

[Document V.]

BY THE HOUSE OF DELEGATES,

MARCH 15, 1870.

Reported from the Committee on Benevolent Institutions,
and 500 copies ordered to be printed.

By order,

MILTON Y. KIDD,
Chief Clerk.

REPORT

OF THE

Select Committee

ON

BENEVOLENT

AND

REFORMATORY INSTITUTIONS

Which are Beneficiaries of the State.

ANNAPOLIS:
WILLIAM THOMPSON OF R., STATE PRINTER.

1870.

REPORT.

To the Honorable

The General Assembly of Maryland:

The Joint Special Committee, appointed by your Honorable Body, to visit and inspect the Charitable and Reformatory Institutions which are applying for aid from the State, beg leave to report that they have executed the trust committed to them, and respectfully submit herewith the result of their investigation.

Owing to the largely increased number of these benevolent institutions and the very important interests demanding the attention of your Honorable Body at Annapolis, your Committee was unable to devote as much time to the examination of the various institutions as they should have desired. Yet, it affords the Committee much pleasure to assure you that the appropriations heretofore made by the State, have been wisely and judiciously expended. In discharging the duties assigned them, your Committee visited the Manual Labor School, St. Anthony's Orphan Asylum, Baltimore Female College, Maryland Hospital, Little Sisters of the Poor, St. Mary's Industrial Male School, House of Good Shepherd, St. Vincent's Infant Asylum, Union Orphan Asylum, Aged Men and Women's Home, Union Protestant Infirmary, Shelter for Colored Orphans, German Orphan Asylum, St. Mary's Orphan Asylum, St. Mary's Industrial Female School, House of Refuge, St. Agnes' Hospital, Maryland Institute, Children's Aid Society, Blind Asylum, Baltimore Orphan Asy-

lum, Home of the Friendless, Baltimore Infirmary, Emigrant Union, Hebrew Hospital, St. Vincent's Male Orphan Asylum, Maryland Eye Infirmary and Free Dispensary, and State Normal School.

HOUSE OF THE GOOD SHEPHERD.

This Institution was incorporated under the laws of Maryland, and has for its object the rescue, reclamation and reformation of unfortunate females who have strayed from the path of virtue, affording them an asylum to protect and shield them from the temptation and scorn of the world. Since its foundation, there has been received into this House, 320 women and girls, of which number 10 have died, 13 are filling respectable situations, 18 have proved incorrigible and been sent away, 36 have left of their own accord, 126 have returned to their families, and 117 remain in the House.

The Sisters in charge are entirely dependent for the maintenance of the unfortunate inmates, upon the liberality of their friends and patrons, the bounty of the State, and the proceeds of the industry of the inmates, who devote a large portion of their time to needle-work. The cost of supporting the House for the past year was between \$7,000 and \$8,000, and the receipts from paying inmates amounted to \$122. There is a debt of \$15,000 resting upon the Institution, and the constantly increasing applications for admission demand an enlargement and extension of the present buildings.

Your Committee very earnestly commend the appeal of the Board of Directors to your Honorable Body for assistance, that will enable them to continue and extend the usefulness of an institution whose province it is to receive, cherish and reform that class of our fellow beings, whom, of all others, the cold charities of the world avoid and shun. Your Committee recommend an annual appropriation of \$1,000.

AGED MEN AND WOMEN'S HOME.

These sister institutions, established some years since, and supported almost entirely by private charities, your Committee carefully examined, and most heartily commend to your favorable consideration. There are now in the Women's Home, 48 old, infirm, and in some instances, entirely helpless women. During the past year, 4 have died, and 4 have been admitted. In the Men's Home, there are 27; 2 have died and 5 have been admitted. The inmates are tenderly cared for, and express themselves perfectly contented and comfortable. Such noble charities as are here dispensed by Miss Purviance and her co-workers, must commend them to the christian and philanthropic. All the comforts of a home are here provided for our unfortunate fellow-beings, whose fortunes and health have been wrecked, and the infirmities of age have overtaken, supplying both their temporal and spiritual wants. The Managers are obliged to reject frequent applications on account of the limited capacity of their buildings.— There is a small indebtedness now embarrassing the Institution, and your Committee suggest an appropriation of \$500 annually for each Institution.

MARYLAND UNIVERSITY AND BALTIMORE INFIRMARY.

This old and highly-esteemed Institution was visited by your Committee, where they were courteously received by Professors Chew, Chisolm, and others of the Faculty, who extended to them every facility for a rigid inspection of the premises, which were found in admirable condition. There are now 64 regular patients, beside a number who call daily for medical advice and attention, which they promptly receive. This establishment is supplied with every accessory to be found in any similar institution, and the entire Faculty of the School of Medicine give their attention to the cases which are treated within its walls. A number of the inmates are unable to pay for the treat-

ment they receive, but in no instances when there was room, has any applicant been turned away or refused the care, protection and nursing of the Institution. The sick are looked after and waited upon entirely by Sisters of Charity. The receipts of the Institution fall far short of the expenses, and your Committee recommend an appropriation of \$2,500 by special Act.

EMIGRANT UNION.

This is an Association of late origin, and its object is to encourage emigration into Maryland, and protect the emigrants after their arrival here. They are obliged to incur considerable expense in the printing and distribution of documents, and ask the State to assist them. Your Committee do not deem it prudent to make any appropriation.

HEBREW ASYLUM.

This Institution, established some three years since, is not, as its name implies, sectarian, but receives the sick and afflicted without regard to religious persuasion.—Your Committee discovered, upon examination, that more than half of the present patients are Christians. As the Institution shuts its doors against no worthy applicant, and receives only such remuneration as the patient is able to give, of course it is not self-sustaining, and appeals to the State for a continuation of the generous support extended to it by the General Assembly of 1868. The Hebrew ladies in charge have, by indomitable energy and perseverance, succeeded in completing a very commodious building for the accommodation of their objects of charity, and provided it with all the modern appliances for comfort and recuperation of health, at a very heavy cost.

There are now 18 patients under the treatment and care of the House, of which number only one contributes anything to its support. The House is capable of accommodating a much larger number, but does not possess the means for their support.

Your Committee take pleasure in calling your attention to this very deserving charity, and earnestly recommend an annual appropriation of \$1,000.

ST. JOSEPH'S HOSPITAL.

This Hospital is under the fostering care and patronage of the Redemptorist Order, and supported by the congregations of several churches. Your Committee found in the Hospital 48 patients, (all Germans,) and most of them aged persons. They are attended by the Sisters of Notre Dame, and everything about the place wore an aspect of comfort and care. The Institution has been in operation four years. We recommend an annual appropriation of \$1,000.

CHILDREN'S AID SOCIETY.

This Institution, founded in 1860, has taken in and cared for 800 destitute children since that time. Many of these, after being bound to farmers and mechanics, have served out their apprenticeships and become respectable and useful citizens. At present there are 400 under charge of the Institution, having been provided by the Superintendent with good homes. (generally in the country,) and are visited by him annually, in the discharge of which duty he travelled last year 3,000 miles, and a large portion of that distance on foot. One of the conditions in binding out a boy is, that his master shall give him a certain amount of education, learn him a useful calling, and pay him \$100 when he arrives at 21 years of age. So active is the demand for these children, that at present there are only four or five in the House. The Institution is evidently well conducted, and reflects credit upon the humane gentlemen having it in charge. Your Committee recommend an annual appropriation of \$500.

LITTLE SISTERS OF THE POOR.

This charitable Institution was established ten months since, and is devoted to the care of aged men and women.

regardless of religious persuasion. They have now 26 inmates, of whom 8 are males and 18 females. The Sisters are all French, except two or three who speak English in a broken manner. The house has been supported entirely by private contributions, and the Sisters have collected sufficient funds to purchase a lot of ground and erect thereon a building capable of accommodating 70 inmates. The building will be ready for occupancy in April, and there has been expended on it already, \$25,000. The intention of the founders is, so soon as their means will admit, to enlarge their buildings sufficiently to accommodate 300 persons. We recommend an appropriation annually of \$500.

SHELTER FOR ORPHANS OF COLORED SOLDIERS.

This is an infant institution which takes in the orphan children of colored soldiers who died during the late war, and provides homes for them. There is a school connected with the house, and the children are learned to read before being sent away, or bound out. The managers are desirous of purchasing a property beyond the limits of Baltimore city, and seek an appropriation from the State to aid their enterprise. We recommend an appropriation of five hundred dollars per annum.

MARYLAND PENITENTIARY.

Your Committee made a very short visit to the Penitentiary, in consideration of a Special Committee having already inspected that Institution and reported its condition and necessities to your Honorable Body. They found the number of inmates to have been 293, of which number 237 were males and 50 females, in the year 1820, when complaints were then made of the insufficiency of the accommodations. Now, with very little increased capacity, there are 703 inmates, and the Committee unanimously agree that something should be done by the State to relieve the present crowded condition of the Institution.

