

(796)

56/110

[797]

GAOLS AND PRISONERS.

Castlemaine Gaol

1855

RETURN of the GAOLS and HOUSES of CORRECTION, and of the Number

NAME OF THE PRISON, AND WHERE SITUATED.	1. Number of Prisoners the Prison is capable of containing in separate Cells.	2. Number of Prisoners the Prison is capable of containing, where more than one Prisoner sleeps in one Cell.	3. Number of Prisoners							
			Felon.							
			Tried.				Untried.			
			Whites.		Blacks or Colored Persons.		Whites.		Blacks or Colored Persons.	
M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.			
<i>Goal - Castlemeane</i>	<i>12</i>	<i>60</i>	<i>4</i>	<i>"</i>	<i>"</i>	<i>"</i>	<i>3</i>	<i>1</i>	<i>"</i>	
TOTALS	<i>12</i>	<i>60</i>	<i>4</i>	<i>"</i>	<i>"</i>	<i>"</i>	<i>3</i>	<i>1</i>	<i>"</i>	

of PRISONERS confined therein for the Year ending

in Confinement at Michaelmas, 1855												4. Total Number of Prisoners in Confinement at Michaelmas, 18				5. Greatest Number of Prisoners in Confinement at any one time in the Year.			
Misdemeanors.						Debtors.						Whites.		Blacks or Colored Persons.					
Tried.			Untried.			Whites.			Blacks or Colored Persons.			Whites.		Blacks or Colored Persons.					
Whites.		Blacks or Colored Persons.	Whites.		Blacks or Colored Persons.	Whites.		Blacks or Colored Persons.	Whites.		Blacks or Colored Persons.	Whites.		Blacks or Colored Persons.					
M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.				
<i>28</i>	<i>2</i>	<i>1</i>	<i>"</i>	<i>1</i>	<i>2</i>	<i>"</i>	<i>"</i>	<i>1</i>	<i>"</i>	<i>"</i>	<i>"</i>	<i>48</i>	<i>7</i>	<i>2</i>	<i>"</i>	<i>68</i>	<i>9</i>	<i>1</i>	<i>"</i>
<i>28</i>	<i>2</i>	<i>1</i>	<i>"</i>	<i>1</i>	<i>2</i>	<i>"</i>	<i>"</i>	<i>1</i>	<i>"</i>	<i>"</i>	<i>"</i>	<i>48</i>	<i>7</i>	<i>2</i>	<i>"</i>	<i>68</i>	<i>9</i>	<i>1</i>	<i>"</i>

*Clawson
Warden*

*Wm. J. Owen
Gather*

RETURN of the GAOLS and

NAME OF THE PRISON, AND WHERE SITUATED.	6. Total Number of Prisoners committed in the course of the Year. <i>548</i>								7. Number of Prisoners who have been committed before.						8. Number of Prisoners of the				
	Whites.				Blacks or Colored Persons.				Once.		Twice.		Three Times or more.		At Hard Labor in the Prison.		At Hard Labor out of the Prison.		
	Number under 18 years of age.		Number who cannot read.		Number under 18 years of age.		Number who cannot read.		M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	
	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	
<i>Genl. Castleman</i>	<i>4</i>	<i>1</i>	<i>13</i>	<i>18</i>	<i>"</i>	<i>"</i>	<i>"</i>	<i>"</i>	<i>"</i>	<i>24</i>	<i>6</i>	<i>10</i>	<i>1</i>	<i>4</i>	<i>2</i>	<i>65</i>	<i>8</i>	<i>"</i>	<i>"</i>
TOTALS	<i>4</i>	<i>1</i>	<i>13</i>	<i>18</i>	<i>"</i>	<i>"</i>	<i>"</i>	<i>"</i>	<i>"</i>	<i>24</i>	<i>6</i>	<i>10</i>	<i>1</i>	<i>4</i>	<i>2</i>	<i>65</i>	<i>8</i>	<i>"</i>	<i>"</i>

HOUSES of CORRECTION, &c.—continued.

9. Punishment for Offences within the Prison during the Year.				10. Cases of Sickness.								11. Deaths during the Year.											
Employed in the course of the Year.		Not Employed.		Whipping.		Irons.		Solitary Confinement.		Other Punishments.		Greatest Number of Sick at one time.				Total Cases of Sickness during the Year.				Deaths during the Year.			
At Employments not Hard Labor.		At Employments not Hard Labor.		M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	Whites.		Blacks or Colored Persons.		Whites.		Blacks or Colored Persons.		M.	F.	M.	F.
M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.
<i>30</i>	<i>"</i>	<i>390</i>	<i>50</i>	<i>"</i>	<i>"</i>	<i>"</i>	<i>"</i>	<i>"</i>	<i>"</i>	<i>1</i>	<i>"</i>	<i>14</i>	<i>3</i>	<i>"</i>	<i>"</i>	<i>247</i>	<i>26</i>	<i>2</i>	<i>"</i>	<i>"</i>	<i>"</i>	<i>"</i>	
<i>30</i>	<i>"</i>	<i>390</i>	<i>50</i>	<i>"</i>	<i>"</i>	<i>"</i>	<i>"</i>	<i>"</i>	<i>"</i>	<i>1</i>	<i>"</i>	<i>14</i>	<i>3</i>	<i>"</i>	<i>"</i>	<i>247</i>	<i>26</i>	<i>2</i>	<i>"</i>	<i>"</i>	<i>"</i>	<i>"</i>	

