

*Number of Convicts employed in the various Departments of the Penitentiary, during 1869.*

Males :—Shoemaker's shop, 28 ; Blacksmith's, 2 ; Carpenter's, 4 ; Mason's department, 1 ; Tailor's shop, 1 ; Wash-house, 2 ; Dining hall, wings and kitchens, 5 ; Stone breaking, wood-cutting, oakum, &c., 10.—Total, 53 males.

*Return, shewing the number of days' work performed by Convicts in the different Departments, during 1869—*

Shoemaker's shop, 6,512 days ; Blacksmith's, 377½ ; Carpenter's, 619 ; Tailor's, 834 ; Mason's department, 257½ ; Dining hall, kitchen, &c., 1,233½ ; Orderlies in hospital, 145½ ; Stone breaking, oakum picking, wood cutting, in farm and garden, 3,030½ ; Wash house, 522.—Total, 13,531 days.

CHARLES ROSS,

Acting Warden Halifax Penitentiary.

ANNUAL REPORT OF THE PROTESTANT CHAPLAIN.

To the Chairman and Members of the Board of Inspectors of Asylums, Prisons, &c.

GENTLEMEN,—At the close of the year 1869, I assume it to be my duty, as the Protestant Chaplain of the Penitentiary at Halifax, to present you a brief Report of the moral and spiritual state of the convicts committed to my pastoral care during the past year. Mr. Cotton, who has diligently and faithfully discharged the duties of the *educational* department, will, as required, present to you his Report as an appendage to mine.

Having acted from a solemn sense of my responsibility to God, as well as to the Civil Government, by whose authority I now fill the office of Protestant Chaplain, I have constantly aimed in all my preaching and teaching, to reclaim the convicts from their state of error and depravity, by bringing them to the foot of the cross in true *penitence* and faith in their Redeemer. It being the great and noble object of the Government in sending criminals to the Penitentiary, not only to inflict on them condign punishment for their infraction of the laws of their country, but also to produce in them *genuine sorrow* for past misconduct, and thus prepare them for a life of sobriety and usefulness, when they may again mingle with their fellow men in the ordinary affairs of the world. I have considered it of vital importance to follow our blessed Saviour's rule, which is to "*make the tree good that the fruit may be good.*" With gratitude to the God of all grace, it is my pleasing duty and privilege, to state that the course pursued has been marked by very gracious results. Within the year, thirteen (13) of my pastoral charge, seven (7) white and six (6) coloured, have professed to experience a Divine change and spiritual peace of mind, through faith in the Lamb of God, who died to take away their sins. Of the above number, four have served out their appointed term of imprisonment, and gone to their respective homes, or where they might find employment, promising that they would, by divine grace, henceforth live virtuous and godly lives. Mr. Ross, Acting Warden, who is exceedingly attentive to the conduct of the convicts, states, that all who have made a religious profession, have, with one exception, conducted themselves consistently with their sacred calling in the Lord. The other prisoners pay serious attention to the means appointed for their benefit, and several of them unite with those who make a religious profession, in holding meetings for prayer on the Lord's day afternoon. About twenty out of thirty-six (36), now under my pastoral care, attend those meetings in the most devout and becoming manner.

I preach on Sunday mornings, and on Wednesdays at one P.M., when a portion of Holy Scripture is read, hymns are sung, in a manner that would do credit to some of the churches in the city, and all solemnly kneel while two prayers at each service are offered