

lays. The State, in that patronage allied with the city and in co-operation with us, has hitherto largely assisted our treasury. We now enjoy a yearly appropriation (ending with the present session, say ending on the 10th March, 1863, of the Legislature) of ten thousand dollars. It had, at a prior period, been *fifteen* thousand dollars, and, we may say, was *designed* to be *this latter amount*, under the provision of the last (1860) session, but from inadvertence, and not, we are persuaded, from any erroneous estimate of our wants or our means, and surely from no consideration implying a lessened regard for the value of our institution, we were granted but the yearly allowance of ten thousand dollars.

The Report of the conduct of our institution and its affairs, to your present session, will show how severely bears upon it this privation of the larger provision, which, as we have stated, was in fact contemplated for us, and the difficulties necessarily entailed by the unfortunate reduction. We have, therefore, now to solicit of you a yearly appropriation of *fifteen thousand dollars*; and we beg that it be granted for five years, and thus fortify us in the course and path of our duty to this exalted charity. *This aid is truly, most strictly, indispensable.* In urging our prayer for it, let us, in enforcement, state that, through funds from private beneficence, *given for the special object*, we have been enabled to erect an additional building assigned *exclusively for female inmates*, and thus to provide for that important and interesting division of the subjects of our care in the *only appropriate and adequate way*. In this class, the females, the House of Refuge will have a *large number of children added to its charge*; besides which, the number of inmates generally will be largely increased, not only because of an augmenting population, but because, too, the miseries of these peculiar times of our country will bring throngs to our doors to claim our care, whom *the good of the State, and society's imperious necessities*, will require us to admit within the restraints and the redemption of our institution. These considerations give vast moment to our present application for relief. Indeed, looking to our imminent pecuniary need, we may say the very continuance and fate of our institution are seriously involved in our present solicitation. We ask only what an enlightened *economy* would exact of our State treasury; for our labors lessen outlays to the State *in the large cost of punishing matured crime, which our discipline forestalls*. But for the noble good that the House of Refuge does—for the high, the *indispensable* office it fills in the criminal department—for the cherishing care it deserves as a valuable adjunct in the service of the State herself in the supreme concerns of the public security—we earnestly entreat of you to be enabled to continue in prosperous well-doing by having our wants supplied, as we now show and estimate them. We ask