

(No. 57.)



1879.

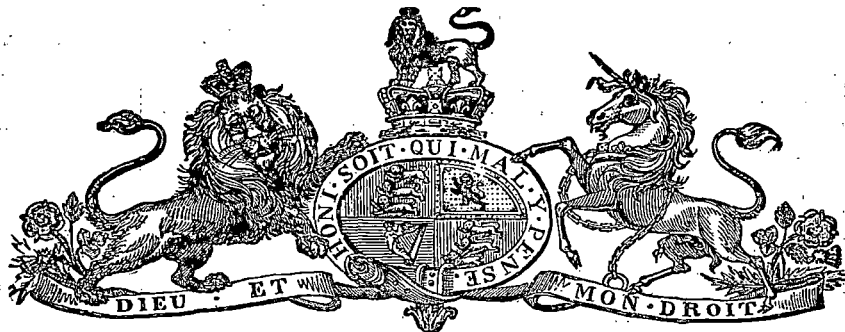
T A S M A N I A.

H O U S E O F A S S E M B L Y.

T E R R I T O R I A L P O L I C E :

I N S P E C T O R ' S R E P O R T , 1878-79.

Laid upon the Table by the Colonial Secretary, and ordered by the House to be printed, September 24, 1879.



TWELFTH ANNUAL REPORT of the Inspector of Police on the State of the Territorial Police of Tasmania, for the Year ending the 30th June, 1879.

Office of Inspector of Police, 19th September, 1879.

SIR,

IN presenting my Annual Report upon the state of the Territorial Police for the year ending 30th June, 1879, I beg to record that the duties of the Officers have been performed with efficiency and fidelity.

The strength of the Force has been further increased by the establishment of a Station with two Constables at Lisle; and the gold discoveries in the neighbourhood of the Pieman have necessitated the services of a resident Constable.

The question of a Superannuation Fund is becoming more pressing every year. It is not compatible with the dictates of human nature to dismiss and consign to penury an old and faithful Officer the moment his full powers of usefulness have deserted him. The temptation to retain Constables no longer efficient is hard to resist. A retiring allowance to worn out or disabled Officers is an absolute necessity to the successful working of any Police Force.

I am of opinion that a system of classification should be introduced by which the more experienced and useful members of the Force should enjoy a higher rate of pay than those who have recently joined.

Notwithstanding the drawbacks of low pay and slow promotion, Police employment is now gaining in popularity; and applicants come forward of a far more eligible character than the majority of those in former years.

There has been no serious case of misconduct in the Police during the year.

The necessity for a small Force for detective purposes has been frequently recommended by me. Applications for services that can only be performed by trained and trustworthy men are made. I have no Policeman in the Department who is not at a fixed Station, so cannot easily comply with such requisitions. The want of a small vessel for communication with Bass's Straits Islands, as well as with Port Arthur and the numerous Police Stations on the sea-board, has not yet been supplied.

Crime throughout the Colony has increased suddenly. The number of cases tried in the Supreme Courts for the year ending the 30th June, 1877, was 87; for the year 1878 it was again 87; while for the year now closed it reaches 115. The serious offences have been principally against the person. There have been three cases of murder and seven of rape. The latter crime, which appears to increase in spite of the severe punishment following conviction, is not generally committed by members of the known criminal class. Of those who were charged with the full offence during the year, the age of the eldest was twenty-four years.

Cases of alleged sheep-stealing are still reported. In some instances the sheep are recovered, having strayed; and in many others losses from death are put down to the account of depredation. This crime is, however, carried on, and the disposable means for checking it are quite inadequate.

Two farmers and a shepherd, all young men, were the principal offenders who were brought to justice; and the practice seems almost confined to the robbery of neighbours. Detection is rendered more difficult than where sheep are taken to a distance.

Appended is the usual tabulated statement of Crime.

Year.	Indictable Offences.			Offences tried Summarily.			
	Number reported to Police.	Number apprehended.	Number Committed or summarily Convicted.	Drunkenness and Disorderly Conduct.		Offences against Police Act.	
1876 and 7	201	124	103	Male. 170	Female. 67	Male. 132	Female. 32
1877 and 8	204	133	102	189	56	134	34
1878 and 9	281	157	127	213	68	221	42

The total strength of the Force is 99 officers and men, as follows:—

Chief District Constables.....	9
2nd Class District Constables	16
Acting ditto	7
Sergeants	1
Acting ditto	2
Constables	62
Specials.....	2
	<u>99</u>

I have the honor to be,
Sir,
Your obedient Servant,
JOHN SWAN, *Inspector of Police.*

The Hon. the Colonial Secretary.

HOBART.

Strength of Force 19

There has been no change in the organisation and numerical strength of this Force.

One District Constable had been promoted to Chief District Constable of Kingborough, and another superannuated. Three Constables had resigned, and one was promoted.