ST. ANTHONY'S ORPHAN ASYLUM.

This Institution is in charge of the Sisters of Charity, and is regarded as one among the finest and most worthy in the State. It was established in 1850, and during the twenty years of its existence, has been the means of keeping hundreds of children from the demoralizing influences of the street, and fitting them for an honorable and useful career in life. There are now in charge of the Institution 68 girls and 70 boys. Your Committee would recommend an annual appropriation of five hundred dollars.

ST. VINCENT'S ORPHAN ASYLUM.

Your Committee was shown, by the Sisters in charge of this Institution, through the entire building, which was found to be most perfect in all its departments. It was opened in 1856, and removed to other localities from time to time for the purpose of increasing the accommodations. There are about two hundred little children now in the building, and the boys, upon reaching 10 years of age, are sent to St. Mary's Industrial Male School. This is one of the oldest charities of the State, and has been productive of much good, but is encumbered by a considerable debt. The managers appeal to the State for aid in relieving them of this embarrassment. Your Committee recommend an annual appropriation of five hundred dollars.

MARYLAND HOSPITAL.

This old and valuable Institution your Committee found most admirably conducted in all its various departments. It was founded in 1797, and an appropriation of \$80,000 then made by the State for its establishment. The Trustees have been obliged to expend a considerable amount of money in repairing the old building within the past two years, and now they are, as a corporation, indebted to two different banks over \$16,000. The building is fast going to decay, and the rapid extension of Baltimore city has so

much enhanced the value of this property, that the Trustees are of the opinion that it would be decidedly to the advantage of the State to sell it, and complete the new Hospital near Catonsville, upon which \$300,000 has already been expended, preparatory to a removal of the present inmates from the old Hospital. For the support of each State pauper lunatic consigned by the County Commissioners of any county to the Hospital, that county is required to pay \$200 to the Institution, but in many instances the Commissioners have been very negligent, and now there is a large amount due to the Hospital from such sources. The State, no doubt, would realize a much larger amount from the sale of this property than has in the aggregate been expended upon it. We recommend an appropriation of twenty thousand dollars.

MARYLAND HOSPITAL,
BALTIMORE, March 2, 1870. }

*Hon. John N. Carroll, Chairman of the Committee
of Visitation on the part of the House of Delegates:*

MY DEAR SIR—Permit me to say, on the part of my colleagues, that the points in your Report we desire you to impress upon your Honorable Body are :

1st. Authority to sell our old establishment, and apply the proceeds, as they come in, to the completion of the new Hospital near Catonsville, to which all lunatic paupers should be removed.

2nd. To appropriate the sum of \$20,000 for the two Hospitals, (\$16,000 of this sum to pay a pressing debt for repairs and furniture, expended in the years 1868 and 1869, on the old building,) and \$4,000 for the protection and preservation of the new building, now one-third completed, and one-third in a state of half completion, at a cost of \$320,000, all of which will be greatly injured by depredation and dilapidation in a very short time, unless properly protected. The Commissioners have not a dollar;

and even if the old Hospital is sold, it will be some considerable time before it can be delivered to the purchasers, who will not make any advances until they can, to a certain extent, command the house and grounds. If we sell to pay our debts in a hurry, it will be at a loss of 25 or 30 per cent. If we are placed in a position to be able to take our time, it will be to the advantage of the State and its Treasury.

3rd. To pass an Act making it obligatory on the County Commissioners to pay for paupers in advance; subjecting them to an addition of 25 per cent. if they do not.

4th. Also to pass an Act authorizing the Medical Superintendents to receive and hold all insane and inebriate patients upon the certificates of two respectable medical graduates, setting forth that they have seen the person within five days of the commitment and declaring him or her to be a fit subject for confinement.

By having these suggestions included in your report, and taking charge of the Acts necessary to effect the ends we wish to accomplish, you will greatly lighten the labors of the President, Visitors and Medical Superintendents of the present and future institutions of this character.

I remain, Sir,

Yours respectfully and truly,

R. S. STEWART.

President Board of Visitors.

THE HOME OF THE FRIENDLESS.

This Institution, founded in 1854, is in charge of a number of philanthropic ladies, one of whom remains constantly in the house; 105 orphans, a majority of whom are girls, are now being cared for and educated, although during the past year the aggregate was 197. Of this number, 59 were delivered to parents and friends; 22 were provided with homes; 5 were adopted; 5 were sent to the Boys' School of St. Paul's Parish; 2 to the Industrial School; 1

to St. Paul's Orphan Asylum; 3 left voluntarily, and 2 died. The children receive a thorough, moral training, but their religious persuasion is not interfered with. They are taken into the Institution between the ages of one and twelve years, and appear to be very happy. Your Committee recommend an annual appropriation of \$1,500.

UNION PROTESTANT INFIRMARY.

This is a most excellent Institution, and has now under its care 40 patients, a majority of whom are objects of charity, and the balance only pay such small amounts for their support as their friends may be able to contribute. The Institution was chartered in 1854, and has never received any aid from the State. In all its arrangements the appointments are as good as can be desired. The benevolent ladies whose energies are devoted to the sustenance of this noble work, invoke the aid of your honorable body in the extension of their usefulness. We recommend an annual appropriation of \$500.

BALTIMORE, Feb. 7, 1870.

*To the Honorable Senators
and House of Delegates of Maryland:*

GENTLEMEN: The undersigned, officers of the "Union Protestant Infirmary," in behalf of themselves and the Board of Managers, are necessitated to make an appeal to the liberality of your Honorable Body for an appropriation of \$3,000 to aid them in extending its benevolent object and usefulness.

The Institution was chartered in 1854, and though sixteen years have elapsed, has never received a favor from the State, whilst other charitable associations have been repeated recipients of your generosity.

A union of ladies, representing the different religious denominations of our State and city, compose the Board of Managers. The afflicted, worthy poor, are the special objects of the Institution, commodious wards being assigned

for that special purpose; but the afflicted, or other more favored patients, (not objects of charity,) are amply provided with all the comforts of a home, at moderate rates for board; and the whole Institution is subject to the medical jurisprudence of our approved physicians, who render gratuitous services.

During and since the war, it has been our privilege to soothe the wounded in spirit, by providing shelter and medical attendance for them while sick, and extending religious consolation on their dying bed, especially to those from the most desolated parts of the South, and also from our counties, without any pecuniary aid.

Shall we appeal in vain for so small a sum? We think not.

We wish your Committee to visit us, and we think these facts, and their own observations, will result in a grant of the aid desired.

Very respectfully,

MISS PURVIANCE, *President.*

MRS. HUGH Y. PURVIANCE, *V. Pres.*

MRS. DR. DULIN, *V. Pres.*

MRS. ROBERT GARRETT, *V. Pres.*

MISS VICKERS, *V. Pres.*

MRS. JOSEPH R. SNYDER, *Cor. Sec'y.*

MRS. IRA CANFIELD, *Rec. Sec'y.*

MRS. JOHN S. GITTINGS, *Treasurer.*

MRS. CHARLES J. BAKER,

MRS. JOHN S. GITTINGS,

MRS. JOSEPH R. SNYDER,

MISS WILLETT,

Committee.

SAINT VINCENT'S INFANT ASYLUM.

This Institution was chartered some time since by the State, and has proved very effective in diminishing and preventing the horrible crime of infanticide. Since its organization, no less than 1,363 nameless infants have been received and nurtured until of proper age to be placed in

some Orphan Asylum. There are now 83 helpless little ones in the house, ranging from one week to five years of age. It has been mainly supported by the charitable efforts of several wealthy merchants.

The sisters have expended \$20,000 on the building, and they are encumbered by a debt of that amount.

Your Committee was highly gratified with the entire management of this institution, and the great good which it is effecting. We recommend an annual appropriation of \$1,500.

BALTIMORE, ———, 1870.

To the Honorable,

The General Assembly of Maryland :

The petitioners of the Sisters of Charity in charge of St. Vincent's Infant Asylum respectfully represent :

That they form a body corporate, under a special charter of the General Assembly of Maryland, having for its object the preservation of lives and proper nurture and education of infants too young to be received into the ordinary Orphan Asylums.

That this Institution has proved a success, and has become an important part of our system of charities, exercising, moreover, a potent agency in the prevention of crime, particularly the horrible crime of "Infanticide."

Said Institution has received and nurtured 1,363 children, and your petitioners have at present under their care 83 of these helpless little ones ; that this is not in excess of the usual number in their charge, and that very many of these are placed in their custody by the police authorities.

That the support of the said Institution is mainly derived from the contributions of the charitable, but that former Legislatures have recognized its salutary influence as a moral agency by the appropriation of \$1,500 per annum.

