

T

GAOLS AND PRISONERS.

1897.

STATISTICAL RETURN, for the PRISONS of MALTA for 1897.

Name and nature of the Prison (Note: "Lock-ups" not inserted)	Total Number of Persons Committed in 1897	Number Committed for Debt, Want of Bail and Punishment			Number of those Committed who have been previously Convicted			Number of Persons Committed to Penal Imprisonment including "Hard Labour"				The Daily average Number in Prison	The Number of Admissions to Hospital during the year 1897	The Daily average on the Sick List	The Number of Deaths during 1897
		For Debt	For the sake of Security to public, or for want of Security	For purpose of Penal Imprisonment	Once	Twice	Three or more	For Five years or more	For one year or more, but less than five Years	For more than Three Months, and less than One Year	For Three Months or less				
Corradino Prison ... (common Gaol)	1,740	6	10	1,724	789	453	498	9	32	511	1,188	245	3	2	1
Valletta Prison ... (Prison attached to the Police)	3,266	—	194	3,072	1,069	475	206	12	48	47	2,965	17	20	1	—
Gozo Prison ... (common Gaol)	961	—	32	929	174	86	436	—	2	2	925	6	2	—	—
Total ...	5,967	6	236	5,725	2,032	1,014	1,140	21	82	560	5,078	268	25	3	1
Men ...	4,289	6	104	4,089	1,536	751	715	19	64	502	3,520	230	20	2	1
Women ...	619	—	17	602	165	75	187	—	6	16	580	18	4	1	—
Juveniles ...	1,046	—	25	1,021	326	187	238	2	12	42	965	20	1	—	—
{ Boys	1,046	—	25	1,021	326	187	238	2	12	42	965	20	1	—	—
{ Girls	13	—	—	13	5	1	—	—	—	—	13	—	—	—	—
	5,967	6	236	5,725	2,032	1,014	1,140	21	82	560	5,078	268	25	3	1

Corradino Prison.*

Questions.

Answers.

I. If the Prison is on a separate system, is the separation complete? And if not, what is the separation enforced by day and night respectively?

This prison is on the mixed cellular system as regards the criminal wards. The separation is complete as regards two of the five Sections under which the prisoners are classed, viz., A and B. In Section C association is allowed for 3 hours daily in the yards, but with *strict silence*; separation being enforced during the remaining hours. In Section D conversation for one hour per day is also allowed with another prisoner designated by the Superintendent. In Section E association and conversation are allowed during the day. By night the separation is complete for all prisoners.

II. If not on the separate system, what provision is there for the supervision of the prisoners while in association?

The prisoners, while in association, are supervised by Warders in the Male Divisions, and by Sisters of Charity in the Female Ward.

III. How many cells are there and how many wards?

There are 254 separate cells, and six wards.

IV. Taking the *average* number of prisoners in gaol, how many cubic feet of space are there for each prisoner during the hours of sleep?

In the Criminal wards there are 1,120 cubic feet of space for each prisoner in 72 cells, and 1,260 cubic feet in the other 182 cells.

V. How are the prisoners classified?

In five Sections from A to E inclusive, six months good conduct being required before passing from one system to another of less severity.

* On the 18th March 1895, the Female Prisoners were removed from the Asylum for Aged and Incurables to the Corradino Prison, where a Ward had been specially built for them.

Corradino Prison.

Questions.

VI. Is penal labour—that is labour by tread-mill, crank or shot drill—in force?

No.

VII. If so, during what periods of imprisonment in respect of what classes of prisoners and during how many hours, is such penal labour enforced? In stating hours of tread wheel labour, give, first, the total time on and off at the wheel, &c., secondly, the length of spells and interval of rest.

See Answer No. VI.

VIII. What kind of labour, other than penal labour is in use?

Building; Stone-cutting; Carpentering; Glazing; Mining; Painting; Staining; Whitewashing; Tailoring; Shoemaking; Furniture and Toy-making; Basket, Mat and Broom-making; Gardening, Field labour and Stone-breaking; Washing, Sewing, Knitting, Patching, &c.

