

Robert Coltman

(- 22 Nov 1847)

The National Intelligencer, December 1, 1845

The Penitentiary at Greenleaf's Point, of which Mr. Robert Coltman has lately been appointed Warden, was visited by us a few days ago, and found to be in admirable order. There are now in confinement fifty-seven prisoners. Of these fifty-four are males, and three females. Of the males there are twenty-seven colored and twenty-four white men. In the female department of the prison there are only one white and two colored women. The workshops in the male department are kept in good order. In the boot and shoemaking department, where most of the male prisoners labor, work of an excellent kind is made, and a regular supply of boots and shoes kept up. Good brooms and substantial wheelbarrows are also manufactured in other parts of the prison.

With a view to the comfort of the prisoners, we understand the Warden has lately introduced an additional stove of great capacity into the male wing of the building, so as to warm thoroughly all the cells occupied by the men. The women's department is already sufficiently heated. He has it in contemplation to suggest some arrangements which will permit them to take more exercise than they can do at present. The health of the prisoners is remarkably good. We learn that only two of them have been sick during the late fall, and those had fever and ague. There was not a single death in the penitentiary during the last year.

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Masonic Funeral

The remains of the late Robert Coltman, Warden of the United States Penitentiary, who died suddenly last Friday morning, were interred yesterday evening at Congress Burying Ground. The funeral procession was large and imposing, the masonic brethren having turned out in great strength to pay the last token of their respect to a departed brother. The officers and members of the Franklin Fire Company, of which the deceased was formerly President, also attended the funeral. The corpse was drawn to the place of interment on the funeral car of the Franklin Fire Company. Two bands of music playing solemn dirges also formed a part of the funeral procession.