

BIENNIAL MESSAGE
OF
BUREN R. SHERMAN,

GOVERNOR OF THE STATE OF IOWA,

TO THE

TWENTIETH GENERAL ASSEMBLY.

JANUARY, 1884.

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BIENNIAL MESSAGE.

Gentlemen of the Senate and House of Representatives:

I congratulate you that you are privileged to assemble with such auspicious surroundings. Prosperity has continued with us during the biennial period, and, notwithstanding the loss of a portion of the harvest through an unusual and unfavorable season, the past year, which affected as well the States contiguous, the fact remains that the people have made advancement and we are in better general condition than was true at the commencement of the term. Health and plenty have obtained within our borders, gaunt poverty has been unknown to our citizens, and now at the threshold of the new year, it is meet that we render grateful homage to the Most High for the manifold blessings which have been showered upon the people. In the thirty-seven years of our separate existence we have made marvelous progress, until we have become the first of the States in educational advancement, the third in railway mileage, the fifth in educational facilities, and the tenth in population—a proud position which we are abundantly able to maintain and improve upon. With a wealth of resource that is being developed and increased with every revolving sun, a population distinguished for intelligence and vigor, and a physical location that is unsurpassed, Iowa occupies a most honorable position which entitles us to congratulate ourselves upon our progress and condition.

The State is practically free from indebtedness of every character, and really so, if the small amount belonging to the State school fund, and which is understood to be but a permanent principal upon which interest is paid to the use of the public schools of the State, is considered in its proper light. Since the last session of your honorable body, the entire amount of our war obligations, which comprised our

total of debt, save as before mentioned, has been fully paid and the State discharged every monetary obligation.

You are the immediate personal representatives of the two million souls who occupy this "beautiful land," and having accepted from your fellow citizens the grave trust now resting upon you, I doubt not you will be found able to these responsibilities and that at the end of your labors it may be said of each that he was faithful to the people whose confidence was his. Let it not be said of the Twentieth General Assembly that it failed its opportunities.

Since the last session, grave questions, affecting the interests of the State, the preliminaries to which were adopted by your predecessors, have been submitted to the direct vote of the people; and by them determined in the manner authorized by the constitution and the laws; and it remains for you to give effect to this expression of the popular judgment. This applies with special force to the temperance question which has agitated the State for many years. The proposition to amend the fundamental law by a prohibition of the sale of intoxicants as a beverage, having passed the several stages of legislation prerequisite, was at last submitted to the citizens of the State, and by them adopted by a decisive vote. Notwithstanding the people had so expressed their pleasure therein, and under our theories of government the court of the sovereign people is that of last and highest resort, and their decision had been evidenced through the proper constitutional department of the government, the amendment so adopted was attempted to be nullified by a co-ordinate branch. Various opinions prevail as to such attempt and its binding force and effect; but one only can obtain as to the moral obligation resting upon the representatives of the people in the General Assembly in such an emergency. The duty remains to the law making power, that the principle thus adopted by the people must be voiced in proper statutory enactments; and I confidently trust that ere your session shall end, the legal remedies will be provided whereby the people may protect themselves from further devastations caused by this unlawful traffic, destructive alike to present and future generations. Ours is a government by the people; of the people, and for the people, and their will being ascertained, no representative of the people can justify himself in opposition thereto, the ultimate effect of which would be certain destruction to the principle of free government, to establish which the life of the nation has been twice imperiled and thousands of lives sacrificed. Partisan

ties should be laid aside, and in consideration of this great question and forgetful of all else save the ultimate good to the State, let us vie with each other in perfecting the law in response to the public command. Nothing less should be attempted; nothing less will satisfy a thoroughly aroused people. No argument is necessary to establish the fact of the evil results of the traffic; that is conceded by every observer. We have differed only as to the best methods of dealing therewith. But now that the direct question, stripped of every appendage, has been passed upon by direct vote, and that after thorough discussion at every fireside, and where, too, deception was practically impossible, and the calm, deliberate judgment in favor of the principle of prohibition has been pronounced, I can see no escape from the duty of enforcement of that decision.

Your attention is respectfully directed to the question of impartial suffrage, in respect to which the Nineteenth General Assembly proposed an amendment to the constitution. Should this meet your approval, as preliminary to taking the judgment of the voters, I recommend that it be submitted at a special election in order that it be freed from the influence of partisan politics and thus receive an unprejudiced vote of our citizens. Not caring to here express an opinion upon the question itself, it is sufficient to say that now, as heretofore, I am in favor of the submission of any question which is of important and general interest.

The last General Assembly also proposed other amendments—changing the date for holding the general election, allowing the Legislature at any regular session to re-organize the judicial districts, providing for a reduction of the number of grand jurors, and also providing for the election of prosecuting attorneys in counties instead of districts as is now the case. These are important propositions, and I recommend that they be submitted to the general vote of the State. All these, together with that relating to woman suffrage, should be passed upon at the same special election, and I trust will receive your consent thereto.

The reports of the several officers of State, and the officers and trustees of the various State institutions, reformatory, penal and eleemosynary, are herewith submitted for your information, and I trust each will receive careful examination at your hands. I do not deem it necessary to make lengthy comments in respect thereto, the

documents being before you, and shall content myself with a few remarks on what I deem the salient points of each.

THE STATE FINANCES.

The report of the Auditor of State, making exhibit of the State finances is a valuable document, showing in minute detail the receipts and disbursements of the treasury for the period just closed. This is one of the most important of the State offices, and the reports of the officer charged with this department and who has special supervision of our monetary affairs, are always looked to with absorbing interest. The total receipts for the twenty-one months covered by the report are comprised in the sum of \$2,677,812.14, inclusive of \$178,551.74, which was the amount on hand at the beginning of the term. We are chiefly interested, however, in the item of general revenue, made up almost in entirety of the State tax levies and the interest collections thereon, and a few small items set out at length in the report. The increase over the last term, although a three months shorter period, is \$285,982.29—the difference in proportionate receipts which will inure to our advantage during the present term. It should not be forgotten, however, that this increase is principally due to the extra half mill State tax which was levied by virtue of an act of the Nineteenth General Assembly. The other items of receipts are from sales of Agricultural College lands, the proceeds of which are invested for the use of the College, and additions to the State school fund as shown by the Auditor.

The disbursements have been \$2,506,307.24, inclusive of temporary school fund of \$40,579.92, and of \$29,377.64 of war and defense fund not needed for that purpose, transferred to the general revenue. Deducting the expenditures from the receipts, there is a balance in the treasury of \$171,504.90, as against \$178,551.74 at the beginning of the term, with which to commence our new business. The amount of interest paid on State warrants has been but \$11,792.85 which is less than ever before when we reflect that the appropriations of the last General Assembly were larger and the funds called for in early rapidity. Altogether the exhibit thus made is very gratifying, and confirms the statement before made that the State, in common with the people, is in much better condition than at the date of the previous report. The amount of warrants outstanding was but \$16,450.60,

none of which was interest bearing, an aggregate nearly one-third less than at the beginning of the term, and an improvement in the condition over any time in the past seven years.

The appropriations made by the Nineteenth General Assembly have all been paid as the same became payable, and the State in every financial respect is in better condition than at any period for the past twenty years—a matter of sincere congratulation to every citizen.

All the public institutions of the State have been, so far as their support is concerned, maintained in a manner creditable to the State, and without marked increase in cost, notwithstanding the expense of maintenance might have been augmented because of the advance in cost of almost every article necessary to their proper and comfortable support.

There has been no time in the history of the State when more careful economy has been practiced in all the departments of the government, and especially in the management of the charitable and penal institutions there has been true economy during the last fiscal period; and I see no reason why the same should not obtain in the future. The proofs hereof are conclusively shown in the intelligent and succinct report of the Auditor, to which I again invite your earnest attention.

The Auditor estimates the receipts of the present two years, based on a two mill State levy, at \$2,482,600.00—an increase of nearly \$75,000 over the previous period, and the disbursements at \$1,918,820.00, leaving a balance subject to general and miscellaneous appropriations of \$563,780.00, or a little in excess of half a million dollars. I am convinced the expenditures are quite liberally estimated, and that you need have no fears in making appropriations covering the full sum above indicated. Several of our State charitable institutions need liberal appropriations to meet the demands upon them which are daily and urgently increasing, and I trust these demands will receive your favorable yet careful attention.

The Auditor declares his belief in the theory of making the State tax an absolute charge upon the counties, payable in quarterly installments. I heartily endorse his opinion. When I had the honor of holding the office of Auditor of State, I recommended in the report submitted November 1, 1875, that the counties be held responsible for the State tax levy, arguing that the same was correct in theory,

and was the only method whereby the State taxes could be made certain to the use of the State. I am still fully impressed with the correctness of that doctrine. It is the only equitable method whereby counties will be placed upon a real level with each other, and at the same time make certain the revenues to the State, which it will readily be seen is of vital importance to intelligent legislation. The allowance to each county of all additional assessments, and all interest charges, will fully compensate for the loss of collections, and make the matter of refund of taxes, as now practiced, which includes State as well as all other kinds of tax, a matter of supreme indifference to the State at large. Should this change be made, it will follow that taxes of all kinds will be more thoroughly collected and thereby a betterment to all funds; and, as above suggested, the advantage to the State in correct legislation could scarcely be over-estimated. I respectfully urge your thoughtful attention to this matter.

BANKS AND INSURANCE.

I concur generally with the views of the Auditor in respect to the growing importance of the banking interests of the State, and the necessity of placing the responsibility of the supervision thereof upon some officer who can give the requisite time thereto. The report shows the number of banks operating under State law to be seventy-six, with a capital of \$3,701,793.12, and deposits aggregating \$11,200,798.10, as against forty-two banks in 1875, with \$2,063,402.50 of capital paid up and total deposits of \$3,959,791.72—an increase nearly double, both in number of banks and amount of capital, and treble in volume of deposits. Banks and banking institutions are a necessity to the business of the country. It is estimated that more than three fourths of the exchanges between different portions of the land are made through the medium of banking associations. As the number of national banks decrease, those organized under the laws of the States will correspondingly increase. It is a matter of prime importance, therefore, that the laws provide ample protection to the people who transact business and deposit their savings with these institutions. Let the law be strict as may be—the interests of the many thousands of the people, from the laborer with his weekly savings to the wealthy business man who purchases exchanges, who are customers of these banks, cannot be too securely guarded. Upon you rests the responsibility of maintaining the integrity of these de-

positories, through such wise legislation as will conduce to the advantage of all concerned. In my opinion, the business of supervising the banks should be placed under the control of another and special officer, and the insurance bureau should be detached from the Auditor's office and placed in charge of the Superintendent of Banks—the officer to be styled Commissioner of Banks and Insurance. The insurance interests of the State are already of vast importance—sufficiently so to require the personal attention of a special officer designated therefor, if the State would secure to the people that protection which they expect and demand. The report of May, 1883, which is the last yet issued, shows that the risks written during the year in the State amounted to \$201,949,207.24, and the fire premiums alone paid during the year aggregated \$3,039,349.99. Every citizen is interested in this matter, and this State cannot excuse itself any indifference as to this important subject. I favor the transfer of this business and the bank control from the present authority, because the Auditor has all the responsibility he should be charged with in the proper management of the revenue of the State, including the payment of appropriations according to your direction, and, as well, the care of the school fund and the disposition of the accumulations thereto. He is also a member of the Executive Council; and in the discharge of these various duties finds abundant cause to fully occupy his time. It is practically impossible for him to give that personal attention to the insurance and bank interests which their importance demands.

Moreover, I am firmly convinced that every individual banker and co-partnership advertising to do a banking business, should also be made amenable to the law governing incorporated banks (so far as applicable), and, for the same reason, protection to the public.

THE TREASURER'S REPORT.

The report of the Treasurer of State repeats the showing made by the Auditor relative to the receipt and disbursement of the public funds, leaving the balance on hand at the beginning and ending of the fiscal term, as follows:

NAME OF FUND.	Balance on hand Oct. 1, 1881.	Receipts from Oct. 1, 1881, to June 30, 1883.	Total.	Disbursed from Oct. 1, 1881, to June 30, 1883.	Balance on hand June 30, 1883.
General Revenue.....	\$ 91,850.51	\$ 2,415,383.19	\$ 2,507,233.70	\$ 2,435,674.18	\$ 71,559.52
Permanent School Fund.....	2,266.66	1,523.00	3,789.66	.....	3,789.66
Temporary School Fund.....	.....	40,696.93	40,696.93	40,576.92	120.01
Coupon Fund.....	329.85	.....	329.85	178.50	151.35
War and Defense Fund.....	.....	29,377.64	29,377.64	29,377.64	.....
Agricultural College Endow- ment Fund.....	84,104.72	21,273.02	105,377.74	9,493.38	95,884.36
Total	\$ 178,551.74	\$ 2,508,253.78	\$ 2,686,805.52	\$ 2,515,300.62	\$ 171,504.90

The law imposes upon the Treasurer the responsibility of investing the Agricultural College endowment fund arising from sales of College lands and such other sources as are provided by law. This duty has been well performed, all the investments being in the best of city and district bonds, which received the approval of the Executive Council.

