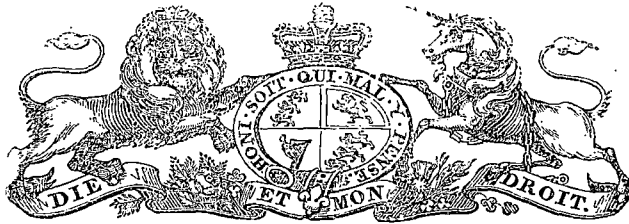


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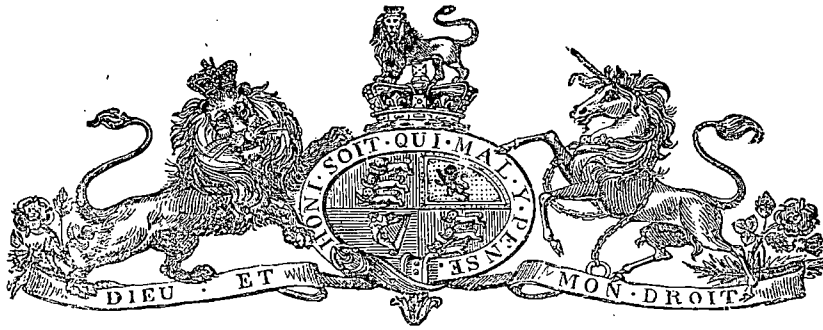
1893.

PARLIAMENT OF TASMANIA.

TERRITORIAL POLICE:

REPORT FOR 1892.

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



*Police Department,
Commissioner's Office, Hobart, 14th February, 1893.*

SIR,

I HAVE the honor to submit my Annual Report upon the Territorial Police for the year 1892.

Acting upon your instructions to discontinue the practice of deferring the preparation of the Report until the meeting of Parliament, I collected the necessary statistical information as soon after the close of the year as the Officers in charge of the several Districts found it possible to furnish it. The instructions under which my predecessors and I have heretofore acted required the substance of the Report to embrace the period up to the meeting of Parliament; and consequently it has never been previously presented until the beginning of June, and frequently not until August.

My visits of inspection to the several Districts were not so frequent, especially during the last half of the year, as usual. You are aware I was required to remain in town principally in connection with the adjustment of expenditure in the Department and the preparation of information for Ministers. During the year I visited Launceston and the Selby District seven times, the Mersey District three times, the Emu Bay, George Town, and Kingborough Districts each twice, and the Macquarie, Ringarooma, and Franklin Districts each once. I found myself unable to visit the Districts of Portland and South Longford (Lakes) and the Sub-District of Tasman's Peninsula; and the contemplated inspections of those parts of the Colony were consequently postponed.

The several stations I visited were generally in excellent order, but many exhibit a want of a more liberal provision for maintenance and repair. The amount annually appropriated for the purpose is not sufficient to secure a reasonably perfect state of repair, but the officers in charge evidently use every effort to keep the buildings in as good order as is practicable. The books and records at each head station, consisting of diaries of duty performed, reports of offences and occurrences, descriptions of stolen property, and other matters affecting the detection and prevention of crime, were carefully and accurately kept, and regularly entered up.

The new stations erected during the year are all referred to in my last Report, none having been built since it was presented in July last. The cottage at Zeehan, built for the Sub-Inspector, and temporarily used by the Mines and Magisterial Departments, has been handed over to the Police Officer for whom it was intended. The Superintendent's office at Strahan was completed during the year, and is now occupied by him. The residence of the Superintendent at Strahan, which was situated on the Esplanade, and was originally erected before the town was laid out, has been pulled down and removed—the whole width of the Esplanade being required since the completion of the railway which runs along it—and a cottage in West Strahan, until recently occupied by a Constable, has been enlarged by the addition of two rooms and appropriated for the Superintendent's quarters. The cottage at Impression Bay, Tasman's Peninsula, rented for Police purposes, has been purchased and some improvements effected. The cottage, with ten acres of land, at Cape Barren Island, the property of the Constable formerly stationed there, who died in December 1891, was purchased, and the place is now retained as the head-quarters of Police in the Bass Strait Islands.

The death, in November, of Mr. Superintendent Hopkins, of the George Town District, an experienced and valuable officer, and the transfer of the Superintendent of Kingborough to George Town, afforded the opportunity of effecting reductions by attaching the District of Kingborough to the adjoining Districts of New Town and Queenborough, and placing the three under the charge of the one Superintendent. The Sub-Inspector of the Kingborough District, heretofore stationed at Gordon, was transferred to Kingston, the head-quarters of the District, and a Constable transferred from Kingston to Gordon. The supervision of the District will be efficiently maintained, and a considerable reduction of expenditure secured.