IX. If the prisoners are employed beyond the walls of the gaol, state:

1. On what kind of work are they so employed?
2. How are they supervised?
3. How many escapes of prisoners, while being employed beyond the gaol, have taken place during each of the last three years?
4. How are the profits of their labour accounted for.

The prisoners are not employed outside the prison as a rule; but well-conducted men, supervised by two or three warders, are sent out to cultivate the lands when necessary.

None since October 31, 1871.

Lodged in the Colonial Treasury.

X. What was the total annual cost of the Prison during the year 1897?

£ 3,899.					
Personal Emoluments ...	...	...	...	...	£ 1,492
Other Charges (A Div.)					
Uniforms ...	...	...	...	...	31
Bookbinding ...	...	...	...	...	6
Stationery ...	...	...	...	...	0
Provisions ...	...	...	...	...	1,268
Bedding ...	...	...	...	...	35
Gratuities ...	...	...	...	...	140
Materials ...	...	...	...	...	60
Drugs ...	...	...	...	...	21
Transport ...	...	...	...	...	31
Water Supply ...	...	...	...	...	50
Cultivation ...	...	...	...	...	3
Other Charges (B Div.)					
Provisions ...	...	...	...	...	168
Clothing ...	...	...	...	...	19
					4,350
Less					
Maintenance of Consular, Naval and Military Prisoners (recouped) ...	...	...	...	...	431
					£ 3,919

Corradino Prison.

Questions.

XI. What was the annual amount of the prisoners' earnings during 1897?

		<i>Answers.</i>					
Brooms and Matting	£ 160
Tailoring	60
Joiner's Work	60
Mason's	"	60
Painter's	"	60
Plasterer's	"	60
Shoemaker's	"	60
Stainer's	"	30
Tinman's	"	60
Plumber's	"	30
Reclaiming waste land	200
Produce of Prison lands	140
Sale of animals	10
							£ 990

XII. What is the number of the hours allotted for sleep? And, if sleep is in association, are the dormitories lighted; and how often are they patrolled during the night?

According to the Section. From one hour after sunset to day light. Light is allowed after sunset from 20 minutes to one hour according to the Section of the prisoners. All the wards are patrolled every hour during the night.

XIII. What were the number and nature of the punishments inflicted for offences committed by prisoners undergoing imprisonment?

		<i>Answers.</i>					
The number of punishments inflicted were 248, viz:							
Solitary confinement on bread and water	143
Dark Cell on bread and water	2
Reduction from Class	16
Admonished	87
							248

XIV. Is there, or are there, any Chaplain or Chaplains of any, and what religious persuasion?

One resident Roman Catholic Chaplain; and three visiting Chaplains, one Church of England, one Presbyterian, and one Wesleyan.

XV. Are religious services regularly, or otherwise, performed for the benefit of the prisoners of any, and if any, what religious persuasion?

There are two Chapels, viz: Catholic and Protestant in which Divine Service is regularly performed.

XVI. Are Roman Catholic Priests and dissenting Ministers allowed free access to prisoners of their own persuasion? and are they appraised when prisoners of their respective persuasion enter the prison?

Yes.

XVII. What provision is made for the education of prisoners?

The resident Chaplain is also Schoolmaster, and the prisoners are taught by him in their cells as regards religious instruction; also reading, writing, &c. if they wish it. The visiting Protestant Chaplain is assisted in his work by a Scripture-reader.

Corradino Prison.

*Questions.**Answers.*

XVIII. On what conditions are remissions of imprisonment granted?

Every prisoner sentenced to imprisonment for over two years is entitled, if of good behaviour, to a remission of part of the remainder of his sentence, at the rate of one day for each week during the third year, and three days for each week during the subsequent years.

XIX. Have Coroners's Inquests been held on every occasion of a death in prison during the past year and what were the verdicts?

