

ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE

N. J. STATE PRISON

TO THE

SENATE AND GENERAL ASSEMBLY,

FOR

THE YEAR 1867.

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ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE

INSPECTOR GENERAL

N. J. STATE PRISON

For the year ending December 31, 1907

The annual report of the Inspector General of the State Prison, New Jersey, for the year ending December 31, 1907, is herewith submitted to the Senate and the General Assembly.

The report contains a statement of the number of prisoners in the State Prison, New Jersey, for the year ending December 31, 1907, and a statement of the number of prisoners who were received in the State Prison, New Jersey, during the year ending December 31, 1907, and the number of prisoners who were discharged from the State Prison, New Jersey, during the year ending December 31, 1907.

The Inspector General has the honor to acknowledge the assistance of the various departments of the State Prison, New Jersey, in the preparation of this report. He also wishes to express his appreciation to the various committees of the Senate and the General Assembly who have aided him in his work.

INSPECTORS' REPORT.

To the Senate and General Assembly of the State of New Jersey :

The Inspectors of the New Jersey State Prison respectfully submit the following report, for the year ending November 30th, 1866, which includes three and-a-half months of the administration of the former Board.

STATISTICS.

The statistics of prisoners are given at the close, and include the points stated in former reports.

We regret that the plan of statistics heretofore established, and which we have been compelled to follow, is not more comprehensive.

Our untiring Moral Instructor, W. Levi Herr, has, however, collected a mass of valuable statistical information, relating mainly to his department, some of which is adverted to in his report.

INCREASE OF CONVICTS.

The increase in the number of convicts is very large. Without discussing the various causes which may be assigned for this, we must do our State the justice to remark, that we do not think it a correct index of the state of morals among our own citizens. The vicious, congregated in the large cities, on either side of our State, are able, by their proximity, to enter it with facility for the commission of crime, thus burdening us with expense and odium which we should not otherwise incur.

FINANCIAL RESULTS.

The financial results are not entirely satisfactory. The unfavorable circumstances attending an entire change in the management of the prison during the year, the inexperience of all engaged in it for the most of the year, the large increase in the number of prisoners, the absence of work for them for a considerable period, and the large number remaining unemployed for want of shop room, have produced an unusual disproportion between the income and expenditures, but the actual expense of maintaining the prisoners does not appear to compare unfavorably with previous years or other prisons.

CONTRACTS.

Previous to the enactment of last winter, contracts for the labor of the prisoners were limited by law to the term of office of the Keeper making them.

We found the prisoners, therefore, unemployed, excepting those on State work, and a considerable period elapsed before satisfactory contracts could be secured. Under contracts now existing there are two hundred and thirty (230) men employed, at from forty to forty-five cents per day, making shoes and agricultural implements. These contracts are all for four years, excepting two for twenty (20) men each, for shorter periods. From seventy-five (75) to one hundred (100) are employed, without the intervention of contractors, in cane seating, and in making shoes and garments for prison use. More cannot be employed without increase of shop room.

The income from the labor of the convicts for the latter part of our administration has of course been larger per month than the average for the whole time, and it appears from the accounts of the Keeper that the men actually at work are earning the cost of their maintenance.

REPAIRS.

The expenditures for "repairs," amounting to \$5,236.81, have been mainly for new floors in a majority of the cells in the north and south wings; for improving and extending the drainage between the prison and the river; and for alterations and repairs to the workshops.

DEFICIENCY.

After paying the indebtedness contracted before his entering upon his duties, the present keeper found the amount remaining of the appropriations for the prison insufficient to meet the current expenses.

To avoid the unfortunate consequences of not meeting promptly the liabilities necessarily incurred, the Inspectors have, in their individual capacity, endorsed the Keeper's notes to a considerable amount. As this involves their personal liability, and is a contingency that should not be forced on any public officer, we respectfully represent the importance of providing against its recurrence.

The usage which has obtained, of payment of current expenses by the Keeper's notes in anticipation of income or appropriation, is, we think, injudicious. The State would be benefited by provision for the payment in cash for all purchases.

INSANE CONVICTS.

There are now in the prison several insane convicts, including some whose time has expired, and who by law cannot be discharged in their present condition. These cannot be suitably cared for with the present arrangements.

Suitable arrangements should be made for the care of these persons at the prison, or provision should be made for their transfer, on sufficient evidence of insanity, to the Lunatic Asylum or other suitable place. The inhumanity of the present arrangement is too apparent for argument.

Suggestions upon this subject and others in this department, will be found in the annexed report of our faithful and valued physician, Dr. W. W. L. Phillips, to which we respectfully call your attention.

HOUSE OF CORRECTION.

Among the inmates of the prison are many confined for minor offences, who are evidently and necessarily sentenced to the State Prison because there are no suitable institutions of a lesser grade. Their health and morals can doubtless be better cared for there than in most of our county prisons, and the ends of justice are perhaps attained, but the odium of having been "in State Prison" is a serious drawback to subsequent efforts toward usefulness and virtue.

An intermediate institution upon the plan of Houses of Correction elsewhere established, and on a scale *large enough to support a comprehensive system*, where these offenders might be confined and properly instructed and employed, without the "odium" alluded to, might prove eminently useful, and might serve instead of an enlargement of the State Prison or the erection of another.

We think this subject is one deserving of thoughtful consideration.

COMMUTATION.

In some other States a plan has been adopted by which convicts may earn a reduction of their term of sentence, by good conduct in prison.

As stated in the last annual report of the Prison Association of New York, the law in that State now is "that every prisoner who shall diligently work the prescribed number of hours, obey the rules of the prison, and submit to its discipline, may earn a diminution of his sentence of one month for each of the first two years, of two months for each of the following two years, of three months for each of the following five years, and of four months of each of the years after that."

