

264011-11  
EIGHTEENTH ANNUAL REPORT

(for 1862)

OF THE

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

OF THE

PRISON ASSOCIATION OF NEW YORK.

---

TRANSMITTED TO THE LEGISLATURE FEBRUARY 4, 1863.

---

ALBANY :  
COMSTOCK & CASSIDY, PRINTERS.  
1863.

State of New York.

---

No. 26.

IN ASSEMBLY,

February 4, 1863.

---

EIGHTEENTH ANNUAL REPORT (for 1862)  
OF THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE OF THE PRISON ASSOCIATION OF NEW YORK.

New York, February 2, 1863.

Hon. THEOPHILUS C. CALLICOT,

*Speaker of the Assembly:*

Sir—I have the honor herewith to transmit to you the Eighteenth Annual Report of the Prison Association of New York, with the request that you will lay the same before the Legislature.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

E. C. WINES,

*Cor. Secretary.*

1862

## Officers of the Prison Association.

PRESIDENT,

JOHN DAVID WOLFE.

VICE PRESIDENTS,

Hon. JAMES H. TITUS,

Hon. JOHN STANTON GOULD,  
Hudson, N. Y.

ISRAEL RUSSELL,

RENSSELAER N. HAVENS,  
Hon. GEORGE HALL, Brooklyn, N. Y.

CORRESPONDING SECRETARY,

E. C. WINES, D. D., LL. D.

RECORDING SECRETARY,

FRANK W. BALLARD.

TREASURER,

WILLIAM C. GILMAN, JR.

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE,

JOHN H. GRISCOM, M. D., CHAIRMAN.

JOHN H. ANTHON, Esq.,

SOLOMON JENNER,

GEO. F. BAKER, Albany, N. Y.,

JOSEPH H. JOY,

ABRAHAM BEAL,

JOHN H. KEYSER,

WILLIAM T. BOOTH,

FRANCIS LIEBER, LL. D.,

L. P. BROCKETT, M. D.,

HENRY P. MARSHALL,

JOHN A. BRYAN, Esq.,

SAMUEL F. B. MORSE,

HENRY K. BULL,

HENRY A. OAKLEY,

Hon. ABRAHAM B. CONGER,  
Haverstraw, N. Y.,

SAMUEL OSGOOD, D. D.,

EDWARD COOPER,

JOHN J. OWEN, D. D.,

STEPHEN CUTTER,

JOHN A. PULLEN,

ABRAHAM DENIKE,

EDWARD RICHARDSON,

GABRIEL P. DISOSWAY,

ADAM T. SACKETT,

JAMES C. HOLDEN,

ARCHIBALD S. VAN DUZER, Esq.,

Hon. JOHN T. HOFFMAN,

SALEM H. WALES.

## Standing Committees.

### I. FINANCE COMMITTEE.

HENRY K. BULL, CHAIRMAN.

JOHN A. PULLEN,	EDWARD COOPER,	
GABRIEL P. DISOSWAY,	WILLIAM T. BOOTH.	
	JOHN D. WOLFE,	} <i>Ex-officio.</i>
	JOHN H. GRISCOM,	
	E. C. WINES,	

### II. COMMITTEE ON DETENTIONS.

SOLOMON JENNER, CHAIRMAN.

FRANK W. BALLARD,	HENRY A. OAKLEY,	
JAMES C. HOLDEN,	SALEM H. WALES,	
HENRY P. MARSHALL,	WILLIAM C. GILMAN, Jr.,	
SAMUEL F. B. MORSE,	ABRAHAM BEAL.	
	JOHN D. WOLFE,	} <i>Ex-officio.</i>
	JOHN H. GRISCOM,	
	E. C. WINES,	

### COMMITTEE ON DISCHARGED CONVICTS.

STEPHEN CUTTER, CHAIRMAN.

JOHN A. BRYAN,	A. S. VAN DUZER,	
JOSEPH F. JOY,	GEORGE HALL,	
JOHN H. KEYSER,	ISRAEL RUSSELL,	
EDWARD RICHARDSON,	ADAM T. SACKET.	
ABRAHAM DENIKE,		
	JOHN D. WOLFE,	} <i>Ex-officio.</i>
	JOHN H. GRISCOM,	
	E. C. WINES,	

### COMMITTEE ON PRISON DISCIPLINE.

FRANCIS LIEBER, LL. D., CHAIRMAN.

JAMES H. TITUS,	JOHN T. HOFFMAN,	
JOHN STANTON GOULD,	SAMUEL OSGOOD, D. D.,	
GEORGE F. BAKER,	JOHN J. OWEN, D. D.,	
ABRAHAM B. CONGER,	JOHN H. ANTHON.	
R. N. HAVENS,		
	JOHN D. WOLFE,	} <i>Ex-officio.</i>
	JOHN H. GRISCOM,	
	E. C. WINES,	

## EIGHTEENTH ANNUAL REPORT.\*

The Executive Committee of the Prison Association of New York submits to the Legislature its Report for the year one thousand eight hundred and sixty-two.

### HISTORICAL STATEMENT.

This Association was organized and began its career of benign and useful labors in 1844, and two years subsequently it was incorporated by act of the Legislature. It had its origin in the wish, felt by many humane and sympathetic Christian hearts, to save from a return to evil courses, and to restore to virtue, by furnishing with the means of honest industry, those released convicts, who should give evidence of repentance and a desire to reform. Whatever had been done before for the reclamation and care of persons amenable to the penalty of the law, was the work of benevolent individuals, acting in their private capacity, and with reference to particular cases. There was no systematic, organized method either, in the first place, of caring for persons arrested on a charge of crime, examining into their cases, and affording relief where humanity and justice might seem to require it; or, in the second, of reaching the discharged convict with remedial, reforma-

\* Through an inadvertence, overlooked at the time, the last Annual Report was called the Sixteenth. It was properly the Seventeenth, and should have been so numbered. The error is corrected in this.

tive, and elevating influences. But, previously to the formation of our society, the attention of benevolent and thoughtful persons had been directed to this subject. It had become a problem how, on the one hand, to screen innocent but unfortunate persons, who had been arrested through mistake or malice, from undeserved punishment; and how, on the other, to save the released prisoner from relapsing into crime. This problem was the providential occasion of the Prison Association. The formation of this society was the solution of both the difficulties involved in the problem.

On the third day of December, 1844, the following card appeared in the papers of New York:

"TO THE PUBLIC.

"The undersigned has been directed, by the Board of Inspectors of the State Prison at Sing Sing, to invite the attention of the benevolent to the destitute condition of discharged convicts.

"It is of frequent occurrence that prisoners afford satisfactory evidence of sincere repentance, and earnest desires to reform; yet, when they go forth into the world, they are often, for want of employment, reduced to great distress, and subjected to sore temptations. To starve or steal is too often the only alternative presented to them.

"The power of the Inspectors to afford relief in such cases is confined by law to the mere pittance of three dollars to each person.

"But believing that very many can be saved from a return to their former evil practices by timely aid, and that not a few can be retained in the path of reform by

encouragement and support judiciously applied, the Inspectors have directed me to appeal to the benevolent in this city to render their aid by forming a society similar to those which now exist in many parts of Europe, whose object shall be to find employment for those who shall give evidence of repentance and reformation.

"JOHN W. EDMONDS, *Pres. Board of Inspectors.*

"NEW YORK, Nov. 23, 1844."

On the same day, and in the same papers, appeared the following notice of a public meeting to be held on the evening of the sixth of December:

"The subscribers, cordially approving of the purpose mentioned in the foregoing card, and desirous of forming in this city a Prison Association, whose objects shall be,

"1. The amelioration of the condition of prisoners, whether detained for trial or finally convicted;

"2. The improvement of prison discipline generally; and,

"3. The relief of discharged convicts, by affording them the means of obtaining an honest livelihood;

"Invite a public meeting of the citizens of New York, at the Apollo Rooms, No. 410 Broadway, on the evening of Friday, the 6th of December next.

"The chair will be taken by Vice Chancellor McCoun, at 7 o'clock.

"NEW YORK, November 25, 1844."

The above notice was signed by a large number of the most eminent citizens of this metropolis. Among the subscribers to the call appear the names of Theodore Frelinghuysen, Benjamin F. Butler, Wm. Kent, Jas. Harper,

Ogden Hoffman, Gardiner Spring, James Milnor, Bishop Wainwright, Archbishop Hughes, Henry W. Bellows, Orville Dewey, Robt. B. Minturn, Henry Grinnell, Eleazer Parmly, Theodore Sedgwick, Daniel Lord, Prosper M. Wetmore, John A. Dix, and many others, no less distinguished and public spirited.

The meeting was held according to the notice thus given, and was largely attended by the intelligence, worth, piety, and influence of New York. After a lucid and eloquent exposition of the necessity and objects of the proposed Association, and the hopeful nature of the work contemplated, in addresses delivered by Judge Edmonds, Prof. Tellkampf, Isaac T. Hopper, and others, an organization was effected by the adoption of a constitution, and by the election of Vice Chancellor McCoun as President; Theo. Frelinghuysen, Benj. F. Butler, J. W. Edmonds, and Abraham Van Nest, as Vice Presidents; and a Board of Managers, embracing many of the leading names appended to the original call for the meeting. Two years subsequently a liberal charter was granted by the Legislature, in which the objects of the Association are declared to be, "1. The amelioration of the condition of prisoners, whether detained for trial, or finally convicted, or as witnesses; 2. The improvement of prison discipline, and the government of prisons, whether for cities, counties or States; 3. The support and encouragement of reformed convicts after their discharge, by affording them the means of obtaining an honest livelihood, and sustaining them in their efforts at reform." Further, the said charter not only authorizes but requires the Association, by such committees as the

Executive Board may, from time to time, appoint, to "visit, inspect, and examine all the prisons in the State, and annually report to the Legislature their state and condition, and all such other things in regard to them, as may enable the Legislature to perfect their government and discipline." Never was any philanthropic institution, in this or any other city, commenced under more distinguished auspices; and the Association, we may claim without undue self-praise, has, during the eighteen years of its existence, though working in a hard and forbidding soil, pursued a career of beneficence, worthy alike of the sacred cause in which it labors, and of the eminent and excellent men by whom it was originated.

#### OBJECTS.

The one great and paramount object of the Association is the suppression and prevention of crime. This overmastering object it pursues by three distinct paths; in other words, through three subordinate objects, all converging to the same point, and co-operating to the same result, viz., first, a humane attention to persons arrested and detained, either for trial or as witnesses; secondly, the improvement of prison discipline, and the multiplying and strengthening of the reformatory influences of prison life; and, thirdly, the encouragement and aid it extends to discharged convicts in their efforts to reform and gain an honest living.

#### I. DETAINED PRISONERS.

The Association seeks to impart counsel and needful aid to prisoners under detention. Cases are daily occurring where direction and assistance are imperatively required,

and where the lack of such friendly offices would result in much injustice and suffering to the persons who need them. There are frequent instances of improper arrests and commitments, as the numerous discharges without trial show. Arrests are often made, and the parties temporarily committed, without even the oath of the officer concerned in making them; a course altogether illegal, improper and unjustifiable. Innocent persons, through malicious or mistaken testimony, are often committed for trial, and sometimes, on their trial, convicted and sentenced. Not a few complaints are preferred from passion or prejudice, or which are of too trivial a character to be entertained. Foreigners, ignorant alike of our language and laws, and without either friends or money, are not unfrequently found in our houses of detention, in a state bordering upon despair. Children detected in petty pilfering—often their first offence—are thrown into the common receptacle of the city's felons, and subjected for weeks, or even months, to all its polluting and poisonous influences. Numbers of those arrested on suspicion are the mere victims of circumstance or malice. They are found in evil company, it may be unintentionally; or they are marked for sacrifice by some jealous or vindictive foe. The innocent are sometimes in danger of being condemned through inadvertence, or from the testimony of mistaken or malicious witnesses, or for want of the aid of honest lawyers; and even the guilty are made to suffer punishments which might be properly mitigated, if the circumstances, in extenuation, were reliably brought to the notice of the court; but this information, essential, it may be, to a righteous judgment—owing to the ignorance, the

fears, the confusion, or the friendless situation of the accused,—cannot be furnished, without timely aid volunteered upon the spot. Cases of the kind just enumerated afford abundant occasion for the humane, discriminating and laborious diligence of the Association. Without its intelligent and kindly interposition, mistakes and abuses would multiply; and while the objects of them would be compelled to suffer without alleviation, the community itself would also have to suffer from a corresponding increase of crime, consequent upon the education and graduation in villany, afforded, and indeed almost necessitated, to numerous novices, by the intercourse and associations of the prison house. We, therefore, keep continually in view the condition of persons arrested and detained in prison on suspicion, or a charge of crime, so far as to secure to the destitute and friendless, according to our ability, strict justice in their cases, and to protect them from the depredations of unprincipled or unfaithful persons with whom they may come into contact. And the society cannot but congratulate both itself and the public on having, for this department of its work, in Mr. Abraham Beal, an agent pre-eminently qualified for it by his natural endowments, his large experience, his incorruptible integrity, and the confidence reposed in him by the courts and officers connected with the administration of criminal justice.

But let us here guard against a misapprehension and misinterpretation of our sympathy and care for persons under arrest, or who have been committed and are awaiting their trial. While much attention is given to the circumstances of detained prisoners, with a view to their protec-

tion against the arts of malicious prosecutors and dishonest lawyers, (for unfortunately there are persons of both classes in our community), to the assertion of their rights whilst in confinement, to their discharge if arrested upon insufficient grounds, and to the procurement for them of a deliberate and impartial trial, this Association is, and ever has been, very far from any desire or endeavor to transform the criminal into an injured innocent, or to palliate his crime with the gloss of a morbid and mawkish sentimentality. We would not abate one tittle of the loathing which is felt for crime, nor shield the criminal from either a just abhorrence or a just punishment of his unlawful deeds. It has ever been the aim of the Prison Association, while extending a helping hand to the innocent, the unfortunate, the erring, the penitent, and the reformed, to do nothing to impede the course of justice or to obstruct a righteous administration of the law. On the contrary, we would rather, as far as in us lies—and those who know us best will most readily attest our sincerity in this statement—facilitate and promote such administration.

The nature, importance and usefulness of this department of our work may be illustrated by the citation of a few cases:

No. 1. This was a case, in which the Association, through its agent, Mr. Beal, was instrumental in ferreting out and restoring to a Russian lady, a valuable box, stolen from her by a colored man; said box containing a costly set of jewelry, rich lace handkerchiefs, and letters and papers, worth to her a large amount. The history of the case is long; and a detail of the particulars, though interesting, would occupy too much space.

No. 2. Was a lad of fifteen years, an Englishman. He was found by our agent in the city prison, weeping profusely, and evidently in deep anguish. He said that he had been tempted, and had drunk four glasses of rum; that, being unable to walk straight, he had been taken to the station house, on Saturday evening, and on Monday morning had been sentenced to the House of Refuge; that his father and mother lived in Liverpool, England; that he had followed the sea for the last three years; that his clothes were at a certain boarding house which he named, and his ship was to sail on the Wednesday following. He entreated, with tears, that a discharge might be procured for him. After ascertaining that that part of his story which related to his clothes and ship was true, the agent submitted the facts to the magistrate, who immediately ordered his discharge. On emerging from the prison, he expressed his joy by alternately laughing and crying, and even leaped and danced in an ecstasy of delight.

No. 3. Was a woman whose husband, along with fourteen other clerks, had been discharged from his place of employment four months previously. During those dreary winter months, they had pledged every portable article in the house; and all they could raise, on the day before the wife called at our office, for themselves and three children, was a single five cent loaf. On that day, she resolved to go, herself, from store to store, imploring the merchants to employ her husband, that the family might at least be saved from starvation. She started on her sorrowful expedition, praying that a gracious Providence would bless her effort. After calling at twenty-four places, she went to



the store of Claffin, Mellin & Co., and said to Mr. Claffin that, unless her husband could get employment, herself and family must perish. Mr. C. asked her why her husband did not come himself; she said that a reason could be given, meaning that he had no suitable clothes. He replied, "your conduct is right, send him to us and we will put him somewhere." But the poor man could not go without his coat, now on pledge for \$3.50 and interest. The wife brought the pawn ticket to our agent and said, "Mr. Beal, what shall I do?" He answered by loaning her \$4.00. She seemed glad in her inmost soul, and promised to return the money in a few weeks. Our agent's diary adds: "She said but little, but we felt that we had the best of the bargain, for ours was the blessing of those who were ready to perish."

No. 4. Was a girl of fifteen years. She had lived eight months in a family, as a servant. The wages of four months, \$20.00, were due her. At that time, her mother, brother and sister were without employment, and much straitened. On leaving her place, without receiving the money due her, she was tempted to steal from her employer \$20.00 in bills, and some trifling articles. She was pursued, arrested and committed. The lady with whom she had lived, visited her in prison, forgave the theft and urged her to return to her situation, promising, if she would do so, to use her endeavors to procure a discharge. Subsequently to this, the husband of the lady preferred a complaint against the mother, brother and sister. The two latter were arrested and brought to the Tombs. Our agent, knowing the respectability of the family, feeling sure that they had

had no share in the larceny, and indignant at such meanness and injustice, on learning the fact of their arrest, hurried to the district attorney's office, who, much to his credit, had them brought into court and immediately discharged.

No. 5. Was a servant woman, indicted for stealing \$300 from her employer. Very soon after being placed in the Tombs, she appeared unutterably wretched, even to the refusal of food. At length, she expressed a desire to see the officer who had arrested her. To him she made a full confession of the larceny. She saw a heap of gold in a trunk in her mistress' bedroom. Her husband came to her for money. She told him to work and he could save money, as other people did; that those with whom she lived, worked hard and had plenty, for she had seen it. He asked her to reach him a handful of it. Her reply was, "No, it does not belong to me." He said, "These people are Jews, who rob everybody. It is no crime to rob a Jew, and the priest will tell you so." But she persisted in her refusal. After he was gone, she pondered the matter. She reasoned thus with herself: "My husband has not been good to me, but he never stole. Perhaps it is not so bad to take from these people, as it would be from others who are honest." She was overcome by the temptation, took the money and hid it. After the theft, her husband applied to her a second time for money, but she refused. The officer found every dollar in the place where he was directed to look, and the whole was returned to the rightful owner. These facts were communicated to the district attorney by our agent. The plea of an attempt was suggested and accepted. The

agent assured the recorder that from all he had seen, he believed the woman to be sincerely penitent, and that, if mercy were shown her, she would "sin no more." The recorder addressed her with great kindness, giving her appropriate admonition and counsel, and closing with these words: "Bridget, I have the power to send you to the State prison for a long time, and I have the power not to send you there. This I shall exercise in your behalf, and let it be a warning to you. I shall sentence you to the city prison for two days."

