

effectual. He should also be required to make himself personally acquainted with the behaviour of servants generally, and the effect of regulations to which they were subjected.

It is a mistaken notion which teaches that human nature is to be entrusted with the reform of itself; or that individuals, nurtured in the midst of vice and sensuality, will leave a life of idle and vicious indulgence with which they are acquainted for one of virtue and honesty, which they neither know nor believe in the existence of, because the law advises and enjoins it. They must be made to feel that continuance in a course of evil habits is continuance in a life of deprivation and discomfort, and be taught the influence which honest industry and rectitude of conduct must have in the improvement of their condition before they will desire the change. To do this it is not sufficient that the reward of such good conduct is offered, without placing before them the necessary alternative of punishment.

This may appear to be irreconcilable with the expressed opinions of some clever men who have written upon the subject of penal discipline, and have recommended a course of mild persuasion, accompanied with what, in point of fact might be called, bribery for good behaviour. It does differ in one essential principle, *i. e.*, in presupposing that every convict has committed an injury upon society, for which he himself is responsible to that society, and that he must by his own personal efforts make some reparation for his misconduct, upon the principle of retributive justice, with a view to establish in his own mind, a right estimate of the value of those privileges he has abused and forfeited, and a proper consideration for the rights and immunities of others. This is only an imitation, imperfect though it be, of the law of Providence, which subjects every individual to bear the weight of his own transgression both here and hereafter. The waste and abuse of money is punished by subsequent poverty. The abuse of constitution by vicious indulgence, is punished by sickness and loss of health; and the abuse of liberty should be punished by the deprivation of it. There is nothing, however, in the foregoing observations, to prevent the establishment of a principle of meritorious reward in cases deserving of it, extending even to the shortening of the original sentence.

At Port Arthur and Norfolk Island many a poor fellow is found dead, and it is never known by whom he was killed, and scarcely beyond the precincts of his place of duty that he is dead. Others are appointed to fill the situations, and sooner or later share the same fate; every year fresh numbers of, comparatively speaking, innocent victims, are added to those which have already fallen a sacrifice to the indomitable ferocity of these unfortunate and mistaken beings, and yet every law which imposes sufficient restraint for the protection of life and property is designated as harsh and tyrannical, whereas the reverse is the truth, the extreme of discipline being, in fact, less unkind to the convict, than the opposite extreme of indulgence.

5. *State Efficiency and Expense of each Department.*—Enough has been said of the state and efficiency of the several stations, collectively and individually, without going into a lengthened detail under this head. It may be due, however, to the exertions of the