | By Henry Smith, meat bills                                                                                              | 164 08   |   |
| May       | 20. | By Dr. T. S. Bell, services                                                                                             | 28 35    |   |
| May       | 20. | By B. B. Huntoon, for labor                                                                                             | 78 25    | ✓ |
| June      | 1.  | By Geo. Hertz, improvements                                                                                             | 120 00   | ✓ |
| June      | 13. | By second quarter's salaries                                                                                            | 1,099 00 |   |
| June      | 13. | By second quarter's wages                                                                                               | 434 50   |   |
| June      | 13. | By Bayless, McCarthy & Co., glassware                                                                                   | 58 00    |   |
| September | 4.  | By Bennett Brothers, furniture                                                                                          | 120 75   | ✓ |
| September | 4.  | By H. H. Munroe & Co.                                                                                                   | 203 25   |   |
| September | 4.  | By third quarter's salaries                                                                                             | 893 35   |   |
| September | 4.  | By third quarter's wages                                                                                                | 437 00   |   |
| September | 4.  | By B. B. Huntoon, sundries                                                                                              | 167 10   |   |
| September | 4.  | By Henry Smith, meat bills                                                                                              | 86 80    |   |
| September | 4.  | By American sewing machine                                                                                              | 20 00    |   |
| September | 4.  | By J. S. Wayne & Son, cane                                                                                              | 139 35   |   |
| September | 4.  | By B. B. Huntoon, sundries                                                                                              | 235 53   |   |
| September | 4.  | By Wm. Skene & Co., oil                                                                                                 | 25 35    |   |
| September | 4.  | By Nanz & Neuner, shrubs                                                                                                | 51 15    | ✓ |
| September | 4.  | By Anslie, Cochran & Co., iron                                                                                          | 12 65    | ✓ |
| September | 4.  | By Greve, Buhrlage & Co., furniture                                                                                     | 73 28    | ✓ |
| September | 4.  | By Penalee, Gaulbert & Co., paints, &c.                                                                                 | 31 10    | ✓ |
| September | 4.  | By Henry Smith, meat bills                                                                                              | 144 58   |   |
| September | 4.  | By Louisville Water Company, for water                                                                                  | 125 00   |   |
| September | 4.  | By Schmid & Bender, medicines                                                                                           | 49 20    |   |
| September | 4.  | By T. S. Bell, services                                                                                                 | 32 50    |   |
| September | 4.  | By Dr. Wm. Bailey, medical services                                                                                     | 121 00   |   |
| September | 4.  | By A. Fonda, provisions                                                                                                 | 57 54    |   |
| September | 4.  | By J. Dolfinger & Co., glassware                                                                                        | 5 50     |   |
| September | 4.  | By Waters & Son, boots and shoes                                                                                        | 27 40    |   |
| September | 4.  | By W. H. Dillingham, wire                                                                                               | 50 36    | ✓ |
| September | 4.  | By Wm. Sowders, provisions                                                                                              | 21 25    |   |
| September | 4.  | By L. Eisenman, groceries                                                                                               | 1,192 76 |   |
| September | 4.  | By James Deally & Co., hardware                                                                                         | 24 30    | ✓ |
| September | 4.  | By L. D. Pearson, coffin                                                                                                | 62 00    |   |
| September | 4.  | By Arthur Peter & Co., medicines                                                                                        | 13 87    |   |
| September | 4.  | By John P. Morton & Co., books, &c.                                                                                     | 10 78    |   |
| September | 4.  | By Turner & James, plumbers                                                                                             | 179 25   |   |
| September | 4.  | By Jos. T. Tompkins & Co., dry goods                                                                                    | 20 18    |   |
| September | 4.  | By S. Barker & Co., dry goods                                                                                           | 99 70    |   |
| September | 4.  | By W. H. McKnight, carpets                                                                                              | 18 25    |   |
| September | 4.  | By W. W. Hulings & Co., lumber                                                                                          | 39 00    | ✓ |
| September | 4.  | By Hulings, Campbell & Co., lumber                                                                                      | 41 60    | ✓ |
| September | 4.  | By J. M. Armstrong, clothing                                                                                            | 51 25    |   |
| September | 4.  | By Gardner & Co., groceries                                                                                             | 91 05    |   |
| September | 4.  | By A. G. VanSeggern, lumber                                                                                             | 196 27   | ✓ |
| September | 4.  | By Kennedy & Irwin, coal                                                                                                | 921 06   |   |
| September | 4.  | By C. Haberlin, milk bill                                                                                               | 136 37   |   |
| September | 4.  | By Geo. H. Cary, drugs                                                                                                  | 21 00    |   |
| September | 4.  | By A. McBride, hardware                                                                                                 | 76 50    | ✓ |

Amount carried forward -----

\$11,149 06

|              |                                                |             |
|--------------|------------------------------------------------|-------------|
|              | Amount brought forward.....                    | \$11,149 06 |
| September 4. | By Peters, Webb & Co., repairing piano.....    | 24 00       |
| September 4. | By Bridgeford & Co., stoves, &c.....           | 114 30      |
| September 4. | By D. P. Faulds, music.....                    | 2 45        |
| September 4. | By Baker & Rubel, mending buggy.....           | 4 00        |
| September 4. | By J. McCullough, furniture.....               | 6 00        |
| September 4. | By F. Teupe, tuning pianos.....                | 20 00       |
| September 4. | By J. C. Reeves, labor.....                    | 10 50       |
| December 31. | By Thos. Bess, filling ice-house.....          | 160 00      |
| December 31. | By salaries, fourth quarter.....               | 1,227 23    |
| December 31. | By wages, fourth quarter.....                  | 437 00      |
| December 31. | By Henry Smith, meat bills.....                | 164 25      |
| December 31. | By L. Eisenman, groceries.....                 | 1,074 57    |
| December 31. | By Schmitt & Bender, drugs.....                | 17 50       |
| December 31. | By G. Schranz, blacksmith.....                 | 7 70        |
| December 31. | By H. O. Van Seggern, lumber.....              | 14 06       |
| December 31. | By O. Rawson, sundries.....                    | 25 01       |
| December 31. | By W. Cornwall & Bro., candles.....            | 116 90      |
| December 31. | By Peaslee, Gaulbert & Co., oils, &c.....      | 27 00       |
| December 31. | By D. P. Faulds, music.....                    | 38 45       |
| December 31. | By W. H. McKnight, carpets, &c.....            | 28 67       |
| December 31. | By Jas. McCullough, furniture, &c.....         | 14 00       |
| December 31. | By Jno. P. Norton & Co., stationery.....       | 29 26       |
| December 31. | By Wm. Skene & Co., oil.....                   | 17 76       |
| December 31. | By Waters & Son, shoes.....                    | 16 50       |
| December 31. | By T. S. Bell, horse hire.....                 | 32 50       |
| December 31. | By T. S. Bell, horse hire.....                 | 32 50       |
| December 31. | By W. H. Stokes, saddlery.....                 | 43 55       |
| December 31. | By Bridgeford & Co., stoves, &c.....           | 185 71      |
| December 31. | By Turner & James, plumbers.....               | 41 62       |
| December 31. | By J. M. Armstrong, clothing.....              | 32 00       |
| December 31. | By Wickliff & Bench, potatoes.....             | 108 10      |
| December 31. | By B. B. Huntoon, sundries.....                | 129 90      |
| December 31. | By J. Dolfinger & Co., cutlery.....            | 85 80       |
| December 31. | By Thummel, Harrison & Co., window blinds..... | 5 00        |
| December 31. | By Gardner & Co., groceries.....               | 146 66      |
| December 31. | By W. H. Dillingham, wire cloth.....           | 8 00        |
| December 31. | By Geo. H. Cary, drugs.....                    | 15 30       |
| December 31. | By Courier-Journal.....                        | 21 35       |
| December 31. | By Pyne & Creighton, furnishing.....           | 16 63       |
| December 31. | By Jos. T. Tompkins, dry goods.....            | 120 69      |
| December 31. | By Greve, Bublidge & Co., furniture.....       | 5 40        |
| December 31. | By S. Barker & Co., dry goods.....             | 117 02      |
| December 31. | By Wm. Bailey, M. D.....                       | 63 50       |
| December 31. | By Arthur Peter, drugs.....                    | 4 45        |
| December 31. | By A. McBride, hardware.....                   | 16 10       |
| December 31. | By Baker & Rubel, blacksmith.....              | 19 35       |
| December 31. | By D. Lasch, mattresses.....                   | 157 30      |
| December 31. | By R. D. Hall, lumber.....                     | 3 30        |
| December 31. | By Louisville Water Company.....               | 125 00      |
| December 31. | By James Dailey, locksmith.....                | 2 25        |
| December 31. | By F. Teupe, tuning pianos.....                | 20 00       |
| December 31. | By C. Haberlin, milk bill.....                 | 231 00      |
|              |                                                | <hr/>       |
|              |                                                | \$16,466 15 |
|              | Balance in hands of Treasurer.....             | 9,063 27    |
|              |                                                | <hr/>       |
|              |                                                | \$25,529 42 |
|              |                                                | <hr/>       |





# REPORT

OF THE

KENTUCKY ASYLUM FOR THE EDUCATION OF THE BLIND,

(AT LOUISVILLE, KENTUCKY),

FOR THE YEAR ENDING NOVEMBER 17, 1873.

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FRANKFORT, KY.:  
PRINTED AT THE KENTUCKY YEOMAN OFFICE.  
S. I. M. MAJOR, PUBLIC PRINTER.

1873.



LOUISVILLE, KENTUCKY, November 17th, 1873.

To His Excellency, P. H. LESLIE,

*Governor of the Commonwealth of Kentucky:*

HONORED SIR: In obedience to the act of the Board of Commissioners of the Kentucky Asylum for Educating the Blind, at a meeting held this afternoon, I transmit the Annual Report of the Institution. The Treasurer, John G. Barret, Esq., is, on account of ill-health, absent from the city, on a visit to Illinois; but, as he makes his reports to you quarterly, it may not be important that his report shall accompany this.

I have the honor to be, very respectfully,

T. S. BELL,

*President of the Board of Commissioners of the  
Kentucky Asylum for Educating the Blind.*



OFFICERS AND TEACHERS OF THE KENTUCKY ASYLUM  
FOR THE EDUCATION OF THE BLIND.

---

SUPERINTENDENT.

B. B. HUNTOON.

STEWARD.

E. J. VAUGHAN, M. D.

MATRON.

MRS. SARAH J. HUNTOON.

TEACHER.

MISS CLARA MATTINGLY.

TEACHER.

MISS FANNIE POWELL.

TEACHER.

MISS JULIA PURNELL.

TEACHER OF MUSIC.

WILLIAM PLATO.

TEACHER OF HANDICRAFT.

DAVID LASCH.

SEAMSTRESS.

MISS BETTIE RELF.

PHYSICIAN.

T. S. BELL, M. D.

ASSISTANT PUPILS.

ALICE WALKER,  
LOUISA MONOHAN,  
CHARLES FREDERICK.



## REPORT OF THE BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS.

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To His Excellency, P. H. LESLIE,

*Governor of the Commonwealth of Kentucky :*

The Commissioners of the Kentucky Asylum for Educating the Blind, respectfully submit the report of the thirty-first session of the school. We are gratified in being able to bear testimony to the continued prosperity of the Institution. The pupils have generally shown more interest in their studies during the present term than in any previous year of the school. The Superintendent has secured an excellent corps of teachers, who, with his own indefatigable labors in supervision of every field of instruction and improvement for the pupils, have incited the scholars to very earnest attention to the means furnished by the Commonwealth for securing the welfare of the blind children of the State. We have watched the progress of the pupils with great care and with satisfaction.

We cannot speak in too strong terms of our gratification in the devotion of Mr. Huntoon to his labors in the management of the Blind School. With rare qualifications as a scholar and teacher, he combines great industry and energy in the performance of every duty belonging to his office. During last vacation, instead of enjoying that rest and recreation given to the pupils and teachers, he industriously engaged himself in the construction of two maps of physical geography for the blind, and by his skillful use of fine saws and carving tools produced two invaluable maps for the Kentucky School that are far superior to anything of the kind in any blind school. Indeed, they are the only maps of their kind in existence. As means of instruction, they are invaluable. By their use, the blind can be taught physical geography as easily as seeing pupils; and this is the only kind of geography that is worth studying. We doubt whether these maps could have been made under a cost of less than three or four hundred dollars, and we have no idea where we could have had them constructed. The cost of them was a mere trifle. In all labors for promoting the instruction of the blind, and in improving their physical condition, we feel that, in Mr. Huntoon, we have secured for the Kentucky Institution all the qualities of a Superintendent that are desirable.