After the adjournment of the court, however, the case assumed a new and different aspect. It was whispered that a discovery had been made that the woman was an old offender, having been once in Sing Sing and twice in the penitentiary. This was told to the recorder, who at once sent for the papers and the court list, till Monday morning, when proof was expected. Our agent immediately saw the accused, who denied positively the truth of the story. She stated that she had landed in the country only a few months previously, viz., on the 2d of January preceding, and gave the names and residences of her family and friends in Jersey city. The next day—since works of mercy are expressly excepted from the law of the Sabbath—our agent devoted five hours to a laborious and thorough inquiry into her character. All who knew her, spoke in the highest terms of her honesty and general worth. A certificate was obtained from the Commissioners of Emigration to the effect that, "———, aged 26, arrived in the ship Australia, on the 2d of January;" and an authenticated copy of the ship's manifest was placed in his

hands. All this having been reported in court on Monday morning, the recorder was perfectly satisfied and ordered the instant discharge of the prisoner. Her aunt was waiting in the office of the Association, and the two left, with boundless thanks for the trouble taken by the agent, who assured her that his object was to save her from doing wrong in the future. He adds in his diary: "She promised us—'No, NEVER!'—and we believed her."

No. 6. Was brought up for trial before the recorder on a charge of grand larceny—stealing a wagon. After ascertaining the facts in the case, our agent assured the district attorney that no felonious taking away could be proved. The foolish fellow had taken an unusual quantity of drink on Washington's birthday. On his way home, he saw a number of boys who were trying to remove a wagon. The half-crazed creature got into the shafts and pulled, while the boys pushed behind. After dragging the wagon two blocks, he dropped the shafts and went home. The owner had him arrested, and the justice committed him for trial, on a charge of grand larceny. The district attorney declined to move for a *nolle prosequi*, preferring that the case should go before the jury. The complainant was placed upon the stand, and told the truth. The recorder instructed the jury to acquit. The young man had a wife and one child dependent upon his labor, and had been in prison nearly two weeks. We quite agree with our agent in the opinion expressed in his diary, that "in such a case, the committing magistrate should be proceeded against for damages, and they should be heavy."

No. 7. Was brought up for trial on an indictment for

larceny. She protested her innocence. Our agent entreated her to tell the truth. She persisted in denying her guilt, alleging that the man was drunk and could not tell who robbed him. He swore positively that she had taken the money from his pocket, and the officer who searched her swore that he had found \$7 in her mouth. The jury found her guilty, as a matter of course. The judge informed our agent that he thought of sentencing her to four months in the penitentiary. Mr. Beal urged him to make it twelve, as even such a sentence would be one of mercy. The judge was convinced and sentenced her accordingly.

No. 8. This was the case of two boys, each aged 15 years, whom we will name William and Henry. They were found by our agent in the Tombs, weeping profusely. They were members of the same Sabbath school, and were quite intimate. William was employed in the office of a real-estate broker. He was sent with \$282, small uncurrent notes, to get them converted into city notes of a larger denomination. On his return, the thought flashed into his mind, "How I should like to go to Illinois! If Henry will accompany me, I will go." The proposition having been made to Henry, it was agreed between them, though not without many misgivings, and a good deal of hesitancy, that they would set off at once. They bought tickets and went on board an Albany steamer, having previously, however, expended \$30 in the purchase of two revolvers and a silver watch. The boat would not start for some time. Henry said to William, "Let us sit down and talk the matter over." They began by saying, "We are doing wrong; we are thieves; we shall be arrested before we get

to Illinois; besides, *what will our parents say and do? we can never go to Sabbath school again,*" and many other things to the like effect. Henry then proposed: "Let us go back; let us go home and tell all the truth; it will be the best thing we can do." The lads wept together over their sin, and resolved to go at once to their homes and ask forgiveness. As they retraced their steps, they saw more clearly how dreadful had been their transgression. *The pistols and the watch troubled them.* How to meet their parents, and especially their mothers, they knew not. But home they went, nevertheless. An officer had been sent in pursuit of them. On their arrival, he took them into custody. William had given the balance of the money into the care of his companion. This, and also the pistols and watch were given up; and the boys were sent to the Tombs and placed in the same cell, where our agent found them, as stated above, overwhelmed with sorrow. He adds in his diary: "O how much they seemed to feel their guilt! We believe they were sincerely penitent. In a few days they were bailed out by their friends. We have no doubt at all, that the light and knowledge acquired by these boys in the Sabbath school was mainly, if not wholly, instrumental in preventing them from leaving for Albany. It was the knowledge thus acquired, which led them to pause and consider their ways, which induced in them so deep a sense of the great sin they had committed, and which finally brought them to the resolution to return to their homes, and frankly confess the wrong they had done. Entertaining this view, we are led, irresistibly, to thank God for that noble institution—THE SABBATH SCHOOL."

No. 9. Was an Englishwoman, of eighteen years, though appearing much younger. On a certain Wednesday, she was arraigned before the recorder, on a charge of grand larceny, and pleaded guilty. Afterwards her counsel came into court and prayed that her plea be taken from the record, as she was ignorant of the consequences. He was informed that this had already been done, and a plea of not guilty entered instead. Her trial was put on the calendar for Friday. When she was brought up, her counsel begged the district attorney to accept the plea of petit larceny, to which he assented. She was then remanded till Saturday morning for sentence. The recorder requested our agent to find out, in the meantime, all he could concerning the case, and report to him. The counsel expressed to the agent a deep sympathy for, as he said, "this poor young creature," and asked him to do what he could in her behalf. The agent began to suspect that all was not right. He had previously learned that the prisoner had two gold watches when arrested, and, despite his well known charity, he could not help suspecting that her counsel had made a similar discovery. He felt that these watches were in jeopardy, and communicated his apprehensions to the recorder. After the adjournment of the court, he saw the property clerk, from whom he learned that the prisoner had a large and very superior trunk, in which, besides the gold watches and \$22 in money, there was a great quantity of valuable clothing; and that her counsel had procured an assignment of this property, and that it would doubtless be given up to him. When the prisoner was brought up for sentence, her counsel begged the agent to report favorably

in her case, and to help her all he could. The recorder asked our agent what he had to say? He replied, "I desire your honor to remand the prisoner to some future day, for prudential reasons." The recorder said, "If you desire it, Mr. Beal, I will send her back," which was accordingly done. When the court room was nearly clear, Mr. Beal called the counsel aside, and said, "Mr. —, if you travel on the next year as you have traveled on the last, I apprehend you will find your way to Sing Sing." He simply smiled in reply. Mr. B. continued: "What has induced you to prepare an assignment and to serve it on the property clerk, but to deprive her of all she possesses?" He said that he now held the money (about \$18), and the two gold watches, but that the property clerk had refused to deliver the trunk till the prisoner was sentenced. Mr. Beal demanded the return of the watches, and warned him that the trunk would be taken at his peril. A few days afterwards, he received a letter from the counsel, accompanied by the watches, and an order on the property clerk for the trunk and clothes. On the following Saturday, the prisoner was again brought up for sentence. The agent submitted the facts, as stated above, to the recorder, and asked him whether, all things considered, he could suspend sentence, on condition that the Association would send the girl to Liverpool, and that she would leave the country immediately. He suggested and recommended such a disposition of her case, especially as the complainant himself made no objections, but, on the contrary, thought this the wisest course. The recorder committed her to the Association, with authority to sell a sufficient amount of her

property to pay her passage to England, and then to report to him. This was done as soon as practicable, and so the case ended.

No. 10. Was a German woman, who, under various false representations of the proprietor, had been brought with her two trunks, as cook, to a low restaurant, in west Broadway. She was introduced to the wife; but not liking the aspect of things, she charged the proprietor with deceiving her, and refused to assist in preparing the supper. She expressed a strong desire to leave that night, but they would not consent. Early in the morning she left the place. Later in the day, she called for her trunks. They were refused, till a trumped up claim of twelve shillings should be met. Unable to pay this exorbitant and iniquitous demand, she resolved to seek the advice of an officer. After hearing her story, he took her to the station house, and told his captain that she had nowhere to stay that night. This she denied, but was, nevertheless, locked up. The next morning the same officer had her taken before a police magistrate, before whom he testified that by her own voluntary statement she was without a home. Despite her denial, she was summarily sent to the workhouse. On her discharge, she applied to the Prison Association, of which she had heard while on the island, praying us to aid in recovering her clothes, if that were possible, and to protect and shelter her, until a situation could be obtained. Our agent first sent a line to the keeper of the restaurant, demanding her trunks. They were refused. He then applied to the mayor, through whose aid they were recovered without the payment of a dime. A situation was

obtained for the woman, where she is doing well, hard at work with a willing and cheerful heart, and very thankful to the Association for the aid so timely rendered.

No. 11. Was a woman charged with burglary in the city of Brooklyn. She had entered a house in the absence of the family, gathered up a large bundle of clothing, and removed it to a house in Williamsburgh, where it was subsequently found by a police officer. She represented that this was her first offence. Of this our agent had grave doubts. On making inquiry into her character, his suspicions were confirmed. Having learned that a discharge was expected, especially as the accused had many rich friends, he waited on the district attorney and communicated to him the result of his investigation. The consequence was, that the woman, instead of getting off on the false pretence that it was a first transgression, was sentenced for six months to the Flatbush penitentiary.

No. 12. Was a child of nine years, charged with petit larceny, and on that charge convicted and committed by the court of special sessions to the House of Refuge. The Association, at the time, demurred to this decision, believing it unsupported by the evidence. The facts of the case were as follows: The child was playing in the neighborhood of a pawnbroker's shop. A woman came up and asked her to go in and redeem a parcel for her, promising to reward her with some pennies. Thirty-three cents were placed in her hand with a ticket. The child went into the store, and laid down the money and the ticket. A lad behind the counter pushed two parcels towards her. She took them and delivered them to the stranger woman, for which ser-

vice she received two pennies. On the following day, the boy from the store, having ascertained the residence of the child's mother, applied to her for the parcel given in mistake. He was assured that both were given to the woman, the child having been simply employed by her to do the errand. The pawnbroker, believing the mother had the two articles, caused the child to be arrested; the police magistrate, under a like impression, committed her to the court of special sessions; and the court, in its wisdom, sentenced her to the House of Refuge. The Association carefully collected and arranged all the facts in the case, and submitted them to the court. The court said that the case had passed beyond its jurisdiction, as both conviction and sentence had been entered upon the record. The Association prepared a memorial to the Managers of the House of Refuge, which the court signed, setting forth the facts and praying for the release of the child. The Board promptly complied with our prayer, and restored the little creature to its distracted parents. Boundless gratitude was expressed for our interference.

No. 13. Was a porter, indicted for grand larceny, stealing \$3,000 from his employers, a firm in Water street. His counsel advised him to plead guilty to an attempt at grand larceny, which plea was accepted by the district attorney, probably because the prosecutors had no desire to see him punished with severity. The recorder requested our agent to investigate the case thoroughly, and ascertain why the complainants wished to show him so much mercy. The case is too long for transcription here. Suffice it to say that, after a most careful and diligent

1862  
inquiry, the Association felt compelled to report that nothing appeared in the case of an extenuating character, and that the accused richly deserved a severe sentence. The man was sent to Sing Sing.

The above cases are but specimens out of hundreds of a like character, which might be quoted, did space permit. They demonstrate one thing, we think, conclusively, viz: That, in our labors as a Prison Association, we pursue justice, as well as practice humanity. The three cases, above cited, in which we have interposed—and interposed effectively—to increase the punishment which had been contemplated by the courts, present a fair average of our labors in that direction. In our sympathy with and efforts for the ignorant, the weak, the tempted, and the fallen, who give evidence of repentance and a desire to reform, we do not forget to wage a vigorous warfare against crime; nor do we permit mere sentiment to sway our action with regard to hardened offenders. And even in cases where we extend assistance and relief, though humanity prompts, judgment regulates the benefaction.

One of the cases above reported illustrates an important object of the society's operations: the protection of the young, the inexperienced, and the defenceless against the wiles of unprincipled counsel. It shows that the Association keeps its eye on a certain class of lawyers—we sincerely rejoice that it is so small a class—who are but too willing to prey upon the ignorant and the defenceless, often squeezing from them the last penny they possess. And it shows, further, that our efforts in this direction are not wholly in vain.

## II. DISCHARGED CONVICTS.

The Association seeks to encourage and assist discharged convicts in their efforts at leading upright lives, and gaining an honest living. The object of punishment is twofold—to vindicate the majesty and righteousness of the law, and to reclaim and reform the transgressor. The last named of these objects, though, perhaps, inferior in dignity, is scarcely inferior in importance, so far at least as the interests of society are concerned. To this object, the efforts of our society are constantly and earnestly directed. While other benevolent institutions have been leading the van in the great march of humanity, or toiling to keep the main body in motion, this Association has been busy in the rear ranks, comforting the wretched, strengthening the feeble, succoring the tempted, raising the fallen, reclaiming the vicious, and extending a helping hand to those who have been neglected or trodden down in the unequal pressures of society. It has never faltered in its purpose of doing good to the unfortunate, the fallen, and even the vicious and the criminal, despite much unavoidable misapprehension and much undeserved and unjust reproach. There is, indeed, nothing intrinsically attractive to society in sympathy for offenders, who have endangered its safety and disturbed its peace. Although humanity to convicts is eminently conservative, yet no man can invoke humanity for the convict without being suspected of a bad ambition; and no man can alleviate the punishment of the criminal without drawing upon himself the anger of those who derive personal satisfaction from the inflictions of social justice. Yet our holy religion makes no distinction as to

the prisoners, whom it enjoins upon us to visit, to care for, and to relieve. And it is this pre-eminently humane and unselfish principle, which lies at the very foundation of our society, and to which it is seeking to give that broad and effective application, which was manifestly intended by Him who announced it as the law of His kingdom.

Truly pitiable has heretofore been the condition, and dismal the prospect of the discharged convict. Such often suffer beyond expression, or even conception, the blighting influence of despair. These wretched and friendless beings come from the prisons, on the expiration of their terms of sentence, branded as infamous, and cut off from the confidence and sympathy of the community. Nothing tends so much to defeat the reformation of convicts, as the position in which they are placed, when, having undergone the sentence of the law, they are discharged from their imprisonment. The odium attached to the crime, is continued to the criminal, after he has suffered its penalty. He is restored to society; but prejudice repels him from its bosom. Years of penitence and toil have atoned to society for his crime, and have given him, at once, habits of industry and skill to direct his labor; but no means are provided, no opportunity is afforded, for the exertion of his powers. He has no capital of his own, and that of others will not be entrusted to him. He is not permitted to labor; he dare not beg; and he is too often compelled, by the sheer terrors of starvation, to plunge anew into the same crimes, either to suffer the same punishment, or, perchance, by greater caution and cunning, to avoid detection and continue his depredations on society.

But a new era dawned upon the criminal with the formation of this society. It has given to convicts new hope and new incentives to virtue. They feel that they are no longer hunted like wild beasts, but cared for as rational beings. The consequence is, that many resolve so to conduct while in prison, as to merit assistance when they come out. And nobly is that resolution kept in numerous instances. The Association can point to numbers of its beneficiaries, who are doing well, and who possess the confidence of their employers and the respect of the community. When we consider what was the condition of these persons, when they first claimed our assistance, broken in health, prostrated in mind, without friends, without solace, without hope even, and now see them industrious, respected, and happy, it is a source of unalloyed gratification, and affords the strongest incentive to perseverance in our labors. These erring ones are members of the human family, as well as we. They are our brethren; children of the same Father; heirs of the same immortality; candidates for the same heavenly inheritance; and, which is an infinitely higher consideration, the Redeemer of the World is equally willing to save them, as he is the more favored of their fellow creatures.

Many look upon a man convicted of crime, almost with loathing and dread. The greater part of the world, at least the unthinking part of it, regard all convicted criminals in the same light, that is, as utterly depraved and hopelessly fallen. But this is a sad mistake. Those who labor among prisoners know that they are still men; with human sympathies and affections, as well as human passions and vices.

The experience of this Association has abundantly shown that a large proportion of those who leave our State prisons need only friends to lean upon, and kind judicious counsel from those friends, to strengthen those good resolutions and aspirations, which are apt to spring up in every human breast, after seasons of severe humiliation. To extend such needed counsel, in all hopeful cases, is the design and endeavor of this Association. It institutes a strict scrutiny into the character and conduct of criminals while in prison. As to those who give no hope of reformation, it reports their names to the officers of justice, to the end that they may be closely watched, and early arrested in any new career of crime which they may attempt. As to the others, who hold out promise of amendment, it aids them to the extent of its ability, in their efforts to reform, by extending such pecuniary assistance as may seem proper and necessary, by procuring employment for them, and by encouraging them, in every practicable way, to lead honest lives and sin no more. So favorably is this branch of our labor regarded in Europe, that intelligent prison officers there have expressed the opinion that, without some such agency as that afforded by our society, all that can be done for the prisoner, during his incarceration, is comparatively useless.

The practical working of this department of our labors may be best shown by a few cases:

No. 1. Was a convict who had been imprisoned in Sing Sing for an offence committed in a moment of sudden temptation, but who had previously sustained a fair reputation. After his release, he stated that he had looked



forward to his discharge with high anticipations of pleasure; but that now, on his return to his native city, nearly all his old friends passed him without recognition, although a very few would take him coldly by the hand, and, with a patronizing air, say that they would like to do something for him, if only it were in their power. Said he, "I have looked around for employment; but every door is closed against me. The moment I am known as a discharged convict, I am shut out of employment, and, it appears to me, out of the pale of human sympathy. I am ready to work; there is no kind of employment I would refuse; but the world appears in arms against me. O God! what shall I do? If Heaven had not passed sentence against self-murder, I would commit suicide; but this I dare not do. Christ has forgiven me, if man has not, and I must not offend him. But oh! I shall die. If I do, it will be the death of a man who has starved in a land of plenty for want of work. But when I die, it shall be the death of an honest man." A gentleman, who is well known in this city, having formerly been a member of the Legislature, and who is neither afraid nor ashamed to be known as a friend and helper of the fallen, aided him to start in business. He became a member of the Methodist church, lived a consistent christian life, was prospered in business, purchased a home for his family, laid up a competent support for them, and died a happy and triumphant death, beloved, respected, and honored by all who knew him.

