No. 22

CONDITION AND WANTS OF THE PENITENTIARIES OF THE STATE.

REPORT

OF THE

EXAMINING COMMITTEE

APPOINTED

UNDER JOINT RESOLUTION OF THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY, APPROVED FEBRUARY 13, 1873.

TO EXAMINE THE

WORK UPON THE ADDITIONAL PENITENTIARY,

AND ALSO INTO THE

CONDITION, CAPACITY, AND WANTS OF THE PENITENTIARY OF THE STATE.

MADE TO THE FIFTEENTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY.

DES MOINES:
R. P. CLARKSON, STATE PRINTER.
1874.

REPORT OF THE COMMITTEE.

To the General Assembly of the State of Iowa:

Representative Ballinger, of Lee, at the adjourned session of the Fourteenth General Assembly introduced in the House the following resolution which was adopted and concurred in by the Senate:

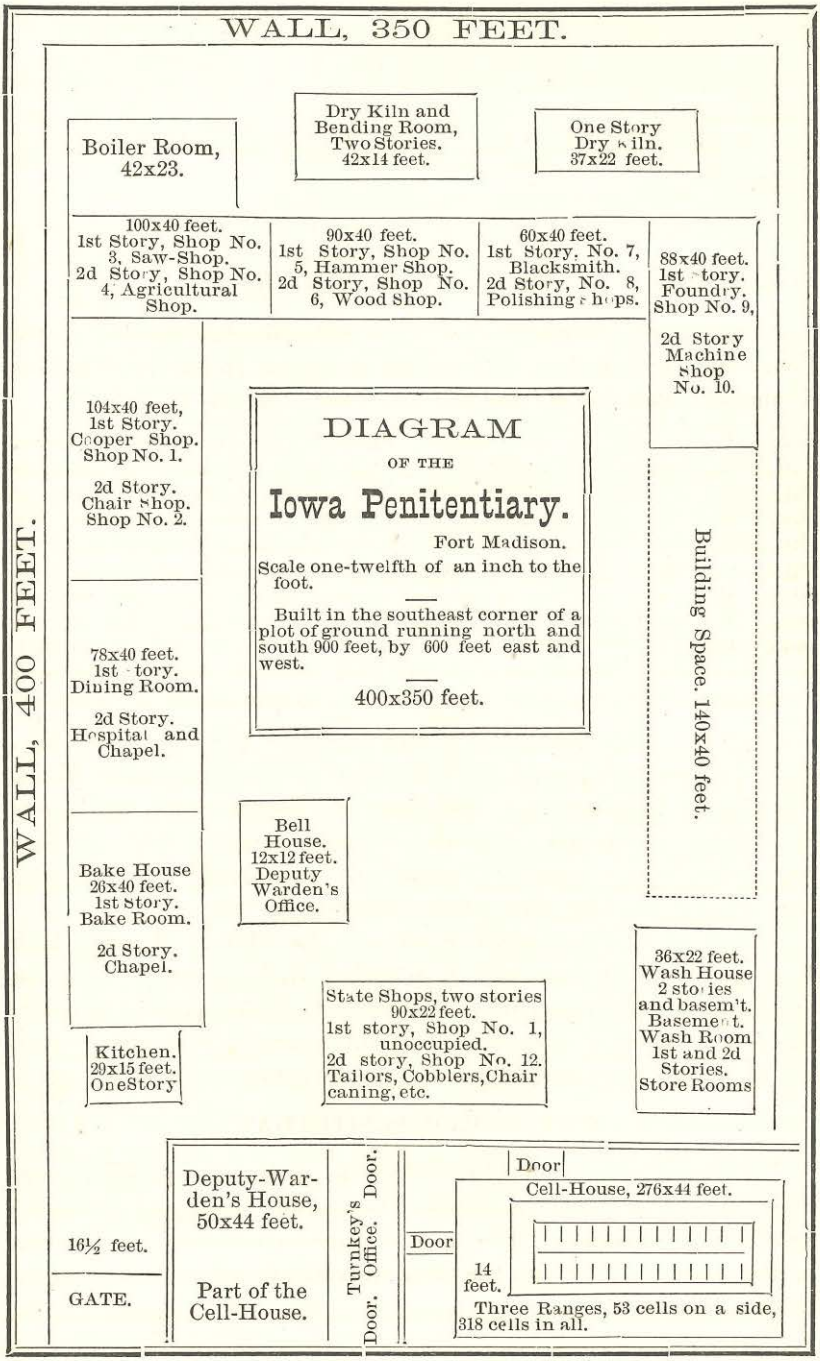
Be it Resolved by the General Assembly of the State of Iowa, That the Governor be authorized to appoint a committee of not less than three nor more than five persons, whose duty it shall be to examine the work done at Anamosa in constructing a new penitentiary, *the doings of the Anamosa penitentiary commission in connection therewith,* to ascertain the *amount expended, whether the same has been judiciously done* and the *amount of money required to complete said structure;* to examine also fully as to the present condition of the penitentiary at Ft. Madison, its capacity and wants, and make such report of their investigation to the next General Assembly as will enable said body to act intelligently as to the prison wants of the State.