That at this period said Institution is financially embarrassed on account of the expenditure of over twenty

thousand dollars in extending their building at the corner of Division and Townsend streets, as required by the increased claims on their charity.

Therefore, they pray your Honorable Body to make such donation to their Institution as you may deem right and proper in the premises.

Respectfully,

SISTER MARIA.

THE BALTIMORE ORPHANS' ASYLUM.

This Asylum was founded seventy-three years since, and has prosecuted untiringly its work of usefulness. There are now 98 orphans in the House, of which number 50 are girls and 48 are boys.

In each department there are schools where the children are instructed in the simple rudiments of an English education, and at the age of 14 are bound out, generally to farmers.

The Managers never lose sight of the orphans, and upon discovering that they are unkindly treated, immediately remove them. The expenses of the institution last year were \$6,169, which amount was furnished principally by donations and subscriptions. The sewing done by the children yielded \$122.52.

The ladies in charge represent the institution as being greatly in need of pecuniary aid, to carry out the benevolent design of its founders, and return their heartfelt thanks to your generous predecessors for an appropriation of \$2,000, which was most opportune for the institution. Your Committee recommend an annual appropriation of \$1,000.

ST. JOSEPH'S HOUSE OF INDUSTRY FOR GIRLS.

This is comparatively a new institution, and though little known, is doing a vast amount of good. It is conducted by six Sisters of Charity, who have now the care of 30 girls, who are taken in without regard to religion, clothed, fed and educated. They devote a large portion of their time to sewing,

and many of the older girls by their industry, not only support themselves, but contribute to the general support of the house, as they grow up to be young women, situations are procured for them as seamstresses, &c., and in some instances as teachers, but they are always taught to look upon St. Joseph's as their home. There is also a day school attached to the institution in which poor children of the neighborhood whose parents are unable to educate, are taught gratis. The institution is \$23,000 in debt, and the Sisters appeal to the bounty of the State for assistance. We recommend an annual appropriation of \$1,000.

MARYLAND INSTITUTION FOR INSTRUCTION OF THE BLIND.

This Institution chartered by the State in 1853 is located in Baltimore county, near the city limits, and is one of the best appointed buildings of the kind in the country.

There are now in the building 50 pupils, 40 of whom are State beneficiaries, the Institution receiving \$300 for each one per annum. The exercises of the pupils in reading, arithmetic, and both vocal and instrumental music reflected great credit upon the teachers, and elicited the warmest applause from all present. The girls when not engaged in their studies devote a portion of their time to needle and bead work, and knitting, in which they display remarkable proficiency. The boys are occupied during the recess from school in making brooms, and the general system of education and training is such as to enable this unfortunate class of our fellow beings to support themselves after leaving the Institution. The term fixed for the support and education of charity pupils is limited to eight years, during which time they are instructed in the various branches of education, which are (by improved methods) brought within the reach of the blind. The sense of touch is cultivated which, to some extent, fits them for the most active duties of life. A number of the graduates of the Institution are now engaged in teaching. Your Committee find that this Institution is, as its name indicates, purely educational, affording the blind youth of our State an equal opportunity, with the more fortunate class, of obtaining a thorough, practical education. Without education this unfortunate class of hu-

manity are utterly helpless, with it they become happy and useful citizens. This Institution constitutes an essential and important part of our public school system. The State is now indebted to this Institution in the sum of \$5,000 under the provisions of Acts of Assembly, chapter 205 Session of 1868, which directs an appropriation of \$15,000 per annum for which no provision was made in the general appropriation bill of that session.

The erection of the large and commodious building now occupied by the school has involved the Directors to the amount of \$20,000, and they appeal to the State for an appropriation of \$10,000 to aid them in liquidating this debt, feeling confident of obtaining the balance from other sources, as well as the annual appropriation of \$15,000, as provided by Act of Assembly above mentioned. Your Committee recommend a continuance of the annual appropriation of \$15,000 as provided by Act of Assembly, and \$5,000 due from the State on account of no appropriation being made in 1868.

GERMAN ORPHAN ASYLUM.

This institution differs little from other Orphan Asylums, its object being to take children over two years of age, and provide them with a comfortable home until large enough to be bound out, after which time they are regularly visited by the agent of the Institution. There are now fifty children in the Asylum, who, by their cleanly appearance and cheerful faces, attest the good management of the Institution. Your Committee recommend an annual appropriation of five hundred dollars.

BALTIMORE FEMALE COLLEGE.

Your Committee were very pleasantly entertained here for a half hour by the various exercises of the pupils, numbering some one hundred young ladies. All the counties of the State except two have beneficiaries in this institution. Your Committee recommend no appropriation.

ST. MARY'S ORPHAN ASYLUM.

Your Committee here found no less than one hundred and twenty bright, happy children, varying in age from five to ten years. The children here are principally taken from St.

Vincent's Infant Asylum, and instructed until twelve years of age, when they are sent to St. Joseph's Industrial School for Girls, where they are taught all kinds of industrial pursuits. At this Institution they pursue scholastic studies, and besides assisting some in housekeeping, are instructed in bead and fancy work. The Sisters in charge conducted the Committee through the entire house, which was found to be kept in most admirable condition. Your Committee recommend an annual appropriation of one thousand dollars.

ST. AGNES HOSPITAL.

This is a special charity of Mr. Charles M. Dougherty and his estimable lady, who founded the Institution some few years since, and have almost entirely supported it from their own resources. There are now in the hospital ninety-one patients, a majority of whom are objects of charity, who receive the same attention as those who are able to pay the highest prices. No one is refused admittance if he can possibly be accommodated, and the Sisters not unfrequently vacate their own rooms to provide for applicants. Members of the first families of the State whom misfortunes have overtaken, were seen here, one of whom for years occupied a high position in the Councils of the State. Medical attendance is provided by Drs. Smith and Milholland. Your Committee recommend an appropriation of fifteen hundred dollars per annum.

UNION ORPHAN ASYLUM.

In this Asylum there are about one hundred children of both sexes—all orphans of Federal soldiers—who died during the war. It has been conducted for some years by a number of charitable ladies, who appeal to the State for assistance in their good work. The children are instructed, and their exercises during the visit of your Committee were very creditable to both teachers and themselves. Your Committee recommend an appropriation of five hundred dollars per annum.

ST. MARY'S INDUSTRIAL SCHOOL.

This school is located beyond the limits of Baltimore city, and occupies a very large and handsome building, lately

erected by private contributions at a cost of about one hundred thousand dollars. It is open to the children of all religious sects, and now contains one hundred and twenty boys, who, when committed to the care of the Institution by parents on account of disobedience, or for the purpose of removing him from evil associations and examples, is told that his companions will know nothing of his past history, and he is placed upon his honor with the hope that he will not disgrace himself. This course generally has the desired effect. There are workshops attached wherein the boys are trained to habits of industry which fits them for the active pursuits of life. The farm and garden are cultivated by them under direction of the Brothers in charge. The products of their labor on the farm the past year, are estimated to have been worth \$2,153.50. Your Committee recommend an annual appropriation of six thousand dollars.

HOUSE OF REFUGE.

The character of this very deserving institution is too well known to your Honorable Body to require comment at our hands. It has been very truly said by one of our former Executive's that it is much cheaper to "reclaim a youth than to pursue an expert villain to the gallows." There are now 338 boys and 21 girls in the House, and the number submitted to its care since its establishment, amounts to 1,981. The total sum of expenditures for the past year was \$42,221.93. A large addition has been made to the building during the past year, and \$35,000 actually expended thereon, and \$25,000 more will be necessary to complete the structure in all its parts. The Board of Managers look with confidence to your Honorable Body for assistance,—individual liberality having done its part; when remembering that the object of this Refuge is one of unequivocal public utility, and acknowledged success, in which every friend of the good order of society is directly interested, it may be well urged that every dollar bestowed upon it, is an investment for all time and yielding a return of incalculable moral value.

Your Committee recommend that the annual appropriation be continued as provided by law, and a special appropriation of \$15,000.

MARYLAND INSTITUTE AND SCHOOL OF DESIGN.

Upon the occasion of your Committee's visit to this institution they were very kindly shown through the Schools of Design, by the President and other members of the Board, who fully explained the general workings of the establishment, to the good management of which, the Committee is much pleased to testify. We append herewith an exhibit of the condition of its affairs, and earnestly recommend an annual appropriation of \$4,000.

Receipts and Expenses of the School and Literary Department of the Maryland Institute, for the Scholastic year 1869.

	RECEIPTS.	EXPENSES.
School of Design	\$2,064 00	\$3,262 55
Lectures.....	44 25	536 50
Library.....	100 55	1,305 12
Chemical Dep't.....	18 00	368 97
Book-keeping and Writing School...	180 00	631 33
Music School	368 37	351 14
	\$2,715 17	\$6,455 61
Annual appropriation from the State	3,000 00	
Total receipts.....		\$5,715 17
Balance deficiency.....		740 44

Number of Pupils attending the Schools of the Maryland Institute for the present scholastic year, 1870.

