

THE INSPECTOR GENERAL'S  
R E P O R T  
ON THE STATE OF THE PRISONS IN IRELAND,  
FOR THE YEAR  
1818.

(Presented 28 April 1819.)

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*Ordered, by The House of Commons, to be Printed,*  
*1 July 1819.*

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FORSTER ARCHER,  
I. G. P.

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## Inspector General's Report on the state of the Prisons in Ireland ; for the Year 1818.

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(1.)

A REPORT on the State of the Gaol of the County of *Antrim*, at Carrickfergus :—G. Allen, Esquire, M. D. Local Inspector; William M<sup>c</sup>Claverty, Gaoler.

IN the Report which I had the honour to submit last year, I observed, that the considerable additions then making to this prison were interrupted for want of funds ; the work has been, since last Lent assizes, recommenced, and is now nearly completed, which will be a very desirable circumstance, as there are, of all descriptions of prisoners, 184 in custody, who, during the progress of the works, cannot be regularly accommodated ; the gaol is, however, perfectly healthy.

An important improvement has been effected in the discipline of this gaol, by the perseverance and assiduity of the Local Inspector, who gives the following satisfactory account of it :

“ There appears to me a very great reformation in the conduct of the prisoners, owing, as I think, to a school for reading, writing and arithmetic, which I have had kept since I was appointed Inspector. The school keeps the prisoners employed, and prevents them plotting mischief ; a bad and ill-disposed man has really now no chance in gaol amongst the others, and a novice in vice is not so much corrupted in gaol as formerly —I wish I could get a few linen wheels for the women.

“ The Society for promoting the Education of the Poor of Ireland, hearing of the gaol school, very kindly and liberally gave a grant of 20*l.* to it, and a donation of five pounds worth of books, stationary, &c.”

Escapes have been attempted by some prisoners, encouraged by the irregular state which workmen employed in repairing the prison generally create ; the vigilance of the gaoler always prevented them ; he is generally considered a faithful and humane officer.

Nothing as yet has been done towards repairing or renewing the old Town Gaol of Carrickfergus, which is in a very ruinous state, and a disgrace to the corporation. The Bridewell at Belfast has been completed, and relieves the county Antrim prison of a great number of juvenile depredators.

Three hundred and twelve crown prisoners were committed here in year 1818, of them 172 were convicted, 16 capitally, whose sentences were mercifully commuted to transportation for life, by order of the Lord Lieutenant.

One hundred and eighty-two persons were in said year committed for debt ; *scil.* 77 for sums above 20*l.*, 105 for sums under that sum, 25 were discharged by the Insolvent Act, 77 were discharged by settling with their plaintiffs, twelve were removed by habeas to the Four Court Marshalsea, and 68 remained in gaol, 1st January 1819.

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(2.)

A REPORT on the State of the Gaol of the County *Armagh* :—  
Rev. Wm. Ball, Local Inspector ; John Turner, Gaoler.

THIS Gaol at present is very crowded and incommodious ; the works for its improvement and augmentation are proceeding ; so many additions were found necessary to remedy its inadequacy, that they cannot be completed in less than another year. Escapes are continually attempted, especially as the prison has been rendered more insecure than it antecedently had been, by the necessary admission of the workmen.

The Inspector reports as follows :—“ I have found the gaol in a deplorable state on account of the numbers confined in it. There are 60 criminals, and as many debtors,

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# Inspector General's Report on the state of the Prisons in Ireland ; for the Year 1818.

(1.)

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(1.)

Antrim.

An important improvement has been effected in the discipline of this gaol, by the perseverance and assiduity of the Local Inspector, who gives the following satisfactory account of it :

“ There appears to me a very great reformation in the conduct of the prisoners, owing, as I think, to a school for reading, writing and arithmetic, which I have had kept since I was appointed Inspector. The school keeps the prisoners employed, and prevents them plotting mischief ; a bad and ill-disposed man has really now no chance in gaol amongst the others, and a novice in vice is not so much corrupted in gaol as formerly —I wish I could get a few linen wheels for the women.

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Three hundred and twelve crown prisoners were committed here in year 1818, of them 172 were convicted, 16 capitally, whose sentences were mercifully commuted to transportation for life, by order of the Lord Lieutenant.

One hundred and eighty-two persons were in said year committed for debt ; *scil.* 77 for sums above 20*l.*, 105 for sums under that sum, 25 were discharged by the Insolvent Act, 77 were discharged by settling with their plaintiffs, twelve were removed by habeas to the Four Court Marshalsea, and 68 remained in gaol, 1st January 1819.

(2.)

A REPORT on the State of the Gaol of the County *Armagh* :—  
Rev. Wm. Ball, Local Inspector ; John Turner, Gaoler.

(2.)

Armagh.

THIS Gaol at present is very crowded and incommodious ; the works for its improvement and augmentation are proceeding ; so many additions were found necessary to remedy its inadequacy, that they cannot be completed in less than another year. Escapes are continually attempted, especially as the prison has been rendered more insecure than it antecedently had been, by the necessary admission of the workmen.

The Inspector reports as follows :—“ I have found the gaol in a deplorable state on account of the numbers confined in it. There are 60 criminals, and as many debtors,

(2.)  
 Armagh.

debtors, confined in gaol, from its size scarcely competent to contain half the number; the consequence is, that it is almost impossible to comply with one of the 17 Regulations, with regard to the separation of the prisoners. It would be an act of humanity to remove the convicts for transportation to another place of reception. They are building an addition to the gaol, but it will not be fit for the reception of prisoners for nearly another year. The gaoler is constantly very alert, but it will not be in his power to prevent the efforts of so numerous and lawless a pack of villains.

"I have thus but an indifferent report to make you, being but a few weeks recalled to the office of Inspector; I trust I shall, by strict attention to cleanliness, endeavour, as far as lies in my power, to counteract the bad effects likely to arise from the present crowded state of the gaol of Armagh."

Two hundred and thirty-six crown prisoners were committed here in the year 1818; of them 114 were convicted; one capitally, for highway robbery, who received a free pardon.

Two hundred and seventy-six persons were in said year committed for debt; *scil.* 43 for debts above 20*l.*, 233 for debts under that sum, 72 were discharged by the Insolvent Act, 126 were discharged by settling with their plaintiffs, six were removed by habeas to the Four Court Marshalsea, and 72 remained in gaol, 1st January 1819.

(3.)

(3.)  
 Carlow.

A REPORT on the State of the Gaol of the County of *Carlow*:—Edward Fitzgerald, Esq. M.D. Local Inspector; Robert Kerrevan, Gaoler.

SINCE my former Report on the state of this prison, when I had the honour to suggest certain additions absolutely necessary for its safety and the better accommodation of the prisoners, especially in the debtors apartments, I learn with regret that no alterations nor improvements have been made since my last visit. The local inspector writes, that "It is now so thronged that the prisoners, and some of the debtors, are obliged to sleep three in each bed."

One hundred and twenty crown prisoners were committed here in year 1818; of them 27 were convicted, two capitally; of whom, one for murder was executed: the sentence of the other was mercifully commuted to transportation for life, by order of the Lord Lieutenant.

Fifty-two persons were, in said year, committed for debt; *scil.* 24 for debts above 20*l.*, 28 for debts under that sum, none were discharged by the Insolvent Act, 28 were discharged by settling with their plaintiffs, four were removed by habeas to the Four Court Marshalsea, and 20 remaining in gaol, 1st January 1819.

(4.)

(4.)  
 Cavan.

A REPORT on the State of the Gaol of the County *Cavan*:—Rev. Mr. Spaight, Local Inspector; Christopher Galoghly, Gaoler.

THE sickness which prevailed in this Prison, arising from its crowded state, and the want of a detached hospital, have at length stimulated the Commissioners of the grand jury to prepare a plan and estimate, which have been submitted for his Excellency the Lord Lieutenant's approbation. The Local Inspector writes, that "No alteration of any consequence was made since I last visited it."

The gaol has been constructed on too small a scale; it is generally crowded to excess, a misfortune severely felt in the year 1817, when a fever had broken out among the debtors, then most numerous, which soon infected the whole prison, whereof eight died: at present the gaol is healthy.

Three hundred and thirty-four crown prisoners were committed here in year 1818; of them, 176 were convicted, 7 capitally, of whom four for murder and two for burglary and robbery were executed: the sentence of one was mercifully commuted to transportation for life, by order of the Lord Lieutenant.

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One hundred and forty-five persons were, in said year, committed for debt; *scil.* 38 for debts above 20*l.*, 107 for debts under that sum, 32 were discharged by the Insolvent Act, 77 were discharged by their plaintiffs, six were removed by habeas to the Four Court Marshalsea, and 30 remained in gaol, 1st January 1819.

(4.)

Cavan.

(5.)

A REPORT on the State of the Gaol of the County of *Clare*, at Ennis:—

Rev. Mr. Fitzgerald, Local Inspector; Thomas Darcy, Gaoler.

(5.)

Clare.

IN the month of last June I visited the old Prison of this county; I found it as clean and regular as its crowded state and misconstructed plan would admit. The prison being thronged, and the fever having appeared among the convicts, the female felons were removed to the new county prison, though not yet finished. This expedient, and also the removal of the convicts under rule of transportation to Cork, and a prudent admission to bail of persons confined for trivial offences, had considerably reduced the number, and greatly improved the accommodation, comfort and health of the remaining prisoners.

When the females were removed to the new prison, the gaoler's wife immediately collected a number of spinning wheels, provided flax and set them to work. I counted 18 thus industriously employed, and learned that they were paid the full amount of their earnings regularly. This just and liberal treatment I have ever found the best incentive to labour.

The site of the new prison was ill-chosen; the sewers making from it, consequently, had not sufficient fall. I wrote to the Gaol Commissioners, recommending an insulating wall to surround the prison, wherein the sentinels would be best placed for the protection of the prison; it was also necessary to adopt this improvement, to prevent some projected encroachments which I heard would be made.

The Local Inspector, who has been lately appointed, writes thus:—"The prisoners have been removed from the old gaol. As to the conduct of the gaoler, I consider him a humane man, and have formed this opinion from his general behaviour, and from his frequently suggesting hints to me on such alterations and improvements in the economy of the prison as were calculated for the convenience and well-being of the prisoners."

Two hundred and sixty-eight crown prisoners were committed here in year 1818; of them, 59 were convicted, 8 capitally, of whom one for burglary and robbery was executed; the sentences of the others were mercifully commuted to transportation for life, by order of the Lord Lieutenant.

One hundred and fourteen persons were in said year committed for debt; *scil.* 25 for debts above 20*l.*, 89 for debts under that sum, 32 were discharged by the Insolvent Act, 44 were discharged by their plaintiffs, 8 were removed by habeas to the Four Court Marshalsea, and 30 remained in gaol, 1st January 1819.

(6.)

A REPORT on the State of the Goal of the County *Cork*:—Rev. John Magee, Local Inspector; Jeremiah and John Murphy, Gaolers.

(6.)

Cork county.

WHEN I last visited this Gaol, it was extremely clean and regular; no complaint was then made by any of the prisoners.

A new Inspector having been recently appointed, has requested to be indulged (from that circumstance) in not making the usual Report on the state of the Prison during the year.

Being occupied in visiting the Prisons in North Leinster, Connaught, and parts of Ulster and Munster, and a severe indisposition having attacked me, prevented my going to Cork, though it was my intention to have done so in the autumn.

Not being yet sufficiently recovered to undertake a journey, I have not been able to visit the Depot which is situated in the vicinage, but as my Report of the preceding year, made last session of parliament, comprehended the design and

(6.)  
Cork county.

nature of that institution, to which a reference, if required, can be easily obtained in the proper office, it may be redundant to repeat here what has been so fully expressed in that.

Seven hundred and ninety-nine crown prisoners were committed to the County Cork Gaol in the 1818; 182 were convicted, 35 of them capitally, of whom four were executed, three for murder, and one for shooting at a person; the sentences of 28 were mercifully commuted to transportation for life, by order of the Lord Lieutenant, and of three to imprisonment.

One hundred and sixty-six persons were in the said year committed for debt; *scil.* 50 for debts above 20*l.*, 116 for debts under that sum, 36 were discharged by the Insolvent Act, 59 were discharged by their plaintiffs, three were removed by habeas to the Four Court Marshalsea, two died in prison, and 66 remained in gaol, 1st January 1819.

(7.)

A REPORT on the State of the Gaol of the City of *Cork*:—Rev. Boyle Davis, Local Inspector; John Walsh, Gaoler.

(7.)  
Cork city.

THIS Gaol has neither yard nor other airing ground attached to it; it is built on an arched entrance to the city, termed the North-gate: it is always crowded, and is in a mouldering state of decay. The Inspector writes:—"There is now every prospect that the new Gaol and Bridewell will shortly be commenced, as the money is promised to be advanced; no alteration has been made in either during the last year. I think it proper here to state the very great inconvenience, comprehending upwards of 60 convicts, most of them boys, whose morals must every day grow worse, kept in a gaol where no employment can be given them, and where they cannot be separated from the rest; indeed, these boys are the worst characters in the prison. There are at present 179 persons of every description in the gaol."

A plan for building the gaol in this city has been submitted to, and received the approbation of his Excellency the Lord Lieutenant. Of this design that excellent judge and most eminent architect, Francis Johnson, esq. of the Board of Works, has given a very favourable opinion. The draft was made by Mr. Robinson, of Kilkenny, the architect of the justly admired gaol of that county.

