

(No. 59.)



1879.

TASMANIA.

HOUSE OF ASSEMBLY.

MUNICIPAL POLICE:

REPORT OF THE INSPECTOR.

Laid upon the Table by the Colonial Secretary, and ordered by the House to be printed, September 30, 1879.



Office of Inspector of Police, 10th September, 1879.

SIR,

I HAVE the honor to forward my Annual Report on the Police of the Municipalities, for the information of His Excellency the Governor.

The general state of efficiency does not suffer by comparison with former years.

Crime has increased to a considerable extent during the year ending 30th June, 1879. Fluctuations in the number of offences from year to year are not always to be easily accounted for. There have been variations in the value of labour. The high wages occasioned by the demands of the mining districts have not been maintained. A period of great prosperity to the labourer is being followed by one of depression and difficulty. To this fact, taken in conjunction with the unsettled habits engendered by roaming about in search of work, may be partially attributed the increase in offences which has marked the period referred to.

As anticipated in my last Report, a greater sense of the importance of maintaining a sufficient Force has been exhibited in several Municipalities. The increased expense, however, is borne by the General Revenue. The Rate of Nine Pence in the Pound is insufficient for the support of the Police, Municipal or Territorial. I am of opinion that a uniform rate should be levied. At present it is a delusion to suppose that each Municipality maintains its own Police. If it were really so, great economy would prevail, even to the danger of efficiency. The moment the cost reaches Nine Pence in the Pound, further expense becomes general, not local; and one encouragement to economy is removed. Although the leaning towards greater liberality is apparent, I have not yet had to complain of extravagance in any important instance.

Opinions have differed as to what matters may be legitimately charged to Police Account. To remove some doubts on the point I obtained an authoritative decision as to the meaning of the term "Cost of the Police" in the Resolutions of Parliament, Session 1867. In accordance with the instructions then received, I have restricted the charges to those items bearing directly upon the pay and maintenance of the Force.

The variation in amount of pay received by the Police in different Municipalities is not regulated by any intelligible standard: in some instances it is below, and in others above, the Territorial limits.

If I were able to say that I considered the Territorial pay to be ample, I could check any excess upon the amounts received by the Government Police being disbursed from Public Revenue to the Local Police of similar rank.

I have sometimes noticed what appeared to be a disposition to underrate the independence and authority of the Superintendents. This course, I need scarcely say, is calculated to impair discipline. The Superintendent should have the immediate government and superintendence of the Constables under his charge. Fit officers to be entrusted with this power should be selected; and they should be permitted to discharge their duties without undue interference.

The total strength of the Municipal Force on the 30th June last was as follows:—

Superintendents	21
Sub-Inspectors	18
Acting Sub-Inspectors	7
Detectives	3
Sergeants	19
Constables	108
Specials	10
TOTAL	186

The following Comparative Return for the past three years shows a great increase in crime, but a considerable decrease in the number of cases of drunkenness :—

Year.	Indictable Offences.			Offences determined Summarily.			
	Number reported to Police.	Number apprehended.	Number Committed or summarily Convicted.	Drunkenness.		Offences against Police Act and Bye-laws.	
1876 and 7	744	427	323	Male. 731	Female. 356	Male. 1197	Female. 456
1877 and 8	733	433	336	807	376	1032	386
1878 and 9	923	608	446	675	371	1372	614

I have slightly altered the arrangement of my Report, and have given a Comparative Statement of Crime for the last three years under each Municipality.

The usual Return giving details of rank, pay, &c. in the Municipal Forces, is attached.

I have the honor to be,
Sir,

Your obedient Servant,

JOHN SWAN, *Inspector of Police.*

The Hon. the Colonial Secretary.

MUNICIPALITIES.

HOBART TOWN.—(*Established 1st February, 1858.*)

Strength of Force 46

The Force of this Municipality, as I pointed out last year, had undergone reduction from the strength of former years. It has now been increased by the appointment of six additional Constables, and I trust arrangements will be made for removing grounds for the complaints which had become frequent.

A disturbance of an exciting character occurred during the year. The Municipal Force was not sufficiently prepared to preserve order unassisted.

Seven Constables had resigned, and one had died during the year. Six publicans were proceeded against under the Licensing Act, and four of them fined.

Year.	Indictable Offences.			Offences determined Summarily.			
	Number reported to Police.	Number apprehended.	Number Committed or summarily Convicted.	Drunkenness.		Offences against Police Act and Bye-laws.	
1876 and 7	169	84	63	Male. 76	Female. 84	Male. 274	Female. 176
1877 and 8	203	134	93	94	66	329	189
1878 and 9	247	182	114	106	78	420	214

LAUNCESTON.—(*Established 1st January, 1858.*)

This Force remains unaltered in strength. Two Constables had resigned.

