

SPECIAL MESSAGE.

STATE OF IOWA, }  
EXECUTIVE DEPARTMENT, }  
Des MOINES, February 23, 1876. }

*Gentlemen of the Senate and House of Representatives:*

I herewith transmit for your consideration, a communication from the Prison-Labor Commissioners touching the contracts for prison-labor, and the prices for such labor.

It is evident that if this labor cannot be let at the prices now fixed by law, authority should be given to let it at such prices as can be had, or it must remain unemployed unless some provision be made under which it can be used by the State.

I suggest the inquiry whether a greater amount of labor may not be profitably employed at the prison at Anamosa.

SAMUEL J. KIRKWOOD.

## COMMISSIONERS' REPORT.

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*To the Governor and Executive Council of the State of Iowa:*

We the undersigned, commissioners for leasing the convict-labor in the State Penitentiary at Fort Madison, would respectfully represent to your honorable body as follows, viz:

*First.*—That in consequence of the recent failure of O. B. Dodge, one of the contractors in said prison, working one hundred and fifty men, said men are now again in the hands of the State to be so let.

*Second.*—Upon the most diligent inquiry on the part of your commissioners, and the warden, with this purpose in view, we meet with no encouragement at the present price fixed by statute for such labor.

*Third.*—Upon further inquiry we find that convict-labor in other States is now being employed to only a limited extent, and that recent lettings are made at greatly reduced rates, to wit: At Auburn, New York, men have been let at forty cents per day, and many more are to be had there at the same price. At Jackson, Michigan, in the last report of the "Inspectors of the State Prison," they say "hard times on the outside of the prison have had their effect upon the inside. "Within this year there has been no demand for convict-labor, and no "opportunities to contract it."

*Fourth.*—At the Missouri State Prison they have, out of 1,300 convicts, only 380 contracted for, and those at an average of 42½ cents per day, including much machinery as well as shops. The remaining 900 being idle, and which they propose to lease and "make the time to suit contractors," and to generally accommodate them if they will only visit their prison. The shops are large and commodious, larger we think, four fold, than any we have to offer.

*Fifth.*—At the Southern Indiana Prison the contractors, with a cash capital of \$25,000, have gone into bankruptcy, losing not only their capital but being otherwise largely indebted. In consequence of this failure all the men in this prison are at the present time idle, and are to be let at the best offer made.

*Sixth.*—We desire to state to you that the creditors of the bankrupt contractors in our prison made up a fund of \$80,000 for the purpose of continuing the business, but upon learning that the price for labor was sixty cents per day they at once declined going any further, and solely for the reason, as stated to us, that the same service could be had at the East for two-thirds the amount we demanded.

*Seventh.*—Would also beg to inform you that one of the present contracting firms in our prison, working fifty men, have stated to us that to save a portion of their means they must "throw up their contract," otherwise they will lose their all, unless a reduction on price of labor can be had.

In view of the above facts we think the best interests of the State require a modification of the act of the Fifteenth General Assembly so as to fix the price per day for each convict at what would be a fair price, taking into consideration the price such labor commands in other prisons in connection with the facilities in shop room, storage room and machinery furnished.

What would be a just reduction and what steps shall be taken to secure it we leave for your Excellency and Executive Council to determine. We would however suggest that in case the State fixes a lower price per day than sixty cents the law should apply to the contracts now in force; otherwise these contractors would throw up their contracts and thus put the State to additional expense.

Respectfully submitted,

H. W. CARTWRIGHT,  
J. W. CAMPBELL,

*Prison Labor Committee*

I endorse the above.

J. A. T. HULL.

[TELEGRAPH DISPATCH.]

KEOKUK, IOWA, February 22, 1876.

Received at DES MOINES, IOWA, February 22, at 11 A. M., 1876.

*To Gov. Sam'l J. Kirkwood, Aborn House:*

Please withhold your message in reference to convict labor, as I have received propositions for leasing the same, and which will be explained to you by Senator Rothert on his arrival Thursday morning

JAMES W. CAMPBELL.

PATTERSON HOUSE, KEOKUK, IOWA, February 22, 1876.

*To Excellency Gov. Kirkwood and Executive Council:*

DEAR SIR:—I enclose the proposition of Huiskamp Bros., which will explain my dispatch of to-day. They are men of wealth and rated as the most reliable men in southern Iowa. If the general assembly think proper to amend the present law relating to prison labor, I have no hesitation in saying, all the unemployed convicts will be speedily let.

Yours, truly,

JAMES W. CAMPBELL.

OFFICE OF HUISKAMP BROS., KEOKUK, IOWA, Feb. 22, 1876.

