

THIRD REPORT

(for 1846)

OF THE

PRISON ASSOCIATION

OF

NEW YORK:

INCLUDING THE

CONSTITUTION AND BY-LAWS, ACT OF INCORPORATION,

AND

A LIST OF OFFICERS AND MEMBERS.

IN TWO PARTS.

PART I.

NEW YORK:

PUBLISHED BY THE ASSOCIATION.

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1847.

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OF THE
PRISON ASSOCIATION.

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N. B.—The PHYSICIAN and WARDEN or KEEPER of each Penitentiary are,
ex-officio, Corresponding Members of the Executive Committee.

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OFFICERS OF THE ASSOCIATION.

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HON. WILLIAM T. MCCOUN.

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N. B. MORSE, <i>Dist. Attorney, Kings co.,</i>	JOHN S. GOULD, <i>Hudson, Columbia, co.,</i>
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ELIJAH P. WOODRUFF, "

CHARLES PARKER, *General Financial Agent*.
GEORGE E. BAKER, *Agent of Committee on Detentions*.
ISAAC T. HOPPER, *Agent for Committee on Discharged Convicts*.
Hon. JOHN W. EDMONDS, *Chairman of Executive Committee*.

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" CAROLINE M. KIRKLAND, *Corresponding Secretary*
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" CATHERINE DUER,
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OHN D. RUSS, M. D.

PHYSICIAN TO "THE HOME."
JOSIAH HOPPER, M. D.

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CONSTITUTION.

ARTICLE I. This Society shall be known as the PRISON ASSOCIATION OF NEW YORK.

ART. II. Its objects 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, 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.

ART. III. The officers of the Society shall be a President, four Vice-Presidents, a Recording Secretary, a Corresponding Secretary, a Treasurer, and the following Committees, viz.: A Finance Committee, a Committee on Detentions, a Committee on Discipline, and a Committee on Discharged Convicts.

ART. IV. The officers named in the preceding article shall constitute an Executive Committee, who shall choose one of their number to be Chairman thereof.

ART. V. 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.

ART. VI. The Society shall meet annually in the City of New York, at such time and place as the Executive Committee shall appoint, and at such other times as the President, or in his absence one of the Vice-Presidents, shall designate.

ART. VII. Any person contributing annually to the funds of the Association, shall, during such contribution, be a member thereof. A contribution of \$500 shall constitute a life Patron;—a contribution of \$100 an honorary member of the Executive Committee for life;—and a contribution of \$25 shall constitute a member of the Association for life. Honorary and corresponding members may from time to time be appointed by the Executive Committee.

CONSTITUTION.

ART. VIII. 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.

ART. IX. 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.

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

ART. XI. The Executive Committee shall have power to add to any of the Standing Committee 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.

ART. XII. 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.

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BY-LAWS.

I.—There shall be a stated meeting of the Executive Committee on the Fourth Monday of each month, and a special meeting shall be held at any time, on the requisition of one of the Standing Committees, or of the Chairman of the Executive Committee.

II.—At every meeting of the Executive Committee, stated or special, the attendance of seven members shall be necessary to constitute a quorum.

III.—The order of business at every stated meeting shall be as follows :

1. The reading and adoption of the minutes of the last preceding meeting.
2. Reports from the Standing Committees in the order in which they are named in the Constitution of the Society.
3. Reports from Female Department.
4. Report from Corresponding Secretary.
5. Reports from Special Committees.
6. Motions and Resolutions.

The business first in order at a special meeting, shall be the subject for the consideration of which the meeting shall have been called, and no other subject shall be brought before the meeting, except with the consent of a majority of the members present.

IV.—The Chairman shall nominate and appoint all Special Committees, and no person nominated by him shall be excused, unless upon reasons assigned by him that shall be approved by the meeting ; but a Chairman pro. tem. shall not have such power unless authorized by the meeting.

V.—The Chairman shall decide all questions of order, subject to an appeal, and the rules of order shall be the same, so far as they are applicable, as those of the House of Assembly in the Legislature of New York.

VI.—It shall be the duty of the Finance Committee,

1. To receive and pay over to the Treasurer of the Society, all moneys received, either as donations or for memberships.
2. To audit and direct the payment of all bills against the Society, in such manner and form as they shall direct; but no bill shall be paid by the Treasurer, unless approved by the Committee, and countersigned by the Chairman thereof.
3. To invest and control the surplus moneys of the Society under the authority of the Executive Committee.

4. To have power under the same authority, to employ one or more agents to obtain members, and collect subscriptions to the Society; and it shall be their duty to make a report at each monthly meeting of their proceedings, and those of their agents.

5. To annually examine and report upon the Treasurer's accounts, and to audit the same.

VII.—The following shall be the duties of the Committee on Detentions.

1. To inquire into the causes of commitment of all persons detained for trial, or as witnesses in any of the Prisons of the cities of New York and Brooklyn, and to adopt proper measures for procuring the discharge of such as shall appear to be entitled thereto.

2. To visit frequently the prisons under their charge, and to endeavour to improve the condition of the prisoners:—by training them to habits of cleanliness and exercise; by securing to them comfortable accommodations, having regard to space, light, and temperature; by procuring for them suitable employment: by providing them with books, or other means of mental occupation: by securing such a separation and classification as shall preserve the young, the innocent, and the less hardened from the contaminating intercourse of the more depraved: by obtaining for them honest and able legal advice; and generally by bringing all practical, moral, and religious influences to operate upon their minds.

VIII.—It shall be the duty of the Committee on Discharged Convicts.

1. To keep an office in the central part of the City of New York, where discharged prisoners may apply for aid and advice.

2. To keep a record of all commitments to our State Prisons, and New York and Kings County Prisons—of the crime of which each person was convicted, of the date of his commitment and discharge, and all other important information thereto appertaining.

3. To open a correspondence with the Prison Agents or Superintendents, relative to the character and trades of prisoners, and to ascertain previous to the discharge of each prisoner, his feelings, views, and capabilities, with a view to making the best arrangements for his future employment.

4. To keep a record of all persons who will employ discharged prisoners, and of their several occupations; to procure employment for prisoners, applying therefor, as seems best adapted to the capacity of each; to hold a correspondence with employers, to keep a record of the behaviour and prospects of those for whom places are obtained, that they may be sustained and encouraged with the idea, that a continual friendly interest is felt for them.

5. To endeavour to procure suitable boarding places for the discharged prisoners, where they will not be exposed to corrupting influences; taking care not to have more than one in a place when it can be avoided.

6. To see that the prisoners are provided with suitable clothing, of a kind that will not attract attention, and point them out as convicts.

IX.—The general duty of the Committee on Prison Discipline shall be the supervision of the internal organization and management of the prisons in which convicts are confined, embracing the moral and physical influences to be exerted on the prisoners during their confinement.

This duty shall be comprised under the following general heads:

Health.—Under which shall be included Diet, Dress, Cleanliness, Warming of Prisons, Ventilation, Exercise, Modes of Employment, Insanity, and Medical Treatment generally.

Reformation.—Including the Classification of prisoners according to age, sex, physical condition, character, and numbers; Instruction, religious and ordinary; Moral treatment, Isolation, and Intercourse; Rewards and Punishments; the Visitation of Friends, and Paroles.

Financial System.—Embracing convict labour, Prison revenues and expenses.

Administration and Supervision.—Comprising the mode of appointing officers, their qualifications, duties, abuse of their powers, and the internal police regulations of prisons.

Comparison of Prison Systems and Reforms.—Including the collection of works and reports, correspondence with other Societies, superintendance of prisons, and persons interested in prison discipline. The collection of statistics.

Visitation.—The visiting of State, County, and City Prisons, including Houses for the reformation of Juvenile Delinquents, at such periods and in such manner as the Committee may, from time to time, determine.

X.—Each Standing Committee shall have power to appoint its own Chairman and Secretary, and to divide itself into as many sub-committees as it may deem proper, and each Committee shall make a report of its proceedings at each stated meeting of the Executive Committee.

XI.—The Recording Secretary shall be the Secretary of the Executive Committee, and it shall be his duty to keep the minutes of the proceedings of the Committees, to record them in a book to be provided for that purpose, and to give due notice of all meetings of the Committee.

XII.—It shall be the duty of each Standing Committee to report to each monthly meeting of the Executive Committee the number of meetings held, and the names of the members attending at each.

XIII.—If it shall appear from the report of any Standing Committee, that any member has not attended any one of these meetings during the preceding three months, the member so neglecting to attend shall, if no satisfactory excuse be offered, be deemed to have resigned as a member of such Committee, and the Executive Committee may proceed to appoint another in his place.

XIV.—No person shall be added as a member to any of the Standing Committees, unless the Committee to which he is to be added shall have reported his name at a preceding meeting of the Executive Committee, and shall have stated that the member so proposed has consented to serve. No person, so proposed, shall be elected as a member unless by the votes of two-thirds of all the members present; and every such election shall be made by ballot, unless by unanimous consent the ballot be dispensed with.

XV.—There shall be a Standing Committee of Ladies for the Female Department, the members of which shall be selected by the Executive Committee, and shall have charge of the interests and welfare of persons of their own sex, under such regulations as the Executive Committee may prescribe,

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or they themselves, with the approbation of the Executive Committee, may adopt. Such Committee shall have power to elect its own officers, and when organized, shall be placed in all respects on the same footing as the other Standing Committees of the Executive Committee, in relation to the increase of their numbers.

XVI. The Corresponding Secretary shall conduct the correspondence of the Executive Committee, and of each of the Standing Committees when required, and shall report the same at each stated meeting of the Committee, and shall record the same in books to be procured for that purpose.

XVII.—The Chairman of the Executive Committee and the Corresponding Secretary, shall be members ex-officio of all the Standing Committees.

XVIII.—It shall be the duty of the Treasurer to keep safely all moneys deposited with him by the Finance Committee, to pay over the same in such manner and at such time as the Finance Committee shall direct, and to give such security for the faithful discharge of his duty as that Committee shall require.

XIX.—No alteration in these by-laws shall be made, except a notice of the proposed amendment shall have been given at a previous meeting of the Executive Committee.

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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 and are hereby 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*, that such real estate shall never exceed the yearly value of ten thousand dollars, nor be applied to any other purpose than those for which this corporation is formed.

§ 2. The estate and concerns of said corporation shall be managed and conducted by its Executive Committee, in conformity to the constitution of the said corporation; and the following articles that now form the constitution of the Association shall continue to be the fundamental laws and constitution thereof, subject to alteration in the mode therein prescribed.

ARTICLE I.

The objects 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, 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, four Vice-Presidents, a Recording Secretary, a Corresponding Secretary, and a Treasurer, and there shall be the following committees, viz: a Finance Committee, a Committee on Detentions, a Committee on Discipline, a Committee on Discharged Convicts, 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.

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ACT OF INCORPORATION.

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 shall 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.

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§ 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 said 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 the 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-House, to bind out the said persons, so being minors as aforesaid, as apprentices or servants, with their consent, during their minority, to such persons, and at such places, to learn such proper trades and employments, as in their judgment will be most conducive to their reformation and amendment, and future benefit and advantage of such persons.

§ 6. The said Executive Committee, by such committees as they shall from time to time appoint, shall have power, and it shall be their duty, 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. And to enable them to execute the powers and perform the duties hereby granted and imposed, they shall possess all the powers and authority that by the twenty-fourth section of title first, chapter third, part fourth, of the Revised Statutes, are vested in the Inspectors of County Prisons; and the duties of the keepers of such prison that they may examine, shall be the same in relation to them as in the section aforesaid are imposed on the keepers of such prisons in relation to the Inspectors thereof. *Provided*, that no such examination or inspection of any prison shall be made until an order for that purpose to be granted by the Chancellor of this State, or one of the Judges of the Supreme Court, or by a Vice Chancellor or Circuit Judge, or by the first Judge of the county in which the prison to be examined shall be situate, shall first have been had and obtained, which order shall specify the name of the prison to be examined, the names of the persons members of the said Association by whom the examination is to be made, and the time within which the same must be concluded.

State of New York.

IN SENATE, May 8th, 1846.

This bill having been read the third time, two-thirds of all the members elected to the Senate voting in favor thereof,

Resolved, That the bill do pass.

By order of the Senate,

A. GARDINER, President.

ACT OF INCORPORATION.

State of New York,
IN ASSEMBLY, April 24th, 1846.

This bill having been read the third time, and two-thirds of all the members elected to the Assembly voting in favor thereof:
Resolved, That the bill do pass.

By order of the Assembly,

WM. C. CRAIN, Speaker

Approved this 9th day of May, 1846.

SILAS WRIGHT.

State of New York,
SECRETARY'S OFFICE.

I have compared the preceding with an original law on file in this office, and do certify that the same is a correct transcript therefrom, and of the whole of said original.

In testimony whereof, I have hereunto affixed the seal of this office at the city of Albany, the fifteenth day of May, in the year of our Lord one thousand eight hundred and forty-six.

ARCH'D. CAMPBELL,
Dep. Sec. of State.

REVISED STATUTES, Part IV., Chap. 3, Title 1.

§ 24. It shall be the duty of the keepers of each of the said prisons, to admit the said inspectors, or any one of them, into every part of such prison; to exhibit to them on demand, all the books, papers, documents, and accounts, pertaining to the prison, or to the detention of the persons confined therein; and to render them every other facility in their power, to enable them to discharge the duties above prescribed. And for the purpose of obtaining the necessary information, to enable them to make such report as is above required, the said inspectors shall have power to examine on oath, to be administered by either of the said inspectors, any of the officers of the said prisons, and to converse with any of the prisoners confined therein, without the presence of the keepers thereof, or any of them.

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PROCEEDINGS OF THE ANNIVERSARY.

The second anniversary meeting of the Association was held at Stuyvesant's Institute on the evening of the 22nd of December, 1846. Vice-Chancellor McCOWN, the President of the Association, in the chair, assisted by Judge EDMONDS as Vice-President.

The meeting was opened by prayer from the Rev. Dr. SPRING.

After which the PRESIDENT introduced, with appropriate remarks, letters from the Philadelphia Society for Alleviating the Miseries of Public Prisons, and the Boston Society for Aiding Discharged Convicts; both of which Societies were represented at the meeting—the Boston Society by WM. W. WILSON, Esq., and the Philadelphia Society by Prof. CLEVELAND.

After the reading of these letters, Judge EDMONDS, as chairman of the Executive Committee, presented the Annual Report, and addressed the meeting, generally in relation to the labors of the Association for the past year, and read an interesting letter from Dr. JULIUS of Berlin, and one from Gov. SEWARD, of New York.

ISAAC T. HOPPER, Agent of the Discharged Convict Committee, addressed the meeting in regard to the operations of that Committee.

General WETMORE, by direction of the Committee of Arrangements, nominated the officers and members for the ensuing year, who were unanimously elected.

The meeting was then addressed by Mr. CHARLES PARKER, the financial agent of the Association.

At the close of the meeting, WILLIAM WALN DRINKER, Esq., gave notice, in behalf of JOHN DUER, Esq., of his intention to move that so much of the Third Article of the Constitution as relates to the Recording Secretary, be amended.

On motion, it was then

Resolved, That the Association do now adjourn, to meet on Monday evening next, at the rooms of the Association.

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LETTERS TO COMMITTEE OF ARRANGEMENTS.

FROM DR. WALTER CHANNING.

Boston, December 20th, 1846.

TO JOHN D. RUSS, Esq.

DEAR SIR:—I acknowledge, in behalf of the Boston Society for Aiding Discharged Convicts, the invitation of the Committee of your Society, of which you are chairman, to attend the coming anniversary of your institution. The council have appointed delegates to represent the Society on the interesting occasion referred to. We consider your movement as the cause of our own. We found in your undertaking, and in its success, motive and example for what we have attempted in the same kind.

We have confined our operations thus far to the discharged convicts of the State Prison. We have succeeded in obtaining employment for all who have needed our aid. Not a recumment has occurred in the case of a single convict who has come under our care. The average has hitherto been from fifteen to twenty a year—about fifteen. In our eight months' existence, not one has been returned to prison. We shall, as soon as circumstances allow, enlarge the sphere of our operations, so that they may embrace the discharged from other institutions. We have thus far considered the State prisoner as a peculiar object of our care. His whole position is for the most part one of hopelessness and of helplessness. He falls at once into the temptations to which he first yielded, and which are ever present to lead him to ruin. The interposition of our Society has saved him from this trial. The very fact of our receiving him to our care,—of extending to him our "right hand,"—has given to him public confidence, and inspired him with hope. He has been treated kindly, and has returned the confidence he has received with fidelity to duty. Are not these facts deserving the most careful consideration? Do they not meet the whole question of the treatment of the criminal? Formerly, these discharged men could procure employment only by a lie—a falsehood respecting their history. They were received into no reputable house—they could hire no tenement for the decent abode of themselves and their families, if they had any. Now they are received kindly where it is safe for them to be. They get regular employment in important public works. They are employed in various important private occupations. Their whole condition is changed. They obtain subsistence by their own industry; and person and property in the community are safe.

Pardon me, Sir, that I have occupied you so long with details with which you are familiar. I began by thanking you for the kind invitation extended by your Society to the executive board of our own. Deeply do I regret that my professional engagements prevent my accepting it for myself. It would, indeed, have been most grateful to me to have been with you, and to have expressed to you, and to your Society, a part of the feeling I have of gratitude to your Society for our own existence as an organized body, and for the good we may have done.

Permit me, in conclusion, to introduce to you W. W. Wilson, Esq., general agent of our Society, and his companion, T. E. Andrew, Esq., our treasurer. You will learn from them details concerning our operations, which I hope will not be without interest. Please, Sir, accept for yourselves, and for your colleagues, assurances of my highest regard.

WALTER CHANNING,

President of the Boston Society for Aiding Discharged Convicts.

FROM THE GOVERNOR ELECT.

ALBANY, 23d December, 1846.

TO MESSRS. JOHN D. RUSS, and others,

Committee, etc., of the New York Prison Discipline Society.

GENTLEMEN:—I had the pleasure to receive your letter inviting me to attend the anniversary meeting of your Society, but not till the evening of the 21st inst.

It would have given me much pleasure to have been with you, but my engagements would have precluded it, had I received your letter in time.

You have my best wishes for your prosperity in the great cause of humanity in which you are engaged, and the assurance of my personal regard.

I am, gentlemen, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

J. YOUNG.

FROM EX-GOVERNOR SEWARD.

ALBANY, December 14th, 1846.

GENTLEMEN:—You flatter me by inviting me to instruct you on the anniversary of your Society. I am only a pupil of your own. If I should suggest anything, it would be that you do not let the reform of prisons lose the just and necessary aid of the State by being separated from kindred reformatory institutions. The great philosopher who wrote on the advancement of learning said: "Let it be a rule, that all partitions of knowledge be accompanied and reinforced by sections and separations: and that the continuance and increase of knowledge be preserved." So it must be with all the enterprises of the age for meliorating the condition of society. "These things ought ye to have done, and not to have left the other undone," is an instruction as just in politics as it is in religion.

You ask me, gentlemen, to cheer and encourage you. Such encouragement can only be derived from the inflexible purpose of doing good amid such unavoidable misery, oppression and reproach. For there is nothing immediately attractive to society sympathy for offenders who have endangered its safety and disturbed its peace. Humanity to convicts is eminently conservative in its operation. But 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. Our holy religion makes no distinction among the prisoners whom it enjoins us to visit. Your experience has taught you that such ministrations bless those who render them even more than those who receive them, and you are sure of ultimate vindication.

An Oglethorpe, a Howard, and a Clarkson, have gained immortal names on earth by labors similar to yours; and Christianity is a brand, if the charity which believeth all things, hopeth all things, endureth all things, and withal vanquisheth not itself, cannot open the gates of heaven.

I am, gentlemen,

With many thanks for your kind remembrance.

Your obedient servant,

WILLIAM H. SEWARD.

JOHN D. RUSS,
JOHN W. EDMONDS,
JOHN H. GRAYSON,
ISRAEL RUSSELL,
CURTIS CURTIS,
GEORGE HALL,
RICHARD REED, Esqs.,

Committee of Arrangements, etc., etc.

FROM THE BOSTON SOCIETY FOR AIDING DISCHARGED CONVICTS.

Boston, 23 Court-street, 16th December, 1846.

JOHN D. RUSS, Esq., 15 Centre street, New York.

DEAR SIR:—In reply to your favor of the 9th instant, I am requested to acknowledge your kind invitation, and say in behalf of the Boston Society for Aiding Discharged Convicts, who met this morning to choose delegates to co-operate with you, it was agreed that Walter Channing, M. D. Esq., "President," Rev. Louis Dwight, D. D., "Vice President," John A. Annew, "Treasurer," and myself, would do ourselves the pleasure, and accept your kind invitation, and shall leave Boston on Monday afternoon, at 4 o'clock.

Yours, respectfully,

WILLIAM W. WILSON,

Agent of the Boston Society for Aiding Discharged Convicts.

FROM THE PHILADELPHIA SOCIETY.

PHILADELPHIA, December 19th, 1846.

TO THE OFFICERS AND MEMBERS OF THE NEW YORK PRISON ASSOCIATION.

RESPECTED FRIENDS:—The Philadelphia Society for Alleviating the Miseries of Public Prisons, gratefully acknowledge the reception of your kind and courteous invitation to attend the anniversary meeting of your benevolent and useful Association, to be held in the city of New York on the 22nd of this month. They have accordingly appointed three of their officers to proceed to your city to congratulate and counsel with you, namely, Prof. C. D. Cleveland, and Wm. P. Foulke, and George W. Smith, Esqrs.

They have heard with increased gratification the result of your zealous labors in the improvement of prisons, and in the attention to prisoners after their discharge. Fellow-laborers in the same cause, they trust that your efforts may continue to be prosecuted with energy, and be crowned with success.

The separation of prisoners from contaminating influences, and carefully training them by means of judicious instruction, form a portion of the discipline of every prison where reformation is regarded. The Philadelphia Society for Alleviating the Miseries of Public Prisons, more than fifty years ago, were convinced that as evil association corrupts good morals, so such association would be deleterious in an increased measure within the walls of a prison. They inferred that a career in sin might be retarded, and in many cases terminated, by removing an offender from the society of the wicked, and associating him exclusively with the intelligent and virtuous. They have never desired, much less attempted, the separation of a prisoner from all society; nor has such a plan ever been sanctioned at any time by the Legislature of Pennsylvania. They are aware that man, as a social being, requires intercourse with his fellow-men, and that he also requires retirement to his "chamber," where he may commune with his conscience and his Maker alone. They cannot conceive that intercourse, either verbal, or by signs, or looks, with a herd of corrupt convicts, can be beneficial, far less essential to either the bodily, mental, or spiritual health of a prisoner while in confinement. They cannot conceive that society owes it as a duty to convicts to introduce them to each other—to compel them to form an acquaintance, which, once formed, may never be forgotten; an acquaintance which may extinguish in their souls the last, small, lingering spark of self-respect; which inevitably subjects the penitent to the sad consequences of recognition, and almost inevitably establishes in the bosom of society a permanent band of disciplined offenders, bound together by a communion of knowledge of the persons and character of each other.

Such are some of the reasons which induced them to introduce the Separate System to the favorable notice of the public; and all their experience has confirmed their

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opinions. The term *solitary* confinement has been an unfortunate misnomer; for the prisoners in well-regulated prisons on the Separate System, have at least as much intercourse, not indeed with each other, but with those who are appointed and permitted to visit them, as may be found in prisons on the Associated System; and far more than is admitted to exist in the latter by many of its supporters. Where such intercourse is found to be insufficient, it must be attributed not to an inherent and inseparable defect in the Separate System, but to defects in the administration, which should be remedied, and which they, as well as your Association, unite in condemning.

Signed in behalf of the Philadelphia Society for Alleviating the Miseries of Public Prisons.

GEORGE C. GILLIN, President.

JAMES J. BARCLAY, }
CHS. R. DEMME, } Vice Presidents.

WM. BIDDLE, }
GEORGE W. SMITH, } Secretaries.

FROM DR. S. G. HOWE.

Boston, December 21, 1846.

GENTLEMEN:—I am much obliged to you for your invitation to attend the anniversary meeting of the New York Prison Association on the 22d, and I regret that it will not be in my power to avail myself of it.

The object of your Association is a high and noble one: I know none more so. While others are hurrying on the vanguard in the great march of humanity, or toiling to keep the main body in continual progress, you are busy in the rear ranks, helping on the feeble, comforting the helpless, and lending a helping hand to those who have been neglected or trodden down in the unequal pressure of society. May your success be equal to your merits, and your reward be found in the number of those who, through your means, shall be lifted from the hell of sensualism to the heaven of moral purity.

If I read aright the signs of the times, a better day is dawning upon that unfortunate class of our fellow-men who have hitherto furnished the material of the alms-house, the jail, the prison, and the gallows. They have always had the sympathy and the aid of good men; but this has not been enough to bring about a reform in their treatment, which will soon be effected by an enlightened self-interest on the part of the public. This self-interest will soon be made active by the knowledge that the suffering classes—the wretchedly poor, the ignorant, and the criminal, will make every other class in the community of which they are members, suffer with them.

What God has joined together, man cannot put asunder; all attempts to do this, to isolate the degraded classes, to save society from the contamination of their vices, must be ineffectual; no laws of moral quarantine can shut in vice, and penal colonies even cannot put it beyond the pale of humanity.

When attention is once turned to criminals, and to the subject of their treatment, it will be found that they have been nearly as much sinned against as sinning; that they are, for the most part, inheritors of a physical organization which makes them slaves of rampant animal appetites; that they have but little intellectual light, and less moral training; that they cannot help violating the lower laws of morality—those which guard property; and that they are then severely punished by that very society in which the higher laws of morality are almost universally violated with impunity.

But you are not to undertake the reform of criminal legislation, much less of those wider institutions which underlie the vices and crimes of society; your work is with the Discipline of Prisons, and its improvement. The doctrine of purely retributive justice is rapidly passing away, and with it will pass away, I hope, the idea of any kind of punishment that has not the reformation of the prisoner in view.

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One of the first effects of this will be, I am sure, the decrease of the length of sentences, and the adoption of some means by which the duration and severity of the imprisonment may, in all cases, be modified by the conduct and character of the prisoner. What we want now,—what no system that I know of offers, is the means for training the prisoner's moral sentiments, and his powers of self-government by *actual exercise*. We may remove all temptation, and prevent him from exercising his evil propensities; we may even, by seclusion and low diet, subdue the cravings of the passions, and put them to sleep, like wild beasts in their lair; but unless we implant now and higher sentiments, and give to them strength by exercise, those passions will become rampant again as soon as the prisoner goes out into the world, and make him their victim more speedily than before. If we keep a man from crime for twenty years by depriving him of the freedom of action, and if he resolve and re-resolve every day in that whole time to be virtuous, we have no assurance that he will not fall before the first temptation.

It will be difficult to contrive any system by which any considerable amount of self-government can be left to prisoners, without running the risk of their escape; nevertheless, I do not think that it is impossible to do so; and I believe there are many who might be so trained as to be left upon their parole during the last periods of their imprisonment, with safety, and with great advantage to themselves.

But I will not enter into any details, nor, indeed, trespass upon your time any longer than to assure you of the great expectations which I am formed of your Association, and of the sincere wishes which I entertain for its success.

