

(No. 17.)



1874.

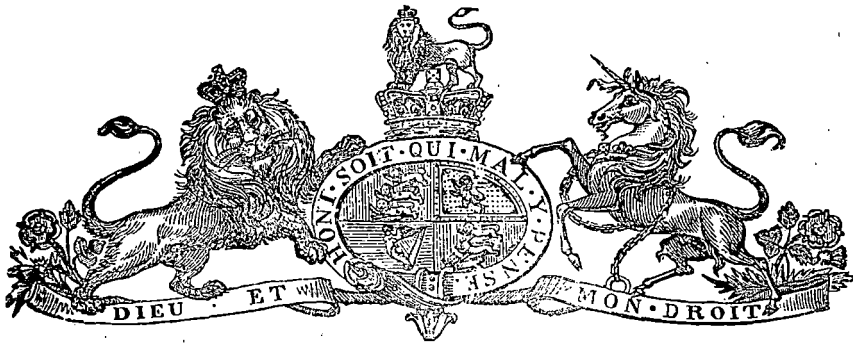
TASMANIA.

LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL.

INSPECTOR OF POLICE, TERRITORIAL.

REPORT TO JUNE 30, 1874.

Laid upon the Table by Mr. Chapman, and ordered by the Council to be printed,
July 21, 1874.



SEVENTH ANNUAL REPORT of the Inspector of Police, on the State of the Territorial Police of Tasmania, for the Year ending 30th June, 1874.

Office of Inspector of Police, 16th July, 1874.

SIR,

I HAVE the honor to submit my Seventh Annual Report on the state of the Territorial Police of Tasmania for the year ending the 30th June, 1874; and I have every satisfaction in stating that its character for efficiency and good conduct has been thoroughly maintained during that period. Its total strength is 78 officers and men, of the average age of 37 years, as follows:—

Chief District Constables	8
District Constable	1
2nd Class District Constables	9
Sergeants	12
Constables	48

In respect to crime, the following Table will show its state and that of other offences as compared with the same classes during the years 1872 and 1873:—

YEARS.	INDICTABLE OFFENCES.			OFFENCES DETERMINED SUMMARILY.			
	<i>Number reported to Police.</i>	<i>Number apprehended.</i>	<i>Number Committed or summarily Convicted.</i>	<i>Drunkenness and Disorderly Conduct.</i>		<i>Offences against Police Act and Bye-laws.</i>	
				Male.	Female.	Male.	Female.
1871.....	313	125	121	132	67	92	29
1872.....	288	195	169	195	64	233	77
1873.....	205	106	77	105	52	93	26

None of a serious character has been committed, and a decrease of vagrancy is apparent in the Police Districts as well as in the Municipalities.

The high price of provender that has prevailed during the year has inflicted a pecuniary loss on those officers who are compelled to keep horses on the very insufficient forage allowance of £25 per annum, thereby reducing their salary in proportion,—a consequence which could never have been anticipated by either the Government or the Legislature, and which I would respectfully submit should be rectified by the allowance to them being hereafter increased, and a bonus granted them for the present year.

The conduct of the Force during its period of special duty in Launceston, in conjunction with a large body of Municipal Police, was highly satisfactory at a very trying time; and the total absence of any complaint proves that this duty was performed, obnoxious as it was to a large number of the citizens, steadily and with discretion.

The annual Tabular Return is annexed.

I have the honor to be,

Sir,

Your obedient Servant,

J. FORSTER, *Inspector of Police.*

The Hon. the Colonial Secretary.

DISTRICT OF HOBART.

Strength of Force 19

This Force remains unaltered in its organisation, but two Petty Constables, one attached to the Magazine Guard and the other on Customs duty, have been reduced. All duties connected with the mercantile marine still devolve solely on the Force, as well as departmental communication with the neighbouring Colonies. The head station-houses at New Town and Sandy Bay, as well as those at out-stations, were in good repair. An additional one is much required on the Cascade Road. There had been one resignation. To give efficient protection to the residents on the City boundaries the Force requires augmentation.

The returns show a very considerable decrease in indictable offences, but a slight increase in those of a minor character.

During the year ending 30th June 28 indictable offences were reported to the Police, for which 23 persons were arrested, of whom 19 were summarily convicted or committed for trial. 20 males and 24 females were charged with drunkenness and disorderly conduct, and 33 males and 9 females proceeded against under the Police Act and Bye-laws. No publicans were proceeded against or fined for breaches of the Licensing Act. The uniforms, arms, and ammunition were in excellent order, the cells and wards clean, and the books, records, and returns correctly kept. The duties of a Coroner's Clerk and Summoning Officer are performed by a Sergeant. The Chief District Constable is Town Surveyor at New Town, Examiner of Weights and Measures, and Inspector of Stock.

KINGBOROUGH.

Strength of Force 8

No alterations have been made in the organisation and numerical strength of this Force. There had been no dismissals nor resignations.