Under the instructions of the above resolution His Excellency, Gov. C. C. Carpenter, in August, 1873, appointed as such committee H. M. Thomson of Scott county, P. Gad Bryan of Warren county, S. L. Carey of Howard county, and Al Swalm of Greene county. Oaths of office were taken by the respective members of the committee and the original papers filed in the office of the Secretary of State.

By agreement the committee met at Des Moines Monday, 20th October, 1873, and organized by selecting H. M. Thomson chairman and Al Swalm Secretary, and immediately thereafter proceeded to Ft. Madison to examine the penitentiary there located, concerning which institution the committee begs leave to submit the subjoined report:

FORT MADISON PENITENTIARY.

A thorough and complete inspection was made of the prison in every department by personal examination and careful inquiry of competent and reliable authorities. The annexed diagram will show the location of the prison together with the shops and other buildings inclosed within its walls:


WALL, 350 FEET.
WALL, 400 FEET.
Boiler Room, 42x23.
Dry Kiln and Bending Room, Two Stories. 42x14 feet.
One Story Dry Kiln. 37x22 feet.
100x40 feet. 1st Story, Shop No. 3, Saw-Shop. 2d Story, Shop No. 4, Agricultural Shop.
90x40 feet. 1st Story, Shop No. 5, Hammer Shop. 2d Story, Shop No. 6, Wood Shop.
60x40 feet. 1st Story. No. 7, Blacksmith. 2d Story, No. 8, Polishing Shops.
88x40 feet. 1st Story. Foundry. Shop No. 9, 2d Story Machine Shop No. 10.
104x40 feet, 1st Story. Cooper Shop. Shop No. 1. 2d Story. Chair Shop. Shop No. 2.
DIAGRAM OF THE Iowa Penitentiary. Fort Madison. Scale one-twelfth of an inch to the foot. Built in the southeast corner of a plot of ground running north and south 900 feet, by 600 feet east and west. 400x350 feet.
Building Space. 140x40 feet.
78x40 feet. 1st Story. Dining Room. 2d Story. Hospital and Chapel.
Bell House. 12x12 feet. Deputy Warden's Office.
Bake House 26x40 feet. 1st Story. Bake Room. 2d Story. Chapel.
36x22 feet. Wash House 2 stories and basem't. Basement. Wash Room 1st and 2d Stories. Store Rooms
State Shops, two stories 90x22 feet. 1st story, Shop No. 1, unoccupied. 2d story, Shop No. 12. Tailors, Cobblers, Chair caning, etc.
Kitchen. 29x15 feet. One Story
16½ feet.
GATE.
Deputy-Warden's House, 50x44 feet.
Part of the Cell-House.
Turnkey's Office.
Door.
Door.
Door
Door
Cell-House, 276x44 feet.
14 feet.
Three Ranges, 53 cells on a side, 318 cells in all.

CAPACITY.

By reference to the diagram it will be seen that there are now thirteen shops constructed for the employment of convict labor. Of the number of men in each shop, and capacity of each, the following exhibit is made:

WORKSHOPS.	Men employed.	Capacity
Shop No. 1	26	42
Shop No. 2	37	42
Shop No. 3	21	40
Shop No. 4	18	40
Shop No. 5	14	36
Shop No. 6	20	36
Shop No. 7	14	24
Shop No. 8	12	24
Shop No. 9	..	35
Shop No. 10	18	35
Shop No. 11	30	*20
Shop No. 12	20	20
Shop No. 13	10	24
Total	240	418

Shop No. 13 is not shown on the diagram. It is located opposite shop 10, on State ground, but is owned by the contractors. The exhibit above made illustrates the fact that shop-room is now afforded for two hundred men additional. This estimate is based on a calculation of one hundred square feet of working room for each convict, depending somewhat on the kind of labor. For instance, in the work of chair and shoe making less room per man is required, as shown in the figures for shop No. 11, marked *. The whole number of convicts enrolled on the 22d of October was two hundred and seventy-six, of which number fully 10 per centum were superannuated, and used in the cook-house, hospital, etc. The average number of men employed on the regular contract is two hundred and seventeen, all the remaining able-bodied and superannuated men being employed on piece work and earning about the same amount as those working on the contract. About fifty-two government and military prisoners are enumerated in this estimate.

ABOUT CELLS.