The Chief District Constable is Collector of Fees due to Charitable Institutions, Town Surveyor, Bailiff of Crown Lands, Sub-Collector of Carriage Duties, Collector of Rural Police Rates, and Collector of Fees due to Training School.

A District Constable is Summoning Officer to the Supreme Court in its Criminal Jurisdiction.

A Constable acts as Coroner's Clerk.

Five publicans were fined for breaches of the Licensing Act.

Year.	Indictable Offences.			Offences determined Summarily.			
	Number reported to Police.	Number apprehended.	Number Committed or summarily Convicted.	Drunkenness.		Offences against Police Act.	
1876 and 7	28	24	24	Male. 16	Female. 18	Male. 14	Female. 9
1877 and 8	17	16	16	9	11	44	10
1878 and 9	45	39	29	27	15	69	7

EMU, BAY AND RUSSELL.

Strength of Force 11

There has been no alteration in the strength of this Force. Two Constables had resigned.

The Chief District Constable is Tidewaiter of Customs, Bailiff of the Court of Requests, Inspector of Stock, Poundkeeper, Bailiff of Crown Lands, Examiner of Weights and Measures, and Collector of Rural Police Rates.

The District Constables at Wynyard, Stanley, and the Cam, and the Constable at Duck River, are Tidewaiters of Customs.

Two publicans were convicted for breaches of the Licensing Act.

Year.	Indictable Offences.			Offences determined Summarily.			
	Number reported to Police.	Number apprehended.	Number Committed or summarily Convicted.	Drunkenness.		Offences against Police Act.	
				Male.	Female.	Male.	Female.
1876 and 7	54	37	32	58	21	43	5
1877 and 8	23	17	15	29	5	29	—
1878 and 9	40	28	25	26	2	51	6

FRANKLIN.

Strength of Force	{	Effectives	11
		Specials	1

Two Constables had resigned during the year.

The Chief District Constable is Bailiff of the Court of Requests, Inspector of Stock, Examiner of Weights and Measures, and Bailiff of Crown Lands.

The District Constables at Port Cygnet and Southport are Bailiffs of the Court of General Sessions.

The Sergeant at Franklin performs the duties of Police Clerk, Registrar Court of Requests, and Collector of Road Rates. A District Constable is an Officer of Customs.

Proceedings had been taken against one publican under the provisions of the Licensing Act.

Year.	Indictable Offences.			Offences determined Summarily.			
	Number reported to Police.	Number apprehended.	Number Committed or summarily Convicted.	Drunkenness.		Offences against Police Act.	
				Male.	Female.	Male.	Female.
1876 and 7	25	19	15	17	6	12	5
1877 and 8	25	25	15	41	16	4	—
1878 and 9	17	18	17	22	5	11	5

SELBY.

Strength of Force	11
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This Force had been increased by the appointment of a Constable who was stationed at the Lisle Gold Fields. Two Constables had resigned.

No proceedings were taken against publicans under the Licensing Act.

The Chief District Constable is Collector of Fees due to Charitable Institutions, Bailiff of Crown Lands, Sub-Collector of Carriage Duties, Inspector of Stock, and Examiner of Weights and Measures.

Year.	Indictable Offences.			Offences determined Summarily.			
	Number reported to Police.	Number apprehended.	Number Committed or summarily Convicted.	Drunkenness.		Offences against Police Act.	
				Male.	Female.	Male.	Female.
1876 and 7	16	14	9	5	1	6	1
1877 and 8	18	16	10	4	—	5	—
1878 and 9	17	11	11	1	1	11	—

GEORGE TOWN.

Strength of Force 8

This Force has been increased by one Constable since my last Report.

Four Publicans were proceeded against under the Licensing Act, and two of them were convicted.

The Chief District Constable has been relieved of the duties of Police Clerk, and now holds the offices of Bailiff of Crown Lands, Bailiff of the Court of General Sessions, Collector of Police Rates and Carriage Duty, Inspector of Stock, Examiner of Weights and Measures, and Deputy Harbour Master.

The Chief District Constable was transferred to Kingborough, and the vacancy was filled up by the appointment of an experienced officer.

The Watch-house Keeper at George Town performs the duties of Police Clerk.

Year.	Indictable Offences.			Offences determined Summarily.			
	Number reported to Police.	Number apprehended.	Number Committed or summarily Convicted.	Drunkenness.		Offences against Police Act.	
1876 and 7	11	7	5	Male. 3	Female. 1	Male. 13	Female. —
1877 and 8	13	13	13	2	2	8	4
1878 and 9	30	10	5	5	6	5	—

PORT SORELL.

Strength of Force 15

An increase has been made in this Force by the appointment of an extra Constable. One Constable had resigned.

The Chief District Constable is Bailiff of the Court of Requests, Bailiff of Crown Lands, Collector of Rural Police Rates, Sub-Collector of Carriage Duties, Inspector of Stock, Examiner of Weights and Measures, and Poundkeeper.

