

REPORT

OF THE

INSPECTORS

OF

The Iowa Penitentiary.

TO

HIS EXCELLENCY STEPHEN HEMPSTEAD,
GOVERNOR OF IOWA.

NOVEMBER 7th, 1854.

IOWA CITY:

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1854.

INSPECTOR'S REPORT.

To His Excellency, STEPHEN HEMPSTEAD,

Governor of the State of Iowa.—

SIR: We, the undersigned, Inspectors of the Iowa Penitentiary, beg leave to report to your Excellency, that we have carefully examined the Report of the Warden of the Iowa Penitentiary, and find it correct.

We take pleasure in reporting to you that during the entire administration of Mr. George Grigsby, present Warden of the Iowa Penitentiary, he has conducted the affairs of the same with ability and economy.

All the officers connected with the Institution have been faithful to perform all their respective duties, and we would most earnestly recommend that their salaries be increased at least thirty per cent., as their pay is entirely inadequate.

There have been only two escapes from the prison since the present Warden took charge of the same, and for them he was not to blame in any way whatever.

Under an act of the General Assembly, approved January 13th, A. D. 1853, the Inspectors and Warden hired out to Messrs. J. H. Winterbotham and W. D. Headley, the labor of all the Convicts that are or may be received in the prison for the term of ten years, commencing on the 1st day of June A. D. 1854, at thirty cents per day for the first year, and thirty-five for the remaining nine years.

In the contract with Messrs. Winterbotham & Headley, we agreed to furnish shops for the working of the convicts, pay

they are to labor four (4) months and then said Winterbotham & Headley are to pay for one month's labor, and thus monthly thereafter. The same branches of business as are herein specified, or any that may be carried on by said Winterbotham & Headley by the consent of the Warden, are not to be carried on within the walls of the Prison in behalf of the State or by any firm or individuals.

It is further understood that the said Winterbotham & Headley can not assign this contract without the consent of the said Iowa Penitentiary. It is hereby further understood that the said Winterbotham & Headley are to have the use of the tools now in the prison belonging to the State, which they hereby agree to return at the expiration of said term, to the State in good order, the same as when they received the same.

Each of the above named parties, have mutually interchanged a copy of this agreement, which they have also mutually signed.

JAMES D. EADS, }
 R. W. ALBRIGHT, } Inspectors.
 GEORGE GRIGSBY, Warden.
 JOHN H. WINTERBOTHAM,
 W. D. HEADLEY,
 BY JOHN W. WINTERBOTHAM.

STATE OF IOWA, }
 LEE COUNTY. } ss.

Be it remembered that on this 20th day of July, A. D. 1853, before me, James M. Reid, a Notary Public, in and for said county and State, personally appeared James D. Eads, and R. W. Albright, Inspectors, and George Grigsby, Warden of the Iowa Penitentiary, upon the one part, all personally known to be the identical persons, who affixed their names to the foregoing instrument as parties thereto; and the said John H. Winterbotham, also personally appeared before me, and W. D. Headly by John H. Winterbotham, to me personally known to be the identical person who affixed his name, and the name of W. D. Headly, to the foregoing contract as

parties thereto, and all of which the said several parties, acknowledged the same to be their voluntary act and deed.

{ L. S. }

In witness whereof, I have hereunto set my hand and notarial seal, the day and year aforesaid.

JAMES M. REID,
Notary Public.

I certify the above to be a true copy, as the same will appear on file in this office.

WILLIAM HINTON,
Clerk Iowa Penitentiary.

The indebtedness of the Iowa Penitentiary, up to the 30th day of September, A. D. 1854,, is fifteen hundred and ten dollars and thirty two and one half cents, (\$1510,32½). The assets of the prison up to same date, is one thousand and seventy four dollars and seventy-three and one half cents, (1074,73½). There are at least one-third of the assets which are unavailable. This will leave the actual indebtedness of the prison at about seven hundred and fifty dollars. Add to this the probable amount, which it will cost to finish shops, &c., at \$750 more, and we have the sum total of fifteen hundred dollars to be provided for by the Legislature.

It will be necessary to have an appropriation for the erection of at least eighteen cells at a cost of two hundred and fifty dollars each, amounting to four thousand five hundred dollars.

There should be an appropriation for the purchase of six of Colt's Navy Pistols, which will cost about two hundred dollars. Also, one thousand dollars to be placed at the disposal of the Inspectors, for incidental improvements, and one thousand five hundred dollars to pay current expenses over the income from the convict labor.

The ordinary expenses of the prison will be about three thousand five hundred dollars per annum.

This includes salaries of guards, provisions, clothing, bedding, lights, fuel, &c., &c.

The ordinary receipts of the prison will be about two thousand dollars per annum, leaving about fifteen hundred dollars to be provided for by the Legislature, for the support of the prison each year.

We would most respectfully request the General Assembly to appoint a committee of three competent men of their own body to visit the prison, inspect the shops, and the mode of working the convicts in the same. Also examine the books and accounts of the Warden.

Mr. Richard Quinton, late Warden of the Iowa Penitentiary, whose term of office expired in February, A. D. 1853, proved to be in default to the State in about five hundred dollars, since which time we have ordered the papers to be forwarded to the Attorney General for collection off the securities of Mr. Quinton.

We trust the Legislature will give this matter their early and favorable attention.

All of which is respectfully submitted.

JAMES D. EADS, Chairman.

JOHN K. SCHWARTZ.

Fort Madison, Iowa,

November 7, 1854.

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