One death occurred in 1897, from Purpura Hæmorrhagica.
No Inquest was held.

XX.

(1.) What was the sanitary state of the Prison during the year 1897?

Very good.

(2.) What were the prevailing diseases?

Venereal disease and Gastric disorders.

XXI. What are shortly the rules as to diet?

Simple Imprisonment.

First three Weeks—

Sundays, Tuesdays, and Thursdays, 24 oz. bread and $\frac{1}{2}$ pint soup.

Mondays, Wednesdays, Fridays and Saturdays, 27 oz. bread and 1 ration cheese, salt-fish or olives.

Remaining time—

28 oz. bread 1 pint soup on Sundays, Tuesdays and Thursdays.

31 oz. bread, and 1 ration cheese, olives or salt-fish on the other four days.

The rations of cheese, olives or salt-fish consist of $1\frac{1}{2}$, $2\frac{1}{2}$ and 2 oz. respectively.

Hard Labour.

An addition of one pint coffee, nine oz. bread or $\frac{1}{2}$ pint soup and $\frac{1}{2}$ ration of cheese, olives or salt-fish; and on Sunday four oz. meat.

The soup is made of paste and vegetables, with lard or oil. Prisoners with "Good Conduct Stripes" have also an allowance of wine per diem, and fruit and extra meat on Sundays according to the number of Stripes.

Valletta Prison. (*In the Palace of the Courts of Justice.*)*Questions.**Answers.*

I. If the Prison is on a separate system, is the separation complete? And if not, what is the separation enforced by day and night respectively?

It is not on a separate system, and no effectual separation can, as a rule, be enforced either by night or by day in consequence of the premises being so defective and ill suited for the object for which they are intended, viz:

- 1st. The detention of persons sentenced to imprisonment for periods not exceeding three days;
- 2nd. The temporary detention of persons apprehended, until taken before the Magistrates;
- 3rd. The detention of offenders undergoing Examination by the Magistrates;
- 4th. The detention of offenders committed for trial before H. M.'s Criminal Court.

II. If not on the separate system, what provision is there for the supervision of the prisoners while in association?

They are occasionally supervised by the Keeper of the Prison and by his Assistant.

III. How many cells are there and how many wards?

There are 16 cells, only 12 of which can be used, the remaining four being very damp, dark and unsanitary.

IV. Taking the *average* number of prisoners in gaol, how many cubic feet of space are there for each prisoner during the hours of sleep?

Considering that in the front wall of each cell there is a large opening looking into the adjoining yard, and the consequent continued admittance of pure air, besides the ventilators leading to the roof of the prison, no possible doubt can be entertained of the prisoners breathing foul air, or being in any way too closely confined.

V. How are the prisoners classified?

Endeavours are made to classify them as per Answer to Question I, but very often this is found to be impracticable. On many occasions the separation of boys from grown up criminals and even of the latter from female prisoners is as much as can be effected.

Valletta Prison.

*Questions.**Answers.*

VI. Is penal labour—that is labour by treadmill, crank or shot drill—in force?

No hard labour is in force.

VII. If so, during what periods of imprisonment in respect of what classes of prisoners and during how many hours, is such penal labour enforced? In stating hours of tread wheel labour, give, first, the total time on and off at the wheel, &c., secondly, the length of spells and interval of rest.

See Answer No. VI.

VIII. What kind of labour, other than penal labour is in use?

None.

IX. If the prisoners are employed beyond the walls of the gaol, state:

1. On what kind of work are they so employed?
2. How are they supervised?
3. How many escapes of prisoners, while being employed beyond the gaol, have taken place during each of the last three years?
4. How are the profits of their labour accounted for.

} See Answer No. VI.

X. What was the total annual cost of the Prison during the year 1897?

The total annual cost in 1897 was:—

Salary to Keeper	...	...	...	...	£ 60 0 0
Provisions	...	...	...	...	101 1 1
Bedding, Furniture, &c.	...	...	...	...	44 14 1
					£ 205 16 1

Valletta Prison.

