

*Abstract of Criminal Tables for England and Wales, 1837; with Remarks thereupon, chiefly by the Compiler, S. REDGRAVE, Esq., F.S.S., of the Home Office.*

THE Tables showing the number of Criminal Offenders Committed for Trial or Bailed for Appearance at the Assizes and Sessions held in England and Wales in the year 1837, have been made out in the same form as those for the three preceding years, except that the alterations in the Criminal Law, made by the Acts of the last Session, have rendered it necessary to introduce two additional columns, in order to show the new periods of transportation established by those Acts; and that the numbers charged with offences committed within the jurisdiction of the City of Bristol, and heretofore shown in two separate Tables, have been classed with those committed in the County of Gloucester. This last alteration has been made necessary, in consequence of the Municipal Act, by the operation of which all persons charged with Capital Felonies committed within the City jurisdiction, are sent to the Gloucestershire Assizes for trial; and separate Tables for the City would not, if continued, show the whole number of offenders committed for offences perpetrated within its jurisdiction.

The Tables exhibit a considerable increase in the number of offenders brought before the criminal courts in the past year; but it would be incorrect to assume that this increase is a proof of an increase of crime to the same extent. The increase in the number may perhaps in a great degree be attributed to the increased proportion of apprehensions consequent upon the extensive establishment of an efficient Police in the municipal boroughs, and to the greater facilities in criminal proceedings afforded by the extended grants of local sessions. Comparing the total numbers in England and Wales in the years 1836 and 1837, the increase in the latter year amounts to 2628 persons, or nearly 12·5 per cent.\*; and comparing the number in 1837 with the average of the three preceding years, the increase in 1837 is 2224 persons, or 10·4 per cent. If these general results are examined in detail, it will be found that an increase has taken place in thirty-three English counties, and in both North and South Wales. In eight counties it has exceeded 30 per cent., in nine counties it has been between 20 and 30 per cent., and in ten counties it has been between 10 and 20 per cent. These counties are—

	Per Cent.		Per Cent.
Northampton . . . . .	59	Durham . . . . .	23
Stafford . . . . .	43	Essex . . . . .	21
Cornwall . . . . .	42	Hereford . . . . .	21
Leicester . . . . .	39	Derby . . . . .	18
Wilts . . . . .	36	Southampton . . . . .	12
Bucks . . . . .	34	Rutland . . . . .	12
Dorset . . . . .	33	Chester . . . . .	11
Berks . . . . .	32	Northumberland . . . . .	11
Somerset . . . . .	29	Oxford . . . . .	11
Monmouth . . . . .	28	Salop . . . . .	11
Devon . . . . .	27	Sussex . . . . .	10
Worcester . . . . .	25	York . . . . .	10
Westmoreland . . . . .	25	Gloucester . . . . .	10
Lancaster . . . . .	24		

\* In 1836 the number was 20,984, and in 1837, 23,612.—*Ed.*

Of the remaining six counties, the increase in Cumberland is 8 per cent., in Warwick 7 per cent., and in Hertford, Kent, Nottingham, and Lincoln, not exceeding 3 per cent. In North and South Wales the increase is respectively 3 and 2 per cent.

In seven counties there has been a *decrease*: in Middlesex of 2 per cent., in Surrey of 3 per cent., and in five contiguous counties of the Norfolk circuit, viz.—in Bedford of 24 per cent., Norfolk 11 per cent., Cambridge and Suffolk 7 per cent., and Huntingdon barely 1 per cent. Of the forty English counties, there has been a continuous *decrease* during each of the three last years in Middlesex and Surrey only; and during the same period, a progressive increase in Essex, Somerset, and Cumberland only.

It is gratifying to observe that the increase of the last year will, on analysis, be found to have been chiefly confined to offences of the least atrocious character. On the *First Class*—the Offences against the Person—there has been a decrease of 12 per cent.; in Murder, Attempts to Murder, and Manslaughter, the decrease is 7 per cent. as compared with the preceding year, and 14 per cent. as compared with the average of the three preceding years; in the Unnatural Offences there has been a great decrease, so also in Assaults on Peace Officers, and Common Assaults. But in Rape and Attempts to Ravish there is an increase of 8 per cent. In the *Second Class*—the Violent Offences against Property—the increase of the last year is 6 per cent.; but, if compared with the average of the three preceding years, it is reduced to 2 per cent. The principal increase in the second class has been in Burglary, and in House, Shop and Warehouse breaking; in Sacrilege and Robbery there has been a decrease. The gradual but certain proportional decrease, during the last four years, which the total numbers charged with Violent Offences against the Person and against Property included in the above two classes, have borne to the total of offences, is worthy of observation. This proportion was—

	Per Cent.
In 1834 . . . . .	17·44
1835 . . . . .	16·25
1836 . . . . .	15·50
1837 . . . . .	13·21

It is in the *Third Class*, containing the great bulk of offences committed by simple theft or fraud, that the increase has principally occurred, having amounted to nearly 17 per cent. In Sheep-stealing there has been a considerable increase in each of the last two years, and in Larceny by Servants in each of the last four years. In Simple Larceny alone the increase exceeds 18 per cent. In Malicious Offences against Property there has been a decrease which has reached 32 per cent., and has extended, with one exception, to every offence included in this class. In Forgery and Offences against the Currency, there has been an increase of 27 per cent. In the *Sixth*—the Miscellaneous Class—there is a trifling increase, though there has been a marked decrease during the last three years in the Offences against the Game Laws, which are included in it.