The establishment of a Town Board at Bellerive, whilst that town was a part of the Rural Municipality of Clarence, had the effect of transferring the control of the Police to this Department. Bellerive is virtually a suburb of Hobart, and for Police purposes is placed under the charge of the Superintendent of New Town. There were two Constables stationed there by the Municipal Authorities, and the same number have been since maintained.

The difficulty of affording any systematic instruction and training to recruits, arising out of the fact that the two centres, Hobart and Launceston, where alone there are sufficient numbers of men together to enable any course of practical teaching to be effectually carried on, are not under our control, becomes more embarrassing as time goes on,—the number of trained men in the Force decreasing each year. The great disadvantage in being compelled to place untrained men in charge of stations, frequently far removed from experienced officers, is obvious, and cannot be remedied under the existing condition of things.

The increased pay for length of service, which has now been in operation for two years, and which is distributed half-yearly, has proved highly satisfactory, especially to the older officers and men. As there is no classification of Constables, but all are paid at one uniform rate so far as their fixed salaries are concerned, it is the only distinction between those of long service and matured experience and those newly appointed and inexperienced. The scale adopted in the first year, 1891, was as follows :—5 years' service and less than 10 years', 5 per cent.; 10 and less than 20 years', 7½ per cent.; 20 years', and upwards, 10 per cent. In 1892 the scale was increased in respect of the two last terms to 10 and 20 per cent. respectively; and the same scale is continued for the present year. In addition to the measure of justice which is secured to the older members of the Force, the principle acts as a strong incentive to good conduct, and an inducement to regard the service as a source of permanent employment.

The services of the Territorial Police throughout the several Districts have been utilised to a large extent by other Departments of the Government, and they have held appointments and performed duties which are detailed in the Appendix. I see no objection to continue the practice in parts of the Colony where such duties are not sufficient to justify the appointment of separate officers to undertake them, and where they do not seriously hamper the Police in their regular and proper Police work. One effect, however, is that the other Departments are relieved of some expenditure which is practically borne by the Police vote. It has been the practice generally to recognise these services by the payment of small salaries or honorariums, which in many cases amounted together to very substantial additions to the pay derived from their position in this Department, whilst in the case of others no such additions to the Police pay were received. The inequalities which in course of time arose in this way became a source of some considerable dissatisfaction, for many Officers and Constables who were not stationed where such work was required to be done, or where it was of sufficient magnitude to require the appointment of a separate officer, were in receipt of pay much less than the aggregate remuneration of those who held such additional offices, although the extent of the work and the nature of the responsibility devolving upon them were equal to, and often in excess of, the aggregate work and responsibility imposed upon the others. In order to remedy this growing evil, and at the same time to aid in effecting necessary retrenchment in the annual expenditure, it was determined at the close of 1892 to discontinue payment for all such work, but still to require the Police to continue to undertake it; but, by way of compensation to those officers who lost most, an addition was made to their fixed salaries, and included in the Police estimates for 1893, whilst a general re-adjustment of salaries was effected. The result is that now a more equitable and proportionate system of pay exists, and variations in actual salaries apportioned are found to be in proportion to the importance of the position filled and the responsibility attached thereto.

The crime which attracted most attention during the year was arson; and it appeared most frequently in connection with houses and other buildings and property which were well insured. The competition between the numerous Insurance Companies, local and foreign, which are now conducting business in the Colony, and the facilities which it is feared are offered to dishonest persons to effect insurance above the actual market value of the premises insured, although perhaps much below the cost, no doubt are largely instrumental in effecting this undesirable state of things. It is extremely difficult to detect crime of this nature; and although very substantial rewards have been offered for information in several cases where the incendiarism was beyond a doubt, none has been tendered.

A most persistent opposition is still shown in some parts of the Colony to the laws for the protection of the salmon and other acclimatised fish. This is most noticeable in the Franklin District, the residents on the banks of the Huon exhibiting a want of appreciation of the efforts of the Authorities to secure to them and the Colony generally the advantage of a splendid river well stocked with English salmon which is really astonishing.

