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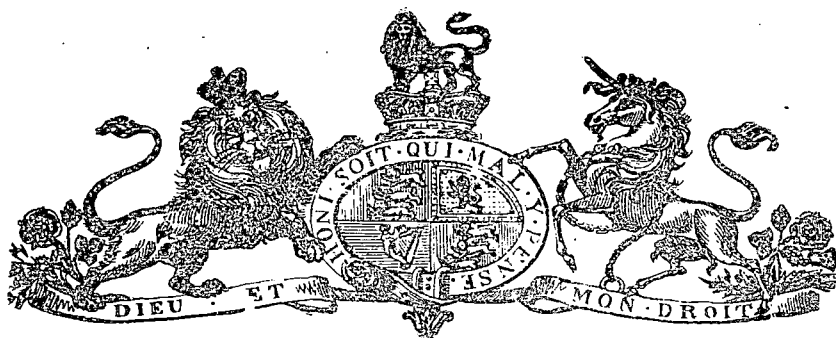
PARLIAMENT OF TASMANIA.

GAOLS, HOBART AND LAUNCESTON:

REPORT FOR 1899.

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

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GAOLS, HOBART AND LAUNCESTON.

Sheriff's Office, 4th May, 1900.

SIR,

I HAVE the honour to submit my Annual Report, with statistical returns, respecting the Gaols, Hobart and Launceston, for the year 1899.

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

	31st December, 1898.			31st December, 1899.		
Hobart	74	6	80	79	6	85
Launceston	11	5	16	11	7	18
	85	11	96	90	13	103

being an increase of 5 males in Hobart, and of 2 females in Launceston, or a total increase of 7 prisoners as compared with last year.

The total number received and discharged during 1899 was as follows:—

	Received.			Discharged.		
Hobart.....	430	115	545	425	115	540
Launceston	192	39	231	192	37	229
	622	154	776	617	152	769

As compared with 1898, there is an increase in receipts of 59, and in discharges, of 31, the receipts and discharges for that year being respectively 717 and 738.

The number of prisoners on the 31st of December, 1899, was 103, as compared with 96 on the 31st of December, 1898, and during this interval the population of the Colony increased from 177,340 to 182,508. The proportion of prisoners to each thousand of population on the 31st of December last, was thus—0·56 as compared with 0·54 for the 31st of December, 1898; whereas on the 31st of December, 1893, the number of prisoners was 208, and the estimated population of the Colony, 154,424, or one prisoner to every 742 of population: on the 31st of December, 1899, there was one prisoner to every 1772. This decrease, both actual and relative, in the gaol population of the Colony, must be regarded as highly satisfactory.

The average daily number during the year was 97·64 in Hobart, and 17·03 in Launceston, as compared with 90 and 18·20 respectively for 1898, being an increase in Hobart of 7·64, and a decrease in Launceston of 1·17, or a total increase of 6·47.

The gross cost of gaols for the year for maintenance and control was £4822 2s. 1d. The cash earnings of prisoners were £730 10s. 9d., thus reducing the actual cost to £4091 11s. 4d. The average cost per head for the year was £43 3s. 0d. in Hobart, and £35 12s. 9d. in Launceston, but after deducting cash received for work done, and the value of the work done for other Departments for which no actual cash payment was made, the average cost per head is reduced to £23 18s. 8d. for Hobart, and to £31 7s. 5d. for Launceston, or to £25 0s. 9d. as the average cost per head for both Gaols.

Four escapes took place during the year from the Hobart Gaol. All the escapees were recaptured and dealt with by the Visiting Justices. An inquiry was held in each case, with the result that one Warder was transferred to the Police, and another reduced to a lower grade.

With the exception of one Warder, who was dismissed from the service for a breach of the regulations, and those mentioned in the preceding paragraph, the officers have performed their duties in a satisfactory manner.