Under an act of the Legislature, at the recent session, eight thousand dollars were appropriated for the purpose of heating the edifice of the



Blind School. In order to be properly ready for this improvement, Mr. Huntton prepared measurements and drawings, giving the cubic spaces of walls and lights for all the rooms and halls of the building, which were submitted to all the persons who undertook to make bids for the work. The entire charge of the work was given to a committee, consisting of Captain Z. M. Sherley, and Messrs. Gavin Cochran, and Wm. Kendrick. These gentlemen obtained bids from several establishments, which were submitted to the Commissioners. This board were convinced that while the bid of Miles Greenwood & Co., of Cincinnati, was the lowest, it was also the most satisfactory, and instructions were given to the committee to contract with Greenwood & Co. The work has been so far completed, and answers the purpose thus far so perfectly, that we hope we may not find it necessary to make any additions to it. That can be determined only by the experience of the coming winter.

By an examination of the statements of the papers marked A, B, and C, it will be seen that the expenditures for heating the building, and for the improvement of the water facilities of the edifice, by which security against fire is amply provided, and great comforts for the inmates are given, are less than the sum appropriated by the General Assembly for the purpose. Of this great improvement we could scarcely speak too strongly. We now have a sense of safety against fire that we have never known before. The heat of the building is of an excellent kind, combining comfort and health for the inmates. No class of children need exercise more than the blind. There are few of them who have not some constitutional defects that may be improved or removed by well-regulated exercise. In addition to all the other advantages of heating the large halls of the building is this great one—in the dreariest and coldest days of winter the children can now take exercise as fully and comfortably as in the open air in May or June.

The boilers are nearly perfectly fitted for their work. In order to secure them for working satisfactorily, and to prevent them from burning because of sediment in them, we had to dig a deep sewer, much of it eleven feet in depth, a portion of it through the walls of the building, for carrying off water from the boilers and for the use of blow off valves. This sewer, over two hundred feet in length, is of iron, made of old pipe belonging to the Institution. The drainage is very perfect. The entire work cost six thousand nine hundred and sixty-one dollars and forty-seven cents. This leaves in the hands of the Commissioners one thousand and thirty-eight dollars fifty-three cents with which to finish some portions of the work and to supply any deficiencies of heating power that winter may develop. Thus far the apparatus works perfectly to our satisfaction. The work has been executed with skill and integrity, and is

faultless in its operations as far as completed. It is due to Captain Z. M. Sherley, chairman of the committee on the heating arrangements, to say that much of the saving to the Commonwealth was effected through his constant supervision of everything about the work, and his ample knowledge of the whole subject. Through our confidence in the committee, we were enabled to dispense with the employment of an architect for this work.

Each one of the bills referred to in the papers of the committee is itemized, and vouchers for every cent of the expenditures have been submitted to this Board and are in the hands of the Secretary of the Board of Commissioners.

We have not made any use of the appropriation for introducing illuminating gas into the building. There is a strong probability that the road-bed in front of the Institution will be considerably lowered, and we feel that it is advisable to wait until that improvement is made. In the report of the Superintendent of the school reference is made to the appropriation for the purchase of models of various objects for instructing the blind pupils. We are in daily expectation of the arrival of the articles, purchased by Professor J. Lawrence Smith, in Paris. He is in that city now, and is not expected to reach home until some time in December.

Dr. J. Knapp, of this city, has presented to the Institution an excellent collection of fossils of the early life of the globe. They were selected with reference to the feeling powers of the pupils. The blind children can learn the forms and history of these corals as well as seeing children can, and they take a lively interest in everything of the kind. No one can watch the operations of a School for the Blind without recognizing the fact that, as far as possible, they should be taught all that is known to be useful to pupils who can see. In our report to the Legislature last year, we gave numerous instances of successful achievements by the blind in a variety of fields of art and of business. Among these instances were cases in the history of the pupils of the Kentucky School for the Blind. A number of these pupils, who are making a good livelihood by mechanical employment, are well known to us. The following record will serve as a specimen: A pupil of the Kentucky School, named Geo. W. Hughes, of Big Spring, Meade county, addressed a letter to Dr. Lasch, the excellent teacher of handicraft in the Blind School, informing him of the business he had secured. He had procured a spring wagon, and hired a boy for a driver, by which means he hunted and found work at mattress making. He had accumulated the sum of \$500, his own earnings, and he frequently makes fifty dollars a week. He hopes soon to be able to have enough to enable him to open a shop in a town he had selected.

This is one example among many similar instances reported to us. These are the results of that wise care manifested by the authorities of Kentucky in providing means by which these unfortunates may be made useful to themselves and others; by which they are lifted from a mere vegetable life into the adornments and utilities of a useful manhood. The failure to recognize the claims of this unfortunate class, which consigns them to neglect or indifference, would inflict a stigma upon civilization, which we rejoice to know does not lie at the door of the Commonwealth of Kentucky. Inspired by the enlightened philanthropy thus exercised by the authorities of the State, we have earnestly and persistently labored to make the Kentucky School for the Blind equal in all the elements of usefulness to any other school of the kind in the world. We have abundant evidence to show that we have not fallen far short of the fulfillment of these desires.

We have referred to the blind teacher of handicraft, Dr. Lasch; justice to his eminent usefulness requires that we shall say something more than we have said of his merits. He has charge of the mechanical department, and he has managed it, as usual, to the great advantage of the older male pupils, who have had, during the last year, special opportunities in upholstery work that they have appreciated. Dr. Lasch, the teacher of this department, is unwearied in his efforts to advance the pupils under him, and, being blind himself, understands the difficulties to be overcome by the blind pupil; while, at the same time, through his energy and industry, his example is an incentive to persistent effort on the part of his pupils.

In addition to the literary enjoyments secured to the blind children of the Commonwealth, and to which they are as much entitled as any of the children of the State, we take much interest in teaching all that can be induced to apply themselves the best methods within our power for mastering music and handicrafts by which they may support themselves and become useful members of society. While our success in these objects has not been all that we desire, we have met with a great many satisfactory results. The removal of any class of persons from the pauper lists of the State, and their conversion into useful producers, is a great gain to the Commonwealth. We have done this in numerous instances, and if we could carry the blessings of the training of the Blind School of Kentucky into the minds of all the blind children of the State who need them, we should have a high degree of satisfaction in the discharge of the onerous duties we perform for the people of Kentucky; but we regret to know that there are numbers of blind children in the State to whom the school is almost perfectly inaccessible. We have given a great deal of annual labor in efforts to awaken among the parents or friends of the children a

recognition of the beneficence of the Commonwealth toward them. If we could gather into the school all the blind children who need its benefits, while the enlargement of its usefulness would be great, the ratio of expense would be lessened. We could easily instruct one hundred pupils without making any material approach to doubling the expense incident to educating fifty. After having exhausted all our efforts in endeavoring to increase the number of pupils, we again invoke the Legislature to assist us in this needed work. Many of the pupils are too poor to pay traveling expenses for themselves and for companions to take care of them during the journey. At the last session of the Legislature a bill passed the Senate providing for the payment of mileage for children unable to pay traveling expenses to the school; the bill was thoroughly provided against frauds; it required proof to be taken by the presiding judge of the county in which the applicant has residence, and upon the certificate of the judge to the Treasurer of this school, our officer pays the mileage, the amount of which is expressed in the bill. This bill was never acted upon by the House, and for this reason the Blind School has failed to derive any increase of pupils from this needed aid to the Institution. We earnestly invoke the attention of the House of Representatives to this important utility for the blind children of the Commonwealth.

Another important feature of the blind school training is seen in the great improvement of the constitutional health of the children. The majority of them enter the school with feeble vital forces from impoverished blood. A long course of observation and experience in this field, on the part of some of the members of this Board of Commissioners, enables us to bear testimony to the rapid improvement in the health and vigor of many of these pupils. The laws of hygiene are thoroughly understood and enforced by the Superintendent and Matron of the school. At no period, in the history of the school, have we seen these laws of health as intelligently and as vigilantly administered as they are by Mr. and Mrs. Huntoon. We feel confident that if parents, or friends of blind children, could see for themselves the immeasurable benefits provided by the State for the pupils of this school, they would feel the deepest solicitude for securing to the children these ample means of physical welfare. We have never seen in any family more watchful care, more intelligent action, for the well-being of children, than that constantly exercised by the Superintendent and Matron of this Institution toward the children of the Blind School. In the sickness of the children these faithful officers watch over the sufferers, and see that nothing that can promote the recovery of the sufferers is omitted. This has something to do with the rapid cures of sickness, and the diminutive death rate among the children of the Blind School. The President of the Board, through his almost

daily visits to the Institution, is so familiar with these useful labors that he feels that all who are interested in the blind should know something of them.

During the past summer the attention of the physician was directed to the condition of the eyes of one of the girls, and of one of the boys. The eye-lashes were turned upon the balls of the eyes, inflicting almost constant torment upon the sufferers. Professor J. M. Bodine, of the Medical Department of the University of Louisville, at the request of the physician of the School, very generously and skillfully operated upon the diseased eye-lids, and the operation has proved to be a very successful one.

An interesting case was sent from Lexington, without the certificate that we usually require. This young lady could see to get about very well, and the Commissioners had their doubts as to her title to be in a School for the Blind. The law creating the Blind School provided for such cases that have sight, but who are likely to become blind by the use of the eyes in studying. We felt that it was necessary to ascertain the true nature of the case before us. This could be done only by the use of the ophthalmoscope in the hands of a master of that instrument. An examination by ordinary method cannot determine anything about the health or disease of the posterior chamber of the eye. The anterior chamber did not reveal anything respecting the perils to the sight of the young lady whose case was in question. At the request of the Board of Commissioners, Professor Bodine examined, with the ophthalmoscope, the eyes of the young lady, and discovered a well recognized disease, from which, with abstinence from the use of the eyes, and careful attention to hygienic regulations, she might recover. Professor Bodine suggested that instruction in the Blind School, and the excellence of the hygienic care in the Institution, offered the only means by which she could be educated, and, at the same time, be saved from total blindness. She may possibly recover the use of her eyes. The disease of this young lady is described by Liebrich, and well portrayed in one of his plates, as one of the forms of choroiditis; it cannot be discovered, except through the agency of the ophthalmoscope. We have referred to the case in the hope that similar cases may learn the means of being educated, and of saving the eyes from total and incurable blindness.

We earnestly ask the attention of the authorities of the Commonwealth to the interests, not only of the blind children at the school, but of those who are out of it, and who should be induced to enter upon the educational training provided by the State for its blind youth.

For additional information we refer to the full report of Mr. Huntoon, Superintendent of the Blind School, and to that of Dr. E. J. Vaughan, Steward of the Institution.

May we not ask of the General Assembly a change of the name of this educational institution from that of Asylum given to it by the general act in reference to the charitable institutions of the State? This is a school, not an Asylum. This misnomer, which can do no kind of good, has inflicted a great deal of annoyance upon us. We ask that the school be again called the Kentucky Institution for the Education of the Blind, a name which it wore for thirty-one years of its existence.

In the report of the United States Commissioner of Education we find that the expenses of the various blind schools of the country range from \$205 to \$750 per annum, for each pupil. According to the same report the expense of each pupil in the Kentucky School is placed at \$334 per year. The source of error in these estimates is this: some of the schools reported to the Commissioner the entire number of the pupils for the year; the number in the Kentucky School embraced only those in attendance at the time the circular of the United States Commissioner was received. These two methods would make a material difference in representing the expense. We feel very confident that we watch over the expenditures of this Institution as vigilantly and carefully as we do over our individual expenses. We are responsible to the State for the expenditures of the school; not a dollar can be drawn from the funds appropriated for the Institution, except upon a warrant ordered at a meeting of the Board of Commissioners. Every bill brought before us is carefully canvassed, and is approved only when we are satisfied that it is just and reasonable.

In behalf of the school, we cordially thank the proprietors of the Daily Courier-Journal and the Daily Commercial, of Louisville, and Dwight's Journal of Music, for the gratuitous use of their publications for the benefit of the blind pupils. They fully enjoy the opportunities for tracing these "maps of the busy world."

In reference to the act of the General Assembly changing a number of the features in the management of the charitable institutions of the Commonwealth, we respectfully report that this Board has done all in its power to secure a thorough obedience to the law. We were not able to give a fair trial to that part of it requiring cultivation of the vacant ground of the Institution. We have but a diminutive amount of ground for gardening purposes. A large portion of the land back of the Institution, less than five acres, is occupied by excellent varieties of fruit trees, which, in a good fruit season, yield a large amount of useful sustenance to the pupils through a portion of the summer, the whole of the fall and winter. We doubt whether, at the same expense, we could make any crops as remunerative as these fruit trees. When the law went into effect, the season was too late to undertake new gardening enterprises. But we shall now remove some useless trees and prepare the ground this

fall for garden products next spring, by which means we shall be able to render a better account in our next report than in the report of this year. We are making arrangements for planting the best varieties of blackberries and raspberries, which yield good returns without expensive labor for cultivation. The Board take much pleasure in bearing testimony to the fidelity and excellence of Dr. E. J. Vaughan, in the discharge of the duties of Steward.

