

# Locked Up! Ancestors in Jails and Asylums

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## SAMPLE ENTRIES FROM PRISON AND ASYLUM REPORTS

Report of the Director of the Penitentiary  
Bismark, Dakota Territory, 1884

### Prisoners Discharged in 1883

*sample entry*

**James Stanton**, sent from Cass County for a sentence of 4 years and 6 months. Discharged March 2, 1883. Prison paid \$13.40 for suit of clothes and shoes and paid train fare of \$14.35. Gave the prisoner \$5.00 cash. His place of destination was Fargo, Dakota Territory.

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### List of Pardons from State Prison Granted by Governor F.F. Low

*Journal of the Assembly ...of the Legislature of California*  
Sacramento, 1866

Sentenced	Name of Prisoner	Crime	County	Term
Jan. 1863	Michael McDermott	Grand Larceny	San Francisco	1 year
Petition praying for his pardon signed by Thomas Hayes, Peter Donahue and other well-known citizens of San Francisco ... officers of the prison certify his exemplary conduct .... Therefore, let him be pardoned.				
Oct. 1861	William P. Fisher	Assault/rape	Merced	5 years
Petition for his pardon signed by numerous well-known citizens of Merced County including County Judge and District Attorney; and represented that Fisher bore a good character previous to his conviction.... Therefore, let him be pardoned.				
June 1864	Ah Chew	Robbery	Butte	3 years
Since the conviction the property which it was alleged he had stolen has been found, establishing his innocence; ... petition signed by all the jurors and the judge stating they believe he is entirely innocent.... Therefore, let him be pardoned.				

*and more*

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### Statement of the ... Lunatics Confined in Jails and Other Places

*Virginia Senate Journal 1875/1876. Senate Document No. 18.*

*sample entries*

**William B. Martin**, Floyd County. Age 48, race white. Duration of attack: 16 years. How confined: bond. Character of the insanity: boisterous - periodical. Remarks: sometimes irritable, not requiring close confinement.

**Margaret Wolf**, Highland County. Age 40, race white. Duration of attack: 13 years, with lucid intervals. Confined in jail. Character of the insanity: Seems quiet and harmless. Remarks: Insanity dates from the time a negro was hung in the county, which affected her mind.

## Sample Entries from Prison and Asylum Reports (continued)

### List of Pupils in the Connecticut Asylum for the Education and Instruction of Deaf and Dumb Persons at the close of the year ending in April 1819

<u>Names</u>	<u>Residence</u>	<u>Admission</u>
Alice Cogswell	Hartford	April 15, 1817
George H. Loring	Boston	April 15, 1817
Wilson Whiton	Hingham Mass.	April 15, 1817
Abigail Dillingham	Lee Mass.	April 16, 1817
John Brewater, Jr.	Hampton	April 15, 1817
Don Alzono Stanley	Berlin	April 23, 1817

*and about 50 more*

### Annual Report of the Board of Trustees of the Georgia Academy for the Blind Macon, Georgia November 1, 1862

<b>Male Pupils</b>		<b>Female Pupils</b>	
<i>Name</i>	<i>Residence</i>	<i>Name</i>	<i>Residence</i>
Anderson, A. Howard	Burke County	Barbee, Missouri	Jones County
Astin, Charles	Campbell County	Barfield, Ceneth	Macon County
Bailey, William T.	Gordon County	Bates, Mary Ella	Gordon County
Balkum, M.L.	Twiggs County	Beaman, Pauline	Bartow County
Barnes, Josephus	Bibb County	Collins, Minner	Alabama
Boddiford, Alex.	Decatur County	Coley, Nannie	Stewart County
Burks, John J.	Clayton County	Coley, Susan V.	Stewart County
Camp, J.T.	Bibb County	Couch, Mattie	Jackson County
Coley, J.T.	Stewart County	Ellington, M.P.	Wilkes County
Gibson, James	Twiggs County	Estes, S.E.	Paulding County
Graves, Josiah S.	Floyd County	Hudgins, Sallie	Gordon County

*and more*

### Report of the Court of Directors of the Lunatic Hospital at Williamsburg January, 1832

Virginia Senate Document No. 28

Accounts Paid		
1831, July	James H. Jones, jailor of Glouchester county, for bringing Edward A. Stubbs to lunatic hospital	\$ 24.00
1831, October	Mary A. Galt, for salary as matron from July 1 to October 1	\$100.00
"	Mildred Bowden, account for fresh meats furnished in September	\$ 70.25
1831, December	Emily Green, a discharged patient from Fredericksburg	\$ 15.00
"	Francis P. Borriss, a discharged patient from New Kent county	\$ 4.00

*and more*

## SOURCES FOR PRISON & ASYLUM SEARCHING

### Guide to Microfilmed Legislative Reports

Hamrick, Lillian A. (editor). *Guide to the microfilm collection of early state records*. (Washington: Library of Congress, 1950).

Online at <http://babel.hathitrust.org>

### Links to State Archives Web Sites

*Directory of State Archives*. Council of State Archives (CoSA).

<http://www.statearchivists.org/connect/resources-state>

### Sample State Archives Web Sites Listing Archival Holdings

Georgia

*Finding Aids @ Georgia Archives*. Georgia Archives.

<http://find.georgiaarchives.org>

Kentucky

*Search KDLA Worldcat Discovery*. Kentucky Dept. for Libraries and Archives.

<http://kdla.on.worldcat.org>

South Carolina

*South Carolina Archives Catalog*. South Carolina Dept. of Archives and History.

<http://rediscover.sc.gov/scar>

Tennessee

*Alphabetical List of State Record Groups*. Tennessee State Library and Archives.

<http://sos.tn.gov> (search title in green bar)

### Civil War Prison Sources

*Union Provost Marshal's File of Papers Relating to Individual Civilians*. National Archives microfilm publication M345 (300 reels, alphabetical by name).

*Union Provost Marshal's File of Papers Relating to Two or More Civilians*. National Archives microfilm publication M416 (94 reels, semi-alphabetical by name).

*Selected Records of the War Department Relating to Confederate Prisoners of War, 1861-1865*. National Archives microfilm publication M598 (145 reels, by prison).