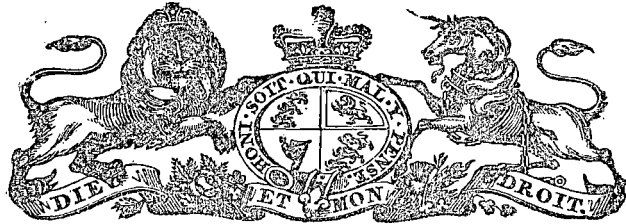


(No. 55.)



1863.

[SECOND SESSION.]

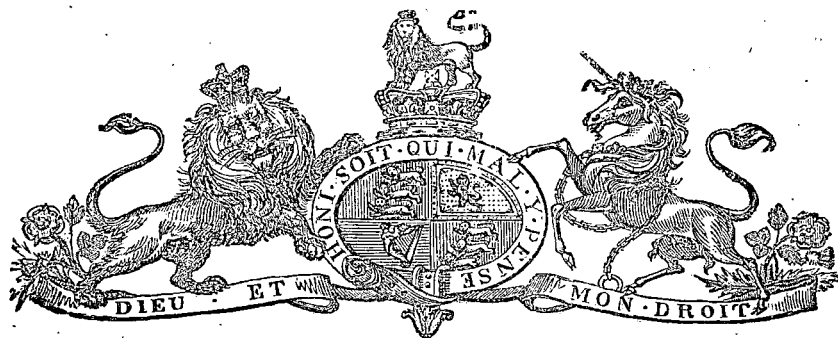
TASMANIA.

SIXTH REPORT

OF THE INSPECTOR OF THE POLICE OF TASMANIA FOR
THE YEAR ENDING JUNE 30, 1863.

In pursuance of 21st Victoria, No. 13.

Presented by Mr. Colonial Treasurer, and ordered by the House to be printed,
30 July, 1863.



SIXTH REPORT of the Inspector of Constabulary and Police Forces of the Municipalities of Tasmania, for the year ending 30th June, 1863. [In pursuance of 21st Victoria, No. 13.]

Office of Inspector of Police, 25th July, 1863.

SIR,

I HAVE the honor to lay before you, for His Excellency's information, this my Sixth Annual Report on the state of the several Police Forces of the Municipalities in Tasmania.

During the year four additional Rural Municipalities, making in all twelve, have been established, viz. Bothwell, Ross, Fingal, and New Norfolk; and several other Districts are about to avail themselves of the provisions of the Act of Parliament, 21 Victoria, No. 50.

It is gratifying to me to be able to state that I have found the Municipal Police generally efficient, both numerically and in organisation, that a general good understanding has been maintained between the authorities and myself, and that there exists every disposition to attend to any suggestions I find it necessary, from time to time, to offer on organisation and general arrangements. The only subject on which there appears any unwillingness on their part to cooperate with me, is in the establishing of fixed Rules and Regulations for the appropriation of the Reward and Superannuation Fund, which I have alluded to in former Reports as of vital importance in affecting permanence of service, so essential to efficiency in a Police Force. In some of the smaller Municipalities the Force may not be sufficient in numbers to enable such Rules to be established advantageously, but in the Metropolitan Towns and in the larger Municipalities no obstacle exists; and I regret to report that no steps have been taken by any of them to carry out my views.

I would recommend a recognition of a system of classification of Constables, by means of which men of superior intelligence and good conduct may look forward with a degree of certainty to promotion. Its adoption would, I am assured, prevent many experienced and well-qualified men leaving the service, and would be attended with very little additional expense. In March last the Launceston Force was so classified, and the Superintendent speaks favorably of results.

Though there are exceptional cases in which the pay of the Superintendent and Constables is fixed, in my opinion, at too low a rate, yet I am glad to find a disposition on the part of the Municipal authorities generally to secure the Constabulary a liberal scale of pay. Intelligent men, possessing the necessary qualifications for the duties required of them, are entitled to receive an equivalent remuneration, and one sufficient to support them respectably.

Serious crime has diminished throughout the Colony, and I find by the Superintendents' Returns that offences of a minor character are also on the decrease. The inducements offered by the Gold-fields in the neighboring Colonies continue to draw off by degrees many of the crime-committing population; and the Colony is becoming relieved of the criminal class, and the evils consequent on their preying on society. Sheep-stealing by drifting from the flocks is reported by the Stockholders to prevail to a considerable extent. The system adopted, in which it is quite clear the shepherds generally are either actively or passively engaged, cannot in my opinion, however, be effectually repressed through the medium of a generally organised Municipal Police Force.