On motion of the Hon. James Harrison, the following addition was, by a unanimous vote, made to the report :

We are constrained, under a sense of duty to the Institution and to the Commonwealth, respectfully to represent that the appointment of a Steward to this Institution is unnecessary. Before the passage of the act requiring a Steward to be appointed by the Governor, the Superintendent, under the order and inspection of the Board of Managers, purchased supplies for the Institution. No claim for supplies or other charges was ever ordered to be paid until examined and approved by the Board of Managers, and they directed the President to draw an order on the Treasurer for the amount. The Superintendent was not allowed anything for such services, and he had then, and has now, sufficient time to purchase supplies without any injury to the Institution.

It is claimed that the statute referred to, literally construed, gives the Steward, with his family, the right to reside in the Asylum, and two families, instead of one, be supported by the State, which, with a salary of five hundred dollars, would cost the State at least twelve hundred dollars more than formerly. There would necessarily be conflicts of jurisdiction that would be very prejudicial to the school and extremely annoying to the Board of Commissioners. No one can properly complain of the appointment by the Governor of the Steward of this Institution. He is a gentleman every way qualified for the duties of the office, and has faithfully discharged them. Our objections to this part of the law rest upon the ground that the office of Steward for this Institution is totally unnecessary, and entails an useless expenditure of money without any corresponding benefit to the Institution or Commonwealth.

The report was unanimously adopted.

T. S. BELL, *President*.  
 WM. F. BULLOCK,  
 THOMAS E. BRAMLETTE,  
 JAMES HARRISON,  
 Z. M. SHERLEY,  
 HENRY J. STITES,  
 A. T. POPE,  
 WILLIAM KENDRICK,  
 GAVIN H. COCHRAN.

## SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT.

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*To the President and Members of the Board of Commissioners of the Kentucky Asylum for the Education of the Blind:*

GENTLEMEN: Since the last annual report there has been no case of death or severe illness in the school. In the early part of January, while the small-pox was prevalent in the city, one of the male pupils contracted the disease during a visit to the city, and was taken sick with varioloid. He was at once removed to a room in a part of the building where none but his nurse and physician were allowed to see him, and in a few weeks he was engaged in his studies as usual, and no other person in the house took the disease. The experience of the school in former years was so assuring that no alarm was felt, nor was a single exercise of the school interrupted.

While the condition of the school is by no means perfect, still there are evidences of improvement that are extremely gratifying. There seems to be a more perfect harmony this year than last between the pupils and their teachers; and this in itself is a most favorable symptom. There has resulted from this a greater progress, and fewer breaches of discipline; and while all employed in the Institution labor in this direction, the workings of the school cannot fail to be efficient.

The labor of overcoming bad habits, of inspiring energy, of teaching independence of thought in those whose condition tends to make them dependent on others, is no slight one, and must depend for its success upon the careful training of years. Even after all the pains that have been taken to inculcate right principles, there are occasional cases of ingratitude and insubordination on the part of those who have received nothing but kindness and benefits from the school. While such cases are discouraging, they are by no means confined to institutions for the blind.

One of the bad habits that has been the source of much trouble, is the use of tobacco. While a love of personal neatness has been sufficient to induce some to give up the habit, there have been others who did not seem to care how dirty it made them look, or how vilely it made them smell. Still the most earnest efforts have been made to check the habit, and with some degree of success.



The text-books furnished by the American Printing House for the Blind have been of incalculable service in the work of teaching. By their aid the children have been put upon their own powers, and have enjoyed the privilege of studying their lessons like children in ordinary schools. The loss of time, occasioned by the absence of text-books, can only be appreciated by those teachers who have managed their classes with and without text-books. Apart from the service that the Printing House has done the blind not connected with the school, the good it has done the school cannot be exaggerated. It is the only source from whence the school can expect text-books.

The Auzoux models, illustrative of physiology, that the last Legislature most judiciously and generously ordered to be purchased, have not yet arrived from Paris; but the funds were placed in the hands of Prof. J. Lawrence Smith, who kindly undertook the task of selecting them for the school, and their arrival is looked forward to with great interest. Their possession will be a great help in the educational work of the school; and it is earnestly to be hoped that all the other schools for the blind in the various States will soon follow the example of Kentucky in securing even more extensive tangible apparatus for teaching the blind. Meantime it is a just matter of pride to the State that she stands among the first in the world for the care she takes of her afflicted children.

There has been, throughout the year, a cordial co-operation on the part of all the teachers for the progress of the school; without that, your Superintendent would be almost powerless for usefulness. Where so much depends upon the conscientiousness with which they discharge their duty, it gives your Superintendent pleasure to testify to the willingness and cheerfulness with which they have performed their duties. Miss Clara Mattingly has especially shown a spirit of self-sacrifice and devotion to the interests of the children that has known no limit of times or seasons, and the example of her energy and zeal has been admirable.

The number of pupils who have received instruction in the Institution since the beginning of the year, is fifty-nine. Their names and residences are given below:

|                     |   |   |   |   |   |                  |
|---------------------|---|---|---|---|---|------------------|
| Lily Armstrong,     | - | - | - | - | - | Lexington.       |
| Effie Berry,        | - | - | - | - | - | Lexington.       |
| Matthew Blute,      | - | - | - | - | - | Newport.         |
| Charles Bohanon,    | - | - | - | - | - | Louisville.      |
| Alice Bradley,      | - | - | - | - | - | Louisville.      |
| Nannie P. Brown,    | - | - | - | - | - | Warsaw.          |
| Percy S. Boullemet, | - | - | - | - | - | New Orleans, La. |
| Mary Cavanaugh,     | - | - | - | - | - | Louisville.      |

|                       |   |   |   |   |                   |
|-----------------------|---|---|---|---|-------------------|
| William Clark,        | - | - | - | - | Louisville.       |
| Willis Daffern,       | - | - | - | - | Monticello.       |
| Frank Dollins,        | - | - | - | - | Glasgow.          |
| John M. Ernst,        | - | - | - | - | Louisville.       |
| Ada Etheridge,        | - | - | - | - | Louisville.       |
| Annie Fahy,           | - | - | - | - | Louisville.       |
| Jane B. Fitzpatrick,  | - | - | - | - | Caverna.          |
| Algernon Flournoy,    | - | - | - | - | Paducah.          |
| Charles Frederick,    | - | - | - | - | Louisville.       |
| Josephus Gatton,      | - | - | - | - | Grayson county.   |
| Teresa Gatton,        | - | - | - | - | Grayson county.   |
| Richard J. Hambleton, | - | - | - | - | Ashland.          |
| J. William Heiser,    | - | - | - | - | Newport.          |
| Anna C. Homire,       | - | - | - | - | Louisville.       |
| Johanna Kearns,       | - | - | - | - | Jefferson county. |
| Anna Bell Kendall,    | - | - | - | - | Jefferson county. |
| Ellen Kenney,         | - | - | - | - | Louisville.       |
| Mary Ann Landis,      | - | - | - | - | Lexington.        |
| Mary K. McCoun,       | - | - | - | - | Lexington.        |
| Barbara McKinney,     | - | - | - | - | Crab Orchard.     |
| Richard Meade,        | - | - | - | - | Ashland.          |
| Thomas Meddis,        | - | - | - | - | Jefferson county. |
| George M. Miller,     | - | - | - | - | Hawesville.       |
| Louisa Monohan,       | - | - | - | - | Louisville.       |
| Emma Moorman,         | - | - | - | - | Big Springs.      |
| Pamela P. Morehead,   | - | - | - | - | Webster county.   |
| Noah B. Morehead,     | - | - | - | - | Webster county.   |
| James E. Murray,      | - | - | - | - | Newport.          |
| Benj. H. Myers,       | - | - | - | - | Nicholas county.  |
| William J. O'Donnell, | - | - | - | - | Louisville.       |
| William C. Parker,    | - | - | - | - | Louisville.       |
| Alice Parsons,        | - | - | - | - | Louisville.       |
| Nancy Porter,         | - | - | - | - | Pendleton county. |
| Elizabeth Purdy,      | - | - | - | - | Daviess county.   |
| Helen May Purnell,    | - | - | - | - | Maysville.        |
| Mary F. Rogers,       | - | - | - | - | Lexington.        |
| Georgia Sale,         | - | - | - | - | Louisville.       |
| Elizabeth Schaffer,   | - | - | - | - | Louisville.       |
| Elizabeth B. Sheets,  | - | - | - | - | Louisville.       |
| James H. Shacklett,   | - | - | - | - | Big Springs.      |
| Frederick Telkammer,  | - | - | - | - | Louisville.       |

|                     |   |   |   |   |                    |
|---------------------|---|---|---|---|--------------------|
| Emile Trébing,      | - | - | - | - | Louisville.        |
| John H. Vernon,     | - | - | - | - | Elizabethtown.     |
| Mary Alice Walker,  | - | - | - | - | Louisville.        |
| Victoria A. Walker, | - | - | - | - | Cumberland county. |
| Jane Weaver,        | - | - | - | - | Mason county.      |
| Agatha Weaver,      | - | - | - | - | Mason county.      |
| Nannie Wems,        | - | - | - | - | Jefferson county.  |
| James Whitty,       | - | - | - | - | Louisville.        |
| William J. Winfrey, | - | - | - | - | Columbia.          |
| Ola Wood,           | - | - | - | - | Jefferson county.  |

The only drawback that seriously affects the school is the small number of pupils. The building could accommodate thirty more children without materially increasing the expenses of the school. But the difficulty of finding the children, and then persuading their parents to let them enjoy the privileges that the State so freely offers, together with the obstacles of travel to be overcome, have kept our school smaller than those in States intersected in every direction by railroads. Nevertheless, there has been a constant and regular increase of pupils for every quarter during the past year, and the aggregate number this year is greater than it was last.

Thanking you for the cordial sympathy and co-operation that you have always shown me, I most respectfully submit to you this annual report.

B. B. HUNTOON, *Superintendent.*

STATEMENT OF EXPENDITURES

*Of the Committee appointed for arrangements, &c., as to heating apparatus in the Blind Asylum.*

*To the Commissioners of the Kentucky Blind Asylum:*

|                                                                                                                        |            |
|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|------------|
| Amount of M. Greenwood & Co.'s bill in full, as per their statement annexed -----                                      | \$6,574 31 |
| Amount of expenditures for sundry items, as per statement of Capt. Z. M. Sherley, Chairman of Committee, annexed ----- | 387 16     |
|                                                                                                                        | \$6,961 47 |

CONDITION OF ACCOUNT.

|                                                                                |            |
|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------|------------|
| Amount of appropriation and money drawn -----                                  | \$8,000 00 |
| Amount of expenditures as above -----                                          | \$6,961 47 |
| Balance on hand and to credit Z. M. Sherley, Chairman, at Citizens' Bank ----- | 1,038 53   |
|                                                                                | \$8,000 00 |

Z. M. SHERLEY, *Chairman.*  
G. H. COCHRAN,  
WILLIAM KENDRICK.

LOUISVILLE, KY., November 14, 1873.

STATEMENT OF VARIOUS EXPENDITURES

*By Captain Z. M. Sherley, in connection with the introduction of steam heating apparatus into Blind Asylum.*

|                                                        |          |
|--------------------------------------------------------|----------|
| David Lane, for machinery for boilers -----            | \$74 44  |
| Harvey Tunstall (colored) moving tank, and dray -----  | 16 50    |
| Ed. Harris, for brick-work on boilers -----            | 92 40    |
| Joseph Mitchell, work on tank and boilers -----        | 51 25    |
| Joseph Retzel, work on sewer -----                     | 26 90    |
| Philip Moorehead, work on sewer -----                  | 26 90    |
| John Fisher and Philip Calimes, cleaning boilers ----- | 8 00     |
| William Fitzpatrick, hauling twelve loads -----        | 24 00    |
| James Bridgeford & Co., grate bars -----               | 63 17    |
| Geo. H. Carey, one half dozen thermometers -----       | 3 60     |
|                                                        | \$387 16 |

LOUISVILLE, KY., November 15th, 1873.

CINCINNATI, November 12th, 1873.

BLIND ASYLUM, LOUISVILLE, KY.

