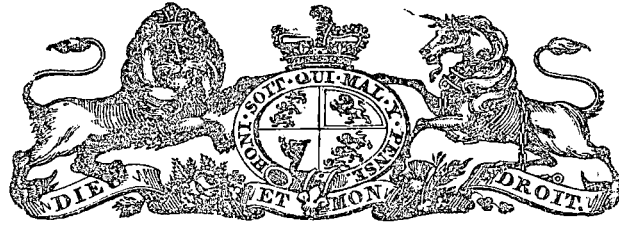


(No. 23.)



1862.

T A S M A N I A.

FIFTH REPORT OF THE INSPECTOR OF CONSTABULARY AND
POLICE FORCES IN THE MUNICIPALITIES OF TASMANIA,
FOR THE YEAR ENDING 30TH JUNE, 1862.

Laid on the Table by Mr. Henty, and ordered by the Council to be printed,
5 August, 1862.



FIFTH REPORT of the Inspector of Constabulary and Police Forces in the Municipalities of Tasmania for the Year ending 30th June, 1862. [In pursuance of the 21st Vict. No. 13.]

Office of Inspector of Police, 29th July, 1862.

SIR,

IN submitting herewith, for the information of His Excellency the Governor, my Fifth Annual Report of the state and efficiency of the several Constabulary and Police Forces in the Municipalities in Tasmania, it is gratifying to me to be enabled to state that, throughout the whole, they have been maintained, both in point of numbers and discipline, generally in a satisfactory state of efficiency.

His Excellency will observe that I have altered the period within which the year of inspection has hitherto been comprised. In consequence of the assembling of Parliament at an earlier date than has been the case in former years, I have been induced, in order that my Report may be laid on the Table of the House early in the Session, to bring it to a close on the 30th June, instead of, as heretofore, on the 31st August in each year.

During the past year four additional Rural Municipalities have been established; viz.—Oatlands, Longford, Green Ponds, and Sorell. And the greater portion of the south-eastern Districts of the Colony have now adopted Municipal action with very satisfactory results.

With the Authorities I continue to maintain a good understanding; and any suggestions I have, in the course of my inspection, found it necessary to make have been courteously received and usually acted upon,—every disposition apparently existing on their parts to maintain a general and efficient system of Police organization.

It seems to be universally admitted, as a matter of vital importance to the usefulness and efficiency of a Police Force, that all reasonable means should be adopted to induce well-conducted, effective, and intelligent men to continue in the Service,—to make it, in fact, a profession for life. It is therefore with regret that I find myself compelled to report that, although a Police Reward and Superannuation Fund is constituted by Law in the Municipalities of Hobart and Launceston, under the provisions of the 21st Victoria, No. 13 (which in each amounts to a large sum of money,*) and also in the Rural Municipalities, by the 21st Victoria, No. 50, that almost the strongest and most benevolent inducement that can be held out,—viz., the establishment of Rules and Regulations whereby the appropriation and benefits of such Funds would be secured with certainty to the Constabulary, has not in any way been carried out by the Authorities.

The adoption of uniform in accordance with the approved rule, tending, as it does, not only to efficiency and discipline, but to the instilling into the men a feeling of self-respect, and throwing round them the protection of the law in the performance of their duties, has not, I regret, been generally acquiesced in. In those Municipalities, however, in which this Regulation has been carried out, the men have an air of smartness and superiority which may, I hope, induce those in which it is still in abeyance voluntarily to follow their example.

During the last Session of Parliament it was found desirable, by an amendment of the Act 21st Victoria, No. 13, more clearly to define my authority as Inspector, and to secure an efficient and uniform system of escort of prisoners. No difference on these points has, I am glad to report, since arisen between myself and any Municipal Authorities to disturb that harmonious coöperation which I am anxious to maintain between us.

* In Hobart Town to £1,258, and in Launceston to £1,090.

The Police Gazette, which continues to answer my most sanguine expectations as a means of effecting apprehensions of criminals and the detection of crime, affords the Municipalities a gratuitous means of publication of offences, &c.

In several of the newly established Rural Municipalities I am glad to observe that the Authorities have secured the services of members of the Rural Force (Officers and Constables) who have been necessarily reduced, and whose experience, I have no doubt, tends to ensure efficiency in their respective Police Forces.

