

OVERSEERS REPORTS

1774

To the Honourable the General Afsembly now Sitting at Hartford

We the Subscribers hereunto overfeers of New Gate Prifon
beg leave to Represent to your Honours

That Soon after the Rifing of the Afsembly in January
Last: three Delinquents were Committed to New Gate from
Windham and two others from New London County: Whereupon
(notwithstanding the Severity of the Seafon) we Immediately
Set about Making thofe further Securities that your Honour
Directed and have built a Strong Log houfe Thirty Six feet in
Length and Twenty feet in width with Timber ten inches Square:
Divided into two Rooms: one of which includes the well Shaft:
and in the other (Defigned for the Minors to Lodg in) we
have built a Chimney and Compleated the Whole: Except the
under flore: the Planks for which are not yet fufficiently
Dried and fit to lay: and Some Ceiling to Secure the Minors
from the Cold winds which otherwife will freely Pafe betwixt
the Timbers

We have alfo Secured the Eaft Shaft where the firft
Prifoners Efcaped with Iron and Stone and Every other Place
where we thought it Pofable for any to Efcape: and we
apprehended that Said Prifon is Now well Secured and filled
to receive and Imploy thefe offenders that may be Sent
their: an account of our Difbursements we have ready to Lay
before your honours or Auditors to be appointed as your Honours
Shall Direct

Your Honours Muft have heard that the Prifoners have all
Efcaped that Prifon it would be Long and perhaps Difficult
in writing to give a Particular and Diftinct account how this
was done: your Honour will Excufe us if we only Say that they

Effectuated their Escape by the help of evil minded persons
abroad before the Necessary and Proper Securitys Could be
Completed

We would further inform your Honours that we had Engaged
two Minors to assist the Prisoners at work who were to have
been their about the time that the Prisoners Escaped and one
of them actually left his business to come their a few days
after the Escape him we have Retained and to their , , ,
Principally Employed in Compleating the Security to the
Prison , , , the other we gave Intelligence of the Escape before
he left his business and prevented his Coming but have Engaged
him to attend when wanted: all which is Submitted to your
Honours by your Hounours Most obedient Humble Servts.

Hartford May 14th 1774

Erastus Wolcott
Jofiah Bifsell
Jonathan Humphry

*CANN. ARCHIVES
COMMISSIONS VOLUME # 363*