*Bought of M. Greenwood & Co.*

|                                                      |            |
|------------------------------------------------------|------------|
| Heating apparatus, as per contract -----             | \$5,750 00 |
| EXTRAS.                                              |            |
| 1 hot water coil -----                               | 105 30     |
| 1 independent steam pump -----                       | 200 00     |
| 322 feet galvanized iron pipe, 1½, at 60 cents ----- | \$193 20   |
| 170 feet galvanized iron pipe, 1, at 45 cents -----  | 76 50      |
|                                                      | \$269 70   |
| Less 45 per cent. -----                              | 121 37     |
|                                                      | 148 33     |
| Amount carried forward -----                         | \$6,203 63 |

|                                                         |                                                            |            |
|---------------------------------------------------------|------------------------------------------------------------|------------|
| Amount brought forward.....                             |                                                            | \$6,203 63 |
| 68                                                      | feet pipe, 1½, at 50 cents.....                            | 29 00      |
| 7½                                                      | feet pipe, 1¼, at 39 cents.....                            | 2 93       |
| 40                                                      | feet pipe, 1, at 29 cents.....                             | 11 60      |
| 12                                                      | feet pipe, ¾, at 15 cents.....                             | 1 80       |
| 3½                                                      | feet pipe, ⅝, at 12 cents.....                             | 42         |
|                                                         |                                                            | \$45 75    |
| Less 50 per cent.....                                   |                                                            | 22 87      |
|                                                         |                                                            | 22 88      |
| 6                                                       | elbows, 2, at 60 cents.....                                | 3 60       |
| 9                                                       | elbows, 1½, at 40 cents.....                               | 3 96       |
| 26                                                      | elbows, 1¼, at 34 cents.....                               | 8 84       |
| 24                                                      | elbows, 1, at 22 cents.....                                | 5 28       |
| 3                                                       | elbows, ¾, at 15 cents.....                                | 45         |
| 7                                                       | elbows, ½, at 12 cents.....                                | 84         |
| 5                                                       | elbows, ⅜, at 8 cents.....                                 | 40         |
| 1                                                       | tee, 2 by 1¼, at 85 cents, and ¾ at 22 cents.....          | 1 07       |
| 6                                                       | tees, 1¼, at 45 cents.....                                 | 2 70       |
| 3                                                       | tees, 1½ by 1¼, at 60 cents.....                           | 1 80       |
| 3                                                       | tees, 1, at 32 cents, and ½ at 16 cents.....               | 1 44       |
| 1                                                       | bushing, 1¼ by 1, at 23 cents.....                         | 23         |
| 4                                                       | plugs, 1, at 8 cents.....                                  | 32         |
| 4                                                       | nipples, 1½, at 27 cents.....                              | 1 08       |
| 3                                                       | couplings, 1½, at 38 cents, R. and L.....                  | 1 14       |
| 6                                                       | nipples, 1¼, at 23 cents.....                              | 1 38       |
| 1                                                       | coupling, ½, at 12 cents, and 1 at 22 cents, R. and L..... | 34         |
| 4                                                       | couplings, 1¼, at 22 cents.....                            | 88         |
| 5                                                       | couplings, 1½, at 30 cents, R. and L.....                  | 1 50       |
| 4                                                       | lock-uuts, 1½, at 20 cents.....                            | 80         |
|                                                         |                                                            | \$38 05    |
| Less 45 per cent.....                                   |                                                            | 17 13      |
|                                                         |                                                            | 20 92      |
| 1                                                       | steam trap.....                                            | 6 00       |
| 1                                                       | steam cock, 1¼, H. P.....                                  | \$3 40     |
| 4                                                       | globe valves, ¾, at \$1 26.....                            | 5 04       |
| 6                                                       | globe valves, 1, at \$1 53.....                            | 9 18       |
| 2                                                       | globe valves, 1¼, at \$2 66.....                           | 5 32       |
| 3                                                       | globe valves, ½, at \$1, and ¾ at 80 cents.....            | 5 40       |
|                                                         |                                                            | \$28 34    |
| Less 20 per cent.....                                   |                                                            | 5 66       |
|                                                         |                                                            | 22 68      |
| 6                                                       | finished Bibb cocks with hose connections.....             | 13 50      |
| Straps and bolts for brass coils in hot water tank..... |                                                            | 4 29       |
| 6                                                       | hangers.....                                               | 1 00       |
| Lumber for bench.....                                   |                                                            | 6 66       |
| Labor.....                                              |                                                            | 272 00     |
| Dray.....                                               |                                                            | 75         |
|                                                         |                                                            | \$6,574 31 |

CREDITS.

|               |                         |            |
|---------------|-------------------------|------------|
| 1873.         |                         |            |
| September 24. | Cash Z. M. Sherley..... | \$2,000 00 |
| October 25.   | Cash Z. M. Sherley..... | 3,000 00   |
| November 13.  | Cash Z. M. Sherley..... | 1,574 31   |
|               |                         | \$6,574 31 |

Received payment of Z. M. Sherley, Chairman of Building Committee of Kentucky Asylum of the Blind, in full.

NOVEMBER 13, 1873.

M. GREENWOOD & CO.

**R E P O R T**

**OF THE**

**KENTUCKY ASYLUM FOR THE EDUCATION OF THE BLIND,**

**(AT LOUISVILLE, KENTUCKY),**

**FOR THE YEAR ENDING NOVEMBER 17, 1874.**

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**FRANKFORT, KY.:**  
**PRINTED AT THE KENTUCKY YEOMAN OFFICE,**  
**JAMES A. HODGES, PUBLIC PRINTER.**

**1875.**



# OFFICERS AND TEACHERS OF THE KENTUCKY ASYLUM FOR THE EDUCATION OF THE BLIND.

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## COMMISSIONERS.

TERM EXPIRES MAY 1ST, 1875.

DR. T. S. BELL, PRESIDENT.  
WM. KENDRICK.  
GAVIN H. COCHRAN.

TERM EXPIRES MAY 1ST, 1877.

HON. THOMAS E. BRAMLETTE.  
HON. WM. F. BULLOCK.  
HON. T. L. JEFFERSON.

TERM EXPIRES MAY 1ST, 1879.

HON. JAMES HARRISON.  
HON. H. J. STITES.  
Z. M. SHERLEY.

## TREASURER.

JOHN G. BARRET.

## SECRETARY AND SUPERINTENDENT.

B. B. HUNTOON.

## STEWARD.

E J. VAUGHAN, M. D.

## MATRON.

Mrs. SARAH J. HUNTOON.

## TEACHERS.

MISS CLARA MATTINGLY.  
MISS MARY ANDERSON.  
MISS JULIA PURNELL.

## TEACHER OF MUSIC.

WILLIAM PLATO.

## TEACHER OF HANDICRAFT.

DAVID LASCH.

## SEAMSTRESS.

MISS SUSAN SATTERTHWAITE.

## PHYSICIAN.

T. S. BELL, M. D.

## ASSISTANT PUPILS.

ALICE WALKER.  
LOUISA MONOHAN.  
CHARLES FREDERICK.





## REPORT OF THE BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS.

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Regular monthly meeting of the Commissioners of the Kentucky Institution for the Education of the Blind, December 7, 1874.

To His Excellency, P. H. LESLIE,

*Governor of the Commonwealth of Kentucky :*

HONORED SIR : The Commissioners of the Kentucky Asylum for the Education of the Blind are gratified in being able to report the continued prosperity of the great State Institution confided to their care. At no former period of its existence has it shown such gratifying progress as during the past year. We have never, at any former time, had as many pupils in the school, nor at any period in its past history have the pupils, generally, manifested as much earnestness and assiduity in their studies, as they have in the past year. We regret to know that, notwithstanding the liberal provisions made by the State authorities for the training and improvement of this "defective class" of the people of the Commonwealth, there are a great number of blind children in the State, whose mental, physical, and moral conditions could be greatly improved, who fail to accept the fostering care of the Commonwealth. There has not been a year in the history of the school that we have not exercised diligence in causing the blessings of this school to be proclaimed by every means in our power, so that those for whom the blessings are provided may have the knowledge carried to their understandings. We have been more successful this session in our exertions than ever before. We trust that the General Assembly, at its next meeting, will perfect the law that, under judicious safeguards, provides for the allowance of mileage for the traveling expenses of blind pupils from their homes to this school. The parents of many blind children, that are known to us, are too poor to pay these expenses. This bill has already passed the Senate, and awaits only the concurrence of the House, and the approval of the Governor, to become a wise and beneficent law.

We ask the co-operation of the State authorities in another means of benefiting blind children. While the State makes ample provisions for enabling blind children to become well educated, and for training them into habits of self-supporting measures, some of the counties permit money allowances to be made to the families of blind

children, as an aid toward taking care of them. We do not know of any family in the State that can take such care of blind children; that can improve and equip them for a useful life, to such a degree of permanent excellence, as the School for the Blind can. In many instances, these pitiful allowances work grievously to the detriment of the blind children, by depriving them of all the benefits the State has provided for them. We hope that the wisdom of the Legislature will devise measures for prohibiting everything of this kind in all cases of blind children capable of being taught in the Asylum for Educating the Blind. In urging upon the attention of the General Assembly the ordainment of laws for increasing the number of pupils in the Blind School, we are carrying forward the interests of the responsibilities conferred on us as guardians of the blind children of the State. If there were double the number of pupils in the school, this would be very far from doubling the expenses of the Institution, to say nothing of the universally recognized truth, that every community is benefited by the conversion of a drone into an honest and useful worker; by changing the life of a mere consumer into that of a meritorious producer. We see so many successful instances in the Blind School of these beneficences, that we cannot fail to become fully conscious of the vast utility of this Institution—a consciousness which we feel an imperative duty upon us to impress on all others as thoroughly as we can. If, as Commissioners of the Blind School, we were governed by selfish motives, we should be careless about filling it with pupils, for it should be self-evident to every thinker, that an increase of the number of pupils increases our cares, our solicitude, responsibilities, and labors. But that sense of duty that has hitherto induced us to accept and perform these labors for the blind pupils, induces us to industriously employ all proper means for extending the blessings of its educational powers to every blind child that we can hear of or reach in the State.

The Auzoux models for teaching physiology, or the laws of life, for the purchase of which the Legislature of 1872 appropriated five hundred dollars, were kindly ordered for this school by Prof. J. Lawrence Smith while he was in the city of Paris, for which services we tender our cordial thanks to Prof. Smith. The models have been completed and shipped from France. Their arrival may be looked for now during any week.

In order to utilize our land as perfectly as possible, one hundred young fruit trees—peaches, apples, and quinces, of varieties best

adapted to our soil and the climate of this region—were selected under the personal inspection and judgment of a committee of this board, consisting of Gavin H. Cochran, Esq., Captain Z. M. Sherley, and the Hon. T. L. Jefferson, who were aided by some of the best fruit cultivators in Jefferson county. These trees have been very judiciously planted, and, at a proper time, will aid us in the economical management of this Institution.

A number of repairs and improvements for the preservation of the building imperatively impressed themselves upon our attention. The tin roof has been thoroughly repaired, and, together with the outside wood-work, has been repainted. The boilers, which have been in the building fourteen years, have been renovated and put in the best possible order. Two flues, with apertures of twenty-two inches, have been built outside of the edifice. The commissioners were constrained, through fears for the safety of the building, and in order to secure the proper working of the steam-heating apparatus, to secure an inspection of this department of the edifice. For this purpose a committee, consisting of Messrs. G. H. Cochran, Z. M. Sherley, and T. S. Bell, were appointed. After a thorough inspection and consultation with the distinguished architect, Mr. Henry Whitestone, the committee, with the full concurrence of the Board, decided that the construction of new flues was absolutely necessary. It was found, upon inspection, that the largest brick flue in the building was only sixteen inches by nine inches, while each of the boilers had two flues fourteen inches in diameter. These flues have been built on the northern side of the building at a sufficient height above the roof. Thus far they have fully justified our expectations.

The receipts of the Institution are as follows :

|                                                                                           |                    |
|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------------|
| Amount on hand November 1, 1873 .....                                                     | \$10,520 93        |
| Receipts from workshop .....                                                              | 818 92             |
| Tuition of Louisiana pupil.....                                                           | 160 00             |
| Board of steam-fitters .....                                                              | 126 00             |
| Sale of old stoves .....                                                                  | 85 00              |
| Sale of map .....                                                                         | 78 00              |
| Annual allowance .....                                                                    | 10,000 00          |
| Installment of special appropriation .....                                                | 2,500 00           |
| Per capita allowance .....                                                                | 7,210 00           |
| Special appropriation for Auzoux models.....                                              | 500 00             |
|                                                                                           | <hr/>              |
|                                                                                           | \$31,998 85        |
| <b>Expenditures as by vouchers sent to the Governor quarterly, according to law .....</b> | <b>20,078 76</b>   |
| <b>Balance on hand November 1st, 1874.....</b>                                            | <b>\$11,920 09</b> |

We thankfully and gratefully acknowledge the graceful courtesies of the proprietors of the Daily Courier-Journal and the Daily Commercial, for copies of their daily papers furnished to the Institution gratuitously, and to the proprietors of Dwight's Journal of Music, and of the Saturday Review (Louisville), for similar favors. There is no class of pupils that is more eager to know the teachings of "the map of busy life," the newspaper, than the blind. The papers are read to them regularly.

The Commissioners are much gratified in being able to speak commendably of the fidelity, industry, and trustworthiness of all the teachers, and of those in all the various employments in the Institution. Of the unceasing devotion, care, and judiciousness of the Superintendent and Matron we could scarcely speak in terms of too high praise. They fully merit and receive our full and thorough approval in all respects.