There are about three hundred and eighteen cells, complete and furnished ready for occupancy, and the average number vacant exceeds

the number vacant at this time, 43. The number of cells could easily be increased by sixty more in that part of the cell-house now used as the residence of the Deputy Warden, which it would be a matter of wise economy to have done as soon as the wants of the State in this direction demand. It is unfit for private residence purposes, and the added cell capacity could be made at comparatively small expense. Another tier of cells could be built over the main cell-room when needed, the walls being of such construction that twice that weight could be put on with safety. The number of convicts that can now be accommodated, without enlargement, is near four hundred, by placing two in a cell of those who are employed together daily without guards.

ADDITIONAL SHOP-ROOM.

Should occasion demand more work-shops, a plot containing 11,200 square feet of room is available, in continuation of the eastern wing of the shop now designated as the machine shop—140x40 feet. (See diagram.) A two-story brick building, it is estimated, could be erected for a sum not exceeding $6,000, though it is not probable that more room will be needed for some years, unless the conditions of the next labor contract should demand it.

WANTS OF THE PRISON.

Among the wants of the prison that were brought to the attention of the committee, and which examination has suggested, are the following: The Fourteenth General Assembly made an appropriation of three thousand dollars for the purpose of putting gas into the prison, but that amount not being sufficient, the work was not commenced, and the appropriation remains in the State Treasury. In the cell-room and cells especially is this improvement needed. The present mode of lighting is with kerosene lamps—the common breakage of chimneys, lamps, and reflectors making it much more expensive than gas as an illuminator. As it is now, a poor light is afforded to the convicts for reading in their cells, a pleasure that they should be by no means deprived of, but on the contrary every facility and convenience should be afforded that may be possible. A further appropriation of fifteen hundred dollars is necessary for this work, which is unanimously recommended by the committee. Another improvement needed is the changing of the doors and locks on about sixty cells on the second north and south tiers, from inside hanging to outside. When the doors are open, as now hung, they partially project across the balcony and

obstruct the walk. The cost would be trivial, and an appropriation sufficient for the purpose is recommended.

FEMALE CONVICTS.

To the honor of Iowa womanhood, it can be said but one female convict is now in the prison. In the construction of the buildings, however, no provision was made for the proper incarceration of female convicts. As in other prisons, there should have been some provision made, as the natural increase of population of the State will perhaps cause more of that sex to drift into crime and consequent imprisonment. The room over the turnkey's office could be utilized for this purpose, and cells put in for five female convicts, at small cost; an appropriation of five hundred dollars is recommended to be made. Since the establishment of the prison but fifteen female convicts have been imprisoned—and the plan recommended will afford accommodations sufficient for this class for many years.

PRISON INSTRUCTION.

It is a matter greatly to be regretted that, among other reformatory measures here instituted, the plan of prison instruction has not been adopted long years ago. In nearly all the more enlightened foreign nations, as well as in the great majority of prisons in the United States, prison instruction has been found one of the chief features in the work of reformation. The object of prison discipline is two-fold—punishment, and the reformation of the convict—to cultivate the good inherent in him, so that when he is discharged he will be the more capable to assume the duties attaching to intelligent, American citizenship. Ignorance and crime are found together in the largest percentage of cases, and in this prison the percentage of persons who can neither read nor write, is about thirty-six to the two hundred and seventy-six in confinement, with a large number very deficient in knowledge of the most common rudiments of an English education. The system, wherever fairly tried, has proven very beneficial, and where tested has never been set aside. A plan of instruction, which would embrace among its studies, reading, writing, arithmetic, elementary grammar, history, geography—particularly the history and geography of the United States, the elements of geometry and linear drawing and their relations with the trades, and other branches of practical utility, could be made successful in the prison, and it is indispensable to the highest degree of reformation. The chapel could be used

as a school-room, and by the employment of a head teacher, enough material for the additional force of instructors could be found among the convicts. As the average age of the convicts in this prison is only about twenty-five, the necessity for further education, and its advantages, not only to the convicts but ultimately to the State, cannot be too highly estimated. The great good that has been done in other reformatory institutions of like character, can be repeated in this prison, and the committee sincerely hopes that all needed aid will be granted for the commencement of this important work.

THE LABOR CONTRACT.

In 1864 the convict labor of the State was let by contract for the term of ten years, at the rate of 40⅓ cents per day per man—the State furnishing food, clothing, guards, medical attendance, etc., while the contractors furnished the necessary machinery and power to operate the same. Among some of the disadvantages to the State arising from the condition of this contract, is the right accorded to the contractors to store material on the north half of the prison yard. Here is now found a large quantity of lumber and other material, constantly endangering the safety of the shops by its easy inflammability, through accident or design. It also interferes with the perfect ventilation of the shops and yard, and is a hindrance to the sanitary condition of the convicts. The committee are unanimous in the recommendation that in the next contract made the entire yard be reserved for its legitimate purpose, and that all lumber and other material be stored outside the walls—to be brought in as may be needed. The danger from fire is such that the dry-kilns, now in close proximity to the blacksmith and other shops where fires are daily kept, are condemned, and should also be removed outside. Prudence imperatively demands the removal of all this tinder-box material at the earliest possible moment. To obviate this difficulty the committee recommend the piece of land west of the prison outside the walls as a suitable place for dry-kilns and the storage of material by future contractors.