Very faithfully, your friend,

S. G. HOWE.

Messrs. JOHN D. RUSSELL,
J. W. EDMONDS,
J. H. GRISCOMB,
ISRAEL RUSSELL,
CYRUS CURTIS,
Geo. HALL,
R. REED,

Committee of Arrangements.

FROM WILLIAM FARNER FOULKE.

PHILADELPHIA, December 21, 1846.

GENTLEMEN:—I have great pleasure in acknowledging the receipt of your invitation to attend the anniversary meeting of the Prison Association of New York. There exist many circumstances to render your meeting unusually interesting; and although I am unfortunately prevented, by engagements here, from availing myself of your flattering note, yet in thought I shall be with you.

The position which is now occupied by your Association is such as to give to its conclusions extraordinary influence upon the public mind. The character of its members would, at any period, properly affect the judgment of the community at large; but apart from personal considerations, the stage at which we have arrived in the discussion of penal questions adds a peculiar value to the decisions of such a body.

When the first change was made by which the idea of a penitentiary was clearly distinguished from the rude and aimless congregation of criminals, which was usual in old jails, there was a great step made in reform. Looking back to that period, we see by the writings of those who opposed, as well as of those who favored the new system, that the transition required a revolution of thought and sentiment which could not be immediately completed. It cannot surprise us to find that the details of penitentiary treatment were not clearly conceived. The provision, so creditable to your State, which was made for the exemplification of that plan of discipline which, at the commencement of the reform, attracted the confidence of your authorities, required to

be fixed in the public mind before attention could be profitably turned to the development of its administration. It can now be easily decided how far the practical working of that discipline has corresponded with the anticipations of its early promoters; but during the earlier years of experience, this was not obvious to the people at large. At the present time the nature of the discipline being understood, its management has become a subject of common scrutiny. Your Association, enjoying the public confidence, interposes to examine all the details. From the *lock-up house* to the largest prison of the State, you investigate the condition of all places of detention; you inquire whether the administration of the system professedly in force is everywhere in accordance with the nature and objects of that system; you expose defects and abuses; and you call upon the authorities to make that provision for the health, comfort, and improvement of prisoners, which is demanded by the humanity of the age, if not by the letter of the law. Were this your only office, it might well be said that your position is important; but you have assumed a higher function.

The objects of modern penal enactments require that certain fundamental principles of discipline shall be established by the Legislature; and that these shall be as nearly as possible in harmony with what is known of human character, whether among the subjects or the conductors of the discipline. In the definition of these principles,—in other words, in the formation of a plan of penitentiary treatment,—the well-known controversy between the associate and separate systems has arisen. Although this has served to keep the public mind alive to the necessity of a discreet choice of methods, and has brought to light many useful results which might otherwise have been overlooked, yet it has led to the prolonged discussion of topics which have no pertinence to the main issue, and which embarrass rather than assist a judicious use of the evidence furnished by experience. Thus the defects in some prisons, the abuses in others, have been allowed to influence inquirers beyond the legitimate line of application. Not only as respects the probabilities and risks which they disclose, but as essentially illustrative of one or the other rival system, they have been inconsiderately admitted into many of the arguments on either side. It is gratifying to find that, at the outset, you withhold your countenance from irregularities which have been more tolerated by all sober friends of reform. What has a bad ventilation at Sing-Sing, or a defect of exercise at Cherry Hill, or an insufficient visitation at any prison, to do with a question which respects the fitness of a discipline to prevent contamination, or to reform a criminal? It is for the enlightened investigator to frame a plan which, if well administered, will best meet the wants of the case; and it is for the community to see that this plan be properly administered.

The phraseology of your reports confirms the expectation founded upon the character of your Society. It shows that the true question has been contemplated with that coolness and philosophical caution which befits the emergency. Although interested in the success of your institutions, for which so much has been done; and although inclined to the method which has been so long connected in its very name with your State, yet, looking back upon the history of your prisons, and upon the forces, now vastly augmented, of those who maintain a different discipline, you have passed to gather fresh evidence before your influence shall be determined towards any method. This wise reserve cannot fail to be beneficial, in every respect.

It is not to be overlooked, that an extraordinary attention has been aroused to the subject of prison discipline. Recent accounts from Europe inform us, that in the principal states, the question which you now hold in suspense has been decided so far, as to throw the greatest weight of opinion into the scale of separation. At the late Convention at Frankfort-on-the-Maine, consisting of seventy-five members from most of the principal countries, the voices were nearly all in favor of that mode of imprisonment. The action of the leading governments has manifested an increasing confidence in it; and we see in numerous localities the construction of penitentiaries conformed to its

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rule. In these circumstances, your own course involves much in relation to the future position of New York. Whether your efforts shall be directed to the perfection of either of the methods already known, or to the invention of one differing from both, (as suggested in your last report) there is scope for all the intelligence and zeal which exist in your Association. Should your election be fixed in favor of any discipline which requires that convicts shall not be associated with each other, it may be your happy fortune to lay the foundation of separate prisons as clearly in advance of those of Pennsylvania, as these were in advance of earlier establishments. The precautions with respect to exercise and society which have occupied your thoughts, and which are so necessary to a proper administration under any system, will have free play. The Association of Philadelphia has earnestly striven to ensure a sufficient provision of these important aids; it may be your lot to accomplish that which in no prison has yet been effected, namely, a sufficient society of the virtuous. We have one inflexible purpose—that of preventing any society of criminals. Beyond this, to whatever arrangements can be made for securing the health of prisoners, or their mental and moral improvement, we set no limit which falls short of the grandest, most Christian, view of duty from man to man. That the parsimony of governments, and the ignorance or indifference of private persons will impede the entire fulfillment of that duty, may be reasonably expected; but it would be a sad reproach to the citizens of this republic if no other means could be devised for preserving the mental health of an offender in confinement, than is afforded by his association with other criminals. To you, gentlemen, we may look with confidence for the illustration of this momentous subject; and in this relation, your annual meeting promises a valuable opportunity for the interchange of thought.

I have been informed that, at your last anniversary, you were encouraged by the presence of many hundreds of both sexes. I have never seen so large an assembly collected with such an object. When we recall how short a period has elapsed since prisons were thought of only with disgust, even by the well-educated; when the ideas, which now guide legislatures, were regarded as the fancies of enthusiasts, it is enough to induce one to journey more than a hundred miles to witness the thronging of such persons as grace your hall, to hear and to aid the execution of plans for the moral and physical welfare of convicts. How much you may hope, *deus in nobis!*

Again, I desire to be with you to express in person how sincerely I share in the reciprocation of your friendly feelings towards the Philadelphia Prison Society, as an humble member of which I must consider your favor addressed to me; but as this cannot be, permit me thus to tender you many thanks, and to assure you of the respect with which

I am, gentlemen, your obedient servant,

WM. PARKER FOULKE.

To Messrs. JOHN D. RUSS,
JOHN W. EDMONDS,
JOHN H. GRISCOM,
ISRAEL RUSSELL,
CYRUS CURTIS,
GEORGE HALL,
RICHARD REED,

Committee of Arrangements.

FROM THE CHAPLAIN OF THE AUBURN PRISON.

STATE PRISON, AUBURN, December 12, 1846.

DR. J. D. RUSS—DEAR SIR: This morning I received an invitation to attend your anniversary of the 22d instant. It will not be convenient for me to be present; but be assured of my great regard for you and the cause you are advocating. My heart, my hand, my hands, my all, are in the work of rescuing fallen humanity; and I rejoice

greatly that a brighter page is being turned in the history of prisons. I believe firmly that the Prison Association at New York is doing much good; it has done great things in this place. The question now seems to be settled that "he that winneth souls is wise;"—not he that driveth or beateh, but he that winneth, is wise. May great prosperity, and the blessing of the great I AM, attend your philanthropic labors. We are prospering in this prison. I hear good news daily from those that have left us; nearly all are doing well that went away the past year.

Yours, with great respect,

ALONZO WOOD, Chaplain.

FROM THE WARDEN OF THE WASHINGTON PENITENTIARY.

*Penitentiary for the District of Columbia, CITY OF WASHINGTON,
December 18th, 1846.*

GENTLEMEN:—Your very kind letter of invitation on behalf of the "New York Prison Association" to be present at their Anniversary Meeting on the 22nd inst., has been duly received; and I much regret it will be out of my power to avail myself of the honor to meet you on so interesting an occasion. You will be kind enough to tender to the members of the Association, and accept for yourselves, my best wishes for the advancement of the praiseworthy cause in which you are engaged.

Respectfully submitted,

ROBERT COLTMAN, Warden, Pen'y. D. C.

Messrs. JOHN D. RUSS,
JOHN W. EDMONDS,
JOHN H. GRISCOM,
ISRAEL RUSSELL,
CYRUS CURTIS,
GEORGE HALL,
RICHARD REED,

Committee of Arrangements.

FROM S. A. GOODWIN, Esq., LATE INSPECTOR OF THE AUBURN PRISON.

AUBURN, December 16, 1846.

HON. JOHN W. EDMONDS:—MY DEAR SIR: Gov. Seward has handed me your letter of the 12th, with request that I would answer it. We have proceeded so far that we are now circulating the constitution drawn up by us for signatures. Our purpose is to call the subscribers together soon, to choose officers. Desirous as we are that our start should be on a broad platform, we cannot give the constitution the circulation desired, and call the meeting, and organize, in time for your 22d meeting. You can only announce that initiatory steps are taken for the promotion of an auxiliary association here.

With great respect, I remain your friend,

S. A. GOODWIN.

FROM THE WARDEN OF THE MARYLAND PENITENTIARY.

Maryland Penitentiary, BALTIMORE, December 14th, 1846.

GENTLEMEN:—Your polite favor of the 10th inst., inviting me to be present at your Anniversary Meeting on Tuesday, the 22d instant, has been received, and in acknowledging its receipt, you will permit me to thank you most sincerely for the honor done me. I regret exceedingly that my official duties at this season of the year will prevent me from being present at your very interesting meeting, as I doubt not I should be "cheered, encouraged, and instructed," upon the subject of the melioration of the condition of those of our fellow men whose misfortune it is to be inmates of prisons. That there is ample room for improvement I have no doubt; and while every feeling of my

heart conspires to God-speed the good work, I can but regret my inability to be present, and learn wisdom of the enlightened minds and generous spirits, who, I feel assured will be present upon the occasion of your coming anniversary.

With sentiments of high respect,

I remain, yours,

WM. JOHNSON, Warden, Md. Pen'y.

To John D. Russ, John W. Edmonds, John H. Griscom, Israel Russell, Cyrus Curtis, Geo. Hall, and Richard Reed, Esqrs.

FROM THE WARDEN OF THE CONNECTICUT PRISON.

CONNECTICUT STATE PRISON, December 18th, 1846.

JOHN D. RUSS, Esq.:

DEAR SIR:—Your favor of the 10th instant came to hand the 14th, a few hours after I had left for New York. I was in the city Tuesday evening, and exceedingly regret I had no knowledge of your meeting until I read your letter on my return last evening.

We have but one entire copy of our annual reports. I sent a copy of our last report for the year ending March 31, 1846, to your address; and in August last Mr. Parker visited the prison, and to him I gave a copy, and sent statistical information, as it was in my power to do, relative to this prison. With this I send you another copy of our last report, in which you will find a brief expression of my feelings relative to the treatment of convicts in confinement. I trust the day is not far distant when a similar association to yours will be organized in this and other States, when benevolence will prompt them to aid and encourage liberated convicts from our penitentiaries to habits of sobriety and industry, and thereby prevent the repetition of much crime.

Very respectfully, yours,

ELISHA JOHNSON, Warden.

FROM THE KEEPER OF THE AUBURN PRISON.

STATE PRISON, AUBURN, December 18th, 1846.

GENTLEMEN:—I have received your kind invitation to meet the Prison Association at your anniversary meeting on the 22d instant, and in reply I would say, that it will not be convenient for me to attend in person, but I assure you my best wishes are for your prosperity.

I have long since seen the importance of a combined influence of the great and good men in our land to use their efforts in sustaining, encouraging, and instructing those whose lot it is to have charge of our prisons, to enlighten the public mind on this momentous subject, and to extend the hand of kindness to the unfortunate prisoner.

Permit me to say, gentlemen, in your Society I can behold a star in the east with healing in its beams.

I am, with great respect, your obedient servant,

DAVID FOOT.

To the Committee of Arrangements.

REPORT
OF THE
EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE.

THE Executive Committee have continued cause to be grateful for the encouragement which they have received, and for the success which has attended their efforts.

FOREIGN CORRESPONDENCE.

In order to extend their sphere of usefulness, and at the same time the better to fit them, by availing themselves of the experience of others, for the discharge of their general duties, the Committee, at an early period in the year, opened a correspondence with various persons in the United States, and in foreign countries. This effort embraced the officers of all the State prisons in the Union, with a view of eliciting from each such information as would enable the Committee to obtain an accurate and enlarged view of the state of prison discipline in the whole nation.

The Committee regret that they are obliged to record the failure, in a great measure, of these efforts. Answers have been received from only seven of the States, and the District of Columbia.

Several causes have operated to produce this result. One of the most prominent has been the inability of the Association to furnish to others the reports of our own prisons. The Legislature has been so sparing in its printing of public documents, that it has been impossible for the Committee to procure any extra number of the reports of our State prisons, and the Committee have frequently, during the year, experienced the mortification of being compelled, in answer to applications made to them from various quarters on this continent, and abroad, to confess their inability to furnish the desired information. A recent instance is fresh in their memory. They had been applied to, in behalf of the French

government, among other things for "The reports published in 1846, on the different prisons of the State of New York." The Committee were able to comply with this request, so far as the Clinton and Mount Pleasant prisons were concerned, by appropriating to that purpose their only copy of the reports of those prisons; but they were unable to comply in the first instance, even at that sacrifice, in regard to the Auburn Prison; although their Committee of Inspection, in their then recent visit to that prison, had endeavored to obtain a copy of this year's report. This was the more mortifying, as well as positively injurious, from the information which we had received, that a meeting of the friends of Prison Reform, from Germany, France, Switzerland, Belgium, Holland, England, Denmark, Norway, and Sweden, had been held at Frankfort, on the 28th of September, at which a decided preference had been expressed for the Separate, or Pennsylvania system, over the Silent, or Auburn system; and the further information, that the French Chambers, at their approaching meeting, had it in contemplation to adopt a plan for France, and were balancing between the two systems.

So far as their means would allow, the Committee endeavored to supply this want when they first experienced it, by publishing in the second edition of their last report, an abstract of those reports; but they were never without the consciousness, that those abstracts would furnish a very imperfect view of the workings of our prisons and their condition. If the same spirit of rigid economy, as it is called, shall be found to influence our Legislature at their approaching session, this Association will necessarily be involved in some expense, and to a larger amount than the past year, in supplying the demand which they are aware will certainly be made upon them, and in diffusing abroad information in regard to a system which was once a matter of State pride, but which seems now, from neglect and bad government, destined rapidly to sink into disrepute.

Turning, however, from a picture, which the Committee do not contemplate with any pleasure, to one much more agreeable, they refer to the accompanying letters from two of their corresponding members, M. TOCQUEVILLE, of France, and DR. JULIUS, of Prussia.

FROM DR. JULIUS TO J. W. EDMONDS.

BERLIN, September 13th, 1846.

MY DEAR SIR:—I feel myself highly indebted and obliged to Mr. Ogden Hoffman for having procured me the honor and pleasure of your correspondence. Your letter, dated 28th March, which has withdrawn you from your important and useful occupations, has given me a lucky diagram of the present state of prison reform in your state, (which I was fain to have here some years,) completed by the highly interesting file of documents accompanying it.

You have again rescued your State from the unfeeling and harsh discipline of Captain Lynde, whose effects in Sing Sing and in Auburn in former times, I was able to investigate myself, at my visit to your country. The same yoke was at that time imposed by Mr. Witse, and I am happy that you have so fully succeeded in introducing quite a different state of things; though the immense size of both your State prisons will always remain an insurmountable barrier to a permanent improvement, and to a re-forming administration. I should think that separate prisons, like Pentonville, ought never to have more than three hundred prisoners, and penitentiaries on the silent system perhaps a little more. This, I think, is the reason why Weathersfield has been well-conducted, nearly without corporal punishment. I subscribe fully to your words relating to Sing Sing: "How long it (the present improvement) may continue, it is, of course, difficult to say, because so much must depend upon the character of the persons to whom the government of the prisons shall be committed."

All what is said in the reports on the female prison is admirable, and tells volumes for the excellence of your matrons. I shall communicate parts of it to the German public, as I have just finished, proffing of your letter and documents, a long article on your last proceedings, in a journal which I am publishing under the title of *Annals of Prison Discipline and Reform*.

I take the liberty to present in another parcel, which you will receive with this letter, by my friend Mr. Berecke, to your Prison Association, the two last years of our *Prison Annals*, and some other documents of similar import. At the same time, I beg you to be the interpreter of my gratitude to the Society for the honor they have conferred upon me in making me one of its correspondents, as I have been apprised by your letter. All I can do to foster the most useful labors of the Association shall certainly be done, and I solicit her commands. I have observed, with great pleasure, that your Association is supplying the omission of all the other American prison societies, viz., the care for those going out of prison, and the highly judicious steps and measures you have adopted, having already produced in Boston the formation of the "Prisoners' Friend Society." Having once taken up this task, I am convinced you will be more fortunate than we are or can be, in Europe, in providing for liberated prisoners, who will find in your country, with much greater facility, work to be done, than with us. Your letter affords already the proof of what I might have augured beforehand.

In your letter you mention a "new prison" recently established in the northern part of the State. This prison being entirely unknown to me, having never heard of it, I should be very thankful if you could send me the legislative documents, or other papers relating to it, as well as the last reports of Auburn Prison, and the continuation of the Sing Sing and of the Association's reports.

Allow me to direct your attention to a paper I have written in my journal, vol. vii. page 869, 10, on houses of refuge, a kind of institution for juvenile delinquents, which are superior in Germany to those of any country, though our prisons are still far behind some lately erected in other parts. Mr. Berecke will be able to explain to you this German paper.

I am setting out to-morrow for Frankfurt, where the friends of prison reform from Germany, France, Switzerland, Belgium, Holland, England, Denmark, Norway,

and Sweden, will meet on the 28th of this month. I inclose the programme or plan of the different topics for our debates. We should be extremely happy to have there some visitors from America.

I shall be most thankful for a future letter from your hand, which will always be faithfully forwarded to me by Mr. Berecke.

Please to present my respects to Messrs. Ogden Hoffman, Benj. F. Butler, and John Deer, whom I had the pleasure to know in New York.

Believe me, my dear sir, very truly yours,

N. H. JULIUS.

Programme of Discussions on PRISON REFORM, to take place at Frankfort-on-the-Maine, September 28, 1846.

I. Communications on the actual condition of prisons and of prison reforms in different countries.

II. Discussions on the most prominent points affecting this reform, and on the system essential to its success.

1. What is the design of prison discipline?
2. Admitting the defects of the old prisons, and the need of their improvement, what penitentiary system will best secure the designed end?
3. What is the precise working of the different penitentiary systems thus far tried or proposed: such as those of Auburn, Geneva, Philadelphia, etc.?
4. Can perfect silence be secured, and all communications between the prisoners be suppressed, in the Auburn system?
5. Are corporal or other punishments frequently required to secure silence and absolute non-intercourse in this system?
6. Can silence in itself be productive of injury to the health or reason of those subjected to it?
7. What are the advantages, theoretical and practical, of the system of classification (*Genève*) over that of Auburn? And are not these advantages sufficient to counterbalance the inconveniences of the association of prisoners?
8. Is the complete isolation of the prisoner, as is intended in the Pennsylvania system, practicable?
9. What rules must be observed in the construction of cells and arrangement of prisons designed for entire separation by day and by night, so as to insure the health, and give opportunity for the employment and instruction of the prisoner?
10. Is it possible for the prisoner, thus secluded, to enjoy the benefit of fresh air, to the extent necessary for health?
11. Can elementary, professional, and religious instruction be given conveniently in the Pennsylvania system, and, if so, how? And, if it can be, does it offer more or less advantages, or present more or less difficulties for imparting it, than other systems?
12. Should the visits of strangers to prisoners be allowed in the different systems, and in the Pennsylvania system in particular? To what extent? And who should be allowed to visit them?
13. What should be the arrangements for religious worship in the Pennsylvania system?
14. Would it be well to reward prisoners for their good behavior; as, for instance, with out-door work, or even the suspension, partial or complete, of the rule of isolation?
15. What is the influence of the different systems of imprisonment on health, physical or mental? Does any one system, more than another, occasion a greater number of cases of sickness, death, or lunacy? And does any one tend to encourage certain (secret) vicious habits of deleterious influence on the health and morals of the prisoner?
16. Should sick prisoners be released temporarily from absolute separation, and in what manner?
17. Will it be answer to extend the rule of separation to women, children, and to accused and condemned soldiers? To what extent, and with what modifications?
18. How do the different systems affect the character finally—literally, hinder the ultimate deprivation?
19. What are the results of the different systems on the improvement of prisoners, the diminution of recidivants, and convictions in general?
20. What should be the general arrangements (organization) of penitentiary build-

ings? Will these arrangements facilitate commissions of inspection; and what powers can, without inconvenience, be devolved on these commissions?

21. Communications of facts on other questions relating to penitentiary reform, and on different prisons.

22. Communications and discussions on plans for affording aid to discharged convicts.

23. Communications on societies and retreats for the reformation of juvenile delinquents.

The Programme is only suggestive in its character. The Convention is at liberty to modify and add to the questions, at its pleasure.

FROM M. DE TOCQUEVILLE.

SIR:—I find, in passing through Paris on my way to the interior, your very acceptable letter, and the accompanying package.

I feel sensibly the honor conferred on me by the Prison Association of New York, in appointing me one of its corresponding members. I beg you to convey to the Society, in my behalf, my profound acknowledgments. I will endeavor to justify their confidence by sending them such documents as may serve to enlighten them in their labors. My only regret is, that I am not now able to forward anything. I am now but temporarily in Paris, as I before remarked; and moreover, at this season, public business is quiet, and nothing is published. On my return, which will be before the meeting of the Legislature, (for I have just been again elected a Deputy,) I shall endeavor, and I trust successfully, to serve you. I will follow your directions in the transmission of documents.

I cannot too urgently request you to send me all that shall be published in America, during the ensuing year, on the important subject of prisons. The approaching session will decide the question for France. You are aware that the law, after having passed the Chamber of Deputies, and been sent to the Chamber of Peers, has never been discussed by the latter. Before risking this new ordeal, the supporters of this law, and the Minister who presented it, have wished the continuance, for some time to come, of the experiments which have been made in different parts of France, hoping that the results of these experiments will be of a character to give confidence to the public mind, and to disarm prejudice. This has been accomplished to a great extent; and it has been decided, on the opening of the coming session, again to send the law to the Chamber of Peers, and have it discussed there at once. It will then be returned to our Chamber, and I hope will receive the royal sanction the same year. You will perceive that, under these circumstances, it is of the last importance that we should be constantly advised of all that is doing in America; and especially that we receive the reports of the different establishments, not only in New York, but in the other States, as soon as they appear. Let me rely on you to do us this service; or rather, to do it to the great cause in which we are both laboring.

I beg you, Sir, to accept the assurances of my most distinguished regard.

ALEXIS DE TOCQUEVILLE.

PARIS, September 28, 1846.

TO R. N. HAVENS,

Corresponding Secretary of the Prison Association, New York.

Among the documents transmitted by Dr. Julius, was a review, in a German periodical, of our First Report, and an account of the organization of our Association.

Before leaving this topic, it is proper to remark, that PROFESSOR TELLKAMPF, one of the Executive Committee, has lately received,

from the King of Prussia, a commission to visit and report upon the condition of the Prisons in the United States, and in Europe. He is now abroad on his mission, and, on his departure, was clothed with authority to represent this Association in the course of his travels, and was requested to obtain for us, also, information in regard to the Penitentiary systems of Europe.

From his labors much valuable instruction is expected, and the Committee are not without hopes, that, greater success attending their future efforts in obtaining returns in this country, they may be able, another year, to lay before the Association a statement of most, if not all, the State Penitentiaries in Europe, and the United States.

The Committee, in execution of their purpose of establishing and preserving free intercourse and friendly relations with kindred associations, delegated Mr. ISAAC T. HOPPER to represent them at the late anniversary of the Boston Prison Discipline Society. From causes beyond his control, though he was in Boston at the time, he was unable to be heard at that meeting. He was, however, during his visit, more fortunate at one of the early meetings of a Society, then recently formed in Boston, which has in view the aid of discharged convicts, and which, we are assured, was "instituted in imitation of the example held out to the world by the New York Society."

We cordially welcome that Society as fellow-laborers with us.

AUXILIARIES.

This Committee have ever regarded, as a cherished object, the establishment of Auxiliary Societies; and they have regretted that their other, and more pressing duties, have not allowed them all the opportunities they desired of making the efforts necessary for success, in this regard. They have, however, been able to make some, though not with the hoped-for success. During the past winter, a meeting was held in the Assembly chamber, at Albany, consisting of members of the Legislature, and citizens of that place, which was addressed by MESSRS. EDMONDS, HOPPER, and BUTLER. Resolutions were passed, approving the objects of our Association, and a committee was appointed to organize an Auxiliary. But we have not learned that any farther steps have been taken in the matter.

A similar meeting was held at Troy, about the same time, which was attended by Mr. HOPPER in behalf of the Association, but with a similar fate.

At the recent inspection of the Auburn Prison, a meeting of the citizens of that village was held, which was attended by Vice Chancellor M'COUN, Judge EMMONDS, Dr. RUSS, and MESSRS. REED and McKEON, in behalf of the Association. An auxiliary society was organized, called "The Western Branch of the New York Prison Association." A meeting was subsequently held in that village, at which a constitution was adopted and signed. That meeting was attended by a portion of our Committee of Inspection, and was addressed by Mr. J. STANTON GOULD, one of that Committee.

This Auxiliary has an extensive field of usefulness open before it, and it can easily be to the Auburn Prison the same minister of good that the parent society has been blessed with being to the prison at Sing Sing and to the Penitentiary. But it is endowed with one element of usefulness, which, from its location, cannot be vouchsafed to the parent institution: that, namely, of controlling and regulating public opinion in the immediate vicinity of the prison. This is more important than will be, at once, apparent to the casual observer. It seems to be a law of the prisons—at least of every prison on the Auburn plan, of which we have any account—that it is doomed to be surrounded by a state of public excitement and prejudice, extremely detrimental to its physical and moral improvement. This is attributable to several causes.

One is, the number of offices, as they are deemed, which can be conferred as the reward of political services. The "Outs" are more numerous than the "Ins;" and however inimical to or envious of each other the former may be, they easily combine against the latter; they give a ready reception to every tale of scandal, and are but too prone to view every act in its worst aspect; and this begets on the other hand a jealous irritability, too apt to degenerate into hatred and uncharitableness. Hence arises between these people a constant state of warfare.

Another is, the influence of prison associations upon the residents in the neighborhood, lending a spirit of vindictive hatred to this abiding warfare. That neighborhood is very much constituted, if not entirely composed, of keepers, contractors, or guards, who, for a long period, have had much communication with the felons in the prison, with those whose indulgence of every evil passion has brought them there, and who have not yet learned the lesson of self-control. Who can touch pitch and not be defiled? There are few—very few, indeed, who can spend the most of their waking

moments in the society of, and in intercourse with, the most vicious portion of the population, without experiencing the influence of the contamination. Of such is the society which surrounds the prison most generally composed, and it can scarcely be expected that their influence can be fraught with good to the institution.