A list of the officers of the Institution, and of the pupils, reported to this Board by the Superintendent, together with the workings of his department, is fully approved by the Commissioners, with full indorsement of its accuracy, and is hereby made a part of the report of the Commissioners of the Asylum for Educating the Blind to the Governor of the Commonwealth.

T. S. BELL, *President.*  
HON. W. F. BULLOCK,  
HON. H. J. STITES,  
HON. JAMES HARRISON,  
HON. THOMAS E. BRAMLETTE,  
HON. T. L. JEFFERSON,  
Z. M. SHERLEY,  
WILLIAM KENDRICK,  
GAVIN H. COCHRAN.

## SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT.

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*To the Commissioners of the Kentucky Asylum for the Education of the Blind :*

GENTLEMEN: The number of pupils in the Kentucky Asylum for the Blind at the close of the year is sixty-six. The entire number of pupils that have received instruction during the year is seventy-four, whose names and residences are as follows :

|                         |           |                    |
|-------------------------|-----------|--------------------|
| Lillie Armstrong,       | - - - - - | Lexington.         |
| Effie Berry,            | - - - - - | Lexington.         |
| Charles Bohanon,        | - - - - - | Louisville.        |
| Mathew Blute,           | - - - - - | Covington.         |
| Patrick R. Boston,      | - - - - - | Metcalfe county.   |
| Alice Bradley,          | - - - - - | Louisville.        |
| Nannie P. Brown,        | - - - - - | Warsaw.            |
| Percy S. Boullemet,     | - - - - - | New Orleans, La.   |
| Margaret Carpenter,     | - - - - - | Hartford.          |
| Mary Cavanaugh,         | - - - - - | Louisville.        |
| William Clark,          | - - - - - | Louisville.        |
| Neppie R. Conway,       | - - - - - | Versailles.        |
| Willis Daffern,         | - - - - - | Monticello.        |
| Cynthia Ann Deaton,     | - - - - - | Rockcastle county. |
| Frank P. Dollins,       | - - - - - | Barren county.     |
| John M. Ernst,          | - - - - - | Louisville.        |
| Ada Etheridge,          | - - - - - | Louisville.        |
| John Etheridge,         | - - - - - | Louisville.        |
| Annie Fahy,             | - - - - - | Pulaski county.    |
| Jeannie B. Fitzpatrick, | - - - - - | Caverna.           |
| Algernon F. Flournoy,   | - - - - - | Paducah.           |
| Robert Fox,             | - - - - - | Louisville.        |
| Charles Frederick,      | - - - - - | Louisville.        |
| Teresa Gatton,          | - - - - - | Grayson county.    |
| Robert Green,           | - - - - - | Grant county.      |
| Belle Hardin,           | - - - - - | McLean county.     |
| Lawrence Hausman,       | - - - - - | Covington.         |
| Effie Hazard,           | - - - - - | Louisville.        |
| J. William Heiser,      | - - - - - | Newport.           |

|                      |   |   |   |   |   |                    |
|----------------------|---|---|---|---|---|--------------------|
| Annie C. Homire,     | - | - | - | - | - | Louisville.        |
| Mildred J. Horrill,  | - | - | - | - | - | Daviess county.    |
| Josie Kearns,        | - | - | - | - | - | Jefferson county.  |
| Anna Bell Kendall,   | - | - | - | - | - | Louisville.        |
| Bridget Kirwen,      | - | - | - | - | - | Louisville.        |
| Mary Ann Landis,     | - | - | - | - | - | Lexington.         |
| Mary K. McCoun,      | - | - | - | - | - | Lexington.         |
| Barbara McKinney,    | - | - | - | - | - | Crab Orchard.      |
| William MacNeil,     | - | - | - | - | - | Nicholas county.   |
| John R. Magoffin,    | - | - | - | - | - | Harrodsburg.       |
| Thomas Meddis,       | - | - | - | - | - | Jefferson county.  |
| George M. Miller,    | - | - | - | - | - | Hawesville.        |
| Louisa Monohan,      | - | - | - | - | - | Louisville.        |
| Emma Moorman,        | - | - | - | - | - | Hardin county.     |
| Pamela P. Morehead,  | - | - | - | - | - | Webster county.    |
| Noah B. Morehead,    | - | - | - | - | - | Webster county.    |
| Lulie Morton,        | - | - | - | - | - | Greenup county.    |
| James E. Murray,     | - | - | - | - | - | Newport.           |
| Benj. H. Myers,      | - | - | - | - | - | Nicholas county.   |
| George Neville,      | - | - | - | - | - | Shelby county.     |
| Alice Parsons,       | - | - | - | - | - | Louisville.        |
| Elizabeth Purdy,     | - | - | - | - | - | Daviess county.    |
| Helen May Purnell,   | - | - | - | - | - | Maysville.         |
| Rebecca Roberts,     | - | - | - | - | - | Lexington.         |
| Mary F. Rogers,      | - | - | - | - | - | Lexington.         |
| Walter Saffarans,    | - | - | - | - | - | Memphis, Tenn.     |
| Georgia Sale,        | - | - | - | - | - | Louisville.        |
| Elizabeth Schafer,   | - | - | - | - | - | Louisville.        |
| Lucy Scott,          | - | - | - | - | - | Princeton.         |
| Luther Settle,       | - | - | - | - | - | Barren county.     |
| William Settle,      | - | - | - | - | - | Barren county.     |
| James H. Shacklett,  | - | - | - | - | - | Meade county.      |
| Elizabeth Stull,     | - | - | - | - | - | Montgomery county. |
| Frederick Telkammer, | - | - | - | - | - | Louisville.        |
| Emile Trebing,       | - | - | - | - | - | Louisville.        |
| Mary Alice Walker,   | - | - | - | - | - | Louisville.        |
| Agatha Weaver,       | - | - | - | - | - | Mason county.      |
| Jane Weaver,         | - | - | - | - | - | Mason county.      |
| Agnes Wells,         | - | - | - | - | - | Metcalf county.    |
| Nannie Wems,         | - | - | - | - | - | Louisville.        |

|                                  |                   |
|----------------------------------|-------------------|
| James Whitty, - - - - -          | Louisville.       |
| Esther Arline Wilhite, - - - - - | Lexington.        |
| Ola Wood, - - - - -              | Jefferson county. |
| Mary C. Wooldredge, - - - - -    | Hardin county.    |
| Ella Van Zandt, - - - - -        | Elliott county.   |

During the first quarter there were present fifty pupils; during the second quarter, fifty-four; during the third quarter, fifty-seven; and during the last quarter there were sixty-six, being the greatest number ever before in the school at one time.

The operations of the school during the past year have been gratifying and satisfactory. Its numbers have steadily increased; there have been no cases of serious illness; and there has been a marked improvement in discipline, and a corresponding progress in scholarship.

While it cannot be claimed that habits of neatness, energy, and industry have been established in every pupil, the most untiring efforts have been made in this direction by the teachers and officials of the Institution.

The literary and the musical instruction of the pupils have both been vigorously pushed; and careful tuition has been given to the girls in knitting, bead-work, the use of the sewing machine, and various kinds of plain and fancy needle-work; while the boys have been taught broom-making, the caning of chairs with the open and solid seat, and mattress-making.

In respect to the literary and musical education of the blind, there seems to be no limit but that of the energy and perseverance of the pupil.

During the past year especial attention has been paid to the use of the New York Point method of writing: in its use for all the purposes of script, and in writing music, it has been found eminently practicable.

Particular attention has been paid to cultivating and developing the sense of touch by the use of object lessons. The various toy-blocks have furnished useful material for instruction; but what has been found of great service in securing independent thought and original ideas on the part of the children, is the slate, with its movable type. With this the pupils have designed plans and exercised their inventive powers with much pleasure and profit. The use of a board, fitted with grooves for the holding of separate letters and



words, that the pupils learn to form into sentences, has been also found of much value.

The dissected maps of Physical Geography of the United States and Europe, made in the Institution during the last year, excited such universal admiration on the part of all teachers who saw them, that Messrs. John P. Morton & Co., of this city, had casts taken of them in brass, and are now multiplying them cheaply, by applying the process used in making imitation wood-carvings. Copies of these maps have already been supplied to Institutions for the Blind in Georgia, Massachusetts, and London, England.

While other maps are also in preparation, there is now nearly finished a county map of Kentucky, over five feet long, dissected according to counties, and showing the county-seats, rivers, and general elevations of the mountains and hills, together with the lines of railroads, that, when finished, will enable every blind pupil to become familiar with the geography of his native State.

At the meeting of the American Association of Instructors of the Blind, at the New York Institution for the Blind at Batavia, last August, there was exhibited a gauge and guide for stitching harness, the invention of a blind harness-maker of Arkansas, and some remarkable samples of superior work done with its aid by the pupils in the Arkansas school were shown.

Interesting statements, too, were made as to the success with which the Institution in Ontario had carried on the manufacture of the finer kinds of willow-ware; and the prospect of this opening out of a new occupation for girls was extremely flattering. Acting upon your directions, letters were written to the Institution in Ontario, making inquiries preliminary to beginning instruction in basket-making in our own Institution; but no reply has as yet been received.

In the general administration of the affairs of the Institution, the aid and counsel of the Commissioners have been invaluable. The President of the Board, with a zeal that has known no abatement during his long years of service as trustee since the foundation of the school, has paid it almost daily visits, and there is not a child in the house but knows the accents of his kindly voice.

The present satisfactory condition of the Institution is due to the hearty sympathy and co-operation that you have given to the management of the school; the personal attention of your various committees to the details of making contracts, and their proper execu-

tion ; to the unwearied efforts of the devoted teachers of the school ; to the faithful industry of the servants, and to the fact that all connected in any way with the Institution have worked together cheerfully and harmoniously in furtherance of the great ends for which it was founded.

All of which is respectfully submitted.

B. B. HUNTOON, *Superintendent.*

## ADMISSION OF PUPILS.

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Any child in the State, who is between six and sixteen years of age, whose sight is so defective as to prevent getting an education in the Common Schools, provided such child is possessed of good mental and bodily health, will be gladly received and taught at this Institution free of all charge, except for traveling expenses and clothing. In special cases, the Board of Commissioners admit persons over sixteen years old for the purpose of learning a trade; but in all such cases, the applicant must furnish abundant proof of good character.

The annual school session commences on the first Monday of September, and terminates on the third Friday of June. It is very desirable that pupils should enter at the commencement of the session; but *new* pupils will be received at any time during the session.

Further information and reports of the school can be obtained by addressing the Superintendent of the Institution for the Blind, Louisville, Kentucky.





REPORT  
OF THE  
KENTUCKY ASYLUM  
FOR THE  
EDUCATION OF THE BLIND,

(AT LOUISVILLE, KENTUCKY),

FOR THE YEAR ENDING NOVEMBER 1, 1875.

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PROPERTY OF THE STATE OF KENTUCKY.

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JAMES A. HODGES, PUBLIC PRINTER.

1876.



# OFFICERS AND TEACHERS OF THE KENTUCKY ASYLUM FOR THE EDUCATION OF THE BLIND.

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## COMMISSIONERS.

TERM EXPIRES MAY 1ST, 1877.

W. N. HALDEMAN.

HON. WM. F. BULLOCK.

HON. T. L. JEFFERSON.

TERM EXPIRES MAY 1ST, 1879.

HON. JAMES HARRISON.

HON. H. J. STITES.

Z. M. SHERLEY.

TERM EXPIRES MAY 1ST, 1881.

DR. T. S. BELL, PRESIDENT.

WM. KENDRICK.

GAVIN H. COCHRAN.

TREASURER.

JOHN G. BARRET.

SECRETARY AND SUPERINTENDENT.

B. B. HUNTOON.

STEWARD.

E. J. VAUGHAN, M. D.

MATRON.

MRS. SARAH J. HUNTOON.

TEACHERS.

Miss CLARA MATTINGLY.

Miss MARY ANDERSON.

Miss JULIA PURNELL.

TEACHER OF MUSIC.

WILLIAM PLATO.

TEACHER OF HANDICRAFT.

DAVID LASCH.

SEAMSTRESS.

Miss SUSAN SATTERTHWAITE.

PHYSICIAN.

T. S. BELL, M. D.

ASSISTANT PUPILS.

ALICE WALKER.

LOUISA MONOHAN.

CHARLES FREDERICK.





KENTUCKY INSTITUTION FOR THE EDUCATION OF THE BLIND, }  
LOUISVILLE, KENTUCKY, December 1, 1875. }

*To His Excellency, JAMES B. MCCREARY, Governor of the Commonwealth  
of Kentucky:*

HONORED SIR: Under the direction of the Board of Commissioners  
of the Kentucky Asylum for the Education of the Blind, I herewith  
transmit their Report for the year ending November 1, 1875.

