To the Trustees for the Poor
Of Baltimore City and County:

GENTLEMEN:

In the performance of my official duty, I herewith submit an inventory of the stock, furniture, &c. under my charge, and also respectfully submit the present report, containing

(A) The number of paupers admitted, births, discharges, &c.
(B) The birth places of the paupers.
(C) The ages of the paupers.
(D) The period of residence in City or County.
(E) The habits of the paupers.
(F) The quantity of clothing issued.
(G) A statement of the work done by the paupers.

The table marked (A) will show that there were admitted in the house during the year ending 31st of December, 1840, 1,212 persons—that there were born 27—discharged 371—died 197—bound out 17—Eloped 609—leaving 584 paupers, including those before in the house, namely:

White, males,	239
White, females,	212
Colored, males,	51
Colored, females,	82
Total,	584

Of the 584 present inmates, 188 may be considered as paupers for life, on account of old age, insanity, idiocy or disability, namely:

Insane,	76
Idiots,	12
Old age, &c.,	100
Total,	188

It must also be remembered, that of the persons usually in the Alms-House, about 100 are children, and more than 100 are sick; therefore, the labor of washing and ironing 2,000 pieces a week, making and mending clothing for 600 persons, nursing the sick and insane, and keeping the house and premises clean and in good order, make no inconsiderable employment for more than half of those remaining.

By reference to the document marked (G,) it will be seen, that the value of the labor performed, and of the articles manufactured in the house, is $3,209 80—and when it is considered that the inmates of

an Alms-House are mostly persons of enfeebled constitutions and of indolent habits, it will be admitted that the labor drawn from them, as exhibited in the document here referred to, is as much as under such circumstances could reasonably be expected. During the last year I received for shoes sold,

	$400 56¼
279 pair mens shoes on hand, worth	279 00
78 pair womens do. do.	39 00
	718 56¼
Deduct the cost of leather purchased during the year,	681 41
	$37 15

Net gain ($37 15,) after furnishing the inmates of the institution with shoes during the year.

The inmates of the Alms-House are classified as well as the present arrangements of the house will permit. The children are now kept entirely separate from adults. The rooms recently fitted up, "called the Children's Department," are well adapted to the purpose for which they were intended. More convenient and better arranged rooms could not be desired. The colored and white male inmates are in general kept separate from each other. The building now erecting in the female yard, will, when finished, accommodate all the females. The white and colored females will then be wholly separated. In regard to the general conduct of the inmates of the establishment, it may be remarked, that there is less difficulty in maintaining a tolerable degree of order and industry than might be supposed, considering their numbers and the bad construction of the building for classification and supervision.

The most troublesome and unworthy class are vagrants, men and women, generally between eighteen and fifty years of age, who come in sick or disabled by their vicious course of life, covered with rags and filth; they require much attention and nursing for a few days or weeks till they recover tolerable health; and when provided with clothing, it is their practice to elope and steal the property belonging to the house. During the last year about 421 were occasional inmates. I am fully of the opinion, (and most respectfully submit it to the consideration of the Trustees,) that a more marked distinction should be made between the unfortunate poor and the vagrants; they should not be compelled to associate together under any circumstances: there should be a distinction in their accommodations, their diet, the labor required of them, and their general treatment—while the first class should experience that sympathy and kindness which would help to make them forget their misfortunes, the latter should be taught to regard the Alms and Work-house rather as a place of punishment to be avoided, than an asylum to be sought; let this just distinction be carefully made, and a multitude of sturdy paupers would cease to depend upon public charity for support.

In addition to the productive employment specified in document