

REPORT
OF THE
JOINT COMMITTEE
OF THE
TWENTIETH GENERAL ASSEMBLY
OF THE
STATE OF IOWA,
APPOINTED TO VISIT THE
PENITENTIARY OF THE STATE
LOCATED AT
FORT MADISON.

PRINTED BY ORDER OF THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY.

DES MOINES:
GEO. E. ROBERTS, STATE PRINTER.
1884.

REPORT.

To the Twentieth General Assembly of the State of Iowa:

THE undersigned, constituting your committee to visit the Penitentiary at Ft. Madison, beg leave to submit the following statement of their doings as such committee, under Concurrent Resolution No. 10, defining our duties, as follows:

“CONCURRENT RESOLUTION.

“Resolved by the House, the Senate concurring:

“That there be appointed committees to visit the several State institutions, each of said committees to be composed of three members, two from the House and one from the Senate; said committees to report to the General Assembly on or before the 15th day of February next. They shall examine and include in their report—

“*First.* Whether the appropriations made by the last General Assembly have been wisely and economically expended.

“*Second.* Whether they have been expended for the object appropriated.

“*Third.* Whether chapter 67 of the acts of the Seventeenth General Assembly have been complied with, in not contracting indebtedness in excess of the appropriations.

“*Fourth.* Whether there has been any diversion of the money from the specific purpose for which it was drawn from the State treasury.

“Said committees shall also report the names and number of persons employed at the several institutions; for what purpose employed, and at what salary; also, whether any of the employes receive, or have received, anything in addition to the salary, in the way of board, rooms, lights, fuel or clothing, or anything else, at the expense of the State. The said committees shall also examine and report as to the sufficiency of the means of fire escape in case of fire, and also as to

the protection against fire. And said committees are hereby authorized and requested to present other and further report than herein mentioned, which they may deem necessary to be made known to the General Assembly."

We arrived at the prison on Tuesday morning, the 5th inst., and remained until Thursday afternoon, the 7th inst., devoting our entire time to a personal examination of the prison, its workings and management, and to interviews with prisoners. The Warden and officers affording us every facility in their power to assist us in the discharge of our duty; and if it has not been well done no blame should be attached to them.

We find that the five thousand dollars appropriated by the Nineteenth General Assembly for general repairs and contingent purposes has all been expended, and out of it there has been erected a frame ice-house, a brick soap-house; new floors have been put into shops No. one, three, four, six and eight, used by the chair company and the farm tool company; about one thousand feet additional sewer pipes have been laid, to supply more perfect drainage, and many other useful and necessary improvements have been made from time to time, as required.

We find the buildings and property in fair repair, with a few exceptions. That seventy-nine and eighteen one-hundred dollars have been paid on account of repairs made, out of the support fund.

That the two thousand dollars appropriated for the transportation of discharged convicts has all been expended for that purpose, and \$125.55 paid out of the support fund for this purpose, in order to enable the Warden to carry out the provisions of the law, as contained in section 4779 of the Code, relative to the payment of the railroad fare of each discharged convict to a distance from the prison equal to that from which he had been sent.

That the one thousand dollars appropriated for fixtures and apparatus in the wash-house and bath-room has all been expended, and the State has a plain but very perfect bath-house, with accommodations for fifty men at one time, where the prisoners are allowed, and required, to take a bath once a week, which, in our judgment, adds greatly to their health.

That the four thousand four hundred dollars appropriated for repairs on old and the erection of new water-works, has been used in the erection of a new reservoir, on the hill in the rear of the prison,

of about 6,000 barrels capacity, at a cost of about one thousand dollars. A new and substantial brick pump and coal house, with iron roof, has been built on the river bank, at a cost of about four hundred dollars, in which has been placed a new steam Dean pump at a cost of about six hundred dollars. A six-inch cast iron main has been laid from the river to the reservoir, a distance of about 2,000 feet, also in the prison for the distribution of the water, at a cost of about fourteen hundred dollars. And the balance of said appropriation has been used in the purchase of valves and fixtures and repairs on old waterworks and in making a well with filter at the river from which the water is pumped to the reservoir.