Four hundred and seventy-three crown prisoners were committed here in the year 1818; of them 267 were convicted, six capitally, of whom one for murder, and one for highway robbery, were executed; the sentences of the remaining four were mercifully commuted to transportation for life, by order of the Lord Lieutenant.

Two hundred and thirty-two persons were in said year committed for debt; *scil.* 60 for debts above 20*l.*, 172 for debts under that sum, 36 were discharged by the Insolvent Act, 147 were discharged by their plaintiffs, 11 were removed by habeas to the Four Court Marshalsea, and 38 remained in gaol, 1st January 1819.

(8.)

A REPORT on the State of the Gaol of the County *Donegal*:—Rev. John Graham, Local Inspector; William Price, Gaoler.

(8.)  
Donegal.

THIS Prison, like almost every other in Ireland, is too small for its county. At my last visit, I suggested that an addition should be made on the right wing appropriated to females, and drew a plan for that purpose, for the instruction of a builder usually employed in the county works: it has no distinct infirmary; it wants also an insulating wall for the sentinels to walk within, a measure that would be more conducive to the safety of the prison and the health of the prisoners than raising the walls, as had been heretofore proposed.

The walls are in great want of dashing, to conceal, if possible, the bad materials and workmanship with which it was constructed.

The



The Local Inspector has not made his annual Report whether any of those improvements have been adopted, but it is certain they are much wanted.

Three hundred and seven crown prisoners were committed here in the year 1818; of them 160 were convicted, two capitally, of whom one for murder was executed; the sentence of the other was mercifully commuted to transportation for life, by order of the Lord Lieutenant.

One hundred and forty nine persons were in the said year committed for debt; *scil.* 58 for debts above 20*l.*, 91 for debts under that sum, 19 were discharged by the Insolvent Act, 79 were discharged by their plaintiffs, six were removed by habeas to the Four Court Marshalsea, and 45 remained in gaol, 1st January 1819.

## (9.)

A REPORT on the State of the Gaol of the County *Down* at Downpatrick;—  
William Nevin, Esq. M. D. Local Inspector; Hugh Gray, Gaoler.

(9.)

Down.

THE learned Local Inspector has summarily reported on the state of the Gaol, in the following manner: "Nothing very material has occurred since the last annual Report; the number of prisoners has diminished, nor are any confined at present for crimes of great atrocity. The want of a separate gaol for convicts for transportation, is much felt, and also a convenient place for the confinement of approvers.

"The melancholy effects of idleness are too apparent, in insolence and insubordination; could the prisoners be compelled to spend those hours in labour which they devote to recounting their past misconduct, and planning new schemes of annoying society, the happy effects would be soon felt and acknowledged.

"From the sufferings of the prisoners of all descriptions under typhus fevers, the Grand Jury at last summer assizes presented a sum of money for the erection of a commodious infirmary for the reception of those labouring under acute and infectious diseases.

"A number of Commissioners were appointed to receive plans and estimates; one has been approved of, and is nearly ready to be laid before his Excellency the Lord Lieutenant for his approbation."

Two hundred and thirty-one crown prisoners were committed here in the year 1818; of them 87 were convicted, seven capitally, of whom one for murder was executed; the sentences of the remaining six were mercifully commuted to transportation for life, by order of the Lord Lieutenant.

One hundred and ninety-four persons were in said year committed for debt; *scil.* 81 for debts above 20*l.*, 113 for debts under that sum, 19 were discharged by the Insolvent Act, 117 were discharged by their plaintiffs, eight were removed by habeas to the Four Court Marshalsea, and 50 remained in gaol, 1st January 1819.

## (10.)

A REPORT on the State of the Gaol of the Town of *Drogheda*;—  
Rev. Mr. Crawford, Local Inspector; John Allen, gaoler.

(10.)  
Drogheda.

I VISITED the old gaol of this town last August, which I found as clean and regular as its ill-constructed apartments would allow. A man committed for riot and assault at the election, who lay ill of a fever, complained, that though he offered sufficient bail for his appearance at the assizes, yet it was refused. I waited on the mayor, who consented to discharge him on his giving sufficient security, which was done accordingly.

The building of a new gaol was commenced in this town four years since; it was at my last visit finished, but the prisoners were not then nor are they yet removed. I examined this prison; the design is imperfect, in a most important point, as the gaoler has not, from his apartments, a view of the felons court yards; it has but ten cells, five for each sex, these want due ventilation; the debtors rooms are good and sufficient; the interior walls of the courts appear too low; the exterior

(10.)  
Drogheda.

exterior walls, forming the terrace where the sentinels are posted, are much too high; these should be so constructed as to afford the sentinel an opportunity of seeing those who may approach the walls, for the purpose of conveying to or receiving from the prisoners secret communications, or throwing over ropes or other implements for effecting escapes, into the courts of the prisoners, which is a very common practice.

He that designs a gaol should be acquainted with the habits of prisoners, and be prepared to meet them accordingly.

Seventy-three crown prisoners were committed here in the year 1818; of them 24 were convicted, one capitally, whose sentence was mercifully commuted to transportation for life, by the Lord Lieutenant.

Fifty-seven persons were in said year committed for debt; *scil.* 11 for debts above 20*l.*, 40 for debts under that sum, two were discharged by the Insolvent Act, 45 were discharged by their plaintiffs, four were removed by habeas to the Four Court Marshalsea, and six remained in gaol, 1st January 1819.

(11.)

A REPORT on the State of the Gaol of the County *Dublin* at Kilmainham;—  
Reverend Mr. Nixon, Local Inspector; George Dunn, Gaoler.

(11.)  
Dublin county.

INSTEAD of the usual annual attested Report, how far the 17 regulations have been carried into effect pursuant to the statute 50 Geo. III., I have only received the following summary statement, unsigned, from the Local Inspector, at too late a period to wait for a more sufficient return:

“As Local Inspector of Kilmainham Gaol, I beg leave to inform you, in obedience to your letter of 1st January 1819, that the following alterations and repairs have been made in Kilmainham gaol during the last year:

“The west wing of the prison that was destroyed by fire last year, has been repaired on a much improved plan, and is now converted into a working range, and filled with looms for that purpose.

“The yard appropriated to untried felons, and the two day-rooms opening therein, have been flagged with strong mountain flagging.

“A day-room has been built in the yard appropriated to female felons, sufficiently large, airy and commodious, to serve as a working room for that class, and shortly the females are to be removed into it; every one of whom for some time back have been employed in spinning and other useful and necessary works.

“The gaol is now arranged according to the following system of classification, which is such as the gaol, according to its present construction, would admit of:

1st Class	- - -	Untried felons.
2nd D°	- - -	Untried misdemeanors.
3rd D°	- - -	Government convicts.
4th D°	- - -	County Dublin convicts.
5th D°	- - -	Bail and confinement.
6th D°	- - -	Female felons.
7th D°	- - -	King's evidence.
8th D°	- - -	Under sentence of death.
9th D°	- - -	Debtors.

“A vast deal still remains to be done to secure and adapt the gaol to the performance of those duties enjoined by the 50th of Geo. III.

“We are still in great want of day-rooms and necessaries in the various yards. We have no place for insane prisoners or female debtors, and at present are sadly inconvenienced for the want of both.”

Upon the foregoing statement, I have only to remark, that Mr. Nixon's observation, *scil.* “A vast deal still remains to be done to secure and adapt the gaol, &c. &c.” corroborates me in my long decided opinion, that it is impracticable in any county gaol, but especially in this, to carry Mr. Nixon's proposed arrangements satisfactorily into effect; an easy communication pervades the entire wards of this prison; where that subsists, such seclusion as produces reflection and penitence I do not expect to see obtained. Experience warrants me in asserting, that county  
gaols

gaols are constitutionally unfit for the detention of penitents; therefore, penitentiaries and workhouses with solitary apartments for the refractory and approvers, should be perfectly distinct from the county gaols.

This county is without a bridewell.

Four hundred and fifty-eight crown prisoners were committed here in year 1818; 169 convicted of them, 25 capitally, of whom three for mail robbery, three for burglary, and one for highway robbery, were executed. The sentences of 17 were mercifully commuted to transportation for life, and one received a free pardon.

One hundred and twenty-two persons were in said year committed for debt; *scil.* 62 for debts above 20*l.*, 60 for debts under that sum, 32 were discharged by the Insolvent Act, 55 were discharged by their plaintiffs, 5 were removed by habeas to the Four Court Marshalsea, and 30 remained in gaol, 1st January 1819.

(11.)  
Dublin County.

(12.)

A REPORT on the State of the Gaols of the City of *Dublin*:—Newgate;  
Rev. P. R. Gamble, Local Inspector; Mr. Frederick Bournes, Gaoler.

(13.)  
Dublin city.  
Newgate.

THIS Prison, though certainly too small for a city so populous as Dublin, and by its construction not adapted to have all the Regulations carried into effect, yet, by the humane assiduity of the Local Inspector, cleanliness and good order is generally produced. The Local Inspector annexes to his Report the following satisfactory statement:

“ This Prison is perfectly clean, the cells regularly whitewashed by some of the prisoners, and all the beds are supplied with fresh straw when required. There is not in this prison, at present in use, any fetters; and I feel much satisfaction in stating, that I have now every thing prepared to put the females to work, such as spinning, knitting, &c. The females in Newgate were formerly of the worst characters, but now (and I rejoice to state it) they are conducting themselves in a quiet and orderly manner, and I can attribute such good conduct to the prospect of their being employed. The construction of this prison is bad, and the difficulty of general employment not to be overcome; I will, likewise, with the assistance of the two chaplains (the Rev. Messrs. Gamble and Horner) establish a school for boys.”

One thousand eight hundred and fifty-six crown prisoners were committed here in year 1818; 1,000 convicted of them, 19 capitally, of whom, one for murder, one for assault with intent to murder, two for burglary, one for forgery, and one for house robbery and suspicion of murder, were executed; the sentences of twelve were mercifully commuted to transportation for life by order of the Lord Lieutenant, and one received a free pardon.

Eighteen persons were in said year committed for debt; *scil.* 14 for debts above 20*l.*, four for debts under that sum, two were discharged by the Insolvent Act, ten were discharged by their plaintiffs, two were removed by habeas to the Four Court Marshalsea, and four remained in gaol, 1st January 1819.

A REPORT on the State of the New City Bridewell, South Circular Road:—  
Rev. P. R. Gamble, Local Inspector; Mr. Lawrence Tighe, Keeper.

“ THE prisoners have been removed to this Prison only a very few days, and steps are now taking to place them at work; and I have laid before the magistrates a proposed dietary, which, if adopted, will be of service. This prison is large, roomy, and possesses for females every necessary and comfortable accommodation; and, if commenced on a system possessing regularity and proper discipline, it will be of infinite service to the City of Dublin, and relieve the crowded gaol of Newgate from a great number of juvenile offenders of both sexes.”

Bridewell.

A REPORT on the State of the City Marshalsea:—Rev. P. R. Gamble,  
Local Inspector; John Smyth, Keeper.

“ THIS is, without doubt, the worst constructed Prison in this city, and the responsibility attached to me as Inspector of City Prisons, with respect to this Marshalsea, is really unpleasant, as I only possess the name, without the power to alleviate

Marshalsea.



## Marshalsea.

alleviate the distress of the prisoners. I had about a year ago the power of providing straw and coals for the common hall, but as the grand jury could not legally present any sum to cover such expense (though not exceeding 20*l.* annually) I thought it advisable to apply to the corporation of the city; but in the present deranged state of their finances (though the order passed) yet the means are not forthcoming. Thus, on the subscription of prisoners (some confined for sums under 10*s.*) and on casual charity, are the unfortunate inmates of the City Marshalsea depending; and I can truly assert, that I look upon the times when I have to visit this prison as the most uncomfortable hours of my life, being obliged to visit such an asylum of misery, without the power of ordering the windows to be glazed, or any other little accommodation to be given to the prisoners, who stand much in need of assistance; without doubt, the citizens of Dublin are most charitable, and this prison has partaken of the effects of their benevolence. But I most respectfully submit, that our fellow creatures, who are prevented seeking the means of existence abroad, ought not to be depending on the voluntary contributions of others, who, however willing, may not possess the means to assist.

"The hatch of this prison has been repaired within the last year, but every other part of it is falling fast into decay."

Eight hundred and seventy persons were in said year committed for debt; *scil.* 59 for debts above 20*l.*, 811 for debts under that sum, 77 were discharged by the Insolvent Act, 729 were discharged by their plaintiffs, and by remaining the adjudged time, none were removed by habeas to the Four Court Marshalsea, and 64 remained in gaol, 1st January 1819.

A REPORT on the State of the Sheriffs Prison:—Rev. P. R. Gamble, Local Inspector; Mr. Patrick Dunne, Keeper.

## Sheriffs Prison.

"THIS Prison is improperly, and, indeed, illegally constructed, having several apartments literally under ground. Much disorder frequently prevails in this prison from the smuggling in of spirits, which can only be prevented by removing the persons infringing the regulations; but the difficulty of removal is considerable, although this prison was not originally intended to detain prisoners longer than the returns of their respective writs. There has been a person appointed in the Sheriffs Prison, whose duty it is to clean the prison every morning, and whitewash it when wanting.

"There is in this prison, as in all others, an hospital, properly attended, and the sheriffs of the city pay every attention in their power to this, as well as to all the other prisons in the city of Dublin."

Seven hundred and forty-four persons were, in said year, committed for debt; *scil.* 468 for debts above 20*l.*, 276 for debts under that sum, 135 were discharged by the Insolvent Act, 439 were discharged by their plaintiffs, 52 were removed by habeas to the Four Court Marshalsea, and 118 remained in gaol, 1st January 1819.

