

(No. 58.)



1879.

T A S M A N I A.

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

P O R T A R T H U R :

S U M M A R Y O F S A V I N G F R O M B R E A K I N G U P.

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



SUMMARY showing Saving effected by breaking up of Port Arthur.

RETURNS.

	<i>Saving.</i>
	£ s. d.
In 1876—Cost £17,139 16s. 2d.; in 1878—£13,517 9s. 2d.	3622 7 0
Interest on £4457 9s. 5d., saved by discontinuing the alterations to Cascades Buildings...	222 17 5
By sale of Stock	2196 5 4
By sale of Land, £17,863 13s. 4d., received	2357 18 4
By Annual Revenue, ditto.....	1227 12 5
By Timber Licence.....	1 10 0
	<hr/> £9628 10 6 <hr/>

PAPERS.

Questions by Colonial Secretary, and replies.
Sheriff's Letter of the 23rd August, 1879.

MEMO.

Colonial Treasury, Hobart Town, 13th August, 1879.

THE accompanying Statement is forwarded for the information of the Honorable the Colonial Secretary, as showing the Saving of Expenditure of the several Establishments named therein, consequent on the breaking up of the Penal Establishment at Port Arthur; and the Assistant Treasurer would beg leave to observe that there may be matters of detail connected with the working of the Establishments during both the years shown which the Treasury has no knowledge of, and therefore if brought to bear in this account would affect the saving either more or less, but the figures given are the actual receipts and expenditure recorded by this Department. In connection with this matter, attention is directed to the total amount (£5000) [actually expended, £3042 10s. 7d.] provided for the additions and alterations to the Buildings at the Cascades raised by Loans Bill, the annual interest payable thereon being £200.

The Hon. the Colonial Secretary.

WM. H. WINDSOR, *Assistant Treasurer.*

EXPENDITURE of under-mentioned Establishments for 1876 and 1878.

<i>Name of Establishments.</i>	1876.	1878.
	£ s. d.	£ s. d.
Port Arthur	6811 19 11	
Gaol, Males, Cascades	1249 1 5	
Ditto, Female, ditto.....	1627 18 2	
Ditto, Males, Campbell-street	5592 18 9	7508 3 11
Ditto, Females, ditto	1035 13 9
Cascades Pauper Establishment.....	4237 0 0	4871 7 0
Ditto Hospital for Insane.....	..	2707 14 8
Religious Instruction for Prisoners and Insane brought from Port Arthur	156 5 0
	<hr/> 19,518 18 3	<hr/> 16,279 4 4
Deduct Reimbursements for above Establishments.....	2379 2 1	2761 15 2
	<hr/> 17,139 16 2	<hr/> 13,517 9 2
	13,517 9 2	
Saving on Expenditure of above Establishments	£3622 7 0	

WM. H. WINDSOR, *Assistant Treasurer.*

Colonial Treasury, 13th August, 1879.

STATEMENT showing the difference between the probable total Cost of additional Buildings and Alterations at the Cascades Establishment, Hobart Town, and the actual Amount expended thereon, and the probable Interest saved, without reference to the Amount authorised and raised under the Loans Act for the work.

	£	s.	d.
The probable total cost of additional buildings and alterations at the Cascades Establishment, Hobart Town, (House of Assembly Paper, No. 48, 1878)	7500	0	0
Amount actually expended under Act 39 Vict. No. 22.	3042	10	7
Difference.....	£4457	9	5

Annual interest on difference, say at 5 per cent., would be £222 17s. 5d. probably saved.

WM. H. WINDSOR, *Assistant Treasurer.*

Colonial Treasury, 30th August, 1879.

BREAKING up of Port Arthur.

	£	s.	d.
Amount realised by sale of Stock	707	19	9
Ditto Schooner <i>Harriet</i>	486	15	0
Ditto Stores, Implements, &c.	929	6	1
Ditto Rifles and Revolvers	57	4	6
Ditto Growing Crops	15	0	0
	£2196	5	4

WM. H. WINDSOR, *Assistant Treasurer.*

Colonial Treasury, 22nd August, 1879.

