

I must state that the convicts have given me much satisfaction by their good conduct and the fulfilment of their religious duties. I had formed such an idea of the immorality and negligence of convicts undergoing imprisonment, that I was much surprised at their regularity and their spirit of faith, and favorably impressed by their demeanor.

I am convinced that benevolence and firmness are, in truth, the best means of effecting the cure of these paralyzed members of society. These unfortunates, led away by false friends, have fallen into crime; they have forgotten their duty for a moment. But I have not found one amongst them whose character is decidedly wicked and perverse. They all acknowledge their past errors and are availing themselves of their present confinement to make plans for a better future. All are working heartily to avail themselves of friendly counsel and take part in the efforts made for their future welfare. In view of this resolute effort on their part, we may hope that ere many months every one of the present convicts will become once more a good and honest citizen.

It is not my province to judge of the conduct of the authorities of this institution, but you will permit me, Sir, to express the desire I feel that my relations with the several officers may be as harmonious in the future as they have been up to the present. I would make special mention of the good will with which the Chief Keeper and the Bursar have on many occasions assisted me, and for which I am also indebted to the subordinate officers.

The courtesy of the Warden and of the members of his family, is patent and known to all. The high opinion expressed by my predecessor last year will no longer suffice, and truth compels me to declare that that courtesy has been manifested still more highly in the year just closed.

With much respect, I remain, Sir,
Your devoted servant,

G. CLOUTIER, Priest,
Catholic Chaplain.

G. MOYLAN, Esq.,
Inspector of Penitentiaries.

(Translation.)

STONY MOUNTAIN, 10th November, 1883.

DEAR SIR,—The notable changes which have occurred in my Department, at the Manitoba Penitentiary, since I forwarded you my report, put me in the obligation of addressing a supplementary one.

Since the beginning of last summer, a great many convicts have been received at this Institution. The number of those who are under my care has been greatly increased, and the result is that the chapel is far too small. It is impossible at present to assemble the Catholic prisoners and the guards in the chapel, without being in an unbearable state of uneasiness. Imagine fifty persons grouped in the narrow space used as the chapel. Very often you had occasion to visit this chapel, and you remember, I am sure, how small it is. Extreme necessity only, compels me to ask you for a larger place, where I can assemble together those whom I have to guide in the paths of religion.

This increase in the number of convicts has created a new want of books for the library and the chapel. The authorities have generously provided for this. A dozen of lithurgical song books have been placed in the chapel, and nearly fifty volumes have been added to the Catholic library, already begun.

Moreover the authorities have had the kindness to allow me to visit, during several consecutive days, the eighteen Indians detained in this institution. These hours, which ought to have been given to manual work, were not lost—far from it. They have been employed to point out to them the line of conduct they had to follow,