A REPORT on the State of the Four Court Marshalsea:—William Logan, Esq. Local Inspector; William Ormsby, Esq. Marshal.

## Four Court Marshalsea.

SINCE the erection of the different buildings made to this Prison a few years ago, order and regularity have been annually increasing.

The complaints made to the Court of King's Bench have been considerably diminished; a steady adherence to rule is moderately but fairly enforced, while the prisoners complaints are received and decided with the most patient attention and compassionate tenderness of the Lord Chief Justice and the other honourable Justices of His Majesty's Court of King's Bench.

The area of the present Marshalsea is incapable of enlargement. The same observation applies to the Sheriffs Prison, City Marshalsea, and Newgate.

This Prison, though built on an elevated and healthy situation, yet its natural advantages are deteriorated by the number of breweries, distilleries and foundries which stand thick in its neighbourhood. The small and deep areas are often filled with noxious vapours, and the prisoners apartments darkened and smothered with smoke from them.

This being a national prison used for the debtors of all Ireland, who are removed from every county, the Marshal is obliged to receive them into the court-yard in any numbers, though the prison be ever so inadequate to accommodate them.

A new

A new prison of sufficient extent to receive every description of persons confined in the Sheriffs Prison, City Marshalsea, Newgate, and those belonging to the Manor Courts, should be erected on an extensive site, as near to the Courts of Law as could be easily obtained.

Four Court  
Marshalsea.

An extraordinary incident occurred, which it is just to relate. A prisoner, confined for some years, whose debts amounted to 6,000*l.* sterling, contrived to perpetrate an escape, by perforating the wall of his apartment (no difficult matter); which adjoined the public street or passage outward; he got clear off, and has not been retaken. The several creditors sued the Marshal, who, it was adjudged by the court, became responsible; unavailing rewards were offered by him, and an indefatigable pursuit of the fugitive was continued for several months, till it was discovered the man had reached the continent.

The Marshal offered to give up all that he possessed to the creditors, which, as is usual, some agreed to take, but more refused; at length, being arrested, he was advised to remain, and to avail himself of the Insolvent Act, which he obtained, having surrendered 1,200*l.* his entire property, which they were compelled by the court to accept, and he was liberated accordingly. He had expended in the pursuit and for intelligence 200*l.* more, and received the commiseration of the judges and the public deservedly, as he is a very honest, honourable, and humane man.

Three hundred and eighty-six persons were, in year 1818, committed for debt; *scil.* 319 for debts above 20*l.*, 67 for debts under that sum, 229 were discharged by the Insolvent Act, 55 were discharged by their plaintiffs, and 102 remained in gaol, 1st January 1819.

(13.)

A REPORT on the State of the Gaol of the County *Fermanagh*, at Enniskillen:—  
Rev. Mr. Johnston, Local Inspector;—John Gallogly, Gaoler.

(13.)

*Fermanagh.*

THIS is a new Prison. At my last visit to it, it was not entirely finished, though occupied; nor was it furnished with bedsteads; but I have been recently informed by the diligent Local Inspector, that it is now finished, and in all respects made clean and commodious, and that sufficient bedding has been obtained. The principal articles of provisions supplied to this gaol are oatmeal, potatoes and milk, which are duly distributed as the 5th regulation directs. Commutation of the allowance is not permitted: the quantity to each prisoner has been considerably augmented since my last year's report.

The Local Inspector reports as follows:—"You have herewith the Medical Report for last year, by which you will perceive that the mortality has been little indeed, when all circumstances are considered, two only having died, both of whom came into the gaol sick; but the distinctness of the infirmary from the main body of the prison, and the prison itself being a new building, together with the lime-washing and fumigations that have been practised, added to the skill and attention of the medical attendants, all have tended to preserve the gaol in a very healthy state."

Two hundred and ninety-three crown prisoners were committed here in year 1818; 171 convicted, of them six capitally, of whom five for burglary and robbery were executed, and the sentence of one was mercifully commuted to transportation for life, by order of the Lord Lieutenant.

One hundred and twenty-two persons were, in said year, committed for debt; *scil.* 26 for debts above 20*l.*, 96 for debts under that sum, 13 were discharged by the Insolvent Act, 71 were discharged by their plaintiffs, one was removed by habeas to the Four Court Marshalsea, and 37 remained in gaol, 1st January 1819.



(14.)

A REPORT on the State of the Gaol of the County *Galway*, at Galway :—  
Rev. Mr. James Daly, Local Inspector ; John Fitzsimmons, Gaoler.

(14.)

Galway county.

I VISITED this Prison last June ; it then contained 19 convicts, whose departure for Cork being ordered, I accelerated, the gaol being crowded, and as it was undergoing an alteration, by converting the large halls (at length discovered to be useless) into cells. The plan of this gaol, though somewhat similar to that of Ennis, is not so good, this having a double row of cells in one corridore, a disposition not favourable to pure ventilation, nor always to safe keeping. Several years ago I suggested a plan for enlarging the guard-house, a necessary measure, but not attended to ; the sewers of this gaol being ill constructed, are often offensive ; there is no detached hospital to the prison, one of the debtor's wards is generally substituted.

The prisoners made no complaint of any officer, except of the medical attendant, which, upon inquiry, appeared to be not well founded.

The humane Local Inspector has made the following Report : " In the course of the year 1818, 12 new cells have been constructed in the lower corridores of this prison, for the reception of prisoners (four in ward N° 1, and the same in N° 2 & 3, and 12 more may be easily added at any time they are required), at present it is in every respect adapted to the performance of the duties enjoined by the 50th of the King ; the eight wards of which it consists are capable of effecting a complete separation between the healthy and the sick, the tried and the untried debtors and criminals, felons, and minor offenders, males and females ; as a place of confinement it is perfectly secure and commodious ; the governor is a humane and intelligent officer, and the prisoners generally orderly and healthy. It has, however, two great wants, education and labour. Of the criminals committed, there are upwards of three-fourths to whom the alphabet is a total stranger, as a great number are unacquainted with the English language, and they are all extremely anxious to learn, but little or no attempt has hitherto been made to instruct them, and they appear to me to depart from the prison as ignorant and as idle as they came into it ; if these two were properly supplied the county gaol of Galway would, as to every thing of importance, be a blameless and beneficial public institution."

I also visited the bridewells of Gort and Loughrea ; the latter was kept particularly clean and regular ; the prisoners spoke gratefully of the humanity with which they were treated by the keeper and his wife, who frequently fed them at their own cost, as there is no allowance given by the county for the prisoners subsistence.

Four hundred and twelve crown prisoners were committed here in year 1818 ; 191 convicted of them, none capitally.

Seventy-eight persons were in said year committed for debt ; *scil.* 42 for debts above 20*l.*, 36 for debts under that sum, 25 were discharged by the Insolvent Act, 24 were discharged by their plaintiffs, two were removed by habeas to the Four Court Marshalsea, and 27 remained in gaol, 1st January 1819.

(15.)

A REPORT on the State of the Gaol of the town of *Galway* :—Rev. Mr. James Daly, Local Inspector ; ——— Gaoler.

(15.)

Galway town.

AN escape of six prisoners having recently occurred, the gaoler was, as I heard, dismissed ; the name of his successor has not been communicated to me. I visited this gaol at the same time as that of the county ; I found it as clean and regular as its limited state would admit ; the prisoners even then, in the summer months, complained of the want of fuel ; I had their rations augmented by an additional box ; the gaol being built with limestone, and the cement with which it was plastered composed of sea-sand, the walls are continually wet, even in the driest months.

An imprisoned debtor has lately written to me, thus :—" When you visited us last summer, you were pleased to direct a double allowance of turf, they gave it for a fortnight

a fortnight, and then stopped; and even now, though the winter quarter is set in, there is no more allowance of turf than in the summer quarter; you will be pleased to recollect the bad state of the walls when you were here, but at present you could scrape the water off them."

The military guard being inconveniently placed, I doubt not was the cause of the escape above alluded to. To remedy this important deficiency, I recommended that the guard-house of the county gaol, which is but ten feet square, should be enlarged, so as to contain a sufficient number for the relief of both gaols which are adjunct; and by placing the sentinels externally around, would render it perfectly secure. If this suggestion may be adopted, the expense would be defrayed by the county at large, and not by the town, whose funds are very limited.

The Inspector writes as follows:—"No alteration has been made in the town gaol during the year 1818, though there are (I believe) few new gaols in which it is more wanting; there is no infirmary, no place of solitary confinement, no separate room for the performance of divine service, and no possibility of separating criminals from minor offenders."

I visited an old ruinous house called a bridewell, which had not any appearance of being a prison till it was entered, when the clanking of fetters, worn by ten wretched women, manifested its purpose; of these one had been confined twelve months, another eight, and the remainder several weeks; being desirous of seeing what offences they might have committed, I required the gaoler to produce the committals under which he detained them; he answered, he detained them by the verbal orders of a town magistrate, without written committals, such never having been given to him; I caused the prisoners to be discharged, and reported immediately to Government the irregular and oppressive practices that had been here committed. This receptacle of cruel coercion has been shut up; and as the perpetrators of these tyrannical acts are undergoing legal investigation, I conceive it inexpedient to enter further into the subject at present.

One hundred and ninety crown prisoners were committed here in year 1818; 47 convicted, of them none capitally.

One hundred and eleven were in said year committed for debt; *scil.* 29 for debts above 20*l.*, 82 for debts under that sum, 24 were discharged by the Insolvent Act, 59 were discharged by their plaintiffs, 10 were removed by *habeas* to the Four Court Marshalsea, and 18 remained in gaol, 1st January 1819.

(16.)

A REPORT on the State of the Gaol of the County of *Kerry* at Tralee:—  
Rev. Mr. Hurley, Local Inspector; James M<sup>c</sup>Gillicuddy, Gaoler.

(16.)

Kerry.

I VISITED this Gaol several times in the month of last July, it was then extremely crowded, and I found that a fever had broke out among the convicts, which was by the physician attributed to the excessive heat of the weather; I immediately applied to Government to have them removed to Cork, as I understood a ship was shortly expected to take them off, which being speedily ordered, all were safely removed, and arrived in good condition to the depôt at Cork. This measure, and the liberation of seven persons committed for very trivial offences, caused a diminution of the great numbers that had filled it. The gaol consists of five common halls, 77 cells, and other apartments, including the gaoler's; it had 174 prisoners, among whom sickness made its appearance, but by the close attention of the physician and apothecary, and the unremitting assiduity of the local Inspector to cleanliness and lime-washing, it after a short time disappeared. Of the prisoners confined, 64 were debtors, of whom eight had remained from one to five years, voluntarily choosing to remain, encouraged by indiscriminate distribution of provisions; I directed the Local Inspector not to give the county allowance to any debtor who would neither avail himself of the Insolvent Act, nor settle with his creditors when he may, who preferred indulging in torpid sloth to any useful exertions for himself or his family. This measure has been adopted, and attended with success.

(16.)

Kerry.

I gave the builder employed to build the sewers of the prison, a plan which he much approved of, for their better construction and more rapid discharge. The gaol is at so great a distance from the court-house, as will require a cart for their safe and regular conduct.

About this time I visited the Bridewell of Listowel, it had then no prisoner; the man complained of the smallness of his salary, being but fifty shillings at each assizes, to obtain which he must travel 30 miles, pay 2*s.* 4*d.* for a receipt, subsist himself at the county town, soliciting the grand jury to pass his presentment, and pay one shilling in the pound for having this pittance advanced to him. This is a real statement that requires animadversion.

Four hundred and sixty-three crown prisoners were committed here in year 1818; 84 convicted, of whom nine capitally, four of whom had their sentences mercifully commuted to transportation for life, and five received a free pardon, by order of the Lord Lieutenant.

One hundred and forty-nine persons were in said year committed for debt; *scil.* 30 for debts above 20*l.*, 119 for debts under that sum, 34 were discharged by the Insolvent Act, 62 were discharged by their plaintiffs, 10 were removed by habeas to the Four Court Marshalsea, and 43 remained in gaol, 1st January 1819.

(17.)

A REPORT on the State of the Gaols of the County *Kildare*, at Naas and Athy :—Rev. Mr. Harrison, Local Inspector at Naas; John Moorhead, Gaoler; Robert Johnston, Esq. Local Inspector at Athy; William Drill, Gaoler.

(17.)

Kildare.

I VISITED the Gaol of Naas last May, the Inspector was absent attending his wife in an illness of which she died soon afterwards; I found the gaol clean, examined the state of the convicts, who were shortly afterwards sent to Cork, ordered them to be cleansed and *their hair clipped, as directed by the Right honourable Mr. Peel*; inquiring why it had not been done sooner, was answered, that so many of those persons being noted gaol-breakers, he feared to give them an early intimation before the order of their removal came.

I have always had reason to complain of the state of the hospital or rooms set apart for the sick; it has neither suitable bedsteads nor sufficient bedding, not even ticken to enclose the straw which lies heaped on the floor; of this I repeatedly complained without effect, but the grand juries could not be moved to present money for those necessities, as the medical attendant and the gaoler informed me.

The guard-room for the sentinels is shamefully out of repair, the roof of it stripped, the rain and snow descend even on the guard-bed; the accommodation of the military, without whose assistance the prisoners here could not be kept one hour, deserves more attention from the sheriff than is given.

