

(No. 24.)



1871.

T A S M A N I A.

LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL.

TERRITORIAL POLICE.

INSPECTOR'S REPORT FOR 1870-71.

Laid upon the Table by Mr. Wilson, and ordered by the Council to be printed,
November 8, 1871.



FIFTH ANNUAL REPORT of the Inspector of Police on the State of the Territorial Police of Tasmania, for the Year ending the 30th June, 1871.

Office of Inspector of Police, 15th August, 1871.

SIR,

I HAVE the honor to submit for the information of His Excellency the Governor my Fifth Annual Report on the state of the Territorial Police, which has satisfactorily maintained its efficiency during the past year.

The total number of effective Constables is 87, compared with 84 for the year ending 30th June, 1869-70.

In respect to crime, none of a serious nature calls for comment. The number of indictable offences as known to the Police have increased, which may be fairly attributed to the prevalence of vagrancy. It appears by the Returns that in the present year ending the 30th of June 288 offences were reported, for which 195 persons were apprehended; while in the preceding year 227 were reported, and 148 persons apprehended.

The population at the George Town and Waterhouse Gold Fields having decreased, a corresponding reduction has been made in the Force stationed thereon. This, however, is subject to sudden fluctuations, and it is requisite to maintain a sufficient Force to afford adequate protection in case of the migration of diggers to these localities.

The Force has maintained its character for permanence of service, 2 Petty Constables only having resigned, and 1 been dismissed, during the year.

The usual Tabular Return is annexed.

I have the honor to be,
Sir,

Your obedient Servant,

J. FORSTER, *Inspector of Police.*

The Hon. the Colonial Secretary.

DISTRICT OF HOBART.

Strength of Force 25

The organisation of this Force has undergone no alteration, but its numerical strength has been increased. Four additional Petty Constables have been appointed—two as a special guard on the Magazine in the Domain, consequent on the withdrawal of the Military and Imperial guard, and two as a Revenue Police in aid of the Customs Department. The former are chargeable, however, against the vote for Powder Magazines. That portion of the District lying adjacent to the Boundaries of the City are still, I consider, insufficiently protected.

The relief of Paupers, and their admission into Charitable Institutions, is conducted through the medium of the Force under the direct supervision of the Chief District Constable and two Sergeants, assisted by the Detectives; and Police action connected with the Shipping in Port also devolves upon the Force. One 2nd Class District Constable had died, and one Sergeant was promoted to the Sheriff's Department. There were no resignations nor dismissals during the year. The Clothing was of good quality, and the Arms and Appointments were in serviceable order.

Indictable offences had very slightly increased, but the detection thereof more than correspondingly so. A considerable decrease in the number of persons charged with drunkenness and other offences was shown by the Returns.

During the year ending 30th June 53 indictable offences were reported, for which 46 persons were apprehended, of whom 32 were summarily convicted or committed for trial. 27 persons—18 males and 9 females—were charged with drunkenness, and 42 persons—33 males and 9 females—proceeded against under the Police Act. Two publicans were convicted and fined for breaches of the Licensing Act. The Station-houses were in good repair, the Wards and Cells clean, and the Books, Records, and Returns correctly kept. A Sergeant discharges the duties of Coroner's Clerk and Summoning Officer. The Chief District Constable is Town Surveyor of New Town, Examiner of Weights and Measures, and Inspector of Stock. A Medical Man is attached to the Force.

KINGBOROUGH.

Strength of Force 8

No alteration has been made in the organisation or numerical strength of this Force. There had been no resignations or dismissals. The Leslie Station, established near the junction of the Kingston and Sandfly Rivulet Roads with the Huon Road, has been found of great convenience, and affords Police protection which was much required. The Clothing was of good quality, and the Arms and Appointments in serviceable order.

There had been a slight increase in indictable offences, but a fewer number of persons had been charged with drunkenness and minor offences.

During the year ending 30th June 30 indictable offences had been reported, for which 18 persons were apprehended, of whom 11 were summarily convicted or committed for trial. 8 persons—5 males and 3 females—were charged with drunkenness, and 8 persons—7 males and 1 female—proceeded against under the Police Act. Two publicans had been convicted and fined for breaches of the Licensing Act. The Station-houses were in good repair, the Wards and Cells clean, and the Books, Returns, and Records correctly kept. The Chief District Constable at Kingston discharges the duties of Police Clerk, Registrar of the Small Debts Court, Examiner of Weights and Measures, and Inspector of Stock. No Medical Man is attached to the Force.

HUON.

