

to see. They declined to put in their answers on oath, because as they stated, they were accusatory. Their reasons for their course are set forth in a letter to the chairman, and returned with the testimony, which it is believed fully acquits them of any impropriety or disrespect. Declining to do a thing which the committee had neither the right to ask, or the power to enforce, is certainly neither disrespectful nor improper.

In the progress of this examination, dissensions of an interested nature were discovered, and the testimony abounds with crimination and recrimination. It is before the house for examination, the undersigned will not discuss it. The only remark deemed necessary is that a majority of the board who have controlled the institution are fully acquitted in the estimation of the undersigned of any misconduct, and he believes the institution to be well governed. That it is in as good condition as it might be is not pretended, but as regards its police, the discipline of prisoners, and economy of the establishment, it is quite equal to what might have been expected. It may be deemed in a flourishing condition and rapidly improving, with a fair promise of becoming in a short time equal to any of the prisons of the country. To establish the correctness of this opinion a multitude of circumstances must be considered, which neither time nor space will now permit. The report has already been drawn out to an unexpected length, to go more into detail would double its magnitude.

The undersigned would regret to see the organization of the institution changed, more especially at this time. The new buildings are being completed, and a new system of discipline designed for the control of prisoners, is about to be established. He is of opinion that the present system should be continued until at least the board should have had a fair trial of the discipline. Moreover to change the executive and substitute an actuary, or to fill that office with persons not of the board, would have an injurious effect on the institution. It would be a mischievous innovation. The duties of those officers are highly important and various. All the purchases and sales are made by them, and they have a general supervision of the establishment, and are required to report to the board at short intervals. It is necessary that those officers should be a part of the board "because of the greater and more salutary authority, which that character gives them, and also for the greater convenience and benefit of advising