The *Police Gazette*, which is gratuitously placed at the disposal of the Municipalities for the publication of offences, maintains its usefulness, facilitating, as it essentially does, detection of crime and the apprehension of offenders.

A new Municipal Police Bill is in preparation, in which it is proposed to provide for the enlargement of my powers as Inspector, with a view the better to secure, as Municipal action extends, a general Police organisation and arrangement.

Annexed is a Return showing the authorised strength, classification, and pay of the Municipal Forces under my inspection.

I have the honor to be,
Sir,

Your most obedient Servant,

J. FORSTER, *Inspector of Police.*

The Honorable the Colonial Secretary.

MUNICIPALITIES.

CITY OF HOBART TOWN.

Population.....	19,500
Area in Acres	1270
Population to one Constable.....	487
Area in Acres to one Constable.....	32
Strength of Force.....	40

This Force maintains its character for efficiency, and remains unaltered in organisation, classification, and pay; with the exception of the Superintendent's salary, which I think has unadvisedly been reduced from £300 to £250. It consists of—

1 Superintendent; 2 Sub-Inspectors; 1 Acting Sub-Inspector; 4 Sergeants; 2 Detective Constables, with rank and pay of Sergeants; 30 Petty Constables.

A Petty Constable has been appointed specially for the protection of the Slaughter-houses; but, as he is paid from Municipal Funds, I have not placed him on the effective strength of the Force.

The numerical reduction made last year in this Force has not, apparently, trenched on its efficiency,—the Superintendent reporting that the regulated beats are effectively worked. The present Superintendent, appointed in August last, is an Officer of some experience, having served several years in the Territorial Force in charge of a Police District.

The Medical Officer in attendance at the Head Station has been re-appointed, but the Constabulary are still not entitled to his services gratuitously.

The uniform, at the time of my inspection, was in excellent order; and the bedding, accoutrements, &c., equally so. The Station House, Wards, and Cells were cleanly and in good order; but a more frequent use of lime for whitewashing would be beneficial to the latter. The damp has been to a great degree removed by drainage, and the ventilation improved.

During the year ending 30th June, 1863, the Superintendent (who resigned) and 15 Petty Constables left the Force; of these latter, 7 resigned, 3 were invalided, receiving gratuities for service, and 5 were dismissed for various breaches of discipline.

The resignations were principally induced by the neighbouring Gold Fields opening out a more remunerative field of employment.

During a corresponding period, 326 indictable offences were reported to the Police, for which 222 persons were apprehended; of whom 177 were summarily convicted or committed, exhibiting a slight decrease in offences during the current year; and, considering the obstacles offered to detection by the community over which the Force has surveillance, presenting a good average thereof.

The Books, Records, and Returns continue to be intelligibly kept in regulated form, and the approved Manual of Regulations adhered to. The Acting Sub-Inspector has the supervision of Lodging-houses, and is Summoning Officer and Special Patrol.

TOWN OF LAUNCESTON.

Population	10,500
Area in Acres	3340
Population to one Constable	437
Area in Acres to one Constable	139
Strength of Force	24

It consists of—

1 Superintendent; 2 Sub-Inspectors; 3 Sergeants; 16 Petty Constables, of whom 3 are Mounted Patrol; and 2 Detective Constables.

A further reduction of 4 Petty Constables has been made in this Force, (including the one whose removal was authorised at the time of my inspection in 1862); and an improved classification of the Petty Constables adopted, which will, I think, lead to increased efficiency and permanence of service.

The pay of the Sergeants and Petty Constables has also been slightly decreased, and is now brought to a fair standard. It will not, however, in my opinion, admit of any further reduction. The new classification necessarily involved a change in the scale of payment to the latter class of men.

The new Uniform had not been issued when I inspected the Force. That in use, which had been worn for nearly 12 months, still looked well. The Horses of the Mounted Patrol were in good condition, and the Arms and Accoutrements in excellent order.

No change or improvement has yet been made in either Barrack or Station-house accommodation. The Cells were cleanly and in good order.

During the year ending 30th June, one Detective Officer and seven Petty Constables left the Force, six of whom resigned, and two, including the Detective, were dismissed for breaches of discipline; the same causes for resignation operating equally here as in Hobart Town.

During a corresponding period, 110 indictable offences were reported to the Police, for which 81 persons were apprehended, of whom 66 were summarily convicted or committed, exhibiting a good average of detection.