The usual Appendix, being a Return of the authorised strength of the Police Establishments in the several Municipalities, is annexed.

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

A reduction in this Force, in pursuance of a Resolution of the Municipal Council, of 1 Detective Officer and 5 Petty Constables was made in the latter end of the month of April, which has weakened it and necessarily extended the beats in the centre of the City more than I think was advisable during the winter half-year; but, from the Report of the Superintendent, and the absence of the commission of serious crime, no apparent inefficiency has been the result. The Superintendent's salary has been increased to £300 a year, which enables him to keep a horse; and, on the other hand, the pay of the Sergeants and Petty Constables has been reduced by Sixpence a day.

The uniform of the Force (issued on the 1st January in each year), at the time of my inspection, was in excellent order, as well as the accoutrements, bedding, &c.

A Medical Officer is now appointed specially to attend the Head Station-house; and I think it worthy the consideration of the authorities, whether the Constabulary should not be (as their pay has been reduced) now entitled gratuitously to that Officer's services. Considerable improvements in the ventilation of the Wards at the Station-house has been effected, and the dampness so much complained of has been removed by draining; but the want of an extra Day Ward is still felt. The Wards and Cells, &c., were cleanly and in good order at the time of my inspection; and the Constables' Barracks I found also clean and comfortable.

During the year ending 30th June, 12 Petty Constables left the Force: of these, 4 resigned at their own request, and 8 were dismissed for various breaches of discipline, the majority arising from indulgence in liquor. The Constables now composing the Force, however, having served for periods varying from 4 years to 1 year, a prospect of greater permanence of service for the future is held out, and the Superintendent reports favorably of their conduct and steadiness.

During a corresponding period, 339 indictable offences had been reported to the Police, for which 227 persons had been apprehended, of whom 151 were committed: a result not so satisfactory as in former years. It will be seen that, as the reports of the commission of offences of a minor description have increased, the number of apprehensions and convictions have decreased. This, however, is not, I think, to be ascribed to a want of vigilance or of detective qualifications on the part of the Force, but to circumstances connected with the crime-committing class of our community, who, from the experience gained during a long career of crime and facility of obtaining harbour, are enabled to avoid detection—many of these offences ultimately proving to have been committed by the same criminal before he is apprehended.

The Superintendent is allowed a Clerk, who is not, however, on the effective strength of the Force.

The Books and Returns continue to be kept in prescribed order; and the Regulations affecting discipline originally approved of are adhered to. The Acting Sub-Inspector has the supervision of Lodging-houses, and acts also as a Special Detective Officer and Patrol.

TOWN OF LAUNCESTON.

Population	10,500
Area in Acres.....	3,340
Population to one Constable.....	375
Area in Acres to one Constable	119
Strength of Force	28

A reduction of 2 Petty Constables has been authorised in this Force. One only, however, has yet been virtually reduced, it being arranged that the services of the second man shall be dispensed with on a vacancy accruing. The rate of pay, both of officers and men, has also been reduced,—that of the Superintendent from £300 to £250, that of the Sub-Inspectors from £180 to £160, that of the Sergeants by One Shilling per diem, and that of Constables by Sixpence per diem.

It was undesirable, I think, to decrease the pay of the officers; though I see no objection to the course adopted by the Council in regard to the men. This Force is well paid, and fully maintains the efficiency it has been remarkable for since its first organization.

The men wore the new uniform clothing which had just been issued. The suits were well fitted, and the material of excellent quality. The horses of the Mounted Patrol are active, serviceable animals; in good condition; and the arms and accoutrements of the men were in good order.

The inconveniences hitherto attendant on the want of proper Barrack and Watch-house accommodation still exist; the withdrawal of a number of the separate Cells for prison purposes having still further increased them. The Barracks occupied by the single men, and the Cells, were cleanly and orderly.

This Force is not entitled to the gratuitous services of the Medical Officer attending the Watch-house, considering it, however, desirable that they should, I drew the attention of the Mayor and Aldermen to the subject.

