

ROCKWOOD LUNATIC ASYLUM.

This institution is also on Kingston Bay, half a mile west of the Penitentiary; it is built of cut stone. The total number of inmates on 31st Dec. was 395, of whom 45 were criminals. The Asylum is admirably managed by Dr. Dickson, and is conducted with the most scrupulous regard to economy. The necessity for increased accommodation becomes every day more urgent. The quantity of land held by the Asylum is wholly inadequate to its requirements, and the purchase of additional land as asked for by the Superintendent, would benefit the health of the patients, giving them out of door occupation, and be a profit to the institution. The institution is remarkably well kept, clean and well regulated. The ventilation in the male department is defective. The diet is of the best quality and abundant. The expenditure for 1873 was \$50,716. Very extensive improvements have been made in the grounds, entirely by the labour of the patients. There were 8 deaths during the year. The average cost of maintenance for each patient was \$117.41, a considerably lower average than at any of the Asylums in the United States.

ST. VINCENT DE PAUL PENITENTIARY.

This prison is on Isle Jesus, about 11 miles from Montreal. There are attached to it a farm of 80 acres, and two very good quarries of building stone, and there is also another farm of 40 acres. Until the prison labour can be made available for its cultivation, an arrangement has been made with a farmer in the neighbourhood to cultivate the land. On the old farm is found clay suitable for brick making which may furnish employment for convicts. A well built commodious house for the Warden was purchased last year at a cost of \$10,000. There are about 6 acres attached to this. About 8 acres are inclosed in the prison walls. There were 122 convicts in the prison on the 31st Decr. 1873; 119 were received from Kingston in May, and 39 were sent from city and county gaols, 29 have left upon expiration of sentence, 5 were pardoned and 1 sent to Rockwood. The conduct of the convicts for the first 3 months was unsatisfactory. The staff required to be very large for various reasons, and violations of rules were frequent. The labours of the Warden and officers, ably assisted by the Chaplain, have brought about a better state of things, and towards the close of the year the conduct of the prisoners was very much improved. The health of the prisoners has been good, no death nor any case of fever or contagious disease having occurred. The majority of the prisoners take advantage of the schools, and the libraries are much used. The labour of the prisoners having been exclusively devoted to work on the prison itself there were no receipts for convict labour. The value of work done by the convicts is estimated at \$24,106. The real estate is valued at \$220,312 and the stock in different departments at \$258,450. The expenditure was \$71,227.

ST. JOHN N. B. PENITENTIARY.

This is situated about 3 miles from the city, on an estuary of the Bay of Fundy. It is also used for the purpose of a common gaol, and this is attended with bad results.

It is extremely difficult to maintain proper discipline or prevent the smuggling in of contraband articles. The wretched accommodation afforded by the prison renders it impossible to separate convicts and common prisoners, and there is not much chance for reformation in the conduct of the inmates. The Directors speak in very strong terms of the necessity of a change being effected. The prison proper consists of a granite building for males and one of brick for females. In the former there is room for 80, and often 100 are crowded into it. A portion of the same building has to be used as a refectory, there being no proper dining hall, and another for chapel and hospital. The air is so vitiated as to be foul and oppressive, and in case of any contagious disorder, would be dangerous. The fence is in a tumble-down condition, and but for the vigilance and efficiency of the staff and the prisoners being kept under close supervision in the workshops, escapes could not be prevented. The chaplains bear strong testimony to the good conduct of the prisoners under all these drawbacks. There were 370 prisoners in the building during the year. On the 31st December there were 104,—89 males and 15 females. Thirty of these were convicts, being an increase of 5. The health, all things considered, has been good. Good food, regular hours, and the sea air, are great helps to the sanitary condition of the convicts. The school is not satisfactory, and the Library has but a limited supply of books. The water supply is abundant, but its quality is said by the Directors to be "simply abominable," owing to slat water houses being located near the water shed whence it is obtained. The convicts and all the common prisoners whose labour can be used, are employed in making brooms, pails, tubs, rakes and clothes pins. Owing to the small number of convicts and the short periods of the other prisoners, the profit derived from these is small. A great number of old, decrepit persons unfit and unable to work are confined in the prison in the course of the year, useless to contribute to the revenue but swelling the outlay. The sales during the year amounted to \$19,360. No details of expenditure are given. The Buildings, &c., are estimated at \$100,251, and there are 40 acres of land worth \$100 an acre.

HALIFAX, N.S., PENITENTIARY.

This prison is placed on an inlet of the Atlantic called the N. W. Arm, which flows under the walls of the building. About 2 acres are included within the walls, and 6 or 7 acres outside are cultivated by the prisoners. The prison is about two miles from Halifax, strongly built of cut stone and will hold 100 prisoners. On the 31st Decr. there were in it 37,—26 male and one female were convicts. The general conduct of the prisoners has been good. The Warden is well seconded by his officers, and the chaplains are devoted and painstaking. The health has been very satisfactory, the ventilation and drainage are good and sufficient. The convicts are chiefly employed in broom-making, and in shoe-making for outside customers, especially the military. The earnings of the prisoners during the year amounted to \$7,738 and the expenditure \$21,150. Each convict employed at broom-making was able to earn \$2.12½ per day. The Directors earnestly call the attention of the Government to the military pri-