

ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE

NEW JERSEY

STATE PRISON,

FOR THE YEAR 1868.

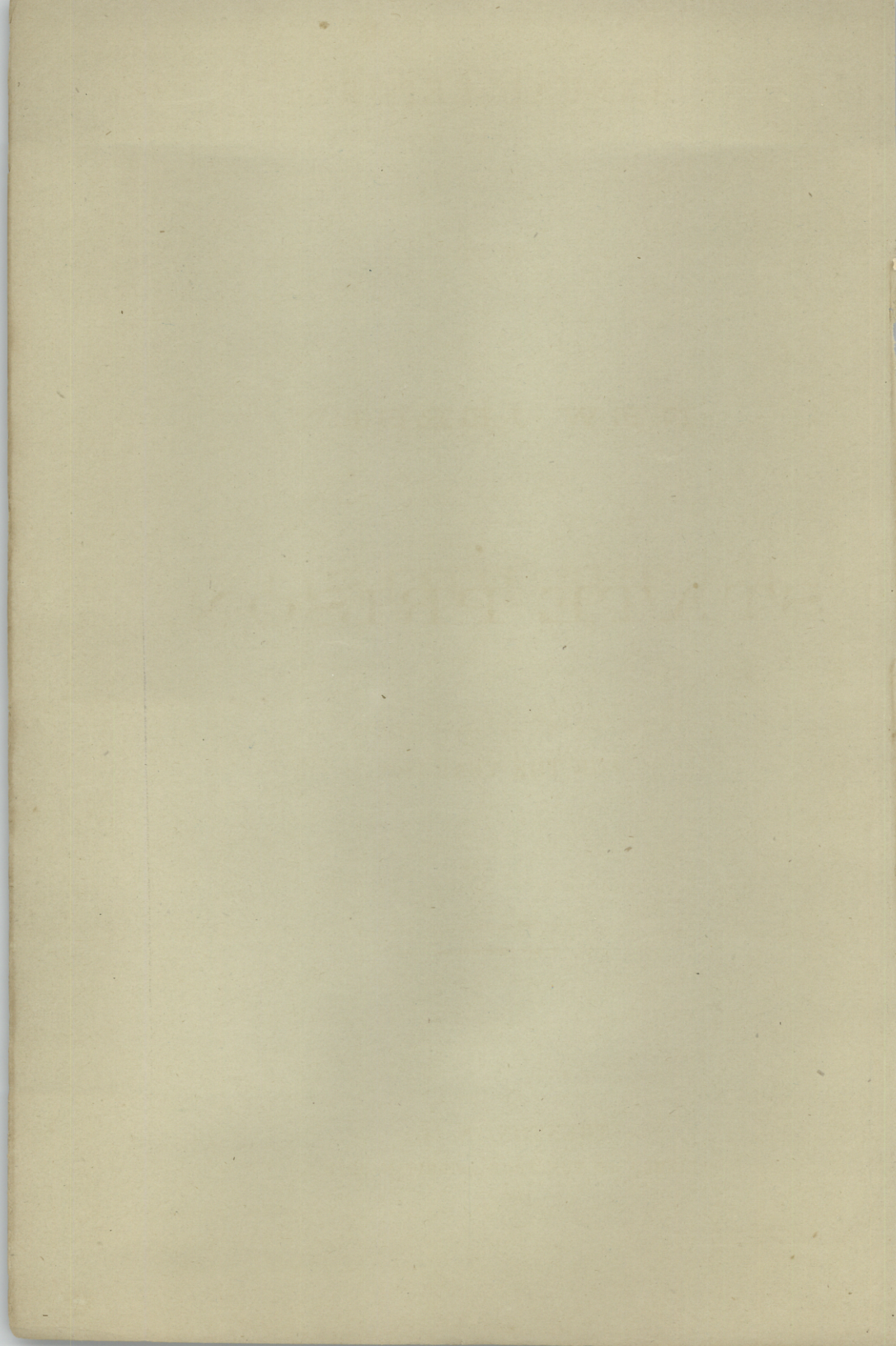
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1869.





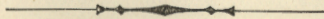
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STATE PRISON

FOR THE YEAR 1908

TRENTON, N. J.

PRINTED AT THE NEW JERSEY STATE PRINTING OFFICE

REPORT OF THE JOINT COMMITTEE.

To the Legislature:

The Joint Committee of the Legislature appointed to audit and examine the accounts of the State Prison, respectfully report—

That they have examined the books, compared them with the proper vouchers, and find them to correspond.

For a detailed exhibit of the financial condition of the Institution, reference is made to the Report of the Keeper.

Your Committee, in the discharge of their official duties, examined the Prison, its cells, workshops, offices, &c., and report them clean and in good order. The proper wants of the inmates appear to be well provided for, and the necessary attention paid to general neatness and cleanliness.

The sanitary arrangements of the Institution appear to be well maintained and efficient, and the general health of the prisoners better than might be anticipated, in view of the crowded condition of the Prison.

The immediate and urgent necessity of an enlargement of the present Institution, is so well known and admitted as to need but little enforcement by any remarks of your Committee. The evils consequent upon the existing state of things imperatively demands a radical and speedy remedy.

Not only is the health of the prisoners, herded together as they necessarily are, most seriously and continually endangered, but the hope of any moral reformation, which is the true end and aim of all proper penal restraint and discipline, is practically and virtually excluded.

