

HOUSE.....

.....No. 39.

ABSTRACT OF RETURNS

OF

INSPECTORS AND KEEPERS

OF

JAILS AND HOUSES OF CORRECTION.

Commonwealth of Massachusetts.

SECRETARY'S OFFICE, FEBRUARY 7, 1840.

Honorable ROBERT C. WINTHROP,

Speaker of the House of Representatives :

SIR,

In obedience to an order of the House of the 31st ult. I herewith submit an Abstract of the Returns which have been received in this office for the year 1839, concerning Jails and Houses of Correction.

There being no especial *form* of returns concerning prisons, prescribed by law, it will be observed by the Abstract, that the information derived from the returns is, in some cases, much more full than in others. It is also important to notice, that the returns, as at present made, exhibit a much larger aggregate of crime than the facts, if properly set forth, would warrant; for the number stated as committed to the houses of correction of course includes a large portion of those who were in the first instance committed to the common jails. And yet the totals under each of those heads are necessarily given in the Abstract, the Secretary not being furnished with the means of making the proper deductions.

It is moreover to be observed, that from many of the counties no general accounts concerning their jails, &c. for the *whole year* are transmitted to this office, but simply copies of the *semi-annual* reports which are made to the inspec-

tors. In such cases those prisoners who remain undischarged at the period of the *first* semi-annual report, are likewise included among the numbers specified in the *second* semi-annual report; and the *names* of prisoners not being given, the Secretary cannot ascertain how many should be deducted from the *second* report, so as to be able to state the true number for the *whole* year. Believing, therefore, that in these and other respects, the returns, as now made, do not furnish sufficient materials for accurate and useful information, I venture to express the hope, that the subject may be considered worthy of the especial attention of the Legislature.

Very respectfully,

Your obedient servant,

JOHN P. BIGELOW,

Secretary of the Commonwealth.

CAUSES OF COMMITMENT

For Crime, to the several Jails and Houses of Correction.

COUNTY OF SUFFOLK.

JAIL IN BOSTON.

Larceny,	144	Keeping houses of ill fame,	16
Cheating by false pretences,	8	Keeping a gaming table,	1
Receiving stolen goods,	5	Illegal voting,	5
Forgery,	3	Stubborn child,	1
Passing counterfeit money,	7	Disturbers of the peace,	6
Subornation of perjury,	1	Drunkenness,	59
Burglary,	2	Selling spirituous liquors without license,	7
Arson,	2	Revolt on board ship,	33
Bigamy,	2	Bastardy,	8
Challenge to fight a duel,	1	For examination,	781
Third comer to the State Prison,	1	Safe keeping,	36
Indecent exposure of person,	3	Not recognizing as witnesses,	7
Assault,	57	Breaches of by-laws of the city,	2
Assault with intent to commit a rape,	1	Malicious mischief and breaking glass,	2
Vagabonds,	5	Adultery,	3
Attempt to rescue a prisoner,	1	Extinguishing a street lamp,	1
Peace-warrants,	7	Escape from House of Reformation,	1

Escape from House of Correction,	1
Deserting from ship,	8
Having lighted cigar in stable,	1
Deserting from U. S. Army,	4
Attempting to convey spirituous liquor to jail,	1
Selling lottery tickets,	1
Lewd and lascivious conduct,	8
Insanity,	2
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	1245

HOUSE OF CORRECTION.

Larceny,	270
Common and notorious thieves,	16
Forcible attempt on a child,	2
Bigamy,	5
Forgery,	7
Sodomy,	2
Escape from House of Correction,	3
Breaking and entering dwelling-house and stealing,	3
Breaking and entering shop,	1
Receiving stolen goods,	4
Assault and battery,	10
Assault and stabbing with intent to kill,	1
Assault and battery with intent to kill,	1
Assault and battery and resisting a watchman,	2
Adultery,	1
Keeping house of ill fame,	26

Disorderly house,	2
Passing spirituous liquor to prisoners in jail,	1
Embezzlement and larceny,	2
Riot,	6
Riot and assault,	4
Passing counterfeit money,	7
Common drunkards,	570
“ “ and vagabonds,	43
Common drunkards and night walkers,	17
Common drunkards, lewd, wanton and lascivious,	11
Common drunkards, wanton and lascivious,	5
Common drunkards, vagabond, wanton, lascivious and night-walker,	1
Larceny and common drunkard,	1
Vagabonds,	79
“ and idle person,	2
“ and pilferer,	1
“ and night walkers,	15
Lewd, wanton and lascivious,	87
Wanton and lascivious,	2
Wanton and lascivious and night walkers,	2
Kidnapping a child,	2
Forgery, and uttering bad bill,	1
Pilferers,	2
Stubborn child,	1

Night walkers,	9
Keeping a brothel,	1
Obtaining goods by false pre- tences,	1
Perjury,	1
Insane,	50
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	1280

HOUSE OF REFORMATION FOR JUVENILE OFFEND- ERS.

