

PRISON REFORM NOT SENTIMENTALISM.

Prison reform has nothing in common with the sentimentalism that makes martyrs out of condemned murderers, heroes out of convicted felons. It does not send women to the cells of the justly condemned, with rare delicacies and costly flowers; it is ashamed of those who do such things. It does not sign petitions for executive clemency, simply because somebody presents them; it judges those who do such things with indiscriminating sensibility to be foolish and weak people, who have small comprehension of the true principles of social order. Prison reform believes in the enforcement of law; it insists upon proper punishment of criminals, as necessary to the security of society and the promotion of virtue, and as best, every way, for criminals themselves.—
RUTHERFORD B. HAYES, EX-PRESIDENT UNITED STATES.
