

to teach them prayers and to preach to them in their own language. The practical result has been most satisfactory, as to-day, the conduct of these children of the prairies is almost irreprehensible. The other day I heard a guard wishing that all the prisoners would behave as well as the Indians; "then," said he, "our task would be light and our duty easy to fulfil."

It is with great satisfaction that I see that every day a few hours are employed in teaching the convicts, and educating the Indians, and the other convicts who have no education at all.

They are taught to read, so that before long, these poor unfortunate men will be in a position to find themselves in good books, sound principles, which will some day lead them in the paths of probity and honesty.

I cannot enough congratulate the Government and its officers for the great care they take of these men who, alas, will too soon be left without anyone to guide and advise them, and have seen their intelligence grow and develop itself, to the detriment of their innocence. It is surely in enlightening their minds and in forming their hearts that we will succeed in making them honest citizens.

It is a praiseworthy action to take children and make true and honest men of them through the means of education and religion. But it is a far more noble work to endeavor to bring back to, and maintain in the right way, men who have been led astray in following the path of crime.

Every Sunday that I pass with the convicts, instructions are given in French, English and Cree Indian, so that all may derive some benefit. This is all I can do, and I will willingly do it. The Government, for their part, have largely contributed to the work up till now. I hope that before long, it will be possible for them to give us a larger chapel.

I have the honour to be, Sir,

Yours, &c.,

G. CLOUTIER, Priest,
Catholic Chaplain.

J. G. MOYLAN, Esq.,
Inspector of Penitentiaries,
Ottawa.

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No. 24.

REPORT OF THE SURGEON.

MANITOBA PENITENTIARY, STONY MOUNTAIN, 30th June, 1883.

SIR,—I have the honor to submit my Annual Report for the year ending 30th June, 1883.

The general health of the convicts has been good.

There was exemption from accidents of a serious nature, and also from epidemic disease.

The necessity for a hospital ward is daily becoming more urgent. The large increase in the population of the institution has produced an overcrowding which, from a sanitary point, is exceedingly to be feared; for, did contagious or infectious disease of any kind show itself, it is utterly impossible to isolate the affected, and the result would doubtless prove very disastrous. And further, those requiring treatment in the hospital cannot possibly be treated to advantage in the few small cells which are set apart for hospital purposes. I cannot urge too strongly that immediate attention be given to this question.

I desire to suggest that an Hospital Orderly be appointed, and that provision be made in the next Estimate for the same. This would relieve the Steward of the care of the sick in hospital, and lighten his work which, as at present, is very arduous and perplexing.

I desire again to call attention to the sewerage and ventilation of the prison. These two systems, so important to the health and well-being of any public institu-