

TWELFTH ANNUAL AND FINAL REPORT

—OF THE—

BOARD OF DIRECTORS AND SECRETARY

—OF THE—

House of Refuge and Correction

—OF THE—

CITY OF TOLEDO.

Year Ending December 31st,

1886.

THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS.

GEO. L. JOHNSON,
HENRY KAHLO,

WILLIAM ST. JOHN.
MARTIN FRIEDBURG.

WALTER PICKENS.

OFFICERS OF THE BOARD.

GEORGE L. JOHNSON,	-	-	-	-	-	President.
HENRY KAHLO,	-	-	-	-	-	Treasurer.
WILLIAM BEATTY,	-	-	-	-	-	Secretary.

REPORT OF THE DIRECTORS.

HOUSE OF REFUGE AND CORRECTION,

TOLEDO, OHIO, Dec. 31st, 1886.

To the Honorable Common Council of the City of Toledo :

GENTLEMEN:—Reports of the Trustees of the House of Refuge and Correction have heretofore been made annually. The eleventh annual report, covering the period ending with Dec. 31, 1885, was prepared in due time, but before being given to the printer, events occurred that induced us to submit only a brief report for the year 1885, and we now make a full statement :

As is known, contracts have been entered into between the State of Ohio and the Trustees of the House of Refuge and Correction, on behalf of the City of Toledo, for several years, for the maintenance of a maximum number of boys, committed from elsewhere than the City of Toledo, at a given price per week per capita, to be paid by the State. From the profits of such contracts, and from the proceeds of industries established, we have been enabled to conduct the Institution without cost to the city, and at the same time generously provide for the inmates committed to our charge.

During the protracted services of a majority of the members of this Board, it has been repeatedly necessary to appear before the Legislature to present the subject of a renewal of the contract. On every such occasion we have, at the outset, met with formidable opposition, chiefly from the fact that the State owns a Reform School wherein, it was claimed, there has been ample accommodations for all the vicious youths of the State. Additional to the foregoing: Toledo was the only city that had a reform school receiving financial aid from the State, and opposition was made to contracts with Toledo by members of the Legislature, representing cities having similar reformatories.

On all former occasions, when seeking a renewal of the contract, the opposition was fairly honorable and legitimate, and never before had the members of the Board to combat the desperate and unscrupulous measures resorted to, through various mediums, in the winter of 1886, and which ended in the destruction by fire of the House of Refuge on the 13th of March. Without going over in detail the causes which produced the result so much regretted by every citizen of Toledo, it is proper to state that a portion of the Board were in Cleveland attending an investigation, by a committee of the House of Representatives, into the management of the institution, at the time of the fire. The members in the city took all possible steps to meet the emergencies of the occasion, and with the aid of Hon. E. S. Dodd, our Senator, and Hons. O. S. Brumback and J. H. Puck, our Representatives, at once communicated with Gov. Foraker, as to what disposition should be made of the inmates thus left without shelter. In the meantime, the boys were removed to the Scheutzen building, the use of which was generously allowed by Mr. Grasser.

On the day of the conflagration, there were in the House 186 inmates. The report of the Superintendent, made to the Board subsequently, showed the disposition of the number.

During the burning of the building the following escaped :

Sherman Ayers,	William Lamb,
Frank Fish,	Thomas Robbins,
Daniel Jones,	Elmer Raison,
Jos. Kimball,	Stephen Ross,—Total 9.
Thomas Kelly,	

On the 15th the following were discharged :

Albert Dixon,	Lela Luce,
Lewis Koenig,	Wm. Frazee,
Jno. W. Foley,	Robt. Damraur,
Frank Ranchler,	Eddie Sanblant,
Perry Dearth,	Martin Mahony,
Earl Brewer,	Henry Cunningham,

John Martin,	Martin Keller,
Willie Heck,	Roscoe Stewart,
George Morton.	David Blood,
John Littin,	Jas. Raymer,
Eddie King,	Geo. Doncoes,
Fred Preston,	Willie Miller,
Elmer Smith,	Frank Edwards,
Sherman R. Tayer,	George Cunningham,
Frank Moore,	Wm. Lamke,
Seth Van Dusen,	August Eppick,
Eddie Reynolds,	Henry Nopper,
Henry Hodge,	John Patton,
Frank Nodolski,	Herman Greenberg,
Wm. Mumford,	Harry Randolph,
Jos. La Point,	Jos Nopper,
Jessie Snyder,	John Laydon—Total 44.

