HEREAS there are divers persons now in the common Gaol of this Province who have been sentenced to hard labor therein for various periods of time and other persons may from time to time be sentenced by the Supreme Court or other lawful authority to undergo punishment of a like description: And whereas there being no sufficient means of employing such persons in any profitable labor within the said Gaol it is expedient to make provision for the employment of such persons on roads or other public works within the Province:

BE IT THEREFORE ENACTED by His Excellency Lieutenant-Colonel George Gawler Knight of the Royal Hanoverian Guelphic Order Governor and Commander-in-Chief of the Province of South Australia by and with the advice and consent of the Legislative Council thereof—

That all male persons now under sentence to be kept to hard labor in the common Gaol of this Province as aforesaid or who hereafter shall be sentenced to imprisonment and hard labor therein or in any other place of confinement by the Supreme Court or any other lawful authority may during the terms for which they shall be respectively sentenced to be imprisoned or any parts thereof be employed in labor upon such public roads or other public works within this Province as His Excellency the Governor for the time being in Council shall direct

And
And be it further enacted that it shall be lawful for His Excellency the Governor for the time being to make rules, orders and regulations for the employment and safe custody of such persons and to appoint such officers and assistants as may be necessary for the superintendence and safe custody of such persons with such remuneration as to the said Governor shall seem fit and to appoint such places for the safe custody of the said persons during their intervals of labor as to him shall seem fit and also to make with the advice of the Council such rules, orders and regulations as may be found useful or requisite for ensuring propriety of conduct and due performance of labor by such persons and punishment in default thereof and as to whether the said persons shall be worked in chains or not and to make all such other orders, rules and regulations as may be necessary to carry this Act into effect and the said orders, rules and regulations to alter, vary and revoke as occasion may or shall require.

Provided always and be it further enacted that the person having the charge of any Gaol or other place of confinement and wherein any offenders may be sentenced to imprisonment shall not be responsible for the safe custody of prisoners during the time that such prisoners may be removed from out of such Gaol or place of confinement under the authority of this Act.

GEORGE GAWLER,
Governor South Australia.

Passed the Council this twenty-fourth day of March, 1840.

GEORGE HALL,
Clerk of Council.