No. 2. Was a young man, a foreigner, released from prison by pardon. Sensible how useless it would be to

attempt to find employment in the city, where he was known, he shipped on board a merchant vessel, under an assumed name. But his real name was soon discovered, and he was summarily dismissed. A second and a third engagement of the same kind were attended with the same result. In vain, too, he tried to procure a passage to his native country. Wherever he went he was pointed out as an old convict; and all his efforts to procure employment were defeated. At length, he determined to try another direction, and went to Albany, with the design of going west. He paid his fare on the canal, but being recognized, he was forthwith ordered to leave the boat. He returned to the city with feelings wounded and exasperated. "What am I to do?" he exclaimed; "must I starve? Wherever I go there is nothing but persecution. I am driven almost to despair. I can with difficulty resist the inclination to commit some desperate act of revenge for such treatment."

The above two cases, though not coming under the official care of the Association, we nevertheless venture to introduce, since they both illustrate, in a very striking and forcible manner, the difficulty experienced by discharged convicts in obtaining work; and the latter shows what a fearful spirit of revenge and of hostility to society is sometimes engendered by persistent, and, we cannot but add, unjust harshness to its offending members.

No. 3. Was a discharged convict who had been for four years in Sing Sing for grand larceny. On his release, he called at our office. He admitted that he was guilty; but says that he has reason to bless God that he was arrested and punished. Before his imprisonment he did not con-

[Assem. No. 26.]

sider; he was reckless because he was thoughtless. To deaden conscience and drown conviction, he drank. But when taken from all his evil associations, he began to reflect; and now hopes that he has sought the Lord and found him. Says he spent some happy hours with —, a fellow prisoner, who is, he believes, savingly converted to God. He hopes to be kept steadfast to the end, and that he may be saved. He has been provided with work, and is doing well.

No. 4. Had been ten years at Sing Sing, having been tried, convicted and sentenced on a charge of robbery. He says the men should reform now, as Mr. Hubbell is more like a father than a warden. They never had, during the last ten years, such a man. Said he, "He is a gentleman and a Christian; one of the right stamp." "What do you mean?" inquired our agent. He replied, "Mr. Hubbell so easily does unto others what he would that others should do unto him; and that I think is real vital religion, and no sham." He said that he had left the prison with four dollars, but hoped to do better and to earn more for himself the next ten years than he had the last. Being about to join a ship, he could not leave New York without calling to thank the gentlemen of the Association for visiting the prison, and saying *kind words* to the poor fellows there.

No. 5. Had been an exceedingly bad man, and, on a charge of grand larceny, committed under very aggravated circumstances, had been tried and sentenced to Sing Sing for five years. On his discharge he called upon our agent, and said that by the grace of God he trusted that he was a changed man. The death of a fellow prisoner affected

him much. That prisoner, he felt sure, had gone from earth to Heaven. He was a colored man, and had been a very hard case. But he sought Jesus the Saviour and found him. He died rejoicing. This led him to think of his soul and of his sins, and he said to his room-mate, "Let's you and I seek the same Saviour." He added, "I believe, sir, that he is mine. I hate and am ashamed of my sins; I love the things I once hated; I do believe that I hate sin, and that I can say, 'Lord, thou knowest all things; thou knowest that I love thee!'" He called on the Association, not to ask for any pecuniary aid, but to encourage them in their efforts to improve the condition of both the bodies and the souls of the prisoners. He is with his father and family in New Jersey. He asks the Association to think of him and pray for him. If this man is truly regenerated, if really, in the scriptural sense, "clothed and in his right mind," what a miracle of grace!

No. 6. Was a convict discharged from Clinton Prison, after serving out a sentence of two and a half years, having been convicted, by his own confession, of grand larceny. After his release, he called at our office, and stated that, after having been in prison for six months, he was led to *think*. He diligently read the Bible, and was constrained to seek the Saviour, whom he found, to the joy of his soul. He said that he still retained his confidence, and hoped to grow in grace. He felt that he loved Christ more and more daily, and was resolved to endeavor, by help from on high, to show that he is a branch of the living vine. He had been advised by the chaplain to call on us, that he might procure work. No situation having been found for him,

he was aided by the Association to go to his friends, in Worcester, Massachusetts.

It would be easy from the diary of our general agent, to fill volumes with similar testimonies to the power of kindness in the reclamation and reformation of convicts. As kindness has an almost miraculous power to calm the disordered in mind, so likewise it has to subdue the intractable in will. It has shown itself well nigh omnipotent in its influence upon the morally, as well as the mentally insane. It has lessened the number and mitigated the character of offences in our prisons. It has rendered punishments there less necessary and less frequent. It has replaced sullenness and turbulence with alacrity and good order. It has augmented the productiveness and value of prison labor; and, above all, it has increased the prospect and the hope of reformation, and has, there is reason to believe, in cases not a few, opened, in hearts the most obdurate and depraved, an ingress to the gentle, gracious and saving influences of the Holy Spirit.

### III. PRISON DISCIPLINE.

After attending to the cases and relieving the necessities of the detained and the discharged, as far as we have the ability and it would be proper for us so to do, another important object, which claims the attention of the Association, is the improvement of criminal law, both in its principles and its administration, and particularly the improvement of prison discipline and government. We seek the improvement of prison discipline both directly and indirectly. We seek such improvement directly by a careful inspection of prisons; by a comparison of the results obtained under

different systems of discipline; by observing the effects of these different systems upon the health and character of the convicts and upon the police and productive industry of the prison; by a cautious examination of their liability to abuse and their actual abuses; by collecting, tabulating and publishing statistics on all subjects relating to the government of prisons; by intercourse with prisoners, advising, warning, and reproving, yet hearing patiently their complaints; by imparting, as far as possible, to prison keepers and officials, right notions of discipline; and by laboring in all practicable ways, to elevate, enlarge, purify and render increasingly efficient the reformatory influences of prison life. Our institution seeks the improvement of prison discipline, indirectly, by the encouragement it affords prisoners to conduct well in prison, that they may be entitled to share in its benefits when discharged; by its influence in warming and cherishing the germ of hope in their bosoms; by the assurance which it gives them that, though fallen, they are not abandoned, and that, by honest and steadfast effort, they may regain respectability; and by its tendency to produce a better feeling in the community towards them, through the evidence which, from time to time, it presents of their reformation.

Prison discipline has been for ages a subject of concern, of thought, of experiment, of study, and of discussion, both with individuals and governments. But from the magnitude, perplexity and peculiar nature of the subject, and especially from the character of its objects, there is, perhaps, scarcely a more subtle or difficult theme in the whole range of human inquiry. Though great advances

have been made, it cannot be claimed that anything like perfection has yet been attained in the regulation, internal economy and penal discipline of prisons. We are, indeed, very far from having reached such a result; and the obligation to pursue the work of investigation, discussion, and improvement presses as strongly upon governments and private citizens at the present time, as at any previous period of our own or the world's history. This, though a broad and difficult field of research and labor, is nevertheless an attractive and promising one, embracing as it does the entire domain of criminal justice. From want of adequate pecuniary means to visit, inspect, and examine the prisons of our State as extensively as would have been desirable, and perhaps, also, from some deficiency of the needful zeal, we have as yet accomplished but a fraction of the work required in this branch of service. Nevertheless, the Association has devoted, as its annual reports show, no inconsiderable share of attention to this department of its labor. It claims, indeed, to have accomplished here an important work in detecting and exposing abuses; in restraining prison officials within proper bounds; in gathering and arranging statistics of crime; in conveying to the Legislature and to the public valuable information in regard to the condition and working of our penal institutions; and in introducing into our systems of criminal law and penal discipline economic and reformatory principles and measures, which are more humane, as well as more philosophical than many of those previously embodied therein. But precious as are the fruits already gathered in this field, we hope to gather still more precious

as well as more abundant fruit in future years; for it is our earnest desire and fondly cherished expectation to be able, at no distant day, either through public aid or private benefactions, to extend this part of our labors to every section of our State.

### RESULTS.

After this statement of the objects of the Association, and this exhibition of the nature and importance of its work, it will not be without interest, either to the Legislature or the public, to see a brief summary of what has been accomplished by the labor of eighteen years.

Fifty-five thousand seven hundred and fourteen persons, detained either for examination, or trial, or as witnesses, have been visited in prison, and suitably counseled.

Five thousand six hundred and thirty detained prisoners, either innocent, or very young, or manifestly penitent, have been discharged on the recommendation of the Association; and the children and youth included in this number have been restored to their distressed and anxious parents or friends.

Eighteen thousand nine hundred and eleven complaints have been examined.

Four thousand nine hundred and eight complaints have been, at the instance of the Association, discontinued as being either frivolous, or the result of passion or prejudice.

Seven thousand six hundred and seventy-six discharged convicts have been aided with money, or clothing, or both.

Two thousand seven hundred and twenty-nine discharged convicts have been provided with situations where they could earn, and where most of them are actually earn-

ing, an honest living; and where some of them; as mechanics, tradesmen, and even professional gentlemen, are amassing wealth. Less than five per cent. of these, according to the best information we can obtain, have ever been recommitted to prison; and a very large proportion appear to have been thoroughly reclaimed, and are pursuing a career of virtuous and useful industry.

Seventy-five inspections of prisons have been made, by which a great mass of valuable information has been collected, the condition and working of our penal institutions shown, and their government and discipline materially improved.

The criminal jurisprudence of the State is not a little indebted to this organization. A committee of the Association, of which Benjamin F. Butler, John Duer, and J. W. Edmonds were members, all eminent lawyers and jurists, after a laborious research into the criminal legislation of the commonwealth, running back through its entire history, drew the elaborate, comprehensive, and admirable bill, which the Legislature of 1847 enacted into a law, creating and fixing the present prison system of New York.

#### OUR GENERAL AGENT'S WORK.

Our general agent, Mr. Beal, has pursued his work in the detention and discharged convict departments with his usual industry, zeal, and success. He has, according to his wont, visited, systematically, the various prisons and houses of detention, in New York and Brooklyn, attended upon the criminal courts, and given special attention and aid to those cases which seemed to call for such interposition. The child or youth of tender years, the novice in crime, the emigrant to whom our language and laws are unknown, the wrongfully arrested, the guilty but penitent

prisoner, and those in whose cases mitigating circumstances are found to exist, have received from him, as the representative of the Association, that consideration which philanthropy should bestow upon the young, the weak, the ignorant, and the unfortunate. He has seen, conversed with, and counseled 5,000 persons, comparatively poor and helpless, in our city and detention prisons. He has examined 1,291 complaints, giving advice and aid to the persons against whom they had been made. He has procured the abandonment of 455 complaints, which were either trivial in themselves, or the result of prejudice, passion, or malice. He has procured the discharge of 406 persons, who were very young, or clearly innocent, or manifestly penitent. He has assisted with board, and aided to reach their friends or employment remote from the city, or to leave the United States, (of course from the treasury of the Association) 602 discharged convicts, and has supplied with clothing less or more, 111 others of the same class. And he has procured permanent situations, in town or country, for released prisoners.

#### THE ASSOCIATION AS A COURT OF CONCILIATION.

There is a feature in our agent's work, not referred to in any former report, and yet of such interest, importance and utility that it deserves to be brought distinctly before the public eye. It is well known that in some countries there are regularly constituted tribunals, called *Courts of Conciliation*, the design of which is to prevent as well family and neighborhood feuds, as tedious and expensive litigation, by an amicable settlement of differences. The labors of our agent supply, in a great measure, the want of such a court in this community. Innumerable difficulties, originating [Assem. No. 26.] 4

in mistake, passion, drink, or some sudden or frivolous cause, many of which would otherwise grow to formidable proportions, are adjusted through his agency. In this way husbands and wives, temporarily alienated, are reunited in feeling, hostile parties reconciled, offenders reclaimed, much expense saved to the community, and the sum of human happiness greatly augmented. These, or such as these, are every-day results of the agent's judicious interposition; results most important in themselves, as well as cheering to every humane and philanthropic heart.

#### ANOTHER AGENT NEEDED.

Since the formation of our society, this city has more than doubled its population. As a matter of course, the number of criminals, the business of our criminal courts, and the extent of our penal institutions and appliances have proportionally increased. As a consequence, there is more work to be done in our detention and discharged convict departments than any one man can possibly accomplish. Our agent is over-worked; and although his zeal is boundless, and, as any one may see from the exhibit made in a preceding paragraph, his activity and diligence untiring and incomparable, he can never fully overtake his work. In short, there is enough to be done to keep two men constantly employed; and it is the desire of the Association to give Mr. Beal an assistant, as soon as our finances will permit and the right man (by no means an easy part of the problem,) can be found.

#### EMPLOYMENT OF A CORRESPONDING SECRETARY.

The Association has made an important modification in its arrangements during the past year. We have long felt the need—indispensable to the most effective prosecution

of our work—of an executive officer, who would devote his whole time and energies to the interests of the society. We have accordingly, within the latter half of the year, invited to the office of corresponding secretary—heretofore rather nominal and honorary than otherwise—the Rev. E. C. Wines, D. D., late president of the City University of Saint Louis. He has accepted the position tendered him, and has entered upon the discharge of its duties. Thus far the result of the experiment has been every way satisfactory to the Association.

#### RESOLUTIONS OF ECCLESIASTICAL BODIES.

The corresponding secretary laid before several ecclesiastical bodies, that met in the autumn, the objects and claims of the Association, by all of which bodies resolutions of approval and commendation were unanimously adopted. We transcribe a few of these resolutions, that it may be seen in what estimation our work is held by persons most competent to judge of its utility.

“The Synod of New York and New Jersey, having listened to the statements of the Rev. E. C. Wines, D. D., in respect to the principles and history of the Prison Discipline Association of New York,

“*Resolved*, That in view of the good already accomplished by this society, the importance of its objects, and the discretion and efficiency of its present management, we cordially commend it to the attention and liberality of the friends of moral improvement and public order.

“SAMUEL L. TUTTLE, *Temporary Clerk*.

“BROOKLYN, October 22, 1862.”

“Extract from the minutes of the Third Presbytery of New York, in session in New York, Oct. 7, 1862:

"Resolved, That we have listened with deep interest to the statements of Rev. E. C. Wines, D. D., in regard to the operations of the Prison Association of New York, and that we sincerely rejoice in the great good manifestly accomplished by that philanthropic organization, and cordially commend it and its work to the benevolent public.

"A true extract.

"EDWIN HATFIELD, *Stated Clerk.*"

"The Second Presbytery of New York, having heard, with interest, a statement by the Rev. Dr. Wines, with reference to the objects and operations of the Prison Association of New York, do hereby

"Resolve, That, in the judgment of this Presbytery, the Association is engaged in an important work, worthy of the approbation, sympathy, and support of the Christian community."

"A true extract.

"R. H. HENRY, *Stated Clerk.*"

The other resolutions are similar in their purport.

#### PRESENTATION OF OUR CAUSE IN CHURCHES.

Our secretary has presented the cause of the Association in a number of the churches of New York, and its vicinity; has preached to the convicts in several of our prisons; and has prepared and published a variety of articles relating to our work in the secular and religious papers of this and other cities; as, also, in pamphlet form, a Statement of the Objects and Results of the Association, throughout its entire career. This has been stereotyped, by order of the executive committee, and is being widely

circulated. In these various ways, the society has become better known, an increased interest has been awakened in its objects and its work, and contributions secured to its treasury.

#### DUTIES OF THE CORRESPONDING SECRETARY.

It will be the business of the corresponding secretary, besides providing the needful funds, to carry on an extended correspondence both in our own country and Europe, with gentlemen connected with the administration of penal justice; to collect and examine reports of penal institutions at home and abroad; to present our cause in such pulpits as may be open to him, not only in the metropolis, but also in the chief cities of our State; to inspect and examine prisons; to make himself familiar with the doings of other organizations similar to our own, and with the whole range of penal literature; and to digest, arrange, and render available, in tabulated and other forms, the statistics of crime gathered from all quarters.

#### INSPECTION OF COUNTY PRISONS.

The jails in Columbia, Greene, Ulster and Dutchess counties have been visited and examined by the Association during the past year, through the Honorable John Stanton Gould, as their committee. His report of these inspections will be found printed *in extenso*, in the appendix. The Legislature will find, in these documents, facts and suggestions worthy of their earnest consideration. They will also notice, with pleasure, the description of the new prison at Poughkeepsie, in Dutchess county; which Mr. Gould characterizes as "a model jail;" adding also, that it appears to be controlled by "a model sheriff."

## STATE PRISON AT SING SING.

The Association regrets to report to the Legislature, that no official inspection of State prisons has been made by it during the year covered by the present communication. Nevertheless, the corresponding secretary having spent two days at Sing Sing prison, and the general agent having made repeated visits there, we are able to report, generally, a most gratifying state of things in that institution.

The Hon. G. B. Hubbell entered upon his duties as agent and warden of the Sing Sing prison, on the first day of May, 1862. On assuming that position, with its high and solemn responsibilities, he issued an address to the officers of the prison. This paper breathes a spirit of the tenderest and most exalted humanity, and enunciates principles of the most comprehensive and far-reaching wisdom. It is so enlightened, so important, so practical, so truly christian in its whole tone and temper, that we cannot and we desire not to resist the impulse to insert, in the appendix, a transcript of it unabridged. We are sure that the friends of prison reform, everywhere, will thank us for affording them the opportunity of perusing a document of such rare excellence. And they will be glad to learn that Mr. Hubbell is a man of actions as well as words. He reduces his theories to practice, and is nobly redeeming the pledges given on the occasion of his induction into office. He looks upon the convict as still a man; with man's sympathies and affections, as well as man's depravity and lusts. He sympathizes with him, though fallen. He believes in the practicability of his redemption. He thinks that a prison may be made, and ought to be made, a school of reformation no less than a place of punishment. He recognizes the gentle rule of love, as mightier than the iron rule of force. It is upon these ideas that the government and discipline of

Sing Sing prison are now administered. Thus far the excellence of the results corresponds with the nobleness of the theory. We ought not to omit one further fact in this connection, viz: that Mr. Hubbell appropriates a certain hour of each day in which any prisoner may come to him with his complaints, his burdens, his cares and his anxieties, whatever they may be. It is earnestly to be desired that this gentleman may be retained in a position for which he possesses such peculiar qualifications, and where he promises to be pre-eminently useful. His removal would be a public calamity. We sincerely hope that no considerations, political or otherwise, may lead to such a result.

## FINANCES.

The receipts and disbursements of the year are shown in the treasurer's report, which will be found in the appendix.

