

(No. 49.)



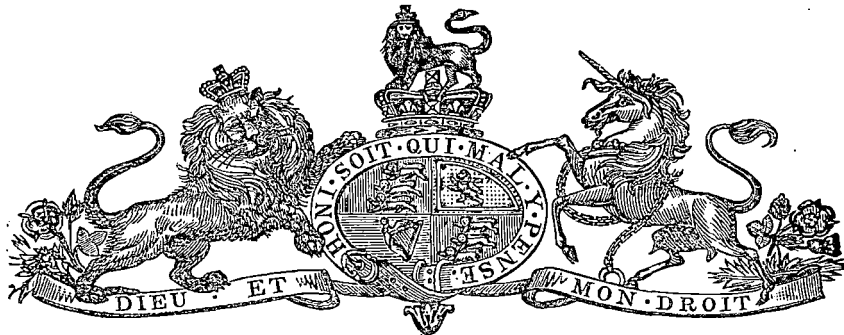
1891.

PARLIAMENT OF TASMANIA.

PENAL ESTABLISHMENTS, HOBART AND
LAUNCESTON :

R E P O R T.

Presented to both Houses of Parliament by His Excellency's Command.



PENAL ESTABLISHMENTS, HOBART AND LAUNCESTON.

Sheriff's Office, 29th May, 1891.

SIR,

I HAVE the honor to forward herewith the annual Returns of the Penal Establishments, Hobart and Launceston.

The number of prisoners in custody on 31st December last was as follows:—

	31 December, 1889.		31 December, 1890.	
Hobart	111 males—15 females =	126	125 males—17 females =	142
Launceston .	46 males—17 females =	63	24 males— 8 females =	32
	157	32	189	149
			25	174

being an increase of 14 males and 2 females in Hobart, and a decrease of 22 males and 9 females in Launceston. Taken as a whole, there is a decrease of 8 males and 7 females as compared with the former year.

The total number received and discharged during 1890 was as follows:—

	Received.	Discharged.
Hobart	391 males—179 females = 570	377 males—177 females = 554
Launceston .	365 males—143 females = 508	387 males—152 females = 539

As compared with 1889 there is a decrease of receipts in Hobart of 33 males and 4 females, and at Launceston of 1 male, but an increase of 19 females at Launceston. Discharges show a decrease of 54 males and 11 females at Hobart, and an increase of 18 males and 31 females at Launceston.

In my last Report I expressed my great satisfaction at the steadily decreasing number of prisoners in both Gaols, and it is peculiarly gratifying to point to the fact that with an increasing population this decrease of criminals still continues.

The large decrease in the number of prisoners at Launceston Gaol on 31st December last is in consequence of the transfer of all but short-sentenced prisoners to the Gaol at Hobart, which has many advantages. Economical administration is a natural consequence, and there is also the maintenance of a higher system of discipline, and a more valuable utilization of the men's labour.

The Gaol staff at Launceston has been reduced to a minimum strength, and it has not been found necessary to increase the staff at Hobart.

In all cases where prisoners are transferred to Hobart to serve their sentences, if they have homes in the North they are returned there for discharge if they so desire. Some misapprehension has existed with reference to this matter, and I think it desirable to mention it in this Report in order that the practice of the Department may be clearly known.

Many improvements have been effected in the Hobart Gaol. The old and dilapidated prisoners' workshops have been abandoned, and new shops arranged in another portion of the gaol, where the mechanics of all branches, formerly in different divisions, are now concentrated under

one roof, the supervision being more effective. The whole of the buildings have been thoroughly renovated, the sanitary arrangements brought more into harmony with modern requirements, and the cleanliness and good order everywhere apparent is creditable to the Superintendent (Mr. A. Jones), under whose direction the works have been performed by prison labour.

Since last Report arrangements have been made with the Military Department by means of which the Wardens and the Territorial Police of the Hobart District are drilled together for an hour each week. Many advantages are likely to accrue; the officers are smarter in their appearance and movements, which has a good effect upon the prisoners, and they understand the use of their firearms, which was not formerly the case. The system has the further advantage of adding to the number of drilled and disciplined men whose services would be available in time of emergency.

The gross cost per head of prisoners for 1890 at Hobart is about the same as in the former year; but in Launceston, owing to the decreased staff, the gross cost per head has slightly diminished.

The assistance rendered by the Deputy Sheriff, Mr. P. S. Seager, in effecting many useful reforms in the Penal Establishments, and the activity, zeal, and intelligence brought by him to bear upon the practical work of the Department, which almost entirely devolves upon him as my deputy, calls for the highest commendation.

