

TWELFTH ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE

New Jersey State Reform School

FOR JUVENILE DELINQUENTS,

FOR THE YEAR ENDING OCTOBER 31st,

1876.

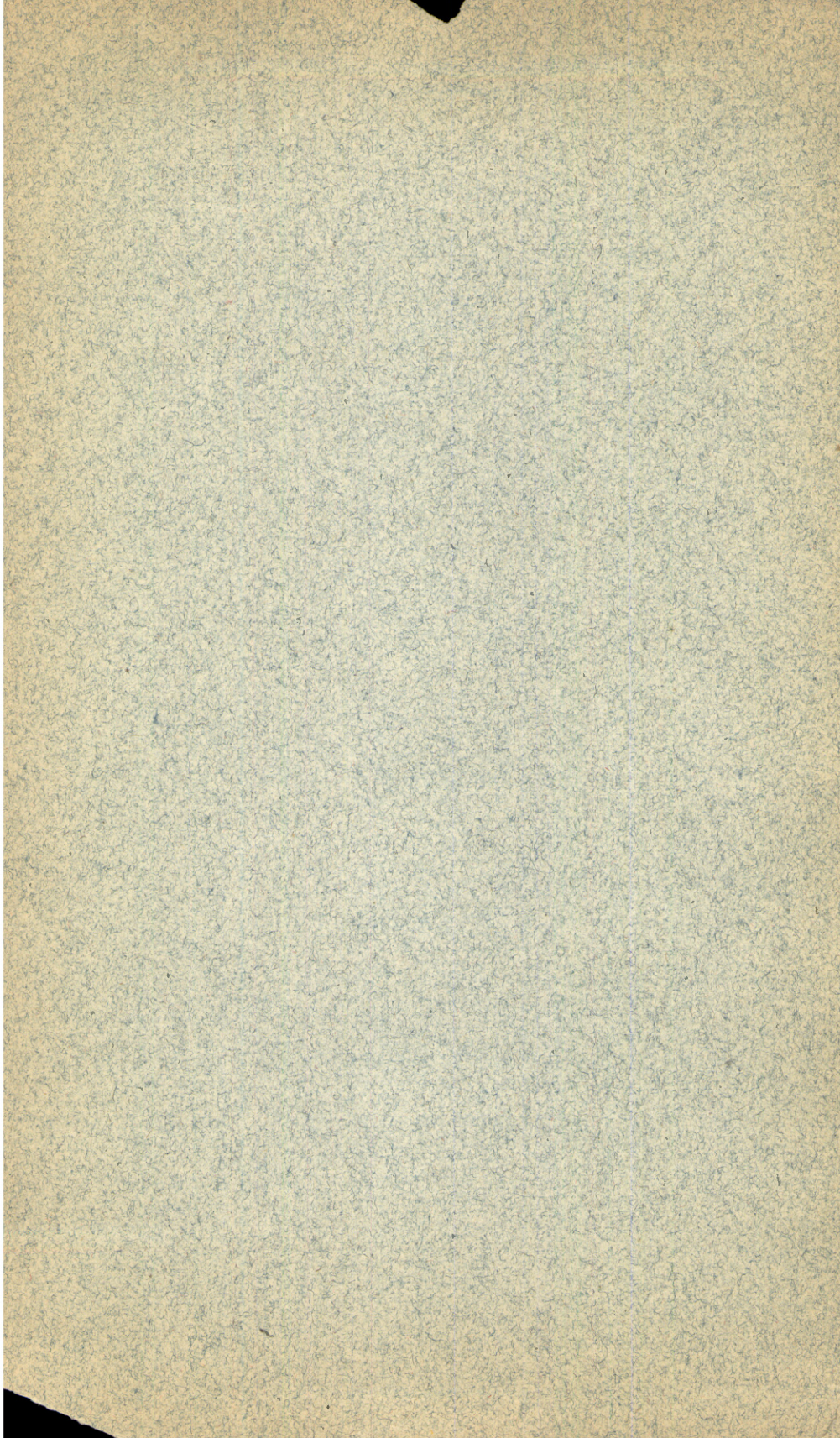


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JOHN L. MURPHY, BOOK AND JOB PRINTER.
—
1876.

BOARD OF CONTROL.

HIS EXCELLENCY GOVERNOR JOSEPH D. BEDLE.
CHANCELLOR THEODORE RUNYON.
CHIEF JUSTICE MERCER BEASLEY.

TRUSTEES OF THE STATE REFORM SCHOOL.

	Term expires,
ISAAC S. BUCKELEW, Jamesburg, Middlesex County.....	Jan. 1, 1877
GEORGE W. HELME, Jersey City, Hudson County.....	Jan. 1, 1877
SAMUEL ALLINSON, Yardville, Mercer County.....	Jan. 1, 1878
NATHAN T. STRATTON, Mullica Hill, Gloucester County.....	Jan. 1, 1878
NATHANIEL S. RUE, Cream Ridge, Monmouth County.....	Jan. 1, 1879
DAVID RIPLEY, Newark, Essex County.....	Jan. 1, 1879

OFFICERS.

JAMES H. EASTMAN.....	Superintendent
ELIZABETH F. EASTMAN.....	Matron
J. ALBERT KELTON.....	No. 1 Family
ADDIE H. KELTON.....	No. 1 Family
BENJAMIN F. BRACKETT.....	No. 2 Family
ANNIE E. BRACKETT.....	No. 2 Family
ELON G. BUSS.....	No. 3 Family
JENNIE A. BUSS.....	No. 3 Family
JULIA WANZER.....	No. 3 Family
A. ELWELL SHUMLEY.....	No. 4 Family
MARY E. SHUMLEY.....	No. 4 Family
JOHN BLAIN, JR.....	No. 5 Family
ELLA A. BLAIN.....	No. 5 Family

REFORM SCHOOL FOR BOYS.