## THE WORKHOUSE ON BLACKWELL'S ISLAND.

One of the objects of the Prison Association is the improvement of the financial system of our penitentiaries, embracing convict labor, prison revenues, and prison expenses. By the third section of its charter, the Association was empowered to establish a workhouse for the purpose of receiving all disorderly persons, and persons committed as vagrants, and to keep, detain, employ them, &c. The Association, having no resources but those derived from voluntary contributions, soon found that the outlay in the erection of the intended workhouse would be too great for their means. Accordingly they applied to the city authorities for their co-operation in the measure. It will be recollected that they urged their suit from year to year, with no little zeal, and by a great variety of arguments. They, however, made but little impression upon those to whom



their arguments were addressed; at least they failed to obtain the necessary appropriations to carry out their plan. At length the subject was dropped from the annual reports, and has never reappeared in them until the present time. Nevertheless, the workhouse, proposed and for many years earnestly labored for by this Association, has been erected, and is now in happy and successful operation. To some persons who have read the reports of this society, and know, simply, the present existence of the workhouse, the omission to trace its history, or even to record its erection, has been an occasion of surprise and perplexity. The omission to make the record at the proper time, i. e., on the consummation of this important enterprise, was probably owing to the fact that such consummation was not immediately due to the efforts of the Association, though, certainly, having a not very remote connection with those efforts, since the gentleman to whom the erection of said workhouse was directly due was one of the founders, and for many years an active member of our society. The omission, to which reference has been made, we deem it proper to supply, even at this late day, particularly as the history is in itself interesting, and may be new to some members of the Legislature, as well as to not a few individuals of the general public.

At a court of oyer and terminer, held by the Hon. J. W. Edmonds, in December, 1848, he relieved the grand jury from all other duty, and charged them to inquire into the condition of our prisons, and the management of the alms-house department connected with them. After five weeks of careful industry, the grand jury made a presentment of the results of their investigation. Among other startling developments brought out by this most intelligent and

laborious inquiry, was the singular fact, that there were no less than 750 inmates of the penitentiary at that moment legally entitled to their liberty! Judge Edmonds addressed a note to the mayor, calling attention to the fact; stating that it was his duty forthwith to discharge all these persons; and suggesting that, as it was mid-winter, and many of them were poor and infirm, the city authorities should make some provision for their support. What was to be done in such an extraordinary and astounding condition of things? The invasion of the city by nearly a thousand desperadoes, let loose by a single stroke of the pen, would be worse than an irruption of Goths and Vandals combined. The publication of the presentment and of Judge Edmonds' letter had effectually aroused the public attention. Some twenty gentlemen, of the highest respectability and standing in the city, requested him to unite with them in devising measures to cure this manifold evil. He did so; and with their aid drew up a bill for the Legislature to enact into a law. It was sent to Albany by a committee appointed by the meeting above mentioned, and the Legislature passed the bill in its original shape, merely changing the names of some of the persons selected to carry the measure into effect, and making a few other minor alterations. This bill is known as the Ten Governors' Act, and removed the prison and alms-house departments of this city out of the reach of partisan politics. The gentlemen selected to carry the law into effect were fully imbued with the principles of reform, in which it had its origin; and one of their first measures was to erect a workhouse. The participation of the Prison Association in that measure, beyond the repeated and enlightened arguments by which they had but too unsuccessfully urged it, consisted principally in recommending

to the "Ten Governors," as a proper person to superintend the erection of the workhouse, Mr. Harmon Eldridge, the gentleman who had been principal keeper of the prison at Sing Sing, at the time our reforms there had been inaugurated and carried out. He was fully indoctrinated with our ideas, and he carried them out, as far as he could, in the construction and management of that institution.

### NEEDS OF THE ASSOCIATION AND ITS CLAIMS ON ECONOMIC GROUNDS.

The contributions received in past years have been quite inadequate to the wants of the Association. It has been often compelled, not only to dole out its charities in the most stinted proportions, but to deny all relief to many whom it has regarded as worthy and hopeful applicants; thereby subjecting them, in their weakness, to renewed temptation and a probable relapse into crime; and itself to the imputation, or at least to the suspicion, of pretence and insincerity. As a measure of public economy, the wealthier part of our citizens, who have the bulk of the taxes to pay, can scarcely lay out money to better advantage than in aiding our society in its work. While the Association, thus far, has cost the community less than fifty thousand dollars, there can be no doubt that it has saved it tens if not hundreds of thousands, in a diminished expenditure for the administration of criminal justice and the maintenance of prisons, on the one hand, and, on the other, in the accumulations of an industry which would have been, at least a considerable part of it, but a negative quantity. Regarded, then, in a merely economic point of view, our Association is a great social benefit, since it costs far less to prevent crime than to punish it; and the prevention of crime, by raising the

fallen, is the very foundation principle of our organization. The surest and cheapest protection to society against the bad, is to make them good; to convert felons into upright and useful citizens, a reformation which, by the blessing of God on suitable efforts, can be effected, as experience has shown, in a much larger number of cases than is commonly supposed possible. Self-interest, therefore, if there were no higher motives, should enlarge the charities of the benevolent towards the guilty and the fallen. They return to society, on their discharge, as has been remarked in a former report, either pirates or penitents; and it lies mainly with society to say which they shall be.

### OUR WORK MAINLY A WORK OF HUMANITY AND BENEVOLENCE—APPEAL FOR THE CRIMINAL AND THE PRISONER.

But, though the view presented in the preceding paragraph of the economic aspects and relations of our work, is undoubtedly true, it still remains, in its fundamental elements, a work of humanity and benevolence. The appeal of the criminal and the prisoner is to that high and noble philanthropy, which can overlook the past, and stoop to raise the fallen; that philanthropy, which whispers words of consolation to the erring, and guides the feet of the wanderer back into the path of virtue. It is a philanthropy akin to that divine benevolence, which, in calling backsliders to return, promises to "heal their backslidings;" nay, even to be "merciful to their unrighteousness," and to "remember their sins and iniquities no more." It is to such philanthropy that we would appeal in behalf of the discharged convict. We say to society: Give him another chance. Speak kindly to him. Let him have your sym-

pathy. Meet him with a smile, instead of a frown. Open the heart and the hand to his relief. He starts at his own shadow. He feels that, like Cain, he is "a fugitive and a vagabond upon the earth." Terrible, indeed, are his struggles; for he has foes within as well as without to combat. His soul is driven to and fro between the frowns of the world and the upbraidings of conscience. These, awaken remorse; those, despair. Does not a being, thus agitated and distracted, need sympathy and encouragement? And shall his appeal—shall our appeal for him—be in vain to those whom a kind Providence has guarded in the hours of temptation, and whose cup overflows with blessings? Remember the words of the Lord Jesus, at once so condescending and so gracious: "I was in prison, and ye came unto me;" "inasmuch as ye have done it unto one of the least of these my brethren, ye have done it unto me."

The committee return their cordial thanks to the friends, both old and new, whose generous contributions have enabled them to prosecute, efficiently and successfully, the important work which they have undertaken. They respectfully ask a renewal of these benefactions. There was never a time in our history when aid was more needed, and never a time when the needful assistance promised nobler results.

To the gentlemen of the bar, who have, at our request, kindly and ably pleaded the causes of a number of poor prisoners, we also return our most grateful acknowledgments.

In conclusion, the committee recognize, with devout gratitude, the good hand of our God upon us in the labors of the past year, and earnestly invoke a continuance of his gracious favor on our work during the year upon which we

are just entering. Without his blessing, we can accomplish no useful results; with it, we may patiently and cheerfully prosecute our labors, in the assured confidence of success.

All which is respectfully submitted, by order of the Executive Committee.

JOHN DAVID WOLFE,

*President.*

E. C. WINES,

*Corresponding Secretary.*

JNO. H. GRISCOM,

*Chairman Executive Committee.*

NEW YORK, December 31, 1862.

1862

---

APPENDIX.

---

(A.)

## HONORARY, CORRESPONDING. AND LIFE MEMBERS.

## I. HONORARY MEMBERS.

OSCAR I, .....	King of Sweden and Norway.
*Hon. B. F. BUTLER, .....	New York.
*Hon. John Duer, .....	do
Hon. Jno. W. Edmonds, ..	do
Abraham Van Nest, Esq.,	do

## II. CORRESPONDING MEMBERS.

M. ALEXIS DE TOQUEVILLE,	} Members of the Institute of France.
M. G. De Beaumont,	
M. C. H. Lucas,	
M. Demetz, .....	Membre du Conseil General du Departement du Seine et Oise, etc., Paris.
M. G. Blouet, .....	Architecte du Gouvernement.
I. G. Perry, Esq., .....	Inspector of Prisons of Great Britain.
Col. Jebb, .....	Surveyor General of the Prisons and Director of the Convict Prisons of Great Britain.
Edwin Chadwick, Esq., ..	London.
Dr. Verdeil, .....	Member of the Great Council, Vice President of the Council of Health at Lausanne, Switzerland.
Dr. Goss, .....	Geneva, Switzerland.
Jacob Post, Esq., .....	London.
*Rev. Louis Dwight, .....	Secretary of the Prison Discipline Society, Boston, Mass.
Francis Lieber, LL.D., ..	Prof. Political Science, Columbia College, New York, and Cor. Member of the Institute of France.
Wm. P. Foulke, Esq., .....	Philadelphia, Pa.
Stephen Colwell, Esq., ..	do
M. Moreau Christophe, ..	Chevalier of the Legion of Honor, France.
Dr. Varrenthrap, .....	Germany.
Samuel G. Howe, M. D.,	Principal of the Institution for the Blind, Boston, Mass.

\* Deceased.

Miss Dorothea L. Dix, . . .	Boston, Mass.
Prof. Nathan David, . . . .	Copenhagen, Denmark.
Hon. Charles Sumner, . . .	Boston, Mass.
Prof. I. L. Tellkampff, . . .	Berlin, Prussia.
John Haviland, . . . . .	Prison Architect, Philadelphia, Penn.
George Sumner, Esq., . . . .	Boston, Mass.

N. B. The Physician, Warden, and Chaplain of every Penitentiary in the county, are, *ex-officio*, corresponding members of the Association.

III. HONORARY LIFE MEMBERS OF THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE, MADE SUCH BY THE PAYMENT OF ONE HUNDRED DOLLARS OR UPWARDS AT ONE TIME.

George B. Archer . . . . .	New York.
James Boorman . . . . .	do
James Brown . . . . .	do
Wm. B. Crosby . . . . .	do
James Warren Delano . . . .	do
William Delano, Jr. . . . .	do
*George Douglass . . . . .	do
Meredith Howland . . . . .	do
James Lenox . . . . .	do
Samuel F. B. Morse . . . . .	do
Charles Parker . . . . .	do
Henry M. Schieffelin . . . . .	do
Mrs. Catharine L. Spencer . . .	do
Joseph Walker . . . . .	do
John D. Wolfe . . . . .	do
J. Walter Wood . . . . .	do
William Wood . . . . .	do
Joseph Howland . . . . .	Matteawan, N. Y.
Mrs. Jos. Howland . . . . .	do do
Rev. Nathan S. S. Beman, D.D. .	Troy, do
Rev. H. G. Ludlow . . . . .	do do
Rev. Mr. Darling . . . . .	Hudson, do
Rev. G. W. Perkins . . . . .	Meriden, Conn.
William Andrews, Esq. . . . .	do

IV. LIFE MEMBERS OF THE ASSOCIATION, MADE SUCH BY THE PAYMENT OF TWENTY-FIVE DOLLARS OR UPWARDS, AT ONE TIME.

J. W. Alsop . . . . .	New York
Jno. H. Anthon . . . . .	do
* Deceased.	

Wm. H. Aspinwall . . . . .	New York
Mrs. Jno. J. Astor . . . . .	do
W. B. Astor . . . . .	do
* David Austin . . . . .	do
* Anthony Barclay . . . . .	do
* Henry Barclay . . . . .	do
* John Bard . . . . .	do
Thomas Barron . . . . .	do
C. Bartlett . . . . .	do
Edwin Bartlett . . . . .	do
Samuel J. Beebe . . . . .	do
August Belmont . . . . .	do
James G. Bennett . . . . .	do
E. L. Benson . . . . .	do
Bartholomew Blanco . . . . .	do
* Henry Brevoort . . . . .	do
J. Carson Brevdort . . . . .	do
Louis K. Bridge . . . . .	do
Mrs. Arthur Bronson . . . . .	do
Sydney Brooks . . . . .	do
S. Broom . . . . .	do
Stewart Brown . . . . .	do
George Bruce . . . . .	do
Henry K. Bull . . . . .	do
Orsamus Bushnell . . . . .	do
Mrs. Burr . . . . .	do
* Benj. F. Butler . . . . .	do
Ira Bliss . . . . .	do
* Mrs. Maria Banyer . . . . .	do
Samuel B. Caldwell . . . . .	do
John Caswell . . . . .	do
Henry Chauncey . . . . .	do
Wm. T. Coleman . . . . .	do
E. K. Collins . . . . .	do
H. K. Corning . . . . .	do
Israel Corse . . . . .	do
Cyrus Curtiss . . . . .	do
Stephen Cutter . . . . .	do
Wm. F. Carey . . . . .	do
Henry C. De Rham . . . . .	do
* Deceased.	

Wm. E. Dodge	.....	New York
Wm. Douglas	.....	do
* John Duer	.....	do
Lucy H. Eddy	.....	do
* Thomas Eddy	.....	do
J. W. Edmonds	.....	do
P. W. Engs	.....	do
B. H. Field	.....	do
H. W. Field	.....	do
Hamilton Fish	.....	do
James Poster, Jr.	.....	do
James Freeland	.....	do
Wm. P. Furniss	.....	do
F. Garner	.....	do
John Gibon	.....	do
William C. Gilman	.....	do
Wm. C. Gilman, Jr.	.....	do
Winthrop S. Gilman	.....	do
J. B. Graham	.....	do
E. Boonen Graves	.....	do
John C. Green	.....	do
Henry Grinnell	.....	do
* Seth Grosvenor	.....	do
* Jasper Grosvenor	.....	do
Eliza P. Gurney	.....	do
Odgen Haggerty	.....	do
Wm. M. Halsted	.....	do
L. P. Hawes	.....	do
* Timothy Hedges	.....	do
A. Heckscher	.....	do
E. Herrick	.....	do
Silas C. Herring	.....	do
James Horn	.....	do
B. W. Howe	.....	do
Edgar M. Howland	.....	do
* G. G. Howland	.....	do
* S. S. Howland	.....	do
James C. Holden	.....	do
Thomas Hunt	.....	do
George F. Hussey	.....	do
Richard Irvin	.....	do

\* Deceased.

John Jay	.....	New York
* Miss Ann Jay	.....	do
E. S. Jaffray	.....	do
* J. R. Jaffray	.....	do
Solomon Jenner	.....	do
James J. Jones	.....	do
Walter R. Jones	.....	do
Alex. S. Johnson	.....	do
John Taylor Johnston	.....	do
William Kemble	.....	do
Wm. L. King	.....	do
J. Kinsman	.....	do
Charles P. Kirkland	.....	do
Josiah Lane	.....	do
Mrs. Langdon	.....	do
Samuel Leeds	.....	do
Jacob Le Roy	.....	do
Jacob R. Le Roy	.....	do
* C. M. Leupp	.....	do
* H. B. Livingston	.....	do
Daniel Lord	.....	do
Rufus L. Lord	.....	do
Peter Lorillard	.....	do
* Cornelius Low	.....	do
Nicholas Low	.....	do
A. A. Low	.....	do
Abijah Mann	.....	do
J. Matthews	.....	do
James McBride	.....	do
Allan McLane	.....	do
Wm. T. McCoun	.....	do
R. B. Minturn	.....	do
W. H. H. Moore	.....	do
E. D. Morgan	.....	do
George D. Morgan	.....	do
* Matthew Morgan	.....	do
Wm. F. Mott	.....	do
* Lindley Murray	.....	do
* R. H. Nevins	.....	do
Clayton Newbold	.....	do
Wm. Newell	.....	do

\* Deceased.

Wm. Niblo .....	New York
Adam Norrie .....	do
Wm. Curtis Noyes .....	do
Charles O'Connor .....	do
D. W. C. Olyphant .....	do
Wm. Othout .....	do
* John J. Palmer .....	do
E. Parmly .....	do
F. Pell .....	do
J. Phalon .....	do
Geo. D. Phelps .....	do
John A. Pullen .....	do
P. R. Pyne .....	do
Robert Ray .....	do
Freeman Rawdon .....	do
Wm. C. Rhineland .....	do
Geo. S. Robbins .....	do
C. R. Robert .....	do
C. V. S. Roosevelt .....	do
Samuel B. Ruggles .....	do
Israel Russell .....	do
Joseph Sampson .....	do
Adam T. Sackett .....	do
* David Sands .....	do
* Peter Schemerhorn .....	do
* Dudley Selden .....	do
J. F. Sheafe .....	do
Austin Sherman .....	do
B. B. Sherman .....	do
Cornelius Smith .....	do
T. B. Stillman .....	do
Jonathan Sturges .....	do
* Gerard Stuyvesant .....	do
Mrs. Helen Stuyvesant .....	do
L. I. Suarez .....	do
Otis D. Swan .....	do
Charles N. Talbot .....	do
Moses Taylor .....	do
James H. Titus .....	do
S. P. Townsend .....	do

\* Deceased.

Geo. T. Trimble .....	New York
Archibald S. Van Duzer .....	do
Abraham Van Nest .....	do
James Van Nostrand .....	do
P. S. Van Rensselaer .....	do
A. Ward .....	do
Geo. C. Ward .....	do
Salem H. Wales .....	do
W. Walker .....	do
* Robert D. Weeks .....	do
Prosper M. Wetmore .....	do
Samuel Wetmore .....	do
Eli White .....	do
James R. Whiting .....	do
* Stephen Whitney .....	do
Samuel Willets .....	do
William E. Wilmerding .....	do
B. R. Winthrop .....	do
* R. H. Winslow .....	do
E. J. Woolsey .....	Astoria, N. Y.
* Wm. S. Packer .....	Brooklyn, N. Y.
Matthew Vassar .....	Poughkeepsie, N. Y.
H. Burrell .....	Salisbury, N. Y.
Rev. J. S. Clark .....	Waterbury, Conn.
Rev. Mr. Elliott .....	do
Rev. Mr. Searls .....	Meriden, Conn.
D. S. Gregory .....	Jersey City, N. J.

\* Deceased.



(B.)

## TREASURER'S REPORT.

The PRISON ASSOCIATION of NEW YORK, in account with Wm. C. GILMAN, Jr., Treasurer.

1862.	Dr.	
Dec. 31.—To disbursements to date; including salaries, rent, stationery, postage, traveling, printing, relief of discharged prisoners and others, as per vouchers on file		\$2,856 87
To balance on hand to new account		378 71
		<u>\$3,235 58</u>

1861.	Cr.	
Dec. 31.—By balance on hand from old account		\$6 85
1862.		
Dec. 31.—Donations to date		3,228 73
		<u>\$3,235 58</u>

NEW YORK, Jan. 29, 1863.—I have carefully examined the accounts of the Treasurer, and find them correct.