Clawson
Paul
Smith

Wm. M. Lucas
Carlin

RETURN of the GAOLS, &c.—continued.

QUESTIONS.

ANSWERS.

13. Is there a Chapel in the Prison, or suitable Apartment for the performance of Religious Services? How are the Prisoners separated therein?

There is no Chapel, and Divine Service is performed in the exercise yard, and ^{for women} cannot therefore be separated —

14. What Duties are performed by the Chaplain? What provision is made for the Instruction of the Prisoners; and are they supplied with Bibles and other suitable Books?

The Minister of the Church of England has lately visited almost every Sunday. There is no Provision made for the instruction of the Prisoners, and there are no Books supplied —

15. Are Dissenting Ministers allowed to have access to the Prisoners; and if so, at what times, and under what restrictions?

Dissenting Ministers are allowed access to the Prison at all reasonable hours —

16. What Duties are performed by the Surgeon? Are separate Buildings or Apartments provided for the Sick?

The Surgeon appointed for the Gaol visits regularly every day. One of the five wards is for the use of the sick, and often other Prisoners, and Debtors are placed in it — at present one debtor is confined in it together with Smoked, & other Prisoners —

17. What diseases have been most prevalent during the Year (in reference to Columns 10 and 11, Return No. 1)?

Dram & nerve — Respiratory Organs Alimentary Canal

18. Reasons for non-employment of Prisoners (in reference to Column 8)?

There is not sufficient work to do, and the numerical strength of the Officers attached to this Establishment, and the miscellaneous of the Gaol prevents the employment of many Prisoners at one time — The Silk & Woollen Trades are not put to work —

Richard Parry
Parry

RETURN of the GAOLS, &c.—continued.

QUESTIONS.

ANSWERS.

19. Reasons for Punishments by Whipping, Irons, Solitary Confinement, or otherwise?

There has been none punished during the year — Whipping is not allowed.

20. Is there any Insane Person in confinement? State his or her Name and Age, and for what offence committed? How long has he or she been in confinement; and is such Person separated from the other Prisoners?

Insane persons are not long kept in this Gaol, but forwarded to Millbank every fortnight — at present there are only three cases of Insane Persons and they have been a week confined — all cases of sickness, and accidents are placed in the one ward together with other Prisoners, & Debtors —

21. Are any, and what fees demanded of Debtors, or of any other Prisoners, either at their admission to or discharge from the Gaol?

None

22. General Observations.

The Gaol accommodation totally inadequate, and many alterations necessary — the roof of all the Cells require covering afresh — the Hospital accommodation is had, and too small for that purpose — the numerical strength of the Officers appointed for this Prison is too small, as the Estimates for 1855. and the General State of the Gaol indicate —

Richard Parry
Parry

Richard Parry
Parry

[Faint, mostly illegible handwritten text in cursive script, likely bleed-through from the reverse side of the page.]

VICTORIA.

RETURN of DISEASES which have been most prevalent in *H. M. Jail at Castlemaine* during the year 1855

Brain and Nerves	No.	49
Circulatory Organs.	No.	2
Respiratory Organs	No.	46
Alimentary Canal.	No.	79
Urinary Organs.	No.	6
Hepatic.	No.	1
Eyes.	No.	9
Skin.	No.	7
Cellular Texture.	No.	nil
Children.	No.	3
Fevers.	No.	24
Rheumatic.	No.	10
Dropsy.	No.	2
Veneral.	No.	8
Scorbatic.	No.	3
Uterine Organs.	No.	5
Ulcers.	No.	7
Pregnancy and Parturition.	No.	nil
Wounds and Accidents.	No.	10
Cancer.	No.	nil
Casualties.	No.	
Total No. of Cases tried.	No.	543

James Gowlett
late Medical Officer

Richard Gales
Deputy Sheriff & C. & C.

(308)

56/108

[809]

GAOLS AND PRISONERS.