In looking at the increase generally, it may be observed, in reference to what has been mentioned as to the effect of the new Municipal Police in producing it, that Assaults, both Common Assaults and those on

Peace Officers, Robbery, and Attempts to Rob, Larceny from the Person (picking pockets), Riots, Breaches of the Peace, &c., which from their nature are immediately open to the observation and prevention of a police, have *decreased*; while on the contrary, those offences, not so immediately within the view of a police, whose action tends rather to their detection and prosecution than to their prevention, have increased, —such as Larceny in Dwelling Houses, Thefts by Servants, Embezzlement, Receiving Stolen Goods, Frauds, Uttering Counterfeit Coin, and Keeping Disorderly Houses.\*

The following is a comparative view of the Sentences passed during the last two years:—

	1836	1 7
Death . . . . .	494	438
Transportation for life . . . . .	770	636
„ 15 years . . . . .	..	66
„ 14 years . . . . .	585	479
„ 10 years . . . . .	..	179
„ 7 years . . . . .	2,249	2,413
„ Other periods. . . . .	7	12
Imprisonment for 3 years, and above 2 years . . . . .	1	14
„ 2 years, and above 1 year . . . . .	285	394
„ 1 year, and above 6 months . . . . .	1,455	1,628
„ 6 months and under . . . . .	8,384	10,258
Whipped, Fined, and Discharged . . . . .	535	562

The sentences classed in the Tables under the head “Imprisoned 6 months and under,” comprise so large a proportion of the punishments, that in order to show them with greater exactness the numbers have been calculated which fall under these more minute periods, viz. :—

Imprisoned 6 months, and above 5 months	2261
„ 5 months „ 4 months	51
„ 4 months „ 3 months	748
„ 3 months „ 2 months	2461
„ 2 months „ 1 month	1731
„ 1 month, and above 2 weeks	1890
„ 2 weeks „ 1 week	597
„ 1 week „ 3 days	376
„ 3 days and under . . . . .	143

This calculation strongly exhibits the leniency with which the law is administered. Of the whole number convicted, 42 per cent. were sentenced to periods of imprisonment not exceeding three months; and the proportion sentenced to periods not exceeding 6 months reaches 60 per cent.

The number of Executions during the past year is far below that of any previous year on record. Eight persons only were executed, all of whom were convicted of murders of an atrocious character; two for one offence in Norfolk, and one in each of the counties of Middlesex, Surrey, Bucks, Gloucester, Worcester, and York.

The total number acquitted was 6496; viz.,—on Trial, 4388; no Bills being found, 1637; not Prosecuted, 471. This gives the propor-

\* The increase in the number of prosecutions against Disorderly Houses, which is principally confined to the counties of Middlesex and Surrey, evinces an increased vigilance on the part of the parochial authorities in the Metropolis to abate this fruitful source of vice.—*Ed.*

tion of Acquittals to Convictions, 1 in 3·6. The proportion acquitted in the different classes of offences, was—

1st class, Offences against the Person . . . . .	1 in 2·6
2d ,, ,, Property, committed with violence . . . . .	1 in 3·7
3d ,, ,, ,, ,, without violence . . . . .	1 in 3·8
4th ,, Malicious Offences against Property . . . . .	1 in 1·5
5th ,, Forgery and Offences against the Currency . . . . .	1 in 4·7
6th ,, Other Offences, not included in the above classes. . . . .	1 in 2·7

This variation in the proportion is a result which might be anticipated from the different nature of the offences of which the classes are comprised. In the Offences against Property, in the 2d and 3d classes, the property stolen affords not only the clue to detection, but its possession is one of the strongest proofs of guilt; a proof which does not exist in the Offences against the Person in the 1st class, nor in the Malicious Offences of the 4th class. The large proportion of convictions in the 5th class may be attributed to the prosecution of Offences against the Currency by the officers of the Mint. In Uttering counterfeit Coin, the proportion acquitted is only 1 in 5·6. At the same time it will be found, that the acquittals bear some proportion to the penalty attached to the offence; and that where the most severe penalties are incurred, a stronger proof is necessary to insure conviction than in the lighter offences. Taking some of the offences separately—in Arson and Attempts to Burn Dwellings, &c. (offences, however, of extremely difficult proof,) the acquittals are 1 in 1·2; in Murder and Attempts to Murder, 1 in 1·5; in Rape, and Assaults with intent to Ravish, 1 in 1·7; in Forgery, 1 in 2·5; and in Robbery, 1 in 2·2; though in Burglary and House-breaking the acquittals are only 1 in 4·5—a very high proportion, and greater than in Simple Larceny, in which offence they are 1 in 4·2.

The proportion acquitted in each of the last four years, was—

In 1834. . . . .	1 in 3·5
1835. . . . .	1 in 3·5
1836. . . . .	1 in 3·4
1837. . . . .	1 in 3·6

which would seem to show an increased certainty of procedure in the last year, and that the recent alteration in the law, allowing Prisoners the assistance of Counsel, has not caused an increase in the number of Acquittals.