THE NEXT CONTRACT.

The committee earnestly recommend that, as the present contract for the convict labor of the State expires January 1, 1875, early and ample notice be given of the same, that it may be let early, consistent with evoking the largest possible competition, confident that in such course the State will be largely benefitted. We have cogent proofs,

in the reports of Ohio and Illinois, that such procedure has been most profitable, bringing on an average double the price now received by the State. By inviting bids from all classes of labor a diversified industry will be secured, and a large revenue insured over and above the necessary expenditures for the maintenance of the prison. It should be borne well in mind, by those interested, that a very large amount of capital is required to enable one contractor to venture on employing all the convicts.

To show the terms of labor contracts in two other States—Ohio and Illinois—we quote, in a summarized manner, these facts. In Ohio were employed:

20 men, 5 years, coopering	at 85½	cents per day.
10 men, 5 years, coopering	at 87½	cents per day.
27 men, 5 years, chair-making	at 70	cents per day.
10 men, 5 years, tailoring	at 97	cents per day.
50 men, 5 years, boots and shoes	at 86	cents per day.
50 men, 5 years, carpentering	at 75	cents per day.
90 men, 5 years, agricultural implements,	at 85	cents per day.

In Illinois the average rate received was about 73 cents per day per man, including old, sick, decrepid, and superannuated; the State, however, in both of these cases furnishing the motive power. For the same character of work performed in the Iowa penitentiary the State receives only *forty and one-third cents* per day per man. It is to be hoped that in all future contracts the interests of the State will be more closely looked after.

EXPENSES AND RETURNS.

It affords the committee pleasure to report that the expenditures of the penitentiary, during the last twenty-three months, ending September 30, have been $8,029.18 less than receipts from all sources—that amount indicating the profit to the State during that time, on account of the "general support." Adding this to the balance on hand at the opening of the account, the State has a cash credit of $19,011.20 on the general support fund. It is judged advisable to recommend such necessary legislation as will place the entire amount in the State treasury to the credit of the Iowa penitentiary, or general State revenue. It should be borne in mind that the pay of the officers and employees is not included in this "general support fund,"—those amounts being paid direct from the State treasury. Much and great credit is due Warden

Craig for the economical management that thus figures up fair profits on convict labor. With a proper and early letting of the next contract, and a continuation of the present economical, painstaking management of affairs, the whole expense of Fort Madison penitentiary will be fully met by the receipts from convict labor.

OTHER NEEDS.

The Warden's house having been constructed to be warmed by furnaces, it is recommended that an appropriation, not to exceed $300, be made for that purpose. The warden necessarily has to entertain a large number of officials having business with the prison, and the small quantity of furniture in the house being insufficient for almost daily need, an appropriation of $500.00 is recommended to be made for the purpose.

PRISON DISCIPLINE.

The discipline of the prison was found to be of the most excellent character. The convicts, after general enquiry of them, testified to kind and humane treatment at the hands of the prison authorities. No severe punishments are inflicted when punishment is necessary—and the record shows that during the past twenty months the per centage of cases of punishment has been sixty per cent. less than the preceding two years, and compared with the reports of institutions of some other States, more than one hundred per cent less. The dark cell, close-cropped hair on one side of the head, and enforced absence from the Sunday-school are the modes in use—the latter being considered by the convicts the most to be dreaded.

THE SUNDAY SCHOOL.

established some years ago, has been found very efficacious in infusing a better moral tone among the convicts, and is properly accounted one of the most invaluable adjuncts to prison government. The school is held in connection with chapel services, and the people of Ft. Madison evince great interest in this part of the reformatory work. The chapel has been tastefully decorated with mottoes of a scriptural character, executed by one of the convicts. The library is good, but needs an addition of a few hundred volumes to more fully meet the demands made upon it.

DIETARY.

An examination of the food prepared for the prisoners showed that it was varied and well cooked, no man complaining, and none hungering on account of short rations.

THE JULY FIRE.

On the 29th of July last a fire destroyed a portion of the shops, in which the loss to the State amounted to $4,684.30—for which amount the buildings were replaced in much better condition than before—an evidence of the careful management on the part of the Warden in the matter of contracting and construction.

THE BOOKS

of the prison are kept in the most methodical manner, by R. J. Finch. Every account was made plain at a glance, and the minutest examination found them all correct.

FINALLY.