S. H. WALES,

*Chairman Auditing Committee.*

Since the close of the fiscal year, the Common Council of the city of New York have appropriated \$2,500 to the Association, for which liberal benefaction our thanks are due and gratefully tendered.

1862

(C.)

DONATIONS TO THE N. Y. PRISON ASSOCIATION, FROM  
JAN. 1, 1862, TO JAN. 1, 1863.

Abel, J. H.	\$10 00
Adams, J. T.	5 00
Alsop, J. W.	5 00
Archer, Geo. B.	100 00
Arnold, Constable & Co.	5 00
Aspinwall, Wm. H.	50 00
Astor, Mrs. Jno. J.	25 00
Badger, J.	5 00
Belmont, August	25 00
Blanco, B.	15 00
Boker, Hermann & Co.	15 00
Boorman, James	25 00
Bowne, Robert	5 00
Bradford, A. W.	10 00
Brodie, George	2 00
Bronson, Mrs. A.	10 00
Brown, James	25 00
Brown, Stewart	10 00
Bruce, Geo.	50 00
Bull, Henry K.	50 00
Burr, the Misses	25 00
Butler, Wm. Allen	10 00
Caldwell, Samuel B.	25 00
Cambreleng, S.	15 00
Carter, Robert	20 00
Carcy, W. F.	35 00
Caswell, Jno.	25 00
Chancey, Henry	10 00
Christ, Jay & Co.	5 00
Clark, Wilson & Co.	10 00
Coleman, Wm. T.	25 00
Collins, Joseph B.	10 00
Collins, Stacey B.	5 00
Corning, H. K.	50 00
Cruikshank, James	5 00

[Assem. No. 26.]

7

Cutter, Stephen	\$25 00
Dennistoun & Co.	25 00
Dillon, Robert	5 00
Doubleday & Deak	5 00
Duncan, Sherman & Co.	25 00
Eddy, Lucy H.	25 00
Everts, William M.	5 00
Fleming, Augustus	5 00
Gilman, Arthur	15 00
Gilman, D. C.	5 00
Gilman, William C.	50 00
Gilman, William C., Jr	50 00
Gilman, Rev. E. W.	5 00
Gilman, Winthrop S.	50 00
Granniss, Henry E.	10 00
Graves, R. R. & Co.	10 00
Harper & Co.	5 00
Havemeyer, W. F.	10 00
Hawes, Loring P.	10 00
Hay, Allan	10 00
Hegeman, William	10 00
Hendricks, Brothers	10 00
Hoe, Robert	5 00
Holden, James C.	10 00
Howland, Meredith	50 00
Howland, Mr. & Mrs. Joseph	100 00
Hunt, Wilson G.	5 00
Hunter, James	5 00
Irvin, Richard	20 00
Iselin, A.	10 00
Jaffray, E. S.	25 00
Jesup, Morris K.	10 00
Johnston, Jno. Taylor	50 00
Jones, W. R. T.	5 00
Kiggins & Kellogg	3 00
Keyser, Jno. H.	5 00
Lenox, James	200 00
Lorrillard, Peter	25 00
Low, A. A.	20 00
Loder, L. B.	2 00
Macy's, Josiah, Sons	10 00
Marsh, James	5 00
McLane, Allan	50 00
Messenger, Thomas	5 00
Middletou, Thomas D.	10 00
Milbau, John	5 00
Molliss, J. F.	5 00
Minturn, Robert B.	25 00
Moore, W. H. H.	25 00

Moran, Brothers	\$5 00
Moorewood & Co.	5 00
Morgan, E. D.	25 00
Morgan, Geo. D.	25 00
Morse, S. F. B.	100 00
Mott, Wm. F.	5 00
Mott, Wm. F., Jr	5 00
Munn, O. D., Jr	5 00
Murray Fund	25 00
Naylor & Co.	25 00
Newbold, Cleayton	25 00
Newcomb, Charles	5 00
Norrie, Adam	10 00
Noyes, Wm. Curtis	25 00
Oelrichs & Co.	10 00
Olyphant's Son & Co.	20 00
Olyphant, Robert M.	20 00
Oothout, William	5 00
Opdyke, George	10 00
Oppenheim, J. M. & Co.	2 00
Owen, Thomas	20 00
Palanca, Ramon	5 00
Parsons, Jno. E.	10 00
Passivant & Co.	5 00
Pavenstedt & Co.	10 00
Peabody, Chas. A.	5 00
Penfold, Jno.	10 00
Perkins, Dennis & Co.	5 00
Perkins, L.	10 00
Perry, Theodore	5 00
Pierson & Co.	5 00
Phelps, Dodge & Co.	25 00
Platt, Ebenezer	10 00
Poppenhusen, Koenig & Co.	10 00
Post, William	10 00
Prosser, Thomas & Son	5 00
Rhinclander, Wm. C.	25 00
Robbins, Geo. S.	5 00
Rodewald, Adolf	5 00
Rogers, Charles H.	5 00
Roosevelt, C. V. S.	45 00
Rusch, F. & A.	5 00
Ryder, E. T.	3 00
Sackett, Adam T.	10 00
Sands, Mrs. A. B.	5 00
Sand, C. H.	5 00
Schepeler & Co.	5 00
Schieffelin, Henry H.	5 00

Schieffelin, James L. ....	\$5 00
Schieffelin, Samuel B. ....	5 00
Schieffelin, Sydney A. ....	5 00
Schieffelin, Philip & Co. ....	20 00
Schlesinger, Frederick S. ....	5 00
Schmidt, J. W. ....	5 00
Skidmore, Samuel T. ....	5 00
✓ Smith, Gerrit. ....	10 00
Smith, Uriah J. ....	5 00
Solomon & Hart. ....	5 00
Spencer, Mrs. C. L. ....	100 00
Stamford Manufacturing Co. ....	5 00
Stoughton, E. W. ....	5 00
Sturges, Jonathan. ....	10 00
✓ Swan, Otis D. ....	5 00
Talbot, Charles N. ....	20 00
Tapscott & Co. ....	10 00
Tappan, J. Nelson. ....	10 00
Taylor, Robert L. ....	10 00
Titus, James H. ....	25 00
Tracy, William. ....	5 00
Trimble, Geo. T. ....	10 00
Tucker, William. ....	5 00
Ubsdell, Pierson & Lake. ....	5 00
Van Horne, Miss A. M. C. ....	10 00
Vietor, F. & Achelis. ....	5 00
Yose, J. G. ....	5 00
Wales, Salem H. ....	10 00
Wallace, Miss Isabella. ....	10 00
Walker, Joseph. ....	25 00
Walsh, A. R. ....	10 00
Ward, Geo. C. ....	50 00
Weston & Gray. ....	25 00
✓ Wetmore, A. R. ....	5 00
Wetmore, Samuel. ....	25 00
Wheelwright, B. F. ....	5 00
Wiggin, Augustus. ....	5 00
Willets, Samuel. ....	25 00
Williams, Richard S. ....	5 00
Williams, David S. ....	2 00
Wilmerdings, Hoguet & Humbert. ....	5 00
Wines, E. C. ....	10 00
Wolfe, Jno. D. ....	100 00
Wolsey, E. J. ....	50 00
Consul-General of France. ....	5 00
Loan returned by a prisoner. ....	3 00
do do. ....	50
New York Observer, through the. ....	10 00

"Anonymous Friend" .....	\$10 00
do do. ....	5 00
Seventh Avenue Methodist Episcopal Church. ....	9 23
Sing Sing Prisoner. ....	1 00
do do. ....	1 00
Winterton, S. S. Miss. Association, Laight street church. ....	5 00
A discharged convict. ....	5 00

*Special Contributions for Printing and Advertising.*

Blanco, B. ....	\$5 00
Bull, H. K. ....	5 00
Brown, Stewart. ....	5 00
Cutter, Stephen. ....	5 00
Gilman, W. S. ....	10 00
Holden, Jas. C. ....	5 00
Macy's, Josiah, Sons. ....	5 00
Norrie, Adam. ....	5 00
Schieffelin, Jas. L. ....	5 00
Sturges, Jonathan. ....	5 00
Wales, Salem H. ....	10 00
Wines, E. C. ....	5 00

*Special contributions to aid a distressed family.*

Hills, S. C. ....	\$1 00
Joy, Jos. F. ....	5 00
Munn, O. D. ....	2 00
Wales, S. H. ....	2 00

Total contributions during the year. .... \$3,235 58

The Association has to return its thanks to R. Carter & Bros. for a donation of fifty volumes, and to the Messrs. Appleton, for a donation of forty volumes, for prison libraries.

(D.)

MR. GOULD'S REPORT OF HIS EXAMINATION OF  
COUNTY PRISONS.

I. COLUMBIA COUNTY JAIL.

I visited the Columbia county jail on the 30th day of September, 1862, in conformity to the appointment of the Prison Association.

Having, in former reports, now on file in the office of the Association, described the structure of the jail and its general management, it will be unnecessary to go over the ground again, the only change being the introduction of a water-closet into the men's prison, during the last year, which has greatly improved its sanitary condition.

The air in the lower cells is, now, very sweet, but the upper cells still continue exceedingly offensive. Defecation, in the women's prison, is still performed in covered tubs.

*Commitments.*

The jail books to April 1st, of the present year, are in the hands of the jailor, and are not at present accessible. The following table represents the commitments from the 1st of April to the 1st of September, 1862.

For vagrancy	149
For assault and battery	96
For assault on officers	6
For assault	3
For assault with dangerous weapons	1
For breach of the peace	34
For malicious mischief	46
For petit larceny	33
For grand larceny	10
For burglary and larceny	1
For child stealing	1
For abduction	1

For embezzlement	3
For obtaining goods on false pretences	4
For receiving stolen goods	1
For drunk and disorderly	10
For disorderly	52
For disorderly vagrants	7
For drunkenness and exposure of person	3
For drunkenness and neglect of family	1
For taking liquor into jail	5
For keeping disorderly house	5
For violation of city ordinance	85
For passing counterfeit money	4
For misdemeanor	1
For contempt of court	3
For abandoning children	1
For insane vagrant	1
For perjury	1
For arson	3
For obstructing railroad	1
For prostitution	1
For jail breach	1
For offences not stated	2

This list represents a grand total of 579 commitments in five months, from a population of about 45,000.

The same proportion continued through the year would give a total of 1,389 commitments, or one commitment to every 32 inhabitants.

*Distribution of Offences.*

The above statement unexplained would give very inaccurate ideas respecting the prevalence of crime in this county.

The jail books do not enable me to distribute these crimes accurately among the several towns, but the sheriff and myself, who are both well acquainted with the people in the county, were enabled to arrive approximately at the result. About one hundred and eighty of these cases were vagrants from abroad, who had no domicile in the county, and who committed the offences while transiently passing through it. The remaining 399 cases of crime were committed by 200 persons, several of whom committed more than one offence. These 200 persons are included in about 90 families. Were these 90 families banished from the county, the jail of the county would be very nearly useless.

*Causes of Crime.*

These families are all well known to the officers, and they are, without exception, drunkards. They reside in back streets in the city of Hudson and the large villages of the county, and in their drunken spees, commit the "assaults and batteries," the "breaches of the peace," the "malicious mischiefs," and the "disorderlies," which appear so formidable in the above table. It is not uncommon for one member of one of these families to be committed ten or twelve times in the course of a year. It is a very trite remark that groghshops are the chief nurseries of crime; it has been sounded in the ears of the tax payers so often without effect, that it seems useless to repeat it. Yet it is true that the enormous cost of supporting the county jail and the police is solely chargeable to the groghshops. It is to maintain these that the tax payers are fleeced so heavily; and they will continue to be fleeced until they rise in a united mass and abate the evil.

*Malicious Mischief.*

This class of offences is almost exclusively committed by boys belonging to these families. They grow up without any parental restraint; they are uneducated, unemployed and ignorant; they are brought up in precisely those conditions best calculated to foster the most corrupt and debasing elements of their fallen nature. It is they who tear children's dresses, who rend off knockers and bell handles, destroy fruit trees, daub paint on genteel houses, and are guilty of all sorts of annoyances to respectable people, without deriving any benefit from their actions themselves. The 46 cases in the table were mostly committed by seven well known boys under 15 years of age, several of whom have been in jail more than twenty times.

*Maladministration of Justice.*

The routine of criminal procedure, in a large majority of cases, is as follows: A complaint is made before the police justice, who issues his warrant to a constable, who arrests the person complained of, for which he receives a fee. The magistrate commits him for farther examination, for which the constable and jailor both receive a fee. The offender is called up two or three times for re-examination, for each of which examinations fees are paid to the constable and jailor. Finally, some one comes forward and swears that he is worth a given amount of money, and signs a bail bond with the accused, who is bound over to answer to

the charge at the next court of sessions. No one appears at that court, and they are then discharged by proclamation. Or it may be that indictments are found against four or five of the prisoners; in this case the court of sessions will remit the case to the next over and terminer; the latter court will remit it back to the sessions; at the next term of sessions it will be put off on affidavit of the absence of material witnesses; and thus the cases are put off from court to court, on one pretext or another, until finally all parties get tired of the pursuit, a *nonle prosequi* is entered, and there is a final end of the matter.

Of the 430 cases remaining after the exclusion of the vagrancy cases, not five will be ultimately convicted and punished.

Two curious instances of maladministration of justice occurred while I was visiting the jail. One was admitted on a charge of assault and battery on a child, who had been dreadfully bruised and mangled; its clothes were brought to the jail all saturated with blood. The brutal man was a resident who had a vote, and had many friends who also had votes. He was admitted to straw bail, and the case will never be heard of again. Another, friendless and *voteless*, was committed for vagrancy; the next day he was committed to the penitentiary for six months!

*Health.*

No case of disease has arisen within the jail during the past year, nor has any one died therein. Several prisoners have been suffering with *delirium tremens* and the venereal disease on admission, and have been treated successfully for these complaints.

*Food and Cleanliness.*

The jail is clean, and is whitewashed throughout monthly. The jailor washes the under garments and bedding of the prisoners weekly. Combs, soap and razors are furnished when needed. The food is abundant and wholesome. Meat is given once a day, and fish on Fridays. The jail is heated by stoves.

*Vagrancy.*

I have already spoken of the numerous cases of vagrants committed to the jail. They are generally sent to the penitentiary at Albany for six months. It is believed that an alteration of the law, which should make it imperative on the justices to send vagrants, who are committed a second time, to the penitentiary for a year, and the third time for two years, would be a great improvement. The penitentiary would be willing to receive such

cases without charge to the counties, and the result would be to diminish very greatly this now increasing class.

#### *New Prisons.*

The Association has clearly shown in its reports that most of the prisons of the State are singularly deficient in securing ventilation and isolation. It is believed that much good would be done, and much relief be afforded to the tax payers, if boards of supervisors were prohibited from erecting any new jails, or making any alterations in existing prisons, where the expenses shall exceed one thousand dollars, until they have first submitted the plans for such new erection or alteration to the State Engineer and received his license to proceed according to such plan.

#### *Supplying Liquor to Prisoners.*

It will be seen in the table of commitments that five persons have been committed for this offence. Hitherto this has been a great nuisance in the jail; but the present sheriff, very greatly to his credit, has set his face firmly against it, and by his vigilance has detected and prosecuted these persons. Since this, the offence has been very rarely repeated, if at all. This evil exists very generally in our prisons, but if all sheriffs were as vigilant, the evil would be greatly diminished, if not entirely cured.

#### *Average number confined.*

There have been 40 prisoners in this jail at one time during the past year. At the time of my visit there were two men and four women. The average number is ten men and six women.

#### *Punishments.*

There is one darkened cell in the prison, and this is the only punishment used here.

#### *Escapes.*

There have been no escapes from the jail during the past year. The prison is no more secure than it has been in times past, when numbers of prisoners have escaped; but whether the exemption has been due to increased vigilance on the part of the jailor, or to the disinclination of the prisoners to hazard an indictment for jail breach, I have no means of knowing.

A few years ago the sheriff met a couple of his prisoners in the street, and found on inquiry that they had been in the habit of visiting a grogshop in the city for a fortnight, although they had been regularly present in the jail at meal times and lock up time. On making an examination he found a stone loose in the

foundation, where the prisoners could go in and out at pleasure. They found their quarters very comfortable, and had no idea of escaping.

#### JOHN STANTON GOULD.

#### II. GREENE COUNTY JAIL.

I visited the jail of Greene county, at Catskill, on the 3d of October, 1862.

I have described the structure of the jail on previous examinations, now among the archives of the Association. I have only to say, in relation to this matter, that the jail was erected A. D. 1812, and has not been in any way improved since. It is exceedingly insecure, there being nothing to hinder the passing in at any time in the day or night, any saws, crowbars, or other implements for jail breaking, or what is worse, liquor. In fact, liquor is frequently introduced, and is always the cause of insubordination and disturbance. There is no dungeon, nor shower bath, nor any other means, within the jail, of quelling these disturbances when they arise, or of punishing them afterwards.

#### *Commitments.*

The annexed table exhibits the commitments since the 1st day of January in the present year:

	Males.	Females.
Rape .....	1	--
Threats .....	4	3
Petit larceny .....	10	3
Obtaining goods under false pretences .....	2	--
Assault and battery .....	1	--
Assault with intent to kill .....	1	--
Desertion of family .....	1	--
Malicious trespass .....	1	1
Intoxication .....	13	2
Disorderly .....	1	--
Grand larceny .....	1	--
Forgery .....	1	--
Breach of peace .....	1	--
Perjury .....	1	--

Total commitments, 48; males, 39; females, 9.

It will be observed that vagrancy, which figures so largely in the report of the Hudson jail, does not appear at all in the above table. The reason is that in this county cases of vagrancy are

always sent to the poor-house, where they may be made to labor for their subsistence.

It will also be observed that seven of the committals are for *threat*. This is, to me, a new crime, which I never remember to have met with before; but in this county nothing more surely causes a committal than the utterance of threatening language.

There seems no abuse of the *habeas corpus* here, nor of repeated re-committals to produce turnkeys, and jailor's fees.

#### Health.

There has not been a single case of disease or death in the jail the past year. There was a prisoner committed for shooting his wife, who also attempted to kill himself, and was brought to the jail severely wounded, and was attended by a physician. With this exception, there has been no case requiring surgical treatment during the past year.

#### Religious Instruction.

No regular religious instruction is given to the prisoners.

#### Food and Cleanliness.

A sufficient amount of food, of good quality, is given to the prisoners, and the jail is kept in as clean a condition as it can be in view of its architectural elements. It is heated by stoves placed in the cells.

#### Escapes.

There have been no escapes during the past year, although from what has been said above, it will appear that the exemption has been owing more to good luck, than to good management.