*To the Executive Council, State of Iowa:*

GENTLEMEN:—The undersigned beg leave to make the following proposition for the purpose of leasing convict labor, viz

We propose to take twenty-five (25) convicts for the purpose of employing them in the manufacture of boots and shoes, on or about the fifteenth day of March, 1876, with the privilege of taking, from time to time, as we may require them, seventy-five (75) additional convicts. The price to be paid for said labor to be not more than fifty (50) cents per day.

The above proposition to be based upon an agreement to be entered into with the commissioners and to be subject to the approval of the Executive Council at the time of leasing the convict labor here above mentioned.

Very respectfully, your obedient servants,

HUISKAMP BROS.

## STATEMENT.

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OFFICE OF AUDITOR OF STATE, }  
DES MOINES, March 1, 1876. }

HON. JNO. H. GEAR, *Speaker of the House of Representatives:*

SIR:—In compliance with the resolution adopted by the House of Representatives this day, I have the honor to submit the following statement showing the several amounts heretofore appropriated and expended for the use of the Iowa State Agricultural College and the Iowa State University, respectively.

Very respectfully,

BUREN R. SHERMAN,

*Auditor of State.*

## APPROPRIATIONS FOR IOWA STATE UNIVERSITY.

Year.	Chapter.	Section.	FOR WHAT PURPOSE APPROPRIATED.	Amount
1858	41	1	For building and repairs.....	\$ 13,000
1864	78	1	For building.....	20,000
1866	84	2, 3, 4	For building and improvements.....	21,000
1868	23	1	For repairs and aid to scientific departments.....	20,000
1870	30	1	For support.....	25,000
1872	68	1	For increase of salaries, improvements, &c.....	52,300
1874	65	1	For support.....	46,000
1890	Revision	of		
1864	Code.	of	For trustees' mileage.....	9,281
Total for all purposes.....				\$206,681

## APPROPRIATIONS FOR IOWA STATE AGRICULTURAL COLLEGE AND FARM.

Year.	Chapter.	Section.	FOR WHAT PURPOSE.	Amount
1858	91	12	For the purchase of land.....	\$ 10,000.00
1864	62	1	For a permanent building.....	20,000.00
1866	112	1	For the completion of the building and to pay off indebtedness.....	91,000.00
1868	81	1	For out-buildings and improvements.....	37,750.00
1868	177	1	For building.....	10,000.00
1870	118	1	For building, improvements and repairs.....	68,500.00
1872	118	1	For building and improvements.....	38,500.00
1874	43	1	For repairs and furniture.....	3,500.00
1874	Revision	of	For Physical Laboratory building.....	25,000.00
1874	Code	of	For trustees' mileage and per diem.....	15,463.55
1890		1873		
Total for all purposes.....				\$319,713.55

SPECIAL MESSAGE.

STATE OF IOWA, EXECUTIVE DEPARTMENT, }  
Des Moines, March 10, 1876. }

*To the Senate and House of Representatives :*

I transmit herewith copies of a petition for, and a remonstrance against, the pardon of Lewis Weirich, convicted at the March term, 1873, of the District Court in and for the county of Harrison, of the crime of murder in the first degree, and sentenced, upon such conviction, to the Penitentiary of the State for life, which sentence he is now undergoing in the Penitentiary at Fort Madison.

Under the provisions of section 4712 of the Code, I cannot grant a pardon in this case, until after I "have presented the matter to, and 'obtained the 'advice' thereon 'of the General Assembly.'" I therefore transmit these papers to you, that you make such recommendation, or take such action in the matter, as in your judgment may seem proper.

SAMUEL J. KIRKWOOD.

PETITION.

COUNCIL BLUFFS, IOWA, Nov. 27, 1875.

*Hon. C. C. Carpenter, Governor of Iowa :*

DEAR SIR :—Inclosed please find petition for the pardon of Lewis Weirich. He was convicted of murder in the first degree, and this application must go to the legislature.

Please take the necessary steps to bring it before the next General Assembly.

Yours truly,

SAPP & LYMAN.

PETITION FOR PARDON.

STATE OF IOWA, EXECUTIVE DEPARTMENT, }  
DES MOINES, November 29, 1875. }

Notice is hereby given, in accordance with section 4712 of the Code, that application has been made to the Governor of the State of Iowa, for the pardon of Lewis Weirich, convicted at the March term, 1873, of the District Court in and for Harrison county, of the crime of murder in the first degree, and sentenced to the Penitentiary of the State for life ; and the following reasons assigned therefor :

1. His wife Mrs. Mary Weirich, " has no means of support except her own labor, and her health is feeble."
2. As Mrs. Weirich is informed " the confinement of the prison is injuring the health of her husband, and must shorten his life."
3. Weirich " was convicted of killing one Stephen Ide, who was a large, powerful man," while Weirich " is a small, weak one, and was acting, as he verily believed, in self-defence."
4. Weirich, as Mrs. Weirich believes, struck Ide with no intention of killing him, but because he feared Ide was about to inflict great bodily injury on him."