Our examination of the Fort Madison Penitentiary warrants the finding of these facts:

1. That it has a large unoccupied capacity for the accommodation of convicts, without any enlargement whatever.

2. That an enlargement can be made, and a further accommodation be secured, for nearly two hundred additional convicts, when needed, at a comparatively small expense.

3. That additional shop-room can be had at small cost, should more be needed, for the proper and profitable working of the convicts.

4. That the management of the prison is praiseworthy in every way, and that the utmost harmony prevails in all departments.

5. That Warden Craig and his Deputy, J. H. Reynolds, by the merits of their work, show that they have been well-chosen officials, faithful to their trust, and to the bettering of the unfortunate convicts in their keeping.

Respectfully submitted,

HUGH M. THOMSON,
P. GAD BRYAN,
S. L. CAREY,
AL SWALM.

November 1, 1873.

ADDITIONAL PENITENTIARY AT ANAMOSA.

The committee met at Anamosa, Jones county, Thursday, October 23d, and immediately commenced its labors, the books, papers, and accounts in the offices of the Commissioners and Warden, including the plans, specifications and estimates being at once placed at the disposal of the committee.

THE APPROPRIATION.

The Fourteenth General Assembly made an appropriation of $50,000 for the purpose of commencing the work of constructing the Additional Penitentiary. The committee made a close examination of the vouchers on file, and make the following exhibit:

Paid for quarry, 128 acres	$15,000.00
Stockade lumber	1,274.00
Freight	1,742.58
Lumber for shop No. 1	2,870.52
Lumber for house at quarry	352.50
Surveying and engineering	245.75
Teaming	128.65
Commissioners' per diem and expenses	3,698.89
Labor on stockade and prison grounds	6,444.95
Labor at quarry	2,268.91
Tools and implements	819.00
Hardware, steel, iron, coal, nails	803.35
Clerk hire, office rent, fuel, and stationery	712.38
Iron window guards, and cell doors	5,936.34
Cooking range	600.00
Right of way	432.00
Gas pipes and laying same	180.56
Blacksmithing	171.05
Miscellaneous bills	580.17
Architect's plans and specifications	2,500.00
Per diem and expenses of same	873.30
Window frames and sash	1,051.35
Superintending mason work and foreman of quarry	844.10
Carpenter work	469.65
Total	$50,000.00

In addition to the above, an order was given by the commissioners to

a St. Louis firm, for iron guards, amounting to $645.00, on the 21st of January, 1873. This order, however, was countermanded by telegraph, but the goods having been manufactured, had to be paid for, which was done by Mr. Heisey; the claim of Martin Heisey, for services as commissioner, including board and expenses, $300.00; the claim of commissioner F. L. Downing, for services, for $112.50; the claim of commissioner William Ure, for services, for $70.35; the claim of Lewis Kinsey, for clerk hire, for $120.00, making an excess over appropriation, of $1,240.35. All of which indebtedness was contracted prior to the 1st of May, 1873.

THE STONE BUSINESS.

At the adjourned session of the Fourteenth General Assembly, a concurrent resolution was passed authorizing the commissioners "to sell "the rock that may be taken out by convict labor, and the proceeds be "applied to the support of the convicts and guards, to defray the "expenses attending the keeping and working of said convicts upon "the said penitentiary and said quarries." In April, 1873, the commissioners, by a vote of two to one, entered into an agreement with the citizens of Anamosa, as was shown by the records and papers on file, the citizens agreeing to become responsible to the commissioners for any deficiency that might accrue in working and keeping convicts at the quarry and penitentiary, a copy of which agreement is hereto attached and made a part of this report. Under the provisions of this agreement, a requisition was made by the commissioners, through the executive council, upon the warden of the Fort Madison penitentiary, for "twenty or twenty-five men," in compliance with which twenty were taken from that prison and transferred to Anamosa, on the 2d of May, 1873. They have been worked on the penitentiary and quarry since. The following exhibit is made of the receipts from sale of stone, and the expenditures made necessary, as found on the books of the prison :

Receipts from sales to October 1	$2,106.48
Expenditures during the same time	2,029.84

This expenditure was for work done in the quarry alone. The following is the statement of expenditures for "general support:"

Received from the State Auditor, under the provisions of section 2, chapter 108, acts of the Fourteenth General Assembly	$ 825.00
Expended during same time	1,073.62

The salaries of the clerk and guards during the same time—1st May to 1st of October—

Clerk and guards' salaries	$ 1,640.67

And for the per diem and expenses of commissioners:

Martin Heisey, (including board at $5.00 per week, postage, and other small items as per bill on file)	942.55
F. L. Downing, per diem and expenses	196.60
William Ure, same	101.00

There is also due warden S. H. Craig, of the Fort Madison penitentiary, the following bill:

For transportation of prisoners and guards, and necessary expenses in bringing them to Anamosa	$247.80
For 99¼ yards summer stripes, @80c. per yard and expressage	80.00
	$327.80

This makes a total indebtedness, up to the 1st of October, of $2,978.28, which includes everything that is on record at that date. Notwithstanding that the law clearly forbid any expenditures over and above the appropriation of $50,000, the committee recommend that an appropriation be made for these delinquent accounts, not on the ground of any legal responsibility, but that from the gradual manner of introduction and caution used the State will receive value in full. On the agreement with the people of Anamosa, but a small portion if anything has been paid—some question as to how far the responsibility of the parties to the agreement goes having arisen.

