

D-615

# REPORT

OF THE

# New Jersey State Prison,

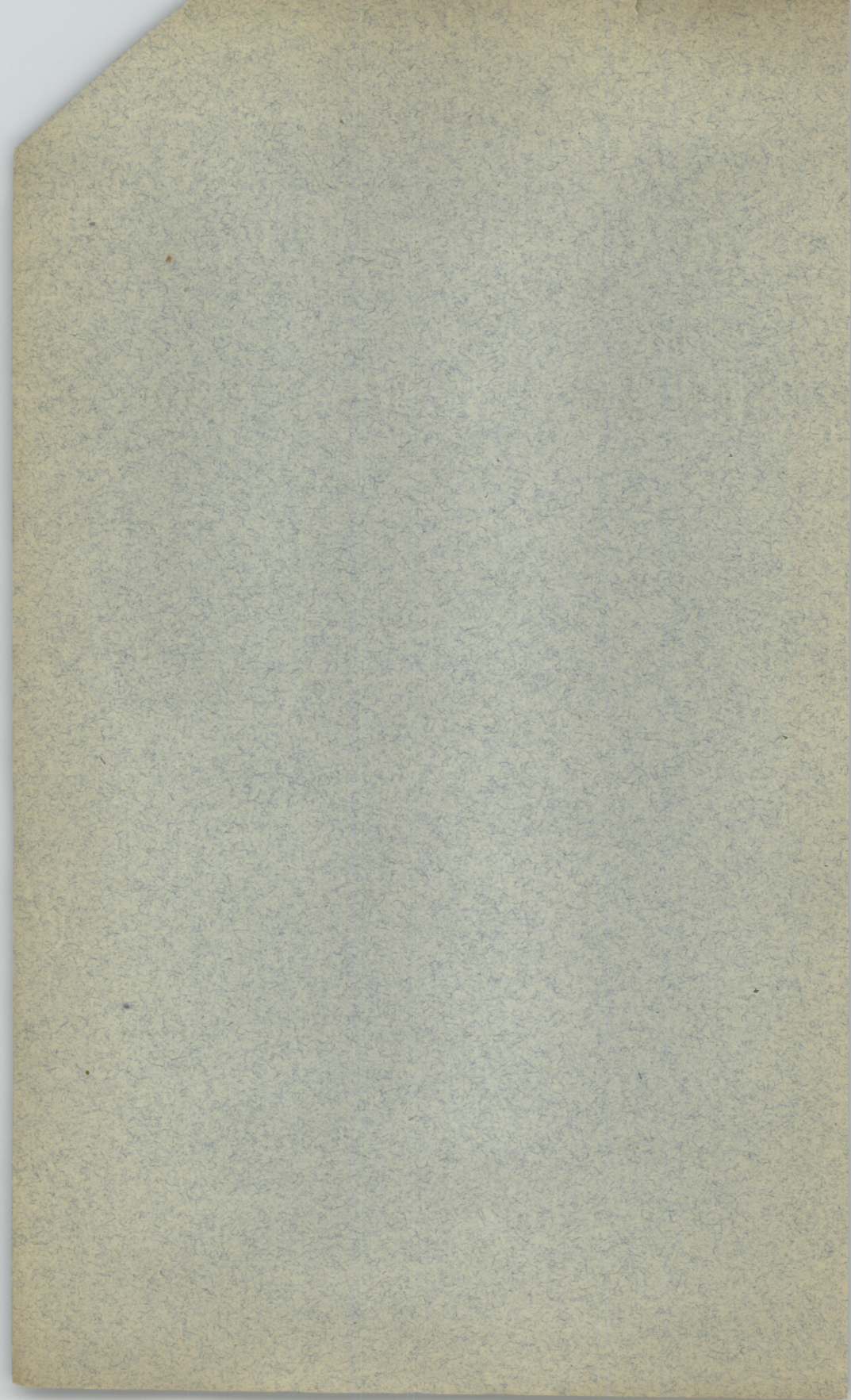
EMBRACING THE REPORTS OF THE

JOINT COMMITTEE, INSPECTORS, SUPERVISOR,  
CLERK, KEEPER, MORAL INSTRUCTOR  
AND PHYSICIAN.

**For the Year 1887.**

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1887.



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REPORT

OF THE

# New Jersey State Prison

FOR THE YEAR 1887

JOINT COMMITTEE ON PRISONS AND REFORMATORIES  
OF THE LEGISLATURE

For the Year 1887.