The interests of the State are also seriously impaired, the want of suitable accommodations of every kind preventing the employment of a large number of the convicts, who might, under a better system and with increased facilities, contribute materially to the earnings of the Institution.

The Committee would earnestly recommend the early consideration and adoption by the Legislature of the Bill reported by them, and now before the Senate, providing for the erection of new wings to

the Prison, and such enlargement as will afford room for at least two hundred convicts.

The expenses of the Prison for the fiscal year ending November 30th, 1868, as shown by the books of the Institution, amount to \$95,869.68. The earnings for the same period amount to \$39,392.38, leaving a deficiency of \$55,977.30, exclusive of salaries and repairs.

The salaries amount, in round numbers, to \$38,000, increasing the deficiency to the gross sum of \$93,977.30.

The expenses incurred in the erection of the new wing for the accommodation of the female prisoners amount to \$15,734.07. The appropriation for the same was \$6,000, leaving a deficiency on that account of \$9,734.07, making a total deficiency on all accounts, so far as your Committee are in possession of the facts, of \$103,711.37.

All which is respectfully submitted.

JOHN H. ANDERSON,
EDWARD BETTLE,

} *Senate Committee.*

NELSON VLIET,
JOHN P. NELSON,
LEONARD F. HARDING,
THEODORE W. PHOENIX,
E. V. S. BESSON,

} *House Committee.*

INSPECTORS' REPORT.

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

In pursuance of the requirements of law, the undersigned, Inspectors of the New Jersey State Prison, respectfully submit their report for the year closing November 30th, 1868.

Before giving an account of the transactions of the Prison, we feel that it is our duty to allude to the demise of the Principal Keeper, Mr. Joseph B. Walker, which event occurred on the fourth day of November, after a lingering illness which he bore with great fortitude and resignation. Our intercourse with him was always agreeable, and we ever found him to be actuated in all his actions with the utmost regard for the principles which characterize the honorable gentleman. The institution, as a consequence, lost much of that direct personal supervision over its affairs so necessary for its good government and for which he was so peculiarly adapted.

During a good portion of Mr. Walker's sickness, the principal part of the duties incumbent upon the Keeper were attended to by one of the Acting Inspectors, Mr. Jonathan Pickel. Unfortunately, a few weeks prior to the death of the Keeper, Mr. Pickel was taken sick, and at the date of this report lies in a critical situation.

The Governor, in accordance with the constitutional authority vested in him, appointed Mr. George A. Walker to the position made vacant by the death of his brother. In the interim between the death of the Keeper and the appointment of a successor, Mr. David Pear-sall, one of the Acting Inspectors, was authorized by us to superintend the affairs of the Prison until the Governor made an appointment.

FINANCES.

The receipts for the year amounted to thirty-nine thousand three hundred and ninety-two dollars and thirty-eight cents. The expenditures for the same period amount to ninety-five thousand three hundred and sixty-nine dollars and sixty-eight cents; of the expenditures, twenty-seven thousand two hundred and seventy-five dollars and nineteen cents have been paid to cancel obligations of P. P. Robinson.

CONTRACTS.

Upon assuming the duties devolving upon us, we found upon an examination, that our predecessors, together with the Keeper, had entered into a written contract for the term of four years with Alfred Gilman and Charles H. Coffin, conditioned to furnish two hundred and fifty convicts, with the privilege on the part of the State to increase the number to three hundred, to labor at cordwaining for the sum of forty cents per day for nine months, and thirty cents for three months for each convict, and another sub-contract with Jacob H. Walters, for the labor of forty prisoners, with the privilege of increasing the number to seventy, at the rate of forty-five cents per day, to be employed in the manufacture of chain. In reference to the first contract, the books of the Prison showed an indebtedness on the part of Gilman and Coffin amounting to nine thousand eight hundred and forty-four dollars and sixty-five cents, which has never been paid. W. W. Gilman, whom we found as the responsible party carrying on the workshops, refuses to settle the above claim for the reasons set forth in the following copy of an affidavit presented to us by him :

To the Inspectors of the New Jersey State Prison :

GENTLEMEN :—This is to certify that we, W. W. Gilman, William Lucy and J. G. Van Houten, do firmly and conscientiously believe and assert that during the administration of Peter P. Robinson in the Prison, Mr. Gilman must have lost at the very lowest calculation upwards of fifteen thousand dollars in consequence of

First—The bad discipline of the Prison.

Second—Shoes cut and actually destroyed.

Third—Shoes and Stock stolen.

Fourth—Shops too cold to work in.

Fifth—The back gate being closed, thereby preventing the forwarding of goods at a seasonable period, and the non-delivery of goods at the proper time, and the depreciation of goods at the re-opening of the gate.

Owing to the above reasons, we trust the Inspectors will be pleased to take the matter into consideration, and make whatever allowance seems right in their judgment, believing at the same time the amount above stated, will not by any means, cover the amount of damages sustained by Mr. Gillman.

As regards the present administration we have no complaint to make.

(Signed.)

W. W. GILMAN,
WILLIAM LUCY,
J. G. VAN HOUTEN.

State of New Jersey, Mercer County, ss :

Before me, Bailey A. West, one of the Justices in and for said county, personally appeared the within named William W. Gilman, William Lucy and J. G. Van Houten, and being duly sworn, upon their respective oaths say that the within affidavit to which they have subscribed their names, is true to the best of their knowledge and belief.

