

breeding and educating criminals for the work of preying on society ; and as robbing the community of the wealth that might have been earned by their inmates, could they but have been saved from becoming felons through the baneful education thus received. There was not a solitary Gaol in Canada adapted to the proper ends or answering the just purposes of such an Institution. Since the creation of the Board, thirteen new Gaols have been built, and ten old ones altered, in Upper Canada, on plans approved by them ; plans for rebuilding or altering six others have been submitted to them, and these improvements will soon be completed ; while there are but six Gaols in the whole province, in reference to which nothing has been done. When the Board came into existence, there was no uniform dietary in the Gaols, and the daily cost of the rations of each prisoner exceeded twenty-five cents ; now there are very few Gaols in which the dietary prescribed by the rules is not observed, and the daily cost of rations is about nine cents per man ; thus the annual cost of the food of each prisoner has been reduced from \$89.25 to \$32.85 cents a year—an immense saving. Again, at the organization of the Board, there was no uniformity in the registers of the Gaols, and many kept none at all ; now, full registers, covering every material point, are kept in all ; and criminal statistics, of great value, are annually collected and published to the world. Moreover, the Board has, from the first, recommended two most important measures of criminal reform, and, from year to year, has repeated, and, with cogent reasoning, urged its recommendations upon the Legislature, viz , the adoption of the principle of separate imprisonment in all Common Gaols, and the establishment of Central or District Prisons, intermediate between the Provincial Penitentiary and the Gaol, in which reformatory discipline could be introduced ; and there is reason to think that these great reforms may soon become a part of the penal system of Canada. These are exceedingly gratifying results, not a tithe of which could have been secured, except through the existence and agency of this Board ; and others, no less important, would, doubtless, ere this, have been effected, had the Board been clothed with powers adequate to the work intrusted to it. The wonder is, that in so short a time and with a discretion so restrained, so much should have been done.”

The extract just quoted has reference solely to the Common Gaols of Canada. But the Inspectors believe that their official labours, during the seven years which the Board has been in operation, have been productive of benefits as great to the Penitentiary, the Reformatories, and the Lunatic Asylums of the country.

All of which is respectfully submitted.

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