

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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DOCUMENTS

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THE LEGISLATURE

OF THE

STATE OF MAINE,

DURING ITS SESSION

A. D. 1847.

AUGUSTA:

Wm. T. JOHNSON,.....PRINTER TO THE STATE

1848.

TWENTY-SEVENTH LEGISLATURE.

No. 3.]

[SENATE.

ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE

WARDEN OF MAINE STATE PRISON.

*To the Honorable Senate
and House of Representatives :*

The undersigned respectfully submits the following, as the annual report of the Maine State Prison for the year ending the 30th of April, 1847.

There are now confined in the Prison, 70 convicts, and employed as follows, viz :

In Lime Quarry,	13	In Wheelwrights' Shop,	6
“ Shoemaking,	30	“ Hospital, sick,	4
“ Tailoring,	3	Lumpers,	1
“ Washing,	2	Waiters,	2
“ Cooking,	2		—
“ Smiths' Shop,	7	Aggregate,	70

In presenting this report I have nothing new to present to the Legislature. I believe that the condition of the inmates of the prison, is about the same as last year. They are generally healthy and I think made comfortable by a plenty of good wholesome pro-

visions, and warm clothing of a coarse and cheap kind. It will be seen, I hope, in the inspector's report, the number of days spent in each of the departments ; and in that table will also be seen some 852 days spent in the hospital. This does not show that the new and comfortable prison lately erected at great expense to the state, is any better than the old one. But I hope this is not a test between the two prisons. Some convicts, on their entrance of the prison, are nearly dead with disease which cannot be cured, and finally die while here. The only death which has occurred the past year, was a negro man who came here diseased and continued in the hospital until he died. There is also another man in the hospital, who during the whole year has been unable to labor and for most of the time under medical treatment, late an inmate of the Massachusetts prison. These two make up a large portion of the days spent in the hospital. Many other indolent convicts frequently complain and wish to be admitted to the hospital when not sick, and many times are suffered to do so, until the physician comes to decide whether they are sick or not. Some take this course to induce their friends to be more zealous in their labors in obtaining their liberation from prison. I believe the physician intends to make a report, which you will also see.

A large proportion of the convicts are perfectly well and healthy, and many of them seem to be willing to labor. Each shop has an overseer in it, to instruct the convicts and see that they properly work. Care is taken to obtain good overseers. They take pride in seeing those under them well cared for. Each convict who wishes, has a small garden in which he is permitted to labor a few minutes daily, and while he takes the fresh air, he is raising also from his garden such vegetables as his taste may require. The vegetables thus raised they control, and during the whole fall and winter they are supplied with all kinds of eatables, which to them are extra. They generally take great delight in this pleasure. I am quite happy to say that a very large proportion of the convicts behave well, and but a small number have to be punished, and that all the punishment during the year has been mild, such as to shut them up in the dungeon until we obtain a promise of reform.

By the above statement, it is shown that in eight years the prison has failed to pay its way by the sum of \$6,427 92, making a deficit of \$803 49 a year. All the property above described has been earned by the prison, and the losses are inevitable, Providence alone being able to control them.

I should not have been so particular in the above statement but for the reason that I noticed some one member of the last legislature seemed inclined to have the public understand that all was not right at the state prison, and during his stay there, was continually throwing out insinuations that the matter should be looked into. After several ineffectual attempts, he succeeded on the last day of the session, to have himself and two gentlemen, all of the house, appointed a committee whose duty it was to sit in the recess of the legislature to hunt up the evils at the state prison, and report to some future legislature. As neither of these gentlemen is returned to the present legislature, and as they have not seen fit to attend to that duty, I trust this legislature, at an early day, will, if they think matters are not right, send a committee to visit and report to this legislature. I do not ask it on my own account, yet if any considerable number have not sufficient confidence in the warden and inspectors to manage the affairs of the prison, the authorities should see to it. I do not shrink from a full and free investigation of all matters at the prison. I did suppose that the public generally were satisfied with my management here. If I had not, I should not have stopped as long as I have. I had made up my mind to leave the prison before this, and should have done so had it not have been for threats and insinuations of some persons, and those threats sent to the public. Feeling innocent of any charges made, I thought it due to the public and those who assisted in placing me here, to stop until all things should be righted.

I have good reason to think that all these insinuations of last year, were from the personal feelings of the individual who was appointed chairman of the committee. The other two gentlemen I believe to be high minded and honorable.