Sworn and subscribed October 27th, 1868, before me.

BAILEY A. WEST,

Justice of the Peace.

The alleged grievances were referred by us to the Joint Committee of the Legislature appointed at its last session "to inquire into and examine the management of the State Prison for the past year," composed of the following named gentlemen: Messrs. Anderson and Bettle, of the Senate, and Messrs. Whelan, Peck and Pickel, of the General Assembly. This course was deemed advisable, inasmuch as the committee were authorized to send for persons and papers.

The Committee have met, and taken the testimony of those who were employed about the Prison at the time the alleged grievances occurred, and the result of their deliberations (we presume) will be made known to Your Honorable Body by them.

Mr. W. W. Gilman, since the date of our appointment and up to the date of this report, has paid for the labor of those convicts who have been employed at cordwaining, at the rates stipulated in the contract of Alfred Gilman and Charles H. Coffin.

In reference to the sub-contract of Mr. Jacob H. Walters, he also presented a claim for damages amounting to three hundred and seventy-five dollars, for losses sustained under the keepership of Peter P. Robinson, on account of repairs to the entrance gate and bad condition of the workshop. By advice of our counsel, Edward W. Scudder, Esq., this claim was compromised and settled by paying him one hundred and eighty-seven dollars and fifty cents.

FIRE.

On the evening of the 18th day of July, the blacksmith shop accidentally caught fire, and in despite of the efforts of the Prison officers and the firemen of the city of Trenton, was entirely consumed; owing to its close proximity to the south wing the fire communicated with it, and about two-thirds of the roof of this building was burned. It was a time of great excitement, and fortunately the prisoners were all removed without serious injury to any of them.

Our thanks are eminently due to the firemen and citizens of Tren-

ton, and also to Company A of the National Guard, commanded by Capt. Belville, for their valuable services.

One of the principal difficulties under which the firemen labored in their efforts to suppress the fire, was the want of water, and we respectfully call your attention to the propriety of an appropriation for the introduction of water from the city water works, and the erection of a suitable number of fire plugs in the Prison yard. The supply of water for prison uses is now obtained from a well under the Rotunda, which may at any time fail to afford a sufficient quantity for even the ordinary wants of the Institution.

The damage sustained by the fire to the south wing was immediately repaired at a cost of about five thousand dollars. The blacksmith shop has not been rebuilt, as we were unanimously opposed to the erection of any frame building within the Prison enclosure.

EXTENSION OF THE PRISON.

By an act of the Senate and General Assembly, approved April 16th, 1868, the Inspectors were authorized to build an additional wing for the purpose of providing room for the female convicts, and an appropriation of six thousand dollars was made to defray the expenses thereof.

Our earliest attention was given to this subject, for it had been recommended by preceeding Boards of Inspectors, and all united in the opinion that the removal of the women from the department in part occupied by the men, would get rid of an incalculable amount of annoyance and trouble and the prolific source of considerable punishment.

Upon consultation with an Architect we ascertained that the amount of the appropriation would be inadequate to erect a building suitable for the safety and convenience of those who were designed to occupy it, and it was a question whether it would be better to postpone operations for another year and ask the Legislature for an increased appropriation, or commence the work immediately. We found that every cell was occupied by a greater number of prisoners than was desirable for the maintenance of good health, and that the commingling of too many in one apartment led to evil tendencies, and we therefore agreed to go on with the enterprise and rely upon the Legislature to make provision for the payment of the amount of expense incurred in excess of the last appropriation.

At the writing of this report the building is nearly completed, and will be fit for occupancy by the first day of January next.

The estimated cost of the building amounts to thirteen thousand dollars. Bills to the amount of twelve thousand six hundred and eighty-eight dollars and fourteen cents, have already been settled.

Our joint notes have been given to raise the money necessary to meet these obligations.

The principal part of the labor on the new building has been done by prisoners.

An appropriation is requested to be used in canceling our notes.

ABATEMENT LAW.

The Legislature at its last session passed an act making it the duty of the Inspectors to assign one or more of the Officers of the Prison to the keeping of a correct daily record of the conduct of each prisoner and his labor, whether satisfactory or not, and the third section provides "That for every month of faithful performance of assigned labor by any convict, as shown by the said record, there may be remitted to him by the Court of Pardons, two days of the term for which he was sentenced, and for every month of continuous orderly deportment, two days, and for manifest effort at intellectual improvement and self-control, one day."

To carry into practical effect the provisions of the act, we appointed one of the deputy keepers to keep a record of the conduct, &c., of each prisoner, and a printed copy of the law was posted in each cell, but the honorable Court of Pardons, for reasons best known to themselves, have refused to give the benefit of the law to any of those whose record justified it according to the terms prescribed.

We regret this very much, as it was a great disappointment to the prisoners, and from the beneficial effects expected from the operations of the law (judging by the reports of its success in other States) where it is in force.

DISCIPLINE AND PUNISHMENT.

The discipline has been enforced with mildness, but with firmness, and with few exceptions the prisoners have yielded obedience to the regulations. There has been some cases, however, so incorrigible that severity was required.

It is always an unpleasant duty to punish for violated law, but the interests of the Institution and the protection of the officers render it absolutely necessary. As to the particular mode of punishment to be used, perhaps there is no subject connected with prison management upon which so much difference of opinion exists. The Keeper has enforced the mode which he found in practice at the time he entered upon the duties of the office, and which had been followed for at least the past twenty-five years. Our impressions are that punishment, to be effective, must be of such a character as to be dreaded, and should be adapted to suit the organization of the individual.