On the 16th the following were sent to Lancaster by special train :

Mark A. Burton,	Lewis C. Lyman,
Andrew J. Barnett,	Wesley E. Lake,
Matthew Brody,	Charles Link,
Wm. H. Burket,	Homer Lindsey,
Ira Bodi,	Wm. Loftus,
Wm. Brown,	Frank Miller,
Clark Biggs,	Harry Mercer,
Frank Bishop,	Hugh McCann,
Wm. J. Barratt,	Fred Mefort,
Jasper Bishop,	Richard McKee,
Morris Biggs,	Michael Murray,
Frank Batig,	Frank Marshall,
Clarence Bunting,	John Martin,
William Crawford,	Arthur McDonald,
Melvin Cartlege,	Wm. McCann,
Jas. A. Caryl,	Chas. McCarty,
Thos. Dean,	Chas. Nicholas,

Elmore Davison,
 Andrew J. Dickerson,
 William Davis,
 James Dunlap,
 Charles Dickenson,
 Joseph Daily,
 Milton Early,
 Wm. Ewing,
 Bert Ellis,
 John Edems,
 John Fell,
 Joseph Frey,
 Thos. Fifield,
 Martin Fergus,
 Peter Gaetzsenger,
 Arthur Grunden,
 Benjamin Gardner,
 James Greiner,
 Elmer Harris,
 Bert Harrington,
 Frank Harding,
 Alfred Holden,
 Hiram Hosford,
 Harry Hart,
 Jno. Hawkins,
 Andrew Harris,
 Chauncy Huff,
 John Jackson,
 Lemuel Kitts,
 Frank Keltner,
 Frank Kammerer,
 Chas. Kelly,
 John Lambert,
 August Louison,
 Chas. Llewellyn,

Eddy Perry,
 Wm. Parleman,
 George Rahm,
 Edward Spinks,
 David Spencer,
 Oliver Smith,
 Nell Singer,
 Geo. Sellinger,
 John Stewart,
 John Sellars,
 John Stoner,
 Louis Stahler,
 Frank Saulter,
 Truman Shoaff,
 David Saunders,
 George Schafer,
 Franz Stever,
 Henry Stahler,
 William Thomas,
 William Traverse,
 Louis Truesdale,
 Frank L. Todd,
 Harry Tenny,
 Dan Vorhees,
 Oscar Vorhees,
 Grant Vactor,
 George Websdale,
 Alfa Wagoner,
 John Whalen,
 Willie Wolfe,
 Edgar Young,
 Willie Zimmerman,
 Guy Van Brunt,
 Orlando Scott,
 Ralph Thomas—Total 104.

On the 12th of April, the following boys who had been detained on account of sickness, were sent to Lancaster :

William Black,	Ralph Hone,
Clark Scoville,	Charles Hone,
William Finnegan,	William Agurs,
John Finnegan,	Michael Call,
Allen McGill,	William Ivans—Total 10.

The following were discharged on the dates named :

Willie and Harrie Coovert, and Frank Smith, April 3rd.

Eddie Samuels, April 3rd.

Eddie Tenant, March 25th.

Richard Brandenburg, April 23rd.

James Vizzard, April 18th.

William Fairburn, April 9th.

John Kennedy, April 14th.

Lloyd D. Tate, April 25th.

Henry Werbeck, April 16th.

Edwin Surbeck, April 23rd.

John Davis, March 25th.

Thomas Bird, March 23rd.

John Sweeney, March 19th.

Wm. H. Pierce died on the 20th of March.

William Lyon was taken to Lancaster on the 1st of April.

