

The conduct of the convicts has been very good, and, with few exceptions, their attention to all the religious exercises has been commendable. At the conclusion of the Sabbath services I give a suitable religious tract to each one able to read and willing to take it.

The chapel is comfortably furnished, and is kept in good order.

The school is well conducted by Mr. Falding, assisted by Mr. Bullen. The prisoners seem to enjoy the time allowed for study, and are making as much progress as could be expected. Very few of the books in the library are taken or read by the convicts. They are not, however, very suitable for the present inmates.

I deem it proper to state that the respected and efficient Warden has manifested his interest in, and appreciation of the Sabbath services by a regular attendance. This has doubtless a beneficial influence on the convicts. He also shows every attention and respect to me in all my visits to the Penitentiary, and affords me every facility in the discharge of my duties.

I have the honor to be, Sir, your obedient servant,

ROBERT JAMIESON, *Protestant Chaplain.*

To the Assistant Inspector,
British Columbia Penitentiary.

THE RETREAT, SAPPERTON, 23rd August, 1879.

SIR,—My report as acting Chaplain of the British Columbia Penitentiary extends from the time it was first opened till Good Friday, 1879, when I was so unceremoniously dismissed.

During that time I have to report that I held service every Sunday at 9.30, a.m., using the form of service that from several years' previous experience with these very men, I have found suited them best, *i.e.*, a short, bright, musical service, the litany, shortened morning prayer and communion service alternately, four or five hymns and a short address.

The prisoners seemed to like the music and took great pains with their part. One of them (who has since left) learnt the harmonium that he might lead the choir. Since his discharge Mrs. Insley, the daughter of one of the Wardens, has played for us, and to her my thanks are due.

I would here record my opinion, formed after considerable experience, that (especially where the silent system is used) the more responsive the service the better, and that music is a great means of reaching the hearts of the men.

I celebrated the Holy Communion monthly, and there were three communicants amongst the prisoners.

On Wednesdays we had a short service, a few prayers, three hymns and an address during the dinner hour, the men willingly curtailed the time of eating to have a longer time in the chapel.

Besides the services I visited the men during the week, and offered to help in the school twice a week.

I also selected the library, and the books came shortly before I was dismissed. Acting on Mr. Moylan's advice, I chose principally standard works of fiction and general literature. The library is constantly used and seems much appreciated by the prisoners.

Of the prisoners on the Protestant side of the Penitentiary all who have been confined but four are Episcopalians; of these one, a Jew, is now discharged; one says he is nothing particular and two are Presbyterians, making with the Warden, who has lately left the Church, three Presbyterians in the Penitentiary.

Of the Presbyterians one has lately come, to the other I more than once offered to fetch Mr. Jamieson, but he, the convict, said he was perfectly content with my ministrations and was preparing for the Holy Communion when I ceased to be Chaplain.