— Sandhurst Gaol —

1855

RETURN of the GAOLS and HOUSES of CORRECTION, and of the Number

NAME OF THE PRISON, AND WHERE SITUATED.	1. Number of Prisoners the Prison is capable of containing in separate Cells.	2. Number of Prisoners the Prison is capable of containing, where more than one Prisoner sleeps in one Cell.	3. Number of Prisoners							
			Felons.							
			Tried.				Untried.			
			Whites.		Blacks or Colored Persons.		Whites.		Blacks or Colored Persons.	
M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	
<i>Her Majesty's Gaol Sandhurst</i>	<i>12</i>	<i>48</i>	<i>9</i>	<i>2</i>	<i>14</i>	<i>3</i>	<i>3</i>			
TOTALS	<i>12</i>	<i>48</i>	<i>9</i>	<i>2</i>	<i>14</i>	<i>3</i>	<i>3</i>			

of PRISONERS confined therein for the Year ending — 29 September. — 1855 .

in Confinement at Michaelmas, 1855												4. Total Number of Prisoners in Confinement at Michaelmas, 1855.				5. Greatest Number of Prisoners in Confinement at any one time in the Year.			
Misdemeanors.						Debtors.						Whites.		Blacks or Colored Persons.					
Tried.			Untried.			Whites.			Blacks or Colored Persons.			Whites.		Blacks or Colored Persons.					
Whites.		Blacks or Colored Persons.	Whites.		Blacks or Colored Persons.	Whites.		Blacks or Colored Persons.	Whites.		Blacks or Colored Persons.	Whites.		Blacks or Colored Persons.					
M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.				
<i>25</i>	<i>3</i>									<i>48</i>	<i>6</i>	<i>5</i>		<i>53</i>	<i>8</i>	<i>4</i>			
<i>25</i>	<i>3</i>									<i>48</i>	<i>6</i>	<i>5</i>		<i>53</i>	<i>8</i>	<i>4</i>			

*Charles Paul
Horn*

*J. Wilson
Horn*

RETURN of the GAOLS, &c.—continued.

QUESTIONS.	ANSWERS.
1. General Description of the Prison; whether Common Gaol, House of Correction, or otherwise? (To be accompanied by a Ground Plan of the Buildings, &c.)	<i>Common Gaol, constructed with logs of wood</i>
2. Under whose jurisdiction and superintendence; and what measures are adopted for securing the Visitation of the Prison by the Local Magistrates or other Authorities? (A Copy of the Rules and Regulations to be forwarded with the Return.)	<i>Deputy Sheriff & Gaoler; the Prison is also under the supervision of the Visiting Justice</i>
3. Number of Officers, and how appointed? Do all the Officers reside in the Prison? Are Female Prisoners attended by Female Officers exclusively?	<i>There are five officers. Gaoler & Matron are appointed by Government. These two keys by the Sheriff. None of them reside within the walls of the Prison. Not exclusively</i>
4. Number of Classes, Divisions or Wards, Day-rooms, Work-rooms, and Airing-yards (with reference to Plan); and whether the same can be extended or increased?	<i>The wards are not specially appropriated to work or day rooms but used for all general purposes. No day rooms. 4 Classes. One airing yard. There is ample room for extension</i>
5. Number of Sleeping-cells, Solitary or Dark-cells, &c.; and if any are below ground?	<i>4 Sleeping cells being the general wards - all above ground. No solitary or Dark Cells.</i>

James Wilson Secy
W. H. H.

RETURN of the GAOLS, &c.—continued.