During the year ending 30th June, 1862, 9 Constables resigned from the Force—3 of whom did so to proceed to the Gold-fields in New Zealand, and 6 at their own request for other satisfactory reasons. There were no dismissals: a fact which speaks very creditably for the good conduct of the Force.

During a corresponding period, 100 indictable offences were reported to the Police; for which 94 persons were apprehended, of whom 90 were committed: a rate of detection very creditable to the Detective Branch.

The Books continue to be kept in prescribed form; and the Rules and Regulations for the government of the Force heretofore carried out are strictly adhered to.

RURAL MUNICIPALITIES.

GLAMORGAN.

No change whatever, numerically or in classification, has been made in this Force since my last inspection. It consists of—

1 Superintendent, 1 Sub-Inspector, 2 Petty Constables, 13 Special Constables.

The pay of the Superintendent (which I think inadvisable) has been reduced to 10s. a day, but that of the other members of the Force remains unaltered; and the Superintendent reports, that he finds that the Special Constables, when called upon, render effective service.

The Police Stations, Wards, and Cells were cleanly and in good order; and the Police Office and Council Chamber, which have for some time been finished, afford every convenience for the transaction of business, and are of a superior character. The Escort Station at the White Hut, on its re-establishment, restored the efficiency of this Force; and I consider it sufficient for the Municipality, in which there has been little crime committed during the past year. During the year ending the 30th June last, 3 Constables (Special) left the Force—2 by resignation and 1 by dismissal. And, during a similar period, 12 indictable offences were reported to the Police, for which 8 persons were apprehended; of whom one was committed and convicted of Manslaughter, the other cases being of a very trivial character.

The Books and Returns continue to be kept intelligibly, and the general instructions attended to. The Superintendent holds the appointments of Summoning Officer to the Court of General Sessions, Inspector of Stock, Examiner of Weights and Measures, and Clearing Officer of Customs. This Force is not clothed in any prescribed uniform.

SPRING BAY.

The strength and organization of this Force remain unaltered since my last inspection. It consists of—

1 Superintendent, 1 Sub-Inspector, 3 Petty Constables, 5 Special Constables.
The latter receiving the same pay and allowances on service as originally fixed by the Council.

New Police Buildings, comprising Police Office, Council Chamber, and Station-house, with Constables' Quarters, are in course of erection at Spring Bay. These will be finished during the present year, and will afford every convenience and accommodation. On the new buildings being ready for occupation, the present Station-house, which is in every way unsuitable, will be disused.

On the issuing of a *Mandamus* from the Supreme Court, the Lock-up and Escort Station at the White Hut was re-established; and its maintenance enables me to report this Force now efficient and sufficient. And I hope that the good understanding between myself and the Municipal Authorities which has been restored will not be again disturbed. This Lock-up, however, I found very much out of repair; and the necessity of its being at once put into tenable order was brought under the consideration of the Council, a quorum of whom met me in conference on the occasion of my inspection.

During the year ending 30th June last, 4 Constables left this Force, 2 Petty Constables by resignation—one of which appears, however, to have been compulsory,—and 2 Special by resignation also. During the same period, 6 indictable offences were reported to the Police, for which 6 persons were apprehended, all of whom were committed,—proving a very efficient course of detection.

The Books and Returns are kept in proper and prescribed form. The Superintendent is also Summoning Officer of General Sessions, Inspector of Stock, and Clearing Officer of Customs. The Constabulary are not clothed in uniform.

CLARENCE.

This Force, which I can report as efficient, remains the same in classification and strength. It consists of—

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

The sum of £10 has been added in augmentation of the Superintendent's salary; but no other change in the pay and remuneration of the Force has taken place.

The Police Stations in the Municipality require repair; but the Council have, I think, adopted a wise course in not effecting these temporarily, but delaying them until they receive the sum voted by the House of Assembly during its last Session for this purpose. The Station-houses, Wards, and Cells were cleanly at the time of my inspection.

During the year ending 30th June last, no Constables resigned, nor were any dismissed from this Force; and this permanence of service is very satisfactory.

Within the same period, 24 indictable offences were reported to the Police, for which 12 persons were apprehended, of whom 6 were committed; 10 of the 24 cases reported, on enquiry, not requiring prosecution by the Police.

