

could regard with satisfaction. The warden that all were submissive to his will; the staff that the warden raised no voice against their methods of turning to profitable account their relation with the institution and with the convicts. The manner in which the duties of the warden's office have been performed in respect to the proper filing and preservation of important papers and documents, the keeping of proper records of correspondence and the treatment of letters to and from convicts, is strongly to be condemned. The vault and cupboard in the office were littered with a confused mass of books, papers and letters; many important papers and documents having disappeared. Only partial records were kept of the official correspondence. There were hundreds of letters addressed to convicts which had remained in the office for years unopened and undelivered. There had also been hundreds of similar letters burned unopened, from which the convicts, while burning them, had taken considerable sums of money.

ECONOMIC.

The economic management is simply the disciplinary management magnified. The accountant, storekeeper and steward have discharged their duties with apparent fidelity although beset with difficulties in the performance of them in quarters from which they should have received assistance and protection. The accountant has had the keeping of the accounts, while the business of the institution was being conducted in almost complete disregard to the regulations, which could not fail to make the account keeping difficult. The storekeeper has had supplies forced upon him in large quantities which were not requisitioned for, were not wanted, and at prices far above their market value. The steward has had the daily supplies drawn from the store scattered beyond his power to protect them, by the encouragement given by officers to convicts to purloin them. There is evidence that the contracts for supplies were manipulated in the interests of favoured dealers. The prices paid for goods purchased by public tender are invariably higher than similar goods could be purchased by large private consumers in the open market. In some instances the price paid for goods purchased by public tender, notably in the case of flour at \$8.75 per barrel in 1889, is so greatly in excess of the market value which in Montreal averaged \$1.89 per barrel, for the year, as to indicate wilful disregard of the public interest in awarding the contract. It is also shown that provisions and other goods, the property of the penitentiary, were in some cases given away to the officers, and in other cases sold to officers, not only of the penitentiary but to the ex-inspector of penitentiaries, at prices less than was being paid by the institution for similar goods. The practice has likewise been permitted of allowing officials to sell supplies to the institution using the name of others to conceal the transactions, and on one occasion the warden had been a serious offender in this respect.

INDUSTRIAL.

The industrial management is conducted chiefly in the interests of officers and of convicts. Requisitions are issued to those who apply for goods produced by convict labour in the stone department, especially at a nominal fee, and then the holder of the requisition is permitted to deal directly with the convicts as to the price at which they will undertake to make the goods, and this price goes into the pockets of the convicts. In some cases convicts have taken contracts in this way for considerable sums, and not a single dollar of it was paid into the prison revenue. In other cases they have contracted to produce goods for some of the officers for which they were paid a part in money and the balance in tobacco, in butter and cheese and other eatables. To facilitate this traffic the accountant is required to act as banker for the convicts by accepting deposits of their money, keeping an account of it, and paying orders that they may give on the amount standing to their credit. By the practice of this system, and the facilities provided for carrying it on, it is not surprising that a community of interests has been established between officers and convicts, and that each, in his own way, has been seeking opportunities to extract from his surroundings whatever can be turned to his advantage. By the regulations officers are permitted to have articles manufactured