REPORT OF SELECT COMMITTEE.

VICTORIA NEW GAOL.

To the Honourable the Speaker and Members of the Legislature.

Your Committee appointed to visit the Victoria New Gaol beg leave to report that there are 66 male cells, with 118 beds, and can be increased to 200 beds; and at the present time there are 51 male and 7 female prisoners.

Women's cells, 9, with 9 beds, and can be increased to 27 beds.

Punishment cells, 3.

We found the whole establishment strictly clean; provisions good and wholesome.

We cannot speak too highly of the whole establishment, and the manner in which it is kept.

The prisoners' board costs 9 cents per diem.

Your Committee recommend that each of the convict guards be allowed to have a key of the balcony, so they can let themselves out in case of fire.

Your Committee strongly urge the necessity of building cottages for the convict guards, as recommended by the Superintendent of Provincial Police, and that an electric alarm bell connect the Gaol with the cottages in case of fire or mutiny.

EDWARD ALLEN, Chairman.

15th March, 1887.