Five publicans were proceeded against under the Licensing Act, and three of them convicted.

The Superintendent is Examiner of Weights and Measures, and the Sub-Inspector is Inspector of Common Lodging-houses.

Year.	Indictable Offences.			Offences determined Summarily.			
	Number reported to Police.	Number apprehended.	Number Committed or summarily Convicted.	Drunkenness.		Offences against Police Act and Bye-laws.	
				Male.	Female.	Male.	Female.
1876 and 7	172	119	85	84	59	130	47
1877 and 8	130	72	53	83	74	102	32
1878 and 9	232	176	114	94	105	238	138

GLAMORGAN.—(*Established 29th February, 1860.*)

Strength of Force—Effectives	4
Specials	2

I reported last year that the Police arrangements were not satisfactorily carried out, and suggested an increase in the number of Police. This has since been effected, by the appointment of two additional Constables, and I trust the advantage of the step may soon be apparent.

The Superintendent is also Council Clerk and Registrar of the Court of General Sessions. The Superintendent had resigned and another had been appointed. A Constable had been dismissed.

Year.	Indictable Offences.			Offences determined Summarily.			
	Number reported to Police.	Number apprehended.	Number Committed or summarily Convicted.	Drunkenness.		Offences against Police Act and Bye-laws.	
				Male.	Female.	Male.	Female.
1876 and 7	10	—	—	6	—	18	3
1877 and 8	5	1	1	1	—	—	—
1878 and 9	12	8	8	2	1	6	4

SPRING BAY.—(*Established 19th October, 1860.*)

Strength of Force..... 5

The effectiveness of this Force has been increased by the substitution of a Constable for a Special. The offices of Superintendent of Police and Council Clerk have been dissevered. The Superintendent is an Officer of Customs, Inspector of Roads, Inspector of Stock, Examiner of Weights and Measures, and Bailiff of Crown Lands. A Special Constable had resigned.

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

CLARENCE.—(*Established 13th November, 1860.*)

Strength of Force—Effectives 4
 Specials 3

This Force remains unaltered.

The Superintendent is also Council Clerk.

Year.	Indictable Offences.			Offences determined Summarily.			
	Number reported to Police.	Number apprehended.	Number Committed or summarily Convicted.	Drunkenness.		Offences against Police Act and Bye-laws.	
1876 and 7	12	11	11	Male. —	Female. —	Male. 12	Female. —
1877 and 8	9	11	10	—	—	6	3
1878 and 9	4	3	2	2	1	13	6

LONGFORD.—(*Established 28th February, 1862.*)

Strength of Force 8

There has been no change in this Force since my last report.

The Superintendent is Bailiff of the Court of General Sessions, Inspector of Stock, and Examiner of Weights and Measures.

Two 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 and Bye-laws.	
1876 and 7	24	23	15	Male. 103	Female. 42	Male. 37	Female. 30
1877 and 8	21	21	21	111	55	58	24
1878 and 9	18	18	18	95	35	56	24

GREEN PONDS.—(*Established 15th April, 1862.*)

Strength of Force 7

The only change in this Force was caused by the death of the Superintendent and the appointment of his successor.

The Superintendent of Police is Inspector of Stock and Examiner of Weights and Measures, Town Surveyor, Bailiff of the Court of General Sessions, and Pound-keeper.

The Watch-house Keeper is Council Clerk, Registrar of the Court of General Sessions, and Gaoler.

Year.	Indictable Offences.			Offences determined Summarily.			
	Number reported to Police.	Number apprehended.	Number Committed or summarily Convicted.	Drunkenness.		Offences against Police Act and Bye-laws.	
1876 and 7	17	14	12	Male. 13	Female. 4	Male. 40	Female. 23
1877 and 8	17	14	9	24	8	23	9
1878 and 9	13	7	5	16	6	23	6

SORELL.—(*Established 30th June, 1862.*)

Strength of Force..... 5

There has been no change in the numerical strength of this Force since my last report.

One Constable had resigned his appointment.

The Superintendent is Bailiff of the Court of Requests, Bailiff of Crown Lands, and Inspector of Stock.

