

(No. 24.)



1868.

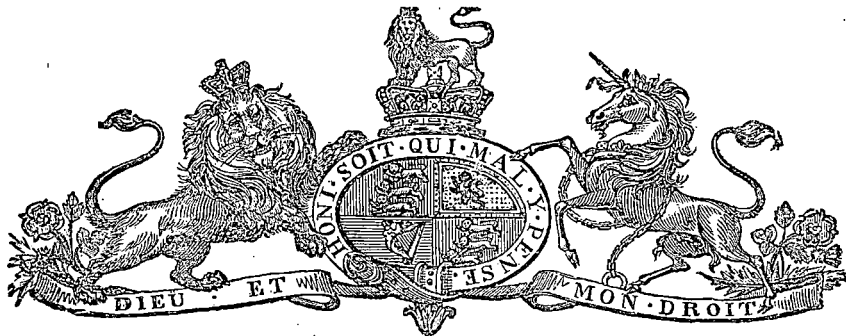
T A S M A N I A.

LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL.

P O L I C E, T E R R I T O R I A L.

INSPECTOR'S REPORT FOR YEAR TO 30 JUNE, 1868.

Laid upon the Table by Sir R. Dry, and ordered by the Council to be printed,
July 29, 1868.



SECOND ANNUAL REPORT of the Inspector of Police on the State and Efficiency of the TERRITORIAL POLICE FORCE of Tasmania for the Year ending 30th June, 1868.

Office of Inspector of Police, 28th July, 1868.

SIR,

I HAVE the honor herewith to forward, for His Excellency the Governor's information, my Second Annual Report on the State and Efficiency of the Territorial Police; and beg to annex a Tabular Return explanatory of its numerical strength, organisation, &c.

In the Districts of the Huon and Kingborough considerable reductions have been made consequent on the Police Boat at Three Hut Point, which was maintained principally for Magisterial purposes, being dispensed with, and the consolidation of the office of Chief District Constable with that of Police Clerk at Kingston, which has been done without prejudicing the public service.

The commission of serious crime is on the decrease, and where violence accompanies it, it is generally the result of intoxication. In minor offences there does not appear to be any great diminution, but their commission is confined principally to the convict class. Its detection is on a scale which not only bears a very fair comparison with that in the neighbouring Colonies, but with that in Great Britain, where so many more facilities for prompt action and rapid communication exist.

I am gratified in being enabled to report that Officers and Men continue generally to maintain their character for good conduct and efficiency. The Force is not a numerous one; but the service the Police is able to render the community does not depend absolutely on the number of men employed, but is affected by the character and reputation of those comprising it, and the extent to which it is supported by public confidence. The Force feel this, and, what is perhaps of more importance, the criminal classes know it too; and I have every reason to believe that the Territorial Police, possessing, as I feel they do, no inconsiderable share of that confidence, is thereby encouraged in an efficient and energetic performance of their duties.

I have the honor to be,
Sir,

Your obedient Servant,

J. FORSTER, *Inspector of Police.*

The Honorable the Colonial Secretary.

DISTRICT OF HOBART.

Population.....	4627
Population to one Constable	225
Strength of Force	21

This Force remains unaltered in numerical strength, organisation, or pay, and is maintained at a minimum though satisfactory standard of efficiency. The duties connected with pauperism annually increase, and now occupy the close attention of two Sergeants with the occasional assistance of two Detectives, together with the general supervision of the Chief District Constable who is charged with the dispensing of pecuniary relief. No resignations nor dismissals from it had occurred, and the conduct of Officers and Men was of a very creditable, and on one or two occasions of a meritorious, character.

