

## BROCKVILLE.

*(United Counties of Leeds and Grenville.)*

I visited this Gaol on the 27th September. The Gaol was being white-washed, and was therefore of necessity in some degree of disorder. There were eleven prisoners confined, five males and six females. Of the six women, three were stated to be insane. The Gaoler informed me that one of these women had been incarcerated since the end of May, for want of securities to keep the peace, and that no inquiry had as yet been made into the case, nor had any steps been taken to obtain her transfer to an Asylum. I called the attention of the authorities to this very reprehensible neglect of duty on their part.

I was gratified to find that the County authorities have at last supplied sheets for the prisoners' beds, although they still obstinately refuse to furnish the Prison clothing prescribed by the Rules.

While at the Gaol I made a strict enquiry into the facts connected with the escape of two prisoners from this Gaol, in the month of May last, and came to the conclusion that under the circumstances neither the Gaoler nor turnkeys were chargeable with neglect of duty.

## COBOURG.

*(United Counties of Northumberland and Durham.)*

I visited this Gaol on the 23rd September. There were then twenty-three males and eight females in the Gaol. Notwithstanding the crowded state of the Gaol, it was found in an admirable state of cleanliness.

As there are only twelve night cells for male prisoners, with one room on the third story, it was, of course, impossible to carry out the principle of separate confinement during the night.

At the time of my visit there were two prisoners in almost every one of the cells at night, and I find that (crowded as the Gaol then was) it had been much more crowded during the early part of the year; the total number of prisoners having at one time reached 44.

The first and most important principle in prison discipline is the separation of the prisoners at night, and this great principle is necessarily habitually violated in this Gaol. If all the available cells in the Gaol were devoted to male prisoners exclusively, they would barely suffice for the number of prisoners occasionally in prison. I pressed upon the local authorities the necessity of giving up the present building to male prisoners, and putting up a separate building for females. I further suggested that, as a provisional arrangement, temporary cells might be fitted up for the women in the vacant rooms of the third story. In the present Gaol it is impossible, the Gaoler informed me, to prevent the males and females from communicating with each other. The erection of a distinct building for the women would, of course, effectually prevent this.

Some suits of Gaol clothing have been furnished to the prisoners. The supply, however, is quite inadequate for the number of prisoners confined.

The defective stove-pipe in one of the basement wards, referred to in my Report for 1865, had been replaced by a new one.

I found a lunatic in confinement, who had been in the Gaol for several months; a warrant for his removal to the Lunatic Asylum, at Rockwood, had been received by the Sheriff; but, up to the date of my visit, there had not been room in that Institution to receive him; I was given to understand, however, that it was expected that the poor creature would soon be transferred to the Asylum.

## HAMILTON.

*(County of Wentworth.)*

I visited this Gaol on the 29th October. There were then no less than 47 males and 32 females in Prison. Of the male prisoners, seven were soldiers, three of whom were committed to Prison by the military authorities in consequence of the military lock-up being filled.

The total number of available cells in this Gaol being 31, and the total number of prisoners 79, it is hardly necessary to say that the Gaol was terribly over-crowded. Not