

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.....	*66	Sept. 30, 1904.	953	336	1,289
Quebec.....	24	Dec. 21, 1902.	260	108	368
Nova Scotia.....	†59	June 30, 1904.	112	13	125
New Brunswick.....	§30	" 30, 1904.	22	1	23
Manitoba.....	3	Dec. 31, 1903.	72	5	77
British Columbia.....	5	Oct. 31, 1901.			172
Prince Edward Island.....	†5	June 30, 1904.	17	3	20
The Territories (Regina and Prince Albert).....	2	" 30, 1904.	58	6	64
Canada			1,494	472	2,138

* Including 42 gaols, 29 lock-ups, Central Prison and Mercer Reformatory, Toronto.

† Includes 3 lock-ups.

‡ Includes 37 lock-ups. § Includes 16 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.

The various indictable offences which comprise the more serious crimes, are divided into six classes, as follow:—

Class I.—Offences against the person.

II.—Offences against property, with violence.

III.—Offences against property, without violence.

IV.—Malicious offences against property.

V.—Fogery and offences against currency.

VI.—Other offences not included in the foregoing classes.