With many of the officers, the temptation to resort to brute force alone, as a means of government, is almost irresistible. They know no other means of government, and then the whip is so convenient!

The interest of the contractors is of the same character, and prompts to an extortion from the prisoners of the utmost degree of toil.

These considerations will always be at war with good government; and he, who shall attempt to infuse into that government, justice, mercy, and kindness, will ever find himself opposed by their influences.

To strengthen the arm of such a one, to resist and overcome these baneful influences, so far as they bear on the Auburn Prison, and to give to the efforts of humanity and kindness a steady and concentrated action, instead of fitful and scattered struggles, is the lot of our Auxiliary.

The field of usefulness is broad and rich before them, and we augur from their action the happiest results.

ACT OF INCORPORATION.

Connected with the visit to Albany, was an application to the Legislature for an act of incorporation, which was finally granted, but not until the Association had been subjected to the expense of keeping an agent at that place most of the session. Reluctant as the Executive Committee were to consent to the diversion of any of their funds from the charitable purposes to which they are dedicated, they were persuaded that the benefits to be derived from it would more than compensate the expense. Their expectations have already been realized.

The Association has thereby been placed on a permanent basis, has attained a respectable standing by the side of the other charities which distinguish our city, and acquired power and privileges well calculated to advance, and indeed secure, its prosperous action.

Among other things granted to it, was authority to establish

A CITY WORK-HOUSE.

for the reception and punishment of vagrants and disorderly persons, with "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."

Immediately on the passage of this act of the Legislature, the Executive Committee took active measures to carry this provision into effect. They referred the subject to a committee consisting of Vice-Chancellor McCoun, the President; Mr. BUTLER, one of the Vice-Presidents; Judge EDMONDS, Chairman of the Executive Committee; Dr. RUSS, and Mr. HAVENS, the two Secretaries; Mr. ISRAEL RUSSELL, Chairman of the Finance Committee; Mr. DUER, Chairman of the Committee on Prison Discipline; Mr. HOPFER, Chairman of the Committee on Discharged Convicts; Dr. GRISCOM, Dr. FARMLY, and General WETMORE.

That committee sedulously entered upon their duty, and directed their attention first to obtaining the information necessary to enable them to act understandingly; a task attended with more difficulties—arising from the loose manner in which our city prisons are conducted—than will readily be imagined. They had numerous meetings. They invoked and obtained the aid and counsel of the active and intelligent Commissioner of the Alms-house, and received valuable assistance from the Association for improving the Condition of the Poor. The Executive Committee of that society appointed a committee from their body, consisting of MESSRS. J. B. COLLINS, GRISCOM, and E. C. BENEDICT, who met and co-operated with our committee; and this joint committee of the two Associations finally adopted a memorial to the Common Council, which was presented on the 23d of November last, and in both boards referred to a select committee, who have the subject now under their consideration.

And when it is considered that there are over 600 vagrants constantly in our prisons, that over 2000 are yearly convicted and sentenced in the city, that they are an expense to the city of over \$75,000 a year, that the number is constantly augmenting, and that no improvement in their moral condition can be discovered, it is confidently hoped that the application to the city authorities will not be unattended with success, and that this Association may yet be fortunate enough to be endowed with the means of trying the experiment, whether the honest, law-obeying portion of the community cannot be relieved from this heavy burden, and at

the same time a fallen and degraded portion of our population be somewhat improved. And this Committee will not disguise their apprehension that more frightful ills may yet be visited upon us, if this evil is permitted to grow for the future, with the fearful rapidity which has marked its past progress. Our last report showed that the number has doubled in five years, and we now know that the summary convictions for vagrancy in 1846 amounted to 2135; and that the number of persons arrested in this city during the past year, for offences against morals and good order, exceed 30,000.

Surely it will not be vain that we appeal to the constituted authorities of the city to check this alarming evil.

That the proceedings and views of our Committee on the Work-house may be more particularly known to the members of the Association, we annex a copy of their memorial with its accompanying documents.

Memorial of the Prison Association, and of the Society for the Improvement of the Condition of the Poor.

TO THE HON. THE COMMON COUNCIL:—

The undersigned, in behalf and by direction of the Executive Committee of the Prison Association, respectfully represent:—

That the present condition of the Penitentiary on Blackwell's Island is a reproach to the city, and to the administration of criminal justice. It is alike inimical to the comfort, health, moral government, reformation, and punishment of its inmates. It is impossible to perfect those improvements in prison discipline which have been suggested by an enlightened philanthropy, and a return to the long-explored congregate system, with all its abominations, has been forced upon its officers as their only resort. Cells, not sufficient properly to accommodate one person, have been, at some seasons, made a receptacle for two and three; and at all times a large portion of the inmates are necessarily disposed of in an out-building, where one or two hundred convicts are thrown together in a mass—many of them insane or idiotic—and are locked up for the night, amid filth and vermin, and without a keeper to quiet the turbulent or restrain the vicious. Neither classification nor silence can be obtained, and the contaminating influences of evil association not only thwart all attempts at reform, but have a constant and inevitable tendency to corrupt, debase, and harden the young and oftentimes scarcely guilty criminal, and to render his punishment the certain means of his utter ruin. Even a separation of the sexes is impracticable.

This condition of the Penitentiary has necessarily crowded the City Prison; and there the innocent and the guilty,—the mere witness and the condemned criminal,—are compelled to herd and associate together.

This state of things in the Penitentiary is subversive of order, incompatible with reformation, and destructive of the chief end of punishment. And the prison, instead of being a terror to evil-doers, has to many become an attractive home. It is well known that numbers have been absent only a few days at a time, for ten or fifteen years. And one female has been an almost constant occupant of the Bridewell and Penitentiary for the last thirty-six years, and at a probable expense to the city of near three thousand dollars.

1846
[REDACTED]

The rapid increase of our population, and the constant influx of foreign paupers, are augmenting these evils; and already the necessity of enlarging our Penitentiary, and that too at an early day, has become apparent.

One of the most serious defects of the present arrangement is the combination of vagrants and criminals,—thus commingling in the same disgrace and punishment those whose chief fault is destitution or disease, and those who are willingly corrupt; and making no distinction between poverty and crime. To make that distinction,—so obviously just, so essential to the moral elevation of the vagrant, and the effective punishment of the criminal,—is one great advantage promised from the establishment of a work-house.

The expenses of the present establishment are very large, imposing heavy burdens on the chief part of the community for the support of the idle and the vicious, and are constantly increasing both by augmentation of numbers and deficiency of employment.

From the report of the Alms-House Commissioner for the past year, and from other official sources, it appears, that the yearly expense of each prisoner in the Penitentiary is \$65 10, and subsequent examinations have satisfactorily proved that this sum may safely be assumed as the general annual expense of each inmate of this establishment.

The average number of Vagrants convicted and detained for punishment in the Penitentiary and City Prison during the past year, was 1020; making the annual expense to the City, of this class of delinquents alone, \$66,402. This is exclusive of the labor of the convicts, which is consumed in the establishment, and which has not hitherto been productive of revenue. This labor, at twelve and a half cents a day for each prisoner, would produce in the year \$30,337 50. So that the class of prisoners embraced within this portion of the charter of the Prison Association are now an annual expense of \$105,739 50.

The cost, however, in money to the City, it must be remembered, is for each vagrant \$65 10 a year; a sum more than double the expense of the virtuous poor in this State, and much greater than that incurred in most prisons in the United States of which we have any knowledge.

The Committee are not unmindful of the difficulty which arises from the shortness of the period of confinement, generally too brief to teach habits of productive industry. Yet, making a liberal allowance for this consideration, and having in view the fact that in all our State prisons where labor is properly directed, an average of twenty-three to twenty-five cents a day for each convict is produced, the Committee are firm to believe that it is not extravagant to calculate that the vagrants can be made to produce, over and above the cost that shall be devoted to their own supply, an average of twelve and a half cents a day for each individual.

More than double this is constantly attained in our State prisons, and why may not our expectations of doing half as well be realized? If they should be, in this respect alone a saving of near \$40,000 a year would be effected; and the Committee should their application prove successful, think that they can suggest a measure more equitable than general taxation, which would in the end relieve the City treasury from the greater part if not from the whole of the residue of this expense.

Relying upon the truth of these statements, and having in view the fact, which all experience has demonstrated, that such institutions can be far better managed by private associations than by public authorities, the Committee invite the attention of the Common Council to that provision of their act of incorporation by which the Prison Association is authorized to "establish a work-house in the City for the reception of vagrants and disorderly persons," and is empowered to keep, detain, employ, and govern them; and they solicit from the Common Council the means of carrying into effect the benevolent intentions of the Legislature.

By reference to the accompanying documents it will be seen that a large increase to the number of officers is proposed. The Committee intended, in their

estimates, to take the outside of what would probably be required. The labor intercourse between them during their hours of labor, and to see that they perform their allotted tasks, will require the strictest watchfulness. But that is not all to be moral teachers; and to do that duty wisely and well, they must be acquainted with the characters and dispositions of the persons under their charge. All experience has shown that the faithful performance of that one keeper should have charge of more than twenty or twenty-five prisoners.

In this manner and in other respects, as will be seen in those papers, the Executive Committee have prepared and provided for moral instruction for the prisoners, and they regard this as an essential feature of their plan. Wherever it has been introduced into prisons it has been attended with the happiest results. In houses of refuge for juvenile delinquents it has been in successful operation on many years. In prisons for adults it has been introduced much more sparingly, and at later periods, but still with beneficial effects.

It will be seen that of 662 vagrants in the Penitentiary at our examination in June last, 71 were under the age of 30, and 460 under the age of 30 years; and that proportion varies little in the course of the year, so that most of them are of an age which promises good fruit, from judicious and careful cultivation; and when it shall be remembered that most of these young persons have never enjoyed the advantages of moral culture—that many of them have never learned ever been taught even the temporal advantages of a virtuous life, it will readily society to the indulgence of every evil passion, or to the destroying influence of corrupt association, is not entirely without foundation.

To erect and conduct a prison which shall prevent the mutual contamination of prisoners, which by its own labor shall relieve the honest part of the community from the burden of its support, and which shall bring to bear upon a neglected and degraded portion of our population every practicable appliance for progress to itself.

Without presuming to dictate the action of the Common Council, the Committee beg leave, nevertheless, respectfully to remind them, that Blackwell's Island has long been and probably long will be devoted to the purposes of a penal institution of that character upon a spot naturally so central and so secluded.

Already great injury has grown out of the location of the Lunatic Asylum on the Island, produced by the crowds of visitors which it attracts, thus relaxing the discipline of the Penitentiary, and converting the Island from a place of punishment into a show garden, to which all are invited to resort.

This evil will be greatly augmented by locating the alms-house there; while broken down, and the Island will, inevitably, in the end, be avoided by the virtuous, and become a receptacle only for the insane, the infamous, and the abandoned. It is therefore worthy of consideration, whether the interests of humanity—and of the City, for they are inseparable, do not demand the abandonment of the Is. alone, and whether it would not be wiser and better to dedicate the buildings now being erected there to the purposes of a work-house to be conducted by the Association under their act of incorporation.

The Executive Committee are persuaded that if such an appropriation shall be made of those buildings, and an allowance be made to the Association of \$45 per year for each vagrant committed to them, they will be able to take care of and govern that whole class, with a saving to the City of at least \$20,000 a

year, with an improvement in the moral and physical condition of their prisoners, and greatly to the advancement of order and good government.

The Committee have not arrived at this conclusion without anxious and searching inquiry, and due and careful consideration.

They have proposed to themselves "The Society for the Reformation of Juvenile Delinquents," as the model on which to form their execution of the important trust committed to them, and to act in regard to vagrants as that Society has done in regard to young offenders—to have a prison and work-house combined, in which, while the delinquents may be confined and punished, they may by their labor relieve the honest part of the community from the burden of their support, and be taught the salutary lessons of repentance for the past, and reformation for the future.

Immediately after the passage of their act of incorporation, they placed this subject under the care of the undersigned, who have for several months given the matter their careful attention.

They sought and obtained the aid, advice, and co-operation of the "Society for the Improvement of the Condition of the Poor," and of the Commissioner of the Alms-House.

And in now presenting to the Common Council their earnest application for the means of carrying into effect this great end and object of their act of incorporation, the Executive Committee are able to assure the Common Council, not only of the entire unanimity of their own Society in their petition, but of the cordial co-operation of their kindred Society; and they deem it proper to pledge themselves to the Common Council, and to the community at large, that if their application shall be granted, they will devote themselves to the task with all the energy and fidelity which its ultimate success may demand.

New York, November 7, 1846.

J. W. EDMONDS, Chairman Executive Com.
R. N. HAVENS, Corresponding Secretary.
W. T. McCOUN, JOHN D. RUSS,
JOHN DUER, JNO. H. GRISCOM,
E. PARMLY, PROSPER M. WETMORE,
ISRAEL RUSSELL, ISAAC T. HOPPER,
B. F. BUTLER.

At the stated meeting of the Executive Committee of the New York Association for the Improvement of the Condition of the Poor, November 9, 1846, the foregoing memorial was read and the following resolution relative thereto unanimously adopted.

Resolved, That the Executive Committee fully concur in the statements and arguments of the Memorial of the Prison Association, and respectfully urge that the prayer of the petitioners be granted.

Signed by order and in behalf of the Association.

J. SMYTH ROGERS, Chairman, *pro tem*.
R. M. HARTLEY, Secretary.

Report of Committee on Statistics referred to in the above Memorial.

PENITENTIARY, JUNE 20, 1846.			
Whole number of Inmates 884		
	Males 419; Females 465.	White 788; Black 96.	
Vagrants 602		
Foreigners :	Males..... 181—Females..... 248..... 429		
Natives :	"..... 101—..... 132..... 233—662		
White Males.....	189—White Females..... 399..... 588		
Black do.....	20—Black do..... 26..... 46—634		

Males.		Females.	
Under 20	26	Under 20	45
Between 20 and 30	39	Between 20 and 30	190
Between 30 and 40	69	Between 30 and 40	98
Between 40 and 50	52	Between 40 and 50	36
Between 50 and 60	21	Between 50 and 60	9
Between 60 and 70	10		
Between 70 and 80	4		
Aged 89	1		

Total number committed during the year ending 20th June, 1846, 3510—daily average of 10. Total number died during the year, 105—or 2 each week.

Weekly number of inmates during the year commencing June 20, 1845, and ending June 20, 1846.

805	1207	1354	1339	1426	957
875	1258	1340	1338	1412	968
932	1274	1335	1361	1369	931
933	1319	1361	1388	1305	882
963	1366	1366	1413	1247	892
1008	1375	1326	1423	1164	890
1050	1364	1311	1408	1070	879
1108	1381	1326	1412	998	884
1160	1363	1323	1429		

Average number during the year, 1203. Smallest number, June 20, 1845, 805; largest number, February 28, 1846, 1429.

The rapid increase from the 1st of July to February was owing, in some measure, to the new police; and its decrease from that time till now, owing to the new becoming old, in some measure.

Vagrants constitute about three-fourths of the whole number.

So, the average for the year being 1203; the average of vagrants for the year 900; the whole number committed during the year being 3510—the number of vagrants committed during the year must be 2631.

The yearly expense of supporting each prisoner being (as per second report) \$70 79.

The total expense per year for the 900 must be \$63,711.

CITY PRISON, JUNE 25th, 1846.	
Whole number of Inmates.....	156
Detained for trial.....	40—Vagrants..... 116
Vagrants—Committed for 5 days, 56 males, 22 females.	
" " for over 5 " " 6 " 3 "	
To be tried by Special Sessions.....	24 " 5 "
Total	86 " 30 "

Of the whole number of inmates, 156: Males—White, 97; Black, 18; Total, 115. Females—White 34; Black, 7; Total 41.

No account of ages or nativity kept.
The expense of supporting 115 vagrants in the City Prison at the same rate, must be per year..... \$8,140 85
Add expense at Penitentiary..... 63,711 00

Total..... \$71,851 85

Estimated expense of supporting the establishment, calculated on the basis of having one thousand inmates.

Warden, or Principal Officer.....	\$2,000
Agent, or Clerk to keep books and attend to the principal department.....	1,250
Teacher, including Chaplain's duties.....	1,000
Matron, or Principal of Female Department.....	800
Physicians—1 resident and 1 consulting.....	1,000
Keepers at \$400 per year, being one for every 25 inmates, say 18.....	7,200
Assistant Matrons, (the same,) at \$250.....	4,500
Porters—say 6, at \$200 a year.....	1,200
Pay of officers.....	\$18,950
Support of inmates, \$50 each.....	50,000
Total.....	\$68,950

The last item includes all the expenses of the establishment, besides the pay of officers. And it is estimated at \$50 each, for the reason, that such is found to be the case in our best regulated prisons. Thus at Weatherfield the annual expense for each prisoner is.....\$47 45
 In Virginia Penitentiary..... 47 45
 In Sing Sing..... 50 55
 In our House of Refuge..... 54 33
 In Auburn..... 45 66
 In Maryland..... 76 00
 In Massachusetts..... 74 23

This is the expense independent of the earnings; and it must be borne in mind, that in all these institutions (except the House of Refuge) all articles of furniture and clothing are made by the prisoners from the raw material. In the House of Refuge this is only partially so. Hence, in a measure, the increased expense.

PROCEEDINGS OF THE COMMITTEE ON THE WORK-HOUSE.

NEW YORK, June 19, 1846.

The Committee appointed at a special meeting of the Executive Committee, for the purpose of taking into consideration a plan for a work-house, met at the rooms of the Prison Association.

Present: Messrs. Duer, Edmonds, McCoid, I. Russell, Griscom, Russ, Butler, Parnly, and Havens.

On motion of Mr. Russell, Judge Edmonds was appointed chairman, and Dr. Russ secretary of the Committee.

The chairman, after stating the objects of the meeting, moved the following resolutions:—

Resolved, That a committee be appointed, to whom should be referred all inquiries concerning the number, character, age, color, and sex of the individuals who are likely to become inmates of a work-house.

Which was adopted, and Messrs. Russ, Edmonds, and Havens were appointed the committee.

On motion of Mr. Butler,

Resolved, That a committee be appointed to take into consideration the location and erection of a work-house, together with its government and discipline,

and the nature and kind of employment best adapted to insure its successful operation.

Messrs. Griscom, Russell, and Hopper were appointed such Committee.

On motion of Mr. Havens,

Resolved, That said Committee have power to confer with the Society for the Relief of the Poor, and that Messrs. Duer, Edmonds, and Havens be added to the committee.

And the Committee adjourned.

July 10, 1846.

The Committee met.

Present: Messrs. Edmonds, Duer, Wetmore, Havens, Russell, Hopper, Butler, Russ, and Messrs. Griscom and Collins from the Poor Association.

Judge Edmonds, from the Committee on Statistics, reported at length.

On motion of Gen. Wetmore, the report was accepted and laid on the table, and the Committee was continued.

Dr. Griscom, from the Committee on the location and erection of a work-house, reported at length. The report was accepted; and, on motion of Mr. Duer, the cost of erection, and the expense of support, were referred back to this Committee, to report thereon.

On motion of Mr. Havens, Dr. Russ was added to the Committee.

On motion of Mr. Duer,

Resolved, That the earnings of county prisons, in this and other States, be referred to the Committee on Statistics; and also what will be the probable earnings of the work-house, and what are now the earnings of the prisoners in the Penitentiary.

On motion of Dr. Griscom,

Resolved, That this Committee visit and personally inspect Randall's Island. The Committee adjourned.

August 3.

The Work-house Committee met at the rooms of the Prison Association.

Present: Judge Edmonds, (chairman,) I. T. Hopper, Duer, Griscom, Collins, Havens, Russell, Russ, and Wetmore.

Dr. Griscom, from a sub-committee, reported in part. His report, was considered, and re-committed.

Adjourned.

August 10.

The Committee met.

Present: Judge Edmonds, (chairman,) Messrs. Hopper, Leonard, Collins, Griscom, Russell, Havens, and Russ.

Dr. Griscom, from the Committee on Location and Erection, reported in full. Dr. Russ, from the Committee on Statistics, reported in full, as to the employment and products of the Penitentiary.

Resolved, That the reports of the several sub-committees be referred to a committee of three, to prepare a memorial to the Common Council.

Messrs. Edmonds, Griscom, and Russ were appointed the Committee.

October 10.

The Work-house Committee met.

Present: Judge Edmonds, (chairman,) Messrs. Duer, Griscom, Collins, Havens, Parnly, Russ, Russell, and Wetmore.

Two separate reports of a memorial were presented, read, and considered.

On motion of Mr. Duer,

Resolved, That the same be recommitted, with instructions to unite and amend both.

On motion of Dr. Russ, Mr. Duer was added to the Committee.

October 12.

The Work-house Committee met.

Present: Judge Edmonds, (chairman,) and Messrs. Duer, Parmy, Russell, Hopper, Wetmore, Griscom, and Russ.

The Committee on the Memorial made a report, which was considered, discussed, and adopted.

Ordered, that the chairman report the same to the Executive Committee for their sanction.

Adjourned.

Dr. Griscom reported:

On the subjects of the arrangement and cost of buildings suitable for a work-house, your Committee find some data which it is believed may be adopted as the basis of calculation.

In the fifth annual report of the Poor Law Commissioners of England will be found two birds-eye views and two ground plans of buildings designed for this purpose, and which appear well arranged for it. They are adapted for 800 persons and upward.

Ample space may be there found for receiving-rooms, dressing-halls, dormitories, work-rooms, wash-rooms, infirmary, officers' residence, offices, scullery, storerooms, and all other necessary apartments.

The committee do not recommend a strict adherence to these plans; many variations may doubtless be found expedient, especially, perhaps, in the number of close cells for the confinement of inmates; as the character of the people we shall have to occupy our institution will be somewhat different from that of those in the work-houses of England and Ireland. Here, they will be prisoners; there, they are paupers merely.

With respect to the cost of suitable buildings, we find in the documents of our city government, estimates already made for this purpose. In Doc. No. 9, Assistant Aldermen, 1845, a joint special committee appointed to report plans for the erection of new buildings for alms-house department, report, that from the architect they have received estimates of the cost of the desired buildings, which for the work-house and work-shops amounts to \$92,000. In this estimate no allowance is made for prison labor, which would cause a considerable reduction in the expense. They state that the builders would be willing to take all the laborers who could be obtained from that source, and allow fifty cents a day for each man, and one dollar a day for masons. This estimate was made for buildings on Blackwell's Island, where the proximity of stone for the purpose would considerably reduce the expense. To the above estimate of cost of buildings on Randall's Island, should the contemplated work-house be established there, must be added the cost of transportation of stone, except so much as may be used of the ruins of the Nursery buildings lately destroyed by

fire. The foundations of those edifices are doubtless good, and capable of being used in the erection of a work-house.

It will doubtless be safe to estimate the cost of the necessary constructions on Randall's Island at \$90,000.

INSPECTION OF PRISONS.

Experiencing difficulty in inspecting the prisons of the State, arising sometimes from the reluctance of their officers to submit to what they deemed unauthorized intrusion, the Executive Committee, in their petition for an act of incorporation, asked for power to visit and inspect, to such an extent as should render their examinations thorough and satisfactory. The Legislature granted them the necessary power; and went farther, *ex mero motu*, and made it "the duty of the Executive Committee, 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."

The performance of this duty, to which the Legislature justly attached high value, would necessarily involve the Association in a heavy expense, amounting, according to their estimate—independent of the time which the members must personally devote to it—to at least \$1000 a year. Yet the Legislature made no provision for the expense, and necessarily devolved it upon the Association to appropriate their funds to this object. Those funds being the product merely of voluntary contributions, the Executive Committee could not, without disregarding the trust reposed in them, in respect to other objects of the Association, devote so large a portion to this object. They have, therefore, been necessarily restricted in their inspections, and have visited only the three State Prisons, the County and City Prisons in the first and second Senate Districts, and the Prisons in the Counties of Columbia and Oneida.

The Committee to inspect the State Prison at Sing Sing*, consisted of Messrs. Duer, Russ, Edmonds, Havens, Benedict, and Curtis.

To inspect the Clinton Prison, Dr. Griscom and Judge Edmonds were the Committee.

To inspect the Auburn State Prison, the Committee consisted

* The Prison is thus designated by us because such is its most popular name, though in the statute, it is called the State Prison at Mount Pleasant, a name now inappropriate, because the Prison is no longer in the town of Mount Pleasant.

of Judge Edmonds, Dr. Russ, Vice Chancellor McCoun, Messrs. R. Reed and J. McKeon, of New York, and J. Stanton Gould, member Assembly elect from Columbia.

To inspect the Prisons in the Counties of Kings, Queens, and Suffolk, the Committee was Messrs. Duer, Russ, and Curtiss.

To inspect the Prisons in the Counties of Richmond, Putnam, and Dutchess, Messrs. Morse and Havens.

To inspect the Prisons in Westchester County, Mr. Keyser.

To inspect the Prisons in the Counties of Rockland, Orange, and Sullivan, Messrs. Benedict and Reed.

To inspect the Prisons in Oneida County, Mr. McKeen.

To inspect the Prisons in Columbia County, Messrs. Curtis, Griscom, and Reed.

To inspect the Prisons in Albany County, Mr. Reed.

To inspect the Prisons in the Counties of Delaware and Green, Mr. Mitchell.

The expense of these inspections, though less than was expected, owing to the liberality of the Schenectady, the Utica, the Syracuse, and Auburn Railroad Companies, who transported our Committee to and from Auburn free of charge, yet amounted to \$287 38;—a serious invasion of our funds, which nothing less than a sense of our duty to the Legislature, and of the importance of the interests involved, would have warranted.

It was the determination of the Executive Committee that these inspections should be exceedingly minute and particular, so as to lay before the Association and the Legislature, a mass of information in regard to those prisons, and their inmates, such as had never before been made public, and such as would be likely to aid "in enabling the Legislature to perfect their government and discipline."

In regard to the County Prisons, this was totally out of the question. The loose and unsatisfactory manner in which their accounts were kept—with the exception of the Prison in Brooklyn,—would not permit us to learn much more, than that a certain number of persons had been in jail, had been accused of certain offences, had staid there a certain time, and had gone out. And our Committees of Inspection had frequent and abundant cause to lament the utter failure of the system of inspection of County Prisons now provided by law. The inspection, however, was carried as far, when attempted, as these circumstances would warrant, and far enough to justify the repeated allegation, that our

County Prisons, in many cases, are only nurseries of crime, where young offenders are hardened in vice, and are sent out, fitted and well-prepared, under the patronage of the State, for an early and certain condemnation to the State Prisons.

Of the State Prisons, the inspections were far more satisfactory; and the reports of the several Committees detailed on that duty, which are herewith submitted, embody a mass of very valuable information, well calculated to show the workings of this part of our penitentiary system.

Some of the features, which these documents show in the aggregate, it will be proper to state here, because otherwise they can be arrived at only in detail.

1. We have four State Prisons, three for males and one for females, which have been erected at an expense exceeding \$950 000, which are capable of containing 2150 prisoners, to which are attached 116 officers in the pay of the State, and which involve an expenditure of over \$220,000 a year.