In 1865 the Legislature of New Jersey enacted a law providing for the establishment of a Reform Farm School for Juvenile Delinquents, to which boys, between the ages of eight and sixteen years were to be sent, with a view to their instruction and amendment of life. A farm of four hundred and ninety acres was purchased, in 1866, near Jamesburg, in Middlesex county. Buildings were erected and the school opened by the reception of the first pupil, July 6th, 1867. There are now nearly two hundred scholars who are instructed in the elementary branches of learning, and accustomed to agricultural and other varieties of labor, with an allowance of time for youthful recreation.

When considered to be fitted for removal, (in not less than a year after admission to the school,) good homes are sought for the boys, either with their friends or by indenture to proper persons, the board of trustees continuing their guardians during their minority.

The modes of procedure in order to obtain admittance are as follows:

1. When a boy between the ages of eight and sixteen years has been arrested upon complaint for any crime (except murder or manslaughter), the magistrate before whom he shall be taken may, after examination, (if, in his judgment, he is a fit subject for the Reform School,) commit him to the jail of the county or city where the charge shall be made, and forthwith certify and send a copy of complaint and commitment to a Justice of the Supreme Court, most convenient of access. Upon receiving the complaint, the said Justice of the Supreme Court will issue a warrant, directing the boy to be brought before him, and also the parent or guardian, or such person who has him in charge, or is known to be nearly related to him; or, if he be alone or friendless, then such person as the said justice shall appoint a guardian *ad litem*. If, upon examination, the justice is satisfied that the boy has committed a crime, or is a disorderly person, and is a fit subject for the Reform School, he may, by the consent of the parent or guardian, commit him thereto.

2. Should a boy under the age of sixteen years, in a court of criminal jurisdiction, by the verdict of a jury, or on his own confession in open court, be found guilty of any crime, except murder or manslaughter, the court, instead of pronouncing sentence, according to the usual course of law, may order him to be committed to the Reform School; but such order must be made or approved by a Justice of the Supreme Court or the presiding law Judge of a County Court.

3. Any parent or guardian may make complaint before a Justice of the Supreme Court, that a boy, the son or ward of said parent or guardian, is habitually vagrant or disorderly or incorrigible; and if, upon examination, the justice is satisfied that he is a fit subject for the Reform School, he may issue an order, with the consent of the parent or guardian endorsed thereon, for admission into the School.

4. In case any boy under the age of sixteen years shall have been sentenced to imprisonment in a county jail or in the State Prison, any citizen may make a complaint before a Justice of the Supreme Court, who may institute a summary examination, and if he shall be satisfied that he is a suitable subject for the Reform School, he may commit him thereto.

Farmers or mechanics who need boys as assistants, and who are willing to exercise the needful care in their training, may address James H. Eastman, Superintendent; P. O. address, State Reform School, Jamesburg, Middlesex county, New Jersey.

TRUSTEES' REPORT.

To Joseph D. Bedle, Governor of the State of New Jersey :

The Trustees of the State Reform School for Boys, in making their twelfth annual report, desire to express their thanks to the Governor and Legislature for the kindly confidence which induced them to accede to our request for the enlarged appropriation of last winter, enabling this Board to increase the efficiency of the interesting institution under our care, and the safety and comfort of its inmates. These results we trust will be greatly promoted by the new buildings, which we are happy to report as nearly completed and furnished for the sum prescribed by law.

The original design of the Board was to have the work done under contract, and a Building Committee was appointed, who had plans and specifications drawn, and advertised for offers of construction by builders. Proposals were received from more than twenty different parties, but at the next meeting the chairman of the Building Committee reported, that upon a careful survey of the offers of contract, and an estimate of the cost of heating apparatus, steam boiler, plumbing, &c., not included in the proposals, it was found that the buildings could not be completed and furnished, under the lowest satisfactory offer, within the sum appropriated by the Legislature—\$20,000.00. He had, therefore, made careful inquiries into the cost of material and labor, and the committee had become satisfied that the margin not improperly allowed by the contractors for risks and profits, and the advantage which the Trustees would have in an assurance of prompt payment of their bills, justified the belief that, with a suitable superintendent of work, the construction could be undertaken by them and successfully completed within the sum named. These views were fully discussed and approved, but as some unforeseen difficulty might arise in the prosecution of the work, it was thought advisable to commence with the erection of but one building. Arrangements were accordingly made promptly to proceed with the construction of the workshop.

At a meeting of the Board, held a few weeks later, when the walls of the workshop were nearly completed, the chairman of committee reported that the cost of the building so far as it had progressed, and a close estimate of the expense of completing it, would amount to a sum not exceeding \$9,500, and that from offers of building material and labor he was satisfied that the family house could be put up on the plan proposed, at a cost which, with the furniture of the buildings, would not exceed the appropriation. Thus encouraged, the Board determined on the erection of the family house, and, on the bricklayers finishing their work on the first building, with no loss of time they proceeded with the second.

The work was now pressed on to its completion, and on the 25th of October a family of thirty boys was placed in a suite of rooms in the new workshop building. Another swarm of fifty from the central family will in a short time be domiciled in family house No. 3, a building far superior to its predecessors in beauty and appointments—specially in its arrangements for warmth and ventilation, and in its substantial execution. Several of these advantages, which the wise economy of the chairman of the Building Committee enabled him to introduce, would necessarily have been sacrificed had the work been done by contract. The Board feel greatly indebted to him for his very intelligent and assiduous attention in the inception and throughout the prosecution of the work. Whilst the workmen were on hand, several other improvements of great value to the institution were made by the committee. We would particularly mention the construction of two large brick reservoirs for the reception of spring water of excellent quality, and the introduction of a steam pump for throwing it into the main and other buildings. The old hydraulic ram, which performed important service in its time, became almost valueless when long continued droughts so greatly reduced the flow of water, nine-tenths of which was required to elevate the remainder, and the measure of necessary supply had been so greatly increased by the increased demands of an enlarged family. Under the present arrangements, however, the Trustees and officers are relieved from very serious apprehensions of danger from deficiency. The day of carrying water by hand from a distant point for months together, for all the wants of the household, we trust has passed away.