The usual difficulty in enforcing the provisions of the Licensing Act ^{and} still encountered, especially those which relate to Sunday trading and selling during prohibited hours of the night, not from any want of activity or vigilance on the part of the Police, but from the extreme difficulty experienced in procuring the evidence required by law to ensure a conviction in a Court of Justice. This difficulty is largely enhanced by the operation of the Act to amend the Law of Evidence, 52 Vict. No. 7, which authorises defendants to give evidence on oath. The breach of the law, however, although quite bad enough, is not nearly so glaring as some public speakers and writers to newspapers would make it appear. Such persons, with the very best intentions, but greatly wanting in judgment, practical experience, and a knowledge of what the provisions of the law actually are,

and the nature and extent of the evidence necessary to ensure a conviction, denounce the Police together with the supposed offenders in a manner which is very unjustifiable and extremely mischievous.

The annexed Return of Offences reported to the Police during the year exhibit a decrease as compared with 1891 in drunkenness and offences against the Police Act, while there is an increase in crimes and offences of a more serious nature. The decrease in the one and the increase in the other may very properly be attributed to the same cause—the general financial depression and the difficulty in procuring employment. The work generally of the Police throughout the Colony has been increased by the general depression which prevails much more largely than can be shown in any statistical form. The work devolving upon the clerical branch of the Department, as well as that falling upon the officers in charge of the several districts, has also increased. I have very much satisfaction indeed in placing on record my appreciation of the manner in which the various duties have been performed, and of the zeal and devotion to the interests of the service which have been displayed by the officers generally.

I much regret I am again constrained to refer to the frequent failure of some of the Municipal Police Officers to furnish reports of crimes and offences committed within the Municipal boundaries. The absence of such reports directly hinders the Police generally throughout the Colony in the detection of crime and the recovery of stolen property, and tends very much to shake confidence in the efficiency of the Police as a whole. The *Police Gazette* is published weekly, and is placed in the hands of every constable in Tasmania. It contains a record of all reported offences, and a description of all stolen property, as well as all other information which can be procured to aid in the work of detection. In cases which require more prompt dissemination of information the Electric Telegraph and Post Office are available. These facilities are open to the Municipalities free of all cost, and it is incredible that any officer who takes the smallest degree of interest in his work could fail to furnish information which it is so obviously to his advantage to have circulated in the manner I have described.

The following vacancies occurred during the year :—

Promoted to another Department	1 Constable.
Discharged.....	1 Constable.
Deaths	} 1 Superintendent. 1 Constable.

The appointment of Constables during the year was as follows :—

To fill vacancies as above	3
Stationed at Bellerive.....	2
Magazine Guard	1
Invermay (additional).....	1
Vacancy in Bass Strait by death of Constable there in December, 1891 ...	1

The transfer of the care of the Powder Magazine in the Domain, suburbs of Hobart, to the Territorial Police, rendered the appointment of an additional Constable necessary, an employee of the Defence Department having also been sworn in to assist in completing the Guard. A resident at King Island was sworn in as a Special Constable.

The necessity for retrenchment in the Department has been brought under notice, in common with other branches of the public service in the Colony, but it has not been found practicable to reduce the number of the Police to any appreciable extent without depriving the public of the protection they enjoy. The completion of the railway in the Macquarie District afforded the opportunity of reducing one man there; and it is proposed to allow three vacancies which have occurred since the close of the year to remain unfilled.

The Territorial Police Provident Fund stood as follows on 31st December, 1892 :—

	£	s.	d.
Superannuation Branch.....	6247	11	9
Reward Branch.....	1246	9	11

The amount paid to members of the Force who retired during the year was £25 6s. 5d., and the amount of rewards given was £106 9s. 3d.

I append the usual Return showing the strength and distribution of the Police during the year. I also append the usual tabulated comparative statement of Offences reported in the Territorial Police Districts.

I have the honor to be,
Sir,

Your most obedient Servant,

BERNARD SHAW, *Commissioner of Police.*

The Hon. the Attorney-General.

RETURN showing the Strength and Distribution of the Territorial Police Force during the Year 1892.