The Eighteenth General Assembly enacted a law authorizing the Treasurer to deposit the public funds in such banks at the capital as should be designated by him and approved by the Executive Council. The very early completion of the new capitol building, wherein the funds and property of the State will be absolutely secure, renders unnecessary the further continuance of these special depositories, and I recommend the repeal of the law giving such authority. Every county in the State is now possessed of railroad facilities, by lines which reach to every county seat save one, and treasurers can remit currency direct to the capital at such times as the law requires. I am opposed to any other depository of the State funds.

While yet upon this general subject of the State finances, I cannot forbear to ask your attention to the advisability of allowing tax payers, at their option, to pay the amounts due in semi-annual tax payments. This plan has been in successful operation in other States, and having given this matter serious thought for several years, I can see no reason why it might not be here adopted with good results.

It is not to be denied that the present law works a hardship with large numbers of the people, who are unable to pay the full amount of tax charged at the time the same becomes due; and if unable, the penalties attaching are serious, and add greatly in cost to the already embarrassed delinquent. The class of people who would be really benefited in thus dividing their tax payments is very numerous, and in all parts of the State they would hail such a measure as in the right direction. The effect would be to prevent the accumulation of large sums of money, withdrawn from circulation among the people and locked up in treasury and bank vaults; and would oftentimes relieve officials the temptation to use temporarily public funds, which, in occasional cases, has brought them to disgrace and punishment. I trust this subject will receive your critical consideration.

OUR PUBLIC SCHOOLS.

It is with feelings of both pride and pleasure that I submit the report of the Superintendent of Public Instruction. It shows the devotion of this painstaking official, in his endeavors toward perfecting our school system. Persons who have given the subject of the common schools any part of their attention will find abundant cause for self, as well as State-congratulation, in the proofs of the rapid and healthy growth of the schools of the commonwealth, which are presented in this report. From about two thousand, four hundred and thirty-nine children enrolled as pupils in the first year of our State existence, 1847, the number has increased with the growth of the State, until, by the last report, we have a total enrollment *in school* of four hundred and sixty-four thousand, four hundred, thirty-two, the number of teachers has also grown from one hundred, and twenty-four, until over twenty-two thousand and eighty-one are now employed, and these exclusively in the free common schools. In like manner, the school-houses have increased from one hundred and five, nearly all built of logs, to eleven thousand, eight hundred and twenty-five, valued at over ten million dollars, which for architectural beauty, solidity of construction, and capacity, are scarcely equalled, much less surpassed, in any State of the Union; and the volumes in the school district libraries aggregate nearly 30,000. And, if more evidence be needed of the devotion of the people to the public school system, it is found in the fact that about one half the entire taxation

of the State for all purposes, is for the support of the common schools. Such a showing is indeed gratifying.

The Superintendent speaks very earnestly in favor of the normal school work, and argues, correctly too, that if we would have good schools, and graduate good scholars, of necessity we must have trained teachers.

These can be secured through encouragement of the normal plan, the sole purpose of which is to educate teachers to their work. Time was when it was thought quite sufficient if the average pupil was instructed in the elementary studies of reading, writing, and sufficient mathematics to enable him to count money, and measure a cord of wood, or the number of feet in a board, leaving to the rich the proprietary interest in advanced studies, which were only attainable in the academies and colleges of the country. All this, happily, has passed away, and through the labors and desires of a spirited people, the common schools have been brought to a perfection that gives to the faithful student an education abundantly sufficient for all the ordinary concerns of life, and which is marvelous even to those who have given thought to the general subject. Nevertheless, our schools have not reached that degree of excellence that is possible to them, and it is a satisfaction to know that the people, objecting nothing to the heavy school taxes (in most part voted upon themselves) so cheerfully paid, are anxious only that the funds be used for the legitimate purpose of advancing the interests of our system.

I cordially agree that the training schools are indispensable, and if the capacity of our present Normal School is insufficient to meet the public demand, other like schools ought to be established.

The Superintendent devotes much space in advocacy of a return to the township system as the unit in all school work. The reasons he gives "for the faith that is in him" are both clear and cogent, and he quotes from high authority in support of his position. But I refer you to the report for complete information upon this all-important subject, and leave the matter in your hands, confident it will receive that careful consideration which its grave importance demands. There are various other matters suggested in the report, which will engage your attention.

The report of the State University and that of the Normal School are made a part of the report of the Superintendent. It will be seen that each of these schools has maintained its excellent reputation, and

merits a continuance of public confidence. I bespeak for each of them your careful study. The position of a teacher in any of our schools is a great responsibility. The influence exerted by the tutor is beyond computation. How important, then, that the utmost care be exercised in their selection, to the end that none but the most worthy, both in personal character as well as educational acquirement, should be intrusted with the important work. The State

BOARD OF EXAMINERS

has not issued as many certificates as was expected when the law was enacted. It is no evidence, however, that the Board has failed in performance of duty, but quite the reverse. I believe the law is a good one, tending to the making a higher grade of teachers, and thereby advantageous to the schools themselves, and, I trust, will be continued in existence.

I respectfully ask your attention to a matter not mentioned in the report, but which I believe to be an important one to the State. I allude to the subject of

SCHOOL BOOKS,

which has grown to be a very serious one to very many of the people. Every head of a family is cognizant of the fact that one of the most expensive items connected with the education of his children, is that for the purchase of school books, and when he removes from one district to another, he is often subjected to the necessity of purchasing an entirely new series, different from that obtaining in the locality where he previously resided, although in the same county. That this is a serious and expensive matter, is known to every parent, and oft times the cause of real embarrassment. Every one knows, too, the enormous profit enjoyed by the publishers of these text-books, averaging, as it does, over one hundred per cent the cost of publication. In order to the relief of the larger portion of our people, and as well to establish uniformity throughout the State, which in itself is a great desideratum, I am earnestly in favor of the State adopting and publishing a series of elementary books intended for the earlier instruction of the pupils in our schools, which shall obtain in all our schools. A committee of competent educators, citizens of our own State, can easily be secured who can prepare and edit these works, and the State

publish the same, furnishing the books at cost price, and thus insure great savings to the people and the State.

I am thoroughly satisfied of the feasibility of this suggestion, and would be glad to see it adopted by the General Assembly. There is no good reason why hundreds of thousands of dollars should thus be expended without the State, to the pecuniary advantage of a few book publishers, when the State, through its own publication of these works, can save so much to its own people.

I commend the subject to your unprejudiced consideration.

THE PUBLIC LANDS.

The report of the Land Office herewith submitted, shows the conveyances of lands during the term, and also a vast amount of information relative to the different grants to the State, and the purpose thereof. The proper limit of a message forbids any lengthy excerpts from the report, and I see no necessity for extended comments relative thereto. The number of conflicting grants, and the doubts and uncertainties which in many respects obtain, make the whole subject quite difficult of correct understanding. The necessity of some change in the law relating to the sale and patenting of certain school lands, is clearly pointed out on page five of the printed report, which I trust will receive attention. This done, the county authorities will then have the full control contemplated by sections 1881-2-3-4, of the Code, and it would also relieve both the Executive Office, and the Land Office any further duties in these cases.

Again, in respect to the Des Moines River School Lands, sold by John Tolman, who was at one time School Fund Commissioner, the law provides for my repayment the original purchase money, with ten per cent interest from day of that payment, which also applies to all interest payments as well. Inasmuch as over twenty years have elapsed since the passage of the law, and a few of the holders of these contracts still neglect to return them for settlement, I recommend that payments of this interest be forbidden hereafter. It is not necessary that the State continue further interest payments. In view of the fact that the office of Register has been abolished, and the work has mainly devolved on Mr. John M. Davis, who has been the very efficient deputy for the past seventeen years, I earnestly recommend that his salary be increased to at least fifteen hundred dollars per annum, an amount none too great for one of his acknowledged efficiency in that bureau.

THE STATE LIBRARY.

Mrs. S. B. Maxwell, State Librarian, has made an interesting report of the progress she has made in securing additions to the State Library—a copy of which is herewith submitted. The additions during the term have been 2086, exclusive of pamphlets and duplicates, making the grand total of works therein 22,554. The pamphlets now in possession are very large in number, and many are of permanent value, and it is proposed to arrange them in volumes and bind for better preservation. The law library is one of the most valuable in the United States, and now that it is permanently located in the new capitol building, safe from destruction, every citizen will be relieved an uneasiness which has endured with the people for many years lest this valuable collection should be lost. The number of persons from all parts of the State who visit the library for the examination of the volumes therein is very great and steadily increasing. The miscellaneous works are also greatly sought after, and, in view of the future, I suggest that the appropriation for the purchase of such books and which only amounts to the sum of \$3,000 annually, should be somewhat increased to secure such works as are of permanent value for the use of the State. Inasmuch as the removal of the library to new quarters, and the increased use made of it, will add to the already constant labors of the Librarian, I recommend that the sum of \$1,000 be annually appropriated for assistants to the Librarian, the amounts to be certified by the Executive before warrants shall be issued.

THE NATIONAL GUARD.

The brief, yet admirable, report of the Adjutant-General, which accompanies this message, will commend itself to your earnest attention. The Iowa Militia is a splendid organization, worthy to be compared with that of any other of the states. I have a profound admiration for the devotion of the officers and men, who have so willingly given time and money, far beyond the amount allowed by the State, to the up-building of the Guard, until, at last, their proficiency has compelled even the warm endorsement of officers of the United States Army. It was my fortune to attend the encampment of both brigades, and I hazard nothing in saying that the general behavior of the men was not only in the highest degree creditable to the State, but also

their correctness in drill, and in fact in all the maneuvers of field and garrison, could scarcely be equalled by veteran troops.

The Guard is made up from among the best young men in the State, whose enthusiastic devotion thereto is worthy all commendation. In the main, the officers are veterans of the great conflict, who take justifiable pride in instructing the men in the arts of war. The force is not a large one for such a State as Iowa, comprising, as it does, but six regiments, and the expense of maintaining it has been very moderate indeed.

The various recommendations of the Adjutant-General, relative to new companies, new uniforms, and other matters equally meritorious, are worthy your favorable consideration. The only way to maintain a Guard worthy the State is to encourage the members through reasonable appropriations for necessary legitimate expenses. I have found a great majority thereof willing to devote their time to make the organization what it should be, but very few can afford to spend money for such purpose.

After careful examination of the expenditures made during the past term, I am satisfied the same were for legitimate purposes, and within both the spirit and letter of the law, and, inasmuch as the same has proved insufficient for this lawful purpose, and has compelled a considerable expenditure of private funds, intended to the advantage of the work, I earnestly recommend such increase of the appropriation as will relieve the officers and men the necessity of personal contributions.

I am proud of the Iowa National Guard. It is worthy the endorsement of the General Assembly, and I confidently trust will receive at your hands that encouragement entitled to so creditable an organization. It is not too much to say, that in appearance, discipline, and standing, the Guard will favorably compare with that of any other of the states. I was gratified to notice that the President of the United States, in his last message to Congress, spoke most favorably of state militia organizations, and I trust that our own State, now one of first in the sisterhood, will prove herself equal to her position, and make such provision for her volunteer militia as will entitle us to maintain our prominence. While I am opposed, under our system of government, to a large standing army, believing the same to be inimical to the best interests of the country, I am in favor of an adequate volunteer force, skilled in the arts of war, that may be relied upon, should circumstances demand the services of armed troops.

STATE MINE INSPECTOR.

An examination of the report of Inspector Wilson will convince you that this officer has been diligent in the performance of his delicate and responsible duties, and has been able to accomplish much in the way of the just settlement of the difficulties which will occasionally arise between employers and employes. There is no mistaking that troubles frequently happen, and in my judgment the State Inspector should be made the arbiter in the adjustment of these misunderstandings. The principal trouble arises in reference to the kind and quality of the screens used, scarcely any two of the mines using the same. There should be exact uniformity therewith. The law should designate the size of screen, and without attempting to fix the compensation for mining the coal per ton, or bushel, for necessarily it varies in the different localities, it should declare what should be a lawful screen, and then operators and owners should be left free to agree upon compensations for the work done.

This industry has grown to vast proportions, and yet the possibilities are far beyond us. At date of this writing, the Inspector informs me that the capacity of the mines now in operation will reach over ten million tons! A few years since we were glad to know that our coal deposit was even as extensive as underlying a score of counties. Now we are gratified in the fact that coal has been developed in at least one third the State, or, in round numbers, 20,000 square miles of our area is underlaid by this precious deposit, which is every day becoming more valuable, and affording honorable and steady employment to many thousands of our people. The truth is, this industry has become one of the most important in the State, and the duty devolves upon you, Senators and Representatives, to so amend the law in relation therewith, that without assuming to dictate compensations to the several classes of employes, you may yet adopt such general measures relating to the working of the mines, that harmony between owners and operatives will be secured, and strikes, alike detrimental to both their interests, be avoided.