I visited the Gaol of Athy in January 1818, it was clean and regular, except the debtor's kitchen. This is a small prison without court yard or airing ground, is used as a secondary gaol during the Assizes, which are alternately held here and at Naas: it had nine debtors when I visited it, who assured me of the good treatment they received from the Inspector and Gaoler.

One hundred and eighty-one persons were committed in year 1818; 86 were convicted, of whom 11 capitally; three of them were executed, two for mail robbery, and one for cattle stealing; and the sentences of eight were mercifully commuted to transportation for life, by order of the Lord Lieutenant.

Thirty-three persons were in said year committed to both these gaols for debt; *scil.* 17 for debts above 20*l.*, 16 for debts under that sum, five were discharged by the Insolvent Act, 11 were discharged by their plaintiffs, six were removed by habeas to the Four Court Marshalsea, and 11 remained in gaol, 1st January 1819.



464

(18.)

A REPORT on the State of the Gaol of the County of *Kilkenny*:—  
Rev. Mr. Philips, Local Inspector; Samuel Leigh, Gaoler.

(18.)

*Kilkenny county.*

SINCE my former Report on the state of this Prison, there has been no alteration in it, as the Inspector informs me, at which I am not a little surprised, as an escape of three notorious offenders, shortly before I visited the prison, had rendered it necessary to improve the position of the sentinels, to prevent similar attempts in future. The manner in which this escape was perpetrated, in the middle of the day, deserves to be recited, as it demonstrates clearly, that the best mode of guarding the gaol is by placing the sentinels upon the outside, and not internally.

The persons who escaped passed through the privy, and by undermining the wall entered the gaoler's garden, and easily absconded in mid-day; a sentinel, posted in view of the court, had his attention diverted by a sham fight among other prisoners. Had a low insulating wall been built, within which the sentinels should be stationed, as I have often recommended in vain, the escape could not have been accomplished. As this has been long considered the best prison in Ireland, and proposed as a model to other counties, this appendage should be added to it without delay.

Two hundred and ninety-three crown prisoners were committed in year 1818, 103 were convicted, of whom 10 capitally; of these, three for burglary and robbery, two for house robbery, and one for arson, were executed pursuant to sentence; the sentences of four were mercifully commuted to transportation for life, by order of the Lord Lieutenant.

One hundred and six persons were in said year committed for debt; *scil.* 25 for debts above 20*l.*, 81 for debts under that sum, 43 were discharged by the Insolvent Act, thirty were discharged by their plaintiffs, four were removed by habeas to the Four Court Marshalsea, and 29 remained in gaol, 1st January 1819.

(19.)

A REPORT on the State of the Gaol of the City of *Kilkenny*:—Thomas Hutchinson, Esq. Local Inspector; Thomas Tallant, Gaoler.

(19.)

*Kilkenny city.*

I VISITED this Gaol in January 1818, it had a disorderly appearance, occasioned by the court-yards being left in an unfinished state; the debtors are obliged for air and exercise to use the female court, which often occasions improper conversation to pass between the sexes; in the female court a wall is absolutely necessary to mask the adjoining brewery: until that is built the gaol cannot be considered secure. The cells and rooms of the prison were clean, and the gaol very healthy, but the halls were certainly dirty, by reason of the court-yards not being flagged or gravelled. Prisoners charged with capital offences are necessarily transmitted to the county gaol for security, and detained until their destination is fulfilled.

Ninety-one crown prisoners were committed in year 1818; 44 were convicted, one capitally, whose sentence was mercifully commuted to transportation for life, by order of the Lord Lieutenant.

Seventy persons were in said year committed for debt; *scil.* 14 for debts above 20*l.*, 56 for debts under that sum, two were discharged by the Insolvent Act, 45 were discharged by their plaintiffs, six were removed by habeas to the Four Court Marshalsea, and 17 remained in gaol, 1st January 1819.

(20.)

A REPORT on the State of the Gaol of the *King's County*, at Philipstown:—Rev. Mr. Hamilton, Local Inspector; Thomas Simpson, Gaoler.

(20.)

*King's county.*

I VISITED this Gaol in the month of last May; as several attempts are perpetually making to escape from it, I showed a plan for insulating the entire, whereby it would be rendered quite secure; the gaol was ill designed, and the new buildings

(20.)  
King's county.

buildings carrying on are equally so. At my visit it contained 24 convicts under rule of transportation, whom I severally examined; all testified gratefully the Local Inspector's attention, and the Gaoler's humanity; no person was ill but one with a chronic rheumatism. The pump was much out of repair, as it generally is, because the prison has but one, which is in perpetual use.

The Local Inspector makes the following addition to his general Report:—"The gaol has been in general very full during the last year, but particularly so at present, there being 74 prisoners in it, 43 of whom are committed for capital offences, and are confined, during the greatest part of the day, in the only ward allotted for offenders of that description, which is a room about 17 feet by 15. The building which I mentioned in my last Report, consisting of an hospital, approver's rooms, and solitary cells, is not yet finished; there is also at present an addition building to the criminal part of the gaol, consisting of 17 cells, and their common halls. The Marshalsea is very small, consisting of but two rooms, so that female debtors are sometimes confined with female criminals. There is no bath or chapel in the gaol."

Last May I visited the Bridewell of Birr, or Parsonstown, it has eight large cells and two common halls. At this visit I found the gaol very clean and regular. It would be a very convenient halting place for convicts, if brought by land from the north-western gaols of Ireland, on their way for embarkation at Cork.

One hundred and ninety-two crown prisoners were committed in year 1818; 67 were convicted, eight capitally; of whom, one for murder, one for burglary, and one for highway robbery, were executed; the sentences of the remaining five were mercifully commuted to transportation for life, by order of the Lord Lieutenant.

Twenty-six persons were in said year committed for debt; *scil.* 12 for debts above 20 *l.*, 14 for debts under that sum, four were discharged by the Insolvent Act, nine were discharged by their plaintiffs, eight were removed by *habeas* to the Four Court Marshalsea, and five remained in gaol, 1st January 1819.

(21.)

A REPORT on the State of the Gaol of County *Leitrim*, at Carrick-on-Shannon:—  
Richard Brady, Esq. Local Inspector; John Irwine, Gaoler.

(21.)  
*Leitrim.*

I ENTERED this county July last, from Boyle, with an intention of proceeding to Carrick, to inspect the gaol; but the great confusion which prevailed in the town, by reason of the contested election, prevented me; the numbers who filled it precluded all accommodation, except for the electors, who were in a state of great turbulence and hostility to each other; but having visited it a few months before, and not expecting any attention to be paid, I proceeded to Roscommon.

The Local Inspector, a very intelligent gentleman, has subjoined to his annual Report the following statement:—"During the preceding year considerable inconvenience and suffering has been experienced from the increased number of prisoners, and limited accommodation the gaol can afford. In your inspections here you have seen and lamented its confined extent; you are aware that from its nature, it is impossible to carry classification of the prisoners beyond the three divisions, namely, 1st, male felons, 2dly, male debtors, and 3dly, female prisoners of every denomination. The prison is not calculated to contain more than between 30 and 40 prisoners, and yet has never been occupied during the whole of last year by a smaller number than 70 or 80; it repeatedly has had between one and two hundred persons confined in it.

"In this crowded state we have had the typhus fever prevalent for several months past; to its malignancy one prisoner fell a victim; and it is only surprising that its ravages were not more extended, and that so few suffered from its influence. Since your inspection no alterations or repairs (except the sinking of a pump in one of the yards, not yet perfected,) have been made: you are therefore fully acquainted with the additions wanted, though it would be difficult to advise how the requisite additions could be made to the gaol in its present construction; I have only to add that a small detached building for an infirmary is one which (particularly under the circumstances stated) is most essentially necessary."

This



This gaol is singularly circumstanced, as being the only prison in Ireland unprotected by a military guard, a strong proof of the gaoler's vigilance, particularly as escapes have not been effected for some time past; he is also universally acknowledged to be a man of strict morality and active benevolence.

Three hundred and forty-six crown prisoners were committed in year 1818; 186 were convicted, six capitally, of whom one for murder was executed; the sentence of one was mercifully commuted to transportation for life, the sentences of the remaining four were changed to one year's imprisonment.

One hundred and two persons were in said year committed for debt; *scil.* 21 for debts above 20*l.*, 81 for debts under that sum, 16 were discharged by the Insolvent Act, 64 were discharged by their plaintiffs, three were removed by habeas to the Four Court Marshalsea, and 19 remained in gaol, 1st January 1819.

(21.)

Leitrim.

(22 & 23.)

A REPORT on the State of the Gaols of the County and City of *Limerick*:—Rev. Mr. Gubbins, Local Inspector of both; James Blackwell, Gaoler of both.

(22 & 23.)

Limerick,  
county and city.

BOTH these Prisons are under the same superintendent and keeper, and join each other. The county gaol has been found inadequate to the numbers usually committed, and has been considered totally misconstructed. Though not very long built, it has been condemned as insufficient; a new prison has been commenced about two years, and is in a state of great forwardness, the plan of which is in most respects unexceptionable, being from a design of that eminent architect Mr. Payne. I visited these several prisons in last June; the fever had appeared in the gaol; but by sending off the convicts to Cork, having many persons who were committed for slight offences admitted to bail, the numbers being thus reduced, and the hospital purified, lime-washed and ventilated, the numbers of sick were decreased to one before I left the Town. The very diligent Local Inspector, who is indefatigable in his attention to the prisoners and the gaol, has written as follows:—"I beg leave to state for your information, that I have increased the allowance of the prisoners for the county gaol, (in consequence of your thinking it too small,) from 3*d.* worth of bread to 5*d.*, continuing likewise the quart of milk; and begging to know whether you considered me safe in doing so, as from what I mentioned of the conduct of the last Grand Jury as to the convicts clothes, I should be very sorry to put myself in their power, as I am certain you would not wish to have me involved by it, (for the increase will amount to near 300*l.*) I beg it as a particular favour that you will give me your opinion by return of post, and if you think me warranted and borne out by the Act of Parliament in doing so, to give me directions to that effect, in order that if I am questioned about it I may have your letter to produce, otherwise I must reduce it again to the old allowance."

The city gaol is now better adapted to its purpose than the county, having had several additions and improvements made to it, long after the entire was given up to the sheriff as perfect by its very unskilful architect. When the new county gaol is occupied, a portion of the present might be advantageously, and at little expense, added to this, which would render the accommodation, especially to the debtors, more complete. The gaols are reported to be in a very healthy state; Dr. O'Callaghan is most assiduous in his attention to the sick, and enforcing cleanliness, order and system in the imperfect hospital under his control, as are all the medical gentlemen of their respective gaols.

Four hundred and seventy four crown prisoners were committed to the county gaol in year 1818; 55 were convicted, 12 capitally; of these, one for murder, and one for burglary, were executed; the sentences of the remaining 10 were mercifully commuted to transportation for life, by order of the Lord Lieutenant.

One hundred and eleven persons were in said year committed for debt to the county gaol; *scil.* 26 for debts above 20*l.*, 85 for debts under that sum, 31 were discharged by the Insolvent Act, 27 were discharged by their plaintiffs, one was removed by habeas to the Four Court Marshalsea, and 52 remained in gaol, 1st January 1819.

Four hundred and thirty-seven crown prisoners were committed to the city gaol in said year; 84 were convicted, 2 capitally, whose sentences were mercifully commuted to transportation for life, by order of the Lord Lieutenant.

(12 & 23.)  
Limerick,  
county and city.

Two hundred and seven persons were in said year committed for debt to the city gaol; *scil.* 37 for debts above 20 *l.*, 170 for debts under that sum, 41 discharged by the Insolvent Act, 118 were discharged by their plaintiffs, seven were removed by habeas to the Four Court Marshalsea, and 41 remained in gaol, 1st January 1819.

(24.)

A REPORT on the State of the Gaol of the County and City of *Londonderry*:—  
Rev. Mr. Corry, Local Inspector; John Waugh, Gaoler.

(24.)

*Londonderry.*

AT my last visit to this Prison I found it generally clean, but the privies in the yard were in a very filthy state: much of this irregularity was caused by the mis-construction of the sewers. A short time before my visit many prisoners had been sick, but were then convalescent. This gaol has no hospital, which was considered by the attendant physician as an intolerable grievance to him and his assistants, as well as to the suffering patients themselves. I drew a sketch of an hospital that should be built between the debtors and felons courts, with a room for baths, and a drug room. This design was fully approved by Dr. Magennis, and an architect whom he directed to form an estimate for it, and also for an insulating wall to surround the whole, without which the prison cannot be considered safe or tenable. The expense of these buildings was calculated at about 2,000 *l.* I learned afterwards that the plan and proposal was submitted to the court at the ensuing assizes, approved and strongly recommended to the Grand Jury for adoption.

The Local Inspector has omitted to state whether these necessary works have been yet commenced; he observes, that in consequence of my suggestions, matters have been in a fair course for carrying them into effect, and that he had increased the allowance of provisions, which now is 1 lb. of oatmeal, 3 lb. of potatoes, and one quart of butter-milk to each per day, a ratio with which they appeared perfectly contented.

Three hundred and eight crown prisoners were committed in year 1818; 166 were convicted, one capitally, whose sentence was mercifully commuted to transportation for life, by order of the Lord Lieutenant.

Two hundred and fifty-two persons were in said year committed for debt; *scil.* 64 for debts above 20 *l.*, 188 for debts under that sum, 82 were discharged by the Insolvent Act, 127 were discharged by their plaintiffs, two were removed by habeas to the Four Court Marshalsea, and 41 remained in gaol, 1st January 1819.