#### Punishments.

No punishment is used in this jail except chaining to the floor. The common tubs are used for the excrements of the prisoners.

JOHN STANTON GOULD.

### III. ULSTER COUNTY JAIL.

I visited the jail at Kingston, Ulster county, on the 6th of October, 1862.

It adjoins the court house, through which is the only entrance to it. It measures 48½ feet in length by 34 feet in breadth, and is two stories in height. A corridor 10 feet wide runs through the centre of the building, on each side of which the cells are

situated. The cells are nine feet by 8 feet 6 inches, and 8 feet 6 inches in height. Each cell is lighted by a window opening on the exterior, 26 inches by 20 inches, and guarded by double gratings. Access to each cell from the corridor is obtained through an iron door, grated with band iron, and secured by a padlock. There is no opening in the door for the transmission of food without unlocking. This door hangs in the outside face of the cell wall, and is entirely too weak for security, as it can be easily pushed out by a man's strength, applied to the top, from an inch to two inches. On the inside face of the cell wall is a wooden door, fastened by a mortise lock, and has an opening at the bottom for the transmission of food. Each of these doors is five feet six inches high, and twenty-six inches broad. The floors of the cells are formed of stone flags four inches thick; these are covered with three inches of yellow pine planks. A bar of iron extends across the floor at each end and the middle, which is bolted down by rivets four inches apart, which extend through the flags, and are fastened on the under side of it. At the end of the corridor, opposite to the entrance, is a grated window, which admits air and light; on the other side of it is a water-closet.

#### Commitments.

	Males.	Females.
Grand larceny	12	--
Suspicious character	3	--
Rape	1	--
Burglary	5	--
Petit larceny	11	2
Vagrancy	28	10
Assault and battery	4	5
Stealing	4	1
Horse stealing	1	--
Highway robbery	1	--
Breach of peace	7	1
Prostitutes	--	10
Manslaughter	2	--
Murder	4	1
Attempt at rape	2	--
Drunk and disorderly	55	11
Desertion of family	3	--
Passing counterfeit money	1	--
Obtaining goods under false pretences	2	--
Beating wife	1	--

The above table shows the number of commitments from Jan. 1st to October 1st.

The whole number is 233, of which 180 are males, and 53 are females.

At the above rates the number of commitments in a year would be 310, or 240 males and 70 females.

#### *Health.*

No death has occurred in the prison.

One of the prostitutes, after being in jail a week, was seized with hysteric fits.

With this exception, no disease has occurred in the prison. As in other jails, several prisoners have been brought in with *delirium tremens* and venereal disease.

#### *Food and Cleanliness.*

Two meals only are allowed at any period of the year; in the morning, herring or meat, with potatoes, bread and coffee; in the evening, suppawn and milk or molasses, with bread and tea or coffee. The bread is made from rye flour, and the coffee from roasted rye. The food seemed abundant and wholesome, and no complaint respecting it was made by the prisoners.

Soap, towels, and combs are furnished by the jailor. The prisoners' underclothes are washed weekly, and the bedding once a fortnight. The water closets are white-washed twice a week, and the remainder of the prison once a month. The whole prison appeared sufficiently clean.

The jail is heated by furnaces placed in the cellar. But these have no communication with the outward air. Hence the warm air entering the prison is vitiated.

#### *Religious Instruction.*

Religious instruction is not furnished to the prisoners, except that the sheriff furnishes Bibles and hymn books to any prisoner who desires them at his own private expense. No clergyman, we were told, ever enters the jail.

#### *Escapes.*

There have been no escapes for the last three years. The greatest danger arises from the fact that persons from the outside can communicate with the prisoners during the day or night, and furnish them with saws, crowbars, and other means of escape. This danger might be obviated by building a high wall around

the prison, and the arrangement of means for the keeper to see the prisoners without being seen by them. These means are well understood by all persons conversant with prison architecture, and need not be described here.

#### *Punishments.*

Two dungeons are located in the cellar of this prison where noisy and rebellious prisoners are confined; this, with the application of shackles and gag, is all the punishment resorted to.

#### *Average number confined.*

There have been thirty persons confined here at one time during the past year. The number confined when I visited it was eleven men and seven women. This is exclusive of deserters from the army.

#### *Causes of Crime.*

Here, as in other jails, the causes of crime were mainly intemperance and licentiousness. Every man who was in jail at the time of my visit, acknowledged that he was a drunkard, and every woman except one, acknowledged herself a prostitute, and every prostitute save one, admitted that she got drunk whenever she could get liquor. There was one fine looking young man in jail, for the first time, on a charge of aggravated assault and battery. His father, a very respectable farmer of the county, came to visit him while I was making my examination, and was very much affected by his son's condition. He told me that up to within a year, his son had been industrious, docile, and sober, but about that time he formed the acquaintance of some young men who were tavern-haunters, and had rapidly acquired such a love for liquor as to be quite irresistible, and when in liquor, he was rude, brutal and quarrelsome. This is the ruin of thousands of farmers' sons.

\* \* \* \* \*  
JOHN STANTON GOULD.

#### IV. DUTCHESS COUNTY JAIL.

I visited the jail at Poughkeepsie, Dutchess county, October 8, 1862. I have, in two former reports, noted the wretched condition of the Poughkeepsie jail. I have now the pleasure to say that a new jail has been built and opened for the reception of prisoners, on the first of October, 1861, which is, in most respects, a model jail, and is controlled, (as far as I can judge,) by a model sheriff.

The jail is surrounded by a high and substantial brick wall,



with an area four feet in width between the building and the wall. This arrangement is of great importance, as it effectually prevents the introduction of tools or liquor from the outside. The building is 60 feet long by 33 feet in width, and is built of brick and cement 18 inches thick. At the south end, there are two rooms, the outer of which is used as a sort of office for the prison, and is 12 feet by 16 feet; the inner one, 12 feet by 14 feet, is used as a store-room. Over these, are similar rooms, the larger being used as a chapel, and the smaller as a lodging room for the jailor. Through the wall separating these rooms from the prison, are windows three feet high and eight inches wide, which command a complete view of the corridors. The entrance from these rooms to the prison, is through a double solid iron door, secured at the top and bottom by a bolt, which is held to its place by a hasp secured by a padlock. This opens a transverse corridor 5 feet 2 inches in width, at one end of which are a force pump and sink. There are two blocks of cells in the centre and two tiers, one above another; there are six cells in each block, and 24 cells in the whole, exclusive of the chapel, which is used for the detention of witnesses and persons confined for costs. The ends of the longitudinal corridors are fenced across by a strong iron grating which prevents access by the prisoners to the transverse corridor, except when they are allowed to go there to wash at the sink. These gratings add very greatly to the security of the jail, and it is to be hoped they will be introduced into many more of our prisons. Access is had to the upper tiers of cells by an iron gallery, and an open iron grating extends from the floors of these galleries to the outer wall, and by this contrivance the corridors are separated effectually into four parts, while the circulation of air and warmth is not interrupted. Each cell is 8 feet long, 5 feet wide, and 10 feet high, giving 400 cubic feet of air. The floor of the cell is of one piece of flag-stone, and the top is arched. There is a ventilating orifice three inches by eight inches, which communicates with air tubes, which are surmounted with Emerson's ventilating caps. The doors are of grated iron, without orifices for the transmission of food; they are hung on the outer face of the wall and are secured by a latch and a very good lock, which cannot be tampered with without great difficulty. The intercellular walls are of brick laid in cement, and are one foot thick. The front wall of the cell is cased with iron plates, and the casings of the doors are also of

cast iron. There are 12 windows to each corridor, 4 feet high and 20 inches broad. The gratings of these appear to me as not sufficiently strong. If a breach is ever effected, it will be through these windows. In the basement, is a very complete kitchen and an apparatus for generating steam. No dumb waiter is provided, as it easily might be, for sending the food up to the corridors. The whole jail is surmounted by an arch, and the roof is covered with slate; there are Venetian blinds in front of all the windows, so that the prisoners cannot see into the street. At present, they are of wood, and the prisoners often cut away the slats, but they are soon to be replaced by iron blinds.

#### Heating, Ventilating, and Lighting.

The jail is heated by steam generated in the basement; there is a radiator five feet by three feet in each corridor, and one in each of the other rooms; they are so contrived that the heating may be confined to one-quarter, or one-half, or three quarters of radiating surface. When the whole surface is used, the jailor says the air throughout the whole prison is of a summer-like temperature in the very coldest weather. There are two ventilators in each cell; there are four gas lights in the transverse corridor, placed opposite the centre of each longitudinal corridor; these are only lighted while the jailor is within the jail; if they were kept lighted all night, it would be a security against escapes. No other light is ever admitted.

#### Commitments.

	Males.	Females.
Petit larceny.....	15	4
Malicious trespass.....	2	--
Threats.....	5	1
Assault and battery.....	9	2
Burglary.....	3	--
Assault.....	7	--
Arson.....	1	--
Assault and battery with intent to kill.....	1	--
Prostitution.....	--	7
Drunkenness.....	31	6
Grand larceny.....	2	1
Murder.....	4	--
Vagrancy.....	4	5
Perjury.....	1	--
Keeping disorderly house.....	1	1
Violation of excise laws.....	--	1

[Assem. No. 26.]

The above table extends from January 1 to October 1, 1862. The whole number of commitments is 116, viz., 87 males, and 29 females. The same rates for one year would give 154 cases, viz: 116 males and 38 females.

#### *Health.*

One man died of chronic diarrhoea, caused by drunkenness, in the prison, during the present year. The disease was upon him when he entered the prison. Fifteen were committed under the influence of delirium tremens, and twenty with venereal disease. No case of sickness has arisen within the prison, and no cases, except these, have been treated by the physician. The salary of the physician is \$50 per annum, but medicines are furnished by the county.

#### *Food and Cleanliness.*

The bread used is the best white bread from the bakers' shops. There is an excellent oven in the basement, but the sheriff finds it cheaper and better to procure it from the baker just as it is needed. They have but two meals a day during the whole year, which are composed of meat, bread and vegetables. No drink except water is allowed.

The jail is a perfect model of cleanliness throughout. The whole interior is whitewashed once in three weeks. The water from the pump in the transverse corridor is very clear and good. The under clothing of the prisoners is washed once a week, and the bed clothes once a fortnight. The female prisoners do the washing, mending and cooking for all the prisoners. Combs, soap and towels are furnished by the sheriff. No pillows are allowed. The bedsteads are of wood, but they will soon be replaced by iron ones.

#### *Religious Instruction.*

An association called "The Union Female Bible and Tract Department" assume the care of the institution in this respect, and their agent, Mr. Perkins, visits it almost daily, converses with the inmates, supplies them with bibles and tracts, and procures the services of a clergyman every Sabbath.

#### *Average number confined.*

There were six men and six women in the jail on the day of my visit. Ten men and four women are confined there on an average through the year. Thirty is the maximum number hitherto confined in this prison.

#### *Punishments.*

Refractory prisoners are confined in a cell. This is the only punishment ever resorted to. There are no dark cells in the prison, nor are the prisoners ever deprived of food or bedding.

#### *Escapes.*

There have never been any escapes from the new prison, nor has any liquor been surreptitiously introduced.

The credit for the erection of this jail is mainly due to Mayor Brown, under whose superintendence it was erected. The chief objection to it is, that the sexes are not sufficiently separated. There is nothing to hinder them from conversing freely with each other through the grated floors.

JOHN STANTON GOULD.

( E. )

ADDRESS TO THE OFFICERS OF THE STATE PRISON  
AT SING SING, N. Y., BY G. B. HUBBELL, ESQ. ON  
HIS INDUCTION INTO OFFICE AS AGENT AND WAR-  
DEN OF THE SAME.

Gentlemen—I enter upon the duties of agent and warden of this prison deeply impressed, as I trust you are, with the immense responsibilities connected with the office. I find here property, real and personal, amounting to *more than eight hundred thousand dollars* placed under my care; *more than one hundred officers* of the various grades, whose duties are to be determined and directed by me; a large number of contractors and their employees, who must receive much attention from me; I am to look after the earnings of this institution to the amount of *some hundred and thirty thousand dollars*; I am to receive from the State Treasury in cash *some hundred and twenty thousand dollars* to disburse; or, in other words, it becomes my duty to attend to financial operations amounting to *a quarter of a million of dollars*; I am also to purchase all of the supplies of provisions, clothing, stock, materials, &c., &c.; and, most important of all, in my judgment, I find here *nearly thirteen hundred convicts, confined in two prisons, with whom I have to deal, and whose physical and moral welfare must claim a large share of my time and earnest attention.* When I survey the vast proportions and varied interests of this institution, and consider that I am expected to keep all parts of its machinery in harmonious operation, I am frank to say to you I should shrink from these duties as a hopeless task did I not feel sure that I shall have the hearty co-operation of every officer connected with the prison.

I trust that none of you will view this institution *merely as a place of punishment.* Man, in his fallen nature, is prone to err, and when he is given up to his own evil inclinations, he will overstep the bounds of heaven's injunctions and trample upon the rights of his fellow man; hence the necessity of human laws to defend the virtuous and promote good order in society by

placing the vicious under proper restraint. Human law, with pains and penalties, subjects the criminal to correction; and in order as far as possible to restrain wicked dispositions and vicious practices, it has been deemed a wise provision to establish penal institutions; and it has been the constant effort and deepest concern of all good men in our State, as well as in all other parts of our land, to have our prisons so managed as to correct the bad dispositions of those who are so unfortunate and vicious as to be brought under this kind of restraint. For this purpose the Legislature has established prisons and enacted laws under which they must be governed; and in doing this it has ever been the intention of our law makers to place their management in the hands of faithful officers.

We now have this prison under our care, and I trust each of you will consider well the part you are to perform in the conduct of its affairs. Its management may be viewed, if you please, in the light of a *vast partnership* the interest in the success of which, each member must feel a deep concern; and I desire that each and every one of you should act as though the prosperity of this institution, in each department, depended upon the faithful discharge of your duties as an individual member of it. Very little law is necessary for the management of our State prisons, if men possessing all the qualities to make good officers are at all times employed. God, in his wise provision, has created men with endowments as various as he has made their physical forms to differ in appearance; a man may be a good merchant, banker, or mechanic and yet be totally unfit to be a party leader, or controller of men. And in the various grades of capacity I consider none more peculiar than that required to make a good *prison keeper.* Among no class of the human race will you find a wider range of character or more varied degrees of talent and disposition than among the inmates of our prisons—and a man, to be a good prison keeper, *must have the faculty to adapt himself in an instant to any emergency which is at any time liable to arise among his men;* a good keeper must have a prompt business turn, a firm and dignified bearing, a kind heart, a quick and keen perception of character, *he must be able to read human nature at a glance,* and, in fact, must have a store of experience, and the power or presence of mind, as it were, at his fingers end, to enable him to manage so many different dispositions, as he may have different looking men under his care. Besides this, to be a good keeper

he must have the power, by force of example and weight of character, to cause the convicts under his care to respect, love, obey and fear him; he must maintain a firm, steady discipline, without any cruelty; he must at the same time so conduct himself, that every convict will have confidence in him; he must make them understand that he is their friend, and that he seeks to improve their characters, and, if possible, to fit them to be useful members of society when they shall again be entitled to their freedom—and none but men of well balanced minds and sound judgment can accomplish these ends.

I trust that no officer will be so forgetful of the importance of his position here, as in the least thing, either by word, gesture or deed to compromise himself with the convicts, or arouse their violent or latent passions. The man who will stoop so low as to parley, or bargain, or joke with a convict, I consider entirely unfit to hold an office in this institution. In yonder shop you may see a steam engine in motion, it has the power of many horses; you see it operate, you see the long line of machinery driven by it in motion, every part works smoothly, no steam escapes in the room; you hear no scraping, grinding, or jarring, but all its parts work with such precision that you might place it in any gentleman's drawing room without fear of injury to any piece of furniture. To learn where this power comes from, you must go into another apartment where you will find steam is regularly furnished. The engineer is ever attentive, every part of the machine is kept in perfect order, and every journal clean, well oiled. Figuratively speaking, this is my present idea of a well managed shop in State prison. The power delegated to a keeper is worse than useless, if that keeper does not apply it properly; he must keep everything in perfect order, and if he has the faculty to discipline and manage himself well, the management of his men will be an easy task. In the several shops, every movement should be conducted as quietly as possible, every man should be kept as clean as circumstances will allow; the shop should be kept clean; every useful article should have its place, and be kept in that place, and all this may be accomplished without noise, confusion or bluster. A man to make a good carpenter, must have a fondness for his trade, he must be fond of his tools, he must be pleased and interested in the quality and practical use of the various material; he must take pleasure in the progress of his work, and the very sound of his jack-plane or saw

must be music in his ear. The boy to make a good merchant must be pleased with the store and counting room, and he must be so fond of the goods in which he is dealing, that the pleasure of opening, sorting and putting new goods on the shelves, will at times take away his appetite. The banker must have a peculiar fondness for that quiet employment. The lawyer must be so much interested in his profession that he can make the cause of his client his own cause, and he must be so delighted with the details of his business that he can cheerfully spend a large share of the night to prepare himself for the legal contest; and, in a word, if when a boy selects his employment for life, he does it for the love and enjoyment of the occupation, as well as for the pecuniary benefit it may yield, that boy or man, in nine cases out of every ten, will succeed in his undertaking.

And here, gentlemen, I will venture the assertion that any man who seeks the appointment of any office in this prison solely for the *dollars and cents* which he may receive at the end of each month—that man is unworthy of a place among you, and need I say, that he who will stoop so low as to indulge in profane swearing, or enter upon these premises while under the influence of intoxicating liquors, should, under no circumstances be allowed to hold an office here. Nothing can be more improper, unwise or injurious than to indulge in these habits in any place, and no place should be more free from it than the prison. You behold here a good looking man, for whom nature has done much; he is well dressed and appears before you, made, originally, in the image of his Creator. You are pleased with his personal appearance; you seek an introduction with the hope and expectation that you are about to learn something useful; but to your astonishment you catch from his breath the fumes of alcohol; he is under the influence of liquor. Listen—hear the horrid oaths he utters. You feel sick—you turn from him in disgust; he sinks so low in your estimation that you consider him a rebel against society, and not fit to associate with his fellow man.

We must remember that we are dealing with criminals, and that the opportunity of doing good is ever present with us. It is true, every man sentenced and confined here has legally forfeited his rights to freedom and the enjoyment of virtuous society, nevertheless, in no case has he forfeited his claims to our sympathy. But I hear some one say, "how can I do any good, when I am not allowed to hold any social intercourse with convicts?"

I answer, "do it by weight of character, and the force of example." I know of no place in which good character, good habits, and gentlemanly bearing, with well directed effort can do more good; nor do I know of any place where bad habits and bad influences can do so much harm.

