

per cent. The proportion of criminals under 20 years of age to the total number was about the same in both years, viz., 18·62 per cent. in 1886 and 18·35 per cent. in 1887, and the percentage of Canadians in each year was 64·68 per cent. and 63·60 per cent., respectively. The labouring class furnished the largest number of prisoners in both years. The occupations of women are not given.

602. The number of deaths in 1886 was 18, and in 1887 17, being about 1½ per cent., which is said to be a very low average.

603. The following table shows the number of persons confined in common gaols and prisons of the several Provinces in 1887. As the Provinces differ as to the dates to which their returns are made up, it has not been possible to give these particulars at a date common to all, but they have been brought as close together as possible. The figures for Nova Scotia and New Brunswick are by no means complete, answers to applications for information having been received from about half only of the whole number of counties; for as there is no official in either Province whose duty it is to collect these statistics, it was necessary to apply to the sheriff of each county. It is hoped that better success will be met with next year:—

PROVINCE.	No. of Gaols.	Date.	NO. CONFINED.		Total.
			Male.	Female.	
Ontario .....	* 54	Sept. 30, 1887...	791	297	1,088
Quebec .....	22	Dec. 31, 1886...	297	131	428
Nova Scotia.....	13	June 30, 1887...	66	18	84
New Brunswick.....	6	Jan. 1, 1888...	30	12	42
Manitoba .....	3	June 30, 1887...	43	5	48
British Columbia.....	3	Oct. 31, 1887...	.....	.....	158
Prince Edward Island.....	3	June 30, 1887...	15	2	17
Total .....	104	.....	1,242	465	1,865

\* Including Central Prison and Mercer Reformatory, Toronto.