I recommend further, that when, in the judgment of the Inspector, the ventilation of a mine be imperfect, and the owners thereof do not remedy the same after reasonable notice, the Inspector shall have authority to close the mine until this all-important matter is attended to.

THE FISH COMMISSION.

The last General Assembly appropriated \$5,000.00 to be used, under the direction of the Fish Commissioner, in propagating fish, for distribution in the waters of the State. Of this sum, \$4,613.78 has been drawn from the treasury, and the expenditure thereof approved by the Executive Council. The report of Mr. B. F. Shaw, Fish Commissioner, supplemented by an additional report of A. A. Mosher, Esq., Assistant Fish Commissioner, both of which are herewith presented, indicate the manner and purpose of the expenditure. Both these gentlemen and very many people are of the opinion that this work is of practical utility to the State, and should be continued. It is yet quite an experiment, and the future alone can manifest results. The cost is inconsiderable, and, if any benefit to the people at large, I shall not object to the continuation of the Commission. But, whether so or not, I am earnestly opposed to the wanton destruction of the fish entrapped in our lakes and rivers.

The report of Commissioner Mosher speaks in well merited condemnation of this practice, and I am advised that parties make a business of camping out at the lakes in the northern portion of our State, having no other purpose than the spearing of the fish therein for commercial purposes, and make regular shipments thereof to the extent of many tons each week of the winter months. I recommend the law be amended to prohibit the taking of fish, under severe penalties, by any appliances save by hook and line, and thus prevent the wanton killing thereof.

THE AGRICULTURAL COLLEGE.

The people of the State are to be congratulated in the fact that we have one of the most thoroughly organized and efficient agricultural colleges in the United States.

The number of students the past year was 319, which is an increase over the past year, and I see no reason why the future usefulness of the College may not continue in even greater ratio than has characterized it in the past. Its reputation as an admirable school has been permanently established, and it enjoys in wonderful degree the confidence of the whole people. The report of the Trustees is very creditable, both to the College itself and to the State, and I submit it in the hope it will receive your careful study. The small appropriations asked are undoubtedly necessary. Especially do I recommend that

through which the Trustees propose to increase the importance and usefulness of the department of veterinary surgery, one of rapidly increasing interest to the entire State. During the past two years I have had many calls from different parts of the State for services of some man skilled in the diseases of horses and cattle, who was competent to prevent the spread of glanders and pleuro-pneumonia, which exist in various localities. The State having no veterinarian, I sought the services of Professor Stalker, professor of veterinary surgery at this college, and he kindly consented to examine into the cases reported. In most of the localities visited, the people were glad to pay him his expenses, and reasonably compensate him his services. In a few cases this was not done, and having no other fund at my disposal, I made him a small allowance from my contingent fund. There is no question his ability and experience, nor any doubt the great good he accomplished.

These diseases are quite prevalent, and the State needs the services of a competent surgeon, to take these matters in quick and vigorous treatment.

In view of the growing importance of these dangers, and the necessity of prompt action, I earnestly recommend the appointment of a State Veterinarian, whose services would be invaluable, and that you make provision therefor. In my opinion he should be made a member of the State Board of Health, and thus the members thereof would be of mutual advantage to each other. I earnestly urge this matter, and trust it may meet favorable action at your hands.

THE COLLEGE FOR THE BLIND.

The reports of the Trustees and Principal, which are herewith submitted, are very satisfactory in general character. The time covered by the report has been quite as prosperous as any in the history of the College, and the results at the end of the period are gratifying. The number of pupils instructed during the last term was 141, an increase of 51 over the last term. The capacity of the College is much greater and the attendance should be much larger, when it is considered that there are over 1,300 blind people in the State, and 210 under twenty years of age. It is a matter of great regret that when the State makes adequate provision for the care and education of this class of citizens, there are so few who take advantage thereof. The course of instruction is certainly all that could reasonably be asked; and I am

glad to be able to say from personal knowledge that the instruction in all the departments is thorough. The College has been supported within the legal allowance, which is sufficient for all proper purposes. The cost for supervision, I cannot but think, is more than necessary. There are six Trustees to this College, when but three are allowed to the Institute for the Deaf and Dumb, the Asylum for Feeble-Minded Children, and the Orphans' Home, each of which has more than double the number of pupils. I recommend the number of trustees be immediately reduced to three. The appropriations asked for, viz.:

For musical instruments	\$ 3,000
For new furniture	3,000
For general repairs	2,500
For services of oculists	1,000
For additions to library.....	500

a total of \$10,000, are necessary, and I earnestly recommend the said sums be allowed.

THE DEAF AND DUMB.

The report of the Trustees accompanied by the reports of the Superintendents of the Institute for the Deaf and Dumb is also herewith submitted. The former Superintendent, Rev. A. Rogers, retired from the institution August 15, 1883, through his resignation previously tendered, and his place was filled by the election of Prof. H. C. Hammond, who immediately entered on the responsible duties of the position. Prof. Hammond and estimable wife come to us with the prestige of fifteen years actual experience in institutions of this character, and we confidently trust will thoroughly establish themselves in the confidence of the State through a wise and economical administration. The number of pupils during the term has been 292, not all of whom, however, remained the entire term. During the year the institute suffered the loss of two of its most accomplished teachers, Miss Jean Van Tassell and Prof. F. W. Booth, and their loss was most severely felt. They were accomplished teachers in every respect, and doubtless could have been retained had the funds in the hands of the Trustees been sufficient to have competed with the offers made from other States. Prof. Booth is now engaged in a prominent position in the Philadelphia Institute for the Deaf and Dumb, and cannot but prove himself invaluable. He is a gentle-

man of highest character and conceded great ability in this work, to which he is attached in sincere devotion.

The school is finely prospering and merits the confidence of the State. I only regret that a large portion of those entitled to its benefits are not there to receive the proper instruction.

The reports show the great necessity for an increased water supply, and suggest two methods to accomplish such result, viz: by contract with the Council Bluffs Water Company or by sinking an artesian well. After a careful looking over the ground, on the occasion of my visits to the institution, I unhesitatingly favor the latter course. Should it be adopted the institution is entirely independent, using as much or as little water as may be, and the supply will be permanent and inexpensive. This is a matter of great importance, and I trust will not escape your early attention.

The reports also recommend some additions to the buildings. I know that more room is necessary to make the institution what it should be, and commend the matter to your careful consideration. Especially do I concur in the request for increased appropriations for the printing department. It has long been a favorite theory of mine that the pupils should be taught the art of printing, including press-work, in all its completeness, and thereby in the future the State would be able to do in large part, as is done in some other States, its own printing, at an expense much less than by the present method; and I suggest to the General Assembly the propriety of so enlarging the printing department, by purchase of material and presses, that the pupils may become experts in the business. The printed report now presented was gotten up at the institution and completed in every detail, save only the binding. In appearance it is certainly sufficient to satisfy the most sanguine of the friends of the institution, and demonstrates the ability of the pupils in this class of work. The pupils also publish a handsome weekly paper, the Deaf Mute Hawkeye, which is very creditable to the institution. I am glad to be able to say that the institution is prospering in every good respect.

A movement is in progress to ask the founding of another such school somewhere nearer the centre of the State. It is claimed that the one now in existence is quite large enough in number of pupils for their permanent good. My attention has been called to an address before a national convention of deaf mutes, by one who is eminent

in this branch of instruction, from which I quote the following as applicable to this subject:

"Large institutions wherein are gathered together so many pupils are not, in our opinion, so conducive to the best mental growth as several smaller ones. There are so many inmates that some must be overlooked and their necessities not cared for; the weak must give way to the strong, the sensitive to the bold and aggressive. In such institutions, too, are usually found very large classes, the baneful effects of which we have already alluded to. It is claimed that with large numbers better grading may be had, but we think experience has shown that with two hundred or perhaps two hundred and fifty pupils (we should prefer a less number) the best results may be obtained in this respect. In an institution so very large, and at the same time so ably managed as the one within whose hospitable walls we are met, this view would seem to be at once sufficiently confuted, but we believe that we express the feeling of very many of our best educators upon this subject when we assert that very large schools do not so effectually meet the wants of their pupils as smaller ones, particularly so where the instruction given is largely of a primary character. The difficulty may be obviated to a great extent by adopting the plan now followed in California, where the inmates are distributed into small families under separate roofs, thus affording that quiet, home-like feeling so necessary to the comfort, happiness and best improvement of pupils. A much better plan, we think, would be to establish one large central school for the higher education of our pupils, and several small ones at different points in the State for their primary instruction, thus following out in some degree the system pursued in the public schools of our large cities."

THE FEEBLE-MINDED CHILDREN.

The report of the Trustees of this institution is specially commended to your consideration. From personal and thorough examination thereof, I am fully convinced that this charity is deserving the earnest attention of the public, to the end that this class of unfortunates be provided for in a manner becoming the dignity of the State. The accommodations are meagre, indeed. Out of a total of over two thousand feeble-minded children reported in the State, which is probably less than the real number, because, as the Superintendent says, it is difficult to ascertain the facts, "both from the failure to recognize mental imbecility in young children, and the usual perseverance in denying it when recognized," only two hundred and thirty-nine are inmates of this institution, which is all it can possibly now accommodate. Provision should be made for a large increase of this number, which is due to the rapid growth of the State.

But whether increased or not, there is no sort of doubt more lib-

eral appropriations are imperatively demanded for the present comfort of those there committed. The whole institution is in appearance the most poverty-stricken of all the State's charities. The conveniences for the work are poor indeed, and I am astonished that the officers and teachers in charge are able to accomplish anything. Nothing but the most earnest devotion to the work could bring the good results set forth in the report submitted, and which are apparent to every careful visitor to this great charity.

Too much praise cannot be accorded to Dr. Powell and his corps of able assistants, for the efficient manner in which they have discharged the various duties assigned them. The pupils are the most difficult in management of any class the State has under its control, and I certainly think it marvelous the progress attained by them. Nothing less than the earnest, self-sacrificing labors of the officers and teachers could effect such result.

The appropriations asked are reasonable. More room and better accommodations must be provided, otherwise the institution might better be abandoned. Up to the present time, the laundry appliances are of most primitive character, the work being done entirely by hand labor, and the great magnitude of this work, greater in proportion than that of any other institution, necessitates expenditures to aid the work. From careful examination in this part of the institution, I am satisfied that the funds asked for, and as well that for bath rooms and water supply, are quite reasonable. There are now but two boilers in use, both of which are inadequate to the purposes for which they are designed. Indeed, so limited is their capacity, that they cannot be used for heating purposes and water supply at the same time; that is to say, when the pumps are required, the steam used for heating the buildings must be shut off. Manifestly, this is not as it should be, and I cordially endorse the demands of the Trustees for additional facilities of this character. It must be borne in mind that the main building in use is an old structure, formerly used as an Orphans' Home. It needs repairs in every direction, and the amounts asked therefor are, I think, sufficiently modest. No public institution can be maintained without abundant water supply, so necessary in every part of the work. The Trustees are keenly alive to this importance, and are anxious the same be provided, not only for ordinary and daily use throughout the different parts of the buildings, but as well, also, to afford adequate fire protection. The

plan proposes a tower, elevated sufficiently for these purposes, and of sufficient capacity to ensure safety. I approve the plan, and believe the sum asked for is a reasonable one.

If the State proposes to continue an institution of this kind, and I see no escape therefrom, a main building should be there provided for. The sum asked for that purpose is none too large to provide a suitable structure, and an appropriation therefor, subject to the unanimous approval of the Trustees and further endorsed by the Executive of the State, ought to be made. I believe the institution is in good hands, and merits the favorable consideration of the General Assembly.

THE ORPHANS' HOME.

If there be one charity more than another which deserves the special attention of the State, it is that of providing a place and opportunity for the care and proper education of the little ones who have been deprived of the delights and advantages of home. No matter how modest that home may be, nor how scanty its provisions for the comfort of those sent unto it, so long as father and mother, or either, be there,

“Be it ever so humble, there's no place like home.”

When we know the multitude of little waifs, houseless and homeless, who are kicked and cuffed about by an unfeeling world, bereft of friends and denied even the attentions given to brutes, and who are being rapidly schooled in vice, to graduate thereafter in the prisons of the land, the fact that the State has stretched forth its strong arm in their defense, and with purpose for their elevation and education, is a consolation to us all.

The Home at Davenport is designed for such purposes, and most nobly is it accomplishing such result. My every visit there, an interested spectator of the great work being wrought, has given me better ideas of humanitarian effort, and a stronger confidence in man's disposition to the betterment of his race.