On a comparison of the Returns from the several Counties a great disproportion is exhibited in the Acquittals. The general average, as before stated, is 1 in 3·6. This average has been exceeded in sixteen counties, the most prominent of which are—

Warwick . . . . .	1 in 4·8	Leicester . . . . .	1 in 4·1
Lancaster . . . . .	1 in 4·5	Wilts . . . . .	1 in 4·0
Nottingham . . . . .	1 in 4·4	Bedford . . . . .	1 in 4·0
Chester . . . . .	1 in 4·4	Middlesex . . . . .	1 in 3·9
Gloucester . . . . .	1 in 4·1		

The ten counties in which the proportion Acquitted was the greatest, are—

Hereford . . . . .	1 in 2·2	Surrey . . . . .	1 in 3·1
Monmouth . . . . .	1 in 2·3	Suffolk . . . . .	1 in 3·1
Cumberland . . . . .	1 in 2·7	Oxford . . . . .	1 in 3·1
Stafford . . . . .	1 in 2·9	Cambridge . . . . .	1 in 3·1
Northumberland . . . . .	1 in 3·0	Devon . . . . .	1 in 3·1

The number of offenders, tried before the different Courts, was ascertained in the year 1835; it has also been calculated for the present year. The numbers at these two periods, were—

	1835	1837
County Quarter Sessions' Courts. . . . .	10,737	13,044
Circuit Assize Courts . . . . .	3,408	3,466
Local Courts . . . . .	3,737	4,027
Central Criminal Court . . . . .	2,849	3,075

The proportion tried at the Quarter Sessions in 1835, was nearly 52 per cent.; in 1837 it was above 55 per cent. The proportion tried at the Assizes, on the contrary, was 16 per cent. in 1835, and had decreased above 1·5 per cent. in 1837.

In a comparison of the Ages of Criminals during the past and former years, but little variation, except a slight decrease in the proportion of the youngest class, is observable. The following Table will show the numbers in 1837 at the different periods of life, and a comparison of the proportion at each age.

	1837	
	Number.	Proportion.
Aged 12 years and under . . . . .	358	1·52
16 years and above 12 . . . . .	2,296	9·72
21 „ „ 16 . . . . .	6,902	29·23
30 „ „ 21 . . . . .	7,494	31·74
40 „ „ 30 . . . . .	3,439	14·56
50 „ „ 40 . . . . .	1,571	6·65
60 „ „ 50 . . . . .	764	3·24
above 60 years . . . . .	365	1·55
unknown . . . . .	423	1·79

The attention of Parliament having been for some time directed to the subject of Juvenile Delinquency, such particulars have been collected relative to this description of offenders, as could be obtained from the Criminal Returns, in addition to those which have been embodied in the Tables. The actual ages of the Prisoners contained in the two first of the above divisions, were—

	Male.	Female.		Male.	Female.
Aged 7 years. . . . .	..	1	Aged 13 years . . . . .	295	31
8 „ „ . . . . .	11	1	14 „ „ . . . . .	453	65
9 „ „ . . . . .	22	1	15 „ „ . . . . .	480	87
10 „ „ . . . . .	50	15	16 „ „ . . . . .	734	151
11 „ „ . . . . .	70	12			
12 „ „ . . . . .	150	25	Total . . . . .	1962	334
Total . . . . .	303	55			

The offences of these prisoners are separately distinguished in the Tables, but the result of the charges is not separately mentioned. This is worked out with respect to the 358 prisoners comprised in the first division, and the results will be found in the following tables:—

Total Indicted . . . . .	358
„ „ Convicted . . . . .	281
Sentences:—	
Death . . . . .	1
Transportation for 10 years. . . . .	3
„ „ 7 years. . . . .	34

Imprisonment for 3 years, and above 2 years . . .	1
„ 2 „ 1 year . . .	3
„ 1 „ 6 months . . .	8
„ 6 months & above 5 „ . . .	17
„ 4 „ 3 „ . . .	3
„ 3 „ 2 „ . . .	32
„ 2 „ 1 „ . . .	33
„ 1 „ 14 days . . .	58
„ 14 days and above 7 „ . . .	27
„ 7 „ 3 „ . . .	35
„ 3 days and under . . . . .	14
Whipped . . . . .	9
Fined . . . . .	3
Total Acquired, viz. :—	
Not Guilty . . . . .	39
No Bill . . . . .	26
No Prosecution . . . . .	12
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Total . . . . .	77

In addition to the above terms of Imprisonment, of those aged 12 years, 32 were sentenced to be Whipped once, and 12 twice; of those aged 11 years, 15 once, 2 twice, and 1 thrice; of those aged 10 years, 12 once and 1 twice; of those aged 9 years, 5 once and 1 twice; and 1 aged 8 years, once.

The girl of 7 years old was sentenced to the shortest period of imprisonment; 2 children of 9 years old, and 1 of 11 years were sentenced to 10 years' transportation; 1 of 8 years, 2 of 9, 8 of 10, 4 of 11, and 19 of 12 years old, were sentenced to 7 years' transportation. The remainder under 10 years old were sentenced to not more than 2 months' imprisonment. One child of 12 was capitally convicted for robbery, but the sentence was commuted to one month's imprisonment.