*Questions.**Answers.*

XI. What was the annual amount of the prisoners' earnings during 1897?

See Answer No. VI.

XII. What is the number of the hours allotted for sleep? And, if sleep is in association, are the dormitories lighted; and how often are they patrolled during the night?

There is no limited time for sleep.

There are no dormitories, but cells only, which are visited by the Prison Keeper or his Assistant occasionally during the night.

XIII. What were the number and nature of the punishments inflicted for offences committed by prisoners undergoing imprisonment?

None.

XIV. Is there, or are there, any Chaplain or Chaplains of any, and what religious persuasion?

There is a Roman Catholic Priest who performs Divine Service on Sundays and other holidays.

XV. Are religious services regularly, or otherwise, performed for the benefit of the prisoners of any, and if any, what religious persuasion?

Regularly for Catholics only.

XVI. Are Roman Catholic Priests and dissenting Ministers allowed free access to prisoners of their own persuasion? and are they appraised when prisoners of their respective persuasion enter the prison?

Clergymen of every religious persuasion have free access to the prisoners, when the latter require their assistance.

XVII. What provision is made for the education of prisoners?

None.

Valletta Prison.

Questions.

XVIII. On what conditions are remissions of imprisonment granted?

XIX. Have Coroners's Inquests been held on every occasion of a death in prison during the past year and what were the verdicts?

XX.

(1.) What was the sanitary state of the Prison during the year 1897?

(2.) What were the prevailing diseases?

XXI. What are shortly the rules as to diet?

Answers.

Remissions of imprisonment are granted or withheld by His Excellency the Governor after enquiries into the circumstances connected with each case.

No death occurred in 1897.

Fair.

None.

Detention prisoners who have no means and all others who are undergoing punishment are fed at the public expense by rations supplied from the Orphan Asylum on requisition by the Superintendent of Police. A day's ration consists of

26 oz. Bread;

4 oz. *Pasta* made into soup with oil and vegetables; and

2½ oz. of Cheese,

or

2½ oz. of Salt Fish,

⅓ of *Mondello* Olives.

Gozo Prison.

*Questions.**Answers.*

I. If the Prison is on a separate system, is the separation complete? And if not, what is the separation enforced by day and night respectively?

It is not on a separate system, but as the number of prisoners is comparatively small, the premises admit of the separation of persons sentenced to imprisonment from others who are under examination or remitted for trial.

II. If not on the separate system, what provision is there for the supervision of the prisoners while in association?

They are occasionally supervised by the Keeper of the Prison.

III. How many cells are there and how many wards?

There are four cells and three wards, two of which wards with airing-yards attached.

IV. Taking the *average* number of prisoners in gaol, how many cubic feet of space are there for each prisoner during the hours of sleep?

Both the cells and the yards being very spacious and considering the limited number of persons detained in the same, no possible doubt can be entertained of the prisoners being too closely confined.

V. How are the prisoners classified?

See Answer to question No. I.

Gozo Prison.

*Questions.**Answers.*

VI. Is penal labour—that is labour by tread-mill, crank or shot drill—in force?

No penal labour is in force.

VII. If so, during what periods of imprisonment in respect of what classes of prisoners and during how many hours, is such penal labour enforced? In stating hours of tread wheel labour, give, first, the total time on and off at the wheel, &c., secondly, the length of spells and interval of rest.

See Answer to Question No. VI.

VIII. What kind of labour, other than penal labour is in use?

Sweeping and cleansing the prison and conveying water to the same.

IX. If the prisoners are employed beyond the walls of the gaol, state:

1. On what kind of work are they so employed?
2. How are they supervised?
3. How many escapes of prisoners, while being employed beyond the gaol, have taken place during each of the last three years?
4. How are the profits of their labour accounted for.

