RILEY TO URGE BIG REFORMS IN PRISONS

Will Prepare Convicts to Become Useful Citizens After Expiration of Terms.

TO HAVE SEPARATE CELLS

Legislature May Consider Subject in Forthcoming Special Session.

ALBANY, June 1.—The first two reforms which are to be inaugurated by State Superintendent of Prisons John B. Riley will be to see that each prisoner has a separate cell and that prisoners serving the last year of their sentence shall be employed in good roads construction work, so as to fit them when liberated for work as laborers under contractors employed by the State in the construction of good roads. Discussing these reforms Supt. Riley said to-night:

Every person convicted of a felony in this State must be sentenced so that his term of imprisonment shall expire between April and December. The terms of more than 1,500 convicts expire each year, many of them having served a comparatively short time. Whether these men become useful citizens or confirmed criminals depends largely upon the conditions with which they are confronted when discharged.

There is little chance of a convict who has been employed while in prison in the industries there carried on securing employment at the same kind of work. Practically his only chance of securing employment is as a common laborer. A discharged convict who has been employed up to the time of his discharge in the manufacture of cloth, tinware, school furniture or similar work is unfitted for heavy manual labor. Therefore under the present system there is little chance of the discharged convict securing employment. Every convict should be required to work at heavy manual labor in the open air, preferably with pick and shovel, several months prior to his discharge. He will then have no difficulty in obtaining employment with contractors engaged in road building, nor will any certificate of character be required.

During the past two years a small number of convicts whose terms were about to expire were employed in the construction of highways. At an expense of training the cost of a single mile of macadam road, twenty-five miles of good gravel road can be built by utilizing this labor, and in doing the work the convicts will be given the best possible preparation for their discharge. As the roads through the Adirondack Park are practically used during the summer months, gravel roads will be better and cost very much less to maintain than macadam roads. These roads can be constructed by convicts at very little expense. The cost of maintenance and guard of prisoners so employed will be much less than the cost of maintenance of the prison walls.

Law permits the employment of convicts on highways within a radius of ten miles from each prison. It should be amended so that they may be so employed in the construction of roads in the Adirondacks and Catskill parks, for which law has made no provision.

I propose so far as possible to immediately see that separate cells are provided for each convict, and that provision is made for proper sanitation. This matter is of such grave importance that if the work reported to exist cannot be corrected without legislation the Legislature should be called to deal with the subject at the coming extraordinary session.

There are confined in the State prisons at the present time fully 600 more convicts than there are cells in the several prisons. Assuming that half this number are in prison hospitals or are otherwise provided, there are still 300 convicts unprovided for and which of necessity must be put into cells with other prisoners. Even when the extension provided for at Great Meadow prison is completed there will still be a large number of convicts for which separate cells have not been provided.

CLINTON IS WELL MANAGED.

Sulzer's Investigator Praises Dannemora Jail Conditions.

ALBANY, June 1.—Unlike Auburn and Sing Sing prisons Clinton prison at Dannemora is well managed and conducted along lines as humane and capable as the conditions permit, according to a report made to Gov. Sulzer to-day by Special Commissioner George W. Wickersham after an investigation of conditions in the Dannemora institution. The opening paragraphs of the report are devoted to a certificate of character for Warden Kaiser, whom Commissioner Blake says he regards as capable and conscientiously on his job.

"I am glad," said Gov. Sulzer to-night after reading the report, "that at least one institution in the State is properly managed. Clinton prison is such a contrast to Auburn and Sing Sing that it is surprising. But I am pleased there is one prison in the State where they are doing things and where the warden is to be commended."

Gov. Sulzer may order an investigation by the District Attorney of Clinton county into the circumstances surrounding the death of John Heffernan, who died in a confinement cell at Clinton. Commissioner Blake says, is a blot on the administration of the prison. Warden Kaiser is anxious that on this point the report says:

Heffernan was convicted of assault on a boy he hailed from Rochester, where he was a man of good habits up to the time of his arrest. He was a favorite in the prison and his prison record was good. He was told that an alleged stool pigeon named Schiff had circulated stories about him and had quarrelled with Schiff about the matter. Efforts were made to induce him to give the name of the man who had told him of Schiff's alleged tales. He steadfastly refused. He was locked up for disobedience, and on the morning of August 14 last he was released from this cell by Hallkeeper O'Brien and told to report to Principal Keeper Cooper.

