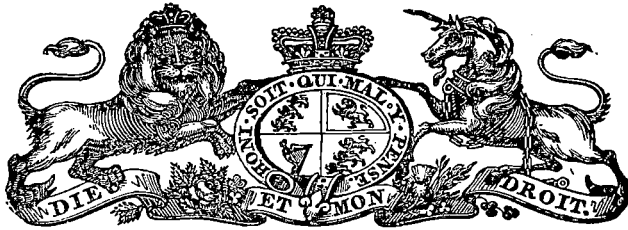


(No. 26.)



1887.

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PARLIAMENT OF TASMANIA.

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TERRITORIAL POLICE:

REPORT FOR 1886.

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Presented to both Houses of Parliament by His Excellency's Command.



*Police Department,  
Inspector's Office, Hobart, 25th May, 1887.*

SIR,

I HAVE the honor to submit my Annual Report upon the state of the Territorial Police for the year 1886.

I was appointed to the charge of the Department on the 18th January, 1886. The removal by death of all the officers at head-quarters, except the junior clerk, and his subsequent promotion to another Department, naturally caused difficulties which rendered it impracticable for me to carry out as fully as I should have wished the inspection of the whole of the stations throughout the Colony. I succeeded, however, in visiting the Districts of Franklin, Kingborough, Carnarvon, George Town, Mersey, Selby, and Ringarooma, but was unable to find time to visit Emu Bay, Portland, and Macquarie.

The Chief Clerk, who entered upon his duties simultaneously with myself, has, under exceptionally difficult circumstances, now mastered the details of his work, and has become acquainted with the contents of the office and the several records in it.

The Superintendent at head-quarters, who was appointed upon the death of his predecessor early in the year, is a native of Hobart, and a well educated man, who, previous to his appointment to a subordinate position here, had had nine years' experience, with a highly satisfactory record, in the Victorian Mounted Police Force. He has proved himself an energetic and thoroughly efficient officer.

I am happy to be able to state that the conduct of the officers and men generally has been excellent. They have exhibited an active interest in their work, and appear to have gained, and to retain, the confidence of the communities amongst whom they are stationed. One constable only was dismissed, and four were reprimanded for trifling irregularities. There were three resignations, one of which was that of an Acting Sub-Inspector who retired in broken health. One Sub-Inspector was appointed Superintendent in a Rural Municipality.

No difficulty has been experienced in finding suitable men to fill vacancies. Four sub-inspectorships have been filled by selection and promotion from the ranks of the constables, with satisfactory results; and one—that at the head office—where special duties are imposed, and a better education required, was filled by the selection of a suitable applicant who had not previously served in the Department. When selecting men for appointment as petty constables I have endeavoured to recognise claims even of an indirect nature; and recently I have had the opportunity of appointing two young men who bear excellent characters and were highly recommended, who are the sons of Superintendents who have faithfully served the Colony for periods of upwards of forty years.

The extension of railway communication rendered additional police protection necessary. At Formby, the western terminus of the Launceston and Western Railway, and a port in direct steam communication with the other colonies, and, consequently, a place of considerable importance, a sub-inspector has been stationed, and I have asked that provision may be made in the Estimates for the ensuing year for another constable. A station, with one constable, has been established at Hall's Track, on the Scottsdale Railway, in course of construction, and an additional constable has been stationed at the inland terminus of the same line.

In the mining districts the reported discovery of auriferous deposits on the West Coast, District of Macquarie, rendered it advisable to fill the office of sub-inspector in charge of that district, which had been allowed to remain vacant for some time. A new station has been established at Derby, better known as Brothers' Home, in the Ringarooma District, a town with a considerable population having sprung into existence there. The constable has been transferred to it from the Alberton gold-field, where his services were not so urgently required.

The agricultural district of Castra, North-West Coast, has attained such importance that a constable has been stationed there, and suitable quarters rented pending the erection of buildings.

The long-felt want of regular Police supervision amongst the Islands in Bass' Straits has been met during the year by the appointment of a constable whose head-quarters are on Cape Barren Island, but who spends most of his time cruising about and visiting the islanders; he possesses a boat well suited for the purpose, and he is himself a most suitable man for the position.

I found it practicable during the year to reduce two constables, one in the George Town and the other in the Franklin district. The men were provided for by their appointment to fill vacancies elsewhere.

The want of a small body of men whose duties would be exclusively of a detective character is very severely felt, especially in the detection of crimes of a serious nature. I find this subject has been repeatedly referred to by my predecessors in their reports.

It has been found practically impossible to afford men joining the Force that instruction and training necessary to render them thoroughly efficient preparatory to placing them in charge of outstations. This is the natural outcome of the system which renders the centres, Hobart in the South and Launceston in the North, where such instruction and training could alone be given, not available for the purpose.