(25.)

A REPORT on the State of the Gaol of the County of *Longford*:—  
Rev. Mr. Minchin, Local Inspector; William Ridge, Gaoler.

(25.)

*Longford.*

LAST July I inspected this Gaol, which was in a more clean and regular state than I had before found it. The Commissioners for altering and improving the gaol being then in town, I waited upon them; they had assembled with their architect for the purpose of carrying into effect a plan for enlarging the present gaol; I endeavoured to convince the gentlemen that, if all the money in the County Treasury was expended on the present gaol, it would not make that a sufficient or healthful prison: that its site was very injudicious, and that it would be found more economical in the end, and far more advantageous to the county, to build a new prison in a better situation. The honourable Lord Forbes and the other Commissioners accompanied me to the prison; I showed them some irreparable defects in the present gaol, and I caused the water from the pumps to be produced to them. When his Lordship saw and tasted it, he declared that it was not fit for even cattle to drink, much less human creatures that could get no other, and gave his decided opinion that a new gaol ought to be erected. His Lordship had the goodness to examine several pieces of ground; one in particular adjoining to Dr. Dubourdieu's garden appeared most eligible for the purpose; and I parted with the Commissioners in full hopes that a new gaol will be unanimously agreed upon.

The

44/1

(25.)

Longford.

The very intelligent and humane Local Inspector writes as follows:—"The state of the gaol of Longford, which is under my inspection, requires from me a very few words indeed. The wretched plan upon which it was originally built; its incapability of containing the number of prisoners usually confined in it, so as to meet the wishes of the legislature; and the want of certain accommodations required by the statute 50th George III. render it necessary, in my opinion, that a new gaol should be erected. The Grand Jury of the county of Longford are well aware of the impossibility of making the gaol of Longford, in its present confined state, a commodious receptacle for prisoners. It is their intention, as I am credibly informed, to take into consideration, at the next spring assizes, the necessity of building an addition to the present gaol, or of erecting a new one; and I have reason to add, that they will put into immediate execution the result of their deliberations." Since I wrote the above, I have learned with regret that it seems to be the intention of our grand jury to make an addition to the present gaol, instead of erecting a new one. Lord Forbes is most anxious that the latter plan should be adopted, as I am informed, in which I know you fully coincide. I beg to add my vote to the number, convinced that an addition will neither make the gaol more secure, nor render it capable of that improvement in every respect which it would be my pride to witness. It is my intention to introduce habits of industry into the gaol very soon: I purpose supplying the females with spinning-wheels, which Lord Forbes has kindly promised to procure for me from the Linen Board. With respect to the male prisoners, until a new gaol is erected, they cannot be employed, the gaol being in general so crowded.

Three hundred and sixty-six crown prisoners were committed in year 1818; 157 were convicted, three capitally, whose sentences were mercifully commuted to transportation for life, by order of the Lord Lieutenant.

One hundred persons were, in said year, committed for debt; *scil.* 25 for debts above 20 *l.*, 75 for debts under that sum, 15 were discharged by the Insolvent Act, 62 were discharged by their plaintiffs, 4 were removed by habeas to the Four Court Marshalsea, and 19 remained in gaol, 1st January 1819.

(26.)

A REPORT on the State of the Gaol of the County *Louth*, at Dundalk:—  
Rev. Mr. N. Horner, Local Inspector; John Woods, Gaoler.

(26.)

Louth.

I VISITED this gaol last August, and found it both remarkably clean and regular; it is a small prison consisting of 13 rooms and cells, which then contained 52 persons; but four of these rooms were occupied, each by a single person; *scil.* two by approvers, one by a female debtor, and one by a person charged with murder and arson, ordered to be kept secluded, a matter that cannot be well performed in this gaol. The only complaint preferred to me was made by this latter prisoner, that he could not hear mass with the other prisoners; the Roman catholic chaplain afterwards assured me that he attended him in his cell in the week days, giving him the communion and other Christian consolation every week; but that he could not say mass for him alone upon Sunday, and the gaoler could not consistently admit him to the room where the other prisoners attended for that purpose. Some debtors said they were not allowed coal or turf. As I thought them entitled to fuel by law and general usage, I directed that a fire should be kept in their common hall pursuant to the 6th regulation, which has been since observed.

The inspector is both assiduous and intelligent, and since his appointment the discipline of the prison has been much improved.

I fear that the additions making to this prison will have some defects similar to those upon which I have been under the necessity of animadverting in that of Drogheda, such as want of light and sufficient ventilation in the cells. From the plan shown me by a workman, there appeared an equal number of apartments for men and women; not one in twenty committed to this prison are of the latter sex; the working plan did not show the particular disposal of the upper stories; if these are appropriated to men, it may cause an undue communication of the sexes, but of this I do not speak with certainty.

Two



(26.)

Louth.

Two hundred and twenty-two crown prisoners were committed in year 1818; 63 were convicted, 19 capitally; of whom 17 for murder and arson, and one for burglary and robbery, were executed; and the sentence of one was mercifully commuted to transportation for life, by order of the Lord Lieutenant.

Ninety persons were in said year committed for debt; *scil.* 19 for debts above 20*l.*, 71 for debts under that sum, 10 were discharged by the Insolvent Act, 62 were discharged by their plaintiffs, six were removed by habeas to the Four Court Marshalsea, and 12 remained in gaol, 1st January 1819.

(27.)

A REPORT on the State of the Gaols of the County *Mayo*, at Castlebar and Ballinrobe:—Rev. Mr. Pasley, Local Inspector; Henry Moran, Gaoler of Castlebar; William Kelly, Gaoler of Ballinrobe.

(27.)

Mayo.

I VISITED those prisons last June; the Gaol of Castlebar I found extremely clean and regular, except that no public registry was kept in the prison, which is an essential want, and violates the rule made by the chief and other judges of His Majesty's Court of King's Bench at Michaelmas Term 1809. The prison has been very much improved in its discipline; the adoption of boilers and nets for the several messes in the kitchen, are a very useful regulation. The Local Inspector deserves much praise for his early, constant and regular distribution of provisions, whereby economy, order and comfort are promoted, and the many squabbles arising from the want of such exactness are avoided.

While I was visiting the prison, an escape was nearly effected by two notorious offenders, one of them refusing to surrender, being even unawed by the presence of the sheriff, the gaoler or myself; the sentinel who had detected him severely wounded him in the head, when he was compelled to submit, and was taken to the hospital, and soon afterwards recovered. One evil that always attends weak and ill-constructed gaols, is the encouragement it gives the prisoners to attempt escapes, whereby coercion, severities and affrays, become sometimes unavoidable.

A new prison of large extent is wanting for the county. The present gaol not being sufficiently capacious, the debtors and female felons are committed to the bridewell, where I saw many of them usefully employed, the women spinning, the men breaking limestone, which was sold to the contractors for the roads: it gratified me very much to see several of the female maniacs employed in spinning flax, reeling yarn, and in cleansing their respective apartments; they worked cheerfully, and were generally silent; the prison was extremely clean; I discovered but one irregularity, which neither the inspector or keeper could prevent; that was a practice of sending hither persons from the county infirmary, under acute and chronic diseases, who never transgressed the laws, nor were even committed by legal authority. This practice may be as dangerous to the prisoners who cannot flee from the contagion that may be imparted, as it is injurious to the un-offending persons, by being immured among pickpockets and prostitutes, and their characters blasted for life through the country. The practice may also lead to the commission of frauds in the provision accounts in both institutions, and ought to be suppressed by the guardians of the public purse; I mean the Grand Jury of this county. Being convinced of this gross impropriety, I entered it in the visitor's book, that in it may be seen by the Judge and Grand Jury my animadversions and remonstrance against its continuance.

In the same month I visited the Gaol of Ballinrobe, and was glad to perceive it undergoing several repairs which were long wanting; the plaistering of the walls particularly. It is earnestly hoped that the privies within the gaol will be stopped, as there are now sufficient accommodations in that respect in the yards; at my visit it had but three prisoners, two of them poor debtors; they spoke very favourably of the keeper, as did all the prisoners at Castlebar of their keeper Mr. Henry Moran.

Two hundred and fifty-six crown prisoners were committed in year 1818; 87 were convicted, six capitally; of whom one for murder, and four for burglary and atrocious robbery, were executed, and the sentence of one was mercifully commuted to transportation for life, by order of the Lord Lieutenant.

One

One hundred and ten persons were in said year committed for debt; *scil.* 24 for debts above 20*l.*, 86 for debts under that sum, 18 were discharged by the Insolvent Act, 69 were discharged by their plaintiffs, two were removed by habeas to the Four Court Marshalsea, and 21 remained in gaol, 1st January 1819.

(27.)  
Mayo.

(28.)

A REPORT on the State of the Gaol of the County of *Meath* at Trim:—  
Rev. Mr. Wainwright, Local Inspector; William Smart, Gaoler.

(28.)

Meath.

NOT having received either Report or Letter from the Local Inspector, I cannot state whether the buildings begun last year are as yet completed. These were a bridewell adjoining to the gaol, and apartments for the gaoler, whereby a perfect view of the debtors and felons courts might be obtained; at my last visit I found eight approvers on as many distinct cases, occupying the magistrate's room, which being in view of the principal felons yard, afforded an easy communication. This was certainly an imprudent arrangement, but circumstances at the time rendered it unavoidable, as the Inspector informed me.

The women's apartments should be changed from the second story to the ground floor in the old part of the gaol.

The demeanor of the prisoners of both sexes, was worse here than in any other gaol I had visited; their expressions were very offensive: many of them were old and habitual offenders.

Two hundred and fifty-four crown prisoners were committed in year 1818; 114 were convicted, 24 capitally; of whom 11 for burglaries and robberies were executed; the sentences of 13 were mercifully commuted to transportation for life, by order of the Lord Lieutenant.

Fifty-five persons were in said year committed for debt; *scil.* 17 for debts above 20*l.*, 38 for debts under that sum, 14 were discharged by the Insolvent Act, 19 were discharged by their plaintiffs, four were removed by habeas to the Four Court Marshalsea, and 18 remained in gaol, 1st January 1819.

(29.)

A REPORT on the State of the Gaol of County *Monaghan*:—Rev. Mr. Evatt, Local Inspector; John Short, Gaoler.

(29.)

Monaghan.

IN the month of last August I visited this old and ruinous prison, which then contained 135 persons of all classes. Considering its mouldering and decaying state, it was surprisingly clean, and more regular than I had often seen it; I examined the prisoners collectively and individually, whether they had any complaint against any of the officers superintending the gaol; they universally answered they had none.

The Local Inspector acts, with respect to very poor debtors, in a singularly liberal and praise-worthy manner. He assists with money those whom he fully ascertains to be unable to pay the expenses attendant on obtaining the benefit of the Insolvent Act. I wish his example may be extended to every other county in that respect; an example which, if followed, would prevent the imposing practices of gaol solicitors, who too often act either negligently or corruptly towards those helpless and pitiable objects; besides the great relief it affords to these and their families, the public is released from the expense of maintaining them, and space in the prison is obtained for those who cannot be so speedily discharged.

In the year 1817 the mortality in this gaol was very great; 27 had died of typhus fever, in proportion to those who were ill, certainly a small number; this fever had, in the opinion of some physicians, and of many of its most respectable inhabitants, commenced in the gaol, and from thence was carried into the town and country, where it made sad havoc among all classes. It is much to be regretted that the new gaol has not been perfected within the time specified in the contract. The commissioners and the contractor accuse each other of being the cause of the delay;



(29.)

Monaghan.

all that I found built at my visit was the external wall and the hospital ; but from this dissension the work has been too long retarded.

I requested a meeting of the commissioners, who accordingly assembled ; I enumerated the many deaths that had happened last year in the old gaol, and informed them that prison was never likely to be free from fever ; that I conceived it behoved them as magistrates and grand jurors, to expedite the building as soon as possible, that any errors which the contractor may have committed in this commencement of the building, may be remedied without difficulty or much loss of time. One of the commissioners observed, that if the contractor would show a disposition to amend some of the defects, he did not doubt but that the commissioners would agree, when that disposition would be manifested, to advance him an instalment to complete the work ; I wrote to the contractor officially, advising him to return, and to resume the work, stating the sentiments of the meeting ; he has since complied, and there are no further dissensions on the subject.

The Local Inspector concludes his Report by a general statement, as follows :—  
“ There are at present 113 prisoners in custody ; no alteration of repairs could possibly adapt the prison to the performance of the duties enjoined by the 50th Geo. III. A new gaol is in progress, the completion of which, however, has been delayed by differences which have arisen between the commissioners and contractor ; they seem now likely to be removed, in which case the new prison, which is on an approved plan, will be speedily completed.”

Two only died in gaol in the last year.

Three hundred and seven crown prisoners were committed in year 1818 ; 97 convicted ; six capitally, each of whose sentences were mercifully commuted to transportation for life, by order of the Lord Lieutenant.

Two hundred and forty persons were in said year committed for debt ; *scil.* 49 for debts above 20*l.*, 191 for debts under that sum, 29 were discharged by the Insolvent Act, 150 were discharged by their plaintiffs, 14 were removed by habeas to the Four Court Marshalsea, and 47 remained in gaol, 1st January 1819.

(30.)

A REPORT on the State of the Gaol of the *Queen's County*, at Maryboro':—  
Mr. William Pilsworth, Local Inspector ; John Clarke, Gaoler.

(30.)

Queen's county.

