

## R E P O R T .

*To the Honorable the*

*General Assembly of Maryland:*

The undersigned, the Joint Committee appointed by your Honorable Body for the purpose of visiting and examining the condition of the Maryland Penitentiary, the House of Refuge, the Maryland Hospital, and other reformatory and benevolent institutions in which the State is interested, would respectfully report, that in the discharge of the duty assigned them, they visited the Maryland Penitentiary, made a thorough inspection of this prison of the State, and were materially assisted in its labors, in that connection, by the Directors and Warden of that institution.

The apparent healthful condition of the convicts, and their cleanly appearance, indicated that everything consistent with the necessary restrictions of prison discipline, had been done for them which experience and human foresight could suggest, to maintain a desirable sanitary condition, and the medical records of the prison exhibit the fact that appearances in that connection have not proved deceitful.

The alacrity, seemingly, with which the prisoners plied themselves to their tasks, gave to the place more the semblance of a thriving manufacturing village, than of a penitentiary department of workshops, where labor is inflicted as a part of the penalty for infractions of the law. Those thus engaged really exhibited upon their faces expressions of cheerfulness, in striking contrast with the stolid countenances of such as were unemployed.

At the date of the examination the inmates numbered 700, and were divided in sexes and colors as follows :

281 White Males.  
6 " Females.

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287 Total Whites.

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337 Black Males.  
76 " Females.

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413 Total Blacks.