District.	Station.	Superintendent.	Sub-Inspector.	Sergeant.	Constable.	Special Constable.	Remarks.
NEW TOWN AND QUEENBOROUGH.	Head Station.....	1	1	..	1	..	The Superintendent is Inspector of Weights and Measures, Inspector under Fisheries Act, Inspector Bellerive Local Board of Health, Crown Lands Bailiff, Collector of Stock and Crop, Reviser of Jury List and Valuation Roll, and Bailiff Court of Requests, and has forage for one horse. The Sub-Inspector is Coroner's Clerk. One Constable is Summoning Officer, Supreme Court.
	New Town.....	..	..	1	3	..	The Sergeant is Assistant Bailiff Court of Requests, and Inspector of Stock.
	Mount Stuart Road..	..	..	..	1	..	The Sergeant is Assistant Bailiff Court of Requests and Inspector of Stock. The Senior Constable is Assistant Bailiff Court of Requests.
	Sandy Bay.....	..	..	1	2	..	
	Globe Town & Domain ..	..	..	..	1	..	The Constable is Assistant Bailiff Court of Requests.
	Cascade Road .....	..	..	..	1	..	Ditto.
	Fern Tree .....	..	..	..	1	..	One Constable is Assistant Bailiff Court of Requests.
Bellerive .....	..	..	..	2	..		
KINGBOROUGH.	Kingston	1	..	..	2	..	The Superintendent is Bailiff of Crown Lands, Bailiff Court of Requests, Deputy Registrar of Births, &c., Inspector of Stock, Examiner of Weights and Measures, Collector of Hospital Fees, Collector of Stock and Crop, Compiler of Valuation Roll and Jury List, and Inspector Local Boards of Health, and has forage allowance for one horse. One Constable is Bench Clerk, Registrar of Court of Requests, and Clerk to Board of Advice.
	Gordon .....	..	1	..	..	..	The Sub-Inspector is Bailiff of Crown Lands, Bailiff Court of Requests, and Clearing Officer of Customs, and has forage allowance for one horse.
	Leslie .....	..	..	..	1	..	The Constable has forage for one horse, and is Bailiff Court of Requests.
	Woodbridge .....	..	..	..	1	..	The Constable has forage for one horse.
	Bruny Island (North) ..	..	..	..	..	1	..
Bruny Island (South) ..	..	..	..	..	1	..	..
FRANKLIN.	Franklin	1	..	..	2	..	The Superintendent is Bailiff of Crown Lands, Inspector of Stock, Inspector of Weights and Measures, Deputy Registrar of Births, &c., Collector of Hospital Fees, Inspector under Fisheries Act, Inspector Board of Health, Collector of Stock and Crop and Statistics, Compiler of Jury List and Valuation Rolls, and has forage allowance for one horse. A Constable is Bailiff Court of Requests and Collector of Taxes.
	Port Cygnet .....	..	1	..	1	..	The Sub-Inspector is Registrar Court of Requests, Bailiff of Crown Lands, Inspector Board of Health, and Collector of Taxes, and has forage for one horse. The Constable is Bailiff Court of Requests.
	Port Esperance.....	..	..	1	..	..	The Sergeant is Bailiff of Court of Requests and of Crown Lands and Collector of Taxes, and has forage allowance for one horse.
	Southport .....	..	..	..	1	..	The Constable is Bailiff Court of Requests and Collector of Taxes.
	Honeywood .....	..	..	..	1	..	
	Huonville .....	..	..	..	2	..	A Constable is Bailiff Court of Requests and Collector of Taxes, and has forage for one horse.
	Recherche .....	..	..	..	1	..	..
CARNARVON.	Carnarvon .....	..	1	..	..	..	The Sub-Inspector is Bench Clerk, Deputy Clerk of the Peace, Bailiff and Registrar Court of General Sessions, and has forage allowance for one horse.
	Impression Bay.....	..	..	..	1	..	The Constable has forage allowance for one horse.
MACQUARIE.	Strahan	1	..	..	2	..	The Superintendent is Crown Lands Bailiff, Bailiff Court of Requests, Inspector of Stock, Inspector of Weights and Measures, Inspector Local Board of Health, Collector of Timber Licences, and Tidewaiter of Customs, and has forage for one horse.
	Argenton .....	..	..	..	1	..	The Sergeant is Bailiff Court of Requests, and Crown Lands Bailiff.
	Dundas .....	..	..	..	2	..	
	Zeehan.....	..	..	1	4	..	
SOUTH LONGFORD.	The Steppes	1	..	..	..	..	The Chief Constable is Bailiff of Crown Lands and Inspector of Sheep, and has forage allowance for one horse.
	Great Lake .....	..	..	..	1	..	The Constable has forage allowance for one horse.
SELBY.	Invermay	1	..	..	2	..	The Superintendent is Bailiff Court of Requests, Collector of Stock and Crops and Statistics, Reviser of Jury List and Valuation Roll, Inspector Board of Health, Inspector of Stock, Inspector of Weights and Measures, Inspector under Fisheries Act, Bailiff of Crown Lands, and has forage allowance for one horse.
	Hobart Road.....	..	1	..	..	..	The Sub-Inspector has forage allowance for one horse, and is Inspector Local Board of Health.
	St. Leonard's.....	..	1	..	..	..
	Patersonia .....	..	..	..	1	..	The Constable has forage allowance for one horse.
	Lilydale .....	..	..	..	1	..	Ditto, and is Inspector Local Board of Health, and Registrar Court of Requests.
	Turner's Marsh .....	..	..	..	1	..	The Constable has forage allowance for one horse.
	Dilston .....	..	..	..	1	..	Ditto.
	Rosevears .....	..	..	..	1	..	Ditto, and is Assistant Harbour Master and Inspector Board of Health.
	Trevallyn .....	..	..	..	1	..	The Constable is Inspector Board of Health.
	Hadspen .....	..	..	..	1	..	..
Young Town .....	..	..	..	1	..	The Constable has forage allowance for one horse.	