IN the month of last May I visited this Gaol, which I found extremely clean and regular ; examined the prisoners privately and openly, whether they had any complaints to make of the officers in charge of the gaol : they all, except a gentleman debtor, declared they had not any ; he complained that he was restrained from the privilege of walking in the yard by the sentinel, which upon inquiry appeared to be frivolous and unfounded. There is neither infirmary or chapel to the prison, nor have the women a distinct court yard ; the court-house being built contiguous to the debtors court, has much injured the security of the prison ; a prisoner confined under execution for a considerable sum, (which the gaoler has been called on to pay,) effected his escape by ascending the court house : this had been often predicted. The execution apparatus is in a very inconvenient part of the prison, it would be better to have it changed to the summit, in the manner it is situated in the new gaol of Southwark. I examined the convicts who were about proceeding to Cork, had them clothed, cleaned and dressed ; all the prisoners were well, and not one of them ironed. The prisoners get daily a pound and a half of bread per day, and a quart of new milk each, the cows being milked at the door, in view of some of the prisoners. I showed the Inspector a plan for surrounding the entire of the prison, including the court house, and for making several other improvements absolutely necessary for its safety and regularity ; he has since informed me by a letter, “ that the Grand Jury have raised money, and intend to continue to do so, until they shall have a sufficient sum to purchase ground to enlarge the gaol, to build an infirmary, and to adopt several other matters you have suggested for its improvement.”

One hundred and ninety-eight crown prisoners were committed in year 1818 ; 55 convicted, one capitally, a female for burglary and robbery was executed.

Seventy-

Seventy-three persons were in said year committed for debt; *scil.* 20 for debts above 20*l.*, 53 for debts under that sum; six were discharged by the Insolvent Act, 47 were discharged by their plaintiffs, four were removed by habeas to the Four Court Marshalsea, and 16 remained in gaol, 1st January 1819.

(30.)

Queen's county.

(31.)

A REPORT on the State of the Gaol of the County *Roscommon* :—

Rev. Mr. Blakeny, Local Inspector ; Joseph Hely, Gaoler.

(31.)

Roscommon.

IN the month of last July I visited this Gaol, which I found in a state of as much cleanliness and regularity as could be expected; the prisoners being interrogated severally and collectively, declared they had no complaint to make of the officers superintending the gaol, save one, who said he was refused medicine by the physician. An irregular practice prevails here, *scil.* the Grand Jury have established a custom of contracting with the apothecary, at the stated price of 40 guineas per annum, whether the prisoners be sick or well. This method is irregular, and may lead to corrupt or negligent conduct. At my visit I found some persons imprisoned for debt under two pounds, they were military pensioners, one had been confined more than twelve months, and though he received nine pound per quarter during that time, he would rather remain in gaol, subsisting on the county allowance, than pay that small sum; this man had made this a continual practice. Debtors not being legally entitled to receive the county allowance of provisions, and the gaol having many persons who, as I was assured, were solvent, I entered a rule in the gaol-book, advising the Inspector against an indiscriminate supply, which encouraged such fraudulent practices; and even told him if the provision presentment was traversed at the assizes, it could not be maintained. At my return to Dublin in September I was surprized to receive from the very intelligent and humane Local Inspector the following letter on the subject:—"In consequence of your directions to me relative to withholding provisions from the debtors confined in Roscommon Gaol, I made the necessary arrangements for that purpose on Saturday last, and made a selection, to whom I ordered half the allowance, as a preparation to withdrawing the allowance altogether. The contractor, however, this day declared, that he would supply the entire of the debtors with the full allowance, contrary to your directions, and to mine acting under your orders: this I conceive is assuming a power to which he is nowise authorized; and I request your support on the present occasion, and that you will advise what further steps I am to take. I warned the contractor, that if he supplied the debtors, he should do it at his own risque, as I would not certify his account at the next assizes, without which he is not entitled to be paid by the county treasurer, agreeable to the Gaol Act. I beg to observe, that your authority and mine ought to be supported in matters relative to gaols, otherwise we shall not have that subordination preserved which is so essentially necessary. The contractor, Mr. Carr, told me, that he read your Report in the gaol-book, and that you only recommended the measure of withdrawing the provision from the debtors, and seemed to question your authority, &c. this makes it necessary to settle the point, as I am placed in an unpleasant situation, and shall expect to be supported by you."

The contractor for supplying the provisions, having had this year made a very advantageous bargain, usurps an authority the law does not give him, for very obvious reasons!

A new gaol is nearly completed, to which it is supposed the prisoners will be removed early in the summer; this gaol has been erected on the plan of the one at Southwark, and has a story more than any gaol of the kind in Ireland, which gives it a very superior appearance. There is a fine chapel, and the workmanship is extremely well executed. The old gaol, though not long built, being very capacious and in good repair, may well be converted into a provincial lunatic house, a workhouse or bridewell, the ground in its rear may be easily obtained.

In the same month I visited the bridewell of Boyle, consisting of two cells; I found it clean, the keeper told me he had neither beds nor blankets for prisoners, and that in the course of the year many were committed. At my visit there were not

(31.)

Roscommon.

not any; I applied to Mr. Blakeny, who promised his assistance towards obtaining them from the Grand Jury.

Four hundred and fifty crown prisoners were committed in year 1818; 190 convicted, 10 capitally; one of whom for burglary was executed; the sentences of nine were mercifully commuted to transportation for life, by order of the Lord Lieutenant.

One hundred and forty persons were in said year committed for debt; *scil.* 37 for debts above 20*l.*, 103 for debts under that sum, 22 were discharged by the Insolvent Act, 69 were discharged by their plaintiffs, 11 were removed by habeas to the Four Court Marshalsea, and 38 remained in gaol, 1st January 1819.

(32.)

(32.)

Sligo.

A REPORT on the State of the Gaol of the County *Sligo*:—Rev. Mr. Armstrong, Local Inspector; James Beaty, Gaoler.

IN the month of last July I visited this Gaol, which was very recently occupied, the prisoners being removed after the preceding Assizes. It is built on the plan of that of Southwark: its interior construction evidently proves that the architect, though said to be eminent in his profession, is not well versed in gaol-building, and appears quite unacquainted with the habits of prisoners. The windows in the gaoler's parlour and kitchen, and the Governor's committee room, should be lowered at least 18 inches. At present neither an easy view of the prisoners in the court yards, nor a distinct view of the persons passing in and out of the front court, can be obtained without the trouble of going to the window, or (in case of a low person) standing on a stool or chair.

The rim locks used throughout the prison are bad in their kind, and ill adapted to a gaol, pendant locks alone are fit; the best I ever saw is the patent union lock invented by Kemp, of Cork; these can neither be picked nor opened by a counterfeit key, which is a new and peculiar property; the doors of the cells were hung absurdly, as they opened inwardly; those, and some other minor defects, I pointed out to Mr. Martin, one of the commissioners for building the gaol, who immediately perceived the ill consequences that may arise from them; I also stated my observations at length in the gaol registry.

This prison being built on a systematic plan, with which the gaoler and other officers are not yet acquainted, a due classification of the prisoners according to their crimes has not yet been effected, but the Inspector promises that at the termination of the approaching Assizes, after the numbers shall be reduced, the regulation for arranging the prisoners shall be observed. Two turnkeys at least will be required to attend it, one of whom should never be permitted to leave his post at the extern door, the other will be wanted to attend the calls of the prisoners and the admission of their necessary agents or friends to the internal grates of the respective courts; another story should be added to this gaol, a detached hospital also should be built, a low wall insulating the entire for the sentinels to pace in, should be erected; if this latter measure be not adopted, the gaol cannot be considered by any means secure. I directed several women who were detained too long upon commitments for having been idlers in the streets, to be discharged on bail, which was done accordingly, without their paying fees; their committals appeared quite irregular.

Five hundred and fifty-eight crown prisoners were committed in year 1818; 191 convicted, 12 capitally, of whom one for murder and three for burglary and robbery were executed; the sentences of seven were mercifully commuted to transportation for life, by order of the Lord Lieutenant, and one received a free pardon.

One hundred and forty-three persons were in said year committed for debt; *scil.* 24 for debts above 20*l.*, 119 for debts under that sum, 21 were discharged by the Insolvent Act, 89 were discharged by their plaintiffs, seven were removed by habeas to the Four Court Marshalsea, and 26 remained in gaol, 1st January 1819.



(33.)

A REPORT on the State of the Gaol of the County *Tipperary*, at Clonmell:—  
Rev. Mr. Stevenson, Local Inspector; William Vowell, Gaoler.

(33.)

Tipperary.

NOT having in the course of last year visited this Gaol, I beg leave to transcribe a few striking observations made by the Local Inspector, in reply to some queries sent to him:—"There are not any lunatics or insane persons confined in this gaol; there is a lunatic asylum attached to the House of Industry and Mendicity, to which all such patients are committed and properly treated, according to the nature of their respective cases. As I have heretofore reported to you, all the additions required by Mr. Pole's Act have been completed, I have nothing to add on that subject. To such convicts as have, from their long confinement, worn out their clothing, I have (as said Act authorizes me) supplied frize jackets, trowsers, shirts, shoes, stockings, petticoats and shifts, as they seemed to stand in need of at this season of the year. The attention of the gaoler and his assistant to the cleanliness of his gaol, and to the comforts and accommodation of the prisoners, and their humanity in every respect, merits my warmest commendation. Nothing, I think, can more incontestibly prove the good management of our gaol as to cleanliness and ventilation, and the extreme attention of all concerned, than to be able to assert, that during the long period of contagious fever, if you began at any one street in the town, and reckoned to the number of prisoners confined in the gaol, there would be probably two or three inhabitants of that number found in fever; and that not a single instance occurred in the gaol, although extremely crowded, as you will perceive by the returns."

Last May I visited the Bridewell at Nenagh, to which a considerable addition was making and nearly finished. It consists of nine very large cells, and four spacious common halls. It would be a convenient halting place for convicts, if brought by land from the north-western gaols of Ireland, on their way for embarkation at Cork.

Five hundred and thirty-one crown prisoners were committed in year 1818; 87 convicted, 13 capitally; of whom one for murder and one for rape were executed, and the sentences of 11 were mercifully commuted to transportation for life, by order of the Lord Lieutenant.

Two hundred and sixty-three persons were, in said year, committed for debt; *scil.* 74 for debts above 20*l.*, 189 for debts under that sum, 53 were discharged by the Insolvent Act, 136 were discharged by their plaintiffs, 7 were removed by habeas to the Four Court Marshalsea, and 67 remained in gaol, 1st January 1819.

(34.)

A REPORT on the State of the Gaols of the County *Tyrone*, at Omagh and Dungannon:—Rev. Mr. Stack, Local Inspector at Omagh; John O'Brien, Gaoler; Rev. Mr. Murray, Local Inspector at Dungannon; ————  
Gaoler.

(34.)

Tyrone.

THE great number of debtors usually committed to both these gaols of late years, have induced some grand jurors to object to the indiscriminate distribution of the allowance of provisions to debtors. The Inspector has written for advice, and has been informed, that the debtors are not by law entitled to demand them; and the practice of withholding them from such prisoners, is become pretty general throughout the counties, especially since the passing of Mr. Peel's Insolvent Act. Those who prefer remaining in gaol, to the seeking the benefit of that equitable Act, may, for the most part, be considered as volunteers, choosing to remain in prison in total defiance of their creditors demands; and it may therefore be proper that they should not be encouraged to do so, by being subsisted at the public cost; doubtless, cases of extreme want may occur, which when fairly ascertained by the Inspectors, will of course excite their compassion and attention; but it seldom happens that any persons decline to avail themselves of the Insolvent Act, unless they possess property that they do not choose to surrender, wholly or partially, to their creditors. From the circumstances of withholding provisions, I have known numerous instances of persons settling with their creditors and obtaining their discharges, who would otherwise have persisted in refusing to satisfy them; I have at all my visits found this gaol in a state of as much cleanliness and regularity as the crowded numbers in it would admit.

The Local Inspector of Dungannon Gaol, gives the following statement of that prison:—"In consequence of Dungannon Gaol being only a supplementary one to

(34.)

Tyrone.

Omagh, it appears, I think, not to have met from grand jurors that attention to its wants which it requires. From the original construction of the gaol, the regulations contained in the statute 50th Geo. III, cannot be acted upon, the gaol being in every respect much too small to allow of all the regulations enjoined therein being enforced. There is only one common hall for male and female prisoners, and no separation at present can be effected during the day, between prisoners of any kind or any classes; strict attention, however, has been paid in regard to confinement at night in their respective cells.

"During the last year, the comfort of the prisoners has been considerably increased by an additional supply of bedsteads, bed-clothes, &c. &c. formerly much wanting. Owing to these increased comforts, and a strict attention being paid to cleanliness, and the frequent use of lime, I have to attribute, (under Providence) the gaol being preserved from fever, during the time of its prevalence and malignity in the town and neighbourhood; but one case occurred in the gaol, and from the prompt measures used, no bad consequences ensued.

"The lower apartments of Dungannon Gaol being partly under-ground, are extremely liable to be overflowed by water, the bad effects of which it is not necessary to state. From the great increase of business at the sessions, together with the extent of the barony, it is often crowded to excess during the sessions, and altogether too small for the accommodation of the prisoners generally confined there. It is much to be regretted, that the prisoners, who are chiefly debtors, cannot be employed in any sort of useful occupation. From the great expense of the gaol at Omagh, the Grand Jury have not thought it advisable to afford the means of employment to the prisoners in Dungannon Gaol. If some wheels and looms were allowed (which have been often applied for, but without success) it might have a very beneficial effect on the morals of the prisoners, as idleness and close confinement must necessarily produce the very worst effects.

