

R E P O R T
OF THE
TORONTO PRISONER'S AID SOCIETY.

In the year 1867, a few Christian friends in Toronto formed themselves into an Association or Society for the purpose of establishing a Sunday School in the Toronto Jail. That Sunday School has been in successful operation ever since.

In the year 1873, the Association extended its labours to the then newly opened Central Prison under very encouraging auspices. Their work has been steadily maintained in both institutions during the past year, and the Managers have every reason to feel thankful to Almighty God for the measure of success which has, with His blessing, followed their humble labours.

The teaching staff in the Central Prison consists of a Superintendent and 25 teachers, and in the Toronto Jail of a Superintendent and 10 teachers.

The Managers know full well (as they expressed themselves last year) the force of character, and even correctness in many cases, of the popular objections against the genuineness of the profession of prisoners, that they are changed in heart, feeling, or practice. But they also know equally well that, while under punishment, some may act the hypocrite, yet in the case of a large number of the younger prisoners who have been convicted for thoughtless or sadder crimes, the sorrow or repentance of such is not the less sincere and genuine. The Managers have been careful to distinguish between the two classes of deliberate crime and of men "overtaken in a fault," and their references in the following paragraphs have been only to the more hopeful class, who, so far as evidence satisfactory to them goes, have shown themselves worthy of confidence and sympathy. The Managers would, therefore, earnestly solicit the continued confidence of those kind friends who have volun-