

its support, and the Inspectors are of opinion that if the like work had been done by contract it would have cost a much greater sum ; it is moreover essentially necessary that whilst so large a portion of the available labour of the Convicts is applied in the erection of the Buildings required by the improved system of arrangement that the annual appropriations should at least be commensurate with the unavoidable expenses of Materials and Superintendence, with the salaries of the officers of the Institution.

The erection of an outer wall around the establishment is also an object of the greatest importance, and which the events of the last twelve months have brought prominently forward, shewing that it must not only embrace security against the escape of the Convict from within, but sufficient to repel danger from without—the Inspectors having reason to believe that the liberation of the Convicts formed a part of the plans of the disturbers of the peace of the country. The fear of this has been a cause of the greatest anxiety to the officers in the immediate charge of the Penitentiary calling for their utmost vigilance ; increasing very materially their ordinary duties, and the relief afforded by extra night guards has added considerably to the general expense ; an especial appropriation would appear to be required to meet this emergency, seeing by the Warden's Report that by Convict labor it could not be effected under a period of two years at least.

The Inspectors, keeping in view the spirit of the Resolution of the Honorable the House of Assembly, that in the employment of the Convicts, their labor might not be brought into injurious competition with the Artizan and Tradesman, have had under their consideration the