The behavior of a majority of convicts is governed by motives of policy, and not from a love of goodness. As a general rule, those who are most dangerous to society when out of prison, are the best within it. Prison life appears to be incompatible with reformation.

The unfortunate convict generally leaves the Institution a worse man at heart than when he entered it.

The young man who is sent there for probably his first offence, owing to inadequate cell room, is consigned to an apartment with others who follow criminal practices as a profession, where his youthful mind becomes corrupted by the glowing descriptions in which his associates set forth the pleasures of the business, and when his term of servitude expires he is both ready and willing to indulge in a life of crime; all the influences at our command have been thrown around the prisoners, with a view of reformation; religious services are held every Sabbath, books and newspapers are distributed periodically and the moral instructor visits them frequently to give kindly council and advice, but the immediate and constant influence of those steeped in crime counterbalances all other efforts made for their good.

In this connection we commend to your favorable consideration the recommendation of the moral instructor for an appropriation for the library; the fire in July destroyed a number of the books, and many others are nearly worn out by constant use.

PRISON HEALTH.

Although there has been considerable sickness, the institution has been free from any contagious or infectious disease; only four deaths have occurred during the year.

Great credit is due the prison physician, Dr. John L. Taylor, and his assistant, Mr. George Parker, for their unremitting attention to the sick. His recommendation in relation to the introduction of gas in the prison is worthy of your consideration.

CLERK AND OTHER OFFICERS.

The duties of the clerk, Mr. Charles F. Salkeld, have been more than ordinarily arduous, on account of the illness of the keeper, and it gives us pleasure to testify to the faithful manner in which he has performed them.

To the present keeper and his subordinate officers our obligations are due for their many courtesies.

Accompanying this report will be found the usual statistical information, taken from the books in the office as required by law.

Respectfully submitted,

DAVID PEARSALL,
IVINS DAVIS,
J. M. FRANCIS,
JNO. H. MARKLEY.

NEW JERSEY STATE PRISON, }
December 10th, 1868. }

STATE PRISON REPORT.

11

STATISTICS OF PRISONERS.

Number in confinement November 30, 1867,	550
Received during past year, ending November 30, 1868,	351
	<hr/>
Total confined during year,	901

There have been discharged as follows :

By expiration of sentence,	175
Pardoned,	137
Died,	4
Escaped, (still at large,)	7
	<hr/>
	323
	<hr/>
Number in confinement November 30, 1868,	578

TERMS OF SENTENCE.

During natural life,	4
Thirty years,	3
Twenty-seven years,	1
Twenty years,	8
Fifteen years,	15
Twelve years,	6
Ten years,	30
Nine years,	1
Eight years,	7
Seven years and six months,	2
Seven years and four months,	1
Seven years,	8
Six years,	8
Five years,	89
Four years and seven months,	1
Four years,	23
Three years,	111
Two years and six months,	6
Two years,	116
One year and six months,	17
One year and three months,	3
One year,	85
Nine months,	4
Eight months,	1
Six months,	28
	<hr/>
	578

COUNTIES WHERE CONVICTED.

Atlantic,	4
Burlington,	25
Bergen,	30
Camden,	55
Cape May,	4
Cumberland,	10
Essex,	116
Gloucester,	7
Hudson,	128
Hunterdon,	14
Mercer,	14
Monmouth,	11
Middlesex,	14
Morris,	13
Passaic,	36
Salem,	4
Sussex,	7
Somerset,	9
Union,	31
Warren,	2
Essex and United States District Court,	2
United States District Court,	35
Morris and Essex,	3
Bergen and Passaic,	2
Bergen and Union,	2
	<hr/>
	578

PLACES OF NATIVITY.

New Jersey,	189
Pennsylvania,	49
New York,	85
Massachusetts,	14
Maryland,	6
Virginia,	5
Rhode Island,	4
Delaware,	3
South Carolina,	3
North Carolina,	1
Connecticut,	2
Vermont,	2
Georgia,	1
Louisiana,	3

FOREIGNERS.

England,	18
Ireland,	83
Germany,	79
Scotland,	2
Wales,	1
France,	4
West Indies,	4
Italy,	2
	<hr/> 211
	578

COLOR AND SEX.

White Males,	461
White Females,	27
Colored Males,	73
Colored Females,	17
	<hr/> 578

YEARS IN WHICH RECEIVED.

1853,	1
1856,	1
1859,	3
1860,	4
1861,	3
1862,	6
1863,	17
1864,	9
1865,	23
1866,	57
1867,	143
1868,	311
	<hr/> 578

NUMBER OF COMMITMENTS.

First commitment,	511
Second commitment,	51
Third commitment,	9
Fourth commitment,	2
Fifth commitment,	3
Sixth commitment,	2
	<hr/> 578

STATE PRISON REPORT.

AGES WHEN RECEIVED.

From nine to eleven,	1
From twelve to fifteen,	3
From sixteen to twenty,	118
From twenty to twenty-five,	183
From twenty-five to thirty,	137
From thirty to forty,	76
From forty to fifty,	44
From fifty to sixty,	11
From sixty to seventy,	5
	<hr/>
	578

from your excellency, on the eleventh day of November last (just seven days after the decease of my lamented brother, the late Keeper) I found the general good order and discipline of the institution as good as could reasonably be expected under the circumstances, my brother having been confined to his room for more than three months previous to his decease.

