

KINGSTON PENITENTIARY.

REPORT OF THE WARDEN FOR THE FISCAL YEAR ENDING 30TH JUNE, 1883.

KINGSTON PENITENTIARY, July, 1883.

SIR,—I have the honor to submit my thirteenth Annual Report, with the usual Returns of Kingston Penitentiary, for the fiscal year ending 30th June, 1883.

The vote of the Dominion Legislature for the support of Kingston Penitentiary, during the fiscal year just closed, was \$120,949.77. Of this amount \$102,489.87 was expended; leaving a balance in the hands of the Government unexpended, of \$18,459.90. The chief reason for the non-expenditure of this sum was the decrease in our prison population. The average number during the previous fiscal year was 642. During the past year the average number was only 563.

The amount of cash remitted to the Receiver-General during the year, for convict labor, &c., was \$19,457.54.

There remained in Kingston Penitentiary, on the 30th June, 1882,—577 male and twenty-three female convicts.

Received Since—From common gaols, 125 males and four females; from other penitentiaries, four males and three females. Total received during the year, 129 males and seven females. These added to the number in the Penitentiary on the 30th June, made the total 706 males and thirty females. Total, 736.

Discharged during the year, by expiration of sentence, 150 males and eight females; by pardon, thirty males; by suicide, one male; by death, ten males; by escape, three males; making a total of 194 males and eight females disposed of in these ways. Leaving the total prison population on 30th June, 1883, 512 men and twenty-two women. Total 534—sixty-six convicts less than we had at the commencement of the fiscal year.

The daily average number of convicts in Kingston Penitentiary during the year was 563, and the cost per capita was as follows:—

For staff, \$76.67½; rations, \$53.26½; uniform clothing, \$10.93½; convicts' discharge clothing and cash for travelling allowance, &c., \$8.56½; heating, \$10.59½; light, \$2.21; bedding, 5½ cents; contingencies, \$1.74½; maintenance of buildings, \$7.34. Cost for all purposes of supporting each convict, \$171.35½. The revenue in cash remitted to the Receiver-General during the year, if distributed over the prison population, would amount to \$34.56 for each convict. This deducted from \$171.35½, would leave the actual outlay for the support of each convict, \$136.80. It is only just to state also that the cash revenue would have been larger by \$2,000, if this amount had not been deducted from Mr. L. B. Spencer's convict labor account for water and steam pipes, &c., furnished on account of the Department of Public Works. At other Dominion penitentiaries such supplies, as well as steam engines, boilers, &c., are furnished by the Department of Public Works from outside parties, but here nearly all the labor on these supplies is performed in our own workshops—and in the case of water and steam cast-iron pipes for mains, we supply the material also.

In some other countries than this, the convict labor question has been a "vexed" question for years, but in Canada there is no occasion for any anxiety about it. With the exception of this institution the other penitentiaries in the Dominion are new and small, and for many years all the convict labor they can command will be required for their extension and improvement. Even at Kingston Penitentiary the convict labor is employed in such a way as not to be felt as competing with outside free labor. Mr. Spencer's door lock manufactory is the only one of the kind in the