There is a doubt as to what happened then. One story is to the effect that Heffernan struck Coultry in the breast and that Coultry felled him by a blow over the head with his cane. Another story is that after he struck the principal keeper Heffernan threw him to the floor. Heffernan was then locked in a dark cell. On August 16 he was dead. There was a plank in the cell and on it a gash. Walter N. Thayer, Jr., one of the prison physicians, declared before the Coroner that he believed Heffernan had committed suicide by hanging.

I suggest that the testimony in this case be sent to the District Attorney of Clinton county, with the request that a thorough investigation be had."

Although prisoners are punished at Clinton prison by confinement in dark cells, the report of Commissioner Blake points out that the punishment is not attended by the brutality he found in Auburn prison.

"Refractory prisoners," the report says, "are placed in dark cells, but unlike the rivet headed iron floors in Auburn prison the floors here are of cement and a smooth board is placed in the cell for the prisoner to lie on.

"The physicians make daily examinations of the men and if their physical condition seems to be unequal to bear the burden of the punishment inflicted they are relieved by treatment that is less severe."

A BLANKET MORTGAGE

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MORE WOMEN GET "POISON PEN" LETTERS

Accused Woman Gives Bail and Leaves Elizabeth With Her Husband.

ELIZABETH, N. J., June 1.—The "poisoned pen" letters said to have been received by Mrs. Charles F. Jones of 110 Madison avenue, as a result of which Mrs. Nelson L. Pollard of 114 Jefferson avenue has been bound over for a hearing on June 9 in $5,000 bail, are not the only ones written in this city recently, according to reports to-night.

Other women have received such letters and the facts will be brought out before the Grand Jury.

Mrs. Jones, whose husband is a dentist, has engaged Abraham J. David to prosecute Mrs. Pollard. The latter also has counsel. Neither woman will talk about the case. The contents of the letters will not be revealed unless they are read in court. The Pollards left town to-day for a short time.

Justice of the Peace Owen P. Mahon, before whom Mrs. Pollard was arraigned and to whom she pledged $7,000 of personal property for her appearance on June 9, says that he has not seen the letters and does not know what is in them.

The social position of the two women gives the greatest interest to the case. The character of the letters is said to be such as to make a scandal inevitable. The women who have received them but did not take any action have now learned that a number of men got them also and that charges of irregular conduct were in that way made against some of the best known persons in town.

Mrs. Pollard and Mrs. Jones are both members of the Christ Episcopal Church in East Jersey street, of which the Rev. Henry Harrison Oberley is pastor. Mrs. Pollard is a member of the D. A. R. and both are prominent in club life.

The evidence upon which Mrs. Pollard was arrested was gathered by a detective agency. Errors in the typewriting of the letters led to the detection of the machine upon which the work was done, it is said, and it is expected that a typewriter repair man who fixed a certain machine will be called as a witness.

She will probably waive examination before Judge Mahon in order to bring her case at once before the Grand Jury, her friends think.

MEAGHER LYNCHED, OLD VIGILANTE SAYS

Montana Executive Hanged Because He Pardoned Murderer, Pioneer Now Tells.

GOT ROPE AS A WARNING

Dave Mack Relates the Story of Burial and the Long Kept Secret.

BUTTE, Mon., June 1.—Another chapter was added to-day to the story of the strange disappearance of Gen. Thomas Francis Meagher, acting Governor of Montana, who dropped out of sight on the night of July 1, 1867, while going down the Mississippi to Fort Benton to inspect arms and ammunition in anticipation of an Indian uprising.

The latest explanation of the mystery is made by David M. Billingsley, a former member of the Vigilantes, who says that Meagher was kidnapped from the river boat and hanged by the men of that organization.

This story by Billingsley, who is known as Dave Mack, follows close on the confession of last week by Pat Miller, alias Frank Diamond, who said that he murdered Gen. Meagher and was paid $8,000 for the job by Alexander Potter, one of the Vigilantes. Miller thought that he was dying and told how he killed Gen. Meagher, threw the body into the river and then swam ashore. Old timers who recall the incident of the General's disappearance discredit both stories and prefer the account that Meagher fell into the river while drunk.

