

unfeigned reformation on the part of a convict, and a representation of the facts should be made by those who are best acquainted with all the circumstances in relation to his case, before and after conviction, an interposition of Executive Clemency becomes a duty. And we are satisfied, no Executive under such circumstances would ever refuse to extend that pardon to an unfortunate fellow being, which we all expect to receive from a just and Merciful Providence.

The Penitentiary here, has been a considerable burden to the State, but from the judicious Management of its internal Concerns, it is now Capable of supporting its own expenses, and may be a source of revenue to the State. But there never was a greater error in Legislation than to look to a Penitentiary for pecuniary profits. It is true, the most judicious economy should be observed in its Management, and the Convicts should be made so far as practicable, to relieve the State from the burdens imposed by their crimes. The great object should be, and to which the attention of every legislator should be directed to punish Crime - to deter by example, and to produce reformation. The expense of an institution that would effect these objects, would be trifling indeed in contrast with the permanent benefits arising from it, and the expenses must necessarily decrease with the diminution of Criminal offences.

As connected with this subject, we recommend to your favorable consideration, an institution, which we understand it is in contemplation to establish in the City of Baltimore, for the Confinement of juvenile offenders. To this House of Refuge, all Minors, who under our existing laws would be sentenced by the Courts for Criminal offences, to the Penitentiary, should be confined.

The humanity and sound policy of providing an entire separation between the novice in iniquity and the obdurate offender must be apparent. It has been properly said, that in youth is the period to make permanent impressions, and to place an individual whose tender age must forbid the idea of his being confirmed in vice, in the constant association with hardened Culprits, is revolting to all the kind feelings of our Nature. Let us follow the laudable example set before us by the States of Massachusetts, New York and Pennsylvania, in their liberal encouragement of institutions of this kind. The House of Refuge in Philadelphia, established by private donations and wisely endowed by the Legislature, has produced incalculable benefits, for it appears from the reports of the Managers, that in the Courts of Criminal jurisdiction, the number of juvenile delinquents has constantly decreased since its establishment.

The same good effects have been experienced in the other States where the experiment has been tried. We trust the Legislature will concur with us in the propriety of affording aid to an institution, which we are satisfied, in the language of one of the great Statesmen who have adorned our land, is "the best Penitentiary system devised by the wit and established by the beneficence of Man."

The report from the Director of the Penitentiary, will exhibit the present condition of that institution. The pecuniary profits, they represent to be less than at the conclusion of the year ended 30th November, 1829. From causes not within their Control. As these will be satisfactorily state in the report now laid before