*Table showing the Result of the Proceedings against the Offenders, aged 12 years and under, with reference to their Offences.*

OFFENCES.	Total Prosecuted.	Total Convicted.
Manslaughter . . . . .	1	..
Assault . . . . .	1	1
Burglary . . . . .	1	..
House-breaking . . . . .	5	4
Curtilage-breaking . . . . .	3	3
Robbery . . . . .	2	1
Horse Stealing . . . . .	3	2
Larceny, to the value of 5 <i>l.</i> in a Dwelling } House . . . . . }	2	1
Larceny, from the Person . . . . .	20	19
Larceny, by Servants . . . . .	13	10
Larceny, simple . . . . .	276	223
Stealing Fixtures . . . . .	10	7
Embezzlement . . . . .	2	1
Receiving Stolen Goods . . . . .	7	2
Frauds and Attempts to Defraud . . . . .	7	5
Arson (Capital) . . . . .	1	..
Uttering Counterfeit Coin . . . . .	2	1
Riot . . . . .	1	1
Misdemeanor—(Administering Poison to } Harass and Annoy . . . . . }	1	..
	<hr/>	
Total, , , . . .	358	281

It is remarkable, that the proportion Acquitted in the above Tables is only 1 in 4·6; the general proportion being 1 in 3·6.

Of 301 persons (out of the above total of 358), the periods of imprisonment before Trial appear from the Returns; they are found to average 26 days. Of 205, who upon conviction were sentenced to terms of imprisonment, 77 had undergone, before Trial, a longer imprisonment than that to which they were afterwards sentenced by the Court.

The degree of Instruction has been ascertained during the past year, under the same definitions as in the year preceding. The proportions, at these periods, are as under:—

	1836		1837	
	Proportion.	Number.	Proportion.	Number.
Unable to read and write . . . . .	33·52	8,464	35·85	
Able to read and write imperfectly. . . . .	52·33	12,298	52·08	
Able to read and write well. . . . .	10·56	2,234	9·46	
Instruction superior to reading and writing well	0·91	101	0·43	
Instruction could not be ascertained. . . . .	2·68	515	2·18	

Of the 358 offenders aged 12 years and under, 50 per cent. were uneducated; 48 per cent. were able to read and write imperfectly; and little more than 1 per cent. to read and write well.

The extensive changes in the Criminal Law by the Acts of the 1st Victoria could not be shown in the Tables for 1837, the Acts not having come into operation till late in the year; but the Tables for 1838 will be so drawn up, and such new definitions of offences introduced, as will be required to show the operation of these Acts, and the effect they have had upon Criminal Proceedings. S. REDGRAVE.

*A Table showing the Total Number of Persons Committed for Trial or Bailed in England and Wales, distinguishing the Nature of the Offences, in the Year 1837.*

No. 1.—Offences against the Person.	Total Number of Offenders Prosecuted.	Total Convicted.
Murder . . . . .	43	11
Shooting at, Stabbing, Administering Poison, &c., with intent to murder, maim, &c. . . . .	121	41
Manslaughter . . . . .	199	89
Attempts to procure the Miscarriage of Women quick with Child . . . . .	2	..
Ditto of Women not quick with Child . . . . .	2	1
Concealing the Birth of Infants . . . . .	41	22
Sodomy . . . . .	22	9
Sodomy, Assaults with intent to commit, and other unnatural Misdemeanors . . . . .	53	19
Rape, and carnally abusing Girls under the Age of Ten Years . . . . .	73	
Assaults with intent to ravish and carnally abuse Carnally abusing Girls between the Age of Ten and Twelve Years . . . . .	122	74
Abduction . . . . .	5	3
Bigamy . . . . .	..	..
Child Stealing . . . . .	49	37
Assaults . . . . .	3	3
Assaults on Peace Officers in the Execution of their Duty . . . . .	590	408
	394	323
Total of No. 1. . . . .	1,719	1,046

## No. 2.—Offences against Property, committed with Violence.

	Total Number of Offenders Prosecuted.	Total Convicted.
Sacrilege . . . . .	4	1
Burglary . . . . .	321	232
Housebreaking . . . . .	495	403
Breaking, within the Curtilage of Dwelling Houses, and Stealing . . . . .	93	80
Breaking into Shops, Warehouses, and Counting Houses, and Stealing . . . . .	138	108
Misdemeanors, with intent to commit the above Offences . . . . .	13	12
Robbery . . . . .	290	158
Assaults, with intent to rob, and demanding Pro- perty with Menaces . . . . .	44	26
Stealing in Dwelling Houses, Persons therein being put in fear . . . . .	1	..
Sending menacing Letters to extort Money . . . .	1	1
Piracy . . . . .	..	..
Total of No. 1. . . . .	<u>1,400</u>	<u>1,021</u>