Fred Weiskettle went to Baltimore April 17th.

Charles Rose went to Middle Bass to work on the 15th of May.

SUMMARY.

Discharged by Board,	-	61
Transferred to Reform School,	-	115
Escaped,	- - -	9
Died,	- - - -	1
Total,	- - - -	<u>186</u>

The boys discharged were principally those belonging to the city, whose parents were loth to see them taken to Lancaster, where the distance alone would prevent the visiting so much practiced at the House

in this city. From exposure at the fire, it was necessary, on Saturday, the 13th, to send 17 boys to the hospital of the Sisters of Charity, where they received excellent treatment, and all were soon well, with the exception of Willie Pierce, who died on the 20th of March of consumption. The funeral was attended by the members of the Board. The Board take this method of expressing their obligations to the kind Sisters of Charity, who did everything in their power to render aid to the boys placed in their charge.

A few days subsequent to the destruction of the House, your honorable bodies adopted the following preamble and resolutions:

WHEREAS, Sensational misrepresentations and a shameless and malignant persecution of the management of the Toledo House of Refuge has culminated in its total destruction, and,

WHEREAS, from the most intimate knowledge, the citizens of Toledo, almost to a unit, entertain the highest respect for the character and capability of the Superintendent and Matron, and believe that, under their management, the Refuge was not only an efficient, but self-sustaining reformatory; therefore,

RESOLVED, That, as the Representatives of the citizens of Toledo in the municipal government, we respectfully ask, in common fairness to the present management, that the legislative committee complete the investigation already commenced; and, further, that justice to all concerned demands at the hands of the proper authorities, a searching and thorough investigation into the causes that led to the burning of the House of Refuge.

RESOLVED, That the Committees on Buildings and House of Refuge take immediate steps, in conjunction with the Board of Commissioners, to ascertain the feasibility of at once rebuilding and securing a renewal of the contract with the State.

We sought to impress upon the Legislative Committee the importance of concluding the investigation began, but were only partially successful, as after a few hours' session in Toledo, listening to the testimony of our most prominent and intelligent citizens, the Committee returned to Columbus, and all further efforts to complete the examination proved futile.

In accordance with the spirit of the second resolution, the Board

considered the advisability of rebuilding, but after consultation with many of the leading citizens and city officials, concluded it would be unwise, and united heartily in the latter proposition of the Common Council to tender the State of Ohio the grounds, upon condition that the proposed Soldiers' Home be located thereon. Since this Home has been located elsewhere, it would seem entirely fitting that the proffer should again be made at the coming session of the Legislature, with a view to the selection of Toledo, as one of four or five places where reformatories might be established in Ohio with profit to the State, not in a pecuniary sense, but in the separation of large bodies of incorrigible and vicious boys and girls whose very combined association makes them a menace and source of anxiety to all good people.

The origin of the fire has never been determined. The Board made diligent inquiry as to the cause, and questioned, separately and severally, several of the inmates who were suspected, but failed to elicit sufficient evidence upon which to base prosecution.

Breaking out in the tank room near the roof, the flames spread rapidly, and the building, which was a source of pride to Toledoans, was soon a complete mass of ruins, with nothing of value left.

The Board had insurance to the amount of \$30,000 on the building, furniture, etc., divided as follows.

BUILDING.

Niagara, of New York,	\$ 2,000
Springfield, Springfield, Mass.,	2,000
North American, Philadelphia,	2,000
St. Paul, St. Paul, Minn.,	3,000
Amazon, of Cincinnati,	1,000
Northwestern National, Milwaukee,	2,000
Washington, Boston,	2,000
London Assurance,	3,000
Mercantile, Cleveland,	1,000
Fireman's, Newark, N. Y.,	3,000
Fire Association, Philadelphia,	2,000
Home, of New York,	1,500
Royal, of Liverpool,	2,000

BARN.

Fire Association, of Philadelphia,	500
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FURNITURE.

Fire Association, of Philadelphia,	750
Home, of New York,	1,000
Royal, of Liverpool,	750

WORKSHOP.

