

FIFTH ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE

BOARD OF DIRECTORS AND OFFICERS

OF THE

HOUSE OF REFUGE AND CORRECTION

OF THE

CITY OF TOLEDO, O.

TOGETHER WITH THE

RULES AND REGULATIONS.

FOR THE YEAR ENDING DECEMBER 31ST,

1879.



THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS.

GEO L JOHNSON,	Term expires May 16, 1882.
J. M. HAUSER,	Term expires May 16, 1881.
C. A. KIRKLEY,	Term expires May 16, 1880.
WALTER PICKENS,	Term expires May 16, 1884.
F. B. SHOEMAKER,	Term expires May 16, 1883.

Officers of the Board.

GEO. L. JOHNSON,	<i>President.</i>
F. B. SHOEMAKER,	<i>Treasurer.</i>
N. A. MARSH,	<i>Secretary.</i>
CHARLES DOUGLASS,	<i>Superintendent.</i>

House of Refuge and Correction.

The House of Refuge and Correction, of Toledo, Ohio, is beautifully situated on a high and commanding plateau on the northerly bank of the Maumee river, about two miles above the City of Toledo. The grounds upon which the buildings are erected, are about forty feet above the level of the river. The river at this point is about half a mile wide; and its banks, which are rugged and romantic, furnish the finest marine views in Northern Ohio.

The main building is of substantial character, the foundation of stone, and the superstructure of brick. It is four stories high, including the basement, all of which is above ground. It has been constructed at great cost to the city, and with a view to the comfort, convenience, and general welfare of all its inmates. Its halls are wide, its ceilings high, its school-rooms, dinning-rooms, work-rooms, play-rooms, hospital, and dormitories, are all spacious and well ventilated. The building is heated by steam, and hot and cold water is furnished in abundance. An artesian well, eighty feet deep, furnishes pure water for culinary and drinking purposes. The House is designed to accommodate about two hundred inmates, besides officers and employes.

The grounds, furnished by the City, contain twenty-five acres of land, a part of which, being broken by beautiful ravines, is divided into orchard, field, garden, and lawn, and is devoted to the uses of the House of Refuge and Correction. The whole furnishes a most beautiful, attractive, and comfortable refuge for wayward and homeless boys.

Stone walls, cells, and bars, are not required to retain its inmates. Kind and considerate treatment furnish the chief barriers against escapes.

The school and library furnish occupation for the mind, while the field, the garden, work-shops, and play-grounds furnish abundant means for recreation and physical development.

In the erection and equipment of this Institution, the City of Toledo has furnished another proof of the high estimate her citizens place upon the benefits to society and the State, to be derived from the careful restraint and correct development of the wayward, homeless and outcast youth of the land.

Report of Board of Directors.

TOLEDO HOUSE OF REFUGE AND CORRECTION, }
December 31, 1879. }

To the Honorable the Common Council of Toledo :

GENTLEMEN—The Directors of the Toledo House of Refuge and Correction, entrusted with the care, education and reformation of the wayward and homeless boys of our City and State, respectfully submit for your consideration, this, the Fifth Annual Report of the Institution, for the year ending December 31st, 1879.

The expenses for the past year, for all purposes, aggregate \$17,705.08, as set forth in the detailed statements annexed.

The number of inmates provided for under the contract authorized by the General Assembly, is one hundred and fifty ; and for their maintenance we receive the sum of two dollars and fifty cents, each, per week. From this number is excepted all boys committed from our own city ; all such being cared for at no cost to the State. The maximum number of boys contracted for by the State was not reached until October in the year just closed. The average number of inmates during the year has been one hundred and sixty-seven and one-half, which includes all boys sent from our city.

Since the opening of the Institution, five hundred and thirty-four inmates have been committed. During the year just closed, we have apprenticed and discharged to their homes, and secured employment for fifty-five boys ; and from reports received, we are well satisfied that the discipline and instruction received while in the Institution has resulted in substantial reformation in nearly every case.

The means relied upon in dealing with juvenile delinquents, are, first, discipline ; second, education ; and third, the employment of the inmates so as to do them the most good, and prepare them to earn an honest living, and become useful citizens when discharged. The first two are already supplied in the Institution ; the third, and by no means the least important, is largely wanting. Owing to the uncertainty of our existence, under the present contract with the State, the Board feel that they are not warranted in erecting buildings for work shops, and providing instruction for the inmates in the mechanical industries. The city cannot maintain the Institution alone, and a failure of the General Assembly to renew the contract would of necessity close the House. A contract with the State for a term of years, instead of from year to year, as now, would result in great good to the inmates, and allow the Board to provide and carry out plans for work shops. It is not the intention of the Directors to enter into manufacturing upon their own account, at present ; but to provide suitable buildings for manufacturing purposes, and contract for the labor of the boys, at least such portion as can be spared from domestic duties, farming and gardening, and all of suitable age, to learn trades.

In the work shops the boys would form industrious habits, which, when they are finally discharged from the Institution, would enable them to seek and obtain profitable employment elsewhere ; thus transforming the unfortunates committed to our care into useful mechanics and artizans.

We could have contracted the labor of the inmates the past year, had we been able to have assured parties of the certainty of our existence.

The Board deem it proper to state that the Institution is neither a place of punishment, nor a prison ; but a Home, where the inmates receive instruction and training best adapted to form and establish habits of industry, and advance them in those branches of knowledge which are taught in the common schools of the State.

Appreciating fully the importance of education as a factor in the reformation of the inmates, our best endeavors have been directed to the efficiency of our schools. That most of our boys are interested in their

studies, and fully appreciate their advantages, is apparent by their standing, which we are confident will compare favorably with any of our public schools.

The rules for the government of the Institution and the officers and employes, have been carefully revised. A copy of the same is herewith submitted for your approval.

We have striven throughout to consult economy in all our expenditures, so far as the same could be done without endangering or interfering with the well being of the inmates of the Institution.

Respectfully submitted,

GEO. L. JOHNSON,

President.

N. A. MARSH,

Secretary.