

ray of light illumine the darkness of the prison house, and enliven the stolidity of the pauper's dreary home.

Maryland owes it to these unfortunates ; for, by her sins of omission, by her neglect to provide the means of Education, to send the bright beams of intelligence all over the land, has she nurtured this race of criminals and indigents. Behold the sad procession of generations covered with vice and want and crime, that we have permitted to move on to moral woe and physical suffering ; leaving, as they pass, their stain upon society, pests, drones, non-producers, destroyers ; because we did not give them light. Their fault is in part the State's sin. The criminal records of our Jails and Penitentiaries are loud-mouthed witnesses to the neglect of our fathers to provide instruction, to diffuse that knowledge the entering in of which giveth life. Let us go and sin no more. While we do what we can for those who are entering upon the dangerous path of life, let not the State forget those who have suffered long. It is proposed to establish Schools for these unfortunates, to employ such agencies in our Houses of Punishment and Homes of the Needy, that the people can be taught to read, to write, to cipher—may learn (some of them) Book-keeping, and gain such general information as will enable them to lead a better life when they have worked out the penalty which the Law exacts for crime.

All under twenty-one years of age ought to be obliged to attend School, and once or twice each week the whole body of these depraved congregations should be assembled to be taught Geography and History, and to hear familiar Lectures on the Natural Sciences, which will open to their clouded minds a knowledge of God's goodness, and of the marvellous means he provides to enable men to develop the resources of the earth, and to mitigate the primal sentence, "By the sweat of thy brow shalt thou eat thy bread."