

(No. 100.)



1863.

[SECOND SESSION.]

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T A S M A N I A .

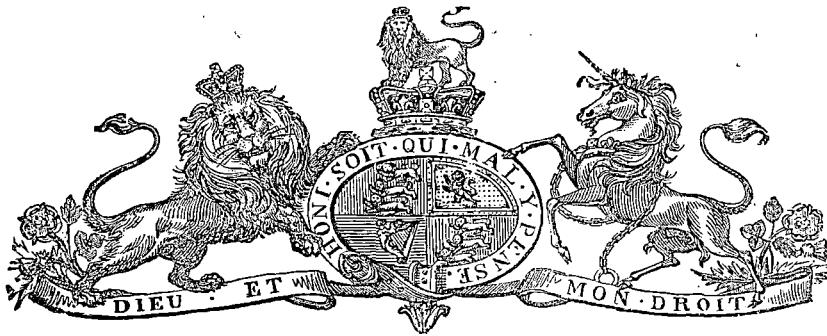
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P O R T A R T H U R .

REPORT AND CORRESPONDENCE.

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Laid upon the Table by Mr. Colonial Treasurer, and ordered by the House to be printed, 15 September, 1863.



Hobart Town, 8th September, 1863.

MY DEAR SIR,

I UNDERSTAND that the Joint Committee appointed to consider the best mode of employing the Port Arthur Prisoners have, in their Report, advocated the renewal of ship-building, basing their recommendation upon my evidence. I think the replies to some questions have been misunderstood. I certainly did not intend to state that such a mode of employing the men would be advisable; for I believe it would neither benefit them nor the country. If you will permit me, I will briefly lay before you my reasons for adopting this opinion. 1st. A large portion of the material required to complete a vessel has to be imported. 2nd. I believe that if the accounts of sale are referred to, it will be seen that the vessels heretofore built at Port Arthur have never realised the amounts paid for this imported material, and the supervision required for their effectual construction. This latter item of expense will, I consider, be found to have amounted to upwards of £1 per ton: for with unskilled labour one person must be constantly engaged in supervision; and, on a fair calculation, certainly not more than one vessel (say of 250 tons,) could be built every year. 3rd. I think it would materially interfere with the welfare and prospects of our colonial youth: for the men, as they became free, would naturally try to follow the occupation best paid for. This would overstock the market: for though the labour might not be of first class character, it would so far satisfy the demand as to hinder, to a great extent, employers from engaging apprentices. And even when apprentices were required, respectable parents would generally entertain a strong objection to placing their sons where they must of necessity, in the learning their trade, intermix with men of the class in question. Parents who might possess the means and intention of establishing their sons as masters would, I think, be wholly deterred from engaging in such an enterprise, because of the conditions connected with it. I speak this with the confidence which arises from experience. When I was in business I could have obtained almost any number of respectable youths—some of them sons of wealthy people—solely on the account that I employed no prison labour.

The present shipwrights of this port are, as a body, equal in skill to any in any part of the world. They have been for the most part colonial youths; and, with one exception, the present master ship-builders learnt their business in this port. The records left by strangers who have had vessels repaired here show that they have been fully satisfied with the manner in which their work has been done.

It would, in my opinion, prove a greater benefit to the country, and to the men at Port Arthur themselves, if they were initiated into bush-work, as I stated in my answer to question 20; for good bushmen have as a class almost disappeared from the Colony. It cannot be expected that proficiency in shipbuilding can be attained in two or three years; but if subjected to systematic work and rigid discipline, they would be eligible in that time for transfer to any of the public works, especially the formation of roads, bridges, and tramways. In such operations they would be of real use and profit. I do not think that if thus employed that the expense of supervising their labour would be so great as is generally supposed, if the preliminary training and discipline at Port Arthur be so carried out that they shall be made to do as much as a free bush labourer is obliged to do for a livelihood. When I was at Port Arthur the men had only a very small ration allowed them, in no way equal to the indulgences they have now, and yet every man was made to work well. I do not mean by this to advocate either the lash or cells. There are better modes of coercing them. If reference be made to official records, it will be found there were very few instances in which corporal punishment was inflicted on men under my charge, and some of these will appear, from the same records, to have been of the very worst character.

I remain, Sir,  
Your most obedient Servant,  
JOHN WATSON.

The Hon. JAMES M. WILSON, Esq.