QUESTIONS.	ANSWERS.																		
6. Dietary or Weekly Allowance, and Weekly Cost per head for the different descriptions of Prisoners? And under what system and control the Food, Medicine, and Clothing for the Prisoners is contracted for, or otherwise provided?	<table border="1"> <thead> <tr> <th>Prisoners in Gaol</th> <th>Prisoners at Hand Labour</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>5 - 4 Bread</td> <td>7⁰⁰ Bread</td> </tr> <tr> <td>5 - 4 Maize meal</td> <td>7⁰⁰ Meal</td> </tr> <tr> <td>1 - 12¹/₂ Bread meal</td> <td>7⁰⁰ Vegetables</td> </tr> <tr> <td>3 - 8 Vegetables</td> <td>3.. 8 Maize Meal</td> </tr> <tr> <td>0 - 3¹/₂ Salt</td> <td>0.7⁰⁰ Sugar</td> </tr> <tr> <td>0 - 1³/₄ Soap</td> <td>0.1³/₄ Salt</td> </tr> <tr> <td>£ 0.9⁴/₄ per head</td> <td>£ 0.3¹/₂ Soap</td> </tr> <tr> <td></td> <td>£ 0.14.0 per head</td> </tr> </tbody> </table> <p><i>Food & Medicine are contracted for by the Tender Board Melbourne. Clothing obtained on requisition</i></p>	Prisoners in Gaol	Prisoners at Hand Labour	5 - 4 Bread	7 ⁰⁰ Bread	5 - 4 Maize meal	7 ⁰⁰ Meal	1 - 12 ¹ / ₂ Bread meal	7 ⁰⁰ Vegetables	3 - 8 Vegetables	3.. 8 Maize Meal	0 - 3 ¹ / ₂ Salt	0.7 ⁰⁰ Sugar	0 - 1 ³ / ₄ Soap	0.1 ³ / ₄ Salt	£ 0.9 ⁴ / ₄ per head	£ 0.3 ¹ / ₂ Soap		£ 0.14.0 per head
Prisoners in Gaol	Prisoners at Hand Labour																		
5 - 4 Bread	7 ⁰⁰ Bread																		
5 - 4 Maize meal	7 ⁰⁰ Meal																		
1 - 12 ¹ / ₂ Bread meal	7 ⁰⁰ Vegetables																		
3 - 8 Vegetables	3.. 8 Maize Meal																		
0 - 3 ¹ / ₂ Salt	0.7 ⁰⁰ Sugar																		
0 - 1 ³ / ₄ Soap	0.1 ³ / ₄ Salt																		
£ 0.9 ⁴ / ₄ per head	£ 0.3 ¹ / ₂ Soap																		
	£ 0.14.0 per head																		
7. Allowance of Clothing and Bedding, and Cost per head?	<i>One pair of Blankets, each, and when urgently required one pair of shoes and one shirt such clothing as necessary -</i>																		
8. Hours of Labor and Exercise?	<i>5 hours labour, 2 hours Exercise -</i>																		
9. Description of Employment, and Hard Labor?	<i>Quarrying and other Public Works, such as forming roads or such general labor about the Government Camps -</i>																		
10. Amount of Earnings, and how applied; in what proportion to the Prisoners, to the Officers, or the Fund for the Maintenance of the Prison?	<i>None</i>																		
11. Whether the Classification directed by the Colonial Act has been observed: if not, for what reasons; and what measures have been taken to remedy this defect?	<i>yes - as far as the limited nature of the building will admit, but that does not allow of it fully carried out.</i>																		
12. Are convicted Prisoners prohibited from receiving Visits or Letters, or any articles of Food or Clothing from their Relatives or Friends: if not, under what restrictions?	<i>No. Clothing they may receive at any time but visits and letters are restricted to time. also one visit and one letter once in three months unless otherwise sanctioned by the Sheriff. Food is not admitted, the Gaol Ration being considered sufficient.</i>																		

J. Wilson Secy
W. H. H.

RETURN of the GAOLS, &c.—continued.

QUESTIONS.	ANSWERS.
13. Is there a Chapel in the Prison, or suitable Apartment for the performance of Religious Services? How are the Prisoners separated therein?	There is a suitable shed, but does not admit of the prisoners being separated. No service has been, as yet, performed.
14. What Duties are performed by the Chaplain? What provision is made for the Instruction of the Prisoners; and are they supplied with Bibles and other suitable Books?	None None yes.
15. Are Dissenting Ministers allowed to have access to the Prisoners; and if so, at what times, and under what restrictions?	yes — there is no restriction being allowed to visit at all reasonable hours —
16. What Duties are performed by the Surgeon? Are separate Buildings or Apartments provided for the Sick?	Supply of Medical Attendance and Medicines to the sick when required. There is <u>no</u> sick ward or Hospital, but as far as practicable out of the wards is appropriated to the sick.
17. What diseases have been most prevalent during the Year (in reference to Columns 10 and 11, Return No. 1)?	Diseases of the Alimentary Canal of the Brain & Nerves, wounds and accidents, and General Disorders.

18. Reasons for non-employment of Prisoners (in reference to Column 8)?

The working of the prisoners is many are guarding, and some are dependent upon the guard provided for their safety and sometimes sufficient guard labor for the remainder there is not guard cannot be supplied to protect the prisoners & daily for labor. Prisoners & sufficient guard sick or unworthy trial are not required.

Claude Price J. Wilson Sec
 Jailor " Gaoler

RETURN of the GAOLS, &c.—continued.

QUESTIONS.	ANSWERS.
19. Reasons for Punishments by Whipping, Irons, Solitary Confinement, or otherwise?	Whipping is not allowed and there has been no punishment by whipping or Solitary Confinement. On one occasion only this year have Irons been used that by direction of the Visiting Justices have been used because there was a desperate attempt to escape from Gaol.
20. Is there any Insane Person in confinement? State his or her Name and Age, and for what offence committed? How long has he or she been in confinement; and is such Person separated from the other Prisoners?	All Insane persons immediately after commitment are removed to the Gaol at Melbourne.
21. Are any, and what fees demanded of Debtors, or of any other Prisoners, either at their admission to or discharge from the Gaol?	None whatever

22. General Observations.

Sick Ward very much wanted, Light and Ventilation are urgently required to each of the wards —

Claude Price J. Wilson Sec
 Jailor " Gaoler

VICTORIA.

