

flatter themselves, are contained in this humble reply to the complaints of his Reverence. In view of the fact that the Act of 1837 would not grant week day visits to the Prison Chaplain directed to be appointed under said act, and that the admission of Dr. Wyatt to the Prison during business hours, is likely to be followed, by a demand for admission, at the same time, by some Clergymen of each one of the various denominations in our City, and a large portion of the time of the Convicts thus withdrawn from their labors, the Board indulge the hope that their resolution of the 15<sup>th</sup> of October and their more recent one of the 30<sup>th</sup> of December, recently communicated to your Excellency, will receive your hearty approval, and an approbatory vote from the enlightened legislators on our State.

As we say in our letter to Dr. Wyatt of the 31<sup>st</sup> ultimo, a copy of which we transmitted to your Excellency, the resolutions adopted at the meeting of the Board on the preceding day, give to all Clergymen who may think proper to avail themselves of the privilege, an average of three hours every evening during the year, in addition to the whole of every sabbath for seeing and conversing with those prisoners for whom they may feel an interest, and thus afford the most abundant opportunity for working out their entire reformation, in all cases where a reformation may be possible. Under such an arrangement there can be no sort of necessity for opening our Prison doors to Clergymen during the hours appropriated to labor.

With much respect

I have the honor to be

Your Excellency's Obedt. Servt.,  
Barzillai Marriott  
Secretary to the Board.

## Appendix.

The Reverend Doctor, in one place, speaks of "the provisions of the Charter for the reformation of Prisoners", and says that "the interpretation put upon those provisions by all our Governors and Visiting Committees of the Legislature", is his authority for calling our Prisoners from their labors to engage in religious exercises under his administration. The Board knows of no Charter containing any provisions in reference to this matter, unless it be article 8 of section 25 of the Act of 1837, Chapter 320, authorizing a Chaplain to be appointed and prescribing his duties and the times of his visits, and they cannot find on record any interpretation of that provision