



AND North-Carolina State Gazette.

Ours are the plans of fair, delightful Peace, Unwar'd by petty rage, to live like Brothers.

FRIDAY, AUGUST 30, 1811.

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Revised Criminal Code.

FURTHER EXTRACTS

From the pamphlet giving an account of the NEW-YORK PENITENTIARY.

The fourth section treats of the Prisoners, their general treatment, dress, diet, and means of reformation.

When a convict is first received into the Prison, he is put into a room appropriated solely to that use, where he is immediately stripped of all his clothes, and obliged to wash and clean himself. He is then dressed in a new shirt, trousers, jacket, shoes and stockings, the uniform of the Prison. He is then asked what kind of work he is fitted to perform or is inclined to undertake, and the next day commences his course of labor. If the prisoner is ignorant of any of the branches of industry established in the prison, which is generally the case, or refuses to select any, the Keeper decides and he is compelled to learn of those who are already skilled in the particular manufacture, to which he is apprenticed. His name, crime, time of conviction, and sentence, with a description of his person, are entered in a book; and the Inspectors collect all the information that can be obtained of his former character and course of life, the circumstances attending his trial, and evidence of his guilt, or whatever may enable them to form a judgment of the degree of his depravity. This previous knowledge is necessary to guide them in their treatment of the prisoner during his confinement, and to prevent a premature or mistaken indulgence or severity towards him.

The well-behaved are allowed once in three months to see their wives and connections in the presence of a keeper.

The Keeper is empowered to punish the convicts for assaults, profane cursing and swearing, indecent behavior, idleness or negligence in work, wilful mismanagement, or disobedience to lawful orders. This punishment consists in the confinement of the offender to one of the solitary cells, and feeding him on bread and water only, for such time as any two of the Inspectors may think necessary and reasonable. The form of these cells has already been described. The convict who is sent to them for misbehavior or contumacy, is allowed neither bed nor seat; and the window is so high that he can neither see or converse with any person. Surrounded by naked walls, he is left in solitude to ruminate at leisure, without any external object to engage his attention or amuse his senses. In this situation, with his thoughts continually directed to his present condition and past conduct, he may sooner or later perceive the wickedness and folly of his former course of life, feel the bitter pangs of remorse, and be disposed to future amendment.

At first, the Judges, in some instances, exercised the power given them by law, of sentencing the convicts to solitary confinement as a punishment for the crimes they had committed; but, afterwards, this was thought to be needlessly severe; & as the state was thereby deprived of the benefit of their labor, that punishment, though it may make a part of the sentence which follows conviction, is not now inflicted of course, but is left to be imposed by the Inspectors on such only as are otherwise refractory and incorrigible.

EMPLOYMENT.—Two years elapsed after the Prison was opened for the reception of convicts, before the outer walls were built, and the work-shops completed, so as employment could be found for all. The first kind of labor introduced was the manufacture of boots and shoes. Under the instruction of a prisoner sentenced for life, it was a matter of surprise to observe with how much rapidity those who were before wholly ignorant of the trade learned to become excellent workmen. On account of their sedentary occupation, they are occasionally allowed to walk in the court-yard for the benefit of air; and if their health is materially affected by sitting at the work-bench, they are transferred to some more active employment.

Working in iron, as blacksmiths, and cutting nails, afford employment to a considerable number. These, with the carpenters, weavers, coopers, tanners, &c. perform their several labors in shops in the rear of the great court, which are erected for that purpose. One of the convicts, of the best character, and well qualified, is selected to superintend each of those manufactures. The branches of industry at present

established, and the number of men employed, are,

Shoemakers, 96—cutting out shoes 5—binding shoes 8—cutting nails 14, heading do. 40; Blacksmiths, 6—attending nail dies, 3—filig do. 2—grinding do 6—drilling do. 2—Carpenters 6—Stocking-Weavers 2—making needles for ditto, 1—Spinning, &c. 15—Weavers, 5—Tanners, 6—Gardeners, 2—Common laborers, 8—Cooks, 7—Waiters, 4—do. in the halls, 8—Superintendents of Kitchen, &c. 4—Barber, 1—Total, 251.

All the linen and woollen cloth and stockings for the use of the convicts are manufactured by them.

It is highly necessary that the convicts should be kept sufficiently close to their work, so as to fulfil the end of their punishment, which subjects them to hard labor. It is to this they are sentenced, and if rigorously enforced, it will tend to prevent those who are discharged, as well as others, from the commission of crimes. For while one object is pursued, another must not be forgotten. While the punishment operates towards the amendment of the criminal, it should by its example produce a salutary dread on the minds of others.

