

of the gospel, and of education to these unfortunate persons. Their testimony furnishes the most flattering accounts of the results of these efforts. (See pages 229 to 237.) These gentlemen are entitled to all praise for the unremitting zeal which they have manifested in this good work; and your committee have no doubt that under the guidance and direction of a chaplain as before recommended, with such aid, this department of the prison would exert the greatest influence in reforming the vicious and evil habits of those whose neglected education, and the want of early christian example, have brought them to their present condition.

The committee here close their final report upon the particular objects designated in the order of the Legislature. Although much will be found in the testimony, upon which we have made no remark, yet the committee did not carelessly permit such irrelevant matter to be incorporated in the proof. It was their anxious desire to suppress every thing like the exhibition of personal animosity, and the indulgence in offensive language, but they were unable to acquire *necessary* information, without a mixture of much that they would have rejected, but for the peculiar circumstances in which the parties concerned stood towards each other. Although they may have omitted to notice some things which seem to demand an expression of opinion, yet they flatter themselves that the continuance of all defects discovered, or even supposed to have existed, has been carefully provided against in the bill, and rules and regulations herewith presented. While the mode of governing the institution and the duties of its officers will be presented in a small compass without reference to the numerous laws on the subject spread on our statute book.

It would be doing violence to our own feelings not to express our sense of obligation to the authorities of the institution, and the other gentlemen whose names appear in the testimony as participants in the investigation. From the former we received great personal kindness and attention, while officially, they afforded every facility and accommodation in promoting the arduous duties of your committee. To the latter the State is much indebted for the interest manifested by them in the correction of evils which their late official connexion with the institution induced them to believe existed in its management. We reciprocate the friendly feeling exhibited towards us, and offer them our acknowledgments for their assistance in collecting much information that otherwise might not have been procured. And least it may be supposed that your committee intend to censure the directors and officers by making suggestions at variance with some of the practices observed at the house, and to remove all misapprehension on this point, your committee, with much pleasure, do them the justice to say, that besides the absence of all motive inciting them to mismanagement of the affairs of the penitentiary, we have not been able, after strict inquiry, to attach to them or any of