Larceny and pilfering,	139
Stubborn children,	51
Vagabonds,	33
Idle and dissolute persons,	8
Common drunkards,	3
Wanton and lascivious,	1
Runaway,	1
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COUNTY OF ESSEX.

JAIL IN SALEM.

Stealing,	19
Intemperance,	91
Vagabonds,	3
Fraud,	3
Assault, &c.	22
Lewdness,	4
Breach of peace,	2
Escape from House of Correction,	1
Riot,	4
Breach of by-laws,	1
Contempt of court,	2
Stubborn boy,	1
Fornication,	1

Breach of license law,	2
Escape from Alms House,	1
Witness,	1
Counterfeiting,	1
Insanity,	2
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	161

JAIL IN IPSWICH.

Assault and battery,	6
Stealing,	11
Forging and counterfeiting,	2
Adultery,	2
Lewd and lascivious,	1
Larceny,	4
Escape,	4

Breaking and entering dwelling-houses,	3
Breach of license law,	3
Intemperance,	6
Riot,	1
	<u>43</u>

HOUSE OF CORRECTION IN IPSWICH.

Forgery,	1
Larceny,	8
Intemperance,	85
Vagabond,	10
Assault,	1
Mischievous,	2
Idler,	3
Cheating,	1
Lewdness,	1
Breaking and entering dwelling-house,	1
Gambling,	1
Disorderly,	1
Escape,	1
Riot,	1
	<u>117</u>

JAIL IN NEWBURYPORT.

Disturbing the peace,	2
Assault and battery,	12
Stealing,	6
Receiving stolen goods,	1
Intemperance,	15
Vagabond,	4
Selling spirituous liquors,	4
Safe keeping,	2
Threatening,	2
Forgery,	1
Burglary,	2
Drunk and disorderly,	2
Escape,	1
For trial,	1
Contempt of court,	1
Breach of license law,	1
Refusing to recognize,	1
Carrying spirit to work-house,	2
For further examination,	1
Not stated,	1
	<u>62</u>

COUNTY OF MIDDLESEX.

JAIL IN CAMBRIDGE.

Assault and battery,	8
Larceny,	18
Bastardy,	1
Rape,	1
Arson,	1
Adultery,	1
Fraud,	2
Peddling,	1
Breach of license laws,	2
Escape,	1
Refusing to testify,	2
Mischief,	1
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HOUSE OF CORRECTION IN
CAMBRIDGE.

Common drunkards,	91
Drunkenness,	13
Assault and battery,	7
Larceny,	48
Lewdness,	14
Arson,	1
Adultery,	2
Breach of license laws,	1
Idlers,	3
Vagrants,	3

Night Walking,	1
Pilfering,	2
Exposing person,	1
Carrying spirit into jail,	1
Breach of peace,	6
Insanity,	4
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JAIL IN CONCORD.

Drunkenness,	1
Assault and battery,	5
Larceny,	12
Rape,	1
Arson,	1
Adultery,	4
Counterfeiting,	1
Fraud,	1
Obtaining goods on false pre- tences,	2
Burglary,	2
Threatening,	1
Carrying spirit into jail,	1
Contempt of court,	1
Conspiracy,	1
Trespass,	1
Witness,	1
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	36

JAIL IN LOWELL.

Drunkenness,	12	Burglary,	1
Assault and battery,	20	Peddling,	1
Larceny,	43	Breach of license laws,	5
Perjury,	1	Keeping house of ill fame,	1
Bastardy,	5	Threatening,	2
Lewdness,	3	Carrying spirit into jail,	1
Adultery,	3	Breach of peace,	7
Counterfeiting,	1	Witness,	1
Fraud,	1	Mischief,	2
Obtaining goods on false pre- tences,	2	Not stated,	3
			<u>115</u>

COUNTY OF WORCESTER.

JAIL IN WORCESTER.

Escape from House of Correction,	1	Want of bonds to keep the peace,	2
Assault,	9	Kidnapping,	2
Larceny,	19	Order of court,	1
Fraud,	1		<u>53</u>
Fine and costs,	5	HOUSE OF CORRECTION IN WORCESTER.	
Violation of fifteen gallon law,	1	Larceny,	18
Intemperance,	2	Adultery,	2
Forgery,	1	Assault,	3
Perjury,	1	Fraud,	1
Cheating,	3	Threatening, &c.	1
Adultery,	4	Embezzlement,	1
Trespass,	1	Forgery,	1

Intemperance,	57	Not stated,	1
Idleness,	2		<u>87</u>

COUNTY OF HAMPSHIRE.

