

fault-finding, and often reporting, yet fails to maintain discipline, and for these reasons you have insisted upon the Wardens taking particular care that candidates for the positions of Guards and Keepers be well proved previous to their being placed on the permanent staff. Ordinary intelligence, with tact and good common sense, I consider the best qualifications for these officers.

The convicts, too, had to be reduced to obedience and made amenable to discipline and the rules. It called for unflagging vigilance, firmness and perseverance to bring about the required reform.

The crowded state of the Penitentiary, and its insecurity were drawbacks also which the Warden had to encounter. Notwithstanding all this he has performed his duties in a manner satisfactory and creditable.

The number of convicts confined on 31st December, 1875, was 120; on the same date 1876, there were 182.

In the early part of last December, 60 convicts were transferred to Kingston Penitentiary. It is expected that, by the end of next April, a total cell accommodation for 240 convicts will be provided. Even with this increased room, it will be necessary to send another batch to Kingston, during the present year, if the increase in the number of convicts be in proportion to what it has been in 1876. In anticipation of this contingency, provision has been made in the estimates of Kingston Penitentiary for the expected addition to its own calculated population, from Ontario.

The permanent enlargement of the buildings [will, I believe, commence in the spring.

The removal of convicts from one Penitentiary to another is not conducive to their reformation, and I trust the necessity for such transfers will be soon obviated.

The average number of convicts in 1875 was 123, and the average cost of each convict for that year was \$383.55, the total expenditure for maintenance having been \$46,577.26.

The average number in 1876, has been 173, and the average cost \$290.93 per head; the expenditure for maintenance being \$50,331.76, or \$3,754.50 more than the expenditure of the previous year, for an increase of 50 convicts.

The reduction of \$92.62 in the average *per annum* cost of each convict is a proof of the careful and economic manner in which the expenditure is conducted, when contrasted with the previous years.

The increase of convicts, the insecurity of the Penitentiary, and the great variety of employments in which the prisoners are engaged, have made it imperative to add two keepers and four guards to the staff of 1875.

I cannot too strongly urge the necessity of larger and more suitable workshops being provided as soon as possible. Those now in use were built for the boys of the reformatory, and were, at best, utterly unfitted for the purpose for which they were intended.

It were well, also, that a substantial and commodious root house and barn, along with a farm house, on the plans of those buildings at Kingston, be erected. Through the want of a proper root house a large quantity of vegetables go to loss.

I would again beg leave to call your attention to the great advantage of having a tramway made from the quarry to the Penitentiary yard. This appears to me to be indispensable, in order to obtain the supply of stone necessary for building and lime-burning.

The reports of the Warden and the Roman Catholic Chaplain are so exhaustive as to render it needless for me to add anything further than to express an earnest hope that this Penitentiary will be placed on a permanent and satisfactory basis at an early day.