Indictable offences, as well as those of a minor character, had decreased.

During the year ending 30th June 19 indictable offences were reported to the Police, for which 10 persons were arrested, all of whom were committed for trial or summarily convicted. 11 males and 4 females were charged with drunkenness and disorderly conduct, and 4 males proceeded against under the Police Act and Bye-laws. Three publicans had been proceeded against and fined. The station-houses were in good repair, the wards and cells clean, the uniform and arms in good serviceable order, and the books, returns, and records correctly kept. The Chief District Constable at Kingston is Police Clerk, Registrar of the Small Debts Court, (of which Police Officers are Bailiffs), Examiner of Weights and Measures, and Inspector of Stock; and an officer of a similar grade is a Tide-waiter of the Customs Department at Three Hut Point. Both Chief District Constables are Registrars of Births, Deaths, and Marriages.

HUON.

Strength of Force 12

This Force remains unaltered in organisation and numerical strength. Communication between the Channel Stations and the Franklin is kept up both by land and by boats. The new Bridge about to be erected at Victoria will make the station there an important one. The increasing population in the Port Cygnet District requires the appointment of an additional Constable. One Constable had been dismissed. None had resigned.

Both indictable and minor offences had decreased in number.

During the year ending the 30th June 27 indictable offences were reported to the Police, for which 18 persons were apprehended, of whom 12 were convicted summarily or committed for trial. 14 males and 11 females were charged with drunkenness and disorderly conduct, and 20 males and 13 females proceeded against under the Police Act and Bye-laws. Two publicans were proceeded against under the Licensing Act, one of whom was fined. The station-houses were in good order, with the exception of that at Victoria, which is undergoing repair. A new station had been built at Geeves Town, and that at Hospital Bay discontinued. The wards and cells were cleanly, the uniform and arms in good serviceable condition, and the books, records, and returns kept correctly. A Sergeant acts as Police Clerk and Registrar of the Court of General Sessions, and of Births, Deaths, and Marriages. The Chief District Constable is Examiner of Weights and Measures, and Inspector of Stock.

SELBY.

Strength of Force 9

The organisation of this Force remains unaltered, but its numerical strength has been decreased, one Petty Constable having been dispensed with, and the Station at Hadsphen reduced. The Launceston terminus of the Western Railway is under its supervision, and its members act in aid of the Sheriff at the Sittings of the Supreme Court in Launceston. There were neither dismissals nor resignations from the Force during the year. The Constables at the outstations at Dilston and Muddy Plains are Postmasters, each receiving a salary of £5 from the Post Office Department.

There had been a decrease in both indictable and minor offences.

During the year ending the 30th June 12 indictable offences were reported to the Police, for which 5 persons were arrested, all of whom were committed for trial or summarily convicted. 14 males and 1 female were charged with drunkenness and disorderly conduct, and 6 males proceeded against under the Police Act and Bye-laws. No informations had been laid against publicans for breaches of the Licensing Act. The station-houses were in good order, that at St. Leonards having been lately repaired; the wards

and cells cleanly, the uniform and arms in serviceable order, and the books, returns, and records correctly kept. The Chief District Constable is Examiner of Weights and Measures, Inspector of Stock, and the officer for collecting debts due to Charitable Institutions.

PORT SORELL.

Strength of Force 14

The numerical strength of this Force has been reduced, the services of a Petty Constable having been dispensed with, but its organisation remains unaltered. It is, however, scarcely sufficient for the protection of such a populous district, and the efficient carrying out of the numerous duties devolving on it acting as it does along the N. W. Coast, on which many places are growing in importance, in aid of the Customs. The state of the roads makes communication inland difficult during the winter season. Two Constables had been dismissed, but there had been no resignations.

Indictable offences had decreased in number as well as those of a minor character.

During the year ending 30th June 67 indictable offences were reported to the Police, for which 14 persons were apprehended, of whom 6 were committed for trial or summarily convicted. 27 males and 8 females were charged with drunkenness and disorderly conduct, and 7 males and 2 females proceeded against under the Police Act and Bye-laws. No publicans had been charged with breaches of the Licensing Act. The station-houses were in good repair, the cells and wards cleanly, the arms and uniform in good serviceable order, and the books, records, and returns correctly kept. The Chief District Constable is a Tide Waiter of the Customs, Inspector of Stock, Examiner of Weights and Measures, and Bailiff of the Court of General Sessions.

HORTON.

Strength of Force 8

The numerical strength and organisation of this Force remains unchanged; but it will require strengthening and the establishment of a Station at Mount Bischoff as the mining population increases with the development of the Tin Mines. At present there is no Constable nearer than Emu Bay, a distance of fifty miles. The officers at Stanley, Wynyard, the Cam, and Emu Bay hold also appointments under the Customs. No resignations nor dismissals had taken place.