I have the honour to be,

Sir,

Your obedient Servant,

HECTOR ROSS, *Sheriff.*

The Honourable the Attorney-General.

RETURN showing the Description and estimated Value of Labour performed at the Penal Establishments, Hobart and Launceston, during the year 1899.

Nature of Employment.	Hobart.			Launceston.		
	£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.
Botanical Gardens	300	1	3			
Government House	326	14	6			
Queen's Domain	306	8	6			
Blind Institution	161	17	6			
City Police Court	51	9	0	3	4	0
Carters	53	7	6			
Bakers	366	10	0			
Blacksmiths and Engine-driver	133	16	0			
Bricklayers	21	10	0	21	17	6
Brushmakers	68	12	0			
Carpenters	271	10	0	10	12	6
Cook and Assistants	216	4	6	36	4	0
Grooms	52	6	6			
Hatmakers	133	17	6			
Matmakers	178	6	6			
Painters	23	19	6	13	10	0
Printers	5	2	0			
Servants and Officers' Attendants	25	0	0	17	10	0
Shoemakers	278	11	0	20	17	6
Store Labourer	33	7	6			
Tailors	70	4	0	1	19	0
Tinsmiths	54	3	0	4	2	6
Wardsmen	179	12	0	39	0	0
Washermen	37	7	6			
Woodcutters	118	18	6			
Gatekeepers	30	4	0			
Hospital Attendant	11	14	6			
Receiving Room	51	19	6			
Photographer	28	4	0			
Writers	48	14	0			
Yardsmen	44	2	0			
Needlewoman	119	11	0			
Washerwomen	142	10	0	70	12	3
Wardswomen	19	11	0	9	9	0
Whitewashing Buildings, Benevolent Asylum .....	...			18	17	6
Garden of Benevolent Asylum .....	...			48	0	0
Cleaning Custom House .....	...			3	3	0
Total	3965	6	3	318	18	9
Value of work performed for other Departments	1147	2	6	73	4	6
For ordinary Gaol purposes	2818	3	9	245	14	3
Cash received—						
Sale of Bread	1743	5	4			
Sale of Brushware	18	2	4			
Sale of Mats	121	10	9			
Blacksmiths	1	18	6			
Printers	1	0	0			
Carpenters	335	6	4			
Shoemakers	331	13	1			
Tailoring	6	14	3			
Tinsmith	55	6	10			
Washing	1	2	6			
Naval Maintenance	22	1	0			
Sale of horse	8	11	0			
Sale of Fire Engine	20	0	0			
Forfeited money	0	14	6			
Miscellaneous	19	4	8			
Total	2686	11	1			
Cost of Material	£2256	0	4			
Less value of material on hand	300	0	0			
	1956	0	4			
Balance Cr.	£	730	10	9		

RETURN showing the Offences, Sentences, Condition, and Number of Convictions of Prisoners in the Penal Establishments, Hobart and Launceston, during the Year 1899.