"If this supply could be granted, it would, in Dungannon Gaol, be particularly useful, as there are generally a number of persons confined there by order from the Manor Court, to whom no allowance is afforded by the county, and who are often in a most distressed situation."

A few spinning wheels may be advantageous, but there is not space for looms in this prison.

Three hundred and twenty crown prisoners were committed in year 1818; 186 convicted, three capitally, whose sentences were mercifully commuted to transportation for life, by order of the Lord Lieutenant.

Three hundred and forty-one persons were in said year committed for debt; *scil.* 69 for debts above 20*l.*, 272 for debts under that sum, 108 were discharged by the Insolvent Act, 101 were discharged by their plaintiffs, 11 were removed by habeas to the Four Court Marshalsea, and 121 remained in gaol, 1st January 1819.

(35.)

A REPORT on the State of the Gaol of the County *Waterford*:—

Rev. R. S. Hobson, Local Inspector; Shapland Graves, Gaoler.

(35.)

Waterford county.

SINCE my last visit, and subsequent Report on the state of this Gaol, there appears nothing particular to remark, except the appointment of a new gaoler.

The Local Inspector has not stated to me the cause of the discontinuance of the former. I found the gaol, when I last inspected it, extremely clean and regular. This gaol happily is seldom crowded; the augmentation made three years ago has prevented that incommodious excess, which in almost all the other gaols in Ireland is continually experienced.

The lists returned of those committed and tried, are extremely irregular, and appeared to be transcribed by some very ignorant person; had I not availed myself of the assistance of the Clerk of the Crown's schedules, I must have omitted sending any Return from this county.

One hundred and thirty-eight crown prisoners were committed in year 1818; 45 convicted; 5 capitally, of whom four for burglary and robbery were executed, and the sentence of one was mercifully commuted to transportation for life, by order of the Lord Lieutenant.

Forty-seven persons were in said year committed for debt; *scil.* 21 for debts above 20*l.*, 26 for debts under that sum, 16 were discharged by the Insolvent Act, 17 were discharged by their plaintiffs, one was removed by habeas to the Four Court Marshalsea, and 13 remained in gaol, 1st January 1819.



44/9

(36.)

A REPORT on the State of the Gaol of the City *Waterford*:—Rev. R. S. Hobson, Local Inspector; John Larobe Wright, Gaoler.

(36.)

Waterford city.

AT my last visit to this Prison I found it clean and regular, though very much crowded. The same animadversion, with respect to the returns made of the prisoners committed and tried in the county gaol, I am sorry to say is equally applicable to this. One would suppose there was an emulation between the gaolers who should make his returns in the most perplexed manner. The Inspector should have taken the trouble to peruse them before he had sent them. On the state of this gaol, he writes as follows: "I have nothing to add to the statement I have already sent of the state of the gaols, but that the city prison is quite inadequate to the accommodation of the number of persons now contained within it, and that the hospital is so connected with the felons yard and the chapel, that it could not possibly answer the essential purpose of warding off contagion from the other parts of the prison.

"As some changes have been made during the last year in the officers of our Gaols, I send you correct lists of them as they now stand."

Two hundred and fifty-three crown prisoners were committed in year 1818; 134 convicted, one capitally, whose sentence was mercifully commuted to transportation for life, by order of the Lord Lieutenant.

One hundred and thirteen persons were in said year committed for debt; *scil.* 14 for debts above 20 £, 99 for debts under that sum, 12 were discharged by the Insolvent Act, 101 were discharged by their plaintiffs, none were removed by habeas to the Four Court Marshalsea, and none remained in gaol, 1st January 1819.

(37.)

A REPORT on the State of the Gaol of the County *Westmeath*, at Mullingar:—Rev. T. Robinson, Local Inspector; Edward Fielding, Gaoler.

(37.)

Westmeath.

HAVING addressed a Report to the War Office on the manner in which the gaols of Ireland were protected by the military, and disapproving of a practice, too prevalent, of posting the sentinels within the courts, whereto the prisoners had opportunities of access and communication with them, a custom that ought to be universally discountenanced, Sir Edward Baker was pleased to submit the Report to the Commander of the Forces. Sir George Beckwith, convinced of its importance, issued orders to all the Generals commanding in districts to report to him the state of the gaol guards throughout Ireland.

Aware that the soldiery and prisoners were more prejudicially mixed in this than in any other prison, I attended at the last assizes and waited upon Lord Norbury, with the officer commanding the garrison, when his Lordship was pleased to recommend to the Grand Jury immediately to present the sums necessary for erecting a platform, and making some important alterations in the interior of the prison. Upon this subject, the attentive Local Inspector writes as follows:—"Since you last inspected this prison, the river in the rear of it has been sunk about four feet, and effectually cleansed, and there is never less than the space of four feet deep of clear water in it, often more; the cells of male and female prisoners have been separated, so that there can be no communication between the sexes; a platform has been made on an arch in the yard, for the sentinels, by which arrangement he commands the felons prison without communication with the prisoners. The gaol is in perfect order, the outside east wall would be improved by new dashing, which shall be done next summer, if the Grand Jury will present the sum necessary for executing the work." These alterations and improvements have been for years earnestly solicited by me, they will be found to add much to the regularity, accommodation and safety of the prison. I found the gaol very clean, and as regular as its misconstruction would admit.

Two hundred and ninety-six crown prisoners were committed in year 1818; 137 convicted, nine capitally, of whom four for burglary and robbery were executed; and the sentences of five were mercifully commuted to transportation for life, by order of the Lord Lieutenant.

Seventy-four persons were in said year committed for debt; *scil.* 9 for debts above 20 £, 65 for debts under that sum, 5 were discharged by the Insolvent Act, 50 were discharged by their plaintiffs, 8 were removed by habeas to the Four Court Marshalsea, and 11 remained in gaol, 1st January 1819.

(38.)

A REPORT on the State of the Gaol of the County *Wexford*:—The Rev. Archd<sup>n</sup> Elgee, Local Inspector; Lemuel Gladwin, Gaoler.

(38.)

Wexford.

THOUGH this Gaol has been but a few years built, it has been found utterly inadequate to its purpose; no arrangement of the prisoners, except a separation of the sexes, can be here effected. I have always found this prison in a state of cleanliness, and in such regularity as its misconstruction would admit. The Local Inspector writes as follows: "Our gaol is miserably crowded, containing now 108 prisoners, so that notwithstanding every exertion on my part for their comfort and health, I am greatly alarmed lest sickness should break out among them; no remonstrance from me to the Grand Jury has availed, but government seems inclined to take up the business, and will I trust act with energy; classification is unattainable, when 80 people are stuffed into a space hardly sufficient for 36, and with a likelihood of their numbers increasing fast, not a day room but what is filled with beds."

This gaol would require so great an augmentation to have the regulations of the 50th George III. carried into effect, that in my judgment a new gaol, which could be erected on a site far more economical than the one now occupied, would be found preferable to the expense of arrangements for modifying the present, for the attainment of the objects required by law.

One hundred and fifty crown prisoners were committed in year 1818; 54 convicted, 4 capitally, of whom 3 for murder were executed; and the sentence of one was mercifully commuted to transportation for life, by order of the Lord Lieutenant.

Ninety-one persons were in said year committed for debt; *scil.* 26 for debts above 20 *l.*, 65 for debts under that sum, 19 were discharged by the Insolvent Act, 36 were discharged by their plaintiffs, 6 were removed by habeas to the Four Court Marshalsea, and 30 remained in gaol, 1st January 1819.

(39.)

A REPORT on the State of the Gaol of the County *Wicklow*:—Rev. Mr. Porter, Local Inspector; James Walker, Gaoler.

(39.)

Wicklow.

PROPOSALS for augmenting and repairing this Prison, have, I understand, been acceded to by the Grand Jury; much will be required to strengthen the court walls, in which there are many chasms; these walls should be insulated, without which expedient the gaol will not be secure; the apothecary to the prison complains that a small bill of his for necessaries for the sick prisoners, amounting to 7 *l.* 9 *s.* 3 *d.* was thrown out by the Grand Jury. At my last inspection, a wounded man lay very badly accommodated in one of the cells, I sent for the apothecary of the prison, and reprimanded him, not for want of his attendance, which was duly given, but for want of suitable and clean bedding, and the nourishment which this prisoner appeared to require. Mr. Goodison seemed to be aware that the man did require such nourishment; but that if he administered in that respect to the wants of the prisoners, he would not be allowed for it; I showed him the clause in the Act, which empowers the Grand Jury to present; he promised to comply, which he appears to have done, and thereby to have incurred a loss; a great part of that money was expended in paying nurses for attending persons ill of the typhus fever.

Not having yet seen the plans for augmenting the prison, I cannot here notice them. The gaol I have generally found clean.

One hundred and eighteen crown prisoners were committed in year 1818; 59 convicted, 5 capitally, of whom one for murder, and one for arson, were executed; the sentences of three were mercifully commuted to transportation for life, by order of the Lord Lieutenant.

Thirty-four persons were in said year committed for debt; *scil.* 13 for debts above 20 *l.*, 21 for debts under that sum, 5 were discharged by the Insolvent Act, 18 were discharged by their plaintiffs, seven were removed by habeas to the Four Court Marshalsea, and four remained in gaol, 1st January 1819.

(40.)

A LIST OF DEBTORS Committed to the several Gaols in *Ireland* during the Year 1818.

Number committed for Debt.	COUNTIES and CITIES.	Number committed for Sums above £.20.	Number committed for Sums under £.20.	Number discharged by Insolvent Act.	Number discharged by Plaintiff.	Number transmitted by Habeas to Four Court Marshalsea.	Number remaining in custody 1st Jan. 1819.	Number died in Gaol.
182	Antrim - - - - -	77	105	25	77	12	68	—
276	Armagh - - - - -	43	233	72	126	6	72	—
52	Carlow - - - - -	24	28	- - -	28	4	20	—
145	Cavan - - - - -	38	107	32	77	6	30	—
114	Clare - - - - -	25	89	32	44	8	30	—
398	Cork, County and City - - -	110	288	72	206	14	104	2
149	Donegal - - - - -	58	91	19	79	6	45	—
194	Down - - - - -	81	113	19	117	8	50	—
57	Drogheda - - - - -	11	46	2	45	4	6	—
122	Dublin County - - - - -	62	60	32	55	5	30	—
1,632	Dublin City - - - - -	541	1,091	214	1,178	54	186	—
122	Fermanagh - - - - -	26	96	13	71	1	37	—
189	Galway, County and Town - -	71	118	49	83	12	45	—
149	Kerry - - - - -	30	119	34	62	10	43	—
33	Kildare - - - - -	17	16	5	11	6	11	—
176	Kilkenny, County and City -	39	137	45	75	10	46	—
26	King's County - - - - -	12	14	4	9	8	5	—
102	Leitrim - - - - -	21	81	16	64	3	19	—
318	Limerick, County and City -	63	255	72	145	8	93	—
252	Londonderry - - - - -	64	188	82	127	2	41	—
100	Longford - - - - -	25	75	15	62	4	19	—
90	Louth - - - - -	19	71	10	62	6	12	—
110	Mayo - - - - -	24	86	18	69	2	21	—
55	Meath - - - - -	17	38	14	19	4	18	—
240	Monaghan - - - - -	49	191	29	150	14	47	—
73	Queen's County - - - - -	20	53	6	47	4	16	—
140	Roscommon - - - - -	37	103	22	69	11	38	—
143	Sligo - - - - -	24	119	21	89	7	26	—
263	Tipperary - - - - -	74	189	53	136	7	67	—
341	Tyrone - - - - -	69	272	108	101	11	121	—
160	Waterford, County and City -	35	125	28	118	1	13	—
74	Westmeath - - - - -	9	65	5	50	8	11	—
91	Wexford - - - - -	26	65	19	36	6	30	—
34	Wicklow - - - - -	13	21	5	18	7	4	—
6,602	Above £.20 - - -	1,854	4,748	1,192	3,705	279	1,424	2
	Under £.20 - - -	4,748						
	Total Number Committed - -	6,602						

STATE of the FOUR COURT MARSHALSEA, in year 1818, as follows:

Above £.20. - -	319	67	229	55	- - -	102	—
Under £.20. - -	67						
Total Number Committed - -	386						

(41.)—An ABSTRACT Sheet, containing the Number of Persons Committed to the several Gaols of *Ireland* with The Sentences of those found Guilty, the Number of