The report of the Trustees and Superintendent of this Home are worthy your careful study. The number of soldiers' orphans is, of course, necessarily decreasing, the number in attendance June 30, 1883, being but 68 as against 76 at the beginning of the term; while the county orphans have increased from 93 to 150 during the same period. The total number of deaths during the term has been but

seven, which is remarkable, when we consider that a large proportion of the children are mere infants, and of those lost by death all but two were less than ten years of age. Great praise is due Dr. W. F. Peck for his untiring and enthusiastic attentions to these children, which is the more deserved because, in the inborn kindness of his heart, his services have been voluntary, and for which he has refused all compensation. The gratitude of a great State be his.

The same may be said, in most part, of the Superintendent, Mr. Pierce, and his accomplished wife, who is the painstaking and persevering Matron. To say that both are fully up to the high mark of intelligent superintendence, is but faint praise. All the officers of the Home have proved their adaptability to their positions, and are entitled to the thanks of the State for their excellent conduct.

The Trustees recommend certain improvements for the accommodation of the Home, and, among other things, the purchase of a small tract of land adjoining. I have several times made thorough examination of these matters, and being fully convinced of the necessity of these appropriations in order to the advantage of the Home and children, I earnestly recommend they be granted. Especially is it necessary that sewerage be provided, and the cottages be steam-heated, instead of by stoves as now provided, both on the ground of greater safety and economy as well. The report fully presents the several needs which should engage the attention of the General Assembly.

I am also firmly of the opinion that the children at the Home, as well as those at the Institution for the Deaf and Dumb, should be taught some mechanical art, ere their discharge, thereby enabling them to engage at once in some honorable and supporting business; even their work while there would fully compensate the State all expenditures therefor.

Again, while the State supports the soldiers' orphans directly from the State treasury, the expenses for the county orphans are charged back to the county from which they are sent. I believe the true and better policy is for the State to bear the entire expense for the maintenance of the Home. One immediate effect thereof would be the transfer of orphans from the alms-houses, where the chances for improvement are generally quite meagre, and the giving them an opportunity for vast improvement, both physically and intellectually. This should be done.

I cannot forbear words of hearty appreciation for the fidelity with which the Trustees have performed their duties. They merit the declaration, "well done." Mr. Bryant, the resident Trustee, has devoted many days of loving labor to his work in amelioration of the condition of the children, and that, too, without extra charge.

THE INSANE.

The reports of the Trustees to whom are committed the care and government of the Hospitals for the Insane are herewith submitted, and, I doubt not, will receive at your hands that profound attention which their importance demands. How best to care for this large and rapidly increasing class of unfortunate beings is one of the most serious questions presented to thinking and public-spirited people, and has proven one of the most perplexing to legislators. It is but a few years, comparatively, since the insane were all subjected to rigorous confinement, without medical attendance of any character, and, naturally, there could be no improvement hoped for. The growing intelligence of people in all lands has compelled a change of treatment of these unfortunates, until to-day, there is no citizen who is not gladly willing to be taxed, to any reasonable extent, in order to their present comfort and possible cure. While the people of our own State have been liberal in this regard, and our Hospitals will favorably compare with any others in the Union, we have not yet performed our whole duty. There are far too many insane who are unable to experience the beneficial care of the Hospitals, the want whereof has proven disastrous in a very large number of cases. More ample provision must be made for their accommodation. Two years ago I suggested the necessity of building an asylum for the incurable. Time and experience has confirmed me in the position then taken. There should be some place provided whereto all the chronic cases may be sent, and thus relieve the present over-crowded Hospitals, so that all recent and probably curable cases could be comfortably provided. Every exertion should be made for the prompt admission of cases as soon as the malady manifests itself. An examination of the tables in the reports shows that of the cases committed within twelve months from the appearance of the disease, nearly one-third were discharged as recovered, and over forty per cent of those remaining had improved under treatment. It will also be observed that the great majority of those admitted are under forty years of

age, and again, that majority composed of those between twenty and thirty years; and further, that the per cent of those recovered is very largely in favor of those whose age was within the limit above given. Surely, with such results, the State cannot be excused every effort in betterment of the condition of these unfortunates.

Both the Hospitals are crowded to their utmost capacity, whereas there should always be room for new cases. The number remaining in the Mt. Pleasant Hospital, at the close of the period, June 30, 1883, was, males, two hundred thirty-six; females, two hundred thirty-six; total, four hundred seventy-two. The number at Independence at the same date, was, males, three hundred twenty-three; females, two hundred, fifty-seven; total, five hundred eighty; a grand total of males five hundred fifty-nine; females, four hundred ninety-three; aggregate, one thousand fifty-two. The total number of insane in the State on the 1st day of November, 1883, as reported to me by the auditors of the several counties, was one thousand, seven hundred and twenty-six, of which number one thousand and one were supported in the State hospitals; five hundred and nineteen were in the county almshouses; one hundred and thirty-three in private asylums; fifty-eight at homes of relatives, and fifteen confined in county jails. As this agrees, substantially, with the Hospital reports, each may be regarded as correct. I append thereto the lists as made up in the counties. I commend to your careful consideration the suggestions of the trustees and superintendents of these institutions, relative to the subject. I cordially join the recommendation that the criminal insane should be elsewhere provided for. This can be easily and cheaply done by the erection of a suitable building in connection with the new Penitentiary at Anamosa, and this class of patients taken thither.

I have made frequent visits to these Hospitals, and have been pleased to note the careful and intelligent manner with which the same have been conducted. Trustees and officers have been enthusiastic and thorough in the work, and I am led to believe that the interests, both of patients and the State at large, have been subserved and protected. Each report shows the expenditures for the term in careful detail, and the whole has been within the limitations fixed by the law. Some additional appropriations, for improvements and repairs, are asked for, and the amounts required for each purpose, the necessity for which will be apparent to every enquirer. Although the Trustees of the Independence Hospital directed attention to the

advisability of purchasing eighty acres of land adjoining the farm, they have since made a supplemental report, dated January 3d, in which they set out in special manner the necessity for this purchase, in order to a complete water supply. This report is appended hereto. Whether or not it would be wise to increase the capacity of these Hospitals by erecting additions thereto, or that the end sought would be better accomplished by establishing a new Hospital nearer the center of the State, is for the General Assembly to determine, but that some adequate provision should be made, to remove patients from almshouses and jails and place them where they can be safe from injury to others and as well secure intelligent treatment to themselves, is a conceded necessity.

Under the law as it now stands, each county is held responsible for the expense of the patients therefrom. I believe a change for the better would follow if the insane were all supported at the expense of the general fund.

THE VISITING COMMITTEE.

The report of the Hospital Visiting Committee is also presented for your information. Only one case calling for special investigation was necessary during the term, and in that the evidence produced was abundantly sufficient to satisfy the Committee that the charge was unfounded in fact.

The members of the Committee have certainly endeavored to do their whole duty, having been diligent and prompt therein.

The Trustees of both the Hospitals insist that the expenses of this Committee should not be made a charge upon the Hospital funds, but should be paid direct from the treasury of the State. I also incline to the same opinion, and recommend the change in the law necessary to such result.

THE COMPLETED HOSPITALS.

The Nineteenth General Assembly appropriated for the purpose of completing the Hospital at Independence, in the building of the fifth and sixth sections of the south wing, the sum of \$70,000, which was inclusive of \$5,000 for furnishing the same.

The buildings are now almost complete. The plastering was finished on December 20th last, and the wood work and painting will be done so that these sections will be occupied soon after the first of

March. Of the amount appropriated for construction it is probable the Commissioners will have a remainder unexpended of \$7,500, and in their opinion it would be well to authorize them to use so much as is necessary thereof to build the front portico to the main building, and also to "point up" the walls of the entire structure, which would be a completion of the whole building according to its original design.

The appropriation for furnishing has not yet all been expended, but the amount was none too large. The furnishing will be done in time for the occupation of these sections on or about March first, as above stated.

The appropriation of \$1,250 for the construction of a cistern has been drawn, and a good cistern is now in use.

The sum authorized for continuing the sewer has not yet been expended.

PROVIDENTIAL CONTINGENCIES.

It has been the custom of the General Assembly for many years past to appropriate a certain sum, generally \$10,000 for the biennial period, for providential contingencies fund, out of which the Executive Council could make appropriations for sudden emergencies which could not otherwise be provided for. The amount expended therefrom during the last term was \$5,858.57, leaving at this date (January 12, 1884) undrawn, the sum of \$4,141.43. It will be remembered that no monies can be drawn from this fund except by the unanimous consent of the Executive Council, and, therefore, the integrity of the fund is carefully provided for. The last amount expended was for the relief of the Independence Hospital, nearly eleven months prior to the end of the term. Although the necessities, both at the Institution for the Deaf and Dumb and the Hospital at Independence, were very pressing, and larger amounts should have been allowed, yet the Council did not feel safe in appropriating the entire sum lest some emergency, equally disastrous, might happen, and the Council be absolutely without power of assistance.

Happily, up to this date no other calamity has been reported. In the case at Independence, where the loss was very great, the Council did not feel justified in expending the whole of the fund therefor, but instead recommended the Trustees to use from the support funds, if any could be spared, in the repair of the damages sustained. The re-

port of the Trustees show in detail the disposition of this fund. The same was also true of the damages sustained at the Deaf and Dumb Institution, although the amount transferred was not sufficient for the required purpose. The amounts of indebtedness incurred by the Trustees in repair of the damages to these institutions should be provided for by adequate appropriations therefor.

In view of the possible dangers before us, I recommend the said fund be increased to \$25,000. There could be no danger of its squandering, so long as the present restrictions of the law be observed.

THE PENITENTIARIES.

The reports of the Wardens of the two Penitentiaries make a very full, and as I think, satisfactory showing. The number of convicts at

FORT MADISON

has increased slightly increased over the previous term; the number remaining June 30, 1883, being 378 as against 341 on October 1, 1881, the average number in confinement during the period having been 375 $\frac{1}{2}$. The general health of the convicts has been excellent, less than two per cent having been disabled, either by disease or accident, from their accustomed work. The Warden shows the the expenditures of the funds heretofore appropriated, which, from careful examination, I believe to have been judiciously expended. I am firm in the conviction that the sums asked for with which to replace the old wooden bedsteads with those of iron, and for the purchase of new cell buckets are necessary and the amounts should be allowed. The Warden also asks for additional appropriation for transportation of discharged convicts. In my opinion it would be better to pay each convict at discharge a specific sum, say of fifteen dollars, which should be inclusive also of the money gift now allowed. The financial affairs of the prison have been carefully managed, the details whereof being shown by the clerk. The inventory of supplies on hand and paid for, together with the amounts due from the contractors, exceeds the same items at the close of the previous term by \$2,369.64. The discipline of the prison has been all that could be expected.

There are no female convicts now at this prison, they having been transferred to the Additional Penitentiary by my order, so that we

could have this class all in one prison, where they could be better provided for.

THE ANAMOSA PRISON.

Mr. A. E. Martin, Warden of this prison, presents a carefully prepared statement of his work during the last term, which will be read with interest. As you are aware, this prison is yet in process of construction, and, while far from being complete, it has so far progressed that the convicts therein, numbering 229, at the close of the period, are well provided for in every respect. The prison will now accommodate many more, but when completed will have a capacity exceeding 800. The work is being pushed very rapidly, and the progress made really wonderful. The building of the wall has been much more expensive than was anticipated, owing to a substratum of quicksand, which was unexpectedly encountered, and which has made necessary a large amount of piling. The cell-house has been finished, the cells being larger than the usual size, 320 in number, and is lighted with electric incandescent lamps, and most thoroughly ventilated. Altogether it is one of the finest cell-rooms in the United States. All the work, whether upon the buildings or upon the walls and towers, is first class in character, and reflects greatest credit upon Mr. Martin, who has not only been the Warden but has also superintended the work of construction.

The new quarry purchased by the State has developed much better than we had dared to hope. The quality of the stone is unsurpassed, and the abundance is beyond all danger of exhaustion. That investment was one of the best ever made by the State for any purpose.

The appropriations heretofore made for construction purposes are enumerated by the Warden, showing the amounts drawn on each appropriation, and the amount on hand at date of report as \$19,002.91.

The discipline at this prison is commendable in highest degree, and the health of the convicts has been good, as shown in the report of the accomplished physician, Dr. L. G. Adair. He is a faithful man, in the right place.

The Warden asks that appropriations for construction be continued, in order to the early completion of the prison, and also for certain other improvements, all of which I cordially recommend.

The labor performed by the convicts is not only vast in extent but valuable in character, and if the results were figured in dol-

lars and cents, would convince the most incredulous of the great profit to the State from such labor. The instances are many that convicts on discharge immediately engage themselves to private parties, either as stone cutters or quarrymen, finding steady employment at good wages, thus commencing life anew with most hopeful prospects.

I am still of the opinion expressed in my address two years since, that in all cases where convicts leave behind them families in comparatively destitute circumstances, the State ought to authorize the payment to such families of a moiety of their earnings, "and thus save the experience of the alms house, or a fate worse than death itself."

I earnestly commend this subject to your careful consideration.

