

wave or epidemic of crime had swept over the land. The efforts of the Mission has been to reach this class of persons, when they are suffering the penalty of their crimes, and softened by reflection. Experience has shown us that, as a rule, except for drunkenness, we do not again come in contact with persons a second time after their discharge. There is no doubt but that in very many cases the seed sown has borne fruit; and that in the majority of cases there has, with God's grace, been a restraining influence upon all classes of the prisoners in the Sunday Schools of both institutions.

The soil is indeed unpromising; and the "raw material" of sin and wickedness is in abundance; but still we do not feel discouraged or weary in well doing, for we are assured that in due time we shall reap if we faint not.

TORONTO COUNTY JAIL MISSION.

This work has been steadily carried on every Sunday during the year in the County Jail. The labors of the teachers have been characterized by a patient perseverance and devotion which is worthy of all praise, and they have been worthily assisted by the students from Knox College during its session.

The average number of prisoners in attendance at the regular service is thirty-six, besides those for whom a separate service is provided in the corridors. The lessons have been from the miracles and parables of our Lord alternately. If we may judge by the marked interest, the devout and reverent attention which has been paid, these living pictures of gospel truth seem to be peculiarly fitted to the class of persons with whom we have to do.

We have been fortunate in securing and maintaining the cordial co-operation of all the officers in the jail.

From moneys collected by the teachers for that especial purpose, a breakfast was given to the prisoners on Christmas morning, when addresses, fraught with wise counsel and Christian sympathy, were given by John Macdonald, Esq., M.P., Mr. H. J. Clark, and Mr. George Hague.

In other departments of the work—caring for prisoners after their discharge, providing temporary shelter, forwarding them to their homes in the country, and corresponding with their friends, there is much cause for thankfulness and encouragement.