Male Night School of Design.....	470
Male and Female Day School of Design.....	35
Music School.....	56
Book-keeping and Writing School.....	48
Total	609

Number of members receiving the benefits of the Institute for the current year.

Senior Members.....	337
Junior "	1,111
Lady "	128
Life "	333
Honorary "	39
Total	1,948

STATE NORMAL SCHOOL.

This School, established by the Act of Assembly of 1865, and reorganized under the Act of 1868, is intended "for the instruction and practice of teachers in the science of education, the art of teaching and the mode of governing schools." Each county in the State has the privilege of sending two students for each of its Representatives in the General Assembly.

The course of instruction embraces all the studies taught in the public schools of the State, and such others are added from time to time, as the progress of the students will justify. The object of the School is not to afford a liberal education to the citizens, but give professional training to those who intend to become teachers. There are now in the School 120 young ladies and 30 young gentlemen. The Model School attached to this institution, affords fine facilities for obtaining the necessary practice in the art of teaching, and all graduates are required to spend one term as teachers in this School, under proper superintendence. We recommend to the Committee on Ways and Means, a liberal support.

MANUAL LABOR SCHOOL.

This most excellent institution has been in existence some forty years, and contains now 50 boys, whose mental and physical culture is its especial care. There is a farm and garden attached, the work upon which is done by the boys, and the products that are sold tend to the support of the School.

The expenses of the institution the past year were \$7,711.00, and the receipts \$5,856.31, leaving a balance against the School of \$1,854.79. We recommend an annual appropriation of \$5,000.

BOYS' HOME.

Your Committee had not time to visit this institution, but upon inquiry and information from members who visited it two years since, feel assured of its worth and usefulness, and recommend the usual appropriation of \$500 per annum.

Your Committee are in possession of a communication from the President of the "Orphans' Home of the Eastern Shore of Maryland," detailing the worthy objects of that association. That it commends itself to the sympathies of your Committee, is but poorly expressing their real feelings in connection with this and all similar charities in our midst. It comes before us

fully endorsed by the Representatives of the Shore, and the fact that it is the first time the State has been appealed to by this section, separated from us by the waters of the Chesapeake, for that charity which has been so freely lavished upon like institutions on the Western Shore, strengthens its demands and constrains us to recommend \$5,000 to assist them in prosecuting to completion their praiseworthy enterprise.

G. FRED. MADDOX,

I. M. DENSON,

LEMUEL MALONE,

Committee on part of the Senate.

JOHN N. CARROLL,

ORMOND HAMMOND,

HORATIO BECK,

LEWIS TURNER, JR.,

JOHN R. BLAKE,

Committee on part of the House of Delegates.

[Document W.]

BY THE HOUSE OF DELEGATES,

MARCH 18TH, 1870.

Reported from a Special Committee to Examine into the
Affairs of the Tobacco Warehouses. Read, and 500 copies
ordered to be printed.

By order,

MILTON Y. KIDD,

Chief Clerk.

REPORT

OF THE

SPECIAL COMMITTEE

TO EXAMINE INTO THE

Affairs of the Tobacco Warehouses,

TO THE

GENERAL ASSEMBLY

OF

MARYLAND.

ANNAPOLIS:

WM. THOMPSON, OF R., PRINTER.

1870.

REPORT.

The Special Committee appointed by the House of Delegates to examine into the affairs of the State Tobacco Warehouses beg leave most respectfully to report to your Honorable Body that they have performed the duty assigned them, not so much with a view to punish past abuses but to correct them in the future, and after a thorough examination into the workings of the Tobacco Warehouses have brought their minds to the conclusion that a radical change is necessary to a successful and economical management of said houses. Although the system now in use, if carried out in its true intent and meaning, may be a good one, yet it has been so mismanaged by the employees at the warehouses as to cause great detriment to the interest of all concerned—to the planter, the manufacturer and the shipper. Extravagance, waste and culpable negligence met us at every turn, and the inspections, so far from being a source of revenue to the Tobacco fund, for the two years last past, have brought that fund in debt to the amount of \$2,758.64, as will appear by reference to Comptroller's report. This has arisen partly from the fact of having more houses in operation than are necessary for the accommodation of all the tobacco trade now reaching Baltimore; but principally from the superabundance of labor employed by the inspectors. The warehouses are worked entirely independent of each other, and each inspector is allowed to employ as much labor as his fancy, caprice, or his political aspirations may

dictate. There is no head man over all the inspection houses, whose duty it is to superintend and regulate this important matter of employing labor. Your committee are thoroughly of the opinion that more than one-half of the expenses, even under the present laws, can be saved to the Tobacco fund, were there a head centre whose duty it should be to see that no more labor was employed than was necessary to carry on the operations of the different warehouses. Laws have been enacted time and again, amended and repealed, and others enacted, to cure the evils incident to the working of the warehouses on State account; but they have all proved unavailing. The evils have continued, and matters have gone on from bad to worse, till the inspections have not only become a "humbug," but an intolerable nuisance, such as the planters ought not and should not for a moment allow to exist. The whole thing is rotten to the core. Your committee are unanimously in favor of placing the inspection of this important staple of the State of Maryland in the hands of private individuals, and to that end would recommend the leasing out of the warehouses, as soon as practicable, to the highest bidder, and removing them as far as possible from all political influences. They have not a doubt but that a large increase of revenue would be the result of such a movement. In this opinion they are borne out by the opinion of some of the most intelligent and most deeply interested persons concerned in the raising, selling, manufacturing and shipping of this valuable staple of Maryland. Your committee ascertained, beyond the peradventure of a doubt, that the five warehouses can be leased to reliable and responsible persons for thirty thousand dollars, and are decidedly of opinion they can be leased for more; and in private hands they have not a shadow of doubt that the interest of the planter would be much better subserved than it is at present, as well as the interest of the manufacturer, the shipper, and the trade generally.

These houses can be leased out for the sum named, and by resorting to a little arithmetical calculation your Honorable Body will at once see the immense saving that will accrue to the tobacco fund.

By reference to the Comptroller's report it will be found that in the two years last past, that is to say, from the 1st of January, 1868, to the 1st of January, 1870, there were inspected 82,915 hogsheads of tobacco, costing in the aggregate, for inspection and incidental expenses, the sum of \$205,348.25. Now the five warehouses, in the opinion of your committee, can be leased for at least thirty thousand dollars per annum, and managed without one dollar's expense to the tobacco fund. Therefore, the sum of sixty thousand dollars should be added to the above bill of expenses, and assuming that the expenditures in the said houses will be, for the next two years, equal to the costs and charges of the two years just past, and the receipts the same, a little arithmetical calculation, as said before, will convince the most sceptical how very much better it would be for the planting interest that the warehouses should be leased out. The account would then stand thus for the two years ensuing:

Expenses for two years.....	\$205,348.25
Gross receipts for two years.....	202,589.61
Expenditures over receipts.....	2,758.64
To which add lease for two years.....	60,000.00
Amount saved in two years.....	\$62,758.64

We submit to the General Assembly whether or not this sum is worth saving to the planters of Maryland. Even in the matter of receipts there is but very little comfort for the planters. How are they made up? There is in the first place this amount for outage.....		\$167,448.25
For scraps.....		9,496.66
Cooperage.....		3,696.00
These three items, making, when added.....		\$180,640.91

All of which is a tax on the planter—the scraps and cooperage directly, and the outage indirectly. Although the purchaser pays the outage, he calculates it in his purchases at the time he makes them.

The prolific source of many abuses in the working of the warehouses is the blending their operations with the political rings, factions and cliques of the day, leading to extravagance, waste and neglect. These political rings look more to their advancement, politically, than to the interest of the planters, or to the interest of the trade generally. These abuses are of no recent origin, but date so far back that the memory of man runneth not to the contrary. They should at once be corrected, and your committee know of no better plan than by placing the whole trade, and all matters connected therewith under the management of private individuals, whose interest it will be to pay proper attention to their duties.

We would suggest, whenever a Tobacco Board of Exchange, consisting of planters, manufacturers and shippers, shall be duly incorporated and organized, that they shall have the appointment, in conjunction with the lessee or lessees of any of the warehouses, to appoint the inspector of said warehouse, and to manage the same, under proper rules and regulations.