The health of the convicts is generally good, and I am informed that such has been their condition to a remarkable degree during the whole of the past year. For the general statistics relating to the number of convicts at present in confinement here, their sex, ages, dates of commitment, and expiration of sentence, &c., &c., I beg leave to refer you to the tables annexed to the report of the Inspectors.

I am pleased to be able to report that the abolition of the old modes of convict punishment, at the suggestion of your Excellency, which had been for at least ten or fifteen years in vogue in this Institution, has resulted in no degree damaging to the good order and discipline of the convicts. In view of the able Committee appointed at the last session of our Legislature, to inquire as to the best system of prison management and discipline, and report to the coming session, it would be presumptuous in me to suggest any matter coming within the purview of their duties.

The new building which has been under construction during the past summer, expressly for the accommodation of the female convicts, is nearly ready for their reception.

I feel that I cannot urge too earnestly some legislative provision under which the insane convicts (now seven in number) may be removed from the cells of this prison to some place better suited to their unfortunate condition, and where, under skilful treatment, their intellectual faculties may possibly be restored. It seems almost disgraceful to our state that some such provision has not been enacted heretofore. Some suitable provision should also be made for the disposition of the feeble or sick and friendless convicts upon their discharge, at least so far as to protect them from the necessity of resorting to their former criminal course of life as a means of subsistence.

I would respectfully call your attention to the several recommendations to be found in the physician's and moral instructor's reports.

In conclusion, I take great pleasure in stating that my intercourse with the inspectors, moral instructor, physician, clerk and all the deputy keepers of the institution, has been uniformly pleasant and agreeable; and in bearing testimony to their fidelity, in the discharge of their respective duties, I also take this occasion to express my sincere acknowledgments for the cheerful and efficient aid they have at all times been ready to afford me (during the brief space of time since my appointment) in the discharge of my official duties.

GEO. A. WALKER. *Keeper.*

STATE PRISON REPORT

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since my appointment) in the discharge of my official duties.

GEO. A. WALKER, Assessor.

STATEMENT A

Showing the operations of the institution from

PROVISION	DOLLARS	CENTS
To amount of inventory December 1, 1897	1,087	25
Charges since that time	123,200	08
	124,287	33

EXPENSE	DOLLARS	CENTS
To amount of inventory December 1, 1897	21,385	74
Charges since that time	29,290	49
	50,675	23

STATEMENTS

ACCOMPANYING THE KEEPER'S REPORT.

FUEL	DOLLARS	CENTS
To amount of inventory December 1, 1897	2,660	00
Charges since that time	3,100	58
	5,760	58

DISCHARGED CONVICTS	DOLLARS	CENTS
To amount of charges since Dec 1, 1897	1,087	00
	1,087	00

OVERWORK	DOLLARS	CENTS
To amount of charges since December 1, 1897	300	05
	300	05

INCIDENTALS	DOLLARS	CENTS
To amount of charges since December 1, 1897	283	05
	283	05

STATEMENT A.

Exhibiting the operations of the Institution from

DR.

	DOLLS.	CTS.
PROVISION.		
To amount of inventory December 1, 1867.....	1,007	25
Charges since that time.....	63,290	68
	64,297	93
FURNITURE.		
To amount of inventory December 1, 1867.....	23,585	74
Charges since that time.....	22,736	49
	46,322	23
HOSPITAL.		
To amount of inventory, December 1, 1867.....	1,030	00
Charges since that time.....	3,675	09
	4,705	09
FUEL.		
To amount of inventory December 1, 1867.....	2,600	00
Charges since that time.....	3,193	56
	5,793	56
DISCHARGED CONVICTS.		
To amount of charges since December 1, 1867.....	1,097	00
	1,097	00
OVERWORK.		
To amount of charges since December 1, 1867.....	200	08
	200	08
INCIDENTALS.		
To amount of charges since December 1, 1867.....	833	05
	833	05

STATEMENT A.

December 1, 1867, to November 30, 1868.

CR.

ACCOUNT.	DOLLS.	CTS.
By amount of credits since December 1, 1867.....	5,834	58
Inventory November 30, 1868.....	2,748	00
Loss on this account.....	55,715	35
	64,297	93
ACCOUNT.		
By amount of credits since December 1, 1867.....	1,357	34
Inventory November 30, 1868.....	18,560	83
Loss on this account.....	26,404	06
	46,322	23
ACCOUNT.		
Inventory November 30, 1868.....	580	00
Loss on this account.....	4,125	09
	4,705	09
ACCOUNT.		
Inventory November 30, 1868.....	736	28
Loss on this account.....	5,057	28
	5,793	56
ACCOUNT.		
Loss on this account.....	1,097	00
	1,097	00
ACCOUNT.		
Loss on this account.....	200	08
	200	08
ACCOUNT.		
By amount of credits since December 1, 1867.....	161	43
Loss on this account.....	671	62
	833	05

STATEMENT A—CONTINUED.

Exhibiting the operations of the Institution from

DR.