During the year ending the 30th June, 76 indictable offences had been reported to the Police, for which 56 persons had been arrested, of whom 38 were committed for trial or summarily convicted; 30 persons had been charged with drunkenness and disorderly conduct,—20 of whom were males and 10 females. No proceedings had been taken against Publicans. The Station Houses (the head one at New Town being in charge of the Chief District Constable) were in good repair; the Wards and Cells clean; the Books, Records, and Returns correctly kept; the Uniform (the pattern of which has been changed to one more adapted to the climate and duties of the Force) of excellent quality; and the Arms and Accoutrements in serviceable order. A Sergeant (*inter alia*) performs the duties of Summoning Officer of the Supreme Court and Coroner's Clerk. The Chief District Constable conducts all enquiries instituted through the Police by the Government, and those made by the Police authorities of the neighbouring Colonies; is Town Surveyor; Inspector of Stock, and Examiner of Weights and Measures; and a Tidewaiter attached to the Customs Department. Two Second Class District Constables are also Tidewaiters of the same Department. A Medical Man is attached to the Force.

KINGBOROUGH.

Population.....	3454
Population to one Constable	462
Strength of Force—7 effectives, 1 special	8

A reduction of three Petty Constables has been effected in this Force by the discontinuance of the Police boat at Three Hut Point, &c.; and its organisation changed by the consolidation of the appointments of Chief District Constable and Police Clerk at Kingston. A Special Constable has been appointed at Bruni Island, at a salary of £25 per annum. Its efficiency is satisfactorily maintained. There had been no resignations nor dismissals. On the consolidation before referred to, one Chief District Constable retired on his pension.

During the year ending the 30th of June, 27 indictable offences had been reported to the Police, for which 15 persons had been apprehended, of whom 10 were committed for trial or summarily convicted. 15 persons had been charged with drunkenness and disorderly conduct, of whom 5 were males and 10 females. Two publicans had been proceeded against and fined. The Station-houses were in good repair, the Wards and Cells clean, the Books, Records, and Returns correctly kept, the Uniform of good quality, and the Arms and Accoutrements in serviceable order. The Chief District Constable at Kingston is Inspector of Stock, and an Acting District Constable Bailiff of the Court of General Sessions. The Senior Chief District Constable at Three Hut Point is a Bailiff of the Court of General Sessions, Inspector of Stock, and a Tide-waiter attached to the Customs Department. No Medical officer is attached to the Force.

HUON.

Population	2759
Population to one Constable	221
Strength of Force, 11 effectives and 1 Special.....	12

This Force has been reduced, the services of three Petty Constables, part of the Boat's Crew lately stationed at Three Hut Point, having been dispensed with, and a Petty Constable reduced at Recherche Bay, in whose place a Special Constable has been appointed at a salary of £50 a year. A small boat has been provided for the use of the Chief District Constable at Three Hut Point, to enable him to perform his duties on the sea-board. The Force retains a satisfactory standard of efficiency in its change of organisation. Its pay is unaltered. The duties of Police Clerk, &c. at the Franklin are now performed by a member of the Force,—a Sergeant of Police. No Constables had been dismissed, nor had any resigned. A new Station is in course of erection at Victoria.

During the year ending 30th June, 31 indictable offences had been reported to the Police, for which 11 persons had been arrested, of whom 8 were committed for trial or summarily convicted. 27 persons had been charged with drunkenness and disorderly conduct, of whom 17 were males and 10 females. No proceedings had been taken against publicans. The Station-houses were in good repair, the Wards and Cells clean, the Uniform of good quality, and the Books, Records, and Returns correctly kept, and the Arms and Accoutrements in serviceable order. The Chief District Constable and a 2nd Class District Constable are Tide-waiters attached to the Customs Department. The former is also a Bailiff of the Court of General Sessions, Inspector of Stock, and Examiner of Weights and Measures. A Medical officer is attached to the Force.

SELBY.