The gratuitous attendance of a Medical man on the Constabulary is not sanctioned by the Council.

This Force fully maintains its character for efficiency, but will not admit, I consider, of any further numerical reduction.

The Books, Records, and Returns are kept according to form, and the approved Regulations duly adhered to.

RURAL MUNICIPALITIES.

GLAMORGAN.

Population	1168
Population to one Constable	78
Strength of Force	15

This Force remains unaltered in classification or pay. It consists of—

1 Superintendent, 1 Sub-Inspector, 2 Petty Constables, and 11 Special Constables.

The latter class of Constables are selected from respectable Mechanics and small Settlers, and are reported to be effective and useful. No salary is attached to their office, but they receive 10s. a day when on duty.

The amount of Crime reported is very trifling. During the year ending 30th June, 14 indictable offences were reported to the Police, for which 12 persons were apprehended, of whom 10 were summarily convicted or committed.

During a similar period one Sub-Inspector and two Special Constables resigned from the Force. One of the latter, however, rejoined on a permanent footing, and received the appointment of Sub-Inspector.

The Lock-up at Bicheno will shortly be proclaimed a House of Correction to enable short sentences of Solitary Confinement to be served therein. At present prisoners under sentence have to be sent to Swansea, a distance of thirty miles.

A difference of opinion exists between myself and the Warden as to the wearing of uniform by this Force. As his opinion is an exceptional one, I have no doubt this will eventually be reconciled.

The Wards and Cells of the new Station-house were clean and orderly, and the Books, Records, and Returns kept in prescribed form.

The Superintendent of Police is also Clearing Officer of Customs, Inspector of Stock, Examiner of Weights and Measures, and Summoning Officer of the Court of General Sessions.

I am of opinion that this is an efficient Force.

SPRING BAY.

Population	730
Population to one Constable	91
Strength of Force	8

No change in the classification of this Force has been made, but a reduction has been authorised in the pay of the Superintendent and Special Constables. That in the salary of the former (£40) is, in my opinion, too great a one, and a withdrawal of a permanent salary from the latter undesirable. It consists of—

1 Superintendent, 1 Sub-Inspector, 3 Petty Constables, 3 Special Constables.

The new Police and Municipal Buildings are now occupied, and afford ample accommodation. They contain for Police purposes Gaoler's quarters, two day or felony wards, and four cells. In order to make the Station secure for the detention of Prisoners, a fence should be erected round the Gaol portion of it. This fence appears on the original plan of the building, and a contract was entered into for its erection, which has not, however, been completed.

The Lock-up at the White Hut is now in good order, and that at Buckland is about to be repaired. The Wards and Cells in all the Station Houses were cleanly and orderly.

The Report of the Superintendent shows a trifling commission of crime. Reports of extensive sheep-stealing in the Municipality have, however, been made, but this is a class of offence prevalent throughout the Colony.

During the year ending 30th June, 11 indictable offences were reported to the Police, for which 12 persons were apprehended, of whom 9 were summarily convicted or committed.

During a similar period, 1 Petty Constable was dismissed from the Force, for a breach of trust, and two specials resigned on the withdrawal of their salary.

The Books, Records, and Returns are kept according to prescribed rules.

The Superintendent holds the appointment of Clearing Officer of Customs, Inspector of Stock, Examiner of Weights and Measures, and Summoning Officer of General Sessions.

I consider this an efficient Force.

CLARENCE.

Population	1506
Population to one Constable	215
Strength of Force	7

In numerical strength this Force remains unaltered, but its pay has been decreased. It consists of—

1 Superintendent, 1 Sergeant, 2 Petty Constables, 3 Special Constables.

A reduction of 6d. a day in the pay of the Sergeant and Petty Constables, and of 2s. 6d. a day in the allowance to the Special Constables when on duty, has been made since my last report.

The Council, not having received the assistance they anticipated from the Government, have no longer delayed the repairs required at the Police Stations at Bellerive and Rokeby. At the time of my inspection, these had been authorised, and tenders for them invited.

The amount of crime reported to have been committed is trifling. During the year ending 30th June, 18 indictable offences were reported to the Police, (5 of which were, however, so reported in error,) for which 6 persons were apprehended, of whom 4 were summarily convicted or committed.

Within the same period, 1 Sergeant left the Force by resignation, being found unfit for the service.

The Station-houses, Wards, and Cells were clean and orderly; and the prescribed Books, Records, and Returns duly and intelligibly kept.

The Superintendent is also Summoning Officer of General Sessions, Inspector of Stock, and Inspector of Roads.

