

At the close of the year 1892 the number of inmates was 64, a marked falling off.

The superintendent, Mrs. O'Reilly, states:—

"I feel again called on to notice the short terms that have been passed upon inebriates. This class have been sentenced on an average for a term not exceeding five months. This is altogether too short a time for the reformatory discipline to have any effect. A number of these victims of intemperance are earnestly desirous of reforming, but long indulgence has so weakened their will power that when at liberty and thrown again among their old associates they cannot or will not resist temptation. These women when in the reformatory do not appear to have any great craving for liquor, and many of them have told me that they dreaded going out to face the temptations ready to meet them. It is to be regretted that they are not given the full term the law allows that their good resolutions might have time to be strengthened."

GIRLS' INDUSTRIAL REFUGE.

In the report of the Industrial Refuge for Girls it is stated that the number of children now in the refuge is 46, the average age at entrance being 12 1-2 years. Miss Elliott, who has charge of the school, states:—

"The benefits of industry, the dignity

of labor, the unswerving fidelity to duty, the virtues of honesty and truthfulness are diligently inculcated in our girls. Our efforts are often strengthened by the success of those who are now respectable women, and who were once as wayward and careless as many of those now with us. Instances might be cited from letters which have come to us during the past years from scores of girls of the benefits and advantages received by them while in the refuge.

"From the township municipalities come the little girls—23 1-2 per cent.—varying in ages from three to ten years. These young wards of the state, who have been neglected, deserted or orphaned by parents, should be placed in private families on the boarding-out system, which has been successfully carried out in the United States, Great Britain and Australia. Not one of the little ones has been found vicious or refractory. Some are brighter than others, yet all have been taught to read and write and to use their hands deftly at sewing, knitting and housework, and would amply repay their guardians for the necessary outlay in their years of pupilness.

"Between the ages of eleven and fourteen years many the girls' and orphans' the refuge from towns and cities, where homes of our towns and cities, where they have proved unmanageable and vicious, and are unfit for adoption or apprenticeship. So far as we can trace their histories they are the offspring of drunken and dissolute parents, or waifs of whom no record can be found. Their language and habits are more vicious than their actions. Legislation should be enacted to transfer these girls to some place of detention as soon as their term expires in the refuge."