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A SUNDAY IN PRISON

TIARY AT DIVINE SERVICE.

The Atmosphere of the Prison Apparent Everywhere Scones lu the Chapel The Sexes Kept Separate-Surprise for Convict Colony-Tears and Heavy Sigi in Evidence-Tender-Hearted Warde

A chapel crowded with felons! Five hundred murderers, thieves and over variety of criminals at worship! The was the unique spectacle the writer witnessed in Kingston Penitential, on a recent Sunday. The atmospher of the prison was everywhere— the striped convicts, armed guards and barred windows. As the long line defiled into the church the big stee. doors clanged shut. The guards, the warden, three Salvation Army offi-cials and the writer were locked in the room with the prisoners. . rob ably no minister ever addressed harder, more reckless and altogether desperate congregation. Withal it was an attentive audience, and the services were decidedly impressive writes G. C. Porter in Toronto Sun day World.

The stained glass of the window

and decorative art hid the stone an steel. No particular stretch of the imagination was required to feel the religious spirit of the occasion when the sweet-toned organ was vibrating and the fine voices of the criminatehorus were heard. A score of stal wart convicts represented the choir Many trained vocalists were there An old felon, in glasses—a murderer and a life man—led, and the organ-ist, also of the penal colony, handled his instrument with the skill of a professional musician.

The ceiling was high. The three windows on each side shed a soft light through the colored decorations. At the north end an ample pulpit stands. In the niche formed by each window, seated on a high chair, ov-erlooking all, was an armed guard



IN A CONVICT'S CELL

present knew that beneath the smart present when that believe the shift jacket were concealed heavy revolv-ers which would spring out at the slightest sign of insubordination. Just without on the high walls ov-erlooking the prison chapel were guards with magazine rifles. Over each window are beautifully-executed mottoes—the work of some artist who nad carned a term in the institution. There seemed a touch of irony in the first: "The truth shall make you tree." With a suggestion of the old Mossic doctrine was the second: "Recompense to no man, evil for evil." Then the artist got per-sonal and inscribed the warning of the Decalog: "Thou shalt not bear false witness." Getting back to first principles, and probably writing the only sentence familiar to most of those present, he inscribed the homecommandment, "Honor thy father thy mother."

b en erected for the accommodation of the 15 women convicts. A slit twenty inches wide, running around, too high to allow a view of either side, yet sucient to permit the full service to be heard, was the only opening. The sexes don't mingle here.
Attendance at religious service is compulsory. Long lines of low wooden benches received the worshipers. As they marched in, the lockstep, which criminals dislike so thoroughly, was not required. The convicts sav after a long term in prison they become so accustomed to the shuffle of the lockstep that they uncon-sciously give their bodies the swing-ing motion after regaining their lib-

erty. This aids to identify them with their prison life, which they hope to forget. The regular chaplain was not present and Warden Platt announced that Major Archibald of the Salva-tion Army, Toronto, would conduct the service.

The Salvation Army service was a The Salvation Army service was a surprise and apparently a very pleasant one for the convict colony. As the young woman with the poke bonnet marched into the pulpit with her guitar every prisoner looked the interest he felt. Their emotion was soon aroused, and they displayed it with a freedom scarcely expected of man charged with the commission of

men charged with the commission of every crime on the calendar. The 103rd psalm was read and the choir rendered "Nearer my God to Thee." The old murderer was lead-Thee." The old murderer was leading with a magnificent soprano. Then Major Archibald told the story of the healing of the sick man in the pool by the market place in Jerusalem. He explained St. John's version of Christ's generosity as applied in this instance, how the old decrepit had been always pushed back by the stronger in the throng as the waters were disturbed and the moment arrived for the sick man to plunge into its healing depth and be made whole. The Salvation Army minister drew a picture of hope from this whole. The Salvation Almy minis-ter drew a picture of hope from this miracle for the wretched criminals around him. Continuing, the speaker referred to his work among the out-casts of other prisons, how an old ABSULUIE

