

STATE TOBACCO WAREHOUSES.

I wish to call the attention of your Honorable Body to the recommendation I made at the beginning of the Session of the General Assembly of 1902 in reference to the conduct of the State Tobacco Warehouses. I regret, and I feel that the State has lost thereby, that the General Assembly did not act upon my suggestion that means be given the Tobacco Inspectors to meet competition as any business men of intelligence would do.

Whatever may have been accomplished under conditions as they exist today in the past the fact must be recognized that the business of the warehouses is not in the best and most promising state. Opportunity should unquestionably be given the inspectors to conduct the warehouses on modern business principles.

THE PENITENTIARY.

The same wise, firm and economical administration of the affairs of Maryland Penitentiary which has heretofore marked its management still continues, vigorous and unimpaired.

The institution is in almost perfect condition physically and in point of discipline.

After paying every expense incident to the support of the institution a balance of \$23,078.67 was paid into the State Treasury as net earnings for 1903.

HOUSE OF CORRECTION.

The prisoners in the House of Correction earned \$28,172.68 for the past fiscal year. The health of the prisoners has been excellent, and the discipline maintained at the institution has been faultless. Some trouble is caused the officers by reason of insane persons being sent by the magistrates and judges to the House of Correction. This is a hardship on such prisoners, who cannot be cared for to advantage at the House of Correction, and it is also a hardship on the officers of the institution as well to be charged with the responsibility for the health, discipline and safety of such a class when it was never contemplated that insane persons should be received.