In view of the labors and expenses of the past year, the Trustees hesitate to ask for another building appropriation. But they believe they would not fulfil their duty to the State, or to the institution, if they did not say that numerous cases of youthful depravity are coming before our courts and the committing judges, many of them needing prompt

attention.* The provisions of our law direct these juvenile delinquents to be sent to the Reform School, instead of consigning them to the county jails, many of which are truly "schools of vice." If it be the will of the Legislature to increase the accommodations here, the use of our own bricks will enable the Trustees to erect and furnish a suitable building for the sum of \$7,500.00.

The large bed of clay underlying a part of the farm has been brought into use, by the manufacture of 250,000 bricks. They could not be prepared in time for the main walls of the new buildings, but more than 100,000 were used in partition walls, areas, paving, &c. This new form of industry has proved so satisfactory that we would be glad to continue it if the product can be utilized. It will at least be valuable in any future building for the institution, and wise economy. We ought to state that nearly all the labor, except moulding, was performed by the boys. Of the commendable spirit with which they labored in many ways in the construction of the new buildings the Superintendent speaks in his report.

The chair shop profits having been so light the work would be discontinued but that it is a desirable employment for the small boys, whose fingers are readily trained to a surprising dexterity. The laundry work, requiring boys of greater size and strength, has been more remunerative, and will be resumed at an early day.

The continuance of dry weather through so large a part of the growing season has again prevented the returns from the farm, which were anticipated from the careful planting and culture of the crops. Whilst the first cutting of hay was perhaps an average yield, the after pasture, the summer vegetables, and the corn crop were very deficient. The ravages of the Colorado beetle were again to be suffered, being so persistent through the early part of the season as utterly to destroy the tomatoes, which had been planted largely; and also, in conjunction with the drought, almost to ruin the potato crop. The treatment of the field had been such that a large product was reasonably anticipated, but the tubers were few and small. We have sympathized with our good Superintendent in the disappointment which this providential disarrangement of plans and overthrow of fair hopes has caused. But after a diligent use of approved means results must be reverently left with the All-wise Disposer.

By implication of law (see section 2 of act approved April 2d, 1868,) the Trustees may not discharge a boy from the School in less than one year from his admission. Boys have sometimes been committed of tender years and pliant dispositions, whose

* In the week following the adoption of this report nine boys were committed to the School, advancing the number to 223.

confinement here is of very doubtful propriety. In one case during the past year the obvious evil was remedied by an application to the Court of Pardons. But such relief is cumbrous. The Trustees have no selfish desire for an enlargement of their powers, but as their object is to promote the best interests of the pupils, and through them of the State, it might be well to authorize them to act in such cases, at least with the consent of the Governor.

We have before referred to some classes of invalids from which the School should be protected. When accidents or sickness occur among the pupils the officers are faithful in performing the duties of humanity, but children who when committed need hospital care are an unwelcome charge. An epileptic youth falling and struggling in a crowd of boys is always an excitement, sometimes a terror. Such ailments are not brought to the knowledge of the committing magistrate, indeed may be studiously concealed from him. Should not the Trustees have power to make some other disposition of these cases?

The prospect of permanent reformation on the part of many of our pupils would be greatly increased could we secure for them, when prepared to leave the institution, desirable homes, where the instructions they have received will be continued and enforced. Selfishness is perhaps inseparable from human nature, but from masters who aim *only* at selfish ends we endeavor to protect them. We think that many of our boys are deserving of good homes, and would, by willing and effective service, well repay considerate christian usage on the part of persons disposed to take them.

The School has been large, the average being about 200, and the greatest number 215. There would have been a very burdensome increase of inmates, but for the considerate repression exercised by the Justices of the Supreme Court, who, as directed by law, were kept informed of the capacity of the School. The Superintendent has been requested to send these quarterly reports to the presiding law Judges of the several counties also, as by the act of last winter the power of committing to the School was extended to them. The institution has been blessed with general good health, though one death occurred from pneumonia and one from drowning. The Trustees were in session at the time of the latter, and were satisfied with the prudent conduct of the officer in charge. Boyish self-confidence overleaping prescribed bounds, caused the sad disaster. These evidences of mortality are always solemn events in the School. The conduct of two little fellows in watering for a long time the garden of their dead comrade, keeping his flowers unpicked and his vegetables ungathered, touched our hearts with its simple beauty.

The material interests of the institution have, through the past year, necessarily occupied an unusual share of our attention, but not wholly, we trust, to the neglect of more important matters affecting the moral well-being of the pupils. Eleven meetings of the Board have been held since last report. The general deportment of the boys has been good, evincing the salutary effects of kind but firm parental treatment. An epistolary correspondence with the Superintendent, on the part of many pupils, gives them an opportunity to express their hopes or griefs and to receive the special counsel he may perceive they need. It is beneficial in its results. To meet properly the numerous physical wants of so large a family requires much wise consideration and effective labor. To supply the mental and moral pabulum suited to the spiritual nature of these wards of the State, fitting them, so far as is practicable, for the varied duties of adult life and of citizenship, is a more onerous and important duty. Our Superintendent and the officers who aid him in his work, we believe, endeavor conscientiously to keep this high aim in view. With good reason the Trustees recognize and approve their earnest, self-denying labors. Signed by direction of the Board.