I am, with great respect, yours,

T. S. BELL, *President*

*Of the Board of Commissioners of the Ky. Asylum for Educating the Blind.*



## REPORT OF THE COMMISSIONERS OF THE STATE SCHOOL FOR THE BLIND.

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The Commissioners of the Kentucky Asylum for Educating the Blind respectfully report, that the past session of the school, having the largest number of pupils ever assembled in the Institution, was the most gratifying in its general results of any that have been attained in the previous existence of the school. At no former period in its history have we ever known as great a desire to study, nor have we ever seen among the pupils as much progress. The Superintendent, the Matron, and all the teachers, have been faithful in the discharge of all their duties, and have been rewarded in that highest of all remuneration to them—the improvement of the pupils. To the Commissioners of this school the evidences of progress have been highly gratifying; but we should be more highly gratified in seeing the blessings, which the Commonwealth of Kentucky has provided for its blind children, enjoyed by every capable blind child in the State. We resort to all the means we possess or can devise to cause a knowledge of the character of this school to be carried to every portion of the State. But we are painfully conscious that there are many Kentucky blind children who should be in this school, who are kept away, chiefly through want of means for traveling, or, to some extent, by ignorance of the character of the school. To us who see the magnitude of the blessings which training in this school confers on the pupils, it is almost inexplicable that any blind children shall be kept from the elevating and ennobling ministrations secured to them by the just recognition of duty, which the Commonwealth has persistently maintained toward the blind through many blissful years to blind pupils. But we know that it is difficult, if not impossible, to correctly impress upon those entirely inexperienced and uninformed, a proper recognition of the endowments of the blind for the ameliorating and rectifying and advancing powers of education. To the class to which we refer, the idea of making the blind, by means of education, self-supporting, seems utterly futile. But useful and valuable as instruction and training are toward this exaltation to self-respect and independence, there is a higher field for the blind in what is called intellectual education. We cannot understand how any possible reason can be given for a decree, that the

loss of that almost divine faculty, physical vision, for acquiring a knowledge of the treasures of nature, shall have heaped upon it that great and deplorable evil—blindness of the intellect. In our ample experience and observation among the pupils of this school, we find that when the minds of the blind are quickened, invigorated, and guided by education, they may, upon comparison with the uninstructed blind, be regarded as almost lifted away from what are properly called the defective classes of the Commonwealth. We know that to the blind pupils of this school, the ways of cultivated and trained wisdom, the wisdom of the ages, the recorded experiences of mankind, are as winning and as attractive as among any seeing pupils. Who can frame a just reason or excuse why these anxious, groping blind pupils shall not be placed, by the common consent of the people and the strong arm of the Commonwealth, in these ennobling paths, and aided and encouraged to walk in them? If any class is to be neglected, Christian philanthropy and common sense, unite in saying that the blind children shall not be that class.

One of the greatest masters of literature and of history, nobly and eloquently says: "But what shall we say when we reflect that from hence" (the great works of Athenian genius) "have sprung, directly or indirectly, all the noblest creations of the human intellect; that from hence were the vast accomplishments and the brilliant fancy of Cicero, the withering fire of Juvenal; the plastic imagination of Dante; the humor of Cervantes; the comprehension of Bacon; the wit of Butler; the supreme and universal excellence of Shakspeare? All the triumphs of truth and genius over prejudice and power, in every country and in every age, have been the triumphs of Athens. Wherever a few great minds have made a stand against violence and fraud, in the cause of liberty and reason, there has been her spirit in the midst of them; inspiring, encouraging, consoling;—by the lonely lamp of Erasmus; by the restless bed of Pascal; in the tribune of Mirabeau; in the cell of Galileo; on the scaffold of Sydney. But who shall estimate her influence on private happiness? Who shall say how many thousands have been made wiser, happier, and better by those pursuits in which she has taught mankind to engage; to how many the studies which took their rise from her have been wealth in poverty—liberty in bondage—health in sickness—society in solitude. Her power is indeed manifold at the bar, in the Senate; in the field of battle; in the schools of philosophy. But these are not her glory. Wherever literature consoles sorrow or assuages pain—wherever it brings gladness to eyes which fail with

wakefulness and tears, and ache for the dark house and the long sleep—there is exhibited, in its noblest form, the immortal influence of Athens.”

The streams that flow through all our habits of thought and action have their origin in this perpetual fountain; “fresh in eternal youth, exempt from mutability and decay, immortal as the intellectual principle from which they derived their origin, and over which they exercise their control.” Shall we that have freely received not freely give?

We hold as a self-evident truth, that the blind, instead of finding in their defect a barrier to these pure and lofty incentives to great thoughts and noble deeds, plead imperatively that their intellectual eyes shall be opened to the enjoyments, the strength and the vigor that three thousand years of civilization have found in intellectual pursuits. If they may not perfectly rise to these great heights, they should be aided and encouraged to rise far above a state of helpless dependence—far above the degrading and demoralizing influences that are essentially a part of that state. Of themselves they cannot make a pool of Siloam, but the Commonwealth has enacted the part of Shallum and repaired the walls of the pool. For these reasons we gladly give our time, our labor and care, to every feasible method of instructing the blind as fully as possible, in everything that may be useful to them in enlarging, invigorating, and clearing their intellectual powers; in fitting them for the duties of citizenship in their largest scope. One of the ablest, most learned and most useful members of the British Parliament during the ministry of Mr. Gladstone, is a blind man—Professor Henry Fawcett. When his father was lamenting the loss of his son’s sight, the sufferer said: “Rejoice with me that my health is unimpaired, my purpose still strong, and my spirit as cheerful as ever.” He is one of the foremost men of his age. Among the great thinkers of Great Britain he is now recognized as the first. He holds the chair of Political Economy in the University of Cambridge, and as a teacher and an author on the subject of Political Economy he is well nigh unrivaled. His manual on the subject is the text-book in many colleges. He is the companion of Sir Charles Dilke, Auberon Herbert, and P. W. Taylor, and they are the leaders of that political party called the advanced liberals. When John Bright left the leadership of the independent benches for a cabinet position, this blind man was fully recognized as the most worthy for the place. His works on “The British Laborer,” on “Poor Laws and Pauperism,” on “Pauperism, its Causes and Remedies,” and on “National Education,” have scarcely

ever been equaled. He is confessedly the first man in point of ability now in the British Parliament. Blackwood's magazine for August, 1875, in a "Review of the Session," with a hatred for everything but intense Toryism, in speaking of the debates of the session, says: "While on the other side, Mr Fawcett is perhaps the only member of the Opposition who may be said in any way to have improved his position." No eye as readily lays open a sham in reforming abuses, as that of "the blind statesman of England;" no one so readily "detects the softly sheathed sting," no one is more clear and triumphant in his warnings against deceitful pretences for helping the feeble against the strong. The world will not lose by multiplying crops of such men.

We have in former reports given accounts of many blind men; some of whom filled stations of high responsibility; others successfully conducted business of an intricate character; of others who were successful in various departments of art, and of various pursuits successfully managed. They serve to show how nearly the educated and trained blind can make the sense of touch fulfill many of the purposes of vision. Even to the seeing touch is a faculty of the highest importance as an aid to perfectness of sight. Touch has much to do in distinguishing relations of space, and "has the special power of judging of all matter within reach, at once as to resistance, volume, and weight." It is, as Helmholtz says; "limited, and the distinction it can make between small distances is not nearly so accurate as sight. Yet the sense of touch is sufficient, as experiments upon persons born blind have proved, to develop complete notions of space." He adds: "We are continually controlling and correcting the notions of locality derived from the eye by the help of the sense of touch, and always accept the impressions of the latter sense as decisive. The two senses, which really have the same task, though with different means of accomplishing it, happily supply each other's deficiencies. Touch is a trustworthy and experienced servant, but enjoys only a limited range." Our labors in training the blind are founded upon these philosophical truths; experience and study have enabled those who apply them to elevate the sense of touch among the educated blind to a position far above that of an "experienced servant"—in fact, to that of an intelligent guide and conductor, a constantly whispering angel of light. We successfully strive to so train the sense of touch, that it may make amends for the loss of sight.

The printed material for the use of the blind has been greatly enlarged in the past few years, and we know of no pupils that find

greater enjoyment in literature than the blind. The American Printing House for the Blind, created by the State of Kentucky, and having the co-operation of Pennsylvania, New Jersey, Delaware, Illinois, Ohio, and Missouri, has printed a large number of books, the selection of which was made, to a great extent, under the advice of the Principals of the Blind Schools of the country. Through inventions of Mr. Huntoon, who is the Superintendent of this School, and Manager of the American Printing House for the Blind, facilities for supplying the blind with useful books have been largely multiplied. For instance, the cost of reprinting any of our books, when the demand was beyond the supply, was so great that it amounted in many cases to a prohibition. The invention of Mr. Huntoon enables him to stereotype from the paper page, at a cost not exceeding ten cents a page. Previous to this important invention, the cost of stereotyping was about five dollars a page. Mr. Huntoon's invention saves the cost of type-setting, and the American Printing House for the blind are able to reprint books for the blind at a charge but little beyond the cost of paper, press work, and binding. This is one of the most complete inventions ever made in printing for the blind; but this is only one of many inventions made by Mr. Huntoon for facilitating the teaching of the blind.

The cards by which the blind are taught to write, and with which they write lessons, compositions, letters, &c., cost, for single cards, from eighteen to thirty-six cents. The Managers of the American Printing House are able to furnish them, according to quality, at eight cents for the finest, and four cents for those less finely finished.

The teaching of mathematics, a science for which many blind pupils show a great aptitude, and an understanding of which is to them of inestimable value, was beset with almost insurmountable difficulty, until Mr. Huntoon devised a black-board, on which blind pupils make their diagrams for the solution of mathematical problems. The blind principal of the greatest blind school in England declared, while in Louisville, that the finding of that black-board for the blind, would have remunerated him for his journey from England, even though that had been the sole result. He had one manufactured in Louisville for the blind school in London. From an ample knowledge of what we are speaking about, we are satisfied that there is not a blind school anywhere that excels the Kentucky Institution in facilities for imparting instruction to the blind. There is not a "seeing" school in the world that has maps that even approach the excellence of those made by the Superintendent of the Kentucky School for the Blind, for the pupils under his charge.



We are constrained, from an imperative sense of duty, to urge upon the attention of the State authorities the necessity of legislative action in aid of our conscientious desire for increasing the number of the pupils in the school. Kentucky has, even under the grossly inaccurate reports of the census of 1870, only seven per cent. of her blind in the enjoyment of the blessings of this school. Kansas has 40 per cent. of her blind, under instruction; Iowa has 22 per cent. Some of the States are considerably below the per centage of Kentucky. Georgia has only  $3\frac{1}{2}$  per cent. of her blind at school; Mississippi, Louisiana, Tennessee, and Texas, each has only 5 per cent. But terrible as the revelations of the census of 1870 are, we are satisfied that, in some very important particulars, they are not less than fifty per cent. below the actual facts. For example, the census for New Jersey reports the ratio of one blind person to 285.8 seeing persons; in New York, one in 1980; in Pennsylvania, one in 1999. But a legislative commission appointed by New Jersey to investigate the census tables on this subject demonstrates their fallacies. Those tables reported, as the number of "defectives of all classes," for New Jersey, 985, while the legislative commission ascertained that the number amounts to 2,100, of which 600 were blind.

If the people everywhere were properly awake to the necessity of educating the blind, if they should ever realize that education of the blind is not only a boon to the blind, but to the Commonwealth, as they easily could by patient, dutiful, and faithful investigation, these per centages of which we have spoken, instead of being meagre, would rise to a proper amplitude. If there were less namby-pamby pity for the blind, and a faithful recognition of duty toward these "defectives," and toward the Commonwealth, the blind and the State would reap vast benefits. Mr. C. D. Deshler, in an able paper on "The Defective Classes," says: "We meet a sad-faced blind child, and the tender woman by our side exclaims, 'Poor thing!' We also echo, 'How sad?' and pass on. We have paid our tribute of pity to a depth of woe that we could not comprehend, and which we did nothing to alleviate or cure." What a shame, a burning shame it is, that the world is too abundantly supplied with just such pity as Mr. Deshler describes, instead of that sense of duty which every one should recognize as an essential condition of life. Mr. Deshler adds to this description this statement: "As is the individual, so also is the Commonwealth; for the individual is society in miniature. The neighborhood, the municipality,

the State, the nation, take their hue from the units who compose them. If the people allow their pity to exhale in momentary sensations of sympathy, or restrict it to loquacious displays of compassion, the State will be moved by superficial emotion only. If the people make no self-denying efforts to alleviate or remedy distress, the State will solace itself by a partial or imperfect performance of its duty, and, like its constituent unit, will complacently refer to the little that it has done as an excuse for the much that it has left undone, hiding from its mountain of obligation behind its mole-hill of performance. \* \* \* \* And thus it happens that these few noble institutions, with their hundreds only of inmates, stand before and hide from our eyes the tens of thousands who are distributed over the land without care and protection." We know that these cares must cost something, but it is also true that a people may be grievously injured in their prosperity by a foolish saving that entails more expense than the amount saved. Only that State is "poor that cannot discharge its duties, that cannot mend its social evils or avert coming perils. That is ruinous economy that nourishes growing troubles because it costs something to prevent or remove them."

