

The above consist of—	White men.....	7
“	“ Indians.....	5
“	“ Chinese.....	3
“	“ Half-breed.....	1
		16
		16

All of which is respectfully submitted by

EDW. M. J. HORRIS, *Catholic Chaplain.*

To W. WYMOND WALKEM, Esq., M.D.,
Assistant Inspector of Penitentiaries.

BRITISH COLUMBIA PENITENTIARY, 1st August, 1879.

SIR,—I have the honor to submit to you a Report on the school:—

The average daily attendance has been 24, the greater number of these being wholly illiterate; some Chinese, others Indians. These have been taken in hand and have made great progress. The remainder of the men are fairly well educated, one or two being very far advanced. All have taken great interest in their studies.

To these men, in every state, from utter ignorance to proficiency it is a hard matter to attend during one short half hour. Could the time for secular instruction be increased, the advance made by the convicts would be proportionate.

I notice in regard to the library that the only books used by the convicts are “Marryatt’s Novels” and light literature of the same class. Although scientific and other works of the most interesting and expensive kind are provided they do not read them. None of them use the opportunity of studying and improving their minds now afforded them. Their only aim seems to be to pass away the time as pleasantly as possible.

There are 106 volumes in the general library. The changes of books of the kind mentioned above, have been very numerous. Each convict who is able to read generally gets through one or two in the course of a week.

I am, Sir, your obedient servant,

W. HENRY FALDING,
Accountant, Acting Schoolmaster.

W. WYMOND WALKEM, Esq., M.D.,
Assistant Inspector.

BRITISH COLUMBIA PENITENTIARY, 1st July, 1879.

SIR,—I have the honor to report on the sanitary condition of this prison, and the convicts confined therein, during the period included from September 28, 1878, to June 30, 1879.

The health of the convicts on admission was much below the average, but by careful treatment and the discharge from the prison of some of the bad cases, the health standard has improved very much, and no death has happened yet.

As no hospital ward has been built at this prison, all sick convicts have to be confined to their cells during treatment. As in many cases this causes much inconvenience, it is to be hoped that steps to remedy this evil will soon be taken.

The room set apart for the surgery is not in a suitable or convenient part of the prison, and the surgery is still wanting in instruments and appliances.

In December one of the convicts, while in an insane condition, made an attempt to commit suicide. This case was reported by the Warden at the time. I am glad to say that, although this convict still has the same delusions, yet his general state of health is much better, and he is able, properly watched, to take his place among the working convicts.