The pay of officers and men is as follows:—Superintendents of three Districts, £200 per annum; other Superintendents, £173 5s. per annum; Sub-Inspectors, £126, and Sergeants, £116 per annum; Constables, 5s. 3d. a day. A deduction of five per cent. is made, with the exception of some few cases in which appointment dates prior to the passing of the Act for the Abolition of Pensions, as contribution to "The Police Provident Fund." All are provided with uniform. It appears to me to be an anomaly that there is no classification of constables: the constable who has served faithfully for many years, and who is sometimes an Acting Sub-Inspector or Acting-Sergeant, receives no more pay than the man who joined yesterday. It is to be regretted that some small additional pay has never been provided for men who have served a stated period.

The work devolving upon the police outside ordinary police duty is increasing. Particulars of such work are given in an Appendix. I see no objection whatever to utilising the services of constables in all matters pertaining to the due observance of, and obedience to, the law.

The practice which has prevailed for many years of giving a fixed annual allowance for travelling expenses to Superintendents is objectionable, and it is now proposed to make such allowance a contingency to be paid upon actual expenditure. By this change the officers will be relieved of the somewhat unpleasant consideration of the cost when called upon to undertake journeys to distant parts of their districts, whilst the total expenditure will not exceed that of past years. I believe the change will be acceptable to the officers themselves.

A forage allowance of £25 a year is allowed the several Superintendents, to six Sub-Inspectors, and nineteen Constables at country outstations. They are required for this amount to purchase their horses, with equipment, as well as to maintain them.

The whole of the officers and men are provided quarters, except in some few instances where allowances are given for rent, Government buildings not being available. I regret to say the amounts annually voted for the maintenance of Police buildings are insufficient, and the consequence is the buildings generally are not in that state of repair which is desirable; in some instances wooden buildings have become uninhabitable and beyond restoration.

The reduction of the number of the Constables in the Districts of New Town and Queenborough which took effect at the end of the year has deprived the immediate suburbs of Hobart, in which the population is rapidly increasing, of that protection to which the inhabitants are entitled. It has been found impossible with the small staff now available to maintain a proper night patrol. The boundary lines of the city mark the limit to which the protection of the City Police under Municipal arrangements is extended, and beyond them it is well known facilities are afforded for the operations of burglars and other evil-doers.

The prevalence of sheep-stealing in many parts of the Colony is generally admitted, and I am satisfied such depredations are extensively carried on. The existing system of divided authority and

independent local control in the Municipalities renders an organised attempt at prevention quite impossible, and detection difficult in the extreme. A number of stolen sheep may be driven from end to end of the Colony along the high roads, and no practical means exist of checking it. I have on more than one occasion placed my views and recommendations on this subject on record, and it is not desirable to further refer to them here.

I regret to say it is not the practice of some of the Municipalities to report the occurrence of felonies, even those of a most serious nature, and therefore they are not mentioned in the *Police Gazette*, a publication which is issued weekly and sent to every constable in the Colony. The hindrance to the detection of the criminals and the recovery of stolen property by such omission is obvious.

I append a Statement showing the several Districts and the Stations, together with the strength of the Force at each.

I also append the usual tabulated comparative returns of Offences, and the result of proceedings against Offenders.

I have the honor to be,  
Sir,

Your most obedient Servant,

BERNARD SHAW, *Inspector of Police.*

*The Hon. the Chief Secretary.*

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*RETURN showing the Strength and Distribution of the Territorial Police Force during the Year 1886.*