Home, of New York,	500
Total,	<u>\$30,000</u>

A question arising as to the powers of the Board in settling the loss, His Honor, Mayor Forbes, and the City Solicitor, Mr. Kinney, were called to a consultation relative to the matter, and after consideration the following letter was addressed to the City Solicitor :

TOLEDO, OHIO, March 18, 1886.

G. W. KINNEY, Esq., *City Solicitor*.

DEAR SIR:—For our guidance we desire from you, as the legal adviser of city officials, an opinion of the powers of the Trustees of the House of Refuge and Correction upon the following matters, to-wit :

1st. Have the Board power to appoint appraisers to adjust the loss by fire resulting in the destruction of the House of Refuge and Correction, this city, on the 13th inst ?

2nd. Would the City of Toledo be bound by the action of said appraisers ?

3rd. Have the said Board full power to adjust and make final settlement, on behalf of the city, with the Insurance Companies for the aforesaid loss by fire ?

Truly Yours,

WALTER PICKENS,
GEO. L. JOHNSON,
WM. ST. JOHN,

Trustees of the House of Refuge and Correction.

To which Mr. Kinney replied as follows :

TOLEDO, OHIO, March 18, 1886.

Messrs. WALTER PICKENS,
GEO. L. JOHNSON,
WM. ST. JOHN.

GENTLEMEN :—Your interrogatories of even date received. In answer would say :

1. In my opinion your Board has the power to appoint appraisers to adjust the loss by fire resulting in the destruction of the House of Refuge and Correction.
2. The city would be bound by the action of the appraisers if they kept within the express powers given them in the appointment.
3. The Board has full power to adjust and make final settlement with the Insurance Companies for the said loss by fire.

Respectfully Submitted,

G. W. KINNEY,

City Solicitor.

Acting upon the advice given, the Board at once notified the different insurance agencies interested of our readiness to settle, but, the companies denying a full loss, it was necessary to appoint appraisers, and Mr. John V. Sanfleet, the gentleman who built the Refuge, was selected as the appraiser on the part of the city. After several weeks, the losses were finally agreed upon :

On building,	\$25,545
On furniture,	2,500

The barn and work shop were not destroyed by the fire

The losses being adjusted, the Board, in accordance with instructions from the City Solicitor, adopted the following resolution :

Resolved, That the President, Mr. Geo. L. Johnson, be authorized to settle with the Insurance Companies on the basis agreed upon by the appraisers.

And at a subsequent meeting the following action was taken :

Resolved, By the Board of Directors of the Toledo House of Refuge and Correction, that Geo. L. Johnson, President of the Board, is hereby directed to deposit the insurance money with Messrs. Keeler,

Holcomb & Co., bankers, to the credit of the Board of Directors of the Toledo House of Refuge and Correction, by Geo. L. Johnson, President.

In accordance with which the President deposited, as directed by the Board, the full amount as received, \$28,045.

During the month of September the Board received the following resolution adopted by the Common Council :

Resolved, That the Trustees of the House of Refuge and Correction be and they are hereby requested to make up and present to the Common Council of this city, an account in detail of the receipts and expenditures and for insurance collected, and that the funds in their hands be placed to the credit of the city to aid in the payment of bonds outstanding.

Part of the resolution was being carried out at the time, but owing to the delay incident to all such settlements, and the difficulty experienced in disposing to good advantage some of the effects, it was thought advisable to complete our affairs at one time, therefore the delay.

The President submitted the question as to whom the funds should be paid, to the City Solicitor, and reply was made as follows :

“* * * In my opinion a proper and safe course would be for you to turn over such funds to the City Auditor, and take his receipt therefor. That would relieve you from all further responsibility for the money so paid over to the Auditor.”

Accordingly on Oct. 30 a meeting of the Board was held, at which the following Resolutions were adopted :

Resolved, By the Board of Directors of the Toledo House of Refuge and Correction, that the President and Secretary be and are hereby directed to draw an order on Messrs. Keeler, Holcomb & Co., payable to the order of W. T. Walker, Auditor of the City of Toledo, Ohio, for Twenty-eight thousand and forty-five (\$28,045) dollars, the total amount received from the Insurance Companies in settlement of loss of March 13, 1886.