2. That the prisons did entirely support themselves, until the Legislature interfered by prohibiting to them certain profitable kinds of industry; that since that interference, they have been a drain upon the State treasury, which has, however, been gradually diminishing, so that the past year the earnings fall very little short of all the expenses of the prisons, excepting such as were incurred in new erections and additions; and that deficiency will soon, doubtless, entirely disappear.

3. That only about a one-hundredth part of all this large annual expenditure is directed to the moral or mental condition of the prisoners; the whole of the residue being devoted to the *physique*, and the finances.

4. That the system of government is almost entirely that of physical force; somewhat modified and improved of late from its former harshness and cruelty, by the state of public opinion, and the character and temper of those particularly charged with the direction of that government, but liable, at any moment, to a relapse from apathy in the public mind or a change of officers.

5. That the prosperous financial condition of the prisons is owing to the mode of contracting out the labor of the convicts—which has in it, however, much that is calculated to interfere with their moral improvement, and much that has a tendency—so strong is the interest to over-task the prisoners—to restore and continue the former hard and iron rule.

6. That the whole number of convicts now in our prisons is 1592, while ten years ago, it was 1511; showing an increase in that period of five and a half per cent.; while, during the same time, the increase in our population has been over 60 per cent.

7. That of the whole number, 1525 are males, and 67 are females; 286 are blacks and Indians, and 420 are foreigners; 763 were intemperate; 765 were married; — had parents living; — had families; 222 could not read nor write; 1365 were for crimes against property, 250 against the person, and 16 for perjury; — confessed their guilt; 329 had been committed to prison once before, 49 twice before, 12 thrice before, and 10 four or more times.

In the inspection of the State Prisons, the Committees charged with that duty have made it a rule, and have conformed to it, to have a personal interview with each prisoner, to examine the officers under oath, and contractors and their clerks, to an extent that would enable them to understand, fully and truly, the condition of the prison; to inquire into the system of government, the moral teaching, the medical treatment, the number of insane, and the state and cause of their disease, the receipts and expenditures of the establishment, and the various contracts—as well for labor as for supplies, and the manner in which they were executed.

The results of this rigid examination will be found in the accompanying documents.

To procure a more perfect and thorough inspection of County Prisons the ensuing year, the Executive Committee have prepared blank tables, which they have transmitted to all the prisons in the State, in which entries may be made by the keepers from time to time. If that task shall be performed by those officers, and not otherwise, the Committee will be able, in their next annual report, to spread before the Association and the Legislature more accurate and full information—not only in regard to the condition and government of all our prisons, but of the character, condition, and distinctive features of their inmates—than has ever yet been obtained in this State.

FINANCES.

By referring to the accompanying reports from the Finance Committee, and from the Treasurers of the Male and Female Departments, it will be seen that the whole amount of Receipts during the year have been—

For general purposes,	\$3891 59
For the Female Department, in money,	1018 29
Do. do. in donations in kind, valued at	325 00

Making a total of \$5234 88

showing a degree of liberality on the part of our citizens in the highest degree encouraging, and demanding from the Executive Committee their heartfelt expressions of gratitude, and persevering and increasing efforts on their part.

This amount has been expended in the following manner:—

For DISCHARGED CONVICTS, male and female, including rent of "The Home," furniture therefore, and compensation to Matrons and Agent,	\$3082 70
Appropriations to the Committee on DETENTIONS, expended in compensation to their Agent, and the relief of prisoners arrested and charged with crime,	337 11
For the INSPECTION OF PRISONS,	106 68
For PRINTING, including two editions, of 1200 each, of the Second Report, blanks for inspection of prisons, advertising, etc.,	570 28
For salary and travelling expenses to financial Agent,	632 72
For miscellaneous purposes, namely, rent and furniture of office, clerk hire, fuel, stationery, procuring Charter, etc.,	450 72

The collections during the year have been sufficient for all the purposes of the Association, except for a more extended inspection of prisons; and it is owing no debts, except a few of a small amount contracted for that object. The generosity of contributors has enabled the Executive Committee to afford to discharged convicts all the relief that was necessary; to print and circulate a large number of our report; and, in addition to last year, to inspect all our State prisons and fourteen county prisons, and to employ an agent, whose whole time is devoted to the care and relief of prisoners charged with offences.

For another year the discharge of these interesting duties—which are ever present and ever pressing—and a more complete inspection of prisons, will demand a larger sum, and the Executive Committee indulge a confident hope that they may be endowed with the necessary means.

The Committee regret that they have no language to convey to the members of the Association, the rich reward which is due

to them, and which is freely bestowed, in the gratitude so deeply felt, and often so strongly expressed, by the prisoners, for our sympathy or our aid. Their cheerful looks, their tearful eyes, their swelling emotion, often tell us the tale when the tongue is silent. It is, however, best expressed by themselves; and the following letter, received within a few days, will tell the story in a convict's own language.

ROCHESTER, MONROE CO., N. Y., Dec. 10, 1846.

THE HONORABLE _____

MY VERY DEAR SIR:—Last Thursday morning, Mr. _____, (the individual with whom you conversed in the Agent's office of the Auburn State Prison, during your mission of mercy to that hard place,) called on me, with a view to get employment. I need not say to you, that it gave me indescribable pleasure to take him by the hand, and bid him an enthusiastic, heart-felt welcome to the busy scenes of this bright and beautiful world, from which he has been unhappily excluded for the last three years. He came to me, (as I went, but a few weeks since, to the Rev. F. W. Holland,) full of necessity—a stranger in a strange place—with the cold winds of poverty blowing hard about me: and as Mr. Holland helped me, so I helped him. Before noon, I secured for him a lucrative situation, which will afford him a comfortable and an honorable livelihood.

I feel devoutly grateful to God, that in the order of this good providence, _____ was so fortunate as to have fallen in with such a friend, at a time when so greatly needed; and you may be well assured, that what you said to him, and what you done for him, has given a tone—a bearing—a good tendency to his present course—and will to his whole future life—that will cause you to be remembered with gratitude, veneration, and love, to the very last moments of his life. His friends ere this have heard of you, of your ministry of kindness, and of love to their unfortunate one. Your name will make many a heartstone glow with a heat divine, for this one act of disinterested goodness. You took him where the State left him; at the moment when her servants had divested him of his "black and white," his robes of degradation and shame. You were the first to infuse into his blank and dark soul a truly good and noble purpose—a purpose to be a whole man—a purpose to do right. Yes, you were the torch-bearer that lighted up that prostrate, stricken spirit—a spirit that had covered before scenes of cruelty and brutality, which you can neither imagine or I describe. Scenes, if pictured, detailed, unravelled to the community, would present something that could not be looked upon in sear vision. Something that would make the very bones of the dead rattle; in the stones in the street *scribble* in deep, piercing, audible agony.

I hope in God's name that you will be abundantly successful in rousing up the generous sympathies of your fellow-citizens in behalf of the inmates of prisons—abundantly successful in stirring up an indignation equally generous, in view of the barbaric discipline of those of this great State. And God grant, that you and I both may live to see men yet coming out of the "front gate," renewed, redeemed, and regenerated, by the mild influences of laws laid down for their guide, direction, and observance while confined—the mild, hallowing influences of kindness, persuasion, and love.

It is a matter of enthusiastic congratulation to myself, and those who have been similarly unfortunately situated with myself, that such a truly generous spirit as _____ is seated in our behalf—feels interested in our best good. It is a long, loud, deep voice of encouragement which we, and such as we, can comprehend. A holy sympathy and sacred duty, which to be known must be felt; we have felt it to our unspeakable joy.

The great length to which I have extended this epistle, admonishes me to speedily close. When I began I only designed to thank you for your kindness to _____, and to advise you of his present prosperity and success in consequence of that kindness. One word more and I have done. In rooting up the prison disciple of this State, that has so long been a foul blot on humanity's page, allow me to say to you, that no system not founded upon kindness and persuasion can succeed. That will—that will that will accomplish all that the most enlarged and noble charity can possibly contemplate.

During my stay in the Auburn institution, I accumulated a great mass of thrilling incidents to illustrate this position: and if perfectly agreeable to yourself, I may, on some future occasion, address you again, and give you a brief history of the bloody administration of _____ and _____.

Before closing this hasty letter, I would make grateful and honorable mention of the Rev. F. W. Holland, of this city, whose whole life is one of uninterrupted disinterested benevolence.

Finally, be assured of my affectionate regard,

And believe me, very truly,

Yours, _____

DETENTIONS.

This department embraces all those who are arrested and detained for trial, or as witnesses, in the prisons of New York and Brooklyn. The extent of the field thus opened to the Committee can be best judged of, by ascertaining the number who yearly demand their attention in this regard.

In New York, the number thus arrested during the year ending 1st November, 1846, was as follows:—

In November, 1845	3905
December, " "	4163
January, 1846	4051
February	1602
March	1901
April	1933
May	2619
June	2612
July	2868
August	2891
September	2490
October	2313

Making a total of 33,148*

In Brooklyn, the number arrested and carried before the justices of the municipal court or the mayor, during the year, was 2084. Thus making, in the two cities, 35,232 cases in one year, which

* The whole number arrested from July 1, 1845, to November 1, 1846, was 47,295

would be embraced within the scope of this department of the Association.

The discharge of the duty which the Committee had assumed in regard to this class of prisoners thus numerous, would of necessity involve the consumption of more time than the members could withdraw from their other avocations, and rendered the appointment of an agent necessary. In their last report, the Executive Committee expressed their hope of being able to have one. The flourishing state of our finances have realized that hope; and on the 5th day of February, 1846, Mr. GEORGE E. BAKER was employed for that purpose, and has since then devoted his whole time to this duty. The following report from him shows the extent and effect of his operations.

To the Executive Committee of the New York Prison Association:—

On the fifth of February, of the present year, the undersigned received from your Committee the appointment of agent of the Committee on Detentions. The duties of this office are specified in the by-laws of the Committee.

A survey of the field of operations will convince any one that its interests and requirements are of no trifling moment. No less than five prisons are embraced in these limits, to wit: The City Prison, (or "Tombs,") the Eldridge-street Jail, the prisons at Essex and Jefferson Markets, and the one at Brooklyn. A brief view of each of these prisons, as to the number of their inmates, etc., may not be out of place.

1. The City Prison, whose character, size, etc., are so well and fully described in the last report of the Committee on Detentions as to preclude the necessity of anything further on this point. The average number of persons confined in this prison, during the year, is one hundred and seventy-four; the largest number two hundred and forty-eight; the smallest number one hundred and twenty-one.

The Eldridge-street Jail has seldom had more than ten persons in confinement, at any one time, during the last year.

The prisons at Essex and Jefferson Markets contain, on an average, about thirty persons each.

The Brooklyn Jail averages, in numbers, about sixty. At times it has contained eighty.

The number of females constitutes about one-fourth of these numbers, in all the prisons.

A few words as to the character and wants of these prisons will also serve to show the necessity of some more systematic attention to their interests than was ever bestowed previous to the organization of this Association.

1. HEALTH OF THE PRISONERS.

The City Prison.—The health of its inmates, during the summer, has been generally good. The temperature of the prison in summer, owing to its thick stone walls, is always moderate; but in winter the case is different. Coldness and dampness are among the most prolific causes of disease, at this season of the year. Many deaths occur in this prison, but mainly from diseases originating without the walls,—such as *delirium tremens*, drunkenness, and kindred diseases. Large quantities of medicine, adapted to these disorders, are kept constantly in the office of the prison, and administered, as occasion requires, by

the keepers. A physician is appointed to this prison by the city government, who visits the prison daily, and when sent for, in sudden attacks, by the keepers. But the facilities for taking proper care of the sick must, of course, be very limited in a prison of this size, destitute of a hospital. Cases of child-birth are not uninfrequent in the female department, although no proper accommodations for such cases are at hand. Severe and dangerous cases of disease are sometimes removed to the Hospital on Blackwell's Island. A case of this kind is recorded in my diary, (November —.)

"J. P. lies dangerously ill in one of the cells of the City Prison, in the secondary stages of the syphilis; and although he is charged with the serious crime of burglary, yet common humanity requires that he should not be left to die in his damp and solitary cell. I have, therefore, applied to the keeper and to the Court of Sessions to have him removed to the hospital. After some delay, he was sent to the Penitentiary hospital." It seems to be an imperative necessity that a hospital should be attached to this prison, with suitable medical attendance. Stated reports should also be required of the physician as to the sanitary condition of the prison. At present he makes no report to any one, neither does he keep any record of the cases that occur. It is not uncommon for a corpse to be left for a day or more in the same room with prisoners of all grades and ages. In my diary, June 21, is the following entry: "Two boys, seven and nine years of age, both of them blind, having strayed from the Asylum, were taken up by the police and committed to prison. In the same room with them were persons of abandoned character, and among the rest a corpse!"

2. CLEANLINESS.

The personal cleanliness of the prisoners is seriously neglected in all our prisons. Not a bathing apparatus is in operation, nor are the cells furnished with even soap or towels, as they evidently should be. The prisoners have no changes of clothing, except such as are furnished by the kindness of friends, or sometimes by the keepers, from their cast-off wardrobe. Prisoners have not unfrequently gone into court from the prison, whose personal appearance in these respects has been almost a violation of the law against indecent exposure. The cells and bedding of some of these prisons are also exceedingly filthy, and liable to severe animadversion, as I have too frequently had occasion to note in my diary and monthly reports.

3. DISCIPLINE AND INSTRUCTION.

But few offences are common among the inmates of our houses of detention; the principal of which are making a noise, destroying the bed-clothes, and the like. These offences are generally punished by depriving the prisoners of their accustomed liberty on the corridors. Little or no instruction is afforded the prisoners of any kind. A few benevolent persons are in the practice of visiting the Female prison on Sundays, and conducting some religious services; beyond this very little is done for their moral or religious instruction. No library has yet been provided for the City Prison. By my diary of June 13th, it will be seen that I made application to the New York Bible Society to furnish each cell of this prison with a Bible, which was done. Since then, as one of the keepers remarked, the prisoners cannot with so much reason complain that "they have nothing to do."

4. YOUTH OF THE PRISONERS.

There are at all times more or less boys and girls from 10 years of age and upwards, and even younger, to be found in prison; and these require the most urgent attention. The following cases from my diary will illustrate this fact: April 16. Visited City Prison. Found a German woman with five children; one of them, a boy, was blind and partially idiotic, and had been sep-

and discharge the same duties of inspection and government, that are now applied to the government of the State prisons. There may then be some expectations entertained that something will at least be attempted towards a reduction of the expenses of those institutions, and an improvement of the moral condition of their inmates.

The efforts which this Association can make towards such an end are necessarily feeble, because dependent on the action of others—and in detail, as defect after defect shall be pointed out by them. One of those efforts was made in July last, with a view of obtaining religious services in the City Prison. A memorial was presented to the Common Council, and in November following, a report was made upon it, in one of the Boards of the Common Council, wherein the abominations of that prison were depicted in vivid colors, and a remedy proposed by erecting a new prison—a remedy rather disproportioned to the prayer of our petition, and involving a greater expenditure of money, and a longer delay in point of time, than would, at the first blush, seem to be absolutely necessary to answer its request.

PRISON DISCIPLINE.

In addition to the inspection of prisons, which belongs to this department, and which has already been mentioned, the action of the Executive Committee in this regard is so well portrayed in the report of the Standing Committee, that little of general interest can be added in this connection.

Repeating the remark heretofore made, that the Association is not wedded to any particular system of prison discipline, the Executive Committee have not been unmindful of the workings of the two systems which originated and prevail in this country, and they rejoice to perceive the gradual approximation of the two to each other. Both have their advantages and their defects, and it would seem to be the demand of humanity that the former should be advanced and encouraged, and the latter corrected. If the Separate system has its faults, it has at least the advantage of an exemption from those terrible cruelties which have marked the progress of the Silent system, and which have tended much to sink it in public estimation.

At the meeting at Frankfort, of which Dr. Julius wrote in his letter, the discussion of this question resulted in the expression of a decided preference for the Separate system. The proceedings of

that meeting will not be uninteresting to the Association, and an account of them is here inserted.

BERLIN, 22d October, 1846.

The mentioned Congress has been held, on the 28th, 29th and 30th September, at Frankfort; and its results having surpassed my most sanguine expectations, I send them, (in French,) herewith inclosed. You will find that we counted seventy-five members, thereof forty-six were Germans, and twenty-nine foreigners; among whom there were six Englishmen, six Frenchmen, six Swedes and Norwegians, five Dutchmen, two Swiss, and one from Belgium, Denmark, Poland, and the United States, (Mr. Dwight.) Among the Germans, there were eight judges or presidents of tribunals, seven professors of law at the universities, six superintendants of prisons, five chaplains of prisons, six physicians, five advocates, four members of legislative bodies, &c. From abroad, we saw in this Congress four chiefs of the administration of prisons by governments, three inspectors-general of prisons, some presidents or secretaries of prison societies, three prison architects, four editors of prison journals, and on the whole a mass of deep and thorough acquaintance with all subjects relating to penal law and prison discipline, such as never before has been presented on one spot. The lights brought together could only illuminate all around them, and build a fire and kindle a flame brightening not merely those standing by it, but likewise the whole civilized world, on both sides of the Atlantic.

The eight resolutions, seven of which were carried nearly unanimously, and one (the fourth) with a very great majority of more than two-thirds of the assembly, are contained in the inclosed paper.

Next year we shall meet about the same time, at Brussels; and I hope we shall see you there, with some other Americans. All the debates of the meeting will be immediately printed, in two editions—one in German, the other in French. As soon as the French edition comes out, I shall send it to you.

The moral impression made by the debates, and the resolutions of the Congress, in Germany, is immense; and I trust it will be the same in America, as soon as you shall make it known.

This Congress must be regarded not only as an era in prison discipline, but in civilization. Such an assembly of good and learned men, drawn together from so many nations, for an object so pure and philanthropic as the welfare of prisoners, is a welcome sign of the humanity of our age.

We present a translation of the resolutions adopted by the Congress. By the Separate system is meant that system of prison discipline which separates the prisoners absolutely from each other. It is substantially the system of Philadelphia. The opposite system is called the Congregate, or Social. It is substantially the system of Auburn.

RESOLUTIONS.

1. Persons suspected or accused, that is before trial, shall undergo separate or individual imprisonment, so that there can be no kind of communication between them and other prisoners, except where, on the demand of the prisoners themselves, the magistrates think proper to allow them intercourse to a certain extent, within limits determined by the law.
2. Persons convicted should in general undergo separate imprisonment, with the aggravations and mitigations commended by the nature of their offences and sentences, their character and conduct, in such a manner that each prisoner shall be occupied in careful labor; that he shall enjoy daily exercise in the open air; that he shall partake of the benefits of religious, moral, and other instruction, and of religious exercises; that he shall receive regularly the visits of a minister of his persuasion, of the director, of the physician, and of the members of the committees of inspection,—besides other visits which may be allowed by the rules of the prison.
3. The preceding resolution shall apply especially to imprisonment for short terms of time.
4. Separate imprisonment shall be equally applicable to detentions for a long term;

combining with it all the progressive mitigations compatible with the maintenance of the principle of separation.

5. When the bodily or mental health of a prisoner shall require it, the government of the prison can submit the prisoner to such treatment as shall be judged proper, and even allow him the solace of constant society; without, however, in this case, allowing him to meet other prisoners.

6. The separate prisons should be constructed so that each prisoner can be present at the religious exercises, seeing and hearing the officiating clergyman, and being seen by him, but without interfering with the fundamental principle of the separation of the prisoners from each other.

7. The substitution of the punishment of separate imprisonment for the punishment of imprisonment in common (the Congregate system) should have, as an immediate consequence, the shortening of the terms of imprisonment, as they are determined by existing codes.

8. The revision of penal legislation, the organization by law of an inspector of prisons, and of committees of overseers, and the establishment of a board of patronage for discharged convicts, should be considered as an indispensable part of penitentiary reform.

Nor.—The resolutions 1 to 3, and 5 to 8, were passed unanimously, or nearly so; the 4th resolution was passed by a very strong majority.

It does not appear whether the idea was then entertained or discussed that a system, better than either, could not be formed out of a union of the two, nor how far the harshness, which had characterized the Auburn system, had tended to produce the conclusion arrived at.

The Executive Committee do not propose in this place to discuss the former point. Time, and the result of the experiments now being tried, will lead to a conclusion far more satisfactory than any mere speculation. But to pause a moment on the latter topic will be alike interesting and profitable. For we may, from the contemplation, not only learn the causes of the decline of the system which originated in our State, but we may obtain a salutary admonition as to the necessity of constant vigilance to prevent the recurrence of cruelties which might challenge the competition of the Spanish Inquisition in its worst days.

The relation of a few well-authenticated cases will be sufficient to teach the desired lesson, while they will add to our report all the gloom which can well be afforded.

On one occasion, some idle writing was discovered on a door in one of the work-shops, and the keeper in charge attempted to discover the author of it. After two or three futile attempts, he announced to his gang of about fifty men, that if the writing appeared again he would whip every man in his shop, until he found the guilty one. In a short time the writing did appear again, and he put his merciless threat into execution. One after the other of the gang was brought up in the presence of the whole, stripped, and flogged his twelve lashes, until twenty-two of them received the infliction, when one of those yet untouched, innocent of the

clence, with a generous devotion that would have immortalized him on the Rio Grande, confessed himself to be the offender, in order to arrest "the progress of cruelty," received his share of the punishment, and terminated this revolting scene.

In another instance a prisoner complained of want of food. He was an industrious, faithful fellow, and his immediate overseer, convinced that from weakness he could not do a day's work, after several vain efforts to procure more food for him, made a representation to the principal keeper. That officer spoke to the prisoner, while he was at work, with a hammer in his hand. As was usual, the convict raised his hand with a respectful salute to his officer. The keeper chose, however, to construe it into an assault upon him, and he struck the convict with his fist in the face, and with his foot in the groin. He then beat him over the head with a two-foot iron rule, till he broke it. He then struck him with the hard wood handle of a stone-hammer, till, in his passion, it flew out of his hand. He next assaulted him with a heavy stone-ax, which, however, was wrested from his hand by the under officer. He then caused the poor fellow to be stripped, and to receive thirty-six lashes on his bare back that day, and the same number the next day; and for weeks after the wretched man was confined to his bed in the hospital.

The following instance is related to us by an eye-witness, whose character and standing in society leave no doubt as to its accuracy:—

"At a late hour one evening I had occasion to pass through the prison kitchen, which has a stone pavement, always cold and wet in the evening, being washed off just before closing the prison. This was in the fall or early part of winter. There I beheld a naked, emaciated lunatic, resembling very much an anatomical preparation, standing in the midst, on this cold pavement, near a large stone reservoir of cold spring water. The principal keeper, his son, and an assistant keeper, were making a last desperate effort upon the nervous stamina of this poor wretch, to satisfy themselves and others whether or not he had been for several months feigning insanity to get rid of work, and during which time he had almost daily encountered some of these suspicious tormentors, with their whips, cold water, strait jackets, etc. etc. All to no purpose. He had never shown the least evidence of returning reason.

"The assistant keeper stood before him, holding a bucket of

cold water inclined and resting on his knee. With the other hand he was throwing water with a pint-cup into the convict's face, with all the force and dexterity in his power. The poor wretch was grasping and struggling violently for breath, and turning his face from side to side, to gain if possible a brief space to inhale a breath. In this, however, he was often thwarted by the dexterous side-throws of this fiend of hell. He was so nearly suffocated that his face and neck became purple, or a kind of lead color, and his eyeballs were forced from their sockets to a frightful extent. From the other two of this trio he occasionally received a full bucket of this cold water dashed over his whole body, his whole frame shaking violently from the chill; but the poor creature could utter no complaint; it was not in his power to send forth even a shriek, much less to speak. I interceded, and after a few minutes they desisted, put on him his tattered shirt, and stowed him away under the stairs, enveloped in two or three half-wet old blankets, to enjoy the reaction, if indeed there was enough of vital heat left in his mortal body to produce it. I believe the poor fellow received no farther punishment for the crime of being deprived of his reason, but he was soon after taken to the hospital, in an incurable stage of the consumption, where he lingered a few months and died an idiot. He was the only son of a widowed mother, a youth of about 21 years of age."

The Committee will not attempt to disguise the exquisite pain it inflicts upon them to be obliged, in the discharge of their duty, to dwell even for a moment on such incidents, and willingly would they forego the task of recording them. But they have occurred in our own State, at no distant period, and are but single instances out of many of a similar character which already have happened and may happen again.

If the sentiments avowed by a committee of our House of Assembly last year—viz., "Reformation is not necessarily any part of punishment"—are most consonant to the principles of our religion and the teachings of wisdom, then these practices may be all right, and the sooner we return to those times when "men were stoned—were sawn asunder—were slain with the sword—wandered about in sheep and goatskins, being destitute, afflicted, tormented,"—and the sooner the world becomes converted into a vast scaffold, surrounded by guards and crowded with executioners and victims, the better. If, however, it is a legitimate purpose of human laws to prevent as well as to punish the perpetration of crimes, and if

wisdom teaches us that this can be done as well by reclaiming the erring as by terrifying the hardened, then it may indeed be well that some watchman should stand upon the outer wall to give us warning of the approach of a foe, who proclaims, in his advance, that he comes to deter man from his evil ways by hardening his heart, by stupefying his moral sensibilities, and by arming within him all the baser passions of his nature.

Fortunately, with the spread of intelligence, juster views are obtaining in regard to the ends and purposes as well as the effects of penal inflictions; and experience is demonstrating that as the law of the mind is stronger within us than the law of the members, so that education and training is most valuable, whether to the youth or to the criminal, which addresses itself rather to the moral than the physical nature of man. And the Executive Committee rejoice that they have it in their power to announce that views so just and wise are now predominant in all the State prisons of this State. The reign of cruelty seems to have passed away. The instances which have been related are rather characteristic of the past than the present, and they are given here so that we may be warned from what has been of what again may be. A very great change has taken place in the government of our State prisons, in this regard, within the last three years. The Clinton Prison has from its foundation been thus well and wisely governed. At Sing Sing, where, three years since, nearly 100 blows a day were struck, and where the whipping-post was never dry, weeks and even months now elapse without a blow. In Auburn a similar spirit now prevails; the infliction of corporal punishment is becoming more infrequent; and he is now justly regarded as the best officer who has permitted nearly a year to pass away without resorting to it.

Aside from all considerations of humanity, this state of things is valuable, as redeeming our system of prison discipline from its factitious character of harshness, and as affording an opening prospect of the time when our penitentiaries will cease to throw their cruel inflictions in the way of reclaiming the tempted, and reforming the aggressor.

There is one evil which attaches to both systems, though to a far greater extent in the Auburn plan,* which can be very much

* It is almost as improper to suppose in the Separate system, that the prisoners do not come to know each other, as it is in the Silent system to pretend that they have no intercourse. We have been told by persons who have suffered confinement in Penn-

quality
by
beneficial

modified by the operations of such societies as this. The evil alluded to, is that of the convicts recognizing each other after their discharge. This has caused many an imbecile man to fall again as the unwilling tool, or under the commanding influence, of some more bold and obdurate offender. The power of these bad over these weak men is derived entirely from an effort of the latter to conceal their fall, and to hide their disgrace from the world. Many of them are driven to this concealment from sheer necessity, from the fact that having no friends to aid them in their new start, the announcement that they are just from a State prison is an absolute bar to their obtaining employment. And when, under this disguise, they begin the world again, and are discovered by their old associates in the prison, they are extorted from, preyed upon, and finally used by them, under the threat that their former misfortune shall be disclosed to their new acquaintance. MM. Tocqueville and Beaumont, in their report to the French government, dwelt very much on this consideration, and they relate some strong and affecting instances.