Each convict is charged with the clothes furnished him, the expenses of his transportation from the county in which he was convicted, and 15 cents a day for his maintenance. A clerk, who is one of the convicts, keeps a daily account of each man's labor, and makes a weekly return thereof to the Clerk of the Prison, who enters the same to the credit of the prisoner. When the convict is discharged from the Prison, his account is made out by the Clerk of the Prison, and laid before the Inspectors, who are authorised by law to make him such allowance as may in their opinion be proper. In estimating the justice or expediency of this compensation, the Inspectors take into consideration the character of the person before his conviction, his behavior during confinement, the general disposition he has manifested, and the quantity of labor he has performed. If, on the whole, it appears probable that he may make a bad use of the money, they give him one or two dollars only, though he may have earned a considerable sum. If, on the contrary, his habits appear to be such as induce a belief that he will make a good use of money, a larger sum is allowed him.

The Inspectors having, in several instances, been deceived in the subsequent conduct of those who promised to do well, have of late adopted in some cases the following rule: on the discharge of a prisoner who appears meritorious, a trifling sum is given him, and a promise in writing by the Inspectors to pay him the residue of such sum as is agreed upon; provided that at the expiration of three months after his discharge, he shall produce a certificate signed by credible citizens, to the satisfaction of the Inspectors, that he has during that period behaved orderly, soberly and industriously; otherwise the promise to be void.

Some of the Assistant-keepers oversee the different work-shops, and take care that the men are not remiss or inattentive to their work. All swearing, singing, whistling, idle or indecent conversation, are strictly prohibited; nor are they permitted to leave the work-shop where they are placed. In each work-shop or room, these rules, written in conspicuous and legible character, are hung up, that no person may pretend ignorance of them.

At sunrise all the convicts are called up by the Assistant-keepers. Each room is supplied with a pail of fresh water and a coarse towel, and each prisoner is obliged to wash his hands and face. At six o'clock in summer, they are summoned to their respective occupations. Two Assistant-keepers are constantly within the prison with the shoe-makers, and one with the women who are employed in washing, spinning, sewing, &c. At the hour of eight, at the sound of the bell, the Assistant-keepers conduct the men to their breakfast prepared in one of the spacious corridors; and those who work in the court-yard are led to a large dining-room above the kitchen. To prevent any noise or confusion about places, each man sits in the same place every day. After being seated a short time, they commence their meal at a signal given by the Keeper. These meals are taken in silence, and when all are observed to have finished, they are conducted by the keepers to their respective stations. The same order is observed at dinner and supper; after which they are locked up in their several apartments. When day-light disappears, a

small lamp is lighted in each room and in the halls; and then the Assistant-keepers go on watch in the halls and corridors, which command a view thro' the grated doors of each apartment; they walk to and fro during the night, dividing the watch between them.

Two watch-houses are erected adjoining to, and on the outside of the walls on the north and south sides, which overlook the whole court and work-shops, and in which Assistant-keepers are stationed while the men are at work.

The rooms in which the prisoners remain during the night, and when they are not at work, have each a grated window which looks into the outer court yard, and an iron grated door opening into the corridor, in which are other windows towards the interior court, so that a free circulation of air can be maintained through each apartment. Eight persons are confined in each room, and are allowed four beds, so that two sleep in one bed. Their beds are made of tow cloth stuffed with straw, which is changed once in six or eight weeks, and are inclosed in a kind of wooden boxes which fold up during the day. This mode of lodging appears objectionable; each prisoner ought to have a separate bed, consisting of a bedstead of iron, a mattress of hair, or of some other durable and elastic materials. Such beds would be more expensive at first, but they would last long, and be more conducive to health. If practicable, a less number of convicts should be put into one room. Indeed the separation of the criminals from each other during the night is a matter of so great importance that it is desirable that an immediate improvement should be made in this respect. The rooms are swept every day and washed once a week, as is every other part of the prison, which vies in cleanliness with any private dwelling under the management of the most notable housewife. All the rooms in the prison are white-washed with lime and water twice in every year; and during the summer season the rooms are frequently white-washed around the walls about four feet high. Each apartment is furnished with a bible, some religious books, a night-table and a box of sand; no prisoner is allowed to spit on the floor.

DRSS.—The summer dress of the convicts consists of jacket and trousers made of linen cloth of a brown color.—The dress worn in winter is of the same form and color and made of woollen and linen cloth. These cloaths are all made in the prison. A clean shirt and trousers, and in the winter, stockings, are given to each prisoner the last day in every week. Flannel shirts are generally furnished them, particularly to such as are of weak constitution. If a convict is imprisoned a second time, he is distinguished by a dress one half red and the other half blue.

