

once in the week, nor occupy him more than an hour at a visit, except during sickness in the hospital. Any prisoner who fails to fulfil his task on the plea of loss of time through religious instruction, shall be deprived of his privilege on the ensuing week. It seems scarcely respectful, that I should attempt farther to defend the position that no degree of loss to the institution could hence possibly arise. Cannot the State of Maryland, for the means of reformation of two or three hundred guilty men, who if not reformed, must prove during their lives, scourges to the public and a torment to themselves, encounter the risk of loss which the operation of these three rules might involve?

To the Board of Directors, the State have committed in trust the bodies and souls of some most unhappy creatures of God, and, in the exercise of their little brief authority, they demand a measure, which, when the force of the assigned motive is appreciated, the public, I believe, would every where pronounce to be one of more than common rigor. If the persons instructed by me are in any respect remarkable for idleness or insubordination, and if my presence in the prison is attended by any peculiar inconvenience to the officers or Board, with my age and infirmities it would cost no painful sacrifice to relinquish the task to some more qualified and acceptable minister. But the cause of the wretched men, the system of reformation in which the interests of the public are so deeply involved, the rights which God and man have conferred upon them with every other human being, I cannot so readily consent silently to abandon. And therefore, in the fear of God, I venture most respectfully to solicit your Excellency to re-examine the nature of the allegations of the Board, and the grounds which they exhibit for their appeal to you. I have only to add my acknowledgments to your Excellency for favoring me with a Copy of the Correspondence, and to say that, since my receipt of it, I have entirely ceased my visits to the prison. I am with great respect & most faithfully,
 Your Excellency's Obedt. Servt.
 W. E. Wyatt

Baltimore October 27th 1851.

Note — The following is a copy of the letter of the Board to Rev^d S. Wyatt, enclosed by him to the Governor, with the above.

Baltimore October 9th 1851.

Rev^d S. Wm^o E. Wyatt,

Sir, The Board of Directors of this Prison, have directed