

82
Regarding the Matrons in the presence of
the prisoners, who are very curious and
inquisitive, and their sympathies evidently
with the discarded Matron. We have
not had opportunity for ascertaining the
qualifications of the present Matron - but
the Warden reports a decided change ^{for the better} under
her administration, and she is exceedingly
strict with regard to their using profane or
improper language.

We regret that the address to the Board
of Directors was received too late to be sent
with their report to the State Legislature
but we have some expectation that they
will yet devise a plan by which to send
present it. In Dr. Fricks report the evils
resulting from the crowded state of the
Prison, are portrayed in a very strong and
convincing manner. We believe that
D. L. Dix, now in Washington, will make a
personal appeal to the Legislature on
behalf of its enlargement, and as the Governor-elect
is said to be much interested, we trust
an appropriation will be made this winter.

The following report was received from
the Treasurer.

The Treasurer of Friends Association
for visiting the Penitentiary has

83
expended during the past year the sum
of \$2.00 in the purchase of reading books
hymn-books & cards leaving a balance on
hand of \$12.12 1/2
1st Mo 1858.

Ellyth Treasurer
Ellyth reported that she had purchased a
loaf of gingerbread for each of the women - the
cost of the whole \$2.50 which had been collected
from the Committee. They were distributed in
person by our friend H. et Tyson from
whom the following letter was received
giving an account of her visit.

"You will be pleased to know
how convinced I was of the efficacy of
the law of kindness, even upon obdurate
hearts, as exhibited in presenting (personally)
the basket of cakes to our poor prisoners in
the Penitentiary. My husband went out
with me, and in the Matrons parlor
were assembled all the women to receive
the gift so timely offered. Each one
received her portion with a very polite
acknowledgment of the favor, and retired
to her own apartment.

They were invited to hear them sing
their hymns, for which purpose they had
collected in the workshop. We went
and such a cheering sight I had never