

(No. 35.)



1861.

TASMANIA.

CONVICT DEPARTMENT.

Laid upon the Table by Mr. Innes, and ordered by the House to be printed,
4 September, 1861.



Comptroller-General's Office, 12th August, 1861.

SIR,

IN accordance with the request contained in your letter of the 5th ultimo, I have the honor to enclose a Return of the number of Convicts on the 30th June, 1861, in the several Penal Establishments under my charge, distinguishing the Imperial from the Colonial Convicts.

2. With regard to Port Arthur, you will observe that the number of Prisoners chargeable to the Colony at Port Arthur exceeds by 103 that maintained by the Imperial Government; at present, however, there are at Port Arthur 359 Paupers and Lunatics, of whom 284 are chargeable to the Imperial Government, and 75 to the Colony, so that of the total number of individuals in the charge of the Government, 486 are chargeable to the Imperial Government, and 390 to the Colony.

The time, however, must very shortly arrive, when the larger portion of the expenditure will be defrayed by the Colony, and it appears to me most desirable therefore, that arrangements should be entered into for the transfer of the Establishment to the Colony.

3. At the Prisoners' Barracks and the Cascade Factory, you will observe, that there is a large number of Inmates, for whose supervision no payment has hitherto been made by the Colony, the rations and clothing only being furnished by the Colony. I have reported to the Secretary of State that the use of the Prisoners' Barracks to the Convict Department as a Convict Depôt, has now, (from the diminution in the number of Convicts) become extremely diminished; and, that in my opinion, arrangements should be made for transferring this Establishment as well as the Factory, to the Colony.

I will however, address to you a separate communication in reference to each of these two last Establishments, giving full details as to their present condition.

I have the honor to be,
Sir,

Your obedient Servant,

W. NAIRN, *Comptroller-General.*

The Hon. the Colonial Treasurer.

Comptroller-General's Office.

RETURN of the Number of CONVICTS on the 30th June, 1861, in the Imperial Penal Establishments, distinguishing the Imperial from the Colonial Convicts.

STATION.	TO WHAT FUND CHARGEABLE.		REMARKS.
	IMPERIAL.	COLONIAL.	
Port Arthur.....	202	315	} The whole expense of maintenance of these Prisoners is defrayed by the Colony. } Rationed and Clothed only by the Colony.
Prisoners' Barracks.....	39	82	
Cascade Factory.....	35	78	
<i>Totals.....</i>	276	475	

Comptroller-General's Office, 19th August, 1861.

SIR,

WITH reference to the concluding paragraph of my letter of the 12th instant, I have now the honor to report, specially for your information, as to the present position of the Prisoners' Barracks.

On the 30th June last there were, as I have already stated, 35 Imperial convicts under sentence in the building, with 82 free men (Colonial prisoners) under Magisterial sentence, of whom 74 were originally convicts. I now annex a Return showing the cost of the Establishment for the year ending the 30th June, 1861, exclusive of repairs. From this Return you will see that, for an average of 145 men, the cost would be £22 per head; but its cost to the Imperial Government, on account of the prisoners exclusively chargeable to them, amounts to £38 15s. 3d.

For the year ending 31st December 1860, upon calculations similar to these in the Return now annexed, the cost to the Imperial Government of each Convict was £34.

The now rapid decrease of interest in the building on the part of the Imperial Government, renders its transfer to the Colony most desirable, more particularly as the Penal Settlement at Port Arthur can also be transferred, as I have already reported.

I have the honor to be,
Sir,

Your obedient Servant,

W. NAIRN, *Comptroller-General.*

The Hon. the Colonial Treasurer.

THE Cost of PRISONERS' BARRACKS, Hobart Town, for the Year from 1 July, 1860, to 30 June, 1861.