STATE PRISON INSPECTORS.

In the inaugural address two years since, I urged the importance of creating a Board of Trustees for the general supervision of our penal and reformatory institutions. An experience of two years has but confirmed my opinion of the necessity for such a Board. As the law now stands the Executive is held directly responsible for the management of the Penitentiaries, and for the official conduct of the Warden, and yet has no choice in the selection of that officer. Nor does he have the time at command to give that minute attention to the prisons which the responsibility demands. I believe a Board of three Inspectors should be provided, who should be appointed by the Executive, subject to the consent of the Senate, to whom should be committed the general government of the prisons, with power to act, as is the case with other State institutions. They should be required to visit each prison as often as once in each quarter, and also to make report thereof quarterly to the Governor. I am satisfied it would be an improvement on the present practice.

THE REFORM SCHOOLS.

The work at the Reform Schools has been prosecuted with unabated and successful vigor. The Trustees have been especially diligent and careful in the performance of their duties, and the result is a report, submitted herewith, which will be satisfactory to the most exacting. Both Schools are officered by persons of experience, working hard for

the success of their respective departments, and they deserve congratulation on the success of their labors.

The whole number of children at the Boys' Reform School at Eldora is reported at 240, those at the Girls' School at Mitchellville at 84—a total of 324. During the existence of the School, 794 have been discharged, improved in both education and discipline, and, it is to be hoped, with better resolutions for the future.

Parents are apt to mistake the character of these Schools. They are not intended for the punishment of children at the mere caprice of parents, nor are the pupils discharged on demand; but they are intended rather for a reformatory course and recovery from evil ways. When once committed, children are beyond the control of the natural parents, and must remain during minority, or until reformation is practically secured.

Believing that these Schools are of profitable advantage in reclaiming wayward youth, I should be glad to see their capacity increased until they are fully able to meet the demands upon them. The School for Girls especially needs improvements and enlargements, and I recommend reasonable appropriations therefor. Superintendents Miles, at Eldora, and Lewelling, at Mitchellville, have proved themselves "the right ones in the right places," and in largest part the success which has attended the administration of these reformatories is due to their intelligent and unremitting labors. A very wise regulation is that which requires the boys to work one-half each day in varied labors on the farm, and devote the remaining half to school studies. The demand of the Trustees that appropriations be made for the instruction of the boys in some mechanical pursuits wherewith to help themselves on discharge, instead of being turned out to depend on common and uncertain day labor, is correct in principle and should be adopted as the policy of the State in respect to this School. I earnestly commend this subject to your thoughtful consideration. At the Girls' School the pupils are instructed in a suitable manner under the careful superintendence of Mrs. Lewelling, than whom a more accomplished teacher and adviser could not be found.

I commend to you also the recommendations of the Trustees for additional buildings and internal improvements, in which I cordially concur, believing the same absolutely requisite for the continuation of the good work now begun. The sums asked are not large, and with such a Board would be judiciously expended.

PARDONS.

The constitution places in hands of the Executive the power of pardon to all criminals, except as to those convicted of murder in the first degree, and as to them after the case has been referred to the General Assembly.

This reponsibility is of the gravest character, and in the discharge of the duties it has devolved upon me I have labored hard to do that only which would be for the interests of the party immediately interested, and the public as well. The number of applications has averaged several each week, and I have given each of them a patient and thorough examination. Besides, in my frequent visits to the Penitentiaries, I have always allowed the convicts to consult me, frequently remaining over a day or two for that purpose, believing that even if no encouragement could be given, the effect of the interview was always salutary to the party himself, compelling his opinion that that others were willing to hear his version of the trouble which caused his incarceration.

The total number of pardons granted in the two years of my administration has been 104. Nearly all of these have been conditional, and accepted as such, save by one convict, who refused the conditions, and remained his full time. Of the entire number granted, 72 were convicts in the Penitentiary, 12 were children committed to the Reform School, and 20 were discharged from county jails and city prisons. Six were suspensions of sentence to the Penitentiary on account of exceedingly poor health, and two from jails, one was a commutation of sentence, and one was a cancellation of the pardon. Of this entire number I have revoked two, they being parties conditionally released from the Penitentiary of the State at Fort Madison, but who violated the conditions whereby they were discharged, and, on proofs being presented, I issued warrants for the return of the convicts to the prison. I am determined to enforce the conditions of all discharges. Offenders must learn that if grace is shown them, they must observe the reasonable conditions imposed, *otherwise their re-commitment to prison will be absolutely certain.*

It will be observed by an examination of the pardon cases reported, that in most part the time has been shortened but a few weeks or months at the furthest. I am thoroughly satisfied after thoughtful consideration of this whole subject, that, save in extreme cases, the possibilities for the correct future of the convict are greatly enhanced

by his conditional discharge. In the first place, he is convinced that the State has a friendly interest in him, and is willing to trust him to regain his good standing as a man and citizen, and only demands that he abandon his evil ways; but, secondly, that if he willfully violates his pledges of reform, he is liable, *at any time*, to be returned to punishment.

That the effect of my reasoning and action has been salutary is abundantly evidenced in the fact, that so far as I know, but two have proved false to their promises of improvement, and each of these has been promptly sent back for the entire remainder of the term. I am greatly pleased in the exhibit thus made.

THE WOMAN'S PRISON.

A movement is being made in the direction of a separate prison for female convicts. I approve the idea, and when the Woman's Prison contemplated at Anamosa is completed, as is expected to be done during the present year, the State will have ample provision for this class. To their honor be it said, the women of the State have contributed but twelve convicts to the Penitentiaries.

I am in favor of a Reformatory for wayward females, beyond that now provided by law, which is only for the reformation of the young. In my judgment, the Girls' Reform School, at Mitchellville, should be enlarged sufficiently to provide for a class of women who are guilty of the minor offenses, such as shop-lifting and the smaller larcenies. The additional expense of such a prison would not be great, and I can see none but beneficial results therefrom.

For the graver crimes they can be confined in the woman's department of the Anamosa prison.

SPECIAL PARDONS.

Accompanying this message, I submit the cases of the following persons, convicted of murder in the first degree, and sentenced to the penitentiary for life, but who now petition for pardon, viz.:

Finis Allen, Fremont county;
William Dilley, Johnson county;
Annie Taylor, Clinton county;
George Stanley, Story county;
Lewis W. Weirich, Harrison county.

The requirements of the law, in the publication of notices, have been complied with, and I submit the cases to you for such action as you may deem proper. The original papers are on file in the Executive office.

CHARITIES AND REFORMS.

In this connection I cannot forbear to mention the work performed by the National Association of Charities and Reforms, which convened in Louisville, Kentucky, on the 24th day of September last, and remained in session several days, discussing the better methods for management of charitable, reformatory and penal institutions.

This Association has been in existence several years, and is made up of delegates from the several States, of persons interested in such work. I was invited to send delegates thereto, and appointed the following ladies and gentlemen, viz.: B. J. Miles, Hardin county; L. D. Lewelling, Polk county; Jennie McCowan, M. D., Scott county; Louise Hall, Des Moines county; Mary Wright, Polk county; A. Reynolds, Clinton county, C. S. Watkins, Scott county; the first four of whom attended the conference. The persons commissioned attended without fee or reward, thus testifying their interest in the object of the Association. Upon their return, they made a report to me of the results of their attendance, which is of such importance and absorbing interest that I append a copy thereof to this message.

The next session of this Association will be held at Rome, Italy, and I suggest for your consideration, the advisability of a reasonable appropriation to send delegates thereto. We have not yet reached that thoroughness in the treatment of these cases which is possible, and I am in favor of obtaining the fullest information, by experience and otherwise, which is within our reach, and disseminating the same for the public good.

STATE TRUSTEES.

The propriety of organizing a State Board of Trustees, who should have supervisory and advisory control of all our public institutions, has elicited much discussion among the people, and I am on record in favor of such a system. Several other States have so provided, and with beneficial results. I do not advise the abandonment of local, or separate Boards, for each of the institutions, for I think such ac-

tion would be unwise, and would be the concentration of too much power in the hands of a single Board, but that the State Board should have authority to make semi-annual inspections of the work at each hospital, asylum, or State school, and advise the local authorities in respect thereto, but should not compel change in government, unless the necessity therefor should first receive the explicit approval of the Executive. A Board of this character, composed of thoroughly trained business men, whose compensation should be made sufficient to command their earnest attention to the work, would, in my judgment, be of incalculable benefit to the State. We now have ten of these institutions of a charitable or penal character, and the expense of their maintenance is, of necessity, very great; and it becomes the State, without being illiberal, to secure commendable economy in their management. Under our present plan, these are not controlled with that uniformity in details which should obtain, but which I think could be secured through the wise counsel of a State Board. One of the important advantages which would follow the adoption of this system, would be the information which would be given the Executive and the General Assembly in the biennial reports which should be required.

The State of Michigan has had such a board for the past ten years, and it has proven of inestimable benefit to the institutions themselves, and not to them only, but to the State at large. The Board there consists of five persons, of whom four are nominated by the Governor with the consent of the Senate, and the Governor is *ex-officio* a member. The law also requires local Boards, when preparing their estimates for expenses for the coming biennial period, and in estimating appropriations for repairs and new buildings, and in preparing the plans therefor, to submit the same to the State Board for its opinion thereon.

I am firmly convinced that such an addition to our system would be productive of the best results.

THE PUBLIC HEALTH.

The report of the State Board of Health, voluminous though it be, will be examined with special interest. The information given the people through the circulars and publications which have been issued from time to time, and lastly, the report now submitted, will prove of great and continuing value. The gentlemen constituting the

Board are men of acknowledged skill in their profession, and their willingness to give time and attention to the work, and that without any compensation, should be mentioned to their credit.

The expense attending the Board is very small, limited to \$5,000 per annum, and is not to be compared with the beneficial results already experienced through its agency.

HISTORICAL SOCIETY.

In the report of the State Historical Society there is shown a complete catalogue of the books and pamphlets now in its possession. Even a casual glance will satisfy the reader that the collection is a very valuable one, and deserves all the protection the State can give. The gentlemen composing the Board of Curators are men who are earnest in the work of the Society, and deserve the thanks of the State for their unselfish and patriotic labors.

I fear the people generally do not comprehend the purpose of this society, for the reason that its existence is not thoroughly known. It would be well if the officers of the Board would address a circular letter to each county and town in the State, setting out the objects of the society, and thus secure their aid in promoting its interests. The society is a State organization connected with the State University, and its object, the collection and preservation of all facts connected with the settlement and growth of the State, in which work every citizen should feel a personal and enthusiastic interest. The expense of its maintenance is comparatively nothing, which fact should secure for it general public interest and assistance.

THE WEATHER SERVICE.

Professor Hinrichs, the Director of the Iowa Weather Service, has presented a very interesting report of the work of the Bureau, which will attract attention in all quarters. Professor Hinrichs has a well-established reputation among scientists everywhere, and this report will but add thereto. The information given will be of value to the people, and the service should be continued. The cost attending it is the small sum necessary to procure scientific instruments, the labor throughout the State being voluntarily done, no compensation being asked or granted.

The appropriation for this service is but one thousand dollars per

year, which covers the entire expense to the State, save the small item of printing the quarterly reports.

The Director is of the opinion the State ought to allow him some remuneration for his work, and also make provision for rent of rooms sufficient for the use of the Bureau, in which I cordially agree.

THE DENTAL SERVICE.

The new dental department of the University has prospered beyond all expectations. There were fourteen matriculates at the first session of 1882-3, and thirty for the second. The department has established itself in the confidence of the profession and the public, and promises great usefulness. The professors labor under great difficulties for the want of suitable appliances, and if the attendance upon the lectures increases in the future as in the past, which will undoubtedly be the case, it is imperative that more room be provided. Up to this time the professors have attended their classes without any compensation whatever. Inasmuch as this department is so encouraging, I suggest that reasonable appropriation be made to provide it with suitable quarters for the work designed, and that proper allowance be made for the services of the faculty.

TREASURY INSPECTORS.

At a previous session of the General Assembly a bill was introduced providing for the appointment of Treasury Inspectors, whose duty it should be, at least once in each year, to make critical examination of the condition of each county treasury in the State. True, the law requires the board of supervisors to perform this duty, and no doubt honest attempt is generally made thereto, but two difficulties are in the way of thorough settlement: first, the time of examination is always known; and, second, the members of the board, not having been trained in the science of accounts, are hardly able to do the duty.

I consider this a matter of great public concern. If such was the law, and competent men were appointed to this work, defalcations would be practically impossible. These Inspectors should be authorized to make the examination at any time, and should be prohibited the giving any notice thereof. I am satisfied such a measure would be of incalculable benefit to the entire State. It would satisfy the people respecting the conduct of these officers, who are often cruelly attacked when an examination of their business would establish their

integrity, but it is desirable as well in self-protection of the officers themselves, who with such a settlement would be content and satisfied.

THE STATE AGRICULTURAL SOCIETY.