The Constables at Burgess and the Don are Tidewaiters of Customs.

Two publicans were proceeded against under the Licensing Act.

Year.	Indictable Offences.			Offences determined Summarily.			
	Number reported to Police.	Number apprehended.	Number Committed or summarily Convicted.	Drunkenness.		Offences against Police Act.	
1876 and 7	45	25	16	Male. 70	Female. 18	Male. 36	Female. 8
1877 and 8	66	19	13	96	20	37	18
1878 and 9	65	26	17	124	34	57	15

PORTLAND.

Strength of Force 9

This Force has been increased by a District Constable and a Constable. There were no resignations or dismissals.

No proceedings were taken under the Licensing Act.

The Chief District Constable is Collector of Rural Police Rates, Bailiff of Crown Lands, and Inspector of Stock.

A District Constable is Bailiff of Crown Lands.

Year.	Indictable Offences.			Offences determined Summarily.			
	Number reported to Police.	Number apprehended.	Number Committed or summarily Convicted.	Drunkenness.		Offences against Police Act.	
1876 and 7	Not	proclaimed a	District.	Male.	Female.	Male.	Female.
1877 and 8	30	22	17	5	—	5	1
1878 and 9	37	13	11	2	—	13	3

TERRITORIAL POLICE FORCE OF TASMANIA, 1878 AND 1879.

DISTRICTS.	Establishment.	DETAIL OF RANKS.							ANNUAL PAY INCLUDING ALLOWANCES.			DAILY PAY.			
		Chief District Constables.	2nd Class District Constables.	Acting 2nd Class District Constables.	Sergeants.	Acting Sergeants.	Constables.	Special Constables.	Chief District Constables.	2nd Class District Constables.	Special Constables.	Acting 2nd Class District Constables.	Sergeants.	Acting Sergeants.	Constables.
Hobart ^a	19*	1	4	..	..	1	13	..	£ 185	£ 105	£ ..	s. 5	s. d. ..	s. 5	s. 5
Kingborough ^b	9	1	1	2	..	..	4	1	185	130	25	..	..	..	5
Franklin ^c	12	1	2	..	1	..	7	1	190	130	50	..	5 9	..	5
Selby ^d	11	1	2	..	..	1	7	..	200	105	..	5	5 9	..	5
George Town ^e	8	1	1	..	..	..	6	..	180	114	..	..	..	..	5
Port Sorell ^f	15	1	1	2	..	..	11	..	200	130	..	5	..	5	5
Emu Bay & Russell ^g	11	1	3	1	..	..	6	..	200	159—130	..	5	..	..	5
South Longford ^h	2	1	..	..	..	..	1	..	175	..	..	..	..	..	5
Tasman's Peninsula ⁱ	2	..	..	..	..	..	2	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	5
Portland ^j	9	1	2	1	..	..	5	..	200	135	..	5 6	..	..	5
Pieman River ^k	1	..	..	..	..	..	1	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	5

^a The Chief District Constable has £25 per annum travelling allowance. The Chief District Constable, three District Constables, and nine Constables have quarters.

^b The Chief District Constable has £25 a year forage allowance. An Acting District Constable receives £25 for performing the duties of Police Clerk at Kingston. The Chief District Constable and one Constable have £10 a year each travelling allowance. The 2nd Class District Constable and five Constables have quarters.

^c The Chief District Constable and two District Constables receive forage allowance, the former £40 and the latter £25 per annum. The Sergeant receives £35 per annum for performing the duties of Police Clerk at Franklin. The District Constables, the Sergeant, and four Constables have quarters.

^d The Chief District Constable receives £25 per annum for forage, and £25 travelling allowance. One District Constable and three Constables £25 per annum forage allowance, and two Constables £10 each for travelling allowance. With the exception of the Chief District Constable, all the Force have quarters.

^e The Chief District Constable receives £30, and a District Constable £25 per annum for forage, and two Constables £10 each. All the Force have quarters.

^f The Chief District Constable receives £50 forage allowance, and the two District Constables £25 each. With the exception of a District Constable all the Force have quarters.

^g The Chief District Constable receives £25 forage allowance and £25 travelling allowance. One District Constable receives £50 travelling allowance, and three others £25. Two District Constables, an Acting District Constable, and five Constables have quarters.

^h The Chief Constable and Constables have forage allowance £25 each and quarters.

ⁱ The District Constable receives £15, and the Constable £10 per annum travelling allowance.

^j The Chief District Constable has £50 forage allowance. One District Constable £50, another and five Constables £25 each.

^k The District Constable receives £50 a year personal allowance.

* Includes Magazine Guard of two Constables and two Constables employed on the wharves in connection with the Customs.

JOHN SWAN, *Inspector of Police.*