## No. 3.—Offences against Property, committed without Violence.

Cattle Stealing . . . . .	40	32
Horse Stealing . . . . .	142	117
Sheep Stealing . . . . .	371	249
Larceny, to the Value of £5, in Dwelling Houses	211	159
Larceny, from the Person . . . . .	1 483	965
Larceny, by Servants . . . . .	1,058	846
Larceny, simple . . . . .	13,712	10,409
Stealing from Vessels in Port, on a River, &c. . .	83	60
Stealing Goods in Process of Manufacture . . .	1	1
Stealing Fixtures, Trees, and Shrubs, growing, &c.	274	233
Misdemeanors, with intent to steal . . . . .	17	12
Embezzlement . . . . .	311	214
Stealing and receiving Letters Stolen from the Post Office, by Servants . . . . .	5	4
Receiving Stolen Goods . . . . .	707	331
Frauds and Attempts to defraud . . . . .	469	348
Total of No. 3. . . . .	<u>18,884</u>	<u>13,970</u>

## No. 4.—Malicious Offences against Property.

Arson (Capital) . . . . .	40	8
Setting Fire to Crops, Plantations, Heath, &c. .	2	..
Attempts to commit Arson, set fire to Crops, &c.	1	1
Riot, and feloniously demolishing Buildings, Ma- chinery, &c. . . . .	..	..
Destroying Silk, Woollen, Linen, or Cotton Goods, in Process of Manufacture . . . . .	2	1
Destroying Threshing Machines . . . . .	1	..
Destroying Hop-binds, Trees, and Shrubs, grow- ing, &c. . . . .	10	4
Killing and maiming Cattle . . . . .	42	22
Sending Letters threatening to burn Houses, &c.	3	2
Other Malicious Offences . . . . .	13	..
Total of No. 4. . . . .	<u>14</u>	<u>38</u>



<i>No. 5.—Forgery, and Offences against the Currency.</i>	Total Number of Offenders Prosecuted.	Total Convicted.
Forging and uttering forged Wills, and Powers of Attorney for the Transfer of Stock or Receipt of Dividends . . . . .	1	1
Forging and uttering forged Bank of England Notes . . . . .	4	2
Forging and uttering other forged Instruments .	65	39
Having in Possession, &c. forged Bank of Eng- land Notes . . . . .	1	1
Counterfeiting the current Gold and Silver Coin .	8	4
Having in Possession, &c. Implements for Coining	22	19
Buying and putting off counterfeit Gold and Silver Coin . . . . .	1	1
Uttering and having in Possession Ditto . . . .	354	291
Counterfeiting, buying, putting off, and uttering counterfeit Copper Coin . . . . .	..	..
Total of No. 5. . . . .	<u>456</u>	<u>358</u>
<i>No. 6.—Other Offences, not included in the above Classes.</i>		
Assembling armed, &c. to aid Smugglers . . . .	..	..
Assaulting and obstructing Officers employed to prevent Smuggling . . . . .	5	5
Deer Stealing, and feloniously resisting Deer- keepers . . . . .	4	4
Being out armed, &c. to take Game by Night, taking Game by Night, and assaulting Game- keepers . . . . .	143	110
Taking and destroying Fish in enclosed Water .	19	11
Being at large under Sentence of Transportation	1	1
Prison-breaking, harbouring and aiding the Escape of Felons . . . . .	15	6
Perjury and Subornation of Perjury . . . . .	33	7
Administering Unlawful Oaths . . . . .	..	..
Conspiracy to raise the Rate of Wages . . . .	..	..
Riot, Breach of the Peace, and Pound-breach .	523	383
Rescue, and refusing to aid Peace Officers . .	21	11
Keeping Disorderly Houses . . . . .	180	82
Indecently exposing the Person . . . . .	14	..
Felonies, not included in the above Denominations	11	4
Misdemeanors, Ditto . . . . .	70	33
Total of No. 6. . . . .	<u>1,039</u>	<u>657</u>
Grand Total . . . . .	<u>23,612</u>	<u>17,090</u>

The second column in the following table has been added by the Editor in order to show the comparative state of each county, as regards offences brought before the criminal courts. If the elementary facts were complete, the statement would be of the highest value, as it would exhibit the relative amount of crime in each county, and might thus lead to the detection of the causes which influenced its commission, but it possesses the following unavoidable defects. First, it exhibits only the number of offenders brought before the criminal courts, exclusive of the large number summarily convicted or discharged by magistrates, of which no complete return can be given. The number of persons summarily convicted in England and Wales, during 1837, was no less than 59,374; and the number discharged in London alone was 33,043. Secondly, it

shows the number of persons apprehended, but not the number of offences for which those persons were apprehended, nor the number of offences committed, the perpetrators of which were not apprehended. Hence, in the first case, neither the total number of offences can be shown, because the larger part are not included, nor the proportion of one county to another, because the practice of magistrates with regard to sending cases to the criminal courts differs materially in several counties; neither can the progress of crime be correctly estimated, because a change in the law may alter the jurisdiction of the criminal courts, and thus exclude or include a large class of offences; while in the second case the efficiency of the police, and other circumstances, will greatly affect the returns. Lastly, the calculations are necessarily framed upon the census of 1831, since which time the population has increased, and may also have fluctuated, considerably.