RETURN of DISEASES which have been most prevalent in *H. M. Gaol at Sandhurst* during the year 185 .

Brain and Nerves.	14	no.
Circulatory Organs.	2	no.
Respiratory Organs.	10	no.
Alimentary Canal.	40	no.
Urinary Organs.	4	no.
Hepatic.	1	no.
Eyes.	5	no.
Skin.	5	no.
Cellular Texture.	2	no.
Children.	1	no.
Fevers.	None	no.
Rheumatic.	7	no.
Dropsy.	None	no.
Veneral.	5	no.
Scorbutic.	7	no.
Uterine Organs.	3	no.
Ulcers.	8	no.
Pregnancy and Parturition.	None	no.
Wounds and Accidents.	24	no.
Cancer.	None	no.
Casualties.	2	no.
<i>Cell n</i> <i>General Disorder</i>	43	no.
<i>Unclassified</i>	4	no.
Total No. of Cases tried.	239	no.

(Cases of Constipation simply omitted.)

Wm Wm J. Smith
M.D.
Medical Officer

Richard Jolly
Deputy-Sheriff
N. C. A.

(820)

56/109

[821]

Beechworth Gaol

GAOLS AND PRISONERS.

1855

gaol at Brechworth

[822]

RETURN of the GAOLS and HOUSES of CORRECTION, and of the Number

NAME OF THE PRISON, AND WHERE SITUATED.	1. Number of Prisoners the Prison is capable of containing in separate Cells.	2. Number of Prisoners the Prison is capable of containing, where more than one Prisoner sleeps in one Cell.	3. Number of Prisoners							
			Felons.							
			Tried.				Untried.			
			Whites.		Blacks or Colored Persons.		Whites.		Blacks or Colored Persons.	
			M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.
<i>Brechworth Gaol</i>	<i>4</i>	<i>32</i>	<i>4</i>			<i>25</i>				
<i>Brechworth</i>										
TOTALS	<i>4</i>	<i>32</i>	<i>4</i>			<i>25</i>				

[823]

of PRISONERS confined therein for the Year ending *December 31st* 1855.

in Confinement at Michaelmas, 1855												4. Total Number of Prisoners in Confinement at Michaelmas, 1855.				5. Greatest Number of Prisoners in Confinement at any one time in the Year.			
Misdemeanors.						Debtors.													
Tried.			Untried.			Tried.			Untried.			Whites.		Blacks or Colored Persons.		Whites.		Blacks or Colored Persons.	
Whites.		Blacks or Colored Persons.	Whites.		Blacks or Colored Persons.	Whites.		Blacks or Colored Persons.	Whites.		Blacks or Colored Persons.	Whites.		Blacks or Colored Persons.	Whites.		Blacks or Colored Persons.		
M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.		
<i>14</i>	<i>2</i>									<i>45</i>	<i>2</i>			<i>48</i>	<i>3</i>				
<i>14</i>	<i>2</i>									<i>45</i>	<i>2</i>			<i>48</i>	<i>3</i>				

*Chas W. Davis
1
Stair*

QUESTIONS.

ANSWERS.

1. General Description of the Prison; whether Common Gaol, House of Correction, or otherwise? (To be accompanied by a Ground Plan of the Buildings, &c.)

The Gaol is constructed in the form of a Simicula consisting of four detached Block houses, a Gaol house of two rooms, guard room, Jail, & a Store room partly completed all enclosed by a Sub Stockade 8 feet in height with a shallow coping, a Gaol Kitchen also in course of erection

2. Under whose jurisdiction and superintendence; and what measures are adopted for securing the Visitation of the Prison by the Local Magistrates or other Authorities? (A Copy of the Rules and Regulations to be forwarded with the Return.)

My Sheriff for the Colony & local Deputy Sheriff and Visiting Justice & superintendence of Gaol
Local Magistrates or other authorities may visit the Gaol at all reasonable hours, not compelled to do so.

3. Number of Officers, and how appointed? Do all the Officers reside in the Prison? Are Female Prisoners attended by Female Officers exclusively?

Jur. Officers, Gaolers and Matron appointed by the Governor. Three Turnkeys appointed by the Sheriff or his Deputy.
Female Prisoners are not exclusively attended by Female officers.

4. Number of Classes, Divisions or Wards, Day-rooms, Work-rooms, and Airing-yards (with reference to Plan); and whether the same can be extended or increased?