The annual reports of this Society continue to improve in interest and are constantly attracting more general attention from the people. The vast amount of information which they contain is of permanent value to all citizens of the State, and, I am glad to add, the reports are much sought after in other States by persons who seek accurate information. The only expense to the State for the benefit of the Society is the printing and binding these annual reports, and inasmuch as through the circulation thereof in other States we are undoubtedly indebted in large part for the great immigration which has come to us in the last few years, and that of a superior class, which has added greatly to the wealth of the State, I am of opinion the state should assist in the work of the Society by a reasonable appropriation. If the State would publish and bind for the association the proceedings of the annual January meeting of the Society, and the papers submitted relating to agricultural topics, and also authorize the publication and distribution of the monthly reports of the agricultural interests of the State, it would be of immense value. The Secretary estimates that an appropriation of \$5,000 would cover all expenses thereof.

The chief employment of our people is agriculture. Whatever can be done to augment this great interest, to add to its importance and stimulate its growth, is equally to the advantage of the entire State. For this reason, realizing the vast and growing importance of this subject, I recommended, two years since, the organization of an Agricultural Department of the State government, which, through its Secretary, could furnish correct information to the people respecting all matters connected with the subject, and almost without cost; and in addition thereto the facts as to the manufacturing and mining development of the State. I am still of the same opinion, and would rejoice if the General Assembly would give shape to the proposition in the enactment of proper laws in respect thereof. All funds expended in development of these interests would be money well invested, which would make quick and paying returns.

THE HIGHWAYS.

The Legislative as well as the public attention has frequently been called to the necessity of some legislation which will conduce to the betterment of the roads of the State. We hold conventions, and there listen to theories advanced which are many and varied, but after all the discussion no satisfactory conclusion is reached, scarcely any two agree in opinion, save that the roads are not as good as may be, and finally adjournment is had, and we retire to our homes either confused respecting the whole matter, or solidly confirmed in our previous idea. The truth is, this subject of improvement of the public highways is an exceeding difficult, as well as perplexing, one, and will tax to the utmost the ingenuity and wisdom of the Legislative department.

For myself, I confess my opinions of the best methods of dealing with the question are not as satisfactory as I could wish, but I am well convinced that something needs be done in improvement of our road system. With a road tax list of nearly a half million dollars, it does seem to me the general condition of the highways should be bettered. The law allows a large portion of the road tax to be paid in labor, and therein I think is much of the difficulty under which we are laboring. If this tax was all payable in money, as I believe it should be, the same in the hands of a competent supervisor would accomplish much more than is now possible, and better roads would result. This will be conceded by every one.

Again, I incline to the opinion that it would be far better if we had but one roadmaster in the township, who should be held responsible for the roads therein, and that he be appointed by the trustees, and be accountable to them for his official action.

Akin to this matter of roads is that of bridges, in which all the people are equally interested. The tax for the building and repair of highway bridges, amounts to over a million dollars annually, and while it is true that our bridges are generally good ones, there are frequent times when the funds in hand are not sufficient to keep them in good repair, and the public suffers in consequence. Occasionally, bridges are lost through high waters in the streams, and in townships where the bridges are many, and the cost considerable, the public is frequently inconvenienced through the want of funds with which to rebuild the same, even though the maximum tax may have been levied.

I suggest the propriety of increasing the powers of the trustees in such cases, and having gained the consent of the board of supervisors thereto, that they be authorized to levy such additional tax as will replace the bridges swept away. I deem this matter important, as in the direction of better highway privileges.

I must also call your attention to the fact that the law requiring supervisors to place proper guide-boards at highway crossings, is not enforced, save in a very few road districts, throughout the entire State. Travelers complain thereof. Would it not be well to affix a penalty to all supervisors who fail to promptly obey this reasonable requirement?

THE PHARMACY COMMISSION.

The Eighteenth General Assembly, in response to a general public demand therefor, enacted a law organizing a Pharmacy Commission, the object of which was to regulate the sale of medicines and all poisonous drugs and liquids, in order to the better protection of the people. Thereafter none but persons qualified should be allowed to deal in such articles—the evidence of qualification being the certificate of the Commissioners. As might have been expected, vigorous opposition has been made thereto, and the Commissioners have been embarrassed to greater or less extent in enforcement of the provisions of the act. The Commission is made up of men skilled in their profession, and the general purpose of the law has received the unqualified endorsement of the State Pharmaceutical Society.

The report of the Commissioners will be laid before you, and should receive your attention. It may be the law needs amendment in respect to some of its details,—but that such a law is a necessity, needs no argument at my hands. None but educated and experienced persons should be allowed to deal out drugs and medicines to the public. We are all dependent upon the careful skill of such persons, and I believe some law of this character should have place upon the statute book. Make the requirements strict as you may—visit severest punishment upon all violators thereof—hedge it about with all the technicalities possible in protection of legitimate business—such provisions will receive my unqualified approval.

THE NEW CAPITOL.

In pursuance of the orders of your predecessors of the Nineteenth General Assembly, the Commissioners of the new Capitol have about completed as much of the work as was designated by the act, and the same is ready for your occupancy. I only regret that the entire building is not also completed, so that all the valuable records of the State could be immediately removed thither and be saved all possible danger of loss. The report of the Commissioners will be submitted to you, showing in detail the work done, the funds drawn from the treasury, and the expenditures thereof. The character of the work speaks for itself, and challenges criticism.

Inasmuch as the necessity increases every day for the early removal of all the State offices, I earnestly recommend sufficient appropriations for the rapid, but thorough, completion of the building, or that portion thereof designed for the public offices. This done, the remainder can be prosecuted at a later date, and without extraordinary tax levies. For detailed information relative to the entire work, I refer you to the several reports of the Commissioners.

The law should invest the janitors of the Capitol with authority to arrest all persons who should be detected in any attempt at defacement or mutilation thereof.

PUBLIC BUILDINGS.

In the near future the State will be obliged to construct several new and important public buildings, and the demand for repairs and additions to those now in use, is daily increasing. The practice has ever been to commit this work to the supervision of the Trustees of the institution, which is well enough, provided they can have the advice of some practical architect and builder. There should be a State Superintendent who should have general supervision of all improvements, and whose approval of plans should be necessary before any appropriation be drawn, or work commenced. The Superintendent should be a man skilled in architecture and of great and varied experience in building—and with such an one the character and real worth of our State buildings would be vastly increased. This has long been a favorite theory with me, and my past and recent experience in such matters has strongly confirmed me, not only in the propriety, but as well as the absolute necessity thereof. The services of

such a man, competent to the position, would be really invaluable to the State. I strongly commend this subject to your favorable consideration.

TRANSPORTATION.

The railroad question is one of vast and growing importance, affecting every class and condition of men, and, while it affords food for serious reflection to the studious and patriotic citizen who only desires that Right shall prevail, both as to the corporations and the people, also furnishes abundant opportunity for declaim by those whose only interest is a personal one, through which they may advance their ambition. The history of the country is replete with examples of both these characters, and will so continue through all time. In the minds of many, accumulations of capital have come to be regarded as dangerous to the well-being of the State, and that legislation should be directed to its discouragement; apparently forgetful of the fact that all great enterprises, in order to success, must be backed up by a reserve force sufficient to tide over the obstacles which invariably meet them at every step of their progress. This has been the history of the country from its infancy until now, and has been equally true of every civilized people. One of the greatest dangers to free government, now in view, is the possible array of labor against capital, endeavored to be brought about by designing men solely for their personal aggrandizement; and the railroad question is seized upon with an avidity otherwise unknown to them. Railroad owners and managers are entitled to the same rights and protection as any other of the people—no more, no less—and the law thus providing, every citizen should be content. It is claimed that such is not the case, and that special privilege is granted to these, and other like organizations; if true, the law needs amendment, for there should be no distinctions among the people; if not the fact, let us cease inveighing against them, and resolutely work for the interests of the whole people, irrespective of station or condition.

Ten years ago we placed upon the statute book an act regulating passenger and freight tariffs within the State; but after four years of experience the people decided that the law as then enacted was in large part not only impracticable, but that it operated unjustly both to the railway companies and to the whole people as well, and therefore the law was materially modified. A Board of Railway Commissioners was

then established, clothed with all necessary authority to examine cases of complaint, and make decision thereon. This system is in vogue in about half the States in the Union, having been begun in Massachusetts over fifteen years since, and now in satisfactory operation in the others. In fact, I believe that in those States having longest experience with such Boards, and where the system has been fairly tested, the general verdict is in its favor, as the best solution of the question. The Board acts in the same manner as a board of arbitration, and with but trifling cost to either party. There is no question but that the Board has saved large amounts in costs to the people. The cases presented have had patient hearing and thorough investigation, and in the findings the Board has set out at length the points in each case, with their opinions thereon. Necessarily, in a business so vast and complicated as railway operations have come to be, various and difficult questions are presented which are too important to be passed over without full and careful consideration; and while the Board has reviewed a large number of cases, and many of them presented with able persistence, it stands to the credit of the Commissioners that every decision thus far has been accepted in good faith by the parties interested and the judgment of the Board followed, save in one solitary instance; and that where the defendant, the railroad company, flatly refused to carry out the requirements of the Commission.

I believe the Board should be invested with authority to enforce its decisions, for although in the great majority of cases prompt compliance has been, and undoubtedly will follow its holdings, there may occasionally arise a case, like the one cited, wherein the ruling of the Commissioners was unquestionably the law and ought to have been accepted as such, in which authority should be exercised to prevent further wrong doing. In my judgment this power is a necessary adjunct to the completeness of the system: and that done, the Commissioner will occupy a position of independence. For a full understanding the work of the Commission, I respectfully refer you to the report submitted herewith, and commend it to your careful consideration.

The general railroad law should be amended so as to require companies to erect and maintain suitable station houses, lighted and warmed for the accommodation of travelers, at each and every railroad crossing within the State.

BOARD OF DENTAL EXAMINERS.

The Nineteenth General Assembly adopted an act to insure the better education of the practitioners of dentistry, and under its provisions five skilled dentists were appointed as a Board of Examiners. Their report, which has not yet been printed, but soon will be submitted, shows that at the time of the organization of the Board there were three hundred and sixty-seven persons authorized to engage in the practice of dentistry, and since then twenty-one new licenses have been issued. The business of the Board is conducted without expense to the State. During the year the receipts from fees and donations have been \$435.00, and the expenses of printing, postage, etc., \$440.14, leaving a balance of \$5.14 to be paid from future receipts. The examinations made appear to be thorough, yet fair and reasonable, and the work of the Commissioners has proven satisfactory to the public as well as the profession. I recommend that the system be continued.

COURT EXPENSES.

The complaints of the people in all parts of the State touching the increasing expenses of the courts, especially in the administration of criminal jurisprudence, calls loudly for reform in our judicial system. If the preliminary examinations, so much resorted to, could be abandoned in some degree, and changes of venue be refused, except for the general prejudice of the people of the county, and in respect to which the district attorney should be permitted to contest, and changes denied where the alleged prejudice of the judge was the ground for the application, a great stride would be made in the direction of reduced costs. Again, continuances are granted for too trivial reasons, and in most cases are applied for for the sole purpose of delay. It should be remembered that the prosecution is always expected to be ready for trial—the costs of its witnesses have already been made—and where continuance is then granted, the costs must be paid from out the public treasury. This is all wrong. The same requirements should obtain as to the defendant, except in extreme cases, where the judge would be able to see the absolute necessity for the continuance.

Evidently some legislation must be had respecting this important matter, and I trust the subject will receive your very earnest attention.

EX-GOVERNORS HEMPSTEAD AND LOWE.

Early in the past year it became my sad duty to announce to the people of the State the death of Ex-Governor Stephen Hempstead, who died on the 16th of February; and before the year closed the same service had to be repeated in memory of Ex-Governor Ralph P. Lowe, who breathed his last on the 22d of December. Both were men active, faithful and diligent in the service of the State, and died full of honors and rich in the esteem of their fellow-citizens. As they advanced in years they found the bitterness of partisan conflicts forgotten, and lived to know they were remembered only as honest men, citizens of patriotic spirit and true servants of the people. Hempstead and Lowe rendered valued service to the people at the period when the policies and framework of the State were being established, and their works must live long in grateful memory. In tribute to the memory of these early Governors, the Executive offices were closed and the national flag displayed at half-mast from the Capitol on the day of the respective funerals. May their memories live after them with the examples they have furnished.

TRUSTEESHIPS.

I am convinced we have too many trustees attached to our public institutions. All the business devolving upon them can be as well done where there are three members as well as where there are five or six employed. Proof of this is found by examination of the several reports submitted at this session. I would except only the University and State Agricultural College, for both of which I think one of the regents or trustees should be elected from each congressional district. In all the other cases, I recommend that the number of trustees be reduced to three.

IN GENERAL.

Various other subjects have presented themselves to me upon which comments might have been made, but the length of this message, already greater than I had anticipated, forbids further trespass upon your time.