This is an efficient Force; but I consider it now inadequately paid.

RICHMOND.

Population	1660
Population to one Constable	240
Strength of Force	7

This Force is unaltered in organisation, classification, or pay. It consists of—

1 Superintendent, 1 Sub-Inspector, 1 Sergeant, 4 Petty Constables.

During the year ending 30th June, 52 indictable offences were reported to the Police, for which 34 persons were apprehended, of whom 14 were summarily convicted or committed.

Within a similar period, two vacancies occurred in the Force, by the resignation of the Superintendent and one Petty Constable.

The Force was well clothed and appointed, and their uniform was in good order. The Cells and Wards in the Stations were clean and orderly, and the Books, Records, and Returns kept according to regulated form.

The Superintendent holds the appointment of Summoning Officer of General Sessions, Inspector of Stock, and Examiner of Weights and Measures.

This is an efficient Force.

OATLANDS.

Population	2330
Population to one Constable	244
Strength of Force	9

The organisation of this Force has been slightly varied since my last report, by the reduction in its numerical strength of one Petty Constable. It consists of—

1 Superintendent, 1 Sub-Inspector, 6 Petty Constables, 1 Special Constable.

The Escort Station at Antill Ponds, which has been reduced, I have recommended to be again re-established by the detaching of a Petty Constable from the Township, where the numerical strength now stationed is not, in my opinion, required.

The Sittings of the Supreme Court having been discontinued, the Gaol will be handed over to the Municipality. It will not then be necessary to use the present Station-house, which is damp and somewhat inconvenient, for the detention of prisoners, the Gaol affording every accommodation for that purpose.

During the year ending 30 June, 57 indictable offences were reported to the Police, for which 26 persons were apprehended, of whom 23 were summarily convicted or committed.

During a similar period 2 Petty Constables left the Force: 1 by reduction on an Escort Station being abolished, and 1 was removed for drunkenness.

The Station-house, Cells, and Wards were clean and orderly; and the Books, Records, and Returns kept according to prescribed regulations.

The Constables have hitherto been allowed to provide their own uniform ; but I have recommended that the clothing should be supplied by the Council, and its cost defrayed from their pay.

The Superintendent is also Summoning Officer of General Sessions, Inspector of Stock, and Examiner of Weights and Measures. The Constable in charge of the Tunbridge Lock-up is also an Inspector of Stock and Poundkeeper.

This is a strong and efficient Force.

LONGFORD.

Population	5050
Population to 1 Constable	505
Strength of Force	10

This Force remains unaltered in organisation, classification, and pay. It consists of—

1 Superintendent, 3 Sergeants, 6 Petty Constables.

It is very liberally paid, and well appointed ; and the Superintendent and men, wearing a new uniform of excellent quality, which had just been issued, presented a smart and disciplined appearance.

During the year ending 30th June, 55 indictable offences were reported to the Police, for which 53 persons were apprehended, of whom 32 were summarily convicted or committed.

Within a similar period 6 Petty Constables left the Force, 4 by resignation, and 2 were dismissed. The Superintendent having latterly been enabled to select steady men, their service will, it is expected, now be of a permanent character.

A commodious Police Station and Lock-up, providing accommodation for a married Constable, and the safe custody of prisoners, has been recently erected at Bishopsbourne, an important locality in the Municipality. The building is well planned, and of a substantial character, and the site an eligible one. The Wards and Cells in the several Station-houses were cleanly and orderly at the time of my inspection ; and the Books, Records, and Returns kept according to regulation.

The Superintendent holds the appointment of Summoning Officer of General Sessions, Inspector of Stock, and Examiner of Weights and Measures.

This is a well-disciplined and efficient Force.

GREEN PONDS.

Population	936
Population to 1 Constable	234
Strength of Force	4

It consists of—

1 Superintendent, 3 Petty Constables.

No improvements have been made in the Station-house, which does not afford sufficient accommodation.

The Head Station is the only one in the Municipality, there being no Out-stations. The Wards and Cells were clean and orderly at the time of inspection ; and the Books, Records, and Returns are kept according to regulation.

During the year ending 30 June, 51 indictable offences were reported to the Police, for which 40 persons were apprehended, of whom 19 were summarily convicted or committed. The Superintendent reports that 15 persons out of the 40 were given in charge by prosecutors who failed to substantiate their cases.

Within a similar period one member of the Force left by resignation, viz. the Superintendent,

The Superintendent is Summoning Officer of General Sessions, Inspector of Stock, and Examiner of Weights and Measures.