THOMAS J. B. ...  
A. A. ...  
1887

## REPORT OF JOINT COMMITTEE.

---

The Joint Committee of the Legislature on State Prison, respectfully report:

That we have visited the institution, as required by law, and examined its general condition, with the books and vouchers of the Supervisor.

The accounts of moneys received from the labor of the convicts and the expenses of their maintenance are carefully and systematically kept, and are audited monthly by the Comptroller and State Treasurer.

From the balance sheet we find as follows:

*First*, Total amount received from the earnings of the convicts, \$65,617.16 for the year commencing Nov. 1st 1886, and ending October 31st 1887. This is a decrease of \$783.87 from the previous year.

*Second*, The cost of maintenance, salaries, repairs and amount paid convicts on their discharge was \$162,858.64, being an increase of \$11,805.36, which shows a loss in operating the prison of \$97,241.48. Against a loss of \$84,642.25 of the previous year. The cause of said increase of loss is fully explained in the Supervisor's report.

Your committee find the prison much overcrowded, there being eight hundred and seventy convicts and but seven hundred cells, making it necessary to place two or more together, in disobedience of law, with all the evil results to the health and demoralization of the prisoners. We, therefore, earnestly recommend an appropriation for the enlargement of the prison, sufficient to remedy the above evils.

We heartily commend the action of the Keeper in establishing a night school, for the prisoners, also, in introducing a new system of signals etc., for the night-watch, thereby providing better security against escape, and securing better service from the deputies.

In conclusion, we find that the institution has been well managed, and we commend the economical and efficient manner in which the Keeper and Supervisor have performed the arduous duties devolving upon them.

We desire to return thanks to Keeper Patterson, Supervisor Butler and other officers of the prison for courtesies extended to the committee.

WILLIAM H. CARTER,  
JOHN D. RUE,  
D. C. CHASE,  
GEORGE D. SCUDDER,  
WM. CHAMBERLAIN.

# REPORT OF JOINT COMMITTEE

The Joint Committee of the Legislature on the Finance Report  
has the honor to acknowledge the assistance rendered by the  
various departments of the State in the preparation of this  
report, and to express its appreciation of the interest and  
cooperation of the various departments in the preparation of  
this report.

The following is a list of the members of the Joint Committee:

Wm. C. Coker, Chairman  
Wm. C. Coker, Jr.  
Wm. C. Coker, III  
Wm. C. Coker, IV  
Wm. C. Coker, V  
Wm. C. Coker, VI  
Wm. C. Coker, VII  
Wm. C. Coker, VIII  
Wm. C. Coker, IX  
Wm. C. Coker, X

The report of the Joint Committee is published in the  
following form, and is intended to be a permanent  
record of the proceedings of the Joint Committee.  
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of the Joint Committee. The report is published in the  
following form, and is intended to be a permanent  
record of the proceedings of the Joint Committee.

WILLIAM W. CARTER  
JOHN B. BURNETT  
J. C. CHASE  
GEORGE B. CHASE  
W. C. CHASE

## INSPECTOR'S REPORT.

INSPECTOR'S ROOM, NEW JERSEY STATE PRISON, }  
Trenton, N. J., October 31st, 1887. }

To Robert S. Green, Governor of New Jersey :

SIR—As becomes our duty under the provisions of the law, we have the honor to submit herewith our report regarding the management, condition and needs of this institution for the year ending October 31st, 1887.

The bills audited and passed by the Board are in amount.....	\$153,172 88
Being for maintenance.....	\$99,898 84
Being for repairs.....	7,194 73
Being for new Cook-house.....	3,020 26
Being for Steam heating.....	9,108 19
	\$89,217 02
To this add salaries of Deputies and Inspectors.....	63,955 86
	\$153,172 88
Add salaries of Keeper, Supervisor and Inspectors .....	9,000 00
Paid discharged convicts .....	1,516 50
	\$163,689 38
Deduct amount paid into State Treasury by Supervisor for labor of convicts.....	68,474 49
Leaving net cost to the State.....	\$95,214 89

The charge for steam heating includes the purchase of two new boilers and is in continuation of the work commenced during the previous fiscal year, and rendered necessary to form a complete system throughout the institution that would avoid the inconvenience and discomfort of past winters.

The net earnings from the employment of the prisoners in the manufacture of the several classes of goods under the "piece-price plan," while showing a slight improvement upon the results of the previous fiscal year, have not aggregated so great an amount of revenue as they did under the contract system.

The bill for water, as paid to the Trenton Water Works, amounted to over \$3,000, on which we are unable to obtain a reduction from their prevailing rates.

