

The association of prisoners which now goes on in our jails is :

(1) An indulgence and attraction to the degraded and hardened prisoner.

(2) A frightful cruelty and injustice to the innocent prisoner or the novice in crime.

(3) A corrupting influence of the worst kind to all.

The separation which I contend for is the separation as now enforced in England, which is very different from "solitary confinement," as generally understood. The prisoner in separate confinement is kept absolutely apart from the other prisoners, but he is visited frequently during the day by the prison officials, and is furnished with some kind of occupation (if possible) and also with books.

Where the separate system is enforced the sentence may be greatly shortened, and in consequence, the cost of the jail greatly reduced.

Another benefit is, the mode of punishment is very distasteful to the criminal class, and will therefore prove deterrent to them, which imprisonment in gaol at present is not ; and lastly, the great advantage to the country is that the manufacture of criminals now going on regularly and continuously in all our jails under the associated system, would be effectually stopped.

The large number of prisoners in many of our county jails, as compared with the gaol accommodation, is, I am aware, a great practical difficulty in the way of adopting the separate system. But the number of prisoners in the jails might be largely reduced if,

(1) Young children under fourteen years of age are not in any case sent to the county jails, and

(2) If habitual or incorrigible offenders are not sent to the county jails but to the "Central Prison."

Upon the necessity for the adoption of the former rule I have already insisted in my answer to question 3.

Upon the importance of the latter I shall say a few words in replying to question 6. [*Report of Prison Reform Commission*].

WHAT GOVERNOR GREEN SAYS.

Evidence of John Green Esq., Governor of Toronto Jail, before the Ontario Prison Reform Commission.

Question—When were you appointed Governor of the Toronto Gaol. Answer—In 1872; prior to that time I had charge of the county of Kent Gaol for upwards of five years.

Question—If you had a separate cell of the right size for every prisoner received into your gaol whether remanded, waiting trial, or under sentence, do you think that that would accomplish a great deal in the reformation of prisoners? Answer—I certainly do. In the first place when the prisoner under the cellular system is brought into