I have the honor to be,
Sir,

Your obedient Servant,

BERNARD SHAW, *Sheriff.*

The Hon. the Attorney-General.

RETURN of Prisoners received in, and discharged from, the Penal Establishments, Hobart and Launceston, during the Year 1890.

	HOBART.			LAUNCESTON.		
	<i>Males.</i>	<i>Females.</i>	TOTAL.	<i>Males.</i>	<i>Females.</i>	TOTAL.
Strength on 31st December, 1889—						
Convicted	110	15	125	43	15	58
Unconvicted.....	1	—	1	3	2	5
TOTAL	111	15	126	46	17	63
Received during the year	391	179	570	365	143	508
Totals, including Strength at commencement of year	502	194	696	411	160	571
Discharged during the year—						
By remission.....	31	4	35	2	—	2
By time.....	322	170	492	321	133	454
Absconded.....	1	—	1	—	—	—
Died	2	—	2	4	1	5
Executed	—	—	—	—	—	—
Unconvicted	21	3	24	60	18	78
TOTAL	377	177	554	387	152	539
Strength on 31st December, 1890, of whom were—						
Convicted	123	17	140	21	8	29
Unconvicted.....	2	—	2	3	—	3
TOTAL	125	17	142	24	8	32

RETURN of Educational State of Prisoners in the Penal Establishments, Hobart and Launceston, for the Year 1890.

Number of Prisoners received.

	Superior Education.		Able to Read and Write.		Able to Read only.		Unable to Read.		TOTAL.	
	<i>Males.</i>	<i>Females.</i>	<i>Males.</i>	<i>Females.</i>	<i>Males.</i>	<i>Females.</i>	<i>Males.</i>	<i>Females.</i>	<i>Males.</i>	<i>Females.</i>
Hobart.....	2	...	440	115	12	20	48	59	502	194
Launceston .....	...	...	291	95	13	23	92	42	411	160

RETURN showing the Offences, Sentences, Condition, and Number of Convictions of Prisoners in the Penal Establishments, Hobart and Launceston, during the Year 1890.

	IN GAOL 31 DEC., 1889.				RECEIVED DURING THE YEAR.				TOTAL.				DISCHARGED DURING THE YEAR.				REMAINING 31 DEC., 1890.			
	Hobart.		Launceston.		Hobart.		Launceston.		Hobart.		Launceston.		Hobart.		Launceston.		Hobart.		Launceston.	
	Males.	Females.	Males.	Females.	Males.	Females.	Males.	Females.	Males.	Females.	Males.	Females.	Males.	Females.	Males.	Females.	Males.	Females.	Males.	Females.
<i>Offences.</i>																				
Accessories and Abettors	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	...
Offences against the person.....	37	4	7	1	40	...	26	6	77	4	33	7	42	2	29	5	35	2	4	2
Malicious injury to property	2	...	...	2	8	1	7	7	10	1	7	9	8	1	6	8	2	...	1	1
Larceny and similar offences	44	1	13	3	130	20	100	24	174	21	113	27	118	15	102	26	56	6	11	1
Offences relating to coin .....	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Forgery and cognate offences.....	12	...	...	2	5	2	4	...	17	2	4	2	8	2	4	2	9	...	...	...
All other offences	15	10	26	9	208	156	228	106	223	166	254	115	201	157	246	111	22	9	8	4
TOTAL.....	111	15	46	17	391	179	365	143	502	194	411	160	377	177	387	152	125	17	24	8
<i>Condition.</i>																				
Natives	59	7	18	11	175	69	136	43	234	75	154	54	171	68	144	50	63	7	10	4
Free to Colony	33	1	13	2	141	28	125	37	174	29	138	39	129	27	128	36	45	2	10	3
Free by servitude	18	7	15	4	75	82	104	63	93	90	119	67	77	82	115	66	16	8	4	1
Ticket-of-leave .....	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Conditional pardon.....	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	...
TOTAL.....	111	15	46	17	391	179	365	143	502	194	411	160	377	177	387	152	125	17	24	8
<i>Sentences.</i>																				
Death .....	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Life	8	1	...	...	2	...	...	...	10	1	...	...	4	...	...	...	6	1	...	...
20 years and under 15	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	...
15 " " 10	2	...	...	...	2	...	...	...	4	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	4	...	...	...
10 " " 5	11	...	1	...	3	...	...	...	14	...	1	...	3	...	1	...	11	...	...	...
5 "	4	...	1	1	1	...	...	...	5	...	1	1	...	1	...	...	5	...	...	1
4 "	9	...	...	...	2	...	...	...	11	...	...	...	4	...	...	...	7	...	...	...
3 "	14	2	...	...	2	...	1	...	16	2	1	...	4	1	1	...	12	1	...	...
2 " and under	58	11	41	14	347	174	304	127	405	185	345	141	328	170	324	134	77	15	21	7
Unconvicted	4	1	3	2	32	5	60	16	36	6	63	18	34	6	60	18	2	...	3	...
TOTAL.....	111	15	46	17	391	179	365	143	502	194	411	160	377	177	387	152	125	17	24	8
<i>Convictions.</i>																				
First	45	3	19	5	145	26	200	31	190	29	219	36	142	26	206	32	48	3	13	4
Second	12	...	6	1	66	9	30	18	78	9	36	19	60	8	95	18	18	1	1	1
Third and over	54	12	21	11	180	144	135	94	234	156	156	105	175	143	146	102	59	13	10	3
TOTAL.....	111	15	46	17	391	179	365	143	502	194	411	160	377	177	387	152	125	17	24	8