The Classification laid down in Rule 33 (Vide Gaol Regulations) is adhered to so far as practicable. The space within the Stockade is the only yard connected with the Gaol and answers the purposes of Work Yard and exercise ground. ample ground for extension of

5. Number of Sleeping-cells, Solitary or Dark-cells, &c.; and if any are below ground?

There are four cells used as sleeping cells, but no solitary or dark cells - none under ground

Charles Fair
Sheriff

QUESTIONS.

ANSWERS.

6. Dietary or Weekly Allowance, and Weekly Cost per head for the different descriptions of Prisoners? And under what system and control the Food, Medicine, and Clothing for the Prisoners is contracted for, or otherwise provided?

See Scale attached at end.

Food and Clothing supplied by Contracts taken by the Government.
Medicine furnished by Medical contractor to the Gaol as occasion requires such.

7. Allowance of Clothing and Bedding, and Cost per head?

Clothing, one Jacket & 2 drawers with shoes, bedding one rug & two blankets. These articles ~~are~~ supplied by contract ~~and~~

8. Hours of Labor and Exercise?

From 9 to 10 o'clock P.M. and from 2 to 5 P.M.

9. Description of Employment, and Hard Labor?

A variety of circumstances have prevented the employment of prisoners at any fixed labor. The description of work cannot be accurately defined Repairing the Gaol, drawing Wood and Water, improving the Roads, the Camp, Working in Govt. Garden &c &c and many other works.

10. Amount of Earnings, and how applied; in what proportion to the Prisoners, to the Officers, or the Fund for the Maintenance of the Prison?

Nil

11. Whether the Classification directed by the Colonial Act has been observed: if not, for what reasons; and what measures have been taken to remedy this defect?

Without accommodation Classification cannot be carried out in the way ~~the~~ ~~Colonial Act~~ ~~directs~~ but it is ~~the~~ ~~Colonial Act~~ ~~as far as~~ ~~the~~ ~~local~~ ~~authorities~~ ~~will~~ ~~admit~~.
The condition of the Gaol is improved

12. Are convicted Prisoners prohibited from receiving Visits or Letters, or any articles of Food or Clothing from their Relatives or Friends: if not, under what restrictions?

Vide Rules 45, 46, 47, and 53.
which have been complied with. Convicted prisoners are allowed to send letters and receive visits once in each quarter of the year, if attended by sanction of the Sheriff or Visiting Justice. Prisoners sentenced to imprison. only may receive food & clothing under restrictions but those sentenced to hard labor are deprived these indulgences.

Charles Fair
Sheriff

that such evils call for amendment. Prisoners cannot be employed as they should be and day after day men whose minds are unoccupied are induced to plot and plan means of escape &c. &c. so that their safety becomes an object of paramount importance. Reform being left in the background. There is now an unfortunate man remanded to the goal as a Lunatic, dangerous to himself & thus he was removed to the Police Lock-up. placed in a narrow apartment separated from females by a slab partition. the condition of those women may be imagined. I mention this circumstance not as one of rare occurrence but an evil of long existence. I would respectfully suggest that the Sheriff convey to the authorities to furnish a report setting forth the state of the prison and its requirements with an estimate of the cost for the consideration of Government. It is difficult on the Gold Fields to force the exigencies of the service for any lengthened period, but having data to go upon which my knowledge of the District induces me to consider reliable. the prospective advantages attending the adoption of such a step I look forward to with confidence.

Robert Bruce
Sheriff

W. Goulett
Acting Deputy Sheriff

Scale of Rations supplied to Prisoners confined in Her Majesty's

Scale	Daily allowance	Cost per Prisoner	These rations and so supplied
1	16 ounces of Bread	s ^d 3/3	Daily supplied
	16 " " Meat		
	16 " " Vegetables		
	8 " " Maize Meal		
	1 ounce of Sugar		
	1/2 " " Salt		
	1/2 " " Soap		
2	12 ounces of Bread	s ^d 2/2	Prisoners on the Gold Fields such labour
	4 " " Meat		
	8 " " Vegetables		
	12 " " Maize Meal		
	1/4 ounce of Soap		
	1/2 " " Salt		
3	1 1/2 lbs of Bread	s ^d 1/6	Daily supplied

Scale No 1. Weekly cost per prisoner £1. 2. 9
 Scale No 2 " " " " 15. 2
 Scale No 3 " " " " 10. 6

Scale of Rations supplied to Prisoners confined in Her Majesty's Gaol at Brechworth

Daily allowance

16 ounces of Bread
 16 " " Meat
 16 " " Vegetables
 8 " " Mashed Meat
 1 ounce of Sugar
 1/2 " " Salt
 1/2 " " Soap

Cost per Prisoner

s^d
 3/3

These rations are daily supplied to prisoners sentenced to hard labour and so employed and to prisoners confined in default of Bail.