Resolved, By the Board of Directors of the Toledo House of Refuge and Correction, that the Treasurer of the Board be and is hereby directed to deliver to W. T. Walker, Auditor of the City of

Toledo, Ohio, the following named bonds: Nos 1, 2, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 18, 19 and 20, of five hundred dollars each, refunding general fund bonds of the City of Toledo, amounting to five thousand dollars, and accrued interest of one hundred and twelve and 50-100 dollars. Also, from No. 39 to 42 inclusive, of one thousand dollars each, Lucas County general fund bonds, amounting to \$4,000, and accrued interest of one hundred dollars,

And the same were turned over to the City Auditor, the Board receiving the following receipt:

TOLEDO, OHIO, Oct. 30, 1886.

Received from the Trustees of the House of Refuge and Correction, the following described moneys and bonds, to-wit:

10 Bonds of the City of Toledo, numbered 1, 2, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 18, 19 and 20 of the five hundred dollars each, of the issue of May 15, 1884, with coupons on each bond due Nov. 15, 1886, of eleven 25-100 dollars each, making in all \$5,112.50.

Also, four Lucas County Bonds of one thousand dollars each, due Nov. 1, 1886, with coupons of \$25 each, payable at same time, making in all \$4,100.

Also a check of the Board on Keeler, Holcomb & Co., bankers, for twenty-eight thousand and forty-five dollars, making in all a grand total of \$37, 257.50.

W. T. WALKER,

City Auditor, Toledo, O.

We have had the building formerly used as a workshop fitted up, in which to place a family to care for the property of the city. Mr. McDonald remained until recently, when Mr. Bay was placed in charge, and he is now there. We would recommend that the grounds and buildings be now put in the keeping of some one under your own direction.

There was more or less property scattered during the fire, including cloth, sheets, etc. These, with the horse, wagons, pump, furniture and other things, were gathered together and disposed of to the best advantage, the proceeds of which will be found among the receipts.

From the annual report of the City Auditor, there appears to be

only an issue of \$12,000 in House of Refuge Bonds, bearing date July 1, 1877, and falling due July 1, 1892, drawing 6 per cent. interest. The cost of the grounds and the erection of the buildings exceeded \$40,000, and therefore a great portion of this amount must have come from other sources than the above issue. Were this the only indebtedness, however, it could be paid from the bonds and cash on hand, apart from the money paid for insurance, which latter funds will materially assist in aiding the Common Council and Sinking Fund Commission in their laudable efforts to reduce Toledo's indebtedness.

The financial statement will give the amount paid to the City Auditor, summarized thus:

Insurance,	\$28,045 00
Lucas County Bonds and interest, . .	4,100 00
City of Toledo Bonds and interest,	5,112 50
Cash from Treasurer,	4,000 00
“ “ “	2,259 32
Total,	<u>\$43,516 82</u>

The Board has no knowledge of any outstanding indebtedness.

At the grounds the brick and iron remain undisposed of, the offers to purchase the same being unsatisfactory. There are also two scales in good condition. At the office, in St. Clair Building, there is a desk and one chair, the property of the city.

While regretting the unfortunate calamity which has deprived Toledo of one of its best institutions, the Board feels grateful to be able to make, to your honorable body, such an account of the conduct of the interests committed to its charge, and trust that the city may not long be deprived of a similar important factor in the care of some portion of the wards of the State.

BY THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS.

SECRETARY'S REPORT.

To the Honorable Board of Directors House of Refuge and Correction.

GENTLEMEN :—I have the honor to submit a detailed report of the financial transactions of the Board, covering the past year. I have also prepared a statement covering the receipts and expenditures since the last contract with the State was entered into, which will furnish a knowledge of the dealings of the Board during that period.

Respectfully submitted,

WILLIAM BEATTY,

Secretary.