We speak of these things because they should form a part of the thoughts that must be devoted to an examination of duties, and to inquiries as to their performance. They are not intended as complaints against the authorities of the Commonwealth of Kentucky. They have, with great liberality and an enlightened judgment, performed their duties toward the blind children of the State, in providing means for their care, education, and training. But there is remissness in duties toward the blind, not by the law-making power, but on the part of the assessors, who are required by law to report all cases of blindness in their respective counties. This duty is greatly neglected. The returns thus made are in some instances absurd. In one year there was reported for one county fifty one cases of blindness. In another county, containing more than twenty times the population of the "blind" county, only one case was reported. It is due to the Commonwealth and to its representatives in managing this School for the Blind, that accurate knowledge as to the numbers of blind in each county shall be obtained. The very best economy for the proper care of the blind is exhibited in educating them. This, and only this; can the State do for their elevation from the class of helpless dependents, to that nobility that consists in honest efforts to make a livelihood—by making the hands minister to the support of their owners. In a large number of instances we have known this to be done through the instrumentality of the Kentucky School for

the Blind. Hence our earnest and assiduous efforts to instruct and train the blind pupils as nearly as possible as we should instruct and train pupils that are not defective in any of their senses. In view of these truths, it is evident that in proportion to the number of the blind children of the State that can be placed under the influences of this school, the larger will be the amount of good conferred on the blind and upon the Commonwealth. We should rejoice if we could succeed in bestowing on every blind child in the State, capable of receiving them, all the blessings that the enlightened philanthropy of Kentucky has liberally provided for them.

We have urged upon the legislative authorities the necessity of a law for the grant of mileage to all blind pupils who should be in the school, but whose necessities prevent them from commanding the means for conveying them from their homes to the school. A law of this kind, carefully guarded in its provisions, passed the Senate. It should pass the House without a dissenting voice, and will undoubtedly receive the approval of the Governor. This will materially aid us in gathering pupils into the school, and with that the work of improvement begins, an improvement alike beneficial to the pupils and to the State.

Another measure of great importance to the blind and to the State should invoke legislative attention. We cannot present this important matter in more expressive terms, except in a single emendation, than we used in our report to His Excellency, Governor Leslie, in the Annual Report made December 7th, 1874, as the law required, but which was not submitted to the General Assembly, as it did not meet last winter. We then said: "While the State makes ample provision for enabling blind children to become well educated, and for training them into habits of self-supporting measures, some of the counties permit money allowances to be made to the families of blind children, as an aid toward taking care of them. We do not know of any family in the State that can take such care of blind children; that can improve and equip them for a useful life, to such a degree of permanent excellence, as the School for the Blind can. In many instances, these pitiful allowances work grievously to the detriment of the blind children, by not only depriving them of all the benefits the State has provided for them, but by furnishing them means to become hopeless, helpless, ignorant paupers. We hope that the wisdom of the Legislature will devise measures for prohibiting everything of this kind in all cases of blind children capable of being taught in the Asylum for Educating the Blind. In urging upon the attention of the General Assembly the ordainment of laws for

increasing the number of pupils in the Blind School, we are carrying forward the interests of the responsibilities conferred on us as guardians of the blind children of the State. If there were double the number of pupils in the school, this would be very far from doubling the expenses of the Institution, to say nothing of the universally recognized truth, that every community is benefited by the conversion of a drone into an honest and useful worker; by changing the life of a mere consumer into that of a meritorious producer. We see so many successful instances in the Blind School of these beneficences, that we cannot fail to become fully conscious of the vast utility of this Institution—a consciousness which we feel an imperative duty upon us to impress on all others as thoroughly as we can. If, as Commissioners of the Blind School, we were governed by selfish motives, we should be careless about filling it with pupils, for it should be self-evident to every thinker, that an increase of the number of pupils increases our cares, our solicitude, responsibilities, and labors. But that sense of duty that has hitherto induced us to industriously employ all proper means for extending the blessings of its educational powers to every blind child that we can hear of or reach in the State, is our only incentive in this."

While we thus plead the cause of the blind that are cared for by the State, we are painfully conscious that there is a large class of those worthy objects of State beneficence, who are not the subjects of any useful care. It would probably be impossible to refer to any documents on which less reliance may be placed, than the tables of the national census. That of 1870 is not any improvement in accuracy upon its predecessors. But even in its crotchety figures we may find distressing facts. The returns show, according to Mr. Deshler, that "there are in the United States twenty-six institutions for the deaf and dumb, with 3,061 inmates; seven for the deaf and dumb and the blind combined, with 657 inmates; nineteen for the blind, with 1,433 inmates; and seven for the feeble-minded (idiots and imbeciles), with 686 inmates—a total of fifty-nine institutions and 5,837 inmates. By the same authority, there are in the States where these institutions are located 12,178 deaf and dumb persons, 4,591 of the deaf and dumb and the blind combined, 14,725 who are blind, and 10,578 who are feeble-minded—or a total of 42,072, showing that in the States which have institutions for the care of these defectives less than fourteen per cent. of the whole number are cared for, the number provided for being 5,837, and the number uncared for 36,235. A further analysis of these statistics shows that in the same States about twenty-five per cent. of the deaf and dumb, fifteen per cent.

of the deaf and dumb and blind combined, eleven per cent. of the blind, and seven per cent. of the feeble-minded, are cared for.

These may well be termed distressing facts, and it is a part of the duty assigned to us by the Commonwealth to do all in our power to enlarge the number of blind pupils in receipt of the State's provident care, and to exert ourselves assiduously toward the great reduction of the numbers of the blind for whom no proper care is manifested. We should be unworthy of the trust reposed in us, were we to fail to make all proper exertions toward this great public interest. He must reason very indifferently, who supposes that the provisions made for educating and training the blind, are useful only to the blind pupils who receive the direct benefits. The indirect results to society and to the Commonwealth are very large factors, that should never be neglected, in estimates founded upon the difference between pauperism enforced by neglect, and the prevention of pauperism among the helpless blind, by teaching them self-respect, by rousing and inspiring their intellects, and by teaching them and training them in useful pursuits that enable them to earn their own livelihood. These are gratifications beyond price to those of us who have gratuitously devoted a large portion of our lives to the welfare of the blind pupils of Kentucky. The other side, the inevitable side of the picture, is almost too dark to look upon. It has been said, and sad experience bears testimony to its truth: "The lot of such of our defectives as are not provided for in institutions has no alleviating feature. Instead of being improved either physically, mentally, or morally, they are rapidly and inevitably gravitating lower and lower in the scale of humanity. While they are undergoing the swift process of degradation, they are subjected to want, suffering, pitiless exposure, and shameful outrage. They are rendered forever incapable of contributing to their self-support, and, with few exceptions, must become a public charge. Especially pitiable is the case of the large body of the feeble-minded. A great proportion of these are scattered among alms-houses, filthy, diseased, untaught, and unkempt, and in many cases they are treated with shocking indifference, or still more shocking indignity and even cruelty. Others are left in the normal care of ignorant or heartless relatives, to whom they are a burden and shame, and by whom, from want of knowledge, or means, or feeling, they are permitted to sink to a level lower than that of the beasts. As a whole, this multitude of defectives are a blot upon our civilization, a reproach against our enlightenment and Christianity, an indignity against humanity, and a shame to our States and people. These sightless eyes, deaf ears, mute tongues,

cellence of the work, that the discovery of as perfect an automatic ten-  
and impotent brains, are a perpetual witness against us before God and  
our own consciences; and hereafter we cannot relieve ourselves of our  
responsibility by pleading ignorance of the facts."

We have frequent opportunities of seeing some portions of these disagreeable features among some of those who spend their vacations at home, but especially among some of the new pupils. Their physical frames often show as much the want of proper care, judgment, and management as their minds. Under the healthful influences of the school, through the hygienic measures resorted to, care in diet and good training, many serious forms of physical suffering soon begin to improve. The difference which is annually obvious to us in the physical and mental condition of blind pupils at the beginning of a session and at its close is so great that we often wish that they could enjoy the genial influences of the school the entire year. Our Institution annually shows through its pupils, that which was seen by a member of the legislative commission of New Jersey, appointed to survey a field somewhat similar to that, in our charge: that "healthfulness, happiness, and intelligence, are eloquent witnesses for the patient and effective training, and the tender and affectionate oversight of those who have them in charge. They are healthy, animated, playful, gay-hearted, and manifest a quickness of perception and a degree of intelligence that would be creditable to children in the enjoyment of all their faculties." These are not mute appeals, as they address themselves to our observation of the pupils in the State Blind School. They cogently say to us, that while all "the defective classes," the mute, the blind, and the feeble-minded, deserve the provident care of the Commonwealth, none of them give better returns for that care than the blind pupils. The mass of them are assiduous in study; they have promptly responded to the increased facilities for learning that the Superintendent has invented for them, and to the careful and devoted labors of their teachers, all of whom are earnestly alive to the sacred duty intrusted to them.

In addition to literary and musical instruction, the girls are taught the use of the sewing machine. They readily learn to thread the needles; some of them can take the machines apart, clean, oil, and put them together again. The new machine with automatic tension, of Wilcox & Gibbs, is so thoroughly adapted to the blind, that it looks as though it was invented especially for them. The tension has so much to do with success in the use of the machine, with the integrity and ex-

sion as this, is a discovery scarcely, if any, inferior to the invention of the sewing machine. In addition to this great improvement, this new machine of Wilcox & Gibbs has stamped on the cloth plate a table that shows the proper size of needle and length of stitch for each size of cotton or silk. To the left of this "stamped table" is a slot surrounded by a shield. A handle moves a cylinder, on the surface of which are the various numbers indicating the "stitches to the inch," and the handle is to be moved until the required number appears in the slot. The machine is now ready for work, and by attention to the "stamped table" and the slot, "good and durable work is secured." For example: if No. 70 thread is to be used, the table shows that the No. 2 needle is required, and this makes 22 stitches to the inch. The handle of the stitch regulator is turned then until 22 appears in the slot, and in this way other automatic powers than that named for the tension regulate the working of the machine. If cotton thread No. 100 is used, the "table" shows that the needle required is No. 1, and this gives 27 stitches to the inch. The cylinder in the slot is turned until 27 comes into the opening, and this form of work is thus secured. We have seen the work done by all the machines, and we have never seen that of this new machine surpassed; and no other machine equals it in securing uniform good and durable work. This is not left to the imperfection of judgments, but is regulated by the perfectness of machinery.

At the request of this Board of Commissioners, the inventor of the great improvements in the Wilcox & Gibbs sewing machine has perfected a method by which the inventions we have described for the use of the "seeing" are made equally accessible to the blind. The regulation of the cylinder in the slot, aids in regulating the tension and the selection of the needle. To the blind the numerical condition of the cylinder is given through the ear. By the use of a small lever the blind girl can tell perfectly when the machine is set for making the desired number of stitches to the inch and the size of the needle to be used for the purpose. If twenty stitches to the inch are desired, the little lever is drawn forward until five clicks are sounded; if twenty-two stitches to the inch are preferred, six clicks are sounded, and the machine is prepared for that number of stitches; thus the clicking gives to the blind girl information given to the seeing girl by the figures seen on the cylinder. This very ingenious and perfect invention will prove a great blessing to blind sewing girls. For their use, the difference, in many respects, between this improved machine and other sewing machines, is almost as great as the difference between raised letters and ordinary print for the literary

instruction of the blind. As this valuable invention was made at our request, we feel that this acknowledgment of the service is due to the successful and meritorious inventor.

In our report to the Governor of the Commonwealth, made 7th of December, 1874, in the absence of a session of the General Assembly, we fully reported the necessity of expenditures for the construction of two flues on the outside of the building, for the successful working of the apparatus for the heating the building by steam. For information on this and other matters connected with the School for the Blind, we respectfully refer to that report.

To Professor J. M. Bodine, of the Medical Department of the University of Louisville, we are indebted for the successful extirpation of a diseased eyeball from one of the girl pupils and his excellent attentions to the case. And we cordially thank Dr. C. S. Fenner, a distinguished oculist of Louisville, for the gift and fitting of an artificial eye to the pupil on whom Professor Bodine performed the operation of extirpation.

The Commissioners are thankful to Messrs. Powers and Weightman, of Philadelphia, the distinguished manufacturers of Pharmaceutical preparations, for a liberal supply of sulphate of Cinchonidia, one of the alkaloids of Peruvian bark. Its use among the sick pupils has been attended with very successful and gratifying results.

The Commissioners gratefully acknowledge the continued courtesies of the Editors of the Courier-Journal, the Daily Commercial, and Dwight's Journal of Music, in furnishing the school, for the benefit of the pupils, copies of their papers.