The people look to you for such legislation as will advance the interests of the State, and conduce to the well being of all its citizens.

I have pointed out, in a plain and concise manner, wherein I think

our condition can be improved upon, and now leave the whole matter in your hands for final action.

Whatever shall commend itself to you as advisable in the more perfect management of the State in all its departments and interests, and shall contribute in any degree to the moral and physical good of the people, will command my prompt and unqualified approval.

BUREN R. SHERMAN.

APPENDIX.

EXHIBIT "A."

Report of the number of Insane in the State.

COUNTIES.	Total.	Adults.		Children.		Mt. Pleasant hos- pital.		Independence hospital.		County poor house.		Private asylums.		At homes of rel- tives.		Children in poor- house.		Jails.	
		M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F
		Adair.....	11	9	2				2	1				2	1				
Adams.....	6	4	2				4	2											
Allamakee.....	32	18	14						10	8	3				4	5			1
Appanoose.....	21	14	7				2	2			1		6	2		3			
Audubon.....	5	2	3				2	3											
Benton.....	27	11	16						11	10		6							
Black Hawk.....	23	8	15						6	11	1	2			1	2			
Boone.....	18	9	9						9	9									
Bremer.....	11	5	6						5	6									
Buchanan.....	26	15	11						12	9	2	2			1				
Buena Vista.....	8	5	3						4	3	1								
Butler.....	14	10	4						9	4	1								
Calhoun.....	2	2							2										
Carroll.....	7	4	3						4	3									
Cass.....	11	5	6				5	3											
Cedar.....	20	8	12				4	7											
Cerro Gordo.....	11	4	7						1	3	4	5							
Cherokee.....	7	1	6						1	5	3	3			1				
Chickasaw.....	15	10	5						3	4	6	1			2	1			
Clarke.....	6	4	2				2	2			1				1				
Clay.....	1	1							1										
Clayton.....	55	29	26						20	15	9	11							
Clinton.....	43	19	24						7	8	12	16							
Crawford.....	7	3	4						3	4									
Dallas.....	17	10	7				6	4			1	1	1	1	1	2			
Davis.....	14	7	7				4	6					1		2	1			
Decatur.....	14	9	5				5	3			4	2							
Delaware.....	22	13	9						7	7	6	2							
Des Moines.....	39	15	24				10	13			4	11	1						
Dickinson.....	1	1							1										
Dubuque.....	94	58	36						23	24	22	12	6						7
Emmet.....	3	1	2						1	2									
Fayette.....	19	11	8						11	7	1								
Floyd.....	5	4	1						4	1									
Franklin.....	11	6	5						3	4					2	1			1
Fremont.....	10	5	5				4	4			1	1							
Greene.....	7	4	3						4	2		1							
Grundy.....	7	4	3						4	3									
Guthrie.....	8	3	5				2	4				1	1						
Hamilton.....	19	13	6						6	5	7	1							
Hancock.....	3	2	1						1	1					1				
Hardin.....	12	5	7						5	7									
Harrison.....	13	6	7				4	3					2	4					
Henry.....	27	11	16								5	9							
Howard.....	11	6	5				6	7			5	5	1						
Humboldt.....	3	2	1						2	1									
Ida.....	1	1							1										
Iowa.....	24	15	9				7	5			8	4							
Jackson.....	29	16	11	2					7	8							2		2
Jasper.....	17	9	8				4	5			5	3							

EXHIBIT "A"—CONTINUED.

COUNTIES.	Total.	Adults.		Children.		Mt. Pleasant hos- pital.		Independence hospital.		County poor house.		Private asylums.		At homes of rela- tives.		Children in poor house.		Jails.	
		M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F
		Jefferson.....	23	11	15			3	6			8	9						
Johnson.....	37	24	13			8	9			13	2	1	2						
Jones.....	25	12	11	1	1			9	9	2	1					1	1	1	
Keokuk.....	21	9	12			4	5			5	7								
Kossuth.....	6	3	3					3	3										
Lee.....	65	30	35			11	13			19	21		1						
Linn.....	45	22	23					18	19	4	3								
Louisa.....	25	13	12			4	3			8	4		4	1	1				
Lucas.....	13	8	5			4	4			3				1	1				
Lyon.....																			
Madison.....	14	5	9			3	3			2	6								
Mahaska.....	15	6	9			3	6			3	3								
Marion.....	21	12	9			6	4			6	5								
Marshall.....	21	15	6					7	3	8	3								
Mills.....	14	10	4			5	3			4	1			1					
Mitchell.....	7	1	6					1	6										
Monona.....	6	4	2					3	2										1
Monroe.....	22	11	11			3	2			5	2			3	7				
Montgomery.....	8	5	3			1	2			3	1	1							
Muscatine.....	27	17	10			4	7			5	1	8	2						
O'Brien.....	2		2						2										
Osceola.....																			
Page.....	21	14	7			3	4					10	2	1	1				
Palo Alto.....	1	1									1								
Plymouth.....	5	2	3																2
Pocahontas.....	6	5	1							5	1								
Polk.....	61	35	26			19	14			16	12								
Pottawattamie.....	38	19	19			7	14	1				11	5						
Poweshiek.....	14	8	6			4	5		1	2				2					
Ringgold.....	7	3	4			1	4					1		1					
Sac.....	5	4	1					4	1										
Scott.....	72	26	46			7	13					18	30	1	3				
Shelby.....	7	5	2			3	2					2							
Sioux.....	6	4	2					4	2										
Story.....	10	7	3					6	2	1	1								
Tama.....	20	12	8					7	3	5	5								
Taylor.....	8	4	4			2	3			2	1								
Union.....	12	4	8			3	6			1	2								
Van Buren.....	25	14	11			4	6			10	5								
Wapello.....	44	27	17			5	8			22	9								
Warren.....	13	6	7			2	2	4		4	3								
Washington.....	18	9	9			2	2			7	7								
Wayne.....	13	7	6			2	6			5									
Webster.....	21	13	8					9	6	4	2								
Winnebago.....	3	1	2					1	2										
Winneshiek.....	30	19	11					10	9	6	2	3							
Woodbury.....	18	8	10					7	9	1	1								
Worth.....	3	3						3											
Wright.....	8	4	4					4	4										
Total.....	1726	916	806	3	1	203	236	297	265	298	217	75	58	27	31	3	1	13	2

EXHIBIT B.

SUPPLEMENTAL REPORT OF THE BUILDING COMMISSIONERS, INDEPENDENCE HOSPITAL.

SUPPLEMENTAL REPORT OF BOARD OF TRUSTEES.

IOWA HOSPITAL FOR THE INSANE AT INDEPENDENCE, January 3, 1884. }

To his Excellency, BUREN R. SHERMAN, Governor of Iowa:

In our former report we represent the necessity of the State purchasing eighty acres of land for the use of this Institution.

This land is the south-half of the southeast quarter of section six (6), township eighty-eight (88), north of range nine (9).

It lies north of the north-half of the northeast quarter of section seven (7), and west of the south half of the southwest quarter of section five (5), in said township and range, which the State now owns.

The southeast corner of this land is within about twenty rods of the cow-barn and hog-house belonging to the Hospital. It is so situated that it could be fenced in with the other lands without extra cost, and can be used and farmed by the employes of the Hospital at very little extra expense.

This eighty acres is good farm land and has been cultivated by the Hospital people the past year. In order to show what has been done, we annex a statement of the crops raised on the place, and the cost of raising them aside from the labor done by the patients.

Products raised on the Gray farm for the season of 1883:

Oats, 1,550 bushels, at 25 cents	\$387.50
White beans, 107 bushels, at \$2.00	214.00
Sweet potatoes, 20 bushels, at \$1.00	20.00
Hay, 50 tons, at \$5.00	250.00
Oat straw, 20 tons, at \$3.50	70.00
Pasturage in fall for cows	50.00
	<hr/>
	\$991.50

Expenses of the farm for 1883:

Paid rent	\$120.00
Oats for seed	34.20
Beans for seed	17.00
Threshing oats	16.00
Cutting oats and hay	25.00
Labor, (other than patients)	76.75— 288.95
	<hr/>
Profits without including labor of patients	\$702.55

It will be seen by the above statement that the farm will yield a profit to the Institution each year, aside from the water supply that is under it.

If we call the value of the labor done by the patients the same as we paid rent this year, then each year we might expect a net income about seven hundred dollars, which would be a good interest on the two thousand six hundred and eighty (2,680) dollars, which the land can be purchased for now.

We have a contract in writing with Dr. G. H. Hill to sell this land to the State, which is as follows:

INDEPENDENCE, IOWA, August 4th, 1883.

I bought eighty acres of land adjoining the farm belonging to the Hospital of Elizabeth Gray, October 25th, 1882, for \$30 per acre	\$2,400.00
Seven per cent. interest on money for one year and a half	252.00
Taxes for 1882 were	33.81
Insurance on the house	6.00
Repairs on the house	75.00
Making 160 rods of barbed-wire fence	80.00
	<hr/>
	\$2,846.81
One year's rent of farm	120.00
One year's rent of house	48.00— 168.00
	<hr/>
Cost to April, 1884	\$2,678.81

I hereby agree to sell this farm to the Trustees of the Iowa Hospital for the Insane, next April for two thousand six hundred and eighty (2,680) dollars.

GERSHOM H. HILL.

While we believe it is for the interest of the State to purchase this land for what produce it will yield each year, the prime interest of the State is to secure the water that it will furnish for the use of the Hospital.

We have stated that the well from which water has been heretofore and is now taken, is located within a few rods of this land, and that the water-basin extends under this land, and is largely covered by this tract, a small part of it being under the land owned by the State.

In order to make a more satisfactory showing of the capabilities of the water-basin, in July last the Trustees ordered another well made on this land.

About twenty rods northwest from our old well we have put down a driven well-point one and a half inches in diameter, which was sunk to the depth of sixteen feet.

Then we had four others put down twenty-five feet from this central point, one north, one east, one south, one west; each of these was one and one fourth inches in diameter. These points were all connected together at the center and one pump used. This was attached to a windmill and the water pumped was emptied into one well.

This new well, thus arranged, has furnished six hundred barrels of water a day whenever there has been wind to operate the mill. The amount is lessened in days when the wind is not strong enough to operate the pump all the time. This supply of water has not lessened the amount given by the well that the State owns. We also have had borings made in other places on this eighty acres during the summer, and we find that the extent of this water-basin is great, and that its depth is from twelve to twenty feet, with a bed of gravel bearing water of four to eight feet in depth.

From these experiments and borings, we have no hesitancy in saying that we believe there is water enough in this bed to supply the Hospital for all time.

This certainly will be the case so long as we have an average rainfall of twenty inches or more.

We cannot too strongly urge upon the State the wisdom of now securing this land. The price is as low as any land as good as this

has been purchased for in that vicinity within two years past. It is much needed for farm purposes, and that will not interfere with its use for water supply. In case this body of water is not secured, the State will be under the necessity of going to the river for its supply. This stream is over a mile and three quarters distant. It would require an engine at the river to force the water up to the building; it would then have to be filtered before it could be used, and the expense of running the engine would be considerable.

The cost of a steam boiler and pump with sufficient power to force the water from the river to the Hospital is estimated at.....	\$ 3,200.00
The cost of a pump and boiler-house.....	1,000.00
The cost of the right of way for the pipes and land for building...	200.00
The cost of the pipe for water.....	17,814.00
The cost of a filter.....	1,000.00
The cost of laying a pipe for water.....	500.00
The cost each year to maintain and run the engine including fuel..	600.00
	\$24,314.00

It will be seen that the cost of getting the water-works ready from the river is much more than it will be from the place we recommend. The annual cost of running the engine at the river is considerable, while from this land we can pump the water with a pump set in the engine-room of the Hospital.

The land where this water-bed is lies a few feet higher than the the land on which the Hospital building stands, so there is no force necessary except to raise the water from the bed to within four feet of the surface, or an elevation of twelve feet; the water will then run to the building without further force, while in pumping water from the river it will require to be elevated about eighty feet. It will be seen that it will require much more force to get the water from the river than from this land.

The water from this land is pure and ready for use for all purposes as pumped from the ground, and requires no filtering.

We cannot too urgently request that this matter be brought to the attention of the Legislature, and that they be urged to make the necessary appropriation to secure this land.

All of which is respectfully submitted.

ERASTUS G. MORGAN,	} Trustees.
LEWIS H. SMITH,	
ALBERT REYNOLDS,	
JANE C. MCKINNEY,	
JED. LAKE,	

EXHIBIT C.

REPORT ON CHARITIES AND REFORM.

To his Excellency, BUREN R. SHERMAN, Governor of the State of Iowa:

Of the important problems which arise in the government of a great State, there are probably none more difficult of solution than the method of dealing with the defective, dependent, and criminal classes of society.