In the table of the account current, at the bottom of the page,

will be seen what the prison owes both on notes and accounts, and also what is due to the prison. We have due \$2,020 29 more than we had last year, and owe \$1,326 36 less than last year. Many of the debts due are poor, and some of them worthless, and need a great deal of attention to collect them. We are compelled to resort to a large barter trade to collect even as much as we do, and obliged to make a great many turns to enable us to go along with our own resources, or else we should be compelled to call on the treasurer of state for money to furnish our shops and procure subsistence and clothing for the prisoners. This kind of trade makes much work for the warden, but a cash trade alone would leave thousands of dollars in stock on our hands which must be sold at a great loss.

On a full examination of all the affairs of the prison, and considering the small number of convicts confined, it is thought that our expenses do not exceed those of other similar institutions. As I have in years gone by remarked, that it is a consoling idea that a state numbering more than 500,000 inhabitants, has in its only state prison but 70 inmates and averaging less than that for a series years, though large in territory and bounded as we are upon the provinces of a foreign nation, where it is convenient to cross the boundary line only to escape for the present the punishment justly merited for the crimes committed.

In closing this report I am constrained to say, believing it my last annual report, that now, as has generally been the case, all the subordinate officers connected with this prison, have done and are doing all they can for the interest of the institution and for the ease and accommodation of the warden.

I do not undertake to praise the inspectors of this prison, for I hope they are favorably and well known to the state, but in closing this, the last annual report I probably shall ever make of this prison, permit me to say, so far as I can judge, I think their aim has ever been to promote the interest of the institution and the welfare and happiness of its inmates. I am inclined to believe

that the inspectors' report will accompany this, and to that I would particularly refer you for a more detailed account.

I have the honor to be, gentlemen,

Respectfully your ob't serv't,

BENJAMIN CARR, *Warden.*

Thomaston, May 18th, 1847.

Dr.

The State Prison in account with the State of Maine.

Cr.

1846.			1847.		
April 30.	For stock and tools on hand,	17,437 89	April 30.	By stock and tools on hand,	17,056 56
"	" paid Officers' salaries,	4,189 64	"	" Cash received of visitors,	111 11
"	" " Convicts discharged,	161 91	"	" " of convicts admitted,	8 47
"	" " for Clothing,	369 10	"	" rec'd and charged for clothing,	130 72
"	" " " Fuel and lights,	978 08	"	" " " Fuel and lights,	82 16
"	" " " Lime quarry,	938 45	"	" " " Lime quarry,	2,142 74
"	" " " Wheelwrights,	1,831 52	"	" " " Wheelwrights,	3,592 47
"	" " " Building and repairs,	222 18	"	" " " Building and repairs,	3 50
"	" " " Team,	538 50	"	" " " Team,	605 29
"	" " " Subsistence,	1,927 95	"	" " " Subsistence,	261 74
"	" " " Shoemaking,	3,051 46	"	" " " Shoemaking,	5,621 80
"	" " " Expense account,	1,235 12	"	" " " Expense account,	14 85
"	" " " Blacksmithing,	670 03	"	" " " Blacksmithing,	1,681 60
		\$33,551 83		Balance,	2,288 82
					\$33,551 83

Amount due prison on notes and accounts, \$14,110 23. Amount due from prison on notes and accounts, \$7,068 44. Balance in favor, \$7,041 79. BENJAMIN CARR.

LINCOLN, ss. May 21, 1847.

Personally appeared, Benjamin Carr, and made oath that the above account is true to the best of his knowledge and belief. BEFORE ME, GEORGE A. STARR, *Justice of the Peace.*

Examined and compared with vouchers, and found correct.

BENJ. F. BUXTON,
 GEORGE A. STARR,
 STEPHEN BARROWS, } *Inspectors.*

WARDEN'S REPORT—STATE PRISON.

Convicts.

Number of Convicts, April 30, 1846, - - -	60	Whole number committed since July 2d, 1824, -	909
Received since, - - - - -	28	Discharged on expiration of sentence, - -	666
	—	Pardoned, - - - - -	139
	88	Died, - - - - -	27
Discharged on expiration of sentence, - - -	12	Escaped and not retaken, - - - - -	7
Pardoned, - - - - -	5	Present number, April 30, 1847, - - -	70
Died, - - - - -	1		—
	—		909
	18		
Remaining number, April 30, 1847, . . .	70		

Crimes.