If you listen to the story of these convicts, nearly all will tell you that swearing, rum, and other bad practices and associations were directly instrumental in producing their downfall, and brought them to this end, and now, when they are here, nothing but a total change of influence and associations can produce any reform; they would, without doubt, like to be reformed, and to go out from this place to mingle again with society, honest and virtuous men; and this many of them will be able to do if we are faithful to our charge.

In elevating the moral character of this institution, we shall in a large degree increase its usefulness, and lessen the pecuniary burden which it has become upon the treasury of our State.

Economy, cleanliness and good order are essential to the management of any large establishment. The interest of the contractors should not be overlooked, but should rather have our earnest attention; every facility consistent with our duty to the State and the inmates of this prison should be cheerfully granted or extended to them. In the pecuniary department of our duty, we must remember that the interest of the State cannot prosper, unless the contractor is prosperous also; its affairs must be conducted with an eye to mutual benefit. No contractor must, for one moment, be allowed to trespass on the property or rights of the State; nor must we, as State officers, attempt to take undue advantage of any contractor. *All dealings must be honest and fair.* I desire, too, that every officer shall guard with zealous care all the property belonging to the State, and I shall esteem it a special favor to be informed promptly, of all depredations and wrong doing (no matter by whom committed) against any of the interests of this institution.

I shall be most happy, moreover, to receive any advice or suggestions from any officer, by which the interests of this establishment may be promoted.

To maintain a regular and excellent system of discipline, it is highly important to act at all times with great coolness; no keeper should allow himself either to show signs of fear, anger, or excitement. There are many difficulties among the men at work,

which can be settled by the keeper without disturbance, or annoyance to any person; but under no circumstances should a keeper inflict punishment, when either himself or the offender is in a passion; nor should any punishment be administered, until the offender shall be made fully aware of the breach of discipline he has committed and the penalty for so doing; and when punishment must be inflicted let it be done in sorrow, and never in anger.

I shall endeavor, on my part, to make our rules few, simple and plain; it will be my constant care, and steady aim, to make all the officers as comfortable as they can be in such a service. I shall not interfere with any officer while in the faithful discharge of his duty. I shall pay no attention to any personal differences or difficulties between officers when they are not on duty, and I hope and trust that nothing of this nature will be allowed to disturb your hearty coöperation and good fellowship while upon these premises. On our part, I shall expect prompt, efficient and faithful attention to duty, and a cheerful compliance with all rules and regulations for our general government. I shall esteem it a privilege to consult officers, at pleasure, upon all subjects connected with our official duties, and will take occasion to cheer, commend, and encourage such of you as I think are striving to come up to the requirements of excellency in their own department of duty, and shall hope to be able to make honorable mention of all of you in our next annual report.

I shall take care likewise, as an important branch of my duty, that the convicts are well fed and clothed; all provisions to be used here, must be delivered on the premises, just as sweet and clean as I would require them for my own table, and I invite any officer having this department in charge, to inform me promptly of any failure that may occur in this respect: and on the part of the convicts I shall require strict obedience to all the rules of the institution.

With these hints of what I shall attempt to accomplish, before you, and with such others as I may find it advisable, from time to time, to indicate, I shall hope that this institution may, ere long, become elevated to the position of the model prison of our land.

G. B. HUBBELL,

*Agent and Warden.*

SING SING, May 1st, 1862.

[Assem. No. 26.]

10

(F.)

MEMORIAL TO THE LEGISLATURE, PRAYING FOR THE  
APPROPRIATION OF THREE THOUSAND DOLLARS.

TO THE HONORABLE THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF NEW  
YORK:

The memorial of the undersigned, officers and members of the  
Prison Association of New York, respectfully represents:

That the said association, organized in 1844, and incorporated  
in 1846, by act of the Legislature, has three principal objects in  
view, viz.: 1. A humane attention to prisoners under detention.  
2. Protection and aid to discharged convicts. 3. Improvement  
of prison discipline.

Hitherto the means of prosecuting these objects have been de-  
rived solely from private benefactions. Though quite inade-  
quate to such a prosecution of our work as its magnitude and  
importance demand, yet very remarkable results, as compared  
with our resources, have been accomplished.

55,714 prisoners under detention have been visited and coun-  
seled.

5,630 detained prisoners, either innocent, or very young, or  
manifestly penitent, have been discharged on our recommenda-  
tion.

18,911 complaints have been carefully examined.

4,908 complaints have been, at our instance, discontinued as  
either frivolous or the result of passion or prejudice.

7,670 discharged convicts have been aided with money, or  
clothing, or both.

2,729 discharged convicts have been provided with situations,  
where they could earn, and where most of them are actually  
earning an honest living. Less than five per cent of these, ac-  
cording to the best information we can obtain, have ever been  
recommitted to prison.

75 inspections of prisons have been made, by which much

1862

valuable information has been collected, the condition and work-  
ing of our penal institutions shown, and their government and  
discipline materially improved.

In addition to all the moral good effected by our labors, there  
can be no doubt that tens of thousands of dollars have been  
saved to the community in the dismissal of trivial charges, in the  
reformation of discharged convicts, in their return to useful in-  
dustry, and in the supply of physical want in cases where such  
supply has, beyond a peradventure, prevented theft and crime.

The Legislature has imposed it as a duty upon the Association  
"to visit, inspect, and examine all the prisons in the State, and  
annually report to the Legislature their state and condition, and  
all such other things in regard to them, as may enable the Legis-  
lature to perfect their government and discipline."

This is a vast work. Its due performance would be exceed-  
ingly consumptive of time, and not a little so of money. We  
have not, except to a very limited extent, encroached upon our  
general fund, for the prosecution of this department of our la-  
bors. Individual members of the board have, for the most part,  
used their private means for this purpose; but, certainly, not to  
the extent required in order to a full discharge of the trust.  
Nor can this ever be expected. Most of the managers of philan-  
thropic societies, however willing they may be to bestow their  
time—itself no inconsiderable sacrifice—are not able to expend  
any large amount of money in making distant journeys on bene-  
volent missions. The Association therefore, respectfully, but  
earnestly, petitions the Legislature for a grant of money in fur-  
therance of its work. A principal motive for asking such assist-  
ance is, first, that we may be enabled to extend suitable encour-  
agement and aid to discharged convicts, who give evidence of a  
desire to reform; and, second, that we may have the means of  
prosecuting, fully and effectively, that branch of service, which  
relates to the inspection of prisons; and we trust that the same  
considerations will be a prevalent argument with the Legislature  
to grant our prayer. It is our desire, and if the means are at  
hand, our purpose—as the charter requires—to visit, inspect and  
examine ALL the prisons in the State, both general and local, within  
the current year, and report their condition and management to  
the Legislature. The information thus obtained could not fail  
to be of essential utility, not only to the general interests of hu-

manity, but also to the highest welfare of the State, both moral and material.

The range of inquiry in these examinations is designed to be broad and comprehensive. But there is one topic, on which it would be desirable that the inspectors should bestow particular attention: insanity, as it is connected with crime. We feel persuaded that this subject deserves a far more careful, discriminating, and thorough study than it has hitherto received.

On the grounds and reasons herein set forth, the undersigned respectfully ask that your honorable bodies will be pleased to appropriate the sum of three thousand dollars (\$3,000), in aid of the work of the New York Prison Association.

And your petitioners, as in duty bound, will ever pray, &c.

☐ The above memorial, besides being signed by officers and managers of the Association, had the signatures of several of our most respectable and influential citizens, among whom are Daniel Lord, August Belmont, James Boorman, Peter Cooper, A. A. Low, Stewart Brown, R. B. Minturn, Wm. H. Aspinwall, Jonathan Sturges and others.

The memorial was transmitted to the Legislature by his excellency Gov. Seymour, who accompanied it with a special message, recommending the application to the favorable consideration of the Legislature.

1862

( G. )

OUTLINE OF SUBJECTS OF INQUIRY IN THE EXAMINATION OF PRISONS, AND BLANK FORM OF A REPORT GIVING THE RESULTS OF SUCH EXAMINATION.

The undersigned, a committee of the Prison Association of New York, visited and examined the jail of \_\_\_\_\_ county, situated in the town of \_\_\_\_\_ on the \_\_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_ 186\_\_\_\_, and report the following as the result of said examination.

*I. Construction and Condition of the Building.*

Describe the building with respect to the material of which it is constructed, the ground on which it stands, and other external circumstances affecting the health of its inmates; its dimensions; its position relative to other buildings; the number and construction of the cells; the condition of the prison as to security; the facilities for communicating with the outside world; the entire occupancy of the building, and any other facts which the examiner or examiners may think proper.

A plan of the building and ground is desirable, and should be appended, if possible.

## II. Commitments during the year immediately preceding the date of examination.\*

	Male.	Female.	White.	Black.	Natives.	Foreigners.	Under 20.	Between 20 & 30.	Between 30 & 40.	Between 40 & 50.	Over 50.	First commitment.	Committed once before.	Committed twice before.	Committed three times before.	Committed four times or over.	Total abstainers.	Occasional drinkers.	Habitual drinkers.	Total.
Abandonment .....																				
Arson .....																				
Assault and battery do with intent to kill .....																				
Assaulting officers .....																				
Bastardy .....																				
Breaking jail .....																				
Breaking the peace .....																				
Bigamy .....																				
Burglary .....																				
Conspiracy .....																				
Contempt of court .....																				
Counterfeiting .....																				
Delirium tremens .....																				
Disorderly conduct .....																				
Embezzlement .....																				

False pretence  
 Felonious assault  
 Forgery  
 Fraud  
 Gambling  
 Grand larceny  
 Habitual drunkenness  
 Indecent exposure  
 Insanity  
 Intoxication  
 Malicious mischief  
 Manslaughter  
 Misdemeanor  
 Murder  
 Perjury  
 Petit larceny  
 Pickpockets  
 Prostitution  
 Rape  
 Rec'd stolen goods  
 Robbery  
 Seduction  
 Trespass  
 Vagrancy

\* If the commitments of an entire year cannot be obtained, let these for the current year, up to the date of examination, be inserted, and let the fact be so recorded.



Commitments.—Continued.

		Male.												
		Female.												
		White.												
		Black.												
		Natives.												
		Foreigners.												
		Under 20.												
		Between 20 & 30.												
		Between 30 & 40.												
		Between 40 & 50.												
		Over 50.												
		First commitm't.												
		Committed once before.												
		Committed twice before.												
		Committed three times before.												
		Committed four times or over.												
		Total abstiners.												
		Occasional drink- ers.												
		Habitual drink- ers.												
		Total.												
		Violation of liquor laws.....												
		Want of articles ..												
		Witnesses .....												
		Without offence being specified ..												
		Total .....												

III. *Number of Prisoners.*—State the number of prisoners at the time of making the examination, the whole number during the year immediately preceding, and the average number during the same time.

IV. *Employment of Prisoners.*—State whether the prisoners do any work, and, if so, the number engaged in each particular trade or occupation, and the amount received for prison labor.

V. *Expenses.*—State the whole annual expense of the prison, distinguishing between the different items,—as salaries, medicines, medical attendance, repairs, ordinary and extraordinary, new erections, rations or board, clothing, bedding, washing, cleaning, white-washing, &c., &c.

VI. *Pardons.*—State the number of pardons granted during the year, giving the age, sex, color, ground of pardon, crime, term of sentence, and length of actual confinement, in each case.

VII. *Health.*—State the general condition of the prison as to health or sickness; the number of deaths during the year, distinguishing the sex and color in each case; the disease of which the patient died; and whether said disease was contracted in the prison, or previously to entering it.

VIII. *Diet.*—State the quality and quantity of the food furnished to the prisoners; the daily bill of fare, if any; whether there is any change of diet corresponding to the seasons; where the prisoners take their meals, whether in the cells or at a common table, and how many times they are fed in a day.

IX. *Cleanliness.*—State what the supply of water in the prison is, whether abundant or scanty; the conveniences for washing enjoyed by the prisoners; whether they have any, and what means of bathing; how often their bedding is changed; and how often they shave and have their hair cut.

X. *Clothing.*—State whether it is sufficient in quantity; how often it is changed; whether it is in any way peculiar, either in fashion or color; and whether a Sunday suit is provided for each prisoner.

XI. *The Cells.*—State their number and dimensions; how lighted, warmed, and ventilated; whether they are provided with bibles and slates; whether more than one occupant is assigned to each; whether they are kept clean, sweet, and free from vermin; and whether night tubs are used in them, or what other provision is made for satisfying the wants of nature.

**XII. Punishments.**—State what punishments are employed in the prison; whether the cat is used, and, if so, what is the usual number of lashes given, and what the greatest number ever inflicted; whether the douche, or bolt-bath, is ever used, and with what results; by whom punishments are directed; how many stripes are inflicted each month; and what has been the usual effect of punishment on those who have received it.

**XIII. Education.**—State how many of the prisoners could neither read nor write, when they entered the prison; how many could read only; how many could both read and write; how many had a common education; how many were well educated; whether there is a library in the prison; and, if so, how extensive and how much used, and whether any provision is made for daily instruction of the prisoners in secular knowledge.

**XIV. Civil Condition.**—State how many, when committed, had neither father or mother; how many had both; how many had father only; how many mother only; how many had lost either and which parent in childhood; how many are married; how many single; and how many have families.

**XV. Previous Moral Culture and Habits.**—State how many had received a religious education; how many had been members of Sunday schools; how many abstained totally from intoxicating liquors; how many drank only occasionally, and how many habitually; how many were addicted to Sabbath breaking; how many to tavern-haunting; how many to theatre-going; how many to gambling, and how many to licentiousness; and what proportion may be said to have been of intemperate habits.

**XVI. Nationality.**—State how many were Americans, and how many foreigners, distinguishing between Irish, German, English, &c.

**XVII. Classification.**—State whether there is any classification of the prisoners, and if so, upon what principle and to what extent they are classified; also, what evils are found to result from non-classification, if that is the system which prevails.

**XVIII. Visits and Correspondence.**—State who are permitted to visit the prisoners, and under what regulations; and whether they are permitted to interchange letters with their friends, and if so, under what restrictions; and how extensively the privilege of writing letters to friends is used by the prisoners.

**XIX. Facilities for Moral and Religious Improvement.**—State whether the prison has a chaplain; if not, whether other humane

and pious persons visit them on the Sabbath, or week days, or both, for the purpose of giving them religious instruction; and whether they are provided with Bibles, tracts, and other religious reading.

**XX. Insanity.**—State how many persons are laboring under insanity, and to what degree; how many were insane when they entered the prison; and generally, any information that can be obtained in reference to this unfortunate class of human beings.

**XXI. Causes of Crime.**—State, as far as they can be ascertained, the causes more immediately operative in the production of the crimes for which the prisoners are suffering, as ignorance, orphanage, Sabbath breaking, licentiousness, &c.; and, particularly, what proportion of the prisoners appear to have fallen into crime through intemperance.

**XXII. Miscellaneous.**—State how much money is given to each prisoner on his discharge; whether prisoners are allowed to converse in the presence of keepers, or whether strict silence is enforced; what is the average length of sentences; whether any prisoners have escaped during the year; and, in general, any information on points not embraced in the foregoing outline, which may come to the knowledge of the examiners, and which they may deem of sufficient importance to merit a permanent record.

( H. )

TABULAR VIEW OF GENERAL AGENT'S LABORS FOR THE YEAR.

	Number of persons visited in our city at the attention of prison officers, and who required advice and counsel.	Number of complaints, carefully examined and so far as the facts of the case and the information were seemingly apparent.	Number of complaints abandoned as being frivolous or the result of prejudice, malice, or revenge.	Number of persons discharged from our custody, and the reasons—on the recommendation of the Association.	Number of discharged convicts and others provided with board, or the means to leave the city or country.	Number of discharged convicts furnished with clothing and other necessaries, such as shoes, hats, boots, &c., &c.	Number of discharged convicts from our State prisons, penitentiaries, and county jails, provided with work and places.
January . . . . .	400	97	56	31	48	7	10
February . . . . .	350	114	44	37	57	7	13
March . . . . .	440	108	39	32	49	6	11
April . . . . .	530	124	48	28	55	8	11
May . . . . .	400	109	42	31	59	13	10
June . . . . .	450	119	36	31	41	9	12
July . . . . .	500	107	29	26	41	11	9
August . . . . .	500	98	37	21	52	8	13
September . . . . .	350	90	35	39	43	13	16
October . . . . .	450	115	42	37	54	12	11
November . . . . .	400	121	29	31	43	6	18
December . . . . .	450	97	31	26	51	6	13
Total . . . . .	5,000	1,291	455	406	602	111	152

( I. )

REPORT OF GENERAL AGENT TO COMMITTEE ON DETENTIONS.

OFFICE OF PRISON ASSOCIATION, 15 CENTRE STREET, }  
NEW YORK, January 1, 1863. }

To the Committee on Detentions,

FRANK W. BALLARD, Esq., Chairman:

Dear Sir—As time glides on and another year has passed away, we find the record of vice and crime an almost unchanged one. A few less arrests, a few less poor, wretched souls drifting on to disgrace, ruin, and perdition—a slight, though hardly perceptible, diminution in the aggregate of crime—which, indeed, might give us some courage, did we not know that the war has only transferred some of those who would have been the inmates of our prisons, to other sections of the country.

The whole number of commitments to the district prisons during the year, as the following tables prepared by Mr. Sutton, warden to the Commissioners of Public Charities and Corrections, and inserted in their report, show, was 41,299. Of these, 20,187 were males, and 21,112 females; 11,147 were native born; 30,152 were of foreign birth; 8,960 were of temperate habits; 32,339 intemperate; 16,678 could not read; and 4,580 were under twenty years of age.

Amid this seething mass of ignorance, intemperance, wretchedness, and crime, your agent has found some who were more sinned against than sinning; innocent, though environed with guilt and in danger of ruin, from unfortunate circumstances rather than from actual innate depravity. To many of these, to all, as far as possible, with earnest persuasives, the helping hand has been stretched forth, and dangers which threatened them were averted. Others again, though guilty, were not old offenders. They manifested a depth of penitence and sorrow for their offences, which gave promise of a better life in the future. To such, advice, counsel, and encouragement were given, and

their cases fully submitted to those connected with the administration of criminal law in our respective courts.

In the exercise of these duties, your agent has visited about 5,000 persons, confined in the several prisons of this city and Brooklyn, and has made it a practice to visit daily one or more of said prisons. Did the limits of this brief report permit, there are many cases of thrilling interest which might be adduced. Suffice it to say, that through his efforts 455 complaints were abandoned or discontinued, 406 persons were discharged from custody, 1,291 complaints have been carefully and impartially investigated, and suitable aid extended where it seemed to be required.