THE WORK DONE.

The work done on the penitentiary grounds was carefully examined. About twelve acres have been enclosed with a board fence sixteen feet high; making a fair stockade, but not so safe as it should be for the proper safety of the convicts. (The fence was eighteen feet high at first, but on account of the high winds, it was lowered two feet.) The work done on the permanent buildings is: The engine-house, 40x40, with a sixteen-foot story, has been completed, and is now used as a cell-room. The cells are constructed of pine plank, with iron doors. Three bunks are arranged in each cell—the four tiers affording accommodations for forty-two prisoners. The north wing of what is to be

"Shop No. 1," has also been completed. This wing is 40 by 42, with two eleven-foot stories, and a six-foot cellar under the whole wing. The foundation walls of the east end of shop No. 1, south wing, has been laid to the first story, and that along the south side has nearly been completed to the same point, the latter work being done by convict labor. The work is all of the most excellent character—the walls on the finished portions being of the "broken ashlar" style, and present a rugged though pleasing and substantial appearance. The grounds, in the eastern front, have been graded up about six feet—the work being done entirely by the convicts. In every way does the mason-work meet the requirements demanded. The foundations are of the most substantial character, being five feet broad at the base, and of proper depth.

GROUNDS AND QUARRIES.

The citizens of Anamosa donated to the State about fifteen acres in town, and upon which the prison has been located; and also, sixty-one acres of good pasture land, in close proximity to the prison. The quarry lands, purchased of N. G. Sales, for fifteen thousand dollars, contain one hundred and twenty eight acres of land, and have three open quarries upon them. The largest quarry has a large surface stripped, and a great quantity of stone is now available. The second quarry has a small surface exposed, and good flagging and rubble stone is now being taken out. The third quarry was opened by the railway being graded through it—exposing a fine strata of stone, with but a small superincumbent mass of earth to remove to make a great quantity available. The committee made a careful examination of the quarries and lands, and find exposures of stone along all the ravines that are found on the tract, as well as entire railway frontage. The quantity of stone on the tract cannot be estimated. From the highest point in the first quarry, a depth of seventy feet has been reached, and the deeper the work has been carried the better the stone becomes—a finer texture being found. It is enough to say that stone sufficient can be found in the State quarries to meet all the demands of the State for public buildings, even though all those now erected, and in course of erection, were to be replaced—all to be taken out of the main quarry. Col. Flagler, commanding at Rock Island Arsenal, has selected this stone for the buildings there being erected, and has expressed himself that it was the best stone for fine work that he has yet found in the western country. A lime-kiln is erected on the ground; is in good order, but

has not been used since the State has owned the property. Good lime is made from the stone, and can be made a source of considerable revenue to the prison.

RAILWAY FACILITIES.

The Dubuque and Southwestern Railway has put in a switch at the State quarry, and runs along the entire south line of the land—nearly one mile. Another switch has been put in connecting the main line with the prison yard, making the delivery of material very convenient.

WATER AND SEWERAGE.

The commissioners have secured by warranty deed the right to a arge spring, about three thousand yards to the north-east of the prison, and heading about seventy feet above the grade of the prison yard. At a comparative small expense an abundant and never-failing supply of pure water can be carried by pipes to the prison, with sufficient force to carry it to the top of the highest point in any of the buildings, called for by the plans. The system of sewerage is such that the greatest possible efficiency for the purpose will be secured, with discharge into Buffalo creek, on State ground.

ABOUT RECORDS.

According to the statement of the President of the Board of Commissioners, Mr. Ure, the records of the commission show some actions that are unjust to him, and at variance with all established rules and customs pertaining to the recording of acts of such bodies. For instance, the record shows that at the meeting on May 20, 1873, on the passage of a resolution asking for convicts for work in the quarry, the President presented a protest, assigning a number of reasons for his vote in opposition, which protest he asked to have spread upon the records. This his co-commissioners refused to allow, voting it down by a formal vote, but ordering it filed, or allowing the protesting party to do so, as the records show. The President makes the direct charge that the record in the matter has been falsified, as he did not ask leave to file the rejected protest. The paper, however, was filed on motion of Mr. Heisey, but upon the committee asking that the paper be produced for examination, they were informed "that it couldn't be found." Substantially the protest was, as reported verbally by Mr. Ure, that he feared that the means at the command of the commissioners were not sufficient to afford proper precautions for the safety of the prisoners; that the receipts