Strength of Force 13

This Force remains unaltered in organisation and numerical strength. The Stations are now, from improvements in the roads, of easy access by land, and the services of a boat and crew are not at all now necessary. One Constable had been dismissed. The Clothing was of good quality, and the Arms and Appointments in serviceable order.

The Returns showed an increase of indictable offences and those of a minor character, but drunkenness had decreased.

During the year ending 30th June 45 indictable offences were reported, for which 21 persons were apprehended, of whom 20 were convicted summarily or committed for trial. 36 persons—22 males and 14 females—were charged with drunkenness, and 48 persons—32 males and 16 females—proceeded against under the Police Act. No informations had been laid against publicans. The Station-houses were in good repair, the Wards and Cells clean, and the Books, Returns, and Records correctly kept. The Chief District Constable is Bailiff of the Court of General Sessions, Examiner of Weights and Measures, and Inspector of Stock. No Medical Man is attached to the Force.

SELBY.

Strength of Force 10

No change has been made in the organisation or numerical strength of this Force. The Western Railway runs through a few miles of this District to the Terminus at Launceston, but no necessity exists for any special supervision thereof. There had been no resignations or dismissals. The Clothing was good, and the Arms and Appointments in serviceable order.

There had been a slight increase in indictable offences, but less drunkenness. No persons had been proceeded against for other minor offences.

During the year ending 30th June 17 indictable offences were reported, for which 10 persons were apprehended, all of whom were summarily convicted or committed for trial. 28 persons—25 males and 3 females—were charged with drunkenness. One Publican was convicted and fined for a breach of the Licensing Act. The Station-houses were in good repair, the Wards and Cells clean, and the Books, Records, and Returns correctly kept. The Chief District Constable discharges certain duties connected with the admission and maintenance of Paupers into Charitable Institutions, is Examiner of Weights and Measures, and Inspector of Stock. A Medical Man is attached to this Force.

PORT SORELL.

Strength of Force 14

This Force remains unaltered in organisation and numerical strength, though it is scarcely, I consider, sufficient for the protection of such a large populous District. In the winter the bad state of the roads presents great difficulties to the keeping up communication with the Out-stations. One Petty Constable had resigned. The Clothing was good in quality, and the Arms and Appointments in serviceable order.

The Returns show an increase in indictable offences, in drunkenness, as well as in the number of persons charged with minor offences.

During the year ending 30th June 96 indictable offences were reported, for which 60 persons were apprehended, of whom 58 were summarily convicted or committed for trial. 98 persons—73 males and 25 females—were charged with drunkenness, and 136 persons—102 males and 34 females—were proceeded against under the Police Act. Five Publicans had been convicted of breaches of the Licensing Act. The Station-houses, Wards, and Cells were in good repair and clean; and the Books, Records, and Returns correctly kept. The Chief District Constable is a Tide-waiter in the Customs Department, Bailiff of the Court of General Sessions, Examiner of Weights and Measures, and Inspector of Stock. No Medical Officer attends the Force.

HORTON.

Strength of Force 8

No alteration has been made in the organisation of this Force. There has been a vacancy for a Petty Constable for the greater part of the year, which will be filled up on the completion of the new Station in course of erection at the River Cam. A Petty Constable has been detached from head-quarters to the Montagu River, where a Station ought to be erected. The Clothing was of good quality, and the Arms and Appointments were in serviceable order. There had been no dismissals nor resignations from the Force.

There had been a decrease in indictable offences, and a corresponding one in the number of drunkards and of persons charged with the commission of other offences.

During the year ending 30th June 26 indictable offences were reported, for which 22 persons were apprehended, of whom 21 were summarily convicted or committed for trial. 25 persons—20 males and 5 females—were charged with drunkenness, and 48 persons—36 males and 12 females—proceeded against under the Police Act. No informations had been laid against Publicans. The Station-houses were in good repair, the Wards and Cells clean, and the Books, Records, and Returns correctly kept. The Chief District Constable discharges the duties of Registrar of the Small Debts Court, Deputy Clerk of the Peace, Examiner of Weights and Measures, and Inspector of Stock.

GEORGE TOWN.

Strength of Force 5

The organisation and numerical strength of this Force remains unaltered, though the increase of population and traffic to the adjoining Gold Fields has considerably added to its duties. No dismissals nor resignations had taken place. The Clothing was of good quality, and the Arms and Appointments in serviceable order.

The number of punishable offences was the same as last year, more cases of drunkenness had occurred, and a greater number of persons were prosecuted under the Police Act.