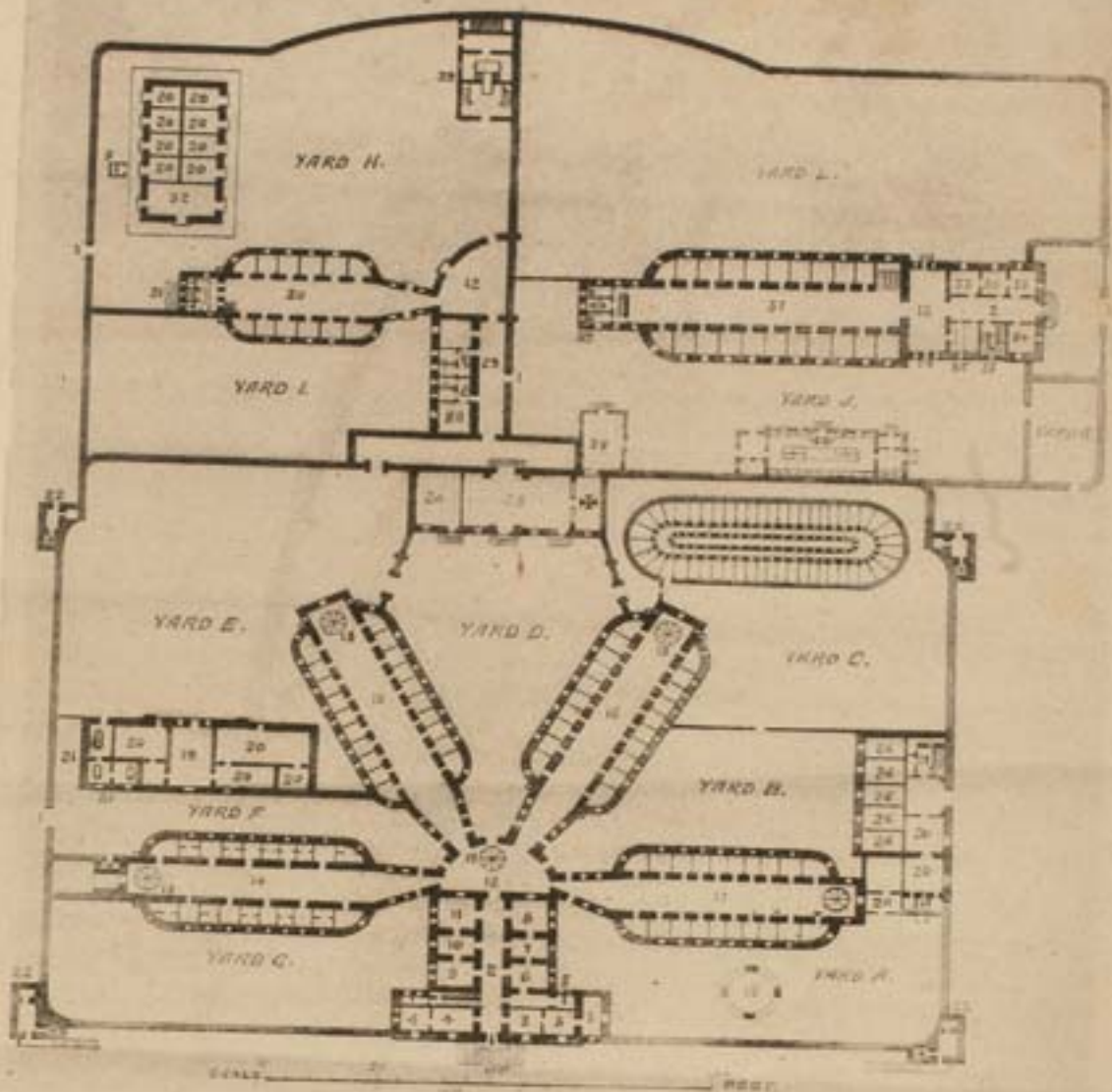
The prisoners are not employed beyond the walls of the Gaol.