11th month 15th, 1876.

SAMUEL ALLINSON,
Secretary.

N. T. STRATTON,
President Board of Trustees.

SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT.

To the Trustees of the New Jersey State Reform School:

GENTLEMEN: I herewith present my Third Annual Report.

In reviewing the results and operations of the year, we find much to be thankful for, and but little over which to cavil or repine.

The larger number, by far, of those "absent on leave," have rendered a good report. As it is not practicable to keep boys under immediate control and discipline in the institution, so long as in the majority of cases it would be desirable, because of limited room, and the many other boys needing to come here, they have rigidly been instructed when sent out they are not beyond the jurisdiction of the institution, though they go to their homes, or with farmers into the country, and that the condition of their liberty is based solely on continued good conduct. Also, that if it seem best they go into the country, and are so sent, they are to remain with the contracting parties, as in the custody of the School.

We favor boys going thither so far as possible. Of those thus disposed of, but one left his place to run away the past year. He was captured in Elizabeth the next morning, and returned to the School. Such execution is salutary in its effects upon our discipline generally, and especially upon the boys sent abroad.

According to custom, we have visited and communicated with the boys going from us during the year as we had opportunity. Most of them we found in happy circumstances.

In one of our trips among them we called at a school house, thinking possibly some of our old wards might be there at school. Inquiring of the pleasant-looking teacher who responded to our summons, "If any boys from the Reform School were among her pupils," we received the cheerful answer, "Yes; and they are among the best boys in the school." We find our boys sent into the country are well spoken of by those who have opportunity to observe them.

In this connection we might say, with truth, the institution is

growing in the estimation of the better classes just about us. No complaint has been addressed to us, by neighboring tenants or land owners, and our lads uniformly avoid giving cause for distrust.

We sometimes hear ill of boys sent to their own homes, or back to the cities. Alas! that it should be so. In most instances, however, they are evils resulting from short stay here. Every boy who is thrown prematurely upon the world finds himself under precisely the same conditions which caused his fall, and which can scarcely fail to plunge him again into beggary and crime.

We have omitted no opportunity in the past to point out to your Board the serious consequences incident upon premature releases, and to the danger that we might be led to decisions of doubtful propriety by outside influence. Urgent solicitation for the release of a boy must be received with caution, when made by parents whose own gross neglect has caused him to be thrown upon the care of the State, and which may be repeated when he is again under their control.

The law is not at fault, for it is all that could be desired. Accommodations should be sufficient for the reception of new comers, so that the necessity may not appear to discharge some one in order to make room for another.

Many of the younger institutions suffer embarrassment in just this particular, the want of room to properly manipulate their boys. At the present time we are barely equal to the emergency, with the new buildings erected the past year.

Of the boys received during the year, thirteen were not in jail at all.

Sixty-one were there a period varying from one day to five months, upon their own confession.

Fourteen had been under arrest and imprisonment once, before being sent here.

Five had been under arrest and imprisonment twice.

Two " " " three times.

Three " " " four "

There can be no overstatement in the above, for pride would lead some to keep back or cover up part of the truth. Some of them own also to the fact, that fathers and mothers both have been arrested and imprisoned. Some have parents in prison now.

These facts provoke a few inquiries. Is it necessary to keep boys in jail before bringing them here? Sixty-one were kept a period varying from one day to five months. Now, whatever the time, they have become more hardened by the detention. The fact they have been brought in contact with older, hardened criminals in jail, some of them very little children, makes a blot

on all their lives thereafter, and one never to be forgotten. It is often the case, boys have been many weeks here before giving up the spirit of combination for mischief acquired while in jail.

Thus our work is by no means simplified, and the difficulties of approach and appeal to the heart of the boy greatly increased. Cannot something be done to abate this, by enactment or otherwise?

Again, twenty-four boys, of the number received last year, have been imprisoned from one to four times for crimes committed previously. The testimony of each new comer is, "There are other boys back in jail." There are but few of the county prisons at any time without their compliment of boys.

Does it occur to your minds that the reformation of criminal youth is best effected by first committing them to the jail, and with a second, third or fourth offence, send them here? To us it seems like a perversion, and the reasons are so obvious as to make a recital of them unnecessary.

To benefit this class this institution was founded, and it was undoubtedly hoped its beneficial influences might reach all the criminal boys of the State. Time is necessary for the development of any scheme, and for such great humanitarian ideas as are embodied in the organization of this institution especially. We submit that these are interests needing the advocacy and earnest attention of your Board.

The average age of those committed during the year has been thirteen years, one month, eighteen days, an increased average over and above that of last year of three months, twenty-five days. There is more hope for the reformation of a boy arrested early in his downward career, than of one older and more confirmed in evil habits.

Experience teaches us the importance of good health, and its relation to good conduct. Our lads are given a full supply of plain, nutritious food, prepared with scrupulous care, and given at regular hours, and no means is neglected which can strengthen their different constitutions. Their clothing is simple, and so made as to give the limbs the greatest freedom of action, thus promoting their healthful growth.

We are pained to record the death of two boys, one from pneumonia, the other by drowning.

Leonard Lawson, a boy from New Brunswick, was, in August, 1875, placed on trial with Albert Chamberlain, a farmer, near Hightstown. The boy had latterly here borne a good reputation, and we thought him thoroughly reformed. He was much liked in his new home, and was himself attached to it. He desired to spend the holidays with his friends and was allowed to do so. His parents prevented his return. In pursuance of our duty we brought him back to the School, but the hand of

disease was already upon him and he died after a few days sickness.

The second death, by drowning, of Charles Van Pelt, while bathing in Jamesburg pond, was one of those lamentable accidents which sometimes fall to the lot of families and communities like ours. The spot where he was drowned was forbidden to those who could not swim. The coroner, in his verdict, exonerated the officers in charge of all blame. Bathing near this point has since not been allowed.