It is stated that "this law is made known to each convict on his entrance, is posted up in each workshop; and thus becoming known to the prisoners, is producing most salutary effects."

In Ohio and other States this plan is understood to be in satisfactory operation.

We believe this feature could be engrafted upon our penal system with great advantage.

MORAL REFORM.

The department of Moral Reform, including secular instruction, has not received in our State the attention which its importance demands, and which it is elsewhere receiving. The law has provided for little beyond the appointment of a Moral Instructor, without specification of duties, and it has not been the usage for him to be furnished with assistance, other than aid from prisoners in the distribution of books and in other things in which this aid could be made available.

The most assiduous personal efforts of this one officer can accomplish but little in the vast work of bringing the *minds* of so many convicts under proper training and influences. Our present Moral Instructor has devoted himself most faithfully and efficiently to the duties devolved upon him, being in constant intercourse with the prisoners during the week, and holding public religious services in each wing regularly on the Sabbath. In these Sabbath services he has been ably assisted by a number of excellent singers of both sexes, residents of Trenton, to whom we are under great obligation for their aid, given cheerfully and regularly, and much to the edification of all present on these occasions.

But the work to be done in the "Moral" department, is too vast to be accomplished by one man, however efficient. Ignorance and vice go hand in hand. Many of our convicts lack the simplest rudiments of useful knowledge. Instructors in reading and writing, and other primary branches, are provided in other prisons, and would find ample employment in ours.

A serious want is the absence of a chapel, or any means of assembling prisoners for simultaneous instruction, which other prisons on our system have.

We earnestly recommend that legal provision be made for a suitable and thorough organization of that part of our system having reference to the reform of the criminal, and fitting him for future usefulness.

THE LIBRARY.

The prison library is a meagre collection, compared with the present wants. We are not aware that there has been any appropriations for it for a long time, and we recommend that an appropriation be made of at least five hundred dollars for the purchase of books, which will not be more than is actually needed.

REVISION OF THE LAW.

The law regulating the State Prison needs revision, in some important particulars, to adapt it to present circumstances; to remove some ambiguities; to add needed provisions, some of which are

alluded to in this report; and to embody with it, in a single enactment the various amendments which have been passed.

We respectfully recommend the appointment by the Legislature, of a commission of citizens, who from present or former official positions, have become familiar with the subject, who shall prepare a revision of the law for your consideration during the coming session.

ENLARGEMENT.

The increase of prison accommodations will demand the serious and prompt attention of the Legislature.

The north and south wings each contain 100 cells, and the centre wing 132, making 332 in all. Those in the centre wing cannot possibly receive more than one inmate each.

This leaves 200 for the remainder. During the year there have been as many as 564 prisoners at one time, making it necessary to place 432 in 200 cells, an average of more than 2 to a cell.

As some must necessarily be confined separately, it occurs that in many cases three must be placed in one cell. For the proper preservation of health, the largest cells are not too large for one person, and there can be no doubt that the placing of prisoners together, besides being prohibited by law, interferes seriously with the maintenance of proper discipline, and with the attainment of favorable results in efforts for moral improvement.

The cells of the centre, or "new," wing as it is called, are very small, and were, as we understand, originally intended to serve as lodging places for prisoners employed in the shops during the day, but from circumstances evident to those connected with the prison, it has been found impracticable to restrict them to this use. The necessary result is that many are confined, during the whole time, to apartments 4 feet by 7, with stone floors, and with grated doors, admitting at all times from a wide hall, the currents of air, or the gaze of those who may pass, with large facilities of communication between prisoners; the tendency of the whole arrangement being injurious to the health, comfort and good discipline of the occupants.

Whatever circumstances justified this construction, we are unable to discover any considerations sufficiently important to commend it under the present condition of things, or to warrant its toleration longer than is absolutely necessary.

The arrangements of cells for female convicts should be such as to separate them entirely from the other parts of the prison, with provision for their exercise in the open air, when ill health requires it, without coming in contact with other prisoners. At present these desirable ends cannot be accomplished.

A very considerable expense in the employment of watchmen could be saved if the walls were raised a few feet.

The considerations here adduced, and the probable increase of crime with the growth of the community, indicate the necessity of at

once providing for suitable arrangements for the proper confinement and care of convicted criminals. Whether this is to be done by a material enlargement of the Prison or the erection of another, or by the establishment of an institution of a different character, is for others than us to determine.

As the case is an urgent one, we respectfully recommend that, at an early day of the coming session of the Legislature, authority be given to the Inspectors (or other persons selected by the Legislature) to prepare and present at the same session, for your consideration, a plan of providing for the wants indicated.

APPOINTMENT OF OFFICERS.

The constitution provides for the election annually, by the Legislature, of a keeper and five inspectors, all to serve for one year. This involves a possibility of a total change at once, in the management of the prison, as was the case the present year. The introduction of an entire set of inexperienced officers in so important an institution, must necessarily be, to a certain extent, disastrous to discipline and economy, and the probability of having but a year to serve, will deter most men from undertaking the careful elaboration of plans which they may have no opportunity to carry out. As a consequence, there has not *grown up* in our prison, what may be dignified by the name of a "system," bearing marks of careful thought, as respects either the departments of finance and accounts, of statistics, of prison discipline, or of moral reform.

Added to this is the fact that the appointments are made from and are dependent upon political considerations throughout, the prison patronage being a perquisite of the party controlling for the time being. The selection of persons for the various positions, under this method, is not likely to be such as will improve the discipline or aid in reform, and the tenure of office depending upon the party activity of the individual, and the dominance of his party, he is not likely to devote himself earnestly to the practical development of such wise and humane plans as the present state of Christian civilization demands.

The appointment by the same authority of both the keeper and inspectors, with distinct powers, and in some respects independent of each other, is an element of weakness that would be avoided in ordinary business associations, and which, under circumstances easily imagined, might work greatly to the injury of the institution. The management should be a unit to attain the highest results.