The Institution is greatly in need of a new stable. The present building is liable to fall at any time, and it has been repaired from year to year until it can scarcely hold any new repairs. For the sum of fifteen hundred dollars, we can build a stable sufficient for the use of the Institution; a stable that will endure as long as the school building itself. We have borne with the present tumbling-down stable because there were other things of a more pressing character needed for the school. The old frame building has over-lived its time through the aid of numerous efforts at staying its weak places; but there is no longer strength enough in the decayed timbers to receive aid from props or repairs. It was built of wood, and should not be confided in any longer. We may be able to use a portion of a new building for the workshop in which the boys receive instruction in those kinds of handicraft that are to fit them for earning a livelihood.



The experience of the past year has fully confirmed the members of this Board in the opinion we expressed in our report to the General Assembly on the workings of the new law that devised new regulations for the charitable institutions of the State. In its bearings upon the Kentucky School for the Blind it does not possess the advantages of the old system that had been successfully employed for a period of over thirty years. That new law, in calling this school an asylum, gives us a great deal of trouble, without even the semblance of a benefit. This Blind School does not possess a farm, and its pupils cannot labor upon even the small portion of land that we can appropriate to cultivation. The farms connected with the Lunatic Asylums, and the Deaf and Dumb School may be profitably managed, because the inmates may work upon them; but this cannot be expected of blind pupils. Nor can we perceive the advantage of having a steward with a salary of five hundred dollars, for the performance of duties that can be thoroughly discharged by the members of this commission, without any charge therefor. For the benefit of the school we pray that the law, naming this Institution an Asylum, and providing for it a steward at a salary of five hundred dollars, be repealed, and that all the restrictions respecting disbursements shall remain in full force and be transferred to the Board of Commissioners. We have the custody of the fund. We regard it as a sacred trust, confided to us by the Commonwealth, and we watch over it with at least equal care with that we exercise over our personal interests. Holding as we do that all improvident or negligent expenditures of this fund are that much taken from the blind, we, by all the means known to us, exercise the most rigorous economy that is consistent with the welfare of the blind pupils. Not a dollar can be drawn from this fund without the action of the Board of Commissioners, and no bill is ever ordered to be paid until it has undergone the scrutiny of the Commissioners.

We herewith submit the annual report of the receipts and expenditures of the Kentucky Asylum for Educating the Blind, including the twelve months from November 1st, 1874, to November 1st, 1875.

## RECEIPTS.

|                                                             |             |
|-------------------------------------------------------------|-------------|
| Receipts from the State Treasurer during the year . . . . . | \$20,362 90 |
| Received from workshop . . . . .                            | 720 82      |
| Received from tuition of Tennessee pupil . . . . .          | 200 00      |
| From sale of stove . . . . .                                | 2 00        |
| From amount on hand at last annual report . . . . .         | 11,920 10   |
| Produce of the garden . . . . .                             | 212 95      |

Total . . . . . \$32,418 77

EXPENDITURES.

|                                                                                               |                           |
|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|---------------------------|
| Amount of warrants allowed, as shown in detail in quarterly reports to the Governor . . . . . | \$18,978 70               |
| Produce of the garden . . . . .                                                               | 212 95                    |
| • Total . . . . .                                                                             | <u>\$19,191 65</u>        |
| By balance of money subject to warrants . . . . .                                             | <u>13,227 12</u>          |
| Total . . . . .                                                                               | <u><u>\$32,418 77</u></u> |

We also adopt, as a part of this Report, the report of the Superintendent on the management and condition of the school.

We cordially commend the blind pupils to the fostering care of the State authorities.

We are, very respectfully,

[Signed]

T. S. BELL, *President*,  
 WILLIAM F. BULLOCK,  
 Z. M. SHERLEY,  
 W. N. HALDEMAN,  
 JAMES HARRISON,  
 HENRY J. STITES,  
 WILLIAM KENDRICK,  
 T. L. JEFFERSON,  
 GAVIN H. COCHRAN.

## SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT.

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*To the Commissioners of the Kentucky Asylum for the Education of the Blind:*

GENTLEMEN: The progress of the school during the past year has been highly satisfactory. The number of pupils that have received instruction during the year is eighty-four, whose names and residences are herewith given.

|                         |   |   |   |   |                    |
|-------------------------|---|---|---|---|--------------------|
| Lilly Armstrong,        | - | - | - | - | Lexington.         |
| Nancy Bates,            | - | - | - | - | Grayson county.    |
| John Beckman,           | - | - | - | - | Louisville.        |
| Effie Berry,            | - | - | - | - | Lexington.         |
| Charles Bohanon,        | - | - | - | - | Louisville.        |
| Patrick R. Boston,      | - | - | - | - | Metcalfe county.   |
| Alice Bradley,          | - | - | - | - | Louisville.        |
| Harrison Branch,        | - | - | - | - | Henderson county.  |
| Nannie Peak Brown,      | - | - | - | - | Warsaw.            |
| Mathew Blute,           | - | - | - | - | Newport.           |
| Margaret Carpenter,     | - | - | - | - | Ohio county.       |
| Henrietta Catlett,      | - | - | - | - | Hopkinsville.      |
| Mary Cavanaugh,         | - | - | - | - | Louisville.        |
| William Clark,          | - | - | - | - | Louisville.        |
| Winfield Scott Clark,   | - | - | - | - | Muhlenburg county. |
| Neppie R. Conway,       | - | - | - | - | Versailles.        |
| Willis Daffern,         | - | - | - | - | Wayne county.      |
| Cynthia Ann Deaton,     | - | - | - | - | Rockcastle county. |
| Frank P. Dollins,       | - | - | - | - | Glasgow.           |
| John M. Ernst,          | - | - | - | - | Louisville.        |
| Ada Etheridge,          | - | - | - | - | Louisville.        |
| John Etheridge,         | - | - | - | - | Louisville.        |
| Annie Fahy,             | - | - | - | - | Pulaski county.    |
| Jeannie B. Fitzpatrick, | - | - | - | - | Priceville.        |
| Algernon F. Flournoy,   | - | - | - | - | Paducah.           |
| Robert Fox,             | - | - | - | - | Louisville.        |
| Charles Frederick,      | - | - | - | - | Louisville.        |
| Belle Hardin,           | - | - | - | - | McLean county.     |

|                     |   |   |   |   |                   |
|---------------------|---|---|---|---|-------------------|
| Lorenz Hausman,     | - | - | - | - | Newport.          |
| Joseph T. Hawkins,  | - | - | - | - | Bourbon county.   |
| Effie Hazard,       | - | - | - | - | Louisville.       |
| J. William Heiser   | - | - | - | - | Newport.          |
| Mildred J. Horrill, | - | - | - | - | Daviess county.   |
| Annie C. Homire,    | - | - | - | - | Louisville.       |
| Josie Kearns,       | - | - | - | - | Jefferson county. |
| Anna Bell Kendall,  | - | - | - | - | Louisville.       |
| Bridget Kirwan,     | - | - | - | - | Louisville.       |
| Mary Ann Landis,    | - | - | - | - | Lexington.        |
| Molly Lawson,       | - | - | - | - | Hardin county.    |
| Lenora Lillis,      | - | - | - | - | Frankfort.        |
| Barbara McKinney,   | - | - | - | - | Crab Orchard.     |
| John R. Magoffin,   | - | - | - | - | Harrodsburg.      |
| Thos. Meddis,       | - | - | - | - | Jefferson county. |
| George M. Miller,   | - | - | - | - | Hawesville.       |
| Louisa Monohan,     | - | - | - | - | Louisville.       |
| Emma Moorman,       | - | - | - | - | Hardin county.    |
| Noah B. Morehead,   | - | - | - | - | Webster county.   |
| Pamela P. Morehead, | - | - | - | - | Webster county.   |
| Lulie Morton,       | - | - | - | - | Mason county.     |
| James Murray,       | - | - | - | - | Louisville.       |
| Benj. H. Myers,     | - | - | - | - | Nicholas county.  |
| George Neville,     | - | - | - | - | Daviess county.   |
| Alice Parsons,      | - | - | - | - | Louisville.       |
| Delilah E. Patton,  | - | - | - | - | Ohio county.      |
| Nancy J. Porter,    | - | - | - | - | Boone county.     |
| Elizabeth Purdy,    | - | - | - | - | Daviess county.   |
| Helen May Purnell,  | - | - | - | - | Maysville.        |
| Rebecca Roberts,    | - | - | - | - | Lexington.        |
| Mary F. Rogers,     | - | - | - | - | Lexington.        |
| Walter Saffarans,   | - | - | - | - | Memphis, Tenn.    |
| Georgia Sale,       | - | - | - | - | Louisville.       |
| Elizabeth Schafer,  | - | - | - | - | Louisville.       |
| Louis Schafer,      | - | - | - | - | Louisville.       |
| Lucy Scott,         | - | - | - | - | Princeton.        |
| William Settle,     | - | - | - | - | Barren county.    |
| James H. Shacklett, | - | - | - | - | Meade county.     |
| Nimrod L. Shepherd, | - | - | - | - | Clifton county.   |

|                        |   |   |   |   |                    |
|------------------------|---|---|---|---|--------------------|
| Beverly Smith,         | - | - | - | - | Crittenden county. |
| James Stephens,        | - | - | - | - | Wayne county.      |
| Elizabeth Stull,       | - | - | - | - | Montgomery county. |
| Frederick Telkammer,   | - | - | - | - | Louisville.        |
| Emile Trebing,         | - | - | - | - | Louisville.        |
| Mary Alice Walker,     | - | - | - | - | Louisville.        |
| Agatha Weaver,         | - | - | - | - | Mason county.      |
| Jane Weaver,           | - | - | - | - | Mason county.      |
| Agnes Wells            | - | - | - | - | Metcalfe county.   |
| Naomi Wells,           | - | - | - | - | Harrodsburg.       |
| Nannie Wems,           | - | - | - | - | Louisville.        |
| James Whitty,          | - | - | - | - | Louisville.        |
| Esther Arline Wilhite, | - | - | - | - | Lexington,         |
| John Williams,         | - | - | - | - | Johnson county.    |
| Ola Wood,              | - | - | - | - | Jefferson county.  |
| Mary C. Wooldridge,    | - | - | - | - | Hardin county.     |
| Ella Van Zandt,        | - | - | - | - | Elliott county.    |

The various branches of education pursued in the school are for the most part elementary. The aim on the part of the teachers has been to secure thoroughness; and in return for their earnestness, energy, and devotion, they have had the pleasure of seeing a spirit of industry excited and maintained among their pupils. Arithmetic, geometry, history, English composition, physiology, geography, reading, writing, and spelling have been taught with satisfactory results. Wherever it has been possible, tangible apparatus has been used, and systematic efforts have been made to cultivate and develop the sense of touch, especially with the younger pupils. In the study of physiology, the Auzoux models, purchased for the school, in Paris, by Prof. Lawrence Smith, and which arrived last May, have been of invaluable service; and both teachers and pupils regret that the school has no more of them. Their use in any school would be most valuable, but in schools for the blind there is no other apparatus that has ever been devised that can equal them in beauty of execution, accuracy of detail, and benefit to the pupils. The value of the entire collection in Paris is twenty thousand dollars, of which our school possesses five hundred dollars' worth.

The girls have also received special instruction in sewing, knitting, and the use of the sewing machine, and some of the larger girls, by the aid of pasteboard patterns, cut out and make their own garments.

The boys have also received special instruction in handicraft, and many of them have learned to cane chairs with the open and the solid seat, and to make brooms, and mattresses of various kinds.

Special attention has been paid to the instruction of all the pupils in music. One of the most eminent musical professors of the city gives two days every week to the tuition of the most advanced pupils in instrumental music, and the teaching of vocal music to all. The musical apparatus of the Institution includes a melodion, ten pianos, and brass and stringed instruments sufficient for the maintenance of a brass band and an orchestra among the pupils.

While we come far short of what we wish and aim to accomplish, we believe that the principle upon which our school is founded is the true one, that the blind should be taught to take their places in the world as independent and useful members of society, intelligent and industrious, and as responsible, and as capable of leading in all enterprises of public enlightenment and culture as though they had not lost their sight. To this end all the instruction in the Institution tends; it is not an asylum for distressed and afflicted paupers, it is not a hospital for the medical treatment of diseased eyes, but it is one of the public schools which is furnished, with a beneficence no less wise than kind, by the State to all of her children.

This is the view taken by all the States of our union in the management of their Institutions for the Blind. It is the desire and earnest purpose of all those connected with our own school to make it stand abreast of the foremost in every essential point of excellence.

The Commissioners by their advice and counsel, and by their personal supervision of the contracts for the repairs and supplies of the Institution, have rendered it service of the most important and practical kind. The teachers have proved themselves earnest and enthusiastic in their laborious work. And the servants have performed their never-ending duties with cheerfulness and fidelity. And through it all there has prevailed a spirit of harmony and kindness felt by Commissioners, officers, teachers, servants, and pupils alike, that has made the past year a prosperous and a happy one.

Respectfully submitted,

B. B. HUNTOON, *Sup't.*













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