The contentment which has prevailed among the boys has been something remarkable, and we have to record but two successful escapes for the year.

The Schools have suffered much interruption during the summer, as the boys' labor was in great demand, handling bricks, mortar, timber, &c., on new buildings, and making excavations. This loss might be made up to them during the winter months. Our corps of teachers remains the same substantially as last year, and the same zeal characterizes them.

The money appropriated by your Board towards the library has been expended by the Secretary in a wise selection of books.

Work has been abundant throughout the year. Most of the household labor is performed by the boys, with competent instructors. This has employed many small ones. Then there have been all the great farm operations done, in so far as possible, by boys. Many loads of leaves also were gathered late in the fall and put in cow-yards and pig-pens, and all through the winter something of this kind was done, together with composting manure, picking up under fences, clearing out fallen trees and limbs in our woodlands, and attention to stock. But in winter only a small proportion of our lads could be thus employed. For the smaller ones, work at cane seating chairs was procured. The revenue from this was very insignificant, but we could do no better.

From forty to forty-five larger boys were taught to iron shirts. The receipts in this department for the year amounted to \$2,372.50. The boys were given some interest in this. Such an accumulation of earnings is quite pleasant to contemplate, and especially so considering the shortness of the ironing season. If it were teaching the boys a trade to be applied after leaving here, the greater would be our cause for satisfaction, but it is not so. The boys know this and are apt to inquire, "Why cannot we be taught that which shall be a help to us when we go from here?" The practicability of teaching boys trades in large numbers does not yet appear. That would entail great expense. A few are acquiring the tailor's trade, others the shoemaker's, and yet others will soon get instruction in carpenters' work and blacksmithing. There yet remains by far the larger number to be employed.

But to instil into our wards habits of industry, steady application and economy, are matters of the first importance. Work, then, must not be intermittent but constant. If these habits are acquired early they will remain with them, and have the happiest influence in their after life. Also by limiting their wants and accustoming them to live frugally, we take from them the motive to seek riches by dishonest means.

In the department of the farm results have not been as good as might reasonably have been expected. No husbandman in this section for several years has felt himself rewarded for his labor, but the past year has been the severest of all. Had the season been favorable we would have had excellent crops, for the ground cultivated was well enriched. While we deem agricultural employment the best suited to reformatory purposes, yet to make it profitable in a pecuniary sense, in an institution of this kind, is a difficult task.

Many and very different objects are here sought to be obtained. Intellectual instruction, moral training, the requirements of strict discipline, fixed hours which cannot be changed, the employment of youthful and inexperienced hands, of which, moreover, we have often more than we know how to employ, render the task of cultivating the land well and economically, and of producing good agriculturists, a very hard one.

The measure of improvement of farm lands compares favorably with the efforts used. Looking toward the peach orchard, what was an unsightly thicket of bushes, is now a fine cleared piece of land. A twelve-inch drain pipe was placed in the open ditch near that point, and the bank leveled. The dam for ice pond in the pasture has been rebuilt, and the bed of the pond thoroughly grubbed. The meadows between this point and the lands of R. S. Conover, Esq., have also been grubbed, old ditches improved and new ones opened, spreading the soil taken out far back from the ditch, thus leaving no ridges to prevent surface drainage.

Near the buildings the grounds have been beautified with walks, and set with shrubs and trees, and what was a primal necessity, two reservoirs for water have been prospected and constructed. One was built upon an old site, the other upon a new. The new one in the driest time poured out a fine stream. All these improvements, with others, together with the labor on the roads and approaches to the institution, have been made the past year, and they are substantial betterments.

We invite your judgment as to the use of lime more extensively in our farming operations. For several years it has been but little used. Would it not be well, also, to change and improve the character of our stock? No change has been made in horse and mule teams, and our herd of cows is the same as

last year. The number of swine is much greater. Our old flock of sheep, with the exception of about twenty of the better ones, have been killed off and fifty others purchased.

Early in the spring a new department of labor was inaugurated, that of brickmaking. The bricks we make compare favorably with the best of Jersey rough brick, being of good shape and color. This department has furnished labor for about fifteen boys. There was the necessary work of making a yard fit for laying out the wet bricks, sheds and pits, &c., yet we have made by hand two hundred and fifty thousand, so that, notwithstanding the first experiment, it has been financially a success, appraising them at the market value. Over one hundred thousand of them have been used in the construction of and improvements about new buildings. Had the idea taken shape and effect two years earlier, we would have had bricks for our entire construction account the past year. But further accommodations will still have to be made, and our stock on hand come into good use. We confidently look for some outside demand.

The buildings have all been kept in a good state of repair. Of the new ones erected, we think it will be difficult to find more substantial and convenient ones erected elsewhere, for a similar purpose and for the same money. The plans were well matured and simplified. The business sagacity of your Board was well illustrated in the rejection of all builders' proposals, and the resolution to purchase and superintend the construction by a committee of your number. That committee needs no better monument of their fidelity and devotion than the buildings themselves. They are a credit to the State. No extravagance is to be seen in or about them, but they are to be admired, not only for convenience of arrangement for the purposes designed, but for their strength and conscientious construction. With their completion we have accommodations for two families of thirty and fifty boys, and extensive shoproom. This admits of a better classification, and of a reduction in the number of boys residing in the main building.

The limit of these accommodations is reached, however, or very nearly so, by reason of the large increase in the number of boys since our last annual report.

Fifty boys in one family is large enough, too large to hope with reason for the happiest results. The need of another family building, we think, during the coming year, will be apparent to your minds.

We are lighting all the buildings with kerosene oil. When servants use this to light their fires, and you consider the character and class of boys we have in hand, you will see how

conflagration and disaster is invited by not substituting gas. The hazard is now too great to admit of delay.