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FOR THE COMPLEXIO

Wreck had some to him one day in Toronto and said: "Brother Archibald, I was in that prison—one of the convicts—when you talked to us a year age, I felt the spirit of the Lord suddenly pierce my soul. My confinement, was made lighter at ence. Now I am on the right read. I want you to pray for me. I know what the joy of living is, and I was converted in prison." Concluding, he explained the generous spirit of Jesus Christ that covered all men Jesus Christ that covered all men and all conditions. It was a com-forting word picture, and the big crowd of old felons were strangely crowd of old felons were strangely silent as the sermon was concluded. A number drew their striped sleeves across their eyes, and there were heavy sighs as the desp-toned organ pealed forth. I glanced at the stern-looking warden. There was a great big tear trickling down his right check. He did not appear embarrassed by his emotion. On the front bench I observed a curious-looking wreck of a man. Possibly sixty, as grey as a rat, with thin effeminate features and enormous blue eyes, he seemed to drink in every word and the spirit of the speaker. His limbs were crossed, exposing the splintered stump of a wooden leg, worn and battered in contact

leg, worn and battered in contact with the steel and iron of his cell. A

with the steel and iron of his cell. A guard afterwards remarked to the writer that the old fellow was a desperate character, serving years for murder and unprovoked crime.

The silence was broken by the choir responding to Major Archibald's invitation to sing "Rock of Ages." Then the young woman in the blue uniform and red girdle of the Army rendered a simple, homely air, accompanying herself on the guitar. Her voice blended sweetly with air, accompanying herself on the gui-tar. Her voice blended sweetly with the alto of her assistant and the deep bass of Major Archibald. Every face among the felons lighted up with pleasure. There was no ap-plause, but the pleading looks were more eloquent than hand-clapping. Understanding the mute invitation, the song was repeated. Then the Salvation trio went inside the en-closure for a few words with the wo-Salvation trio went inside the enclosure for a few words with the women prisoners, while the organist continued a prelude. Returning, the audience arose and all joined in the Doxology. A sign from the chief guard and the men took up their march, back to the cells, being joined en route by those from the little ed en route by those from the little Catholic chapel, for all immates are given their choice of religious exer-cise here. The majority are Protest-

to the chapel, they remain in their cells. They may occupy themselves as they please so that they maintain absolute quiet. A voice raised in any way except to summon the guard brings down upon the luckless one a forfeiture of good marks, library privileges or other favors incident to good behavior.

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Minard's Limment Cures Garget in

Essay in The Globe About the Distinguished Canadian Novelist. Gilbert Parker, the most distin-

silient Parker, the most distin-sible of Canadian men of letters, to is, in fact, one of the great elicts of the world, was born winder 23rd, 1862, in Canaden s., addington County, Ontario, s. chi dhood was spent at Belie-te, and he early became a school wher. Alout the year 1884 he be-a contributing peems and balleds ovember an contributing poems and ballads to maga ines, many of which have since been included in "A Lover's county," on look, in the hope that a hange of climate would prove beneicial to his health, he went to Australia, where he became a journalist. He also became interested in the He also became interested in the grama, his most successful work being an adaptation of Goethe's "Faust." He soon determined to devote himself exclusively to literature, and, with this object in view, removed to Loudon, where he began to write his short stories of French-Canacian life called "Pierre and His People," which at once became very popular. In these stories Mr. Parker has caught the life of the Northwest and presented it vividly. He has great power of language, and one cannot escape from its spell. In has great power of language, and one cannot escape from its spell. In "The Tall Master," for instance, where Shon McGann, who had lost his way and been taken to a strange camp, telling of his experience, the homely prose talk is a symphony. "An Adventurer of the North," is a continuation of these stories, and in the last story Pierre and his sweetheart Kate ride to their death in the cruel prairie fire.