This sum represents the interest at six per cent. per annum on an outlay of over fifty thousand dollars.

Your board consider it to the interest of the State to erect within the walls a pumping engine, with suitable pipe to connect with the Delaware river. The original outlay under this plan will result in a large annual saving to the State. This board has no authority to authorize the outlay to carry out this plan, and deem it advisable that it should receive the early attention of the Legislature.

(5)

Plain and substantial food is furnished the prisoners, together with comfortable clothing, and the Keeper has changed the place of taking meals from the halls to the cells, thereby allowing the men more time and comfort at their meals and promoting discipline and safety.

The discipline in the prison has been fully maintained, and we are glad to note that the nature and amount of punishments are modified in extent when compared with previous years.

The ventilation of the east wing being found poor, pipes were arranged to convey the foul air from the cells through the roof, thus forming a complete system through that hall, the necessary labor being performed by the convicts. In the west wing the bucket system is still in use, and may produce serious results, in case of the prevalence of any contagious disease. The construction of this wing is such that your board have hesitated to incur the expenses that would be necessary to make the alteration and repairs that would be involved in the change.

The attention of the Legislature has been previously called, and is again earnestly called to this very important matter.

Several attempts have been made to escape during the year, but by the vigilance of the officials, have not been successful. A marked improvement has been made in the manner of placing the night-watch. One man examining the exterior of the walls hourly after 10 P. M., and the lights in the yards and on the walls are so placed that the smallest object can be seen, while the tower men prove their watchfulness by ringing to the centre hall half-hourly during the night.

By the report of the prison physician, Dr. R. C. Hutchinson, herewith appended, it will be seen that only nine deaths have occurred, this being the smallest number in the past ten years.

The Keeper has established a night school, and about seventy-five prisoners have availed themselves of its privileges, and the result has been very satisfactory to many of its patrons. This board desires to express their warm commendation of the manner in which the Keeper, Mr. J. H. Patterson, and the matron, Mrs. J. H. Patterson, have performed the duties of their positions, contributing materially by their kindly interest to the moral and physical welfare of the convicts.

Accompanying this report will be found the Statistical Report of the institution, prepared by the able and genial clerk, Mr. R. B. Bonney, by which it will be seen that the daily average of prisoners has been 893, and the number discharged 503, including 102 released by the Court of Pardons.

To the Keeper and Supervisor we are under many obligations for courtesies.

Respectfully submitted by the Board,

JOHN F. POST,  
*Secretary.*

## SUPERVISOR'S REPORT.

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To Hon. Robert S. Green, Governor of New Jersey :

SIR—The annual report of the New Jersey State Prison for the fiscal year ending October 31, 1887, is herewith respectfully submitted.

The accompanying tables show that on the 31st of October, 1886:

The number of convicts remaining in prison was.....	943
Received during the year.....	437
	1380

And that the number discharged

By remittance of time (Act April 2d, 1869) was.....	402
By order of Court of Pardons.....	101
	503
Leaving in confinement, Oct. 31st, 1887.....	877

The daily average number in confinement during the year was 893, of whom 857 were males and 36 females; the total being but 1 in excess of the average for the previous year.

The total cost of subsistence amounted to \$33,838.85, a daily average expense of 10.38 cents, or \$37.89 per annum; an increase over last year of .72 of a cent per diem.

Maintenance, (including subsistence, clothing, bedding, fuel, water, hospital and all other necessary supplies,) involved an expenditure of \$69,340.46, a per capita cost per diem of 21.27 cents, or \$77.65 per annum; a daily increase of 2.06 cents over previous year.

General Expense, (including maintenance, repairs, new cook house, steam heating, amount paid discharged convicts, officers' and deputies' salaries, and every expense incident to the management of the institution,) aggregate \$162,858.64; an excess of \$11,805.36 over the year before.

The gross income for the twelve months was \$65,617.16; a loss of \$783.87 compared with last year.

## STATE PRISON REPORT.

These results may be summarized as follows :

DR.		
To Maintenance .....		\$69,340.46
“ Repairs, general.....	\$6,922.37	
“ New Cook House.....	3,020.26	
“ Steam Heating.....	9,103.19	
	<hr/>	19,045.82
Amount paid discharged convicts .....		1,516.50
Deputies, Salaries .....		63,955.86
Officers, Salaries.....		9,000.00
		<hr/>
		\$162,858.64
CR.		
By Earnings, “Piece Price”.....		\$63,634.64
“ “ Convict Labor.....		1,982.52
		<hr/>
		65,617.16
Deficit for year.....		<hr/> <hr/> \$ 97,241.48

The slight increase in cost of subsistence is readily accounted for, as the cost varies from year to year in accordance with the fluctuating value of commodities, as well as to the necessary changes in diet deemed from time to time desirable, in which expense is always a secondary consideration.