	DOLLS.	CTS.
INTEREST.		
To amount of charges since December 1, 1867.....	334	23
	334	23
LIBRARY.		
To amount of charges since December 1, 1867.....	156	80
	156	80
TOBACCO.		
To amount of charges since December 1, 1867.....	1,420	96
	1,420	96
PHOTOGRAPH.		
To amount of charges since December 1, 1867.....	133	92
	133	92
CONVICTS' DEPOSITS.		
To amount of charges since December 1, 1867.....	207	40
	207	40
WEAVING.		
To amount of inventory December 1, 1867.....	60	00
Charges since that time.....	1,646	27
Balance being gain.....	87	80
	1,794	07
CHAIR MAKING.		
To amount of inventory December 1, 1867.....	1,557	56
Charges since that time.....	6,747	42
Balance being gain.....	9,915	46
	18,220	44

STATEMENT A—CONTINUED.

December 1, 1867, to November 30, 1868.

CR.

ACCOUNT.	DOLLS.	CTS.
By amount of credits since December 1, 1867.....	4	39
Loss on this account.....	329	84
	334	23
ACCOUNT.		
Loss on this account.....	156	80
	156	80
ACCOUNT.		
Loss on this account.....	1,420	96
	1,420	96
ACCOUNT.		
Loss on this account.....	133	92
	133	92
ACCOUNT.		
By amount of credits since December 1, 1867.....	149	72
Loss on this account.....	57	68
	207	40
ACCOUNT.		
By amount of credits since December 1, 1867.....	1,000	17
Inventory November 30, 1868.....	793	90
	1,794	07
ACCOUNT.		
By amount of credits since December 1, 1867.....	14,709	57
Inventory November 30, 1868.....	3,510	87
	18,220	44

STATE PRISON REPORT.

STATEMENT A—CONTINUED.

Exhibiting the operations of the Institution from

DR.

	DOLLS.	CTS.
CONVICTS LABOR.		
Gain on this account.....	28,937	64
	28,937	64
SUNDRIES.		
Gain on this account.....	183	37
	183	37
CORDWAINING.		
To amount of inventory December 1, 1867.....	1,704	53
Charges since that time.....	247	52
Gain on this account.....	265	11
	2,220	16

RECAPITULATION OF STATEMENT A.

DR.

CR.

		DOLLS.	CTS.			DOLLS.	CTS.
Provisions, loss	...	55,715	35	Cordwaining, gain	...	268	11
Furniture,	"	26,404	06	Sundries, " " " " " " " "	...	183	37
Hospital,	"	4,125	09	Convict Labor, " " " " " " " "	...	28,937	64
Fuel,	"	5,057	28	Chair Making, " " " " " " " "	...	9,915	46
Discharged Convicts	"	1,097	00	Weaving, " " " " " " " "	...	87	80
Overwork,	"	200	08	Bal. being loss,	...	55,977	30
Incidentals,	"	671	62				
Interest,	"	329	84				
Library,	"	156	80				
Tobacco,	"	1,420	96				
Photograph,	"	133	92				
Convict Deposit,	"	57	68				
		95,369	68			95,369	68

STATEMENT B.

Stock Account.

		DOLLS.	CTS.			DOLLS.	CTS.
Balance being net capital November 30, 1868	.....	27,058	33	By amount of net capital December 1, 1867	.....	19,030	81
Profit and Loss	.....	55,977	30	Appropriation rec'd from State Treasurer since December 1, 1867	.....	64,004	82
		83,035	63			83,035	63

STATEMENT C.

Effects of Prison, November 30, 1868.

	DOLLS.	CTS.		DOLLS.	CTS.
Liabilities	24,084	13	Stock as per Inventory	27,053	78
Balance net capital....	27,058	33	Debts due on Book Account	23,806	50
			Bills receivable.....	282	18
	51,142	46		51,142	46

STATEMENT D.

Inventory of Property on hand, November 30, 1868.

	DOLLS.	CTS.
Furniture.....	18,560	83
Fuel.....	736	28
Chair Making.....	3,510	87
Cordwaining.....	123	90
Hospital.....	590	00
Provisions.....	2,748	00
Weaving.....	793	90
	27,053	78

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STATE PRISON REPORT-

STATEMENT E.

Drafts on State Treasurer for Salaries, &c., &c., &c.

	DOLLS.	CTS.
Inspectors' salaries.....	2,113	00
Rewards for escaped convicts apprehended and returned.....	350	00
Salaries of officers.....	37,588	29
Repairs.....	2,040	86
Repairs on account of fire July 18, 1868.....	4,365	80
Transportation and costs of prisoners during the year.....	26,142	71
	72,610	66

STATEMENT

OF THE

REPORTS

REPORTS

OF THE

MORAL INSTRUCTOR, PHYSICIAN,

AND

COPY OF LETTER FROM COURT OF PARDONS.

REPORTS

REPORTS

OF THE

MORAL INSTRUCTOR, PHYSICIAN,

AND

COPY OF LETTER FROM COURT OF PARDONS

MORAL INSTRUCTOR'S REPORT.

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

GENTLEMEN:—The following report is for the eight months preceding the date hereof. I entered upon the duties assigned me in the early part of April last, and by the favor of a kind Providence, have prosecuted those duties without any interruption, and have reason to believe my labors have not been altogether in vain.

On each Sabbath three sermons have been delivered, one in each wing of the Prison, except that of the 19th of July, (the day succeeding the burning of the blacksmith shop and the south wing,) the convicts then being in a state of excitement, and almost everything was in disorder. These Sabbath services, by many, have been received with favor and attention, as I have learned by intercourse with prisoners and by the questions which they have asked on the subjects discussed; yet at the same time, many, very many of them, give no attention to the preaching of the gospel, and appear to be entirely indifferent to the proclamations of God's mercy and grace.