*A Table showing the Total Number of Persons committed to Trial or Bailed in each County of England and Wales during the Year 1837, with the proportion of Offenders to the Population, according to the Census in 1831.*

COUNTIES.	Criminal Offenders in 1837.	Proportion of Criminal Offenders to Population.	COUNTIES.	Criminal Offenders in 1837.	Proportion of Criminal Offenders to Population.
		One in			One in
Bedford . . .	123	776	Somerset . . .	1028	393
Berks . . .	270	538	Stafford . . .	909	451
Bucks . . .	258	568	Suffolk . . .	493	601
Cambridge . . .	260	550	Surrey . . .	950	512
Chester . . .	616	542	Sussex . . .	420	618
Cornwall . . .	281	1071	Warwick . . .	880	382
Cumberland . . .	154	1101	Westmoreland . . .	25	2201
Derby . . .	228	1040	Wilts . . .	482	498
Devon . . .	671	736	Worcester . . .	409	516
Dorset . . .	256	622	York . . .	1376	970
Durham . . .	202	1257			
Essex . . .	747	425	Total England . . .	23,134	565
Gloucester . . .	906	427			
Hants . . .	622	505	Anglesea . . .	16	3020
Hereford . . .	186	597	Brecon . . .	29	1647
Hertford . . .	335	428	Cardigan . . .	13	4983
Huntingdon . . .	67	794	Carmarthen . . .	49	2954
Kent . . .	896	534	Carnarvon . . .	22	2088
Lancaster . . .	2809	475	Denbigh . . .	76	1094
Leicester . . .	432	456	Flint . . .	39	1538
Lincoln . . .	412	770	Glamorgan . . .	103	1229
Middlesex . . .	3273	415	Merioneth . . .	5	7121
Monmouth . . .	154	637	Montgomery . . .	54	1231
Norfolk . . .	659	591	Pembroke . . .	54	1507
Northampton . . .	298	601	Radnor . . .	18	1369
Northumberland . . .	189	1179			
Nottingham . . .	307	734	Total Wales . . .	478	1684
Oxford . . .	272	559			
Rutland . . .	27	718	Total England and Wales . . .	23,612	588
Shropshire . . .	252	884			

This statement, however, is still of considerable value, as serving to show the amount of detected crime in one county, as compared with another, at different periods. In the fourth part of the Government

Statistical Tables (at page 422), an account is given of the proportion of persons charged in each county with criminal offences, on the average of the three years ending with 1832, to the population of 1831; it will be interesting to compare the ten counties in England in which the proportion of offences was greatest, and the ten in which it was smallest at that period, with the corresponding counties at the present.

Ten counties in the order in which the proportion of offences to the population was greatest—

1830-32.	1837.
1. Middlesex.	Warwick.
2. Gloucester.	Somerset.
3. Warwick.	Middlesex.
4. Essex.	Essex.
5. Wilts.	Gloucester.
6. Hertford.	Hertford.
7. Lancaster.	Leicester.
8. Surrey.	Stafford.
9. Somerset.	Lancaster.
10. Chester.	Wilts.

Ten counties in the order in which the proportion of offences to the population was smallest—

1830-32.	1837.
1. Westmoreland.	Westmoreland.
2. Northumberland.	Durham.
3. Cumberland.	Northumberland.
4. Durham.	Cumberland.
5. Cornwall.	Cornwall.
6. Rutland.	Derby.
7. Derby.	York.
8. Lincoln.	Shropshire.
9. Dorset.	Huntingdon.
10. Northampton.	Bedford.

These statements exhibit so much uniformity at the two periods as to leave no reason to doubt their general correctness.

The first shows an improvement in the counties of Middlesex, Surrey, Gloucester, Wilts, and Lancaster. Middlesex, which was first on the list, is now third; Surrey, which was eighth, has disappeared altogether from the list; Gloucester, which was second, is become the fifth; Wilts has fallen from the fifth to the tenth place, and Lancaster from the seventh to the ninth. This, as regards the two former counties, is corroborated by the fact previously noticed by Mr. Redgrave, that there has been a continuous decrease of committals during each of the three last years in those counties. On the other hand, Warwick, which was only third on the list, has become first, and Somerset, which was ninth, is become second, while Leicester and Stafford have advanced into the list. With reference to Somerset, in which the increase is so remarkable, Mr. Redgrave states that it is one of the counties in which the increase of committals has been continuous during the last three years.

It appears from the second statement, that at both periods the four northernmost counties of England and Cornwall have continued, in nearly the same order, the most free from Committals; and it is worthy of notice, that these, with Derby, which stands next on the list in 1837, include all the principal mining counties in England.

It will be observed that the proportion of committals to the population in Wales is much smaller than in England. Only four English counties are superior to the worst Welsh county, which is considerably below the county standing next to it in order of inferiority. For the reasons already given, caution must be used in drawing too positive inferences from these statements as regards the comparative amount of crime in different parts of the country. The Statistics of Crime in the United Kingdom are very imperfect, and abound in sources of fallacy; some of the principal circumstances affecting the number of offences have already been noticed, but the Government Tables are still more deficient with respect to the exhibition of the causes of crime, and the character and condition of the criminals. Without a knowledge of these particulars it is hopeless either to detect the means of preventing crime, or to adopt any effectual measures for its repression.