How to provide for the deaf and dumb, the blind, and the feeble-minded, so that in each case nature's scant endowment shall be so wisely and effectively supplemented as to enable them to hold their own upon the stage of life; how to so train and educate the incorrigible youth of our State as to bring them up to the plane of self-supporting, self-respecting, law-abiding citizenship; how to deal with the criminal so as to secure the protection of society, the moral improvement of the delinquent, and to reduce the commission of crime to a minimum; how to aid the destitute without encouraging pauperism; how to provide for that most helpless and wretched of all destitute classes—the insane—in such a way as to restore to health when possible, or, failing in that, secure such care as humanity demands; and further, how to stay the increasing tide of insanity—these questions are surely of moment to the commonwealth. They are mighty problems attendant upon our growing civilization, which demand the best thought of our time.

Realizing the difficulties in the way of arriving at trustworthy conclusions in regard to the remedies for these evils, which have become a part of our complex social organization, a number of public spirited citizens, a few years ago, organized themselves into a society for the purpose of studying these problems, exchanging experiences, and cultivating mutual helpfulness in devising preventive measures.

The first organization of this kind was composed of officers of Reform Schools in New York City, in 1857. Later, they were joined by officials from other juvenile institutions. Since that time, charitable and philanthropic societies have multiplied, and some of them, notably the Prison Congress of the last decade, and the resulting National Prison Association, have given earnest and intelligent consideration to penal and reformatory questions.

The National Conference of Charities and Corrections, however, is wider in its scope than any of these; in fact, includes them all. It is western in its origin, a conference between the State Boards of Charities of Illinois and Wisconsin, in 1872, suggesting the desirability of a permanent organization for the purpose of studying such questions as came under their official cognizance. Other States were invited to join them, and year by year their scope has been widened, until now it includes not only representatives of State Boards of Charities, but also of the Associated Charities of the larger cities, Prison Commissioners, officers of all kinds of charitable and correctional institutions throughout the country, together with delegates appointed by their respective Governors to represent such States as have no State Board of Charities.

Your Excellency, on behalf of the State, appointed seven delegates to the tenth of their annual Conferences, and all whose names are appended to this report were in attendance.

The Conference was held in Louisville, Ky., September 24-29, 1883, and was attended by upwards of four hundred delegates, representing thirty-three States.

In this remarkable convention were gathered Episcopal bishops, Catholic priests, Jewish rabbis, clergymen of every denomination, doctors of all schools, philanthropists of wealth and leisure, representatives of all political parties, business men, officers from all kinds of charitable and correctional institutions, women from all branches of work affiliating with this organization—all joining hands in the interest of suffering humanity.

The Conference held their sessions daily, and the topics discussed were—

1. The work of State Boards of Charities.
2. Charity Organization in Cities.
3. Preventive Work among Children.
4. Crimes and Penalties.

5. Preventive Medical Charities.
6. Provision for the Chronic Insane.
7. Education and Training of the Deaf and Dumb.
8. Building Plans for Public Institutions.
9. Reports from States.

Without entering into detail as to the valuable papers presented under each of the above heads, and the accompanying discussions, which the published proceedings will show, we desire to briefly summarize such information presented, and conclusions reached, as we deem of special interest to the people of our own State.

STATE BOARDS OF CHARITIES.

The report of this committee was interesting and comprehensive, and contained a synopsis of their work in the eleven States in which they are now in successful operation, viz.: Massachusetts, New York, Pennsylvania, Rhode Island, Connecticut, Ohio, Illinois, Wisconsin, Michigan, Minnesota, and Kansas.

By a comparison of the duties and powers of these Boards in the several States, it appears that in most of them advisory powers only are granted. In Kansas and Rhode Island, however, they are given full administrative powers, these States having no local Boards of Trustees.

In Wisconsin, a single salaried Board of Control is substituted for local Boards of Trustees, and the State Board of Charities have advisory powers. In New York the prisons are exempt, being under other supervision. But in the greater number of States these Boards have advisory supervision of all the penal, charitable and reformatory institutions of the State. Although there is considerable variation in matters of detail and questions of local policy, the vital point of difference is the possession or non-possession of administrative powers.

CHARITY ORGANIZATION IN CITIES.

Special prominence was given to this topic, the papers being valuable and the discussion full and free. Although we have no great cities, as yet, within our borders, the evils of vagrancy and pauperism are sufficiently pronounced and are on the increase notwithstanding our material prosperity. As in all evils of this class, prevention is better than cure, it may, perhaps, be the part of wisdom to give the

matter some consideration without waiting for it to assume threatening proportions. A most excellent paper on this subject was read by Mr. McCulloch, of Indianapolis, and the discussion which was continued through the afternoon and evening was participated in by distinguished representatives of New York, Philadelphia, Boston, and other large cities.

The central idea of city organization is the registration of all who apply for aid, with such facts in their family history as may have a bearing on questions of social or political economy. The aims of this excellent method have been formulated as follows:

1. *Repressive Work*—The detection of fraud.
2. *Benevolent Work*—The adequate relief of the honest poor.
3. *Provident Work*—The establishment and promotion of various schemes for the encouragement of thrift and self help.
4. *Reformatory Work*—The suppression of social abuses.

Although of recent introduction into this country, this plan is already in successful operation in twenty-five or more of our larger cities.

PREVENTIVE WORK AMONG CHILDREN.

This subject while of general interest to the Conference was of special importance to those engaged in juvenile institutions. Even our reformatories are, or may be, in a large measure preventive institutions.

They receive many children who have only taken the first step in a criminal career, and, to such, the training and influence of the reform school becomes the protection and moral strength of after years.

The great interest in child-raising was so manifest that after the time allotted to this subject had been consumed, an extra session was held on the following day, apart from the regular conference, so that there might be a more full and free interchange of opinions and experiences.

At the opening of the regular session an able and excellent paper was presented by Hon. W. P. Letchworth, Secretary of the State Board of Charities of New York. Mr. Letchworth has traveled extensively in Europe and America, visiting the various child-saving institutions of both continents, and wherever he is known his opinions have great influence.

Mr. Coffin, of Indiana, read a brief report of the recent Interna-

tional Congress held at Paris, which comprised representatives from all civilized nations interested in the important work of saving the children.

A number of other valuable papers were contributed, and the session closed with an additional paper from Mr. Letchworth on "The Classification and Industrial Employment of Destitute and Delinquent Children." The discussion of this paper developed the need of rigid and appropriate classification of children in reformatories, showed the value of inculcating habits of industry, and led to a consideration of the care of children after leaving the reformatory.

One of the greatest difficulties in the way of permanent reformation, is the environment of the child after taking leave of the institution. Apropos to this question Judge Ferris, of Tennessee, read a remarkable paper setting forth the good results of an agency for placing destitute and homeless children in good families.

There are in every institution, and we may add, in every community, children who have become vicious from the neglect of parents or friends, and the temptations to which they are consequently exposed; and if such children could be rescued by some timely agency and placed in good homes they would become useful citizens. The reform school might serve excellently as a classifying agency, thus placing out the better class while the more vicious are retained, but the method would be attended with some expense, for which no provision has, as yet, been made. The most critical judgment would also be required in selecting homes, and children which should be adapted, each to the other, and the most careful supervision would have to be exercised over the child thus placed out.

There is no doubt that a large part of the good work done in reformatories, and for which the State has paid liberally, is lost to the public from the lack of this important after-supervision.

CRIMES AND PENALTIES.

The discussion of this subject was opened by a paper on "The Past Penitentiary Treatment of Criminals," by Gen. Brinkerhoff, of Ohio. Another most excellent paper was by Miss Hall, of the Woman's Prison at Adrian, Michigan, upon "The Reformation of Criminal Girls." These were followed by Judge Young, of the Supreme Court of Minnesota, on "The Reformatory Idea in Penal Treatment," and Judge Henry, of the Supreme Court of Missouri, on

"Aid to Discharged Criminals." It is worthy of note that while a large number of papers were read by the most eminent students of penology, the central thought was the reformation of the criminal, which, it must be confessed, is a comparatively modern idea, but worthy the enlightened civilization of the age.

The evening session, for further consideration of this subject, was occupied by an address from Geo. W. Cable, the distinguished novelist, of New Orleans, upon "The Lessee Prison System as Administered at the South." Of this paper, the President of the Conference, Rev. Fred. Wines, has said in a recent report: "For more than two hours he held his audience as if under a spell, while he quoted from the official reports of southern prison officers and lessees, and drew from them inferences which, if they bear the test of examination, must, when they attract the notice of the southern people, result in the abolition of the abuses which he depicted. When he took his seat, no one offered any defence of the system, but Gen. Anderson, of Kentucky, thrilled us by a fiery speech, denouncing the wrongs perpetrated under it. Both Mr. Cable and Gen. Anderson were loudly applauded. It is said that Mr. Cable's article is to appear in the North American Review."

EDUCATION OF THE DEAF AND DUMB.

The consideration of this topic was a valuable part of the proceedings. A report from the standing committee was read by Dr. Isaac L. Peet, the eminent Principal of the New York Institution for the Deaf and Dumb. The report covered the whole field of deaf mute instruction in its various phases throughout the United States, and was one of the most interesting and exhaustive of the session. A number of teachers of the deaf were present from Ohio, Nebraska, Minnesota, Illinois, Georgia, South Carolina and elsewhere, and an interesting discussion followed the reading of Dr. Peet's paper. The education of deaf mutes was urged on the ground of political economy rather than benevolence, the statement being made that *educated* deaf mutes were not found in either the pauper or the criminal classes.

The new departure in deaf mute instruction recently taken in Nebraska, being referred to Mr. J. A. Gillespie, Principal of the Nebraska Institution, gave an account of the discovery in that Institution that certain of the deaf are possessed of a latent sense of hear-

ing, which may be cultivated and developed by suitable training. The matter was thoroughly tested, and the possibility of such development demonstrated beyond cavil, by a class of fourteen semi-deaf pupils who are separated from the rest and restored to hearing as well as speech by this new method of training, developed and perfected by Miss Mary McCowan, one of the teachers of the Institution.

Miss McCowan, now principal for the "Voice and Hearing School for the Deaf" in Chicago, was in attendance as a delegate, with two pupils so trained—boys of eight years of age. Though these boys had been under instruction but one year, they conversed with considerable readiness, and demonstrated to the satisfaction of all who interviewed them that they *heard* what was said in an ordinary conversational tone.

It is estimated that about one-fifth of the children now being educated as deaf mutes, may by this method be more or less completely restored to hearing. As the method of instruction is diametrically opposed to that heretofore in use in deaf mute institutions, the results will probably be a separation of such children from the hopelessly deaf, and their education in institutions especially adapted to their needs.

PROVISION FOR THE CHRONIC INSANE.

The chairman of this standing committee, owing to illness and death in his family, was not present, and failed to send the report from which so much had been expected. Valuable papers, however, were presented by Drs. Waedner and Dewy of Illinois. A number of Southern superintendents were present, some of them representing the most advanced ideas of individual scientific treatment, and of economical administration. Without going further into detail; the following conclusions will doubtless be of interest to the people of our own State, to whom this question is one of vital importance:

1. *The insane are the wards of the State.*
2. Neither length of disease nor poverty should lessen the claim of any insane person to the best care of which his condition may admit.
3. No provision should be made for a portion of the insane at a cost disproportioned to the ability of the public to make provision for all.
4. The pecuniary burden of insanity may be reduced by making

separate provision for such cases of chronic insanity as do not require the exclusive appliances of a hospital especially designated for the cure of recent cases, or the custody of dangerous and troublesome ones; the principle of separation being *not their condition as respects curability, but their condition in respect to the amount of restraint and personal care they require.*

5. The interests of the insane, and of the whole community, require that greater facilities for labor and useful employment be furnished the inmates of our insane hospitals. A larger degree of dependence upon these agencies having been found to notably diminish the necessity for restraint, and exert a beneficial effect upon both the bodily and mental condition.

6. Insanity being largely an incurable disease, and on the increase in all civilized countries, its prophylax is a matter of the highest public importance; hence, medical colleges should give instruction in mental diseases, at least equal in quantity and quality to that afforded in any other well recognized special department in medicine. Boards of Health should constitute mental hygiene one important department of their work, which subject should also find an exponent and an advocate in the general practitioner of medicine.

At the close of the Conference resolutions were passed calling the attention of the President, the Governors of the States, and the various Legislatures to the International Prison Congress which is to convene at Rome, in Europe October 15, 1884, and urging the appointment of suitable representatives of this country to attend that great conference.

Your representatives heartily approve these resolutions, and respectfully suggest that it would well comport with the dignity and humane spirit of our own enlightened State to be represented in the said International Prison Congress.

Respectfully submitted.

L. D. LEWELLING, JENNIE McCOWAN, M. D. B. J. MILES, MRS. BENTON J. HALL,	} Delegates.
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INAUGURAL ADDRESS

OF

BUREN R. SHERMAN,

GOVERNOR OF IOWA,

DELIVERED

AT HIS SECOND INAUGURATION,

JANUARY 17, 1884.

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