RETURN showing the Description and estimated Value of Labour performed at the Penal Establishments, Hobart and Launceston, during the Year 1890.

<i>Nature of Employment.</i>	<i>Hobart.</i>	<i>Launceston.</i>
	£ s. d.	£ s. d.
Government House Grounds	221 10 0	
Botanical Gardens	218 17 6	
Stockade, Domain	376 2 6	
Carters	72 5 0	
Grooms	72 5 0	
Tinsmiths	78 7 6	
Painters	65 5 0	
Masons and Bricklayers	91 16 0	1 0 0
Blacksmiths	198 16 0	26 8 0
Carpenters	422 0 0	103 15 6
Tailors	357 18 3	16 10 0
Shoemakers	481 16 0	27 4 6
Cooks	105 7 6	36 5 0
Wardsmen	355 0 0	132 14 0
Office of Commissioner of Police	37 17 6	
Government House Quarry	106 15 0	
Hair Pickers	0 8 1	
Cattle Jetty	3 17 6	
Washermen	159 18 0	
Woodcutters	74 10 0	
Printers and Bookbinders	36 6 0	
Cleaners	40 0 0	14 10 0
Gatekeepers and Watchmen	72 0 0	11 0 0
Needlework	33 6 4	5 16 11
Servants	40 0 0	29 11 0
Washerwomen	105 0 0	82 13 8
Barbers .....	...	22 0 0
Storemen .....	...	17 18 0
Labourers .....	...	69 13 6
Woodcutters .....	...	21 10 0
Whitewashing .....	...	10 6 0
Writers .....	...	11 5 0
Yardsmen and Offices .....	...	36 2 0
	£3827 4 8	£676 3 1
Cash received—		
Sale of Metal	258 15 6	
Sale of Bread	3247 12 3	
Sale of Bran	352 15 11	
Sale of Stable Manure	0 19 6	
Sale Flour Sweepings	0 8 5	
Sale of Horses	18 2 0	
Shoemakers	293 16 6	
Tailors	50 2 4	
Carpenters	268 9 9	
Blacksmiths	28 5 6	
Tinsmiths	122 5 8	
Maintenance of Naval Prisoners	8 5 0	
Sale of empty Cask	0 2 0	
Sale of Suet	0 14 6	
Washing	313 11 0	
Sale of Clothing	0 8 0	
Forfeited Money	3 0 6	
Bedding supplied to Country Gaols .....	...	4 18 6
	£4967 14 4	
Deduct Cost of Material	4162 1 3	
Balance	£805 13 1	

RETURN of the Cost and Earnings of Prisoners in the Penal Establishments at Hobart and Launceston during the Year 1890.

	AVERAGE NUMBER OF PRISONERS.		COST.			EARNINGS BY WORK.				AVERAGE COST PER HEAD.	
	<i>In Confinement.</i>	<i>At Labour.</i>	<i>Salaries and Allowances.</i>	<i>Contingencies.</i>	TOTAL.	<i>Cash Payments.</i>	<i>Value of Work performed for other Departments.</i>	<i>For ordinary Gaol purposes.</i>	TOTAL.	<i>Gross.</i>	<i>Net, allowing for Cash received for work performed for other Departments, but not including work for Gaol.</i>
			£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.
Hobart.....	134	124	3127 2 5	2687 8 1	5814 10 6	805 13 1	965 0 0	2682 4 8	4632 17 9	43 7 10	30 3 6
Launceston	46·87	27	950 7 6	888 17 11	1839 5 5	4 18 6	171 1 6	505 1 7	681 1 7	39 4 9 $\frac{3}{4}$	35 9 8 $\frac{1}{2}$