"I certainly knew as much about the affair as any living man," said Mack to-day. "I was one of the Vigilantes, one of its active members. We had to maintain the organization in self-protection.

"It has been said that the Vigilantes had no quarrel with Gov. Meagher. They had many quarrels with him, for the reason that, while he was acting Governor, he did not attempt to enforce law and order and showed inclination to be lenient with the lawless element of the day. He thus made the work of the Vigilantes more difficult.

"The culmination of this trouble came when he granted a pardon to a man named Daniels, who had killed a popular and law abiding saloon keeper named Andy O'Connell in the Phœnix saloon in Helena. Daniels would have been lynched but for an agreement the Vigilantes had made with the Governor to let the law take its course, provided it was enforced.

"Daniels was convicted and sentenced to ten years in prison, but almost at once Meagher pardoned him. Daniels returned to Helena. He started out gunning again and declared he would kill all the Vigilantes. They hanged him, and I personally know all about it.

"Then it was decided that Gen. Meagher must be disposed of. A committee of ten men was told off to go to Helena and execute the order.

"There the party found that the acting Governor had gone to Fort Benton to take a boat for Camp Cook. The committee followed.

"That night there were two big dances at Benton, one held by the white settlers and the other by the Indians. There was much excitement, and Gen. Meagher, who had gone to his room on the boat, disappeared. He had been taken from the boat by the committee and hanged.

"His body was buried in secret and the facts of his death were kept just as secret. Few living men know the details and they would not have been disclosed at this time but for the confession of Diamond.

"Meagher had ample warning. When Daniels was hanged we sent the Governor a piece of the rope about six inches long, accompanied by this message:

"'It don't take a bigger rope to hang the Governor of Montana than it does to hang a horse thief and murderer.'"

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Gen. Meagher had an eventful career. He was the son of the Mayor of Waterford, Ireland. After getting a good schooling he plunged into the quarrels between his country and England. He was captured and sentenced to death in 1848, but went to Van Dieman's Land as a banished subject instead. He escaped and came to New York, where he was admitted to the bar.

The outbreak of the civil war brought him to his own again and he did gallant service at Bull Run. Returning to New York, he organized the Irish Brigade and went to the front again, distinguishing himself at Antietam.

In 1855 he married the daughter of a wealthy iron manufacturer of Orange, N. J. She became a Catholic and the ceremony was performed by Cardinal McCloskey at old St. Patrick's Cathedral. Mrs. Meagher, who for a long time did not despair of recovering her husband's body from the Mississippi, died about eight years ago.

SIX PERSONS HURT IN TRAIN SMASH AT BOSTON

A Local Overturns a Pullman Car of a New York Train.

BOSTON, June 1.—An inward bound Providence local got into collision with train 21 of the New York, New Haven and Hartford road just outside the South Station this afternoon, knocked over one Pullman car, smashed another and caused injuries to six persons, none being serious.

Just how the accident was caused has not been announced by the New Haven officials, but it appeared to be the result of disregarding signals. The local tried to cross the outward track to enter the trainshed when the other train was midway on the crossover.

The locomotive attached to the Providence train hit the Pullman Stoughton, containing eight men and seven women passengers, a glancing blow and threw it over on the right side. Then the locomotive smashed into the other Pullman, Careyville, containing twelve persons, and made kindling wood of one corner of that car. Neither train was moving very fast. Much glass was shattered in the Pullmans and the passengers had a severe shaking up.

Steam or hot water scalded William Cook, a brakeman. Daniel M. Morrison of Somerville, a leather merchant, received scalp wounds. They were the only persons taken to the hospital. Mr. Morrison went home after receiving treatment.

Thomas B. Campbell and Fred P. Lasket, Pullman porters, were bruised, while Francis Brady, 3 years old, and an unidentified woman, who were on the Providence train, were thrown from their seats and bruised. After the track had been cleared the New York train continued on the trip to that city.

AUTOS COLLIDE ON DRIVE.

Miss Alice Belet is Hurled Against Wind Shield, Gets Broken Nose.

The automobiles of Alfred Floersheimer of 130 West Fifty-seventh street, and Kenneth Burns of 501 West 115th street collided at Riverside Drive and 115th street last night. Both were wrecked.