We are pained to say that the trade generally have no confidence whatever in the Maryland inspections, which has had a very depressing influence upon the prices of Maryland fine tobacco, both with the manufacturers here and with the trade generally in Europe. England has almost ceased to buy of us, and among the manufacturers the fine qualities of Virginia and Kentucky are being rapidly substituted for the Maryland. We had ocular demonstration of what we say, and if the specimens we saw are a fair exponent of the inspections in Baltimore, we do not wonder at the Maryland tobacco being driven from the market. The standard of Maryland inspections is far below the standard of that of any other place in the United States, particularly below that of Cincinnati and New York. We are thoroughly convinced from information derived from the trade, that wherever a State interferes with the inspections, it has proven detrimental in all cases, to the interest of all concerned.

In Cincinnati and New York, where the inspections are managed by private individuals, the standard is very high. The fact is, that the standard is so far superior in New York, to that of Baltimore, that the former city is now rapidly absorbing much of the Western trade, which would find its way to Baltimore if the dealers in tobacco had any confidence in the inspections of Maryland, but we are constrained to say that the dealers have almost entirely ignored our inspections, and many of them will not purchase and pay for the fine qualities of tobacco without the privilege of reviewing it.

False packing has been practiced to an alarming extent, and is largely on the increase, which throws distrust over the whole market, thereby damaging the interest of the honest planter.

We would suggest as a remedy for this unpardonable evil, a confiscation of the falsely packed hogshead, when it becomes evident that such false packing has been done with a view to defraud. This has done more to depress the Maryland prices than all else together, and nothing but confiscation will put an end to it.

In all cases of dispute arising upon the subject of falsely packed tobacco, we would refer the matter to three arbitrators, consisting of a disinterested inspector, a planter's agent, and buyer, and if the arbitrators should decide that the tobacco in question had been packed with intent to defraud, confiscation should at once follow.

Your committee are well convinced that there has been great waste in making scraps. There is no reason why so many scraps should be made. Some tobacco is sold by the sample, to all appearance, a fair leaf sample, and when opened by the buyer the tobacco turns out to be scraps, not broken scraps, but full leafed bundles, made up partly of Maryland, partly of Virginia, partly of Ohio, and partly of Kentucky, showing that the inspector had been very careless in not returning these bundles to the original hogshead. All this is, more or less, a fraud upon the planter, though

not designed to be so. During the last two years, scraps to the amount of \$9,496.66 have been sold from the various warehouses, not one pound of which belonged to the State, but to the planters, and their interest is damaged to that extent.

The cooerage account is a very serious evil. Cooperage has cost much more, in the opinion of your committee, than it should have done, the amount being for the two last years, \$3,696.00. We recommend the abolition of that feature of the inspection law.

Your committee did not go into a minute examination of the charges preferred against the Inspector at No. 2 Warehouse, partly for the want of time, and principally because of those charges having been twice enquired into before by the Superintendent of Labor and Agriculture. So far as we examined these charges we found no evidence of intentional fraud, but great negligence and want of care in the management of the house.

There is a great clamor in the tobacco growing region of our State about the mismanagement of the warehouses and the waste of the Tobacco Fund, which, in view of all the facts, is not to be wondered at.

We do not wish to disturb the present incumbents during their term of office, as they have left their homes and made arrangements for their stay in office for the full term, but at the expiration of that term we would by all means recommend a leasing and a carrying out other suggestions we have embodied in this report. In the meantime we would place the labor to be employed in the warehouses under the entire control of the Superintendent of Labor and Agriculture. We have collected a vast deal of information from a variety of sources—from planters, agents, manufacturers and shippers—and from former warehousemen, who came before us most cheerfully, when notified. Many who were not before us we conversed with unreservedly, whose conversation almost universally tended to the same end as those whom we examined. We saw many influential planters, also, all of whom were in favor of the plan we propose.

We conclude this report with an extract from the report of the Special Committee of the Richmond Tobacco Trade, which we adopt as embodying our views, and we understand that the recommendations of that report have been adopted by the State of Virginia with great unanimity, and with the concurrence of all engaged in the trade.

"The existing laws may have suited the exigencies of the times that gave them paternity. But we are impelled to the conclusion that they have served their day and generation. To give force and lucidness to our own views on this subject, we will borrow those of an eminent author, well known to commercial men, and versed in commercial usages and the effect of laws on trade. He remarks that 'The errors of governments in matters of trade have not been that they have done too little, but they have attempted too much. On a little consideration it will be found that this duty is rather negative than positive, that it consists less in the framing of regulations than in the removal of obstacles.' And again, 'Human laws are not made for immortality, they must be accommodated to the varying circumstances and exigencies of society.'

"We cannot conceive of any thing more applicable to our own situation in connection with the tobacco inspection laws of our State, than these forcible and lucid axioms. It has long since been conceded that the less governments have to do with trade the better. All that is required of the law-making power are proper laws to enforce observance of contracts, and to preserve us from frauds; these aside, all other matters may be safely left to those directly interested in its prosecution.

"As regards the inspection of tobacco, as at present regulated by law, we believe that we may safely assert, without the apprehension of contradiction, that it is a "humbug," having little or no influence in determining the judgment of the dealer, certainly none as to its quality. This conceded, we are clearly of the opinion that the sooner we are rid of these laws the better for all interested in the prosperity of this important branch of our trade. Any branch

of business depending for existence upon legislative interference, must, necessarily, be hampered and impeded in its development. Experience teaches us that it is very difficult to have laws amended or repealed to suit the exigencies of the occasion, whereas, were the matter left to those directly interested in it, regulations, if required, would be readily adopted to suit the emergency."

All of which, is respectfully submitted.

THOMAS MARTIN,
GEORGE WELLS, JR.,
C. S. DUVALL,
GEO. W. HILTON.

The testimony is hereto appended.

The Committee appointed by the House of Delegates to examine into the affairs of the Tobacco Warehouses, beg leave to submit the following testimony made to them during said investigation :

STATEMENT OF DR. McPHERSON, COMMISSIONER OF LABOR AND AGRICULTURE.

Are you familiar with the working of State Tobacco Warehouses?

Yes, and think that they can be so managed as to save a net revenue to the Tobacco Fund.

What would you suggest as a remedy for the waste complained of?

I think one-half of the number of men employed could be dispensed with, and that three houses are amply sufficient to accommodate all the trade at present. I think they can be leased for \$25,000 or \$30,000 per annum, clear of all expense to the State or the planter. I am clearly of the opinion that the whole business should be under the control of a Tobacco Exchange, composed of planters, merchants, and others interested in the trade. There should, by all means, be a Tobacco Exchange.

STATEMENT OF GEORGE F. NEEDHAM.

Have been a commission merchant all my life ; am well acquainted with the operations of the warehouses. With proper management they can certainly be made to pay quite a revenue to the Tobacco Fund. Maryland inspections are lower in standard than any part of the United States. I have never seen any false packed tobacco from Virginia, Kentucky, or Ohio. There are a great deal of false and badly packed tobacco in Maryland. The facing is generally of a very inferior quality to the rest of the hogshead. New York standard of inspection is very high. There the inspections are in the hands of private parties.

What would you do with tobacco falsely packed with intent to defraud ?

Condemn it and have it forfeited for the benefit of the tobacco fund. There is not enough tobacco coming to market now to keep all the houses at work. Three houses can accommodate all the trade at present. For the sake of all interested in the tobacco trade—planters, manufacturers, and shippers—I would, by all means, keep the trade out of the hands of the politicians. I am sure that the houses can be worked for one-half less than they now cost. In consequence of the high standard of the New York inspections, that city is rapidly absorbing the Western trade.

J. A. PRICE'S STATEMENT.

How long were you inspector of tobacco ?

Two years and ten months.

How many hogsheads of scrap tobacco have been packed and sold during that period at No. 3 ?

Cannot say. Scraps are sometimes sold in bulk, without being packed. Scraps are sometimes unavoidable ; the hogsheads are often stayed for various reasons, and when they are wet the wet tobacco is cut off, and of course these cuttings are

not in a condition to return to the hogshead. No hands, to my knowledge, have ever thrown off any tobacco with the view to making scraps at No. 3, for I have strictly forbidden it.

What are the number of officers in your house?

Four clerks—chief, receiving, weighing and shipping clerk. I have a finder, whose duty it is to find the tobacco when sold to shippers and buyers, to put the proper marks on them, and to perform other miscellaneous duties. I have also a sample tyer, at two dollars per day. I had a deputy inspector, at \$2.50 per day. Mr. James Somerville was employed as my deputy, who was a most efficient officer, and paid as weighing clerk, and the man who was weighing clerk was paid as a laborer.

What suggestions have you to make to prevent the employment of superabundance of labor?

I would recommend that the Board of Trade of Baltimore city, or a Tobacco Exchange, consisting of planters, agents and buyers, employ an agent outside of all political influences, if one can be found, to superintend the labor, which which will never be properly regulated without some such arrangement.

Have you ever discovered, in your inspections, any false packing?

Yes; and there should be a very severe penalty for the same when so packed with a view to defraud.

Do you not think the warehouses can be much more economically worked than at present?