In the last story Pierre and his sweetheart Kate ride to their death in the cruel prairie fire.

Nearly all of Parker's stories deal with Canadian life, among them being "The Trail of the Sword," which tells of the everland expedition to Hudson Bay by Lemoyne, ever, two centuries ago, and "The Seats of the Mighty," an absorbing story of the fall of Quebec, which contains one of his most famous characters, "Doltaire," the brilliant and crafty colleague of Bigot. Still another of his fine characters is the woman "Guida," loved and repudiated, a noble and tragic figure in "The Battle of the Strong." "The Traislation of a Savage" is a pathetic story of "Lall," a beautiful Indian girl, whe is married by an Englishman in a fit of pique and sent to his home in England.

"When Valmond Came to Portice".

in England.
"When Valmond Came to Pontiac"
"When Valmond Came to Pontiac" when variond came to rontise is a very finished production, and well displays his literary methods. Valmond, representing himself as the son of Napoleon Bonaparte, comes to the little French-Canadian vilto the little French-Canadian village of Pontiac, and exerts such a powerful influence over those hemeets that, almost against their will, the villagers flock to him and join him in his filibustering enterprise. The scene where he meets the soldier of the Old Guard, Eustache Lagroin, is very fine. The old selections of the old selection is very fine. solder of the Old Guard, Eustache Lagroin, is very fine. The old solder, believing that Valmond is only an adventurer, determines to meet and expose him. He does meet him, but Valmond's influence is so great that he slowly but surely yields. At last Valmond, finding that the man had been a drummer at Auerstadt, sends for a drum.

"In a moment the boy came out with the drum. Valmond took it in his hands and said softly:—'Soldier of the Old Guard, here is a drum of France,' Without a word the old of the Old Guard, here is a drum of France. Without a word the old man took the drum, his fingers trembling as he fastened it in his belt. When the sticks were in the hand all trembling ceased, and his hands became steady. He was living in the past entirely. 'Soldier,' said Valmond, softly, 'with 'The Little Sword that Danced' play up the feet of the army.' A light broke over the old man's face. The swift look he cast on Valmond had no distrust now. Instantly his hand went to his cap. 'My General' he said, and stepped in front of the white horse.'' The 'Right of Way'' might be called a character study. In Charley Steele, a clever, cynical lawyer, with an eternal interrogation on his lips,

ants.

With the exception of the two meals the inmates come out of their cells to get on Sunday, and the trip to the chapel, they remain in their cells to get on Sunday, and the trip which had the curious effect of openting up his intellectual life, he was which had the currous elect of opening up his intellectual life, he was able to get the man acquitted. A further issue of the trial was the decision of Kathleen Wantage to marry Charley, although all the love she was capable of was given to Major Fairing. One night some years later, when he went to the Cote Dorien Tavern, attracted there by the innkeeper's daughter, Susan Charlemange, the rivermen provoked a quarrel; fell upon him, killed him, supposedly, and threw his body into the river. He was rescued by the man for whom five years before he had won the acquittal at the trial. For seven months, at the cabin of Jo Portugais, he lived the life of a child without a past. Memory of Kathleen of Susan achet. child without a past. Memory of Kathleen, of Susan, of that wild night at the Cote Dorien, was gone. Then, through the care of a surgeon, he was restored to the world, only to learn at the moment of waking that his wife had married Fairing, believing him to be dead. Charley then assumed the name of Mallard, with the dress of a habitant, and entered the employ of the tailor in the French village. Here he became passionately in love with Rosalie Evanturel, the daughter of the village postmaster, whom he could not marry because Kathleen had "the right of way." The ending of the story is artistically perfect, and, although the story is artistically perfect, and although the story is all the story is although the story is all the story is although the story is all the story is although the story is all the s story is artistically perfect, and, although at first it seems incomplete, yet one would not have it different. His sudden death, with his eternal question still unanswered—it is a noble incompleteness.—Merle in The Clobe

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