Miss Alice Belet of 3 West Ninety-second street, who with two others was with Mr. Burns, was thrown against the wind shield and her nose was broken.

Mr. Floersheimer was not in his car. George Schwab of 404 Riverside Drive was an occupant, but was not hurt.

MURPHY AND SULZER LINE UP OVER WALDO

Fight Begins To-day at Session of Curran Aldermanic Committee.

TAMMANY VS. FUSION

If Investigators' Findings Are Approved Governor Will Act, It Is Said.

The fight on the report of the Curran Aldermanic committee, which has been investigating police conditions and administration since last fall, will probably be brought into the contest between Gov. Sulzer and Charles F. Murphy.

If Gov. Sulzer holds to his attitude of last week and if the fusion Aldermen can win their fight to recommend that Commissioner Waldo be removed the Governor will oust the Commissioner soon after he gets the report.

The fight to get the report accepted begins this afternoon in Alderman Curran's office. The nine members of the committee—three Tammany men and six fusionists—will meet in private session and the fusion members will try to win the Tammany men to the findings that would remove Waldo.

It is improbable that the Tammany men will subscribe to the findings of the majority. The word has gone out from Tammany Hall that the fight is to be made on party lines and that Waldo must be saved.

As the situation appears, if the battle is waged on strictly party lines the fusion members will win, although it may be a tight squeeze.

The fusion members are Curran, Folks, Esterbrook, Downing, Shipley and Hamilton. The Tammany members are Dowling, Smith and Kenney. It is understood that the three have drawn up a minority report which contains commendation of the Police Department and the Police Commissioner.

If the two reports go before the Board of Aldermen this will be the lineup: Fusion, 42; Tammany, 37.

As Mayor Gaynor has frequently expressed his faith in his Police Commissioner's ability, and as the fusion members do not think he would act on any recommendations they might make regarding the Commissioner's dismissal, the report will go to the Governor.

The Governor has refused to be drawn into public discussions on the affairs of the New York Police Department, but privately he has expressed a belief during the last week that if the Curran report embodies a recommendation that the Police Commissioner should be dismissed and if the Board of Aldermen accepts such a report he ought to act favorably on it.

"If Murphy wants Waldo retained," said one of the members of the Curran committee yesterday, "the best thing for him to have done would have been to make out he wants him out, for if the committee's recommendations ever get to Gov. Sulzer the Governor is going to act in a way which he calculates will hurt Murphy."

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MOTHER SEES BABY IMPALED.

Yonkers Child Falls From Third Story Onto Picket Fence.

YONKERS, June 1.—Sitting in the courtyard of her apartment at 3 Suydam place this afternoon Mrs. John Rapicky saw a baby come hurtling down from a third story window and fall on a fence, where it was impaled on an iron picket.

She ran to the spot, twenty feet away, and found that the child was her own fifteen-months-old daughter, Margaret, whom she had left asleep five minutes previously.

The child had climbed upon a chair by the window and fallen out. The picket had pierced the brain at the base of the skull, causing instant death. The mother had to be attended by Dr. Ward of St. John's Hospital.

SEA ELEPHANTS FOR AMERICAN MUSEUM

The Brig Daisy.

First Specimens to Be Seen Here Secured by South American Expedition.

Robert C. Murphy, curator of birds and mammals of the Brooklyn Institute of Arts and Sciences, has returned with prized trophies of sea elephants and sea leopards captured in Southern seas off the shores of the South Georgia Islands. The expedition set sail about a year ago for the wild region of South America on board the brig Daisy, a New Bedford whaler, in command of Capt. Benjamin D. Cleveland.

Capt. Cleveland was out after seal oil and whales and Explorer Murphy was commissioned to procure specimens of the sea elephant and sea leopard, which hitherto were not represented in local museums. He captured the first specimens of these animals off the South Georgia Islands for the American Museum of Natural History and the Brooklyn museum, which organized the expedition. In addition he obtained about five hundred specimens of birds for the American Museum, which have just arrived.

By far the most important trophies are the sea elephants and sea leopards, which will be divided between the two museums. According to the explorer the sea leopard is a vicious creature and gamy when attacked. Both of these specimens are highly prized by the naturalists of the two museums.

