

We have procured an act of Assembly authorising the Visitors to purchase the lot on which is situated the spring which had been conveyed into the Jail: and have now completed all our arrangements, for furnishing the Jail with an abundant supply of pure spring water, at a cost of \$500.

A gallery has been erected in front of the criminal department of the Jail, by means of which the officers are enabled to inspect the prisoners at night without being themselves perceived.

The institution has been conducted during the year, entirely to the satisfaction of the board, by Mr. Hudson the Warden, to whom the public is deeply indebted, for his intelligent, persevering and successful attention to his duties.

That a considerable improvement has been effected in the Baltimore Jail, must be manifest to all who are acquainted with its present and former condition. By reference to the annual reports of this board, in which the progress of that improvement has been detailed, it will be perceived that our attention has been particularly directed to the comfortable accommodation of the Warden and his assistants, economy in expenditures, diligence in collecting the fees allowed by law, in order to lessen the demand on the city and county treasury, preservation and improvement of the Jail buildings, exclusion of spirituous liquors, cultivation and improvement of the ground within the Jail enclosure, accommodation for sick prisoners, order, regularity and cleanliness, the comfort and security of the prisoners, and their classification, separation and supervision.

The prisoners are now classed as well as the means at the command of the Warden will admit; but there is not in the present building an opportunity of separating them, to the extent that good policy demands. From long and attentive consideration of the subject, the board are convinced that the separation should be total; and that every prisoner charged with a criminal offence, should have an apartment to himself. Till this can be accomplished, we are not aware of any further improvement which can be made in the discipline of our prison. The Jail, notwithstanding all the efforts of those entrusted with its management, will still continue a school of vice; and few who have once entered the precincts of its criminal department can escape its defilements.

Could its inmates be entirely separated from one another, and subjected to the constant supervision of discreet officers, we might at least expect, that they would retire no worse than when they entered: they would form no prison acquaintances, and those among them who were innocent of the offences laid to their charge, would return to society with no greater aptitude to crime, than when they fell under suspicion; while we should have the satisfaction to know, that during the time of their confinement, the guilty had been unable to arrange