Population.....	2759
Population to one Constable	200
Strength of Force	14

This Force remains unaltered in organisation and numerical strength, which is, under present circumstances at its minimum. It is efficient. A new Station has been erected at the East Tamar, where it was much required, and at Carrick a new Station-house and buildings are absolutely necessary, the existing one being nearly untenable and very unsafe. Another new Station has been authorised in Scott's New Country. Four Petty Constables had resigned, two of whom were physically unfit for the service, and one had been dismissed.

During the year ending 30th June, 20 indictable Offences had been reported to the Police, for which 11 persons had been apprehended, and all committed for trial or summarily convicted. 120 persons had been charged with drunkenness and disorderly conduct, of whom 97 were males, and 33 females. No proceedings had been taken against Publicans. The Station-houses (with the exception of Carrick) were in good repair. The Wards and Cells clean, the books, records, and returns properly kept, the Uniform of good quality, and the Arms and Accoutrements in serviceable order. The Chief District Constable is Bailiff of the Court of General Sessions, Inspector of Stock, and Examiner of Weights and Measures. No Medical Officer is attached to the Force.

GEORGE TOWN.

Population.....	1350
Population to one Constable.....	170
Strength of Force.....	8

A reduction of one Petty Constable has been effected in this Force, but its organisation and pay remain unaltered, and it is efficient. No Constables have been dismissed, nor have any resigned. A Sergeant of Police performs the duties of Police Clerk, &c. at head quarters.

During the year ending 30th June, 7 indictable Offences had been reported to the Police, for which 9 persons had been arrested, of whom 4 were committed for trial or summarily convicted; 4 persons, all males, had been charged with drunkenness and disorderly conduct; 1 Publican had been proceeded against, and a penalty inflicted. The Station-houses were in good repair, the Wards and Cells clean, the books, records, and returns correctly kept, the Uniform of good quality, and the Arms and Accoutrements in serviceable condition. The Chief District Constable is a Tidewaiter attached to the Customs Department, Bailiff of the Court of General Sessions, Inspector of Stock, and Examiner of Weights and Measures. A Medical Officer is attached to the Force.

PORT SORELL.

Population.....	4000
Population to one Constable.....	286
Strength of Force.....	14

This Force remains unaltered in organisation, numerical strength, or pay, but will require strengthening, as the District annually increases in importance and population. It is an efficient one, though it is barely, from the arduous duties consequent on the character of the country and the community, sufficient. New Stations are being erected at the Leven River and Kentish Plains, which are much required. One Petty Constable had been dismissed, and one had resigned.

During the year ending the 30th June, 52 indictable Offences had been reported to the Police, for which 47 persons had been apprehended, of whom 38 were committed for trial or summarily convicted; 80 persons were charged with drunkenness and disorderly conduct, of whom 64 were males, and 16 females; 6 Informations had been laid against Publicans, and penalties inflicted in all cases. The Head Station-house at Torquay requires repairs and additions. Those at the Out-stations were in good repair. The Wards and Cells were clean, the books, records, and returns correctly kept, the Uniform of good quality, and the Arms and Accoutrements in serviceable order. The Chief District Constable is a Tidewaiter of the Customs Department, Bailiff of the Court of General Sessions, Town Surveyor, Inspector of Stock, and Examiner of Weights and Measures. A Medical Officer is attached to the Force.

HORTON, INCLUDING WYNYARD AND EMU BAY.

Population....	2036
Population to one Constable.....	254
Strength of Force.....	8

No change has been made in the numerical strength or pay of this Force, though its organisation has been somewhat, but not prejudicially, affected by the consolidation of the offices of Chief District Constable and Police Clerk, and the appointment of a Petty Constable as Bailiff of the Court of General Sessions. One Petty Constable had been dismissed, and one had resigned. No new Stations have been erected; but at the Montagu and Cam Rivers, where the population is increasing, they will probably be soon required.