DIET.—The food of the prisoners usually consists of a breakfast, made of rye burnt & prepared like coffee, sweetened with molasses, and bread made of equal portions of rye and Indian meal; a dinner of soup composed of ox-heads and offals, with potatoes and bread; and a supper consisting of mush (hasty pudding) and molasses, or of Indian pudding and molasses. The soup sometimes consists of pork and peas. From the tenth to the sixth month, they are furnished with potatoes. In the 7th, 8th and 9th months, soup made of clams or codfish and potatoes, are given them every other day, as it has been found that a constant diet of fresh provisions produces several disorders during the warm season.

The composition and cost of these daily meals may be seen by the following tables:

[Here follow several tables, detailing a variety of preparations for cheap diet; by which it appears that a plentiful allowance of good and wholesome food, averaged for each prisoner about FIVE CENTS a day.]

It will be seen from the preceding experiments, how much the Inspectors have profited by the facts and reasonings, on the important subjects of food & fuel, contained in the Essays of Count Rumford; and it is with sincere pleasure we are able to state, that the experiments of that truly philosophic and benevolent man, on the economy of food and management of fire, have been fully verified in the kitchen of the New-York State Prison. So fully have those ob-

* For the same reason the quantity of molasses is diminished during the warm summer and fall months.

jects been exhibited by him, that it would be needless to repeat what he has so well elucidated, or to anticipate the speculations of the curious and philosophic reader on those interesting topics.—Yet it may be proper to observe that two articles of food not noticed by the Count have been introduced into the State Prison, and which merit attention on account of their extreme cheapness. These are, heads of oxen for soup, and rye prepared in imitation of coffee. No part of the beef makes a soup so rich, palatable and nutritious, as the head when properly cooked. Rye, when roasted and prepared in a similar manner, it is believed, is much more nutritious and healthful than coffee. It has been universally relished by the convicts, who appear much pleased with it and with their soup.

Though the abundance of the articles of food in this country may render individuals less disposed to study the Science of nutrition and the economy of diet and fuel, yet its great importance in all public establishments for the poor or for prisoners, cannot be too often exhibited. Large sums of money now drawn from the people in taxes for the poor, or by appeals to their charity, are wasted for want of an enlightened system of economy in those to whom their distribution is entrusted. By diminishing the expense of diet and fuel, and giving activity to the powers of industry, every establishment of this kind can be made to support itself—society thereby be relieved from a perpetually increasing burden, while the moral and physical condition of the indigent and vicious may be greatly improved.

FUEL.—For 2 years after the prison was first opened for the reception of convicts, their food was cooked in cast iron kettles with round bottoms and fixed up in the ordinary form. The wood expended in that mode of cooking for 125 persons, cost \$2 75 cents a day. The last year a person having been found who could construct a kitchen on the plan recommended by Count Rumford, copper kettles with flat bottoms were put up in the manner directed by the Count. By this alteration, and the use of coals instead of wood, the expense of fuel in cooking for 315 persons was reduced to 50 cents a day.

HOSPITAL.—A Physician is appointed by the Inspectors to attend the prison, and is allowed an annual salary of \$200. A large and airy apartment on the second floor of the north west wing of the prison, is appropriated to a Hospital, where the sick are conveyed, if in the opinion of the physician, they need medical aid. As the prison is situated in a distant part of the city, and accidents may sometimes happen which demand immediate medical assistance, a suitable person is provided by the physician, to reside constantly in the prison, in the capacity of an Apothecary. He is allowed diet and lodging. He prescribes for the sick, if necessary, in the absence of the physician. Fit persons are selected from the prisoners as Nurses, and are under the direction of the apothecary. The physician visits the sick, and prescribes for them twice in each week, or often if their diseases require greater attention. Any changes in diet, dress or employment, which he may think necessary to the general health of the prisoners, are represented by him in writing to the Inspectors, to be considered by them, and carried into effect so far as may be consistent with the principles and objects of the institution.

Under the direction of the physician, the apothecary keeps a book, in which are inserted the names of the sick, their ages, occupations and diseases, the commencement and duration of their maladies, the termination of them, the number cured, relieved, or whose cases terminate fatally. He also registers the nature and quantity of medicines administered, and the diet and general regimen, including clothing, prescribed by the physician.

Means for warm and cold bathing are provided, and a machine for the purpose of affording exercise to those who are confined to the hospital. These who are capable of taking exercise in the open air, are permitted to do so, under the direction of the apothecary.