The Superintendent holds also the appointments of Summoning Officer to the Court of General Sessions and Inspector of Roads; to which I recommend to be added that of Inspector of Stock.

RICHMOND.

Since the first organization of this Force, on the establishment of the Municipality, there has been an increase of 1 Sergeant and 1 Petty Constable. The intention of appointing Special Constables on similar terms as in other Rural Municipalities has not been carried out by the Council. It consists of—

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

and is an efficient and sufficient force.

The Municipality occupies the Police Office, formerly in the occupation of the Government, as a Council Chamber and Offices; and the Gaol at Richmond, in which the Superintendent resides, together with the Station at Jerusalem, which have also been transferred for their use, afford every accommodation for the safe custody of Prisoners, and quarters for Constables. All the Wards and Cells were in good order and cleanly when I visited them. Here the uniform prescribed by the Regulation has been adopted by the Authorities.

During the year ending 30th June, 1862, 4 Petty Constables left the Force by resignation—3 of which, however, appear to have been compulsory. In a similar period, 26 indictable offences were reported to the Police; for which 13 persons were apprehended, of whom 6 were committed,—some of these, however, were of a character (two being arson) which admit of a very great doubt as to their having been committed maliciously, and others were of a trivial nature.

The Municipal Authorities have expressed every desire to maintain their Force in an efficient state.

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

OATLANDS.

This Municipality was established on the 10th January last, since which I have paid to it two official visits.

The Police Force is a strong and efficient one, and consists of—

1 Superintendent, 1 Sub-Inspector, 7 Petty Constables, 1 Special Constable.

Another of this latter class is to be appointed. The Police Office and Watch-house, formerly in the occupation of the Government, have been handed over to the Municipality, and are somewhat out of repair. The Cells and Wards in the Head Station-house were cleanly when I visited them; but they are only used, however, for the temporary confinement of prisoners who, 'on remand or commitment, are at once removed to the Gaol, under the control of the Sheriff. The Lock-ups and Escort Stations (3 in number) on the Main Line of Road are in good order, and in charge of married Constables. The duty of escort of prisoners falls rather severely on this Municipality, which has upwards of 30 miles of Main Road running through it.

This Force has not yet been supplied with new uniform. The Council has coöperated very cordially with me in all communications I have made to them in Police matters.

The Books and Returns are intelligibly kept in prescribed form; and the Regulations for discipline, &c., generally adopted. As this Municipality was only established at the beginning of the year, I have not required from the Superintendent of Police any Returns connected with the commission of crime, or continuation of service of the Constabulary; which, however, will be included in my next Report. The Superintendent is Summoning Officer of the Court of General Sessions, Inspector of Stock, and Examiner of Weights and Measures.

LONGFORD.

This Municipality was established on the 1st March, 1862, and has organised a very efficient Force, in excess of that formerly maintained by the Government. It consists of—

1 Superintendent, 3 Sergeants, 6 Petty Constables.

One of the latter acting as Watch-house Keeper and Superintendent's Clerk.

One Sergeant stationed at Cressy has forage allowance for a horse. No Special Constables have been appointed, the Council not approving of this class of Constabulary.

The Police Office and other Police Buildings, including the Gaol in which the Superintendent resides, formerly in the occupation of the Government, have been transferred to the Municipality, and are in a fair state of repair.

They afford every accommodation necessary for Council Chambers, &c., and the confinement and safe custody of prisoners; and the Wards and Cells were, at the time of my inspection, cleanly and in good order.

The Stations at Cressy and Perth, which were recently built, contain sufficient accommodation, are convenient, and in good repair.

The uniform worn by the Force is that transferred to them by the Government on the establishment of the Municipality.

The Authorities have cordially coöperated with me; and they have expressed to me their desire to maintain their Police Force in an efficient and sufficient state.

The Books and Returns are kept in prescribed form, and in a very intelligible manner. The Superintendent is also Summoning Officer of the Court of General Sessions, Inspector of Stock, and Examiner of Weights and Measures.

The rate of pay to the Constabulary is higher than in any other Rural Municipality, and was raised from its original standard (the Government one) soon after its first organization, in order to secure men of a better class.