During the year ending the 30th June, 51 indictable Offences had been reported to the Police, for which 43 persons had been apprehended, of whom 36 were committed for trial or summarily convicted; 103 persons had been charged with drunkenness and disorderly conduct, of whom 83 were males, and 20 females. Proceedings had been taken against one Publican, and a penalty inflicted. The Station-houses were in good repair, the Wards and Cells clean, the Uniform of good quality, the Arms and Accoutrements in serviceable order, and the books, records, and returns correctly kept. The 2nd class District Constables at Wynyard and Emu Bay are Tidewaiters of the Customs Department, Bailiffs of the Court of General Sessions, and Inspectors of Stock. The Chief District Constable at Stanley is also a Tidewaiter, Inspector of Stock, and Examiner of Weights and Measures. Medical Officers residing at Circular Head and Wynyard are attached to the Force.

THE GREAT LAKE DISTRICT.

This Force remains unaltered in numerical strength, organisation, or pay; and I find that the Chief Constable and two Constables exercise a very satisfactory supervision over the large area of country entrusted to them. The only protection the outlying portions of adjoining Municipalities have is afforded by it, no Stations having been established in any of them so far from the settled portions of the Colony. It prevents the locating of any persons either at shepherds' huts, or elsewhere who have not some recognised employment, through whom and the hawkers, who are kept under a strict surveillance, the "drifting" of sheep which is now not known was no doubt formerly effected, and the Lake Country is no longer the resort of habitual vagrants and runaways from justice. The quantity of stock depastured in the Lake District Proper was in Summer 98,500 sheep and 500 head of cattle; and during the present Winter 45,000 sheep and 300 head of cattle are still retained on the runs. The country has not, however, been fully stocked in consequence of the prevalence of the Fluke, which is inducing many proprietors to make considerable improvements in the way of fencing and drainage. The horses were in good condition, and the equipments and accoutrements in serviceable order; the Station-houses in good repair, and the prescribed records correctly kept. The Force does not wear Uniform.

TERRITORIAL POLICE FORCE OF TASMANIA.

1868.

DISTRICTS.	Establishment.	DETAIL OF RANKS.						Estimate of Population.	Area in Acres.	Population to One Constable.	Acres to each Constable.	ANNUAL PAY INCLUDING FORAGE AND TRAVELLING ALLOWANCES.			DAILY PAY.			
		Chief District Constable.	2nd Class District Constable.	Sergeant.	Acting Sergeant.	Petty Constable.	Special Constable.					Chief District Constable.	2nd Class District Constable.	Special Constable.	Sergeants.	Acting Sergeants.	Petty Constables.	
Hobart	21	1	3	3	—	14	—	4627	686,690	225	32,700	£ 190	£ s. d. 104 18 9	—	£ s. d. 5 9	—	5	C. D. Constable has quarters.
Kingborough	8	2	2	—	—	3	1	3454	463,000	462	58,000	190	91 5 0	25	—	—	5	
Huon	12	1	2	1	—	7	1	2759	2,507,000	221	209,000	190	{ 129 18 9 144 18 9 }	{ 50	5 9	—	5	One 2nd Class District Constable has full forage £40, and the other £25.
Selby	14	1	2	—	1	10	—	2759	720,000	200	51,428	215	{ 129 18 9 104 18 9 }	—	—	5	5	C. D. has £25 allowance included in his salary.
George Town....	8	1	—	—	2	4	—	1350	792,320	170	113,188	190	—	—	—	5	5	C. D. Constable has quarters.
Port Sorell.....	14	1	2	—	2	9	—	4000	561,920	286	40,137	230	{ 129 18 9 91 5 0 }	—	—	5	5	C. D. Constable has quarters and forage £40 for a second horse, included in his salary.
Horton	8	1	2	1	—	4	—	2036	2,574,000	254	321,750	190	129 18 9	—	5 0	—	5	The 2nd Class District Constables have each £25 allowance.
Great Lake	3	1	—	1	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	190	—	—	5 0	—	5	The Sergeant and P. Constable have each £25 allowance.

J. FORSTER, *Inspector of Police.*