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<http://nla.gov.au/nla.news-article123612954>

LOCAL AND GENERAL NEWS.

On Friday morning last, three prisoners named Irwin, Dawson, and Morris, made their escape from the penal establishment of St. Helena, with the apparent intention of getting away from the island. A party of soldiers and warders started in pursuit of the runaways, who managed to secrete themselves in a thick scrub. Their pursuers, however, placed themselves in such a manner as to be able to discover any attempt on their part to leave their lurking place to procure food; they were, consequently, captured without resistance early on Saturday morning. In their possession was found two washing g tubs and a washing board, imperfectly fastened together with rope; it was their intention to endeavour to reach another island by means of this frail craft. The Police Magistrate, Mr. Massie, and the Water Police Magistrate, Mr. Thornton, held an investigation on Monday last concerning the escape of the prisoners, and sentenced them to be flogged. Irwin, who appears to have been the ring-leader, received thirty lashes, and Dawson and Morris twenty-five lashes each. The magistrates had occasion to sentence another prisoner named Hanlon to the infliction of twenty-four lashes for behaving in a very insubordinate manner. It may not be out of place here to mention that the danger of attempted escape of prisoners from St. Helena is increased by the number and ferocity of the sharks which infest the Bay.-Guardian.