This Force is efficient, but in my opinion inadequately paid.

SORELL.

Population	1982
Population to one Constable	273
Strength of Force	7

This Municipality was established on the 30th June, 1862, and its permanent Police Force has been slightly reduced below that maintained by the Government. It consists of—

1 Superintendent, 6 Petty Constables, 1 Special Constable.

An out-Station and Lock-up at the Carlton has been abolished, but without detrimentally affecting the efficiency of the Force.

During the year ending 30th June, 62 indictable offences had been reported to the Police, for which 23 persons were apprehended, of whom 20 were summarily convicted or committed. Five of the cases, viz. of cattle-stealing, were reported in error. During a corresponding period one Constable left the Force by resignation.

The Station-houses, Cells, and Wards were clean and in good order, and the Books and Records, Returns, &c. kept according to regulation.

The uniform of the Force is similar to that of the Territorial Police.

The Superintendent is Summoning Officer of General Sessions, Inspector of Stock, and Examiner of Weights and Measures.

In my opinion this is an efficient Force.

BOTHWELL.

Population	1297
Population to one Constable.....	216
Strength of Force.....	6

This Municipality was established on the 31st January last. The Police Force maintained by the Government has been slightly reduced. It consists of—

1 Superintendent, 1-Sub-Inspector, 4 Petty Constables.

The Police Office and Station-house occupied by the Government have been transferred to the Municipality. The latter, formerly used as a Military Barrack, has, unfortunately, been erected on the opposite bank of the River Clyde to that on which the Township is situate.

The uniform worn by the Constabulary was transferred to the Municipality by the Government, and the rate of pay the Force was formerly in receipt of has been authorised.

Very little crime is reported to have been committed in the Municipality. The Returns of number of offences reported to the Police, and of permanence of service of the Constabulary, I defer publishing until next year.

The Station-house at the Shannon is proposed to be broken up, and transferred to the neighbourhood of the Quoin Mountain, which no doubt is a more eligible site.

The Superintendent holds the appointment of Summoning Officer of General Sessions, Inspector of Stock, and Examiner of Weights and Measures.

This Force is efficient.

ROSS.

Population	700
Population to one Constable.....	250
Strength of Force.....	3

This Municipality was established on the 17th February, 1863, and maintains the same Force that was authorised for its protection as a portion of the District of Campbell Town. It consists of—

1 Superintendent, 3 Petty Constables.

And the Municipality contributes towards the maintenance of the Tunbridge Station, in Oatlands.

The Police Buildings, comprising Police Office, Station-house, and Constables' quarters lately in the occupation of the Government, have been transferred to the Municipality. The accommodation afforded is sufficient, and the Cells were clean at the time I inspected them.

The amount of crime reported to have been committed is very small. This Return I defer publishing until my next Report. No Constables have left the Force since its organisation.

The Superintendent is Summoning Officer of General Sessions, Inspector of Stock, and Examiner of Weights and Measures.

This is an efficient Force.

FINGAL.

Population	1956
Population to one Constable	150
Strength of Force	13

This Municipality was established on the 28th February, 1863; and no variation has been made in the strength of its Police Force, nor in its pay, since its transfer from the Government. It consists of—

1 Superintendent, 3 Sub-Inspectors, 1 Sergeant, 8 Petty Constables.

The Police Buildings at Fingal, affording ample accommodation for Station-house and Constables' Quarters, were transferred to the Municipality by the Government, together with the Stations and Lock-ups at Avoca, St. Mary's, and Falmouth.

The Warden holds Magisterial Courts at the three last-named Stations, as well as at Head Quarters. This tends not only to a speedy attainment of the ends of justice, but also affords a constant supervision of the Force at Out-Stations.

The Station-houses, Wards, and Cells were in good order and cleanly, and the regulated Books, Records, and Returns are intelligibly kept.

The Statistics of Crime I shall defer publishing until my next Report.

The uniform worn by the Police is that handed over to them by the Government on the establishment of the Municipality.

The Sub-Inspector at Avoca has an allowance of £25 a year for the keep of a horse.

The Superintendent is Summoning Officer of General Sessions, Inspector of Stock, and Examiner of Weights and Measures.

This is a strong and efficient force.

NEW NORFOLK.