5. "The demands of justice have already been fully met."
6. "Humanity to the prisoner and his family demands that he should be pardoned."

By order of the Governor.

WM. H. FLEMING, *Private Secretary.*

The above was published in the Harrison County *Courier*, Dec. 2d, 9th, 13th, and 20th, 1875.

*To His Excellency, the Hon. C. C. Carpenter, Governor of Iowa:*

The undersigned would respectfully represent that she is the wife of Lewis Weirich, who, at the March term, 1873, of the District Court of Iowa, in and for Harrison county, was convicted of the crime of murder in the first degree, and sentenced to the State Penitentiary of Iowa for life. The undersigned now respectfully asks that her said husband may be pardoned, and assigns the following reasons for this application:

1. She has no means of support except by her own labor, and her health is feeble.
2. As she is informed, the confinement of the prison is injuring the health of her husband, and must shorten his life.
3. Her husband was convicted for killing one Stephen Ide, who was a large, powerful man, while her husband is a small, weak one, and was acting, as verily believed, in self-defence.
4. Her husband, as she believes, struck Ide with no intention of killing him, but because he feared Ide was about to inflict great bodily injury on him.
5. The demands of justice have already been fully met.
6. Humanity to the prisoner and his family demand that he should be pardoned.

Respectfully submitted,

MARY WEIRICH.

We, the undersigned, respectfully recommend that the pardon above asked for be granted.

Henry Ford, Judge (trying the case, James a Lusk, Logan.  
Sioux City. Thos. P. Freynor, P. M. Council Bluffs.  
A. L. Harney, Magnolia, Iowa. J. R. Reed, District Judge, 13th Dis-  
J. A. Boies, Magnolia, Iowa. trict.

Phineas Cadwell, Magnolio, Iowa.	George Doughty, Sheriff.
H. K. McJunkin, Dist.-Attorney 13th Judicial Dist.	R. T. Bryant, Clerk District Court.
R. L. Douglass, Ex. Cir. Judge 3d Judicial District.	F. H. Warren, Dep. Clerk Dist. Court.
W. C. James.	J. L. Evans.
Thomas Officer.	E. W. Davenport.
N. P. Dodge.	I. Farnsworth.
A. W. Street.	F. B. Hart.
Charles B. Jacquemin.	C. R. Scott.
W. H. M. Pusey.	William A. Mynster.
C. Baldwin.	Jacob Williams, Editor Daily Globe.
S. P. Casady.	Spencer Smith, Sec. and Treas. Nonpariel Printing Co.
L. W. Ross.	S. M. Moorhead, Editor Daily Nonpariel.
John H. Keatley.	E. L. Shugart.
P. Reil.	I. & C. Ceatum.
Josph Moss.	E. S. Barnett.
E. B. Bowman.	W. F. Sapp.
J. M. Casady.	J. Lyman.

## REMONSTRANCE.

*To His Excellency, C. C. CARPENTER, Governor of Iowa:*

We, the undersigned, residents and citizens of Harrison county, and State of Iowa, respectfully remonstrate against the release of one Lewis Weirich, now confined in the Penitentiary of this State for the murder of one Stephen Ide, of said county in the year 1872, on the following grounds:

1st. The said Weirich was ably defended in his trial, and found guilty by a jury of his countrymen.

2d. He is a dangerous man, and his release would endanger the lives of some of our best citizens, against whom he has made violent and persistent threats.

3d. He (Weirich) attempted to take the life of one Isaac George, a resident of this county, and inflicted on George a very dangerous wound with a large and heavy knife *a short time before he killed Ide*.

4th. The time of confinement has not been long enough to vindicate the law.

5th. To release Weirich at this time would be licensing crime, and encourage others to commit like offenses.

1 L. R. Bolter.	16 J. R. Sprinkle.
2 H. G. Myers.	17 M. H. Goodnough.
3 J. C. Milliman.	18 T. E. Carrin.
4 H. S. Milliman.	19 J. E. Terrell.
5 Abnar Stern.	20 P. E. Cromer.
6 John W. Wool.	21 James K. Horgedon.
7 A. N. McCoid.	22 Thomas A. Marrie.
8 James McCoid.	23 Thomas McGrew.
9 Albert Vandehoof.	24 James Rategan.
10 A. J. Norman.	25 J. N. Bolter.
11 C. C. Cole.	26 James A. Lusk.
12 Wm. Gedding.	27 R. Yeisley.
13 C. L. Spronse.	28 T. L. Canfield. [bing done.
14 J. W. Rudd.	29 W. J. Popejoy, [ I saw the stab-
15 W. T. Rudd.	30 N. H. Vanaisdale, Grand Juror.