	IN GAOL 31 DEC., 1898.				RECEIVED DURING THE YEAR.				TOTAL.				DISCHARGED DURING THE YEAR.				REMAINING 31 DEC., 1899.			
	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.....	18	...	...	...	44	3	11	3	62	3	11	3	46	3	11	3	16	...	...	...
Malicious injury to Property.....	4	...	...	...	6	2	3	2	10	2	3	2	7	2	3	2	3	...	...	...
Larceny and similar offences.....	25	1	5	1	69	17	73	8	94	18	78	9	74	15	72	8	20	3	6	1
Offences relating to Coin.....	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Forgery and cognate offences.....	5	...	1	...	53	...	4	...	58	...	5	...	44	...	4	...	14	...	1	...
All other offences.....	21	5	5	4	258	93	101	26	279	98	106	30	253	95	102	24	26	3	4	6
TOTALS.....	74	6	11	5	430	115	192	39	504	121	203	44	425	115	192	37	79	6	11	7
<i>Condition.</i>																				
Natives.....	54	5	5	3	255	86	110	28	309	91	115	31	247	86	109	25	62	5	6	6
Free to Colony.....	18	...	3	...	165	12	65	1	183	12	68	1	168	12	63	...	15	...	5	1
Free by servitude.....	2	1	3	2	10	17	17	10	12	18	20	12	10	17	20	12	2	1	...	...
TOTALS.....	74	6	11	5	430	115	192	39	504	121	203	44	425	115	192	37	79	6	11	7
<i>Sentences.</i>																				
Death.....	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Life.....	2	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	2	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	2	...	...	...
20 years and above 15 years.....	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	...
15 " " 10 ".....	2	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	2	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	2	...	...	...
10 " " 5 ".....	5	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	5	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	4	...	...	...
5 ".....	6	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	6	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	5	...	...	...
4 ".....	2	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	3	...	...	...	2	...	...	...	1	...	...	...
3 ".....	4	...	...	...	2	...	...	...	6	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	6	...	...	...
2 years and under.....	52	6	11	5	427	115	192	39	479	121	203	44	421	115	192	37	58	6	11	7
TOTALS.....	74	6	11	5	430	115	192	39	504	121	203	44	425	115	192	37	79	6	11	7
<i>Convictions.</i>																				
First time.....	22	1	4	2	166	20	68	9	188	21	72	11	171	21	70	9	17	...	2	2
Second time.....	12	...	2	...	58	3	30	1	70	3	32	1	62	3	29	...	8	...	5	1
Third time.....	7	...	2	1	34	17	13	...	41	17	15	1	21	16	13	1	20	1	2	...
Over three times.....	33	5	3	2	172	75	81	29	205	80	84	31	171	75	80	27	34	5	4	4
TOTALS.....	74	6	11	5	430	115	192	39	504	121	203	44	425	115	192	37	79	6	11	7

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*RETURN of Prisoners received in, and discharged from, the Penal Establishments,
Hobart and Launceston, during the Year 1899.*

	HOBART.			LAUNCESTON.		
	<i>Males.</i>	<i>Females.</i>	TOTAL.	<i>Males.</i>	<i>Females.</i>	TOTAL.
Strength on 31st December, 1898 :—						
Convicted	74	6	80	8	5	13
Unconvicted	—	—	—	3	—	3
TOTAL.....	74	6	80	11	5	16
Received during the year	430	115	545	192	39	231
Totals, including strength at commencement of the year	504	121	625	203*	44*	247*
Discharged during the year :—						
By remission	8	—	8	1	1	2
By time	413	115	528	165	33	198
Absconded, and not retaken	—	—	—	—	—	—
Died	—	—	—	—	—	—
Executed	—	—	—	—	—	—
Unconvicted	4	—	4	26	3	29
TOTAL	425	115	540	192	37	229
Strength on 31st December, 1899 :—						
Convicted	79	6	85	9	7	16
Unconvicted	—	—	—	2	—	2
TOTAL	79	6	85	11	7	18

* Including 49 Males and 2 Females transferred to Hobart.

RETURN of Educational State of Prisoners in the Penal Establishments, Hobart and Launceston, for the Year 1899.

	Superior Education.		Able to Read and Write.		Able to Read only.		Unable to Read.		TOTALS.	
	<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.....	10	—	366	88	18	8	110	25	504	121
Launceston	—	—	124	22	1	3	29	17	154	42

RETURN of the Cost and Earnings in the Penal Establishments, Hobart and Launceston, during the Year 1899.

	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	97·64	95·84	2619 14 0	1594 17 6	4214 11 6	730 10 9	1147 2 6	2818 3 9	4695 17 0	43 3 0	23 18 8
Launceston	17·03	13·30	290 0 0	317 10 7	607 10 7	<i>Nil.</i>	73 4 6	245 14 3	318 18 9	35 12 9	31 7 5