RETURN of the Total Area of Land sold by Public Auction, on Tasman's Peninsula, since the breaking up of Port Arthur, showing the Area sold, the Amount realised, the Amount received in Cash, and the Annual Revenue receivable therefrom.*

Area sold.			Amount realised.	Amount of Cash received.	Annual Revenue derivable.	Remarks.
A.	R.	P.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	
7533	0	33	17,863 13 4	2357 18 4	1227 12 5	Only £1 10s. has been received for Timber Licences.†

* No private selections are permitted on Tasman's Peninsula. I believe if the land was thrown open for selection under 24th Section of the Waste Lands Act a very large area would be taken up.

† In one instance only has a Licence been issued to cut Timber on Tasman's Peninsula.

H. JOCELYN HULL, *Deputy Commissioner of Crown Lands*

*Lands and Works Office, Hobart Town,
22nd August, 1879.*

H.M. Gaol, 11th August, 1878.

RETURN showing the Cost of the Convict Establishments on the Southern side of the Island during the Years 1876 and 1879.

ESTABLISHMENT.	Average No. Daily.	Salaries and Allowances.	Other Expenses.	Gross Expenditure.	Cash Receipts from Labour, &c.	Net Expenditure.	Average Cost per Head per annum.		Savings per Head.	Total Savings.
							On Gross Expenditure.	On Net Expenditure.		
1876, <i>Male Prisoners.</i>		£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.
Gaol, Hobart Town ..	139	2526 2 6	3086 16 10	5612 19 4	1419 0 8	4193 18 8	40 9 7	30 4 11		
Port Arthur	67	1609 9 0	927 3 8	2536 12 8	682 14 3	1853 18 5	37 11 7	27 8 0½		
Cascades, Hobart Town	28	466 4 4	773 7 8	1239 12 0	324 8 7	915 3 5	44 15 7	33 1 2		
Total for 1876	234	4601 15 10	4787 8 2	9389 4 0	2426 3 6	6963 0 6	40 2 6	29 15 1½		
1878, <i>Male Prisoners.</i>										
Gaol, Hobart Town ..	187	3391 16 6	3894 0 2	7285 16 8	2887 15 2	4398 1 6	38 19 2½	23 10 4½	6 4 9	1166 8 3
1876, <i>Female Prisoners.</i>										
Cascades, Hobart Town	44	683 5 3	946 18 3	1630 3 6	545 14 2	1084 9 4	37 0 11½	24 12 11¼		
Gaol, Hobart Town ..	50	293 14 0	858 2 7	1151 16 7	562 9 7	589 7 0	23 0 8¼	11 15 9	11 14 7½	586 11 3
									TOTAL ..£	1752 19 6

The £1752 19s. 6d. does not include Stores which were on hand on the 31st December, 1878, to the value of £600; add this amount, and it will show a saving of £2352 19s. 6d.

If alterations in Gaol had been carried out, £500 per annum would have been saved in Campbell-street Gaol.
Cost of Convict Establishments on the Southern side of the Island during the years 1876 and 1878, saving £1752 19s. 6d.

Colonial Secretary's Office, Hobart Town, 18th August, 1879.

MEMO.

WILL the Honorable the Attorney-General be good enough to obtain answers to the following questions in connection with the Campbell-street Gaol?

1. How many prisoners came up from Port Arthur in 1877? 62.
2. How many were dangerous? I look upon all convicts to a certain extent as dangerous: those received in 1877 from Port Arthur were not more so than those previously received from that establishment.
3. Have the prisoners in the Gaol ever been properly classified and separated? No.
4. Was there any means of classifying women at the Cascades? None.
5. If the alterations to the buildings proposed in 1877 had been effected according to plans and specifications then furnished would any saving in the annual expenditure have been obtained? If so, how much per annum?—If the suggestions had been carried into effect (plans, &c. I believe were prepared by Mr. H. Hunter) a saving in supervision would have been effected to the amount of upwards of £500 per annum.
6. Is the condition, moral and temporal, of the women better in the Campbell-street Gaol than at the Cascades? Their conduct is very good. The fact of their being more centralized than it was possible to keep them at the Cascades brings them more under the immediate control of the officers: this would, to a certain extent, account for their improved behaviour.
7. Is there a schoolroom for the men? One in the Gaol proper has been erected, and will be ready for use in a few days.
8. When was it built? Commenced in June and finished this month.
9. Are there any means of teaching trades to men? Yes.
10. How long has this system been in existence? Upwards of 3 years.
11. How many have learned a trade? Several.
12. Specify trades and names of those who have been taught? Shoemaking for the last 3 years, carpentering for 2 years, tailoring 12 months, blacksmithing, tinware, painting, &c.:—*Thomas Jeffries, James Page, George Taylor, James Kilpatrick, George Harrison, Alfred Mansey, John Fielding, Samuel Ellard, James Forbes, William Abel, Patrick Lamb, Samuel Paul, Wm. Sainsbury, John Langton, Charles Pointer, Patrick Walsh, James Rolands, John Nicholls, John Marsh, Thomas Creely, George Williams.
13. What was the condition of the Boys' Reformatory in 1877? I know nothing of the working of the Reformatory: it was not under my control.
14. Were any improvements made in the Reformatory in 1877, under the supervision of Mr. Atkins? The reply to this question is the same given to No. 13.
15. When and by whom was it broken up? Ditto.
16. Is there reason to anticipate any danger to the safety of the inhabitants by the presence of prisoners in the Campbell-street Gaol? None. Strength 190.
17. Is there cause to fear the escape of prisoners from the Gaol? If so, what is necessary to secure their safe custody?—Yes, and will be until the alterations recommended are carried out.