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*Comptroller-General's Office, 2nd September, 1863.*

SIR,

IN the Report of the Joint Committee of both Houses of Parliament appointed to enquire respecting the employment of Prisoners in this Colony, I find that the Committee have reported that the average cost of a Convict under sentence at Port Arthur is £38 0s. 10d. In reference to this part of the Report, I think it right to state for the information of the Governor and the Government, that the actual cost of a Convict under sentence for the year ending 31st of March, 1861, as ascertained by the Board appointed for that purpose, was £34 12s. 3d.; and from this amount there was a deduction of £1 17s. 4d. for timber and other articles supplied to the Government for use in Hobart Town, making the total cost of a Convict under sentence £32 14s. 11d.

For the nine months ending 31st December, 1861, the total cost of a Convict under sentence was found to be at the rate of £35 1s. 9d., from which there was a deduction for timber and other articles supplied to the Government in Hobart Town at the rate of £1 17s. 1d. per man, making the total cost at the rate of £33 4s. 8d.

For the year ending 31st of December, 1862, by the Returns furnished by the Convict Department, and awaiting the decision of the Board, the actual cost of an effective Convict has been found to be £34 19s. 6d., while the timber supplied to the Government in Hobart Town amounted to 19s. 11d. per head, making the net cost of a Convict under sentence for that year £33 19s. 7d.

I have, &c.,

W. NAIRN, *Comptroller-General.*

*The Honorable the Colonial Secretary.*

MEMO.

*COST of Convicts under Sentence, 1863.*

For the year ending 31st December, 1863, the net cost of maintaining a Convict at Port Arthur may be taken to be £32 11s. 6d.; from which there will have to be made a deduction on account of timber and other articles supplied to Hobart Town for the service of the Government, and which, assuming it to amount to £1 12s. 0d., would leave the cost at £31 19s. 6d. per man.

W. NAIRN.

*Civil Commandant's Office, Port Arthur, Tasmania, 30th July, 1863.*

SIR,

I HAVE the honor to lay before you my Report on this Establishment for the year ended 30th ultimo.

CONDUCT OF THE OFFICERS.

1. The conduct of the Officers has in general been most satisfactory. The changes were as follows:—9 Offices reduced, but the holders appointed to other situations; 2 pensioned; 2 services dispensed with; 13 new appointments and transfers.

2. The Scale of Fines authorised in July last to be imposed for neglect of duty and other minor irregularities has been found very useful, by enabling me to maintain a proper state of discipline and efficiency amongst the Officers, without having recourse to so many dismissals as formerly.

3. The Subscription Library and Reading Room instituted by the Stipendiaries some time since has been productive of much benefit, both to the Officers themselves and to the Service, by enabling the former to spend their leisure in an intellectual manner and in attaching them to each other, thereby inducing many to take an active interest not only in their own duties but in the Department generally.

STATE OF THE BUILDINGS.

4. The more substantial buildings are in good condition, but it has been found necessary to commence the erection of new Dormitories for the Pauper branch, in lieu of the old wooden ones which are fast becoming unserviceable. In order to carry this into effect one large room has already been completed, capable of accommodating 80 persons, and another to contain an equal number will shortly be finished.

A new ablution room for the Military has been provided; also a new Guard House.

An additional saw-mill has been erected; and several buildings for the accommodation of Prisoners employed at the old out-stations, and others for agricultural purposes, refitted and placed in serviceable condition.

The Quarantine Station at Impression Bay has also been repaired extensively.

New Semaphores have been erected at Port Arthur, and at Mount Augustus; the latter for the purpose of re-opening telegraphic communication between Hobart Town and Tasman's Peninsula.

The Wharf at Port Arthur has been extended 60 feet, and a chain fence placed along the whole length to prevent accidents.

A School-room has been provided for the Officers' children, and various other alterations and improvements effected.

#### CONDUCT OF THE PRISONERS.

5. The appended Return A shows what offences have been committed, and how such were disposed of,—the total number being 253, and the aggregate number of Prisoners 695. In the previous year 287 offences were recorded upon a strength of 723; of those 34 were attempts to escape from the Peninsula, and also 2 who succeeded in reaching the main land, making a total of 36 cases of absconding. During the twelve months just ended there have, however, only been 4 attempts to escape, all being unsuccessful. There has, in fact, been much less absconding this last year than in any former during my command; viz., since November, 1853.

