

to the christian community for renewed support in the cause of their unfortunate fellow men.

The Association have still to regret that the evils arising from the defective construction of the Prison, remain in all their force. This building is situated in the very centre of the City, and affords direct communication on four sides between its inmates and the street. No vigilance of its officers can altogether remedy the pernicious consequences of so essential a fault in all that appertains to correct prison discipline. The very sentries whose duty it is to prevent irregular communication with its inmates, are too frequently induced, under mistaken feelings of humanity, to commit, or connive at the evil they are appointed to guard against. The interior of the building leaves little less to lament, while it forms the sole Prison for this extensive District, and is destined to receive every varying class of Prisoners, viz : those condemned and those committed for trial, the unfortunate debtor, the pitiable maniac, the hardened villian, the uninitiated youth : all mingling in more or less of common intercourse by day and by night, so that those who happily are pronounced innocent by law, may consider it a providential deliverance if they escape, in the mean time the effects of evil communication and example. The association in the first year of their organization submitted to the Legislature their humble petition, that measures might be taken for the separation of prisoners under judicial sentence, by the erection of a Penitentiary, and had the satisfaction to see measures commenced, and plans and estimates procured, which gave sanguine hopes that a period of improvement in prison discipline and reformation of offenders was at hand for this District. But from causes which it only belongs to this Association to deplore, a Session of the Legislature has since passed without any thing further being done hereupon.

It appears by official documents laid before the Legislature, that of 743 committals to the jail of this