I do not like to answer the question; but I will say that with the average employment of six good screwmen I have done, and can do, more work than eight inexperienced men at the screw. I have employed at busy seasons more labor than at other times, and when the hard work was over I have discharged the supernumeraries. Were I appointed superintendent of warehouses at a fair salary, I would give bond and security that I would save to the Tobacco Fund at least \$20,000 per annum.

STATEMENT OF COL. MERCER.

Have you been connected with the State Tobacco Warehouses? If so, how long, and in what capacity?

Yes; as inspector for two years in Warehouse No. 2.

How many screws are attached to the house, and how many screwmen did you employ on an average during that time?

There are five screws. On an average, eight screwmen. I had a deputy inspector, and at first paid him two dollars a day, and afterwards paid him as screwman. Employed deputy inspector as a back hand, and returned him as such. Three clerks have been doing the business in my house, and have not had very hard work at any time. The duty of finder is to get from the floors the tobacco, and when about to be shipped to mark the hogsheads. I think it should be the duty of the shipping clerk, and the finder dispensed with. On occasions of the press of business a sample tyer is necessary, for the weigh clerk cannot perform the duty of weigher and sample tyer at the same time, at such seasons. A finder attended to the warehouse generally, and performs other miscellaneous duties, as runner on errands. I think three houses are sufficient to accommodate the tobacco trade at present.

Do you not think that the tobacco inspections can be so managed as to produce a net revenue to the Tobacco Fund?

I do. I am clearly of the opinion that it would be best to lease them out under proper restrictions—better for the planter, and better for the trade generally. They can certainly be leased for \$20,000. There is a vast deal of false packing, and sometimes it is so ingeniously done that it is a difficult matter to detect it. It is a growing evil, and should be severely punished. There should never be any lining of worse quality around the tobacco than that in the body of the hogshead. I am clearly of the opinion that the tobacco business should be under the control of a Tobacco Exchange, consisting of planters, their agents, and the buyers. I have been very much annoyed by politicians forcing

hands upon me when they were not required for the operations of the house under my charge, and the pressure was sometimes too great to resist. I have always itemized the sale of scraps.

P. L. CHEW corroborates the above statement of Col. Mercer, and agrees with him in his opinions.

JAMES H. S. GIBBONS' STATEMENT.

What business are you engaged in?

The tobacco commission business; been so engaged for six years. I have no doubt that the warehouses can be so managed as to raise a net revenue to the State. They can be so worked as to save to the State *one dollar* per hoghead.

Have you noticed much false packing?

Yes; some scientifically packed, so as to defraud the purchaser.

What do you suppose the five warehouses can be leased for per annum?

Ans. About \$40,000.

Do you think it would be to the interest of the State and the planters to lease the warehouses to private parties?

Ans. I do think so.

Is there much waste in the warehouses?

Ans. Certainly there is; but if leased to private individuals that waste would not occur. In my opinion the Tobacco Exchange should control the inspection, which would be to the advantage of the tobacco grower.

JERRIE DYER'S STATEMENT.

Have heard the statement made by different parties in relation to the management of the tobacco warehouses, and fully concur therein. In my opinion, \$1.00 outage would

pay the lessee, or the lessee can pay the State \$1.00 per hogshead. It is my decided opinion that a change is necessary to protect the interest of the planter, manufacturer and shipper.

STATEMENT OF MR. GAIL.

Are you engaged in the tobacco trade? If so, in what department of it?

I have been engaged in it for many years as a manufacturer, and to a limited extent in shipping. Very well acquainted with the Maryland tobacco trade; have always been a dealer in the fine qualities of Maryland tobacco. There is very great complaint, not only among the buyers and manufacturers here, but in Europe, about the very low standard of the Maryland inspection. In Bremen, and other European cities, the Maryland inspections are not relied upon at all, in consequence of the carelessness or incompetency of the inspectors, which has a very depressing influence upon the price of the fine Maryland tobaccos particularly.

What would you suggest as a remedy for this evil?

Much more rigid inspection, if inspections should be continued, but better still, the State should leave the trade entirely free and untrammelled. All interests generally take care of themselves. If this business were in private hands, we would look to the seller should samples not represent the balance of the hogshead, now we have to look to the inspector, which is a very unsatisfactory way of doing business.

I like the tobacco inspections of Cincinnati. There the whole thing is managed by a Board of Tobacco Exchange, composed of planters, buyers and sellers, who elect the inspectors, and who are subject to their supervision. The inspector is never allowed to be a warehouse lessee; they are two different men. The inspector is the umpire between the seller and the buyer. State does not interfere at all. Wherever there has been State interference it has proved

detrimental to the tobacco interest. There is an application now on the part of the trade in Louisville and Richmond, to abolish all State control over inspections, as it embarrasses the trader. Have no doubt but what this application will prove successful. In New York inspections are in private hands, and gives general satisfaction ; so much satisfaction, that New York is now rapidly absorbing all the Western trade.

Have you ever bought any scraps?

Yes ; I have often bought them from second hands, but not from the warehouses. I have bought at different times hogsheads represented by a good, fair sample of leaf tobacco, and when opened were evidently scraps, because in such hogsheads would be mixed together tobacco from different States, some Maryland, some Virginia, some Ohio, and some Kentucky, showing the tobacco, in all probability, had been culled from scraps thrown aside. We buy these scraps from agents. We are not buying any fine tobacco now, unless subject to our personal review before paying for it. We do not rely on the inspections at all, and if the hogsheads purchased do not come up to the sample, we reject it. We ignore the inspections entirely, so do other manufacturers and shippers. We will not give as much for the finer qualities on account of the unreliability of inspection, as we would if the inspections were of a proper character. If there could be confidence in the inspection, the standard of Maryland tobacco would be greatly enhanced, as it is the best smoking tobacco made in this country. False and careless packing have been very largely on the increase ; a fairly packed hogshead of Maryland tobacco is the exception and not the rule

STATEMENT OF F. W. FEIGNER.

Are you engaged in the tobacco trade? If so, in what capacity, and how long?

Been a manufacturer since 1864. I buy mostly Maryland tobacco. Am well acquainted with the character of the in-

spectations in the different warehouses in Baltimore. The standard of inspection is very low in comparison with other places.

What do you think is the reason of this?

It is in consequence of the neglect and carelessness of the inspectors. They are often away, and do not properly attend to their duties, but trust entirely too much to other people. I deal mostly in fine tobacco, generally buying by the sample, but sometimes will not pay for it except upon the condition of being allowed to review it personally, and would do so in all cases could I spare the time. In my purchases frequently meet with very inferior tobacco, not only in the outside lining, but all through the hogshead, not at all corresponding with the sample, which fact has a very depressing influence on the price of the fine qualities. It often happens that at least one-fourth, and sometimes more, is very inferior, not worth as much as the sample, ranging, in some instances, as much as five or ten cents per pound. For the last three years false packing has been largely on the increase. Have not discovered any false packing of Kentucky and Ohio when inspected in those States, but have discovered some false packing in Ohio when sent to Baltimore for inspection. I would suggest that the warehouses be leased out, and the whole tobacco business, so far as inspection is concerned, placed under the supervision of a Board of Tobacco Exchange, consisting of planters, agents and buyers. I once bought five hogsheads, which was so inferior to the sample that I could not use it for the purpose needed, and therefore was compelled to buy others in their place. I purchased one hogshead for which I paid twenty-six cents per pound, and about one-half of it was not worth ten cents. I would give much more for Maryland fine if I had any confidence in the inspection. If a sample be worth twenty-cents, according to the face of it, I am unwilling to give more than sixteen. Always make an allowance in purchasing of at least one-fifth. There is a great waste in scraps.

JOHN D. HASHAGIN.

I corroborate the foregoing statement in every respect. I am a manufacturer, of the firm of H. Wiggin & Co.

STATEMENT OF SAMUEL T. ADAMS.

Have you been connected with tobacco warehouses, when, and how long?

Connected with warehouse under the administrations of Governor Philip F. Thomas and Governor Ligon, afterwards with Mr. Montague under Governor Hicks.

From your knowledge of inspections, do you not think that they could be so managed as to bring in a handsome revenue to the Tobacco Fund?

I know it. It is beyond a doubt.

What suggestions can you make?

I would abolish inspections. I would suggest the leasing of the warehouses. My brother leased one in 1860, and agreed to pay for No. 2 \$6,500 to the State, and No. 4 was leased to another party for \$4,500. The five houses could be leased for \$35,000, without any expense, even working under present laws of outage. I have served under one of the best administrations and one of the worst known. Under Governor Hicks' administration, I have known one hundred hands employed more than required, under orders from headquarters, for political purposes, who were dismissed after the election.

STATEMENT OF MR. WILLIAM J. RHODES.

Are you familiar with the working of the State Tobacco Warehouses?