X. What was the total annual cost of the Prison during the year 1897?

The total annual cost in 1897 was:—

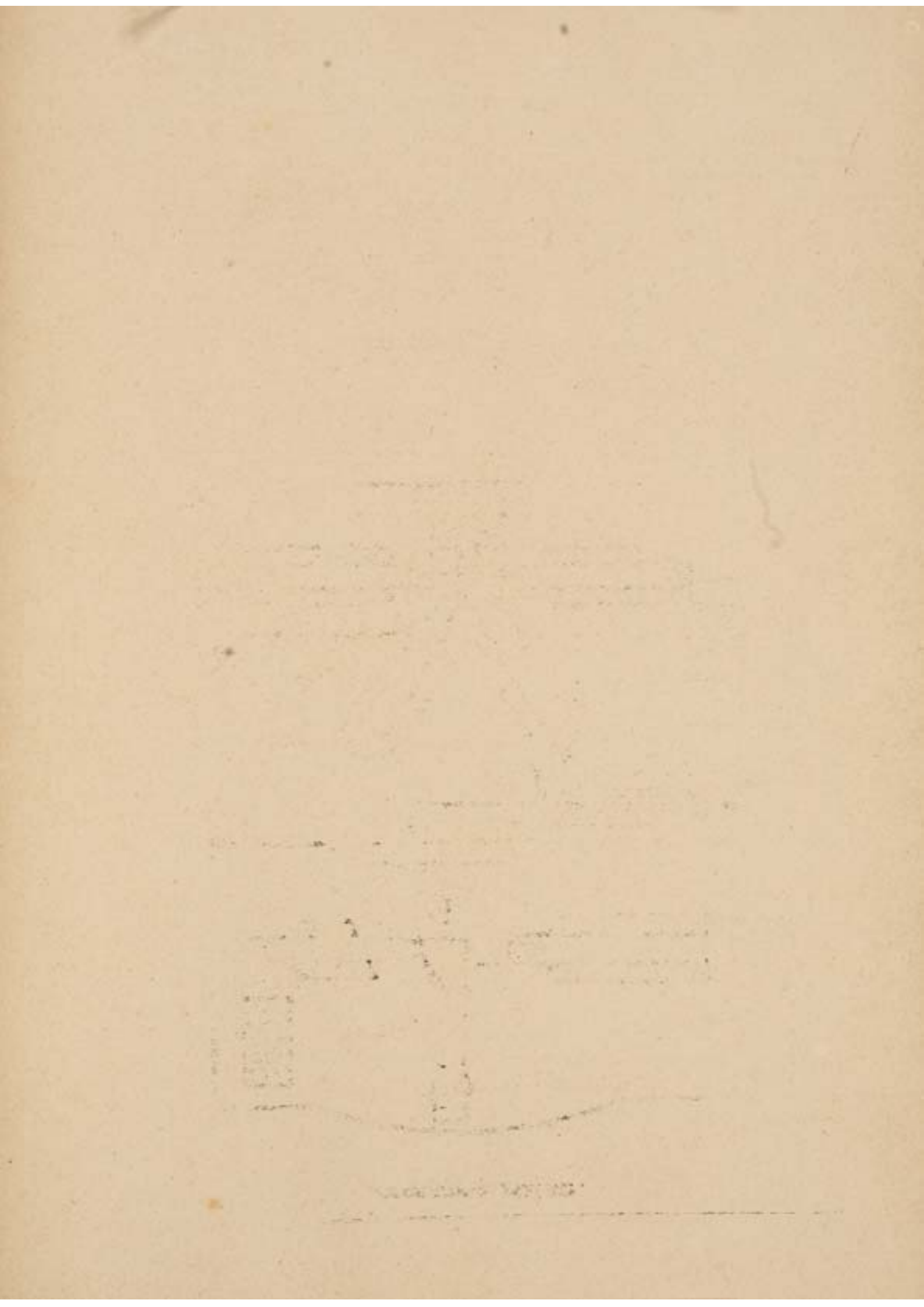
Salary to Keeper	...	...	...	...	£ 30 0 0
Ecclesiastical	...	...	...	...	6 49 4
Provisions	...	...	...	...	26 14 1
Bedding, Furniture, &c.	...	...	...	...	3 14 0
					£ 67 7 11

CORRADINO PRISON.