Rape, - - - - -	2	Murder—sentence commuted, - - - - -	1
Assault with intent to kill, - - - - -	1	Murder—awaiting sentence of death, - - -	1
Larceny, - - - - -	49	Murder in the second degree, - - - - -	2
Arson, - - - - -	4	Forgery, - - - - -	1
Burglary, - - - - -	4	Polygamy, - - - - -	1
Adultery, - - - - -	2	Receiving stolen goods, - - - - -	1
Passing counterfeit money, - - - - -	1		—
			70

Convicts in the State Prison, April 30th, 1847.

County.	Names.	Sentence.		Crimes.	When committed.	Place of Birth.	Age.	No. of com.
		Years.	Months.					
Kennebec,	Horace M. Holt	1		Receiving stolen goods.	Jan'y 2, 1847.	N. Hampshire.	25	1
Lincoln,	Akers, Nathaniel	Life,		Arson.	Sept. 24, 1841.	Gorham.	30	3
do.	Alexander, James	5		Larceny.	Oct. 29, 1844.	Northport.	40	2
do.	Ball, Benjamin	4		do.	March 9, 1847.	Boston.	44	4
Washington,	Brannick, William	Life,		Burglary.	Aug 1, 1842.	Ireland.	28	1
Cumberland,	Brown, George, Jr.	4		Larceny.	March 26, 1844.	Portland.	24	1
Franklin,	Beals, Samuel	2		Polygamy.	June 25, 1846.	York.	46	1
Washington,	Beckett, Robert	5		Burglary and larceny.	March 14, 1847.	Ireland.	22	1
Penobscot,	Boyd, Wilmont H.	3		Forgery.	July 15, 1846.	Virginia.	29	1
Lincoln,	Cremer, Israel	10		Arson.	Sept. 25, 1843.	Waldoboro'.	35	1
Penobscot,	Cornelius, Thomas	4		Larceny.	Oct. 26, 1843.	N. Brunswick.	28	1
York,	Cole, Elisha	5		Passing counterfeit money.	Oct. 11, 1845.	Buxton.	41	1
Penobscot,	Canney, Ezra	Life,		Murder, second degree.	Nov. 13, 1845.	Tuftenboro.	42	1
York,	Condon, John	1		Larceny.	Nov. 5, 1846.	Unity.	45	1
do.	Corlett, Thomas	3		do.	Nov. 5, 1846.	England.	40	1
Cumberland,	Dyer, Martha Ann	10		do.	Oct. 17, 1839.	Pittsfield.	38	1
do.	Davis, James	5		do.	June 29, 1844.	Portland.	18	3
Penobscot,	DeBoice, James	3		do.	June 25, 1845.	Woodstock.	21	1
do.	Drew, Smith	2		do.	June 25, 1845.	Hampden.	18	1
Kennebec,	Daly, James	1	6	do.	Jan'y 3, 1846.	Augusta.	22	1
Cumberland,	Dwyer, Edward	2		do.	June 25, 1846.	Ireland.	26	2
Kennebec,	Fogg, Elijah	Life,		Arson.	Oct. 20, 1838.	Gorham.	28	1
Waldo,	Green, Henry	6		Larceny and arson.	April 1, 1844.	Ireland.	19	1
Penobscot,	Graffam, Oliver	3		Adultery.	Dec. 20, 1845.	Baldwin.	29	1
Cumberland,	Gould, Selden C.	5		Larceny.	Oct. 22, 1846.	Wilton.	29	3
Somerset,	Green, Noah	1		do.	Oct. 29, 1846.	Smithfield.	26	1
do.	Hill, John	Life,		Arson.	June 25, 1842.	England.	53	1
Kennebec,	Hilton, John	5		Larceny.	Aug. 27, 1844.	Alna.	47	1
Cumberland,	Hayden, Hugh	2		do.	March 26, 1847.	Ireland.	25	2
Oxford,	Houghton, Ward H.	2		do.	June 25, 1846.	Paris.	21	2

Convicts in the State Prison, April 30th, 1847—Continued.