We therefore recommend that the prison be divorced from party politics, by an amendment to the constitution, placing the appointment of the inspectors with the Supreme Court, as in Pennsylvania, and as in the case of the managers of our Lunatic Asylum; and that the law provide against the possibility of the whole board going out of office at once; and that it be made the duty of the inspectors to

appoint all the officers of the prison, and they in turn appoint their subordinates, subject to the inspectors' approval; and thus place upon the inspectors the responsibility of securing discipline and good management so far as they may depend upon the "system".

The defects pointed out in our prison system are not to be understood as having any reference to the persons engaged with us in carrying it out. The selection, as a whole, we believe to be good, and our duty would be but partly done, if we failed to commend the active energy and careful attention of the Keeper, the Physician, the Moral Instructor, and the various assistants.

These radical changes are proposed, therefore, not with reference to present officials, (the most of the defects being beyond their power to remedy,) but simply in the discharge of a duty we owe to those to whom we shall soon resign our charge; to present and future generations, whose interests will continue to be powerfully affected by the institution we now represent; and to those unfortunates of our fellow men, who are often the votaries of vice through the neglect of the virtuous, and who become confirmed in sin through the failure of the more favored to establish means by which they may be reformed and saved.

When our laws cease mainly to regard the criminal as the enemy of society, to be restrained, and recognise in him one "of like passions" with us, who has fallen to a lower moral level, through adverse surroundings, and whom we may lift up, then will we begin to fulfil, in this respect, that higher law, which makes every man his "brother's keeper."

We cannot feel that our State, now so far in the advance in enlightened civilization, can be content to remain behind in this work of true benevolence; and as this is no partisan question, we earnestly invite all to join in its serious consideration, without reference to party lines.

Respectfully submitted,

SAMUEL PLUMMER,
JONA. COOK,
ROBERT AITKEN,
SHERMAN JAQUA,
J. A. ANDERSON.

STATISTICS OF PRISONERS.

Number in confinement November 30, 1865, as per report of former Inspectors-----	409
Received since that time-----	393
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Total number confined during the year-----	802
There have been discharged as follows:	
By expiration of sentence-----	127
Pardoned one day off to restore to citizenship-----	34
Pardoned for other reasons-----	69
Died in prison-----	2

Escaped-----	2
Total discharged-----	234
Deficiency resulting from inaccuracy of former reports, or other cause unknown to the officers of the Prison-----	25
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Actual number in confinement Nov. 30, 1866-----	543

TERMS OF SENTENCE.

During natural life-----	3
Thirty years-----	1
Twenty-seven years-----	2
Twenty years-----	9
Fifteen "-----	14
Twelve "-----	3
Ten "-----	24
Nine "-----	1
Eight "-----	6
Seven "-----	9
Six "-----	12
Five "-----	87
Four "-----	21
Three " and six months-----	1
Three "-----	88
Two " and six months-----	2
Two "-----	97
One " and six months-----	22
One " and four months-----	1
One " and three months-----	2
One "-----	98
Nine months-----	10
Seven "-----	1
Six "-----	29
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COUNTIES WHERE CONVICTED.

Atlantic-----	4
Burlington-----	30
Bergen-----	23
Camden-----	55
Cape May-----	9
Cumberland-----	9
Essex-----	97
Gloucester-----	5
Hudson-----	85
Hunterdon-----	15
Mercer-----	21

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Russia-----	2
West India-----	1
Italy-----	2
Denmark-----	1
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THEIR COLOR AND SEX.

White males-----	417
“ females-----	29
Colored males-----	80
“ females-----	17

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PLACES OF NATIVITY.

New Jersey-----	168
New Hampshire-----	2
Pennsylvania-----	44
New York-----	80
Maryland-----	10
Massachusetts-----	9
Alabama-----	3
Virginia-----	5
Maine-----	3
Ohio-----	5
Rhode Island-----	1
Indiana-----	1
Delaware-----	9
Tennessee-----	2
Kentucky-----	1
South Carolina-----	2
North Carolina-----	2
Connecticut-----	7
Missouri-----	2
Vermont-----	1
Georgia-----	1
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FOREIGNERS.

Canada-----	5
Ireland-----	72
Germany-----	62
England-----	24
Scotland-----	5
France-----	5
Holland-----	1
Switzerland-----	5

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Middlesex-----	16
Monmouth-----	7
Morris-----	28
Passaic-----	38
Salem-----	13
Sussex-----	9
Somerset-----	5
Union-----	37
Warren-----	5
Essex and U. S. District Court-----	1
U. S. District Court-----	27
Morris and Essex-----	2
Bergen and Passaic-----	2

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YEARS IN WHICH RECEIVED.

1853-----	1
1856-----	1
1857-----	1
1859-----	5
1860-----	12
1861-----	6
1862-----	10
1863-----	22
1864-----	38
1865-----	119
1866-----	328

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NUMBER OF COMMITMENTS.

First offence-----	497
Second "-----	34
Third "-----	9
Fourth "-----	2
Fifth "-----	1

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AGES WHEN RECEIVED.

From nine to eleven-----	1
" twelve to fifteen-----	10
" sixteen to twenty-----	103
" twenty to twenty-five-----	171
" twenty-five to thirty-----	94
" thirty to forty-----	02
" forty to fifty-----	51
" fifty to sixty-----	17
" sixty to seventy-----	4

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PHYSICIAN'S REPORT.

To the Board of Inspectors of the New Jersey State Prison:

GENTLEMEN:—In submitting my annual report, I have the honor to state that the health of the prisoners during the year has been generally good; no endemic or epidemic disease has visited us. In anticipation of a visitation of that much dreaded disease, cholera, every precaution was taken to prevent its outbreak. Every part of the prison premises was put in as thorough a state of cleanliness as possible, and disinfectants were freely used wherever deemed necessary. We had the satisfaction of having the summer pass without a visitation of the pestilence, and no doubt in consequence of the many precautions taken, much sickness incident to the summer season was prevented.