<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>
RINGAROOMA.	Scottsdale	1	..	..	3	..	The Superintendent is Bailiff Court of Requests, Inspector Local Boards of Health, Inspector of Stock, Inspector of Weights and Measures, and has forage allowance for one horse. A Constable has forage allowance for one horse.
	Moorina.....	..	1	..	1	..	The Sub-Inspector is Registrar and Bailiff Court of Requests, and has forage allowance for one horse.
	Ringarooma, Upper..	..	..	..	1	..	The Constable has forage allowance for one horse.
	Branxholm .....	..	..	..	1	..	Ditto, and is Registrar and Bailiff Court of Requests.
	Bridport.....	..	..	..	1	..	The Constable has forage allowance for one horse.
	Gladstone .....	..	..	..	1	..	Ditto, and is Registrar and Bailiff Court of Requests.
	Derby .....	..	..	..	1	..	
Boobyalla .....	..	..	..	1	..	The Constable has forage allowance for one horse.	
PORTLAND.	St. Helen's.....	1	..	..	2	..	The Superintendent is Bailiff of Crown Lands, Inspector of Stock, Weights and Measures, and of Local Board of Health, Inspector of Nuisances, Compiler of Valuation Roll and Statistics, and has forage allowance for one horse. One Constable is Bailiff of the Court of Requests. One Constable has forage allowance for one horse.
	Gould's Country .....	..	1	..	..	..	The Sub-Inspector is Bailiff of Crown Lands and Assistant Inspector of Nuisances, and has forage allowance for one horse.
	Weldborough .....	..	..	..	1	..	The Constable is Bailiff of Crown Lands, and has forage allowance for one horse.
GEORGE TOWN.	George Town.....	1	..	..	2	..	The Superintendent is Bailiff Court of General Sessions, Bailiff of Crown Lands, Inspector of Weights and Measures, 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, Inspector Local Board of Health, and has forage allowance for one horse. One Constable is Registrar Court of Requests and Bench Clerk.
	Lefroy .....	..	..	1	..	..	The Sergeant is Bailiff Court of Requests.
	Piper's River.....	..	..	..	1	..	The Constable has forage allowance for one horse.
MERSEY AND LATROBE.	East Devonport	1	..	..	2	..	The Superintendent is Inspector of Stock, Inspector of Weights and Measures, Bailiff Court of Requests, Bailiff of Crown Lands, Poundkeeper, Collector of Charitable Grants, and Inspector Local Board of Health, and Fisheries, and has forage allowance for two horses. One Constable is caretaker of Court House.
	West Devonport.....	..	1	..	1	..	The Sub-Inspector is Assistant Inspector Board of Health.
	Ulverstone.....	..	1	..	2	..	The Sub-Inspector is Bailiff Court of Requests and Assistant Inspector Local Board of Health, and has forage allowance for one horse.
	Latrobe .....	..	1	..	2	..	The Sub-Inspector is Inspector of Stock, Bailiff Court of General Sessions, and Assistant Inspector Local Board of Health, and has forage allowance for one horse. One Constable is caretaker of Court House.
	Penguin.....	..	..	..	1	..	The Constable is Bailiff Court of Requests, Harbour Master, Tidewaiter of Customs, and Assistant Inspector Board of Health, and has forage allowance for one horse.
	Forth .....	..	..	1	..	..	The Sergeant has forage allowance for one horse.
	Don .....	..	..	..	1	..	The Constable is Tidewaiter of Customs.
	Sheffield.....	..	..	..	2	..	One Constable is Registrar Court of Requests and Assistant Inspector Board of Health. One Constable is Bailiff Court of Requests and Assistant Inspector Board of Health, and has forage allowance for one horse.
	Railton .....	..	..	..	1	..	
	Sassafras .....	..	..	..	1	..	
	Moriarty Road .....	..	..	..	1	..	The Constable is Tidewaiter of Customs, and has forage allowance for one horse.
Castra .....	..	..	..	1	..	The Constable has forage allowance for one horse.	
EMU BAY AND RUSSELL.	Emu Bay	1	..	..	3	..	The Superintendent is Bailiff Court of General Sessions, Bailiff of Crown Lands, Inspector of Weights and Measures, Inspector Local Boards of Health and Inspector of Stock, and has forage allowance for one horse. One Constable is Bench Clerk and Registrar Court of General Sessions.
	Wynyard .....	..	1	..	1	..	The Sub-Inspector is Registrar Court of Requests, Bailiff of Crown Lands, and has forage allowance for one horse. The Constable is Bailiff of Court of Requests, and has forage allowance for one horse.
	Waratah .....	..	1	..	1	..	The Sub-Inspector is Bench Clerk, Registrar Court of Requests and of Mines, and Bailiff of Crown Lands, and of Court of Requests.
	Stanley .....	..	1	..	1	..	The Sub-Inspector is Registrar Court of Requests, Tidewaiter of Customs, and Bailiff of Crown Lands, and has forage allowance for one horse. The Constable is Bailiff Court of Requests.
	Cam .....	..	..	..	1	..	The Constable is Tidewaiter of Customs and Harbour Master, and has forage allowance for one horse.
	Duck River.....	..	..	..	1	..	The Constable is Tidewaiter of Customs and Harbour Master, and has forage allowance for one horse.
ISLANDS, BASS STRAITS.	Heazlewood .....	..	..	..	1	..	
	Cape Barren Island..	..	..	..	1	..	
	TOTAL.....	11	15	6	28	2	