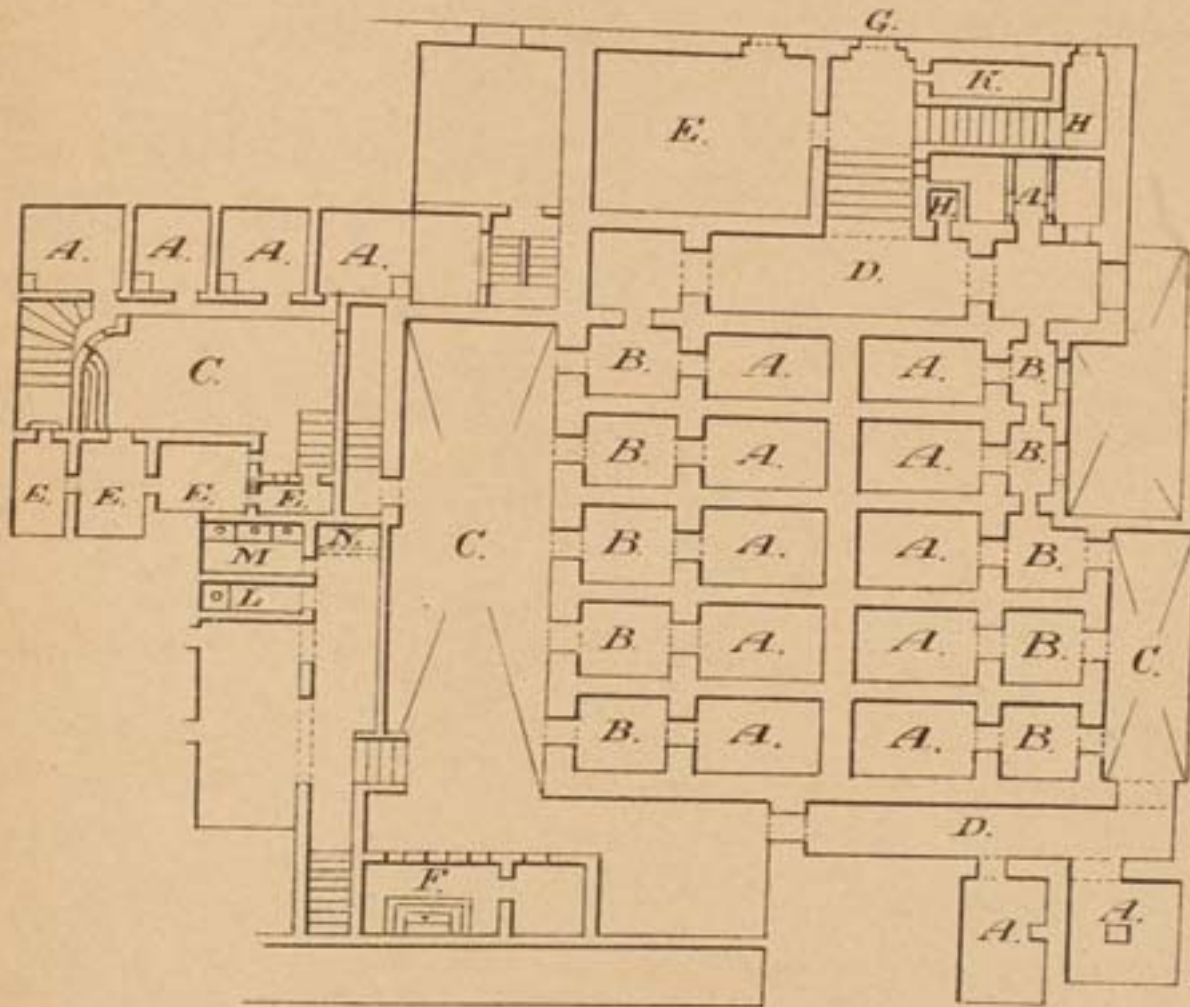


MALE DIVISION.