12 ounces of Bread
 4 " " Meat
 8 " " Vegetables
 12 " " Mashed Meat
 1/4 ounce of Soap
 1/2 " " Salt

s^d
 2/2

Daily supplied to Prisoners sentenced to Imprisonment only. To prisoners on Remand. To prisoners committed for trial and to prisoners who sentenced to hard labour not actually employed at such labour.

1 1/2 lbs of Bread

s^d
 1/6

Daily supplied to Prisoners in Solitary Confinement.

Scale no 1. Weekly cost per head £1. 2. 9

Scale no 2 " " " " 15. 2

Scale no 3 " " " " 10. 6

W. Gore Brett
 Acting Deputy Sheriff

VICTORIA.

RETURN of DISEASES which have been most prevalent in *H. M. Jail at Bechworth* during the year 1855.

Brain and Nerves.	No.	81
Circulatory Organs.	No.	
Respiratory Organs.	No.	5
Alimentary Canal.	No.	81
Urinary Organs.	No.	
Hepatic.	No.	
Eyes.	No.	5
Skin.	No.	
Cellular Texture.	No.	
Children.	No.	
Fevers.	No.	1
Rheumatic.	No.	5
Dropsy.	No.	
Veneral.	No.	2
Scorbutic.	No.	1
Uterine Organs.	No.	1
Ulcers.	No.	4
Pregnancy and Parturition.	No.	
Wounds and Accidents.	No.	
Cancer.	No.	
Casualties.	No.	6
	No.	
	No.	
Total No. of Cases tried.	No.	66

W. G. Mutt
Deputy Sheriff

Thos. Casford
Medical Officer

(185)

(833)

56/106

[833]

Portland Gaol

GAOLS AND PRISONERS.

1855

RETURN of the GAOLS and HOUSES of CORRECTION, and of the Number

NAME OF THE PRISON, AND WHERE SITUATED.	1. Number of Prisoners the Prison is capable of containing in separate Cells.	2. Number of Prisoners the Prison is capable of containing, where more than one Prisoner sleeps in one Cell.	3. Number of Prisoners							
			Felons.							
			Tried.				Untried.			
			Whites.		Blacks or Colored Persons.		Whites.		Blacks or Colored Persons.	
M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	
Gaol and House of Correction Portland	"	48	3	"	"	5	"	1	"	
TOTALS										

of PRISONERS confined therein for the Year ending December 31st 1855.

3. in Confinement at Michaelmas, 1855.												4. Total Number of Prisoners in Confinement at Michaelmas, 1855.				5. Greatest Number of Prisoners in Confinement at any one time in the Year.			
Misdemeanors.						Debtors.													
Tried.			Untried.			Whites.			Blacks or Colored Persons.			Whites.		Blacks or Colored Persons.		Whites.		Blacks or Colored Persons.	
Whites.		Blacks or Colored Persons.	Whites.		Blacks or Colored Persons.	Whites.		Blacks or Colored Persons.	Whites.		Blacks or Colored Persons.	Whites.		Blacks or Colored Persons.	Whites.		Blacks or Colored Persons.		
M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.		
2	"	"	"	1	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	21	1	2	"	60	2	2	"

*Clara Baine
Sheriff*

RETURN of the GAOLS and

NAME OF THE PRISON, AND WHERE SITUATED.	6. Total Number of Prisoners committed in the course of the Year.								7. Number of Prisoners who have been committed before.						8. Number of Prisoners of the			
	Whites.				Blacks or Colored Persons.				Once.		Twice.		Three Times or more.		At Hard Labor in the Prison.		At Hard Labor out of the Prison.	
	Number under 18 years of age.		Number who cannot read.		Number under 18 years of age.		Number who cannot read.		M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.
	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.
Gaol House of Correction Portland.	1	1	16	2	"	"	1	"	10	1	2	"	2	"	"	"	82	"
TOTALS	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...

HOUSES of CORRECTION, &c.—continued.

9. Punishment for Offences within the Prison during the Year.				10. Cases of Sickness.								11. Deaths during the Year.											
Employed in the course of the Year.		Not Employed.		Whipping.		Irons.		Solitary Confinement.		Other Punishments.		Greatest Number of Sick at one time.				Total Cases of Sickness during the Year.				Whites.		Blacks or Colored Persons.	
At Employment not Hard Labor.		At Employment not Hard Labor.		M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	Whites.		Blacks or Colored Persons.		Whites.		Blacks or Colored Persons.		M.	F.	M.	F.
M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.
13	4	4	4	"	"	1	"	2	1	"	"	3	1	1	"	49	5	1	"	1	"	"	"

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RETURN of the GAOLS, &c.—continued.

QUESTIONS.