The majority of cases of severe sickness have been of a chronic character, and generally of a tuberculous or scrofulous nature. The development and rapid progress of these affections is incident to the kind of life which a convict in a prison must necessarily lead. Many of the convicts are persons who have been accustomed to exposure and dissipation, and confinement in small and illy ventilated cells, which are frequently also overcrowded, is well calculated to develop diseases of this character where there is the least tendency to them.

Two deaths have occurred and four births, since I took charge of the prison in the month of March last.

Abraham Harris, (colored) died April 5th, of dropsy of chest.

Francis Low, (colored) died August 18th, of consumption.

During the year I doubt not the Board of Inspectors have had frequent occasion to note the inadequate accommodation the institution affords for prisoners. Many of the cells which certainly were never intended to accommodate more than two persons, have had three, and, in some instances, four crowded into them. This is, and has been, not only detrimental to the morals, but also to the health of the inmates. In view of the large number of convicts, the necessity of greatly increased room must be apparent to the most casual observer.

We are also greatly in need of different accommodations for female convicts. A separate wing should be constructed for them, having wash rooms, hospital, &c., connected with it, as well as grounds on which the invalid can have exercise in the open air.

That portion of the prison known as the "New Wing" is very objectionable in its plan of construction, on the score of health. The cells in it are very small and badly ventilated. They are even unfit for the use for which they were originally designed. It is found impossible to carry out the original design, which was to have them occupied only during the night by those employed during the day in the workshops. In my opinion the Legislature should be urged to cause the demolition of this wing, and have one of proper character erected in its place.

Many of the workshops are seriously defective in comfort and healthfulness. One of these, known as the chair shop, is not at all adapted to the use which is made of it.

The hospital accommodations of the prison are very inadequate to meet its real wants. We have a room capable of accommodating only nine or ten persons. In this a part of the cooking is usually done. This is the hospital accommodation for a population of between five and six hundred persons. It is, of course, always full, and many sick are of necessity treated in their cells, where the most appropriate treatment cannot always be carried out. To meet the wants of the institution in this respect, we need a hospital capable of accommodating fifty prisoners. It should be divided into wards, and at least one ward should be properly constructed for the confinement and treatment of insane convicts. This matter, in my opinion, should receive prompt attention from our Legislature.

In conclusion, gentlemen, I cannot refrain from an expression of my thanks to your Board, for the kindness and courtesy constantly shown me, as well as the confidence you have manifested in having my recommendations for the amelioration of the condition of the sick and prevention of disease, carried into effect. To the Keeper and his deputies I am under obligations for the prompt manner in which they have carried out my directions.

Respectfully submitted.

WM. W. L. PHILLIPS,
Physician.

December 1, 1866.

MORAL INSTRUCTOR'S REPORT.

To His Excellency Governor Ward, and the Board of Inspectors of the New Jersey State Prison:

GENTLEMEN:—In presenting to you my first annual report, you will permit me in the opening sentence, to express my gratitude to God for the numberless blessings we have received at his hands since our connection with this institution.

Personally, I entered upon my work with many misgivings; and, while I have not found my field of labor an elysium, whether contemplated from the social, the moral, or the intellectual stand-point, still, with the blessing of God, and the kindly co-operation and sympathy of your board, I have felt greatly encouraged—especially as I am permitted to think that some good has been accomplished. Accept my thanks, gentlemen, for the uniform courtesy and consideration extended to me by you. To the Principal Keeper and his assistants, I must also be allowed to express my thanks for the many favors received at their hands. But what shall I say of the five hundred and thirty-three unfortunate fellow beings who are found in this place? Has my intercourse with them been of such a character, as to make them more happy, and better men, and to elevate and reform them? To these questions it does not become me to respond to you gentlemen, and to the future they are consigned for an answer.

As I am fully satisfied however that that you feel a deep interest in my work, and hence, in all the facts legitimately bearing on that work; and as the subject is one in which all good citizens have a deep interest, I propose to give some statistics bearing on the case.

Of the four hundred and seventy-seven male prisoners here now, three hundred and seventeen were able to read and write when brought here. Fifty were able simply to read, thus leaving one hundred and ten who could neither read nor write. Twelve of the above fifty who could read, have learned to write; eleven of those who could do neither, have learned to do both, and fourteen have learned simply to read. A respectable number of those who could read and write were fair English or German scholars—a few were well educated—but the larger number had been greatly neglected, or failed to improve their opportunities, and have improved considerably during their prison life.

Thus it will be seen that the State of New Jersey is not forgetful of the intellectual wants of her prisoners. She gives them facilities

for self-improvement. But unfortunately it is too *emphatically self-improvement*; some systematic method should be adopted, time for study should be given to the convict, and suitable instructors should be employed. But while our facilities for intellectual culture are confessedly very limited, many leave this place able both to read and write, who could do neither when they came here. I think, in this matter the political economist will readily concede that we may be penny-wise and pound-foolish, and that a reasonable appropriation annually, both of time and money for the instruction of prisoners, would really save thousands annually in money; and would be instrumental in restoring many of our convicts to their friends, and to society, happy and useful citizens.

The moral aspect of the subject must also command our attention. That some features pertaining to this department, may startle the christian public and awaken deep emotion, I do not doubt, and yet, as a correct diagnosis of disease, whether in the physical or moral world, is an essential prerequisite in grappling successfully with the disease, it is wise to study it carefully. Perspicuity and brevity will be secured by presenting some of the facts in question, in a tabular form. These figures present premises from which the thoughtful and intelligent may deduce important conclusions.

