

CHESTER TIMES – July 16, 1912 - ERECT NEW BUILDING AT REFUGE FOR GIRLS – Media Contractor at Work at Glen Mills School at Darlington

Work is progressing on the Administration Building at the Girls' department of the Glen Mills Schools at Darlington, Edgmont Township, this county. The building will be in keeping with the style of the numerous cottages which have been constructed in the past few years. James B. Flounders of Media is the contractor. The new structure is located near the entrance to the grounds, the most convenient place as all the offices will be in the building. At the present time the offices are in the old farm building, a stone structure which has been the headquarters at the institution since the ground was first secured for the school.

The grounds on which the institution is situated, consist of about one hundred acres, are nicely laid out. Well-kept driveways circle about the large plot of grounds, and many cottages face the central drive. Mrs. Martha P. Falconer, the superintendent of the institution at Darlington, has been ill in a hospital in Philadelphia and will soon leave for a sojourn in the Pocono Mountains for her health. During her absence Miss Whitehead who is thoroughly familiar with the work of the refuge is in charge at Darlington. She gives a courteous welcome to visitors and is always willing to tell of the work being carried on.

Mrs. Davenport, who is connected with the institutions in Massachusetts similar to the Glen Mills Schools, visited the boys' department at Glen Mills and the girls' department at Darlington Sunday to make a study of the methods employed in this State. Commitments are made to these institutions by the Courts in the Eastern and Middle judicial districts of the State of Pennsylvania. Both schools are under the same board of managers.

In each cottage at Darlington a young lady is in charge. Each cottage is numbered and named and the girls sent to the institution are grouped in the colleges. Each cottage of girls resemble a large family. The cottages are well built and kept in the best of order. On the first floor are found the reception room, the office, the kitchen and the laundry. The sleeping compartments are on the second floor. Some of the girls have their rooms largely decorated with souvenir post cards, of which they are very proud. Good beds are provided and at this time of year some of the girls sleep on cots placed on the roofs for the benefit of their health.

The chapel is situated some distance beyond the building where the offices are now located. All the girls assemble in the chapel on Sunday afternoon, where services are held. After the services the girls return to their various cottages.

When the spring arrives the girls are anxious to work upon the farm. A plot of ground to the south of the main plot is farmed by the girls, who have their individual gardens besides assisting in the general work. Classes are held in the morning and afternoon. Those who are working in the morning have their classes of study in the afternoon, and vice versa.

The colored girls live in cottages by themselves and have their separate work assigned, and separate classes. They and the other girls meet in common only at the chapel services.