6. This satisfactory change has, I believe, been chiefly attributable to the system of money payments established in August last, one of the features of the scheme being, that every Prisoner who may abscond shall forfeit the whole of his previous earnings. The substitution of strong irons in lieu of separate confinement for absconders has also had a decidedly deterring effect upon idle, restless men, as many of such would greatly prefer the lighter descriptions of work carried on in the Separate Prison, with exemption from the inclemency of the weather afforded therein, to laboring in chains out of doors. The Separate Prison, however, continues to be of the utmost importance, by enabling me at once to remove mischievous men from association, where their evil example and conversation would soon disturb the general order of the Establishment, and incite other Prisoners to resist authority or otherwise commit themselves. Prisoners sentenced to 10 years and upwards are placed in the Separate Prison on arrival for the following periods; viz.—

Sentences of 10 years .....	10 months.
Ditto 15 years .....	12 months.
Ditto Life .....	15 months.

There has not been any corporal punishment inflicted since 1849.

7. The order recently issued by His Excellency the Governor, for only allowing half rations to men who do not perform a moderately fair day's labour, and for encouraging by rewards those who exert themselves in executing additional work, has already had a marked effect upon the conduct and industry of the Prisoners generally, and will certainly diminish punishment to a large extent.

8. On the whole, and looking at the general character of the Prisoners, nearly all of whom are men who have been repeatedly re-convicted before the Superior Courts of this and other Countries, the first-convicted class being only 19 in number out of a strength of 538, I have much satisfaction in recording my deliberate opinion that it would be difficult to find a body of men of similar antecedents and histories congregated together, and that, too, with what may be regarded as an almost total absence of anything like ordinary crime.

The first-convicted Prisoners are at all times kept separate from the re-convicted.

#### LABOUR.

9. Return B. exhibits the different descriptions of labour performed during the year.

10. Return C. shows the agricultural, dairy, and meat produce raised during the past twelve months.

Arrangements have been completed for carrying on increased farming; and when the land on the Northern side of the Peninsula shall have been brought thoroughly under the improved system of tillage adopted by the lately appointed Superintendent of Agriculture, I feel confident that very considerable returns will be obtained from this branch of industry.

In addition to minor crops, 100 acres of wheat have been sown this autumn; a full supply of

vegetables will be grown ; and a considerable quantity of meat produced These operations will be progressively extended in future seasons.

11. Return D. shows the Timber and other materials obtained.

The vertical saw-mill authorised by His Excellency is nearly finished, and with the circular saws, which have been reconstructed, will cut a very large quantity of timber. This I estimate at 30,000 feet weekly, which, at 7s. 6d. per 100 feet, will amount to between £5000 and £6000 annually.

A shute, upon the Norwegian plan, for conveying logs from the summit and sides of the hilly ranges adjacent to the Settlement has been constructed : it is nearly half a mile in length, and will be supplied by branches and tramroads leading into the adjoining forests. This, with other similar appliances, will be absolutely necessary for providing the large number of logs required for the saw-mills

12. Return E. shows the number and description of articles of clothing for the inmates made up last year. Arrangements are being carried out for extending this branch of work, with a view to the whole of the supplies being manufactured at the Station, instead of importing such, and thereby economising in this item of expenditure.

13. Return F. shows the total number of each class on the 30th June, 1862 and 1863 respectively, with the Funds from which they were supported.

14. Table G. affords a view of the health of the Establishment, including the Paupers and Lunatics. A summary of the meteorological observations taken during the year is also appended.

#### MONEY ALLOWANCES TO PRISONERS.

15. The system of money earnings adverted to in paragraph No. 6, and which, as there stated, was established in August last, has been found to work most satisfactorily. I have prepared a Return showing the average strength, the total number who have earned money, the number discharged with earnings, the average amount of such, and a comparison between the number of offences committed since the system came into operation and during an equal period of the previous year. The results, as will be seen, have been most satisfactory ; whilst the stimulus to industry which the scheme affords has had an excellent effect upon the Prisoners. Independent, however, of these important immediate advantages, by increasing the amount of work and diminishing the number of offences which the system of money payments undoubtedly possesses, the rule now in force by which Convicts labouring under unexpired original sentences on completing their terms of Punishment at Port Arthur are obliged to serve a further period of Probation for Conditional Pardons, instead of being liberated with the revocable indulgence of Tickets-of-Leave, but who are allowed certain moderate rates of wages according to their labour capabilities, is an excellent arrangement, and looked upon by the Prisoners as a great boon : it has already enabled many Convicts, who have been a burden upon the public for years past, to emigrate to other Colonies, where it is to be hoped that, being removed from their former evil haunts and associations, they will change their course of life ; whilst others, who remain in Tasmania, have been furnished with the means of subsistence until employment has offered. No man is now discharged from Penal detention penniless ; and it must, therefore, be the Prisoner's own fault if any relapse into dishonest practices and habits.