That the four hundred dollars appropriated for the purchase of rubber fire-hose has been well expended in the purchase of 700 feet of hose and reel for same.

That the two hundred and fifty dollars appropriated for furniture for warden's house, has been expended in the purchase of new carpets, parlor furniture and fixtures now in place in the warden's residence.

That fifty-eight of the sixty dollars appropriated for the purchase of a new wagon for prison use has been invested in the article for which it was appropriated, leaving two dollars of this fund unexpended.

That the eighty dollars allowed for the purchase of new suits for the surgeon and hospital steward, was by the warden paid over to the gentlemen filling these positions and their receipts taken therefor.

That of the three thousand dollars appropriated by the last General Assembly for steam-heating apparatus, there remains unexpended the sum of seven hundred seventy-nine and 11-100 dollars; that eleven hundred sixty-eight and 77-100 dollars of said sum was expended in 1882, and ten hundred fifty-two and 12-100 dollars in 1883. We find that the shoe shops, wash-house, dry-room, cell-room, turnkey's office, warden's house and office are warmed by steam, and the danger of loss by fire, also the expense of keeping the same comfortable, has thereby been greatly diminished.

We find that so far as we have been able to ascertain, all of said appropriations have been wisely and economically expended for the purposes and objects appropriated, except as herein shown.

That chapter sixty-seven of the acts of the Seventeenth General

Assembly have been complied with in not contracting indebtedness in excess of the appropriations, and that there has been no diversion of the money from the specific purpose for which it was drawn from the State treasury, except as appears by this report.

The following named persons are employed at and about the prison:

Number.	Position.	NAME.	Salary per month.
1	Warden.....	E. C. McMillen.....	
2	Deputy Warden.....	J. Townsend.....	\$ 166.66
3	Clerk.....	M. T. Butterfield.....	100.00
4	Chaplain.....	W. C. Gunn.....	70.00
5	Physician.....	A. W. Hoffmeister.....	70.00
6	Hospital Steward.....	Wm. Moore.....	50.00
7	Turnkey.....	Allen Davidson.....	50.00
8	Guard.....	A. E. Whitney.....	50.00
9	Guard.....	C. H. Jamieson.....	50.00
10	Guard.....	Jos. Moore.....	50.00
11	Guard.....	Andy Young.....	50.00
12	Guard.....	P. L. Carbouh.....	50.00
13	Guard.....	T. Stone.....	50.00
14	Guard.....	Ed. Ruthven.....	50.00
15	Guard.....	S. Berstler.....	50.00
16	Guard.....	James Everst.....	50.00
17	Guard.....	T. P. Hollowell.....	50.00
18	Guard.....	T. Latta.....	50.00
19	Guard.....	D. Kent.....	50.00
20	Guard.....	Oscar Davis.....	50.00
21	Guard.....	A. Scherfe.....	50.00
22	Guard.....	A. W. Griffith.....	50.00
23	Guard.....	A. R. Thayer.....	50.00
24	Guard.....	I. Snyder.....	50.00
25	Guard.....	T. R. Armor.....	50.00
26	Guard.....	J. M. Smith.....	50.00
27	Guard.....	D. L. Alley.....	50.00
28	Guard.....	W. S. Gilmer.....	50.00
29	Guard.....	J. E. Henderson.....	50.00
30	Guard.....	L. L. Scovil.....	50.00
31	Guard.....	W. H. Garner.....	50.00
32	Guard.....	L. L. Therme.....	50.00
33	Guard.....	J. T. Farmington.....	50.00
34	Guard.....	R. Evans.....	50.00
35	Guard.....	J. L. Pleasants.....	50.00
36	Guard.....	J. H. Tebbe.....	50.00
37	Guard.....	Joseph Huff.....	50.00
38	Guard.....	Ed. Huffman.....	50.00
39	Guard.....	J. V. Hampton.....	50.00
40	Guard.....	P. S. Stone.....	50.00
41	Guard.....	I. J. Dodd.....	50.00
42	Guard.....	J. McKaig.....	50.00
43	Guard.....	C. Beverly.....	50.00