from stone sales would not be sufficient for the support of the prisoners, and that an indebtedness would be constantly accruing for which there was no warrant of law; also, that as there was no consideration given in the matter of the agreement with certain citizens of Anamosa, its promised relief could not be made available, only so far as it was done voluntarily.* He feared that they could not afford the proper number of guards for the convicts in the quarry, and soon after, when one guard was in charge of six men at the quarry, three of them escaped, and according to the President's theory, had there been two guards, the escapade would not have occurred. At the meeting on May 21, Mr. Ure presented a preamble and resolution specifying the duties of the Financial Agent, the Hon. John Tasker, and calling for the proper safeguard of a bond. Notwithstanding the law bearing on the matter of properly bonding all officials in whose hands public funds may be placed, the whole matter was laid on the table, where it remains, and the Financial Agent has filed no bond. An arbitrary, and seemingly an original ring ruling was also made that no motion could be spread upon the records unless it was seconded. This ruling was enforced until some time in last May, when the proper method of recording *all* matters was adopted. The committee take pleasure in mentioning the neatness and general convenience with which the clerk, Mr. Lewis Kinsey, has kept the books of the commissioners. They are, so far as the clerk is concerned, as near the right thing as can be desired.

ABOUT TITLES.

An examination of the records proved the fact that the title to some of the real estate intended for penitentiary purposes does not vest in the State, the commissioners holding only a bond for a deed, given by those who do not own the property, in consideration that the State pay

*After the committee had left Anamosa, the following letter was handed to the Secretary, from the Clerk of the Penitentiary Commissioners:

"The mislaid protest was found this morning (October 25,") which is in words and figures as follows, to-wit:

"While I am anxious to promote the interests of the State, and further the work "upon the Additional Penitentiary at Anamosa, I yet must decline to support the reso-"lution under consideration for the transfer of convicts, for the following reasons:

"1st. The appropriation made by the Fourteenth General Assembly being exhausted, "the means to be derived from the sale of stone together with the sum allowed by the "State for the support of each convict per month, will not, in my judgment, be suffi-"cient for the support of the institution, much less for the prosecution of work on the "prison buildings, and neither the interests of the State nor that of the institution will "be promoted thereby.

"2d. By the adoption of this measure, an expenditure greatly in excess of that allowed "by law, will be liable to be incurred, and I hereby wish it distinctly understood that I "shall not be held responsible for any part of any deficiency that may arise in conse-"quence of the adoption of the resolution, and the transfer of convicts to the Addi-"tional Penitentiary at Anamosa at this time.

"For these reasons I must vote against the resolution, and ask that my vote, with the "reasons therefor, be spread upon the minutes of the Board.

"WM. URE."

the sum of $2,000 for a warranty deed to the same—some five lots. A guarantee was afterward made by thirteen citizens of Anamosa to the effect that the title to said property should be vested in the State, the commissioners agreeing to recommend to the General Assembly an appropriation of $2,500 for this purpose. The bond for the deed is still on file and record, and no release has been made in due form of the same. The property in question it is stated, however, is in excess of the amount of land first called for by the bill, and now deemed necessary to secure a more elevated and healthy site for the prison and better access to the railroad.

ESTIMATED COST OF PRISON.

According to the plans for the Additional Penitentiary the capacity of the structure, when fully completed, will be five hundred convicts. Its cost, by free labor, is fixed at $584,211.29—five hundred and eighty-four thousand two hundred and eleven dollars and twenty-nine cents; and by convict labor, $395,000.39—three hundred and ninety-five thousand dollars and thirty-nine cents. To complete the buildings now under way—the engine house and all of shop No. 1—it is estimated since $26,820.09 is the cost first placed by the architect, by free labor, that not less than an additional amount of $15,000 will be necessary, which is considered sufficient to put a first-class slate roof on all the buildings. The committee would recommend an appropriation of the amount named for the purpose of finishing the work commenced, and that after said work has been completed the further construction of the Additional Penitentiary be suspended until such time as the prison wants of the State shall demand its completion, and until the condition of the people, relative to such necessary taxation, shall enable them to bear the burden without it becoming too onerous. To the best of our judgment, in the light of all the facts before the committee, it is believed that the money of the State has been judiciously expended.

SOME IMMEDIATE NEEDS.

It is the intention of the commissioners to have the convicts at work in the yard during the winter season cutting stone. No building for their shelter from the inclemency of the weather has been erected, and unless such shelter is provided the convicts must necessarily have the intensest suffering, to the danger even of frozen extremities. We recommend therefore an appropriation of $500 for this purpose.