The money expended under this system is, commercially speaking, well invested, inasmuch as for every discharged Convict who can be induced to give up crime, or to leave the Colony, a saving to the Treasury of nearly £200 will be effected, taking five years as the average period of detention.

16. Amongst the entries made in the Visitors' Register last year will be found Copy of a Minute from His Excellency the Governor, who last month inspected the several branches of the Establishment, as also the farms and works in progress.

I have the honor to be,  
Sir,

Your most obedient Servant,

J. BOYD, *Civil Commandant.*

*The Honorable the Comptroller-General,  
Hobart Town.*

A.

RETURN showing the Number of Prisoners under PENAL DETENTION at PORT ARTHUR, and their Conduct, during the Year ending June 30th, 1863.

Number of Individual Prisoners at the Penal Establishment, Port Arthur, during the Year ending 30 June, 1863.		OFFENCES.	
	Common Assault.		
	Larceny.		
	Insubordination.		
	Absconding.		
	Wilful Destruction of Government Property.		
	Disobedience of Orders.		
	Idleness.		
	Neglect of Duty.		
	Absence without Leave.		
	Drunkenness.		
	Insolence.		
	Abusive Language.		
	Misconduct.		
	Total Number of Offences committed.		
695	7 5 18 4 9 55 9 1 1 1 17 12 2 118 253	Common Assault.....	1
		Larceny.....	1
		Insubordination.....	1
		Absconding.....	2
		Wilful destruction of Government Property.....	1
		Disobedience of Orders.....	4
		Absent without Leave.....	1
		Idleness.....	1
		Neglect of Duty.....	7
		Drunkenness.....	2
		Insolence.....	1
		Abusive Language.....	9
		Misconduct.....	12
		Transportation or Penal Servitude extended.	2
		18 months Hard Labour.	1
		Ditto in Chains.	3
		12 ditto ditto.	3
		9 months Hard Labour.	7
		Ditto in Chains.	2
		6 months Hard Labour.	25
		Ditto in Chains.	12
		4 months Hard Labour.	13
		Ditto in Chains.	3
		3 months Hard Labour.	20
		Ditto in Chains.	3
		2 months Hard Labour.	13
		1 month Hard Labour.	18
		1 month and above 14 days Solitary Confinement.	7
		14 days and above 7 days Solitary Confinement.	44
		7 days Solitary Confinement and under.	34
		Reprimanded.	87
		Discharged.	6
		TOTAL.	253
		Recommended to be kept in strict Separate Treatment.	7

The Hon. the Comptroller-General.

J. BOYD, Civil Commandant.  
Penal Establishment, Port Arthur, 30th June, 1863.

## B.

*RETURN showing the various Descriptions of Labour at which the Prisoners have been employed during the Year ending 30th June, 1863.*

Bakers.	Limeshell gatherers.
Blacksmiths.	Masons and stone cutters.
Bookbinders.	Moulders and foundrymen.
Boat and launch builders and repairers.	Milkmen.
Brickmakers.	Mat-makers.
Butchers.	Mixing manure.
Bricklayers.	Organist.
Broom-makers.	Plumbers, painters, and glaziers.
Basket-makers.	Potters.
Boiler-makers.	Plasterers.
Barbers.	Ploughmen.
Bullock drivers.	Procuring firewood.
Boatmen.	Ditto logs, piles, and spars.
Carpenters.	Ditto boat and launch timbers.
Cooks.	Pile driving.
Charcoal burners.	Repairing wharves and jetties.
Coopers.	Sailmakers and repairers.
Clearing land.	Sawyers.
Carting fuel, &c.	Servants.
Cemetery keeper.	Shinglers.
Church and Chapel cleaner.	Shoe-makers.
Collecting kelp.	Splitters.
Dairymen.	Sweeps.
Fitters and locksmiths.	Salt-makers.
Fencers.	Stone-breakers.
Farriers.	Scavengers.
Grass, fern, and willow cutter.	Signalmen.
Gardeners.	Semaphore repairers.
Herdsmen.	Tool repairers.
Hammock-makers and repairers.	Tailors.
Harness-makers and repairers.	Tinplate workers.
Labourers, agricultural.	Road making and repairing.
Ditto, general.	Wheelwrights.
Lime and ash burners.	Writers.
Laying and repairing tramroads.	Watchmen assisting Police.
Laying shute or skid road.	Wardsmen.
Laundrymen.	Water-carriers.
Lamplighters.	