A glance at the report shows that the general expenses of the Prison have been largely augmented. This was in consequence of radical changes and betterments, in the opinion of the Board of Inspectors, of pressing necessity. A careful examination of the details of this increased expenditure proves that the additional outlay was wisely and judiciously made in carrying out the policy of the Board, inaugurated during the previous year, of putting the Prison in the best possible sanitary condition. To do this, necessitated a thorough change in the system of heating and ventilation. The present heating system (owing to new demands constantly made upon it, and for which it was not designed) had become so defective and inadequate, as to be almost worthless. It was also expensive in operation, and utterly lacking of the later improvements in the modern method of heating. The substitution of the new system involved the almost entire eradication of the old, costing much time and expense, and from the necessity of keeping the business of the Prison in constant motion, much delay. The new system, though still incomplete, already affords increased comfort and gives promise of material saving in cost of working. The work has progressed during the summer under the direction of competent engineers who have, so far as possible, used convict labor in making the change. Under the same direction, the east wing has been thoroughly and scientifically ventilated, thereby remedying, what was long a source of annoyance and danger, the want of pure air in that portion of the Prison. The number of deaths (nine for the whole year) would seem to indicate that these improvements had not been entirely barren of result.

These explanations will satisfactorily account for largely increased charge to cost of Repairs.

From time to time the Prison reports have called attention to the utter inadequacy of present accommodations for the legal and proper custody of the convicts. While the number of convicts in confinement gradually and steadily increases, the cell room remains the same. At one period of the past year provision had to be made for the incarceration of 948 prisoners. As there are but 699 cells, of necessity, more than one had to be placed in a cell. In the old South Hall, where there are large cells, as many as four are frequently locked up together. The moral effect, to say nothing of the danger of thus grouping criminals together, must be obvious to any one giving the subject a moment's consideration. The Courts consign each prisoner to solitary confinement. Under the existing state of things, it must be at once apparent that the literal enforcement of this sentence must remain nugatory, so long as the State fails to make proper provision for carrying out the mandates of the law. In order, therefore, to enable the Keeper to literally obey the law, and to take proper care and custody of even the present number of prisoners consigned to his charge, an entire new wing, with provision for 200 cells will be absolutely necessary.

The second years' experience in working the prisoners under what is known as the "piece price" plan, seems to afford no element of hope that, either as a revenue measure, or as a preventive of undue competition with honest labor, will it ever be even as potent as the contract system, which it supplanted.

In its practical working, it is but a modification of the old system, possessing all its evils and none of its advantages. The working of the convicts is precisely similar under both systems, with the exception that under "piece price" the State is responsible for both quantity and quality of product, whereas, under the old plan, it was responsible for neither; the contractor assuming that risk.

The real difference in the working of the two systems is best illustrated by examination of their respective results. Taking the lowest price received—fifty cents per diem—under the contract system, and comparing it with the actual earning—forty and forty-nine hundredths cents—under the "piece price," there is at once apparent a loss of nine and fifty one hundredths cents on each day's labor performed, or a difference of \$14,942.87 on the 157,128 days' work done during the year. In thus contrasting the revenue return of the two systems, the more important fact of increased production under the "piece price" plan, whereby the contractor acquires the product at much lessened cost, has been entirely ignored. Were this taken into consideration the contrast would be much more marked.

A serious objection to the new system is that it affords constant opportunity for contention between the contractor and Supervisor. Periodically, as the requirements of trade demand, new styles must be introduced, necessitating new instruction and consequent loss of valuable time. Prices have to be readjusted and details settled. To arrange these satisfactorily is an invariable source of dispute, giving rise frequently to misunderstandings between the parties interested and dissatisfaction with any result that may be ultimately reached.

All these annoyances were avoided under the old plan. Under that system the contractor engaged the number of men he needed, varied his work as frequently as required, accepted the product regardless of quality or quantity, paid the per diem charge, and there was the end of it.

The contract system may not be the best that can be devised for the employment of convicts, but it is infinitely superior to the present method. As existing contracts still have nearly two years to run there is ample time for the Legislature to consider the matter and to adopt a more satisfactory plan of employing the prisoners.

