

In the case of those confined for short periods, their terms expire before one can judge whether the effect has been beneficial or not. But in the case of some whose terms have expired since I commenced my duties, I have reason to think that their incarceration has not been unproductive of considerable benefit to them. Much of this, doubtless, is owing to the splendid discipline maintained by the officials under the Warden, (Mr. Bedson) notwithstanding the disadvantages they labour under in having lunatics confined in the same premises as the convicts. It has sometimes during the last few months been a source of much discomfort during the services to have to hear the ravings of one of the lunatics particularly, though all has been done that possibly could be by the turnkeys in order to have the services quiet and orderly. One of these convicts, referred to previously, who was discharged during the past year took the trouble to come to my residence, about two miles from the Penitentiary, and in the opposite direction to Winnipeg, where he was going, in order that he might express how much he had benefited by the services. Indeed it is but natural that some little good at least should result when we reflect that Sunday is comparatively an unoccupied day with the convicts, and if they had nothing to relieve its monotony it must be indeed a day of weariness to them and tend to depress rather than refresh them. In this connection I would respectfully beg to urge upon your consideration the great need there is for a library of useful and instructive books, in order that those convicts whose good conduct during the preceding week merited the privilege, might have something to read during their leisure on Sundays. It would undoubtedly tend very much to realize in many cases the real objects of imprisonment—not only to punish but to lead them upon their release to become good and useful members of society.

In the latter part of October, Lennox, one of the long-term convicts, died of disease of the heart. He had been ailing for a long time and was apparently quite resigned. Towards the end he became very weak indeed, and sometimes appeared unconscious, but always was patient and submissive under his affliction.

I am, Sir,

Your obedient servant,

W. H. MOORE,

*Incumbent of Mapleton and Chaplain to Penitentiary.*

To the Honorable

MINISTER OF JUSTICE,

Ottawa.