Year.	Indictable Offences.			Offences determined Summarily.			
	Number reported to Police.	Number apprehended.	Number Committed or summarily Convicted.	Drunkenness.		Offences against Police Act and Bye-laws.	
1876 and 7	12	10	7	Male. 15	Female. 4	Male. 21	Female. —
1877 and 8	12	6	5	13	4	24	4
1878 and 9	10	5	5	16	13	31	14

BOTHWELL.—(*Established 31st January, 1863.*)

Strength of Force..... 5

This Force has been increased by a Petty Constable.

Two Constables had resigned.

The Superintendent is Bailiff of the Court of Requests, 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 and Bye-laws.	
1876 and 7	7	6	6	Male. 25	Female. 14	Male. 15	Female. 5
1877 and 8	6	6	6	22	15	33	7
1878 and 9	14	11	10	19	12	25	11

ROSS.—(*Established 17th February, 1863.*)

Strength of Force..... 3

There has been no alteration in this Force.

The Superintendent is also Council Clerk.

Year.	Indictable Offences.			Offences determined Summarily.			
	Number reported to Police.	Number apprehended.	Number Committed or summarily Convicted.	Drunkenness.		Offences against Police Act and Bye-laws.	
1876 and 7	9	6	2	Male. 16	Female. 2	Male. 18	Female. 2
1877 and 8	10	5	5	20	7	9	3
1878 and 9	7	4	4	8	5	7	2

FINGAL.—(*Established 27th February, 1863.*)

Strength of Force..... 9

This Force has been increased by a Constable.

Two Constables had been dismissed and a Sub-Inspector and Constable had resigned.

Two convictions were obtained against publicans for breaches of the Licensing Act.

The Superintendent is Bailiff of Crown Lands, Bailiff of the Court of General Sessions, Town Surveyor, 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 and Bye-laws.	
1876 and 7	36	17	17	Male. 41	Female. 13	Male. 54	Female. 13
1877 and 8	30	11	8	32	11	22	12
1878 and 9	34	16	16	9	11	18	9

NEW NORFOLK.—(*Established 17th March, 1863.*)

Strength of Force..... 7

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

Four Constables had resigned.

The Superintendent is Bailiff of the Court of General Sessions, Town Surveyor, Inspector of Stock, Examiner of Weights and Measures, and an Inspector under the Californian Thistle Act.

Year.	Indictable Offences.			Offences determined Summarily.			
	Number reported to Police.	Number apprehended.	Number Committed or summarily Convicted.	Drunkenness.		Offences against Police Act and Bye-laws.	
1876 and 7	26	17	14	Male. 48	Female. 14	Male. 126	Female. 54
1877 and 8	35	16	16	80	24	84	22
1878 and 9	37	33	33	23	12	119	65

HAMILTON.—(*Established 13th September, 1863.*)

Strength of Force..... 6

This Force remains unaltered in strength.

The Superintendent and a Constable had resigned.

The Superintendent is Town Surveyor, Inspector of Stock, Examiner of Weights and Measures, and Bailiff of the Court of Requests.

No proceedings were taken 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 and Bye-laws.	
1876 and 7	8	6	4	Male. 19	Female. 7	Male. 54	Female. 9
1877 and 8	17	7	4	16	5	35	5
1878 and 9	24	12	7	7	3	2	2

BRIGHTON.—(*Established 19th November, 1863.*)

Strength of Force—Effectives..... 4
 Specials 1

This Force remains unaltered.

The Superintendent also holds the offices of Bailiff of the Court of Requests, Bailiff of Crown Lands, Inspector of Stock, Town Surveyor, Examiner of Weights and Measures, and Inspector under "The Californian Thistle Act."

Three Publicans were convicted of 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 and Bye-laws.	
1876 and 7	21	13	11	Male. 19	Female. 7	Male. 60	Female. 9
1877 and 8	17	12	12	42	10	45	16
1878 and 9	16	9	7	25	14	42	16

WESTBURY.—(*Established 15th December, 1863.*)

Strength of Force..... 8

The Strength of this Force remains unaltered.

One Constable was dismissed.

The Superintendent is Bailiff of the Court of Requests, Inspector of Stock, Examiner of Weights and Measures, and Poundkeeper.

Two convictions were obtained against Publicans.

Year.	Indictable Offences.			Offences determined Summarily.			
	Number reported to Police.	Number apprehended.	Number Committed or summarily Convicted.	Drunkenness.		Offences against Police Act and Bye-laws.	
1876 and 7	29	15	13	Male. 88	Female. 25	Male. 171	Female. 46
1877 and 8	50	17	13	103	26	43	11
1878 and 9	64	13	11	91	7	67	5

DELORAIN.—(*Established 18th December, 1863.*)

Strength of Force..... 5

One Constable had resigned and another had been appointed.