In connexion with the subject of juvenile offenders to which Mr. Redgrave has adverted in the preceding remarks, the following tables, abstracted from a paper which has been since laid before the House of Lords, will not be uninteresting. It contains a statement of the number of children under the age of 16 who have been committed to the Penitentiary at Millbank within the last seven years, from which it appears that 219 children, of whom one-third are females, have been sentenced to terms of imprisonment varying from one to ten years, but of the whole number only 20 were sentenced to less than three years confinement. It will probably excite some astonishment that one child of eight years old, two of nine, and eight of ten, should be imprisoned, even under commuted sentences, for three years; and still more, that a child of ten years old, should, in the same manner, be committed for ten years. It is true that some of these children may have been committed, either to remove them from the evil influence of vicious parents, or as incorrigible offenders, but in either case it may fairly be doubted whether they did not stand more in need of the discipline and instruction of a school than the punishment of a prison. The Government has taken this view of the subject, for during the present session the Secretary of State for the Home Department has introduced a Bill for establishing a prison in which young offenders may be detained and corrected, and may receive such instruction and be subject to such discipline as shall appear most conducive to their reformation, and to the repression of crime. This Bill has already passed the House of Commons, and an abstract of it will be given at the end of this paper.

The first of the following Tables shows the ages and the terms of imprisonment of children under 16 confined in the Penitentiary.

The second Table exhibits the Courts in which the prisoners were tried.

The third distinguishes the nature of their offences. It will be seen that by far the greater number consist of acts of theft. Nineteen were cases of burglary and housebreaking, in which there can be little doubt that the offenders were the instruments, and oftentimes the scape-goat, of more aged and hardened criminals. In two cases only robbery was accompanied by personal violence, and only five are classed under the head of systematic fraud or embezzlement.

## I.—Distinguishing the Ages and Terms of Imprisonment.

Ages.	Period under original Sentence. Number of Years.			Period of Commutation. Number of Years.					Total.		Total.
	1	1½	2	3	4	5	7	10	Males.	Females	
<b>MALES:</b>											
8	..	..	..	1	..	..	..	..	1	..	1
9	..	..	..	2	..	..	..	..	2	..	2
10	..	..	..	5	..	..	..	1	6	5	11
11	..	..	1	5	..	3	..	1	10	5	15
12	..	1	1	10	..	4	..	..	16	10	26
13	2	..	1	13	..	8	..	1	25	10	35
14	5	1	1	17	1	7	1	2	35	19	54
15	2	..	1	33	3	11	..	2	52	23	75
<b>Total</b>	9	2	5	86	4	33	1	7	147	72	219
<b>FEMALES:</b>											
10	..	..	1	3	..	1	..	..	..	5	..
11	..	..	1	2	..	2	..	..	..	5	..
12	..	..	..	3	..	4	1	2	..	10	..
13	..	..	..	2	1	7	..	..	..	10	..
14	1	..	1	7	..	10	..	..	..	19	..
15	..	..	..	9	1	11	..	2	..	23	..
<b>Total</b>	1	..	3	26	2	35	1	4	..	72	..
<b>Total Males and Females</b>	10	2	8	112	6	68	2	11	..	..	219

*Note.*—The periods of Commutation here specified may be considered nominal, as Prisoners have been recommended for pardon, according to certain rules, long before the expiration of those periods. In general they have been reduced by such recommendations:—

If for 5 Years . . . . . to 3 Years  
 ,, 7 ,, . . . . . 3½ ,,  
 ,, 10 ,, . . . . . 4 ,,

In cases of bad conduct Prisoners have been detained longer.

At present the periods are fixed as follows, under the Act 7 Will. IV. c. 13, and no recommendations for pardon are made by the Committee.

Transportation for 7 Years is commuted to 3 Years' Imprisonment.

,, 14 ,, ,, 4 ,,  
 ,, Life ,, 5 ,,

## II.—Distinguishing the Courts in which the Prisoners were Tried.

Cour s.	Original Sentence.			Commutation of Punishment.			Total.		
	Male.	Female.	Total	Male.	Female	Total	Male.	Female.	Total
Central Criminal Court	5*	..	5	49	12	61	54	12	66
Old Bailey Sessions	..	..	..	12	18	30	12	18	30
Country ,,	8	3	11†	45	28	73	53	31	84
Country Assizes	3*	1	4	25	10	35	28	11	39
<b>Total</b>	16	4	20	131	68	199	147	72	219

\* In six of these cases transportation was to follow imprisonment.

† Seven of these cases came from the Stafford Sessions.