Before Trial Died in Gaol.	CRIMES For which they were committed.	Number Committed.	ACQUITTALS, &c.				Remaining in Gaol for Trial.
			Number Acquitted by Verdict of Jury.	Discharged by reason of no Bill being found.	Discharged by reason of no Prosecution.	Bailed, and not Tried.	
	Abduction - - - - -	29	11	6	- - -	5	6
	Arson - - - - -	41	20	2	2	3	12
1	Assault - - - - -	2,360	251	247	52	369	95
	Assault, with intent to murder - - - - -	44	8	4	1	6	23
	Assault, with intent to ravish - - - - -	16	- - -	3	3	2	1
	Assault, with intent to ravish Female Infants - - - - -	2	- - -	- - -	- - -	- - -	1
	Assault, with intent to rob - - - - -	46	11	4	1	6	15
	Bestiality - - - - -	-	-	-	-	-	-
	Bigamy - - - - -	5	- - -	2	1	- - -	1
1	Burglary - - - - -	501	155	41	20	34	115
2	Cattle Stealing - - - - -	934	218	160	91	57	243
	Child Stealing - - - - -	-	-	-	-	-	-
	Coining - - - - -	29	6	- - -	- - -	1	4
	Combination - - - - -	13	2	- - -	- - -	- - -	1
	Conspiracy to murder - - - - -	34	7	2	- - -	8	17
	Conspiracy to rob - - - - -	19	11	1	1	1	3
	Cutting and wounding Persons - - - - -	33	4	4	4	7	12
	Distilling illegally - - - - -	690	61	16	14	49	51
	Embezzlement - - - - -	19	3	1	2	3	5
	Embezzling Letters from Post Office - - - - -	-	-	-	-	-	-
	Forgery - - - - -	28	9	2	2	4	7
1	Forgery of Bank Notes and uttering - - - - -	97	33	14	14	8	23
	Having forged Bank Notes in Possession - - - - -	100	35	13	6	4	11
	Forgery Stamps - - - - -	1	- - -	- - -	- - -	1	-
	Ditto, uttering and feloniously having in possession - - - - -	11	8	- - -	- - -	3	-
	Fraud in obtaining Money under false Pretences - - - - -	75	8	9	3	24	13
	Gaol Breaking - - - - -	20	1	1	2	- - -	11
	Highway Robbery - - - - -	172	51	12	6	3	58
	Horse Stealing - - - - -	176	39	17	18	28	45
	House Breaking - - - - -	50	17	1	9	8	12
	House Robbery - - - - -	412	99	32	19	35	127
	Houghing, maiming and killing Cattle - - - - -	17	2	2	- - -	2	9
1	Larceny - - - - -	2,283	437	331	291	158	229
2	Ditto - from House - - - - -	519	109	76	44	14	70
	Ditto - from Shop - - - - -	236	36	33	17	5	30
	Ditto - from Person - - - - -	591	143	57	58	18	82
	Mail Robbery - - - - -	10	- - -	- - -	- - -	- - -	3
	Manslaughter - - - - -	-	-	-	-	-	-
1	Murder - - - - -	402	121	64	26	11	97
1	Ditto, Females of their Infants - - - - -	12	1	2	4	- - -	4
	Ditto, concealing Birth of Ditto - - - - -	6	- - -	4	- - -	- - -	-
	Misdemeanor - - - - -	1,459	98	97	59	178	60
	Oaths administering and taking unlawfully - - - - -	35	16	4	1	3	4
	Perjury - - - - -	62	15	10	5	15	3
	Plundering wrecked Ships - - - - -	4	1	- - -	- - -	2	-
	Rape - - - - -	93	17	21	24	11	17
	Ditto, accessory and aiding in - - - - -	8	6	1	- - -	- - -	-
	Receiving and having in possession stolen Goods - - - - -	387	98	40	23	28	83
	Returning from Transportation before time - - - - -	-	-	-	-	-	-
	Riotous Assembly - - - - -	285	39	12	4	139	6
	Riotous Assembly, appearing armed by Night - - - - -	20	2	4	3	7	-
	Riotous Assembly, appearing armed by Night and attacking Dwelling Houses - - - - -	61	20	7	12	1	17
1	Robbery of Arms - - - - -	25	5	6	6	1	4
	Seditious Practices - - - - -	4	2	1	1	-	-
	Sheep Stealing, and killing same with intent to steal - - - - -	562	124	81	56	26	145
	Shooting at Persons - - - - -	46	17	7	4	7	8
	Sodomy - - - - -	-	-	-	-	-	-
	Stealing from Bleach Green - - - - -	39	5	2	1	2	15
1	Taking and holding forcible possession - - - - -	150	35	33	5	44	11
	Treason (High) - - - - -	-	-	-	-	-	-
	Treasonable Practices - - - - -	3	- - -	2	- - -	- - -	-
	Unlawfully marrying Persons - - - - -	1	1	-	-	-	-
	Uttering Counterfeit Coin - - - - -	40	6	5	2	4	10
	Vagrancy - - - - -	235	27	23	17	62	28
1	Writing and sending threatening Letters - - - - -	21	3	2	1	7	3
13	TOTAL - - -	13,564	2,454	1,521	935	1,414	1,850



in the Year 1818; distinguishing the CRIMES for which they were severally Committed, Acquitted, or Convicted; those Executed, and of those who received free Pardon.

Number of Persons Convicted.	SENTENCES.															
	Death.	Transportation.			Imprisonment.				Whipping.	Fine.	Pillory.	Burning in the Hand.	Judgment sus- pended.	Number of Per- sons Executed.	N <sup>o</sup> that rec <sup>d</sup> free Pardon.	Died in Gaol after Trial.
		Life.	14 Years.	7 Years.	3 Years.	2 Years.	1 Year.	Half a Year and under.								
1	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
2	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	2	-	-
1,345	-	-	-	-	-	1	20	1,109	13	202	-	-	-	-	-	-
2	1	-	-	-	-	1	-	7	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-
7	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
9	-	-	-	5	-	-	-	4	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
1	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
135	108	-	-	26	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	45	-	-
163	28	-	-	91	-	-	7	37	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-
-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
18	-	-	3	11	-	-	-	4	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
10	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	7	-	2	-	-	-	-	-	-
-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
2	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
499	-	-	-	-	-	-	3	428	-	68	-	-	-	-	-	1
5	-	-	2	-	-	-	-	1	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
4	3	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
4	4	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-
31	-	-	31	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
18	-	-	-	-	-	-	3	14	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-
5	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	5	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
42	42	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	4	1	-
29	23	-	-	2	-	-	2	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	2	-
3	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
100	12	-	-	48	-	-	5	34	-	-	-	-	1	3	-	-
2	1	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
836	-	-	-	149	-	-	71	442	51	4	2	117	-	-	-	-
204	-	-	-	55	3	-	19	124	3	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
115	-	-	-	27	-	-	23	44	6	-	-	15	-	-	-	-
233	-	-	-	38	2	-	42	65	12	1	-	73	-	-	1	-
7	7	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	5	-	-
34	-	-	-	-	-	-	18	16	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1
48	48	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	39	-	1
-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
958	-	-	-	2	-	-	6	907	-	43	-	-	-	-	-	-
7	6	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1
14	-	-	-	6	1	-	-	5	-	-	2	-	-	-	-	-
1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
3	3	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-
1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
115	-	-	-	2	-	3	9	94	1	6	-	-	-	-	-	-
-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
85	-	-	-	11	-	-	-	68	2	4	-	-	-	-	-	-
4	-	-	-	-	-	3	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
4	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	3	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
2	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
130	26	-	-	84	-	-	3	17	-	-	-	-	-	-	3	-
3	3	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	1	-
-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
14	-	4	-	5	-	-	1	4	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
21	-	-	-	3	-	-	2	13	-	3	-	-	-	-	-	-
-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
1	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
13	-	-	-	5	-	-	1	5	-	-	-	2	-	-	-	-
78	-	1	-	28	-	-	-	49	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1
4	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	4	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
5,377	316	11	36	600	6	8	239	3,524	91	333	4	208	1	104	8	5

- - TOTAL - - } 5,377  
Numbers Convicted  
Acquitted by Jury - 2,454  
No Bill found - - 1,521  
No Prosecution - - 935  
Bailed and not Tried, 1,414  
Died in Gaol - - 13  
Remaining for Trial, 1,850  
TOTAL Committed  
to the Gaols of } 12,564  
Ireland, 1818 - }

Forster Archer,  
I. G. P.

(42.)

## APPENDIX.

IN order to show that several Administrations in Ireland have, for a series of years back, taken into their consideration the state of the Gaols of Ireland, and directed their attention towards ameliorating the condition of the prisoners committed to them; I presume to subjoin an extract from a Report addressed by me to Mr. *Trail*, then Under Secretary for the Civil department in Ireland, particularly as it contains a brief sketch on the subject of Penitentiaries, and especially of one that had been instituted in the City of Dublin; *scil.*

“ IN the Bridewell of James'-street, in the city of Dublin, are confined 20 women and eight men, each of whom being convicted before the Recorder, of larceny, received the uniform sentence of imprisonment for three years. This prison had been repaired and fitted up about 17 years ago, by order of Government, for the purpose of employing at labour felons sentenced to transportation. This improvement was begun under the inspection of Sir J. Fitzpatrick, during the administration of Lord Westmoreland, at whose desire an experiment was made, to try whether it were possible to reform persons convicted of crimes deserving transportation, by changing that punishment into confinement, accompanied by well regulated labour and religious instruction. For some time the experiment succeeded; therefore an Act of Parliament (stat. 32 Geo. III. ch. 22.) was passed, empowering the Lord Lieutenant to commute the punishment of transportation into imprisonment; and also empowering the Recorder of Dublin to sentence such persons to imprisonment for any term not exceeding seven years. For a considerable time labour was carried on briskly; many unhappy wretches were usually employed at various trades; viz. shoe-making, ribbon-weaving, flax-spinning, &c. From the visible signs of reformation that the work had introduced, several were pardoned, and became afterwards industrious and useful. When the war broke out in 1793, the then Inspector General of Prisons, Sir J. Fitzpatrick, quitted the kingdom, a successor was not for a considerable time appointed, therefore the business, for want of superintendence, drooped. At this time the war was very unpopular, and the recruiting service much impeded by the efforts of the affiliated societies, the friends of the French, in Dublin. It appeared therefore necessary and proper to enlist the male convicts into His Majesty's service, a practice which has during the war been continued. The females remained, but labour became relaxed, the business not being attended to by the fostering care of Government; the Inspector General of Prisons being absent, and the country becoming extremely turbulent, a succession of working convicts, therefore; was not kept up, and labour was no longer provided.

“ Early in the year 1795 it was thought necessary by Lord Fitzwilliam, to re-establish the office of Inspector General of Prisons, who found the Bridewell in the state just described. From that period many efforts were made by that officer to procure a renewal of national support to this humane and meritorious undertaking; but the unceasing troubles of the country so fully occupied His Majesty's government, that the Inspector's application failed of success; although his efforts were honoured with the approbation of Earl Camden, Mr. Pelham, and Mr. Cooke. Since that period a number of wretches convicted of small crimes before the Recorder, are monthly committed here, to undergo the punishment of three years imprisonment, in the same manner as if labour, industry, and religious instruction had been, as heretofore, provided and maintained. The persons committed are universally the most wretched of the poor, and are without other subsistence (save 10 pound of bread per week, supplied by Grand Jury presentments;) this allowance is somewhat diminished by being exchanged for tea and sugar, the usual beverage of the female poor in towns; about the year 1799 a charitable society was formed, whose object was the relief of prisoners, both debtors and felons. These gentlemen paid particular attention to the unhappy persons confined in this gaol, they distributed provisions every week, and introduced labour among them. An astonishing alteration and improvement in their countenances, health and behaviour, was thereby effected. For sometime business went on briskly, as long as the society continued their superintendence; but when the novelty of visiting prisons was satisfied by repetition, the attention of the society subsided, and their visits ceased, and the funds became exhausted, and for the last  
three

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three years labour has been altogether suspended, except some casual needle-work, flax-spinning and card-making occasionally, obtained by the gaoler's wife, a woman who is both humane and industrious. These experiments have confirmed me in opinion, long entertained, that if a Penitentiary were built on a simple construction, wherein labour and regular discipline could be introduced, it would be attended with considerable national advantage. The expenses attending the attainment of so important an object, are not worthy of consideration, when compared with its utility. I am convinced that if such an institution was perfected; if judicious and honest task-masters and instructors were set over them, many would be reclaimed from vicious habits, and their own industry, in a short time, would support such an establishment; and the heavy expenses attending the transportation to Botany Bay would be in three parts diminished. Had the experiments made been persevered in, this truth, I am convinced, would be perfectly established, and this prison would present a very different appearance. The present state of the prisoners is melancholy and disgusting; they are nearly naked, squalid, sickly, and but half fed. The tedium of imprisonment is also aggravated by torpid idleness, a state as unfavourable to morals as it is to bodily health or public advantage. These wretched creatures, feeling their forlorn circumstances, are desirous of employment, and have therefore entreated that I would communicate their humble desire to Government, that a supply of work might be provided, such as may enable them to procure some clothing to cover them, and to eke out the scanty allowance of gaol provisions by their own labour and industry. The prison is now in a tolerable state of repair and security for women, and into this prison none but women should be committed; it is capable of containing 80 persons, together with the necessary implements for labour. A selection should be made from the female convicts in Newgate, 27 in number, and also from those in Bridewell, in Smithfield, 38 in number, who are unemployed at work of any kind; and those whose offences are of the lesser degree, and who have not been habitual offenders, should be transmitted into this prison. To employ those persons at constant work, for providing raw materials and implements of labour, and for making some necessary alterations in the prison, a sum of 300*l.* in advance would be required; and for keeping those implements in repair, and also for paying the Salaries of task-masters, superintendents and incidental charges, an annual stipend of 200*l.* would be sufficient, without any other charge to Government whatever.

“Should his Grace the Lord Lieutenant be pleased to take this subject into his consideration, every endeavour in my power shall be used to carry the measure into full effect, by close and anxious superintendence over the officers, the prisoners, their labour, the due distribution of their earnings, and the expenditure of the capital stock.”

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18/1

(Ireland.)

THE INSPECTOR GENERAL'S  
REPORT

On the State of the Prisons in Ireland, for the  
Year 1818.

(Presented 28 April 1819.)

*Ordered, by The House of Commons, to be Printed,  
1 July 1819.*