	Catholic Church.....	*Methodist Church.....	Protestant Episcopal Church.	Presbyterian Church.....	Lutheran Church.....	Dutch Reformed Church.....	Baptist Church.....	Friends Church.....	Congregational Church.....	Jewish Church.....	Unitarian Church.....	Albright Church.....	Not members of Church.....
Church relation of prisoners' parents..	126	105	45	43	33	10	20	2	2	2	1	1	87
Prisoners' Church relations.....	83	8	13	8	27	3	2	1	...	2	330

* For the sake of brevity I have grouped seven distinct Methodist denominations in one.

The statistics bearing on the religious training of the prisoners while under the parental roof, are very imperfect. Of the four hundred and seventy-seven prisoners given, three hundred and fifty-four attended church and Sunday school; but, according to their own statement, most of them did so only while small boys, and even then, in their own language, only "sometimes," "occasionally," "rarely," "when I felt like it."

While this feature of the statistics contained in the report must be looked upon as unsatisfactory and incomplete as a whole, on one point it is conclusive; it indicates a laxity in the religious training of children on the part of professedly christian parents, disgraceful to the profession, and ruinous in its results.

Another fact, commending itself to the careful study of the Christian philanthropist and political economist is, the comparative youthfulness of the majority of our criminals :

Sentenced between the ages of ten and twenty-----	84
“ “ “ twenty and thirty-----	230
“ “ “ thirty and forty-----	82
“ “ “ forty and fifty-----	43
“ “ “ fifty and sixty-----	19
“ “ “ sixty and seventy-----	7
“ “ “ seventy and eighty-----	1

Thus it will be seen that three hundred and fourteen, more than two-thirds of the whole number, are under thirty years, and the alarming number of eighty-four under twenty. We have only space to give figures, and must leave others to draw their own conclusions from these premises.

One more item of interest connected with these statistics must be given.

Of the four hundred and seventy-seven prisoners, three hundred and eighty-three were the professed friends of the drinking usages of the day—attributing their downfall to this custom—more than four-fifths of the whole number. Comment here is useless; and yet, terrible as this showing is, I must be allowed to record the additional fact that, among the ninety-four remaining ones, who were not, according to their own statement, victims of this custom, not one of them was a pledged temperance man.

And now, what shall be said of the efforts which have been made to reform these men?

Whatever difference there may be in our opinions as regards the cause of their being here, there can be none in relation to this fact—the great majority of them need reforming. On this point there is entire unanimity of sentiment.

How shall this be done? Of what instrumentality can we avail ourselves?

I answer: Personal intercourse and private instruction must always be a power for the accomplishment of this work. This instrumentality has been steadily kept in view.

Good books are another important instrumentality. In this we are greatly deficient, and need a large appropriation to replenish our library. But that which we need most of all is a chapel. Do the thousands of Christian men and women, who, comfortably seated in their houses of worship on the Sabbath day, listening to the word of life, ever think of their fallen brothers in the State Prison, who, more than any others, need that gospel, and yet have no facilities for hearing it?

I speak understandingly, when I say that many of them cannot hear the word preached.

I have carefully tested this matter, entering some of the cells, when the services were being conducted by some other minister, and hence cannot be mistaken in the matter.

Besides, those who can hear are obliged to stand up inside of their door, and through a little opening, about six by eight, without the privilege of seeing the minister, listen to the preaching. Where, let me ask, could you assemble, and interest and profit—outside of prison walls, where men are supposed to be less depraved and more disposed to hear the truth—a congregation of four hundred persons under similar circumstances? They should be brought face to face with the preacher, and certainly near enough to be able to hear him. It would be well for many of us, probably, while comfortably seated all over the State in our own houses of worship, to ponder this question: What facilities have those men, who above all others need the gospel, for hearing it? And possibly it might aid us in our reflections on the subject, were we to call to our aid the 25th chapter of Matthew, and note particularly the vivid description of the final judgment. Especially might it be well for us to study some of the reasons given by the Judge for the approval of some and the condemnation of others. Among the former, this one particularly: "I was in prison, and ye came unto me." And among the latter this one—"Sick, and in prison, and ye came not unto me."

But, gentlemen, in the absence of a chapel, can there be any good reason assigned for not allowing the prisoners to come out of their cells? This would be a marked improvement, and an improvement that it would cost but little to make. Thus they could all be placed in a position to hear the preached word, which is simply an impossibility under the present arrangement.

One thing more. If we would reform these men, *they must be treated as men*. I know honest fears are entertained by some good men that the idea of punishment for crime must be always kept prominent, and that there is danger of making the punishment so light that it will be no terror to evil doers. I think these fears are not well-grounded. Conviction for crime, and incarceration in the State Prison, with all its necessary concomitants, will be punishment sufficiently marked. Every possible effort should now be made to win these men to a better life, to elevate, to reform. The great majority of them can be reached in this way, and the few who are incorrigible will continue so whatever may be their treatment, and even these are beyond all hope of being improved by punishment pure and simple.

It was by sentiments of this character, doubtless, that our State Senators were prompted in the resolutions which they adopted during the closing hours of their last regular session, looking towards grading and classifying the prisoners, and of conferring certain privileges on the more trustworthy and better disposed.

And you will permit me to express my high appreciation of the wisdom and tact of your Board, in moving in harmony in the midst

of the difficulties by which you have been surrounded, with these resolutions. To some little extent the questions mooted in those resolutions have been tested by the permission you gave to a few of the prisoners to publish "The Sunbeam."

Of the utility of this measure it does not become me here to speak. That it is a power for good I fully believe, and yet I am sure, if the almost universal approval of the press, irrespective of party, is any indication of the popular will, you have your reward.

May a kind Providence smile upon you, and lead you to the adoption of such measures as may result in elevating and reforming the *unfortunate* and *fallen* sons and daughters of men.

All of which is respectfully submitted.

