

according to the term of the sentence, as a reward for good conduct, has been brought to your attention in the former reports of the institution. This, I am satisfied, would be attended with the most beneficial results, and such is the experience in institutions of a similar character both abroad and in some of the other States.

In the exercise of the pardoning power, I have been governed by a scrupulous regard for the protection of the general community; but I am by no means satisfied that the Executive clemency might not be advantageously interposed in a great many cases of petty crimes, which I have not felt authorized to notice, in consequence of what has been the custom of this Department in the absence of special legislation, on account of what would seem a too sweeping interference with the functions of the Courts.

In the appointment of your usual Committee to examine into this subject, I trust that these suggestions may not be lost sight of in their report to your Honorable Body.

THE CITY OF BALTIMORE.

The geographical position of the City of Baltimore is attracting renewed attention since the close of the war, among capitalists and business men throughout the country. Large accessions to her population are being realized through a steady current of immigration from other States. Her real property has greatly enhanced in value, and the applications for dwellings and places of business are already largely in excess of the ability of the people to supply them.

The experiment of a line of Ocean steamers under the auspices of the Baltimore and Ohio Rail Road Company, has proved entirely successful, and similar lines have been established and are now in operation with some of the most prominent points upon the Southern Coast—promising at no distant day a complete renewal of trade and intercourse from that section. In the meantime, her manufacturing capital has been largely increased, and the amplest preparations made for a profitable interchange of the varied products of her manufactories for the great staples of the South, which find here their most convenient point of shipment and conversion. Contributing as largely as she does to the burthen of State taxation, it is not less the interest than the duty of the Legislature to extend to her proper encouragement in all well directed efforts to develop her commanding resources, perfect her municipal government, and protect the interests of her people; and I take great pleasure in commending her to the liberal support of the General Assembly.

At the extra session of the Legislature in January last, I called the attention of your Honorable Body, to the enlarge-