

The following table shows the number of prisoners in the common jails and prisoners under provincial jurisdiction, at the dates mentioned :—

PERSONS CONFINED IN PROVINCIAL PRISONS IN CANADA.

PROVINCES.	Number of Prisons.	Date.	NUMBER CONFINED.		Total.
			Male.	Female.	
Ontario.....	*59	Sept. 30, 1903.	967	248	1,215
Quebec.....	24	Dec. 31, 1902.	260	108	368
Nova Scotia.....	†55	June 30, 1903.	122	15	137
New Brunswick.....	§31	" 30, 1903.	24	3	27
Manitoba.....	3	Dec. 31, 1902.	50	6	56
British Columbia.....	5	Oct. 31, 1901.			172
Prince Edward Island.....	†5	June 30, 1903.	22	2	24
The Territories (Regina and Prince Albert).....	2	" 30, 1903.	25	1	26
Canada	184	1,470	383	2,025

* Including 14 lock-ups, Central Prison and Mercer Reformatory, Toronto, and Ontario Reformatory, Penetanguishene.

† Includes 2 lock-ups.

‡ Includes 34 lock-ups. § Includes 17 lock-ups. || Not given.

The provincial government of New Brunswick does not publish any return of persons in their prisons, consequently application was made to the sheriffs of the several counties, all but one of whom responded, and thanks are due to them for their attention.

CRIMINAL STATISTICS.

The judicial system of Canada has been described on pages 32 and 33.

The Act authorizing the collection and compilation of Criminal Statistics came into operation in 1876. The returns are yearly becoming more valuable, greater care being exercised in the collection. The whole system has been reviewed since the year 1893, with the result of adding to the returns the criminals dealt with by the North-west Mounted Police.

The returns are compiled under two headings: 'Indictable Offences' and 'Summary Convictions.' The first includes all felonies and misdemeanours tried by the competent courts and juries, whether following the general procedure in accordance with Chap. 174, R.S.C., or the summary procedure applicable to certain cases as provided by the Acts relating to 'Speedy Trials,' 'Summary Trials by Consent' and 'Juvenile Offenders,' Chaps. 175, 176 and 177, R.S.C. The second includes all minor offences tried by justices of the peace, police magistrates or stipendiary magistrates under Chap. 178, R.S.C.