The observation of the Executive Committee satisfies them that this is not an inevitable evil. Its cause can be removed, and thus many of these disastrous consequences be obviated. The difficulty arises chiefly from the fact that the convict makes his start with a lie in his mouth—not perhaps the lie of *expressio falsi*, but at least that of *suppressio veri*. Hence his danger. It is the invariable practice of the Executive Committee when they obtain employment for a man, to tell the whole truth, and always to advise their subjects to do so likewise, and they are assured by us, that if beginning in this way they will conduct themselves well, they will find in this Association powerful friends, able and willing to protect them against all the arts of their former associates in crime, or their acquaintances in prison.

The propriety of this course and its practical operation will be most forcibly portrayed, perhaps, by an account of a person who has been a *protégé* of the Association since its first organization, and of one of its members before that.

sylvania prisons, that they learn to know each others' voices, forms, and even faces, so that through strangers before their commitment, they have recognized each other after their discharge. And so, on the Auburn plan, utter abstinence from conversation is impossible. We have been assured by an adroit rogue in the Sing Sing Prison, that he could at all times send a message to an acquaintance and get an answer in twelve hours; and that to an entire stranger, whom he had never seen, and who had just been committed, he could do the same thing in three days.

The young man had committed a crime, and after serving out his time had determined to lead an honest life. He was capable, and had a good education, and soon obtained a situation. He was advised to let his employer know all the truth. It was hard to do so—hard to proclaim his own infamy—hard to endanger a situation in which he could earn an honest livelihood, and demonstrate the sincerity of his repentance. But he discharged the duty, severe as was the trial, and in a few days applied to his friend, with much anxiety, for comfort and support, saying that his employers had not spoken to him on the subject, and he was apprehensive, from their manner, that they would withdraw their confidence from him. Such representations were made to them that they did not discharge him: he continued with them for several months, and with one of them attended the meeting at which this Association was organized. After a while, finding that they were disposed to take advantage of his dependent condition, he was advised to leave them. He procured another situation, where he disclosed his condition on the outset. In his new place he was regarded with suspicion, as was natural; and his employer one day missing an old watch that was lying round the store, had the young man arrested for stealing it, as it was found on his person. He immediately sent for our agent, who patiently investigated the case, and satisfied all concerned that the young man had entertained no evil purpose, but, being of a mechanical turn, had attempted to set the watch in motion, and was wearing it openly in order to test the success of his attempts. He was discharged from that complaint, and of course left a place where mutual confidence could no longer exist. Having suffered so much from the frankness of his disclosures thus far, he had not resolution enough at his next place to repeat them. That was an excellent situation, and the Committee were sorry to learn in a few months that he had lost it. Two of the Committee immediately waited upon the house where he had been employed, and inquired into the cause of his being discharged. They found that he had been capable and faithful, and had given satisfaction except in one respect. It had been observed that whenever he was not actually employed at the counter he was keeping himself out of sight; and as they could not account for this attempt at concealment, the suspicions of his employers were excited, and they discharged him. But when they were made acquainted with his story, and learned that that which they had thought suspicious had arisen solely from his

anxiety to avoid his old associates, and to keep himself honest, they regretted that he had not told them the whole truth, and, still more, that they had discharged him. It was too late to repair the evil, for they had already filled his place, but, with an enlightened and generous appreciation of his character, they promised to befriend him. They have kept their word. The young man is now in a better situation than he has ever been. His employers know all about him, and they trust him. He is married to a female to whom also he disclosed his fall, and is living comfortably and respectfully. He is in no danger from a recognition by any of his fellow-prisoners. During his three years of probation, he has earned for himself friends and a character, which render him independent even of our aid, and he has earned them amid trials and temptations which would have bowed many a strong man to the earth. All this has cost the Association only \$2 50 in money.

This was buying the redemption of a fellow-creature very cheap.

It must not be supposed that this, though a strong and marked case, is a solitary one of the kind. Others are constantly occurring, demonstrating the same truth, and developing an unforeseen advantage of our Society, in softening one of the most serious objections to the Silent or Auburn system.

Another truth is presenting itself to us, too important not to receive a passing notice, in this connection. It is this—that with very many of the prisoners in the State prisons, the severity of their punishment may be said but to begin on their release. The most powerful propensity of our nature is the desire for social intercourse on terms of equality with our fellows. So long as the convict is in prison, neither his crime nor his punishment sink him below the level of those with whom he is daily associating. But on his coming out into the world it is far otherwise. He frequently finds that his relatives, upon whom his fall has brought disgrace, utterly cast him off. His acquaintances look upon him with distrust, and avoid him as one foully contaminated; idlers, as he passes by, point him out as a "State-prison bird," to be shunned by all. If, abandoning his kindred, his home, and all his early associations, he goes where he is unknown, he finds himself a stranger in a strange land, with few to take him in in his extremity, and none to trust or employ him. He is condemned to a fate which no sane mind can endure with equanimity—that of being solitary in the midst of a crowd. To such the advantage of our

Association is inconceivably great: for here, amid the intensity of their trials, they may enjoy kindly encouragement and support—may experience sympathy with their sufferings, and cheering aid in their new walks of life. Again is an instance invoked in illustration.

A young Irish girl, who in a fit of intoxication and recklessness had stolen, had served out her time in State Prison, and on her discharge had been taken into the family of a member of this Committee. She was the creature of impulse. Her perceptive faculties were far stronger than her reflective, and it was not deemed worth while to apprise her of the fate before her, as it was not believed that she would readily appreciate it. It was well known, however, that the hour would come when she would perceive it, and that when it did come, it would be the trying moment of her life. She was therefore carefully regarded to see that its advent was not disastrous, and its circumstances controlled as far as possible for good. For a while she was exceedingly happy and joyous, until after a lapse of two or three weeks, the person in whose service she was, returned to his home at a late hour one evening, and was apprized that she had been in tears most of the day, and had gone to bed sick. The family had an interview with her, and she related the cause of her emotion. She had observed that as she was about the house, whenever she came in sight or went anywhere in the neighborhood, she was stared at by the people. This annoyed her, and excited some suspicions in her mind, which, however, in her hilarity, she immediately dismissed, until on that day she had been sent to a store on an errand, and had been rudely accosted by the keeper of it as one from State Prison. This for the first time brought home to her a sense of her fallen condition. She declared she would go far off, among persons who had never heard of her before. When reminded that she had not the means to do so, and even if she had she would yet be without friends and with no one to trust her, she threatened her own life, and in the bitterness of her sorrow regretted that she had ever left the State Prison, for she "had never suffered so there." She was consoled and soothed, and remained in the family two or three months longer, but she never recovered her cheerfulness. She seemed always weighed down by the consciousness of shame, and the thought that everybody looked upon her with distrust. Her husband, who had cast her off, was finally reconciled to her, and they removed to one of the western States, and thus it is hoped that she, too, was saved.

Neither is this a solitary instance; and while it teaches us that the punishment of the convicted felon does not end with his imprisonment, it opens to the Association a strong view of one of the features of the interesting duty they have assumed to discharge.

A document has lately fallen under the observation of the Committee, which shows that the idea on which this Association is built was entertained over forty years ago. It is a letter from Edward Livingston, then Mayor of New York, and is inserted here, at least as an interesting record of the past, showing how coming events cast their shadows before.

NEW YORK, January 1st, 1803.

SIR.—I take the liberty of addressing your Society on a very interesting subject in which I have thought their agency necessary to produce an effect, and I am sure they have very much at heart. I mean the employment of the poor, the diminution of distress, and, consequently, of the crimes to which it leads. The almshouse of this city affords a comfortable asylum for feeble old age, the casual debility, and the unprotected state of orphan infancy; but there is another class to whom it affords no relief, and who would feel a reluctance in applying for it if they were certain of success. You will readily perceive that I allude to those who, capable of supporting themselves by their labors, are yet thrown, by particular circumstances, out of employment, and are thus forced either to suffer the evils of want or to draw for relief on a fund appropriated only for the helpless poor. This class is composed, 1st. Of strangers during the first months after their arrival. 2d. Of citizens who, from the effects of sickness or other casualty, have lost their usual employment. 3d. Of widows, and orphans of an age capable of labor. 4th. Of discharged or pardoned convicts from the State Prison.

If by any means in our power we can give constant employment and a comfortable subsistence to this description of our fellow-creatures, we shall not only be repaid by the comfortable reflections inseparable from every good action, but the following important benefits will result to the community of which we are members.

First. The total destruction of mendicity—every applicant for private charity would, if capable of labor, be at once directed where to find it; if unable to provide for himself, be maintained in the almshouse; or if reduced by vice or idleness, have those habits punished, or removed in the house of correction.

Second. The prevention of those crimes which arise from idleness and want. Most of the hardened offenders, who terrify or prey upon society, have commenced their career of crimes by some petty offence committed in distress, commenced in the vacant hour of idleness; by striking at the root of this evil we shall certainly stop those first approaches to criminality, the steps of which it is so difficult to retreat, and diminish the number of those who increase them by crimes by the indiscriminate association of the Bride-well, or expiate them by labor and solitude in the State Prison. The offer, too, of constant employ and competent wages will take away one great pretence which idleness uses for laying contributions on the charitable.

Third. A third very important consequence would be the restoration of many an unfortunate citizen who had been sunk by misfortune below his former standing in society. It has been wisely ordered that poverty is so generally the consequence of laziness and vice, that we are apt to conclude them inseparable from it; and the world frequently refuses its support to unmerited distress, from an idea that it has been produced by indolence or crime. But if we can effect our plan, the line will be clearly drawn; private charity, in the few cases that

will be left for its exercise, will be in no danger of imposition; and the truly deserving, by a little timely aid, will recover from the effects of a temporary depression, and add, by their labors, to the public stock of wealth, instead of diminishing it by contributions either as mendicants or felons.

Fourth. An effort no less salutary and interesting will proceed from the employment of the convicts—discharged either by pardon or the expiration of their time of service—from the State Prison.

This institution in its infancy had many, and still has some prejudices to contend with. Its object is to reform as well as punish the criminal—to prevent, not to avenge, the crime.

It is a great, I had almost said a god-like, experiment, worthy of the free country in which it is made, honorable to the men who planned, and highly creditable to those who conduct it. Its progress is regarded with an interest running into anxiety, by the friends of humanity in every quarter of the world; and its failure, from whatever cause, will check the spirit of improvement that suggested it, and restore the ancient bloody code with all its horrors. But it must be evident that nothing will tend so much to defeat its principal object of reformation, and at the same time endanger the security of the city in which it is placed, as the situation in which those who have undergone the sentence of the law now stand at the time of their discharge. The odium justly attached to the crime, is continued to the culprit after he has suffered its penalty, and he is restored to society, but prejudice repels him from its bosom; he has acquired the skill, and has the inclination to provide honestly for his support; years of penitence and labor have wiped away his crime and given him habits of industry, and skill to direct them; but no means are provided for their exertion. He has no capital of his own, and that of others will not be intrusted to him. He is not permitted to labor; he dares not beg; and he is forced for subsistence to plunge anew into the same crimes—to suffer the same punishment he has just undergone—or, perhaps, with more caution and address to escape it.

Thus the institution, instead of diminishing, may increase the number of offences; and this partial defect, so easily remedied, may ruin the system, and put a stop to the fairest experiment ever made in favor of humanity. Whereas, if these dispositions to industry and temperance, acquired in the solitude of imprisonment, are fostered by attention and rewarded by a decent subsistence, everything may be hoped from the effect of a plan so admirably calculated to stop the progress of criminality and vice.

These are some of the most prominent effects of a system that will be efficient to give employment to the different classes I have described.

There are others no less obvious, which will not come within the limits of this communication in detail, but which cannot escape your attention. I hasten, therefore, to give the outline of the plan I have imagined might produce them.

I propose, first, that a committee of three persons should be appointed by the society, out of each of those branches of mechanic arts which are carried on in work-shops, such as cordwainers, smiths, &c.

That this committee should open a public shop, at which any tradesman in that branch, out of employ, might be sure of finding work; the work-shop to be under the direction of an overseer, who should receive a stipulated sum for his attention, and hold his appointment at the will of the committee.

That the committee should make all purchases of raw materials, and superintend the sale of the manufactures; and that a proper sum should be loaned for that purpose by the corporation of the city; for the due application of which the committee should be responsible, but not for inevitable losses.

That an office should be opened at which all carpenters, masons, and tradesmen of other descriptions, who work abroad, might leave their names when they are in want of workmen or laborers, and to which persons of that description might have recourse when out of employ.

That the rate of wages given by this institution should be — per cent. less

than is usually given to workmen of equal abilities; and that, whenever practicable, the labor should be paid for by measurement, or by the piece.

In aid of this a large working-room should be annexed to the alms-house, under the direction of the corporation, in which women and children might be employed in labor suited to their strength, where food might be prepared for them at a cheap rate, and where the children might receive the advantage of some education in the school belonging to that establishment.

This is a sketch of the plan which presented itself to my mind as one that would probably effect the objects I have detailed. Many parts of it may, perhaps, be changed for the better, and other valuable ideas suggested, in case you should think proper to appoint a committee to confer with me on the subject.

A general establishment, under the corporation, would seem to present many advantages over the one now offered; but, besides the difficulty of raising a fund sufficient for its support, it would have the disadvantage of creating an interest which might sometimes be supposed injurious to that of the mechanic, who works only on his own small capital;—whereas this, being under the superintendence of the Mechanic Society, could never give rise to any such prejudice.

Having mentioned the co-operation of the Common Council of the city, I must not be understood as speaking their sentiments, or in any wise pledging them to countenance the plan. It has not yet been mentioned at the board, and will receive no further encouragement from them than, on discussion, its merits shall be found to warrant.

I am, Sir, with respect,

Your obedient servant,

EDWARD LIVINGSTON.

DISCHARGED CONVICTS.

The operations of the Association in this department have continued to be eminently satisfactory and encouraging. It was never expected that all to whom we extended our aid should reform, and we always calculated that some of our fondest and most sanguine anticipations would not be realized. But we never calculated upon the success which has actually attended our efforts. Out of 273 male recipients of our bounty, in the course of two years, only five have yet returned to State Prison!

The whole number of discharged convicts relieved by the Association, since its institution, has been—

Males,	273
Females,	233
	<hr/>
	506
Employment obtained for—males,	107
do. do. females,	98
	<hr/>
	205
Returned to their families—males,	27
do. do. females,	13
	<hr/>
	40

Received good accounts from—males,	71
do. do. females,	65
	<hr/>
	136
Fallen back into crime, males,	8
do. do. females,	49
	<hr/>
	57

The destitute condition in which convicts are often left when discharged from prison, is not only an incentive, but frequently an actual impulsion into crime. Those who are discharged from the Penitentiary are more destitute than those from the State prisons. Many of them have not money enough even to pay their stage fare down to the city, and when they arrive among us, unless they have friends who can relieve them, or can find some one kind enough to trust them with the means of living, or the means of earning it, they must of necessity starve or steal. Why should we wonder that they find their way back again to prison, and that right speedily?

Those discharged from our State prisons have been a little better off. Each did receive a pittance of \$3, so that he was not obliged the first thing to steal for a subsistence.

The Legislature last winter, in its wisdom, enlarged that pittance by adding to it three cents a mile, for the distance from the prison to the place of trial. But, by an erroneous construction of the statute, it has been made to add to the destitution of the discharged prisoners. It has been supposed that this allowance of mileage was a substitute for, not an addition to, the former allowance of \$3, and the agents of the State prisons have paid the prisoners accordingly. So that in one case, at Auburn, a man, convicted in that county, who had a family in Ohio, and of course wished to return to them, received on his discharge THREE CENTS! And as half the inmates of Sing Sing Prison are from New York or Brooklyn, each will, by this construction, receive on his discharge ninety-nine cents to begin the world with, and, but for the interposition of this society, would be driven from dire necessity back again into crime. While our Committee of Inspection were at Auburn, a man was discharged whose family was in Wisconsin, and he received a few cents more than a dollar to help him on his way. He was no confirmed felon. Young in years, he had early learned the lesson that it was indeed unprofitable to sin, and he went forth again into the world with humble confessions of his guilt, and a determination to reform that only required encouragement to con-

firm. But for our aid, he would have found himself stopped among strangers on his return to his family, destitute of means, with no one to aid or confide in him, and exposed to all the temptations of want.

It was only late in the year that the Executive Committee were apprized of this construction of the statute, and immediate steps were taken to correct the error—with what success has not yet been learned.

The importance of rendering to prisoners on their discharge—and especially to those who have been confined in the State Prison for a length of time—an adequate allowance, has been demonstrated to us by a fact, to which this Committee are not aware that attention has ever been drawn. The kind of life to which they are subjected during confinement, and their plain and homely fare, seem to unfit the convicts, directly on their discharge, for severe labor or exposure to the vicissitudes of the weather, and we have had several cases in which those who were most anxious to work hard and take care of themselves have been prostrated by sudden and severe illness, and have had this misfortune added to their state of destitution. The number of such cases which have fallen under our observation has drawn our attention to the subject, and has satisfied us that in this fact is to be found an additional claim to our active exertions and fostering care.

So that, with the utter destitution which accompanies the prisoners discharged from the Penitentiary, and the partial destitution and liability to sickness which accompanies those discharged from our State prisons, a constant demand is, and will be, made upon the sympathies of the charitable and the humane.

There is another topic interesting to the discharged convict, to which the attention of the Executive Committee has been recalled by a recent occurrence, that namely of "overstent." A case will be observed in the report of the Standing Committee on Discharged Convicts, in which a young man, on his discharge from Sing Sing, received from the contractor for whom he had labored the considerable sum of \$57, which he had earned by working over his usual stent. He was a young man of good education and fair promise, and this amount enabled him to start the world again under favorable auspices, and advantageously to begin the career which was to build up for him a new character.

If such could always be the cases in which overstent should be allowed, many of the objections to it would be removed.

The advantages of permitting overstent to be earned are obvious, but the objections to it, under the Auburn system, have been so great, that it has only occasionally been allowed—and even then, rather connived at than openly sanctioned.

One of these objections is, that it materially alters the punishment inflicted for crimes committed. One feature of that punishment is, that during the continuance of his sentence, the convict shall labor without remuneration, thus withdrawing from him, for the wrong that he has committed, the usual reward which follows labor when performed by the honest, and compelling him to toil without the relief of the incentive which accompanies voluntary industry.

Another objection is, that an accumulation of a fund during imprisonment would afford to the dissolute the means, and to the weak the temptation, to indulge in profligacy; and that the convict, like the sailor after the fatigues and confinement of a long voyage, would, on his discharge, have the power of yielding to the strong propensity he would be likely to feel of indulging his passions, and thus again speedily fall.

There is still another objection, which, however, is peculiar to the practice of hiring out the labor of convicts, namely, that it would give birth to a combination of interest between the contractor and the convict, which would be antagonistical, and might be injurious, to sound discipline.

These objections, though serious, are not insurmountable. Overstent might be allowed and become really valuable, if properly and wisely regulated. But never in prisons governed, as ours have hitherto been, by two principles—that force was the only means of government, and that all were to be treated alike. In a prison, conducted upon the ideas that man is constituted in reference to the supremacy of his moral part over his animal, and that a Procrustean bed is as extravagant in the moral as in the physical world, it might become not merely an effective weapon of government, but also a powerful instrument of working out the reformation of the prisoners.

To effect this object, however, a just and prudent discrimination must be made.

Overstent might be prohibited for certain offences, or in cases of crimes committed under peculiar circumstances, submitting the matter to the discretion of the court before whom the offender may be tried. Or the power of allowing it might be committed to the

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supreme power of the prison, to be exercised in their discretion, which discretion would be regulated by the circumstances of the case, or by the behavior and temperament of each prisoner.

This would necessarily require in the officers of the prison a more intimate knowledge of the peculiar character of each man in it than has ever yet been deemed necessary, while all our observation teaches us that a prison is well or ill governed precisely in proportion to the extent of this knowledge.*

To the hardened and confirmed offender; to him who has been convicted more than once; to him who is intractable or disobedient in prison; and to him whose crime was marked by some strong feature of atrocity or depravity, the privilege might well be denied. But to the young novice in crime; to him who has yielded to sudden temptation and fallen; to him who behaves well in prison; and to all, in fine, of whom any well-grounded hopes of reformation might be entertained, the privilege might well be granted.

It would be difficult for courts to exercise this power, because of their want of opportunity to learn the character and disposition of the criminal, but it could easily be exercised by the officers of the prison, who might be aided in their judgment by receiving from the courts a statement of the evidence on which the conviction might be founded.†

These suggestions are made in this place, not because the Executive Committee have themselves arrived at any definite conclusion in the matter, or have any digested plan to propose, but rather with a view of soliciting attention to, and discussion upon, a subject that may materially improve the condition of the discharged prisoner, and aid him in his attempts at reform.

* This is, doubtless, the secret of the extraordinary success which has attended the government of the Female Prison at Sing Sing; success which has attracted attention already in Europe.

† We are indebted for this thought to the inspectors of the Sing Sing Prison, who suggest the importance of this evidence in all cases, in reference to the treatment of the prisoners. It is a wise suggestion, and entitled to consideration.

FEMALE DEPARTMENT.

The Female Department has, during the year, been conducted very much to the satisfaction of the Executive Committee. Last year, during a period of six months, the number of females relieved was 107, and the expenses of the Home were over \$1500. During the year ending on the 18th November last, the whole number received into the Home was 126, besides the 28 remaining at the beginning of the year, making a total of 154; and the expenditures for the whole year have been \$1445 92, a part of which has been applied to furnishing the house; certainly a very economical administration of an establishment which, besides two matrons who received salaries, contained an average throughout the year of about 20 inmates.

It has been well said of the ladies who have charge of this department, that "One could scarcely have expected to find the most delicate and accomplished ladies, accustomed only to the society of the pure and the refined, voluntarily relinquishing their private occupations, and zealously devoting so much money, time, thought, and personal exertion to the offensive details of this most humane, but in many instances, revolting undertaking." The success which has attended their efforts shows how earnest has been their devotion to their task.

Most of the inmates during the year have been subjects from Blackwell's Island, a class much more hopeless and unpromising than those received from the State Prison, because of the contamination to which they have been subjected at the Penitentiary. Indeed, very few have been received from the State Prison, for the reason that the government there has acquired so high a character, that the prisoners readily obtain employment immediately on their discharge. It is far otherwise with the prisoners in the Penitentiary. All our observation teaches us that in most instances they are more corrupt and depraved when they come out than when they go into that prison, and of course less worthy our recommendation to situations. It requires a residence of some time at the Home to overcome the effects of the evil influences to which these females have been subjected by our city authorities. Our expenses in this respect would be much lessened, and the necessity for keeping up the Home much weakened, if the female department at the Penitentiary and City Prison was as well conducted as it is in the State Prison. What can one female, however

gifted, do among the forty or fifty of her sex in the City Prison; or two matrons, with the four or five hundred females, at the Penitentiary? Their whole time would be occupied simply in attending the sick, and it would be idle to expect from them anything like government, and much less any progress in reforming the prisoners. This evil is a crying one—has existed some time, and has frequently been pointed out. Yet no steps are taken to correct it, and under the patronage of the public authorities, prostitution, depravity, and drunkenness continue to be sown broad cast in the community, by means of the numerous females who are corrupted and utterly ruined in the institutions under their immediate government and exclusive control.

The Executive Committee, in thus closing their labors for the year, and spreading the results before the Association, take the occasion to remark, that they have never lost sight of the great principle which lays at the very foundation of the Society—THE PREVENTION OF CRIME. To this end have all their means been directed. To this purpose, all else that they have done, has been but appurtenant.

It is with this view that the evils of prisons of detention have been searched out and exposed, so that the innocent and the novice may not be hopelessly corrupted by contamination. With this view, our prisons for punishment have been carefully examined, and their government closely scanned, so that the reformation may not be interrupted by cruelty, and the convict may not by unnecessary harshness be rendered desperate and more wicked. With this view have discharged prisoners been aided, that by timely succor they may be encouraged thenceforth to lead honest lives.

And the success which has attended their efforts has been an abundant reward for their labors.

By order of the Executive Committee,

J. W. EDMONDS, Chairman.

NEW YORK, December 5th, 1846.

1846. pt. 1.

REPORT OF THE FINANCE COMMITTEE.

TO THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE OF THE PRISON ASSOCIATION:—

With feelings of devout gratitude and thankfulness to God for the favor and care vouchsafed to the Association under your charge, the FINANCE COMMITTEE now present their second annual report.

Although your Committee cannot say that the expectation of making large collections for the year has been fully realized, yet, taking into account the embarrassed state of the commercial and manufacturing interests of the country, and the consequent depression and disappointment in the business relations of many of our most liberal and generous friends, we have great reason to be thankful, and feel satisfied that they have reached the amount we now present. The Treasurer's account is herewith annexed, showing amount of receipts during the year to be.....\$3,903 59
And the disbursements to be.....3,892 67

Leaving a balance in the TREASURY of..... \$10 92

A list of the several donors, with the amounts contributed, also accompanies this report.

Referring to the reports of the several committees of the Association, our friends will perceive in what manner and for what purposes the amounts so generously contributed by them have been appropriated during the year.

The COMMITTEE ON DETENTIONS, whose duty is "to inquire into the causes of commitment of all persons detained for trial, or as witnesses, in any of the prisons of the Cities of New York and Brooklyn," have an agent in daily attendance at the several prisons for this purpose.

His diary is submitted weekly to that committee, and all cases requiring their supervision and care are immediately attended to.

This agent receives a salary of *three hundred and sixty-five dollars per annum* for the services rendered by him.

THE PRISON DISCIPLINE COMMITTEE—the duty of which is comprised under the following general heads, viz.: "Health—Reformation—Financial System—Administration and Supervision—Comparison of Prison Systems and Reforms—Visitation." This committee is composed of gentlemen of intelligence and scientific attainments, whose services are voluntary, and who devote days, and frequently weeks, to the above objects, without remuneration, except the reflection that they are administering to the comfort, melioration, and moral improvement of their fellow-creatures.

The DISCHARGED CONVICTS COMMITTEE have an office in Centre-street, and an agent in constant attendance, who receives a salary of *three hundred and sixty-five dollars per annum*.

To this office "all discharged prisoners may apply for aid and advice," and are relieved in the manner deemed best calculated to promote their future prospects—by procuring employment—and, when necessary, in providing tools, etc., to enable them to work at their accustomed trades.

To this committee the largest appropriations are required to be made; because the most pressing cases are here made known to us, and most good is to be done to the objects of our care.

In the assistance rendered by this committee, great judgment and discretion are exercised; and what is done is necessarily in a limited manner, and only considered as loans, to be returned when employment is obtained.

The FEMALE DEPARTMENT is composed of a committee of ladies, who have charge of the "HOME," where discharged female convicts may apply—are received and employed, until places can be procured for them.

The rent of the Home is paid by the Association, and some appropriations made when their means fall short of meeting the current expenses.