<i>District.</i>	<i>Station.</i>	<i>Superintendent.</i>	<i>Sub-Inspector.</i>	<i>Sergeant.</i>	<i>Constable.</i>	<i>Special Constable.</i>	<i>Remarks.</i>
NEW TOWN AND QUEENBOROUGH.	Head Station.....	1	1	..	1	..	The Superintendent is Inspector of Weights and Measures, Town Surveyor, Crown Lands Bailiff, Sanitary Inspector of Health Glebe Town, New Town, and Queenborough, and Summoning Officer, Assize Court. The Sub-Inspector is Coroner's Clerk. The Sub-Inspector is Inspector of Stock. The Sub-Inspector is Poundkeeper.  Escort Constable to and from Launceston.
	New Town.....	..	1	..	3	..	
	Sandy Bay.....	..	1	..	2	..	
	Domain .....	..	..	..	3	..	
	Cascade Road .....	..	..	..	1	..	
	Fern Tree .....	..	..	..	1	..	
	Magazine Guard .....	..	..	..	2	..	
	Government House ..	..	..	..	1	..	
KINGBOROUGH.	Bridgewater .....	..	..	..	1	..	
	Kingston .....	1	..	..	2	..	The Superintendent is Bailiff of Crown Lands, Bailiff Court of Requests, Deputy Registrar of Births, &c., Inspector of Stock, and Examiner of Weights and Measures, and has forage allowance for one horse. One Constable is Bench Clerk and Registrar of Court of Requests. The Sub-Inspector is Bailiff of Crown Lands, Bailiff Court of Requests, and Clearing Officer of Customs, and has forage allowance for one horse.
	Gordon .....	..	1	..	1	..	
	Margate .....	..	..	..	1	..	
	Leslie .....	..	..	..	1	..	
	Woodbridge .....	..	..	..	1	..	
FRANKLIN.	Bruny Island .....	..	..	..	..	1	
	Franklin .....	1	1	..	1	..	The Superintendent is Bailiff of Crown Lands, Inspector of Stock, Inspector of Weights and Measures, and Deputy Registrar of Births, &c., and has forage allowance for one horse. The Sub-Inspector is Bailiff Court of Requests. The Sub-Inspector is Bailiff of the Court of Requests. The Sergeant is Bailiff of Court of Requests and Deputy Registrar of Births, &c., and has forage allowance for one horse.
	Port Cygnet .....	..	1	..	1	..	
	Port Esperance.....	..	..	1	1	..	
	Southport .....	..	..	..	1	..	
	Honeywood .....	..	..	..	1	..	
	Victoria .....	..	..	..	1	..	
	Recherche .....	..	..	..	..	1	
CARNARVON.	Carnarvon .....	..	1	..	..	..	The Sub-Inspector is Deputy Clerk of the Peace and Bailiff and Registrar Court of General Sessions. The Constable is Deputy Registrar of Births, &c.
	Saltwater River .....	..	..	..	1	..	
MACQUARIE.	Strahan .....	..	..	..	1	..	The Constable is Bailiff of Crown Lands and Tidewater.
SOUTH LONGFORD.	The Steppes .....	1	..	..	..	..	The Chief Constable is Bailiff of Crown Lands and Inspector of Sheep, and has forage allowance for one horse. The Constable has forage allowance for one horse.
	Great Lake .....	..	..	..	1	..	
SELBY.	Invermay .....	1	..	..	1	..	The Superintendent is Collector of Timber Licences, Inspector of Stock, Inspector of Weights and Measures, and has forage allowance for one horse. The Sub-Inspector has forage allowance for one horse. The Constable has forage allowance for one horse. Ditto. Ditto. Ditto. Ditto. Ditto. Ditto. Ditto. Ditto. Ditto. Ditto. Ditto.
	Westbury Road .....	..	1	..	..	..	
	St. Leonard's.....	..	1	..	..	..	
	Pattersonia .....	..	..	..	1	..	
	Lisle .....	..	..	..	1	..	
	Upper Piper .....	..	..	..	1	..	
	Turner's Marsh .....	..	..	..	1	..	
	Dilston .....	..	..	..	1	..	
	Muddy Creek .....	..	..	..	1	..	
	Trevallyn .....	..	..	..	1	..	
	Hadspen .....	..	..	..	1	..	
	Young Town .....	..	..	..	1	..	
RINGAROOMA.	Scottsdale .....	1	..	..	2	..	
	Moorina.....	..	1	..	1	..	
	Ringarooma .....	..	..	..	1	..	
	Bransholm .....	..	..	..	1	..	
	Bridport.....	..	..	..	1	..	
	Gladstone .....	..	..	..	1	..	
	Alberton .....	..	..	..	1	..	
PORTLAND.	Boobyalla .....	..	..	..	1	..	
	St. Helen's.....	1	..	..	2	..	The Superintendent is Bailiff of Crown Lands and Inspector of Stock, and has forage allowance for one horse. One Constable is Bailiff of the Court of Requests, and has forage allowance for one horse. The Sub-Inspector is Bailiff of Crown Lands, and has forage allowance for one horse. The Constable is Bailiff of Crown Lands, and has forage allowance for one horse.
	Gould's Country.....	..	1	..	..	..	
	Weldborough .....	..	..	..	1	..	