		£	s.	d.	
Discipline		1096	13	9	
Religious Instruction.....		80	0	0	
Medical		82	10	0	
Fuel and Light		353	15	6	
		<hr/>			
		(¹) £1612	19	3	
1860—1861.					
Convicts	55	Clothing and Bedding, at £2 13s. 11d. (say £2 14s.)	391	10	0
Colonial	90				
Daily average	145	Rations for same, at 6d. per diem, or £9 2s. 6d. yearly	1323	2	6
Stores (including Stone-hammers, &c.) say		50	0	0	
		<hr/>			
		£3377	11	9	
Deduct Stone-shed Receipts for 1860. £228 12 6					
Less paid stone-breakers		47	1	10	
		<hr/>			(²) 181 10 8
Nett cost		£3196	1	1	
Divided by 145, the yearly cost of each prisoner was		22	0	9	
		<hr/> <hr/>			
But the cost to the Convict Department * was:—					
Discipline &c., as above(¹)		1612	19	3	
Clothing and Bedding for 55 prisoners.....		148	10	0	
Rations for ditto		502	0	0	
Stores		50	0	0	
		<hr/>			
		£2313	9	3	
Deduct Stone-shed Receipts, as above(²).....		181	10	8	
		<hr/>			
		£2131	18	7	
Divided by 55, the yearly cost of each Prisoner was		38	15	3	
		<hr/> <hr/>			

* On account of the Colonial Government paying for the clothing, bedding, and rationing of their prisoners only.

Comptroller-General's Office, 19th August, 1861.

SIR,

WITH reference to the concluding paragraph of my letter of the 12th instant, I have now the honor to report specially for your information as to the present position of the Female Factory.

On the 30th June last, there were, as I stated in my letter of the 12th, 35 women wholly chargeable to the Imperial Government, and 78 women rationed and clothed by the Colony, of which 78 women 67 were originally Convicts. There were also 16 young children chargeable to Imperial Funds, and 9 to the Colony.

I annex a Return showing the cost of the Establishment for the year ending 30th June, 1861, exclusive of repairs.

From this Return you will perceive, that for an average of 144 individuals, including women and children, the cost would be £22 18s. 3d. But the cost of the Imperial Government on account of each individual exclusively chargeable to them, amounts to £43 1s. 0d.

For the year ending 31st December, 1860, upon calculations similar to those in the Return now annexed, the cost of each individual to the Convict Department, exclusively chargeable to it was £38 3s. 1d.

This Establishment is not like the Barracks in any way dependent on Port Arthur, and its transfer can be effected without reference to any other portion of the Convict Department.

I have the honor to be,

Sir,

Your obedient Servant,

The Hon. the Colonial Treasurer.

W. NAIRN, Comptroller-General.

THE Cost of the FEMALE HOUSE OF CORRECTION, Hobart Town, for the Year, from 1st July, 1860, to 30th June, 1861.

	£	s.	d.
Discipline.....	1125	3	9
Religious Instruction.....	60	0	0
Medical.....	82	10	0
Fuel and Light.....	565	2	11½
Washing.....	113	19	2
Filling Prisoners Beds, Straw.....	13	1	5
Forage for Van Horse.....	39	10	10
Stores.....	70	0	0
Clothing and Bedding for 121 Prisoners and 23 Children, 81 Women and 11 Children on Colonial funds at £2 5s. 7d.....	212	2	6
Forty Convicts and 12 Children at £2 5s. 7d.....	118	10	4
Rations, 81 Colonial Prisoners and 11 Children.....	748	5	4
Ditto, 40 Convicts and 12 Children.....	422	18	8
Extras, for Spoon Diets and Children (Convicts).....	406	3	0½
	£4077	7	11½
Deduct for Washing and Needle Work.....	778	5	0½
<i>Nett cost</i>	£3299	2	11½
Divided by 144 the yearly cost of each Prisoner and Child would be.....	22	18	3
But the cost to the Convict Department was.....	2069	8	1
Rations.....	829	1	8½
Clothing.....	118	10	4
	£3017	0	1½
Deduct receipts for Washing and Needle Work.....	778	5	0½
	£2238	15	0
Divided by 52 the yearly cost of each Prisoner and Child would be.....	43	1	0
Whilst the cost to the Colonial Government was Clothing and Bedding of 81 Women and 11 Children.....	212	2	6
Rations for the above.....	748	5	4
	£960	7	10
Divided by 92 the yearly cost for each Prisoner and Child was.....	10	8	9

N.B.—Two-thirds of the Prisoners chargeable to Convict Funds are Invalids, Hospital Patients and Nursing Mothers. The Diets of the Invalids average one-sixth daily. The daily number of them throughout the year has been 21.