- | | | |
|----------------------------------|---|--|
| 1. Entrances. | 17. Division No. 4 (40 cells). | 30. Division No. 5 (12 cells). |
| 2. Corridors. | 18. Capstan Pump. | 31. Lavatories, Water Closets and Dark Cell. |
| 3. Chief Warden's Quarters. | 19. Kitchen. | 32. Dead Home. |
| 4. Infirmary, Warden's Quarters. | 20. Stores. | |
| 5. Water Closet. | 21. Bath-Rooms. | FEMALE DIVISION. |
| 6. Superintendent's Office. | 22. Towers, Warders' Quarters. | 33. Offices. |
| 7. Chief Warden's Office. | 23. Catholic Chapel. | 34. Clothes Store. |
| 8. Clerk's Office. | 24. Protestant do. | 35. Staircases. |
| 9. Clothes Store. | 25. Silent System Exercising Yards. | 36. Visiting Box. |
| 10. Library. | 26. Workshops. | 37. Division No. 6 (42 cells). |
| 11. Visiting Box. | 27. Debtors' Prison. | 38. Lavatories, Bath-Room and Water Closets. |
| 12. Central Halls. | Over 1 to 11 Superintendent's Quarters. | Over 2, 33, 34, 35, 36 Matron's Quarters. |
| 13. Iron Staircase. | | Over 12 Infirmary. |
| 14. Division No. 1 (40 cells). | JUVENILE DIVISION. | 39. Gallows. |
| 15. Do. No. 2 (60 do.). | 28. Warden's Quarters. | |
| 16. Do. No. 3 (60 do.). | 29. Open Passage. | |



GAOL FOR UNTRIED PRISONERS
COURTS OF JUSTICE.
VALLETTA.



10. 5. 0. 10. 20. 30. 40. 50. 60. 70. 80. FEET.

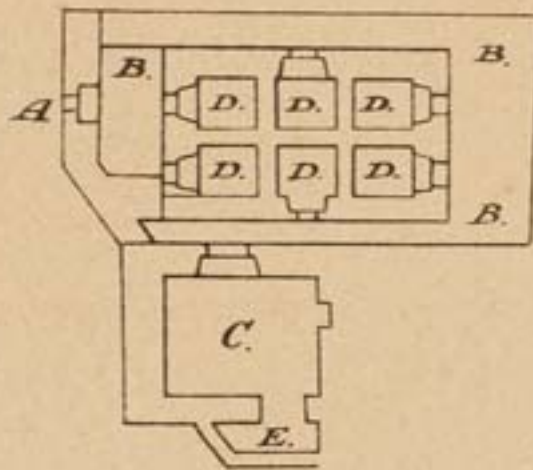
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|---|--|
| A. Cells. | H. Staircases leading to Court above. |
| B. Exercising Entrances. | J. Corridor leading to Courts, and Police Office. |
| C. Large Yards. | K. Lumber Room. |
| D. Corridors. | L. W. C. for Police Officers. |
| E. Gaolers' Apartments. | M. Latrine |
| F. Chapel. | N. Urinals. |
| G. Entrance from Strada Siretta. | |

1. Introduction
2. Methodology
3. Results
4. Discussion
5. Conclusion

6. Appendix
7. References
8. Acknowledgements
9. Author Biographies
10. Contact Information

GAOL FOR PRISONERS WAITING TRIAL

PRISON IN THE CASTLE VICTORIA — GOZO.



- A. Entrance.
- B. Courtyard.
- C. Room.
- D. Small cells.
- E. "Cortile."

