

In consequence of the addition of seventy more cells to this wing, and the additional building in the rotunda or centre part of the Prison, (now thought advisable to be carried on,) it will cost more than was stated by the Report made last year, as requisite for the wing described on the incomplete plan, then adverted to in the estimate of Mr. Powers. It may be observed that there is not so much to shew for the money expended this year, as will be exhibited by an equal disbursement in another year. Besides the cost of the land purchased, much expense has unavoidably been incurred in opening the quarry, purchasing iron, lumber and other materials, and in building lime kiln sheds, forges and work shops—all of which are in readiness for next year's service. An inventory of materials, buildings, and other property will be found among the documents hereunto appended.

The manifest necessity of the constant presence of the Superintendent and Master builder at the works induced the Commissioners to construct a stone cottage on the north side of the highway, large enough for the use of two families, which is nearly finished and will cost about three hundred and seventy-five pounds. It is their intention that this building shall be occupied by Colonel Powers and Mr. Mills, while they are employed in their present capacity. As soon as there is a law passed establishing a system of discipline for the Penitentiary, the cottage may serve for the accommodation of the Warden and Deputy Warden, until their proper residences within the walls, as designated on the plan, shall be erected; afterwards it will furnish commodious quarters for two of the assistant keepers, from whom a suitable yearly rent may be exacted.

The Commissioners being extremely desirous of ascertaining, as nearly as possible, the actual cost of the Penitentiary, when entirely completed according to the plan, have had estimates for every part of the establishment carefully drawn up by the Superintendent and Master builder, which they now have the honor of laying before your Excellency. Of the south or rear wing, which has been commenced, a separate estimate in detail is furnished. The gross amount of the estimates for the other parts of the work is all that it has been thought necessary at present to submit. They amount together to the sum of fifty-six thousand, eight hundred and fifty pounds, currency,—a total which may at first view be considered large. It is however to be observed, that the plan of the prison contemplates the ultimate reception of eight hundred and ten male convicts, besides the female department; and that several years must elapse before space can be required in this Province for the confinement of so large a number of convicted culprits. It is at present only intended to finish the south wing, containing two hundred and seventy cells, and the Rotunda, containing one hundred and twenty more,—leaving the east and west wings to be successively added by convict labor, as the increasing number of commitments shall require them. The Commissioners conceive that an appropriation from the public funds of about twenty-five thousand pounds is wanted to cover the three first items of the general estimate, and that the labor of the convicts may subsequently be applied to the completion of the remainder, and thus materially reduce the expense. It is not probably expected that the labour of the convicts will, during the first two or three years, be so productive as to relieve the public treasury from annual appropriations for the support of the establishment; which will be especially required while the Convict labour is chiefly applied to the completion of the Prison;—ultimately, however, a profit cannot fail to arise from the proceeds of the compelled labour of the Prisoners, as in similar establishments in the neighbouring States.

In the estimates and statements now submitted, the Commissioners have endeavoured to place the whole matter as fully and clearly as possible under the view of the Legislature.

They beg respectfully to add, that it is, on the grounds of public economy and benefit, most desirable that such a modification of the law should be made as would supply the means of carrying on the works with greater expedition than is now warranted. The present unavoidable expense for salaries of the Superintendent, Master builder, and Clerk, as will be seen, is seven hundred pounds per annum; and it cannot be wished that those officers should be left half their time without employment, which must nevertheless be the case while the Commissioners are restricted to the disbursement of four thousand pounds a year. It is at this moment important that blacksmiths should be kept at work without ceasing upon the grates and locks, and that the quarry-men and stone-cutters should continue the preparation of building stone, in order that the works may be prosecuted with vigour on the opening of the next season, and the south wing got in readiness before autumn for the reception of Convicts, if the Legislature should see fit, during the present Session, to organize a system of Prison Discipline, and provide for the government and maintenance of the Penitentiary.

JOHN MACAULAY.

H. C. THOMSON.

H. SMITH.

KINGSTON, NOVEMBER 25TH, 1833.