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County.	Names.	Sentence.		Crimes.	When committed.	Place of Birth.	Age.	No. of com.
		Years.	Months.					
Waldo,	Kennedy, Michael	4		Larceny.	April 2, 1844.	Ireland.	35	6
Lincoln,	Kenza, Charles	10		Burglary.	Sept. 26, 1846.	New York.	30	4
Washington,	Lysle, Samuel	4		Larceny.	Oct. 9, 1843.	England.	20	1
Penobscot,	Leavett, Eliphalet	5		do.	Oct. 26, 1843.	N. Hampshire.	31	1
Kennebec,	Lewis, John E.	2		do.	Aug. 26, 1845.	England.	27	1
do.	Lander, Joseph T.	3		do.	Jan'y 2, 1847.	Andover.	23	1
Cumberland,	Kenny, George F.	5		do.	Oct. 22, 1846.	Halifax.	24	1
Penobscot,	Mahony, Charles	2		do.	Feb'y 19, 1846.	Ireland.	38	1
Me.Dis.U. S.	Moore, John	2	\$25 fine.	Assault to kill.	Oct. 21, 1845.	New York.	27	1
Oxford,	Farwell, Levi	1		Larceny.	Nov. 27, 1846.	Ballstown.	28	2
Kennebec,	Mayhew, Daniel	1		do.	Sept. 1, 1846.	Hampden.	18	1
Cumberland,	Martin, Edward A.	Life,		Rape.	Nov. 27, 1846.	Standish.	24	1
do.	Nickerson, Freeman	3		Larceny.	March 22, 1845.	Cape Cod.	45	2
York,	Nutting, Charles P.	2		do.	Nov. 5, 1846.	Lisbon.	25	1
Cumberland,	Owen, Thomas, Jr.	5		do.	May 29, 1846.	Portland.	19	1
do.	Pinkham, Nicholas	Life,		Rape.	May 2, 1846.	Freeport.	60	1
do.	Richardson, Oliver D.	12		Larceny.	July 1, 1843.	Otisfield.	37	5
Lincoln,	Richards, Nathan	7		Burglary.	Sept. 25, 1843.	Wayne.	27	3
do.	Richardson, Columbus	Life,		Larceny.	Sept. 26, 1846.	Litchfield.	30	2
Penobscot,	Spencer, Isaac	Life,		Murder—commuted.	Feb'y 21, 1836.	Orono.	21	1
Washington,	Sharkey, Thomas	Life,		Burglary.	Aug. 1, 1842.	Ireland.	22	1
Lincoln,	Smith, Robert	5		Adultery.	Aug. 9, 1844.	do.	23	1
Kennebec,	Stevens, Russel F.	2		Larceny.	April 29, 1846.	Boston.	24	1
Cumberland,	Sweetsir, Charles	2		do.	March 29, 1846.	Portland.	19	1
Waldo,	Starr, Arthur	4		do.	April 1, 1844.	Ireland.	29	2
Penobscot,	Sawyer, Henry	5		do.	Feb'y 19, 1846.	Saco.	38	2
Cumberland,	Storer, William H.	6		do.	Oct. 22, 1846.	New Sharon.	26	1
do.	Thorn, Thomas	To be hanged.		Murder.	May 17, 1843.	Long Island.	24	1
Kennebec,	Turner, Alexander G.	4		Larceny.	Jan'y 2, 1847.	Scotland.	20	1
York,	Taylor, Dean	1		do.	March 7, 1847.	Limington.	28	1

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Oxford,	Willis, Isaiah	4		Forgery.	May 31, 1845.	Middleboro'.	67	1
Cumberland,	Welch, John	1		Larceny.	March 26, 1847.	Waterboro'.	20	1
do.	Murray, James	5		do.	March 29, 1846.	Ireland.	23	1
York,	Jordan, George W.	2		do.	Nov. 5, 1846.	Lebanon.	16	1
Penobscot,	Varney, Richard	Life,		Murder, second degree.	Dec. 20, 1845.	Don't know.	27	1
Cumberland,	White, Lewis	5		Larceny.	June 29, 1844.	Portland.	17	2
do.	Carleton, George W.	3		Adultery.	May 5, 1844.	—	41	1
Penobscot,	Porter, Henry alias H. G.			Larceny.	May 30, 1846.	Portland.	21	1
	Smith.	2		do.	Nov. 3, 1845.	Italy.	35	1
do.	Bailey, George	1	6	do.	Nov. 5, 1845.	England.	23	1
do.	Horton, William,	1	6					

STATE OF MAINE.

IN SENATE, May 25, 1847.

Laid on the table, and 800 copies ordered to be printed for the use of the Legislature, and 50 additional copies for the use of the Warden of the Maine State Prison.

DANIEL T. PIKE, *Secretary.*