

the best terms, but also to withhold or sell its manufactured fabrics in circumstances might require. I will, however, take occasion in this place to remark that the degree of prosperity attained, in the last year, may not always be reached hereafter, inasmuch as there has been an unusual demand for its manufactures for the past twelve months. I am, therefore, decidedly of the opinion that it would be injudicious to deprive the Penitentiary of the annual appropriation granted by your predecessors, even were there not a special reason for its continuance, to which I will shortly refer.

The earnings of the Institution for the last year amounted to \$115,198.22, and the expenditures to \$110,659.91; showing the products of its labor to have exceeded the entire cost of maintaining the convicts, paying the salaries of officers, and discharging commissions and interest for money, by the sum of \$4,538.28. Subtracting from the amount last given the sum of \$1,539.17, expended in enlarging the stock of machinery, tools, and other necessary articles, the net revenue for the year is shown to have been \$2,999.11. It appears, therefore, that the appropriation of eight thousand dollars for the year remains untouched; and the Institution is consequently in possession of a cash capital of eleven thousand dollars. It is to the manner of applying that surplus that I now wish to direct your attention. The Report will inform you that the dormitory of the Penitentiary contains three hundred and nineteen cells; sixty six of which are on the basement floor, and are utterly unfit for use, in consequence of excessive dampness and the want of proper ventilation; whilst there are, at this time, three hundred and twenty nine male prisoners (exclusive of the average number of fifteen sick in the hospital) to be provided for; with a probability that that number will be increased, before any of those now in the prison shall have been discharged by the expiration of their terms of confinement. Not only has the health of many of the convicts suffered severely, but the discipline of the Institution has been impaired, and the chances of escape increased, by transferring to the rooms of the Hospital those for whom sleeping cells could not be provided. The Statements made by the Directors, predicated upon the earnest representations of the Physician, have convinced me that it is absolutely necessary to enlarge the dormitory without delay. The Directors inform me, in their Report, that no satisfactory estimate of the cost has yet been obtained, but that it is their impression that the addition needed can be made at an expense of six or eight thousand dollars, which is less, in proportion, than the original cost of the whole building. I therefore, recommend that a law be passed empowering them to apply the surplus in