A separate kitchen is provided for the hospital, called the Hospital Kitchen, upon the ground floor of the same wing, where diet for the sick is prepared. This is committed to the management of a suitable person chosen from among the prisoners. In this kitchen, three copper boilers of an oval form with flat bot-

forms, are put in the manner recommended by Count Rumford. The largest contains twelve gallons, the others about seven gallons each. One bushel of coal, which costs thirty-six cents, is all the fuel wanted in this kitchen for one week, and besides cooking, heats the water that may be necessary in the hospital.—About 25 persons, on an average, are fed from this kitchen each day.

Many of those who came into the prison with constitutions greatly impaired by excessive drinking, debauchery and vicious habits, after being some time used to the system of temperance, order and industry established in the prison, have become healthy and vigorous. [To be continued.]

ROBBERY!

Some time in the Night of the 3d instant, THE FULLING-MILL of the Subscriber was broken open, and 3 pieces of FULLED CLOTH taken away. The whole of the Cloth is of a black color, and marked as follows:—20 yards, marked at each end with woollen cloth; 17 1/2 yds marked with a patch of woollen, &c. in the corner, and 3 or 4 yards at the last end somewhat narrower than the rest of the piece; and 13 yards, marked at the last end with a patch of full. This to request Tailors and others to examine any Cloth of the above description which may be bro't to their shops, or offered for sale; and any information that may lead to a discovery of the Cloth or the detection of the Thief, will be thankfully received, and all expenses and trouble cheerfully paid for by THOMAS BIRD. Stagg's Creek, Orange county, 10 miles N. W. of Hillsboro', Aug. 9. 1811.

Stop the Villains!!

Broke from the Jail in Raleigh, Last night, THREE PRISONERS, viz. JOHN OWEN, confined for the murder of Patrick Conway of this City. RICHARD KENNON, imprisoned for counterfeiting; and BRITAIN LASSITER, confined on a charge of horse-stealing.

OWEN is about 6 feet high, 22 years of age, very slender, pale sallow complexion, blue or dark eyes, brown hair, very little nose, narrow shoulders, has a bad cough, swelled ankles, and is much emaciated by sickness; he wore away, (it is believed,) a blue broad cloth coat, white or checked pantaloons, striped hemp waistcoat, and black hat.

KENNON is a stout man, 6 feet high, has a strong coarse voice, is about 26 or 28 years of age, grey eyes, the whites of which shew red veins, has scars on his cheek bone; he has an old grey surtout and white pantaloons, and may have a variety of clothing.

LASSITER is about 22 years of age, has grey eyes, thick lips, shews his teeth, and is badly clothed.

These are Villains guilty of the blackest crimes. Owen's offence is well known, and there is no doubt, if proper exertions are made, he will be apprehended. Citizens—friends of Justice! examine every man in the least suspicious, whether on foot or on horseback, and let the vigilance be continued for days and weeks. It is possible these felons will lie some time concealed near Raleigh, unless they have more assistance than is known or expected.

A Large Reward will be given (it is impossible now to say what it will be, but for Owen particularly it will be very liberal) for the apprehension of these felons or either of them.

WILLIAM SCOTT, Jailor. Raleigh, Aug. 8. 1811.

It is requested this information may be widely disseminated as speedily as possible.

NOTICE.

AT November Term last of the County Court of Edgecombe, the Subscriber qualified as Administrator to the Estate of HORATIO DURLEY, dec'd, late of said county. He therefore requests all persons having claims against said Estate to present them properly authenticated within the time prescribed by law, otherwise they will be barred of recovery. And all persons indebted to said deceased are requested to make immediate payment. GEO. W. DURLEY, Adm'r. Tarboro' July 20, 1811. 6:19.

To Bridge-Builders.

WILL BE LET, to the Lowest Bidder, at Rogers' on the Stage Road, on the 29th instant, the Building or Repairing of the Bridge across Neuse River, at the above mentioned place.

A. ROGERS, D. FOWELL, H. MORING, C. WHITAKER, B. PERRY. August 20, 1811. 22

NOTICE.

WAS TAKEN UP, on the 12th inst. and lodged in the Jail of Robeson County, a NEGRO BOY, about 13 or 14 years of age, who says he is free; that his name is William Conrad; that he is bound to Charles Smart, near the Long Bluff, (S. Carolina,) to learn the Hatter's trade. He had in his possession a stout Bay Mare, which he says belongs to Evander M'iver, Esq. of Darlington District, S. C. The owners of the above property are requested to come forward, prove the same, pay charges and take them away. ALEX. ROWLAND, S.H. Lumberton, Aug. 13. 3c21