J. BOYD, *Civil Commandant,*  
*Penal Establishment, Port Arthur, 30th June, 1863.*

*The Hon. the Comptroller-General.*

## C.

*RETURN showing the Quantity and Estimated Value of AGRICULTURAL, MEAT, and DAIRY  
PRODUCE raised on the FARMS during the Year ending 30th June, 1863.*

PRODUCE.	QUANTITY.	PRICE AT PER.	AMOUNT.		
			£	s.	d.
Eggs, dozen.....	442 <sup>11</sup> <sub>13</sub>	1s. 6d.	33	4	4 <sup>1</sup> <sub>2</sub>
Fowls, number.....	19	1s. 6d.	1	8	6
Milk, pints.....	52,540 <sup>1</sup> <sub>4</sub>	2d.	500	12	8 <sup>1</sup> <sub>2</sub>
Ditto, ditto.....	10,048	1 <sup>1</sup> <sub>2</sub> d.			
Beef, Pork, and Veal, lbs.....	1075	4 <sup>3</sup> <sub>4</sub> d.	82	14	4
Ditto, ditto.....	3840	3 <sup>3</sup> <sub>4</sub> d.			
Mutton and Venison, ditto.....	70	4 <sup>3</sup> <sub>4</sub> d.	5	15	0 <sup>3</sup> <sub>4</sub>
Ditto, ditto.....	273	3 <sup>3</sup> <sub>4</sub> d.			
Potatoes, ditto.....	64,327 <sup>8</sup>	6s. per 100 lbs.	386	13	0 <sup>1</sup> <sub>2</sub>
Ditto, ditto.....	55,384 <sup>4</sup>	7s. ditto			
Other Vegetables, ditto.....	26,944 <sup>10</sup>	6s. ditto	118	16	0 <sup>1</sup> <sub>4</sub>
Ditto, ditto.....	10,848	7s. ditto			
Potatoes and other Vegetables issued for Stock and for Seed, lbs.....	78,365	3s. ditto	270	1	1 <sup>3</sup> <sub>4</sub>
Ditto, ditto.....	87,149	3s. 6d. ditto			
Wheat, bushels.....	182 <sup>1</sup> <sub>4</sub>	5s. 6d.	50	2	4 <sup>1</sup> <sub>2</sub>
Hay, tons.....	58tns. 10c. 3qrs. 9lbs.	80s.	234	3	4
Straw, ditto.....	16tns. 13c. 2qrs. 3lbs.	40s.	33	7	0
Pease, bushels.....	7 <sup>40</sup>	6s.	2	6	0
Beans, ditto.....	21	6s.	6	6	0
Green Fodder, tons.....	113tns. 9c. 2qrs. 10lbs.	60s.	340	8	9
Oats, bushels.....	367 <sup>24</sup>	7s.	128	13	2
Mangel Wurzel, tons.....	7tns. 15c. 3qrs. 21lbs.	35s.	13	12	10
Barley, bushels.....	72	6s.	21	14	11
Hops, lbs.....	110	9d.	4	2	6
Horse Hides, number.....	1	20s.	1	0	0
Cattle Hides, ditto.....	9	14s.	6	6	0
Calf Skins, ditto.....	20	5s.	5	0	0
Lamb Skins, ditto.....	1	1s.	0	1	0
Deer Skins, ditto.....	6	2s. 6d.	0	15	0
Butter, lbs.....	58	96s. per 100 lbs.	101	15	10
Ditto, ditto.....	1547	128s. ditto			
Salt, ditto.....	12,590 <sup>8</sup>	5s.	31	9	6 <sup>1</sup> <sub>4</sub>
Tares, bushel.....	7 <sup>1</sup> <sub>4</sub>	10s.	3	12	6
Wool, lbs.....	49	1s. 6d.	3	13	6
Carrot Seed, ditto.....	20	2s.	2	0	0
Fish, ditto.....	2398	16s. per 100 lbs.	19	3	8
TOTAL AMOUNT.....			£2408	19	1