Indictable offences had increased in number, but minor offences had decreased.

During the year ending the 30th June 32 indictable offences were reported to the Police, for which 19 persons were apprehended, of whom 12 were committed for trial or summarily convicted; 19 males and 2 females were charged with drunkenness and disorderly conduct, and 15 males and 1 female proceeded against under the Police Act and Bye-laws. One publican had been convicted of a breach of the Licensing Act. The station-houses were in good repair, but the fence at Wynyard required repairing. The cells and wards were cleanly. The uniform, arms, &c. were in good serviceable order; and the books, records, and returns correctly kept. The Chief District Constable is Police Clerk, Registrar of General Sessions, Examiner of Weights and Measures, and Inspector of Stock.

GEORGE TOWN (INCLUDING GOLD FIELDS).

Strength of Force 6

This Force remains unaltered in organisation and numerical strength, but the increasing activity in mining operations and a corresponding addition to the mining population, together with the traffic consequent thereon, will involve the appointment of at least an additional Constable at the Nine Mile Springs. No further protection is at present required in the vicinity of the Iron Mines. There had been neither resignations nor dismissals from the Force.

Indictable offences had slightly increased and minor offences had decreased.

During the year ending the 30th June, 20 indictable offences were reported to the Police, for which 17 persons were arrested, of whom 13 were committed for trial or summarily convicted; 3 males and 1 female were charged with drunkenness and disorderly conduct, and 8 males and 1 female proceeded against under the Police Act and Bye-laws. Proceedings had been taken against one publican under the Licensing Act. The station-houses, with the exception of that at Sidmouth,—which is not worth repairing, but should be rebuilt,—were in good repair; the cells and wards clean; the uniform and arms in serviceable order; and the books, records, and returns correctly kept. The District Constable is Police Clerk, Mining Registrar, as well as that of General Sessions, Examiner of Weights and Measures, and Inspector of Stock. A medical man is attached to the head station.

SOUTH LONGFORD OR GREAT LAKE DISTRICT.

Strength of Force 2

The benefits accruing from the maintenance of this Force still continue apparent from the absence of the crime of sheep-stealing which formerly was so prevalent.

The quantity of stock depastured is increasing, owing to the purchase of crown lands and the improving healthiness of the runs. The outlying areas of the adjoining Municipalities have no protection but what is afforded by this Force.

The Police rates are also, in consequence of the sale of these lands, increasing; private property being assessed at a higher value than that of the crown.

The Chief Constable resides at the Steppes Station, a central position, and is an Inspector of Stock.

The revenues raised in the District from Police Rates and Dog Licences nearly amount to the cost of the Police Establishment.

TERRITORIAL POLICE FORCE OF TASMANIA.

1874.

DISTRICTS.	Establishment.	DETAIL OF RANKS.						Area in Acres.	Acres to each Constable.	ANNUAL PAY INCLUDING FORAGE AND TRAVELLING ALLOWANCES.*			DAILY PAY.			REMARKS.
		Chief District Constable.	2nd Class District Constable.	Sergeants.	Acting Sergeants.	Petty Constables.	Special Constables.			Chief District Constable.	2nd Class District Constable.	Special Constable.	Sergeants.	Acting Sergeants.	Petty Constables.	
Hobart	19	1	2	1	—	15	—	686,690	32,700	£ 170	£ s. d. 104 18 9	£ —	s. d. 5 9	—	5	C. D. Constable has an allowance of £25 a year, and one 2nd Class D. C. has quarters.
Kingborough	8	2	—	2	—	4	—	463,000	58,000	175	91 5 0	25	—	—	5	One C. D. Constable has quarters. One Acting 2nd Class Constable has £10 travelling allowance.
Huon	12	1	2	1	—	8	—	2,507,000	208,916	175	129 18 9	50	5 9	—	5	Two 2nd Class D. Constables have quarters. A Sergeant has £25 for clerical duties.
Selby	9	1	1	—	2	5	—	—	—	200	104 18 9	—	—	5 0	5	The Acting Sergeant has £25 forage allowance, and one Constable has £10 forage allowance.
George Town, including Gold Fields	6	1	1	—	—	4	—	792,320	113,188	170	114 1 3	—	—	—	5	2nd Class District Constable has quarters. C. D. Constable and two P. Constables, £10 a year for forage.
Port Sorell	14	1	1	—	3	9	—	561,920	37,461	200	129 18 9	—	—	5 0	5	C. D. Constable has quarters, and a D. C. forage, £25.
Horton	8	1	2	2	—	3	—	2,574,000	321,750	175	{ 129 18 9 } { 104 18 9 }	—	—	—	5	2nd Class District Constables have quarters, and the Junior £25 from Customs.
Great Lake	2	1	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	175	—	—	—	5 0	—	With quarters and forage allowed.

* Without uniform.

J. FORSTER, *Inspector of Police.*