Very soon after the formation of this Association, it was deemed important to obtain an act of incorporation from the Legis' ture of the State, giving authority to visit and examine prisons, and to obtain information from the officers and keepers in relation to the government and discipline of those under their charge.

An application was consequently made to the Legislature two years since, and a bill passed the House, but was defeated in the Senate.

This, at the time, was deemed matter of regret to all the members of the Association; but a year's experience was added to our knowledge of what was necessary to enable us to carry out our plans of reformation and improvement. Many persons, looking at the close connection between a want of employment in some useful and profitable occupation, and a state of vagrancy and crime, came to the conclusion that there was nothing conflicting in the attempt to unite and remedy the two objects.

We, therefore, in making our application to the Legislature last winter, not only obtained the act of incorporation for our Prison Association, which we had previously asked for, but were clothed with ample power to establish a WORK-HOUSE, the general government and control of which is conferred on this Association. This, it is well known, has for years been loudly called for, and will, therefore, commend itself to the humane, charitable, and patriotic feelings of every citizen—who is equally interested in the social, moral, and religious improvement of our rapidly-increasing population.

In the addition of this important measure of public utility to our original plan, we feel that our claim to public support is much stronger than we could before present it; for while we are inviting to our shores the destitute and oppressed of all nations, and are constantly receiving the redundant population of the old world, we cannot, with all our vigilance, guard against imposition, and we shall continue to find, as we now do, unworthy emigrants thrown upon us; the vicious to fill our prisons and penitentiaries; the idle and dissolute to become inmates of our alms-houses; and a heavy burden to support, unless we provide in time some better places for their reception.

The subject of the establishment of a WORK-HOUSE having been confided to a committee of this Association, they held several meetings in concert with a committee from the "Association for the Improvement of the Condition of the Poor," and the Commissioner of the Alms-House.

After mature deliberation, and much labor in procuring information, this Committee have presented a Memorial to the Common Council, with estimates of cost to support each subject, and a proposition to take the sole charge and management of it under their direction.

The result of their application, and the views the Common Council entertain on the subject, will be made known to the public as soon as it is acted on by the two Boards of Aldermen.

In the foregoing brief review, the objects to which this Association have directed their attention, and the claims they have responded to, are generally made known. Your Committee, therefore, with a continued reliance on the protecting care of a kind Providence, again enter on the duties of another year, trusting the past will be a sufficient guarantee that their exertions will not be relaxed in procuring means to sustain the various objects which fall under the care of the Association.

All which is respectfully submitted.

ISRAEL RUSSELL,

Chairman Finance Committee

New York, December 22, 1846.

REPORT
OF THE
COMMITTEE ON DETENTIONS.

THE Committee on Detentions respectfully present their second annual report.

They have endeavored, by frequent visits at the City Prison, and by constant intercourse with their agent, to keep themselves advised of the matters requiring their attention. The year has not been fruitless of good. Something has been done for the relief of those in want; the rights of prisoners wrongfully detained have been in some cases successfully vindicated; and the feeble resolutions of reform in others have been strengthened.

They have by no means accomplished all that must be done to make our houses of detention what simple justice and common humanity require that they should be; but they are becoming acquainted with the true condition of things, and are more competent to point out the evils and abuses to the authorities who must apply the remedy. These evils and abuses are startling in their number and their magnitude; they affect not the moral and physical well-being of the prisoners only, but they diffuse their virus through the whole frame-work of society. They must be thoroughly removed; and for the accomplishment of this good end, the Committee are willing yet to labor; not doubting that the approving smiles of God's providence will continue to accompany their efforts, and crown them with success.

The grand and fundamental error which seems to have been the parent of the prolific evils so painfully arrest our attention, consists in a misconception of the true social position of those under detention for trial. In the eye of the law they are not *guilty*. The stigma of guilt ought not to attach to a man's name until the solemn rendition of their judgment by impartial triers of the fact. The reasonable suspicion of guilt, while it justifies society in the first instance in the adoption of due precautionary measures for the proper ascertainment of the truth, yet does not justify the infliction of pains and penalties in anticipation of the verdict. From the present condition of things, however, in our City Prison, one might be led to infer that the manifest absurdity that the suspected man is a criminal, and may be treated as such, is here held to be a well-settled truth. Here have been, in the course of time, hundreds of individuals, untried, perhaps innocent, oftentimes the victims of private malice, suffering a worse fate, save as to its duration, than that of those duly tried and condemned. In our prisons and penitentiaries proper, the attempt, or the sem-

blance of an attempt at least, is made to prevent the moral contamination of indiscriminate intercourse; in our City Prison there is none, saving as to sex. In the former, some provision is made by law for religious instruction; in the latter, men's souls are not counted worth the caring for. In the former, hospitals and attendants are provided for the sick; in the latter, they have been left to die unnoticed in the horrors of a stone cell, of midnight hours, and of entire desertion. In the former, employment is provided so that the mind is not left to prey upon itself; in the latter, utter idleness throws the heart's door off its hinges, and allows the tumultuary entrance of every gloomy, vindictive, and debasing passion.

But it is not only those suspected of crime, on whom these evils are here visited. The indiscreet, the unfortunate, and the ignorant, are the victims likewise of these perverted views of the administration of justice. The youthful apprentice, locked up, it may be, at the instance of a heedless or hard-hearted master; the victim of misfortune, driven to the extremity of craving bread from the public; and the emigrant from a people of strange tongue, fleeced of his last copper by the harpies who have tracked him ever since he first stepped upon our shores; these, and many others, whose cases are like in hardship, are here subjected to the infectious ordeal of unrestrained association with old felons detected in new crimes, and made to suffer the evils of an incarceration ten-fold worse than that visited upon those duly convicted and sentenced for punishment.

But apart from the injustice thus done to the individual, society pays the penalty of its own wrong, by thus training up multitudes to the commission of the very deeds which it professes to punish. Men, who ought to have been sent forth into the world, freed not only from the suspicion of guilt, but made wiser to avoid even the appearance of evil, leave these scenes of wrong and wretchedness, with hearts rendered callous as to consequences, and reckless as to the means of satiating their vengeance against society.

The public welfare, then, as well as the individual right, requires that our houses of detention should provide,—

1st. For the complete separation of every one committed to them for examination and trial from other prisoners. If innocent, he would thus be saved not only from their contaminating association, but even from their recognition. On his re-entrance into life, not being known to artful villains as a suspected individual, he would be less likely to be ensnared by their wiles. If guilty, his first hours of imprisonment would be hours of reflection; especially if young in crime, repentance might be awakened in him; shut off from the teachings of those who but gather "resolution from despair," he may yield to the rebukes of conscience, and become a wiser and a better man.

A rigid discrimination should likewise be enforced in relation to visitors. So lax has been the practice in this respect in our City Prison, that all the opportunity which the most accomplished villain could desire, he has enjoyed, to communicate freely with those under arrest; to arrange schemes of defence, to continue projects of crime already begun; and to sketch out new enterprises in fraud, robbery, and violence, even within what ought to be a sanctuary of justice. Not only so, individuals claiming right as counsel insist on free intercourse with the prisoner. The sufferer, especially if he be a novice, grasps at

Visitors &c.

the proffered aid. He gives money, if he has it; he parts with everything that he can command of value, under the artful and experienced instigation of these hyenas of the profession. And having thus secured assistance, as he thinks, that will stand him in stead on his trial, he wakens to his delusion only when he finds that the skill and learning of his self-imposed counsel extend no farther than to the art of extracting the marrow from the bones of the carcass. At the City Prison it is the practice of some of these gentlemanly nuisances, having obtained entrance by an order to visit a prisoner as counsel, to go from cell to cell, talking to their occupants, and thus to spend entire days. Those unaccustomed to prison life are their easiest victims.

The Committee are aware of the seeming inconsistency of urging the claims of detained individuals to be treated as innocent in the eye of the law, and yet insisting on the necessity of their separation in prison. But it is to be borne in mind that the object of the confinement is to insure the ends of justice. These, however, are broad in their character. And it is no less the duty of the state to guard against the deprivation of those within its complete control, than it is to secure that end by the ordinary action of the law on those enjoying absolute or conditional liberty of person. The separation is designed for their good and the public weal. In itself, rightly considered, it is neither punishment nor cruelty. In regard to the class of persons ordinarily detained on the charge of crime, it would be an act of true mercy.

Moreover, the right to detain at all carries with it the right to regulate the mode of detention; the obligation accompanying the right to make it subserve as well the best interests of the prisoners as of the public. Fortunately these are consistent the one with the other; and it is for this common good that we urge their isolation, unbroken and complete.

How needful this restriction is, will be at once understood when we look at the admission of known prostitutes into the cells of the male prisoners. This has not been an unusual occurrence since the erection of the present City Prison.

2nd. Employment of a useful and profitable character should be provided for all under detention who are willing to work.

No properly regulated mind is satisfied with idleness. It is not an element of our being. Even mere diversion or amusement is no substitute for well-directed industry in awakening cheerfulness, or insuring contentment with one's lot. What then must be that man's condition who is left for days, weeks, and months, with absolutely nothing to do but to sleep, eat, brood over his wrongs and wretchedness, or hold converse with the abandoned and the depraved? How can thinking, reasoning men suffer the existence of this evil from year to year, count its victims by thousands, and yet take not one step toward its remedy? Yet such has been the apathy of the authorities of our city in relation to the inmates of the City Prison out of mind. And this Association will be wanting in the duties imposed on it by the Legislature, if it fails to press this point until the desired end is reached.

This forced idleness is unjust to the families of the detained. Not having been adjudged guilty by the law, society has no right to deprive them or their families of the avails of their labor. There is no plea of necessity to be interposed as a justification for so doing; for work may be furnished them in confinement. The prisoners themselves feel this instinctively, and often complain to the

members of the Committee, that their families are suffering by their confinement.

And it should not be forgotten that those whose claims we now present are the extremely poor. Others can procure bail. They may thus continue their proper avocations for the benefit of those dependent on them. But stone cells are for the poor man, and starvation for his wife and children.

It is doubtless true, that the labor of those under detention for trial cannot with propriety be enforced. But those who are willing to work should have the opportunity given them.

As to the right and duty of the city in relation to those confined for vagrancy and petty offences, there can be no question. And that they may be profitably employed is the judgment of the keepers themselves, who well understand the character of this class. One of the keepers of the City Prison recently remarked to a member of this Committee, that he would gladly pay one dollar to the city for every five-days prisoner, whose labor he might be permitted to control.

It is also certain that there were hard labor introduced for those on short commitments, their number would at once decrease. None fear work so much as the drunkard and the confirmed idler. There are many such frequenters of the Tombs, who are turned out on the fifth day but to be carted back the next. The magistrates say that they have frequent requests from this class to be committed. The cases are numerous of males and females spending nearly the whole year in the City Prison and Penitentiary, in terms of five, thirty, and sixty days.

Compulsory labor would be a sovereign remedy for the thievish and vicious propensities of many of these classes.

The Committee have not considered this question in relation to witnesses; partly because they are unwilling to look to the continuance of a system which regards this portion of the inmates of our City Prison as fit to be associated with suspected criminals and confessed vagrants; and partly because the argument which advocates the duty of the State to provide the opportunity for labor to those charged with crime, becomes demonstrative when applied to the case of those detained merely to secure their testimony. They feel the hardship of this state of things, and bitterly do they sometimes complain of it. Surely their cry will not always be in vain.

3rd. Proper medical attendance should always be at hand. The physician of the City Prison makes it his business to call there daily, between the hours of 10 A.M. and 2 P.M., and at other times as requested. But he is not always accessible when needed. At night, especially, there is no one to attend to the sudden wants of the prisoners, or to go for the physician. Else there would not be such occurrences as that of the night of the 4th of May last, when a woman "who had been committed to one of the cells of the lower prison a short time previous, commenced about 8 o'clock screaming, violently calling for help, until 3 o'clock in the morning, when she died! Her hands were found dreadfully mangled from beating at the door for help!" The woman was insane—whether from the use of liquor, or some other cause, could not be ascertained.

In conversation with a keeper on such cases as this, he remarked to one of the Committee that it was impossible to see to them; that frequently he had from fifty to a hundred women under his charge in the night, and if he went

to every one who screamed or made a noise, he could not attend to the general oversight of things!

The physician of the City Prison should be at all hours accessible: and if the prison continue to be the receptacle for such large numbers, and such different characters, he should be strictly *resident*. Cases are constantly occurring which ought to have immediate attention, but, under the present system, lie unnoticed for hours.

The physician of the City Prison seems to be responsible to no one for the right discharge of his duties. He makes no report of them, and keeps no diary or record of the cases.

4th. Religious instruction should be provided by law for those under detention. The public duty in this respect is partially performed in relation to the State prisons and our County Penitentiary. Are the souls of those entombed in the City Prison less valuable? Are these men and women less reclaimable? less sensible to right appeals to the heart and the conscience? Is society less concerned in their moral renovation? Amazing is the apathy with which too many look on this subject. The idea would seem to have taken possession of the public mind that prisoners have no souls and no sensibilities. But those of us who have been accustomed to witness the eager, fixed, and quiet attention with which they listen not only to the appeals of Christian love, but also to the stern and faithful rebuke for their sins; those of us who have seen the "big, unbidden tear" flow down the cheek furrowed by long-indulged passions,—well know that there are sympathies there that can be touched, and consciences there that respond to the right appeal.

There is no chaplain connected with the City Prison. On the afternoon of every alternate Sabbath, there are religious services conducted by a number of devoted Christian men. Their instructions, however, reach the ears of but few of the prisoners, owing to the construction of the building. This difficulty, however, is not insuperable.

Religious tracts are distributed once a month by the missionaries of the ward in which the prison is located, to all the prisoners who can read. But the good thus done is comparatively limited; a very small portion of those who are in the prison during the month receiving these messengers of mercy. This work can only be performed effectually by a permanent chaplain.

In his report for September, the agent of the Committee states, that on his application, the New York City Bible Society had supplied all the cells (one hundred and forty-eight) in the male department with Bibles, lettered on the cover "New York City Prison." The prison has been supplied before, two or three times; but the Bibles have been purloined, and probably sold. It is hoped that the device of lettering the covers, will prevent the theft of these now provided. One of the deputy-keepers remarked, when these Bibles were furnished, that the prisoners will not now have reason to complain as formerly, "that they don't know how to pass their time."

The female department of the City Prison is visited every Sabbath morning by a lady, now a member of the female department of the Association, who has for years been in the habit of meeting with the women, reading and explaining to them the Scriptures. Occasionally they have preaching or addresses from visitors.

But however well these duties may be performed by those who volunteer their services, it is not on them that the public authorities ought to rely. Their duty is to see whether religious truth is not as effectual as stone walls and iron bars in reforming men.

The Committee have thus endeavored to show what our houses of detention ought to be. They should not be common receptacles, as the City Prison now is, for all descriptions of the unfortunate and the vile.

Here are to be found, 1st. Those committed on charges of vagrancy, and the lowest grades of crimes, for periods of from five to thirty days; 2nd. Murderers under sentence of death; 3rd. Those committed for examination and trial; 4th. Disposed prostitutes seeking admission to the Penitentiary Hospital; 5th. Witnesses unable to procure bail; 6th. Refractory apprentices; 7th. Paupers on their way to the Alms-House; 8th. Lunatics destined for the City Asylum; 9th. Emigrants without friends or money. What an assemblage this, to be gathered together under one roof in a Christian city! The truth cannot be disguised that our City Prison is in no one feature what it should be, for the purposes for which it was designed.

There can be no apology or justification for this indiscriminate gathering together of such heterogeneous materials. *Misfortune may claim a tear*, but it does not deserve a frown. If poverty appeals to us for aid, no law of God, or demand of our own being, warrants us in answering it with chains. So it will be seen at a glance, that it is the veriest oppression towards some of the classes specified, thus to associate them with others suspected, and others again convicted, of gross crimes and crimes.

Were such portions of the ordinary inmates of the City Prison as ought not to be there, accommodated elsewhere, the present occupied apartments would be greatly relieved; and by properly appropriating the large amount of waste room about the building and yards, a new and most desirable condition of things could be obtained with comparatively little expense.

There are a number of other matters connected with the City Prison, and the administration of criminal justice in our city, that have received the attention of the Committee, and are too important to be overlooked. Some of the facts that follow demonstrate the correctness of the foregoing remarks.

AS TO WITNESSES.

It may be that the ends of justice and the well-being of society require that some security be had for the appearance, when needed, of those whose testimony is essential in the establishment of the guilt or innocence of accused persons. Where it can be given, *bail* seems to be universally considered as a sufficient guarantee for appearance. It is a misfortune to the individual at least, if not to society, that those least able to bear confinement are the very ones who have to endure it. Whether this can be remedied it is not perhaps the province of this Committee to inquire. But it is their duty to show what are the hardships on individuals, of the present system. In connection with another branch of their inquiries, these have already been partly exhibited.

The personal sufferings of this most unfortunate class, whose *sin seems to be clear* of having eyes and ears, are seen in such cases as these, taken from the diary of the agent of this Committee:—Sept. 18. A middle-aged woman came

to the city an entire stranger. Had lodgings given her at a house where her bundle of clothes was stolen during the night. She complained at the Police Office, seeking redress; was herself locked up as a witness in the case, and has now been in prison ten days. Sept. 25. Was discharged by request of our agent—the thief not having been arrested, nor her clothes found, and no one interfering himself for her. The agent well says, "I cannot see but that she might have remained in prison indefinitely, had not some visitor interfered." And it may be added, that her commitment was throughout illegal; for until the arrest of the thief there was no one to be tried, and her testimony was entirely unavailable for any purpose whatsoever.

Sept. 23. M. H. was this day released from prison, after being confined over three months as a witness. The District Attorney now dismisses the case, not considering it sufficiently strong to bring to trial. Oct. 15. A man is in prison as a witness, who says he shall thereby lose a contract for work for the season.

DELAYS IN THE ADMINISTRATION OF JUSTICE.

Not less cruel are the delays too often experienced in bringing committed persons to trial. The Court of Sessions sits monthly, each sitting being for about two weeks; whenever a protracted case occurs, it is at the expense of those who are behind on the list. Thus it sometimes happens that individuals are detained for two or three months on the suspicion of crime, and then discharged without trial. What a mockery, this, to public justice!

The law provides that "within twenty-four hours after the discharge of any grand jury, by any court of oyer and terminer, or court of general sessions of the peace, it shall be the duty of such court to cause every person confined in such prison upon any criminal charge, who shall not have been indicted, to be discharged without bail, unless satisfactory cause shall be shown to such court for detaining such person in custody, or upon bail, as the case may require, until the meeting of the next grand jury in such county." But the practice, in disregard, if not direct violation, of the statute, is to detain the prisoner until the case has been passed by two grand juries sitting successively, and upon good cause shown to the court, until the session of still another grand jury, when, if no bill be found, he is finally discharged. But if the arrest is made during the session of a grand jury, that term goes for nothing.

While this protracted detention is utterly unjust to the innocent prisoner, it also operates injuriously to the State. Artful villains have sometimes succeeded, by the arranged absence of witnesses, and other schemes, in securing the postponement of an examination of their cases, until they can claim their discharge under this rule, and thus have escaped punishment entirely.

The demands of justice and the claims of mercy alike call for a different arrangement of our criminal courts, whereby the guilt or innocence of the arrested person may be more promptly ascertained; the awards of the law administered; the county saved the expenses arising from delays in bringing to trial; and witnesses spared the mortification and injury of confinement.

The agent notices these, among other cases, in his diary:—

July 30. A woman, charged with passing a five-dollar counterfeit bill, has been in prison a long time, having been passed by at every session of the court, for three or four terms (i. e. months).

August 3. C. P. and child were sent to the Home for discharged female convicts. She is a woman of sober, steady, and industrious habits. She was committed to prison on a charge of larceny, but was honorably discharged, no evidence having been found against her. She has, however, been in prison three months.

August 4. M. H., who has been in prison six weeks, was discharged, not a shadow of evidence being produced against her; a very worthy woman, as it appeared on trial.

Sept. 10. Four boys, from 12 to 16 years of age, have been seven weeks in confinement on a charge of larceny. A young man has been five weeks in confinement on a charge of assault on a police officer. Sept. 20. Agent called on the District Attorney in relation to the boys, and urged him to bring them to trial. He expressed a willingness to do so, took note of the cases, and requested the agent at all times to give him notice when such cases occur. Sept. 23. The boys have been tried and sent to the House of Refuge.

Oct. 12. J. T. S. has been in prison two months, without being tried or even indicted. Oct. 24. J. T. S. has been discharged, without a bill being found by the grand jury.

BOYS AND GIRLS.

One of the most painful facts brought to the notice of the Committee, in the performance of their duties, is that such large numbers of the young are found in our prisons. This fact is painful on more accounts than one. Not only is compassion excited for the fate of a child detected in vice or crime, but the sad comment it makes on the home discipline of families awakens gloomy forebodings in relation to the future condition of public morals in our land.

Our Association undertakes to deal with men after their vicious propensities have ripened into poisonous fruit. Others have the more agreeable task—and more responsible, too—of moulding and fashioning character. The results of our inquiries tell as to their faithfulness. They are engaged in the preventive service; our task is to drive out the enemy against whose entrance they have failed to guard. For these reasons we present this subject distinctly, hoping that every parent and guardian, every minister and teacher, but especially every Sabbath-school teacher, who may read these lines, will be excited to greater faithfulness in the discharge of his duties toward the young hearts on whom he is exercising a formative influence.

Here is another leaf from the history of our City Prison for the last year.

March 6. W. E. C., aged 16, committed for stealing money from his employer; without father, mother, sister, or brother, living. March 14. Was sent to the House of Refuge.

April 10. S. Y., aged 15, taken from a brothel, detained mainly as a witness against the keeper, who is under arrest; expressed a desire to lead a virtuous life. May 2. Place is found for her with a family in — street.

April 30. W. R. S., aged 12, is in prison as a vagrant; comes from Greene county, New York. Two other boys committed for stealing maple sugar.

May 6. A girl, TEN YEARS OF AGE, taken from a house of ill-fame, was committed to the Tombs. Agent went to see the parents; found them the most miserable beings imaginable; both drunk. The child sent to the House of Refuge.

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May 7. Three boys, under 12 years of age, for petit larceny. Two of them were attendants of a Sabbath-school.

May 29. Boy committed for stealing caps from his father; another for stealing combs.

June 8. Five boys committed to-day for petit larceny; and put into cells with old offenders.

June 9. Three of these boys sent to the House of Refuge; the other two given to their parents.

Sept. 16. Three young girls, of the respective ages of 10, 11, and 13 years, arrested for stealing a lithograph print, value 18 cents. The children denied the charge.

Sept. 18. Were discharged.

Sept. 25. A little girl, aged thirteen years, was this day sent to the Penitentiary hospital, afflicted with a loathsome disease! This is the fourth girl under 15 years of age that has been taken from the same house of ill-fame within a short time—a house well known to the district police.

Oct. 19. A boy, aged 9 years, is in prison, committed by his father, for stealing 25 cents!

Surely such cases need not be multiplied. The heart sickens at the recital.

ALMS-HOUSE CASES.

Poverty brings unnumbered afflictions enough with it, without the superadded horror of being regarded and punished as a crime. Yet such is too often the treatment experienced by those who have had to pass under its yoke. As though it were not enough to be deprived of every comfort of life, the mere asking for charity at the hand of the public seems to be considered a sufficient warrant for locking up the unfortunate victim among thieves, and drunkards, and prostitutes, and the very refuse of society.

If it be necessary that a delay of one, two, or more days intervene between the request for aid and the answer of the Alms-House commissioner, surely some other place of temporary abode than the City Prison, with all its polluting influences, should be found for the sufferer. The victim may be a mere child; or an orphan, perhaps, wandering about in search of a heart and a home; or the deserted offspring of the ground, as the strong trunk around which she has the aged widow fallen to the ground, as the strong trunk around which she has entwined herself, and to which she has for years clung for support, has been felled by the inexorable stroke of death. It may be the mother with her babe, forsaken by the unnatural husband and father, and seeking from strangers the bread he promised to provide.

These are no pictures of the imagination; as witness the following cases:

March 3. The agent found at the Tombs a woman, with a child 14 months old, deserted by her husband, and left without a home.

April 16. Agent found at the Tombs a German woman with five children, in great distress, committed on the 15th; one of the children, a boy about 14 years old, who is blind and partially idiotic, had been confined in the male department during the night, and as the woman could not understand English, it was impossible for the matron to explain the circumstances or to pacify her. The cries and moaning of the whole family were kept up during the night. One of this Committee saw her in the morning, ascertained that they had arrived here but a week before, had exhausted their slender means, and were then sent

† f. l.

to the Tombs. The husband was at Plymouth, Massachusetts. The case was laid before the German Society.

April 18. A boy aged 15, with his sister aged 9 years, were brought in to be examined by the Alms-House commissioner. April 20. The agent found a family willing to take them.

May 12. A boy 8 years old, without a home, is in the Prison; to be sent to Long Island Farms.

May 26. A woman and two fine looking boys are in the lower tier of the female prison, among drunkards and vagrants of the worst character. On asking why they were there, the keeper replied, "Waiting to be examined by the Alms-House commissioner." May 27. Agent applied to the commissioner, and they were removed.

June 15. A German boy, aged about 17 years, is in the Tombs; about twelve days in the country; cannot speak English; afflicted with disease contracted on ship-board; had received a permit to go to the Penitentiary hospital, but owing to delay in making out the papers, is detained here in company with felons and drunkards.

June 15. An old woman with one leg was sent to the Penitentiary, Blackwell's Island, from the Tombs; her commitment reading thus, "Being a vagrant, sick, and needing aid." No crime alleged against her. Why was she not sent to the Alms-House?

June 18. Two boys, 9 and 7 years of age, both blind, were found in the street; had accidentally strayed from the Blind Asylum, and were committed to the Tombs, and placed in a cell with a corpse, and a number of most abandoned persons. June 20. Have been returned to the Asylum.

Sept. 2. Six German children, from 6 months to 16 years of age, are in prison. Have just arrived in the country; their mother and one brother died on the passage, the father is at the Hospital, Staten Island, sick. Sept. 4. Have been removed by the German Benevolent Society.

Oct. 23. Agent found a boy about 10 years old, a subject for the Alms-House, among the five-days vagrants—generally drunkards of the lowest stamp. The keeper removed him from this company at the request of the agent.

KEEPERS AND OFFICERS.

In the remarks which the Committee have deemed it their duty to make, in relation to the conduct of affairs at the City Prison, they wish it to be distinctly understood that they war on the system, not on individuals. Unfortunately, however, the characters of the latter will, almost inevitably, be more or less influenced by the circumstances in which they are called to act. Constant intercourse with the depraved and the abandoned, is very apt to deaden the kinder sympathies of our nature, unless there be sound principle to regulate their exercise. It will be well for society when a man's moral fitness for his station is the crowning consideration in his appointment. But until this becomes the governing rule in the selection of public officers, we must sometimes expect in them incompetency, dishonesty, and cruelty.

The Committee are happy to say that the necessary facilities for the performance of their duty, are readily afforded them by Mr. Fallon and the deputy-keepers. But it is a source of regret that some of the officers connected with

the administration of justice at the City Prison occasionally forget themselves, and say and do that which, in their more thoughtful moments, they cannot but condemn.

