

Conversation of much less than an hour, adapted to each one's peculiar spiritual necessities, he strives to promote their repentance and reformation. Where there happens to be anything pressing in the task of a prisoner, he either quietly absents himself from the chapel on that day, or states to the Minister that he will be unable to attend.

I am convinced and believe that not an hour is lost to the Institution of pecuniary interest through this usage. I am persuaded, on the contrary, that independently of the influence of better principles produced, the desire to avail of a privilege which they seem to value as the highest allowed them there, stimulates them to extraordinary exertion to complete their task. If it is not so, the matter can easily be tested. Although for the Strangers who occasionally come to me I cannot answer, yet the names of my stated chapel are registered by themselves, and if their attendance upon my instructions have ever caused any approach to the lass, which the Directors would have you imagine, let it be shown from the books of the Penitentiary, and I am ready to abide by the result. Many times have I been told that, bitter as is the penalty of their crimes, they thank God for having brought them to that place. There are abroad in society men enjoying public confidence, and daily advancing in the means of prosperity, whose training was in that chapel. There are, I think, seven men who are constant, and as far as the eye of man can judge, devout recipients of the Lord's Supper. There are circulated among the class continually religious books, some costly and capable of affording valuable instruction. A prisoner, who in conversation would inspire any of us with confidence, had lately been promised that he should receive baptism within a few days. But all this, corresponding with the practice under former administrations, is now to be abandoned and prohibited, for to allow any party, no available opportunity is virtually to forbid the performance. And because the Board suggest that the means of supporting the institution may be impaired, and because they assert that some ministers (who are they? have they been prohibited? would they attend if allowed?) have demanded any exclusion, unless they also may officiate in like manner, these whole means of consolation and reformation for the various moral and intellectual grades in the prison are to be reduced to the one sermon of the excellent Methodist exhorter on Sunday morning. This can scarcely be deemed their enjoyment, in any form of the acknowledged privilege to choose their minister, and mode of worship, and of faith. Let me beg your Excellency to make it, that the adoption of three simple rules by the Board must necessarily guard against the possibility of the alleged evil. 1st No prisoner shall attend more than one Clergyman bring of his own choice. No Minister shall visit him more than once