J. BOYD, *Civil Commandant.*

*Penal Establishment, Port Arthur, 30th June, 1863.*

*The Honorable the Comptroller-General.*



## D.

*RETURN showing the Quantity of Timber, Sawn or Split, Piles, Spars, Bricks, and other Materials, Fuel, &c., procured at Port Arthur during the Year ending 30th June, 1863, with the Value of the same at the current Market Prices.*

DESCRIPTION.		QUANTITY.	PRICE AT PER	AMOUNT.
All full cut and chiefly to order.	Battens, feet .....	41,987	10s. per 100 feet	£ s. d. 200 18 8
	Boards (flooring), ditto.....	143,322	10s. ditto	741 12 2
	Planking, 9 inch to 11 inch, ditto .....	34,637	10s. ditto	173 3 8
	Arras Rails, ditto .....	31,564	10s. ditto	157 16 4
	Joists, ditto .....	195,759	10s. ditto	978 15 10
	Principals, ditto .....	35,878	10s. ditto	179 7 9
	Quartering, ditto .....	223,138	10s. ditto	1115 13 9
	Coffin Boards, ditto .....	4,498	10s. ditto	22 9 9
	Lightwood and Myrtle, ditto .....	19,370	20s. ditto	193 14 0
	Plough Beams, ditto .....	1,250	10s. ditto	6 5 0
	Cart Shafts, ditto .....	1,100	10s. ditto	5 10 0
	Ditto Felloes, ditto .....	660	10s. ditto	3 6 0
	Posts and Rails, No. ....	6,554	28s. per 100	91 15 1
	Paling, ditto .....	12,550	10s. ditto	62 15 0
	Shingles, ditto .....	518,000	13s. per 1000	336 14 0
	Firewood, tons .....	4,624	7s. 6d. per ton	1734 0 0
	Ditto for Military, lbs. ....	154,381	6d. per 100 lbs.	38 11 10
	Knees for Launch building, No. ....	31	4s. each.	6 4 0
	Piles, 16 feet long and upwards, ditto .....	181	50s. ditto	271 10 0
	Spokes (pieces), ditto .....	100	3d. ditto	1 5 0
Axe-handles, ditto .....	100	3d. ditto	1 5 0	
Bricks, ditto .....	82,350	35s. per 1000	144 2 3	
Tiles, ditto .....	870	25s. per 100	10 17 6	
Charcoal, bushels .....	4,615	8d. per bushel	153 16 8	
Lime, shell, ditto .....	2,260	1s. ditto	113 0 0	
Freestone, dressed, cubic feet .....	130	1s. 6d. per cubic ft.	9 15 0	
Ditto, undressed, ditto .....	330	9d. ditto [feet	12 7 6	
Flagging, superficial feet .....	835	1s. 6d. per super.	62 12 6	
TOTAL AMOUNT.....		..	..	£6838 4 3

J. BOYD, *Civil Commandant.*

*Penal Establishment, Port Arthur, 30th June, 1863.*

*The Honorable the Comptroller-General.*

## E.

*RETURN showing the Number and Description of all Articles of Clothing made during the Year ending 30th June, 1863.*

<i>Description of Article.</i>	<i>Number.</i>
Boots made, pairs .....	757
Shoes, ditto .....	356
Slippers, ditto, (cloth).....	299
Trowsers made, pairs .....	1497
Jackets made .....	233
Vests, ditto .....	17
Shirts, flannel, ditto .....	654
Frocks, blanket, ditto .....	313
Men's braces made, pairs .....	545
Ditto caps, cloth, made .....	307
Pads for chains, pairs.....	39
Canvass jackets .....	4
Body belts .....	27
Leggings, leather, made, pairs .....	34

J. BOYD, *Civil Commandant.*

*Penal Establishment, Port Arthur, 30th June, 1863.*

*The Hon. the Comptroller-General.*

## F.

*RETURN showing the Number of EFFECTIVE PRISONERS, PAUPERS, INVALIDS, and LUNATICS, and the FUNDS upon which they were borne, on the 30th June, 1862, and the 30th June, 1863.*