ANSWERS.

1. General Description of the Prison; whether Common Gaol, House of Correction, or otherwise? (To be accompanied by a Ground Plan of the Buildings, &c.)

1. Common Gaol, and House of Correction. (Originally built for a Lock-up, or Watch-house.)

2. Under whose jurisdiction and superintendence; and what measures are adopted for securing the Visitation of the Prison by the Local Magistrates or other Authorities? (A Copy of the Rules and Regulations to be forwarded with the Return.)

2. Under the Jurisdiction and superintendence of the Deputy Sheriff, who is also Visiting Justice.

Magistrates are entitled to admission at all reasonable hours

* 3. Number of Officers, and how appointed? Do all the Officers reside in the Prison? Are Female Prisoners attended by Female Officers exclusively?

3. Gaoler, Matron, Senior Turnkey, and four Turnkeys appointed by the Sheriff, with the Sheriff's Clerk. The Gaoler, Matron and Senior Turnkey, are the only officers who reside in the Prison. Female Prisoners are attended by Female Officers exclusively.

4. Number of Classes, Divisions or Wards, Day-rooms, Work-rooms, and Airing-yards (with reference to Plan); and whether the same can be extended or increased?

4. Number of Classes, Divisions, or Wards, Day Rooms, Four. The same being used both by day and night, as well for working in, occasionally; and two Airing Yards, some of which might be extended or increased.

5. Number of Sleeping-cells, Solitary or Dark-cells, &c.; and if any are below ground?

5. 4 Sleeping Cells; Eight Solitary Cells, nearly dark; none below ground.

* Four Turnkeys reduced to Two on 31st Dec. 1855.

Charles Bruce Sheriff

RETURN of the GAOLS, &c.—continued.

QUESTIONS.

ANSWERS.

6. Dietary or Weekly Allowance, and Weekly Cost per head for the different descriptions of Prisoners? And under what system and control the Food, Medicine, and Clothing for the Prisoners is contracted for, or otherwise provided?

6. Dietary or weekly allowance, 1st Prisoners sentenced to hard labor 7¹/₂ lb Bread, 7¹/₂ lb Meat, 7¹/₂ lb Potatoes 3¹/₂ Meal 7¹/₂ Sugar 1¹/₂ Salt and 1¹/₂ Soap. Weekly cost per head 15¹/₂ 2nd Prisoners untried, or not sentenced to hard labor. 5¹/₂ lb Bread 1¹/₂ lb Meat 3¹/₂ lb Potatoes 5¹/₂ lb Meal 3¹/₂ Salt 1¹/₂ Soap. Weekly cost per head 9¹/₂ 3rd Prisoners in Solitary Confinement 11¹/₂ lb Bread. Weekly cost per head 7¹/₂ Food, Medicine and Clothing, are supplied by Contract's taken at Head Quarters.

7. Allowance of Clothing and Bedding, and Cost per head?

7. The allowance of Clothing is 1 Hat or Cap, 1 Jacket, 1 Trowsers, 1 Waist and 1 Shoes, and Bedding 1 Blanket and 1 Coverlid in Summer, and 2 Blankets and 1 Coverlid in Winter. The Cost of which is not known, being supplied from Head Quarters under Contract

8. Hours of Labor and Exercise?

8. Hours of Labor are 6, 7 and 8¹/₂ according to the season of the Year. Exercise for Prisoners untried or not sentenced to hard labor, two, weather permitting.

9. Description of Employment, and Hard Labor?

9. Working on Roads, Quarrying, Well sinking, cutting and carting Fire Wood for Gaol use, Repairs to Stockade, and other Government works, and in the Gaol, White Washing, Painting, Cleaning, Cooking, Washing and Mending Gaol Clothing &c &c. Picking Hair &c.

10. Amount of Earnings, and how applied; in what proportion to the Prisoners, to the Officers, or the Fund for the Maintenance of the Prison?

10. Amount of Earnings in Picking Horse Hair &c £ 11. 17. 8 paid to the Portland Sub Treasury.

11. Whether the Classification directed by the Colonial Act has been observed: if not, for what reasons; and what measures have been taken to remedy this defect?

11. No regular system of Classification can be carried out, for want of room, without considerably enlarging the Gaol: there is plenty of ground available for such purpose around the Gaol. When we have only 1 Female Prisoner in Custody, she occupies one-fourth of the Gaol, consisting of only 4 Rooms or Wards.

12. Are convicted Prisoners prohibited from receiving Visits or Letters, or any articles of Food or Clothing from their Relatives or Friends: if not, under what restrictions?

12. Yes under the Prison Regulations, Rules 17 and 50. They are allowed to see friends & receive letters once in three months & often at the option of the Sheriff.

Charles Bruce Sheriff