

HON. S. H. BLAKE, Q.C.
PRESIDENT.

A. M. ROSEBRUGH, M.D.
SECRETARY.

The Prisoners' Aid Association of Canada.

SECRETARY'S OFFICE, 62 QUEEN ST. EAST,
TORONTO, JUNE 3RD, 1896.

THE COUNTY CLERK.

DEAR SIR,—

Our Association is advocating certain measures which, if adopted, will relieve the counties of quite a financial burden, and will also promote Prison Reform generally. To secure these reforms, however, the County Councils should take action before the next meeting of the Ontario Legislative Assembly. The reforms proposed are as follows, viz.:

1. The establishment, by the Ontario Government, of one or possibly two Farm Colonies (say one in the East and one in the West), for the care and possible cure of habitual drunkards. All are agreed that sending this class to jail is neither deterrent nor reformatory, and is moreover a great expense to the County. On the other hand, according to the experience of Great Britain and Holland, we might reasonably expect that under skilled medical treatment and proper industrial employment, a fair proportion of these inebriates may become reformed and useful citizens.

2. The second reform we are advocating is to make Industrial Schools free to all the Municipalities. As matters now stand we find that many boys are going to the bad who are allowed their freedom on the Suspended Sentence System in order to save expense to the Municipality. This would be prevented if Industrial Schools were made free by the Government.

I send you some copies of our Annual Report for distribution.

Respectfully,

A. M. ROSEBRUGH,

Secretary.

P.S.—Allow me to suggest that a Standing Committee be appointed by the Council to co-operate with similar Committees, to endeavour to secure these very desirable reforms.