In our report for 1874 we spoke of our farm buildings, and of the need of new ones for the proper housing of crops, wagons, tools and implements. A consideration of the matter has thus far been withheld by your Board, for prudential and no doubt good reasons. It is impossible to get our hay each year all under cover, and the grain and corn stalks must all stand out. No proper protection is afforded the farm implements, and for several wagons there is not even shed room. There is too striking a depreciation manifest in the inventory of these things from year to year, to have the fact escape your attention that here great loss is suffered, and for this cause chiefly. The Superintendent therefore seeks to relieve himself of a certain degree of responsibility, because of a knowledge of these losses, by communicating the facts to your Board. The out-buildings are beside very old and dilapidated, being such as were found upon the place when the institution was established.

We have exercised close economy in all matters, hence the number of officers and employees have been reduced to a minimum. It must be remembered, however, we cannot teach boys morality like a trade. Very different treatment and care is necessary to reform the character from what is required to train the fingers. To replace evil by good aspirations is a task wrought only by oft repeated effort.

We would here thank all who have kindly remembered us the past year, by gratuitously sending papers and magazines, the "Jersey City Evening Journal," "Burlington Gazette," "Middlesex County Democrat," "Monmouth Democrat," "Monmouth Inquirer," "Hightstown Gazette," the "Weekly True American" and "State Gazette," of Trenton, also the "Evening Visitor," of Camden.

We thank you, Gentlemen of the Board of Trustees, for your courtesy and co-operation. As you review the year and pass upon our failures, do not be forgetful of the difficulties of our position, of our feelings of accountability to the State, and, above all, to God, whose providence has so graciously overshadowed us, and given us the blessings of health and so good a degree of prosperity.

My faithful corps of officers and assistants have my warmest thanks and sympathies.

Respectfully yours,

JAMES H. EASTMAN,
Superintendent.

TREASURER'S REPORT.

New Jersey Reform School, in account with

DR.

1875.			
November 15.	To balance due Treasurer at last report.....		\$2,453 09
December 13.	Cash paid Trenton Banking Company, for discount on notes.....		63 12
1876.			
January 12.	Cash paid Trenton Banking Company, for discount on notes.....		45 09
	Cash paid First National Bank, Jamesburg, interest on note.....		36 47
February 14.	Cash paid First National Bank, Hightstown, for discount on notes.....		23 79
March 15.	Cash paid Trenton Banking Company, for note....		3,500 00
April 15.	Cash paid for addition to library.....		100 00
	Cash paid Trenton Banking Company, for note....		3,500 00
	Cash paid First National Bank, Hightstown.....		2,000 00
July 12.	Cash paid First National Bank, Jamesburg, interest on note.....		29 05
September 15.	Cash paid Wm. H. Courter, for insurance on new buildings.....		50 00
October 31.	Cash paid First National Bank, Jamesburg, interest on over-draft.....		35 86
	Cash paid for improvement and repairs.....		2,938 94
	Cash paid on account of new buildings.....		19,008 87
	Cash paid for salaries and labor.....		3,997 74
	Cash paid for schools.....		985 34
	Cash paid for provisions.....		10,930 34
	Cash paid for clothing.....		3,756 56
	Cash paid for furniture.....		114 25
	Cash paid for stationery and postage.....		183 55
	Cash paid for repairs.....		1,560 09
	Cash paid for household articles.....		659 49
	Cash paid for fuel and lights.....		1,921 37
	Cash paid for drugs and medical attendance.....		289 20
	Cash paid for freight, traveling and telegraphy....		273 28
	Cash paid for farm labor.....		1,628 72
	Cash paid for farm implements.....		629 98
	Cash paid for live stock.....		318 52
	Cash paid for grain and feed.....		110 52
	Cash paid for fertilizers.....		584 31
	Cash paid for plants and seed.....		397 00
	Cash paid for chair shop.....		437 17
	Cash paid for incidentals.....		551 25
	Cash paid for blacksmithing.....		77 17
	Cash paid for ironing room.....		396 11
	Cash paid for brick yard.....		683 00
	Total.....		\$63,269 34

TREASURER'S REPORT.

Isaac S. Buckelew, Treasurer.

CR.

1875.			
November 1.	By	balance from old account, improvement and repairs	\$1,438 94
December 13.		Cash received from Trenton Banking Company, on note	3,500 00
1876.			
January 13.		Cash received from Trenton Banking Company, on note	2,500 00
February 15.		Cash received from First National Bank, Hightstown, on note	2,000 00
October 31.		Cash received from First National Bank, Jamesburg, on note	7,500 00
		Cash received from State Treasurer, balance appropriation, 1875	1,500 00
		Cash received from State Treasurer, on account appropriation, 1876—	
		amount of appropriation, 1876.....	\$55,000 00
		Balance not drawn	14,000 00
			41,000 00
		Cash received from parents and guardians	36 00
		Cash received from chair shop	399 30
		Cash received from live stock	499 17
		Cash received from farm products	294 93
		Cash received from ironing room	2,372 50
		Cash received from miscellaneous	194 54
		Balance due Treasurer	33 96

Total

\$63,269 34

STATE REFORM SCHOOL REPORT.

Improvements and Repairs.

DE.

To cash paid for improvements and repairs to buildings.....	\$2,938 94
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CR.

By balance from old account.....	\$1,438 94	
Cash from State Treasurer, balance of appropriation, 1875.....	1,500 00	
	\$2,938 94	

New Buildings.

DE.

To cash paid on account of workshop and family house...	\$19,008 87	
Balance to new account.....	991 13	
	\$20,000 00	

CR.

By cash from State Treasurer, appropriation 1876.....	\$20,000 00
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The committee appointed to examine the Treasurer's account have examined the above statement, and found it correct.