Among the various specimens of birds captured by the explorers are the albatross, the petrel and three examples of the penguin. The region off the South Georgia Islands is a great centre for bird life and the expedition was most successful in bird hunting. While voyaging in the Southern seas the members of the exploration party sighted as many as 4,000 pairs of albatross on a single island.

Formerly the region was a great centre for the fur sealing industry, but now most of the seals have been exterminated. The explorers spent about four months in that region and experienced an Antarctic summer which was prolific in snow and rain. Owing to the extreme exposure one of the members of the party died. The average temperature ranged from 34 to 35 degrees for the entire year.

Many photographs of interest were taken by the explorers. Various examples of plants and geological specimens were also secured by the expedition.

SEA ELEPHANT AT ALL MEALS.

Diet on Brig Daisy Caused Second Mate to Return.

NEW BEDFORD, Mass., June 1.—Vincent Landin, second mate of the brig Daisy, which went to South Georgia after sea elephants and took along Scientist Robert C. Murphy of the American Museum of Natural History, says the reason he left the Daisy at Barbados was because he could not stand the "grub."

"Down at Georgia," says Landin, who is a Filipino, "all hands on the Daisy had sea elephant meat three times a day all the time we were there. We had to eat it or starve."

Mr. Murphy was thoroughly disgusted with the treatment so far as food was concerned, and he was trying at South Georgia to get a steamer to bring him north, but there were no steamers leaving and he had to come up to Barbados on the Daisy.

New Trains for Chicago

On the present schedule of the Pennsylvania System are several new and desirable trains between New York and Chicago.

The Pennsylvania Limited, the original "limited" train, is an exclusively Chicago train. The transfer of cars for other points to other trains relieves the previous congestion on it. It leaves Pennsylvania Station 11.04 A. M., Hudson Terminal 11.00 A. M., and arrives Chicago 8.54 A. M.

Metropolitan Express (formerly Chicago Special), with through Sleeping Cars to Chicago, leaves Pennsylvania Station at 8.04 A. M., Hudson Terminal 8.00 A. M., and arrives Chicago 8.00 A. M.

Pittsburgh Day Express, a new Chicago train, with Parlor Cars and Observation Car to Pittsburgh and Sleeping Cars from Pittsburgh to Chicago. It leaves Pennsylvania Station 9.25 A. M., Hudson Terminal 9.25 A. M. Connecting train from Pittsburgh arrives Chicago at 8.00 A. M.

Commercial Express is a new morning train with through Sleeping Cars. It leaves Pennsylvania Station 10.04 A. M., Hudson Terminal 10.00 A. M., and arrives Chicago 12.55 P. M. next day.

Pan Handle Limited is a new mid-day train with through Sleeping Cars and Coaches. It leaves Pennsylvania Station 12.04 P. M., Hudson Terminal 12.00 Noon, and, running via Columbus and Richmond, arrives Chicago 12.55 P. M. next afternoon.

Panama-Pacific Express meets a popular demand. It leaves Pennsylvania Station 2.06 P. M., Hudson Terminal 2.00 P. M., with through Sleeping Cars and Coaches, and arrives Chicago 5.00 P. M. next day.

Manhattan Limited (formerly Chicago Limited) is the evening Limited, with through Sleeping Cars and Observation Car. It leaves Pennsylvania Station at 5.04 P. M., Hudson Terminal 5.00 P. M., and arrives Chicago 2.00 P. M. next afternoon.

Chicago Express is a new train with through Sleeping Car and all "limited features" as far as Columbus. It leaves Pennsylvania Station and Hudson Terminal at 6.30 P. M., and arrives Chicago 5.00 P. M.

All these trains carry Dining Cars, serving meals at the usual hours.

The well-known trains, **Broadway Limited**, leaving Pennsylvania Station and Hudson Terminal 2.45 P. M., arriving Chicago 9.45 A. M.; **Western Express**, leaving Pennsylvania Station 6.04 P. M., Hudson Terminal 6.00 P. M., arriving Chicago 8.54 P. M., and **Cincinnati, Indianapolis and Chicago Express**, leaving Pennsylvania Station 8.34 P. M., Hudson Terminal 8.30 P. M., arriving Chicago 8.25 P. M., make up the complete service between New York and Chicago.

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