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

There were no convictions 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 and Bye-laws.	
1876 and 7	51	17	14	Male. 51	Female. 15	Male. 16	Female. —
1877 and 8	46	20	13	54	24	23	2
1878 and 9	50	14	14	58	19	35	15

EVANDALE.—(*Established 29th December, 1863.*)

Strength of Force...... 7

This Force remains unaltered in numerical strength.

A Sub-Inspector had resigned.

The Superintendent is also Council Clerk.

There were no convictions 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 and Bye-laws.	
				Male.	Female.	Male.	Female.
1876 and 7	8	6	3	4	2	31	5
1877 and 8	8	6	6	34	4	52	5
1878 and 9	5	4	4	12	7	—	—

CAMPBELL TOWN.—(*Established 18th September, 1866.*)

Strength of Force—Effectives.....	7
Specials	1

This Force has been increased by the appointment of another Constable.

One Constable had resigned.

The Superintendent also holds the office of Council Clerk.

There were no convictions 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 and Bye-laws.	
				Male.	Female.	Male.	Female.
1876 and 7	25	21	19	16	11	19	13
1877 and 8	47	41	35	24	17	15	18
1878 and 9	50	38	31	11	18	44	24

GLENORCHY.—(*Established 30th June, 1864.*)

Strength of Force..... 5

One Constable had been promoted to Sergeant, and another had resigned.

The Superintendent is Council Clerk, Registrar Court of Requests, Inspector of Stock, and Examiner of Weights and Measures.

Three publicans were convicted of 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 and Bye-laws.	
				Male.	Female.	Male.	Female.
1876 and 7	19	13	9	8	5	31	8
1877 and 8	12	10	10	5	5	50	9
1878 and 9	27	22	14	5	4	38	13

OATLANDS.—(*Established 9th January, 1862.*)

Strength of Force—Effectives..... 6
 Specials 1

One Constable was dismissed for misconduct.

The Superintendent is Bailiff of the Court of Requests, Town Surveyor, and Inspector of Stock.

Proceedings were taken against Publicans in five cases for breaches of the Licensing Act, and two convictions obtained.

Year.	Indictable Offences.			Offences determined Summarily.			
	Number reported to Police.	Number apprehended.	Number Committed or summarily Convicted.	Drunkenness.		Offences against Police Act and Bye-laws.	
1876 and 7	28	12	7	Male. 40	Female. 14	Male. 23	Female. 8
1877 and 8	30	4	4	22	10	20	9
1878 and 9	37	13	13	48	10	78	25

RICHMOND.—(*Established 1st August, 1861.*)

Strength of Force..... 7

This Force remains unaltered in strength.

A Sub-Inspector had resigned and another had been appointed.

The Superintendent is Inspector of Stock and Examiner of Weights and Measures. A Sub-Inspector is Bailiff of the Court of General Sessions.

Year.	Indictable Offences.			Offences determined Summarily.			
	Number reported to Police.	Number apprehended.	Number Committed or summarily Convicted.	Drunkenness.		Offences against Police Act and Bye-laws.	
1876 and 7	16	13	7	Male. 59	Female. 23	Male. 45	Female. 4
1877 and 8	25	18	10	37	12	59	6
1878 and 9	18	16	13	27	10	60	9

ESTABLISHED POLICE FORCES IN THE MUNICIPALITIES OF TASMANIA ON JUNE 30, 1879.