DAVID RIPLEY,
NATHANIEL S. RUE, } *Committee.*

JAMESBURG, N. J., Nov. 15, 1876.

General Inventory.

Furniture	\$5,230 53
Clothing, material and tools.....	5,009 86
Provisions and stores.....	2,440 69
Books and stationery.....	790 15
Brick yard.....	748 75
Ironing room.....	128 04
Chair shop.....	29 75
Farm products.....	3,909 31
Live stock.....	3,229 10
Farm implements	1,973 13
	\$23,489 31

Appraisement made November 14th, 1876, by

RICHARD L. RIDGWAY,
WILLIAM H. COURTER.

STATISTICAL TABLES.

Number of boys remaining October 31st, 1875.....	192
Number of boys committed.....	74
Number of boys returned.....	24
	98
Number of boys during the year.....	290
Number of boys disposed of during the year.....	76
Number of boys remaining in the institution October 31st, 1876.....	214
Greatest number at any one time.....	215
Average number for the year.....	198.7

Time of Commitment of Boys, and Counties from whence Received.

TIME OF COMMITMENT.	Camden.	Hudson.	Essex,	Burlington.	Mercer.	Union.	Passaic.	Morris.	Monmouth.	Middlesex.	Bergen.	Atlantic.	Warren.	Total.
1875.														
November.....	1	2	1	1	1									6
December.....		6												6
1876.														
January.....	1	2		2		3								8
February.....			1		1	1	1							4
March.....	1	1	4				2	1	1					10
April.....	1	1					1			1	1	1		6
May.....			4				2							6
June.....		1								1				2
July.....			1					1		1				3
August.....			1			1			1	2				5
September.....		6	2		1			1	1					11
October.....	1			2						2	1		1	7
Total.....	5	19	14	5	3	5	6	3	3	7	2	1	1	74

For what Offences Committed.

Vagrancy.....	5	Larceny.....	17
Breaking with intent, &c.....	2	Larceny and receiving.....	1
Entering and larceny.....	5	Breaking and entering.....	2
Vagrant and incorrigible.....	6	Breaking.....	4
Grand larceny.....	4	Entering, &c.....	1
Disorderly conduct.....	2	Malicious mischief.....	4
Breaking, entering and larceny.....	6	Atrocious assault.....	1
Assault and battery.....	4		
Petit larceny.....	10	Total.....	74

Age when Committed to Institution.

Eight.....	1	Thirteen.....	7
Nine.....	4	Fourteen.....	18
Ten.....	6	Fifteen.....	16
Eleven.....	8	Sixteen.....	6
Twelve.....	7	Seventeen.....	1
Total.....			74
Average age.....	13 years, 1 month, 18 days		

Birthplace of those Received.

New Jersey.....	46	England.....	4
New York.....	8	Ireland.....	4
Pennsylvania.....	3	Scotland.....	3
Delaware.....	1	Germany.....	2
Massachusetts.....	1	Switzerland.....	1
Ohio.....	1		
Total.....			74

Birthplace of Parents.

BIRTHPLACE.	Fathers.	Mothers.
New Jersey.....	16	19
New York.....	3	4
Pennsylvania.....		1
California.....	1	
America.....	2	2
England.....	7	8
Ireland.....	18	21
Scotland.....	4	4
France.....	1	
Germany.....	6	7
Switzerland.....	1	1
Italy.....	1	
Unknown.....	14	7
Total.....	74	74

Moral and Domestic Condition.

Have lost fathers.....	13	Have used tobacco.....	42
Have lost mothers.....	9	Have used intoxicating drinks.....	11
Have lost both parents.....	10	Have been arrested before.....	26
Have intemperate fathers.....	22	Have been in jail.....	61
Have intemperate mothers.....	3		

Number Sent Out, and Disposal made of them.

To parents.....	25	To sisters.....	1	Hired.....	1
To farmers.....	27	To uncles.....	2	Died.....	2
To fathers.....	5	To aunts.....	1	Escaped.....	2
To mothers.....	7	To telegraph operator.....	1		
To brothers.....	1	To caterer.....	1	Total.....	76
Longest time in the institution.....	4 years, 3 months, 2 days				
Average time in the institution.....	1 year, 10 months, 29 days				

Work Done in Sewing Room, from November 1st, 1875, to November 1st, 1876.

Number of shirts made.....	429	Number of pairs suspenders repaired	110
“ “ repaired	4733	“ “ socks repaired	3056
“ “ pairs pants made.....	746	“ “ table cloths made.....	2
“ “ “ repaired	3777	“ “ pairs mittens made.....	150
“ “ jackets made.....	300	“ “ “ pillow slips made..	263
“ “ “ repaired.....	1179	“ “ “ “ repaired	35
“ “ bed ticks made.....	247	“ “ sheets made	233
“ “ “ repaired	177	“ “ “ repaired.....	73
“ “ aprons made.....	90	“ “ stand covers made.....	30
“ “ “ repaired	191	“ “ holders made.....	199
“ “ towels made.....	439	“ “ rugs made.....	6
“ “ pairs suspenders made..	446		

Produce of Farm.

1182 bunches asparagus.	6½ tons mangold-wurzel beets.
18 “ radishes.	2 pounds squash.
165 heads lettuce.	11 loads pumpkins.
1248 “ cabbage.	375½ bushels apples.
1138 cucumbers.	5 “ pears.
500 Mango peppers.	108 “ berries.
333½ bushels potatoes.	120 quarts currants.
146 “ sweet potatoes.	1003 pounds grapes.
194 “ carrots.	349 watermelons.
86½ “ onions.	58 muskmelons.
4½ “ string beans.	755 bushels oats.
7 “ Lima beans.	120½ “ rye, thrashed.
50 “ field beans.	50 “ “ unthrashed.
2000 “ turnips.	227 “ wheat.
13½ “ green peas.	2333½ “ field corn.
3½ “ seed peas.	3175 ears sweet corn.
21½ “ tomatoes.	78 tons hay.
3½ “ spinach.	9433 pounds meat.
30 “ parsnips.	162 “ wool.
168 “ blood beets.	46149½ quarts milk.