GREEN PONDS.

This small Municipality was established on the 16th April, 1862, and continues the same Force of Police as was authorised by the Government when under my control as Inspector. It consists of—

1 Superintendent, 3 Petty Constables.

No Special Constables have been appointed by the Council. This force I approve of as sufficient for the wants of the Municipality.

The buildings lately in the occupation of the Government for Police purposes have been transferred to the Municipality; but they are inconvenient, and do not afford sufficient accommodation.

The Station-house, comprising Constables' quarters and Wards and Cells for prisoners, requires enlarging. There are no Out-stations or Lock-ups in the Municipality. I have not considered it necessary to call on the Superintendent of Police for any Returns connected with the statistics of crime or permanence of service of the Constabulary. These will appear in my next Reports.

The prescribed uniform, I am glad to report, is worn by this Force. The Superintendent also holds the appointments of Summoning Officer to the Court of General Sessions, and Inspector of Stock.

SORELL.

This Municipality having only been established on the 30th June last, I am not in a position to report further upon it than to state that, from the nature of my communications with the Authorities, I feel confident of their desire to sanction the organization of a sufficient Police Force for the protection of the Municipality.

The Police Buildings handed over to them, both at head-quarters and the out-stations, are in fair repair, and afford every necessary Constabulary accommodation.

At present, the Force of Police authorised under Government control is maintained until a reorganization can be effected.

APPENDIX.

ESTABLISHED POLICE FORCES in the Municipalities of Tasmania.

MUNICIPALITY.	ESTABLISHMENT.		DETAIL OF RANKS.							ESTIMATE OF POPULA- TION IN 1862.	AREA IN ACRES.	PROPORTIONS.		RATES OF ANNUAL PAY.			RATES OF DAILY PAY.										
	1861.	1862.	Superintendents.	Sub-Inspectors.	Acting Sub-Inspector.	Sergeants.	Constables.	Mounted Patrol.	Special Constables.			Population to each Constable.	Acres to each Constable.	Superintendent.	Sub-Inspector, Hobart Town and Launceston.	Special Constables.	Superintendent.	Sub-Inspectors, Rural Muni- cipalities.	Acting Sub-Inspector.	Sergeants.	Constables.	Mounted Patrol.					
Hobart	46	40	1	2	1	6	30	-	-	19,500	1,270	487	32	£ 300	£ 140	£ -	s. -	s. -	d. -	6	6	6	5	0	-	With Uniform.	
Launceston	29	28	1	2	1	2	19	3*	-	10,500	3,340	375	119	250	160	-	-	-	7	6	7	6	6	2	6	2	With Uniform. One Detective Sergeant receives 8s. per diem.
Clarence	7	7	1	-	-	1	2	-	3	1,506	85,000	215	12,143	175	-	10	-	-	-	5	6	5	0	-	-	Without Uniform. Special Constables receive 7s. 6d. per diem extra when on duty.	
Glamorgan	17	17	1	1	-	-	2	-	13	1,168	540,000	69	31,764	-	-	-	10	6	0	-	-	5	6	-	-	Without Uniform. Special Constables receive 10s. per diem when on duty.	
Green Ponds	-	4	1	-	-	-	3	-	-	936	40,300	234	10,075	120	-	-	-	-	-	-	4	6	-	-	-	With Uniform.	
Longford	-	10	1	-	-	3	6	-	-	5,050	203,000	505	20,300	200	-	-	-	-	-	6	0	5	6	-	-	With Uniform.	
Oatlands	-	10	1	1	-	-	7	-	1	2,330	448,000	233	44,800	200	-	5	-	6	0	-	-	5	0	-	-	With Uniform. Special Constables receive 6s. a day extra when on duty.	
Richmond	-	7	1	1	-	1	4	-	-	1,660	153,600	240	21,930	-	-	-	10	5	5	-	4	8	4	8	-	With Uniform.	
Spring Bay	10	10	1	1	-	-	3	-	5	730	360,000	73	36,000	219	-	10	-	5	9	-	-	5	0	-	-	Without Uniform. Special Constables receive 6s. extra when on duty.	

* One of these is a Sergeant.

J. FORSTER, *Inspector of Police.*