III.—*Distinguishing Nature of the Offences.*

Offences.	Ages of Males.							Ages of Females.							Total		
	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	Total	10	11	12	13	14		15	Total
Burglary and Housebreaking	..	..	..	1	..	7	6	5	19	..	..	..	1	..	..	1	20
Stealing Money, Plate, and Jewellery.	..	1	2	3	2	2	9	6	25	1	1	3	2	4	8	19	44
,, Apparel . . . . .	..	..	..	..	..	2	7	..	7	16	2	..	2	3	8	6	37
,, Goods . . . . .	..	..	..	..	3	3	..	6	8	20	2	1	3	1	1	3	31
,, Cattle . . . . .	..	..	..	..	..	1	..	..	4	5	..	..	..	..	..	..	5
,, Poultry . . . . .	..	..	..	1	..	1	..	1	1	4	..	..	..	..	..	..	4
,, From the Person	..	1	1	..	..	4	2	4	12	..	..	..	1	2	1	4	16
Robbing a Boy . . . . .	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	2	2	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	2
Shoplifting . . . . .	..	..	..	..	..	2	..	..	1	3	..	1	1	..	1	1	4
Embezzlement . . . . .	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	2	3	5	..	..	..	..	..	..	5
Larceny . . . . .	1	..	2	2	5	5	7	10	32	..	1	1	2	3	4	11	43
Felony . . . . .	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	1	..	1	..	..	..	..	2
Receiving Stolen Property.	..	..	..	1	..	..	..	2	..	3	..	..	..	..	..	..	3
Total . . . . .	1	2	6	10	16	25	35	52	147	5	5	10	10	19	23	72	219

Abstract of Lords' Paper, Sess. 1837-3, No. 86.

The following are the principal provisions of a Bill, which is now before the House of Lords, for establishing a prison for young offenders, with a description of the buildings at Parkhurst, in the Isle of Wight, which it is proposed to apply to this purpose. These buildings, which were lately used as a military hospital, and as a medical asylum for the children of soldiers, are now nearly ready for the reception of prisoners. They are adapted to the confinement of 320 boys, viz.—200 boys of 12 years old and upwards, and of 120 boys under that age, and occupy an area of about 4 acres. There are 80 acres of land attached, in the cultivation of which the boys can be employed; and there are, besides, facilities for employing the boys as tailors, shoemakers, ropemakers, bookbinders, and carpenters.

The nature of the discipline, according to the Report of the Inspectors of Prisons, will consist in a vigilant system of personal superintendence, instruction in moral and religious duties, and industrious occupations of various descriptions. As it is intended to encourage the boys to emigrate to a distant colony at the expiration of their imprisonment, they will be especially instructed in those branches of industry which are most likely to render them useful as agricultural servants. While the prominent features of the establishment will be of a penal character, the utmost attention will be directed to the health, moral welfare, and suitable comfort of the boys. It will be, in the best meaning, but in no injurious sense of the word, a prison, while the discipline will be so peculiarly adapted as to combine cheerful exercises and youthful recreation with the salutary restraints of penal correction.

The Parkhurst "Reformatory" admits of being considerably enlarged; but to whatever extent further accommodation may be practicable, it is obvious that this prison can never provide for the number of boys committed to the prisons throughout the country, nor even in the metropolis, nor that its establishment will supersede the necessity of further measures being taken to arrest the progress of juvenile delinquency.

It appears that the number of boys under 12 years of age committed to trial or summarily convicted in England and Wales during the year 1837 was 1196; the number between 12 and 14, 2465; and between 14 and 17 years of age, 8332; in all 11,993.

The Parkhurst Reformatory, however, will serve as a model for juvenile prisons in other parts of the kingdom, and will lead, it is to be hoped, to the establishment of similar places of confinement wherever the number of offenders of this class is sufficiently large to render such a measure necessary. The following Paper, by Dr. Kay, contains an interesting account of a similar establishment in Holland.

The appointment of officers and the regulation and government of the prison at Parkhurst is placed by the Bill now before Parliament in the hands of the Secretary of State, who is empowered to remove thither any young offender, male or female, under sentence or order of transportation, or under sentence of imprisonment.

The expense of the removal is to be defrayed by the county or place for which the court in which the offender was convicted was held.

Offenders thus removed will remain in this prison until transported according to law, or entitled to their liberty, or until removed by order of the Secretary of State, to the prison or place whence they were brought. It is provided that in every case in which it shall not be made to appear to the satisfaction of the Secretary of State, that an offender, who has been confined in this prison under sentence of imprisonment, will go out of England upon being entitled to his liberty, the Secretary of State shall direct his removal to the local prison whence he was brought, so that the last two days of his imprisonment may be passed therein.

If offenders removed to this prison prove incorrigible the Secretary of State may give an order for their transportation or removal to another prison, according to their original sentence.

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*Notes illustrative of a previous Paper on the Training in Schools of Industry of Children dependent from Crime, Orphanage, &c.* By JAMES PHILLIPS KAY, Esq., F.S.S. &c.

HAVING in the first number of the Journal described the industrial department of a school for the training of pauper children, I proceed to furnish some brief notice of a visit to two institutions for the training of children in Holland.

The methods of instruction and moral discipline, and the nature of religious instruction appropriate to schools for the training of pauper children, may be more fitly discussed elsewhere. I shall, however, necessarily be led to some brief incidental notice of these subjects in the following pages.

The prison in which juvenile delinquents are confined at Rotterdam also contains adult criminals, but a complete separation is maintained between the children and adults. The institution has only recently been developed, and no separate building has yet been appropriated to the reception of the boys, whose redemption from criminal habits is the object of the moral discipline recently introduced within the walls of this prison. The boys confined here are condemned for periods varying from 6 months to 2, 3 or 6 years; and one boy in the prison had been