

Lord Glenelg, dated the 5th July last, with a letter from the Prison Discipline Society in England, relating to the state of Jails and Prison Discipline in the Colonies—inclosing, also, the Copy of the Rules adopted by the Lieutenant Governor of the Bahamas, for the management of Jails in those Islands. The Lieutenant Governor also submits to the House, copy of a Presentment of the Grand Jury of Queen's County, calling the attention of the Government to the state of the Jail in Charlottetown, with a view to effect a classification of prisoners, and pointing out how so desirable an object may be effected.

The Lieutenant Governor recommends these Documents to the early consideration of the House, and trusts they may be the means of effecting the improvement (so much wanted) in the Jails in this Island.

To assist the House in its deliberations on this important subject, the Lieutenant Governor submits, for the perusal of the House, a volume published by Her Majesty's Government, containing extracts from the second Report of the Inspectors of Prisons for the Home District—and also a copy of the Rules adopted for the House of Correction of Petworth, in Sussex.

Government House,

February 5th, 1838.

#### CIRCULAR.

DOWNING STREET,  
5th July, 1837.

Sir;

I have the honor to transmit to you the Copy of a Letter addressed to one of my Under Secretaries, by the Committee of the Prison Discipline Society in this Country, relating to the state of the Jails and Prison Discipline in the Colonies, and containing much useful information on that subject.

I likewise inclose a Copy of the Rules adopted by the Lieutenant Governor of the Bahamas, for the management of the Jails in those Islands, which Rules have been approved of by the Society above named.

In conclusion, I have to desire that you will use your best endeavours to give effect to the suggestions of the Committee of Prison Discipline, so far as local circumstances will admit, in the Colony under your Government.

I have, &c.

(Signed)

GLENELG.

Sir Charles A. Fitz Roy, K. H.

&c. &c. &c.

18, ALDERMANBURY,  
March 23d, 1837.

Sir;

I beg to acknowledge the receipt of your three Letters, dated January 19th and 21st, and February 9th, with the accompanying Papers, relative to the state of the Prisons in the Colonies; and, in compliance with the request of Lord Glenelg, I have submitted the same to the Com-

mittee of the Prison Discipline Society, for their consideration.

In looking over the various Reports, it is highly gratifying to find that improvements are in progress in several of the Colonial Jails, by the introduction of Laws and Regulations for their internal government and discipline. —Some of these papers, however, are by no means of recent date; and it cannot, therefore, be ascertained how far the spirit of improvement has generally prevailed.

The Committee are desirous to call the attention of Lord Glenelg to the annexed paper of "Remarks," as to the defects which appear to exist in many of the Prisons in the Colonies; and, with a view to remedy some of the evils, particularly as to the state of the Buildings, I beg to suggest, that the plans of all the Jails, &c. should be obtained, in order that the benefits resulting from an improved system of construction and arrangement may be pointed out, in reference to such new buildings as it may be found necessary to erect, or alterations to be made in the old Jails.

I have also to submit to his Lordship, that an enlarged form of Returns, (agreeably to the one annexed,) should be sent to each Colony, with a view to obtain more detailed information on certain points than is already possessed; and that the answers to such inquiries should, in all cases, be accompanied by copies of the Laws and Regulations which have been, or are about to be, established in each Colony.

The Committee wish me to urge the necessity of Local Inspectors being appointed, to visit the Prisons at frequent intervals, (as suggested in my former Letter to Lord Glenelg,) a measure which, it is considered, would greatly facilitate the establishment of an effective system of discipline.

I return, herewith, all the original papers which you forwarded to me on this subject; and also send you, by request of the Committee, a packet containing four books of Prison Plans, twelve copies of Rules for Jails, and twelve descriptions of the Trend-mill.

I have the honor to be,

Sir,

Your very obedient servant,  
(Signed) SAMUEL HOARE,  
Chairman of the Committee.

Sir George Grey, Bart., &c. &c.

P. S.—There is another subject to which I beg to call your attention, viz: that a List of Questions be forwarded to New South Wales, similar to that which was prepared for Van Dieman's Land, and sent to the Colonial Office in August last.

#### REMARKS ON THE COLONIAL PRISONS.

The official Reports which have been recently received from the West Indies, state, that new Prison Buildings are about to be erected at Jamaica, Barbadoes, Demerara, Tobago, Nevis, Dominica, &c. It is, therefore, considered desirable that a Plan of each Prison should be forwarded to the Colonial Office; also Plans of any new Prisons which are about to be erected, and of any alterations or additions to be made in the present Jails.

In Lower Canada, new Prisons are proposed to be constructed on the Auburn plan, (of association at labour in silence,) which has been recommended by a Committee appointed to consider the Penitentiary system of the United States, in preference to the solitary or separate system enforced at Pennsylvania.