
Miscellaneous.

COPY OF PRESENTMENT OF GRAND JURY, CENTRAL
DISTRICT.

(Copy.)

CENTRAL CIRCUIT COURT,
Grand Jury Room,
6th May, 1862. }

PRESENT :

William Boyd,
Thomas Raftus,
William J. Ward,
James Kent,
Patrick Grace,
Henry Thomas,
William Staunton,
Andrew Gowans,
William Dooley,

James Bryden,
Valentine Merchant,
Edward Kavanagh,
Thomas G. Morry,
John English,
Alexander Stuart,
John Coady,
James Seaton,
Nathaniel Thomas.

The Grand Jury respectfully present, that they have visited the Penitentiary, accompanied by the Sheriff, and that they found the establishment in admirable order, reflecting the greatest credit on Mr. Brace, the Gaoler and his assistants. The Prisoners under sentence were engaged in teasing oakum, and every thing about the premises indicated the most careful attention.

The Grand Jury would, at the same time, represent that the Building is far from being in that state requisite for the security of the prisoners ; they would recommend that malleable iron gratings be placed on the inside of all the windows, and that the grounds be enclosed with a substantial fence of sufficient height to prevent the ingress of strangers and the egress of prisoners ; also that a Lodge be erected at the entrance from the public road, where all persons having permission to visit the Penitentiary, should be required to present their orders for admission, the premises being thus secured, the prisoners could be usefully employed in cultivating and improving the grounds.

The Grand Jury also respectfully suggest the following changes and improvements :—

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The walls of the cells, being of lath and plaster, are constantly requiring repairs, would recommend that the walls be cased with wood or iron, at least a part of the way up.

The heating of the wards by means of stoves and pipes, giving the prisoners access to the fires, we think should be discontinued, and the building or the prisoners' wards and cells at least, heated by hot air.

The present mode of ventilation in the cells, whereby a prisoner can hold communication with the cell above or below him, is also highly objectionable, and requires a change.

The prisoners entering the Penitentiary, have to pass through the kitchen or the gaolers apartments; an entrance in more immediate connexion with the wards would be an improvement.

The room or ward, at present used for the employment of prisoners under sentence to hard labor, is altogether unfit for the purpose, being without ventilation, and not large enough for the number of persons at present there; we would suggest that an additional building adjoining the Penitentiary, be erected, fit for a work room, washing house, &c., &c.

The Grand Jury would also respectfully suggest that some change should be made in the heating and ventilation of the Court-House and Jury Rooms, a door leading from the Grand Jury Room to the Hall of the Court House, would be an improvement, and also assist in the ventilation of the Room and Court-House.

(Signed)

WILLIAM BOYD,

Foreman,

For self and fellow Jurors.