

towards the new work-shops in 1837, besides about \$7,000.00, for new looms, steam engine and other fixtures to suit the new buildings, and making the whole expenditure on that account about \$56,500.00.

The State is now entirely relieved, and has been since the year 1827, from any payments on account of the Penitentiary. The interest on the loans, and the principal sums required by law to be paid to the treasurer to be invested and accumulated to redeem these loans, and thus discharge the State's liability, are regularly paid; and we have nothing to apprehend, but on the contrary much to hope of the ability of the Institution to discharge all these obligations according to the terms of the laws creating them. It may therefore be safely asserted that unless some adverse fortune should cast impediments in the way of its advancement, which human foresight cannot provide against, or human means remove, the Maryland Penitentiary under its present management must realize all the pecuniary emoluments which are the constant reward of systematic and well directed industry.

The circumstances under which the different loans were granted, are fully explained in the testimony of the Directors, and the Clerk; and their statements are warranted by the testimony of others, and the personal observation and knowledge of the committee, as far as they could acquire any knowledge of the subject from their late official connexion with the prison. When the State granted the loan of 1834, to erect new work shops it was supposed that it would not require much more than that sum for the purpose. But in this they were mistaken, for although the Directors were diligent in procuring estimates and plans for their erection from the best sources, as has been already stated in this report, the most rigid economy and superintendence of this work could not prevent the necessary increase of their cost, and the consequent expenditure of more than double the amount at which they were originally estimated. (See page 403, and the testimony of the Directors). In defraying this increased charge the active capital was necessarily reduced. From 1834 (at which session this improvement was ordered) to 1836, it was reduced from \$53,124 36, to \$33,552 00. In February 1837 it was as low as about \$31,000 00, when the last loan was granted; and as of the 30th November, 1837, the close of the fiscal year, it amounted to \$17,002 34.

Notwithstanding this curtailment of its means, its operations during the year ended November 1836, had realized \$10,622 21 over and above the support of the prison and its inmates, and exclusive of the sum of \$5,334 86, paid for interest on loans by the State, and the annual instalment to the sinking fund. But owing to the general pressure which has pervaded the country during the last year, and the consequent stagnation of business of all kinds, the proceeds of its labor have not been so large as the year before, when the condition of the country was more prosperous. From an examination of the