31 F. M. Sprinkle.	77 T. E. Brannan, Att'y for Deft.
32 N. G. Myers.	78 R. Musser.
33 D. Kerkendall.	79 W. C. Popejoy.
24 H. Watters.	80 L. Wilson.
35 Damon E. Wells.	81 Thomas Wilkins.
36 Charles R. Young.	82 Henry Fox.
37 Nathan McCord.	83 Frank Berry.
38 G. B. Cadwell.	84 E. Milliman.
39 J. H. Stewart.	85 Louis Bindermuth.
40 L. F. Lopet.	86 D. D. Vose.
41 F. H. Mills.	87 Perry Conkerd.
42 Thomas J. Popejoy.	88 J. A. Perry.
43 E. Towsend.	89 E. R. Tekenpany.
44 Nettie Vaughn.	90 G. W. Wilson.
45 W. N. Palmer.	91 Lowery Wilson.
46 B. F. Comstock.	92 N. D. Barnes.
47 J. McCord.	93 John Williams.
48 G. B. Seckell.	94 R. Barges.
49 J. W. Stocker.	95 G. T. Kennedy.
50 John Noyes, Foreman of Petit	96 S. H. Lewis.
51 James Pritchel.	97 E. S. McKenney.
52 Floyd Mitchel.	98 Columbus Summers.
53 I. B. McCurdy.	99 Nicholas Monser.
54 C. R. Zimbuting.	100 L. Tietsart.
55 Peter Brady.	101 George Musgrove.
56 W. P. Copeland.	102 D. W. Kenedy.
57 Henry Hand.	103 S. Mills.
58 A. Longman, Jr.	104 T. C. Case.
59 W. B. Riddle.	105 P. E. Vore.
60 Albert Vandusen.	106 C. Vanorsdale.
61 Samuel Jack.	107 P. E. Vaughn.
62 Malon Holton.	108 W. H. Rogers.
63 C. S. Parker.	109 W. T. Pugh.
64 J. C. Crambee.	110 C. T. Kenney.
65 S. D. Parker.	111 S. R. Thatcher.
66 J. R. Richardson.	112 A. S. Headler.
67 Isaac Walters.	113 Ruben King.
68 J. B. McArshur.	114 E. H. Brady.
69 John Norman.	115 N. S. Gordon.
70 I. O. Carson.	116 J. F. Prater.
71 John Vare.	117 Samuel McGower.
72 Daniel Cook.	118 W. H. Eaton.
73 A. M. Randall.	119 J. W. Read.
74 Lewis Walter.	120 Jas. Langman.
75 J. Q. Joby.	121 J. F. Hull.
76 P. C. Kemmish.	122 T. J. Hunter.

123 Frances R. Yerson.	153 James R. Wilson.
124 O. Norman.	154 Samuel Telbert.
125 James C. Warrington.	155 Squire F. Case.
126 B. Kellogg.	156 B. C. Adams.
127 C. N. Hadwell.	157 James Shaw.
128 J. J. Mitchell.	158 Josephus Copeland.
129 B. A. Dindbey.	159 J. J. Peterson.
130 Jerre H. Howland.	160 T. B. McKenney.
131 S. Bradwell.	161 Charley McKenney.
132 C. C. Jewell.	162 D. A. Little.
133 Harry Rider.	163 W. White.
134 J. E. Rockwood.	164 Mrs. H. H. McKenney, Daughter of deceased Ide.
135 I. L. Doane.	
136 A. P. Watson.	165 H. H. McKenney.
137 David Longshore.	166 Anson Smith.
138 Alfred Longman.	167 George W. Brady.
139 L. D. Holdon.	168 C. H. Holmes.
140 J. W. Holdon.	169 James D. Rogers.
141 J. A. McKenney.	170 George Chris.
142 M. L. Daken.	171 Cyrus Knight.
143 J. A. Watring.	172 D. L. Brady.
144 J. M. Kennedy.	173 Levi Rider.
145 N. B. Handy.	174 W. T. Clenenger.
146 Levi Brown.	175 T. A. Colton.
147 Jno. N. Chen.	176 J. H. Grayson.
148 Wm. Dickenson.	177 J. M. Jeffers.
149 S. F. Fry.	178 Caleb Gregg.
150 Addison Young.	179 M. F. Little, Grand Juror.
151 Hiram Smith.	180 T. A. Holeton.
152 William Pelt.	

The above names were obtained in the town of Logan, Harrison county, Iowa, where the crime was committed.