Population	2690
Population to one Constable	384
Strength of Force	7

This Municipality was established on the 17th March, 1863, and the original organisation of its Police Force remains unaltered. With the exception of the Superintendent's salary, the rate of pay also remains the same. It consists of—

1 Superintendent, 1 Sub-Inspector, 5 Petty Constables.

The Police Buildings transferred to the Municipality by the Government comprise the Gaol, now occupied as the Head Station-house, which affords ample accommodation for the detention of prisoners, together with a residence for the Superintendent. At the time of my inspection the Wards and Cells were clean and orderly, and the Books, Records, and Returns kept according to regulation.

The uniform worn by the Force was transferred to it by the Government. The Sub-Inspector stationed on the Township of Glenora receives an allowance of £25 for the keep of a horse.

As this Municipality has been but a short time in existence, I omit the usual Return of the commission of offences (which, however, have not been numerous) until my next Report. No Constables have left the Force since its organisation.

The Superintendent holds the office of Summoning Officer of General Sessions, Inspector of Stock, and Examiner of Weights and Measures.

This Force is an efficient one.

APPENDIX.

ESTABLISHED POLICE FORCES in the Municipalities of Tasmania.

MUNICIPALITY.	Establishment.		Detail of Ranks.						Estimate of Population in 1862.	Area in Acres.	Proportions.		Rates of Annual Pay.			Rates of Daily Pay.								REMARKS.						
	1862.	1863.	Superintendent.	Sub-Inspectors.	Acting Sub-Inspector.	Sergeants.	Constables.	Mounted Patrol.			Special Constables.	Population to each Constable.	Acres to each Constable.	£	£	£	s.	s.	d.	s.	s.	d.	s.		s.	d.	s.	s.	d.	s.
Hobart	40	40	1	2	1	6	30	—	19,500	1270	487	32	£ 250	£ 140	—	—	—	—	6 6	6 6	—	5 0	—	6 6	—	—	—	—	—	With Uniform.
Launceston	28	24	1	2	—	3	15	3*	10,500	3340	437	139	250	160	—	—	—	—	7 0	6	5 6	6	7 0	—	—	—	—	—	With Uniform.	
Bothwell	—	6	1	1	—	—	4	—	1297	299,520	216	49,920	200	—	—	—	5 6	—	—	—	5 0	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	With Uniform for current year.	
Clarence	7	7	1	—	—	1	2	—	1506	85,000	215	12,143	175	—	10	—	—	—	5 0	—	4 6	—	—	—	—	5	—	Without Uniform.		
Fingal	—	13	1	3	—	1	8	—	1956	1,807,360	150	13,825	200	—	—	—	5 9	—	5 0	—	5 0	—	—	—	—	—	—	With Uniform for current year.		
Glamorgan	17	15	1	1	—	—	2	—	1168	540,000	78	3600	—	—	—	10	6 0	—	—	—	5 6	—	—	—	—	10	Without Uniform.			
Green Ponds	4	4	1	—	—	—	3	—	936	40,300	234	10,075	120	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	4 6	—	—	—	—	—	—	With Uniform. Superintendent has quarters.		
Longford	10	10	1	—	—	3	6	—	5050	590,720	505	20,300	200	—	—	—	—	—	6 0	—	5 6	—	—	—	—	—	—	Ditto. Ditto.		
New Norfolk	—	7	1	1	—	—	5	—	2690	125,440	384	17,920	130	—	—	—	5 9	—	—	—	5 0	—	—	—	—	—	—	With Uniform for current year. Superintendent has quarters.		
Oatlands	10	9	1	1	—	—	6	—	2330	448,000	259	49,778	180	—	5	—	5 6	—	—	—	5 0	—	—	—	—	—	—	Without Uniform.		
Richmond	7	7	1	1	—	1	4	—	1660	153,600	240	21,930	—	—	—	9	5 5	—	4 8	—	4 8	—	—	—	—	—	—	With Uniform. Superintendent has quarters.		
Ross	—	3	1	—	—	—	2	—	700	178,000	250	59,333	150	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	5 0	—	—	—	—	—	—	With Uniform for current year. Superintendent has quarters.		
Sorell	—	8	1	—	—	—	6	—	1982	440,320	242	55,040	180	—	10	—	—	—	—	—	5 0	—	—	—	—	—	—	With Uniform.		
Spring Bay	10	8	1	1	—	—	3	—	730	360,000	91	40,000	170	—	—	—	5 2	—	—	—	5 0	—	—	—	—	—	10	Without Uniform.		

* One an Acting Sergeant.

JAMES BARNARD,
GOVERNMENT PRINTER, TASMANIA.

J. FORSTER, *Inspector.*