The Committee refer to one or two such instances as have fallen under their observation, not with the view of holding up the keepers as a class to public opprobrium, but in the hope that this notice may incite among them all a disposition, by individual propriety of conduct, to commend their whole body to the public confidence.

The agent says:—

August 1. A crazy woman has been in confinement three days, awaiting the action of the authorities to be sent to the Asylum; is in the lowest tier of cells; her arms tied, and her body bound to the fifth-pipe! She is obliged to sit upon the stone floor; *she cannot stand up nor lie down.* The keeper said he had just been "ducking her"—throwing pails-full of water on her. It is not a case of delirium tremens.

August 3. An old man, nearly 80 years of age, well dressed, and of a respectable appearance if sober, was brought into the Tombs, intoxicated; was laid upon a bunk, with his head much lower than his body; and being of a gross habit, Dr. ——— (a member of the Executive Committee,) who happened to be present, remarked that in such a situation there would be danger of apoplexy, and requested the keeper to raise his head. "The prisoners," replied the keeper, "get a great deal better treatment than they deserve now; by and by we shall have to have large pillows and a nurse for every prisoner." Another keeper says, "If you would take as much interest in honest men, as you do in rogues, it would be better." And another says, "A keeper is as well qualified for his duties after one week's experience as he is after three years."

It is gratifying to the Committee to be able to draw a line of light on this dark picture.

July 7. W. C. expresses his resolute determination to lead an honest life, if he can once more have an opportunity. He says that he never had a kind and encouraging word spoken to him until spoken by one of the police-justices.

July 24. A prisoner confined in Eldridge-street Jail on a charge of libel, has had a number of articles of clothing supplied to him by the keepers.

Happily, kind words and kind acts are not uncommon with some of the keepers.

The number of male keepers at the City Prison is nine, and there is one matron.

The matron is employed only during the day. One male keeper is generally in the office of the female department, and another man has charge of the women during the night! Their number vary from 50 to 80; their characters are quite uniformly loose and abandoned.

Common decency requires that there should be a matron in charge at night. There would be no opportunity for a repetition of the disgusting tales told even by these debased females in days past, respecting their night guardians.

CONDITION OF THE CITY PRISON.

Cleanliness has been reckoned among the virtues. Judging by this rule, no one will look for it amid the abominations existing in the City Prison. The casual visitor will indeed see whitewash in abundance. But more accurate observation will reveal to him the saddening truth, that the "Tombs" of New York are like the Pharisees of Jerusalem as described by our Savior, "whited sepulchres, full of dead men's bones and all uncleanness." While the soul sickens at the scenes of moral pollution there to be met with at all hours, the senses, too, equally revolt at the filth and exhalations with which they are assailed. Drunkards, reeking from the street gutters, are thrown together, half a dozen in a cell, and are thus left to sleep out their debauch. But to depict these scenes is a task too disgusting, even though duty impel to it.

There is no excuse for the existence of this evil, even with the present building. Cleanliness of both building and the prisoners can and should be rigidly enforced, and the necessary conveniences therefor be amply provided.

RELIEF AFFORDED BY THE COMMITTEE.

It is entirely out of the question to specify all the instances of relief afforded to the prisoners by the committee and its agent. Aid has been extended to them in many ways; females, manifesting proper repentance and a wish to reform, have been placed at the "Home" for discharged female convicts; situations in families have been found for others; counsel has been procured for many prisoners whose cases seemed to demand it; the parents and other friends of detained persons have been visited, and their assistance secured; bail has been obtained for others; the Courts, the Magistrates, the Commissioner of the Alms House, and the Keeper, have all in turn, as occasion required, been appealed to in behalf of prisoners, and not without effect.

The cases cited for other purposes all show the general nature of the action of the committee.

The committee have thus endeavored to discharge their duty with no fear before them, but that of being led into error in their representations. On individuals, in or out of authority, it has not been their design to reflect.

The facts cited speak with a severity to which comment can give no edge. And similar facts have spoken in vain for years. The presentments of Grand Jurors have been unheeded; the animadversions of the press seemingly defied. The abuses still exist; each year adding to their enormity as crime and criminals multiply, and as misfortune and vice swell up the roll with our daily augmenting population. When, if ever, shall their end be!

As an Association we are powerless, except to detect and to disclose the wrong. This the committee have endeavored to do.

One more duty remains. They come with their story and their appeal to the bar of public opinion. They ask of the rich to remember that these things greatly increase their burdens of taxation; and if institutions designed to check and repress vice and crime become propagandas for the diffusion of moral evil, their pockets must meet the consequent drain upon the public treasury. They tell the poor, most emphatically are you the sufferers. From your ranks come the witnesses, male and female, that have to inhale the moral infection of

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the Tombs' atmosphere. Your children are they, most frequently found in this den of pollution.

They say to parents, many of you will yet find, as many have already found, that the poison which oozes out of those stone walls is subtle and diffusive in its nature; at your own firesides you may find it, destroying peace, blasting reputation, distilling death, when least you expect it. Need they say to Christians, that your influence is not here seen and felt as it may and ought to be. Could such a well-spring of corruption exist amongst us, if they who bear the name of Him who went about doing good, and came to seek and save the lost, were to unite their endeavors to purify, or rather to dry up, these now ever-flowing waters of death?

But on the constituted authorities of our city must rest the opprobrium of the longer continuance of these crying evils; or to them will redound the credit for their removal. Theirs is the power—theirs be the responsibility.

By order of the Committee,

R. N. HAVENS

Corresponding Secretary.

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REPORT

OF THE

COMMITTEE ON DISCHARGED CONVICTS.

DURING the past year, the Committee on Discharged Convicts have continued to give relief and advice to the class of persons falling under their care. The diary of their agent will exhibit the particulars of each case, with a statement of the age, birth-place, cause of conviction, employment found, and such general notes as may serve to show in what way the objects of the Association have been carried out.

Our agent has maintained a correspondence with the keeper and matron of the prison at Sing Sing, and has frequently visited that institution; and we believe that his personal influence has been useful. Blackwell's Island has also been frequently visited by members of this committee.

The labors and influence of this committee are not to be estimated alone from the amount of relief afforded, or the number of cases detailed upon its records. In many instances, advice is more needed than money. A word of timely sympathy is frequently effectual in turning aside the thoughts and giving a new direction to the future life of the discharged convict. Habits of crime, once established, are continued oftentimes by the mere force of direction, more than by wantonness or vicious intent. In making these inquiries which are necessary to form a judgment of the merits of an applicant for aid, the committee have to observe an almost general aversion that evil association and intoxication are the causes of transgression, and that the first steps in crime are often taken thoughtlessly, perhaps under some strong momentary impulse or temptation which was never before suggested, even by circumstances more favorable to impunity. Reflection upon the consequences of the act does not appear, in ordinary cases, to enter into these first transgressions; and subsequent offences are easily reconciled by the natural but erroneous conclusion, that the character once lost, by a criminal conviction, cannot be more than lost by any number of convictions. Hence, to *escape detection* becomes the ruling idea; and the *moral nature of conduct* is quite a secondary consideration.

The correctness of these views is shown by the facility with which the large proportion of reclaimable individuals yield to the influence of favorable circumstances, and begin at once to labor for the restoration of character and standing in society.

It requires no ordinary degree of moral courage to persevere through the disappointments and rebuffs which are almost invariably encountered by the dis-

charged convict. Employment may be obtained, and he may exhibit the most commendable industry and faithfulness; but he lives in constant fear of being pointed out by old associates, or malicious persons, when he is again thrown upon the world, discouraged, and without resources. We have good reason to believe, however, that a more generous feeling begins to prevail towards this unfortunate class of people.

Among the specified duties of this committee is that of providing the subjects of their care with "suitable clothing, of a kind that will not attract attention and point them out as convicts." They have been enabled to do this during the past year, chiefly by the liberality of individuals who have furnished half-worn garments nearly to the extent required. In no instance has a deserving applicant failed to receive, at their hands, the means of re-appearing in society free from any exterior marks by which he could be distinguished from the mass of the community. So far as personal appearance merely is concerned, it is easy to avoid public scrutiny; but there remains the recognition of fellow-prisoners, and that of old associates in crime, who lie in wait to receive and to lure them back to their old haunts the moment their term of imprisonment expires.

It is a highly gratifying fact that, of the whole number of cases which have come under the care of the committee, during the year, (322,) but three or four are known certainly to have relapsed into crime. A fair proportion remain in good situations which were procured for them immediately after their discharge from prison; and not fewer than twenty may be enumerated as entirely successful instances of complete restoration to the confidence of friends, and the employments of society.

The committee cautious to receive, almost daily, gratifying accounts of one or another, whose names are recorded in their books; and it is of frequent occurrence that individuals call in person at the office, to renew their expressions of gratitude for the assistance which they have received.

The following case so forcibly illustrates the difficulty experienced by discharged convicts, in obtaining employment, that we venture to introduce it in our Report, although it did not come under the official care of the committee:—

A young man was released from prison by pardon, and sensible of the futility of attempting to find employment in the city, where he was known, he shipped as a sailor 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, was attended with the same result. In vain, also, 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 find employment were defeated. He determined to try another direction, and went to Albany, with the design of going farther west. He paid his fare on the canal, but, being recognized, was ordered to leave the boat. He returned to the city with wounded and exasperated feelings. "At least," said he, "they will let me fight." But here, too, he failed. His application for enrolment in the California regiment was promptly rejected. "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 disposition to commit some desperate act of revenge for such treatment."

Thus, a fearful spirit of hostility to society is engendered by harshness to its defaulting members.

With these remarks, and referring to the annexed statement of cases, furnished by our agent, the Committee on Discharged Convicts make a serious appeal to the public on behalf of those who leave the prison with a determination to reform. Let justice, as well as mercy, plead for them. They are frequently betrayed into crime, in moments of strong temptation and unwatchfulness, and in direct contradiction to the general precepts and conduct of former life. Poverty, want, and the force of circumstances, frequently induce departures from the line of rectitude, and are alone—

"The thousand paths that slope the way to crime."

We ask for the ex-prisoner, who evinces sober penitence, and determination to reform, that he may not be repelled from his good resolutions by frowns, and denial of honest labor; but that charity, "which covereth a multitude of sins," may offer to him every reasonable opportunity to regain the esteem and confidence of his fellow-men.

It must not be forgotten that society is flooded with crimes which escape legal conviction, or for which there is no legal punishment; and that the solitary couch and the lonely cell may witness repentance as true as the consecrated altar, accompanied by the most solemn and appropriate services of religion.

There have been relieved, during the last year—

From Sing Sing.....	165
" Penitentiary.....	55
" Debtors' Prison.....	1
" Brooklyn Prison.....	1
Total.....	222

The amount of money which has been expended at the office—

For males from Sing Sing.....	\$609 13
" from the Penitentiary.....	56 92
For a female* from the Tombs.....	6 00
For males from Brooklyn Prison.....	8 00
For incidental expenses—fuel, printing, paper, etc.....	190 36
	\$870 41
Cash returned by sundry persons, to whom it had been loaned.....	83 94
Total expenditures.....	\$786 47

By order of the Committee,

ISAAC T. HOPPER, Chairman.

* In addition to this sum, the Executive Committee paid board for the same person, \$94.

Extracts from the Diary of the Agent.

J———, about forty years old, a native of Ireland, was convicted in this city of receiving stolen goods, and sent to Sing Sing for five years and one month, and was discharged, by the expiration of his sentence, the 17th of March, 1845. Immediately after his release he called at this office, bringing with him from the keeper strong testimonials of good conduct. His health was poor, and he was placed under the care of Dr. Parker, who performed a surgical operation on him. We furnished him with some pecuniary aid, and in the course of a short time he recovered his health, and applied himself diligently to business. He has ever since his discharge conducted well, and has been restored to citizenship. He has a wife and three children, whom he supports comfortably.

H———, about twenty-six years old, a native of Lancaster county, Pa., where his family is among the most respectable, came to this city, and being young and inexperienced, he was allured into evil company, and was prevailed upon to present to a bank in Albany a forged check. For this offence he was sent to Sing Sing for two years. He served his time out, and was discharged in the Eleventh month, 1842. His imprisonment proved a school of deep and lasting instruction. He conducted well while in confinement, and upon his release immediately sought for employment by which he might earn an honorable livelihood. After some time he procured a situation. He was well acquainted with the business, and by his industrious, attentive habits, and courteous demeanor, he soon became an important auxiliary in the establishment. After remaining in this situation about three months, his employers were informed of his having been a tenant of Sing Sing, and he was immediately dismissed from their service. This was the third or fourth time he had been treated in the same way. Being greatly discouraged, and almost heart-broken, he made application to this committee. We gave him some pecuniary assistance, and assured him of our support. Several places were found, but when they were informed that he had been a convict, he was unceremoniously rejected. After repeated disappointments, he obtained a place as a clerk. Hope once more seemed to revive, and he concluded that he had now surmounted all obstacles, and was in a fair way of getting a comfortable living; but it was not long before he had new difficulties to encounter of a more appalling character than any he had met with since he left Sing Sing. He was accused of larceny, and cast into prison. I was informed of his case, and immediately went to see him. I found him in the deepest distress. I examined into his case, and soon became satisfied that he was innocent. I then called upon the prosecutor, who was violent at first, but soon softened down. H——— was arraigned before the Special Sessions. He had no attorney. I explained his case to the Court, and he was discharged. After much difficulty he succeeded in getting a situation in a highly respectable wholesale establishment, where the proprietors are acquainted with his whole history. He has now been there several months at reasonable wages. This committee sustained him through all his difficulties, and have finally succeeded in procuring a permanent situation for him. Without their assistance he must have spent his days in wretchedness. He has a wife who appears to be an innocent, worthy woman. They are now respectable and happy.

Near two years after his discharge from Sing Sing, he received the following letter from James Buchanan, Secretary of State of the United States; but it seemed to have no effect in restoring confidence. Several situations were obtained for him; but, as soon as they were informed of his having been a convict, no entry could prevail with them to take him into their service.

“BEDFORD SPRINGS, Penn., August 1, 1844.

“I am well acquainted with the bearer hereof, Mr. H———, having known him from his childhood. His father, for many years before his death, was an

intimate personal friend, whom I highly valued; and the relations of Mr. ——— are among our most respectable people in Lancaster. In early life he sincerely believed that he has repented of it from his very heart; and that he would now perform any duties which he might undertake with integrity and assiduity. For my own part I should most cheerfully trust him; and do not hesitate to recommend him to all persons who entertain any respect for my opinion. I wish I had it in my power to afford him employment.

“JAMES BUCHANAN.”

If, with such recommendations, the discharged convict cannot obtain confidence, what can those the expect who have no friends?

A few days after the late anniversary, the agent of the Committee on Discharged Convicts received the following letter from him:—

“MR. ISAAC T. HOPPER:—

December 26, 1846.

“MY DEAR FRIEND: AS BUSINESS prevents me in daytime from seeing you, in order to thank you kindly for the noble and generous mention made of me in exciting to me as they were totally unexpected, I take this method to express my thanks. I need scarcely assure you, my good and truly kind and generous fellow-creatures, that it is out of my power to find words to thank you adequately, and to describe my feelings on that occasion. They were the more brother-in-law. Oh! what a noble work the Society is engaged in; and my most fervent prayer is that its roll may be honored with your name, on its list for those poor unfortunates, whose first unthinking error places them unwary Christmas, and many happy new-years to come. May you enjoy a very my wife, E———, and myself.

Respectfully, your friend,

H.”

S———, a young man about twenty-one years old, a native of New Hampshire, removed to this city, with his parents, about the year 1837. Here he became intimate with several persons of dissolute character, and, in the latter part of the year 1844, he was convicted of grand larceny, and sentenced to Sing Sing for four years and six months. After being in prison about one year, he was pardoned. On his release, he called upon this committee for advice and assistance. He is a shoemaker; and, being informed that he had conducted well in prison, we furnished him with tools to enable him to follow his business, and we are happy to say that he has conducted well. He supports comfortably, by his industry, an aged mother and two sisters.

H———, about twenty-one years of age, was born in Brooklyn, about sixteen he came to this city, and hired as a waiter in a hotel. When time he conducted well; but, becoming acquainted with several boys of bad character, he was induced to steal from the landlord, when he was not quite convicted, and sent to Sing Sing for two years. For this offence he was sent to Sing Sing for two years. He was discharged in Twelfth month, 1845, by the expiration of his sentence. As soon as he arrived in this city, strong testimonials of good conduct. His board was paid for a short time. Employment was soon obtained for him, in a respectable grocery, where he still continues, and conducts well. He has frequently called to see me, and appears very grateful for the assistance that has been rendered him. His employer says, “H. has been in my employ now almost one year, and I can speak in the

highest terms of him in all respects. I always found him to take a lively interest in my business, and I believe him to be a person who would do all for his employer in his power."

—, about forty-five years old, a native of Long Island, was convicted of burglary in the third degree, and sent to Sing Sing for the term of five years. The day before his sentence expired, when he was in full anticipation of the pleasure of being restored to his family in a few hours, he received a letter from his wife, requesting him not to return home. Previous to his imprisonment he had lived in harmony with his family, and he could not believe that his wife, of whom he was very fond, would be so cruel as to reject him. However, upon his release he went to work at his trade, (that of a shoemaker), in the village of Sing Sing, and in a little time saved a clever sum of money, concluding that that would open the way for his reception, and with it he returned to his family; but his wife refused to receive him, and turned him off with disdain. This was more than his nature could bear; he became intemperate, and finally lost his reason. In this condition he was arrested, on suspicion of a house in Williamsburg, in the evening, and committed to prison. Happy for a piece of intending to rob the premises, on his trial, who gave his case a thorough examination. Judge Edmonds presided on his trial, who gave his case a thorough examination. Jacob was permitted to plead his own case. His simple narrative deeply affected the court and jury, all of whom sympathized with him. He was sentenced to an imprisonment of two months, in the city prison in Brooklyn. At the expiration of this term, Jacob called upon me. I went to see his wife, who was in very poor health. She received him kindly. Some pecuniary aid was given to Jacob. He appears to be sober and industrious, and is earning an honest and comfortable livelihood.

The two following were presented by Judge Edmonds:—

Fifth month 23d, 1846. A young man of about twenty-two years of age was discharged from the prison at Sing Sing about fifteen months since. He had been convicted of forgery, and been sentenced for two years, and served out his time. On his discharge, he applied to me for assistance to get into business. He acknowledged his guilt, and expressed much sorrow and contrition for his offence; and having confidence in the sincerity of his repentance, I concluded to aid him. He had received a good education, and a clerkship was found for him at two hundred dollars a year, and there I lost sight of him.

About a fortnight since a well-dressed, modest, and gentlemanly young man called at my house in the evening during my absence, and waited some time in my library for me. After sitting a while, he asked Mrs. Edmonds if she recollected him. She said she did not. He then asked her if she remembered a letter which he had received, that a young man just out of the State Prison had gone to her house with a note from me, and that upon receiving it, she had complied with the request contained in it, and had dressed him out with a complete suit of my clothes. She said she remembered it well, and had often wished to know what had become of him. With much emotion, and very much to her surprise, he said, "I am that person."

Not being able to see me that evening, he called at my house the next morning, and gave me an account of his progress since he had thus again started in the world. He had risen rapidly in the favor of his employers; is now in the receipt of a competent salary, and is trusted without reservation with their funds and property. They were so well pleased with him, that they have lately of their own accord increased his compensation, and repose entire confidence in him.

He attributes his fall to the want of reflection on the consequences of his crime. He committed, but says it was a lesson to him which he will never forget. I was much pleased with his reformation and his prosperity, and invited him freely to visit me. On Sunday last he went to church with me, and sat in my pew with my family.

He seems very grateful for the slight aid he received, and requested me to say to our Association, that he should devote of his earnings two dollars a month to our treasury, to assist us in aiding others situated as he has been.

Fifth month, 23.—J.—, in the fall of 1844, was convicted of grand larceny in this city, and sentenced to the State Prison for two years. I was then one of the inspectors, and an extraordinary application was made to me, by the complainant in her case—namely, that I should use my influence to prevent her being pardoned. This excited my attention, and on my first visit to the prison I inquired into her case.

She had been a servant, and had been seduced, and was then pregnant. When her situation became known, she was complained of for attempting to rob, and was convicted. She was young, simple, and unfriended. Her friends and family were all in Ireland, and she had no one to protect her; and, even if innocent, the odds were terribly against her.

When I saw her in the prison, she was in an awful condition: she took no sustenance or sleep; and her mind was so much affected that she must soon become a raging maniac, or die. I promptly interfered, and obtained a pardon for her; and on her release I committed her to the care of some ladies, who provided for her till her confinement, and on the restoration of her health procured a place of service for her in the country.

It is now two years since I had heard anything certain of her.

This morning, while my chambers were very full, a young woman came in, and said she wanted to see me. I did not recognize her, till she told me her name. I appointed her to come to my house. Accordingly, this afternoon she came to my house, and brought her little boy with her.

She says she is living with S. Y.—, N.—, Conn. She has been with his family over a year, and, besides the support of herself and child, is receiving wages of three dollars a month. She has come to the city on a visit, and took pains to find me out, so (as she said) that she might let me know how well she was getting along. When I asked her if her employer knew that she had been in the State Prison, with characteristic simplicity, she replied, "Oh, yes; if I hadn't told them, they would have been asking me questions, and I couldn't answer them."

Fifth month, 25, 1846.—J.—, about 26 years old, a native of Scotland. He had been in this country about three years when he was convicted of burglary, and sent to the State Prison for two years. He was discharged by the expiration of his sentence, the 22d inst. He had been employed as a clerk in a book-store, and gave good satisfaction to his employers, until, associating with loose company, he became intemperate; and to this cause he attributes his downfall. He conducted well while in prison.

Duncan Dunbar, a respectable Baptist clergyman, is well acquainted with John and his family. He says John's father is a highly respectable bookseller and stationer in Scotland, and that John is an excellent Greek and Latin scholar; and he thinks that he has sincerely repented of his misconduct, and that, with a little encouragement, he will yet be an honor to his friends and benefactors. Upon his discharge he called at this office, and received our sympathy and assistance. More than six months have now elapsed, and John has conducted well; and we hope he is a reformed man.

Eleventh month 21, 1845.—A.— was, for several years, a merchant in respectable standing; but becoming embarrassed in his pecuniary circumstances, he committed an act for which he was convicted of forgery, and sent to Sing Sing for three years. While there, he was employed as a nurse in the hospital. By this means he became acquainted, in considerable degree, with the use of medicine; and after his release he applied himself to the study of that science. But being destitute of the means, he applied to our Association for assistance. Believing that he had formed a resolution to pursue a virtuous course of life in future, his request was complied with; and we feel pleasure in being able to

say that he has graduated as a physician, and we have reason to hope that he will prove himself a useful and respectable citizen.

The following history of a youth who, as it will be seen, had widely departed from the path of rectitude, shows the great importance of cultivating the least germ of good that may be found in any, even though the case should appear hopeless.

E——, a native of this city, about eighteen years of age, had been greatly neglected in early life, and was left very much to himself; and, as a matter of course, formed an intimacy with boys of bad character, who led him on, by precept and example, in all kinds of mischief. When about nine years old, he robbed his father of three hundred dollars, and absconded; but after some time he was arrested, and put in the House of Refuge. After remaining in that institution some time he was bound to a farmer in Columbia county. He was there but a short time before he was imprisoned on account of his ungovernable and refractory conduct, and the indentures by which he was bound were cancelled, and he returned to his father, in this city, who bound him to a farmer in New Jersey; but he staid there but a short time, when he absconded. His case appeared hopeless, and his parents abandoned him. He became reckless, and it seems that he embraced every opportunity that offered to commit depredations on property whenever it fell in his way. After he left the House of Refuge, he was confined in many of the county prisons. Indeed, almost his whole life had been one continued career of crime. Some months ago a member of the Prison Association found him on Blackwell's Island, charged with stealing a watch. E—— manifested penitence, and professed a strong desire to reform, and most earnestly solicited K—— to endeavor to obtain his release. K——, having confidence in his sincerity, took measures to obtain his discharge, and he was placed at board till some business could be obtained for him. After a few weeks, employment was procured. Six months have now elapsed, and he has conducted with great propriety. He is industrious and faithful in whatever he undertakes, and omits no opportunity to manifest his gratitude for the assistance that has been extended to him. He says it is the first time that the hand of kindness or encouragement was ever extended to him—he had been knocked about all his life. And we may add, that his father and the keepers of the prison advised this committee to have nothing to do with him, saying that it would be kindness misapplied, as he was irremediable. He is a young man of much talent.

We will close these extracts with the following case, though they might be greatly extended.

J——, about thirty years old, a native of Upper Canada, had become a common drunkard, and was sent to Blackwell's Island six months, for intemperance, and was discharged, by the expiration of his sentence, about eight months ago. Soon after his discharge, he called at this office for advice and assistance, saying that he was determined to make an effort to reform his course of life. We found that he was a man of mind, and well educated. He was placed at board for a few days, when a situation offered in the country, and he readily went to it. In about three weeks a letter was received from him, in which he says: "I am employed at farming, a business I have not been used to. I find it hard work, but an well satisfied, and sincerely thankful for the assistance you rendered me." J—— is now employed as a teacher in one of the public schools in a neighboring county, and is much respected.

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REPORT OF THE FEMALE DEPARTMENT.

THE Ladies who have charge of the Female Department, respectfully report for the year ending November 18th.

The experience of the past year, notwithstanding much difficulty and some discouragement, has been such as to impress them more forcibly than ever with the urgent need of such an institution as the *Home in this city*, and with the feasibility of the undertaking under the auspices of the Prison Association. They feel more than ever anxious that the attempt should be fully brought before the public with its tangible results, being confident that it requires only to be known and understood, to enlist the sympathies of the benevolent of all classes and denominations. The hopeless condition of the discharged convict has been the theme of much eloquence, but when the case of the *female convict* comes before us—when we see the desolate creature humbled to the dust, trembling under the sense of weakness and degradation, and scarcely believing in the reality of human sympathy—we feel that the half had not been told. The first impression is that of almost utter hopelessness as to the power of anything short of miracle to raise the object being to a sense of self-respect. A degraded woman is proverbially lowest in the scale of humanity; and when years have confirmed vicious habits, and hardened the offender into recklessness, we acknowledge the difficulty of any attempt on our part to implant new principles or awaken a regard for character. But it is far different with the young and with those who have still a remnant of womanly feeling and a hope of redeeming lost reputation. With these, experience shows that we may hope, with the blessing of God, to accomplish much; and we are able to show many instances where success has been far beyond our hopes. But all are confounded together in the general estimate of society. Without some special aid from them who make the subject their study, and who, by effort and practice become conversant with its details, it is impossible that the public should be able to discriminate. A discharged convict—a discharged *female* one—is necessarily an outcast from society. Who will employ such an one? what family will receive as an inmate a degraded creature fresh from the Penitentiary? who can trust a woman who has been imprisoned for theft? what mother will introduce among her daughters one who has been familiar with the Tombs? It cannot be expected. Whatever may have been the car-

duct of the prisoner during her incarceration: whatever certifies she may have been able to obtain, even from faithful and judicious officials—and these are unfortunately rare—there is a moral atmosphere about her which effectually repels even the charitable, and which causes the unthinking and the selfish to turn from her with abhorrence. She may starve—she may beg—she may return to vice—or she may put an end to her hateful life—nobody feels the blame. But here the Prison Association steps in. If there be a remnant of decency—if the least faint wish to return to a better mind and a better life,—the Home is opened to receive her. A kind matron welcomes her—inquires into her wants—her history—her feelings; gives her the means of cleanliness and decency; finds employment for her; ascertains her character and disposition; searches for what germs of goodness may be yet remaining, and if there be a smouldering spark of virtuous hope, sedulously preserves it from extinction. She remains in this Asylum, treated—not with a supercilious, a cold, a spurious kindness—but as a woman and a sister, until her views, her powers, her qualifications for earning a subsistence, and the sincerity of her desire for reformation have been fully tested; and if the result prove satisfactory, a place suited to her ability is provided, and she is placed with those who, understanding fully her past history and present condition, are willing to try her. If, from any cause, this first effort prove abortive, and she leaves her place, the Home is again open, lest destitution should once more betray her into the dens which yawn for such victims; and it is not until repeated trials render further efforts hopeless that she is ever abandoned to her evil fate.