That the Warden receives in addition to his salary the use of the house in which he resides, the furniture therein, fuel and lights, and

the Deputy Warden receives in addition to his salary the use of the house in which he resides free of rent. No other employe receives anything in addition to their salary in any way, so far as we are able to learn.

We find that the means of fire escape and the protection against fire are ample. The danger of fire has been very much diminished by the substitution of steam for heating purposes in place of the stoves heretofore used, and the facilities for extinguishing fire much increased by the new water works and the purchase of new hose; and in our judgment the replacing of the stoves used in the chair and wood shops of the Farm Tool Company by steam-heating apparatus will add greatly to the comfort and health of the men, and very much lessen the expense and danger from fire.

After a careful examination of the wants of the institution, we recommend the following special appropriations for the ensuing biennial period:

First. An appropriation of fifteen hundred dollars to furnish the cells with iron bedsteads, to take the place of the old, bug-eaten and broken-down wooden ones now in use.

Second. An appropriation of three hundred and seventy-five dollars to purchase new porcelain-lined slop buckets for cells, in place of the old oaken buckets now used, which have become by long continued use saturated with offensive and unhealthy odors beyond the power of disinfectants to remove.

Third. An appropriation of twenty-two hundred dollars for the transportation of discharged convicts. Taking the past as a criterion, we think the above amount will be necessary for this purpose.

Fourth. An appropriation for extending and completing the steam-heating apparatus the sum of two thousand dollars.

Fifth. An appropriation of five thousand dollars for general repairs and contingent expenses.

Sixth. An appropriation of five hundred dollars, to be used by the chaplain and teachers in the prosecution of the good work in which he is so earnestly engaged, in finding discharged convicts homes and employment.

We made some inquiry and investigation into the justice and honesty of the claims held by citizens of Fort Madison against the State for supplies furnished during the latter portion of Warden Craig's

administration, and are of the opinion that the claims are just and should be paid.

We think shops 13 and 14, known as "the iron clad," with a small expense in the way of repairs, will answer very well for the coming biennial period. Steam heating apparatus has been placed in this building so that there is but little danger from fire, and it is isolated from other buildings; so that, with the present facilities for putting out fire, there would be but little danger of burning any of the other shops should this one burn.

We found no complaints upon the part of the contractor, and but little upon the part of the convicts; the latter very generally said that they were not overworked, had enough to eat and received fair treatment.

We found four hundred and one convicts in the prison on our arrival there, and were surprised to find so little sickness. We learn that only three deaths have occurred in the last two years. Dr. Hoffmeister, who ministers to the physical wants of the prisoners, is in our judgment a competent and pains-taking physician, and diligent in the discharge of his duty; as is also Dr. W. C. Gunn, the chaplain and teacher, who impressed us with the belief that his whole soul was in his work of ministering to the spiritual and intellectual wants of his flock, and that his hope of reward was in the future.

In conclusion, your committee feel that they would come short of doing their duty if they failed to make special mention of Warden McMillen, and commend him for the ability and fidelity with which he has discharged his official duty.

Respectfully submitted.

J. L. KAMRAR,
On the part of the Senate.

WM. BUTLER,
W. T. R. HUMPHREY,
On the part of the House.

February 14, 1884.

SIXTH BIENNIAL REPORT

OF THE

WARDEN

OF THE

Additional Penitentiary

TO THE

GOVERNOR OF THE STATE.

JUNE 30, 1883.

PRINTED BY ORDER OF THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY.

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GEO. E. ROBERTS, STATE PRINTER.
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