

At the end of the year 1882-83, the number of males under my spiritual supervision was eighty-five, and but one female. During the year, three men in the Protestant department died, to one of whom, never having been baptized, and specially desiring baptism, I administered that holy Sacrament.

The Sunday services have been held, as heretofore, with strict regularity; occasionally in my absence by the Rev. J. Roy Cambell, Rector of Dorchester. On Sunday, 22nd April, we had the privilege of a visit from the Right Reverend Dr. Kingdon, Bishop Coadjutor of Fredericton, who kindly addressed the convicts in the chapel.

Of late, unhappily, quite a number of mere boys have been sentenced and sent to this Penitentiary, and were it not for the thoughtful consideration of the Warden and Deputy, and for the general admirable management of the institution, such a disposal of these cases would indeed be very greatly to be deplored. However, as his Honor, Chief Justice Allen, truly remarked (in pronouncing sentence upon some of these boys), that to send them to an over-crowded jail, such as that at St. John, would be far worse for them in a moral point of view; and, in the absence of a reformatory, no doubt a well-managed penitentiary is the next best place for such youthful offenders, who cannot be sent to a decent, uncrowded jail. In this institution employment is found, within the building, for the younger of these boys, so that the danger of moral contamination by much association with the men is reduced to a minimum. The Schoolmaster also devotes additional time, daily, to the general instruction of the boys; and I have taken some pains with their religious teaching. For the present, therefore, they are well looked after, and by their very position as prisoners, are really shielded from much evil, so that if, hereafter, the stigma of having been convicts should not make them careless as to their characters, and reckless in their conduct, their imprisonment here may result only in good. Still, there is, undoubtedly, danger of the other result, and, therefore, a reformatory would seem to be the proper place for such boys, some of whom, I certainly think are by no means hardened, nor in truth have they been very grievous offenders. The same may be said of a number of the men; and it seems to me a very serious matter to load a man for life with the disgrace of having been a convict in a penitentiary, when a few months' confinement in a county jail (not always crowded) would seem to be a quite sufficient punishment.

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

RICHARD SIMONDS,  
*Chaplain.*

J. G. MOYLAN, Esq.,  
Inspector of Penitentiaries.

No. 17.

## REPORT OF THE SURGEON.

DORCHESTER PENITENTIARY, 1st July, 1883.

SIR,—I have the honor to present my Annual Report for the year ended 30th June, 1883.

The hygienic condition of the institution is at present in a very satisfactory state, although the cells are all full, leaving us somewhat cramped for accommodation for the late admissions.

The new hospital is now about complete. The hot air furnace put in last autumn by the Warden's directions, works admirably, and affords all the heat necessary to make the wards comfortable in the coldest weather. The ventilating of the wards is simple, and in every way effective. The drainage is good, and the water supply sufficient for all purposes, including bath room and closet.