By these efforts, not only has great misery and moral ruin been prevented, many homes preserved from desolation, and many who had already taken the first downward step in the path of crime rescued, and, under God, permanently reformed, but the city and State have been considerable gainers by the prompt and favorable disposition thus made of them by *our courts*, whose courtesy and great kindness we gratefully appreciate.

Whilst our city prisons, on the whole, are still susceptible of very great improvement, by way of ventilation, cleanliness, classification of prisoners, and the introduction of more moral appliances, we are glad to bear our humble testimony to the fact, that during the last few years, and especially under the vigilant eye and daily industrious supervision of the Commissioners of Public Charities and Corrections, very great improvements have taken place. With their consent and permission, the warden and keepers allow clergymen, laymen, and ladies of Christian character to visit the prisoners, distribute tracts, loan good books, &c. We are not without hope that these efforts, in hearty co-operation with those of our unpaid missionary, Rev. A. Camp, who has labored in the Tombs with uniform and commendable zeal for so many years, may, under the influence of the good Spirit of God, lead many a wanderer back to his Father's house and his Father's heart.

One word as to witnesses. They are usually an unfortunate class. By an apparently trivial accident, they happen to see a breach of the peace, a larceny, a homicide, or some other crime committed. The ends of justice seem to require their appearance and testimony on the trial of the accused. But they are strangers, sometimes emigrants, and very often poor. They can

give no bonds for their appearance in court on a future day. What then? In many instances, the accused is held to bail, while the unoffending witness is consigned to prison.

We are much gratified in being able to state that the Commissioners of Metropolitan Police have caused to be erected a very commodious building in Mulberry street in this city, expressly and exclusively for the accommodation of witnesses, where they are well fed and properly cared for. Such a provision was much needed. It was a step well taken, and reflects great credit on the authorities.

We have labored industriously with prisoners, during the year, urging them to live lives of obedience and right. We trust we have not labored in vain. Of this, indeed, we are sure. We may have blundered—no doubt we have—but the consciousness of having tried to do right is our precious reward. May we be rendered much more useful in the future is the heartfelt desire of

Your agent,

ABRAHAM BEAL.

( J. )

TABULAR VIEW OF CRIME IN THE CITY OF NEW YORK FOR THE YEAR 1862.

TABLE A,

Showing total number of Commitments during 1862.

First District Prison, Halls of Justice.	White males.	White females.	Colored males.	Colored females.	Total.
Number remaining in prison, Jan. 1, 1862 .....	186	84	10	6	286
	12,360	16,946	717	426	30,449
	12,546	17,030	727	432	30,735
Discharged .....	7,967	3,962	589	400	12,918
Deceased .....	39	8	....	....	38
Executed .....	1	....	1	....	2
Suicide .....	1	....	....	....	1
Sent to Blackwell's Island by police and other courts .....	1,112	2,340	114	30	3,596
Transferred to Blackwell's Island by commissioners .....	3,209	10,647	....	....	12,856
Sent to State prison .....	92	13	11	1	117
Remaining in prison, Dec. 31, 1862 .....	134	60	12	1	207
	12,546	17,030	727	432	30,735
In addition to the number received at First District prison, viz: .....	12,360	16,946	717	426	30,449
There were discharged from Second District prison .....	3,886	2,068	143	87	6,124
Sent to Blackwell's Island .....	97	228	....	....	327
Discharged from Third District prison .....	2,201	857	24	16	3,078
Sent to Blackwell's Island .....	67	293	3	2	365
Discharged from Fourth district prison .....	624	237	6	3	870
Sent to Blackwell's Island .....	56	29	1	....	86
Total number of commitments .....	19,291	20,578	896	534	41,299

TABLE B,

Showing the nativity, civil condition, education, and previous moral habits of the prisoners.

NATIVITY.	Males.	Females.	Total.
Number received, of native birth .....	5,062	6,085	11,147
do do of foreign birth .....	15,125	15,027	30,152
	20,187	21,112	41,299
Number received, who were married .....	8,681	5,316	13,997
do do who were single .....	10,299	11,228	21,437
do do who were widowed .....	735	4,070	4,785
do do whose social relations were unknown .....	572	498	1,070
	20,187	21,112	41,299
Number received, of temperate habits .....	5,263	3,697	8,960
do do of intemperate habits .....	14,924	17,415	32,339
	20,187	21,112	41,299
Number received, who could not read .....	5,420	11,258	16,678
do do who read only .....	336	2,816	3,152
do do who read and write .....	12,601	5,273	17,877
do do who were well educated .....	1,233	130	1,423
do do whose degree of education was unknown .....	537	1,632	2,169
	20,187	21,112	41,299

TABLE C,

Showing the Commitments to First District Prison.

For what offence committed.	Males.	Females.	Total.
Abandonment .....	45	---	45
Abduction .....	3	---	3
Arson .....	4	3	7
Assault .....	26	6	32
do and battery .....	1,560	460	2,020
do do felonious .....	90	10	100
do on the high seas .....	8	---	8
Attempt to commit burglary .....	5	---	5
do do larceny .....	6	2	8
do do grand larceny .....	10	4	14
Burglary .....	120	1	121
Bastardy .....	20	---	20

For what offence committed.	Males.	Females.	Total.
Bigamy	14	1	15
Being engaged in the slave trade	2	---	2
Breaking jail	2	---	2
Conspiracy	7	---	7
Counterfeiting coin	14	---	14
Contempt of court	2	---	2
Carrying slung shot	4	---	4
Cruelty to seamen	4	---	4
Delirium tremens	10	13	23
Deserting, seamen	29	---	29
do soldiers	95	---	95
Disorderly conduct	2,982	3,445	6,427
Disorderly boys and girls	8	6	14
Idle or suspicious persons	2	29	31
Embezzlement	14	---	14
Felony	10	2	12
Fraud	2	---	2
Felonious assault	42	---	42
Fitting out slavers	2	---	2
Forgery	99	15	114
Furious driving	7	---	7
Fugitives from justice	3	---	3
Gambling	89	---	89
Grand larceny	213	140	353
Habitual drunkenness	15	40	55
Homicide	1	---	1
Illegal voting	20	---	20
Indecent assault	5	---	5
Exposure of person	12	1	13
Insanity	284	196	480
Intoxication	3,986	9,595	13,581
Juvenile delinquents	40	8	48
Keeping disorderly house	43	35	78
Kidnapping	1	1	2
Larceny	39	40	79
do on the high seas	2	---	2
do from the person	8	11	19
Lodgers	39	50	89
Malicious mischief	19	15	34
Manslaughter	6	---	6

For what offence committed.	Males.	Females.	Total.
Mayhem	2	---	2
Maiming	1	---	1
Misdemeanors	28	2	30
Murder	48	3	51
do on the high seas	5	---	5
Mutiny and revolt	54	---	54
Obtaining goods by false pretences	28	7	35
Opening letters	1	---	1
Petit larceny	1,354	954	2,308
Perjury	1	1	2
Pickpockets	24	6	30
Piracy	2	---	2
Receiving stolen goods	9	2	11
Rape	15	---	15
Robbery	21	2	23
do on high seas	1	---	1
Seduction	2	---	2
Selling lottery policies	4	---	4
Smuggling	2	---	2
Surrendered by bail	11	7	18
Trespass	1	---	1
Vagrancy	1,203	2,243	3,446
Violation of corporation ordinances	48	5	53
do emigrant laws	4	---	4
do liquor laws	30	---	30
do patent laws	1	---	1
Without specified offence	39	6	45
Witnesses in State courts	13	5	18
do in U. S. courts	52	---	52
	<u>13,077</u>	<u>17,372</u>	<u>30,449</u>

TABLE D.

## Showing Commitments to Second District Prison.

For what offence committed.	Males.	Females.	Total.
Abandonment	15	---	15
Assault	3	3	6
Assault and battery	136	32	168

For what offence committed.	Males.	Females.	Total.
Arson .....	7	---	7
Bastardy .....	7	---	7
Bigamy .....	1	---	1
Burglary .....	14	---	14
Desertion .....	13	---	13
Disorderly conduct .....	1,498	822	2,320
Embezzlement .....	2	---	2
Felonious assault and battery .....	6	1	7
Forgery .....	44	15	59
Fraud .....	1	---	1
Furious driving .....	1	---	1
Fugitives from justice .....	1	---	1
Gambling .....	8	---	8
Grand larceny .....	28	20	48
Insanity .....	11	---	11
Indecent exposure of person .....	7	---	7
Intoxication .....	2,041	1,212	3,253
Juvenile delinquents .....	10	1	11
Keeping disorderly house .....	6	10	16
Misdemeanors .....	1	---	1
Malicious mischief .....	3	---	3
Murder .....	1	---	1
Obtaining goods on false pretences .....	5	---	5
Petit larceny .....	100	35	135
Picking pockets .....	8	---	8
Perjury .....	1	---	1
Rape .....	1	---	1
Receiving stolen goods .....	3	1	4
Robbery .....	1	---	1
Selling lottery policies .....	1	---	1
Vagrancy .....	91	171	262
Violation corporation ordinance .....	41	---	41
Violation excise laws .....	8	---	8
Violation milk laws .....	1	---	1
Violation railroad laws .....	1	---	1
Violation usury laws .....	1	---	1
	<u>4,128</u>	<u>2,323</u>	<u>6,451</u>

TABLE E,

## Showing Commitments to Third District Prison.

For what offence committed.	Males.	Females.	Total.
Abandonment .....	25	1	26
Assault .....	4	2	6
Assault and battery .....	298	73	371
Arson .....	3	---	3
Bastardy .....	9	---	9
Bigamy .....	1	---	1
Burglary .....	20	---	20
C Conspiracy .....	2	---	2
Desertion .....	4	---	4
Disorderly conduct .....	502	285	787
Disobedient apprentices .....	3	---	3
Defrauding city treasury .....	1	---	1
Embezzlement .....	4	---	4
Felonious assault and battery .....	14	3	17
Forgery .....	38	8	46
Fraud .....	5	---	5
Felony .....	1	---	1
Gambling .....	3	---	3
Grand larceny .....	48	15	63
Insanity .....	1	1	2
Indecent assault .....	1	---	1
Indecent exposure of person .....	2	---	2
Illegal voting .....	5	---	5
Intoxication .....	903	522	1,425
Juvenile delinquents .....	2	---	2
Keeping disorderly house .....	5	3	8
Larceny .....	1	2	3
Misdemeanors .....	4	1	5
Malicious mischief .....	3	---	3
Obtaining goods under false pretences .....	7	---	7
Perjury .....	1	---	1
Petit larceny .....	183	64	247
Picking pockets .....	3	1	4
Rape .....	4	---	4
Robbery .....	4	---	4
Receiving stolen goods .....	4	---	4
Running over a child .....	14	---	14
	1	---	1

For what offence committed.	Males.	Females.	Total.
Seduction .....	4	---	4
Suspicious persons .....	10	---	10
Vagrancy .....	112	167	279
Violation corporation ordinances .....	27	---	27
do emigrant laws .....	1	---	1
do excise laws .....	4	---	4
do milk laws .....	2	---	2
do State law .....	5	---	5
	<u>2,295</u>	<u>1,148</u>	<u>3,443</u>

TABLE F.

*Showing Commitments to Fourth District Prison.*

For what offence committed.	Males.	Females.	Total.
Abandonment .....	3	---	3
Assault .....	3	4	7
Assault and battery .....	80	30	110
Arson .....	1	---	1
Bastardy .....	5	---	5
Bigamy .....	1	---	1
Burglary .....	1	---	1
Disorderly conduct .....	249	122	371
Felonious assault and battery .....	9	3	12
Forgery .....	2	---	2
Grand larceny .....	7	3	10
Illegal voting .....	4	---	4
Indecent exposure of person .....	4	---	4
Insanity .....	1	1	2
Intoxication .....	190	68	258
Malicious mischief .....	2	---	2
Misdemeanor .....	3	---	3
Petit larceny .....	35	9	44
Robbery .....	2	---	2
Vagrancy .....	63	29	92
Violation corporation ordinances .....	14	---	14
do Central Park do .....	2	---	2
do Excise laws .....	5	---	5
do Health laws .....	1	---	1
	<u>687</u>	<u>269</u>	<u>956</u>

TABLE G.

*Showing the Nativity and Sex of Prisoners Committed.*

Native country.	Males.	Females.	Total.
Ireland .....	11,195	14,176	25,371
United States .....	5,559	4,918	10,477
Germany .....	1,869	107	2,876
England .....	647	517	1,164
Scotland .....	239	311	550
France .....	217	87	304
Canada .....	90	59	149
Italy .....	34	24	58
West Indies .....	41	---	41
Prussia .....	31	---	31
China .....	30	---	30
Nova Scotia .....	27	---	27
Austria .....	25	3	28
Poland .....	22	---	22
Sweden .....	20	2	22
Unknown .....	18	---	18
Norway .....	17	---	17
Switzerland .....	16	---	16
Wales .....	16	7	23
Cuba .....	15	---	15
Spain .....	14	1	15
Denmark .....	13	---	13
Russia .....	8	---	8
Belgium .....	6	---	6
South America .....	5	---	5
Africa .....	4	---	4
Mexico .....	3	---	3
Asia .....	2	---	2
Sandwich Islands .....	2	---	2
Bavaria .....	1	---	1
Greece .....	1	---	1
Total number commitments .....	<u>20,187</u>	<u>21,112</u>	<u>41,299</u>



TABLE H,

Showing the Ages of the Male and Female Prisoners received during the year 1862.

Ages.	Males.	Females.	Total.
Under 15 years	1,162	262	1,424
From 15 to 20 years	1,453	1,703	3,156
do 20 to 25 do	3,147	3,350	6,497
do 25 to 30 do	3,089	4,989	8,078
do 30 to 35 do	2,766	4,345	7,111
do 35 to 40 do	2,182	3,604	5,786
do 40 to 45 do	1,967	1,035	3,002
do 45 to 50 do	1,436	825	2,261
do 50 to 55 do	1,233	351	1,584
do 55 to 60 do	948	330	1,278
do 60 to 65 do	426	159	585
do 65 to 70 do	280	93	373
Over 70 years	90	66	164
Total number commitments	<u>20,187</u>	<u>21,412</u>	<u>41,299</u>

( K. )

## CHARTER AND CONSTITUTION.

AN ACT TO INCORPORATE THE PRISON ASSOCIATION OF NEW YORK.

Passed May 9, 1846, by a two-third vote.

The People of the State of New York, represented in Senate and Assembly, do enact as follows:

§ 1. All such persons as now are and hereafter shall become members to the said Association, pursuant to the constitution thereof, shall be and hereby are constituted a body corporate by the name of "The Prison Association of New York, and by that name have the powers that by the third title of the eighteenth chapter of the first part of the Revised Statutes are declared to belong to every corporation, and shall be capable of purchasing, holding and conveying any estate, real or personal, for the use of said corporation: *Provided* such real estate shall never exceed the yearly value of ten thousand dollars, nor be applied to any purpose other than those for which this corporation is founded.

## ARTICLE I.

The object of the Association shall be:

1. The amelioration of the condition of prisoners, whether detained for trial, or finally convicted, or as witnesses:
2. The improvement of prison discipline, and the government of prisons, whether for cities, or counties, or States.
3. The support and encouragement of reformed convicts after their discharge, by affording them the means of obtaining an honest livelihood, and sustaining them in their efforts at reform.

## ARTICLE II.

The officers of the society shall be a president, vice presidents, a corresponding secretary, a recording secretary, a treasurer, and an executive committee.

## ARTICLE III.

The officers named in the preceding article shall be *ex-officio* members of the executive committee, who shall choose one of their number to be chairman thereof.

[Assem. No. 26.]

## ARTICLE IV.

The executive committee shall meet once in each month, and keep regular minutes of their proceedings. They shall have a general superintendence and direction of the affairs of the society, and shall annually report to the society all their proceedings, and such other matters as shall be likely to advance the ends of the Association.

## ARTICLE V.

The society shall meet annually in the city of New York, at such time and place as the executive committee may appoint, and at such other times as the president, or, in his absence, one of the vice presidents, shall designate.

## ARTICLE VI.

Any person contributing annually to the funds of the Association shall, during such contribution, be a member thereof. A contribution of five hundred dollars shall constitute a life patron; a contribution of one hundred dollars an honorary member of the executive committee for life; and a contribution of twenty-five dollars shall constitute a member of the Association for life. Honorary and corresponding members may from time to time be appointed by the executive committee.

## ARTICLE VII.

A female department shall be formed, consisting of such females as shall be selected by the executive committee, who shall have charge of the interest and welfare of prisoners of their sex, under such regulations as the executive committee shall adopt.

## ARTICLE VIII.

The officers of the Association shall be chosen annually at the annual meeting, at which time such persons may be elected honorary members as shall have rendered essential service to the cause of prison discipline.

## ARTICLE IX.

Any society having the same objects in view, may become auxiliary to this Association by contributing to its funds and co-operating with it.

## ARTICLE X.

The executive committee shall have power to add to any of the standing committees such persons as, in their opinion, may be likely to promote the objects of the society; and shall have power

to fill any vacancy which may occur in any of the offices of the Association, intermediate the annual meetings.

## ARTICLE XI.

This constitution may be amended by a vote of the majority of the society, at any meeting thereof, provided notice of the amendment has been given at the next preceding meeting.

The officers elected for the current year under the constitution shall continue to be the officers thereof, until others shall be duly chosen in their places.

And it is hereby further enacted, that no manager of said society shall receive any compensation for his services.

§ 3. The said executive committee shall have power to establish a work-house in the county of New York, and in their discretion to receive and take into the work-house all such persons as shall be taken up and committed as vagrants or disorderly persons, in said city, as the court of general sessions of the peace, or the court of special sessions, or the court of oyer and terminer in said county, or any police magistrate, or the commissioner of the alms-house may deem proper objects; and the said executive committee shall have the same powers to keep, detain, employ and govern the said persons, as are now by law conferred on the keepers of the bridewell or penitentiary in said city.

§ 4. The said executive committee may, from time to time, make by-laws, ordinances, and regulations, relative to the management and disposition of the estate and concerns of said Association, and the management, government, instruction, discipline and employment of the persons so as aforesaid committed to the said work-house, not contrary to law, as they may deem proper; and may appoint such officers, agents and servants, as they may deem necessary, to transact the business of the said Association, and may designate their duties. And the said executive committee shall make an annual report to the Legislature and to the corporation of the city of New York, of the number of persons received by them into said work-house, the disposition which shall be made of them by instructing or employing them therein, the receipts and expenditures of said executive committee, and generally all such facts and particulars as may exhibit the operations of the said Association.

§ 5. The said executive committee shall have power, during the minority of any of the persons so committed to the said work-