MUNICIPALITIES.	Establishment.	Detail of Ranks.							Rates of Annual Pay.			Rates of Daily Pay.								REMARKS.				
		Superintendents.	Sub-Inspectors.	Acting Sub-Inspectors.	Detectives.	Sergeants.	Constables.	Special Constables.	Superintendents.	Sub-Inspectors.	Specials.	Sub-Inspectors.	Acting Sub-Inspectors.	Detectives.	Sergeants.	Constables, 1st Class.	Constables, 2nd Class.	Special Constables when on Duty.						
									£	£	£	s.	d.	s.	d.	s.	d.	s.	d.	s.	d.			
Hobart Town.....	44	1	2	1	2	4	34	—	314	171	—	—	7	6	7	3	7	0	6	0	5	6	—	With uniform in addition to pay. No quarters.
Launceston.....	22	1	1	—	1	4	13	2	275	175	—	—	—	8	3	7	9	6	6	—	—	7	9	With uniform in addition to pay. The Superintendent, Sub-Inspector, and a Sergeant have quarters.
Glamorgan	6	1	—	—	—	1	2	3	150	—	25	—	—	—	7	0	5	6	—	—	5	0	—	Without uniform. Two Constables and Two Specials have quarters.
Spring Bay	5	1	1	—	—	1	2	2	182	—	—	5	9	—	—	—	5	0	—	—	6	0	—	Without uniform. The Sub-Inspector, Sergeant, and one Constable have quarters.
Clarence	7	1	—	—	—	1	2	2	200	—	10	—	—	—	5	6	5	0	—	—	5	0	—	Cost of uniform deducted. The Superintendent has 25l. a year forage allowance. The Sergeant and two Constables have quarters.
Longford	8	1	—	—	—	1	6	—	125	—	—	—	—	—	5	3	5	3	2	9	—	—	—	With uniform. Two Constables who are Watch-house Keepers receive pay at the rate of 50l. per annum. The Superintendent has forage allowance 25l., and two Constables 20l. each per annum. With the exception of one Constable the Force has quarters.
Green Ponds	7	1	—	—	—	1	5	—	185	—	—	—	—	—	5	6	5	0	—	—	—	—	—	Uniform in addition. The Superintendent, Sergeant, and three Constables have quarters.
Sorell	5	1	—	—	—	1	3	—	170	—	—	—	—	—	6	7	6	0	3	5	—	—	—	With uniform. A Sergeant and two Constables have quarters.
Bothwell.....	5	1	—	—	—	—	4	—	190	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	5	0	—	—	—	—	—	With uniform in addition to two Constables. All the Constables have quarters.
Ross	3	1	1	—	—	—	1	—	110	—	—	5	6	—	—	—	5	0	—	—	—	—	—	Without uniform. The Superintendent and Sub-Inspector have quarters, and the Superintendent has 25l. forage allowance per annum.
Fingal	9	1	2	1	—	1	4	—	150	—	—	5	9	5	0	—	5	4	5	0	—	—	—	With uniform. The Superintendent has 25l., and the Sub-Inspectors and Constables 12l. 10s. a year forage allowance. All the Force have quarters.
New Norfolk	7	1	1	—	—	1	4	—	155	—	—	5	9	—	—	5	6	5	0	—	—	—	—	With uniform in addition to pay. The Superintendent has 25l. a year forage allowance. The Superintendent, Sub-Inspector, Sergeant, and a Constable have quarters.
Hamilton	6	1	2	2	—	—	1	—	160	—	—	5	3	—	—	—	5	0	—	—	—	—	—	Without uniform. The Sub-Inspectors and Acting Sub-Inspectors have 10l. a year each forage allowance. All the Force have quarters.
Brighton.....	5	1	—	—	—	1	2	1	160	—	10	—	—	—	5	0	4	9	—	—	5	0	—	Cost of uniform deducted. With the exception of the Superintendent the Force has quarters. One Constable has 25l. per annum forage allowance.
Westbury	8	1	—	2	—	—	5	—	175	—	—	—	5	3	—	—	5	0	—	—	—	—	—	With uniform in addition. The Superintendent has 25l. a year forage allowance. With the exception of the Superintendent the Force has quarters.
Deloraine	5	1	1	—	—	—	3	—	150	—	—	6	6	—	—	—	5	0	—	—	—	—	—	With uniform. Superintendent has 37l. forage allowance, and two Constables 7l. 10s. Except one Constable the Force has quarters.
Evandale	7	1	1	1	—	—	4	—	100	—	—	6	0	5	6	—	—	5	6	—	—	—	—	Without uniform. The Superintendent has 15l. a year forage allowance; the Acting Sub-Inspector and three Constables 5l. The Sub-Inspector, Acting Sub-Inspector, and the Constables have quarters.
Campbell Town....	8	1	2	—	—	—	4	1	20	—	10	7	6	—	—	—	5	6	—	—	5	0	—	Without uniform. The Superintendent has 25l. a year forage allowance, and a Sub-Inspector 8l. The permanent members of the Force have quarters.
Glenorchy	5	1	1	—	—	2	1	—	150	105	—	—	—	—	5	6	5	0	—	—	—	—	—	Uniform in addition. The Sub-Inspector and one Constable have quarters.
Oatlands	7	1	1	—	—	—	4	1	130	—	5	4	9	—	—	—	4	6	—	—	—	—	—	With uniform. The Superintendent receives 20l. forage allowance, the Sub-Inspector and one Constable 10l. All the Force have quarters.
Richmond	7	1	2	—	—	—	4	—	182	—	—	6	5	—	—	—	4	10	—	—	—	—	—	Cost of uniform deducted. All the Force have quarters.