I am, gentlemen, your most obedient servant,

L. HERR,
Moral Instructor.

Trenton, Dec. 18, 1866.

N. B.—No effort has been made to give the exact number of convicts now here. Some seven or eight insane men are not counted, with a few others. The females are not included in the statistics. Correctness was aimed at in the statistics; over six weeks were required to take them, and of course the exact number would vary during that time. This will account for any discrepancy apparent between it and any other report.

L. H.

STATE PRISON REPORT

of the facilities by which you have been surrounded with these
 facilities. To some little extent the questions mooted in those
 resolutions have been settled by the permission you gave to a few of
 the prisoners to publish "The Standard."
 Of the utility of this measure it does not become me here to speak.
 That it is a power for good I fully believe, and yet I am sure it also
 shows universal approval of the true, irrespective of party, is any
 indication of the popular will, you have your reward.
 May a kind Providence smile upon you and lead you to the adop-
 tion of such measures as may result in elevating and refining the
 sentiments and habits of our
 children and their sons and daughters of men.
 All of whom I respectfully admitted
 I am, gentlemen, your most obedient servant

D. H. HILL
 Warden, State Prison

It is to be regretted that the exact number of con-
 victs has been made to give the exact number of con-
 victs, some seven or eight in some instances, and
 with a few others. The numbers are not included in the statistics
 Correction was aimed at in the statistics; over six weeks were re-
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Very respectfully,
 D. H. Hill

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KEEPER'S REPORT.

To the Honorable the Senate and General Assembly of the State of New Jersey :

I have the honor to submit this my first annual report of the business and operations of the New Jersey State Prison, for the year ending November 30th, 1866, with statistical statements of the accounts of Joseph B. Walker, late Keeper, from the first day of December, 1865, to the fifteenth day of March 1866. And my own accounts from fifteenth day of March, to the thirtieth day of November, 1866. By reference to Statement "A" you will find inventories for the three periods, which I herewith submit.

STATEMENT A.

	Nov'r 30, 1865.	March 15, 1866.	Nov'r 30, 1866.
Furniture.....	\$18,853 38	\$15,142 02	\$19,489 08
Fuel.....	2,625 00	200 00	2,172 00
Chair Making.....	3,774 96	2,393 43	3,569 40
Cordwaining.....	605 52	413 61	844 82
Hospital.....	746 20	431 50	788 60
Provisions.....	644 10	369 10	1,131 00
Weaving.....	124 30	240 00	541 05
	\$27,373 46	\$19,189 66	\$28,535 95

By reference to Statement "B" you will find the account of current receipts and expenditures from November 30th, 1865, to March 15th, 1866, which I herewith submit.

STATEMENT B.

Expenditures and Receipts from November 30th, 1865, to March 15th, 1866.

EXPENDITURES.	Dolls.	Cts.	RECEIPTS.	Dolls.	Cts.
Provision.....	13,828	47	Convict labor.....	2,596	25
Furniture.....	6,130	61	Chair making.....	3,428	99
Fuel.....	5,284	24	Weaving.....	39	48
Cordwaining.....	1,105	05	Sundries.....	25	20
Hospital.....	1,240	68	Balance, being loss.....	21,793	41
Discharged Convicts.....	128	85			
Incidental.....	127	07			
Interest.....	38	36			
	27,883	33		27,883	33

STATE PRISON REPORT.

From March 15th, 1866, to November 30th, 1866.

	Dolls.	Cts.		Dolls.	Cts.
Provision.....	35,087	21	Chair making.....	3,659	59
Furniture.....	6,327	92	Convict labor.....	13,186	34
Fuel.....	3,528	98	Weaving.....	1,984	97
Hospital.....	2,579	91	Convicts' deposit.....	289	75
Discharged convicts.....	601	34	Sundries.....	166	92
Incidental.....	366	29	Cordwaining.....	795	29
Interest.....	385	12	Balance, being loss.....	29,190	40
Overwork.....	396	49			
	49,273	26		49,273	26

By reference to Statements C and D, you will find a statement of the operations of the institution for the year ending November 30th, 1866, showing separately the two portions of the year, before and after March 15th, 1866, which I herewith submit.

STATEMENT C.

Showing the Effects of the Prison, November 30th, 1866.

	Dolls.	Cts.		Dolls.	Cts.
Liabilities.....	16,631	77	Stock, as per inventory.....	27,373	46
Balance, net capital.....	21,120	54	Debts due on book account.....	9,629	19
			Bills receivable.....	674	44
			Cash on hand.....	75	22
	37,752	31		37,752	31

March 15th, 1866.

Liabilities.....	14,691	33	Stock, as per inventory.....	19,189	66
Balance, net capital.....	9,327	11	Debts due on book account.....	3,187	32
			Bills receivable.....	275	66
			Cash on hand.....	1,365	80
	24,018	44		24,018	44

November 30th, 1866.

Liabilities.....	34,314	34	Stock, as per inventory.....	28,535	95
Balance, net capital.....	136	71	Debts due on book account.....	5,171	79
			Bills receivable.....	272	16
			Cash on hand.....	471	15
	34,451	05		34,451	05

STATEMENT D.

Stock Account, March 15th, 1866.

	Dolls.	Cts.		Dolls.	Cts.
Balance, net capital.....	9,327	11	Am't net capital, Nov. 30, '65	21,120	54
Profit and Loss.....	21,793	43	Appropriation by Legis'l're.	10,000	00
	31,120	54		31,120	54

November 30th, 1866.

Balance, net capital.....	136	71	Am't net capital Mar. 15, '66.	9,327	11
Profit and loss.....	29,190	40	Appropriation by Legis'l're.	20,000	00
	29,327	11		29,327	11

STATE PRISON REPORT.

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By reference to Statement E, you will find the amounts expended by Peter P. Robinson, present Keeper, for the following bills contracted previous to March 15th, 1866, but not then on the books and charged when paid.

