

... which will doubtless be before you at an early day.

The capacity of the Prison buildings has become wholly inadequate to the accommodation and safe custody of the constantly increasing number of inmates, and the necessity for enlargement is daily becoming more and more indispensable. The dormitory or sleeping apartments especially, are deplorably insufficient, and the extension of the old or the erection of an additional building, cannot be longer postponed without great detriment to the public interest.

There are undergoing imprisonment there at this time, some four hundred and ten prisoners, of which number three hundred and seventy six are males. To accommodate these there are but about two hundred and fifty six habitable cells. The consequence of this is, that in contravention of the policy of our Penitentiary statutes, and against every consideration of expediency, instead of each prisoner, during such time as he may not, under the rules of the prison, be at labor, being separately confined, they are crowded together in some instances as many as eight and ten in a single apartment. To such an extent degree have the authorities of the prison been pressed for sleeping accommodations, that they have found themselves compelled to invade even the hospital for the sick; and for some time past the well and the diseased have been thrown together indiscriminately. This state of things should not be suffered longer to continue. It is not only against sound policy but the plain dictates of a common humanity, that these creatures, deformed though they be, should there, at the hazard of their health which, in the case of many, is their only dependence when their term of imprisonment shall have expired, be crowded together in such large numbers, to breathe the tainted atmosphere of a diminutive ill-ventilated apartment, disg-