FINALLY,

The committee, taking into consideration the prison wants and capacities of the penal institutions of the State, find as follows:

1st—That, excluding from the penal institution at Fort Madison, all the Government prisoners, there will be accommodations there for over one hundred more over the number of State convicts, and that an average of about fifty cells is constantly vacant in that institution;

2d—That at comparative small cost the capacity of the Fort Madison institution can be increased to a large number, when such increased capacity is necessary.

3d—That the work upon the Additional Penitentiary, has been well done, and of the expenditures thus far made the State has received value for value.

4th—That the prison wants of the State, present and prospective, in the opinion of the committee, do not justify any further expenditures, than as above recommended, for the protection of the appropriation already expended by the preservation of the work so far begun.

Respectfully submitted,

HUGH M. THOMSON,
P. GAD BRYAN,
S. L. CAREY,
AL SWALM.

NOVEMBER 1, 1873.

AGREEMENT WITH THE CITIZENS OF ANAMOSA.

ANAMOSA, IOWA, APRIL, 1873.

WHEREAS, The Commissioners of the Additional Penitentiary at Anamosa, Iowa, are authorized, under a Concurrent Resolution, passed at the adjourned session of the 14th General Assembly of the State of Iowa, to sell stone from the State quarry, near Anamosa, Jones county, Iowa, and apply the proceeds thereof to the payment of guards and other employees in and about the quarries and prison, and

WHEREAS, Said Commissioners propose to transfer from the Penitentiary at Fort Madison, Lee county, Iowa, to said Additional Penitentiary at Anamosa, as many able-bodied convicts as can be profitably employed upon said quarries and penitentiary, and sell stone as aforementioned, and apply the surplus proceeds thereof, if any, to the payment of said incidental expenses attending the work upon said Additional Penitentiary.

Now, therefore, We, the undersigned, citizens of Anamosa and Jones county, in consideration of the foregoing, and in consideration of the further fact, that said Commissioners will faithfully operate said quarry as above indicated, for the coming season, and shall use commendable exertion to sell stone from said quarry, and in all things use prudence, discretion and judgment in and about the same, we will pay or cause to be paid to said Commissioners, monthly, as the same may require, what deficiency may arise between the amount of stone sold in gross and the expenses attending the quarrying the same as above indicated, to-wit: Guard hire and the other necessary employees to quarry said stone by said convict labor, said monthly deficiency from the sale of stone, if any, shall be deposited ———— Bank, within three days after notice has been given to the parties whose names are affixed to this *guarantee*, by the Warden or the person having charge of said work, each party hereto to pay *pro rata* according to the amounts severally subscribed.

The receipts for stone to be in all cases, first applied in liquidating the said expenses in quarrying stone; and all stone quarried to be sold necessary to defray said expenses.

No part of this fund so guaranteed shall be applied to the payment of any of the expenses or *per diem* or salary of the Commissioners, or either of them, or the Warden or Superintendent.

Said Warden or Superintendent shall render a true and correct sworn detailed monthly statement to us of the amount of the sales thereof and the amount of the expenses attending the same in paying guard hire and other employees, in the quarrying of said stone.

The management of the prison and quarries shall be, in all respects, under the control of the Commissioners and Warden of said penitentiary.

This contract to be in full force and operation for the period of nine months from and after the 30th day of April, A. D. 1873.

The persons signing this Guarantee shall select one from their number to whom the Warden or Superintendent shall report the cash sales for stone and the amount of money required to pay any deficiency that may accrue, and he shall raise the necessary means to liquidate said deficiency as contemplated in the foregoing Guarantee.

It is further understood and agreed by the Board of Commissioners, that in the event of not selling stone in quantities sufficient to meet the aforesaid expenses, that stone enough shall be turned over to said guarantors, or any one of them, at reasonable rates, to reimburse them for any moneys expended.

NAMES.	AM'T.	NAMES.	AM'T.
W. T. Shaw	$1000.00	W. M. Skinner	$ 100.00
H. C. Metcalf	500.00	A. Hutchen	200.00
E. C. Holt	500.00	G. P. Deitz	100.00
T. W. Shapley	500.00	E. B. Alderman	100.00
C. R. Scott	500.00	T. R. Ercanbrack	100.00
D. Chadwick	500.00	J. S. Stacy	100.00
Walters & Cox	500.00	J. D. Walworth	100.00
W. B. Fish	200.00	Chas. Clene	100.00
C. French	100.00	Remley & Remley	100.00
Lull & Perfect	200.00	E. W. Condit	200.00
Williams & Matson	200.00	J. C. Deitz	100.00
L. Schoonover	200.00	N. S. Noble	100.00
D. A. Peet	200.00	Green & Stickney	100.00
E. J. Wood	200.00		
Chas. Cord	200.00		$7100.00
L. B. Peck	100.00		