<i>District.</i>	<i>Station.</i>	<i>Superintendent.</i>	<i>Sub-Inspector.</i>	<i>Sergeant.</i>	<i>Constable.</i>	<i>Special Constable.</i>	<i>Remarks.</i>
GEORGE TOWN.	George Town.....	1	..	..	2	..	The Superintendent is Bailiff Court of General Sessions, Bailiff of Crown Lands, Examiner of Weights and Measures, and Inspector of Stock, and has forage allowance for one horse. One Constable is Deputy Clerk of the Peace and Registrar Court, of General Sessions, and Bench Clerk.
	Beaconsfield .....	..	1	..	2	..	The Sub-Inspector is Bailiff Court of Requests, Bailiff of Crown Lands, and Inspector of Stock.
	Lefroy .....	..	..	1	..	..	The Sergeant is Bailiff Court of Requests and Inspector of Stock.
	Piper's River.....	..	..	..	1	..	The Constable has forage allowance for one horse.
MERSEY.	Torquay.....	1	..	..	3	..	The Superintendent is Inspector of Stock, Inspector of Weights and Measures, Bailiff Court of Requests, Bailiff of Crown Lands, Poundkeeper and Collector of Charitable Grants, and has forage allowance for two horses. One Constable is Registrar Court of Requests and Bench Clerk.
	Formby .....	..	1	..	..	..	
	Ulverstone.....	..	1	..	1	..	The Sub-Inspector is Bailiff Court of Requests and Tidewater.
	Latrobe .....	..	1	..	2	..	The Sub-Inspector is Inspector of Stock and Bailiff Court of General Sessions.
	Penguin.....	..	..	..	1	..	The Constable is Bailiff Court of Requests, and has forage allowance for one horse.
	Forth .....	..	..	1	..	..	The Sergeant has forage allowance for one horse.
	Don .....	..	..	..	1	..	The Constable is Tidewater.
	Sheffield.....	..	..	..	1	..	The Constable is Bailiff Court of Requests, and has forage allowance for one horse.
	Sassafras .....	..	..	..	1	..	
	Green's Creek .....	..	..	..	1	..	The Constable is Tidewater.
	Northdown .....	..	..	..	1	..	
EMU BAY AND RUSSELL.	Emu Bay .....	1	..	..	3	..	The Superintendent is Bailiff Court of Requests, Bailiff of Crown Lands, Inspector of Weights and Measures and Tidewater, and has forage allowance for one horse.
	Wynyard .....	..	1	..	1	..	The Sub-Inspector is Registrar Court of Requests, Bailiff of Crown Lands and Tidewater, and has forage allowance for one horse. The Constable is Bailiff of Court of Requests.
	Waratah .....	..	1	..	1	..	The Sub-Inspector is Bailiff Court of Requests and Bailiff Crown Lands.
	Stanley .....	..	1	..	1	..	The Sub-Inspector is Registrar Court of Requests, Tidewater and Bailiff Crown Lands, and has forage allowance for one horse.
	Cam .....	..	..	..	1	..	The Constable is Tidewater, Harbour Master and Bailiff of Crown Lands, and has forage allowance for one horse.
	Duck River.....	..	..	..	1	..	The Constable is Tidewater and Harbour Master.

*RETURN of Offences reported to the Territorial Police in the several Districts during the Year 1886, compared with similar Returns for preceding years.*

	Year.	Indictable Offences.			Offences determined Summarily.			
		Cases reported.	Apprehended.	Committed or summarily Convicted.	Drunkenness.		Offences against Police Act.	
					Male.	Female.	Male.	Female.
New Town and Queenborough.....	1884...	16	12	10	42	14	25	7
	1885...	16	9	7	8	—	65	9
	1886...	32	27	17	28	22	76	4
Kingborough.....	1884...	20	7	6	6	1	12	—
	1885...	30	3	3	5	—	12	—
	1886...	5	2	2	1	—	13	1
Franklin.....	1884...	11	11	8	9	2	36	2
	1885...	14	14	12	18	4	65	8
	1886...	22	22	17	23	4	75	4
Carnarvon.....	1884...	2	3	3	—	—	—	—
	1885...	6	2	1	—	—	6	—
	1886...	14	3	4	—	—	4	—
Selby.....	1884...	32	17	17	1	—	33	3
	1885...	22	13	13	3	—	65	5
	1886...	34	13	10	5	1	124	6
Ringarooma.....	1884...	29	15	13	18	5	23	3
	1885...	25	13	13	21	3	13	4
	1886...	28	9	7	24	1	29	4
Portland.....	1884...	36	12	7	2	—	8	2
	1885...	33	8	6	3	—	19	1
	1886...	20	6	6	3	—	23	4
George Town.....	1884...	24	14	5	1	—	31	4
	1885...	15	10	10	—	1	29	3
	1886...	20	2	6	—	—	52	2
Mersey.....	1884	81	42	33	124	21	97	22
	1885	72	36	23	118	16	77	10
	1886	76	56	43	137	21	149	5
Emu Bay and Russell.....	1884...	20	14	9	36	2	85	2
	1885...	24	20	16	40	—	153	4
	1886...	15	20	15	28	—	114	5

**TOTALS.**

Year.	Indictable Offences.			Offences determined Summarily.			
	Cases reported.	Number apprehended.	Committed or summarily Convicted.	Drunkenness.		Offences against Police Act.	
				Male.	Female.	Male.	Female.
1884.....	271	147	111	239	45	350	25
1885.....	257	128	104	216	24	504	44
1886.....	266	160	127	249	49	659	35