The following table gives the names of contractors, quantities of the several kinds of goods manufactured, average cost, number of days employed with average earnings, and total amount realized from products:

	Quantity.	Cost.	Days.	Per Diem	Am't.
<b>Downs &amp; Finch, Contractors</b>					
Shirts.....	22 426 6-12 doz.	\$4.60c. per doz.	17 577½	44.14c	\$7 759 07
Laundry.....	38 834 7-12 "	21.49 "	22 873½	36.47	8 343 80
Collars—Part Made.....	149 272 4-12 "	03.80 "	12 518½	45.33	5 674 80
" Button-holed.....	68 :96 9-12 "	01.10 "	1,761	43.03	757 86
Cuffs—Button-holed.....	16 861 8-12 "	02.93 doz. prs.	1 080	45.73	493 98
" Manufactured.....	41,187 10-12 "	05.86 "	6,777½	35.58	2,412 00
			62,588	40.64	\$25,441 51
<b>JOHN B. IREDELL, Cont'r.</b>					
Uppers.....	666 doz.				
Turns.....	9,747½ "	55.74 doz. prs.	11,050½	52.53	5,804 96
<b>POWELL &amp; BRO., Contractor</b>					
Hosiery.....	76,582 doz. pairs.	13 00 doz. prs.	23,710½	41.93	9,943 40
<b>WM. MCKNIGHT, Cont'r.</b>					
Boots.....	510 pairs.	25.00 per pair.			
Shoes.....	41,172 "	15.15 "	15 576	40.87	6,366 51
<b>JOHN TOBIN &amp; Co., Cont'r.</b>					
Shirts.....	16,040 7-12 doz.	30.00 doz.			
Pants.....	5,991 6-12 "	84 "	20,542½	47.92	9,845 04
<b>PICKERING &amp; COLESCOTT, Contractors.</b>					
Brushes.....	3,757 9-12 gross.	\$1.27 per gross.	19,464	24.47	4,764 62
<b>CONSOLIDATED BRUSH BLOCK Co.</b>					
Blocks and Veneers.....	16,860 gross.	.087	4,196½	34.99	1,468 60
			157,128	40.49	\$63,634 64

During the past year, the Keeper, Mr. Patterson, has instituted—what promises to be an interesting experiment in the reformation of the prisoner—a night school, to which are admitted all desirous of instruction. This has been done at no expense to the State, save the cost of a few books, the teachers being supplied from the more intelligent convicts, the school itself being under the direct supervision of the Keeper. About 150 attend the nightly sessions, arranged in

four classes, according to their relative intelligence. Great interest and desire for improvement is already manifested. Their progress in intellectual culture, and its effect upon their morals and future conduct, will be watched with keen interest, not only by the officers of the Prison, but by all having regard for the reformation of the convict.

The health of the prisoners during the past year has been exceptionally good, but nine (9) deaths having occurred and those mostly attributable to pulmonary ailments. The death rate is but ten (10) in a thousand—a remarkably low average.

There have been no escapes and but one futile attempt to escape. Punishments have been very few, and only when absolutely necessary to maintain proper discipline.

The Prison itself is in excellent shape, and when the improvements now under way are completed, will be in the best possible condition.

My thanks are due to the Keeper, the Board of Inspectors, and other officers of the Prison, for kind and timely assistance in the performance of duty.

Respectfully submitted,

HENRY L. BUTLER,

*Supervisor.*



# STATISTICS.

OFFICE OF NEW JERSEY STATE PRISON, }  
 October 31st, 1887. }

To the Honorable the Board of Inspectors :

GENTLEMEN—Herewith please find statistical tables compiled from the records of this institution for the year ending October 31st, 1887 :

Respectfully,

ROBERT B. BONNEY,

*Clerk of Prison.*

Number of convicts November 1st, 1886 .....	943
Received during the year (from Nov. 1, 1886, to Oct. 31st, 1887, inclusive),	437
	1,380

There have been discharged as follows:

By remittance of time (Act April 2, 1869) .....	373
By order of U. S. Commissioner .....	6
Pardoned .....	102
Died .....	9
By order of U. S. Supreme Court .....	1
Sent to asylum .....	12
	503
Number in confinement October 31st, 1887 .....	877

## TERMS OF SENTENCES.

Natural life .....	7
Thirty years .....	3
Twenty-one years .....	1
Twenty years .....	19
Eighteen years .....	2
Fifteen years .....	20
Thirteen years .....	1
Twelve years .....	4
Ten years .....	90
Nine years and six months .....	1
Nine years .....	5

(13)