I am. Was appointed clerk in 1845, and was continued for fifteen years. In my opinion three clerks can do all the

work for a warehouse—certainly four—dispensing with sample tyer and finder. In 1845 and 1846, there were no such employees, when there was more tobacco inspected per annum than was ever done before or since.

From your knowledge of the tobacco trade, do you or do you not think that the warehouses can be so managed as to produce a handsome net revenue to the Tobacco Fund?

Undoubtedly. By leasing the houses I have no doubt a large net revenue would be returned to the treasury. It would be of great advantage to the trade and to the planters. They would not bring less than twenty-five or thirty thousand dollars, free of all expense, to the State. The fairest way would be to pay to the Tobacco Fund a certain amount for each hogshead inspected. As the law now stands, the lessee could afford to pay at least one dollar per hogshead. I leased one of the houses in 1860—No. 4—and agreed to pay, per annum, four thousand five hundred and fifty dollars. Other houses were leased for more money. All leased for fifty-two thousand dollars for the two years inclusive.

STATEMENT OF MR. PERKINS.

How long have you been connected with the tobacco warehouses, and in what capacity?

Since May, 1862, as inspector for five years and eleven months—since that time as chief clerk. We employed on an average about ten screwmen. First two years had no deputy inspector, but afterwards, when there was a great press of business, I was compelled at times to have a deputy, and he was paid as a screwman. During the busy seasons, all the clerks provided for by law, are necessary to the working of the warehouses. Duty of a finder is, when shipping, to go through the house to find the tobacco, and to mark the hogsheads properly. I do not think that three houses can accommodate the trade, because the tobacco reaches here very irregularly. Some months being very busy, and at other times, comparatively little to do. During busy

months I employed a sample tyer, and dismissed him when busy season was over—never had a janitor.

Do you or do you not think that the inspection of tobacco can be so managed as to produce a handsome net revenue to the Tobacco Fund?

Taking a practical business view of the matter, it can be done; but, under a political view, it cannot.

What do you think of leasing out the warehouses?

I think it would be of decided advantage to the trade, and would be of great benefit to the planters. The warehouses can be leased for twenty-five or thirty thousand dollars per annum without any expense to the Tobacco Fund. I would take them myself at that price, and give bond in a penalty of \$100,000, with the best security, for its payment, and pay up quarterly into the treasury. I have been much annoyed by politicians pressing upon me more labor than I needed. The pressure is so great at times as to be irresistible. With four efficient clerks the whole clerical business of a house can be performed, dispensing with sample tyer and finder.

STATEMENT OF MR. J. B. MAGRUDER.

I have heard the statement of Mr. Perkins, and fully concur therein in every particular.

JAMES SOMMERVILLE'S STATEMENT.

Have you been employed in Warehouse, No. 3, and how long?

Been a deputy inspector for two years to 15th of this month.

Are you familiar with matters in said warehouse?

Entirely, so far as inspections are concerned.

What is the duty of a finder?

When tobacco is being shipped he goes around to look after the hogsheads, shuts up the warehouse, and is in charge of the building generally, and performs other miscellaneous duties. At busy times this officer is necessary. We examine thoroughly both inspector and deputy.

Do you think the chief clerk and inspector could attend to all the inspection.

There are times when it could not possibly be done.

Have you discovered, in your experience, any evidence of false packing?

Frequently. I have detected more than fifty cases since I have been connected with the warehouse. Some very flagrant cases, one I can particularly recollect. An up country hogshhead came to the house, we failed to detect any false packing in the usual mode of inspection. It was stayed because it was not in order. I then discovered, in shaking out, in the heads of every bundle of facing, black tail ends. The tobacco to all appearance was worth \$25, but got ninety pounds out of it not worth \$3; the hogshhead weighed not over five hundred and ninety pounds net.

There were many other cases that came to my knowledge of false packing, but none so flagrant as this. The false packing has been largely on the increase. I have stayed for trash when acting as inspector.

From your experience and general knowledge of the inspections, do you or not believe that the houses can be made to yield a handsome revenue to the Tobacco Fund?

I have not a doubt but at least \$20,000 could be returned as a net revenue to the Tobacco Fund by a judicious management of the house.

Do you not think that three houses could inspect and take care of all the tobacco now coming to market?

I do. I will add that the most frequent cases of false packing occur from packing tails out and heads in.

M. H. WILKIN'S STATEMENT.

I am shipping merchant. We have many complaints from the European markets about the false packing and bad inspection of Maryland tobacco, and about scraps sold with

good uniform samples and they turn out to be mere scraps. I bought last year a hogshead, represented by a good uniform sample, at ten cents, and it turned out to be a very common hogshead of Kentucky, Maryland and Ohio, and partly loose scraps of Virginia. On the other side it sold at a price equal to four cents. On information the commission men told me the hogshead was sold as scraps to them who sold it to me; they paid eight cents—sold soon after. If on the sample had been marked warehouse tobacco, I would not have given five cents. Warehouse tobacco means a hogshead made up of tobacco of different individuals and different qualities. There were no marks upon that sample by which I could detect its quality or the character of the inspection; the house from which purchased paid deficit. I met with many such hogsheads in my purchases, as many as two or three hundred hogsheads a year. I am a large buyer, purchase from four to five thousand hogsheads per year.

Two or three weeks ago I enquired at one of the warehouse for hogshead scraps, and was told in reply that they had a hogshead of straits; was shown the sample with two names on it. A few days afterwards I saw the same hogshead in the hands of a commission merchant. As I, by chance, saw it in the warehouse, I would not offer but five cents. No doubt it was sold for seven cents, as there was no way to detect any fraud about it. Such hogsheads are shipped as planters' tobacco. Nothing wrong can be detected without ocular demonstration. On the other side of the water such tobacco is found to be scraps, consisting of different qualities of tobacco and of different classes. The whole trade there talk of the miserable inspection, and the depressing influence it has upon the market. I do not think there was any design on the part of the inspector to defraud, but it exhibits great carelessness. There should be great care not to make scrap tobacco. There is no necessity for it. I would refer all charges of false packing with intent to defraud to arbitration, and if the arbitrators decided that it was so falsely

packed, I would have the tobacco confiscated, which I think would effectually break up the practice. False packing is largely on the increase.

HENRY AMES' STATEMENT.

In what business are you engaged?

Tobacco commission and shipping business. The standard of inspections of Maryland tobacco has gone down of late years so low as to be very detrimental to the interest of every one concerned in the tobacco market, planter, seller, buyer, shipper and manufacturer. The buyers of fine qualities refuse to pay for it without the privilege of reviewing it. This, owing partly to the negligence of the inspector, and in a great measure to the bad packing at home. We ignore the Maryland inspection altogether here and in Europe. I have had twenty-five years experience in the business. Virginia tobacco is packed very well and even. Ohio better than Maryland, so with Kentucky. I am decidedly of opinion that this whole business should be under the control of a Tobacco Exchange, consisting of planters, commission merchants and buyers. This false packing has caused a considerable decline in the price of first grade Maryland tobacco. I would not give as much now for a fine sample without the privilege of a review, as I would have done in former years, even without a review, because the standard of inspection was then much higher. There is a very depressing state of the trade in Maryland fine qualities on account of bad inspection and bad packing, and the fine qualities of Virginia is now taking its place, for manufacturing purposes at home. I am clearly of the opinion that false packed tobacco with intention to defraud, should be confiscated.

L. II. MARBURG'S STATEMENT.

In what business are you engaged?

Manufacturing smoking tobacco over five years; buying for manufacturing purposes. The standard of Maryland

tobacco could not possibly be worse. We have no trouble with tobacco inspected outside of Maryland, such as Virginia, Kentucky and Ohio. There is a great deal of false packing in the Maryland, so much that we have abandoned, in a great measure, the purchase of Maryland tobacco. We formerly purchased four-fifths of the amount required from the Maryland, *but now not one-tenth*, because we have no confidence in the inspection or packing. Maryland tobacco is as good smoking tobacco as any other. We now substitute Kentucky and Virginia for Maryland, but would prefer Maryland if we knew what we were buying. This low grade is owing to the negligence or incompetency of the inspectors and the bad packing in the country. Will not pay for our purchase without the privilege of review. We bought a hogshead last year, for which we paid twenty-two dollars, we withdrew it from the warehouse and opened it, but could find hardly a leaf in the hogshead that was as bright as the darkest in the sample; submitted it to some of the commission men and manufacturers, and they appraised it at \$13.00, the commission men from whom we purchased did not want to make any deduction, claiming that they had paid the owner, but as we had not paid for the tobacco told him that he must either take it back or submit to a deduction at the rate at which it was valued. We bought one hogshead of tobacco weighing about 600 pounds at 40 cents; in that hogshead there were about 250 pounds worth probably 8 cents, and not represented in samples. If the inspections were under private arrangements, I think it would be best for all concerned, planter, buyer, shipper and manufacturer.