JAIL AND HOUSE OF CORRECTION IN NORTHAMPTON.		Shoplifting,	1
Assault,	7	Conspiracy,	1
Larceny,	13	Stubbornness,	1
Breach of sabbath,	1	Drunkard,	3
Selling liquors, &c.	1	Forgery,	1
Bastardy,	1		<u>30</u>

COUNTY OF HAMPDEN.

JAIL AND HOUSE OF CORRECTION IN SPRINGFIELD.		Night-walkers,	2
Larceny,	21	Assisting prisoners to escape,	1
Assault,	18	Riot,	1
Breach of the peace,	4	Forgery,	1
Murder,	3	Contempt of court,	1
Adultery,	4	Drunkenness,	3
Rape,	2	Witness,	1
			<u>62</u>

COUNTY OF FRANKLIN.

JAIL IN GREENFIELD.		HOUSE OF CORRECTION IN GREENFIELD.	
Theft,	2	Common drunkards,	2
Assault and battery,	5	Assault on female,	1
Bastardy,	1		<u>3</u>
Adultery,	2		
Larceny,	1		
	<u>11</u>		

COUNTY OF BERKSHIRE.

JAIL IN LENOX.			
Theft,	11	Threatening,	1
Abuse of wife,	1	Lewd conduct,	1
Common drunkards,	4	Arson,	1
Assault, &c.	4	Obtaining goods by false pretences,	1
Trespass,	2		<u>26</u>

COUNTY OF NORFOLK.

JAIL IN DEDHAM.			
Larceny,	16	Counterfeiter,	1
Violation of license law,	1	Not finding sureties,	1
Assault,	4	Trespass,	2
Fraud,	1	Fine and costs,	1
Embezzlement,	1	Common drunkard,	1
		Selling liquor,	1

Safe keeping,	1	Larceny,	14
Riot,	1	Common drunkards,	35
Lunacy,	1	Assault,	2
	<u>33</u>	Obscenity,	2
HOUSE OF CORRECTION IN DEDHAM.		Abuse of child,	2
Arson,	2	Lewdness,	1
			<u>58</u>

COUNTY OF BRISTOL.

JAIL IN TAUNTON.

Larceny,	22
Obstructing rail-road,	1
Murder,	3
Drunkenness,	12
Drunkenness and assault,	1
Witness,	1
Assault and battery,	12
Store breaking,	1
Adultery, and assault and battery,	1
Perjury,	1
Passing tools in jail,	1
Bad house,	2
Fornication,	1
Contempt of court,	1
Adultery,	2
Assault on officer,	2
Forgery,	1
	<u>65</u>

JAIL AND HOUSE OF CORRECTION IN NEW BEDFORD.

Drunkenness,	372
Larceny,	48
To keep peace,	2
Selling rum,	4
Disturbing meeting,	1
For examination,	73
Cruelty,	1
Assault,	20
Bastardy,	2
Riot,	5
Forgery,	5
Murder,	2
Bad house,	13
Earning barn,	1
Burning hay,	1
Fornication,	14
Lewdness,	4

Adultery,	6	Beggar,	1
Carrying tools into jail,	1	Warrant,	1
Counterfeiting,	2	Witness,	2
Breaking glass,	1	Insane,	2
Swearing,	1	Not stated,	1
Vagabond,	1		<u>587</u>

COUNTY OF PLYMOUTH.

JAIL AND HOUSE OF CORRECTION IN PLYMOUTH.			
Theft,	4	Common drunkards,	7
Forgery,	1	Vagabonds,	6
Non payment of taxes,	2	Larceny,	2
Violation of license law,	1	Common railer,	1
Assault,	5	Threatening to do violence,	1
			<u>30</u>

COUNTY OF BARNSTABLE.

JAIL AND HOUSE OF CORRECTION IN BARNSTABLE.			
Theft,	5	Breach of peace,	2
Vagabond,	4	Assault,	4
		Insane,	2
			<u>17</u>

COUNTY OF DUKES COUNTY.

JAIL AND HOUSE OF COR-
RECTION IN EDGARTOWN.

Breaking the peace,

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Bad conduct, breaking peace, &c. 1

COUNTY OF NANTUCKET.

JAIL IN NANTUCKET.

NO RETURN.

