

had as well be abolished, and all future criminals turned over to the care of moral and religious teachers alone. There have been, however, as stated by us in another place, several serious mistakes committed by the Reverend Doctor, which show that he entirely overestimates the professions of penitence and reformation which are made to him by the Prisoners. If we are not in error, he sought and obtained the pardon of Conrad Ventner for his "belief in the sincerity of his penitence and his determination to abandon the path of crime", and yet Conrad Ventner soon afterward murdered an old and estimable lady of Baltimore County, and ended his life upon the gallows for that horrible offence. At or about the same time, he secured the liberation of another Prisoner through his "inordinate credulity" in the sincerity of his professions and promises, and yet he soon returned to the Prison, under a sentence of ten years, for a far more aggravated offence than the first. A great while after this, he interceded for and obtained the pardon of another offender who, but a short time before his release, was the instigator of a revolt in Prison, and who, throughout the period of his incarceration was somewhat noted for his idleness and insubordination - and this is one of the witnesses he brings before Your Excellency, to corroborate his interpretation of the meaning of some of Mr. Lucas' observations to him.

During the last summer his sympathies were excited by a similar character who had imposed on his credulity, and by assurance of his thorough reformation to your Excellency, induced you to grant him a pardon, and in less than two months after his release, he was figuring on our police records under the charge of "inciting a riot and assaulting one of our city officers in the discharge of his duties."

It is the opinion of the Board that such mistakes as these on the part of the Reverend Doctor, and the consequent liberation from the Prison of idle and insubordinate spirits like those above referred to, are calculated to draw forth many "tears and groans" from those orderly and industrious Prisoners who justly think that when pardons are granted, they should be selected in preference to that class who always seem to "kindle the compassion" of his Reverence. It is industry and good conduct and not idleness and insubordination which should be rewarded by pardons, and when this rule is reversed, its effect is to discourage good-conduct and industry, and as a natural consequence, seriously to disturb the discipline of the establishment. If any of our unfortunate inmates are likely to be threatened with derangement for the want of the Rev. Doctor's "soothing and consoling conversation", there is much greater danger we fear, that his securing the reward of a pardon for the idle and dissolute because of the excess of their hypocrisy, will drive to the verge of derangement that portion of our inmates who obey our rules and labor diligently, and yet never move his sympathies because they may be too manly to practice the necessary deception. Such pardons