Some have manifested a commendable zeal in the acquisition of knowledge; and in several cases that acquisition would have been far greater if there had been a larger number of suitable books for the prosecution of study, such as grammars, dictionaries, geographies &c., of which there has been and still is a very great deficiency.

I have from time to time visited the cells seeking an interview with the several convicts, and with some few exceptions, have been received with marked respect; and have come to the conclusion that there would be more hope for the moral improvement of the convicts if they were separately confined. As it is at present, we have old and young, the veteran in crime and the mere child, in the same cell, and the one, in most cases, becomes the pupil of the other.

During Summer and Fall the singing on the Sabbath has been led by a choir, composed of the inmates of the Prison, who performed the service to the entire satisfaction of all interested in that part of the worship of God.

By request the American Tract Society of New York, granted for the use of the Prison, ten thousand pages of religious tracts, which

have been distributed among the convicts, by many of whom they have been read with close attention.

The Mercer County Bible Society donated ten German bibles and twenty-five German testaments, which was very opportune, as they were greatly needed.

There has been received a donation of valuable religious books, made by a benevolent gentleman of Philadelphia, Thomas H. Powers, Esq.

There has been a monthly distribution of three hundred and twenty copies of the "American Messenger," (part of which was in the German language) the reading of which is, on the part of many of the convicts eagerly sought, as the question is asked by some, "when will we have the Messenger?"

The Prison Library is very inadequate for the purpose for which it was designed. By examining the catalogue I find that a very judicious selection of books has been made, but the number of books does not correspond with the number on the catalogue by some four or five hundred; some of the *most valuable* books are missing. This was the case when the Library came under my care. In addition to this, a considerable number of books were much injured at the time of the fire in July last, and some of them rendered entirely worthless. Some of the books have been mutilated by the convicts—which it is almost impossible to prevent at present, owing to the crowded state of the Prison—many of the cells, both in the north and in the south wings having three, and in some four, and in a few instances five inmates—which renders it much more difficult to ascertain who is the guilty person than if there was but one in the cell. It is thought that by changing the plan of distribution, instead of charging the books to the cell, they be charged to the individuals in each cell, and holding each one responsible for the books loaned to him, the evil alluded to may in a great measure be prevented. The books generally are in a very poor condition, owing to the usual wear by continued use.

It is respectfully suggested that the Legislature, at its opening session, be requested to appropriate the sum of fifteen hundred dollars to replenish the Library, and to procure such books as are necessary for those who wish to improve their minds by studying the elementary branches of education.

Though it is a fact that some of the prisoners derive no benefit from the use of the Library—yet many do derive advantage therefrom—they read the books with great eagerness, and make commendable advances in the acquisition of knowledge, and the advantage to themselves and to the community at large by their mental and moral improvement, will richly repay the outlay that provides the means for it.

Some discharged convicts, having no home, and not being able to procure employment, are driven to improper conduct; are arrested, tried, found guilty, and remanded to prison. Would it not be well

for the State to appoint an agent to look after the welfare of such homeless and friendless persons, by providing them a home and employment for a short time, till they can find a home and employment for themselves, and thus prevent their return to a criminal course of conduct? Or, what is perhaps still better, could not the benevolent individuals of Trenton and vicinity be induced to form an association having the same object in view?

Permission has, very kindly, been given by the agent of the New York "Prison Association" to send our discharged convicts to his care. This privilege has been used only in one instance. Is not the State of New Jersey competent to act for herself, through her own appointed agent, or by an association of her own citizens?

The Board of Inspectors, the Keeper and the Deputy Keepers, have all very cordially co-operated with me in the discharge of my duties.

Respectfully submitted.

ALEXANDER H. WARNER,
Moral Instructor.

Trenton, N. J., December 10, 1868.

STATE PRISON REPORT

for the State to appoint an agent to look after the welfare of such
bondsmen and friends, persons, by providing for their support and
payment for a short time, till they can find a home and get on their
feet for themselves, and that payment should be made to a certain amount
of bondsmen, or what as persons will better call for the bondsmen
individuals of Trenton and vicinity be induced to form an association
having the same object in view.
Trenton Prison Association, to send out discharges, contracts to be
made. This privilege has been used only in one instance. In the
case of New Jersey companies to see for itself, through the
appointed agent or by an association of her own making.
The Board of Inspectors, the Keeper and the Prison
have all very cordially co-operated with me in the discharge of my
duties.

Respectfully submitted

ALEXANDER H. WALKER

Warden

Trenton, N. J., December 10, 1868

for the State to appoint an agent to look after the welfare of such homeless and friendless persons, by providing them a home and employment for a short time, till they can find a home and employment for themselves, and thus prevent their return to a criminal course of conduct? Or, what is perhaps still better, could not the benevolent individuals of Trenton and vicinity be induced to form an association having the same object in view?

Permission has, very kindly, been given by the agent of the New York "Prison Association" to send our discharged convicts to his care. This privilege has been used only in one instance. Is not the State of New Jersey competent to act for herself, through her own appointed agent, or by an association of her own citizens?

The Board of Inspectors, the Keeper and the Deputy Keepers, have all very cordially co-operated with me in the discharge of my duties.

