

few facts to communicate. A few female members of the Society of Friends, feeling deeply interested in the inmates of the Maryland Penitentiary, formed an Association about a year since for their benefit; and a committee of four have regularly spent from two to three hours every first-day afternoon with them. Our labors have been confined to the female department, which numbered 28 women - 7 white and 21 colored, of whom three only could read, a few could spell the simplest words, but many were ignorant even of the alphabet. At present nearly all can read, and several quite fluently, several have learned to write, and letters have been received from them in fair hands, expressing much gratitude for the interest shown in their welfare, and a strong desire to improve.

Our plan of teaching is simple. We commence with reading a chapter in the Bible, and after the school exercise, an appropriate tract is read, which are listened to with marked attention and an apparently increasing degree of interest. They are instructed in reading, writing and spelling, and have committed to memory numerous portions of Scripture, and several hymns. Tracts have also been distributed among them, and the Bible Society has kindly placed at our disposal several Bibles and Testaments for their use.

We have met with some discouragements, and our labors among them have been of such comparatively short duration, that we cannot decide whether much moral or religious progress has been made, but their behavior

has not been uniformly attentive and respectful, and some of the officers have stated that there has been an improvement in their general conduct.

We endeavor to watch over the welfare of the discharged convict - but one only has left who was under our care, and a suitable place has been procured for her in the country - A home has also been provided for another who is about to leave.

Our Association meets monthly, and regular reports are there made of all subjects of interest connected with our engagement, of which a record is kept.

We gratefully acknowledge your kind donation of \$10, which is an acceptable addition to the small fund we have raised among ourselves for the purchase of books etc, and are respectfully your friends,

Signed on behalf of the Association,

Elizabeth S. King Secy.

To Wm Jenks.

Lucius Dwight.

The propriety of an Application to the Directors of the Penitentiary to substitute another day of the week for first-day for our instructions, having been submitted to the Association, the consideration of it is deferred to next month.

Phoebe Thomas Mary Brooks Mary Ann Towler and Matilda Reed are appointed on the visiting committee. The meeting adjourned.

E. S. King Clerk.