MR. FRANCIS NEALE'S STATEMENT.

Have been connected with the tobacco trade as planter's agent for forty-four years. The standard now of Maryland inspection is very low. I am sorry to say it. It is owing to the carelessness of the tobacco inspectors in not examining carefully and not drawing proper samples. Very often the

samples do not represent the hogsheads of tobacco ; this is owing in some measure too, to bad packing at home. In my earlier experience, the standard of inspection was much higher than at present. This may be accounted for in consequence of inspectors having been continued from year to year, and they invariably gave their personal attention to their duties. The mingling of politics with the warehouses has been very detrimental to the interest of the planters, manufacturers and shippers. The manufacturers complain loudly about false packing. And I have been frequently called upon to decide in cases of review, because the sample did not correspond with the hogshead. I have reviewed many cases when the tobacco was evidently packed with a view to defraud. It is very important that the fine qualities of tobacco should be thoroughly inspected, because a careless inspection has a very depressing influence upon its price. Of late years there has been very little demand for our fine qualities in England, in consequence of the want of confidence in the inspection.

What would you suggest as a remedy for false packing ?

I would suggest a most rigid inspection and a stay in all cases. When the hogshead is falsely packed, the inspector should note upon the sample "this hogshead stayed on account of false packing." Virginia tobacco has superceded, in a great measure, our fine qualities of Maryland tobacco, owing to the honest packing—same case with Kentucky and Ohio. If possible, take the inspectors out of the hands of politicians. There is not business enough to occupy all the warehouses. I think three houses will accommodate all the trade at present. Three inspectors and three sets of employees will suffice to do all the work. It would be a good idea to have the tobacco business placed in the hands of a Board of Exchange, consisting of planters, commission merchants, shippers and manufacturers, who shall appoint the inspector and have a general supervision of the warehouses. The expenses would be largely diminished. The great object is to have a high standard of inspection; it will not only save

to the warehouses expenses, but be of great benefit to the planters in a pecuniary point of view.

When tobacco warehouses were first established in Baltimore, there was a charge of one dollar per hogshead for inspection, and when the houses were paid for it was contemplated merely to raise a sufficient amount from outage to keep them in operation. The State never, nor did the planters contemplate that there should be a fund arising as a revenue to be paid into the general treasury. The Tobacco Fund should always have been kept distinct from the State finances; that was the intention from the beginning. Money borrowed for the building of additional warehouses was always charged to the Tobacco Fund, and liquidated out of money arising from the operation of the warehouses which came out of the planters pockets, either directly or indirectly.

THOMAS J. WILSON'S STATEMENT.

They (the warehouses) can be so managed as to bring in a net revenue to the Tobacco Fund. My own opinion is that they can be leased for one dollar per hogshead for the amount inspected.

How long were you connected with the warehouses?

Twelve years, and made my returns to the Treasurer.

Do you think that three houses will accommodate all the tobacco coming to market?

Yes.

HENRY DUVALL'S STATEMENT.

One of the Firm of Duval & Iglehart.

Are you engaged in the commission business? If so, how long have you been so engaged?

Answer. Have been so engaged for twenty-two years, and am familiar with the tobacco trade.

Do you think that the tobacco warehouses could be so managed as to produce a revenue to the Tobacco Fund?

I am decidedly of that impression, if properly managed.

What would you suggest?

To lease the warehouses, and pay the State at the rate of one dollar per hogshead, and thereby raise from \$20,000 to \$30,000 free of all expense. I would put the lessee under the control of the Tobacco Exchange, and compel him to report to the Comptroller monthly. All his operations should be open to the inspection of the Tobacco Commissioners.

MR. G. O. GORTER'S STATEMENT.

I am a tobacco buyer and shipper. There has been many suggestions in regard to the trade. Whenever the inspections have been in private hands they have given general satisfaction. The Richmond inspections have been somewhat under the State heretofore, but that system has been recently abolished, with great unanimity, all parties interested concurring in the movement.

STATEMENT OF DENNIS A. GRIFFITH.

Connected with Tobacco Warehouses nearly a year. With Col. Mercer at different times. First in the back gang; then as a screwman. Received \$12.00 per week. Did not receive for any more. Col. Mercer never ordered me to make scraps, but chief clerk did, not, however, in the presence of Col. Mercer. There were a great many more scraps made than necessary, and a good deal thrown away that ought not to have been thrown away. Sometimes

scraps are unavoidable on account of bad cooperage and the bad condition of the tobacco on its arrival at the warehouse.

STATEMENT OF A. S. BOND.

We are manufacturers of tobacco; been engaged in the business for about ten years. We mostly manufacture Maryland and Virginia tobacco. In regard to our purchases of tobacco inspected in Baltimore, we find the samples very unreliable, as well as the weights. They do not compare favorably either with New York, Virginia, or Kentucky inspections, which is the cause of the very low standard of Maryland inspections. Virginia and Kentucky fine qualities are rapidly superseding Maryland fine, because there is no confidence reposed in the Maryland inspections. We often review our purchases before paying for them, and frequently reject them. This has a very depressing influence upon the price of Maryland fine tobacco offered in Baltimore. I have seen instances where part of the hogsheads has come out better than the sample, but these instances are very rare, and we will not give as much for tobacco sold by the sample by from ten to fifteen per cent, in consequence of the poor inspections now in vogue in the Maryland houses. I would suggest as a remedy a more rigid inspection by the chief inspector, whose duty it should be, to be constantly at his post. The plan of employing a deputy inspector all the time is a bad one. At times it may be necessary, in a press of business. I am decidedly in favor of leasing out the warehouses and placing much of the business under the control of a Tobacco Exchange. Three houses can accommodate all the trade now reaching Baltimore. The plan proposed will be a saving of one-half at least in expenses. I think the five warehouses can be leased for at least \$25,000. I am decidedly of opinion that it will be to the interest of the planter and the whole trade that this tobacco business should be kept as far removed as possible from the political arena, although a very active politician myself.

FRANCIS CUTAIRA'S STATEMENT.

Connected with Warehouse No. 5 for two years. There are nine screws in all, and eleven screwmen employed on an average. The deputy inspector is one of them, and paid as such. The four clerks allowed are, in my opinion, necessary to conduct the affairs of the warehouse. Sometimes, in press of business, a sample tyer is absolutely necessary, because the weighing clerk cannot do the business of sample tyer. Twenty-five hogsheads is considered as a very good day's work. I speak of Ohio tobacco, as that is the tobacco I generally handle. Maryland, Virginia, and Kentucky are harder to open, and not as many hogsheads can be inspected in a day. I have frequently had more labor employed than necessary, in consequence of the political influence brought to bear.

Under private arrangement I think the expenses of the warehouses could be reduced at least one-half. Political arrangement I think very detrimental to the interest of the planter and the trade. I have discovered much false packing, and claim the credit of having broken up much of it. I think the inspections could be so managed as to produce a handsome revenue to the Tobacco Fund. I think the warehouses can be leased to private parties for at least *thirty thousand* dollars. The State would be benefitted and the trade could not be disparaged.

 STATEMENT OF SAMUEL SMITH.

Have been employed as weighing clerk in Warehouse No. 2 for two years. Three clerks have done the work in the warehouse, the chief clerk having been sick. Formerly there were but three clerks in the warehouses. As to State scraps, if marked as "State scraps" they would not bring as much money in the market as if marked otherwise, and as to the hogshead which was spoken of when I entered the room, it was marked H. & A. at my suggestion, represent-

ing the two screwmen who packed it. That tobacco was offered in the warehouse to Mr. Wilkins. He offered \$3.50 for it. Mr. Ganter afterwards purchased it at \$6.25. This tobacco is what we call straits, but tobacco is sometimes thrown down by screwmen and sometimes it falls off. I was told by Col. Mercer that the hands were not making scraps enough, and they could not be paid without scraps. So far as I know, however, they were sold and the amount credited to the State.

STATEMENT OF CHAS. FERGUSON.

I have been a commission merchant for thirty years, and am familiar with the operations of the warehouses. The standard of inspection was higher in former years than it is now. Much fault is found by the traders at present, in consequence of false packing and the very careless inspections. False packing is largely on the increase since the war, and it may be in consequence of the tenantry in the tobacco counties. The planters cannot now supervise their crops as formerly, and have to rely upon their tenants, who are mostly freedmen, who have little regard for honesty and fair dealing. There should be a severe penalty for false packing, as it depresses the market. As a remedy, either confiscation entirely or a loss of the quantity of tobacco so falsely packed, and all disputes as to whether a hogshead is falsely packed or not should be referred to a board of arbitrators of three disinterested men, and their decision should be final. I would be willing to try the leasing of the warehouses under present circumstances.