Eight years.....	12
Seven years and six months.....	1
Seven years.....	36
Six years and six months.....	1
Six years.....	27
Five years.....	147
Four years and six months.....	4
Four years and four months.....	2
Four years.....	26
Three years and six months.....	14
Three years.....	112
Two years and six months.....	24
Two years and five months.....	1
Two years and four months.....	1
Two years.....	148
One year and six months.....	52
One year and three months.....	1
One year.....	96
Nine months.....	5
Seven months.....	3
Six months.....	11
	<hr/>
	877

## COUNTIES WHERE CONVICTED.

Atlantic.....	25
Bergen.....	34
Burlington.....	22
Camden.....	72
Cape May.....	6
Cumberland.....	19
Essex.....	145
Gloucester.....	17
Hudson.....	189
Hunterdon.....	7
Mercer.....	41
Monmouth.....	41
Middlesex.....	48
Morris.....	20
Ocean.....	7
Passaic.....	65
Salem.....	7
Somerset.....	19
Sussex.....	15
Union.....	41
Warren.....	8
U. S. District.....	28
Supreme Court.....	1
	<hr/>
	877

## CRIMES FOR WHICH COMMITTED.

Assault and battery.....	97
Assault and battery with intent to kill.....	17
Assault and battery and robbery.....	5
Assault and battery with intent to rob.....	1
Atrocious assault and battery.....	48
Assault and battery with intent to rape.....	15
Arson.....	8

Attempt at robbery.....	2
Attempt to commit rape.....	3
Assault.....	3
Assault and larceny from the person.....	4
Assault and battery on an officer.....	8
Assault and battery and breaking.....	3
Assault and battery with intent.....	7
Attempt to escape.....	1
Bigamy.....	9
Breaking.....	37
Breaking and entering.....	36
Breaking, entering and larceny.....	64
Breaking with intent.....	32
Burglary.....	10
Breaking and assault with intent.....	5
Breaking and entering and breaking jail.....	3
Burning.....	3
Breaking into post office and stealing stamps.....	4
Breaking, assault and battery and escape.....	2
Breaking, entering, etc.....	71
Breaking and entering and assault and battery.....	2
Causing miscarriage.....	1
Carrying burglars' tools with intent.....	2
Conspiracy.....	4
Disorderly house.....	4
Entering and larceny.....	14
Embezzlement.....	5
Embezzlement, forgery, etc.....	1
Escape.....	3
Entering with intent to steal.....	3
Entering railway car and larceny.....	1
Entering.....	7
Forgery.....	15
False pretenses.....	5
Fraudulent use of the mail.....	2
Grand larceny.....	54
Having burglar's tools in possession.....	1
Having in possession counterfeit U. S. obligations.....	3
High misdemeanor.....	2
Highway robbery.....	9
Illicit distilling.....	1
Incest.....	5
Indecent assault.....	1
Keeping disorderly house.....	1
Kidnapping.....	1
Larceny and receiving.....	2
Larceny from the person.....	31
Larceny.....	53
Murder.....	29
Murder, second degree.....	9
Manslaughter.....	9
Misdemeanor.....	1
Mayhem, etc.....	1
Malicious mischief.....	8
Open lewdness.....	3
Obstructing R. R. train, assault and battery.....	1
Obtaining money under false pretenses.....	3
Passing counterfeit U. S. obligations and securities.....	1
Publishing false statement.....	1
Passing counterfeit coin.....	18

Petit larceny.....	1
Passing counterfeit money.....	2
Perjury.....	1
Prison breach.....	3
Polygamy.....	2
Robbery.....	8
Rape.....	19
Resisting officer and assault and battery.....	7
Rape and abuse of infant.....	2
Receiving stolen goods.....	2
Rape on child ten years of age.....	1
Robbery and larceny.....	1
Receiving and larceny.....	1
Subornation of perjury.....	1
Seduction.....	2
Sodomy.....	3
Setting fire with intent.....	1
Sending threatening letters.....	1
Sending obscene matter through the mail.....	1
Sending indecent letter.....	1
Uttering forged check.....	1
Unlawfully taking horse.....	1

877

## PLACES OF NATIVITY.

New Jersey.....	343
New York.....	152
Pennsylvania.....	62
Virginia.....	15
W. Virginia.....	1
Delaware.....	13
Maryland.....	11
Maine.....	1
Massachusetts.....	10
Vermont.....	2
Ohio.....	5
Kansas.....	1
Alabama.....	1
Connecticut.....	8
Michigan.....	1
California.....	1
Louisiana.....	4
Georgia.....	1
Missouri.....	1
Florida.....	1
Kentucky.....	1
South Carolina.....	2
North Carolina.....	2
Tennessee.....	1
Illinois.....	2
Atlantic Ocean.....	2
Canada.....	5
Nova Scotia.....	1
Ireland.....	73
England.....	27
English Channel.....	1
Germany.....	72
Italy.....	18
Prussia.....	2