STATEMENT E.

DISBURSEMENTS.		Dolls.	Cts.
Chair Making.....		3,148	93
Cordwaining.....		576	02
Weaving.....		396	40
Provisions.....		6,435	58
Furniture.....		1,426	48
Fuel.....		290	29
Hospital.....		151	61
Incidental.....		124	33
Interest.....		12	00
		12,561	64
RECEIPTS.			
Cash received from J. B. Walker, late Keeper.....	1,365	80
“ “ “ U. S. of America and other parties.....	1,406	00	2,771 80
Net amount of bills paid on account of former Keeper.....			9,789 84

I also submit an account of my receipts and expenditures from March 15th, to November 30th, 1866.

Increase in net liabilities.....	18,536	69
Appropriation by Legislature.....	20,000	00
Amount at my disposal exclusive of the current receipts.....	38,536	69

This has been disposed of as follows :

For the increase of stock on hand.....	9,346	29
Bills of former Keeper as stated.....	9,789	84
Excess of current expenses over current receipts.....	19,400	56
	38,536	69
To the excess of expenses over receipts as stated, viz :.....	19,400	56
To which is to be added unpaid bills not yet on the books, less unsettled amounts due the prison not yet charged.....	3,946	76
Cost of maintaining prison since March 15th, 1866.....	23,347	32

STATEMENT F.

Showing the amount of Drafts on the State Treasurer for Salaries of Officers, Prison Repairs, &c., Drafts given to sundry Sheriffs for Transportation of Convicts, from Dec. 1, 1865, to Nov. 30, 1866.

	Dolls.	Cts.	Dolls.	Cts.
Per diem of Inspectors for the year ending November 30th, 1866.....	1,568	00		
Salaries of officers during the year.....	28,502	37		
Repairs and improvements during the year.....	5,236	81		
Amount of Drafts for transportation during the year.....	3,242	75	35,307	18

The reports of former Keepers have invariably adverted to the inadequate room afforded, wherein to give employment to all the able-bodied men which the prison contains. If this deficiency was so apparent in former years, how much more embarrassing must the case be at present, since the number of inmates have been so greatly augmented. The present statistics of the prison show an addition of one hundred and fifty (150) convicts over any former period, being an increase of about thirty-three per cent. No provision having been made for the accommodation of such a large number, it became necessary to enclose three, and in some cases four persons in a room or cell, originally intended for one. This state of crowding incurred much additional labor, necessitating the employment of additional deputies and watchmen, in order to exercise and maintain a controlling influence, as the incentive for mischief and escape were greatly enhanced by this unavoidable commingling of convicts. The required supply of provisions, clothing, etc., has of course proportionately increased with the increase of inmates.

The present enormous price of these articles have necessarily formed a large item in the cost of sustaining the institution. While every apparent avenue of waste and useless expenditure has been cut off, it has not been my object or practice to lessen expenses by depriving the convicts of the necessary amount of food and clothing indispensable to their general health and comfort, so far as is consistent with former practice, and the promptings of religion and humanity. I would herein call the attention of your honorable body to the necessity of providing a separate place of confinement for the female convicts. This deficiency shows a lamentable oversight, which is every day becoming more and more apparent. The construction of the prison and the number of the inmates precludes all possibility of a distinct division between males and females, as both sexes have to be confined in one wing; and although kept rigidly and strictly from communication or conversation, yet the nearness and close contact of cells is a source of considerable trouble, which might be eradicated to the benefit of both sexes of convicts. I fully concur in the Inspectors' views on this matter.

The health of the inmates is, and has been during the year, particularly gratifying. During the late prevalence of the cholera, considerable anxiety was expressed in fear of its visitation, but under the supervision of the Prison Physician, W. W. L. Phillips, every precaution advisable was adopted, and, happily, with good effect. The attention and care of Dr. Phillips has been assiduous and commendable, and I am very happy to testify to his efficiency and skill, shown in the discharge of his prison duties.

For the moral and intellectual improvement of the convicts, I would refer you to the Moral Instructor's report accompanying this document. For the details of expenditure and income, I refer you to the several tables of statistics.

The deputies under my charge have given general satisfaction by

prompt and careful attention to the duties incidental to their positions, and while fulfilling instructions regarding discipline and maintenance of good order, have shown all possible leniency and kindness to the unfortunates under their charge.

In closing this report, I desire to acknowledge the obligations I am under to the Prison Inspectors for their ready advice, and cheerful and most cordial co-operation in the general management of the institution.

To the Moral Instructor, Rev. Levi Herr, the Physician, Dr. W. W. L. Phillips, and the efficient Clerk, E. Lippincott, I also acknowledge my obligations, for the cheerful, energetic and untiring devotion to the welfare of the convicts, and the performance of their respective duties.

Trusting that my efforts to render the prison a medium of instruction and reformation, as well as a place of punishment for crime, have met your approbation,

I have the honor to be, etc., etc., etc.,

PETER P. ROBINSON,
Keeper.

ADDITIONAL REPORT.

