

The rainy season had just set in on removal and for some days the men were kept indoors cleaning up the building; afterwards a supply of picks, axes, &c., was procured and the men were put to work cutting down and clearing away the brush and grubbing up the land around the Penitentiary.

On the 30th June, seven and a half acres of land, which last October was covered with tall brush and full of stumps, had been cleared and seeded down, and the crops of potatoes, peas and oats look promising.

As no crop has been yet gathered I have made out no return for the farm, but from present appearances, at the end of this year the farm will be found to be a paying concern.

It will be necessary to employ the men for some time yet in clearing away the trees and brush which stands in every direction from the building, except the river front, not over a hundred yards away.

About 25 acres, has been partially cleared and has been fenced in. The Public Works Department supplied the materials for most of this fencing; altogether there is 994 yards of fence.

Over 1,500 feet of drains have been constructed and stoned. These drains are to carry off the water which runs down the hill in the rainy season in streams and are from four to six feet deep.

A large number of windows were found to be wholly unprotected by gratings. This matter was reported by Mr. Pearse to the Public Works Department, who supplied materials and sent a blacksmith to make and fit them.

This blacksmith, with the assistance of two convict carpenters and one convict blacksmith, made and fitted 33 large and small iron gratings on windows, and fitted one iron door on coal cellar and one iron grating over the kitchen door.

The attic storey, which was not completed, has been finished. The plastering and whitewashing were done by Guard Morey with the assistance of convicts. The carpenters' work was done by the two carpenters.

This attic is now used as quarters for the unmarried officers.

Quarters for married officers are urgently needed. The building stands almost by itself among the brush and close to the river. It would be much more secure were houses built so as to have all the officers in easy reach of the Penitentiary.

Discipline has been well maintained among the convicts. Taking into consideration the fact that the guards were all unaccustomed to the charge of convicts, and the long time necessary to drill such men to a thorough comprehension of their duties, I have every reason to feel satisfied with my selection of officers.

The remission of sentence granted to well-behaved convicts exercises a powerful effect on their behavior. No punishment is so much dreaded by them as loss of remission. So greatly is this privilege valued by them that very few reports have been made. The conduct of the men has been remarkably good, they all work well and willingly. Three Indians who have been here since the opening, have been in such poor health though not actually in hospital, that they have been able to do very little work beyond attending to lamps and cleaning the cells.

It is to be regretted that there is no provision made for the isolation of the sick. It is inconvenient to have a sick man locked up in his cell, and in case of any contagious disease breaking out, a contingency that it is to be hoped will not occur, it would be impossible to keep it from spreading.

The school has been well conducted, though the time given up to this branch has been very limited. The Accountant and the Steward have attended the school and done what they could for the convicts, but I think it would be better were a Schoolmaster regularly appointed.

A small library has been purchased and at present is kept in the Accountant's office. The convicts value the privilege of reading in their cells highly, and the changes of books have been numerous. The books are kept in good order.

I must, before concluding this report, acknowledge the valuable advice and assistance I received from the Inspector on his visit. I could not but feel the assumption of my duties as Warden to be an arduous and difficult undertaking, but with his