## STATE PRISON REPORT.

17

France .....	8
Holland .....	2
Denmark .....	2
Switzerland .....	2
Sweden .....	4
Poland .....	1
Austria .....	1
Hungary .....	1
Egypt .....	1
Scotland .....	4
Bavaria .....	1
Belgium .....	1
Russia .....	3
Poland .....	1
New Providence .....	1
Prince Edward's Island .....	1

877

## AGES WHEN RECEIVED.

Fourteen years .....	1
Fifteen years .....	7
Fifteen to twenty years .....	106
Twenty to twenty-five years .....	240
Twenty-five to thirty years .....	176
Thirty to forty years .....	173
Forty to fifty years .....	125
Fifty to sixty years .....	35
Sixty to seventy years .....	14

877

## YEARS IN WHICH RECEIVED.

1860 .....	1
1867 .....	1
1869 .....	3
1872 .....	1
1876 .....	1
1877 .....	1
1878 .....	1
1879 .....	5
1880 .....	5
1881 .....	15
1882 .....	17
1883 .....	34
1884 .....	68
1885 .....	114
1886 .....	272
1887 .....	338

877

## NUMBER OF COMMITMENTS.

First commitment .....	731
Second " .....	96
Third " .....	34

Fourth commitment.....	10
Fifth ".....	2
Sixth ".....	3
Ninth ".....	1
	<hr/>
	877

Can read and write.....	707
Cannot read or write.....	112
Read only.....	49
Can write name only.....	9
	<hr/>
	877

## COLOR AND SEX.

White males.....	693
White females.....	28
Colored males.....	146
Colored females.....	10
	<hr/>
	877

## DAILY AVERAGE.

Males.....	857
Females.....	36
	<hr/>
Average whole number.....	893

## PHYSICIAN'S REPORT.

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*To the Honorable Board of Inspectors of the New Jersey State Prison.*

GENTLEMEN:—Permit me to submit this, my yearly report of the New Jersey State Prison for the year ending October 31st, 1887.

We have been mostly exempt from the prevalence of acute diseases, have had but few cases of diarrhœa, dysentery and malaria, all of which yielded readily to treatment.

During the year we have had nine deaths, eight from phthisis, acute and chronic, one from intussusception.

In looking over the records I find this to be the smallest death-rate since 1877.

Nine unmanageable insane convicts were transferred to the asylums, seven males and two females. It is very desirable that a suitable building be erected for the proper detention and safe-keeping of the same.

The ventilation of the prison has been greatly improved during the past year, and I now consider the sanitary condition good, with the exception of the unhealthy bucket system of the west wing which should be abolished, as their use necessarily vitiates the atmosphere of this wing:

With regard to the diet, good, healthy, nutritious food is given in sufficient quantity.

I desire to call your attention to the hospital, which is entirely too small for our increasing population, and would respectfully recommend the erection of a hospital within the prison walls, but separate from the general prison.

For the courtesies accorded me by your board, as well as by the Principal Keeper and his deputies, I am duly grateful.

Respectfully submitted,

R. C. HUTCHINSON,

*Physician.*

PHYSICIAN'S REPORT

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R. C. HURDINSON

## MORAL INSTRUCTOR'S REPORT.

NEW JERSEY STATE PRISON, }  
October 31st, 1887 }

To His Excellency the Governor :

SIR:—Another official year has passed, and as we hope and believe, a year of progress in the several departments of prison service.

Changes have been inaugurated in the methods of guarding the walls at night, and of feeding the prisoners in the day, all of which are believed to be in the interest of good order and security. I may also be permitted, in passing, to refer to, and emphasize with special commendation (as it is constantly brought to my notice in visits to the Hospital), the relief from suffering, and very great abridgement of the death-rate, through a newly introduced method of treating the prevalent mortal disease of the prison. By these changes, however, the *moral* condition of the prisoners is affected only in an indirect way, and a detailed statement properly belongs to the Inspector's report, and that of our skillful and painstaking Physician.