To the Honorable Senate and General Assembly of the State of New Jersey :

In addition to my report handed Governor Ward a few days since, I hereby respectfully submit the following items, viz. :

James B. Walker, late Keeper, had an outstanding indebtedness, on the 1st day of December, 1865, as per vouchers, of-----	\$27,689 02
James B. Walker, late Keeper, had an outstanding indebtedness, on the 15th day of March, 1866, as per vouchers, of-----	25,523 32
I have an outstanding indebtedness, as appears by my accounts, of-----	34,314 34
Bills unpaid, not included in the above-----	5,446 76
Total -----	<u>\$39,761 10</u>

Assets, mostly available :

Cash and book accounts, as per ledger-----	\$5,915 10
Due from United States, board-----	1,500 00
	<u>\$7,415 10</u>
To be provided for -----	\$32,346 00

In the report of James B. Walker to the Legislature, at its last session, the outstanding indebtedness was stated to be, November 30, 1865 -----	\$16,631 77
In the statement of settlement between James B. Walker, late Keeper, and myself, his outstanding indebtedness was stated to be-----	\$14,691 33
James B. Walker's expenditures from 1st December, 1865, to 15th March, 1866, as appears by his accounts, were-	\$27,883 33
My expenditures from 16th March to 30th November, 1866, as appears by my accounts, were-----	\$49,273 26
Bills unpaid, not included in the above-----	5,446 76
	54,720 02
Total-----	\$82,603 35
James B. Walker's receipts from the 1st day of December, 1865, to the 15th of March, 1866 as per accounts, were-----	\$6,089 92
My receipts, from March 16th to November 30th, 1866, as per accounts, were-----	\$20,084 86
	\$26,174 78
Total disbursements over receipts-----	\$56,428 57
From which should be deducted the excess in amount of indebtedness, paid on the former year's account-----	11,057 25
	Total net expenses over receipts-----
	\$45,371 32
The total expenditures for the year have been-----	\$82,603 35
From which deduct amount paid for bills previously contracted-----	11,057 25
	Actual cost of prisoners during the year-----
	\$71,546 10
On an average of 450 prisoners during the year, this would be about forty-three and one-half ($43\frac{1}{2}$) cents per day each.	
On an average of 500 prisoners during the year, it would cost about thirty-nine and one-quarter ($39\frac{1}{4}$) cents per day each.	
In consideration of the high prices that have ruled during the year for all articles necessary for the proper maintenance of the prisoners, I do not consider the cost excessive.	
All of which is respectfully submitted.	
	PETER P. ROBINSON, <i>Keeper.</i>
Office of the New Jersey State Prison, }	
Trenton, January 3, 1867. }	

JOINT COMMITTEE'S REPORT.

The State Prison Committee respectfully report, that they have examined the books, with the vouchers of the Keeper, and find them to correspond. That the apparent discrepancy in Mr. Walker's accounts, mentioned by the Governor in his message, arose from the fact that the fiscal year which Mr. Walker accounted for, ended some three and a half months before he retired from the office of Keeper. The large outlay necessary to support the prison the past fiscal year, has been largely owing to the fact that the Bigelow contract, under which the prisoners have been worked for several years past, was set aside by the Supreme Court of this State, consequently the expenses of the prison had to be paid out of the fund of the State entirely until some time last spring, when the present keeper obtained contracts to work about two hundred of the prisoners.

Your Committee examined the prison, its cells and workshops, and find all, so far as they were able to judge, in good order. The wants of the prisoners are well and carefully provided for, and every attention paid to neatness and cleanliness, and the health of the inmates is all that could be expected, considering the crowded condition of the institution.

Your Committee would most respectfully but earnestly urge upon the attention of the Legislature the crowded condition of the prison, there being over one hundred and fifty more convicts at this time than any previous year in the history of the prison; that more cell room and workshops must be had, is a fixed fact which cannot be longer passed over, but must be remedied, and that at once. There is, further, much inconvenience in having the female convicts confined, as they now are, in the same wing and near the male convicts, all of which, in the opinion of your Committee, would be remedied by the building of a new wing, so constructed as to contain the cells of the female prisoners and a chapel for moral and religious instruction, where the instructor and instructed would be brought face to face in giving and receiving such instruction.

In the present arrangement the prisoners remain in their cells, and are not seen by the speaker, and he is not seen by them, consequently much of the moral force is lost upon them. Your Committee would respectfully urge the immediate building of this wing, but we hope, if it is built, that it will not disgrace civilization and humanity, as the last new wing clearly does. We also refer the Legislature to the In-

spectors' report with regard to the inadequate amount of shop room. It is the opinion of your Committee that if shop room is provided, and every prisoner who is able to work is employed, the prison would soon pay its own expenses; but without these improvements, one-half of the prisoners must remain idle and the prison continue to be a State charge. We recommend the building of more shop room immediately, as a matter of economy.

With regard to the general management of the prison and the appointment of its officers, we would refer the Legislature to the Inspectors' report. The changes there recommended we submit to your serious consideration. Our attention was also called to the condition of the insane convicts—nine in number—now in the prison. As the members of the Legislature can very readily see, the prison is a place entirely unsuited to persons in their condition, as it is impossible to treat them in such an institution either morally or otherwise, so as to insure their recovery, and we recommend that some action be taken in reference thereto.

We would call attention to the fact that the contracts for supplies are under the control of the Keeper, and are not advertised or given out to the lowest bidder, and your Committee think that a great saving could be effected if such a rule should be established; also, that some suitable place be provided as a hospital for females. At present, when sick, they are obliged to remain in their cells, where they cannot have that attention and care they could have in a properly ventilated room fitted up for the purpose.

We also refer to the reports of the State Prison Keeper and Inspectors for the financial condition of the institution. The balance of indebtedness at the close of the last fiscal year, is thirty-nine thousand seven hundred and sixty-one dollars and ten cents, for which provision will have to be made, besides the amount which will be necessary to pay the expenses of the current year.

Your Committee find, from actual count, that there are now confined in the prison five hundred and seventy-nine; and we are satisfied, from a careful inspection of the books and records, that the discrepancy noticed by the Inspectors in their report, is simply a clerical error, having occurred, in our opinion, by a neglect in crediting the prison with all the prisoners discharged.

All which is respectfully submitted.

PROVIDENCE LUDLAM,	} <i>Senate Committee.</i>
A. WURTS,	
JOHN S. NEWELL,	} <i>Assembly Committee.</i>
ROBERT MOORE,	
JOSEPH H. BRUERE,	
BALTES PICKEL,	

Dated February 19, 1867.

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