Sheriff's Office, 23rd August, 1879.

SIR,

In reply to certain questions for information required by the Honorable the Colonial Secretary, I have the honor to state that I forwarded the queries on their receipt to the Superintendent, House of Correction, and enclose his replies.

I desire to point out that the Reformatory for Boys, at Cascades, was not under the control of the Sheriff's Department. I never had anything to do with it, having declined to be appointed one of the managers.

Speaking generally of the suitability of the Campbell-street Establishment for a central prison, I hold the opinion that it could have been made a good serviceable place for its purpose if the alterations suggested had been effected.

There is no building now in the possession of the Government that I think more suitable; and it would have been injudicious to keep up Port Arthur for the sake of our limited number of sentenced criminals..

The space for the accommodation of the women is undesirably limited; and it suffers by comparison with the Cascades in one particular only,—the absence of separate cells.

*These men are all shoemakers. Of the other trades many are learning and are useful, but none perfect.

In the temporal condition of the women—that is their discipline, health, and conduct—I believe that there has been decided improvement. Of their moral condition opinion must be speculative. My belief is, that the majority of the girls and women are in a very unsatisfactory moral state when they enter the Establishment, and that they return to society much as they left it.

It is a very serious and dangerous evil that the young criminals should come into contact with the experienced ; but this was the case at the Cascades also.

My idea in having a school-house was quite as much dictated by a desire to have a reading-room for well-conducted men as to provide means of instructions for long-sentenced boys.

I am confident that the indulgence of an hour in the evening devoted to reading will be a great incentive to the good conduct which will alone ensure it.

Nothing could be more encouraging, and apparently successful, than the operation of the trade instruction. This, as now carried out in Campbell-street, is a novel experiment in industrial education, as far as Tasmania is concerned.

With means provided for classification, and for the accommodation of twenty-five (25) men in the complete isolation of separate treatment, as well as the construction of a new Female House of Correction, I think there would be no more danger to the inhabitants of Hobart Town than if the prison were at New Norfolk.

At present one element of danger arises from the fact that prisoners employed in gangs bring in the news daily from outside, and things are often written, or said, of a highly exciting tendency.

Love of notoriety is not confined to the respectable classes, and to figure as the hero of a newspaper paragraph is incense to the vanity of weak-minded criminals, who have nothing but their rascality to distinguish them.

A practical system of prison discipline should, as its first object, aim at convincing the criminal that he was being punished for his offences. There should be no room for question whether his confinement was more or less disagreeable and irksome than the struggle of an honest man for his livelihood, nor should it be a welcome change from life in the charitable institutions of the country.

It is of great importance that criminals should understand and expect that the sentences passed upon them would be carried out ; that remissions must be dependent upon their own conduct, and as far as possible according to regulated scale. Prisoners often consider their detection and confinement to be unmerited injuries, having a keener sense of their own interests than of those of the public.

They are apt to consider other offenders worse than themselves, and to regard with peculiar jealousy any remission granted to their companions upon principles they do not understand.

I have long considered that a modification of the mark system might be introduced with advantage, and I shall be prepared to recommend it with other new regulations when the changed conditions effected by the proposed alterations are in operation.

There are other questions, such as payment for penal labour, that I should like to bring under your notice ; but, as I am digressing from the questions submitted by the Honorable Colonial Secretary, I will take another opportunity of addressing you.

I have, &c.

JOHN SWAN, *Sheriff*.

The Hon. the Attorney-General.