DATE.	Effective Prisoners chargeable to Imperial Funds.	Effective Prisoners chargeable to Colonial Funds.	Paupers and Invalids chargeable to Imperial Funds.	Paupers chargeable to Colonial Funds.	Lunatics chargeable to Imperial Funds.	Lunatics chargeable to Colonial Funds.	Total of all Classes.	Total Funds.	
								Imperial.	Colonial.
Strength on 30 June, 1862.....	213	301	227	52	75	1	869	515	354
Strength on 30 June, 1863.....	226	343	270	41	92	1	973	588	385

J. BOYD, *Civil Commandant.*

*Penal Settlement, Port Arthur, 30th June, 1863.*

*The Honorable the Comptroller-General.*

## G.

*RETURN showing the Average Number of EFFECTIVE CONVICTS, INVALIDS, PAUPERS, and LUNATICS, for the Year ending 30th June, 1863; the MORTALITY during the Year; average AGE of each Class at Death; and the present Number in Hospital.*

PERIOD.	Average Number of each Class.				Mortality during the Year.			Average Age of Effective Convicts at Death.	Average Age of Paupers, Invalids, and Insane at Death.	Number in Hospital on 30 June, 1863.	
	Effective Convicts under Detention.	Paupers and Invalids.	Lunatics.	TOTAL.	Convicts under Detention.	Paupers, Invalids, and Lunatics.	TOTALS.			Convicts under Detention.	Paupers, Invalids, and Lunatics.
From 1st July, 1862, to 30th June, 1863.....	538	285	87	910	2	24	26	37	69	17	187

J. BOYD, *Civil Commandant.*

*Penal Establishment, Port Arthur, 30th June, 1863.*

*The Honorable the Comptroller-General.*

*SUMMARY of METEOROLOGICAL OBSERVATIONS taken at PORT ARTHUR, Tasman's Peninsula, from 1st July, 1862, to 30th June, 1863.*

Latitude..... 43° 9' 6" South.  
 Longitude ... .. 147° 51' 33" East.  
 Height above the Sea .. 55 feet.

DATE. <b>1862—3.</b>	PRESSURE OF AIR.		TEMPERATURE.		MOISTURE.		MEAN DRYNESS.	RAIN IN INCHES.	SPONTANEOUS EVAPORATION.	OZONOMETER.	PREVAILING CURRENTS OF WIND.
	Mean Reading of Barometer.	Pressure of Dry Air.	Mean Reading of—		Humidity.	Dew Point.					
			Dry Bulb.	Wet Bulb.							
July .....	29·560	29·258	50·02	46·71	804	48·60	6·42	5·61	1·30	5·2	S.W. & N.W.
August.....	29·740	29·450	49·70	45·70	764	42·05	7·05	4·53	1·50	5·1	S.W. & N.W.
September .....	29·585	29·270	45·50	40·60	751	45·80	8·09	6·87	1·58	5·3	N.W. & N.E.
October .....	29·907	29·563	56·50	51·00	727	47·00	9·50	1·37	1·75	5·2	S.E. & N.E.
November .....	29·723	29·358	61·00	54·00	682	49·00	12·00	3·33	1·50	4·7	N.W. & N.E.
December .....	29·709	29·347	59·87	53·27	690	49·85	10·02	3·78	1·90	5·2	S.E. & N.E.
January .....	29·773	29·352	64·34	57·40	699	53·75	10·59	1·88	1·98	3·7	S.E. & N.E.
February .....	29·758	29·346	63·00	56·47	726	52·04	10·06	3·68	1·75	4·7	S.E. & S.W.
March .....	29·793	29·386	62·36	55·78	734	52·84	9·52	7·42	1·98	4·2	N.W. & S.E.
April .....	29·846	29·488	56·05	51·07	773	48·03	8·48	1·90	1·49	5·5	S.W. & N.W.
May .....	29·692	29·333	54·05	50·09	789	48·05	6·00	4·02	1·85	5·1	N.W. & W.
June .....	29·850	29·517	52·01	47·05	795	44·07	7·04	2·05	0·55	4·4	N.W. & W.
SUMS.....	356·936	352·668	674·40	609·14	8·934	576·08	105·37	46·44	19·13	58·3	
MEANS.....	29·746	29·389	56·20	50·76	·744	48·01	8·78	3·87	1·60	4·8	