Respectfully submitted.

ALEXANDER H. WARNER,
Moral Instructor.

Trenton, N. J., December 10, 1868.

STATE PRISON REPORT

In the State to appear an agent to look after the welfare of such
homeless and friendless persons by providing them a home and em-
ployment for a short time, till they can find a home and employment
for themselves, and thus prevent their falling to a criminal course of
conduct? Or what is perhaps still better, could not the benevolent
individuals of Trenton and vicinity be induced to form an association
having the same object in view?

Commission has very kindly been given by the officials of the New
York Prison Association to send out discharged convicts to the
State of New Jersey competent to act for itself, although he was
appointed agent by an association of his own citizens.

The Board of Inspectors, the Keeper and the Deputy Keepers
were all very cordially acquainted with me in the discharge of my
duties.

Respectfully submitted,

ALEXANDER H. WALKER

State Prison, Trenton, N. J.

Trenton, N. J., December 10, 1868.

REPORT OF PHYSICIAN.

To the Inspectors of the New Jersey State Prison :

GENTLEMEN:—In presenting my report of the health and mortality of the New Jersey State Prison during my service here, (beginning on the first of April last) I am pleased to inform you that although there has been considerable sickness, both of an acute and chronic character, (for the particulars of which I refer you to my monthly reports) there has been but two deaths. Daniel Sayrs, a boy of about seventeen years of age, died May 21st, 1868, from the effects of masterbation. Samuel Freeman (colored) died August 7th, 1868, from general dropsy. Subsequent to the date of my predecessors last report, and previous to the first of April last, there were two deaths, Stephen Gilbert, died January 11th, 1868, and Charles H. Miller, February 6th, 1868. When we consider that there has been on an average about six hundred prisoners, and not comfortable room for more than three-fourths of that number, the small mortality in the institution is quite remarkable.

In former reports I have suggested the advantages of lighting the Prison with gas, and doing away with the disagreeable and unhealthy effects of burning kerosene oil in small lamps, (without chimneys) now in use. I trust you will urge this improvement upon the Legislature.

The new wing is nearly finished, and is a good substantial building, well adapted to the purpose designed, viz: that of removing the female prisoners from the building, and out of sight and hearing of the male convicts. It is surprising that it should not have been done before. In a sanitary point of view (so far as the females are concerned) this will be of great importance, for now being in the same building with the males, they have to be constantly kept in their cells, whereas, when in the new wing, if their health is suffering from close confinement, they can be allowed to walk in the yard without coming in contact with the other prisoners.

For your confidence in me, professionally, and your many acts of kindness, personally, also for the prompt and cheerful manner in which the Keeper and his Deputies have carried out my directions in regard to the sick, I am under many obligations.

Respectfully submitted,

JOHN L. TAYLOR, *Prison Physician.*

COPY OF LETTER FROM COURT OF PARDONS,

ON THE SUBJECT OF INCREASED PRISON ACCOMMODATIONS AND
DISCIPLINE.

To His Excellency Marcus L. Ward, Governor of New Jersey :

The undersigned, your associate members of the Court of Pardons, would respectfully request and urge your Excellency to present to the Legislature in your annual message the present condition of the State Prison, and the necessity of erecting an additional Prison, or greatly enlarging the capacity of the old one. Its crowded state, and the evils resulting from this, are brought to our attention at every session of the Court of Pardons. The Prison was originally designed and was constructed for separate confinement. But this purpose, though without authority of law, yet by force of necessity superior to law, has long since been practically abandoned, and three or four convicts crowded into cells intended for one only. This has been injurious to the health and morals of the prisoners, and destructive to all prison discipline. The constant communication by day and by night with associates of the most depraved character, destroys all hope of reform in such as are only beginners in iniquity, and generally produces the contrary effect, and renders them more depraved and more accomplished in capacity for crime.

The difficulty of controlling prisoners kept in this manner has led the Keepers, for the purpose of compelling obedience, to introduce cruel, unusual and degrading corporal punishment, which are a disgrace to the State, to humanity, and to the age in which we live.

The absolute need of room for confining new convicts, sentenced to the prison has, as is well known to you, for several years past induced the Court of Pardons to discharge prisoners, who, but for this consideration would have been allowed to serve out their sentences. And in this way the object of maintaining a State Prison, which is to deter from crime by the certainty of the infliction of punishment proportioned to its enormity, is in a manner defeated.

The population, business and wealth of the State, and with these the temptation to crime have much increased since the present prison

was planned and built, and from these arise the necessity of its enlargement to produce the same effect in preventing crime. These increased resources will well warrant the expenditure of the amount required, which will not be greater in proportion to the means of the State than the cost of the present prison when erected. And the people of New Jersey will cheerfully acquiesce in any proper expenditure required for that maintenance of law and good order for which our State is so justly distinguished.

The discharge of our official duties have brought these matters to our special notice. And we conceive it to be the duty of all officers of the State to call the attention of the Legislature to defects that can be remedied in that part of the machinery of government with which they are brought in contact; and therefore, through you, we would call their attention to this grievance which they alone have power to remedy.

Yours, most respectfully,

A. O. ZABRISKIE,
JOHN CLEMENT,
ROBERT S. KENNEDY,
JAMES L. OGDEN,
EDMUND L. B. WALES,
CHAS. S. OLDEN.
GEORGE VAIL.

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