During the year ending 30th June 11 indictable offences were reported, for which 9 persons were apprehended, all of whom were summarily convicted or committed for trial. 21 persons—18 males and 3 females—were charged with drunkenness, and 8 persons—7 males and 1 female—were proceeded against under the Police Act. No informations had been laid against Publicans. The Station-houses, with the exception of that at Sidmouth, which requires pulling down and rebuilding, were in good repair, the Wards and Cells clean, and the Books, Records, and Returns correctly kept. The District Constable is Registrar of the Small Debts Court, Deputy Clerk of the Peace, Examiner of Weights and Measures, and Inspector of Stock. A Medical Officer is attached to the Force.

GEORGE TOWN GOLD FIELDS.

Strength of Force 6

A reduction of one Petty Constable in the numerical strength of this Force has been made, but its organisation remains unaltered. The Mounted Trooper has also been reduced to a Foot Patrol. The population on the Gold Fields having considerably decreased, I have been enabled to make these reductions without lessening the efficiency of the Force; a further reduction is contemplated consequent on the non-

progressive state of the mining interests. Telegraphic communication with the Nine Mile Springs has been established. Considering the class of people composing the community, very little crime or disorder has prevailed. One Petty Constable had been dismissed for misconduct. The Clothing was of good quality, and the Arms and Appointments in serviceable order.

During the year ending 30th June 10 indictable offences were reported, for which 9 persons were apprehended, of whom 8 were summarily convicted or committed for trial. 16 persons—14 males and 2 females—were charged with drunkenness, and 8 male persons proceeded against under the Police Act. Three publicans were convicted for breaches of the Licensing Act and fined. Stations have been erected at the Nine Mile Springs and the Back Creek, which were in good repair. The Cells were clean, and the Books, Records, and Returns correctly kept. The Chief District Constable resides at Piper's River—the most central position—and visits Waterhouse and all other points of the Mining District.

SOUTH LONGFORD, OR GREAT LAKE DISTRICT.

Strength of Force 3

No change has been made in the organisation or numerical strength of this Force. The suppression of illegal traffic in sheepskins, &c., by the resident shepherds is an important part of their duty, and very few losses in sheep or cattle have been reported. It may fairly be assumed, from results since the establishment of the Force, that a very efficient protection has been afforded to the pastoral interests by it, and of its usefulness I have received the most convincing proofs. The Chief District Constable is an Inspector of Stock.

TERRITORIAL POLICE FORCE OF TASMANIA.

1871.

DISTRICTS.	Establishment.	DETAIL OF RANKS.						Area in Acres.	Acres to each Constable.	ANNUAL PAY INCLUDING FORAGE AND TRAVELLING ALLOWANCES.			DAILY PAY.			
		Chief District Constable.	2nd Class District Constable.	Sergeants.	Acting Sergeants.	Petty Constables.	Special Constables.			Chief District Constable.	2nd Class District Constable.	Special Constable.	Sergeants.	Acting Sergeants.	Petty Constables.	
Hobart	25	1	3	3	—	18	—	686,690	32,700	£ 190	£ s. d. 104 18 9	—	s. d. 5 9	—	5	C. D. Constable has quarters.
Kingborough.....	8	2	2	—	—	3	1	463,000	58,000	190	91 5 0	25	—	—	5	One C. D. Constable has quarters, and both have forage allowance £40. One D. Constable has £10 travelling allowance.
Huon	13	1	2	1	—	8	1	2,507,000	192,846	190	{ 129 18 9 } { 144 18 9 }	50	5 9	—	5	One 2nd Class District Constable has full forage £40, and the other £25. One C. D. Constable has quarters.
Selby	10	1	3	—	1	5	—	—	—	215	104 18 9	—	—	5 0	5	C. D. Constable has £25 allowance included in his salary. The Acting Sergeant has £25 forage allowance.
George Town.....	5	—	1	—	1	3	—	792,320	158,464	—	140 0 0	—	—	5 0	5	2nd Class District Constable has quarters.
Port Sorell.....	14	1	1	—	4	9	—	561,920	40,137	230	129 18 9	—	—	5 0	5	C. D. Constable has quarters and forage £40 for a second horse, included in his salary.
Horton	7	1	2	—	—	4	—	2,574,000	367,714	190	{ 129 18 9 } { 104 18 9 }	—	—	—	5	One 2nd Class District Constable has £25 allowance.
Great Lake	2	1	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	190	—	—	5 0	—	—	The Sergeant has £25 allowance.
Gold Fields, George Town District	6	1	1	—	—	4	—	—	—	225	114 1 3	—	—	5 6s. 6d.	—	One Constable mounted. C. D. Constable has quarters.

J. FORSTER, Inspector of Police.