Farm.

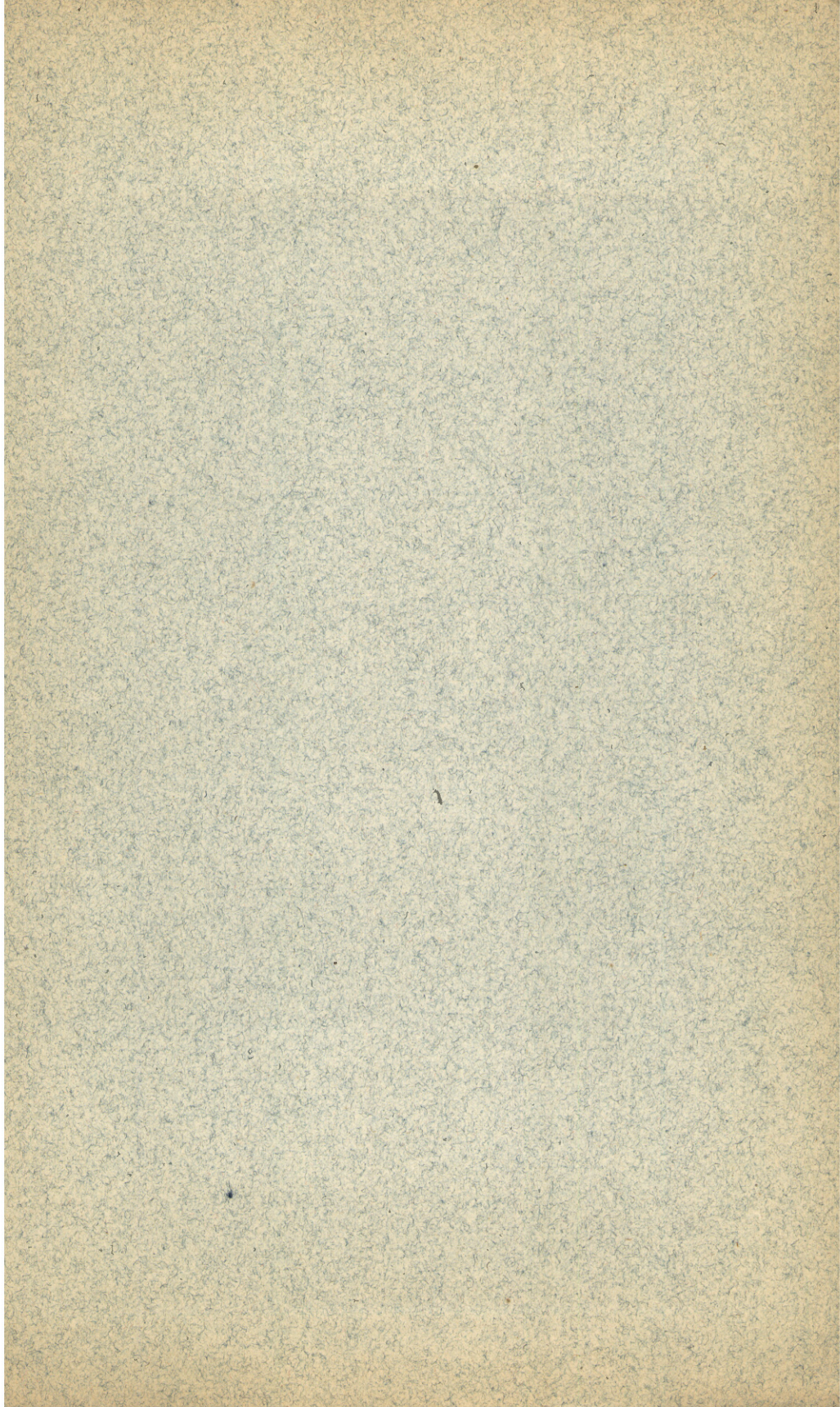
DR.		CR.	
To balance (inventory), 1875.	\$8581 96	By cash for farm products	
Cash for farm labor	597 00	sold.....	\$294 93
Cash for implements.....	629 98	Cash for live stock sold...	499 17
Cash for live stock	318 52	Farm products used in	
Cash for grain and feed...	110 52	institution.....	4560 31
Cash for fertilizers.....	584 31	Balance (inventory) farm	
Cash for plants and seed...	397 00	products.....	\$3909 31
Cash for blacksmithing....	77 17	Live stock.....	3229 10
Profit and loss (gain).....	3169 49	Farm implem'ts. 1873 13	
Total.....	\$14465 95		9111 54
		Total	\$14465 95

Ironing Room.

DR.		CR.	
To 52080 lbs coal @ \$6.50		By cash for work done.....	\$2372 50
2240 lbs.....	\$151 12	Balance (inventory).....	128 04
Cash paid for labor.....	160 00		
Cash paid for repairs.....	13 13		
Cash paid for freight.....	7 65		
Cash paid for materials...	35 33		
Profit and loss (gain).....	2133 31		
Total.....	\$2500 54	Total.....	\$2500 54

Current Expenses and Cost per Capita for the Year.

	Total.	Per Capita.
Salaries.....	\$3997 74	\$20.118
Schools.....	985 34	4.958
Provisions.....	10930 44	55.007
Clothing.....	3756 56	18.904
Other expenses.....	5099 69	25.664
Total.....	\$24769 77	\$124.651



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