RETURN of Offences reported to the Territorial Police in the several Districts during the Year 1892, 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.....	1890...	38	17	22	20	3	104	12
	1891...	45	21	13	16	8	89	8
	1892...	84	31	20	21	3	170	12
Kingborough.....	1890...	22	3	1	1	—	7	—
	1891...	23	3	6	2	—	8	—
	1892...	22	3	1	1	—	12	2
Franklin.....	1890...	16	9	9	6	3	32	3
	1891...	18	13	11	8	3	52	7
	1892...	23	19	19	8	—	36	1
Carnarvon.....	1890...	5	3	4	1	1	12	1
	1891...	6	4	3	—	—	7	—
	1892...	2	2	2	—	1	3	1
Selby.....	1890...	39	28	27	5	3	132	9
	1891...	39	17	15	—	1	149	6
	1892...	41	22	20	1	2	134	10
Ringarooma.....	1890...	15	9	8	3	2	47	7
	1891...	9	4	4	18	1	37	1
	1892...	9	5	4	15	4	55	3
Portland.....	1890...	35	2	2	—	—	33	—
	1891...	20	3	3	3	—	46	2
	1892...	22	7	7	1	—	10	2
George Town.....	1890...	15	4	5	1	2	40	3
	1891...	28	8	8	4	—	57	3
	1892...	27	8	8	1	—	32	—
Mersey and Latrobe.....	1890...	81	65	62	128	20	141	9
	1891...	57	50	44	162	29	149	7
	1892...	69	62	69	95	12	124	12
Emu Bay and Russell.....	1890...	30	18	12	39	3	53	1
	1891...	50	21	21	51	5	71	2
	1892...	35	13	13	39	3	78	4
Macquarie	1890...	38	16	12	46	—	109	—
	1891...	104	41	28	71	—	239	—
	1892...	67	32	29	67	2	147	2

TOTALS.

Year.	Indictable Offences.			Offences determined Summarily.			
	Cases reported.	Number apprehended.	Committed or summarily Convicted.	Drunkenness.		Offences against Police Act.	
				Male.	Female.	Male.	Female.
1890.....	334	174	164	250	37	710	45
1891.....	399	185	156	335	47	904	36
1892.....	401	204	192	249	27	801	49