J. BOYD, *Civil Commandant.*  
*Observatory, Port Arthur, 30th June, 1863.*

*The Hon. the Comptroller-General.*

*RETURN showing the average Number of PRISONERS, the Number allowed Money Earnings, and the Number discharged with Earnings, the average Amount received by each, and the Number of Offences committed since Money Earnings were allowed, compared with an equal Period in the previous Year.*

Average Number of Prisoners under Detention.				Period during which the system of Money Earnings has been in operation.	Total allowed Money Earnings.	Prisoners who have received Money on Discharge.			Average amount of Earnings weekly per Man.	Number of Offences recorded.		
Effectives.	Invalids.	Lunatics.	Total.			Number.	Average amount received by each.			Since earnings were allowed.	During an equal period in the previous year.	
538	14	2	554	<i>Months.</i> 9	514	75	<i>s.</i> 16	<i>d.</i> 2½	<i>Nil.</i>	<i>d.</i> 9	211	263

J. BOYD, *Civil Commandant.*

*Penal Establishment, Port Arthur, 30th June, 1863.*

*The Honorable the Comptroller-General.*

*COPY of the Entries made in the "Visitors' Register" at Port Arthur, from 1st July, 1862, to 30th June, 1863.*

WE are indebted to the kindness of the Commandant for seeing the Establishment, and concur with the remarks of Mr. Shoobridge; viz., to express our satisfaction at the extent and arrangement of the place, cleanliness of the Buildings, and the evident attention to comfort, and the order of the whole.

(Signed) J. J. STUTZER, *Inspector of Schools, Tasmania.*

(Signed) M. H. MARTIN.

*31st July, 1862.*

I HAVE had the privilege of making a short visit to Port Arthur, and feel highly gratified with an inspection of the Establishment, and the admirable means employed to restrain and reform the Prisoners, as well as to provide for the comfort of the Paupers and Lunatics. I also feel myself much indebted to the Civil Commandant for the very interesting information which he has been so good as to communicate to me regarding the Prison Discipline and arrangements.

(Signed) D. ROUGH, *J.P. of New Zealand.*

*4th December, 1862.*

THROUGH the kindness of the Honorable the Comptroller-General and Commandant Boyd, I have had an opportunity of seeing each Department of the Port Arthur Convict Establishment, which reflect the highest commendation on all concerned with its management. The beneficial effects of the kind yet firm manner in which the Prisoners are treated, their daily opportunity of lodging complaints, and the way in which those complaints are investigated, are at once evident. The way in which the lighting and ventilation is carried out seems most perfect.

(Signed) WILLIAM A. ERSKINE WEST, *South Australia.*

*18th December, 1862.*

THE Comptroller-General having kindly permitted me to visit the Penal Settlement here, through the kindness of the Commandant I have been enabled to inspect the whole of the Establishment. Having visited several of the Reformatories in England recently, I can safely say that this Establishment will bear favourable comparison with any of them. For cleanliness and comfort it is particularly remarkable.

31st December, 1862. (Signed) ROBERT ALEYNE, *New South Wales.*

12th February, 1863. (Signed) JAMES PITCAIRN, *Melbourne, Victoria.*

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I HAVE been greatly pleased with the perfect discipline maintained at the Port Arthur Establishments.

New South Wales, 26th March, 1863. (Signed) W. H. CHRISTIE, *Major, Postmaster-General.*

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ALL the arrangements appear very complete, and admirably calculated to ensure discipline.

Tasmania, 11th April, 1863. (Signed) THOS. GEO. GREGSON, *M.H.A.*

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CONSIDERING that a large proportion of the Prisoners at Port Arthur are the dregs of a criminal population, enervated by a long course of crime, and that their reformation is hopeless, the discipline enforced by the Commandant deserves very high commendation. Perfect order is maintained without violence, and by assistance from the better part of the Prisoners, with a less expensive staff than would otherwise be necessary. I observe with satisfaction the effect of the system of rewards, authorised at my last inspection, and the reduction in the future expenditure from the employment of labour in new channels; and I look forward to a further improvement when the Prisoners learn that the amount of their ration is made to depend on the quantity of work performed.

(Signed) T. GORE BROWNE,  
*Government House, 29th June, 1863.*

A true Copy.—J. BOYD, *Civil Commandant,*  
*Port Arthur, 30th July, 1863.*