If we were ever asked in what class of offenders we had found least encouragement, we should be constrained to reply—the confirmed drunkards. She who has stolen, may be warned by punishment or persuaded by the voice of friendship and religion to “steal no more;” even she who has been induced to throw herself away, body and soul, may, by some possibility, be restored to a better mind, so that she shall look upon her course of transgression with horror and disgust; but the drunkard is so weakened and vilified by her enslaving habit, and temptations are so constantly presented on every side, that we find ourselves continually disappointed and thwarted in such cases, even after the most flattering appearances.

The expense of maintaining such a Home as we have described, and of aiding the discharged convict in the various particulars in which most of them need aid, is necessarily considerable; but as we felt confident when we made our last report, it is likely rather to lessen than increase in proportion to the number who receive the benefit of the institution. Not only does increased experience enable us to proceed more economically, but as our establishment becomes better known, and its character better understood, we find so many additional facilities for obtaining employment for the inmates, that their earnings more and more materially lessen our expenses. From the establishment of the Home in June, 1845, to our first annual meeting in December of the same year, it cost the gentlemen's department \$1500; from that period to the present time, the space of one year, the Home has cost them scarcely more than one third of that sum.

The religious instruction at the Home is given by the city missionaries, who officiate in turn every Sunday morning. On Wednesday evening of every week the Rev. Mr. Darling holds a meeting. It is due to Miss Sarah H.

Wood, the Matron of the sewing department, to say that her services have been untiring—she has accomplished much during the year, quilting, shirt-making, and plain sewing in all its branches, have been carried on under her supervision—a portion of each day she devotes to reading to the women books of an instructive and entertaining character. A chapter in the Bible is also read, and a hymn sung, every morning and evening.

The ladies would here gratefully acknowledge the unremitting services of Dr. Hopper at the Home.

From November 12th, 1845, to November 12th, 1846, there have been received at the Home, 126.

Found situations for	66
Returned to their friends	7
Sent to the Hospital	9
“ “ Magdalen	2
“ “ House of Refuge	1
Returned to evil courses	14
Left without permission	1
Discharged for improper conduct	1
“ “ not being proper subjects for the Home	3
Left, to find places for themselves	2
Remaining at the Home	20

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From twenty-four of those for whom situations have been found, we have had satisfactory account. We have also the satisfaction of stating, that many of those who were reported last year as having been placed in situations, are still doing well.

The condition of the female prisoners at Blackwell's Island is calculated to awaken the sympathy and the alarm of all who visit that institution; sympathy for wretched fellow-creatures subjected to every evil influence—every brutalizing association; and alarm at the spectacle of a nursery of vice—a place for training up a population for crime—a preparatory school where the young may learn, at the public expense, the same employments which have brought their predecessors to the State Prison and the gallows. The want of classification—the want of cleanliness consequent upon this crowding and jumbling of all ages and conditions; the lack of a competent number of matrons—two being all that are allowed for the superintendence of these hundreds; these strike us as among the prominent points worthy of immediate attention. Females to the number of two or three hundred are congregated, during the day, in what is called “the shanty;” much of the time they are without any proper overseer, and the confusion, profanity, and ribaldry that occur are horrible. The condition of the hospital, too, where youth and maturity in crime are mingled indiscriminately, is lamentable in the extreme. Even young girls, when once they have graduated in this dreadful school, hear with indifference the offers of those who would befriended them, and only wait for their discharge to return to their haunts of infamy. Our efforts with such are vain.

The children's hospital, too, is a most heart-rending and loathsome sight. More than one hundred children are there assembled; the offspring, perhaps in

a majority of instances, of vicious parents, and bearing on their faces and persons but too striking indications of the care that will be needed to preserve them from the way that leads to destruction. These are, it is true, under the superintendence of a matron, but who are her assistants? If it had not been seen it could not be believed, that prisoners—abandoned women—those whom society has found it necessary to cast from its lap as nuisances—are the chosen nurses and guardians of these unfortunates. It is to the tender mercies of such beings these that the piny infant is intrusted; they teach the lisping speech to such as are alive through their nursing; and when intellect begins to develop itself, the first instruction comes from such as these, whose very breath is profanity, and who have long been strangers to the very name of modesty. Such things need only be named to be abhorred. May we not hope that attention will early be called to this and kindred subjects?

At the City Prison we have met with the kindly co-operation of the matron, Mrs. Foster, who has always shown the greatest alacrity in seconding our efforts to reclaim the wandering, and to awaken the slumbering conscience in cases where there seemed still to be hope. She has even taken pains to send for some of our Committee, in order to bring to their notice cases that claimed their care. She has provided clothing fit for their reception at the Home, or at places where situations had been found for them, and this at her own expense. Such humanity is rare, and it should be esteemed accordingly. But the radical faults of the arrangements at the City Prison are numerous. Women of all ages and of all degrees of crime, some subjects for the Alms-House, charged with no crime, some fit for the Lunatic Asylum, and others who have taken refuge from destitution and exposure, are all commingled in one mass, corrupt and corrupting. Girls are every day to be found in the midst of the vilest and most hardened offenders; and some of these girls are those who have, from various causes, entered the prison comparatively innocent. Some of them are paupers, and many are subjects for the House of Refuge.

One dreadful evil of this prison is, that, from the fact of there being but one matron, the women are, most of them during the day, and all of them during the night, subject to the control of male keepers, who are too often entirely unfit for their duties.

CAROLINE M. KIRKLAND.

Extracts from some of the letters received from those who have left the Home for places provided by the Committee.

From A. B., (once considered almost a hopeless subject.)

November 7. 1846. * * * I must now say something about my place. I feel more contented than I did. I am living in one of the best families there is. The house is all open to my hand. They go out and leave me home to do as I please. I have not seen a key since I came here. The old lady is like our good friend Mrs. G.—, she is so good herself, she thinks everybody is good about her. I did not forget to speak about a place for you. I spoke to Mrs. F.—, about you, the very first day I was here, and found all the neighbors had hired for the winter, but there will be places in the spring, and Mrs. F.— says she will get you a place then. O! you will be delighted with this part of the country. Give my love to Miss Wood, and tell her how I like my place.

and every time I dress or undress I think of her, for I see the good warm skirt she gave me. I feel very thankful to Miss Wood for being so kind to me. Give my love to our good friend Mrs. G.—, and tell her I am much obliged to her for writing to me, and I will try to improve the good advice she sent me.

Farwell—whatever be my lot.

While feeling burrs within my breast,
Although by these perils wrought,
On these remembrance oft will rest.

Your true friend,

A. B.

NORTH SALEM, October 11th, 1846.

DEAR LADIES:—It is now nearly two months since I left the Home, and I should have written before, but I have had such a bad time with a complaint, only for the kind people with whom I live. If my health remains good, my wages is six shillings a week. I see my little girl often; she staid with me all night last night; she is as happy as she can be, and grows very fast; she knits and I experience at present. I hope you will let Mrs. T.— know that I feel next summer, she will learn that you her; but I hope when she comes up here prolation of her and all those who have been kind to interest themselves in my welfare. I should like so much to hear how all the ladies are. Give my love to Mrs. G.—, and the Miss S.—'s. I think of them very often, and consider some years ago for 'twas then I became restored to my senses, and knew that I could be something else besides a low drunkard. Remember me kindly to your inmates, and send me word how many you have got at present. God bless you all, and make you all happy. Mary Ann sends her love to Mrs. T.—, and thanks her for the gloves she sent her. Good-bye.

Yours, respectfully,

July 24th, 1846.

DEAR FRIEND:—I arrived home on Friday, the 10th; they were all glad to see me at home once more with them; when I told them of your kindness to you, and all of my kind friends. I have had the asthma a great part of the time here to cheer me. Brother will send you the money you lent me, in the next letter. I told him you gave me ten dollars, and that I borrowed five dollars all thankful to Dr. Hopper for his kindness to me when I was sick. I return my thanks to you and Dr. Hopper and Isaac T. Hopper, and all the ladies.

MY DEAR AND MUCH ESTEEMED FRIEND:

You will, I am sure, long before this reaches you, have considered me both neglectful, and charged me with base ingratitude. But I feel confident, when I inform my dear friend how I have been situated, and what has transpired this idea I will proceed. * * * [Then follows an account of her meeting with particularly fortunate that I was at home, they being all engaged in their several pursuits. For my part I could see the finger of Providence in all. Well, the sale over, I was a considerable time before I got settled in my new habitation. As it will be some time before Mr. Cube's father's affairs will be

drawn to a close, and my home being delightfully situated about a mile from Cabel's mother's residence, a little in the country, and feeling it to be better for me to spend my time in some useful employment, I opened a school, and have now so far succeeded as to obtain fifteen pupils—young ladies from ten to fifteen years of age. This is my first quarter, and I anticipate the next quarter: I shall double the number. Oh! how often do I wish my dear friend could see me in my most improved situation. I know, to use her own words, she would "rejoice to see my prosperity." And now, by the way, on showing my mother the Bible, and reading her the tale inclosed therein, she appeared better pleased than if you had presented her with a hundred dollars, and desired me, when than if you had presented her to thank you on her behalf, and your family for the kindness and hospitality shown to me while in America. For my own part, never will my life last be erased from my memory the profuse trainings of yourself and received at your hands, and the anxious sollicitude she and sympathy of yourself and the ladies. Say to your father that I have got his name framed and glazed, and fixed up in my best parlor opposite to my dear mother's. Gratefully remember me to your brother, the doctor, thank him for his kindness professionally while at the Home. I trust he will not be "weary in well-doing," having a promise that "in due season he shall reap if he faint not." I trust you will not retaliate, seeing at once how I have been employed, but that I shall speedily, at your first convenience, receive an answer. Meanwhile believe me when I subscribe myself,

Yours, obediently,

B—— came to the Home last winter as subject as ever presented herself for admission at its doors. She had left Blackwell's in a snow-storm, miserably clad, and had wandered through the streets for hours, distracted and half frozen in search of one of the Committee. She at length succeeded in finding one, and procured a permit. Her conduct for the five months she remained at the Home was exemplary.

Fourteen years ago, she came to this country with her husband, who, in a short time became shockingly intemperate and unable to support his family. Enduring for years all the suffering that may be imagined from hard and incessant labor, ill treatment, and the loss of all her children, she became disheartened, and fell into the same loathsome habit, and for a slight fault, while intoxicated, was committed to Blackwell's. Her description of the honor she most touching, when she first found herself within a prison's walls was like being; energy Fortunately, the moral disease had not paralyzed her whole being; she enough remained to rouse her to effort; and how well the good resolutions she then made have been kept, may be inferred from the following letter:—

September 30th, 1846.

DEAR MRS. F——: * * * * I should have written before, but was in hopes to have sent the money by some private opportunity, and now send but three dollars, feeling to trust more to the mails; but when I go to New York on the 1st of December, you may be assured I will not rest until it is all paid. I am perfectly contented in the family where I now am. Mrs. R——, (the lady,) and all have treated me with kindness; the baby is a sweet child; I love it and immediately visited her. Their own doctor was kindly sent to consult with the regular physician, and a clergyman was introduced, who continued to visit her during her illness.

No more at present from your affectionate friend.

She subsequently paid the remainder.

A death occurred at the Home a few days since, so full of melancholy interest and deep monition, that it cannot be past by silently.

At an early age, by the death of her mother, R—— was left to the sole care of an intemperate and tyrannical father. As he was exceedingly poor, a service place was procured for the child as soon as she was able to work. Her employers were kind, and became much attached to her; but her father, urging religious scruples, literally tore her from her comfortable house and her only real friends.

Her next place was in the country. She was then 16, and possessed—luckless dowry for a poor girl—beauty. Under the most favorable circumstances, what is the moral strength of sixteen? With only fitful gleams of moral or intellectual light, and with no warning voice to whisper of inevitable consequences, is it strange that her unwary feet were caught in the tempter's toils. This cruel blighter of innocence was her employer's son. The deep devotion with which he had inspired her, was proved by her afterward following him—alone and unprotected—to one of the Eastern States, where he had been sent to college. Her timidity probably prevented her from inquiring for him, so she wandered round the building in hopes of meeting him, until weary and discouraged at her fruitless search, she procured a service place. Some circumstances in the conduct of the girl induced the person with whom she engaged to make particular inquiries respecting her past life. With the confidings of her age she disclosed all. The young gentleman was immediately summoned and confronted with his victim. What could he do to repair the ruin which his heartlessness had made? Nothing but give her money—money to pay for a life of misery and degradation!—desire her to go to New York, and if at a future time she should need pecuniary assistance, to call on a friend of his who would aid her. Her labor for some time prevented the necessity of an application, and when driven by extreme destitution to solicit the proffered aid, the insults she received made her keenly feel the depth of degradation to which she had fallen. These followed dark years of intemperance and pollution, till at length the haunts of infamy were exchanged for a prison's walls.

Why, why will woman feel that, having once fallen, she must ever after lick the dust? Though she lose her way in a dark and tangled wilderness, let her not cast herself despairingly upon the thorns and brambles, but, looking upward for Heaven's light, seek once more to gain the clear and open path. Surely one fall, one wandering cannot extinguish all the energies of the soul, crush the deep affections of the heart, and so paralyze the victim that unresistingly she shall suffer circumstances to chain her forever to the earth. Spirits of an immortal destiny, children of an Almighty Father, how can ye so distrust the power He has given you to resist and conquer?

Strong resolves, true courage, loyalty to one's self, and Heaven will subdue circumstances; and though many, very many, glances of contempt and words of reproach may wound and discourage, many, many, more cheering looks, and helping hands, and loving hearts will encourage and sustain.

During the last winter a frequent visitor at the prison became interested in R——, and when she left it, procured her admission at the Home.

When she entered in her air was languid and she had a bad cough, which soon increased and indicated the presence of that insidious, invisible enemy of human life, consumption.

The poor creature was not quite alone in this bright, glorious, and happy world—bright, glorious and happy to those whose virtuous resolutions and noble purposes have been so cherished in youth by holy influences, that no seeds of corruption are sown to embitter age. She had a blind brother, whose regular attendance at church attracted the notice of a benevolent family. They invited him to their house, inquired into his circumstances, heard of his sick sister, and immediately visited her. Their own doctor was kindly sent to consult with the regular physician, and a clergyman was introduced, who continued to visit her during her illness.

To prevent having her sent to the Hospital, one of the daughters agreed to pay her board at the Home, furnished her room, and supplied the little comforts

so necessary in sickness. It was touching to see the earliest spring violets on the little table beside her bed.

She was confined to her bed but a few months, and throughout her illness was exceedingly patient and gentle; unwilling to give trouble, and grateful for the least attention. No reproaches ever passed her lips, but a deep conviction of her own delinquencies seemed to possess her mind.

Her generous friend had given her a prayer-book, which, as long as she had strength, she appeared to take much pleasure in reading. Her expressions indicated a mind at peace with all the world, full of trust and hope in the Unseen and Eternal.

This is but a bare relation of facts. No picture has been attempted of the invisible world of thought and feeling, of that inward struggle which eye hath not seen, nor ear heard, and which hath not entered into any mind to conceive, but those which have passed through the same strife, covered with defeat and disgrace.

And where is the author of this moral devastation?—Rich in academical honors, has he taken his place at the bar, or in the pulpit? Youthful *indiscretion* would be no obstruction to future respectability and eminence. The act which threw a passing shadow over *his* fame, darkened *her* whole existence. Such is man's justice! Thank Heaven, not God's!

The Prison Association of New York, in account current with Gustava A. Worth, Treasurer.

Dr.		Cr.	
1845		1846	
Dec. 22	To Cash paid appropriation to Discharged Convicts To Isaac T. Hopper, salary one year, \$625 00 Disbursements at the Office, . . . 879 41 Rent of Office one year, . . . 137 50 To Cash paid, for fuel, wages, . . . 66 00 To Cash paid, for rent, to Pensioners, . . . 66 00 To Cash paid, for salary, to Pensioners, . . . 337 11 To Cash paid, for salary of Geo. E. Baker, Agent, . . . 504 00 To Cash paid appropriation to Female Home, . . . 506 43 To pay debts 154 00 One year's rent to 1st November, \$359 00 To Cash paid appropriation for expenses of printing charter, 552 79 To Cash paid approp. for printing second annual Report, advertising, paper, and printing blanks, 33 24 To Cash paid W. C. Russell, ac ^t for books and stationery, 106 63 To Cash paid appropriation to Committee for Young Prisoners, 632 72 To Cash paid appropriation to Finance Com. for salary and expenses to Charles Parker, 40 00 To Cash paid approp. for Anniversary expenses, 10 92 To Balance to new account, \$3903 50	Dec. 5	By Balance due Association from old account, . . . \$31 20
	\$1479 70	Jan. 27	By appropriation for Anniversary, now returned to general account 25 81
		Dec. 22	By Subscriptions and Donations received during the year 3874 46
			\$3903 59
			\$10 92

Dec. 22 By Balance due Ass. this day from old account,
SHEPHERD RUSSELL, } Auditing Committee.
PROFESSOR M. WETMORE, }

The above account of the Treasurer has been examined, compared with the correct and corrected accounts, and correct.
New York, December 22, 1846. (E. E.)

LIST OF DONORS—MALE DEPARTMENT.

Honorary Life Members of the Executive Committee, by payment of One Hundred Dollars and upwards.

Boorman, James	Crosby, William B.	Parker, Charles
Brown, James	Minturn, Robert B.	Perkins, Rev. G. W. Conn.

Life Members of the Association, by the payment of Twenty-five Dollars and upwards.

Alosp, J. W.	Grosvener, Jasper	Paruly, E.
Aspinwall, William H.	Hedges, Timothy	Rav, Robert
Astor, William B.	Herrick, J. E.	Rhineland, Wm. C.
Austen, David	Howland, G. G.	Rosevelt, C. V. S.
Barron, Thomas	Howland, S. S.	Russell, Israel
Benzon, Edmund L.	Langdon, Mrs.	Schermerhorn, Peter
Blanco, R.	Hunt, Thomas	Selden, Dudley
Bridge, Lewis K.	Johnston, John	Sherman, Austin
Bruce, George	James, James J.	Stuges, Jonathan
Butler, Benjamin F.	Langdon, Mrs.	Talbot, Charles N.
Chauncey, Henry	Leupp, Charles M.	Van Nest, Abraham
Curtiss, Cyrus	Lord, Rufus L.	Wetmore, Prosper M.
Daly, Charles P.	Lorillard, Jr., Peter	Whitney, Stephen
Douglas, William	McBride, James	Wilmerding, Wm. E.
Duer, John	McCoon, William T.	Woolsey, E. J.
Edmonds, John W.	Morgan, M.	Andrews, Rev. Mr. Troy,
Field, B. H.	Murray, Lindley	Beman, Rev. Dr. Troy,
Field, H. W.	Newell, William	Bureld, H. Sutabroy, Her-
Foster, Jr. James	Norrie, A.	kimner county.
Green, John C.	Olyphant, D. W. C.	Packer, W. S. Brooklyn, L. I.

Subscriptions and Donations from December 7, 1845, to December 22, 1846.

Adams & Co.	\$5	Bronson, Mrs. Arthur	\$5	Cash,	\$6
Adee, G. T.	10	Bruce, George	5	Cash,	10
Agnew, William	5	Back, Wm. J.	5	Cash,	15
A. H. W.	10	Buckley, Thomas	10	Cash,	10
Allen, H.	5	Buckingham, O.	1	Cash,	5
Alosp, J. W.	5	Bull, William G.	15	Cash,	5
Angell, Job	5	Bussing, E. & J.	5	Cash,	5
Astor, Wm. B.	20	Butler, Charles	5	Cash,	5
Austen, David	25	Butler, B. F.	25	Cash,	6
Baker, A. S.	2	Canham, O. J.	5	Cash,	5
Banyer, Mrs.	20	Carter, Joseph	2	Cash,	10
Barron, Thomas	25	Cary, S. T.	5	Cash,	10
Bardoll, Edwin	20	Cary, Wm. F.	5	Cash,	10
Bard, William	2	C. & S. (Astor House)	5	Cash,	10
Beairst, Dr.	5	Cash, H.	5	Cash,	10
Bebee & Brother	5	Cash,	5	Cash,	5
Beers, J. D.	5	Cash, B. C.	5	Cash,	5
Belknap, A. B.	3	Cash, H.	5	Cash,	5
Blanco, R. for workhouse	25	Cash,	3	Cash,	3
Bliss, Mr.	10	Cash, J. G.	25	Cash,	5
Boker, Herman	3	Cash,	1	Cash,	5
Bowen & Co. Samuel	20	Cash,	1	Cash,	5
Brady, James T.	30	Cash,	7	Cash,	10
Brevort, H.	20	Cash,	1	Cash, J. C.	5
Breithaupt, P. A.	5	Cash,	5	Cash, Mrs. L.	25
Bridge, Lewis K.	50	Cash,	3	Cash,	5
Brown, James	5	Cash,	3	Cash,	3
Brown, Silas	5	Cash,	5	Cash, C. N.	10
Brown, David	5	Cash,	5	Cash, S. C.	10
Browne, Geo. W.	5	Cash,	5	Cash,	10

Cash,	\$10	Hilger & Co.	\$4	Olyphant, D. W. C.	\$25
Cash,	3	Hitchcock,	5	Outbott, John	20
Cash,	10	Howland, Pelep, & Co.	10	Outbott, Wm.	10
Cash,	5	Hoffman, L. M.	5	Owen, James	5
Cash,	5	Houe, Philip	20	Palmer, J. J.	20
Cash,	1	Hopper, Isaac T.	2	Parker, Cha's (byfriend)	100
Cash,	5	Hopper, John	2	Parmy, E.	5
Chauncey, Henry	25	How, C. W.	5	Parmy, J.	10
Chichester, Abner	5	How, B. W.	5	Parsons & Lawrence	5
Cobb, James N.	5	Howland & Aspinwall,	100	Pattison & Co. G.	5
Collis, James	20	Hunt, Freeman	5	Pell, Alfred	5
Cook, Jr. Zebedee	25	Hunt, Thomas	25	Phelps & Dodge	25
Crosby, J. P.	5	Irvine, Richard	10	Polton, G.	15
Curtis, G.	5	Jay, John	25	Ray, Robert	25
Curtiss, Cyrus	25	Jay, Miss	20	Reed, Richard	2
Daly, C. P.	13	J. H. A.	5	Richards & Cronkrite	5
Davenport, Abner	25	Johnson, H. (U. S. Hotel)	5	Rifer, E. T. J.	5
Day, Mahlon	5	Johnston, John	75	Rhineland, W. C.	25
Demilt, Miss	20	Johnson, O.	5	Rhobbs, D. C.	5
Delmarco, L.	5	Jones, James J.	25	Rogers, C. H.	5
Demunston & Co.	25	Kennedy, Brees & Samp-	5	Ronan, Mrs.	15
Demunston, jr. C.	5	son	25	Rosevelt, C. V. S.	25
Domnick, James W.	5	Keat, James	5	Ruggles, Samuel B.	15
Douglass, William	50	Keyser, J. H.	5	Russell, Wm. C.	2
Draper, S.	5	King, J. G.	10	Sabine, G. A. M.D.	5
Duer, John	25	Knapp, Shepherd	5	Saltus, F.	10
Easton, N. W.	5	Langley, W. C.	5	Sampson & Co. J.	25
Edwards, Alfred	5	Lathrop, F. S. & Co.	5	Schermerhorn, Peter	25
Ellis, Benjamin	2	Lawrence, J.	10	Sands & Co. A. B.	10
Ely, Charles	5	Legett, W. H. (F. Home)	10	Schieffelin, S. A.	5
Engl. P. W.	5	LeRoy, H.	10	Schieffelin, S. B.	5
Field, H. W.	25	LeRoy, Mr.	20	Schieffelin, H. M.	5
Field, B. H.	10	LeRoy, Jacob N.	5	Schellin, J.	20
Volger, B. H.	10	Lester & Co.	5	Scott, Wm. B.	5
Foster, jr. James	25	Long & Davenport	5	Sedgwick, T.	5
For, A. N.	5	Lord, Rufus L.	25	Selden, Dudley	25
Fox & Livingston	5	McBride, James	20	Sherrin, Jr. Peter	20
Frelinghoyzen, Theodore	5	Manning, R. H.	5	Snylie, W. C.	5
Gibbons, James S.	2	Marsh, James	20	Spencer, M.	20
Gilson, John	20	Masson, J.	5	Spencer, Wm. A.	20
Gironox, Mr.	5	McCracken, J. L. H.	10	Stacy & Co.	5
Grant, J. A.	5	McCurdy, Aldrich & Spen-	5	Stanton & Frost	5
Grant & Barton,	10	cer	10	Stevens, J. A.	5
Gordon & Talbot	10	Mer, Mrs. Gabriel	10	Stevens, B. K.	5
Guarile, J. H.	5	Middleton, T. D.	5	Swayland, M. & L	5
Haggerty, O.	5	Minturn, Robert B.	50	Swift, E.	5
Hall, Francis	10	Monroe, James	5	Swift & Hurbit	10
Hale & Hallock,	10	Morgan, M.	25	Sturges, Jonathan	25
Halsey & Co. Wm.	5	Hallett, W. F.	5	Stuart, J. & J. & Co.	10
Hammesley, J. W.	5	Morse, N. B.	5	Talbot, C. N.	25
Hanson, Samuel G.	20	Murray, Lindley	25	Tappan, E. A.	2
Harrison, E.	2	Naylor & Co	50	Tekampf, J. L.	2
Hastack & Co.	5	Nelson, Wm.	20	Thayer, T. Theodore	2
Harmony, Nephews & Co.	25	Nevins, R. H.	20	Thayer, T. B. Brooklyn	2
Hastings, George	5	Newbold & Cruf	3	Tredwell, A.	5
Harvey, J.	5	Newbold, George	5	Tuttle, C.	10
Hart, J.	5	Newell, Wm.	20	Twoedy, Edmund	20
Hedges, Timothy	25	Noble, J.	10	Twoedy, O. B.	5
Hendricks, Mrs.	20	Noel, C. N.	5	Underhill, J. S.	5
Hendricks, Misses	5	Norrie, A.	25	Van Nest, Abm.	25
Herdor, S. D.	5	Oakley, D.	5	Vanwright, E.	10
Herrick, J. E.	5	O'Conner, M. J.	5	Walsh, Dr.	2
Hicks, John M.	5	Ogden, J. D. P.	15	Walsh & Mallory	10