I am gratified, however, to report that the present Keeper has taken a decided step in advance in his efforts to improve the *moral* tone of the prison. A vacated room has been fitted up with desks, and a night school maintained four evenings in the week for the "illiterates," taught by educated prisoners who volunteered for the work, and who could be trusted to perform the duties in a manner consistent with the discipline of the institution. The number of scholars has been about 120, divided into four classes, each class numbering about 30, as many as could be comfortably accommodated in the room at one time. All have learned well, and some have made marked progress. The privilege of attending the school is greatly prized, and becomes an incentive to good behaviour elsewhere, as this is an invariable condition of attendance. With equal pleasure I would record the fact that the excellent ladies who preside over the female department, not only supply, in a private way, similar advantages to the women, but in a regularly conducted Sunday-school, in an unsectarian way, teach the principles of the Christian religion, as contained in the Scriptures.

These means of moral elevation are in addition to those heretofore in operation, namely, the regular chapel services on Sabbath morning, both Catholic and Protestant, the voluntary preaching service in the afternoon by ministers of the city in turn, the weekly visits of the ladies of the Women's Christian Union, and the Catholic Sisters to the

hospitals, and personal ministrations by the Chaplain and clergymen of different denominations, when their services are specially asked for by individuals or voluntarily offered. Thus all available appliances of a moral or religious character seek to instruct, elevate and comfort the men and women of all nationalities, languages, colors and creeds within the walls. Yet still more might be done, for the field is a broad and tangled wilderness, constantly shifting in its material, aspect and condition.

Among the improvements which might be made, and which the State alone can make, may be mentioned, (1) Increase in the number of the cells, which would obviate the necessity of confining so many in one room, to their obvious deterioration in morality, as well as in violation of law; (2) The building of a chapel, which would furnish at the same time, incidentally, better school accommodations; (3) And this, now, as Librarian, I must urge: An appropriation for an addition to the library, or rather a new one, for the present has been repaired, and added to with poor material and patched and re-patched, until, like the "One Horse Shay," it will presently drop to pieces altogether. The former appropriation of \$500, made by the Legislature more than 10 years since, has been economically employed, and the last remnant of it was used more than a year since, in providing a nucleus for a separate and much-needed library for the women.

The circulation of books thus far has only been maintained by the casual additions of magazines and papers, gratuitously contributed from time to time, and gathered up from different sources, and bound in the prison itself. It must soon, however, virtually cease, unless the Legislature comes to our aid with a timely largess.

All which is respectfully submitted.

JOHN M. ROGERS,

*Moral Instructor.*

BALANCE SHEET FROM NOVEMBER 1st, 1886 TO OCTOBER 31st, 1887.

LEDGER TITLES.	TRIAL BALANCE.		INVENTORY.	PROFIT AND LOSS.		STOCK.		REAL.	
	DR.	CR.		DR.	CR.	DR.	CR.	DR.	CR.
Stock .....		\$32,188 20					\$32,188 20	\$3,074 09	
Bedding .....	\$4,470 36		\$3,074 09	\$1,896 27				1,472 77	
Discharged Convicts' Clothing.....	2,815 01		1,472 77	1,342 24				48 56	
Tobacco .....	1,258 75		48 56	1,210 19				332 35	
Hospital .....	3,642 10		332 55	3,309 75				43 00	
Forage.....	643 63		43 00	600 66				10,763 65	
Furniture.....	12,585 68		10,763 65	1,822 03				800 00	
Live Stock .....	825 00		800 00	25 00				28 00	
Stationery.....	116 10		28 00	88 10				92 50	
Fuel .....	9,238 44		92 50	9,145 94				7 50	
Convict Stationery.....	53 28		7 50	45 78				327 51	
Subsistence .....	34,106 36		327 51	33,838 85					
Light .....	243 72			243 72				157 10	
Gas Light .....	2,050 31			1,893 21				6,729 81	
Clothing.....	13,451 13		157 10	6,721 32					
Miscellaneous.....	2,691 44		6,729 81	2,691 44					
Repairs .....	6,922 37			6,922 37					
New Cook House.....	3,020 26			3,020 26					
Steam Heating .....	9,103 19			9,103 19					
Piece Price System .....		63,634 64			\$63,634 64				
Convict Labor .....		1,982 52			1,982 52				
State of New Jersey .....		20,742 53							\$20,742 53
Water.....	4,965 96			4,965 96					
Accounts Receivable.....	6,284 77							6,284 77	
	\$118,547 89	\$118,547 89	\$23,876 84						
			Loss.....		22,769 12	\$22,769 12			
				\$88,386 28	\$88,386 28				
						9,419 08			9,419 08
						\$32,188 20	\$32,188 20	\$30,161 61	\$30,161 61

STATE PRISON REPORT.



